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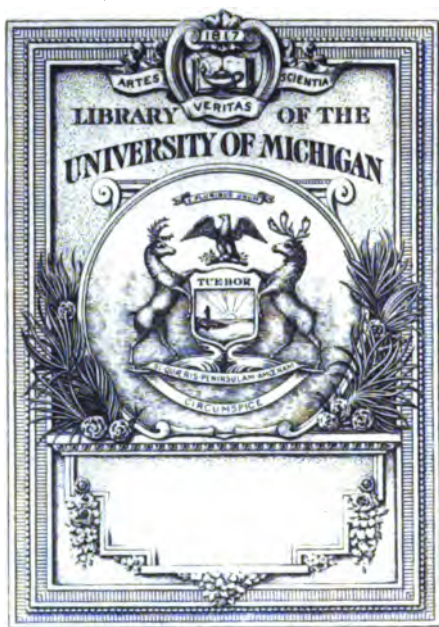
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THE NEW  
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT  
OF  
SCOTLAND.  
VOL. X.



THE NEW  
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT  
OF  
SCOTLAND.

BY  
THE MINISTERS OF THE RESPECTIVE PARISHES, UNDER THE  
SUPERINTENDENCE OF A COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY  
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SONS AND  
DAUGHTERS OF THE CLERGY.

VOL. X.

PERTH.

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS,  
EDINBURGH AND LONDON.  
MDCCCXLV.





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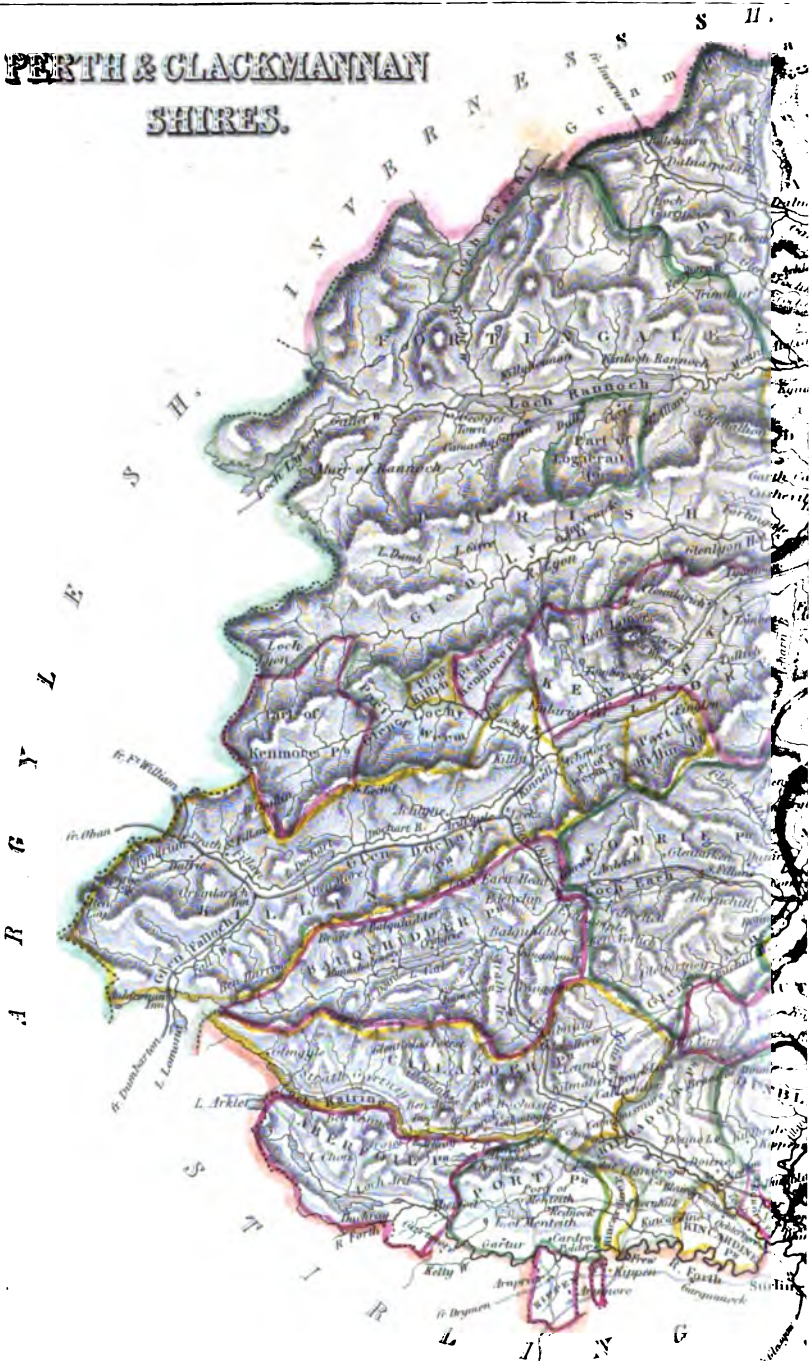
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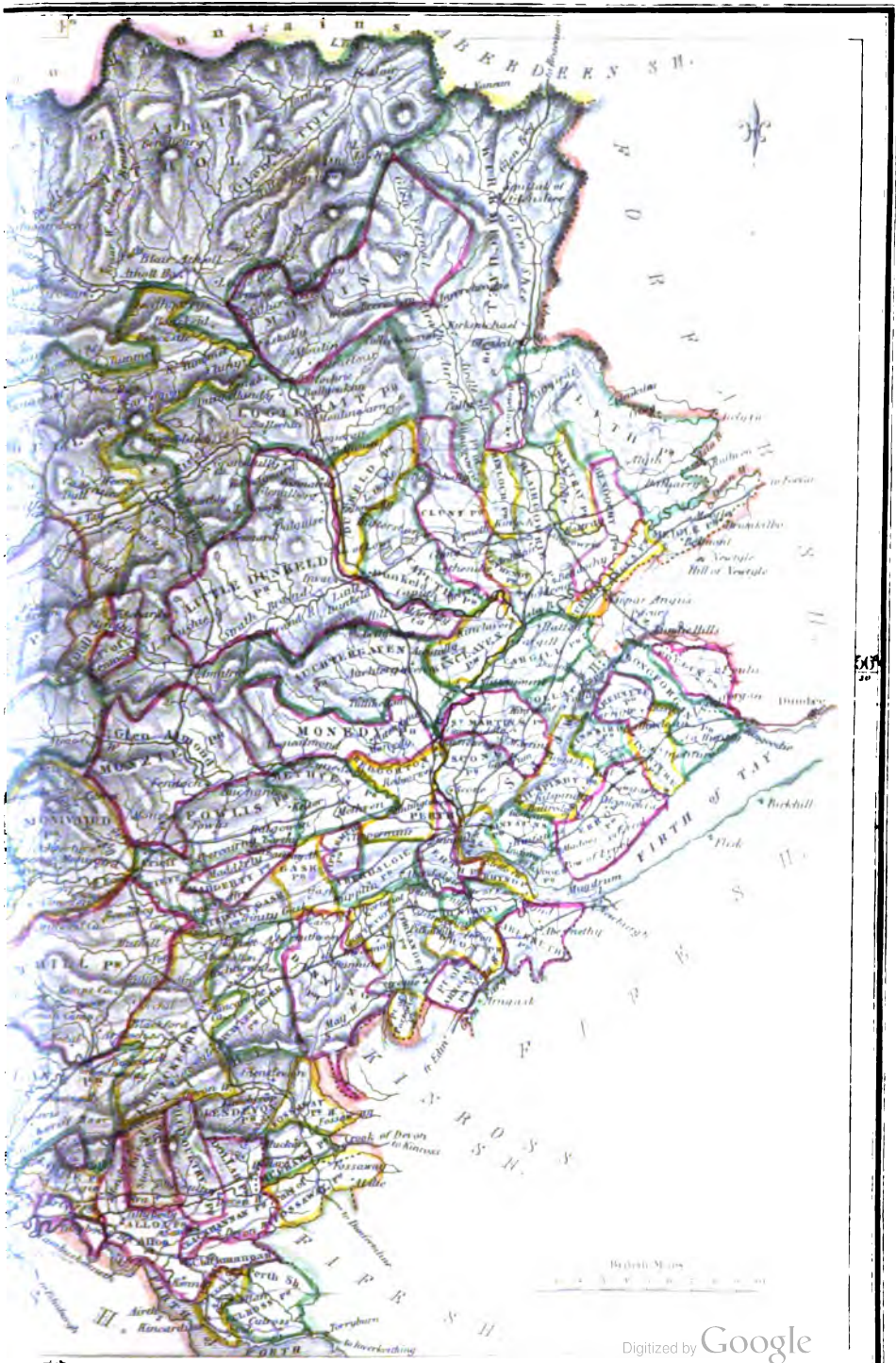
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# PERTH & CLACKMANNAN SHIRES.









## PARISH OF PERTH.\*

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

REV. WILLIAM THOMSON, D.D.	<i>Old or Middle Church, 1560.</i>
REV. ANDREW GRAY,	<i>West Church, 1716.</i>
REV. JAMES ESDAILE,	<i>East Church, 1771.</i>
REV. JOHN FINDLAY,	<i>St Paul's, 1807.</i>
REV. JOHN FERGUSON,	<i>St Stephen's, 1834.</i>
REV. JAMES MILLAR,	<i>St Leonard's, 1835.</i>

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Latitude and Longitude.*—THE latitude of the Academy of Perth is  $56^{\circ} 23' 40''$  N., and its longitude  $3^{\circ} 26' 20''$  W. As a subject intimately connected with geographical position, it may also be mentioned, that the magnetic variation was  $26^{\circ} 54'$  W. in November 1836. In 1815, when the magnetic north seemed to have attained its furthest range to the westward of the true north, the variation was  $28^{\circ} 10'$  W.; hence the annual diminution seems at present to be about  $3\frac{1}{2}$ ; but as the changes of all variable magnitudes, when near the maximum state, are smaller than the mean rate of change, the decrement will probably become more rapid till toward the close of the present century.

*Name.*—The etymology of the name is uncertain. Lord Hailes in his *Annals*, says, that he had been favoured with different interpretations of the word, and that not knowing which to choose, he had omitted them all. Fordun, in his *Scotichronicon*, tells us, that he had found in some ancient writings that the town was formerly called Bertha. The names of many places in the neighbourhood are of Celtic origin. The vernacular language of the people not many miles from Perth, is Celtic, at the present day. *Bhar-tatha* is a Celtic word, and signifies the height of Tay.† Thus

\* Drawn up by the Rev. Dr William Thomson, Minister of the Old Church parish, Perth. For the valuable communication on the subjects of Topography, Meteorology, Hydrography, Geology, and Mineralogy, the writer is indebted to his very talented scientific friend, Adam Anderson, Esq. LL. D., Rector of the Perth Academy.

† I shall here give some names in point. Dundee (Gaelic) Dhun-tatha, the hill of Tay; Broughty (Gaelic) Bhruch-tatha, the sloping ground, or brae of Tay;

Kinnoul Hill, which is immediately contiguous to the town, may be the height referred to. B. and P. were and still are used by the Celts indiscriminately, and Bert, Berth, and Perth, are evidently contractions for Bertha.

The parish of Perth contains altogether about 3410 imperial acres, and exhibits a considerable diversity of soil and aspect. Upwards of two-thirds of it consist of rich arable land; and of the remaining third about 750 acres are planted, and 350 acres are in a state of hilly pasture, the rocky nature of which seems to bid defiance to the farther encroachment of the plough.

*Boundaries, Topographical Appearances.*—The shape of the parish is somewhat incurvated, the extreme length, following the varying direction of the curvature, being about five miles, and the greatest breadth about a mile and a quarter. As the Tay washes the concave side of the arch by which the parish is bounded on the north and east, the general slope of the ground is toward the same quarter of the horizon. On the east and south-east, it is bounded by the Tay and the parish of Rhynd; on the south by the parish of Rhynd and Aberdalgie; on the west by the parish of Aberdalgie, Tibbermore and Forteviot; and on the north and north-east by the parish of Redgorton.

The mountain ranges which occur in the parish form the western extremity of the Sidlaw hills, and are of limited altitude, the highest point (Moncrieff hill) rising only to the height of 756 feet above the mean level of the ocean. The surface of the parish is nevertheless diversified with numerous swelling ridges of moderate elevation, which graduate by insensible degrees into rich and fertile plains in a state of the highest culture, and bearing abundant crops of every species of grain. Though the hills skirting the parish are of the limited height already noticed, the view from their summit is at once extensive and varied, presenting on all sides prospects of unrivalled fertility and beauty, in which every object that can adorn the landscape is finely and harmoniously blended. The view from Moncrieff hill, in particular, is acknowledged to be one of the finest in Scotland.

The soil of the parish consists, in the upland district, of a rich loam, which has resulted from the decomposition of the trap tuff,

Kincarathie, (Gaelic) Cean-car-tatha, the head or turn of Tay; Abdie, Abbey-tatha, the abbey of Tay. N. B.—There is no Celtic word for abbey. The word spelled tatha in Gaelic sounds as ta in English.

and other mouldering rocks, which at one period crowned the more elevated ridges. The low grounds along the bank of the Tay are composed chiefly of aluminous earth or clay, resting on beds of gravel and other alluvial, or rather lacustrine deposits, and are well adapted for bearing every species of grain. Their height above the mean level of the sea, varies from 20 to 30 feet, and as the plain on which the town is erected is still lower, it is occasionally exposed, during a flooded state of the Tay, to the inconvenience of partial inundation.

Cultivation has been carried in the parish almost to the summit of the hills, insomuch that crops of every description are raised within 200 feet of the most elevated point.

The following heights have been carefully ascertained by the barometer.

Highest point of Edinburgh road (Mordun hill),	182 feet.
Hill above Friartown Turnpike,	345
St Magdalene's hill,	462
Highest point on west side of the parish,	618
Moncrieff hill,	756

No caverns or fissures that can claim particular notice are to be found in the parish, excepting perhaps on the south-side of Moncrieff hill, the precipitous face of which exhibits some basaltic rocks of a columnar structure, occasionally standing out in detached masses of the most fantastic forms, and separated from the main body of the trap rocks, with which they are connected by intervening fissures of considerable width.

*Geology.*—The greater part of the parish rests upon the red sandstone formation, which stretches through the valleys of Strathmore and Strathearn. The character of this rock, wherever it presents itself in the neighbourhood, whether in artificial excavations, or deep ravines formed by the action of water, exhibits little variation, either in composition or external appearance. In some few instances, the mica predominates, and being feebly united with the siliceous particles by means of an argillaceous cement, the stone, when exposed to the weather, crumbles down, and is thus unfit for the purpose of building. Occasionally, nodules of granite, primitive limestone, porphyritic trap, Lydian stone, and hard masses of indurated clay are imbedded in the sandstone; but no organic remains, either of an animal or vegetable nature, have at any time been discovered in it within the parish.

*Dip and direction of the Stratification.*—The dip of the stratified rocks, which is towards the north-west, has been carefully ex-

amined in a great variety of situations, and generally ranges from  $10^{\circ}$  to  $20^{\circ}$ .\* The lowest stratum of the extensive formation of sandstone which traverses the parish occurs at the Friartown turnpike, about a mile and a half from the city, where the dip is  $15^{\circ}$  towards the N. W. by W. At the waterfall of Craigie, which is about half a mile to the north-west of this point, (and though about 80 feet lower in situation, occupies a more elevated place in the stratification,) the sandstone is covered by the trap which seems to have flowed over it, from the great mass of that rock to the south-west of it, when the latter was in a state of fusion. The inclination of the subjacent sandstone has accordingly undergone no change, the dip being  $12^{\circ} 45'$  towards the N. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W.; but the layers, in immediate contact with the trap, are assimilated to it in appearance, and possess great hardness, with a semi-crystalline structure. Tracing a line from the Friartown to the parish church of Moneydie, which is almost exactly in the direction of the plane of the dip, the distance is about 6 miles; and as the dip of the stratification at the latter point, is  $12^{\circ} 30'$  towards the N. W., it may be inferred that the stratum of sandstone at Moneydie occupies a position, which had originally been upwards of a mile above that which is presented to view at the Friartown. Both strata where they crop out being at present nearly on the same level, it would seem that the portion of the sandstone rocks above the Friartown, corresponding with the strata at Moneydie, has suffered great disintegration; and indeed, however extravagant the opinion may seem, it is far from being inconsistent with appearances to suppose, that the debris of these rocks gave birth to the shifting hills of loose sand, which occur at the mouth of the Tay; as well as to the extensive accumulation of arenaceous tumuli lying between that river and the mouth of the Eden, forming what is called the *Tents-moor*.

The trap rocks which run along the southern boundary of the parish may be regarded as a continuation of the Sidlaw range of hills, and possess a direction which coincides with that of the planes of the adjacent sandstone strata; and it seems highly probable, that the latter received their present dip and position from the same internal movement which gave existence to the former. From the main body of the trap, whin dikes may be traced, issuing at various points, and retaining for many miles a westerly direction. These dikes, which are generally about 60 feet wide, seem to have resulted from immense fissures in the sandstone, formed

\* In the immediate vicinity of the trap rocks, the dip extends sometimes to  $35^{\circ}$ .

at the period when the strata were shifted from their horizontal position; their cavities being at the same time filled up by the melted matter, which flowed into them from the principal mass of the fused trap. In accordance with this hypothesis of the origin of whin dikes, it is uniformly observed that the stratum of sandstone, in contact with the trap, exhibits a more compact and crystalline aspect; the siliceous particles being more intimately blended with the mica, and other substances of which the sandstone is composed, and converted into a homogeneous rock of great hardness; while the dip of the stratification, at the distance of a few yards from the vein, is considerably altered, so as to exhibit, within the compass of several feet, a great variety of inclination.

The hill of Moncrieff is almost entirely composed of compact trap, or greenstone, which on the south side exhibits a columnar structure. Near its western extremity, patches of conglomerate make their appearance, but it is difficult to trace either their thickness or extent. On the western side of the great Edinburgh road, detached rounded hills, also of the trap family, and occasionally presenting an abrupt face of moderate elevation, towards the south-west, stretch onward to the western boundaries of the parish. These rocky eminences sometimes graduate into conglomerate, the nodules of which are always more firmly united at the line of junction; and frequently they betray the most unequivocal symptoms of having been exposed to igneous action. At other times, the basalt passes, by degrees into the rocks of a porphyritic structure, which are usually associated with trap; felspar and augite being the more common ingredients in their composition. In some cases veins of calc-spar, varying from a small fraction of an inch to several inches in width, traverse the more compact rocks; and occasionally these calcareous veins include detached angular portions of the principal rock through which they are disseminated.

*Conglomerate.*—An immense bed of conglomerate, composed chiefly of rounded nodules of porphyritic trap, varying in size from a pea to a man's head, runs along the southern part of the parish, above the farm of St Magdalenes. At various places, thin laminæ, consisting of fine-grained materials, of a siliceous nature, may be observed between the larger boulders of which this rugged rock is composed; and in such cases, it is worthy of remark, that both the degree and direction of the dip coincide exactly with those which belong to the sandstone of the district. Thus, on the north side of St Magdalene's Hill the dip was found to be  $14^{\circ} 30'$

towards N. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$ W., while on the south side of the same hill, at the distance of nearly two miles, the dip was  $13^{\circ}$  towards N. W. At Invermay, six miles onward in the direction of the plane of the strata, the same bed of conglomerate makes its appearance, (but disjoined by the vale of Strathearn,) with similar layers of sandstone interposed, having the same dip and direction. It may also be traced along the southern face of the Sidlaw range, as far as the western shoulder of Kinnoul hill; its continuity being interrupted at this point by the bed of the Tay. It is a curious circumstance, however, that the planes of the lowest strata of the conglomerate, on both sides of the river, are so nearly coincident, as to imply from that circumstance, and other appearances, that they had formerly been united; large detached masses of conglomerate occurring in the bed of the Tay, in the very position they might have been expected to occupy, in consequence of the disruption of the river. Previously to this event, the whole of the parish of Perth, with the flat and extensive district towards Crieff and Dunkeld, on which water-worn materials are everywhere to be found, must have been covered by the waters of a lake, of no ordinary magnitude.

In support of this opinion it may be stated, that trees of large dimensions, chiefly of the oak and willow kind, and other vegetable productions, are frequently found in the alluvial soil on which the town of Perth is built, at a depth varying from 25 to 40 feet below the present surface; and, what is still more confirmatory of it, oaks upwards of two feet in diameter may be still seen protruding from the immense bed of clay which forms the southern bank of the Tay, at the Friartown, in positions not less than 20 feet above the highest level of the river, in spring tides. In the mass of clay containing these organic remains, beds of fine sand, and other indications of aqueous arrangement are distinctly observable: so that at a period, in the annals of geology, comparatively recent, no doubt can be entertained of a barrier having existed across the present channel of the river sufficient to raise its waters far above their present level. In fact, an obstruction of 200 feet in height, in the bed of the Tay, between the hills of Kinnoul and Moncrieff, would cause the waters of the river to find their way to the ocean by the valley of Strathmore; nor are indications wanting that such a state of things once existed, in the chain of lakes, and the gravelly and sandy subsoil, which characterize the district of country stretching between the town of Forfar and Lunan bay.

No ores of any description have been discovered to exist in the

parish ; but agates of great beauty are found in the adjacent parish of Kinnoul ; as well as the sulphate of barytes, the carbonate of strontites, calc-spar, &c.

*Alluvial Deposits.*—The alluvial deposits which cover the stratified rocks in the less elevated parts of the parish consist of gravel formed of rounded portions of granite, quartz, gneiss, and other primitive rocks, intermixed with sand and clay, both of which are frequently in a stratified state.

*Boulders.*—Irregular blocks of granite and gneiss, measuring from 3 to 4 feet in every direction, are occasionally to be found on the borders of fields in the less perfectly cultivated spots of the parish ; but in consequence of the improved state of agriculture which now prevails in this district, these obstructions to the plough have long ceased to be observed in the lower grounds. These boulders, belonging to rocks of the primitive class, must have been rolled from a very great distance to reach their present locality.

The alluvial materials, composing the subsoil of the lower part of the parish, are largely impregnated with the muriate of lime ; and accordingly, the water obtained from wells and pits, sunk in the town and neighbourhood, are, in all cases, found to hold in solution a considerable quantity of the same salt, together with more limited portions of the muriate of soda and magnesia.

*Rivers and Streams.*—The parish is intersected by no running stream deserving of notice, with the exception of the lade for conveying water to the town-mill to be afterwards described, but it is bounded on the north by the Almond, and on the east by the Tay, which is not only the largest river in Scotland, but if the magnitude of streams be estimated by the quantity of water they convey to the sea, the largest in Britain. The surface from which the various tributaries of this noble river derive their supplies, possesses an area of 2750 square miles, whereas the basin of the Spey contains only 1298½ square miles, and that of the Forth 541 square miles. It must be admitted, indeed, that the volume of water, discharged by a river into the ocean, is not always proportional to the extent of the surface which it drains ; since the varying latitude of the district through which it flows, and still more the inequalities of its surface, especially when that surface assumes a mountainous character, modify, in a considerable degree, the quantity of rain that flows into the basin of a river. But in the case of the Tay, as contrasted with the Spey and the Forth, the criterion mentioned may be safely applied ; the geographic position and condition of surface being



pretty much alike, with respect to the basins of the three rivers. It seems probable, therefore, that the Tay discharges about twice as much water as the Spey, and four times as much as the Forth.

*Quantity of Water discharged by the Tay.*—Opposite to the town of Perth, the quantity of water, flowing through a section of the stream, measured with great accuracy for a judicial purpose, was determined by Dr Anderson to be at the rate of 3640 cubic feet per second, at a time when the river was in its mean state. As the area of the basin supplying the various tributaries of the Tay (excluding the basin of the Earn) is equal to 2398 square miles, if we assume the annual fall of rain for the hilly districts to be 30 inches, and suppose that one-third of it is lost by evaporation, and the various processes of vegetation, the mean discharge would be at the rate of 3496 cubic feet per second, which is probably not far from the truth, and differs but little from the above result. In the course of the summer of 1819, the discharge, after a long drought, was reduced to 457 cubic feet per second; and at the close of the summer of 1835, it was still less. From the gradual extension of the system of draining now generally prosecuted in the agricultural districts, a very sensible change has taken place, of late years, in the magnitude of the stream, during great floods, as well as long-continued droughts; and though, owing to the same cause, the Tay now conveys more water to the sea, than it did at a former period, it is an undoubted fact that the size of the stream, in its ordinary state, is considerably reduced.

*Tides.*—The tide from the ocean flows up the river to a point about a mile above the town, in spring tides; and rises, at the harbour, about ten feet above the alveus, or the bed of the stream. At high water, according to the survey of Mr Jardine, the surface of the river attains the same level with the German Ocean; but it appears by the observations of that accurate and distinguished engineer, that the level of the high water at Perth is actually 18 inches higher than it ever attains in the frith of the Tay, three or four miles above Dundee. This singular result is to be ascribed, partly, to the frith of the Tay being so large, that the tide at the mouth of the river begins to subside before it has had sufficient time to fill that capacious basin, through the contracted inlet, by which it is admitted at Broughty Ferry; and partly, to the subsequent elevation of the water above its natural level, in consequence of the gradual contraction of the channel of the river, from the town of Newburgh to the city of Perth.

The *form* of the Tay being so extremely unfavourable to the production of river tides for navigable purposes, it was some years ago suggested by Dr Anderson to the magistrates of Perth, the conservators of the navigation of the river, that they ought to adopt all the means in their power, in co-operation with landed proprietors along its banks, to contract as much as possible the breadth of the stream below the town, by encouraging the construction of embankments in suitable situations, and the junction of islands with either bank, wherever the river flowed in two channels,—compensating, at the same time, for the diminished area of the section of the stream by a corresponding excavation of its bed. Several islands have accordingly been joined of late to the nearest bank, and the result justifies the expectation that the prosecution of similar operations, on a more enlarged scale, will ultimately prove highly beneficial to the navigation of the river; while it will be the means of recovering, at a trifling expense, extensive tracts of rich and valuable land. In fact, were a barrier of loose materials to be thrown across the Tay, from the lands of Pitfour to the west end of Mugdrum island; and were a similar erection to be executed from the eastern extremity of that island to Invergowrie bay, land would be gained, along the north bank of the river, to the extent of upwards of 4000 acres; and the river, by the operation, would be rendered navigable as far as the harbour of Perth, for vessels of 300 tons burden. The embankment would require for its completion, 960,000 cubic yards of earth, which would cost about L. 20,000; and the facing of stone next the river, which would be about 150,000 square yards, would amount to an equal sum; so that the land would be obtained for about L. 10 per acre,—while the rise of the tides at Perth would be increased by the operation, probably from three to four feet\* in perpendicular height.

*Meteorology.*—In describing the meteorological phenomena of the parish, we shall first give a synoptic, or tabular view of the varying physical conditions of the atmosphere, by which the climate of a country is chiefly affected; and conclude with such general observations on the subject, as the facts stated may seem to suggest. The circumstances which mainly contribute to the peculiar character of a climate, we shall describe under the usual

\* The junction of two islands with the western bank of the river, one a little above, and the other a little below the Castle of Elcho, has already had the effect of raising the tides from six to nine inches, and accelerating the time of high water, at Perth, by half an hour.

heads of, *1st*, Atmospheric pressure, *2d*, Temperature; and *3d*, Humidity.

1. *Atmospheric Pressure.*—The mean height of the barometer, as deduced from a register of the state of the instrument for a period of six years, viz. from the beginning of 1829 to the close of 1834, is given for each month in the subjoined table; the observations having been made daily, at nine o'clock in the morning, and half-past eight o'clock in the evening. A column is annexed to point out the deviations of the means, for each month, from the mean height of the barometer, during the entire period of observation.

<i>Months.</i>	<i>Height at</i>	<i>Height at <math>\frac{1}{2}</math></i>	<i>Abberations of</i>
	<i>9 A. M.</i>	<i>past 8 P. M.</i>	<i>Monthly means.</i>
	<i>In.</i>	<i>In.</i>	<i>In.</i>
January,	29.884	29.889	+ .082
February,	.701	.749	— .101
March,	.885	.851	+ .083
April,	.778	.786	— .024
May,	.922	.890	+ .122
June,	.792	.810	— .010
July,	.859	.870	+ .057
August,	.764	.770	— .057
September,	.792	.816	— .010
October,	.809	.825	+ .007
November,	.726	.746	— .076
December,	.763	.750	— .039
<hr/> Means,	<hr/> 29.802	<hr/> 29.808	

The mean pressure, derived from the means of the months, is 29.802 by the observations at nine A. M.; and 29.808 by the observations at half-past eight P. M. The extreme range of the means, on either side of the mean for the entire period of observation, or the differences, in excess and defect, between the latter mean, and the greatest and least means of each month, during the six years of observation, are, in reference to the morning observations, as follows:

<i>Months.</i>	<i>Defect.</i>	<i>Excess.</i>	<i>Extreme range of Means.</i>
	<i>In.</i>	<i>In.</i>	<i>In.</i>
January,	.511	.246	.757
February,	.617	.001	.618
March,	.216	.044	.260
April,	.482	.251	.733
May,	.137	.070	.207
June,	.277	— .008	.269
July,	.288	.078	.366
August,	.205	— .070	.135
September,	.365	.023	.388
October,	.362	.126	.488
November,	.335	— .010	.325
December,	.404	.367	.771

It appears by these observations that the means, in defect, great-

ly exceed those in excess, in reference to the average mean for the whole period. Hence it may be concluded, that the causes which give rise to a diminished pressure are more sudden, as well as more powerful in their operation, than those which tend to produce an opposite condition of the atmosphere; a result which implies that the causes contributing to a low state of the barometer are of local extent, and partial operation; and may be satisfactorily explained by referring them, partly, to a diminution of aerial elasticity, occasioned by the rapid condensation of aqueous vapour; and partly, to the combustion of large portions of carburetted hydrogen, in the upper regions of the atmosphere, over the place of observation. Hence it may be concluded, that an arithmetical mean between two observations of the barometer, the one expressing the highest, and the other the lowest height of the mercury, will rarely give the true average height for the interval of time between the observations. This fact, which seems to have hitherto escaped the notice of meteorologists, is of considerable importance.

The annual range, or the difference between the highest and lowest state of the barometer, in the course of each year, from the beginning of 1814, to the close of 1822, being a period of nine years, was as subjoined:

<i>Years.</i>	<i>Highest.</i>	<i>Lowest.</i>	<i>Annual range.</i>
	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>
1814,	30.785	28.835	1.950
1815,	30.684	28.682	2.002
1816,	30.802	28.534	2.268
1817,	30.744	28.532	2.212
1818,	30.635	28.253	2.382
1819,	30.586	28.890	1.696
1820,	31.074	28.717	2.357
1821,	30.876	28.255	2.621
1822,	30.635	28.424	2.211
<i>Means,</i>	<i>30.755</i>	<i>28.569</i>	<i>2.189</i>

The mean annual range thus deduced from observations for a period of nine consecutive years is 2.189 inches: the extreme range for the same period, being the difference between the highest state of the barometer, which took place on the 9th of July 1820, and the lowest state of it, which occurred on the 5th of March 1818, is 2.821 inches. The greatest change observed to take place within a limited period occurred in the year 1820; when, ten days after the very unusual altitude which the mercurial column reached on the 9th of January, it sunk to 28.830, being a change of 2.244 inches, in that short interval of time. We have already stated, that the mean height of the barometer at Perth, deduced from the observations for a period of six years, viz.

from 1829 to 1834, inclusive, was 29.802 inches; but we may now remark, that if the mean height of the instrument be derived from the observations from 1814 to 1822, inclusive, it would somewhat exceed the former result, being 29.857 inches. It may be added, that the difference between this mean, and the mean of the highest altitude, viz. 30.755, is only .898 inches; whereas the difference between it and the mean of the lowest altitudes, viz. 28.569, is 1.298 inches. Hence it appears that the aberrations of the barometrical pressures from either side of the mean, are greater in defect than in excess, in the case of the annual, as well as in the case of the monthly results; a state of things, the cause of which we have already endeavoured to explain.

2. *The Temperature.*—The mean temperature of the parish, as deduced from the annual mean, by Six's thermometer, according to observations continued from the beginning of 1829 to the end of 1834, is 48°.14. The mean obtained by the annual means, from observations taken at nine o'clock in the morning, and half-past eight o'clock in the evening, is 47°.9. The mean of the annual extremes, derived from the greatest heat and greatest cold, for each year, is 48°.25; and the mean of the highest and lowest temperature for the entire period of years is 47°.5. Lastly, the temperature of the water, drawn from a well of considerable depth, was 48°.9, at the beginning of September.

The mean temperature of each month, derived from a period of six years, and consequently from upwards of 180 observations, is as follows, the means being those of the morning observations.

<i>Months.</i>	<i>Means for 6 years.</i>	<i>Highest means.</i>	<i>Lowest means.</i>	<i>Range of means.</i>
January,	37.032	41.000	32.837	8.163
February,	39.750	41.059	37.679	3.380
March,	42.812	45.355	39.774	5.581
April,	46.256	47.800	43.769	4.031
May,	52.355	56.581	49.871	6.710
June,	56.978	58.333	54.400	3.933
July,	59.712	61.000	58.193	2.807
August,	57.613	61.613	54.839	6.774
September,	56.387	56.467	51.133	5.334
October,	49.876	54.097	47.903	6.194
November,	41.744	43.807	40.533	3.334
December,	39.357	41.966	36.645	5.323

It appears that in different years, the month of July possesses the greatest uniformity of temperature, and the month of January the least. The temperature of March, April, and May, especially that of the last of these months, has a considerable range in different seasons, owing to the variable winds which prevail in our

spring; and the temperature of August and September seems to be still more fluctuating; a circumstance that occasions the late and early harvests, which happen in different years. The lowest temperature, as indicated by Six's thermometer, within the period to which these observations refer, was on the 26th of December 1830, when the instrument stood at  $16^{\circ}$ ; and the greatest heat, as ascertained with the same instrument, was  $79^{\circ}$ , that temperature having occurred on the 28th of July of the same year; the greatest annual range being thus  $63^{\circ}$ . The mean annual range, however, is only  $57.5^{\circ}$ .

The most abrupt change of temperature occurs between October and November, and to this we must, probably, ascribe the increase of pulmonary complaints, which take place at that gloomy and disagreeable season.

The causes which conspire to produce a diminution of temperature, like those which tend to occasion a low state of the barometer, seem to operate to a wider extent than the causes which give rise to an elevation of temperature; and accordingly we find, that, for a given period of observation, the thermometer is generally depressed further below the mean temperature, than it is elevated above it. Thus if the mean temperature of Perth be estimated at  $47.95$ , which is the mean of the different results already given, the greatest heat by Six's thermometer, for a period of twenty years, was in no instance observed to exceed  $79^{\circ}$ , or  $31.05$  above the mean; whereas the greatest cold within the same period was found to be  $-10^{\circ}$ , or  $57.95$  below the mean. This very reduced temperature took place on the night between the 17th and the 18th of January 1820, when the thermometer, in a northern exposure, sunk to  $-10^{\circ}$ . During the whole of the following day, the instrument remained under zero, except for a short interval at noon, when it rose to  $1^{\circ}$ . The effects produced by this great reduction of temperature were such as are usually observed to accompany the most intense cold, in high latitudes. The evaporation from the surface of the ice, which then covered the Tay, being condensed in the air almost immediately after its formation, produced over the river a partial fog, which being gently wafted to the neighbouring trees, attached itself by degrees to the naked branches, and gave birth to innumerable and diversified exfoliations of the most singular beauty. And so great was the intensity of the cold within doors, that the windows of apartments, where a constant fire was kept up, were covered with a thick coating of ice, which

obscured the light of day; while liquors of various kinds were completely frozen, in situations where it might have been supposed they were beyond the reach of frost. Had the cold been of longer duration, or less interrupted by occasional remissions of severity, its physiological effects would have been more fatal to animal and vegetable life than it actually proved. During the short time it continued, several instances occurred in the vicinity of Perth, of persons perishing by its intensity; domestic animals were found frozen to death, in attitudes which proved the sudden cessation of their vital functions; and in some instances, the trunks of the largest trees were reft from top to bottom, by the congelation of their juices, as if they had been shivered by lightning. Among the peculiarities of this remarkable cold, it is deserving of notice, that on the morning of the 22d, when the thaw commenced, the thermometer rose from  $-1^{\circ}$  to  $51^{\circ}$  in the course of three hours, being a transition nearly as great, as if we had passed in that short interval from the ordinary cold of winter to the extreme heat of summer. A change of temperature, not quite so abrupt, but more injurious in its consequences, and scarcely less remarkable in degree, considering the season of the year in which it occurred, was experienced at the end of October, of the present year, 1836. On the evening of the 28th of the month, a fall of snow commenced, which covered the ground to the depth of several inches. The wind blowing violently from the north, a keen frost set in, and continued with increasing severity during the whole of the 29th and 30th, till on the night of the last of these days, the thermometer sunk to  $12^{\circ}$ , being below the average of the greatest winter cold for a period of several years. The potatoes, owing to the coldness and lateness of the season, being still in the ground, were in many places greatly injured; and in the high districts, many fields of oats were completely covered with snow.

3. *The Humidity of the Atmosphere.*—In a large proportion of meteorological observations, the pressure and temperature of the atmosphere are given with greater precision than its hygrometric condition. This is to be ascribed, partly to the want of a suitable instrument for determining the quantity of moisture contained, at different times, in the atmosphere; but still more to the abstruse and intricate nature of the subject itself, which requires for its due elucidation, not only the greatest accuracy of observation, but the subsequent application of tedious and difficult calculations, for the purpose of deducing the requisite results. These results

may be arranged under the heads of, 1st, the *Absolute Humidity* of the air; 2d, its *Relative Humidity*; and 3dly, the *Temperature* to which the air must be reduced, before the moisture which it contains begins to assume the liquid form, or the state of visible vapour. As the subject of atmospheric humidity is still, notwithstanding its great importance, very imperfectly understood, we shall, before giving the results of our observations, endeavour to lay before the general reader a brief explanation of the several points, to be determined by hygrometrical observations.

For that purpose, we may begin with stating that the quantity of moisture which can exist in a given volume of air, or in any other substance having an affinity for moisture, is regulated, and limited almost entirely by temperature. Thus when air is perfectly damp, or saturated with moisture, 7320 cubic inches of it are capable of holding in the vaporous state, the subjoined quantities of moisture, at the temperatures to which they are annexed: At 32° it can contain 1 grain; at 53° 2 do.; at 66° 4 do.; at 75° 8 do.; 83½° 16 do.; at 89° 32 do. Hence it appears, that the quantity of moisture capable of being held in a vaporous state, by a given volume of air, increases in a faster ratio than the temperature,—a state of things which enables us to explain a great number of meteorological phenomena connected with the humidity of the atmosphere. Thus it affords a simple and satisfactory explanation of the reason why the intermixture of different strata of air, by means of mountains, electrical action, or any other physical cause, is usually followed by a cloudy atmosphere, and not unfrequently by rain. It accounts for the increasing dampness of the evening air; explains the cause of the copious rains which fall in tropical climates; and the reason of the rapid progress that is produced in vegetation by a slight increase of temperature, in consequence of the still greater increase of atmospheric humidity.

The absolute humidity of the air being the quantity of moisture which a given volume of it actually contains, it is quite unnecessary to add anything to what has been briefly stated on this head, farther than simply to repeat, that it can never exceed a precise and determinate quantity, at a given temperature, however long the air might remain over water; but the relative humidity is of a variable nature, and depends fully as much upon temperature as upon the presence of moisture. To render the meaning of the expressions perfectly clear, we shall assume a particular case, and



suppose that 7320 cubic inches of air contain two grains of moisture in the vaporous state : If the temperature were exactly 53°, the air thus charged with humidity would be perfectly damp, or contain its maximum quantity of moisture at that temperature ; but if the temperature of the same air were to be raised to 66°, in which case it could hold in solution four grains of moisture, or double of what it actually contained, the relative humidity would be expressed by  $\frac{2}{4}$  or  $\frac{1}{2}$  ; complete dampness being denoted by unity. Moreover, if a hygrometer, whose indications were rigidly conformable to the humidity of the surrounding air, should be exposed to an atmosphere containing in solution the quantity of moisture we have supposed ; and if the scale of the instrument were so graduated that zero was placed at perfect dryness, and 100° at perfect dampness, the index would point exactly to 50°. Moreover, if the temperature of the same air were afterwards raised to 75°, the index of the hygrometer would descend to 25°, now implying that the moisture contained in the aerial medium was only one-fourth of the whole quantity it was capable of holding in the vaporous state, at that elevated temperature.\* It thus appears that the relative humidity of air, containing the very same quantity of moisture, might assume an unlimited variety of indications, as given by a hygrometer : Nay, however paradoxical it may seem, air may, in many cases, become absolutely drier, and yet be relatively damper.

After the explanations which have been given of absolute and relative humidity, we need scarcely remark, that whatever be the quantity of moisture contained in a given volume of air, there will always be a temperature, more or less depressed below that of the atmosphere, which will be barely sufficient for maintaining that moisture in the state of vapour. The smallest depression of temperature below that point, which is termed the *point of deposition*, and by some the *dew-point*, will give rise to a separation of moisture from the air, in the form of visible vapour, producing fog, rain, or snow, according to the extent and rapidity of the change of temperature ; and according to the height in the atmosphere at which the change takes place.

For ordinary purposes, the point of deposition may be determined with sufficient accuracy in the following manner : Fill a

\* It may be proper to mention that there is no hygroscopic substance known, which possesses a dilatation by moisture that is exactly proportional to the relative humidity of the air, to which it may be exposed.

cylindrical glass vessel, or a common tumbler, with cold water, and observe if the outside of it become dim with moisture; if a deposition take place very quickly, the water is too cold, and must be allowed to stand for a few minutes to receive an increase of temperature from the air, after which the experiment must be repeated, either with another tumbler, or with the one already used; provided its surface be previously wiped with a dry cloth. When the water is brought to a temperature barely sufficient to cause a deposition of moisture on the external surface of the tumbler, that temperature is the point of deposition, and may therefore be ascertained by suspending a thermometer in the water. On the other hand, if the temperature of the water is not low enough to occasion a precipitation of moisture on the surface of the tumbler, it must be reduced by artificial means, by ice for example, (when it can be procured,) or by any of the ordinary frigorific mixtures used for the purpose, till an incipient deposition of moisture is just perceived. When due precaution is employed, the point of deposition may be ascertained by the method we have described, (which was first proposed by Dr Dalton,) with greater accuracy, than by means of the costly and troublesome instrument called Daniell's hygrometer. Thus, suppose it had been found that a deposition of moisture ceased to take place, when the temperature of the water was  $48^{\circ}$ , but that it was perceptible when it was  $47^{\circ}$ , the latter might be regarded as the point of deposition, and since it lies between  $32^{\circ}$  and  $53^{\circ}$ , it would be found by an easy calculation, even from the scanty table we have given, that at  $47^{\circ}$  air in a maximum state of vaporization, ought to contain about 1.7 grains of moisture in 7320 cubic inches. Let it be farther supposed that the temperature of the air at the time of the experiment was  $53^{\circ}$ , at which temperature the same volume of air could hold in solution two grains of moisture, and the relative humidity would be expressed by  $\frac{1.7}{2}$  or .85, \* complete dampness being denoted by unity.

Having thus explained the means by which the absolute quantity of moisture in a given volume of the air; its relative humidity and the point of deposition, may all be easily determined, we shall now proceed to give the results of observations connected with the mean hygrometric state of the air, for a period of three years, viz. from the beginning of the year 1818 to the end of 1820.

\* The most rigid calculation would give the relative humidity in the circumstances stated, at .824.

<i>Months.</i>	<i>Minimum temperature.</i>	<i>Point of deposition.</i>	<i>Relative humidity.</i>	<i>No. of grains of moisture in 1000 cub. inches.</i>
January,	30.1	30.5	.863	1.31
February,	32.5	31.4	.838	1.41
March,	34.4	31.7	.779	1.36
April,	37.1	37.7	.743	1.67
May,	43.5	41.7	.786	1.91
June,	47.9	46.6	.762	2.25
July,	51.6	51.1	.797	2.55
August,	51.2	50.8	.798	2.51
September,	46.6	45.8	.787	2.17
October,	42.2	41.1	.812	1.90
November,	37.8	37.3	.867	1.66
December,	32.0	31.9	.834	1.39
Means,	40.5	39.8	.805	1.80

The absolute quantity of moisture which exists in a vaporous state in the atmosphere, depending chiefly upon the temperature, is greatest, as might have been expected, in the month of July, and least in January. The month of April appears to possess the smallest relative humidity, and is therefore, in the ordinary acceptance of the expression, the driest month of the year; while the month of November is the dampest. The mean hygrometric state of the air, at Perth, appears to be when the atmosphere is charged with .805, or about four-fifths of the entire quantity of moisture it is capable of holding in solution at the mean temperature.

The coincidence between the point of deposition and the minimum temperature of the night, so well exemplified in the above table, is a result that might have been anticipated from the general principles of hygrometry; but it was first established by Dr Anderson that the quantity of moisture existing in the air, over any district, operates as a check upon the diminution of temperature,—the transition of the aqueous vapour to the liquid form causing its latent caloric to assume the sensible state, and thus effectually counteracting the tendency of the cooling processes to which the nocturnal air is exposed in the absence of the sun. This fact, so important in meteorology, affords a fine illustration of the reason why the windward sides of continents and extensive islands are warmer than their leeward sides in the same parallel of latitude; and why dry and parched tracts of land are always found to be liable to severe cold during the night.\*—See Edin. Phil. Journal, No. xxi. p. 161.

\* Sir David Brewster has endeavoured, with much ingenuity and some appearance of plausibility, to establish a relation between the magnetic poles and the poles of greatest cold, which, like the former, he conceives shift their position on the surface of the earth according to some secular law of variation. He has accordingly proposed an equation, which has the merit of expressing the mean temperature of a place with considerable accuracy. It must not, however, be regarded on that account as confirming the hypothesis; but merely as an empirical formula, which embraces

*Rain.*—The quantity of rain that falls in any district is regulated chiefly by the absolute humidity of the air; but it is modified in a considerable degree by the local circumstances which contribute to produce an intermixture of the different strata of the atmosphere, particularly the vicinity of lofty mountains, and the vicissitudes of temperature. The hills around Perth being of moderate elevation, the quantity of rain observed to fall in the immediate neighbourhood of the town seems to correspond pretty nearly with the mean quantity for the latitude.

The following table exhibits the mean quantity of rain for each month, derived from a period of six years, viz. from the beginning of 1829 to the close of 1834, together with the deviations in excess and defect during the period:—

<i>Months.</i>	<i>Means in inches.</i>	<i>Deviations in excess.</i>	<i>Deviations in defect.</i>	<i>Total range.</i>
January,	2.55	2.65	1.85	4.50
February,	2.35	2.15	1.15	3.30
March,	1.72	1.38	.62	2.00
April,	2.05	.85	1.25	2.10
May,	1.86	1.84	.61	2.45
June,	2.72	1.78	.92	2.70
July,	3.30	2.55	2.10	4.65
August,	3.22	2.18	1.67	3.85
September,	3.10	1.90	.90	2.80
October,	2.72	2.28	1.87	4.15
November,	2.48	.32	.48	.80
December,	2.82	1.18	2.07	3.25

The columns entitled “deviations in excess and defect” exhibit the extent to which the extreme quantity of rain for each month has most exceeded or fallen short of the monthly mean during the entire period of observation; and the column entitled “total range” shows the difference between the greatest and least quantity for each month during the same time. Hence it appears, that the greatest anomalies with respect to rain occur in different seasons in the month of July; and the smallest in November. The former is to be ascribed to the partial but heavy rains which

within certain limits the results of observation; for it is deserving of remark, that while no explanation founded on physical principles is assigned as the basis of the expression, the formula fails in its application to some important cases, particularly in determining the temperature of places to the leeward of mountain ranges within the tropics. The meridian of greatest cold, which, according to the hypothesis, are in 80° east longitude, in the case of the Asiatic pole; and in 100° of west longitude, in the case of the American pole, are, in each continent, to the leeward of the loftiest mountain ranges by which they are traversed, nearly in a meridional direction; being the very positions where we ought to expect, according to the views given in the text, the commencement of the depressed temperature that is experienced to the eastward of the Stoney Mountains in America, and of the Uralian mountains in Asia. On the other hand, should it be established by subsequent observations, that the meridians of greatest cold advance to the westward of the chain of these mountains, the hypothesis of Sir David Brewster would acquire some claim to the attention of philosophers, however little it may be supported at present by any known analogies.

accompany thunder storms in July ; and the latter to the uniformly cloudy weather which generally prevails in November. The mean annual quantity derived from the above table is 30.89 inches ; but if it be deduced from a period of sixteen years, it is only 25.948 inches, which is probably nearer the annual average. The minimum quantity, belonging to the period of sixteen years, was 15.59 inches, being the quantity in 1814 ; and the maximum, 31.01 inches, which fell in 1817.

The greatest quantity of rain observed to have fallen at Perth, in a short period of time, was on the 7th of October 1823, when  $2\frac{1}{10}$  inches fell in fifteen hours.

The driest months of the year are March and April, and the wettest July and August. The cold north-easterly winds which generally prevail in the two former months, come to this country from the northern regions of Europe, charged with humidity at a low point of deposition ; whereas, in the two latter months, the temperature of the season having attained its maximum state, the absolute humidity of the air is increased in a corresponding degree. Hence the reason of the great dryness of the air in March and April, and of its opposite condition in July and August.

The results obtained by a rain-gauge at the top of a round tower on the summit of a detached conical hill belonging to Lord Gray, which is 612 feet above the level of the sea, and about 3 miles to the eastward of Perth, considerably exceed the quantity of rain collected in gauges placed on the plain at the bottom of the hill, and about half a mile to the south-west of it. Thus, for a period of six years, viz. from the beginning of 1814 to the end of 1819, the mean quantity of rain collected in a gauge placed in the centre of the garden of Kinfauns Castle, was 26.15 inches ; whereas that which was received in a gauge at the top of the tower, amounted to 34.965 inches. In 1816, which was a remarkably rainy season, especially during the harvest months, the former gave 24.95 inches, one-half of which fell in July, August, September, and October ; and the latter no less than 52.43 inches. This singular result receives a satisfactory explanation from the circumstance, that the prevailing wind of the district being from the south-west, and there being no hill of equal altitude for many miles in that direction, the air, when transported to the summit of the hill, is considerably reduced in temperature, and being previously charged with humidity, to a degree corresponding with the temperature of the plains over which it has been wafted, it is frequently cooled down below the point of deposition, and thus deprived of a portion

of its humidity, either in the form of small rain or of a dense fog, which, though minute in quantity, is sufficient, by the frequency of the process, to affect the rain-gauge.

*Winds.*—The prevailing winds in the neighbourhood of Perth blow from between the south-east and south-west, but most frequently from the latter quarter, the most severe gales being experienced from the same point of the horizon. By taking the means for a period of six years, viz. from the beginning of 1829 to the end of 1834, the number of days which the wind blew from the principal quarters of the compass was as subjoined.

Quarters.	No of days.	Greatest deviations from means.	
		In excess.	In defect.
N. and N. E.	23½	4½	6½
E. and S. E.	97½	11½	16½
S. and S. W.	174	39	36
W. and N. W.	70	41	26

*Sky.*—In every region of the globe, the face of the sky presents an aspect which is intimately connected with geographical position, and the character of the earth's surface, whether flat or mountainous, over which it is spread. Thus in the equatorial zones, the heavens are more serene, as well as more elevated in appearance, than in the less genial climes belonging to the higher latitudes, in consequence of the decrement of heat, in the atmosphere, being more rapid as we advance from the equator towards the poles. Hence the region of clouds becomes depressed in a corresponding degree; especially in situations where the inequalities of the surface contribute to intermix the different strata of the atmosphere, and to produce that blending of vaporized air, upon which the formation of clouds chiefly depends. Though Perth, as already noticed, stands extremely low (being only a few feet above the level of the ocean); and though it is closely surrounded on all sides, except towards the north, by hills, the flanks of which descend to the plain on which the town is situated; yet these hills being of moderate elevation, the hygrometric state of the incumbent atmosphere is little affected by their vicinity, and the air is accordingly more dry and clear, than might have been expected. Fogs are not more frequent than in the open plains; and the diseases resulting from a damp soil, and a humid atmosphere, are of rare occurrence, or rather altogether unknown. The gravelly and sandy subsoil of the district, and the perpetual change of air occasioned by the current of the river, in all states of the weather, contribute to render the climate of Perth more salubrious, than that of many towns pos-

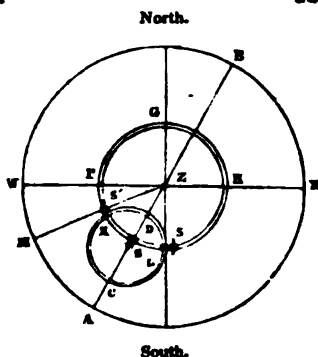
sessing a greater elevation above the level of the sea. The annual number of fair days is, according to the observations for six consecutive years, 253; and the number of days on which there was either rain or snow, 112. Hence, the relation of the former to the latter is more than that of 2 to 1.

*Thunder.*—There is no recorded instance of a thunder-storm having been attended with fatal effects in Perth, or in its immediate vicinity. This is to be ascribed to the lowness of its situation, and the influence of the hills, by which it is nearly on all sides surrounded. The elevated ground in the neighbourhood, being for the most part covered with trees, these act as natural conductors, by which the electric fluid is slowly dissipated, before it has been permitted to accumulate in such a degree, as to be in a condition to produce violent explosions.

*Aurora Borealis.*—The aurora borealis is not uncommon, more especially in the winter months, when it displays all the varied and fantastic appearances, which that remarkable meteor usually exhibits in high northern latitudes. When distinguished by more than ordinary activity and brilliancy, it not unfrequently terminates its restless developements, by assuming the appearance of a splendid arch of light, about  $5^{\circ}$  in breadth, spanning the heavens in a direction that is always at right angles to the magnetic meridian. Occasionally the coruscations are tinged with the prismatic colours, in which the red greatly predominates; but the other colours, though faint, are also discernible. The appearance of the meteor is generally considered to be a precursor of unsettled and stormy weather.

*Parhelia.*—Lunar rainbows are seldom seen; and parhelia or mock-suns have been still more rarely observed at Perth. Of the latter, however, a striking instance occurred on the 30th of April 1835, the various phenomena of which were accurately measured with suitable instruments. About mid-day a luminous circle, passing through the sun, and parallel to the horizon, began to make its appearance. This circle, which was about half a degree in breadth, was intersected by a halo encompassing the sun, and tinged all round with the colours of the rainbow, the red and yellow being as usual, in such meteors, next the sun. The altitude of the sun's centre at half-past one o'clock, when the phenomenon was brightest, was  $45^{\circ} 15'$ ; and at that time it exhibited the appearance represented by the subjoined diagram, which is a stereographic projection of it on the plane of the horizon of Perth: In this representation N. E. S. W. is the horizon; Z. the zenith; S.

the true sun; s. and s. two parhelia or mock-suns; F, G, H, a luminous circle surrounding the zenith; C. K. D. L. a smaller luminous arch surrounding the sun. The latter halo, when carefully examined, was found to be elliptical, the longer axis being  $43^\circ$ . Beyond the halo, C, K, D, L, which exhibited very distinctly all the prismatic colours, the two parhelia, s and s', appeared at the distance of  $1^\circ$  from the intersection of the circles.



The following arches were measured:  $AC. = 22^\circ 30'$ ;  $CS. = 22^\circ 45'$ ;  $SD. = 20^\circ 15'$ ;  $AM. = 42^\circ 0'$ . The parhelia, though considerably inferior in brightness to the true sun, were extremely luminous. The phenomenon was visible, from about noon till two o'clock, when it gradually vanished. The sky during the appearance of the meteor was entirely free from clouds, but somewhat hazy. The wind had been blowing for several days from the NE. and the temperature was low for the season.

*Botany.*—The rarer plants found in the parish are the *Geranium columbinum*; it grows near the summit of Moredun hill: the *Sedum anglicum*; it grows on the rocks at Craighend: the *Erythræa centaurium* of Persoon, or *Chironia centaurium* of Curtis; it grows on the dry pastures near these rocks: the *Botrychium Lunaria* of Willdenow; it grows on the North Inch of Perth: the *Potentilla argentea*, it grows sparingly on the rocks near Craighend, but more plentifully on the rocks in the parish of Kinnoul; the *Grammitis Cetarach*; it grows on the side of the Moredun hill; but it is found in greater abundance on Kinnoul hill, and in the den of Pitrodie, parish of Kilspindie.

The species of plants used for culinary, medicinal, and other purposes are what are generally found in other lowland parishes in Scotland.

The soil appears to be congenial to the growth of every sort of timber, though not all equally so. There are no trees remarkable for either age, size, or form. There are no forests. The plantations extend to about 750 acres.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There is no separate history of either the parish or town of Perth. By many of the Scottish historians particular mention is made of the town. The chief of these historians are Geoffrey de Monmouth, Richard de Circenster, and Fordun, Major, Hollinshed,



Boetius, Buchanan, and Sir David Dalrymple. Mr Henry Adamson, son of James Adamson, Provost of Perth, and brother of Dr Adamson, Principal of the University of Edinburgh, wrote a metrical history of it about the year 1620, which was published after his death in the year 1638. It contains a faithful narrative of many interesting facts, but it is intermingled with traditions on which no reliance can be placed.

For a considerable period after Boetius wrote his history, it was a generally received opinion that Bertha and Perth were two distinct towns; that the former, having been destroyed by a land flood of the rivers Tay and Almond in 1210, the latter was thereafter built in a contiguous situation. In this he was implicitly followed by Hollinshed, Buchanan, and other writers. Boetius had evidently as his text-book the *Scotichronicon* of Fordun, which was written 1377, on which almost all the early history of the country is founded. But in the *Scotichronicon* there is not a sentence which gives the least authority to believe that Bertha was a town distinct from Perth—that they were not one and the same; indeed, the contrary is there distinctly taught. “*Villam quoque quæ olim dicebatur Bertha, nunc quoque Perth, in Scotia aqua de Taya cum aqua de Almond maxima ex parte pertransiit.*” Lib. viii. c. 72. Boetius wrote in the year 1525–26. He was a native of Dundee. In consequence of certain privileges granted by the Scottish Kings to Perth, but denied to Dundee, the inhabitants of the latter place were disposed to depreciate the former, and Boetius seems to have partaken of this spirit, and thus to have fallen into a discreditable violation of historical truth. But what brings complete discredit on his story is the language used in many charters previous to 1210, referring to certain localities in the town. It may be sufficient to refer to one of them, which belonged to the Abbey of Scone, and is contained in the old chartulary in the Advocates’ Library of Edinburgh.\*

\* “Charter of William the King to Henry Bald concerning a land in Perth.

“William, by the grace of God, King of Scots, to all good men of his whole realm, clergy and laity, greeting: Know all who are or shall be me to have given and consigned, and by this my present charter to have confirmed, to Henry Bald, that land in my burgh of Perth which James, the son of Simon and others, my Provost of Perth, have delivered to him according to my precept: To wit, that land which is in the front of the street which leads from the church of St John Baptist to the Castle of Perth on the east side, opposite to the house of Andrew, the son of Simon, (illam scilicet quæ est in fronte vici illius qui tendit de ecclesia Sancti Johannis Baptisti usque ad castellum de Pert, ex orientali parte contra domum Andree filii Simonis,) To be held be him and his heirs, of me and my heirs in fee and heritage freely, peaceably, fully and honourably, rendering theme yearly to my Chamberlain one pound of pepper at the feast of St Michael. Witnesses, Hugh, Chancellor; Philip de Valoines, my Chamberlain; Malcolm, son of Earl Duncan; William de Hay; Alexander Sheriff of Stirling; Roger de Mortimer; Philip de Lundin; at Perth 14th day of April.”

When this charter was granted may be inferred from the following facts. Hugh Roxburgh, Bishop of Glasgow, was made Chancellor of Scotland in 1189, and died in 1199. Philip de Valoines was made great Chamberlain about the year 1180, and held the office about thirty-three years. Duncan M'Duff the father of Malcolm Earl of Fife died in 1203, and William de Hay died before the year 1199. The charter then must have been granted before the end of 1199, that is, ten years before Boetius' ancient Bertha was destroyed, and a new city Perth built in another place. And it may be proper to observe, that every person who is acquainted with Perth at the present day can without the least difficulty, and with the utmost certainty, point out the localities described in the charter. So that Perth now is exactly where and what it locally was in 1199.

The Picts, after they embraced the Christian faith, consecrated the church and bridge of Perth to John the Baptist. John, they appear to have made the tutelary saint of the town. Hence it was called St Johnstoun. In the *Scotichronicon*, Vol. ii. p. 99, it is called St Johnstoun, as the name by which it had been previously known. "Villa St Johannis, quae nunc Perth dicitur, Bertha dicebatur." Unde

Villa Johannis pluribus annis Bertha dicebatur ;  
Perth quoque dicitur, ac, quia vincitur sic vocitatur.

But there is no public document in which it is designated St Johnstone.

*Burgh Seal.*—In the reign of Alexander II. A. D. 1213–1249, the burgh had a common seal, but its particular character and impression are unknown. Of the seal which it had in the year 1400, many impressions are still in existence, appended to the charters of the religious houses of Perth.\*



On the obverse it represented the beheading of John—Salome

\* This seal is appended to several charters of the following dates: Nov. 1, 1454; Aug. 12, 1457; Dec. 14, 1470.

standing by and holding a platter to receive the head. On the reverse, he is represented enshrined, surrounded by a number of priests. Around both sides, the legend is "S. communitatis ville Sancti Johannis Baptiste de Berth." The seal used since the Reformation bears a golden eagle displayed, viz. an eagle of the double or imperial kind—the two heads looking opposite ways. A red escutcheon charged with the holy lamb passant, carrying the banner of St Andrew, with a silver double tressure, surmounts the breast of the eagle. The legend at the bottom, "pro lege, rege, et grege."

*Antiquity of the Town.*—But Perth must have been a place of considerable note long before the period when existing history refers to it. Near to the east end, and on the south side of the High Street, there is a house having on its front a marble stone, bearing the arms of the family of Aldie, with this inscription, "Here stood the house of the Green." This house of the Green, which was removed by Colonel Mercer of Aldie about fifty years ago, for the erection of the present one, stood on what had been for ages reckoned the site of an old British temple, which, when Hollinshed wrote his history, 1571, was believed to have been built by the son of Regan, second daughter of Lear, who governed Britain long before the birth of our Saviour, and dedicated by him to Mars. The belief of this rests on the authority of Geoffrey, who wrote his history in the beginning of the twelfth century, and in the reign of Henry I. In connection with this tradition, it may not be out of place to state, that the workmen, when they had dug about three feet below the level of the street, to find a proper foundation for the present building, discovered two parallel arches. Under each of these, they found an apartment 26 feet long and 14 broad. The walls were  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick, and strongly cemented. In the one there was a door to the south, and in the other one to the north. In digging some time since in the grounds of Mud Hall, about fourteen miles from Perth, in the parish of Bendochy, several similar subterraneous buildings were discovered, which, when cleared of the ashes and earth with which they were filled, were found to be about 40 feet long, and 6 feet wide, and 5 feet deep. Such buildings answer to the description which Tacitus gives of those of the Germans, *De Mor. German.* c. 16. See Dr Easton's *Statistical Account of Kirriemuir*, p. 177, for similar appearances in that parish.

It is a generally received opinion that Perth was built and fortified by Agricola. This opinion is founded on a passage in the "Description of Britain by Richard de Circenster," an historian

of the fourteenth century. Speaking of the Horestii, a people who inhabited the greater part of the county of Fife, and that portion of the county of Perth which lies to the south of the Tay, he says that their towns were Alauna, Lindum, and Victoria,—that the last named of these was the most illustrious not only in name but in reality, and that it was built by Agricola on the river Tay, 20 miles from the exit of that river into the sea. There is here a description of the situation of Perth as accurate as could be looked for in a history written at that period. The distance between it and the exit of the river into the sea is indeed more than 20 miles. It is 26 miles. But Hoffman, in his *Lexicon*, published 1677, gives us computations of distances which very much correspond with that here given by Richard, supposing Victoria and Perth to be the same place. Hoffman says that Perth is distant from Dunkeld 12 miles, whereas it is 15—from Stirling 23 miles, whereas it is 32—from Edinburgh 32 miles, whereas it is 43; and it is a strong corroborative circumstance, that there are four military or Roman roads from different quarters, all leading to, if not centering in, Perth: one from Aberdour through the town of Kinross; another from North Queensferry through Kinross also; a third from Stirling through Dunblane, and the Roman camp at Ardoch; and a fourth from Abernethy. These have been described and commented on by Sir Robert Sibbald in his history.

Perth was a burgh in the reign of Edgar 1106, as appears from a charter granted by Mauricius de Cromad, in favour of John Mercer, burgher of Perth, of the lands of Meicklour.\* The charter of confirmation by James VI. makes particular mention of one which had been granted to it by David I., who died 1153. King David's charter was renewed and confirmed by William the Lion, which is extant.†

*Ancient Metropolis.*—Prior to James II. Perth was the capital of Scotland. The Kings were crowned at Scone, in its immediate vicinity, and had a residence in the city. That monarch was born in the Castle of Edinburgh, and was crowned there 1447, whither the Parliament and courts of justice were in a short time thereafter removed. But Perth retained its priority as the capital till 1482, in the

\* See *Statistical Account of Perth* by Rev. Mr. Scott.

† In the city records for 1657, there is the following entry respecting inventory of the town's writs: "King William foundit the burgh of Perth anno Domini 109. ii. c. ten years, with divers privileges, and decessat within four years after he rang fourtyn years fra the incarnatione 109. ii. c. fiftie-six years;" and which inventory mentions a charter by King William (now referred to) to the town of Perth, after the destruction thereof by the great inundation of water, and describing the privileges granted thereby, as also other charters by King Robert the Second, King James II. —being twelve in all, and which are severally described.

reign of James III. The estimation in which the town was held by James VI. appears from the following extract from the charter of confirmation of the whole rights and privileges of the burgh of Perth, 1600. "Our most renowned predecessors have not only beautified, but abundantly heaped on our said royal burgh of Perth greatest benefices and egregious gifts, liberties, privileges, and immunities, that almost all the donations, liberties, benefits, and privileges conferred on other royal burghs of our kingdom are referred to our said royal burgh of Perth; and the benefices conferred on the said royal burgh of Perth (as being first bestowed on our said royal burgh of Perth, and in a manner depending thereon,) are granted as agreeing thereto." In several of the public writings, especially in the time of James IV. it is designated the City of Perth, and it still bears the title. At present it ranks next to Edinburgh on the list of royal burghs.

It was, at an early period, a fortified town. It is not known by whom, or under whose reign its walls were originally built.\* On the outside of these, there was a fosse or moat, supplied with water by an aqueduct from the river Almond. Its strength as a fortified town in those times may be inferred from the fact that it was repeatedly subjected to a siege. In the year 1311, Robert Bruce invested it with the most powerful force which he could muster. For a considerable time he pressed the siege with great vigour, but without effect, as he wanted a competent power of engines. He was obliged to withdraw his troops, and 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 true and faithful followers by whose aid he had now nearly conquered Scotland. But he could not relinquish his purpose, and suffer this single walled town for ever to baffle his efforts. Therefore, providing himself with scaling-ladders, and such other instruments as he could procure, he speedily renewed the siege at a time when those within were pleasing themselves, with the persuasion that they were enclosed within impregnable walls, and had no siege to fear. He chose a dark night, and in its silence, taking a chosen band, conducted them himself in person, partly wading and partly swimming across the ditch, deep, broad, and full of water, that surrounded the walls. His men were animated on this, as on many other occasions, by the example of the daring valour with which he exposed himself, the foremost, to danger. The contest among

\* Major, the historian, says, "Est insuper oppidum de Perth quod sanctum Joannem sive Sancti Johannis villam vulgo dicimus, solum inter Scotiæ villas muratum."

them was, who should be first to cross the ditch, and, by scaling-ladders, which they had carried with them, mount the wall. The gallant and perilous enterprise succeeded. The King himself was the second to enter the city.”\*

*Historical Events of Importance.*—When Edward I. subdued Scotland, towards the close of the thirteenth century, he took the most effectual means in his power to destroy every evidence of its former independence. He caused the chartulary of Scone (the place where, since the time of Kenneth M'Alpine, the Scottish Kings had been crowned,) to be carefully ransacked, for the purpose of getting possession of whatever might be found at variance with the King of England's pretensions. And when he left Scotland, he carried with him to London not only the crown and sceptre surrendered by Baliol, but even the *sacred stone* on which the Scottish monarchs were placed when they received the royal inauguration—which inauguration every one knows took place at Scone, in the immediate vicinity of Perth. Perth was a chief seat of royalty at that time. We are warranted, therefore, to believe that the documents of public value there kept he would be particularly desirous to take possession of, and this may account for there not being such records of public characters and interesting events as might naturally be looked for, in a city so prominent in the nation's ancient history. His grandson, Edward III. is said to have restored to *Robert* the records which he had abstracted. But it is more than probable that the spirit, in which he perpetrated the violent deed, would instigate him without delay, to make away with some of the most important of the papers; and report says that the vessel that was conveying some of them was lost. But these are matters of probability only, or conjecture, and not of historical fact.—See Hailes's Annals.

In early times, the city was surrounded with castles, the residences of powerful proprietors, who were often at war with each other and with the magistrates. Ruthven Castle was the seat and fortress of the Ruthvens; Aberdalgie and Dupplin of the Olyphants; Craigie, of the Rosses; Kinfauns, of the Chartres'; Gasconhall and Fingask, of the Bruces and the Thrieplands, &c. &c. When they quarrelled with the magistrates, they caused their tenants to withhold from the town provisions and other necessaries, which was retaliated by the magistrates, who issued out at the head of the citizens, who were all trained to arms, and burned or de-

\* Heron's History of Scotland.

stroyed their castles. In the records of the town, there is preserved an account of a penalty which it paid to Sir Thomas Bruce of Clackmannan for burning the house of Gasconhall, about five miles east from Perth—also a remission under the Great Seal granted to the magistrates, council, and community of Perth, for burning the house of Craigie in the neighbourhood, dated 5th February 1526.

In the beginning of the fourteenth century, there existed a deadly feud between two powerful and fierce clans—the M'Intoshes and the M'Kays. King Robert III. sent the Earls of Dunbar and Crawford, with a strong force to reduce them to order. These noblemen, with a view to terminate the feud, proposed to their chiefs to select, out of their respective clans, each a band of thirty men, who should, by combat, decide the matter on the North Inch of Perth, in the presence of the King. The proposal having been agreed to by the chiefs, a place for the combat was prepared. It was surrounded by a trench, and by galleries erected for spectators. When the combatants were about to engage, one of the M'Intoshes was seized with a panic and absconded. But a man of the name of Wynde, a saddler of the town, agreed to supply his place, provided he should receive a half French gold dollar. The terms were immediately complied with. The combat began, and was carried on with great fury on both sides, till twenty-nine of the M'Kays fell. The surviving one, unskathed, seeing that he could not single-handed resist the impetuosity of Wynde, and ten M'Intoshes, who were left alive, burst from the arena, leaped into the river, swam across and escaped.

In 1589, a company of players appeared in Perth. In conformity with an act of the General Assembly passed in 1574, they applied to the Consistory of the church for a license, and produced a copy of the play which they intended to perform. The answer given them was as follows :—“ Perth, June 3, 1589. The minister and elders give licence to play the play, with conditions that no swearing, banning, nor any scurrility shall be spoken, which would be a scandal to our religion which we profess, and for an evil example to others. Also that nothing shall be added to what is in the register of the play itself. If any one who plays shall do to the contrary, he shall be warded, and make his public repentance.” This last sentence must be understood to intimate, that the person so acting should be subjected to imprisonment, and be rebuked publicly in the church. In the record, the actors are

spoken of as being all of them men. It was not till after the restoration of the profligate Charles II. that women ventured to appear on the stage. Female characters were before his reign performed by boys and young men, disguised in female attire. The answer of the minister and elders shews that the theatrical performances were under the control of the local ecclesiastical jurisdiction, and furnishes an evidence that, unless restrained, the performers indulged in what was irreligious and immoral.

In 1336, the Earl of Cornwall was murdered by his brother Edward III., before the great altar of St John, in the parish church. While the King was standing there, the Earl, who had newly arrived from England, came to him. An altercation between the brothers took place in consequence of some highly aggravated cruelties, which the Earl was reported to have perpetrated in the western counties, on his way to Perth, and for which the King reproached him. In the heat of the altercation, the King stabbed him with a kind of small-sword, and he immediately expired.\*

In 1437, James I. was murdered in the Blackfriars monastery, by Walter, Earl of Athole, Robert Stewart, his Lordship's grandson, and Robert Graham, their kinsman. The murderers were seized, tried, and put to death. The two most deeply implicated in the atrocious crime were the Earl and Robert Graham. They were therefore subjected to torture—perhaps the most appalling that is recorded in our country's history.† The King was buried

\* Fordun's words are "Cumque idem rex ante magnum altare Sancti Johannis super premissis ipsum ut abire arguerat: et ipse regi indignanti animo responderet subito fratris spatulo sive culletto extracto percussus, rebus exutus est humana."

† Cant gives the following account of the torture inflicted. "Walter's punishment, as he was reckoned the chief conspirator, was inflicted on three successive days. On the first day, he was placed in a cart, in which a stock-like engine was erected, and by ropes let through pulleys, he was hoisted up on high, the ropes being suddenly let go, he fell down, but stopped near the ground, with intolerable pain by the luxation of his joints. Then he was set on a pillory that every one might see him, and a red hot iron crown set on his head, with this inscription

#### THE KING OF TRAITORS.

On the second day, he was bound upon a hurdle, and drawn at a horse's tail through the principal streets of Edinburgh. On the last day, he was laid upon a plank, in a conspicuous place, his bowels were cut out while he was yet alive, and thrown into the fire before his face; afterwards his heart was pulled out, and cast out into the same fire. His head was cut off, exposed to the view of all, and set on a pole in the highest place of the city. His body was divided into four quarters, which were sent to be hung up in the most noted places of the principal cities of the kingdom.

After him, his grandson was brought forth to suffer, but, because of his youth, they would not put him to so much pain; besides, he was not the author but only an accomplice, being under the direction of his grandfather, therefore he was only hanged and quartered. But *Robert Graham*, who perpetrated the villainy with his own hand, was carried in a cart through the city, and his right hand nailed to a gallows set up in the cart: the executioners came and run hot iron spikes into his thighs, arms and other parts farthest removed from the vitals, and then he was quartered. After this manner was the death of James revenged, barbarous indeed, and which exceeds the bounds of humanity."—See Drummond's and Buchanann's Histories of Scotland.



in the Carthusian Monastery, which he himself had, in 1429, founded.

In 1539, there was interred in the Carthusian monastery, beside the tomb of James I., and his consort Jane, the body of Margaret, Queen of James IV. who was killed at the battle of Flodden, 1513. After the death of the King, her Majesty married Archibald second Earl of Angus. He proved unfaithful; she therefore divorced him; and afterwards married a son of Lord Evandale, whom thereafter her son James V. created Lord Methven. Her Majesty died at Methven Castle. The King, with a numerous retinue of his nobles, accompanied the funeral procession to Perth.

In 1559, the Earl of Argyle and James Stewart, Prior of St Andrews, having learned that the Queen Regent was taking measures for gaining possession of Stirling, resolved to prosecute the cause of the Reformation, or perish in the attempt. They accordingly set out from Perth for Stirling, attended by three hundred citizens; and, that their determination might appear and influence others, they, instead of ribbons, put ropes about their necks, intimating thereby that whoever of their number should desert their colours should be hanged by the ropes. Hence arose the proverb of "St Johnstoun's ribbons." The people joined them every where as they proceeded. Wherever they met with monuments of superstition, they destroyed them. The gates of Stirling, and of every other town in their way, were thrown open to receive them. They, without violence, took possession of Edinburgh, cast the images out of its churches, and placed in them ministers of the Reformation.

There was a painting of the commencement of the march of these heroes of the Reformation, from the south port of the city, in the town-clerk's office, now the chamberlain's office, said to have been well executed. But it was wantonly defaced in the year 1795, by the town-guard, who, in consequence of some riot in the town and neighbourhood, had obtained a temporary lodgement in the court-room adjoining the office. No vestige of the painting remains.

Act of cautionary by Adam Ramsay, burgess of Perth, in behalf of John Smeaton, at the hand of the Provost, bailies, council, and deacons of crafts, of certain *ornaments* belonging to our Lady's altarage situated within the parish church of Perth,—entered on the record A. D. 1544. List of ornaments above referred to, viz. "In primis, ane chesable of blak welwet wt ye prost of blue welwet

stole, and fannour of bird Alexander all amynt and belt. Ane chesable of auld claith of gold, with ye prost stole and fannone of bird Alexander albaniyt and belt ane chesable of grene dames stole and fannone samyn parrone of burd Alexander and the belt alb and amit ane chesable of auld stole fanone and parrone of the samyn wt ye belt all and ane chesable of auld claith of gold ane uthir auld chesable of quhite silk, and ye third chesable of auld . . . ane stole and fanone. Ane new prent mess buke, ane auld mes buke of pchment, and ane auld mes buke of prent, thre pair of towellis with thre frontelles, ane pend of burd Alexr. of silk with ane frontell yat of reid damess. Ane pend of pirne sating under ye tabnekle wt ane litil towel. Three coddis of auld pirne silk. Ane corporale with ane cap, flour great chandillaris for ye precate, and four for ye herst flour precate; ane crowet; ane pig for wyne ane hingand chandellar of bress; ane vyer of creive work; ane valie pendt at ye altr; ane silwer chandler gilt, twa new torches and twa ald; ane spoun of silwar, and aucht chandillaris, which are in John Smetone's hand as zit onedeliverit."

*Plague.*— In the year 1512 the plague visited Perth. The principal document respecting it is preserved in the city records. It is a letter from the King to the provost, bailies, and council of the burgh, and is as follows:

"James, be the grace of God King of Scottis, to our lovitts the Provest, Baillies, and counsal of our burgh of Perth, greeting zow well: Wit ye ws with consent of our counsall for stanching of this contagious *playg of pestilence* now raiging in maist part of our territorie alone be Goddis grace . . . and apperand causes thairof in tym coming, so far as may be done be diligence of men and uisitingis, statutis and articles vnder written, to be maid and kept anent the samyn in tyme cuming; and our will is heirfore, and we charge zow straitlie, and commandis that zo mak the said statutis and actis to be kept within the boundis of zour office, that is to say, that ze incontinent, and in our name and autoritie command and charge, be open proclamatioun at the mercat croce of our said burgh, all and sindrie our leigis and subiectis, and alsua strangearis of all utheris within this oure realme, that none of thame tak upoun hand to receive anie personis in our realme, ylia, or ony paire thairof be sey or land, ony infect gudis fra thame, bot that they sall mak scharp travale and diligence to eschew the samyn vnder the pane of deid; and gif ony persons vnwitting happinnis to bring ony infect stufnegligentlie, that they still take the

samyn to the provest, alderman, baillies, or officers of the place quhair thai are to keip the samyn, and sall use the comand of the saidis officiaris thairin, in eschewing the danger of the said infection, under pain of dead ; alsua that no infect persone or personis, man nor woman, nor ony utheris strangearis being infect or cuming fra ony infect placis or personis, or intrmitteris with ony uthers infect personis or gudis, come to kirk or merket preartlie or apertlie, be day or night, vse ony traffik or converse with clene personis under the pane of dead ; alsua that na persone nor personis of quhatsomever estait or degrie closit, in thair housis, or put to ony uther place be the provest, alderman, baillies or officiaris of the burgh or land quhair euir thei are cuming fra all sic housis or placis that thai ar put or sall happin to be put to, be nicht or day, that ward or house so committit to thame, under the said pane of deid, and all sic infect personis, as God relevis thame of the pestilence, and givis thame strength, may converse nocht nor hant with hele folkis, for the space of xl dayis thairafter, thai havand ane quhiet wand in thair hand, or ane quhiet claithe on thare breist, as ane taiken of thare seikness, gif thai cum furth, that utheris clene folkis may eschew thame under the said pane of deid ; alsua that the houssis, gif ony be now infect, or suspect, or sall happin to be infect, or suspect hereafter, that thai have nalit upone thare stairs, or dur, or other maist outward and sicht places of thare said houssis, ane quhiet claithe in taiken of thare infectioun, and that ze within zour boundis se at the samyn be dune, as ze will answeere to us at zour uter pirrell, and quha that beis fundin doing or attempting to do contrare the saidis actis, statutis, and ordinanci maid be us and our council for the weill of our realme or leigis, be ony manner of way in tyme cuming, efter the day of the dait heiroy, that ze within all zour boundis mak thay suspect personis be in force put in surprance, and anangis vther suspect personis, thare to remane quhill thai be put to ane assize, and gif thai be convict of ony of the saidis poyntis, and articulis, that ze put the samyn to executioun of deid, attour that ze cause clenzeing be maid diligentlie of all infect personis houssis, and gudes, gif ony be at this tyme, or happinis to be in tyme cuming within the boundis of zoure office, and tak diligent cure, and mak sharp executioun herin, as ze will answeere to us thairupoun, and under the pane of dittaye, to be takin of ze for your negligence . . . or fawouris to be poneist with regour, and ze be fundin negligent or inhabil herein. Attour at ze

cause all wild and syspect bestis, as doggis, swyne and cattis, except tham that are kept in bandis, to be slane quhar evir they may be apprehendit within zour saidis boundis the time of the said pestilence, gif ony happinis the quhilkis sal be free to be slane be all personis, officiaris, or uthers that findes thaim louse for the tyme, without any amendis to be made to the party thairfor.—

Attour at ze in our name command and charge be oppen proclamatione, all our liegis within the boundis of zour office to clenyis all thare rewis, wyndis, clossis and guttaris, baith in backside and forside, ilkane of thame for thare awine pairt, within four dais next efter zour charge, vnder the pane of ane vnlaw of fywe merkis, to be taken up and applyt to zou and officiaris of oure said burgh for the clenzyng of the samyn, and that na personis lay myddonyis at porttis, entressis, or inches of our said burgh, under the said pane, and als, that all our liegis cum and wsse merchandice, and bring to oure merkat all necessarys for merkat and court, and that every man answeere for his servandis tuiching the observatioun of all thir stattutis, vnder the samyn panis; and at ze suffer na beggaris to remane within our said burgh, bot that has ane takin, gevin be zou to thame, and thay to be impotent, agit, or blynd folkis that ar noth abile to wyn thare leving utherwis within the realme, as ye will answer to us thareapoun. The quhilk to do we commit to you, coniunctlie and severallie, oure full power, be thir oure letteres, given under our signet at Edinburgh xvij. day of Januar, and of regime the xxv. zeir (1512) De speciale mandato.”

In the years 1585–87, the plague was again in Perth. The only account which I have found of it being here at that time is in the subjoined extracts from the session records.\*

\* “ April 12, 1585. Whilk day, Mr John Howisson, minister of God’s word at Perth for the time, did, at the command of the Session thereof, excommunicate, with great grief, sorrow, and dolour of my heart, Margt Watson, sometime an member of the said kirk of Perth, for double adultery, and five bairns born therein, whilk bairns received never the sacrament of baptism, and one of them she suffered to perish and starve for hunger in the lodges infected with the pest, &c. (Signed) JOHN HOWISSON.”

“ May 24, 1585. It was statute and ordained, that hereafter induring the time of the plague, no banquet shall be at marriages, and no persons shall resort to bridals under the pain of 10 pounds, for to be paid by ilka one that contravenes the same. And 10 pounds to be paid by them that calls more than four on the side to the banquet or bridal induring the pest. July 17, 1585. Whilk day, the hail Assembly and Session of the kirk agrees in one voice, that so many fornicators who have not satisfied the kirk for their offence hitherto, and are rather willing to pay an permulctuary sum of money, according to the act of Parliament, than otherwise to satisfy the civil magistrate and the kirk, for relief of the poor, being presently in great necessity, shall instantly deliver the same, according to the act of Parliament, to support the poor withall that are putt in the lodges (pest houses,) who otherwise may die for want, or be compelled for hunger to stray and go abroad in the country, and infect the same,—and ordains, that this our ordinance shall have place induring the time of the plague,

In 1608, the plague again appeared in Scotland. Vigorous measures were promptly adopted by the magistrates and council of Perth to prevent its entrance into the city. All communication with those places where it was known to exist was prohibited. Watchmen were placed at the different ports of the town, to prevent the entrance of any one without the sanction of a magistrate. But every means used was unavailing. Many of the inhabitants were seized with the pestilence and died. Of the number who died no correct account appears to have been kept; but it must have been considerable, as the interments were at the public expense, and places of burial specially appointed. The infected who were sent out of the city to St Leonards, a place in the neighbourhood, and died there, were ordered to be buried at that place; as also all the infected who died in the Watergate, Southgate, and beneath the Cross. Those who were sent out to the "Lone" of Balhousie, also in the neighbourhood, and died there, were ordered to be buried in the adjoining grave-yard of the Blackfriars; as also all the infected who died in the north and south side of the Highgate. Those who conducted the interments received for each 12s., and the grave-maker, 6s. Men, designated cleasers, were employed in examining the suspected tenements, and received for each that they cleansed 13s. 4d. Duncan Macqueen and others were imprisoned for speaking with David Hunter in Dundee,—the

and this extreme need, which otherwise cannot be helped; and therefore desires both all the congregation, and also all them that shall come after us in our rooms, to judge charitably of this our ordinance, and rightly to ponder and weigh the causes that moved us, viz. the falling of the lives of our poor bretheren and sisters, and could find no other help at the present to relieve them withall, and therefore have received for that effect the promulctual sums from the persons under-written, and also discharges the persons underwritten from all other satisfaction to the kirk,—they are to say, George Johnston Bailie, Catharine Heron, James Gibson, John Robertson."—" Oct. 11, 1585. Two parties (for gross impurity) ordered to be carted backward through the town, with paper hats on their heads, at 2 of the clock in the afternoon; thereafter to be locked fast in the irons on the cross, and there to stand till 3 in the afternoon; then to be put in prison, and on Sunday to be brought forth with their paper hats on their heads to the stool of repentance. They had been persons formerly suspected of the plague, and put forth to the lodges (the pest-houses,) and having escaped with life, rendered this unsuitable return, when there was fasting and humiliation that the plague might be removed from the town and other towns in the country."—" Nov. 7th 1587. Appoints a fast to begin on Saturday night, and to pertinue while Sunday 8 days thereof at even, with great humiliation and prayer to God that it would please him to remove the plague of the pest from the towns of Edinburgh, Leith, &c. and to preserve us therefrom; as also to preserve us from the pest of the soul, which is Papistrie's ignorance, maintained presently by thir jesuits and Papists new come in, who press to bring men under the thraldom of idolatry and ignorance, and from the true knowledge of Christ our Saviour, revealed to us in his Word, and to embrace the superstitious rites and ceremonies, from which the good Lord preserve us,—and ordain them to be notified from the pulpit on Thursday next, that none remain ignorant hereof,—that every one may address them to fasting, to prayer, to humiliation, at the time appointed."

plague being there; and an order was issued to close up the houses of James Ross and others, they to remain therein during the council's will, for having purchased certain goods from John Peebles of Dundee, who died of the pest.

In an old manuscript volume, I find the subjoined account of the plague in 1645.\* It appears from an entry in the city records of 1667, that in 1645, a house without the Castle gavel port was burnt by order of the council for the purpose of "preventing the spreading of the plague." It is remarkable that no historian of the time attempted to give any circumstantial account of this devastating pestilence. The engrossing political condition of the country may have in some measure occasioned that.

*Cholera.*—In 1832, the Asiatic cholera visited Perth, as it did many other towns in Britain. As in the visitation of the plague, the most effectual means that could be devised were adopted by the constituted authorities to avert or mitigate the malady. A meeting of the influential classes of the community was called. The meeting divided the town and suburbs into sections. To each of these a cer-

\* "In Perth it raged with great fury, whole families was seized therewith. At first, when one person in a family was seized, he was carried into a separate place in the house, where he was visited by the physicians. Such as recovered were of singular use in assisting the sick, it being always the case, that if once they recovered, they never fell into a relapse, for which reason they were called cleansers. But the calamity still increasing, and the contagion spreading, not only one person, but severals in a family, nay, whole families, and several families in a lodging, were taken with the distemper. Wherefore a new method was fallen upon of shutting up the dwelling-houses where the distemper was, and allowing none to enter them except the physicians and cleansers. All communication between them and the inhabitants who were whole was entirely stopt. But this method being found inconvenient, by reason that persons evil disposed among the cleansers entered the houses of the whole, and thereby spread the infection through the town, it was thought proper for the future to put those out of the town at some distance who were sick. Accordingly, they went out and buildd huts for themselves in different places around the town, particularly in the South Inch, the Vicar Knoll in the grounds of Friartown, Witch hill, near the parish kirk of Kinnoull, and the grounds near the river Almond, at the mouth thereof. in all which places there are as yet the remains of their huts which they lodged in. The persons who died were buried deep in the open fields, none being allowed to be buried in the precincts of the town, or if they were, it was in a certain place allotted for that purpose, as in the west side of the South Inch. The wearing apparel, goods and gear of the persons affected were burned, and their houses shut up for some time, and their money was afterwards given to persons employed to boil it, who returned the same to the relations of the defunct. This calamity not only raged in the town, but was severely felt through the adjacent country,—great multitudes in the neighbouring parishes dying of it. Three thousand of the inhabitants died of it during that time, besides many who died afterwards, it not ceasing for several years, though not raging with such violence. It almost depopulated Perth; many houses in different places being shut up, which afterwards in back parts went to ruin; and what houses stood to the streets uninfected, were inhabited but by few. Several houses were infected in a great degree to the front, and even some streets were entirely forsaken, particularly one between the church and the Meal Vennel. And the inhabitants being few in number, had no courage to carry on trade or manufacture, and buildings for many years."

tain number of persons was appointed, with authority to remove nuisances, and cause the houses which required it to be thoroughly cleansed and purified. A temporary hospital was fitted up to receive patients; and competent medical officers were appointed to attend and take charge of them. A soup-kitchen was established, from which the poor of the place were supplied daily with broth and bread. The consequence of these precautionary measures was most beneficial. To them may be justly ascribed, under Heaven, the comparatively small number of cases that occurred. The deaths were 147. It is proper to mention, that, through the liberality of certain noblemen and gentlemen in the county, and of the inhabitants of the parish, no legal assessment was resorted to. The sum collected and expended was L. 2091, 4s. 5d.

*Trial and Execution for Witchcraft.*—In the year 1623, three women were tried and executed for witchcraft. Their names were, Margaret Hornsleuch, Isabell Haldane, and Janet Trall. Information being lodged against them in the session, they were summoned before that court, their depositions were respectively taken, and witnesses were called, and examined to establish their guilt. The examination of the witnesses appears to have occupied the court for seven days in the months of May and June, and to have been conducted with great minuteness. Instead of entering into particulars, it may be sufficient to state the following things, deponed by witnesses, and confessed by the accused.

“ With regard to Margaret Hornsleuch,—that she came to Alexander Mason’s house, and having seen his wife, who was very unwell, she commanded that south running water should be brought from the Tay, the bearer to be dumb both in going and coming, and to hold the mouth of the pig to the north. That she washed her with this water, and afterwards made a bath of great meal. That the diseased immediately recovered, arose, and supped with her. That she cured Marjory Lamb in the Muirton, (who was sick by the dint of an ill wind,) by washing her with south running water, and rubbing her arms with fresh butter; and that she learned these cures from Oliver Rattray’s wife in Pittmudyne.—That she had restored milk to the cow of Robert Christie from Ruthven, (which had grown yeld) by causing a peck of draff to be carried home to the cow, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.—That she had restored milk to the cow of Andrew Louraine in Mireside, by mumbling some words over a firloft of draff, which he bought by her directions; that she sent him home

with it, and bid him cut the cow's lug, and mix the blood of it with the draff, which he did, and the cow gave milk.—That as Patrick Auchinleck was going at the plough he took a cholick, and she was sent for to cure him; and that she for that effect commanded him to be washed with south running water, and bathed in black wool and butter.

“ With regard to Isabell Haldane,—that she cured Andrew Duncan's bairn, by taking water from the burn at the Turret Port, being dumb, and carrying it to Andrew's house, and upon her knees washed the bairn, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. That afterwards being accompanied by Alexander Lockheart, she took the water and the bairn's sark, and cast both into the burn. That being asked if she had any conversation with the fairy folk, she answered, that ten years since, when she was lying in her bed, she was taken forth, (whether it was by God or by the Devil she knows not,) and was carried to a hill side, when the hill opened and she entered. That she staid there three days, to wit, from Thursday till Sunday at twelve hours; when a man with a gray beard came to her and brought her forth again. That she made three several cakes, every one of them being made of nine curns of meal, which had been gotten from nine women that were married maidens; that she made a hole in the crown of every one of them, and put a bairn through every cake three times, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and that there were women present who put the same bairns thrice backward through every cake, using the same words. That she went silent to the well of Ruthven and returned silent, bringing water from thence to wash John Gow's bairn; that when she took the water from the well, she left a part of the bairn's sark at it, which she took with her to that effect; and that when she came home again, she washed the bairn with the water, and that she had done in like manner to John Powery's bairn.

“ With regard to Janet Trall,—that Janet Burry brought her bairn to her, and told her that it started in the night. That she told the mother that the bairn had gotten a dint of evil wind, and she directed her to cause two persons to go down to south running water, and bring as much of it as would wash the bairn; and that they should be dumb when bringing the water. And that after the bairn was washed, they should carry back again the water with the bairn's sark, and cast them into the place where the water had been taken up. She farther directed her to bathe the bairn with



black wool and butter. That she got a shot star at the burn side, and sent it in with black wool, and that after the cure was used, the child was healed. That Duncan Tawis and Isabell Haldane came to her at her house in Black Ruthven, and Duncan told her, that he thought his bairn was taken away, it being stiff as an aik tree, and unable to move. That having heard this, she promised to come in and see the bairn. That when she came in, she took the bairn upon her knee before the fire, and drew the fingers of its hands and every toe of its feet, mumbling all the while some words that could not be heard, and immediately the bairn was cured.

“ Being asked where she learned her skill, she deponed as follows, to wit : When I was lying in child-bed lair, I was drawn forth from my bed to a dub near my house door in Dunning, and was there puddled and troubled. Being asked by whom this was done, she answered by the fairy folks, who appeared some of them red, some of them gray, and riding upon horses. The principal of them that spake to me, was like a bonny white man, riding upon a gray horse. He desired me to speak of God, and to do good to poor folks ; and he showed me the means how I might do this, which was by washing, bathing, speaking words, putting sick persons through hasps of yarn, and the like.” The above are excerpts of depositions, and confessions, taken by the session, as formally engrossed in the records.

“ George Robertson, post, was sent with the depositions of the witches, to purchase a commission to put them to an inquest. The clerk was ordained to direct a missive to Andrew Conqueror, commissioner to Parliament from the town ; and another to Charles Rollock, baillie, who were both at the time in Edinburgh ; and another to Mr John Guthrie, minister there, that they all three might concur for obtaining the commission.

“ The commission having been obtained, directed to the civil magistrates, to try Margaret Hormsleuch, Isabell Haldane, and Janet Trall, accused of witchcraft ; they were put to an assize, and being condemned, suffered the ordinary punishment by being strangled at the stake, and afterwards burned, on Friday, July the 18th 1623.

“ The session thereafter proceeded to censure the persons who had sought cures from them, and caused them to make their public repentance on a Sunday before noon, clothed in black cloth, and standing under the bell strings (ropes.)”

There were, as there still are, perforations in the arched roof of the Old, now Middle Church, immediately under the tower, through which the bell ropes were let down for the convenience of the ringers. And it was a frequent practice to make delinquents, as a particular mark of disgrace, stand under these before the congregation.

The place where such tragic scenes as the one now narrated were perpetrated, is said to have been a hollow in the North Inch.

*Royal bounty towards the Town.*—The following is a specimen of the success of flattering adulation on the mind of King James VI. It is a letter by the town-council to his Majesty, petitioning his bounty towards the repairing the Bridge of Perth, and the result of it: “Moist gracious Soveraigne, above all zour Mj subjectis in this zour Mj aldest kingdome, we have caus to esteem zour Mj as our father, zea, and as the breathe of our nosethrilles, for, besyde the commoun ressones, for quhilk wtheris of the land may glorie that they have interest in zour Mj deleverance among ws, our commoun welth, our selff, our childrene, were moist graciouslie deleverit from vtter exterminioun, our liberties gewin at the first by zour Mj moist nobill progenitouris, worne almoist without vigour, revivit by zourselff, so that your grace is restorit *urbi prope modum* . . \* . . illud quondam vigintatis etatis, our debaittis with our neighbouris for the privilege of our Water of Tay, zour Mj, as a Solomon, indeed a Prince of Peace, a visdome wer tymeouslie remowit, we haid caus to know, *quam difficilis sint exitus veterum Imagiorum*, and therefore wer the moir confortid at zour Mj fatherlie foirsicht, quhairby for zour Mj departure frome ws, *cause diu plectanti tandem stabilem terminum quasi diuino ore* . . \* . . And now for the experience of zour Mj moist lowing affectioun toward ws makes us balde to crave that zour Mj wald not withdraw zour helping hand frome that wark quhairinto once zour Mj hed put it, ffor at zour Mj command, we have begun the building of the brig of Tay, and hes brocht it ane gude way fordward without the help of ony saffeing zour Mj, we repairit upon our sute, directed to zour Mj, at Tishythall, the grant of sewin thousandis poundis money of this realme, quhilk is in sic sort payit, that ewerie zeir we resaive ane thousand poundis tharof; and quhill that zour Mj wes resident amang ws, zour Mj granted to ws, for forderance of that wark, exēptioun

\* The words are obliterated in the record from which I have copied the above letters.

from taxationis for ellewin zeiris, quhairoff the maist part ar past alredie. This zour Mj moist princelie fawour maid the peopile the moir willing to contribute of their awin, till now that the Lordis of your Mj hienes counsell will not allow the same without zour Mj special command, quhilk, gif it be directed, they haif promised to gave their willing consent thairunto; and thairfor we craive that zour Mj wald direct commandment to thame, otherwayis the payment thairof by our peopill will compell ws to interrupt the wark. As to ws, we haif no moir to offer to zour Mj than our self; or gif it be possibill we can do ony moir than we ar, we vow to zour Mj the multiplicatioun of our best thochtis and affectionis to zour Mj serwise, wissing the samen mynd in all zour Mj subjectis, than the quhilk we knaw that yourself crawis nothing moir, being asking qwho hes alwayis thocht that ama . . . . dili . . . est imperio. And thairfoir hes ewer lowit amang zour Mj weill affected subjectis sine contemptis facilis sine terrore reverendus. And thairfoir, wissing from our heartis now, and in our daylie prayeris, that zour Mj may long regne owir ws, protectit be Alinichtie God from all zour enemies, we rest, commending to zour Mj all our maist humble services, Perth, 7 September 1607 zear, moist humble and obedient subjectis. Sic sub<sup>r</sup>. Robert Mathew, Baillie; James Drummond, Moderator; James Adamson, Dene of Gilde; Henrie Elder, Clerk."

To this letter the King returned an answer in the month of February 1608, granting exemption to the town from taxation, "for the furtherance of the building of the brig."

*Royal Visit.*—In 1617, James came to Scotland and made a tour through several of the principal towns. Before he came to Perth, his visit was announced by authority to the town-council. The circumstances which characterized this event are peculiar, and, as they are not generally known, I shall briefly narrate a few of them. The annunciation produced no ordinary excitement. The chief concern of the functionaries was how to provide for his Majesty's suitable reception and entertainment. But his Majesty appears to have taken care that his dignity and comfort should be duly consulted. From the secret council there came a missive to "provide fed beef anent his Majesty's coming to the toun." To defray the expense, an order was issued by the town-council to stent the inhabitants for 2000 merks, and again for an additional 1000. While preparations were proceeding, there came from Edinburgh two missives from the secret council, which, from what we know

of the King's self-estimation, were probably dictated, if not written by himself.

These missives were as follows :—“ After our verie hartlie commendationis, the Kingis Majestie being desyrus, that in the speciall burrowis of this kingdome quhilk his Majestie intendis, God willing, to visite the tyme of his being heir, such shewiss of ornament, cumliness, and civilitie may be sene, as may gif unto his Majestie contentment, and may make the strangeris that ar to accompany his Majestie persave and see that the countrie is not sa barine of formalitie, ordour, and civilitie, as the ignorantlie apprehend. His Majestie has thairfoir commandit, that at his first entre in the said burrowis at the port thairof, the chief and principal inhabitants in the toun, in thair most comlie, civill, and formal ordour, sall attend his Majestie, and that ane speche sal be maid unto his Majestie be some person (nocht being of the ministeris of the toun) in name of the hail toun, congratulating his Majestie's coming to the toun, and making his Majestie hartlie welcome, and that this speche be deliverit in sensible, ticht, and gude language, as alsua that at the principal portis of the toun quhairat his Majesty is to enter, his Majestie's armes be engraven and sett up both within and without, and that they be overgilt in the best fassoun. And seeing his Majestie intendis, God willing, to visit that toune, we have though mete to acquent zou with his Majestie's will and plesour in thir poyntis, to the effect that accordingleie zou may provide zourselvis in time to gif to his Majestie satisfacione thairintill, and recommending the samin to zour diligence, cair, and performance as speciall poyntis, heirtlie concerning his Majestie's contentment and the credit of zour toun, we commit zou to God. Frome Edinburgh the xiiii. day of Aprill 1617. Sic sub. your verie goode freindis Al. Cancellor Binning, S. M. Olyphant.” Written on the back, “ To our Richt traist freinds, the Provost and Bailles of Perth.”

Then, in two days after, came the following :—“ After our verie hartlie commendationis, haveing wrettin unto zou of lait anent the decoring of the partis of zour towne with his Majestie's armes, both within and without, and anent a speche to his Majestie at his firste entrie, we haif thocht mete of new to put zou in remembrance thairof, and to advertteis zou that his Majestie's armes moist contene the armes of baith kingdomes, according to the impressione and prent and impressione of the great sealle, putting the Scottis armes in the first quarter, and the ditaie of the armes moist be drawn in fair letteres of gold. And anent the speche that is to be

maid to his Majestie, zou sall inform him whome you are to trust with that matter, that first in name of the toun he mak his Majestie welcome, and then in sensible and good language, he sal sett forth his Majestie's awin praise, by innumerable comfortis and blessings, quhilk this countrey has haid boith in kirk and policie under his Majestei's moist happie government, and lait go far as modestie may permitt, he sall speik to the praise of the toun both anent the antiquitie theairof, the services done by the saim to the crowne and estait, the willingness of the present inhabitants be their best endeavours to serve his Majestie in all and everie, by and in thair possibilitie, without ony private respect or consideratione, and the constant and firme resolutione of the toun to continue in all dewtiffull obedience to his Majestie and his royal progenie and successouris in all tyme coming. This being the substance of the speche, you sall caus it to be deliverit in the best forme that may be, and remitting the same to your awin graive considerationis as a poynte heightelie importing the credit of your toun, we commit you to God. From Edinburgh, xvii. day of Aprill 1617. Sic sub. your verie good friendis, Al. Cancell. Bining, Geo. Hay, S. Murray, Balfour of Burley." Written on the back, "To our Right traist freindis, the Provost and Baillies of Perth."

Upon the receipt of these missives an order was issued by the town-council to convene daily till the King's coming. On the 4th May, they received a missive from the Chancellor and President to provide a propin to his Majesty at his entry into the city, and to meet him with black gowns. They appointed fifty persons to meet him, and ordered the propin to be 1000 merks, and the silver keys of the city overgilt. The King's arms were painted over the Highgate port. The arms were also cut in stone, and placed on the west side of the bridge nearest the tolbooth. The Bridge of Earn being the town's chartered property, and as the King must pass it on his approach, the following appointment was issued: "Appointis Henry Bannewis to tak cair upon the bigging of the calsayeis of the Brig of Erne, and brig thairof, and to take triel with the cosches of his Majesty, that they discretlie be careit langlandis the brig, bot hurt to the samen, and to the cosches, and the coun-cill to consider his panes, and the said brig to be ledget with timmer and new daillit."

The town-officers were ordered to be furnished with clothes of red Fleming. The skinnners were ordeted to "provide for the

sword dance,\* the baxters for the Egyptian dance, and the school-master and the bairns gud dance to his Majesty." The wappenshaw was one of the manly and athletic exercises in which the youth were accustomed to engage in the North Inch. They went under the name of weapon-shawings. The magistrates put them under requisition on the occasion, and required them to practise for a week before the arrival of the King.

To gratify his Majesty to the full, four Latin poems were presented to him by four of the citizens, full of the most fulsome flattery, which would have disgusted any one but James. They are to be seen in Mr Cant's notes on Adamson's Muses, &c.

In accordance with the instruction given in the missive, a speech was delivered before his Majesty. The person selected to do it was James Stewart, a merchant burgess. It is preserved, replete with servile adulation. There is in the town's record an "act granting to the children of James Stewart, who made and declaimed the oration to his Majesty on his entry into the town, in which his Majesty took *great pleasure*, the sum of 300 merks, and the same to the survivor of them, and Cathne Peebles, their mother."

In 1632, Charles I. came to Scotland to receive the crown of the kingdom. On that occasion he made a triumphal entry into Edinburgh, and amidst much pomp was crowned in Holyroodhouse on the 18th of June. Thereafter he visited Dunfermline,—the place of his birth, Stirling, Linlithgow, Falkland, and Perth. When it was made known to the magistrates and council of Perth that it was his Majesty's intention to visit the city, they, without delay, adopted every measure within their power to give him a suitable reception. *Inter alia*, they ordered the bridge of Earn to be repaired, and some improvements to be made on the south gate-port. They ascertained the number of beds and stables that could be furnished; they ordered the best houses to be kept for the Englishmen, (*i. e.* the King's English attendants,) and the malt barns to be fitted up for stables. They ordered "forty head of oxen to be provided,"—appointed officers, and assigned them their duties, and provided them with new clothes. They issued an order prohibiting women wearing plaids during his Majesty's stay. They caused a speech to be prepared to be spoken before the King by two boys equipped in suitable habiliments, for which they were each to receive a hundred merks. They appointed a body "of well

\* The council gave the skimmers L. 40 for their dance.

clad persons to go out with them to meet the King." Of the many amusements furnished for the occasion, "the Sword dance" by the Skinner and Glover Incorporation appears to have been the most interesting. There is an entry in the council books, 27th May 1633, that it should be performed before his Majesty, opposite to the chancellor's (Earl of Kinnoull) yard head, on a raft upon the water. The following account of the dance is given in the register kept by the Glover Incorporation:—"Memorandum of his Majesty's coronation, and coming to Scotland, his entry to Edinburgh and Perth, 15th of June 1633,—which day, our dread sovereign, Charles King of England, France, and Ireland, came to Edinburgh, being accompanied with the nobility of Scotland riding before, and the nobility of England riding behind him, desired, out of his gracious favour and love, with his nobility of both kingdoms, to visit his own burgh of Perth upon the 8th of July, and came to his lodging, and went down to the garden thereof: his Majesty's chair being set upon the wall next to the Tay, whereupon was a flat stage of timber, clad about with birks, upon the which, for his Majesty's welcome and entry, thirteen of our brethren of this our calling of glovers, with green caps, strings, red ribbons, white shoes, with bells about their legs,\* shering rapers in their hands, and all other abulzement, danced our sword dance with many difficult knotts and allafallajessa, five being under and five above upon their shoulders, three of them dancing through their feet, drink of wine, and breaking glasses about them, which (God be praised) was acted without hurt or skaith to any,—which drew in to great charges and expenses, amounting to the sum of three hundred and fifty merks, (yet not to be remembered,) because wee were graciouslie accepted be our sovereign and both estates, to our honour and great commendation."

Thereafter two tailors, David Black and George Pourie, came forward, and personating, the one the Tay, the other the City, performed a poetic comedy before his Majesty. It is to be found in Mr Cant's History.

*Inundations.*—The situation of the town being low, and upon the bank of a river that is fed by numerous mountain streams, it is

\* These bells, with different pieces of the dresses then worn by the performers, are preserved by the Glover calling. They are to be seen in their hall in the best possible keeping. There is, in the same place, also their flag or banner of yellow silk, having a square of blue silk in the centre, with the arms and motto of the calling emblazoned on it. It is above 226 years old, and is very little tarnished. There is here besides an ostrich egg, which hung in their halls for above 200 years. Tradition says, that it came to them in the time of the crusades, from the land of Palestine.

subjected to inundations. The most remarkable of these were in 1210, 1621, 1740, 1773, and 1814. A particular account of that which occurred in 1210 is given by Fordun in his *Scotichronicon*. There is an account of it given also by Major or Mair, an author of the fifteenth century, and by Guthrie, an author of the eighteenth century. But that of Fordun appears to be the most circumstantial, while it differs in nothing essential from the others. It is as follows:—“Some authors have asserted that in this year (1210,) about Michaelmas, there occurred such heavy falls of rain, that the rivers overflowed their usual channels, and swept away the crops from the fields. It is said that the rivers Almond and Tay became so much swollen, that the town of Perth was almost wholly inundated. A large mound or hillock (situated at the old junction of the Almond and Tay \*) was forced down by the waters, and overthrew not only several houses, but the bridge over the Tay, and an old chapel. King William, his son Prince Alexander, and the Earl of Huntingdon, the King’s brother, left the town in a small boat, and reached the dry land in safety. A few of the nobles who happened then to be at court accompanied them in other boats; others on the tops of houses, along with the town’s people of both sexes, with difficulty escaped a watery grave; for in consequence of an extraordinary spring-tide, and the fall of vast torrents of rain, the river rose to such a height, that not boats merely, but large vessels could be impelled along the streets and broad ways without any difficulty or impediment.” The historian Major ascribes the flood to the sudden and unexpected melting of snow in the upper quarters of the country.†

\* The old junction of these rivers was at the north end of the North Inch.

† In the kirk-session records I find the following entry relative to the inundation of 1621:—“Tuesday, 16th Oct. 1621.—The council and elders having convened, have ordered a voluntary collection to be uplifted of the bail inhabitants, for declaration of their thankfulness to God for their deliverance from the fearful inundation of water, threatening destruction both of the town and the inhabitants, to be applied for the use of the poor,—the manner whereof follows: “An remembrance of God’s visitation of Perth.”

“It is to be noted and put in register in this book, the great and miraculous deliverance that the Lord gave to this burgh of Perth of an fearful inundation of water compassing the same in all parts, so that therethrough the Brig of Tay was bailly dung down, except only one bow thereof standing. None could get furth of it, nor yet cum within it to make any relief thereto.\*

\* The manner of the rising of the water was this,—the rain began on Friday the 12th October, about ten hours of the day; it continued that day and Saturday; and in

\* This catastrophe was ascribed to the lowness of the bows of the bridge. The water had not free issue through them; it rose above them, and being thus gorged, its force and weight bearing against the upper part of the structure, covered the key stones, and the whole at last gave way.



*Citadel on South Inch.*—In the year 1651, Cromwell, after he had defeated the King's troops in an engagement near Burntisland, marched directly to Perth. He found the gates shut against him. His purpose was to besiege it, but, having proposed honourable terms to the citizens, he obtained possession.\* In the following year he built

the night, unlooked for, the water rose so high, that all them that dwelt outwith the castel gavel port in laigh houses, the water increased so, that they behoved to go to high houses, for preservation of their lives; and being in high houses, the water rose to the loftings in the highest mid houses in the castel-gavel before six hours on Monday in the morning; and the wind and weet continuing, the water came up to Gilbert Henderson's yett (gate) in the Castel gavel, and to Margaret Monypenny's yett in the Fish Market, and to Donald Johnston's yett in the Highgate, to the Meal Vennel in the South gate, and the water ran like miln-clouses, at the yetts of diverse parts on the north side of the High gate. An great tempestuous wind at the east blew all this time. The water also came above Henry Sharp's shop in the Speygate. The like fearful inundation of water was never seen in no living man's remembrance, which brought the people under such fear, that they looked for nothing but to have been destroyed.

"Whereupon Mr John Malcolm, minister, powerfully endowed with God's spirit, caused ring the preaching bell on Sunday at seven hours of the morning, and the haill inhabitants came to the kirk; and there he exhorted them to repent for their sins, which had procured the said judgement of God to come upon the town; assuring them, that if they were truly penitent therefor, and would avow to God to amend their lives in time coming, God would avert his judgements, and give them deliverance; whose powerful exhortations moved the people to cry to God with tears, clamours, and cries, and to hold up their hands to God to amend their lives, and every one of them to abstain from their domestic sins.

"The like humiliation, both of men and women, has not been seen in Perth before nor since; preaching and praying continued all that week. Our pastor with great magnanimity insisted in exhorting the people to true repentance and amendment of their lives.

"The waters began to decrease afternoon on Monday (15th,) but after day light past, there arose a greater tempest of wind and rain than at any time before, which so affrighted the people that night, that they looked for nothing but the waters should have arisen to greater height nor they were before. Notwithstanding thereof, miraculously, through the great mercy of God, by (without) all men's expectation, the water greatly in the meantime decreased; which in the morning moved the people in the kirk, and in all other places, to give most hearty thanks to God for his mercy towards them.

"Mr John Malcolm proved the part of a faithful pastor to his flock, with great godly courage and magnanimity to comfort them with the mercy of God.

"Great plenty of corns in all parts, both stacks and stooks, being on haughs and valley ground, was carried away by the waters; and divers ships by tempest perished, and horn nolt, kye, and sheep were drowned."

\* Cromwell proposed honourable terms, under an apprehension that the town had in it a strong military force prepared to make a vigorous defence. An ingenious device by one of the inhabitants occasioned this apprehension. He made carts be incessantly driven through the streets, and drums beat, and a continued and loud bustle be kept up, indicating warlike preparations. Cromwell's terms being honourable to the town, they were accepted, and the gates thrown open to him. He and his officers were conducted by the provost (Andrew Grant of Balhagils, now Murray Hall,) to the house of the inhabitant referred to—Mr Davidson, who entertained them. After the entertainment Cromwell asked the Provost how, with such a small force as he now discovered it to be, he could expect to keep him out of the city? Upon the provost simply replying, that they intended to stand out till they heard that the King had come to England. Cromwell smiled at his simplicity, but, knowing that it was Davidson who had deceived him, observed, that if he had had time he would hang him.—Upon this a person of the name of Reid entered, and being introduced to Cromwell, presented to him a bond which Charles had granted him for a sum of money which he had lent him, and requested payment from him. Cromwell refused to accept it, ob-

a citadel on the South Inch, with the view of keeping the place more effectually in subjection to him. It was strong, and had a commanding appearance. Its figure was square. It had a bastion at each corner, and was surrounded with a rampart of earth, and a deep moat filled with water. It was near to and connected with the river, and had a pier for loading and unloading vessels. "The entry towards the town had an iron gate. The commanding officer ordered great trees to be cut down in the king's hunting-park at Falkland and brought to the citadel. The school-house was demolished. It contained 360 scholars, was three stories high, with room for the rector, doctors, and music-master. They demolished the high walls of the Grayfriars, carried away the stones, with nearly 300 tomb-stones, and 140 dwelling-houses, with the garden walls; also the hospital, a stately building. The stone pillars and abutments of the bridge, besides many kilns and fishing-boats, all were carried away to build the citadel. One hundred and forty families were turned out of their houses, and had starved, if they had not been supplied by the town. The surface of the two Inches, which yielded 2000 merks yearly for grass, was carried off to build the ramparts."\*

Charles II., upon his restoration to the throne, made a gift of the citadel, with "the whole arms, amunition, and others therein," to the town, as an indemnification for the losses which they had sustained by its erection, and in consideration of their faithful services to his Majesty (28th June 1661.) It soon after this fell into disrepair; for in 1666, complaints, which appear in the city records, were given in to the magistrates, that, notwithstanding frequent and positive prohibitions, some persons had theftuously taken from it stones and timber. "This year, 1666," says Mr Cant, "the magistrates ordered it to be exposed to public roup (auction.) It was purchased by George Conqueror, merchant and town-treasurer, for 4000 merks, besides 702 merks for 1960 stones which he sold before, for which he was to answer in his treasurer accounts. In the records for 1681, it is entered, that the council, finding the time elapsed which they allowed to Bailie Craigdellie to remove

servings, that he was neither the heir nor the executor of Charles. Reid made this pointed and manly reply,—“If your excellency is neither heir nor executor, you are surely a vicious intruder.” Cromwell turning to the company said, that he never had such a bold thing said to him. Mr Davidson's house was that in the Watergate, in which the late John Richardson, Esq. of Pitfour, resided. He gave a tack of the lands of St Leonards for a charger to fight against Cromwell; afterwards he sold them to the Perth Glover Incorporation.

\* Cant's History of Perth.

the stones and lime out of the citadel, they empower the treasurer to remove them, and to use them for repairing the south shore; and in the following year, in answer to a petition from David Murray, merchant, they granted him liberty to dig such stones as are under ground within the citadel, for erecting a dyeing work-house in the Castle gavel, and for other purposes. They gave the same privilege to Isabel Orney, but no longer than to next Martinmas, they referring themselves to the council for the price. Bailie Craigdellie's son was allowed to carry away the stones which were left by his father above ground already digged.

The place which the citadel occupied does not now appear, the trenches being filled up and the ground levelled. But there are persons alive who distinctly recollect both its appearance and position in 1771. On Mr Buist's map of the city and its environs, (1765,) preserved in the Antiquarian Museum, its position is distinctly laid down. It was 266 feet on each side within the moat. On the north side the wall ran parallel to Grayfriars burying-ground westward across the present south road into the ground where Marshall Place stands. The south wall was nearly as far south as the aged thorn tree on the east of the road; and the east wall extended along the river side, and at a short distance from the river. For some time before the barracks were built, which was in 1793, a part of it was fitted up for cavalry. At one time there was in it stabling for 200 horse, besides a riding-house, a tavern, a bakehouse, and other corresponding accommodation.\*

*Perpetual Service.*—“December 5, 1701. Gift of Donald M'Donald, as a perpetual servant to the Earl of Tullibardine. “At Perth, the 5th day of December 1701 years, the Commissioners of Justiciary of the south district for securing the peace of the Highlands, considering that Donald Robertson, Alexander Stewart, John Robertson, and Donald M'Donald, prisoners within the Tolbooth of Perth, and indicted and tried at this court, are, by verdict of the inquest, returned *guilty of death*, and that the Commissioners have changed their punishment of death to perpetual servitude, and that the said pannels are at the Court's disposal, therefore, the said Commissioners have given and gifted the said Donald M'Donald, one of the said prisoners, as a perpetual servant to the Right Honourable John Earl of Tullibardine; recommending to his Lordship to cause provide a collar of brass, iron, or copper, which, by his sentence or doom (whereof an extract is delivered to the magistrates of the said burgh of Perth,) is to be

upon his neck with this just inscription,—DONALD M'DONALD, PROVED GUILTY OF DEATH FOR THEFT AT PERTH, DECEMBER 5TH 1701, AND GIFTED AS A PERPETUAL SERVANT TO JOHN EARL OF TULLIBARDINE;" and recommending also his Lordship to transport him from the said prison once the next week. And the said Commissioners have ordained, and hereby do ordain, the magistrates of Perth and the keeper of their Tolbooth, to deliver the said Donald M'Donald to the said Earl of Tullibardine, having the said collar and inscription, conform to the sentence of doom foresaid."—Extracted furth of the Books of Adjournment of the said district, by me, James Taylor, Writer to his Majesty's Signet, Clerk of Court.—(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR, Clerk."

*Maps, Plans, &c.*—There are no separate maps, plans, or surveys of the parish. There are the following maps of the city: 1. By Mr Henry Buist in 1769, four feet by three. It is in the museum of the Antiquarian Society; 2. by Mr Rutherford in 1792, one sheet, engraved by Mr Kirkwood; 3. by Mr Macfarlane in 1805, one sheet, engraved by Mr Kirkwood; 4. by Mr Reid in 1808, four sheet. It is executed with great minuteness and accuracy. The original is in the possession of the town-council; 5. by Mr Wood in 1823, one sheet, engraved by Mr Clerk.

There was published in 1831, a map of the basin of the Tay by Mr Knox, two sheets, engraved by Mr Gallatly.

*Eminent Characters connected with the parish by Birth, Residence, or Burial.*—One of the most distinguished characters whose history is connected with Perth, was John Knox, who may justly be said to have commenced here the work of Reformation in Scotland. In the year 1544, Cardinal Bethune, having obtained an act in favour of the bishops and clergy to persecute and punish heretics, came to Perth, when an accusation was forthwith lodged against certain persons, for interrupting a friar of the name of Spence, while delivering a discourse in which he taught that there was no salvation without the prayers and intercession of the saints. Three of the persons 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 Hallowe'en. A fourth was charged with haunting the company of those heretics, and the fifth, a woman, Helen Stark, was charged with refusing to pray to the Virgin Mary, and saying that she would pray only to God in the name of Jesus Christ. The men were found guilty and condemned, and on the following day, they were, under the windows of the Spey tower,

hanged—the Cardinal feasting his eyes with this deed of horrid cruelty. Janet Stark desired earnestly to die with her husband, but was refused. She was taken to a pool of water hard by, where, having recommended her children to the charity of her neighbours, and her sucking child having been taken from her breast and given to a nurse, she was drowned, dying with great courage and comfort.

This barbarous execution, or rather murder of innocent persons, increased the growing aversion to the priests and their superstitions, and spread the spirit of Reformation throughout the country. These and various other atrocious acts of Popish oppression perpetrated in the neighbourhood, such as the burning alive Mr George Wishart, the son of the Laird of Pitarrow at St Andrews, and, at the same place, Walter Mylne priest of Lunen, in his eightieth year, prepared the great body of the people to embrace the first opportunity of openly expressing their hatred to the Roman Catholic superstition.

John Knox, having been in Geneva, was sent for by some Protestant noblemen. He commenced his return in 1557, and arrived at Leith May 2, 1559. From thence, he immediately came to Perth to the aid of his brethren, and having publicly made confession of his faith, he entered on ministerial duty. “In a sermon delivered in the Old (Middle) Church, he declared what commandment God had given for the destruction of the monuments of idolatrie, and denounced the mass as an abomination. The service being closed, a priest, opening a splendid tabernacle which stood above the altar, was about to celebrate mass, when a boy cried out, “This is intolerable.” The priest gave him a blow. The boy lifted up a stone, and throwing it at the priest, hit the tabernacle, and broke down an image, and immediately the multitude dispatched the tabernacle and the other monuments in the kirk, before the tenth man in the town understood the matter, for the most part were gone to dinner. This being noised abroad, the rascal multitude assembled, and, finding nothing to do in the kirk, run to Gray and Blackfriars, and after they had destroyed the monuments of idolatrie, they began to seek some spoil.”\*

*John Ruthven*, sixth Lord Ruthven and third Earl of Gowrie, was the second son of William the first Earl, and Dorothea Stewart, daughter or grand-daughter of Henry Stewart, the first Lord

\* Calderwood.

**Methven.** He was born in 1577 or 1578. When about eleven years old he succeeded his elder brother James, who died a minor in 1588.\* He was carefully instructed in the doctrines of the Protestant religion. He was educated at the grammar-school of Perth. While attending the university of Edinburgh, and in non-age, he was elected Provost of Perth (his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, and elder brother had all been in that office.) In 1594, he went abroad to prosecute his studies. The town-council, as a testimony of their respect for the Ruthven family, and of the good hopes which they entertained of him, bound themselves, and their successors in office, by a written obligation, to choose him annually as their Provost, till he should return to his native country. He returned in February 1600 (in the twenty-second year of his age) to the great joy of his friends. The reverse of satisfaction was remarked in the King's speaking of him and to him. In the month of August, a few months after his return, he and his brother Alexander were murdered in his palace at Perth. There is a mystery connected with this atrocious transaction, which no historian has yet been able to unravel. The scrutiny which has been made into the circumstances of the case, leaves an impression unfavourable to his Majesty, which the ingenuity of his most powerful advocates has not been able to remove. His Majesty volunteered to give the city a very full and kindly expressed charter of confirmation of rights and privileges. This, it has been believed, was intended by him to weaken the people's hostility to him, occasioned by the catastrophe. To the same cause is ascribed his entering his name on the guildry-book as a burgess.†

\* "James, second Earl of Gowrie, was buried in the north-east nook of the kirk of Perth, 1588, aged 14."

† The following papers have been published on this subject:—

1. In 1600, "A discourse of the unnatural Conspiracy attempted against his Majesty's person at St Johnstone, upon the 5th of August 1600." This is reputed to be the King's own account of the matter.

2. In 1601, "Ruvenorum Conjuratio," suspected to be the production of Mr P. Galloway one of James' Chaplains.

3. In 1713, "An historical account of the Conspiracies of Gowrie and Robert Logan of Restalrig, against King James VI." written by George Earl of Cromarty.

4. In 1774, "Gowrie's Conspiracy." This paper is introduced in the appendix of Mr Cant's edition of Adamson's "Muses Threnodie," and is believed to have been written by Lord Hailes.

5. In 1785, "The traditional account of the Town of Perth, concerning the death of John Earl of Gowrie and his brother, Alexander Ruthven, in the year 1600, by the Rev. Mr Duff of Tibermore."

6. In 1798, "An historical Dissertation on Gowrie's Conspiracy, by J. Pinkerton, Esq."

7. In 1812, "A Treatise on the Gowrie Conspiracy by Mr W. Panton."

8. In 1818, "History of the Life and Death of John Earl of Gowrie, by the Rev. Mr James Scott, senior minister of Perth."

The *Mercers of Aldie*, proprietors of Meicklour, sprung from a burghess of Perth, of the name of John Mercer. "According to an old inventory of writs," says Mr Scott, the venerable author of the former Statistical Account of Perth, "a copy of which I received from Mr David Mercer of Aberdeen, a descendant of the family, there was and perhaps is still preserved, in the archives of the family of Aldie, 'an charter granted by Mauritius de Cromod in favors of John Mercer, burghess of Perth, of the lands of Meicklour, which lands pertained before to Allan of Cambus, and were disposed by the said Allan to the said Mauritius, dated anno 1106, on Wednesday in the afternoon of St Matthew's day,'" viz. September 21st. This charter was granted in the last year of the reign of King Edgar, and before the reign of his brother Alexander.

The family have a burying vault in the Middle Church in the north aisle, which extends a considerable way under the wall into the street. This was granted them by the King. The grant must have been before the year 1126, because in or about that year the King had given away to the Abbey of Dunfermline all right that he had to any part of the parish church. The present representative of that family is Baroness Keith.\*

*Mylne* was a celebrated architect, under whose direction the bridge, that was destroyed 1621, was built. He was the descendant of the architect Mylne, a special favourite of James III. and was master-mason to James VI. A tomb-stone in the Grayfriars burying-ground was erected to his memory by Robert Mylne, one of his posterity, in the year 1774. Another of his descendants removed to Edinburgh, and built Mylne's Court, Mylne's Square, and some buildings near to the Abbey of Holyrood. Two celebrated architects, of the same name, one at London, and the other at Edinburgh, were descended from him. One of them, Robert, got the highest prize in the first class of architecture in Rome. Blackfriars Bridge was built according to his plan, and under his direction. He was born at Edinburgh 1734, and died 1811.

*Patrick Adamson*, Archbishop of St Andrews, was born in Perth

9. "Summary of the Evidence on the Gowrie Conspiracy, with plans of Gowrie House," printed in the 1st vol. of the Transactions of the Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth, 1827.

\* The aisle here referred to was in 1621 designated Mercer's Aisle. In the kirk-session records of that year, February 21st, there is the following entry: "Andrew Conqueror, overseer, for the reparation and theiking of Mercer's Aisle, produced his account, whilk being read were found equitably given, and admitted, whilk amounted to eight score eight pounds, sixteen shillings, three pennies;"—the Session, as hospital managers, being up to that year the administrators of the temporalia of the Church.

1536, and educated at the grammar-school of Perth. He was the author of a tragedy—"Herod Agrippa, who slew James with the sword," and of a poetic paraphrase on the Lamentations of Jeremiah, published in the *Musæ Sacræ Poetarum Scotorum*, and of various other works. With him originated the reproachful term, a Tulchan Bishop. In a sermon which he preached against the order of bishops, he told his audience that there were three kinds of bishops; the Lord's Bishop, my Lord Bishop, and my Lord's Bishop; the first a minister of Christ; the second a Lord who sits and votes in Parliament, and rules over his brethren; the third one who is the receiver-general of some court nobleman's rent; giving leases for his lordship's behoof, but without the means or power of a bishop. This one he called a Tulchan Bishop, because, as the Tulchan, which is a calf's skin stuffed with straw set up before the cow to cause her give milk, so such bishops are invested with the office that their patrons may by them milk the bishoprics. He was, by Regent Morton, advanced to the Archbishoprick of St Andrews. Thus he himself became a Tulchan Bishop. For this conduct he was summoned before the synod of the bounds (Fife,) and upon his refusing to recognize the synod's jurisdiction, he was excommunicated. Their sentence was by the assembly removed, in consequence of his giving some explanations, or making certain concessions. In 1590 he formally recanted these opinions concerning church government, which had given offence to his brethren, and died in the year following.

*James Crichton.*—This gentleman is known by the name of the Admirable Crichton, a name given him on account of his extraordinary endowments of both body and mind. It is believed by many, that he was in early life a pupil in the grammar-school of Perth. For that reason I have here introduced his name. But I can find no authority for such a belief. His father was Robert Crichton, Esq. of Eliock, in the parish of Sanquhar, in the county of Dumfries. He was born in the mansion-house of Eliock, on the 9th of August 1560. After his birth his father sold that property to a member of the family of Dalzell, afterwards Carnwath, and took up his residence on an estate of which he was proprietor in the parish of Clunie, in Perthshire. What authorizes the belief that he was born in the mansion-house of Eliock is, that the apartment there, in which his birth took place, has been preserved in its original state by the successive proprietors. (Vid. Stat. Acct. Sanquhar.) It may have been imagined that, the grammar-school of



Perth, being of great celebrity, he would be naturally sent to it for instruction. But it does not appear to have risen to any celebrity, till the time when Mr Rhind was chosen rector, which was in or about the year 1580. No inference can be drawn from Clunie being in Perthshire, as Perth lies distant from it, seventeen miles at least.

*The Rev. George Halyburton*, Bishop of Dunkeld. The first place of his ministry was Menmour, in the presbytery of Brechin. He was admitted minister of Perth on August 4, 1644. In a meeting of presbytery, 16th October of the same year, he was severely censured for holding intercourse with the Marquis of Montrose, during his stay in Perth, eating and drinking with him, and acting as chaplain at his table; the Marquis being at the time under a sentence of excommunication. Mr Halyburton acknowledged what was laid to his charge, and declared that he had been taken by surprise, and was urged thereto; that he was heartily sorry for what he had done; that he had given offence; and that he was willing to give, under his own hand, a declaration anent the occasion of his going to the Marquis, and what was the conversation between them.

By an act of the Commissioners of the General Assembly, November 8, 1644, he was summoned to appear before them on the 27th, to be censured for his holding conversation with the Marquis; he appeared accordingly, and a sentence of deposition was passed upon him. In the following month, the presbytery of Perth joined with him in a supplication to the Commissioners to meet in January 1645. In the month of February, the Assembly passed an act in his favour, requiring the presbytery and synod of Perth to try his repentance, and to report to the Commission for his reposition to his ministry, as the Commissioners shall find reasonable. In a meeting of the presbytery, 2d April 1645, he produced that act, and being removed, the meeting, after reasoning, *concluded* that he should humble himself upon his knees, and give such signs of repentance as might convince the brethren of his unfeigned sorrow for the offence given in despising the censure of the kirk, and abusing the censure of excommunication. Mr Halyburton being called in, did humbly on his knees acknowledge the offence, and the scandal given to his brethren and the Christian people, and made promise that, by God's grace (should he be reponed) he would walk more circumspectly in time coming. Whereupon the brethren declar-

ed themselves satisfied, and ordained the said repentance to be represented to the ensuing synod, that from both, reports might be made, conform to the ordinance of the General Assembly. In consequence of the favourable reports of presbytery and synod, the General Assembly, May 16, 1645, ordered his reposition, which took place in the Old Church of Perth on the 15th of June thereafter.

He was made Bishop of Dunkeld on the 18th of January 1662. He resigned his charge at Perth in 1664, and died there on the 5th of April 1665. Mr George Wishart, Bishop of Edinburgh, preached the funeral sermon. Mr Wodrow says of him, Vol. i. p. 102, "his character was, a man who made many changes, and was sincere in none of them."

In addition to the names of "eminent characters connected with Perth, by birth, residence, or burial," it may be proper to introduce the names of some of those, who, while the city was the seat of royalty, made it their occasional residence. The Earl of Gowrie: his palace was immediately in front of the South Street, stretching somewhat to the south, on the site of the present prison. It and the premises connected with it, occupied the square which belongs now to the prisons and the County Buildings.—The Earl of Athole: his house was on the west side of the Spey-gate, nearly opposite to that of Earl Gowrie.—The Earl of Errol: his house was at the south end and west side of the Watergate.—The Bishop of Dunkeld: his house was near to the same place, and had an entrance from the South Street, probably by what is called the Fountain Close.—Lord Chancellor Hay: his house was at the south end and east side of the Watergate, immediately contiguous to Gowrie Palace. The description of the entertainment given to Charles makes this certain. Lord John Murray: his house was a little to the north of the Old Glover Hall, in Couvre-feu Street. The front portion of it still remains.—Lord Crichton of Sanquhar: his house was in the Spey-gate, as appears in a minute of the kirk-session, 4th July 1631.\*

\* Lord Crichton of Sanquhar was William Crichton of Rayhill, son of John the second son of Robert, second Lord Crichton. He was created Viscount of Air, by James VI., in 1622, and Earl of Dumfries by Charles I. in 1633. He was one of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, who, in a meeting of the kirk-session of Perth, (the minute of which I shall presently introduce,) held in 1616, caused it to be sessionally enacted, that the provost and baillies of the burgh should be thenceforth annually chosen members. His Lordship's immediate predecessor in the title was Robert Lord Crichton, to whom he succeeded, in conse-

*Land-owners.*—The principal land-owners in the parish of Perth are, The Right Honourable the Earl of Kinnoul, non-resident; The Right Honourable Lord Gray, non-resident; The Right Honourable Lord Elibank, non-resident; Sir Thomas Moncrieff of Moncrieff, Bart., non-resident; John Nicol, Esq. of Few; the City of Perth; the Glover Incorporation of Perth.

*Parochial Registers.*—The date of the earliest entry in the session register is 1577. It consists of 28 volumes. The date of the earliest entry in the register of baptisms is 1561. It consists of 23 volumes. The date of the earliest entry in the register of marriages is 1567. It consists of 10 volumes. The session appears to have been a semi-episcopal court till the period of the Revolution. Till then the records were ill kept, several volumes were lost, and in those that are extant, there are not a few chasms and mutilations.

The members of session were not the only ecclesiastical office-bearers of the parish, but, in conjunction with them, there were certain civil rulers also of the city. And the court thus constituted assumed and exercised an arbitrary controlling authority in almost all matters, civil and sacred, affecting the well-being of the community. On some occasions elders and deacons had, on taking office, the oath administered to them that they would be “faithful and diligent in their employment.” And not only so, but if after their election they demurred to accept, they were handed over to the bailies and council to be dealt with by them. Thus in a minute, of date October 18, 1584,—“Number of elders elected: ordained their names to be presented to the bailies and council, that they may desire and command the persons written to take upon them the office of elders

quence of his leaving no male issue. This sixth Lord Crichton had, we are told by Douglas, in his Peerage, a charter of the Barony of Sanquhar, (27th July 1609) and<sup>1</sup> of the house in Perth, which formerly belonged to John Earl of Gowrie, (19th January 1611–12.) There is in the Perth city records an instrument of seisin, in favour of William, Lord Crichton of Sanquhar, as heir to Robert, Lord Crichton of Sanquhar his father, in the great house or tenement of land formerly belonging to John Earl of Gowrie, dated 19th July 1619, proceeding upon a precept from Chancery dated 17th July 1619.

From Douglas we learn, also, that this sixth Lord, having engaged in a tilting match with a fencing-master of the name of Turner, the foil of his adversary deprived him of the sight of one of his eyes. Believing that this was an intentional injury, his Lordship hired two persons, the name of one of whom was Carlisle, to assassinate him. This Carlisle shot him with a pistol, 11th May 1612. The assassins were shortly after apprehended, tried for the murder, and hanged. His Lordship fled. A reward of L. 1000 was offered for his discovery and apprehension. Being apprehended, he was put upon his trial in the Court of the King's Bench, Westminster, 27th June 1612, and condemned to death, and on the 29th of the same month was hanged on a gibbet, erected in Great Palace Yard, before the gate of Westminster.

for the *present year* ;” the election being not *ad vitam aut culpam*, but annual. In the minutes there occur instances of interference with the affairs of the inhabitants, cognizable only by authority purely civil. Thus, in January 20, 1617, “ for as meikle as the session, understanding that Gilbert Robertson is tenant of an laigh house locate in the tenement of land pertaining to the hospital, whilk wants an chimney, and yet has daily ingill therein, to the perilling of the hail tenement to be set on fire ; and therefore ordains that no ingill be kindled nor used in the said house hereafter, and the bailies are requested to interpone their authority for that effect.” They imposed and levied fines on persons guilty of certain offences, and sent some whose offences they judged to be peculiarly aggravated, to Halkerston’s Tower, which stood over the north entry of the (now) West Church, there to be confined during the pleasure of the court. The Episcopalian ecclesiastical dignitaries gave their full countenance to such a constitution of the session, and the consequent exercise of arbitrary power. Thus the following stands on record :—“ Monday penult day of Dec. 1616, present Mr John Malcolm, minister. Item, the haill elders were present except David Sibbald. In the New (now West) Kirk, with the bishops and council, the persons present, Archbishop of St Andrews, James, Archbishop of Glasgow, Alexander, Bishop of Dunkeld, William, Bishop of Galloway, and Adam, Bishop of Dunblane ; William Lord Crichton of Sanquhar, and David Lord Scone, Mr John Malcolm minister, the bailies, council, and deacons of crafts, and elders thereof. Whilk day it is agreed, for better ordering of all matters in the kirk and session, that the provost and bailies hereof shall always be elected and chosen members of the session, and that for this present year James Adamson and Constantine Malice be added to the present session, and give their assistance and concurrence to the minister and rest of the elders. As likewise that the masters of the hospital, present and to come, shall distribute and dispense nothing but (*i. e.* without) advice of the ministers and magistrates, and that they make yearly account to them and others, three or four of the most discreet of the council and session that shall be named by the minister and magistrates.” This entry is designated on the margin, “ sederunt of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal.” Agreeably to such a state of matters, the sederunt of the session frequently commenced “ whilk day, council and session being convened,” &c.

A new and more constitutional session was formed (after the Revolution) in 1690, 4th June. Then the elders and deacons were formally and presbyterially ordained. From this time the records have been regularly made up, and, with one or two exceptions, carefully preserved. But it appears that the session continued to transact, at their sessional meetings, the civil business of the hospital, and, in their minutes, to mix up that with matters of discipline: and, when the three Lethendy mortifications were committed to their management in the years 1660, 1686, 1743, to enter the business of these among the minutes.

In 1796 this irregularity was rectified, and now there is a set of books for each of these institutions.

In 1807, the original parish was divided into four by the Court of Session. Since that time the session of each parish has had its own register. The two for baptisms and marriages continue, as formerly, for the whole original parish. The two *quoad sacra* parishes lately erected, have, of course, each its own register for matters of discipline.

It may not be out of place to mention here, that the session of the Middle Church are in possession of four communion cups of singularly antique workmanship, chased. They are silver gilt, and have each an unique cover. In 1632, there appears to have been only two. In the session register of that year, we find the following entry: "May 21, the two silver overgilt goblets with gold, with the covers for the communion, and two basins pertaining to the session, are put within the charter kist in the revestry, there to be kept." Another of them seems to have been purchased about the year 1639, or soon after, for in a minute of session of that year, April 29, it is "ordained that the hundred pounds (Scots) paid for permission to bury Lady Stormont in the kirk, shall be employed for the buying of a cup for the use of the communion." In the following year it is mentioned, that Mr John Robertson gave L. 20 "to help to buy the cup." Besides these cups, there is a massy silver baptismal font, which appears from the legend to have been the property of the Old or Middle Church, since the year 1649. The East Church have had it in loan since 1808. The charter kist above referred to is in the Middle Church. It contains a small box, in which there has been preserved since the year 1685 a CALCULUS—the history of which is somewhat curious, and given in the following notice accompanying it:—"September 10th 1685. This day this stone being cut and

taken from Robert Ferguson, son to Donald Ferguson, by Adam Gordon, chirurgeon, before Mr William Hay, parson of Perth, and some other witnesses, was ordered to be preserved in the hospital box, the poore boy being cured att the expense of the session and hospital." The calculus is of the mulberry kind, enveloped by the fusible calculus. It is an inch and three-quarters by an inch and a quarter. The fusible calculus is three eighths of an inch in thickness.

The register books of the presbytery of Perth are extant from the year 1618, and the register books of the synod of Perth and Stirling are extant from the year 1638.

*Antiquities, &c.*—In the locality of the city, there are manifestations of antiquity, which carry us back to times of which no record gives us any account. The soil of the plain on which it stands is of alluvial origin. At the upper and the lower extremities of it, the appearance distinctly indicates that at one time it was insulated,—that on each side of it there was a water course; and recent discoveries seem to make that almost if not altogether certain. When St Paul's Church, which is on the west side of the town, was built in 1806-7, the workmen, in digging for a foundation, came at about ten feet deep to a piece of well-built ashler masonry, stretching from north to south, in which there were iron staples and rings, such as are met with on piers. (The level of the street here is about 23 feet above the channel of the river at the water engine.) At some distance from this place, in a northerly direction, (Stormont Street,) a well was lately dug. At the depth of about 20 feet, there were found two willow trees, sixteen inches diameter in the bole, standing in their natural growing position, but with branches broken down. The soil around and above them was clay. The surface here is somewhat higher than the site of St Paul's. Almost due north from this spot, another well was dug in the house built (1826) by the late Mrs Young of Belwood, in Barrossa Place. And there one tree of the same kind was found at about eight feet below the surface, also in its natural growing position, having round it such alluvial matter as decayed nut-shells, leaves, &c. From these facts, taken in connection with the appearance of the upper and lower extremities of the plain, and its immemorial name, it is scarcely possible not to conclude, that a stream of water must have run at one time in the direction of these places, and that thus the plain had been at some remote period an Inch or Is-

land. From extant documents, it is clear that the town's lade or aqueduct, which runs from west to east, must have crossed the line of that stream. But the aqueduct is proved to be in all respects at present what it was above 600 years ago. Long before the year 1111, therefore, the water stream must have existed. To a mere stranger this may appear to be a matter of no importance; but to every one who is acquainted with the locality it must be one of interesting speculation.

The facts which I am now to state refer to a less distant period of time. In the excavations which have, for above these forty years past, been made for foundations of houses, there have been found in not a few places, a compact black rich earth, saponaceous to the touch, but friable when dried, which at one time must have been in a semifluid state. In that earth, various articles have been found imbedded. In some places there has been found what indicated that cattle had been there kept. A few weeks ago, I examined an excavation made on the north side of St John's Church for founding a house. In it there was the kind of earth I have just now mentioned. The following articles were imbedded in it, viz. small pieces of leather, of various kinds, such as are thrown out of a shoe or saddle manufactory—such refuse of leather as is found in currying manufactories,—a spur of an antique shape; a pair of scissors, in length similar to those represented on the tailors' arms, affixed to their seat in the West Church; the rowels are peculiarly formed; a small copper shield having upon it a bend dexter; pieces of moss and heath, and straw, and oak, and a few oyster shells; all which articles must have been deposited through mere accident. Over the whole of this deposition there were houses, which, through great age, had fallen into decay, and are now taken down for the erection of others.

In accounting for such appearances, which are found in many quarters of the city, it seems most natural to refer to the repeated inundations which befell it in ancient times. In these times, the level of the streets was much lower than it is now. This is proved by the discovery of causeway pavements, 6, 8, and even 10 feet below the present ones; and any one \* who reads the narrative of the inundation in 1210, given by Fordun, and that of 1621, given by Mr Malcolm, particularly the latter, may easily see how disposed the

\* In the year 1666, the causeways between the Highgate and the South Street port were raised, by order of the town-council.

inhabitants would be to abandon those places of accommodation, whether for themselves or their cattle, which had been submerged.

From many enactments and remarks that occur in the town records, it appears that the principal fuel of the inhabitants was peat or moss turf. Peat stacks were numerous both within the town and on the North Inch, as were "heather stacks," laid up for winter fuel. The refuse and ashes of these appear to have been accumulated occasionally on the streets, so much so, as to require the order of the magistrates to have them removed. When the inundation took place, they, in part, would be carried into the places now mentioned, and, with the addition of other such refuse materials, thrown in by the inhabitants, would soon give the mass a consistency. This seems to be the most natural way of accounting for the character of the earth, which is purely vegetable, and for the singular blackness of its colour, and the complete preservation of various perishable articles found in it—water impregnated with moss being a powerful antiseptic and preserver of vegetable and animal substances from corruption.

When Mr James Ballingall, upholsterer, erected these buildings on the south of the church, in which are his ware-room and the Central Bank, there was found in the excavation made for the foundation, similar black earth, and imbedded in it a boat clinker-built, about ten feet long, resting on its keel. There was lying under it a caulking iron, and the soles of shoes. I infer, therefore, from this circumstance, and from there being found in other similar places, various pieces of cow-house furniture, that the overwhelming inundation was unexpected, and prevented the people from removing what they would not otherwise have allowed themselves to be deprived of; and this is rendered highly probable, by the narrative given of the inundation of 1621. "In the night, unlooked for, the water increased, so that all those that dwelt outwith the castle-gavel Port in low houses, behoved to go to high houses for preservation of their lives, &c."

With the lowness of the level of the street corresponded that of the channel of the river. It was so low in 1600, that the most deeply laden foreign vessels that traded with Perth did not break bulk till they reached the north shore, *i. e.* to where the council-house is, while such vessels now come no farther up the river than to the lime shore.

Adamson, in his poetic history of the town, written in the year



1630, intimates very distinctly that barges sailed past the Palace of Scone, and it is highly probable, from the appearance of the ground there, that the course of the river was much nearer the Palace than it is now.—His verses are

“ As we then talked, our barge did sweetly pass  
By Scone's fair Palace, sometime Abbey was.”

In the city records, 27th November 1609, there is an entry containing a prohibition of boats “ weighing (casting) anchor at the North Inch head,” *i. e.* the head of the original North Inch, which till 1785, reached only to the trees opposite to Boat-land.

Before the Reformation, Perth abounded in monasteries and other religious houses. The monasteries were, *1st*, the Dominican or Blackfriars Monastery. It was situated at the north side of the town, and was founded by Alexander II. in 1231, who, in 1244, granted to it the whole ground where his garden was, and also a conduit of water from his mill-lead, measuring four inches in width. The buildings were large and commodious, and were sometimes spoken of as a palace. In this monastery, the Scottish kings, when at Perth, usually took up their residence, after the demolition of the old castle. In the church of the monastery, the Parliament sometimes met, and the national ecclesiastical councils held in it their annual meetings. The designation of the friars was, “ the predicatory or the preaching friars of the burgh of Perth.”

*2d*, The Carmelite or Whitefriars Monastery, designated “ the prior and convent of the Carmelite friars of Tulilum, near Perth.” It was founded in the reign of Alexander III. and was situated a little way west from the town. After the Reformation, when the King's hospital was founded, the lands and rents of the monastery were annexed to it.

*3d*, The Charter-House or Carthusian Monastery ; this was the only monastery which the Carthusians had in Scotland. It was situated at the west end of the town, near to where the hospital now stands. It was built or founded by King James I. and his Queen in the year 1429. The original letter, sent by the prior of the great Chartreux in France addressed to that monarch, and giving consent to the erection of a house of the Carthusian order near Perth, for thirteen monks, with their competent number of servants, is extant among the papers of the hospital. It is beautifully written, and dated August 19th 1426. Its designation was, “ The

prior and convent of the house of the valley of virtue of the Carthusian order, near Perth." In the church which belonged to it there were some royal sepulchres, in which were interred King James I., Jane his Queen; and Queen Margaret, mother of James V.

*4th*, The Franciscan or Grayfriars Monastery. It was founded by Lord Oliphant in 1460, and was situated at the south-east corner of the town, near the river. The ground on which the monastery and its church stood was, in 1580, ordered to be in all time coming, the common burying-ground for the inhabitants of the town and parish.

The religious houses and chapels were,

*1st*, The Nunnery of St Mary Magdalene, with its chapel. This nunnery, with its chapel, was situated about a mile south from the town. The time of its foundation is uncertain. The lands surrounding it, with some other lands and annualrents of several houses in the town, belonged to it. After the Carthusian monastery was built, the nunnery was suppressed, and its lauds and rents were annexed to the monastery.

*2d*, The Nunnery of St Leonard, the Abbot, with the hospital and chapel. It was founded before the year 1296, and lay a little way south-west from the town. Lady Elizabeth Dunbar, daughter of the Earl of March, who had been privately married to that unfortunate Prince, David Duke of Rothsay, and whom he was afterwards obliged to reject, devoted herself after his death to a single life, and became prioress of the nunnery and governess of its hospital in the year 1411. After the Carthusian monastery was built, the nunnery was suppressed, and its lands and rents were annexed to the monastery. But the chapel continued to stand under the patronage of the monks.

*3d*, Our Lady's Chapel. It was situated at the foot of the north (High) Street, near to the old bridge. It was an old building in the year 1210, at which time it was in part overthrown with the bridge, by a remarkable inundation of the river. Afterwards it was repaired. The old prison is a portion of it.

*4th*, St Laurence Chapel. It was situated at the castle gavel, or on part of the ground which belonged to the old castle. It was founded by the predecessors of Robert III., December 3, 1405. He gave it to the monastery of the Blackfriars. The reason assigned for this gift was, that prayers might be offered for the soul of his mother, Elizabeth More, "who was resting in the church

of the predicatory friars of Perth." The friars, some time after they got possession of it, suffered it to fall into decay.

5th. The Chapel of St Ann, mother of the Virgin Mary. It was situated at the south side of St John's Church. The time of its foundation is uncertain. Sir Walter Eviot, of the family of the Eviots of Balhousie, was chaplain many years before 1528. It had an hospital adjoining for the entertainment of poor people.

6th. St James's Chapel. It was situated at the south side of St John's Church. It was dedicated not only to the Apostle James, but also to St Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury. About the year 1400, the chapel fell into decay, and a new one was built by the alderman and community of the burgh, chiefly by the assistance which they received from William Whitson, a burgess.

7th. Allareit or Chapel of Loretto. It was situated near the head, and on the north side of the South Street.

8th. St Paul's Chapel. It was situated at the north-west corner of the street called New Row. It was founded December 25, 1434, by John Spens of Glendewglie, or Glen Douglas. It had an hospital adjoining for the entertainment of strangers, and of poor and infirm people.

9th. The Rood Chapel or Chapel of the Holy Cross. Mr Cant, in his History of Perth, says "it stood at the South Street port, on the north side."

10th. The Chapel of St Katherine. According to the description in the foundation charter, it was situated at the west end of Perth, "at the Clay-pots." It was founded June 19, 1523, by Sir John Tyrie, who, for many years, was provost of the Collegiate Church of Methven. At the west side of it there was founded at the same time, a house "for the entertainment of poor travellers coming thither."

All these chapels, as well as the monastery churches and parish church, had altars in them, founded and consecrated to the honour of particular saints, at which masses were celebrated, and prayers offered, for the souls of the founders or of their relatives. Each altar had its particular chaplain, or more than one when it happened to be dedicated to two or more saints, which, for want of sufficient room, was frequently the case. Each chaplain had a yearly stipend of L. 10 Scots, besides occasional emoluments. The priests and chaplains, who were very numerous, besides performing service at the altars, generally followed the business of the law as public notaries.

After the Reformation, James VI. in 1569, with the advice of the Regent Murray, founded by charter an hospital, to be called in all time coming King James's Hospital of Perth. The foundation was confirmed by a new charter, which he granted when he came to full age in 1587,\* and both were confirmed by an act of Parliament in 1587. By these charters and some subsequent acts of Parliament, the minister and elders of Perth were made the governors of the hospital. They were established as a civil corporation in the name and on the behalf of the *poor members of Jesus Christ residing and abiding in the burgh of Perth*, with power to hold legal courts with their dues and amerciaments, and to have tenancies, and the service of free tenants." The masters of the hospital, who were to be annually chosen by the governors, were to produce their accounts not only to the governors and to the superintendents of the county, who were a kind of temporary bishops, and thereby acted with a degree of civil power, but also when required in the Court of Exchequer. For the support of the hospital, the King assigned all the lands, rents, and emoluments which belonged to the monasteries, churches, chapels, and altars within the liberty and privilege of the burgh of Perth, and also what was paid out of the liberty and privilege thereof, to any other such religious places in the kingdom. But this splendid endowment has been much diminished, partly through mismanagement, partly through the change in the value of the current coin, and partly through the violent seizure of portions of the property by communities and influential individuals.

This hospital has been the means of preserving ancient records more fully in Perth, than they are in most other places. The acts and canons which were made by the annual assemblies or national councils of the clergy of Scotland, and which are said to have been

\* When James, having attained the age of twenty-one, passed the famous act of the general revocation of church lands, it became necessary that the rights of the hospital should be renewed; and more especially as the former gift of hospitality had been granted during the King's minority, money, as well as interest at court, it might be expected, would be requisite for that purpose, both because of the composition money which the King might demand as the re-purchase of the gift, and because of the customary expenses of employing lawyers, and of getting deeds expedited by the officers of the crown.

The commissioner from the burgh of Perth to the Parliament (held in Edinburgh 1587) was William Fleming, a man of great plainness and integrity, one of the most popular and respectable citizens in his day. He was in great favour with the Chancellor Maitland, Lord Thirlestane, chiefly through the Chancellor's lady, who was Jane Fleming, daughter and sole heiress of James the fourth Lord Fleming, and to whom William claimed kindred. The signal services done by this individual to the hospital, and the manner in which the gift was obtained, appear in a curious letter, which is preserved in an old hospital rent-book, sometime before 1655.

deposited in the Dominican monastery of Perth, were destroyed or abstracted at the time of the Reformation. But the following documents are extant in the archives of the church or hospital.—The chartulary of the Dominican monastery, viz. the book into which the charters of the monastery, 162 in number, were transcribed. Also the account book, or book of the receipts of rents which was kept by the prior of the convent, from the 20th June 1557, to May 6, 1559, and 162 loose charters or writs which belonged to the said monastery; 20 charters which belonged to the Carmelites or Whitefriars; 92 which belonged to the Carthusians; 207 which belonged to the chapels and altars :—all these chapels, monasteries, and religious houses lying without the walls of the city.

The other buildings of note were, 1st, *the Castle*, which stood without the walls, immediately at the end of the Skinner-gate. It was the usual residence of the kings previous to the erection of the Blackfriars' monastery. Not a vestige of it remains.

2. *The Old Cross*. It was not inferior to Mary Magdalene's Chapel. The time of its erection is unknown. But it must have been long before the year 1578, for in the session record of that year, there is the following entry :—“ The assembly (session) requests the bailies to clear the cross, that the door may open and steik, and that they get a lock and key to the door, and likewise the master of the hospital to buy three locks for the three irons (jugs) where delinquents do penance at the cross.” It stood in the middle of the High Street, between the Kirkgate and the Skinnergate, and, as in other towns, it was the place from which all proclamations were issued. What entitles it to special notice here is the following narrative, which I shall give as I find it in Cant's History. “ In the guildry register is to be seen ‘ A. D. 1601. *Parcere subjectis et debellare superbos*,’ and under this motto, ‘ JAMES R.’ all written with the King's own hand. Upon the next page of the register we see “ *Nemo me impune lacessit*, July 24, 1650. CHARLES R.” Written by Charles's own hand. There are blank leaves both before and after these royal subscriptions. Charles II. was crowned on the 1st of January thereafter. In the miscellaneous manuscript in my custody, before-mentioned, Mr Dundee, who was on the spot, writes thus :—“ Item, on the xv. Apprill in anno a thousand vi hundred ane yeir, the King's Majestie cam to Perth, and that sam day he was made Provest, with ane great scerlane of the courteours, and the bancait was made at the Crois, and the King's Maiistie wes set downe thereat, and six

dozen of glassis brokine, with mony owder silver pissis and peuder vescillis, and then the King made ane great solleime aith to defend the hail libertie of this brouche." With reference to this strange occurrence, I may here remark, that James V. demeaned himself in a manner somewhat similar on another occasion. There is a charter of the Abbot of Melrose, A. D. 1535, constituting that prince the bailiff or steward of the Abbey of Melrose, vesting in him all the powers which pertained to that office, and requiring him to be answerable to the abbot for his exercise of the same. Surely James VI. did not act so far beneath his dignity in becoming the Provost of a city, as James V. in becoming the bailiff of an abbey.

Notwithstanding the very positive and circumstantial manner in which this matter is presented to our belief, I am much disposed to call in question the truth of the fact as related; and my simple reason is, that there is not only no mention of it made in the town's records, but a distinct relation given of the election of Sir David Murray of Golspetrie, knight-comptroller, to be Provost. And it is remarkable that his election was, (what had not taken place before) entered in two books—the red book and the book of general entry. It is impossible to believe that such a very extraordinary event, as the election of the King to be Provost, would be passed without any notice whatever being taken of it in the records.

In 1652, Cromwell demolished the cross and applied its materials to the erection of his citadel. In 1668, after the restoration of Charles II. the magistrates contracted with Mr Mylne of Balfargie, the King's master mason, to rebuild it, and make it as elegant as any in Scotland, for L. 200; and in the following year, when it was finished, they issued an order to write Lord Lyon for a license to Charles Wilson to gild it with the royal arms, and those of the town. It had a spacious terrace above. It was twelve feet high, and had a flight of steps within. On the anniversary of the Restoration, 29th May 1669, "the treasurer was appointed to cover the terrass of the new crois with a carpet, and to prepare glasses and two gallons (Scots) of French wine, to be run out of the mouths of lions, bears, and griffins, and other heads with which the cross was ornamented." In 1765, the town-council, in consideration of the cross being an impediment on the street, empowered the magistrates to remove it. It was thereafter disposed of at a public sale to a mason, he being the highest bidder, for five pounds. He immediately took it down, and carried off the stones.

3. *The Spey Tower* was a fortress upon the city wall, near to Earl Gowrie's Palace, and had in it a strong prison. Among those who were at various times confined in it, were the pious persons whom Cardinal Bethune caused to be condemned for heresy. From it he witnessed their execution. It was the last of the towers on the wall, and was taken down about thirty years ago. Not a vestige of it now remains.

4. *Earl Gowrie's Palace*, called in the days of its glory Perth's Whitehall, was built in the year 1520 by the Countess of Huntly. It fronted the South Street, and part of the Speygate on the west, the river on the east, the Water Vennel on the north. The city wall bounded its garden on the south, along which wall ran the lade which, at its entrance into the river, formed a dock or harbour for vessels. After the murder of the noble proprietor, it fell into the possession of the city. In 1746, the magistrates made a present of it to William Duke of Cumberland, as a mark of the gratitude of the inhabitants for his services against the rebels. The Duke sold it to Government, to be converted into artillery barracks. It continued to be thus occupied till the commencement of the French war, when the Leith Fort became the artillery head-quarters. In 1805, it was repurchased by the city, and its buildings, so deeply interesting to every reader of ancient Scottish story, were ruthlessly razed, and the ground given to be the site of the public buildings which have been there recently erected. The materials of the house were sold for L. 597, 3s. 7d.

5. *The Parliament House*.—Meetings of Parliament were sometimes held in the Blackfriars monastery, but this was the place in which they were held in ordinary. It stood on the north side of the High Street, a few paces back from the street. The avenue leading to it still retains the name of the Parliament Close. Its site was where the Royal Arch Mason Lodge now is, for the erection of which it was taken down in 1818. Long before that year it had fallen into decay, and was inhabited by some poor families, but it retained many traces of its having been a building of high pretension. The Scottish Parliament meetings were held in it till the reign of James II., when they and the courts of justice were removed to Edinburgh, that city having then become the seat of royalty.

In Mr Cant's lucubration on Boetius' fable respecting Bertha, to which I have referred, there is mention made of urns having been found in that place on the bank of the river, worn away

by the strength of the stream. One of them was very large, above half an inch in thickness, made of a fine light-brown clay, plated on the inside with brass, and capable of containing about ten English gallons. Mr Cant had in his custody a bit of the *brass* and *urn*. He observed on the face of the bank six semicircular pillars of earth, about 18 feet in height to the surface of the ground from the bed of the river. The earth of these pillars was quite different from that of the bank, being of a dark hazel colour, while the earth of the bank was reddish. Round pits had been dug out, and *urns* deposited at the bottom. They were filled with a mixture of glutinous earth rammed down. After an inundation, which had washed away part of the bank about 150 yards farther up the river, he discovered a small *urn*, in which were a few ashes of oak-wood and part of a *lacrymatory*. It would contain about an English quart and a half. The pillars were in lines, about ten feet distant from each other. Mr Cant's conjecture was, that the Romans had here a station, a castellum, which carries in it great probability, as, from their regularly formed castellum at Ardoch, there are vestiges of a military way, which leads by Methven to the Tay, about a quarter of a mile above Bertha.

*Low's Wark* merits particular notice, as it is a part of the chartered property of the burgh of no inconsiderable value. It is a strong and skilfully built weir or dike across the river Almond, about four miles up the river, which diverts a large portion of it into an aqueduct that formerly encompassed the walls.\* Before the invention of gunpowder, the citizens, in cases of emergency, by means of sluices, so filled the ditch or fosse with the water as to render the place almost impregnable. This was done by them in 1313, when Bruce, as we have seen, invested and took it. At what time, and by whom that wall was built, is a matter of uncertainty. Nor is it certain what was the special object intended by the aqueduct. It has been imagined that it was to strengthen the fortifications by surrounding the town with water. But the probability is, that it was for the simple purpose of procuring a water power for the city mills. The probability is founded on the following circumstances: The proprietor of Meiklour, an estate about eight miles from Perth, in the year 1106, was John Mercer, a burgher of Perth. He was the progenitor of the Aldie family. The arms of that family

\* The Rev. Mr Scott, in his account of the parish (1796) says, that there are some documents which show that this canal was in existence before the time of Malcolm Canmore, who, after the death of Macbeth, ascended the throne in 1057. Where these documents are, I have not been able to discover.



bear three mill rhynds. \* Mills driven by a water power were in these days a rare and valuable property, and possessed only by persons of influence and affluence. If these mills were his, as tradition informs us they were, that may account for the three rhynds in the family arms, and go far to establish the antiquity of the aqueduct, for nowhere else could water be procured for them.

But it appears from a feu-charter granted by Robert II. in the fourth year of his reign, *i. e.* 1375, that they were then, and had for some time previously been, the property of the Crown, for in that year he made a gift of them to the aldermen, burgesses, and community of Perth. We must therefore believe that the Aldie family had for some consideration given them up to the Sovereign. And this may account for the family possessing, by an express royal grant, a burying vault in the Middle Church, which grant must have been prior to 1126, for it was in or about that year that King David I. gave over to the Abbey of Dunfermline his right to dispose of any part of the parish church.

The estimation in which this Low's Wark and the aqueduct or mill-lade were held in the fifteenth century, appears from an indenture entered in the city record, 4th November 1494, made by the then Lord Ruthven and his son to the burgh, and John Eviot of Balhousie, anent the mill-lade, water passage and course of the mills of the said burgh, and anent the reparations and upholding of that

\* In Nesbit's Heraldry it is said, "John Mercer in Perth purchased the lands o Meiklour from Mauritius de Cromod in the reign of King David II., which were confirmed by that King in the thirty-third year of his reign, and afterwards took the designation of Aldie. In the same work, Mr Mercer is said to carry Or on a fess between three cross Patees in chief Gules, and a star in base azure," &c. But the following old verses "*on the Arms of Aldie*," which Mr Scott many years ago received from Mr Mercer, already referred to, are entitled to attention.

“ Behold the arms of the Mercers are,  
 Three mill rhynds, three gold balls with glittering star.  
 To let the world know that their ancient race  
 Possessed three mills for many ages space,  
 In pleasant Perth, near situate by Tay,  
 Which mills Perth keeps unto this present day.  
 Three balls next show them potent in each thing,  
 Therefore they gift these mills unto the King,  
 Who for their golden gift and loyal mind,  
 With arched tomb in church did them propine,  
 With lands, rent, arms, of privilege and fame,  
 Kept now by Aldie's lands, chief of the name.  
 Lastly, the star, clear, shining as a gem,  
 Proves their descent out of Moravian stem.  
 Likewise their will and virtue do presage,  
 In name and fame to last with shining age.  
 Therefore, men may avow with justest breath,  
 Mercer's are yea older than old Perth.

These last lines, as Mr Scott remarks, refer to the fabulous story of Hector Boece, that Bertha was prior to Perth.

work called *Low's Wark*, which is the retainer and closer of the said mill-lade. On the east bank of the lade, and within a short distance from the city, there is a stone wall through which there is a hole or perforation called a boot or bout,\* having a strong ring of iron at both ends, 32 inches in circumference. Through this boot there passes a considerable body of water, which forms the aqueduct that supplies the mills of Balhousie. The antiquity of the boot appears from a contract (recorded in the city archives,) between the Eviots of Balhousie, and the alderman, bailies, council, and community of Perth, dated 19th June 1464, that the boot shall be taken up and newly made, of thirty-two inches of wideness within at both ends, and banded with iron both within and without at both ends. This stone work was repaired about sixty years ago, and the rings adjusted according to the original contract, in presence of commissioners appointed by the Earl of Kinroul, (who had then become proprietor of Balhousie,) and the magistrates of Perth.

With respect to "pieces of antiquity dug up in the parish," there are none of value and importance. In the rubbish of that part of the city wall that was pulled down in 1790, to make way for the erection of the George Inn, George Street, there was found a copper coin of Cæsar Augustus, of nearly the size of the present current penny, legend distinct. It is in the possession of Mrs Ramsay of Croft. When the Old Parliament House, High Street, was thrown down in 1818, there were found in it coins, chiefly Bruce's, Balliol's and Alexander's. They were all silver pennies, with the exception of a few Bruces. Mr Duncan, druggist Edinburgh, the proprietor, presented some of them to the Museum of the Antiquarian Society. In an old house on the north side of St John's Church, there were found when it was taken down iast spring, some silver coins. They were all Mary's. Two of them are in my possession.

\* There is a tradition respecting this *boot*, which it may be proper to notice. It is, that a proprietor of Balhousie, wishing to erect a mill near his house, applied to the King, requesting to have from *his lade* at a given place, a bootful of water, which being granted, he produced a boot without a sole and that he thus obtained a perpetual current for his mill. The tradition carries absurdity in the face of it. The following fact shows clearly enough how the boot may have originated. King Alexander II. granted to the Dominican Monastery a pipe of water from the same lade or canal, "4 inches in wideness," but with the express condition that it should not be to the detriment of a mill belonging to him at Perth. Upon a similar principle may the limited quantity of water have been granted to the Balhousie proprietor for his mill.

The tradition appears to have been credited in 1600, as in the original Latin charter the word is translated, "ocream."

*Interment of the Dead.*—The heathen made it unlawful to inter the dead within the precincts of their cities, that the sacred places there might not be defiled. Accordingly, their usual practice was to inter in the suburbs, and on the sides of the highways. The early Christians acted in conformity with the established custom. But before the end of the fourth century, they, influenced by feelings of piety, or rather of superstition, endeavoured to have their churches made receptacles for their dead, particularly for those of them who had been of distinguished Christian character. This the Emperor Theodosius opposed, and published against it an ordinance, declaring that every one found guilty of it should be subjected to a mulct, “*tertia in futurum patrimonii parte mulctetur.*” But the notion, that the souls of the departed would be thereby benefited, became prevalent, and was in no small degree strengthened by the introduction of the Popish doctrine of worshipping or paying homage to the dead and their relics. Accordingly, in the thirteenth century, *kirk burial* was an object which the Roman Catholic population everywhere anxiously and devoutly sought after. The state of the under ground in the old churches in this county, particularly in those in which the rites of the Catholic faith were observed, afford abundant proof how prevalent the superstitious practice was.

In the under ground of St John’s Church of Perth, the quantity of skulls and other bones is throughout so great, that one might conclude it to have been the charnel-house of the city. But soon after the Reformation in 1560, the gross superstition which occasioned and encouraged the practice began to subside; and in Scotland measures were speedily adopted for its prevention. In 1588, the General Assembly issued a prohibition against its continuance. The matter was immediately taken up by the kirk-session of Perth, as the following will shew:—“*Decimo die mensis Januarii anno domini millesimo quingentesimo octuagesimo octavo: Whilk day the bailies of the burgh of Perth convened, understanding that by an act of Parliament \* and General Assembly, it is ordained that there shall be no persons buried in the kirks of this realm, nor the floors thereof be altered or broken to that effect, for sundry good causes and effects mentioned in the said act, which the bailies, council, and deacons of crafts, ministers, and elders foresaids being minded to cause to be observed, have, according thereto, ordained and ordains that the kirk floor of the burgh shall*

\* This act of Parliament I cannot discover.

not be raised nor broken, nor any burial be made therein in time coming, as the said act bears."

This not having produced the intended effect, the session renewed their prohibition in the following minute:—"2d September 1589: Whilk day, bailies, council, and deacons of crafts, minister, and elders of the burgh of Perth, convened within the revestry, understanding that there was an act and ordinance made upon the tenth day of January, in the year of God one thousand five hundred and eighty-eight years, by the bailies, council, deacons of crafts, ministers and elders of the said burgh, bearing the tenor following.—" (Here the act is introduced.) "And seeing, since the date of the said act, certain persons have been buried within the said kirk, wherewith they have dispensed, they now of one mind, consent and assent, and now have ordained and ordains, that there shall be no person or persons, whatsoever calling they may be of, buried within the kirk of this burgh, and that the kirk floor thereof shall not be raised nor broken, in time coming, without the special advices, consents, and assents of the said bailies, council, deacons of crafts, minister and elders of the said burgh, or the most part of the council and eldership, chapterly convened within the revestry, he first had and obtained thereto, under the pain of ten pounds money, to be paid by every particular person that shall happen at any time coming to consent to the contrary hereof, to be employed to the repair of the kirk; and also in case of the contravention hereof, to satisfy the kirk by their public repentance, attour the payment of the said ten pounds. And ordain that this repentance, attour the said ten pounds with this act, be inserted in the books of council, and in the books of the Assembly of Perth.

"To the making of whilk repentance James Davidson, deacon of the hammermen, and George Robertson, one of the council, and deacon of the skinners, dissented."

As this prohibitory act of session was not absolute, but admitted of exception, to be judged of by the members chapterly convened, persons of influence and affluence continued to obtain *kirk burial*. Accordingly, in the record we have such minutes as the following:—"Penult day of July 1631: Which day the council and session being convened in the revestry anent the suit of the Laird of Moncrieff, craving licence to bury the corpse of umquhill Margaret Beetoun, spouse to Mr David Moncrieff, of Craigie, parishioner of Perth, within the kirk thereof, they thought it expedient the laird himself should come in before them, and propose

the said errand himself, and what he would offer for the said licence. Whereupon his wisdom was incalled, and proposed the matter to them, and offered for licence forty pounds Scots money, to be paid immediately to Andrew Bell, master of the hospital, in name of the session, and thereupon the council and session granted liberty to bury the said corpse in the burial called Balleises burial, within the said kirk." And to give one other instance: "Penult day of April 1639, Lady Stormont buried beside her mother, in the north east neuk of the kirk of Perth, and to pay a hundred pounds money Scots, to be delivered to George Bisset, master of the hospital, before the breaking of the ground."

For a long time this practice, reprehensible in every point of view, has ceased in Perth. The only exception has been, if exception it can be called, is the access which the Aldie family have in the Middle Church to their vault, under the north wall and the adjoining street.

There was a grave-yard around the church. It is now completely concealed. There are streets over it. The only mention made of it in the session records refers to facts which shew that there was not an over strict regard paid to its sacredness as the depository of the dead. Thus in 1587, "ordains no stables to be in the kirk-yard after Whitsunday, and if ever they be found hereafter, any of the setters thereof to pay ten pounds." And again in 1603, "For as meikle as the causways of the kirkyard are greatly abused by the repair of horses and sleds, the sessions request David Sibbald to set up an stock in the West Kirk Vennel, for staying of their passage on the west side of the kirk." Thus it appears that there had been through sufferance a thoroughfare through the burying ground. Perhaps it had at this time become less an object of official care, as a new and spacious place for burying had been lately provided in 1580. That place is well known by the name of the Grayfriars burying-ground. It was the site of the Grayfriars Monastery, which at the period of the Reformation was destroyed by the over-excited multitude.

In the session records, there is a minute of date 2d November 1602, which seems to convey the idea that at that time paupers, interred at the expense of the session funds, had no coffins provided for them. It is in these words, "The session ordains the master of the hospital, with all diligence, cause make an common mort kist, whereby the dead corpses of the poor ones may be honestly carried to the burial." And there is a similar minute in the records for 1618.

5th May. "The session ordains John Bower, master of the hospital, to mak an substantious common mort kist for burying of the corps of the poor."

The oldest tombstone in the Grayfriars burying-ground is dated 1580; the year in which it was set apart by the minister and elders as managers of the hospital.

*Burgh.*—The records of the burgh are of great antiquity, but unfortunately the oldest cannot now be decyphered. The earliest legible date is 1512. Mr Cant who, sixty-two years ago, published a new edition of Adamson's valuable Poetic History of Perth, with explanatory notes and observations, has added to it a list of the city magistrates from an earlier period than this; the register from which he obtained his information being when he wrote in better preservation than it now is. He tells us that the *proper records before the year 1465 had been mislaid*, and having given the only list of magistrates before that time which he could find, viz. for 1374, he produces a full and uninterrupted list of magistrates from 1465 to 1765.

Previous to the passing of the Burgh Reform Bill, the council elected their successors in office. The bill has introduced a new order of things; the town is divided into four wards, and the inhabitants in these who hold or rent property of the annual value of L. 10, elect the council, and the council elect the office-bearers.

The magistrates elected from the first reformed council were, Adam Pringle, Esq., Lord Provost, Sheriff, and Coroner; Robert Bower, Esq. merchant, Dean of Guild; Thomas Robert Sandeman, Esq. wine-merchant, first bailie; David Clunie, Esq. baker, second bailie; John Graham, Esq. boot-maker, third bailie; James M'Leish, Esq. dyer, fourth bailie; James Dewar, Esq. bookseller, treasurer.

The jurisdiction of the Provost, Dean of Guild, and bailies, extends over the royalty of the burgh, but the boundary of the royalty is not well defined. The property holding burgage situated without the line of the ancient walls exceeds in extent that within the walls. The jurisdiction is exercised by the magistrates, personally and directly. The Dean of Guild exercises judicial functions in conjunction with a council, consisting of the provost, three merchant bailies, two members chosen by the incorporated trades in their court of convenery, and four members chosen by the Guildry Incorporation. There are no dependencies, and there is no delegated jurisdiction. The town-clerk acts as assessor, for doing which

he receives no emolument. There is a Burgh Court held every Tuesday, in which one of the bailies presides. Each of them does duty for three months. A Guild Court is held regularly on the fourth Monday of each month, and occasionally at other times when business requires.\*

The sheriffship was conferred on the Provost by Robert III. in the fourth year of his reign. In this character, as a criminal judge, Provost M'Breck acted in 1524. He condemned, by the verdict of an assize, John Pearson, to be hanged on the gallows for stealing two cows, and John Butcher, for stealing a *grey mare taen hand havand*, and for being an common thief.

As a royal burgh, Perth had the precedence till Edinburgh was made the capital of the kingdom. At an early period, Dundee contended with it for precedence. But the matter was determined by a precept under the hand of James VI., dated at Holyrood House the penult day of May 1594, in which his Majesty commands that the commissioners of the burgh of Perth shall have place next to the commissioners of the burgh of Edinburgh. And in the charter of confirmation of the whole rights and privileges of the burgh, it is declared, "our said royal burgh of Perth shall have and enjoy perpetually the principality, prerogative, first place, dignity, and order; as also, in giving votes and suffrages, shall be preferred before our said burgh of Dundee, and the inhabitants, procurators, and commissioners thereof;" . . . "and for that cause that they altogether cease and leave off, to contend with our said royal burgh of Perth, inhabitants, procurators, and commissioners thereof, or to do unto them any whatsoever trouble, scaith, or wrong, or to hinder or fash them in their lawful commerce." In the rolls of the Scottish Parliament, the following is the order of the principal burghs, Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, Stirling, St Andrews, Aberdeen, Montrose, Dumbarton, Glasgow. The chief magistrate has the title of Lord Provost. His right to it was lately called in question, but it was established by the Court of Session on the 12th of March 1836.

The property of the burgh is large, and greater in proportion than that of any other in Scotland. It consists of lauds,† houses,

\* Local Reports from Commissioners on Municipal Corporations in Scotland, p. 299, &c.

† The lands (or property in land,) belonging to the city are, 1. the farm of Nether Tullylun; 2. the Cow Causeway lands; 3. Soutar lands; 4. Magie's Park; 5. a third part of the Sand Island near to the south shore; 6. the Two Inches.

The burgh muir was for time immemorial the property of the city, till betwixt the year 1800 and 1828, when it was feued out in lots. It was originally in a wild uncultivated state. In 1602, the town-council caused it to be ploughed. The ploughing of it cost 200 merks, which sum was collected equally from the merchants

churches, mills, fishings, harbours, public market, coal and wood yards, lime sheds, and a dung depot. The total value of this property, after deducting debts, which amount to L. 28,474, 11s. 1d.\* and which are in the fair way of being liquidated, is estimated at L. 67,510, 11s. 10d., and the estimate is under what it should be. The total revenue is L. 6300, 11s. 9d., and its expenditure L. 5169, 4s. The whole of the property and of the revenue is let by public roup, and security is taken from the lessee. The records kept are—the minutes of council—a register of deeds—a register and minute-book of sasines. At the annual election of the council, there is a committee appointed for the government of the financial concerns of the burgh, composed of men who, by reason of their knowledge of commercial dealings, are qualified to control financial administration. The magistrates and council possess, by charter and usage, the power of imposing certain customs, and by statute, the power of levying cess—the customs leviable at the different ports, the flesh-market customs, the meal-market dues, the weighhouse dues, the shore dues; all of these duties are applied to the “common good” of the town. These facts appear in the Report of the Commission on Municipal Corporations for 1833.

The privileged bodies of the burgh consist of two classes, the Guildry Corporation, and the Corporation of Trades.

The Guildry Corporation consist of dealers who are said to exercise certain “sciences.” The whole are styled merchant-burgesses. These sciences are four,—merchants, maltmen, surgeons, and dyers. The power of administering their public rights is vested in the Guild Court. The Guild Court consist of eleven members. The dean, who is the president, the lord provost, the three merchant bailies *ex officio*, four guild brethren, elected by the whole guildry, and two tradesmen, elected by the Court of Convenery. It exercises certain judicial functions and meets regularly on the

and crafts. By an authorized measurement, it was found to be, in whole, 293 acres. In 1609, it was let for nineteen years, at the rent of 100 merks. It was afterwards planted with oaks, firs, &c. In 1800, it began to be cleared of the wood, and feued. The aggregate amount of grassum prices was L. 4671, 10s. The feu-duties are paid principally in grain, and the aggregate amount is 310½ bolls of wheat, 251 bolls of barley, and L. 17 in money, giving on an average of seven years an estimated income of L. 800, 11s. 6d.

The town-council were induced, toward the end of the seventeenth century, to believe that coal might be found in the muir; a considerable sum of money was expended in the search. It was relinquished as hopeless in 1697, and the apparatus sold for 2s. 6d. per stone.

\* The debt of the burgh in 1675 was about 90,000 or 91,000 merks.



fourth Monday of each month; and occasionally at other times when business requires. Independently of its judicial functions, its business consists principally in admitting burgesses. The form of admission was fixed in 1796. \* The fees of admission consist of entry money, and of certain small dues, viz. 10 merks as upset, and L. 4 Scots as "foot-ball." The entry money varies according to the ground upon which the application for the right of burgh-ship is rested, and likewise according as the applicant wishes to be a merchant or trade's burghess. There are three degrees of rates 1. those of sons and sons-in-law; 2. those of apprentices; and 3. those of strangers, applicable to both merchant and trade's burgesses. The rate varies according to the age of the applicant. A certain portion of the entry money is paid into the common good, and the remainder to the guildry. The real property of the guildry is valued at L. 28,000. Their average income was in 1833 stated to be between L. 1300 and L. 1400. It has an eleemosynary roll to the extent of L. 800.

The corporation of trades or "Incorporated Trades," are seven, the hammermen, bakers, glovers, wrights, tailors, fleshers, and shoemakers. They have a court, termed the Convener Court, composed of the trade's members of the town-council, and the deacon of the weavers. The court has no fund. The *Hammermen* Corporation consists of ten sciences, viz. blacksmiths, farriers, gunsmiths, watchmakers, saddle, cap, and harness-makers, brass and iron-founders, jewellers and goldsmiths, coachmakers, cutlers, tinsmiths and plumbers. The *Baker* Corporation consists of one science only; † the *Glover* corporation consist of two sciences,

\* In 1608, there was an act as to the admission of guild brethren, that every person before his entry shall be presented before the council in his armour.

† St Obert was the patron saint of this corporation or calling,—whether a real or an imaginary being, is uncertain. But believing him to have been a real being, they were accustomed to honour him by holding an annual festival, at which a play was performed, known by the name of "Saint Obert's Play." On the 10th December, a number of people assembled at even, called "Saint Obert's Eve." They attired themselves in disguise dresses, and passed through the city piping and dancing, and striking drums, and carrying in their hands burning torches. One of the actors was clad in a particular kind of coat, which they designated the Devil's Coat, and another rode upon a horse, having on its feet men's shoes. There is no account extant of its minute particulars, but, from the manner in which the kirk-session and the corporation officials dealt with the performers, it appears to have been idolatrous, profane, and immoral in its tendency. In December 25, 1581, the session issued an "act against idolatrous and superstitious pastimes, especially against the Sanct Obert's play." "In January 7, 1587-8, the Deacon of the baxters of the burgh of Perth, with the hail brethren of their said craft, being convened for the time to take order for amendment of the blasphemous and heathenish plays of Sanct Obert's pastime, and express their \* \* \* \* of such as shall hereafter play or mint or do the like; and finding that the playing of the game this year has ingenerate throughout the hail toun great slander of the Gospel, evil report of the toun, and defame of the

glovers and skimmers. The income of this corporation was, in 1832, L. 1094, 4s. 8½d. It has an eleemosynary roll to the extent of L. 498, 10s. 9d. per annum. It has adopted a scheme for giving annuities to superannuated members, and to widows, on the principle of a legal right. There is "not a single operative glover resident in Perth who is a member of the corporation." \* The *Wright Corporation* consists of seven sciences, viz. wrights, barbers,

craft, ordain that Wil. Thairpe, &c. abide the punishment threatened to them by the bailies and council, and submit themselves in the minister and elders' will; and if they or any of the craft shall hereafter be guilty of the like, to lose the liberties of the corporation, and be banished the town for ever." This minute was laid before the session, and that court took up the matter as follows: "April 5, 1588. Whilk day the minister and elders being presently convened, considered the idolatrous past-time of several insolent young men in playing of Sanct Oberti's play, to the great grief of the conscience of the faithful, and infamous slander of the hail congregation throughout the hail country, have ordained for the present punishment of the same and sic like idolatrous past-times in times coming, that Wil. Thairpe, &c., be put in ward, there to remain unreleased while (until) every one of them has paid twenty shillings to the poor; to put themselves on the seat of repentance, thereon to remain the Sabbath day in time of sermon; and after to find caution, under the pain of ten pounds, and doubling of the former punishment as oft as ever they offend therein—never to do the like in time coming; and if any of the forsaid be not responsible for the twenty shillings, to stand in the irons of the cross, had on an mercait day, for the payment; and this act to be extended upon all such idolatrous players and observers of such like superstitious days in times to come, without exception."

For several years after 1620, the incorporation transmitted to the council complaints against certain bakers, for baking oat-meal cakes, and the Council passed various acts on the subject. In 1625, the deacon, in name of the craft, commenced an action against *the bakers of cakes*. In 1637, in consequence of a complaint given in by him, "the selling of cakes was prohibited, under the pain of forfeiting the meal, breaking of their girdles, and being fined—the eve of the fine to go to the magistrates, and the other to the bakers," i. e. the incorporation. In 1638, bakers were licensed to bake oatmeal cakes.

\* St Bartholomew was the patron saint of the corporation. They founded an altar to him; and for keeping up the service of the altar, they appropriated a large portion of their property in the Curfew row, or Couvrefew-street.

Sir Walter Scott has immortalized the glover calling of Perth by his celebrated and admired novel of "The Fair Maid of Perth, the daughter of Simon the Glover." The calling is very opulent. It is not a little strange, therefore, that they should have lately, by a deliberate deed of their craft, sold, for the trifling consideration of about L. 100, their Hall, which has acquired a classic notoriety, and, besides, is one of the most ancient buildings about the city.

There is a place described in an old charter of this corporation as "the Vindaris, near the said burgh, vulgarly called the Gilt Arbour of the Silver Book or Missal:—*Palia vestimenta sacerdotalia*, and other ornaments of St Bartholomew, founded by the said craft."—i. e. skimmers and glovers. In a charter granted by the Provost and council in the year 1585 to John Hunter, skinner, of a piece of ground, called the Duk Dub, it is specially mentioned as lying on the west side of the mill-lade of the burgh, and in a precept of clare constat, 1608, in favour of George Hay of Balhousie, in the lands of the Gilt Arbour. It has the name, also, given it of "the Cow Causeway." I take notice of this principally with reference to what Adamson, in his *Metrical History of Perth*, avers, that King Robert III. witnessed from this place the bloody conflict on the North Inch, between the M'Intoshes and the M'Kays, 1396, and which Cant, the annotator of Adamson, assumes as certain. The historian's averment is erroneous. It must be evident to every person acquainted with the locality of the place—the Cow Causeway—that from it neither the King nor any one could witness such a scene on the Inch; and the *charter* and *precept* now referred to makes it clear that the old hall could not, as traditionary report gives out, be the Gilt Arbour.

coopers, slaters, plasterers, glaziers and masons. Its income was, in 1833, L. 774, 7s. 1d. arising from entry-money, recording indentures, house rents, and church seat rents. *Tailor Corporation* consists of two sciences, tailors, staymakers. Its income (arising from the usual sources) was, in 1833, L. 238, 2s. 6d.

The *Flesher Corporation*\* consists of one science. Its income (arising from the usual sources) was, in 1832, L. 132, 7s. 6d. The *Shoemaker Corporation* consists of one science. The income (from the usual sources) in 1833, was about L. 139, 13s. 3d. The *Weavers* are not a corporation. They have no right of being represented in the council, and do not exercise exclusive privileges. In 1629, there was an appointment by the council of a deacon of the weavers.

The building in which the town-council have their deliberations on the affairs of the city, is at the eastern termination of the High Street, in the immediate proximity of the old shore. It was erected under the authority of an act of the Privy-council, obtained in the year 1696, and comprehended not only the council-room but a clerk's chamber, (now the chamberlain's office,) and a pack (weigh) house. One of the reasons assigned in the application for the act was, that the council had to meet in the session-house of the kirk. It was built by William Miln, wright, at Dupplin, and cost 7,500 merks.

Particular attention was paid to the ornamenting and furnishing of the room. A painter was employed to adorn the chimney-piece, and "furnish a landscape." Orders were given to provide three dozen of "good rushie leather chairs" and a large table, and a carpet for it; the carpet to be purchased in Edinburgh, and, if not found there, to be purchased in London.

In the city records 1696, there is an act for paying the "build-

\* St Peter was the tutelar saint of this corporation. In former times they had an altar before their seat in the Old Church illuminated with wax lights. For supporting this altar a tax was laid on all slaughtered cattle, which was usually called Patie's altirage penny. The tax was regularly exacted till 1760, when it was abolished by the civil authorities as a relic of popery. Before 1761 the corporation had no market-place. They had stalls in the South Street;—that was their exclusive privilege. Those who brought meat to the town for sale, brought it slung across horses' backs, and they were required to stand with it in this condition on the South Street till it was sold; the incorporation having the sole right of erecting shambles. But in 1761, the College Yard, lately a public bowling green, was converted into a market-place for them; for a considerable time it was the only place in the town where meat was exposed to sale, but of late years it has been almost entirely deserted, the fleshers finding it their interest to erect shops in different quarters over the town. In 1821, the council converted the northern division of it into market-places for poultry, vegetables, and butter.

ing of a pend (arch) over a piece of waste ground, between the south gavel of the new council-house, and the ruinous tenement on the north shore." This was done to complete the western front of the building. At this pend or arch the passage boats on the Tay were moored. By an act of council they were all ordered to lie here during night.

In 1619, the council appointed their meetings to be on Monday, and that those who should come in later than nine o'clock should be fined in 6s. 8d. In the same year they passed "an act prohibiting persons speaking in the council without leave, and that the offenders should be fined 2s. for each offence."

In no burgh of Scotland are the honour, the respectability, and the general good of the community consulted with more judgment and fidelity than in Perth. In confirmation of what I say I refer to the contents of the printed "Local Report from Commissioners on the Municipal Corporations of Scotland." There, there is given a state of the city affairs, full and distinct, which reflects much credit on its functionaries.

The office of magistrates, in large towns, is generally difficult and laborious, however otherwise it may appear to the many, whose knowledge of it is general and superficial. They act without fee or reward; and it frequently happens that, the more vigilant and faithful and impartial they are, the more reviling treatment they meet with from a multitude of the baser sort of people. Their gratuitous services insure to them no return of gratitude. It is matter of surprise, therefore, that persons of suitable respectability should be found to fill the office of the magistracy, and particularly at the present time, when there is abroad so much of the spirit of insubordination, and of a desire among the lowest and most uneducated to have the supremacy in every department, both legislative and executive. Our forefathers knew how much extrinsic circumstances, even those that are of no essential importance, influence the minds of the mass of the people. They therefore assigned to their rulers certain distinctive insignia of office, from the King downwards; and the practical result has been highly beneficial. He must be under the influence of the wildest and most inveterate levelling republicanism who will not acknowledge this. It is to be lamented, therefore, that among persons, from whose judgment in other matters, sounder notions might be expected, there should be attempts made to throw ridicule on these insignia. To the man of mere empty theory, the disparagement of these has the

appearance of wisdom, but to those who know how to control the passions and prejudices of man, it has the reverse. In some of our burghs, there has, for some years past, appeared a disposition to diminish or abstract altogether the badges of magisterial office, on the ground of their serving no purpose but that of ostentatious parade. The proper dignity of our municipal officers may be lowered, but cannot be raised by such a paltry and impolitic mode of proceeding. The magistrates of Perth, in olden times, consulted what was becoming their rank, and how they should appear before the public eye, as the rulers of the City. Thus, in 1688, they were among the nobility and other attendants on the funeral of Lord Strathallan, and it stands on record that they appeared there attended by their trumpeter.\*

It may not be out of place here to mention, that in the list of chief magistrates, there appear the names not only of the principal burgesses, but of the most distinguished noblemen and gentlemen of the neighbourhood, some of whom had residences in the town. I may mention the following: the Earl of Gowrie, the Earl of Montrose, the Earl of Athole, Lord Ruthven, Viscount Stormont, Sir Patrick Thriepland of Fingask, Sir William Murray of Tullibardin, Thomas Chartres, a descendant of Thomas a Longueville, who came from France with Wallace, ancestor of the Kinfauns family. His famed two-handed sword is preserved to the present day in Kinfauns Castle.

Before the passing of the Reform Bill, the burgh was one of four (Perth, Dundee, Cupar, Forfar, St Andrews,) which sent a representative to Parliament. The inhabitants had no voice in the matter. The council appointed a delegate, who, with the dele-

\* In a former age the magistrates of Perth had a very distinguished official importance and authority. The chief magistrate wore a cloak of office, and carried "a bend rapier." The other magistrates carried "white staves." Their officers or sergeants were six, and on particular occasions seven in number, clothed, as at present, in red Fleming, and wore swords, and attended them daily. In church the Lord Provost's seat was "lined and covered with velvet." There was also at their command a city marshal, a trumpeter, a drummer, a piper, and a swasher.

In the records there is "an act for repairing the foot mantle and livery for the lacqueys, with the bridle and stirrup-leathers against the Provost going to Parliament,"—and there is in the records, 1678, an entry, that there were deposited "in the council-house four pairs of colours, an officer's coat with lace, two suits of livery cloaths, with fustian doublets, for lacqueys at Parliament, foot mantle with other horse furniture—a saddle only excepted, and the town's trumpet."

The magistrates of those times consulted what became the dignity of the ancient city,—the former metropolis of the kingdom, by observing the feudal acts of hospitality to strangers and visitors of distinction. The entertainment, except on extraordinary occurrences, was, according to the practice then followed, very simple, "wine and spices," *i. e.* spiced wine; and the visits of strangers, and the reception given to them, appear to have been regularly adverted to in the council minutes.

gates appointed by the other burghs, made choice of the representative, the delegates acting of course in conformity with the instructions of their constituents. By the Reform Bill the burgh is entitled to choose a representative for itself. He is chosen not by the council, but by the whole population, within what is called the Parliamentary bounds, who hold or rent a property of the value of L. 10 yearly. These bounds, as defined by the bill, are, "from the north-western corner of the North Inch, on the right bank of the river Tay, in a straight line to the bridge on the mill-lead at the boot of Balhousie; thence in a straight line to the bridge in the Glasgow road over the Scouring Burn; thence in a straight line to the southern corner of the water reservoir of the depot; thence in a straight line to the southern corner of the Friartoun pier in the river Tay, (passing to the south of the Friartoun Island,) to the point at which the same is met by the boundary of the respective properties of Kinfauns, Kinnoul, and Barnhill meet; thence in a straight line to the north and eastern corner of Lord Kinnoul's lodge, at the gate of approach to Kinnoul Hill; thence in a straight line to the north-eastern corner of the inclosure of the Lunatic Asylum; thence in a straight line to the point at which the Annaty burn crosses the Blairgowrie road; thence down the Annaty burn to the point at which the same joins the river Tay; thence in a straight line to the point first described."

Laurence Oliphant, Esq. of Condie, was the first whom the burgh constituency elected to represent them in Parliament. The election was on the 27th day of December 1832. He was elected a second time in 1834.\*

*Modern Buildings.*—Of these the most worthy of being here noticed is the *Bridge* over the Tay,—built 1771, Mr Smeaton, architect,—cost L. 26,631, 12s. 5½d. The Barracks, originally intended for cavalry, now fitted up for infantry,—built 1793.—The *Depot*, a military prison, erected by Government for the reception of French prisoners, capable of containing 7000 men—built 1812, cost L. 130,000. St Paul's Church, built 1807—cost about L. 7000. The *Academy and Public School Buildings*, erected 1807, cost about L. 6000, Mr Burn, architect.—*Theatre*, † built 1820,

\* Before the Union, Perth sent a Commissioner to Parliament.

† This place of amusement has fallen very much into disrepute. Few inhabitants of any respectability frequent it. Prices of admission have been lately lowered, not to the improvement of the morals of the place, for that has brought to it the lowest and the most *questionable* characters of society. A correspondent of the Perth Constitutional Newspaper, Dec. 21, 1836, identifies the multitude of its frequenters with the baser sort who squander their means in tippling-houses.

—cost L. 2625,—*County Buildings and Jail*, erected 1819—cost L. 32,000—Mr Smirke, architect. *Mason Hall*—built 1818. *Gas work*, erected 1824,—cost L. 19,000,—Dr Anderson, rector of the academy, furnished the plan, and superintended its execution. He invented a method for purifying the gas, equally ingenious and simple. Its brilliancy is yet unrivalled.—*Water-works* for supplying the city and suburbs with water, erected in 1830—cost L. 13,609, 11s. 11½d. To Dr Anderson also is the community indebted for the whole arrangement of this valuable establishment. A filtering well is constructed in the Moncrieff Island, into which the water of the Tay finds its way through a natural bank of sand and gravel. From this well it is conveyed in a pipe under the bed of the river, to another under the great reservoir, which is 55 feet high. It is raised into this reservoir by steam engine power, and from thence it is conducted in pipes through the streets. It is at the option of the inhabitants to take it into their dwellings. The establishment was got up under the authority of an act of Parliament, and the expense defrayed by a legal assessment on the real rent of occupied houses. The assessment cannot be more than five per cent.

St Leonard's Church—built 1834,—cost L. 2500,—Mr Mackenzie, architect.

### III.—POPULATION.

In the year 1562 the population is said to have been 6075, but the correctness of this cannot be relied on. As reported to Dr Webster, when he drew up the widows' scheme in 1755, it was 9019; in 1801, it was 14,878; in 1811, it was 17,248; in 1821, it was 19,068; in 1831, it was 20,016. The population of the parish has been of late on the increase, but no remarkable circumstance has occurred to which this may be ascribed. There are three villages in the parish.—Tulloch, containing 193 inhabitants; Craigie, containing 250; and Pittheaveless and Cherry Bank, containing 114. The yearly average of births for the last seven years is 502<sup>9</sup>;\* the yearly average of deaths for the last seven years is 603<sup>4</sup>; † and the yearly average of marriages for the last seven years is 164<sup>7</sup>.

\* This is the average number of the births that were reported to the session-clerk, and by him enrolled in the baptism register. There were 242 children who, during this period, died unbaptized, and were not reported to the clerk. Besides, there were several parents who, from various motives, declined to register their children's names. It is from the register only that information on the point can be derived. No satisfactory conclusion therefore, can be drawn from what is here afforded.

† The number of persons reported to the keeper of the burying-ground at their interment, as having died of Asiatic cholera in 1832, was as follows:—in the month

There are no resident nobility in the parish, and, with respect to families or individuals of private fortune residing in it, I have not the means of ascertaining with accuracy their number. Of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, there are not more in number than 10. In 1831, the number of inhabited houses was 2049; of uninhabited houses, 182; of houses building, 11; of families, 4956. The average number in each family may be 4 nearly. The people are not remarkable for either strength, or size, or complexion, or any other personal qualities. The number of insane and fatuous people is 40; of blind, 7; of deaf and dumb, 12.

*Language, &c. of the People.*—The language generally spoken is English. There are some Highlanders in the parish who cannot speak any language but the Gaelic, and there is a considerable number who can speak Gaelic and English with equal facility. There are no popular customs, games, and amusements in the parish that are peculiar to this part of the country.\* The habits

of March, 15; of April, 26; of May, 4; of June, 9; of August, 11; of September, 15; of October, 31; of November, 25; of December, 11; total, 147.

\* The games which at present are most common are, foot-ball, casting quoits, cricket, and golf. Within these few years, a number of gentlemen have formed themselves into a society under the designation of "the Royal Perth Golfing Society." The golf and foot-ball were, in ancient times, favourite games in Scotland, but the Government, in the reigns of the James's, consulting more the security of the realm than the amusement of the lieges, discouraged these games, and, by legislative enactments, encouraged the more athletic and warlike exercises of weaponshawing and of archery. It was enacted in the reign of James I. that weaponshaws be made in ilk shire, and sicklike in burroughs:—In the reign of James II., that the foot-ball and golf be cried down, and bow marks erected in each parish:—In the reign of James III., that sheriffs and bailies of regalities hold weaponshawing, and amerciat them that are absent or not well abulkiad:—In the reign of James IV. that neither foot-ball nor golf, nor unprofitable sport for the defence of the realm be used:—In the reign of James V., that weaponshawing be made twice in the year, in the months of June and October, at days and places as shall please the sheriff, and bailies, and burgesses of the land. The harness of the weaponshaw was as follows:—"For every nobleman, sic as earle, lorde, knight, and baroune, and everie greate landed man, havend ane hundredth pounde of zerie rent, bee an armed in quhite harnesse, licht or heavie, as the please, and weaponed effeir, and to his honor. And that all uthers of lower rent and degree in the low-land, have jacks of plait, halksikes or brigitanes, gorget or pesane, with splents pane of mailzie, with gloves of plate or mailzie; that gentlemen, unlanded and zeamen, have jacks of plate, halksikes, splents, salcate or steil bonet, with pesane or gorget, and everie with sworde;—and na maner of weapon be admitted in weaponshawing, bot speares, pikes stacke and lang, of six elnes of length, *Leith* axes, halbardes, hand bowes and arrowes, crosse bowes, culverings, two-handed swordes, and every man to be an armed as said is, under the peine of five pounde to be tane of everie landed man, fiftie shillings of everie gentleman, and twentie shillings of everie zeaman, alsaft as they be founden faltous in the premisses."

Adamson, in his *Muses Threnodie*, laments that in his day archery was neglected in Perth. Mr Cant, in his notes on the *Muses*, comments on the lamentation in the following terms:—"Archery, of which the gentlemen of Perth were great masters, was made an indispensable part of education from the days of James I. This most accomplished and wise prince passed an act forbidding the favourite diversion of foot-ball, substituting in its place that of shooting with bows and arrows. Every



of the people do not in any respect differ from those of the inhabitants of the country generally. Their style and manner of dress

boy,\* when he came to the age of thirteen, was obliged at stated times to practise archery at certain bow marks. There is a piece of ground without the north port, on the left hand of the road leading to Hunting Tower, called the Bow Butt, where this exercise was practised, but the strong and expert archers had their bow marks on the South Inch. Near the south end of this Inch stands yet a stone which tradition says was the southern mark. The northern is near to the north-west side of the ditch that surrounds the mound, (Cromwell's citadel,) It was fixed on a rising ground called the "Scholars Knoul." The stone was but lately carried off. The distance between these marks is about five hundred fathoms. They must have been very strong and expert archers who could shoot an arrow betwixt these marks.

From the city records, it appears that the weaponslaw was from an early period observed in Perth according to statute. The magistrates, by beat of drum and proclamation, called out the weaponslawers to exercise on the North Inch at the fixed periods, and sometimes oftener. They appointed them a captain and other officers; they gave them an ensign, which was called the *hanzgenzier*, and the bearer was designated the *hanzgenzier* bearer. At particular times, the flag, having upon it the holy lamb *en passant* carrying the banner of St Andrew, was produced. Absentees were fined in 40 shillings each. In 1604, a "Mr Brown, surgeon, and deacon of the wrights, produced a letter of exemption under the privy seal, dated 2d February 1507, of divers contents, whereupon the council granted him exemption from all assizes, and weaponslawings, and others, during his life."

There is on record an account of a weaponslawing on the North Inch, 27th July 1614.—"The performers were assembled by beat of drum; Alexander Peebles was nominated, 'hanzengier bearer.' Persons were appointed to be 'gydaris, and setting the pepill rank for ordour, and disobediencents to be warded,' (imprisoned.) The seven officers (town sergeants) got for the occasion a stand of new red Fleming- 'Patrick Bresone is ordained to deliver and lay the pledges, whilk ar in his handis, of the browsteris, in gardie for officeris clathis to this weaponslawing." A riot took place, occasioned by the disorderly conduct of some of the skinnermen and hammermen crafts. The Lord Scone, who was Provost of the burgh, was sent for to 'take ordour with the riot.' An investigation took place; the rioters were required to appear next day, and say whether they would refer themselves to the town-council or the secret council. The deacons obliged their craft to abide by the decision of the town-council. The skinner rioters were fined in 500 merks, to be laid out on the east pillar of the bridge, and they paid the penalty. It does not appear what judgment was passed on the hammermen rioters.

After the year 1620, there is no account of weaponslawing in Perth.

Horse racing appears to have existed in Perth from an early period. The place appropriated to it was the South Inch; the course was marked by six stakes. The first account which I find of a prize having been run for is in 1613; it was a silver bell, presented by Ninian Graham of Garvock, in name of John Graham of Bogside. In 1631, there were three prize silver bells, but they were declared to be unsuitable, and a cup was substituted in their place, which it appears weighed no more than eight ounces. The race on that year was run on the day after Palm Sunday, and the prize was awarded to Thomas Tyrie of Drumkilbo; his horse was called Kildair. The Palm Sunday race in 1633 was for a piece of plate, value L. 40. In 1637, the cup was won by Francis Story, servant to Lord Fenton. Till 1688 the race was called "the bell race." By authority of the magistrates it was thereafter called, "race for a cup and other prizes."

The course was transferred from the South to the North Inch many years ago, being in several important respects preferable. By an excambion which the town effected with the Earl of Kinnoul in 1785, the Inch has been very much enlarged; the course is 2220 yards. For fleet horses it is unrivalled, as throughout the plain there is not a single rising; it is almost a dead level. It may be proper to mention, that, before the excambion took place, the course was nearly the same as at present, the Earl permitting it to go through his park, and the division wall to be for the time taken down.

\* There is an act of the town-council in 1624, "as to children going about weekly with their bows and arrows, as use and wont."

have no peculiarity, as their intercourse with all quarters of the kingdom is free and frequent. Their habits are in general cleanly, and increasingly so. In the city, in which the poor of the parish principally reside, there are places where there is certainly a want of cleanliness, arising in some families from the inadequate means of support, and in others from the profligacy, or want of domestic economy on the part of the parents. I unhesitatingly ascribe much of the squalid poverty that is found in many of the dwellings of the labouring classes of the community, to the number and proximity of low tippling-houses. These houses have, in many instances, proved a most melancholy source of evil to the families of the poor. It is scarcely to be expected that much attention to domestic comfort can prevail where dissipation and poverty are combined; but among the sober and industrious operatives, even where the wages are very limited, there is a marked disposition to habits of cleanliness. The truth was lately shewn, when, upon the cholera making its appearance in the country, a strict scrutiny was instituted into the state of every quarter of the parish. A want of cleanliness was discovered in a few districts, but the utmost readiness was shewn by the people to remedy the evil. On the whole, the people enjoy the comforts and advantages of society, and are contented with their situation. There are, as in all such population, some who are discontented with their allotment in society, and are easily moved to take a violent part in the political questions of the day, and follow the standard of the turbulent agitator. The press is teeming with periodicals that are violent on both sides of every matter, bearing on the interests of the country, and such productions an ignorant and credulous multitude generally prefer to those that are moderate and dispassionate; and thus it happens that our politically disposed operatives are particularly violent in their attachments and animosities. Were there fewer inflammatory newspapers brought into active circulation among them, they would be a much more sober, prosperous, and happy portion of the community.

With respect to the general "character of the people, intellectual, moral, and religious," I am disposed to speak in commendatory terms. The reading portion of them is considerable, and they have easy access to various libraries containing useful and practical treatises. When we speak of the morality of a place, it is always comparative, and I know of no town of the same size in which there is more attention paid to moral duty. If, on the one hand, it cannot be denied that immoral characters have become

more openly daring, it will not be denied, on the other, that moral characters have stood forward more openly and avowedly. The religious character of the people may, in some measure, be inferred from the fact that, exclusive of a Roman Catholic chapel, there are nineteen places of public worship in the parish to a population of 20,016. I am not aware of how the matter stands with respect to the other places of worship in the parish; but this I know, that there is this year, in the establishment churches, a greater number of sittings taken than there was in any preceding year.

There are persons among us who openly profess infidel principles, and some, also, who openly disregard all religious ordinances, and, what in this country is uniformly symptomatic of an abandonment of all feeling of religious propriety, there are some tradesmen who walk abroad on the Lord's day in their ordinary working habiliments, as if to show a marked contempt of what the community in general hold to be sacred. With the exception of these characters, who are generally held in the lowest estimation by their fellow townsmen, the inhabitants of the parish are entitled to the appellation of a moral and religious people.

There is no "*poaching* in game or the salmon-fisheries." *Smuggling* some years ago prevailed to a great extent, but it has now very much decreased—whisky being obtained from legal distilleries of a superior quality, and at as low a price as it can be obtained from smugglers. *Pawnbroking* is carried on to a very small extent. There are several brokers; almost all of them are of the lowest order of Irish Roman Catholics.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The number of acres in the parish of Perth, either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, is 2606, standard imperial measure, or about 2032 Scotch. It has been all, at one time or another, cultivated. The two Inches have for a very long period been in pasture. There is no undivided common. There are about 750 acres of wood; all planted. The kinds are almost entirely Scotch pine and larch. The management is good.

The average rent of arable land is L. 3, 12s. 5d. per acre. Some fields are so high as L. 5 per acre. There are no lands let for grazing except the Inches. The lessee is bound by his tack, which is from year to year, not to charge more than L. 2, 2s. for each cow. Many, however, are admitted for less than that sum. Sheep are not pastured on it for the year. That was prohibited in 1697, and the prohibition has continued in force ever since. The lessee

is permitted to put sheep upon them, only after St John's market, which is held on the first Friday of September.

The wage of a common farm-servant for the year is about 6½ bolls of oat-meal, and a Scotch pint of sweet milk per day, and lodging. The wages of artisans, such as wrights and masons, are, besides victuals, about 2s. per day in the summer season, and 1s. 8d. in the winter.

The price of butter is from 7d. to 10d. per pound; of eggs from 6d. to 9d. per dozen. Very little cheese is made. The price of common carts, including wheels and axles, is about L. 10, 10s. each; of corn carts without wheels and axles, L. 3, 10s.; of ploughs (iron) L. 3, 10s.; of harrows, L. 1, 8s.; a thrashing mill of six horse power costs about L. 100.

Little live-stock is reared, as, from the land lying so very contiguous to the city, greater profit arises from the production of corns. The stock that is reared consists principally of the Angus breed. Short-horned cattle have been of late introduced and successfully. No sheep are bred in the parish.

With respect to the character of the husbandry pursued, it may suffice to remark, that the general practice is to take a white and green crop alternately. On dry lands, the green crops consist of potatoes, turnips, and grass. On strong land, the *six course shift* is followed; 1. fallow; 2. wheat; 3. beans; 4. barley; 5. grass; 6. oats or wheat. The farmers are judicious, enterprising, and substantial.

Draining has been carried on to a considerable extent. There is much strong land. A considerable portion of it has been furrow drained, and much improved thereby. There are no meadows, and there is of course no irrigation. The fields lying close upon the Tay have been embanked and secured from the general floods.

The duration of leases varies from fifteen to twenty-one years. As the prices of grain have for some years past been falling, the length of leases has been unfavourable to the occupiers, in so far as rents are paid in money. Most of the rents, however, are now paid, half in money and half in grain.

On the estate of Moncrieff, the rents have been converted entirely into grain, on terms which were satisfactory both to the landlord and the tenant. In such cases the occupier is of course less affected by the length of his lease.

The farm-buildings are generally good. They have been almost all of them erected within the last thirty years. There are

no enclosures in the parish, with the exception of a few in the high grounds of upper Friartoun; their fences are of stone. All the dry lands would be greatly improved by enclosures.

There has been little recent alteration in the mode of farming, except in the increased culture of potatoes, since the London market for that article was opened about seventeen years ago. From the proximity of the city, manure can, in abundance and without difficulty, be procured, either from the city itself or from London by sea. But it may well be doubted whether the land can bear such severe cropping.

With regard to "the obstacles to improvement," that which seems to be most felt, and which is most complained of, is the want of enclosures, and consequently of pasturage, in the dry lands. The property is almost all entailed, which may be a reason why the expense of enclosing is not incurred. The enclosing of the fields which are on the highways is obviously of very great importance to the farmer, as his crops are never safe without it. But, for some cause or other, various high-rented fields are altogether unprotected from high-way encroachment. Tenants having only a temporary interest in the soil cannot be expected to incur the expense of rearing up permanent fences. They entered on their leases with sufficient capital for the undertaking; but that capital has, in some cases, been diminished under a management equally prudent and vigorous—the prices being lower than they were contemplated to be, when the leases were entered on. Thus, the tenant has no inducement to lay out on his farm more of his means than what is absolutely necessary to the production of such returns as will enable him to live, and pay the proprietor. "The covenants of leases" are generally fair, and present no obstacle to improvement, the want of enclosures, or a provision for making them always excepted.

*Quarries and Mines.*—There are no mines in the parish. There is one freestone quarry, which appears to have been wrought at some remote period to a considerable extent, but the stone is so exceedingly soft that the houses in the city, which have been built from it, have become very much decayed; it has, therefore, been entirely deserted. There is in the parish an excellent trapstone quarry, from which a great quantity of road-metal has been recently taken. It lies about a mile and a half on the road to Edinburgh.

*Fisheries.*—The only fisheries in the parish are salmon fisheries. The rents of these are at present about L. 1350 per annum. The

principal ones belonging to the city are on small islands a short way down the river. The whole belonging to the city are let for about L. 830. Last lease, they were let for L. 1300; ten years ago the rent was L. 1500. All the fish taken in the river above Newburgh are shipped from Perth by lighters for the Dundee steam ships, in which they are conveyed to London. The number shipped in 1835 was above 25,000 salmon and 50,000 grises, making 5000 boxes, or 250 tons of fish. The yearly average of ten years, however, might be only about 4500 boxes, or 225 tons. The rental of the whole fishings of the district will rate between L. 8000 and L. 10,000, and employ upwards of 450 men.

Previous to 1828, the close-time commenced on the 26th of August, and ended 10th December. It was then altered by act of Parliament, and commenced 14th September, and ended the 1st of February. But it has been found that the 14th of September is too late for shutting, as many of the fish far advanced towards spawning are killed between the 26th of August and 14th of September; and, on the whole, the prolongation of the time has been of very little benefit to those interested in the matter, while a great many fish that ought to have been left to stock the river are destroyed.

A bill has now been introduced into Parliament to fix the close time for the Tay, from about the 25th of August to the middle of January, which has the approbation of all concerned in the Tay fishings. The act of 1828 was, however, productive of several good effects, especially in affording greater facilities to the punishment of poachers, and the protection of spawning fish, so that there is reason to believe that not one is now killed in close-time, for twenty previous to the passing of that act. Owing to the above and other causes, grises have increased very much of late years,—the number taken being fully sevenfold to what it was forty years ago.

*Produce.*—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, may be stated as follows:—

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man or the domestic animals, namely, wheat, oats, barley, pease, beans, about 5,604 imperial quarters, which, at an average of the flars prices for the last three years, amounts to about	L. 8778 0 0
Ditto of potatoes from about 189 acres, at L. 10, 10s. per acre, or 1421 tons at L. 1, 8s. per ton,	1984 10 0
Ditto from 90 acres of turnips, at L. 8 per acre, or 3600 tons, at 4s. per ton,	720 0 0
(One-half of the turnips require to be consumed on the farm.)	
Gross produce of hay, 44210 stones at 6d. per stone.	1105 5 0

(Three-fourths of this, in the shape of grass or hay, require to be consumed on the farm, and one-fourth only can go to market.)

Produce of crops cultivated for the arts,	L. 0 0 0
of land in pasture,	750 0 0
of gardens and orchards, none,	0 0 0
of the annual thinning, &c. of woods, &c.	0 0 0
of fisheries,	1350 0 0
of coals, quarries, or metals.	0 0 0

Total yearly value of raw produce raised, L. 14,687 15 0

*Manufactures.*—The manufactures of Perth consist principally of cotton-coloured goods, of which umbrella cloth is the staple. A great quantity of handkerchiefs, checked and striped gingham, imitation Indian shawls, scarfs, trimmings, &c. are also woven.

The number of weavers is about 1600, some of whom are employed by manufacturers in Glasgow and Paisley. But a considerable number are employed by manufacturers in Perth, Scone, Methven, and Milnathort.

Most of the umbrella cloths are sent to London, Manchester, and other towns in England and in Scotland. But the other goods are generally exported to North and South America, the East and West Indies. Many of the shawl pieces are for the Turkey market.

There has lately been erected a mill for spinning flax and tow yarns, containing 850 spindles. The number of hands employed in it are, one manager and four foremen; 18 boys from twelve to fifteen years old; 47 girls from twelve to fifteen years old; 17 girls from fifteen to twenty years old; 16 women twenty years old and upwards; in all 103. The working hours are sixty-nine in the week, being twelve each day excepting Saturday, on which there are nine only. There is only one set of workers; but if the arrangements contemplated are completed, there will be two sets, working eight hours each day, or forty-eight hours in the week. There is preparation making for additional 400 spindles.

Tulloch, which lies about two miles to the west of the city, is memorable from its having been the first bleachfield established in Scotland. It was established about the commencement of the eighteenth century, by a gentleman from Ireland, of the name of Christie. The present proprietor of Tulloch is Hector Sandeman, Esq., who, with great integrity and enterprise, carries on an extensive bleaching and printing-work. The number of hands employed is 250. He has erected an apparatus for the production of pyrolignous acid, which is used in his works as a solvent for various metals and minerals. The charcoal is disposed of to foun-

ders and dyers, and to private families for culinary purposes. It may here be mentioned, that the first potatoes produced in Scotland were at this place, from seed brought over by Mr Christie from Ireland.

There are three iron founderies of considerable extent. Their work in cast-iron machinery and blacksmith's articles is well executed, and has an extensive sale.

*Navigation.*—The direct importation from foreign parts into Perth for the year 1835, consisted chiefly of Baltic produce, and of the following articles: cheese, 840 cwt.; clover seed, 780 cwt.; foreign spirits, 120 gal.; flax, 2000 cwt.; lintseed, 50 quarters (the importations of this article generally consist of from 600 to 800 quarters yearly;) and a considerable quantity of timber,—pine, Norway, Baltic, and American, the whole imported in twenty-two vessels, the sales whereon were L. 5191. Besides the above, there were corns, bark, hides, smalt, madder, tar, &c. Importations of bones and animalized carbon, to a considerable extent, have taken place, not only from the continent, but coastways, which have been found (the bones being ground) to be very beneficial in raising turnips.

The articles imported coastways are, coal, lime, salt, manure, &c. The quantity of coals in 1835 was, from England, about 22,000 tons; and from Scotland, about 11,500 tons. The value about L. 28,500.

The exports to foreign parts were trifling. Indeed, from the contiguity of the great shipping port of Dundee, a great many articles were sent thither in lighters for exportation, and a number of cargoes, ostensibly for Perth and its county, were entered inwards there from the continent, and transhipped into lighters hither. But the quantity of potatoes shipped from Perth for the London market during the last year was 27,114 tons, or 108,456 Scotch bolls. The value in Perth about L. 65,000; and the value in London, which includes freight, &c. about L. 101,000. The other exports consisted of corns of all kinds, about 40,000 quarters, and a considerable quantity of timber, slates, &c.

The number of vessels belonging to Perth is 78,—5467 tons.

The number of coasting-vessels which entered the port last year was 736,—about 40,000 tons.

The only navigable river connected with the parish is the Tay.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—Perth is a market-town, and the only one in the



parish. Its population, as I have already stated, was, at the last census 1831, 20,016.

It was in early times a place of great trade. In Camden's *Britannia*, the following distich is quoted from an English writer, Alexander Necham, who was Abbot of Exeter in 1215, and died in 1227.

"Transis, ample Tay, per rura per oppida, per Perth  
Regnum sustentant illius urbis opes."

"Great Tay, thou passest on through fields, through towns, through Perth.  
The wealth of that city supports the kingdom."

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. The German merchants, very early, frequented the port of Perth, and not a few industrious Germans, who wrought in the woollen and linen manufactories, and in staining cloth, seem to have fixed their abode at Perth, and to have been received as burgesses. But William the Lion, following the example of his grandfather, King David, put the foreign merchants under a great restriction when they came to Perth with their goods. In a charter which he gave to the town 1210, and as a further discouragement to these merchants, he granted to his burgesses in Perth, in that same charter, "that they might have their own merchant guild—fullers and weavers excepted."

It does not appear that Perth has, since then, been distinguished as a place of trade. About fifty years ago, several enterprising individuals directed their attention to the manufacturing of cotton goods,—there being a demand for them in the market to a very encouraging extent. This gave employment to weavers. The number of these rapidly increased, as high wages were held out to the people who would engage in the trade, and as proficiency in it was very soon and very easily acquired. Besides capitalists in Perth, there were others in Glasgow who had agents here, employing weavers. But, owing to adverse circumstances and events, some capitalists failed, and others were necessitated to restrict their operations. The number of operatives thereupon diminished. Wages fell very low, and no small distress ensued. There can be no doubt of the fact, that the temporary prosperity of this branch of trade was chiefly owing to the too adventurous spirit of speculating individuals. Though it cannot be said to have yet revived, there are gentlemen among us, who, by sound and spirited application of skill and capital, are employing a considerable body of operatives.

At the period now referred to, and for long before, the glove

trade of Perth was prosperous. Perth-made gloves had a preference throughout the kingdom. One tradesman had seventeen men employed in cutting out work for his sewers. The quantity yearly manufactured for home consumption was between 2000 and 3000 pairs. But the trade is now almost entirely gone, the sale of the article being in the hands of haberdashers and cloth-merchants, who obtain it from various quarters in England and Scotland. The consequence of this has been the falling off of another branch of trade, that of skimmers, which, not many years ago, was very prosperous, and which, in ancient times, occupied such a numerous body of the inhabitants, that the main street from the north, being chiefly occupied by them, was named Skinner Street. About the year 1795, the number of sheep and lamb skins prepared and dressed was 30,000. The trade is now limited to two or three individuals. The number of these skins, prepared and dressed by them, is about 27,000.

Perth was, forty years ago, the only town in Scotland, with the exception of Edinburgh, and perhaps Glasgow, in which book-printing was carried on to any extent. The Messrs Morison, who were distinguished for intellectual endowment and literary attainment, vigorously applied themselves to this branch of trade. They printed, Mr Scott informs us in his Statistical Account of Perth, between twenty and thirty thousand volumes annually. Since their time the trade has been more generally diffused over the kingdom, and in many other provincial towns it is prosecuted with considerable spirit. Of course it is not now in Perth what it formerly was.

*Villages.*—The villages in the parish are, as I have already stated, Tulloch, containing 193 inhabitants; Pitheaveless and Cherry-bank, containing 114 inhabitants; Upper and Lower Craigie, containing 250 inhabitants. There was at one time a considerable village at South Muirtown, but it is now removed.

*Means of Communication.*—Perth is a post-town. The net revenue of the office is about L. 4000. The mail from Edinburgh arrives at 9 P. M. on its way to the north, to Dundee, Aberdeen, Inverness. The mail to Edinburgh is dispatched at 1 A. M.

The Glasgow mail arrives at half-past 8 P. M., and is dispatched at 1 A. M. The mail from Aberdeen and Dundee arrives at 10 minutes before 1 A. M., and from Inverness at 11 P. M.

The turnpike roads in the parish, from south to north, are about four miles and a half, and from east to west about two miles. The roads diverge from the city as a centre,—one to Edinburgh,

on the south ; two to Glasgow, on the west ; and one to Dunkeld, Inverness, &c. on the north ; one to Aberdeen on the north-east. They are not now as they were formerly, ill made and ill kept. They are made and kept in repair entirely upon Mr M'Adam's judicious system, to the incalculable benefit and comfort of the traveller. On all these roads, four-horse coaches run daily.

The Bridge of Perth is the only one in the parish that merits particular notice. It was founded in the year 1766, and finished in 1771. It is simple and elegant. It has nine arches. Its length is 880 feet, and its breadth 18 feet of carriage way, and 4 feet of foot pavement, in all 22 feet between the parapets. It has been repeatedly proposed to make it wider ; and some advances have been made with that view. But the parties immediately interested have not as yet agreed as to the way of carrying the proposal into effect. To the spirited and patriotic exertions of the late Right Honourable Thomas Earl of Kinnoul, the county are indebted for this important building.

In the traditional account of the origin of Perth, given by Mr Henry Adamson in his *Muses Threnodie*, it is said that Agricola having fortified the town with walls and a strong castle, did also, with much labour to his soldiers, and probably to the poor natives, also construct a large wooden bridge over the river at Perth. This may be true ; but he produces no fact to give probability to the tradition. Among the records belonging to the Abbacy of Scone, there is, as I have already stated, an order from King Robert Bruce, 1329, to the abbot and monks, to allow the magistrates of Perth liberty to take stones out of the quarries of Kincarrathie or Balcormac, for building the Bridge of Tay, the Bridge of Earn, and the church. A citizen of Perth, of the name of Dundee, has recorded several events, with their dates, in a miscellaneous manuscript, of which Mr Adamson was in possession when he wrote the *Muses Threnodie*. The manuscript was commenced in 1570, and was continued by his son till 1636. It contains, *inter alia*, a notice of " the falling down of the three bowis of the Brig of Tay be the greet watter, and of Lowis Vaiter, on the 20 day of Dec. in anno 1573."—" The downe falling of five bowis of the Brig of Tay on the 14 day of Janewir in anno 1582 yeiris."—" The downe falling of the bra trein pillaris of the Brig of Tay on the 29 day of December in anno 1589 zeiris." This must have been the bridge that was built in 1329 ; and the substantial correctness of Mr Dundee's notice is established by the contents of a decret of the Lords

of Council in 1586, *in causa*, the magistrates of Dundee *versus* the magistrates of Perth, in which the latter plead, why they should not pay certain duties claimed for repairing the shore and bulwark of Dundee, that their need was equally great “of sic exactions to support the common weil of thair awin burgh, mair requisit to be bott and helpit, nor the said shore and havin of Dundee, speciallie the brig haiffing twyst fallin down and decayit, and laillie being erectit of tymmer, is readdy to fall without present help,” &c. From this time till 1617, the bridge was under repair, and a considerable portion of it built anew. Among the records of the House of Pittheaveless, there is an order from the King and secret council, 7th February 1599, for allowing the magistrates of Perth to take stones out of the quarry of Pittheaveless for repairing the Bridge of Tay, on payment of fifty merks yearly, until it be finished. The progress of the work, the obstructions which occurred, and the means resorted to for obtaining the necessary funds, are entered faithfully and fully in the city records. In 1617 it appears to have been finished, as in that year 3000 merks were paid as the price of the last arch.

The high national importance attached at that time to this bridge, appears from the charter which James gave, during its repair, to the town, confirming their whole rights and privileges, dated at Holyrood, 15th November 1600. In it he designates the bridge “a most precious jewel of our kingdom, and a work profitable and primely necessary to our whole kingdom and dominion, and for the suppression of rebels and such as are viciously affected, most commodious; and also keeping the one-half of the kingdom, with the other half thereof in faith, obedience, duty, and office, towards us their kings, in our kingdom and dominion.” But in the year 1621, and about four years after the completion of its repairs, it was, as has been already stated, swept away by a flood. Numerous attempts were made to rebuild it. James himself, and Charles Prince of Wales, and many of the nobility and others, subscribed with that view. King Charles II., in 1662, ratified all grants given by King James VI. and King Charles I., his grandfather and father, of the sum of 40,000 merks for rebuilding the bridge. There is preserved in the Antiquarian Society Museum the following list of subscriptions,—Holograph—Richmond Knox, 2500 merks; Geo. Hay, 1000 merks; Mar, 1000 merks; Roxburgh, 800 merks; Erskine, 400 merks; Gray, 800 merks; Carnegy, 400 merks; Buccleugh, 800 merks; Asprynie, 400 merks;

Seaforth, 800 merks; Prarsthalt, 800 merks; Lorton, 800 merks; Linlithgow, 500 merks; Melrose, 800 merks; Lauderdale, 800 merks; Cranston, L. 100. The scheme was ultimately abandoned.

There are no canals or rail-roads in the parish. Between Perth and Dundee there is one passage steam-boat, and sometimes two, which ply daily. The river not being deep enough in several places to admit of their passing at all hours, their arrivals and departures are regulated by the flowing of the tide. There is at present an iron steam-boat constructing to ply on the river, through the enterprise of Messrs A. M'Farlane and Sons, iron-founders. It is of 70 horse-power, 112 feet long, and will draw from 33 to 36 inches water when loaded with 500 passengers. From the present spirited exertions made to remove the fords and deepen the channel of the river generally, it is expected that the boat will make the passage twice each tide.

A rail-road between Perth and Dundee is projected; surveys have been taken, and some subscriptions raised to carry the project into effect. But it does not meet with the concurrence of several of the proprietors, through whose parks and pleasure-grounds it would require to be carried; and some obstacles will stand in the way of bringing it to the city, which it will not be easy to surmount. It is not, therefore, probable that the work will be at present proceeded in; and the more especially, as the improvements in the river navigation promise to make water conveyance both more rapid and more frequent.

*Harbours.*—In the royal charter now adverted to, there is an inhibition on all sea-vessels, small and great, coming within the water of Tay with merchandise, from disloading or breaking bulk till they come to the bridge, *i. e.* the bridge at the east end of the High Street, now called the “Old Shore” and “Old Light.” Here was the harbour at that time, 1600; but it is now removed from the town down the river to what is called the Lime shore. This removal appears to have been gradual, in consequence of an accumulation of gravel in the bed of the river impeding the navigation.

The removal was first to the south shore, opposite to the Grayfriars burying-ground; and, finally, in 1752, to where it now is. What was in 1600 the principal, the only harbour, receiving vessels of the greatest burden that could come up the river, and even ships mounting great guns, (as appears from the account given by Buchanan of an attempt to storm the town in 1544 from the river or eastern side,) is now frequented by small craft only.

The citizens of Perth and the inhabitants of the surrounding coun-

try appear, from an early period, to have paid a vigilant attention to the navigation of the river, as it contributed very much to their wealth and prosperity. During a great part of the eighteenth century, trade was carried on to a considerable extent between the port of Perth and the principal ports, not only of Britain, but of Russia, Germany, France, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Spain, and Italy. This foreign intercourse, however, has, particularly of late years, been very much diminished. Various causes have operated in producing the decline, such as a total change in the description of the manufactures of the place; a successfully pushed competition on the part of other ports which are free from the inconvenience of river navigation; the establishment of extensive general agencies, through which our merchants now obtain the products of other countries. But the most powerful of all causes has been the natural obstructions to navigation which have arisen in our river itself.

Many centuries ago, a superiority over the navigation of the whole river of Tay was granted by royal charters to the burgh of Perth. Robert the Bruce, by a charter dated the 4th of April 1316, prohibited stranger merchants coming within the Tay from presuming to sell or break bulk without the license of the burgh of Perth, until they first offered their cargoes to the merchants at the port of Perth. This charter was confirmed by David II. the 10th of April 1365, and by Robert III. 6th of May 1400, and lastly, James VI., 15th November 1600, confirmed the charter already mentioned, and granted in addition, to the provost, bailies, councillors, burgesses of Perth, the power of charging and uplifting all customs, anchorage, port-money, tributes, and duties within the said bounds of the water of Tay, and established altogether to the said burgh of Perth, the jurisdiction, liberty, and privilege of the said water of Tay, and right of the same. These powers of liberty and privilege of free port were afterwards limited by decret-arbitral of King James, 31st December 1602, to those parts of the Tay running opposite to the sheriffdom of Perth.

Notwithstanding the ample powers conferred on the burgh of Perth over the River Tay, more attention appears to have been bestowed upon the rigid exaction of harbour dues, than the preservation of the navigable properties of the river; and consequently, very serious obstructions had arisen, by the formation of sand-banks in the navigable channel, while, at the same time, the

salmon-fishing stations became more numerous and valuable. To such an alarming extent had these obstructions arisen, and so long had the authorities neglected to assert their right to remove them, that many years ago it was judged advisable to consult the most eminent engineers, as to the steps which ought to be taken, with the view of asking new powers from Parliament. Messrs Smeaton and Rennie severally reported their opinion, the former recommending a line of quay, suited to the craft then frequenting the port,—the latter recommending a suite of wet-docks on the South Inch.

Mr Jardine afterwards surveyed and proposed a new harbour on the site of the old one, but projecting much farther into the current of the river, together with the removal of the weel-ford, it being the greatest obstruction, and nearest to the harbour. Mr Jardine's plan was adopted, and an act of Parliament procured for carrying it into effect on the 17th June 1830, under the direction of a board of commissioners twenty-nine in number. The commissioners had proceeded so far with the works under this act, as to complete the new pier, when doubts were started as to the efficiency of the remaining part of the plan, which provided for the removal of the weel-ford, and the deepening of the river upon an inclined plane, within the very limited space from the County Buildings to the Friartown Hole. It is but justice, therefore, to Mr Jardine to state, that his recommendations were never fully carried out, but were departed from, chiefly because they did not embrace other fords between Perth and Newburgh, which would still have presented great obstructions to the navigation, although the weel-ford had been removed.

During 1833, this important subject occupied much of the attention of the town-council, the merchants, and the public generally. It was at last resolved to employ Messrs Stevenson and Son, engineers, to make a complete survey of the river, and to report fully their opinion as to the best mode of improving the harbour and navigation. On the 22d January 1834, these gentlemen gave a very full report, in which they recommended the removal of all the fords in the river from Friartown to Newburgh, by a dredging-machine, excavating from 4 feet 3 inches, to 4 feet 9 inches; the junction of the several small islands to the mainland, by which means they anticipated that the track from Newburgh to Perth would be deepened to 16 feet at spring tides, and 11 feet at neap tides; thereby admitting vessels of 360 tons burden to pass at the former, and

of 130 tons to pass at the latter tide.\* The greatest difficulty in the way of this enlarged improvement was the risk to the salmon-fishings from the operation. The report of these gentlemen then recommends the formation of a tide-harbour commencing at the Friartown; an entrance lock to a canal leading from thence to a capacious wet-dock, to be excavated about 200 yards to the westward of the present quay. The total estimated expense of these works is as under :

Improvement of the navigation,	-	-	L. 5600	14	3
Tide harbour,	-	-	9169	18	0
Entrance lock,	-	-	10343	8	8
Ship canal,	-	-	6464	12	11
Wet dock,	-	-	22737	4	4
			<hr/>		
			L. 54,314	12	2

It was recommended that these extensive operations should be proceeded with progressively, the benefit of the first branches being available by themselves, without reference to the remaining parts.

The suggestions of the Messrs Stevenson were substantially approved of by the town-council, and at a public meeting of the inhabitants; and an act of Parliament was applied for, and obtained on the 27th June 1834, for carrying these operations into effect under the direction of a board of commissioners, thirty in number, of whom the Member of Parliament for the city is one, fourteen are members of the town-council, six are justices of the peace in the county, three are ship-owners, and six are burgesses of Perth. By the act, ample compensation is provided for the salmon-fishing proprietors for any damage arising to the fishings from the operations. The time allowed by the act for the completion of these works is twenty years from its passing, 27th June 1834; five years for deepening and improving the navigation of the river, and the remainder for the execution of the other works.

Since the passing of the act, the commissioners have been actively engaged in carrying its provisions into effect. And although they have met with some difficulties and obstructions in the formation of the tide harbour, it is likely that they have now overcome the greatest of these, and that the work will proceed with ra-

\* In 1682, the town-council passed an act granting allowances to the then "late Provost, (Mr John Glas) as tacksman of the fishings, to take out a great stone in the fishings opposite the sleepless Inch." He failed in the attempt. The stone has, since that time, been very injurious to the fishings. It was this year, 1836, taken out by Mr Turnbull, employed to deepen the river, and lies on the contiguous shore. It is above four tons weight.



pidity, while the success of their operations on the fords has been in the highest degree satisfactory and encouraging.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The original church of Perth was designated “the Church of St John the Baptist.” It is altogether unknown when and by whom it was founded. It could not be built before the year 412, for it was not till then that the Picts, who inhabited the country to the south of the Grampian mountains, became converts to the Christian faith; and if it be the fact, that till the time of St Ninian (from Galloway) there was no church built of stone in the country, it could not be before the year 452. The Picts were the ancestors of the generality of the people, and Ninian laboured as a missionary among them.

The church edifice was extensive and magnificent, as appears from historical facts and from vestiges which still remain. But after the year 1226, when it, with the tithes of the parish, was given to the Abbey of Dunfermline, the edifice was neglected. The monks endeavoured to throw the burden of upholding it upon the town, and the town upon the monks; and when the monastery churches began to be built in the parish in the reign of Alexander II. its interests were almost entirely neglected. This was particularly the case during the national disturbances which began in the year 1290. At length, however, Robert Bruce, having in a great measure restored good order in the kingdom, directed his attention to the repairing of the church of St Johnstone. His death, which took place 1329, put an end to these laudable efforts. The following letter he addressed to the abbot and convent of Scone, as proprietor of some quarries in the neighbourhood, to obtain the stones which might be necessary. “Robert, by the grace of God King of Scots, to our beloved and faithful religious men, the abbot and convent of Scone, greeting: We request, and that very earnestly, that you will grant liberty to take hewed stones from Kincarrachie and Balcormac, for the edification of the church of Perth and of the Bridges of Perth and Earn, providing always that this liberty shall not be of any prejudice or damage to you. Given at Glasgow, the 4th day of July, in the forty-third year of our reign.”

In the year 1400 the edifice was in good repair. Before that time the east end or choir had been rebuilt. The former altars of the saints were removed, and a multitude of new ones began to be founded; only the great altar of St John Baptist, according to the superstitious feelings then prevalent, required to be kept up and to

stand in the same place, viz. at the east end of the building. The first of the new altars was that of St Ninian, to whom I have now referred. It was founded 14th August 1401 by Robert Brown, a burgess of Perth. The whole length of the building is 207 feet.

The most prominent part of the edifice is the square tower. It remains the same that it was originally, only that it has been at some after period surmounted by a wooden erection of a pyramidal shape covered with lead, designated in an act of council in the year 1675, "the prikit of the steeple,"—an erection which is by no means in good keeping with the building. The whole height is 155 feet. It was repaired in the year now mentioned, and in 1767 the pricket received a new covering of lead. The magistracy under whose reign this work was done have their names perpetuated upon it in alt. It had anciently one dial or horologe on the north,—another was put on the south side in 1675.

There was at one time in it a set of bells of celebrated power and tone. Respecting them there is the following entry in the city records, of date 21st March 1652.

"Visitatione about the Steepell and Bellis.

Preaching Bell.

I. On the upper syde of the Bell without  
Meckle pearling is about.

Pxx.

Joannes Baptisti Votar Ego  
Vox clamantis in Deserto  
Mecline Petrus Magheneus me formavit  
Sit benedictu qui cuncta Creavit.  
1506.

147 zeiris old.

II. Commone Bell | This bell is in the diameter in wydnes wt. ne the  
lippis 1 ell 1 quarter and ane half.

Joannes Baptisti Votar  
Nos autem gloriari oportet in crucem domini  
nostri Jesu Christi.  
Anno Domini 1520. This upmost on the head  
Pearling on ilk syd of the Bell  
Facta sum Meckline per Georgio Magheneus  
Ego vox clamantis in deserto  
Parata viam Domini

Stamps of John the Baptist on ilk syd  
In midst Christ ryding on ane as colt and people crying.

III. On the skelloche\* littill Bell anno dom. 1400

253 zeirs old

253 zeirs old this bell is

IV. On the Curfew bell on legeabill letters old  
character

No date onlie this read 

pro nobis	on it twa crounes
clamare	and ane cross.

V.

Anno 1526

Seven houre Bellis without the steepill viz. on Bell for  
the hail hor. and six for the haff hour.

\* Skelloche, Northern Scots, a shrill cry or squall. Jam. Scot. Dict.—Skellat, a small bell, a sort of iron rattle.—Ib.

the session ordains the lofts to be put up in the kirk." " March 5, 1593, the session ordains the masters of hospital to cause repair the kirk floor." " June 18, 1599, the session condescends that L. 3 be given to the tailors for the reparation of their seat in the kirk, which was transported at the desire of the minister." " March 29, 1609, James Adamson, master of the hospital, produced account of sums of money disbursed by him at the command of the session, for bigging of twa lofts in the kirk, the one for the provost, bailies, and council, and another for common people, and the scholars of the grammar-school, which account being heard and allowed, the accouter was found to have super-expended L. 160, 1s. and 6 pennies, which sum they ordain to be paid to him of the first and readiest casualties of the hospital." " April 1600, the session ordains a collection to be made the next Sabbath for reparation of the kirk, and for that effect ordains twa baillies to be at every kirk door, and the elders to be with them." " June 10, 1616, the session ordains the pulpit to be repaired, with a new sad green cloth fringed with green silk, like the pulpit of Edinburgh." " January 21, 1639, whilk day the session ordains the . . . . of the burgh of Perth to put forth their auld seat equal with their new seat, and to repair the glass windows forenent both their seats." " September 3, 1639, whilk day the session ordains the masters of the kirk wark to do nothing of the kirk wark till the spring time, but only point and mend the sclates."

Numerous similar extracts might be produced to evince the fact, that the temporalia of the church of Perth was, at the early period referred to, under the jurisdiction and management of the ministers and elders,—that all things connected with it were arranged and disposed of as they pleased. It is true they had no power given them as a kirk-session over the temporalia, but they had the power as the appointed hospital managers.

A complete change has taken place. The temporalia are now entirely under the jurisdiction of the civil authorities of the city, and the kirk-session or ministers and elders have not even a sitting in the church to dispose of to any individual, however destitute. As a matter of curiosity, it may be worth while to inquire how this change has been brought about—whether members of the town-council holding office in the session, which they did for a considerable time during the semi-episcopalian semi-presbyterian period of the church of Scotland, may not have contributed to effect the change.

It is an illustrative fact, and not out of place to mention, that the town-council got possession of, and retained for many years, till obliged to give it up, a property of considerable value belonging to the hospital. James VI., among other immunities and privileges, gifted to the hospital by charter L. 69, 6s. 8d. of yearly burgage farm, formerly paid to the Exchequer, and for that sum the town was to hold count annually to the Exchequer, at the filling up of the æque, as paid by them to the hospital. The town agents contrived to conceal the grant, and might have continued to do so in all time coming, had not one of the ministers, in 1754, discovered the fact, in consequence of an incidental perusal which he had got of the town's great charter. An investigation forthwith commenced, and demands were made to obtain possession of the property. These were upon various grounds resisted, particularly the not very honourable one of negative prescription. Recourse was then had to the civil court, and in 1758, the Lords of Session decerned against the town, requiring them to pay in all time coming the said sum of L. 69, 6s. 8d. and also to make count for thirty-nine years, with certain deductions of bygones, to the amount of L. 2377, 12s. 8d. Sterling. Another illustrative fact may be mentioned. Immediately upon the charter being granted, the minister and elders, as hospital managers, entered on possession of the Blackfriars and Charter-House lands. In a few years, the magistrates and council claimed as their right to have the management of the property. Their claim was indeed resisted, but they contrived to gain their point by means of that most disgraceful and outrageous transaction, which I have before particularly detailed (page 59.) Having, at this illegal self-constituted session, got into the management of the hospital affairs, they contrived to appropriate to the use of the town the proceeds of these lands. The presbytery interfered, and threatened legal measures. They then proposed to the session to alienate the said proceeds to the maintenance of a third minister. The session applied to the presbytery for advice, who referred the matter to the General Assembly. The Assembly appointed a committee of legal members to consider it and report. The report was decidedly against the town-council. Still, however, the council continued to hold the property, and appropriate and draw the rents. A number of the councillors being members of session, the session was gained over. The presbytery coming to the knowledge of this, did at their own risk, and with their own means, and even though opposed by the kirk-session, commence a process before the Court of

Session, (1758) against the town, for recovering that property to the hospital, and for count and reckoning with respect to bygone abstracted rents. After a very keen litigation for more than two years, in the course of which the cause was carried to the House of Peers, Mr Boswell, one of the presbytery's counsel, craved that the hospital should be found entitled to the mails and duties of Blackfriars and Charterhouse lands since the commencement of the process, and passed from the other claim of bygone mails and duties, *pro loco et tempore*. Accordingly, the Lords pronounced their final decree on the 25th of July that year, ordaining the town of Perth to cede the possession of the Blackfriars and Charterhouse lands to the hospital masters, and the tenants to pay their rents in all time coming to the said hospital masters, &c. One other illustrative fact I shall mention, and which is immediately to the point. The parish church of St John the Baptist was specially gifted in the charter to the hospital, and for many years the kirk-session exercised the uncontrolled administration of its concerns. They originated and appointed every alteration or repair that was made upon it, externally and internally. All the seats in it were erected by them, or by others with their permission. And both its walls and its roof were repeatedly repaired by them. Nay, the steeple, and its clock, and its bells, were theirs, and they employed and paid persons for keeping them in proper order. The extracts which I have given (pp. 105, 6, 7.) from the session records make this manifest. Now the session have no acknowledged claim to the church, or to any thing pertaining to it. It is in the possession of the city and other incorporations, and it does not appear that there has ever been a legal transference of the property from the hospital to any individual or body of men whatever. The hospital has lost this with other property, through the incapacity of its managers to resist encroachments.

From the year 1560 to the year 1595, the church was supplied by only one minister. From 1595 to 1716, it was supplied by two. In 1715 the town-council took into consideration, that "the inhabitants of the town and parish had considerably increased," and being, with zeal for the glory of God, concerned for the advancement of the work of the gospel, and in compassion to the souls of many hundreds of people, "agreed that a third minister should be called and elected by the town-council and kirk-session, or presented by the council, if calling and election will not suffice," and un-animously agreed to assign the sum of 1000 merks Scots yearly,

out of the common good for his maintenancé, with the promise that the sum shall revert to the common good when the population shall so far diminish that one church shall be sufficient for the accommodation of the inhabitants.

Accordingly that portion of the Old Church which had been separated from it, some time before the beginning of the seventeenth century,\* and which had, for a few years before this, been occasionally used as a place of worship, was fitted up to be an additional church. Mr Wilson preacher of the Gospel, was presented, called, and ordained accordingly, November 1, 1716. From that time till 1740 there were thus three ministers. But in that year Mr Wilson having been found guilty of following divisive courses, was deposed, and no one was appointed to succeed him. Matters reverted to what they were previous to 1715,—only the two ministers preached alternately in the two churches.

In 1771, the choir or east end of the edifice was separated from the old church, as the west had been, and converted into a third church. An additional minister thus becoming necessary, an ordained assistant was appointed. But it was not deemed expedient that each should have his own distinct church. The three therefore observed a rotation, making the round of the churches every three weeks. This unedifying and uncomfortable practice continued till the year 1807, when the town-council with the two ministers, the landward heritors, and the presbytery, applied to the Lords of Session, and obtained a decret disjoining † the parish, and erecting it into four. A fourth church being thus required, it was accordingly, in conformity with the condition of the decret,

\* The particular purpose to which it was originally appropriated is unknown. But, as appears in the city records, it was in 1604 in a state to require repair. In 1608, a general meeting of the inhabitants was held in it to raise the funds for the bridge which was building. In February 1618, the council issued an order to red the house where the guns lay in the new (West) Kirk, to receive the corps of Lady Montrose, mend the lock and key, and to lay the guns in the north side of the said kirk." In the same year, August 25, the General Assembly of the church was held in it; when, through the bullying and threatening of James, the famous five Perth articles were passed. In 1628 the convention of burghs took place in it, preparatory to which the great west window was repaired. In 1654, "a room was divided off in it for the purpose of holding courts." In 1671, the Justiciary Court met in it. The seat erected for the judges cost nearly L. 173, 12s. In 1684, the council gave license to the Marquis of Athole to hew stones in it.

From the time when it became one of the city churches, 1716 till 1771, neither baptism nor the Lord's supper was dispensed in it. These sacraments were dispensed in the Old (Middle) Church only. It was not till 1772 that these ordinances were dispensed in all the three churches, Middle, West, and East.

† The city record for 1603 contains an order to speak to the Laird of Weem to stand the town's favourer and friend in their adoes, and specially anent the division of the *Session* in Edinburgh, to see if the same may be had "in our town."

erected, and each minister was restricted to his own church and parish.

In the year 1788, a chapel was built by subscription and by collections made in the churches throughout the synod, for the Highlanders who resided in Perth and its neighbourhood. By an act of Assembly in 1834, it became a church in common with many other chapels, and, as it was intended for the benefit of the Highlanders in the city and neighbourhood, the presbytery assigned to the minister of it as his charge the whole Gaelic population residing within four miles round it.

In the year 1834-35, a number of the friends of the Establishment, taking into consideration the increased population of Perth and its vicinity, and the great need of additional church accommodation occasioned thereby, agreed to build, by subscription, a new church.\* It has been built accordingly. A constitution has been obtained for it from the General Assembly; and a minister has now been officiating in it for above twelve months. Thus there are six Established churches in Perth.

Their sittings are 6650; but none of these is free, or accessible to the community rent free. Two thousand nine hundred and fifty-four belong to the city corporation. The remaining 3696 are the property of other corporations, and the proprietors of St Stephens and St Leonards churches.

The seat rents drawn by the city and other incorporations amount at present to L. 1050, 15s. 7d. The city expenditure on the churches, as stated in the report of the Commissioners, is L. 989, 19s. 4d. Thus the income to the city and corporations from the churches is L. 60, 16s. 3d. more than what is expended on them by the local authorities. That the city is a pecuniary gainer, by its connections with the Church Establishment, to a higher amount, I shall hereafter show.

It may not be improper to remark here in passing, that the practice of seat-letting is at variance with the fundamental constitutional principle of an endowed church. The great design of an endowed church is, that the poor as well as the rich may have free access

\* In 1650, the population in the landward part of the parish was so great, that the Presbytery found it to be their duty to recommend the erection of it into a separate charge; and, in order to carry that into effect, to lay the matter before the Commissioners for Plantation of Kirks. Two of the brethren were deputed by the Presbytery to hold conference with the heritors thereanent. Repeated conferences were held; but obstacles were thrown in the way, and they proved unsuccessful. The minute of Presbytery, 9th April 1651, says, "the affairs of the landward parish of Perth delayed, because of the troubles of the times."

to the dispensation of religious ordinances. But that privilege they cannot enjoy, if heritors and corporations may at pleasure deny it to those who cannot pay them the rents exacted. The moral interests of the poorer classes in Perth, as well as in other such towns, have suffered severely from this. There are not a few poor families in it who cannot possibly pay rent for the sittings which they require. The melancholy consequence of this is, that many young persons never acquire church-going habits, and gradually fall into the habitual neglect of Sabbath observance; and then these, when they become heads of families, render the evil more inveterate and extensive. It is a miserable and short-sighted policy to raise a revenue for any purpose, however important and valuable, at the expense of the religious instruction and moral improvement of the industrious poor. But such a policy does exist, and by wise worldlings is defended. The poor may be urged by the ministers of the church to attend ordinances with their families; but in many cases the requiring it is almost a mockery, as they are excluded by the proprietors of the sittings, who will not accommodate them without their advancing a sum which their limited income puts it out of their power to advance. The want of proper and sufficient church accommodation for the poor is a demoralizing evil which is every day becoming more apparent. Those who legislate and rule upon an enlightened Christian principle, unbiassed by considerations of party attachment, must admit that it is a paramount duty to make spiritual provision for those of their subjects who are spiritually destitute.

The ministers of the East and Middle Churches have each a stipend of 70 bolls of barley and 80 bolls of oat-meal paid by the heritors of the old parish, and L. 130 each paid out of the city revenues. The minister of the East Church has, in addition, the vicarage teind, which is L. 7, 8s. 10½d. The stipend of the minister of the West Church is L. 250, and that of the minister of St Paul's is L. 280, both paid out of the city's revenue. That of the minister of St Stephen's (Gaelic) Church is L. 80, and to increase as the income from the seat rents increases. That of St Leonard's is L. 100, and to increase in like manner. There are neither manse\* nor glebes. The town-council are patrons of the East,

\* The parish church, which had been dedicated to St John Baptist, the manse which belonged to it, and another house in the city, with the whole tithes of the parish, were given by David I. to the Abbey of Dunfermline. The abbot and monks received the rectory tithes, and employed a vicar to officiate at Perth. At the Reformation the property of the abbey, and of other such religious houses, reverted to the Crown. In



West, Middle, and St Paul's. The minister of the Gaelic Church is chosen by the male heads of families being communicants, and so also is the minister of St Leonard's.

By the Court of Session decret 1807, the council guaranteed to the minister of the East and Middle parishes, besides victual stipend, L. 80 each of money stipend, and to those of the West and St Paul's, L. 200. But afterwards they voluntarily gave augmentations to the ministers of the West and St Paul's L. 80 each, and to the ministers of the East and Middle, L. 50 each. In 1835, the West Church became vacant by the death of the Rev. Mr Kennedy. During the vacancy, it was at different times keenly contested, by a party in the town-council, that the augmentation granted to Mr Kennedy should be withheld from his successor. The *Strathmore Journal*, a Perth newspaper, took up the point, and emitted, on the 4th February 1836, the following strictures, which, as they entirely accord with the sentiment that I entertain, I shall here introduce.—“ Stipend of the West Church minister.—We have not been much fascinated with the resolution of the town-council to restrict the stipend of the new incumbent in this parish to L. 200 in future: and we cannot comprehend the conduct of some of those who voted for that motion, and yet hold forth that by doing so they merely wished to delay a settlement of the matter. It does appear to us quite unreasonable that, in a city such as this, one of the clergymen should be restricted to the *minimum* rate of stipend in the Church of Scotland, when the expense of living is so much greater than in country parishes. It must be noticed, also, that the Perth ministers have neither glebe, garden, nor manse; and so the L. 200 proposed to be given is not worth more than L. 150 comparatively. This stinted remuneration is not economy, but positive parsimony, and it can hardly be expected that a clergyman of talent, such as Perth should have, will be obtained, or, at any rate, remain long in a situation where he is only to receive such a reward for his labours and attainments, as is to be found in the poorest livings in the church. For the

1589, James VI. conferred on Anne of Denmark, at the time of his marriage with that Princess, the lands and other property of the Abbey of Dunfermline. The deed was confirmed by Parliament in 1593, but it was enacted that she should allow for the officiating clergy and for some other purposes specified, one-third of the benefits of those churches which had belonged to the Abbey. The tacksman of the tithes of Perth was John Ross, laird of Craigie. He paid a third part for the purposes enacted, and transmitted the overplus to the Queen. Her Majesty, however, soon after the year 1600, gave up her right to the tithes of Perth, and the town-council became patrons of the parish.

sake, therefore, of the respectability of this parish, and the city generally, we look forward with some interest to Mr Dewar's motion at the next council meeting, when the delay party will, we trust, vote more in accordance with their avowed wishes, than they did on Monday last." The discussion here commented on is recorded in the provincial newspapers, and presents to the public a curious and not very creditable specimen of the reasoning, by which the members of a town-council came to the conclusion, that the stipend of L. 280, previously given to the minister of the West Church of the city, was L. 80 too much, and that therefore it should be for the future, or in the meantime, only L. 200. The liberality displayed may be judged of by the fact, that though the burgh of Perth be the first in Scotland in point of unincumbered property, and freedom from local taxation, it now proposes to remunerate its ecclesiastical office-bearers at a lower rate than any other burgh in the nation. The ministers of Edinburgh receive per annum, L. 520; those of Dundee, L. 275; those of Aberdeen, L. 300; those of Glasgow, L. 425; those of Montrose, L. 340; those of Paisley, L. 313. The discussion referred to ended in a motion, carried by a majority, that the stipend of the West Church should, in the meantime, be L. 200. At a future meeting of council, it was carried that the sum should be raised to L. 250. In consequence of reiterated broad averment, by some municipal rulers who are hostile to the Establishment, that the church is a burden on the funds of the city, Mr Dewar, one of the magistrates, published a pamphlet, entitled "an Inquiry as to the pecuniary gain or loss arising to the town-council of Perth, from its connection with the Established Church, containing a translation of Queen Anne's charter, of date 20th November 1604, which conveyed certain lands properties, and revenues to the town on account of the church." In this pamphlet, Mr Dewar has discussed the subject in a manner clear, masterly, and conclusive, and, by authorities the most unquestionable, has established the fact, that the town has by its connection with the Established Church been not only no loser, but a gainer to a very considerable extent; that it "is at the present moment a PECUNIARY GAINER to the extent of at least L. 300 per annum." By the Queen's charter, it became titular of the teinds of the parish, and obtained possession of considerable property, which has never to the present time been valued or paid an fraction of stipend. Mr Dewar thus concludes his able pamphlet: "In the

meantime churchmen, those in Perth at least, have reason to be glad, that their religion does not cost the community a fraction, but has been beneficial to it both in a pecuniary, and in a far more important point of view. The dissenters in Perth have reason to rejoice, that the burden of supporting the Established Church which they have been taught to consider so galling, has never pressed upon either their purses or their persons, or on any thing else connected with them excepting their imaginations."

There are in the city two home missions, appointed and superintended by the General Session. The expense is defrayed by a subscription. One of the missionaries is appointed to officiate every Lord's day evening in the Middle Church.

In 1814, a Sabbath Evening School Society was organized, to be conducted upon the localizing system. The office-bearers, teachers, and taught, were of all the religious denominations in the place. The returns of children in the schools were frequently as high as 1400, and visible good effects resulted to the community. But its prosperity was blasted, by the voluntary agitation introduced among us some years ago. It then decayed and disappeared. In the Middle and West parishes, Sabbath schools have been since established, under the superintendence of their respective sessions. In the Middle parish, there is one congregational school, attended by 81, and eleven local schools, attended by 200 young persons. In the West parish, there is one congregational school, attended by 215. The erection of local schools is in progress. The teachers of all these schools are the ministers and elders, and those religious friends who are zealous in the cause.

With respect to *Dissenting and Seceding meeting-houses*—there are both. The dissenting houses are, one for Independents, another for Baptists, another for general Baptists, and another for Glassites. The Seceding houses are, one for Old Light Burghers, another for Old Light Antiburghers, two for the New Light Burghers and Antiburghers, or United Secession, and two for Relievers. The ministers of these places of worship are paid by the seat-holders and hearers, out of seat rents and collections. One of them has a stipend of L. 200, another of L. 180, another of L. 170, another of L. 100, and another of L. 90. The other ministers have no fixed sums allotted them. They depend on "the spontaneous liberality" of their respective flocks. Almost all the meeting-houses are in debt,—some of them to a considerable amount. But there is in some cases a satisfaction connected with the debt, as it forms a

bond of union. Besides the meeting-houses which I have mentioned, there is an Episcopalian chapel, a Wesleyan Methodist chapel, and a Catholic chapel.

The following will give a view of accommodation and attendance in all the places of public worship in the parish in 1835:—

<i>Establishment.</i>	<i>Sittings.</i>	<i>Let or occupied of right.</i>	<i>Other denominations.*</i>	<i>Sittings.</i>	<i>Let or occupied of right.</i>
East Church, .	1314	1085	Craigend United Secession,	413	220
West Do. .	929	788	North United Secession,	1479	927
Middle Do. .	1208	961	South United Secession,	932	678
St Paul's Do. .	1004	667	Old Light Burghers, .	730	150
St Stephen's Do.	762	400	Old Light Anti-Burghers,	602	187
St Leonard's Do.	980	848	1 Relievers,	902	549
			2 Relievers,	574	220
	6197	4744	Independent,	735	157
			General Baptist,	450	100
			Baptists,	300	160
			Methodist,	800	100
			Episcopalian,	301	163
			Roman Catholic,	444	130
			Glassites,	165	130
				8827	3861

According to this table, there were in the year referred to, in all the places of public worship in the parish, 15,024 sittings; of these, 6197 belonged to the Establishment, and 8827 to other denominations. Of the sittings belonging to the Establishment 4744 were let or occupied of right, and of those belonging to other denominations 3861 were let or occupied of right. The sittings unlet or unoccupied of right belonging to the former were 1453, † and those belonging to the latter were 4946. In the memorial which certain Voluntaries presented in November 1834 to the Lord Chancellor Brougham, on the subject of church accommodation in Perth, they set forth that the Establishment sittings were 6094, and those of the Dissenters 8693; that the unlet sittings in the Establishment were 2172 at least; and those in the dissenting places of worship 4321. I have not access to know whether the number of their unlet sittings has diminished or increased, since the presentation of the memorial. But there can be no doubt, that, assuming its averment to be correct, the let sittings in the Established churches have made an increase since then of 719. In point of fact, the let sittings in the Established churches have considerably increased since the year 1835.

The number of unlet sittings in five of the churches, East, West, Middle, St Paul's, and St Stephen's is certainly considerable. But that can easily be accounted for. St Stephen's is entirely for

\* This table is taken from the returns ordered by Parliament in 1835.

† It may be proper to remark, that, though no sittings be appropriated to the poor in the Established churches, many of them get access, through sufferance, to those that are unlet. Thus a considerable number of the poor are accommodated.

the Gaelic population, which is *limited*, and not for the inhabitants generally. In the East, West, Middle, and St Paul's, there are about 200 sittings so inconveniently placed in respect of seeing or hearing, or of both, that none would occupy them except from necessity. St Leonard's was opened last year. By the judicious arrangement of the proprietors, the great proportion of the sittings was let at low prices. This naturally drew to it many who, in the other churches, were paying high prices, and who on that account could not get their families accommodated.

The unconstitutional and unjust exactions, by the city corporations, of high seat rents, and thus shutting the pews against many of the industrious poor, has had, and continues to have, a most pernicious effect on the religious and moral habits of the population. The churches are for the accommodation of the people, and not for the raising of money by any corporation, or for any secular purpose whatever. The rights of the people in this matter are a subject which demands special and immediate investigation. On these rights it is a manifest infringement. Were the town and other incorporations of Perth to act in letting their sittings, as the proprietors of St Leonard's did in letting those of that church, they would promote the substantial interests of the community, much more effectually than by any distribution of the profits accruing from such a holding. Were it not for the extra Sabbath evening services, many of the poor would be entirely deprived of the benefit and comforts of public worship.

The amount of population, according to a census recently made, is 19,601, which is 415 less than what it was according to the Government census in 1831. Of this number 11,683 belong to the Establishment, 7101 belong to other denominations, and of the remainder, some make no religious profession whatever, while others are attached to no particular religious body. The number of Roman Catholics is 228.

In the Established churches the average number of communicants is 3536.\*

With respect to *societies for religious purposes*, I may observe, that they were more numerous, prosperous, and active, lately, than they are at present. There is still a Missionary Society, two Bible Societies, and a Tract Society. There are also Societies for general charitable purposes,—for relieving the destitute sick, supporting aged and indigent women, clothing indigent old men, clothing in-

\* The *particular* statistics of the other parishes of Perth I have not ascertained. Of those of my own parish (the Middle) I have transmitted the following to the Church Extension Committee: Population 4726; belonging to the Establishment 2804; belonging to other denominations 1675; belonging to none 247. Communicants in the parish 2011; of these 1234 belong to the Establishment, and 777 to other denominations.

digent old women, upholding a dispensary, supporting two infant schools and a female school.

It is very much to be lamented that the liberality and harmony which, a few years ago, prevailed among all classes and denominations of the community, in the formation and upholding of these and other such valuable institutions, have suffered a considerable diminution. This lamentable evil I unhesitatingly ascribe to the introduction of voluntarism into the place, the object of which is to overthrow the religious establishments of the country. It has occasioned a grievous infringement of the royal law of our Master's kingdom, "brotherly love." It has produced a separation among brethren in matters upon which they should be cordially united. May the time soon return when Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.

The state of the public charities of the city of Perth for 1833, is published in the Church of Scotland Magazine for 1835. As that is, to my certain knowledge, accurate, and as it has been freely circulated in this place, as well as in other places, that the charitable institutions in our chief towns owe more to the liberality of Dissenters than to that of the Establishment, I beg leave here to introduce it.

<i>Societies.</i>	<i>Sums collected.</i>	<i>Contributions by</i>	
		<i>the Establishment.</i>	<i>Dissenters.</i>
For Destitute Sick,	£ 74 6 0	£ 59 3 6	£ 15 3 0
Hospital Female School,	46 12 6	45 11 6	1 1 0
The Dispensary,	47 11 0	37 13 0	9 18 0
Aged and Indigent Females,	67 10 0	63 13 0	3 17 0
Sabbath Schools,	10 1 0	9 13 6	0 7 6
Clothing Indigent Females,	60 18 5	51 8 5	9 10 0
Clothing Indigent Old Men,	118 3 6	96 13 0	21 10 6
Infant Schools,	73 8 6	72 3 0	1 5 6
	£ 498 11 5	£ 435 18 11	£ 62 12 6

This was the state of matters in 1833. Since then, the average contribution by the Establishment has increased to those Societies which continue in existence.

The average amount of church collections yearly for religious and charitable objects is about L. 730.

*Education.*—Perth is the most central town in Scotland. It is not matter of surprise, therefore, that in 1697, when, with a view to the public interest of the nation, it was proposed to remove the University of St Andrews to another place, this city should be made choice of, and particularly as it is more accessible than St Andrews to the population of the highland districts. A correspondence upon the subject was, for some time, carried on by Sir

James Stuart, the King's Advocate for Scotland; and the Earl of Tullibardine, the Principal Secretary of State; Mr Munro, Provost of the Old College of the University of St Andrews; Mr Craigie of Glendookie;\* the magistrates and town-council of Perth, &c. The arrangement did not take place. How it failed is matter of uncertainty. The following extract of a letter of Provost James Cree of Perth, 1698, to Mr Anderson, Rector of the University, shews how the city of Perth regarded the proposition. "For as we are confident that it will be found in due time a meane through God's blessing, to advance the public good of the Universitie, and also of the kingdome, so we are resolved to cum as great a length for advancing so noble a design as we are able, whereof we hope we have given sufficient evidence in the offer of a fund for provyding of lodgings and accommodations needful for that effect." †

Perth has been for a long time celebrated for distinguished teachers in its schools of learning. The first Rector of the Grammar School after the reformation, whose name is on record, was Mr William Rynd. Such was his reputation that he was appointed governor and travelling tutor to the young Earl of Gowrie, and his brother Alexander, when they went to study at Padua. His successors in office, of whom a list has been regularly kept, appear to have been men of professional eminence and great ardour in training their pupils. Mr Logan, a gentleman of high scholarship, is the present Rector.

\* Mr Craigie alleges various reasons of translation, among which are the following: It would contribute much to the civilizing of the Highlands, Perth being near to them. The victuals are dearer at St Andrews than anywhere else, viz. flechs and drinks of all sorts.—St Andrews is ill provided of all commodities and trades, which obliges us to send to Edinburgh, and provide ourselves with shoes, clothes, hatts, &c., and what are here are double rate.—St Andrews is ill provided of fresh water, the most part being served with a stripe, where the fowl clothes, herring, fish, &c. are washed, so that it is most pairt neasty and unwholsome.—St Andrews is a most thin and piercing air, even to an excess, seeing that nitre grows upon the walls of chambers when fires are used, if there be a light to the north, for the most part of the whole year, as in Mr Ramsay, &c. and this is the reason why old men coming to this place are instantly cut off.—As also why infectious diseases have been observed to begin and rage most here, as in the visitation in 1640, when Dr Bruce died; and last year a most malignant flux, whereof dyed upwards of two hundred persons in a few weeks, which much prejudiced the University.—St Andrew's being now only a village where most part farmers dwell, the whole streets are filled with dunghills, which are exceedingly noisome, and ready to infect the air, especially at this season when the herring gutts are exposed in them, or rather in all corners of the toune by themselves, and the season of the year apt to breed infection, which partly may be said to have been the occasion of last year's dissentirie, which from its beginning here raged through most part of the kingdom."

† In the city records, February 21, 1698, there is entered an act for offering the town-house and yard for the college, or the sum of 20,000 merks to build one.

In the articles of communing between the commissioner of the university and the town-council, the town-house is designated that great lodging situated next to the Spey-gate, whereof the council are heritable keepers, *i. e.* GOURIE'S PALACE, and the whole proffer is estimated at 80,000 merks.

*The Academy*, instituted 1760.—Dr Robert Hamilton, the well known Professor of Natural Philosophy in Marischal College, Aberdeen, and author of “*Inquiry into the Rise and Progress, the Redemption and present State of Management of the National Debt of Great Britain*,” was the rector of it for ten years before he was raised to the professorship. Its present rector is Dr Adam Anderson, of distinguished scientific attainment.

The total number of schools, including those of the academy, which is an endowed institution, is 35.

The branches of instruction generally taught, are,

I.—In the Academy.

1. By the rector and his assistant : Arithmetic, book-keeping, algebra, elementary and practical geometry, including the mensuration of surfaces, surveying, fortification, measurement of solids, gauging, navigation, geography, natural philosophy, astronomy, and chemistry.

2. By the rector of the grammar-school and his assistants: Latin, Greek, ancient geography, &c.

3. By the master of the school for modern languages : French, Italian, Spanish, and German.

4. By the master of the writing school : writing, plain and ornamental, practical arithmetic.

5. By the master of the drawing-school : painting with oil and water-colours, pencilling, and architectural drawing.

6. 7. By the masters of the two English schools : reading English, grammar, elocution, composition, history, and geography.

II.—In various quarters of the town and suburbs.

1. The Endowed Trades' School, reading, writing, and arithmetic.

2. The Endowed School for the Children of the Poor : reading, writing, and arithmetic.

3. In the Subscription Manufacturers' School : reading, writing, and arithmetic.

4. In the Subscription Female School : reading, writing, arithmetic, sewing, and knitting.

5. 6. In the two Subscription Infant Schools : reading, sewing, and knitting.

III.—In various quarters of the town and suburbs, there are twenty-two unendowed schools, in which all the ordinary branches of education are taught. \*

\* In 1666, the Town Council, in consequence of a representation given in by Mr Andrew Anderson, schoolmaster, prohibited “all women who kept schools from taking any men to learn, than those that were seven years old and under, and that they should



The following stipends are paid out of the common funds of the burgh :—To the rector of the academy, L. 100; his assistant, L. 25; the rector of the grammar-school, L. 50; his assistant, L. 25; the master of the school for modern languages, L. 25; the master of the writing school, L. 25; the master of the drawing school, L. 25; the two masters of the English reading schools, L. 25.

The regulated fees for teaching during a session of ten months and a half are; the mathematical classes, four hours, L. 4, 6s.; Latin and Greek, four hours, L. 2, 12s.; modern languages, one hour, L. 3, 2s.; writing and arithmetic, two hours, L. 2, 6s.; drawing, one hour, L. 3, 2s.; English, four hours, L. 1, 8s.

There is a teacher of music, who has a salary of L. 15, but his fees and hours are not fixed.

Salaries paid to the masters of other schools in the parish are: to the master of the Trades' School, L. 76; the master of the Manufacturers' School, L. 20;\* the master of the school for the poor, L. 50; the master of the Guildry School, L. 26; the mistresses of the infant schools, L. 50; the mistress of the female school, L. 20.†

I have not been able to ascertain with sufficient accuracy the number of persons, young and old, who cannot read and write. But I am able to state, from personal knowledge, that the number of those is great, whose instruction in reading is lamentably deficient. They are reported to be taught to read, and are rated accordingly. But in general, theirs is the reading of half-educated children. Of the simplest book they cannot make out a page, without difficulty and much hesitation. They cannot comprehend aright, therefore, the import of what they are reading. This unhappy state of matters, among many of the labouring classes of the community, may be ascribed to two causes. The first is the strong temptations which are held out to poor parents of numerous families, by manufacturers and certain master tradesmen, to employ their children, at a very early period of life,—which temptation many of them have not moral principle to resist. Thus we often find children employed in spinning-mills and in weaving shops, sent thither by their parents ere they have been above a few months at school. There are indeed evening-schools with good teachers

not presume to learn any boys to write," and "the janitor of the grammar School was appointed to visit the women's schools, and put the council's act in force."

\* Each scholar pays 1d. per week; the average number of scholars is between 90 and 100.

† With half of the fees, and half of the price of the work done.

attached to many of our manufacturing institutions, and the proprietors of these have acted laudably in this respect. But it must be acknowledged that the schools have much more value in appearance than they have in reality: for how is it possible that such young creatures—a great portion of whose time, nature says, should be spent in amusing pursuit—can apply with requisite attention to the tasks of an evening school after a long day's toiling in a spinning-mill. They in general require to be then put to rest, and not to any new exertion whatever. That children, at whatever age they be, may be taught efficiently, it is necessary that their physical strength be unexhausted.

Another reason to which I am disposed to ascribe the present deficient instruction in reading, that prevails among many of the labouring classes of the community, is insufficiency on the part of the teachers. Many of those (whose pupils are from among the poor) do not look upon teaching as an art which requires any previous training, but an employment which any one almost may easily follow; and they, therefore, cannot be expected to conduct a school with advantage to the pupils, unfortunately placed under them. In short, they know nothing, as they ought to know, of the deeply important business in which they have engaged. Incalculable detriment arises from this to the young generation. Their attention is directed solely to the drudgery of tasks, in reading words and sentences, and nothing is done to engage their understanding in the import of what they read. With such schoolmasters, teaching is a mere mechanical operation. By them the young idea is not taught to shoot at all, and their *good scholars*, as they call them, are at best mere readers, not understanders of what is read.

These remarks are intended to have a general and not a local application. In Perth there are teachers who have ability and zeal in no ordinary degree, and who make it their special endeavour to train their pupils, from the commencement of their reading exercises, to see and understand the import of what they read; and, what is of prime importance, to make them acquainted with scripture truth and moral duty. They sustain a character for professional attainment and vigorous discharge of professional duty, which will not be found equalled in many other such towns in Scotland.

In 1834, the magistrates and town-council, with a laudable concern for the elementary instruction of the young among the ope-

native portion of the community, caused a survey to be taken of the city and suburbs, to ascertain the state of school accommodation. A great deficiency was ascertained to exist, and measures were promptly adopted to correct the evil. A public subscription was opened for the purpose of erecting additional schools, and application was made to the Lords of the Treasury for aid out of the sum set apart by Government for the erection of schools in the large towns in Scotland. The town gave a donation of L. 200, and individual gentlemen subscribed to the amount of L. 200 more. This having been represented to the Treasury, and satisfactory pledges having been given that the schools would be erected, and conducted in conformity with the requirements of government, the sum of L. 400 was obtained. L. 800 being thus secured for accomplishing the benevolent object, the building of the school-houses immediately commenced, and they are now nearly finished. They will accommodate 400 scholars. The city is pledged to give to each of the teachers a salary of L. 10 per annum, and the scholars are to pay, for the day school, 8d. per month, and for the evening school, 6d. per month. The mode of teaching is to be, as far as it may be found practicable, that of Mr Wood of Edinburgh. The magistrates and town-council are the patrons.

*Literature.*—There are in Perth six circulating libraries. Of these, the principal one is that which goes under the designation of the *Perth Library*. It was instituted in 1786. It originated with the late Rev. Mr Peebles, minister of the Episcopal Chapel. By his judicious management, it was settled on that basis on which it still rests. By certain unalterable articles of agreement in the deed of settlement, respecting the trustees, the curators, the general meetings, and election of office-bearers, it is preserved entire, and cannot be alienated. It is consigned over to the public, and conveyed in trust to certain official characters in the town and county, for the purposes of the institution. It contains between five and six thousand volumes, chiefly of history, philosophy, and belles lettres. It is kept in an apartment, fitted up for it within the monumental structure erected by the citizens to the memory of the late Thomas Marshall, Esq. of Glenalmond, formerly provost of Perth, to whose public spirit the city and its neighbourhood are indebted for many of its most important improvements. The librarian attends for two hours each lawful day; and 15s. per annum entitles to the use of the library.

The other circulating libraries are the property of private asso-

citations. In some of these the books are numerous and well selected.

The Literary and Antiquarian Society was established in 1784. Its founder was the late Rev. James Scott, one of the ministers of the city, who, to the mind and manners of a gentleman, and the piety and zeal of a Christian minister, added an unpretending but ardent love of literature and the fine arts. Its primary object was to investigate the history, and preserve the antiquities and records of Scotland generally, and more particularly of that portion of it of which Perth may be considered as the capital; but when many literary and scientific men proffered their countenance and co-operation, Mr Scott and his associated friends enlarged the scheme of the society's pursuits, and gave it the name which it now has. It has lately obtained a charter or seal of cause from the magistrates. Since the year 1818 it has issued diplomas. An annual general meeting of the members is observed. On these occasions, papers are frequently read on literary, scientific, or antiquarian subjects, and, generally, deposited in the society's archives. Among these there are some by Dr Anderson of the Academy, on scientific questions, characterized by originality and a profound power of investigation. The society has a museum, consisting of scarce and valuable books, manuscripts, and coins; also of subjects of natural history, and of various articles of dress, &c. which characterize the habits and manners of barbarous nations. It has received of late many valuable additions from natives of Perthshire—and others in foreign countries. The present Noble President is the Right Honourable the Earl of Kinnoul, and its annual meeting is held in the museum, which is under the same roof with the public library.

There is in the city a public reading or news-room. It is spacious, and brilliantly lighted with gas. It is supplied with about twenty newspapers, English, Irish, and Scotch, and of every shade of political opinion. There are also magazines, reviews, and other periodicals.

There are four weekly newspapers printed in Perth—the Courier, which commenced in 1809—the Strathmore Journal, which commenced in 1820—the Constitutional, which commenced in 1835—and the Chronicle, which commenced in 1836. Mr Morison publishes annually “the Perth and Perthshire Register, containing accurate lists of the nobility, constituency, and institutions of the county and city, also the Tay shipping-lists.

In 1772, a periodical, under the designation of "the Perth Magazine," commenced. After the publication of five volumes it ceased. A similar literary effort was made a few years ago; but it did not succeed.

*Charitable and other Institutions.*—King James VI. Hospital or Alms House. To this institution I have already adverted, but the following particulars it may be proper here to introduce respecting its history. In neither of its charters—the one obtained before, the other after, the King's coming of age, is there any injunction to build a house for the reception of the poor. They speak merely of property given for their aliment. They bear that his Majesty, moved by certain weighty considerations, deemed it his duty to provide, by all honest ways, an hospital for the poor, maimed, and distressed persons, orphans, and fatherless children within his burgh of Perth, had therefore given, granted, and disposed to the poor members of Jesus Christ, now and in all time coming, abiding in, and residing within the said burgh, certain properties—the designation of which evinces the endowment to have been most munificent.\*

But it appears that soon after the endowment was granted, an hospital-house was considered to be necessary, to carry into proper and full effect the intention of the Royal donor: for, so early as 1579, *i. e.* about ten years after the first charter was granted, there is in the session record the following entry: "Ordains Js. Sim, uptaker of the casualties pertaining to the hospital, to give to the poor folks in the hospital straw to lie upon." Thus there was then an hospital-house. But it must have been only a temporary one, for on the 7th December of the same year, this entry occurs:

\* These properties consist of "All and hail the lands, tenements, houses, buildings, churches, burial-places, chapels, colleges, yards, orchards, crofts, annual rents, feu-farms canonries, pensions, mills, mill-lands and their sequels, fishings and fish mercat, fruit rents, duties, profits, incomes, emoluments, kain service, alms, distributions, deal-silver, obites, aniversaries, and others, whatsoever, which any way pertained to chapelaries, altarages, prebendaries, founded on whatever kirk, chapel or college within the liberty or privilege of our burgh, in possession whereof the chaplains or prebends thereof were originally, the said *et cetera* are lying, or were uplifted respectively with the manor-places, yards, lands, ground-annuals, emoluments, and duties whatsoever, which formerly pertained to the Dominican or Predicant friars, to the minor or Franciscan friars, and to the White friars of our said burgh, together with the yard belonging to the monastery or place of the charter-house in our said burgh; as also all and sundry other lands, houses, and tenements lying within said burgh, given and founded to whatever chapelaries, altarages, kirks, monasteries or aniversaries, wherever they are within the kingdom; as also all and sundry ground annuals and other duties which can be demanded, by whatsoever kirk without our said burgh, from the Provost, Bailies or inhabitants, out of the revenue of said burgh, and all and sundries of the foresaid to be holden by the said members of Jesus Christ, and present, being, and to be therein, in all time coming, of us and our successors for ever."

“The Assembly,” (*i. e.* the session or managers,) “think it good that the minister and some of the elders propose to the council, when they converse towards the advising of an hospital in which the poor may remain, either the Grayfriars or St Paul’s Chapel.” And again: on 9th April 1595, the ministers and elders condescend and agree that an hospital-house shall be erected for the maintenance and entertainment of such aged and honest persons as are impoverished, and have not to maintain themselves, &c. And again, in the following year, “the Session with one voice think it expedient that an hospital-house for the entertainment of the poor within our own congregation be erected and builded—the place to be in the chapel called our Lady’s chapel at the shore, and for this effect, ordains James Anderson, master of the hospital, with all diligence, to buy timber and other materials for the furtherance of this work.” That it was finished and occupied in 1599, appears from an entry of that year: “The session ordains the master of the hospital to cause outred the timber work of the nether house of the hospital with all diligence, that some honest failed men may be put therein and maintained.”

Cromwell, in 1652, having taken the city, demolished the hospital, with other public buildings, and applied the materials to assist in raising his citadel in the South Inch. With a reference to that catastrophe, the following report was given in by the ministers of Perth to the presbytery, at a presbyterial visitation in 1676.—“They had no hospital-house, it having been pulled down by the Englishers, and never yet rebuilt.”

The present hospital-house was erected near the site of the Carthusian monastery, which had been destroyed at the commencement of the Reformation in 1559. To defray the expense of its erection, money was raised by subscription, collections were made at the churches within the bounds of the synod, and the city contributed 2000 merks Scots. Mr Cree, provost of the city, laid the foundation. It was finished in 1750. It is a large and well arranged building, three stories high.

The foundation charter expressly limits the application of the funds to the “poor members of Christ’s body, residing” not in the parish, but “in our burgh of Perth.”\* And accordingly, the poor

\* At the time when James granted the charter, which was a short time after the Reformation, there were only two denominations of professing Christians in the country,—those of the Protestant Established Church, and those of the Roman Catholic Church. The Established Church was designated, in different acts of Parliament, particularly in that which ratified its form 1592, “the trow and hally kirk;”

residing in the burgh were alone admitted into it, while it was inhabited by poor. There was a teacher for the young, and the master acted as chaplain.

A new arrangement took place in 1814. After due inquiry into the most economical mode of management, it was agreed to break up the establishment, and, reserving the hospital master's apartments, and the managers room containing the records, to let the house, and make each pauper an out-pensioner, at a certain sum per annum, to be paid weekly. Since the above-mentioned period, that system of management has been followed.

The net income of the hospital is L. 597, 8s. 6d.

The number of poor receiving from it is 61.

In the year 1660, James Butter, sheriff-clerk of Perthshire, doted two fifth parts of the lands of Scones Lethendy, to maintain four poor persons of the burgh of Perth. In the year 1686, Mr Jackson doted one half of one-fifth of the lands of Scones Lethendy to support one poor relation, whom failing, one of the name of Jackson, whom failing any other. In 1743, Mr Cairnie doted two-fifths of the lands of Scones Lethendy, to the poor of the burgh of Perth, reserving two-thirds of the free rent to two of his descendants nearest the age of fourteen years, one-half to be paid to them annually, for ten years, and at the expiry of the ten years, the reserved half to be paid in full, but without interest, the other third annually to the hospital poor. Of these mortifications, the ministers and elders were appointed trustees, and the patronage of the two first was vested in the Magistrates and Ministers.

It so happens that these lands are contiguous, and form one distinct estate, in all 610 imperial acres, including 145 imperial acres of planting.

The free rental is L. 513, 8s. 6d. ; two persons of the name of Cairnie get at present annually, L. 130 ; the hospital poor L. 50, 18s. 6d. ; total L. 180, 18s. 6d.

Under Butters's and Jackson's mortifications, L. 170 are given to twelve annuitants, and a balance of L. 162, 10s. is applied for redemption of about L. 1500 of debt incurred in building stading, &c. &c.

*Dispensaries.*—The Perth Dispensary commenced in 1819. The objects which it was intended to embrace, were the relief of the

the poor members of Christ's body, therefore, in such a charter, granted at such a time, could be those only who were *bona fide* members of the Established Church. The decision in the case of Lady Hewly's bequest, shews distinctly who in the burgh of Perth are entitled to the benefit of the hospital funds.

sick and diseased poor, by furnishing them with necessary advice and medicine—inoculation for cow-pox to all who might apply, without regard to recommendation, and the delivery of poor pregnant women. For the proper administration of the institution, rules and regulations were drawn up, and medical officers and a committee of management were appointed. Annual reports have been regularly made to the stated meetings of the institution, and these have been most flattering and satisfactory.

In January 1834, it was resolved, after mature deliberation, to adopt, in addition to the charity, the self-supporting system, which has been introduced with so much advantage in England, with the view of extending the usefulness of the institution, and enabling the honest and industrious mechanic or labourer, by means of a trifling weekly payment, to procure for himself, his wife, and his children, that medical advice and medicine which he would otherwise be unable to obtain, without resorting to the aid of public or private charity.

The following table of results for the last year may serve to give a view of the operations of the Dispensary. The patients admitted were as follows :

<i>Pauper Class.</i>			<i>Free member Class.</i>		
<i>Medical Department.</i>			<i>Medical Department.</i>		
Cured,	440	} males 240 females 373	Cured,	27	} males 19 females 12
Relieved,	84		Relieved,	2	
Dead,	37		Dead,	1	
Remaining,	52			—31	
—613					
<i>Midwifery Department.</i>			<i>Midwifery Department.</i>		
Delivered,	48	} boys 23 girls 25	Delivered,	0	
Remaining,	4				
—48					

Total of pauper patients 661, and 31 of free member patients, giving the number 692 cases during the season.

There is a separate establishment from the above, but with the same designation. It originated in a disapprobation of the Dispensary's adoption of the self-supporting system in 1834. It embraces no other object than the relief of the necessitous poor. It has not as yet published any table of results.

*Infirmary.*—The erection of an Infirmary in Perth has been long desired and long contemplated. It is now in progress. Funds to the extent of about L. 5000 have been realized, and the building, agreeably to an approved plan drawn by Mr Mackenzie, architect, is far advanced. When finished, it will be capable of receiving fifty-six patients. The foundation was laid on the 5th of October last, by the Right Honourable Lord Kinnaird, with masonic honours.



*Friendly Societies.*—About the time that the Highland Society directed its attention to the ascertainment of the true principles upon which friendly societies should be founded, there were in Perth eighteen in active operation, viz. the first, second, and third shoemaker's, the coachman's, the mason's, the labourer's, the carter's, the fisher's, the stocking-maker's, the cabinet-maker's, the Stone and Perth free-mason's, the provident, the new Row, the High Street, the South Street, the Pomarium weavers', societies. The "first shoemaker's society," and the "coachman's," were instituted in 1776. The former continued fifty-nine years; the others were gradually formed in succession. When the Highland Society's report was published, the most of them were experiencing difficulties which sprung from their originators being ignorant of the true principles on which they should have proceeded. The light thrown upon the subject by this report, the subsequent attempt of Government to legislate upon it, and various internal causes, threw them into a state of alarm, and although many of them were possessed of considerable funds, and, with good management, might have struggled through, yet, in the course of a very few years, the great majority of them were abandoned. Those now in existence are "the Scone and Perth," the "mason's," the "carter's," and the "labourer's," but even these are in a languishing condition. Little can be said of the benefits resulting from them to the community. That the community was ever much benefited by these institutions is questionable, for though many individuals and families received timely relief while in distress by their means, they were accompanied with evils of a deteriorating description.

In the early period of the Societies' history, the members were very reluctant to be put upon the fund. Indeed, it was considered by some of them as equivalent to being put upon a pauper fund. It very often happened that individuals in distress would defer reporting themselves for eight days or a fortnight, to see whether they might not get better, and render application to the fund unnecessary. This reluctance, however, soon evaporated, and at length it happened that no sooner was an individual affected with a slight cold, or headach, or trifling temporary ailment, than he was reputed to be sick, and immediately received for a week or two something in the shape of alimēt. Others again who were members of two or three societies, would continue on the sick list, drawing in ore money than they were able when in health

to earn, at their ordinary employments. These things were observed by the honest-minded and industrious members, and a spirit of jealousy and discontent was engendered in their minds even against those who were in real distress.

Their frequent meetings for business was another evil. Most of the societies laid out their funds in the purchase of property. That required many committees, in which disputes arose which could not be finally settled without a meeting of all the members. These meetings not only consumed much time, but not unfrequently ended in an adjournment to some public-house, where the matter was of new discussed, and where, amidst bumpers drunk to the prosperity of the institution, &c. scenes of not the most sober description took place.

It was not unfrequently the case, that some of the principal orators had, through their *benevolent and disinterested* exertions at these seasons, to be placed on the sick list, and receive alimnt for a week or two.

*Banks.*—There are two provincial banks,—the Perth Bank, and the Central Bank; and four branch banks,—one of the Bank of Scotland; another of the British Linen Company; a third, of the Commercial; and a fourth, of the National.

*Saving Banks.*—There is a savings bank in Perth. It was formed in the year 1815. The sum at present lodged is L. 3188, 13s. 10d. The sum deposited this year, (1836,) is L. 381, 16s. 9½d. The sum drawn is L. 334, 19s. 8d. The investments are generally made by the labouring classes out of their savings. When the deposit of any one amounts to L. 10, he is required to draw it and lodge it elsewhere. The interest allowed is 3 per cent. The bank is open every Monday morning at nine o'clock. It would be to the benefit of the industrious poor and for the well-being of the country, though not to the interest of the banking corporations, were the Government scheme of such institutions introduced.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—There are two separate funds out of which the poor receive alimnt. One arises from an assessment on the whole inhabitants of the parish, producing, at five per cent. on the real rent, L. 2128, 13s. 3d. The other arises from the collections, &c. in the Established churches, amounting to L. 723, 5s. 2½d.; in all L. 2851, 18s. 5½d. From this sum must be deducted the expenses of management, which for the assessed fund,

are L. 88, 6s. 3½d, and for the church fund, L. 25,—in all L. 113, 6s. 3½d.

The funds arising from the assessment are distributed to the poor of the parish generally, without any respect to religious denominations. The funds arising from the church collections are distributed to the poor belonging to the Established church, and to those especially who are advanced in life, as they are supposed to have contributed to these in the days of their strength and prosperity. The parish was in 1807 divided into four parishes by a decret of the Court of Session, and it was ordered in that decret, that the money collected for the poor in each church should be placed at the disposal of the sessions of the four parishes, forming one general session. This general session accordingly distributes these funds. It has a meeting on the first Thursday of every month for this purpose. It has been alleged that the proceeds of these two funds should be thrown together as a common stock for the support of the parish poor generally. But to this there are material objections. The Dissenters and Seceders have collections at the doors of their meeting-houses for their own poor exclusively, and they will not consent that these collections shall form part of a common stock for the parochial poor. If, therefore, the legally assessed funds, and the Established Church charities, be made common stock, the poor connected with the Establishment will be in less favourable circumstances than the poor in connection with the Secession. It is reasonable that if the church door collections be joined to the assessed funds, so should the meeting-house collections.

The number who receive out of the session funds is 219; and the number who receive out of the assessed funds is 576; but a good many poor receive out of both.

The following Incorporations give to their poor members, whose number at present is 217,

The Guildry,	L. 800	The Hammermen,	L. 120
The Glovers,	670	The Shoemakers,	90
The Wrights,	350	The Bakers,	60
The Tailors,	150	The Fleshers,	30
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	L. 1970		L. 300

There are charity societies. The sums distributed by them in the year 1833 were as follows: by the Destitute Sick Society, L. 74, 6s. 6d.; by the Aged and Indigent Female Society, L. 67, 10s.; by the Society for Clothing Indigent Females, L. 60, 18s. 5d.; by the Society for Clothing Old Men, L. 118, 8s. 6d. The

free proceeds accruing to the poor from the hospital of King James VI. is on an average L. 435, 5s. 1d.—and those accruing to them from the mortifications of Butter and Jackson are L. 312, 10s.

I have not access to know to what extent the Seceders and Dissenters contribute to the support of their poor.

It may not be out of place here to state, that there is a charity school for young females, supported by a subscription; the sum subscribed is about L. 46,—two for infants, supported by a subscription also; the sum subscribed is L. 50,—one for the poor generally, supported by the magistrates and council—the accommodation furnished by the hospital; the sum given is L. 50, there is also a dispensary for the poor; the sum subscribed is about L. 50. The sum total, arising from these sources, may thus be about L. 196.

There is no indisposition in the great body of the poor to apply for parochial relief. The high-toned feeling of independence, which at one time characterized the lower orders of society in Scotland, is now seldom to be met with in town and country parishes, that are densely peopled; and by few comparatively is mendicancy accounted degrading. The causes of the poverty, which exists in Perth, are various. Among women, they are chiefly the want of suitable employment, such as spinning, knitting, &c. by which many of them were wont to earn a comfortable subsistence; and, in not a few cases, to improvident marriages, and an extravagance in dress, and living, which they have unfortunately acquired when in the service of the more opulent. Among men, they are chiefly the frailties of age, or weakness occasioned by diseases, which incapacitate them from engaging in laborious work. I lament that I am necessitated to confess, that no small number of poverty cases in Perth must be ascribed to habits of intemperance, in both men and women,—an evil which the increased number of dram-drinking-shops has greatly promoted.

The great proportion of those who are on the Perth pauper list are foreigners. They have come down from the Highlands of the county, driven from their cottages, and pendicles, and little farms, by the unpatriotic and illiberal system, prosecuted by some proprietors, of letting out their estates to a few individuals. They come with the miserable capital of a few pounds, scraped together with much toil and industry, into the town, and generally at an advanced stage of life. There it is soon spent, and they sink into pauperism.

*Police.*—The police is administered under two statutes, obtain-

ed in 1811 and 1819. The commissioners are, the Lord Provost, the Dean of Guild, and the four bailies, seven members of the guildry, and one member for each of the seven incorporated trades chosen by these bodies, according to certain statutory rules. The territory is divided into a certain number of districts and wards. The power of the commissioners extends to paving, cleaning, loaded carriages, gunpowder, &c. and the regulation of the market-places. When any cause of complaint occurs, the matter is brought before the Lord Provost, or one of the bailies, by the procurator-fiscal of the city, or the police superintendent, or it is brought before the sheriff-depute of the county, or his substitutes, by the procurator-fiscal of the county, or the police superintendent. Power is given to commit to hard labour or solitary confinement, for a period not exceeding sixty days, and to impose a fine not exceeding L. 5.

The bill of 1819 was obtained to amend and correct what was wrong and wanting in that of 1811. But still there is a material defect in the police establishment of the city. In all criminal cases it is complete; but it is not so in those cases which affect the comfort and safety of the inhabitants. Whatever nuisance or obstruction takes place in the streets may be found fault with by the superintendent, and complained of to the judge, but he is without authority to effect the removal of these, and punish the transgressor, by a summary procedure. Recourse must be had at common law, which is at once tedious and expensive. It is principally owing to this that those nuisances take place in the city, which occasion frequent and severe animadversions from strangers and others. But neither the police magistrate nor the superintendent is to be blamed, but the bad construction of the bill. It is essentially defective, and never will the peace, and comfort, and good order of the town be effectually secured till another be obtained, constructed upon a more comprehensive principle.

Besides, the operation of the bill, such as it is, does not embrace sufficiently extensive bounds. It extends very little beyond the royalty. This is an evil of great magnitude. The population without the royalty is fully greater than it is within, and there is no visible line of demarcation between the habitations in the one place and those in the other. It is the interest, therefore, of the whole community, both within and without burgh, to unite, without delay, and apply for a legislative enactment, extending the police establishment over the whole suburban population. Hints may be most ad-

vantageously taken from the police bill of the neighbouring town of Dundee.

*Prisons.*—The number of persons committed to the jail of Perth during the year ending October 1835, from the city and county, was 375. Causes of committal stand thus :

Assault,	- - - -	222	Contempt of court,	- - - -	1
Theft,	- - - -	100	Issuing of base coin,	- - - -	2
Poaching,	- - - -	25	Fire raising,	- - - -	3
Forgery,	- - - -	7	Trespassing,	- - - -	2
Murder,	- - - -	3	Rioting,	- - - -	2
Rape,	- - - -	1	Derangement,	- - - -	7

About 70 more were committed for a few days from other counties to be tried at the Circuit Court.

The prison is reckoned to be very secure. Only two or three prisoners have effected an escape since its first occupation, which was in 1819. The ground floor is not sufficiently ventilated. Three prisoners sleep in one cell, and four in each of the rooms, but in separate hammocks. They are allowed to associate daily in the airing-ground, and in a dirty day room in complete idleness, thus neutralizing all attempts at reformation. Each prisoner is allowed per day one-half quartern loaf, and a portion of oat-meal and milk. The superintendence is by a jailor and turnkey, who live within the precincts. There is no matron to take the superintendence of the female prisoners. A chaplain was appointed about three years ago, who gives instruction through the week, and preaches twice on the Lord's day.

The inspector of prisons in Scotland, Mr Hill, reports as follows : " Very little good effect can be produced by imprisonment in the Perth jail. The number of recommittals is very considerable, as may be inferred from the fact, that two of the prisoners at present in it (both women) have been there more than twenty times before. Indeed, it is believed that no small number of the lowest class at Perth are well content to be in the prison occasionally, as they fare better there than at home, and are not required to do any work. The conduct of the prisoners is generally bad, and sometimes very turbulent. Occasionally, they enact what they call a " Hell scene." " Having assembled in the day-room, and provided a plentiful supply of water, they put out the candles, and then, amidst shouts and yells, and other discordant noises, and uttering revolting exclamations, they pull the fire to pieces, and fling the live coals round in every direction ; others, at the same time, dashing water about, and in every way creating uproar and confusion." \* \* \* \* \* " It is but justice to the town-coun-

portance which the city must have had in ancient times. It was a walled city, but the period when it became so is unknown.

After the battle of Falkirk in 1298, Edward I. of England having reduced all the fortresses in Scotland, strongly fortified Perth, and repeatedly made it the residence of his deputies. For some time, his son Edward, who succeeded him, resided in the city. He was succeeded by Sir Aymer de Valence, who defeated Robert Bruce at Methven 1306. In 1311, King Robert stormed the town, which was fortified by an English garrison. At the head of a chosen band he waded through the deep water in the moat, and was the second man who mounted the wall. He put the garrison to the sword, razed the walls and filled up the moat. In 1335, Edward III. strongly fortified it, laid the expense on six rich abbeys, \* and appointed Sir Thomas Ochtred, Governor. In 1339, Robert the Lord High Steward, who was afterwards raised to the throne, laid siege to it. The siege continued for four months. By means of mines, the water in the moat was drained off, and the place becoming untenable, the Governor surrendered. In 1443, it was besieged and taken by Sir William Wallace. In 1644, after the battle of Tippermore, it was taken possession of by the Marquis of Montrose. In 1651, Cromwell, when about to besiege it, proposed honourable terms, and gained possession of it; and to overawe its inhabitants, built a strong citadel on the South Inch. In 1715, the Earl of Marr, and the rebels took refuge in it, after the battle of Dunblane, and kept possession till they were dislodged by the Duke of Argyle. In 1745, the rebels again obtained possession of it, and attempted to repair the fortifications, but the government forces followed them, and compelled them to retreat.

In 1769, Sir David Dalrymple published "Historical Memorials, concerning the provincial councils of the Scottish clergy, from the earliest accounts to the era of the Reformation." From these memorials it appears that they were held in Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, St Andrews, Linlithgow, Scone, Roxburgh, Carlisle, Northampton, and York, to the number of 37. Of this number sixteen were held in Perth, in 1201, 1206, 1211, 1221, 1242, 1269, 1275, 1280, 1321, 1420, 1428, 1436, 1450, 1457, 1459, 1465.

\* Major, the historian, says—"ex sumptuosis lapidibus urbis muros extrui jubet sex senobiorum expensis scilicet, Sancti Andree, Dunfermilingæ Lundoris, Balmurinoch, Arbrothæ, et Cupri; et arces aliquot reparare jussit, scilicet, Sanctum Andream, Lochris, Strivilingum, Puellarum Arcem, et Roxburgum in quibus, suos custodes et Locumtenentes locavit."—Lib. v.

To those who are acquainted with the localities of the city and its neighbourhood, it may be somewhat interesting to have the following facts brought before them. The walls, which were once esteemed a sufficiently strong protection, have completely disappeared, except in one place on the north side, where a small fragment remains. The fosse or aqueduct which surrounded the walls, and which was broad and open, has been much reduced in breadth, and been, since about 1802, arched over, on the south, and on part of the west side. Before this took place, Canal Street was an unpaved and narrow pathway, along which ran the aqueduct. Between it and the South Inch there were gardens, which, having originally their principal entrance by the Spey Port, were called the Spey Gardens. In 1801, Marshall Place, on the South Inch, began to be built. This occasioned the removal of the gardens, and the cutting down of the northern division of a beautiful avenue of lofty trees which surrounded the Inch.

The road to Inverness via Dunkeld was, at a remote period, nearly where it now is, only it commenced at the High Street Port, passed through the Miln Wynde, and the field on which the barracks stand. Its course, as far as to the Bridge of Almond, was changed, at an after period,—and, commencing at the north end of the Skinner Gate, where was the North Port, ran through the centre of the North Inch, and the Muirtoun village. In 1664–5, missives passed between the town-council and the presbytery of Dunkeld, “as to the helping of the Muirtoun causeway.” The present line of road was formed about the year 1790. Before this time, the north road to Stirling via Methven and Crieff, commenced at the High Street Port, and ran by Dove-cot-land, and Goodly Burn. The south road to Stirling commenced at the South Street Port, and ran by the Hospital House, Earls Dykes, and Pittheaveless Castle. The road to Edinburgh commenced at the same port, and ran by Leonard Causeway, and the Bridge of Craigie. It was afterwards changed, when it issued from the Spey Port, and passed to Mordun Hill, through the east side of the South Inch—intersecting the ruins of Cromwell’s Citadel. The present road to Edinburgh by Princes Street was not opened till about the year 1770. The bridge over the Tay to the east of the city, which was destroyed by a flood in 1621, was not replaced till 1771. The river was crossed by means of boats and barges, which plied between the Quay at the foot of the High Street, and that on the



opposite shore—called the Gibraltar. Immediately after the building of the bridge, George Street, leading from it to the High Street, was opened. Charlotte Street, leading from the bridge also to the Dunkeld road, was not built till 1783. John Street, lying between the High Street and South Street, was opened in the year 1801. The suburban population was very inconsiderable, till within these fifty years. Within that period almost all the houses on the south of the city, including Pomarium, have been built,—and a great portion of those which are on the north and west. But the populous viaggles of Balhousie and Muirtoun, in the neighbourhood, have been thrown down, or allowed to fall into decay.

*March 1837.*

## PARISH OF METHVEN \*

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. THOMAS CLARK, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name, Boundaries, &c.*—It is not known by tradition, neither is it to be found upon record, that this parish ever had any other name than that which it now bears, the orthography of which, it is said, is derived from the Gaelic word "*Meodhan*," signifying "*middle*;" and it is understood that the name, or rather the word from which the name is derived, has special reference to the situation of the parish, in regard to the *Great Strath*, or Strathmore, which extends from Stonehaven on the east, to Dumbarton on the west, and is bounded on the north by the Grampians, and on the south by the ridge of the Ochil hills,—near the centre or middle of which strath this parish is situated.

The average length of the parish from east to west is 5 miles, and the breadth from north to south between 3 and 4. The whole area is estimated at about 17 square miles, or, more accurately, 10,700 imperial acres. It is bounded chiefly on the north and on the east, by the river Almond; on the west, by the parish of Fow-

\* This Account has been chiefly drawn up by Mr R. Wilson, schoolmaster, Methven; and Mr Thomas Bishop, overseer, Methven Castle.

lis Wester, and on the south, by a small stream, called the Pow, which separates it from the parishes of Madderty, Findo Gask, and Tibbermore. We have said *chiefly on the north*, because the Almond runs through part of the parish in that direction; the lands which constituted the original estate of Lynedoch (more properly Lednoch) forming part of this parish, are situated on the north bank of that river.

*Topographical Appearances.*—There is neither hill nor lake of any note in the parish, but the surface is agreeably diversified by hollows and rising ground, and as the higher parts are in general tastefully laid out in patches of thriving plantation, the landscape effect in many instances is highly creditable to the taste and skill of the proprietors.

*Soil.*—The soil consists principally of clay, but there are tracts of considerable extent, both of loam and gravel, with moorish soil, recumbent on a tilly bottom. With the exception of 100 acres of moss, and about 250 acres of moor, the land in the parish is all either in a state of cultivation, or under plantations. There is a tract of upwards of 1000 imperial acres towards the north part of the parish, which, until about forty years ago, was a common; but soon after that time, it was divided among the heritors and feuars in the parish, and is now in a comparatively high state of cultivation. Here, now, several farm-steadings are erected, and many families decently and respectably supported, and wealth is now derived from, and comfort enjoyed upon, this extensive tract of ground, which was formerly a perfect waste. So much for the spirit of enterprise and the hand of industry.

*Climate and Diseases.*—The climate may be said to be mild and salubrious, especially towards the south, for the lands in the parish in general have a southern exposure; but in the northern parts, the climate is not so genial, evidently on account of their greater elevation above the level of the sea, and of their proximity to the Grampians, from which the boundary of this parish on the north-west is not farther distant than a mile and a half. It is evident, however, that the climate here has undergone a very material improvement since the year 1793, when the former Statistical Account was written, both from the agricultural improvements effected since that period, by the important operations of draining, and, not less so, from the great extent of land in the parish, now covered with thriving plantations, which was then in little else than a state of bleak barrenness.

It cannot be said that there is any distemper, disease, or species of sickness peculiar to this parish, and we may regard it rather as remarkable for health and longevity than otherwise. Several of the parishioners have, from time to time, attained very advanced ages, one of whom, a female, died in the month of August last, in the hundredth year of her age. It may not be improper to notice here a fact, which we consider worthy of record, namely, that in the year 1832, when that scourge of the human race, *cholera*, was permitted to visit this country, and to commit its mournful devastations in some of the neighbouring parishes, the inhabitants of this parish were not only mercifully preserved from that direful visitation, but the mortality here that year did not much exceed the half of the average annual mortality for the seven years immediately preceding, or for that of the four years that have since elapsed.

*Meteorology.*—The prevailing winds are from the W. and S. W., and it is from these points we have the greatest quantity of rain. We have also occasionally very heavy rains from the east, and in the spring months we have frequently cold and stormy weather from that quarter. A register of the weather has been regularly kept here for many years, at an elevation of about 300 feet above the level of the sea, from which we have constructed the following

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

(Observations taken twice a-day, at 10 A. M. and at 10 P. M.)

Year.	Barometer.		Thermometer.					Rain. In. 100s.	
	Lowest	Highest.	Lowest	When.	Wind.	Highest	When.		Wind.
1830.	28.00	30.90	15°	Dec. 26.	N.	77°	July 28.	S. W.	32.91
1831.	28.37	30.42	19°	Nov. 19.	W.	78	July 7.	S.	26.79
1832.	28.60	30.22	23°	Jan. 7.	W.	76	June 14.	E.	26.00
1833.	28.30	30.20	18°	Jan. 15.	N.	80	July 17.	S. W.	32.12
1834.	28.47	30.40	27°	Dec. 28.	W.	80	July 1.	E.	30.54
1835.	28.00	30.20	23°	Jan. 17.	W.	81	June 10.	E.	30.25
1836.	28.29	30.20	19°	Feb. 28.	N. E.	78	May 17.	W.	32.00
Aver. of 7 years	28.29	30.36	20½			78½			30.08

*Hydrography.*—The Almond, which is a bold and rapid current, though it intersects a portion of the parish at Lynedoch, is rather a boundary to this parish than a river belonging to it. It takes its rise among the hills which lie between Loch Earn and Loch Tay. It winds its way through the steep and rugged mountains of Glenalmond, receiving in its course the numerous tributary streams which descend, through the extensive tract of Logiealmond, from the hills on the north,—passes this parish,—becomes

a boundary between the parishes of Redgorton and Tibbermore, and falls into the Tay two miles and a half above Perth. As it passes Lynedoch House, the seat of the Right Honourable Lord Lynedoch, and the woods at Methven Castle, the seat of Robert Smythe, Esq. which are contiguous, the scenery is grand and picturesque, and furnishes some views, which, for beauty and romantic effect, are rarely surpassed.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The sole rocks in this district belong to the old red sandstone or trap groups. On the line of the river Almond, up to near Lynedoch, as well as throughout the southern part of the parish, the sandstone is of a bright-red colour with greyish spots, and dipping slightly towards the north. This is soft and friable, containing large portions of clay and lime; it quickly moulders down by the action of the air. At the new bridge of Lynedoch, a thick-bedded, fine-grained, pale gray sandstone makes its appearance, and occupies all the north-western parts of the parish. This is worked as a building stone, and is eminently adapted for architectural purposes. In the space of less than two miles from Pitcairn, up the Almond, no fewer than five veins or dikes of trap cross the country, from north-east to south-west, nearly parallel to each other. These are chiefly of that variety called greenstone, and afford excellent quarries for road metal and causeway stones. One of these veins, which appears at Cromwell Park dam dike, has a singular aspect. The middle portion is amorphous trap, like the cement of an old castle wall, while on both sides of it, like the hewn ashler work, are walls of horizontal basaltic columns, lying at right angles to the axis of the vein. The whole may be about fifty feet in thickness. There are no minerals found in the parish worthy of notice, or not of ordinary occurrence in similar localities, if we except the innumerable veins of satin-spar with which the red argillaceous sandstone is everywhere intersected. These vary from an inch and a half to an eighth of an inch in thickness, but they are too friable and ill-coloured to be of any value.

*Botany.*—A considerable number of plants might be enumerated, as natives of this parish, and rarely to be found in other districts of the country, but notice shall be taken only of the following few, which are rare. 1. *Corallorhiza innata*, found in the wood of Methven in 1804, being upwards of thirty years from the time that it had been previously found in the country. It ceases to show itself in flower when the coppice is cut down around it, until it be again protected with the shade of the young

shoots. The *Epipactis grandiflora*, *latifolia*, and *ensifolia* are also found in the same wood, as also are the *Listera nidus-avis*; *Paris quadrifolia*, *Chrysplenium alternifolium*, and *Convallaria majalis*, the latter in great abundance; the *Erigeron alpinus*, on a rock by the side of the Almond, near to the house of Lynedoch, —and in a morass near the south boundary of the parish and close by the turnpike road from Perth to Crieff, the *Scheuchzeria palustris*, this being its only habitat as yet known in Scotland.

*Woods and Plantations.*—The natural woods occupy about 260 imperial acres, and are contiguous to the banks of the Almond. They consist chiefly of oak, *Quercus pedunculata*, with a mixture of birch, ash, alder, and hazel. The *Quercus sessiliflora* is not indigenous here. These woods have been treated as coppice for some hundreds of years, and they are still periodically cut as such, at a proper age. Some of the aged reserves are occasionally taken away, and some of the best seedling growths left to supply their place. There are about 1500 acres under planted trees of intermediate ages, from 150 years old and downwards; and to these, annual additions are making, not only of species which are indigenous, or which have long been naturalized, but also of others recently imported. The soil in general appears to be most congenial to the oak, producing timber of great durability. Beech also succeeds well on all the hard-bottomed land that has been previously under cultivation; and on moor soils the larch thrives uncommonly well, of which there are several hundred acres, which for quality cannot be surpassed.

*Remarkable Trees.*—A noble and venerable ash, known by the name of the *Bell Tree*, supposed to be coeval with the first religious establishment in this parish, stands in the west corner of the churchyard. At  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet above the surface of the ground, this tree measures 20 feet in circumference; and it contains in all 380 cubic feet of timber. Forty years ago it exhibited a magnificent top, but, wearied, as it were, of its former pliancy, it now chooses rather to break than bow, and yearly it does homage to the soil which nourishes it, by surrendering a portion of its withered branches.

The Pepper Well oak at Methven Castle is a tree of great picturesque beauty, and contains 700 cubic feet of wood; the trunk measures  $17\frac{1}{2}$  feet in circumference at 3 feet above the ground, and its branches cover a space of 98 feet in diameter. It has attained an increase in girth of 3 feet since the year 1796. In the year 1722, 100 merks Scots were offered for this tree, and tradi-

tion reports that there is a stone in the heart of it, but, like the Golenos oak, it must be cut up to ascertain this.

A black Italian poplar, *Populus acledesca*, stands by the burn-side at Tippermallo, which was planted on the 5th May 1776. By a measurement of it taken in 1836, it was found to contain 300 cubic feet of timber; at 3 feet from the ground the girth is 11 feet 6 inches. There are perhaps but few instances of such a rapid increase of timber, this being at the rate of 5 feet yearly since it was planted.

The management of woods and plantations is now better understood and more successfully practised than formerly, when the error of planting too thick, which is still too prevalent, and of neglecting to thin in proper time, operated so injuriously against the rearing of timber trees. The planter by this method may have had in some instances an earlier return of profit, when small wood was in request, and this is the only recommendation which in general can be bestowed upon too thick planting. There is perhaps no proprietor in Scotland who has realized a greater amount for trees of *his own planting* than the venerable Lord Lynedoch, from whose plantations many thousands have been shipped to England.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven; Lord Lynedoch; Lord Elibank; and Baroness Keith. The property belonging to the latter forms part of this parish only *quoad civilia*, and is situated at a distance of several miles north-east from the rest of the parish, on the confines of the parish of Auchtergaven, and at the bottom of the Grampian hills. The parish otherwise is of a compact form. The relative proportion of the lands in the parish, belonging to each of these proprietors, may be estimated at a half, a fourth, an eighth, and a sixteenth respectively, and the remainder, being about another sixteenth, is held by small proprietors and feuars. The ancient valuation of the parish, as appears by the county cess-books, and that by which the public rates are still charged, is L. 6400, 4s. 6d. Scots.

*Parish Register.*—The earliest register of this parish extant, or known ever to have existed, appears to have been commenced in the year 1662, and, with the exception of nineteen years, that is from 1730 to 1749, the record has been continued up to the present time. This omission is supposed to have been occasioned by the political troubles which then distracted the country,—at least no other cause for it can now be assigned. The register is not volu-

minous, considering the extensive period which it embraces, but, with the exception above noticed, it seems upon the whole to have been regularly kept.

From this register we learn a fact which has perhaps but few parallels in the history of the church, namely, that the present incumbent is only the fourth *presbyterian* minister in this parish since the period of the Reformation. The first was Mr William Moncrieff, who was ordained here on the 14th June 1694, and after a ministry of fifty-six years, was succeeded on the 12th December 1750, by Dr James Oswald, who resigned the living in the year 1783, and died in August 1793. Upon Dr Oswald's resignation, the Rev. John Dowe, who had then been eleven years minister of Canobie, in Dumfries-shire, was translated to this charge in February 1784. He died in November 1823, and was succeeded in August following by the Rev. Thomas Clark, the present incumbent.

*Antiquities.*—We take this article, without alteration, from the former Statistical Account written by the late Rev. John Dowe, who was eminently distinguished for extensive and authentic antiquarian research, and whose authority we regard as unquestionable.

“The first mention found of Methven in history is about the year 970, when COLENUS, reputed the 79th King of Scotland, is said to have been killed in its neighbourhood, by Rohard, Thane of Methven, whose daughter he had deflowered. Before 1323, the lands of Methven belonged to the Mowbrays, whose ancestor, Roger Mowbray, a Norman, came to England with William the Conqueror. The first religious establishment here was a provostry or collegiate church, founded anno 1433, by Walter Stewart Earl of Athol, who amply endowed it with lands and tithes, for the salvation of his soul, according to the superstition of those times; and who was a principal actor in the horrid murder of King James I., his own nephew. An aisle, which was connected with the last church, appears, from a stone built in the wall, to have been erected by some of the royal family. On this stone is sculptured the Royal Lion of Scotland, with the crown above, and there are some defaced illegible Saxon characters below. This aisle may have been built by Margaret the Queen Dowager, when she resided at the Castle of Methven. It is now the burying-place of the family of Methven.”

In reference to the Mowbrays above-mentioned, occasion is

taken to introduce the following illustrative note, which, in our opinion, is highly deserving of a place here.

“ A branch of this family afterwards established itself in Scotland, and became very flourishing. To Sir Roger Mowbray belonged the baronies of Kelly, Eckford, Dalmeny, and Methven, lying in the shires of Forfar, Roxburgh, Linlithgow, and Perth; but for adhering to the Baliol and English interest, his lands were confiscated by Robert I., who bestowed Eckford, Kelly, and Methven on his son-in-law, Walter, the eighth hereditary Lord High Steward of Scotland, whose son, Robert, was afterwards King, and the second of the name, in right of his mother, Marjory Bruce, daughter of Robert I. The lordship of Methven was granted by him to Walter Stewart, Earl of Athol, his second son, by Euphame Ross, his second wife, and after his forfeiture remained in the crown a considerable time. It became part of the dowery lands usually appropriated for the maintenance of the queen dowager of Scotland, together with the lordship and Castle of Stirling, and the lands of Balquhider, &c. all of which were settled on Margaret, Queen Dowager of James IV., who in the year 1524, having divorced her second husband, Archibald Earl of Angus, married Henry Stewart, second son of Andrew, Lord Evandale, afterwards Ochiltree, a descendant of Robert Duke of Albany, son of King Robert II. Margaret was the eldest daughter of Henry VII. of England, in whose right James VI. of Scotland, her great grandson, succeeded to that crown, on the death of Queen Elizabeth. She procured for her third husband a peerage from her son, James V. under the title of Lord Methven, anno 1528; and on this occasion the barony of Methven was dissolved from the crown, and erected into a lordship in favour of Henry Stewart and his heirs-male, on the Queen's resigning her jointure of the lordship of Stirling. By Lord Methven she had a daughter, who died in infancy before herself. The Queen died at the Castle of Methven in 1540; and was buried at Perth, beside the body of King James I. Lord Methven afterwards married Janet Stewart, daughter of the Earl of Athol, by whom he had a son, Henry II. Lord Methven, who married Jean, daughter of Patrick Lord Ruthven, and was killed at Broughton, by a cannon ball from the Castle of Edinburgh, in 1572, leaving a son, Henry III. Lord Methven, who died without issue. This third Lord Methven is mentioned on the authority of *Stewart's Genealogical Account of the House of Stewart*. In the year 1584, the



Lordship of Methven and Balquhiddar was conferred on Lodowick Duke of Lennox, in whose illustrious family it continued till it was purchased in 1664, by Patrick Smythe of Braco, great grandfather of the present Lord Methven, from Charles the last Duke, who dying without issue, anno 1672, his honours, (of which Lord Methven was one,) with his estate and hereditary offices, fell to Charles II. as his nearest male heir; the King's great-grandfather and the Duke's being brothers."

"It is only necessary to mention farther under this article, that BESSY BELL and MARY GRAY, celebrated in one of our most popular songs, are said to have been buried in this parish, about half a mile west of the present house of Lednock." And that "the common tradition is, that Bessy Bell was daughter of the Laird of Kinvaid, and Mary Gray of the Laird of Lednock. Being near neighbours, a great intimacy subsisted between the young ladies. When they were together at Lednock, the plague broke out, anno 1645; to avoid which they retired to a romantic spot called BURN BRAES, on the estate of Lednock, where they lived for some time, but afterwards caught the infection from a young gentleman, an admirer of both, who came to visit them in their solitude: and here they died, and were buried at some distance from their bower, near a beautiful bank of the Almond."

*Resident Landed Proprietors.*—The only landed proprietor permanently resident is Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven. Seat, Methven Castle, "which stands with a dignified appearance" on a bold and steep eminence in the park, where, according to Guthrie the historian, Bruce, in the year 1306, was defeated by the Earl of Pembroke. The castle is a good specimen of the style of ancient baronial building, and was finished in the year 1690. Its original dimensions have been greatly enlarged by extensive additions built to it from time to time, both by the late Lord Methven, and by the present proprietor, Mr Smythe.

Lord Lynedoch, the only other landed proprietor, who has a seat in the parish, resides also occasionally at Lynedoch House or Cottage, which is pleasantly situated on the north bank of the Almond, and is justly celebrated for the beauty of the surrounding scenery.

### III.—POPULATION.

The actual statement of the population of this parish, at any very remote period,—if any such statement ever existed—cannot now be traced. The earliest account we have of it is in the year

1755, when it was said to be 1790. Again, in the year 1793, it was stated at 1786. It is supposed, however, that in each of these cases the population was estimated by the very imperfect mode of allowing three, four, or five individuals to each family,—a method, which, even under the most favourable circumstances, can be viewed only as an approximation to the truth, while in no case can it be depended upon, if any thing like accuracy be required. By the Parliamentary census taken at different periods, the population was found to be as under:—

Year.	Population	Increase.	Decrease.
In 1801,	2073	—	—
1811,	2654	581	—
1821,	2904	250	—
1831	2714	—	190

The chief cause assigned at the time for the increase from 1801 to 1811, was the general introduction of vaccine inoculation, which, previous to 1801, was scarcely known in this parish. Another reason then given was the encouragement afforded by Colonel Graham of Balgowan, now Lord Lynedoch, and by the Honourable Lord Methven, father of the present proprietor of the estate of Methven, to enterprising agriculturists to settle upon their estates. The apparent increase of 250 from 1811 to 1821, was evidently owing to this circumstance, viz. in the former case it was the population of the *quoad sacra* parish that was enumerated, while in the latter, it was that of the parish *quoad civilia*. The decrease of 190, between the years 1821, and 1831, was principally occasioned by the almost entire depopulation of the estate of Bachilton, the property of Lord Elibank, which in the year 1821 was occupied by twelve tenants,—farmers, besides their cottars and dependents; whereas at the latter date, this extensive and valuable property may be said to have been, as it still is, in the hands of one person.

The village of Methven contains a population of 1000; and that of Almondbank 300, these being the only villages in the parish. The rest of the population are chiefly engaged in rural and agricultural employment.

It is impossible accurately to state the average number of births in the parish; for although all those who belong to the Established Church regularly attend to the registration of their children's names, even before they are baptized, yet very few of those who are in connection with the Seceders take the trouble of discharging this duty to their children. If, however, we suppose the births

of the latter to be half the number of that of the former, the average annual number of births in this parish for the last seven years would be 58. If there be any advantage in the registration of births, either in a public or private point of view, the method by which this can be most generally accomplished is certainly a desideratum of no mean importance.

The average number of deaths for the last seven years is 37 ; and that of marriages, 17.

Within the last three years there have been 10 illegitimate births.

*Character of the People*—It is not to be expected that every few miles of different locality should furnish the observer with striking peculiarities of character, but there are advantages possessed in one place which another does not enjoy, and which have a considerable influence in modifying the feelings and habits of a community. Thus, without facilities of reading, and freedom of intercourse with other districts, how slow would be the march of improvement,—how imperceptible the change of society. The inhabitants of this parish possess both these privileges. Having a library of considerable extent and variety, they have within their reach the means of knowledge, and, living in a district intersected by the great road which connects Glasgow with Perth and Dundee, they become early acquainted with what is transacted in these populous cities, and imbibe some portion of the activity and enterprise of their inhabitants. Thus they are an intelligent and industrious people, devoting their time to the acquisition of the means necessary for their support, and spending their leisure hours in amusing or profitable reading. They are, moreover, kind and hospitable, moral and religious, shewing a becoming regard for the authority of the gospel, and a most exemplary regularity in attending public worship.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

##### *Agriculture and Rural Economy.*—

The total number of imperial acres in the parish is about	10,700
Cultivated or occasionally in tillage,	8600
Under wood and plantations,	1750
Moor to be cultivated or planted,	250
Moss,	100
	<hr/>
	10,700

The gross rental of the parish exceeds L. 11,000 ; and the average rate of the arable land let is about L. 1, 7s. per acre, comprising the various gradations from L. 3 per acre down to 12s. The extent of the farms varies from 280 acres to 40,—and pendicles

and cottage holdings from 20 acres to less than one. Leases are generally for nineteen years. No particular breed of bestial can be stated as peculiar to the parish. Many Ayrshire cows, for the purpose of the dairy, have of late years been introduced. The grazing of a cow for the season costs about L. 3. Every farm has a thrashing-mill, and none but iron ploughs are in use. Ploughmen's wages vary from L. 12 to L. 18 per annum, with victuals.

*Husbandry.*—The alternate system of cropping is generally practised, and, on account of the diversity of soils, this is judiciously modified to suit the capabilities of land, localities, and climate. The best wheat lands are cultivated under a six course rotation, in which grass with clover has a place only for one season, beans and pease, with other leguminous plants, occupying the intermediate years between the grain crops.

Lands of medium quality, which include the greater portion of that which is arable, are kept under a five years rotation, with two years under grass, the first year hay, and the second pasture. On dry and gravelly soils, and also on the inferior moorlands, a six years rotation is followed, with three years grass in succession, while the generality of small pendiclers and occupiers of village acres practise that of four years; the first, green crop; the second, barley with grass seeds; the third, cutting grass or hay; and the fourth, oats.

Bone-dust has been used with much advantage as a manure, for the raising of turnips, on the dry lands which admit of the crop being eaten off with sheep; but lime is the stimulant most in use, many thousand bolls of which have of late years been carted from Perth, it being brought there by shipping from the Frith of Forth and the north of England.

Potatoes, particularly the Perthshire red, are extensively cultivated for the London market, and, for several years have brought higher returns to the farmer than the rest of his other crops. Excellent crops of turnips are also raised for home consumption, especially for feeding cattle, which find purchasers both from Perth and Glasgow. Some good crops of mangold wurzel have also been raised. Several tenants now see the advantage of sowing out their fields with different kinds of natural grass seeds suited to the soil, in mixture with rye-grass and clover. As this system will improve the pasturage, so it will be the means of extending it, and consequently of lessening the quantity of land, so frequently held under

tillage, which is the greatest defect with which the present system is chargeable.

*Value of Annual Produce.*

Grain of all kinds, sold or consumed, deducting seed,	L. 21500
Green crops, do. do. - - - - -	9800
Hay and pasturage, - - - - -	7165
Woods and plantations, - - - - -	1500
Moss, - - - - -	30

Amount, L. 39,495

*Manufactures.*—The only manufacturing establishment in the parish is at Woodend, in the immediate vicinity of the village of Almondbank, and belongs to the Messrs Turnbull of Huntingtower Bleachfield, in the adjoining parish of Tibbermore. This was formerly a paper manufactory, but was lately converted into a weaving establishment, and is fitted up with power looms. It gives employment to a considerable number of people in that quarter. The population of the village of Almondbank is chiefly employed at the public works on the river Almond, which are numerous and extensive, but none of them are in this parish but the one now mentioned.

The principal employment of a great part of the population of the village of Methven is hand-loom weaving. They are chiefly supplied with work by resident agents, who obtain it on commission from manufacturers in Glasgow.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Roads, &c.*—The north road from Perth to Glasgow by way of Crieff passes through the village of Methven, which is situated six miles from Perth, eleven from Crieff, and fifty-eight from Glasgow. There is no other turnpike road in the parish, but several county roads intersect it, which greatly facilitate the intercourse between this parish and the neighbouring districts in all directions. These roads are generally kept in a state of excellent repair, and are maintained by the funds arising from the statute labour conversion. Two coaches (one of them the royal mail) pass and repass from Perth to Glasgow daily, and there is a penny post-office here, which was established about five years ago, in connection with the post-office at Perth.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church, which is conveniently situated, is a large commodious and substantial building, although not an elegant one, and, with the addition of an aisle built to it in the year 1825, at the private expense of Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven, the patron and principal heritor of the parish, contains

about 1100 sittings, which are in general nearly all occupied. The only other place of worship in the parish is a meeting-house in connection with the United Associate Synod, formerly Antiburgher Seceders.

About the year 1770 this parish had become one of the most thorough Seceding parishes in Scotland, and the parish church at that time was almost entirely deserted. By an enumeration, very carefully taken in the beginning of the year 1836, it was found that the gross population of the *quoad sacra* parish was then 2450, and that the number of communicants belonging to the Established Church was 903.

In this parish there are no Dissenters in the proper acceptation of that term, for all those who do not belong to the church are connected either with the United Associate Synod, or with the Associate Synod of Original Seceders, who have a place of worship in a neighbouring parish.

The number of families in the parish altogether is 630; of these, 354 belong to the Established Church; 234 to what were formerly Antiburgher Seceders: and 21 to the Original Seceders.

The manse is an elegant modern edifice, built in the year 1830, at a very considerable expense, and may justly be regarded as an unquestionable proof of the liberality and good taste of the heritors. It is the largest, and perhaps the best finished and most convenient, manse in the presbytery.

The stipend, as modified in the year 1829, is 18 chalders, half meal, and half barley, payable by the fiars of the county.

The glebe consists of 15 acres of good land, capable of bearing all kinds of crops, besides 10 acres of unimproved moor land, which was allotted to the minister, as his portion of the common, at the time it was divided.

*Education.*—Nothing can be more satisfactory than the state of education in this parish. There are very few if any adults that cannot read, and by the exertions of the benevolent, the poorest children have the means of instruction afforded them. About one-ninth of the population is continually employed in attending school, and while the general progress is extremely gratifying, there are many instances of great proficiency in every department of education. The parochial school has, for above twenty years, been under the superintendence of the present eminent teacher Mr R. Wilson, whose services and whose character have earned for him the esteem and confidence of all those among whom he

has so long and successfully laboured. And besides his professional duties, which have been uniformly discharged with great fidelity and talent, he has rendered invaluable services to the community in the management of several benevolent institutions. The advantages of the savings-bank in this place are chiefly owing to his business talent, and gratuitous labours. The existence, and happy effects of the friendly society, as it is now constituted, have the same origin; and much of the comfort of the poor is to be traced to the kindness and accuracy with which he conducts their pecuniary affairs under the direction of the heritors and kirk-session. The salary paid to the schoolmaster is the maximum, and the amount of school-fees actually received may vary from L. 25 to L. 30 per annum. The rate of fees is 2s., 2s. 6d. and 3s. per quarter, for the ordinary branches of education, and 5s. for Latin, book-keeping, practical mathematics, &c. &c. The number of scholars attending the parochial school varies from 120 to 150.

There is an unendowed school in the village of Almondbank, numerously attended, there being from 70 to 90 scholars who receive instruction in this place. The right of nominating the teacher to this school belongs to Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven, who along with some other benevolent individuals, contributes annually a few pounds for the education of poor children in that district.

There is also in the village of Methven a school supported entirely by the Secession congregation of this place, and, so far as we know, this school is well attended and well taught, so that the means of education are abundantly supplied in this parish.

*Literature.*—A library was established here in the year 1790, and now consists of more than 1100 volumes. It contains many standard works in divinity, science, and general literature. It is supported by the annual contribution of its members, the number of whom at present is 130. The members meet quarterly for conducting the general business of the society. It is governed by a president and committee of management, who are annually elected. The institution is in a prosperous condition, and eminently fitted to promote the dissemination of general knowledge.

*Friendly Society.*—A Friendly Society was instituted here in the year 1790, but, from the imperfect knowledge, or rather the perfect ignorance which then, and for many years afterwards, prevailed regarding the equitable principles upon which institutions of this

nature ought to be founded, this society, like all others of the same kind, had long to grope its way in uncertainty, and from time to time to vary and adjust its rates of contributions and allowances, according as the funds were supposed to be adequate to the purposes contemplated or not. This state of ignorance was evidently the true cause, both then and afterwards, of the almost universal failure of Friendly Societies. But by the caution and foresight of some of its leading members, this Society was safely guided through those difficulties which proved so fatal to others, and was even comparatively in a prosperous state in the year 1824, when the Report of the Highland Society of Scotland upon Benefit or Friendly Societies was published.

For this important production, the public owe a deep debt of gratitude to Charles Oliphant, Esq. W. S.

Upon the appearance of the Highland Society's Report, the members of this society, generally, eagerly availed themselves of the information it afforded, and showed a resolution, in spite of every difficulty, to reduce to practice, in their own case, the principles therein expounded. They, therefore, immediately set about remodelling the Methven Friendly Society, in strict conformity to the *data* contained in the Report of the Highland Society, and for this purpose they appointed a large committee of their number, to whom, in terms of the Friendly Society Act of 1802, they delegated all the power and authority the society itself possessed, to alter, to amend, and to enlarge its laws, its principles, and its objects.

The society accordingly, on the 22d May 1826, adopted a new constitution, principally derived from, and entirely founded upon, the Highland Society's Report, embracing the three great schemes therein exhibited, namely, 1st, For affording weekly payments in money during sickness, until the member attains the seventieth year of his age. 2d, For affording annuities to members for life after the sixtieth, sixty-fifth, or seventieth year of their age, and also for affording, at any age, single annuities, *i. e.* an annuity for the life of one person. And, 3d, For a funeral allowance, or a sum payable at death.

With regard to the first scheme, the member who subscribes for an allowance in sickness must, at the same time, contribute also for an annuity to commence with the seventy-first year of his age, if he lives so long, when the sickness allowance terminates, and the contributions for both cease; and the relation which these



benefits bear to each other must always be such, that for every shilling a member's weekly allowance in sickness consists of, his annuity must be L. 2 ; that is, if his allowance in sickness be 5s. per week, his annuity after seventy must be L. 10 ; if the one be 8s. the other will be L. 16, and so on. But no member is allowed to contribute for a weekly sick allowance higher than 10s., nor for an annuity above L. 20. As to the second scheme, any member is allowed to subscribe for an annuity of any amount not exceeding L. 20, to commence with the 61st, 66th, or 71st year of his age, without reference to any of the other schemes. By this scheme also, a present single annuity may be purchased by advancing, in one payment, a sum corresponding to its value at the time of entry, according to the age of the annuitant. The third scheme is merely a life insurance, and to this department, as well as to the single annuity portion of the second scheme, both males and females are admissible.

Any one or all of the benefits which this society is intended to confer, may be secured either by annual contribution, or by a single payment. The rates of contribution chargeable in all the schemes are regulated by a set of tables constructed for the purpose, which were submitted to, and approved by, the most competent judges, previously to their being adopted. By means of these tables,—the number and ages of the members being known,—the affairs of the society can at any time be investigated, and its ability or inability to answer all the demands to be made upon its funds, can be readily ascertained, in a manner similar to that practised by regular Insurance Companies. This society, therefore, as may be supposed, is in a very prosperous condition ; its members are numerous, and its funds are amply sufficient to meet all its engagements. Such is a brief outline of the Methven Friendly Society, —an institution well calculated to answer all the purposes for which associations of this nature are intended.

*Savings Bank.*—A savings bank was instituted here in the year 1815, chiefly under the direction of Robert Smythe, Esq., the principal heritor. It would be a difficult task to estimate the benefit which has already been derived from this institution, not only by many individuals and families belonging to the parish, but also by a very considerable number of persons in the neighbouring parishes, where either no attempt has been made to establish a similar institution, or where the attempt has been unsuccessful. It is true, that in several of the surrounding parishes, savings banks

were commenced about the time this one began its operations, but from some cause or other, most, if not all of them, lasted only a few years, and then vanished without leaving behind them any perceptible trace of their usefulness. On the contrary, the Methven Savings Bank came into existence without a single word to recommend it to the attention of those classes of the community for whose benefit it was intended, beyond the contents of a very brief hand-bill, and having continued to prosper for twenty-one years, without interruption, it has in an eminent degree been the means of promoting the comfort and comparative independence of not a few of those who have wisely taken the advantages which savings banks, properly constituted, are calculated to bestow. The simplicity of the mode, and the unostentatious manner in which the affairs of this bank have hitherto been conducted, form one of the principal causes, if not the very principal cause of its success. It has never been placed under the protection of any statute relating to saving banks, for in its nature and operations it resembles more a branch of a provincial bank, although on a small scale, than may be conceived by the generally entertained notion of a parish or savings bank. The heritors and the minister of the parish are directors, and the schoolmaster has, from its commencement, acted as treasurer or cashier; indeed, it may be said, that upon him alone has devolved all the burden of conducting its affairs. The directors meet annually, when the proceedings of the preceding year are laid before them, and a general statement of them docketed. All the money deposited is lodged in the Perth Bank as soon as the deposits amount to a sum worth sending, for any sum not less than 1s. is received. A depositor may withdraw the whole of his money or any part of it at any time he pleases, and if there be not money on hand sufficient to answer the demand, the treasurer gives him an order upon the Perth Bank for the amount required. The savings bank gives the same rate of interest upon every separate deposit of 16s. 8d., as the Perth bank gives upon the gross amount lodged with them. And yearly, at 31st May, the interest due to each depositor is added to his account, both in the books of the institution and in his own pass-book. When a person's deposits amount to L. 20, L. 30, L. 40, or upwards, the usual way is to transfer that sum from the stock of the savings bank into that of the Perth Bank, in the depositor's own name, which is always done with his consent; and he thereupon obtains a separate bank receipt, which, in ge-

neral, he takes charge of himself. In this way, many who commenced depositing their savings in the Methven Savings Bank have become annual depositors, to a very considerable amount, with the Perth Banking Company; for when they go there at the end of the year to have their bank receipt renewed, they add to it not only the interest due upon it at that time, but also all that they have been able to save for the preceding twelve months. In this way several of these depositors have been enabled to become proprietors of houses, sufficient, at least, to accommodate themselves and their families, and this is evidently a result, which, humanly speaking, would not likely ever have happened, had it not been for the opportunity which the saving bank afforded them, of commencing the accumulation of the little fortune which has enabled them to acquire this enviable degree of independence. The benefits of this institution are open to all, without regard to age, sex, or residence; hence, there are some depositors from a great distance, and several females who commenced early to deposit have, now, each, the command of not less than L. 60, L. 70, and some of them L. 80, while others similarly situated, but less provident, cannot perhaps command as many shillings. The total amount deposited up to 1st January 1837 is L. 4316, 8s. 8d.; the total number of depositors is 331, and the lowest amount of deposits belonging to any individual is 2s. We could say much more upon this subject, were it not that we would thereby extend this article to an improper length; but we cannot conclude these remarks without expressing our conviction, founded upon our knowledge of the benefits which many have derived from this institution, that savings banks, properly constituted, and judiciously conducted, are eminently calculated to promote the comfort and happiness both of individuals and families, and that were the working-classes of the community once led more generally to embrace the benefits they offer, we cannot conceive a method better fitted to advance their interest, nora plan better adapted to promote their real independence.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The funds for the support of the poor are derived from two sources; the one is an assessment upon the parish expressly for that purpose,—the other, the collections at the church door. These are kept entirely separate, and are appropriated to different classes or lists of poor. The assessment or poor's rate was introduced here so early as the year 1775, when the church-door collections were found altogether inadequate to the wants of the poor, in consequence of by far the greater part

of the parishioners, a little before that time, becoming Antiburgher Seceders; and although it has not hitherto been found altogether practicable to discontinue the assessment, matters are, however, in this respect, now very much changed. The average annual amount of the assessment is L. 100, of which the heritors pay the one-half, in proportion to their valued rent, and the tenants and householders the other, according to their means and circumstances. The funds arising from the assessment, with the exception of the expense inevitably incurred by this mode of providing for the poor, are almost exclusively bestowed upon the poor belonging to the Secession, or upon such poor as do not belong to the church. On the other hand, the kirk-session of the parish are in general enabled to aliment all the poor belonging to the Established Church, from the collections received at the church door, which, for the year 1836, being a fair average, amounted to L. 85. There are thus two lists or classes of poor in the parish,—the one maintained by the assessment, which is levied by the authority of the heritors and kirk-session, in their collective capacity,—the other maintained by the kirk-session alone. The whole of the proceedings of the kirk-session, so far as these relate to pecuniary matters, are annually submitted to the heritors at their regular meetings, and are both approved of and confirmed by them.

The average number of regular poor upon both these funds is about 38, the greater part of whom are at present alimented by the kirk-session. The minimum monthly allowance is 2s. 6d., and the highest ordinary rate is 13s. Many persons in indigent circumstances are from time to time prevented from falling permanently upon the poor's roll, by the aid of the kirk-session, judiciously administered, in such occasional cases as imperiously call for relief. In few parishes with a population equal to that of Methven, are the poor better attended to, or the funds for their support less felt to be burdensome.

*Inns.*—There are no fewer than 10 licensed alehouses in the parish. Large and populous as the parish is, if that number were reduced to a half, we should think that all the good purposes for which houses of this kind are intended would be answered, and the effect that would be thus produced, in a moral point of view, upon a certain class of the community, would be desirable.

*Fuel.*—The fuel generally used is coal, which is to be had in abundance at all seasons, at the port of Perth, brought by shipping,—the Scotch coal, from the pits adjacent to the river Forth,

and the English coal, from the coal-fields in the neighbourhood of Newcastle.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The improvements that have been effected in this parish since the publication of the former Statistical Account are numerous and varied. The extensive pleasure grounds and gardens, both at Lynedoch House and Methven Castle, with their beautiful approaches and enlarged accommodation, deserve to be mentioned, and the sylvan scenery, which decorates not only these mansions, but extends all over the parish, forms a delightful contrast to the bleak and cheerless aspect which it formerly exhibited. In the year 1793, there were only three slated farm-houses in the parish, with as many enclosed farms. Now, every farm is enclosed, with the exception of a few pendicles on moor-land,—the farms are all subdivided, and have substantial slated houses, with corresponding offices. Agriculture is certainly in a high state of improvement in this parish. Much has been done by Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven, to aid the industry of his tenants, by blasting and removing stones, and by draining, all of which drains Mr Smythe opens at his own expense, and the tenants perform the rest of the labour. Subsoil ploughing has been introduced, and is likely soon to become general. The bridge now building over the Almond, at Dalcrue, near Lynedoch, will, when finished, be an object of general attraction, both for elegance of design and workmanship, and for its singularly romantic situation.

*April 1837.*

## PARISH OF REDGORTON.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. WILLIAM LISTON, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—The name of this parish has been variously written Redgorton, Regorton, and Rogorton. The two latter spellings are evidently corruptions of the first. But the most ancient orthography is Rochgorton, as appears by a charter by King David II. preserved in the chartulary of Scone, in which his Majesty conveys the church of Rochgorton to the abbacy of Scone. *Roch* or *Ruach* in Gaelic, signifies red, and *Gorton* or *Garton* signifies a

little field. The meaning, therefore, is the same, either in the ancient or modern orthography, and signifies the Red-field, *i. e.* the field of blood. The current opinion, therefore, which derives the name of the parish from the battle of Luncarty, seems to be well founded, although the popular derivation (*quasi* Red-gore-town) appears too bald for admission.

*Origin, Boundaries, Topographical Appearances, &c.*—The parish consists of three united parishes, Redgorton, Luncarty, and St Serffs. Redgorton belonged to the abbacy of Scone; St Serffs, a corruption from St Servanus, belonged to the diocese of Dunkeld; and Luncarty, as appears from Keith, was a parsonage, *i. e.* a church not appropriated to any religious house. The period of the union of these three parishes is not precisely known; but it is most probable that it took place at the time of the Reformation, as the presbytery records, which extend back to 1619, speak of them as having been already united.

The parish consists of two parts, a lower and an upper part, very unequal in point of magnitude, and very dissimilar in every respect. The lower, or principal part, though of an irregular figure, approaching nearly to two triangles, may be stated as six miles long by two miles broad, though its greatest breadth greatly exceeds, and its smallest falls as much short of it. This part, therefore, contains about 10.125 square miles. It lies at the confluence of the Tay and the Almond, and is bounded on the east by the former of these rivers, which separates it from the parishes of Scone and St Martins; and on the south-west by the latter river, which separates it from the parishes of Tibbermuir and Methven. It requires three lesser streams, the Coldrochie, the Shochie, and Ordie, to divide it from the parish of Moneydie, on the west and north-west. And it is separated on the north from the parishes of Auchtergaven and Kinclaven, partly by imaginary lines, and partly by smaller streams, whose magnitude has not been considered of such importance as to acquire for them a distinctive appellation.

The surface of this part is varied and undulating, presenting something diversified in its aspect at every step. The tide, in its highest floods, flows up to Scone, or within half a mile of the mouth of the Almond; so that the lowest fields of this part are little above the level of the sea, whilst the highest may be 100 feet above it. The soil is very diversified, changing, sometimes very suddenly, from the deepest loam to the coldest till, on the one hand, and to the most arid gravel, or even pure sand, on the other.

The whole lands in this part of the parish are cultivated and

improved, and, in general, subdivided by thorn hedges. The higher ridges and knolls are for the most part planted with wood, of which there is a great extent in the parish. No property in the country has been more improved, or had more attention paid to it, in this respect, than that of Lord Lynedoch, who possesses two-thirds of the whole parish. No expense has been spared in extending, or altering, in any way, the arrangement and boundaries of the woods, wherever it would contribute to the ornament of the estate, or the beauty of the outline. The grounds, accordingly, abound with beautiful prospects. Few panoramic scenes, perhaps, are finer than that which is seen from Redgorton ridge, which commands a view of Scone Park and Palace, of the bridge and city of Perth, and the fertile valley on which it stands, with the mighty Tay seen rolling through it, wherever the sweeping of the ground, or the opening of the woods, permits the eye to reach its channel; the whole bounded by a semicircle of hills, consisting of the Ochils on the one hand, and the Sidlaw Hills and the hills of Kinnoull and Moncrieff on the other, with the Fife Lowmond starting up to shut up the opening betwixt the one and the other.

The other part of the parish, which is quite detached from the rest, lies beyond the parish of Moneydie, at the foot of the Grampians, running up the shoulder of one of them to the top, and comprehends the barony of Mullion. The aspect of the barony is very different from that of the lower part of the parish. There are here no woods or lines of hedges, with which the lower part is so abundantly clothed and sheltered, but open moorland, field, and heathy mountain. The soil, however, wherever it has been cultivated,—and a great deal has been done in this way by a very industrious tenantry,—is a sharp, gravelly, or moorish loam; and in favourable seasons yields excellent crops, but liable, from the elevation of the district, to be nipt by the early frosts, before they have reached their full maturity. The barony of Mullion is about three miles long by three-quarters of a mile broad, and thus may be stated as containing 1.975 square miles, so that the whole parish comprehends twelve square miles, or 7680 acres. The Shochie here again bounds the parish, and separates it from the parish of Auchtergaven on the north; whilst another mountain stream called Crachie, which falls into the Shochie at the boundary of the barony, separates it from the parish of Monzie, annexed to the parish of Moneydie *quoad sacra*.

*Hydrography.*—There are no rivers that run through the parish, unless the united waters of the Shochie and the Ordie were to

be dignified by that appellation ; and even they run only a very short distance before they fall into the Tay. They do not now, however, follow their natural course, but run in a cut that has been made by the Luncarty Company through a steep bank, in the nearest line to the Tay. The lower part of the parish is bounded, as already stated, for nearly six miles by the Tay and the Almond respectively, which are of the greatest importance to the parish, as will be fully noticed under the article Industry. The only lake in the parish worthy of notice is a very small one in the barony of Mullion, which never was of any great extent, and which had its scanty boundary circumscribed last year by the draining off of a considerable proportion of its water. It is, however, said to be of considerable depth.

*Climate—Diseases.*—The lower part of the parish lies at a considerable distance from the Grampians, which are on the north, and is still farther removed from the Ochil Hills on the south. This circumstance undoubtedly contributes to render the climate so dry and healthy as it is. We frequently see these hills enveloped in dense clouds, and know that they and the adjacent lands are drenched with torrents of rain, whilst we are breathing a comparatively dry atmosphere, or luxuriating in bright sunshine. The parish is accordingly healthy, and free from any local distemper. It is stated in the last Statistical Account, that the people are subject to ague. But whether it be from the complete drainage which the land has undergone, or from the quantity of wood that has been planted and reared, since that date, which of itself takes up a quantity of moisture, and through which surface drains are cut in all directions, which rapidly run off the water that would otherwise be stagnant ; so at least it is, that the ague is now almost entirely unknown amongst us.

*Game.*—The common kinds of game are very abundant : hares, rabbits, pheasants, and partridges, with snipe, woodcock, and land-rail in their seasons. The pheasants, however, in proportion as they have increased, have diminished the number of partridges. For being much the stronger party, though only recent settlers in the country, they, in imitation perhaps of a nobler animal, drive back the weaker, though aboriginal inhabitants. Roe-deer are frequently met with in the woods, and now and then a few red-deer come down to us in winter, and remaining in the woods do great destruction to the crops in summer.

*Geology.*—The rocks in this parish belong to the transition and old sandstone formations, according to the Wernerian no-



menclature. Its extreme north-western position in the barony of Mullion is occupied by greywacke to a considerable extent. Through the southern edge of this passes that bed of clay slate, which extends nearly throughout the lower range of the Grampians from sea to sea. Its character, adjuncts, and position are similar to those of the slate deposit at the great quarries near Dunkeld, and in the Stormont. It dips at an angle of  $45^{\circ}$  towards the north. It is worked as a roofing slate at Ruchummon in this parish. To the south of this, chlorite slate is found, and farther south a coarse peculiar variety of conglomerate. In the lower part of the parish a gray sandstone in thick strata prevails. This is a continuation of the sandstone which is quarried to such an extent at Gelly Burn. It is a first-rate building stone; and in some places abounds with charry impressions of various land plants. The southermost rocks along the channel of the Almond consist of argillaceous red sandstone. This is thickly marked with pale bluish spots, sometimes supposed to be caused by organisms, and is in many parts intersected with very thin veins of satin spar. It contains about 16 per cent. of carbonate of lime, and in some parts of the country is used as a top-dressing for pasture, under the name of rock marl.

As this parish forms part of the angular territory, bounded on two sides by the rivers Tay and Almond towards their confluence, it is supposed to be traversed from side to side by the five or six trap veins which make their appearance in each of these rivers in the space of about two miles. But these are nowhere else visible in the parish, except where the surface has been intersected by ravines or water-courses.

*Woods.*—There are from 760 to 800 acres of wood on Lord Lynedoch's property; about 60 on that of the Duke of Athole; and a few acres on that of Mr Smythe of Methven. The woods on Lord Lynedoch's property were originally planted with Scotch fir, and larch, except some places which were thought fitter for oak, which is now cut as coppice. As the Scotch fir and larch are cut down, their place is uniformly supplied with young plantations of which the principal part is oak. His Lordship has been at great pains in procuring acorns for rearing plants, and, so far as I have been able to ascertain, they prove to be the true *Quercus robur*. This, however, I may remark, is not the case with some other plantations in the vicinity, where I have observed the *Quercus sessiliflorus* to prevail. The latter is a tree of much softer wood, and greatly inferior value. The attention of landed proprietors, in making oak plantations, cannot be too strictly or earnestly direct-

ed to the choice of their plants, or acorns, that they may not obtain an indifferent, instead of a very valuable wood. The discrimination is easily made, especially in collecting acorns for seed. In the inferior kind the acorn sits close upon the branch, whereas it hangs upon a longish foot-stalk in the true *Quercus robur*.\*

*Botany*.—This parish consisting of open fields of all kinds of soil sheltered with hedges; and of deep and shady woods, in some places dry, in others wet and marshy, running here and there into petty lakes or pools; having within its bounds the banks of two larger rivers, and two smaller streams; and consisting in the barony of Mullion of lake, and moor, and mountain,—offers an extensive and varied field of botany. Accordingly, almost all the more common, and a good many of the rarer plants are to be found within it. It would be more than useless to attempt to give an account of the former. But we give the following list of those that are more uncommon, giving the habitat of the rarer species, with what notes occur, at the foot of the page.

Hippuris vulgaris	Campanula glomerata (2)	Adoxa Moschatellina
Scirpus sylvaticus	Solanum dulcamara et var.	Polygonum fagopyrum (6)
Festuca elatior (1)	flore albo	Epilobium angustifolium
Phalaris arundinacea	Scilla verna	Pyrola media (6)
Galium boreale	Convallaria majalis (3)	Saxifraga aizoides (7)
aquaticum	multiflora	Rubus fruticosus (8)
Drosera rotundifolia	Peplis portula (4)	suberectus
Lithospermum arvense	Trientalis Europea	caesiis

\* I do not think that it has yet been experimentally ascertained, whether the bark of *Sessiliflorus* be as much inferior to that of *Robur* as its wood; but I think the presumption is that the bark of the hardest wood contains the greatest quantity of tannin.

(1) Wood on Redgorton hill. It is surprising that this plant has not come into cultivation, wherever lands are laid down in permanent pasture. Its creeping roots disqualify it, in some measure, from being sown where the lands are speedily to be broken up. But this is the reverse of an objection where they are to remain for a length of time in pasture; and its faculty of pushing its roots deep into the clay, would prevent its being thrown out in cold lands, while its fine soft herbage forms excellent food either for sheep or cattle: I observe that some curious cultivators in this neighbourhood give the name *elatior* to the true *gigantea*, which latter, though a much stronger, is a much coarser plant.

(2) Banks of the Tay.

(3) Lily of the valley.—Banks of the Almond. There is a quarter of an acre of ground, at the back of Methven wood, in the parish of Methven, literally covered with this fragrant favourite. There is a variety of multiflora of very diminutive size, found here, which has retained its proportions when cultivated in the garden for a long time.

(4) Gravel pit, in Pitcairn green.

(5) Woods.—Not indigenous, having been spread to feed pheasants.

(6) Our botanical friends will thank us for giving here for the first time, a very abundant habitat of *Pyrola uniflora*, the rarest and most popular of all our Scottish plants. In a wood belonging to Mr Mathew of Newmill, about 500 yards to the south-east of an old farm-house called Fairfield, there are two acres of ground-covered with this beautiful plant.

(7) This truly Alpine plant is found on the banks of the Tay and the Almond, having, no doubt, been deposited in seed by the river.

(8) We mention this common plant not on account of its rarity, for it is more common with us than any of the others, but because Sir W. J. Hooker states, on the authority of Mr Anderson, that in Perthshire and Aberdeenshire, it gives place to *Rubus suberectus*.

Tormentilla reptans	Geranium lucidum	Tanacetum vulgare
Thymus acinos	robertianum	Erigeron uniflorum (24)
Chelidonium majus	Genista Anglica,	Senecio aquaticus,
Nymphaea alba (9)	Ononis arvensis, var. flore	sylvaticus
Nuphar lutea	albo	Solidago virgaurea
Anemone nemorosa	Anthyllis vulneraria	lanceolata (25)
Cistus helianthemum	Vicia sylvatica (15)	Pyrethrum parthenium
Thalictrum minus	Astragalus glycyphyllos (16)	Trifolium arvense
Teucrium chamædrys (10)	Hypericum humifusum (17)	Orchis macula
Origanum vulgare	quadrangulum,	latifolia
Digitalis purpurea, var.	dubium	Habenaria viridis
flore albo (11)	hirsutum (18)	bifolia
Thlaspi arvensis	pulchrum (19)	Listera ovata
Camelina sativa (13)	Cichorium Intybus (20)	nidus-avis
Lepidium campestre (13)	Carduus Marianus (21)	Epipactis latifolia
Turritis glabra (14)	Cnicus heterophyllus	ensifolia (26)
Hesperis matronalis	eriphorum (22)	Sparganium ramosum
Geranium sanguineum,	Bidens tripartita (23)	Salix repens, var. $\delta$ (27)
sylvaticum,	Eupatorium cannabinum	cotinifolia

(9) Lake of Mullion.

(10) Dry-bed of the Shochie, below the Dunkeld road. Not thought indigenous.

(11) This white variety of *Digitalis purpurea*, originally found in the fields, has propagated itself in the garden for ten years, without once changing its colour.

(12) Upper fields of the mill-lands of Pitcairn, very rare.

(13) Dry bank at Stanley, and fields on Redgorton hill, rare.

(14) This singularly rare plant, of which Sir W. J. Hooker gives only one very sparing station in Scotland, and Sir J. Smith only two in England, grows by no means sparingly on the banks of the Almond, below the old bridge.

(15) The banks of the Tay are in some places quite clothed with this beautiful and graceful plant, decidedly the most splendid of British creepers.

(16) Banks of the Tay and Almond, by no means sparingly.

(17) Fields of Redgorton hill and Broxie.

(18) Banks of the Tay on Hatton farm, along with *perforatum*, distinguishable at first sight by its smaller flowers, and more rugose leaves.

(19) This very beautiful plant, though considered rare in Scotland, is common in all the woods in this parish.

(20) Fields of Pitmurthly and Redgorton hill.

(21) Vicinity of gardens; certainly not indigenous.

(22) Redgorton Den, sometimes six feet high.

(23) This curious and rare plant has been found near Luncarty mill.

(24) Sir J. Smith gives this as a distinct species, but Sir W. J. Hooker does not admit of its being distinct from *Alpinum*. Where such authorities differ, it would be presumption in us to decide; the more especially as there are some circumstances connected with the plant and its habitat, which seem to favour respectively both sides of the question. On the one hand, the *Alpinum* is not found in the vicinity of the habitat of *uniflorum*, and the plant has always a single terminal flower, with erect rays; which seem to favour Sir J. Smith's position. But, on the other hand, the plant is only found on the shelving rocks of the Almond, which are occasionally covered with water, which seems to favour the supposition that the seed may have been brought down by the river from the higher ground where *Alpinum* grows. But then again the plant is not found on rocks similarly situated on the Tay; and there seems reason to think that, if the one river should bring down the seed of *Alpinum*, so would the other, as is the case with *Saxifraga aizoides*, above referred to.

Sir W. J. Hooker mentions that *Alpinum* is often single flowered; and states also that it is sometimes found with rays erect. If it should turn out, on farther examination, that it is only the one-flowered specimens that have erect rays, it would certainly establish Sir J. Smith's specific distinction.

(25) This pretty plant, though found growing wild here, and though so common in Ayrshire, as, in some places, to be considered a troublesome weed, is not allowed to be a native, and has not been admitted into any British Flora.

(26) This uncommon plant, which has been rarely found in this parish, grows copiously on the opposite banks of the river Almond, in the wood of Methven. We may here mention that *Corallorhiza innata*, which is stated by Sir W. J. Hooker to be destroyed there, has been recently found, and carefully preserved by Mr Bishop.

(27) Fulva of Sir J. Smith. Redgorton wood.

We have six out of the twelve *Aspidia* which are natives of Scotland, viz. *Spinulosum* of Hooker, and his var. *a*\* the true *spinulosum* of Smith. *Oreopteris*, very common, but dwarfish in Mullion, rarer but more magnificent in the lower part of the parish, with a variety having the sori very sparingly placed upon the margin of the pinnæ, far from confluent; *dilatatum*, and *Filix-mas*, and *femina*. We have all the three *Polypodia*; *Asplenium adiantum nigrum*, *Blechnum boreale*, and *Lycopodium clavatum*. We cannot but regret that we have no station for the very pretty *Adiantum capillus veneris*, and the no less curious *Hymenophyllum Tunbridgense*; and that the magnificent *Osmunda regalis* is not to be met with in all this country. It would be needless to enumerate all our fungi, of which we have a great variety, but we may mention that we but too frequently meet with *Phallus fœtidus*, the most disgusting of all nature's productions.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Antiquities.*—Chalmers has shewn, in his Caledonia, that the Roman station, Orrea, was situated at the confluence of the Tay and the Almond, in this parish,† and there are still circumstances existing that afford pregnant presumptions of the fact. The Roman road from Ardoch, of which the remains are so distinct and well known, on the ridge of Gask, leads upon this station; and is again discovered on the opposite side of the Tay, a little above the parallel of the Almond. The piers also which supported the bridge by which they crossed the Tay, are still to be seen in the bottom of the river at this place; and Roman urns have been found in the banks of the Almond, containing ashes and

\* Neither of these two plants, the latter of which is the most beautiful of all the *Aspidia*, not even excepting the finely pinnatifid *Filix-femina*,—is mentioned in Hooker's *Flora Scotica*; and the first is not noticed in Sir J. Smith's *Flora Britannica*.

† The remains of the camp at this place are not yet quite obliterated. Although it has been levelled by the plough, the direction of the mound, which formed the defence on the north and west sides, are distinctly visible, by the remarkable elevation of the ground. The length of this mound on the north side is 860 feet. Nearly on the centre of this side there is a small space, which is not raised, like the line both to the east and west of it, and which it is not difficult to recognize as the gateway. Along the whole of this line, at a little distance from it, and parallel to it, there are the remains of a road, some parts of which, when the ground was ploughed some years ago, were found to be quite closely paved, corresponding exactly to other Roman roads, and the people themselves remarked that every one of the stones had a smooth face on the upper side. There can be no doubt that this is the remains of the *iter* which conducted to the bridge across the Tay, the piers of which are still in the river exactly opposite the camp. The remains of the fortification are not so distinct on the west side, though still visible. The length of this line is only 437 feet, nearly half the space, which must have been occupied by the camp, having been washed away by the encroachment of the Almond, which, as is well known, now empties itself into the Tay considerably to the north of its former embouchure. The whole camp, when complete, must have contained about twelve acres of ground.

burnt bones; particularly two large urns, mentioned in the notes to "The Muse's Threnodie," and conjectured there, and in the last Statistical Account, to have contained the ashes of Agricola's son, who died in the eighth year of his expedition into Britain, and of Aulus Atticus, who was killed in the celebrated battle with Galgacus, at the foot of the Grampian Mountains. It is stated by Tacitus, and noticed by Buchanan, that Agricola reached the Tay in the third year of his expedition; and it is expressly stated by Agricola himself, in his address to his soldiers before the battle with Galgacus, as given by Tacitus, that they were then in the eighth year of that expedition. The camp at Orrea, therefore, existed for five years previous to that battle. If it was fought, as has been supposed, at Battle-dikes, or to the east of Blairgowrie, then it must have been from Orrea that Agricola marched with his light-armed troops, previous to that battle; and probably to it, or to the station *in medio* (at Inchuthel) that he led his army after the battle, when, Tacitus tells us, he conducted them into the borders of the Horesti.\* Orrea also continued to be an important station during the twenty-five years that Lollius Urbicus was Lieutenant in Britain, that is, down to the year 161. It was no doubt abandoned, along with all the other country to the north of Adrian's wall between the Tyne and the Solway, in the year 170. But there is as little doubt that it was again occupied by the Em-

\* Chalmers has supposed that the battle with Galgacus was fought at Victoria, (or Dalgenross) near the Ruchel, at the top of Strathearn; and that Agricola approached the scene of action, from Fife, through Gleneagles. But in order to make good this idea, he is obliged to get rid of the direct testimony of Tacitus, who says expressly, that Agricola, in the third year of his expedition, subdued all the nations as far as the Tay. (*Nationibus usque ad Taum (æstuario nomen est) subactis.*) And for this purpose he has recourse to a supposition, which appears a very strange one. He says that by Taum is meant the *Solway Frith*. And why? because the British word *Taw* signifies "any thing spread out," which he thinks is an appropriate description of the Solway. But he forgets that Tacitus directly affirms that Taum is the *name* of the frith, and consequently that it cannot be taken as a description of it. For the same purpose, when Tacitus states that, after the battle, Agricola led his troops into the borders of the Horesti, as Victoria is in their territory, he is obliged to suppose that the author means that he led *back* his troops to the borders of the Horesti; which is an interpretation which the passage will not bear. Tacitus' expression is, "*in fines Horestorum exercitum deducit*," which clearly implies that he was without their bounds. Had it been the intention of the historian to say that he led back his army from Victoria to Carnock, which were both within the territories of the Horesti, as Chalmers makes him do, he must necessarily have said, "*ad fines Horestorum exercitum reducit*;" and could not have expressed himself as he has done. Lastly, the idea that the battle took place at the top of Strathearn is irreconcilable with the account of Tacitus, when he says that Agricola came to the Mons Grampius with his light troops, *having sent his fleet before him*, "*præmissa classe.*" How could he possibly be said to have sent his fleet before him, when it must necessarily have sailed in an easterly course, down the Frith of Forth, whilst he was himself to march from the camp at Carnock to the top of Strathearn, in a north westerly direction? But this would be quite properly said, if he sent his fleet from the Tay to the Esk, (the station *Æscica*) whilst he proceeded in a shorter direction from Orrea across the country, towards the same point.

peror Severus in 209, in his celebrated war with the Caledonians, in which he lost so many men. The treaty with Caracalla in 211, finally deprived the Romans of all the country to the north of the Clyde, if not of the Solway. From first to last, therefore, the Romans were in possession of Orrea for upwards of 125 years.

The bridge at the mouth of the Almond was the only one across the Tay which the Romans possessed; which rendered the station of Orrea at all times of great importance, as, from the line of their approach, it formed the key to the possession of the fertile valleys of Strathmore and Gowrie, and all the country to the east of the river.

About two miles above the station of Orrea, at Pitcairn, on the banks of the Almond, there are the distinct remains of a camp, which is called the Roman Camp, but which, from its being not square but round, was certainly not Roman. It may, not improbably, however, have been a camp of the natives, for the purpose of watching the motions of the Romans, who had so distinguished a station in the vicinity. If the occupation of Orrea was of importance to the Romans, it could be of no inferior importance to the natives, especially after the erection of the bridge across the Tay; because the possession of that one station would have cut off the retreat of the Roman troops, who had crossed the river, and have secured to the British the whole country to the east. It is natural, therefore, to think that efforts were not wanting to disturb the enemy in the possession of this station. It was probably, then, from this place that the attempt was made, in the absence of Agricola, by the united forces of the Picts and Scots, to surprise the ninth legion, which was almost successful, and which, but for the unexpected return of Agricola himself, would have been entirely so.\* If the camp at Pitcairn was formed with the same intention, it was skilfully selected, and well adapted to the object in view. It is situated upon an eminence, commanding a view, not indeed of Orrea itself, but of the whole line of approach to that station for several miles; having the steep bank of the Almond as a defence to the south; and a deep ravine, descending to the very bed of the river, interposed betwixt it and Orrea, to the east, with room to draw up an army on the level ground betwixt the camp and the ravine.

\* Sibbald has supposed that it was at Loch Ore that the attack was made upon the ninth legion. Is it possible that he has been misled by the similarity of the name of the loch to Orrea? At all events, it was certainly quite impossible that Agricola could hear of an attack made in the night-time at Loch Ore, in his camp in the parish of Carnock, and arrive with his troops at the scene of action, before morning, as Chalmers supposes.

It is natural to think that the ever-watchful Romans would not permit a camp, so situated, and so fitted to annoy them, to remain undisturbed in the vicinity of so important a station as Orrea. Accordingly, judging from the number of tumuli, or cairns, the vicinity of this camp would seem to have been the scene either of a succession of contests, or of one great and bloody battle. No account, or even tradition, indeed, concerning this camp, or these tumuli, has come down to us. But this is perhaps the most conclusive circumstance that removes their date to the time of the Romans. For, had such transactions as they unquestionably indicate taken place in more recent times, we may conclude that some tradition, at least, about them would have come down to us, as has been the case with the battle of Luncarty with the Danes.

That these tumuli or cairns were erected over *native* chiefs, and not over the leaders of the Romans, or other enemies, is established by one circumstance, besides the practice of our ancestors, which of itself, however, might appear conclusive on the subject, whilst the same circumstance, as well as the magnitude of the principal cairn, bespeak the quality of the person intended to be commemorated, and at the same time connects these cairns with the camp in question. The circumstance to which I refer, is the name which is given to the lands on which the camp stands. The names of places are one of the best evidences which we possess of ancient historical events, in the absence of historical records. The lands on which the camp stands are called Pitcairn, that is to say, the cairns of the graves; *pit*, in Gaelic, signifying a grave. This name then connects these cairns, which stand on the lands of Balmblair and Bridgeton, with the camp, which stands on the lands of Pitcairn; and therefore proves that the persons buried under these cairns perished in battle.

The same name, which is compounded entirely of Gaelic etymons, proves that these tumuli were the burial places of *native* chiefs. For had they been erected over Romans, the name would have given some indication of its Roman origin. And, the circumstance that these cairns have given the name to the adjacent lands, proves that the principal person intended to be commemorated was a great landed proprietor in the country. For if he had been any inferior personage, or even any person of equal importance from a distance, though he might have given his name to the place of his burial, it is not likely that lands, which had never belonged to him, or with which he had no connection, would have taken the name which is given them in tenures, from the circum-

stances of his death. Now in the time of the Romans the land was not parcelled out amongst a number of small proprietors as at present, but was held in great districts by a few nobles or petty princes. In this way, by putting together the different circumstances in our possession, and comparing them with the ancient state of society in our country, we arrive, almost with certainty, at the conclusion, that the principal cairn in this place, of which an admeasurement is given at the foot of the page,\* is the burial-place of a great landed proprietor, or British Chief, who perished in battle, in defence of his country, most probably against the Romans.

*Battle of Luncarty.*—Not much inferior in interest to the site of the Roman station of Orrea, is the scene of the battle of Luncarty, so extraordinary and almost romantic in its circumstances, and so important in its results. The field on which this battle was fought lies on the banks of the Tay, about two miles above the mouth of the Almond, and within the period of the incumbency of the last minister, which extended to forty years, was covered with small tumuli; but there is now no other memorial of the contest but two upright stones, one of which, about four feet high, retains the name of Denmark. Although this battle is mentioned by all our historians, by Boetius, Fordun, and Buchanan, the precise year in which it was fought is not accurately known; but it took place under the reign of Kenneth III. about the year 990, or somewhat earlier, Kenneth having been assassinated by Fenella in 994.

The Danes had landed in great force at the mouth of the river Esk;† and having taken the town of Montrose, they levelled both the town and its castle with the ground, massacring all the inhabitants without distinction of age or sex. They then marched across the whole province of Angus, laying the country waste in their progress till they reached the Tay, where they encamped on one of the hills in the vicinity of Perth. The King was at Stirling when intelligence of these occurrences was brought him; from whence he immediately marched with all the strength he could muster, to watch the motions of the enemy; having written to those nobles who were not at hand, to follow him as soon as possible, with all their forces. He speedily arrived at Moncrieff Hill,

\* This extraordinary cairn is situated on the top of a circular mound, the summit of which it entirely occupies. The cairn is raised to the height of 13 feet perpendicular above the mound, and has a diameter of 100 feet, thus occupying a space of 872 square yards.

† *Traducta classe ad Eskæ fluminis ostium—oppidum proximum diripiunt: in diraptum ferro et igne sæviunt; arcem solo æquant: cives sine discrimine occidunt: nulli vel sexui, vel ætati parcunt.*—Buch. Lib. 6, §. 31.



—Buchanan says at the confluence of the Tay and the Earn,\*— where he fixed his camp, which was soon filled by a multitude of his countrymen; the nobles having joined him with all their retainers. Whilst he was here organizing his forces, word was suddenly brought him that the enemy had crossed the Tay, and were laying siege to the town of Perth, then called Bertha. When the King heard that a place of such importance, and so near, was in danger, he immediately marched thither, and, passing by the enemy, took up his position at Luncarty, to the north of them.

The Scots were next day eager for the encounter, and drew out their forces in order of battle, on a level piece of ground; but the Danes, who were stationed on an opposite eminence, would not be drawn from their advantageous position, and the Scots could not attack them in it without great danger. The King therefore threw forward his archers and javeline throwers, (*sagittarii et jaculatores*) who so annoyed the enemy from a distance, that they were forced to advance to the contest on more equal terms. A terrible battle ensued on the level ground, which was fought for some time with doubtful success. At length, the centre of the Scottish army was exposed by the flight of both wings, which the Danes were pursuing with great vigour. It would have been a most disastrous day to the Scots, says Buchanan, had not assistance been providentially brought to them in their extremity by one man.† The battle was observed by a man of the name of Hay, who, with his two sons, all of them of great strength both of body and mind, ‡ were employed in a field, on the opposite side of the river. His love of his country, for which he was remarkable, was touched by the danger of his countrymen; when, seizing on the yoke of his plough, and his sons on whatever they could find, and crossing the Tay at the shallow part of the river, they reached the field of battle at the critical moment of the flight, which, first by entreaties, and then by threats, they endeavoured to stop, declaring that they would put to death those who persisted.§ Then throwing themselves with fury upon the foremost of the pursuing Danes, they gave the Scots a moment to rally on an eminence, which still retains the name of Turn-again hillock. The battle was now re-

\* *Brevi ingens multitudo in castra Regis, quæ erant ad confluentem Tai et Iernæ fluminum accessit. Id. loc. cit.*

† *Fuisset profecto illa dies longe Scotis funestissima, nisi velut divinitus per unum hominem in prope despera fuisset oblatum auxilium. Buch. Lib. 6, §. 32.*

‡ *Qui cum corporis, animique viribus magnis essent, nec minore in patriam caritate. Id. loc. cit.*

§ *Se quoque vociferantes adversus fugientes, Danos fuere. Id. loc. cit.*

newed on somewhat different ground, when Hay, leading some of the clans down a deep ravine, took the Danes in flank and rear, which threw them into confusion. At this critical moment again, another circumstance occurred which completed their disorder. A great shout was raised by a number of grooms, and a rustic crowd of peasants,\* which appeared to the Danes to be a new army, and increased their panic. The fortune of the day was now, therefore, entirely changed, and the Danes were routed with such prodigious slaughter, that those who escaped the sword perished in the river. A despairing effort was, however, made to save their commander's life, by defending an eminence close to the banks of the river; but all their efforts were unavailing. For here the Danish General, according to Fordun, the King himself, was slain;† and the stone mentioned above, which yet retains the name of Denmark, still marks the spot of his fall.

Such was the celebrated battle of Luncarty, which, having been turned from defeat to victory, by the undaunted valour and successful conduct of one man and his sons, laid the foundation of the fortune of the family of Hay, which includes in it the three earldoms of Errol, Tweeddale, and Kinnoull.

After this complete victory, the King wishing to march in triumph into Perth, directed that splendid robes should be brought for the gallant Hay and his sons, that they might make a suitable appearance, but he refused to put them on; and, having only washed off the dust, and marching into the town, dressed in his every-day garments, and carrying the yoke with which he had done such service over his shoulder, he fixed the eyes of all men upon him, and received the whole credit of the fortune of the day.‡ An assembly of states having been held shortly after, at Scone, it was there decreed to give the valiant Hay his choice of the Greyhound's course or the Falcon's flight, as a suitable reward for having delivered his country from so formidable an enemy. Hay having chosen the Falcon's flight, the noble bird was unhooded on the top of a hill in the vicinity of the city, and stooped not in his flight till

\* Ad hanc Danorum trepidationem agasones, et imbellis agrestium turba sublato clamore speciem novi exercitus præbuere. Id. loc. cit.

† In illo admirabili bello de Luncardy ubi Norica gens una cum suo rege totaliter perierunt. Ford. Scotichron. Lib. x. Cap. 16.

‡ Hæius ad Regem productus—splendidas vestes sibi et filiis oblatas, ut inspectiores Bertham ingrederentur, renuit; ac tantum absterso pulvere, quotidiano amiculo indutus, jugumque quo erat in prælio usus, ferens—multis ad novi generis spectaculum accurrentibus urbem ingreditur: omniumque ora et oculos in se unum convertit: ac solus prope omnem illius diei celebritatem tulit. Buch. Lib. 6, §. 33.

he reached the confines of the parish of Errol, where he alighted on a large stone, which still bears the name of the "Hawk's stane." All the intervening ground was given in property to the family of "Hay of Errol," though it has since that period been either apportioned to different members of the family, or alienated to other parties. In memory of these events, the family of Hay still wear as their arms, argent, three scutcheons, Gules : with the yoke inscribed, *i. e.* three golden shields in a silver shield ; an indication, as Buchanan thinks, that the public safety was defended by the singular valour of three men, in an important battle.\*

\* Of the existence of this battle there can be no doubt. And although some critics have pretended to find improbabilities or impossibilities in its principal circumstances, there is such unquestionable evidence of their truth, besides the direct testimony of all our historians, as no criticism can overcome. Lord Kames, in his "Sketches of the History of Man," has said, "This story has every mark of fiction. A man ploughing in sight of a battle, on which depended his wife and children, his goods, and perhaps his own life ; three men, without rank or figure, with only a stick in the hand of each, stemming the tide of victory, and turning the fate of battle. I mention not that a plough was unknown in Scotland for a century or two after that battle ; for that circumstance could not create a doubt in the historian, if he was ignorant of it." A little attention, however, to the circumstances narrated above, will, I think, remove this objection. If it be remembered, that the Scottish army did not arrive at the scene of action till the preceding day, and that the field in which Hay was at work was on the opposite side of the river from the field of battle, it will not appear so utterly incredible that he was at work as is pretended. Besides, the fair inference from this part of the criticism, only extends to the circumstance of his being actually engaged in agricultural labour. It does not follow that he could not be in the fields observing the action, nor imply the impossibility of his seizing the yoke ; and his merit would be as great on the one supposition as the other. Again, the criticism of this able and respectable author is as full of self-contradictions as the story itself. In order to give point to his criticism, he is obliged to suppose (what is not stated by any historian) that Hay was "*unconcernedly*" following his ordinary occupation, and this at the very moment that his own narration represents him as roused into rage at the flight of his countrymen.

If the interest he should naturally have taken in the fate of the battle from "*his wife and children, his goods, and perhaps his life*" being dependent upon it, rendered it impossible for him to be an *unconcerned* spectator, as the criticism implies, would not these be excitements to strong and even desperate efforts in behalf of his countrymen ? Add to this that the learned author, in order to make his case the stronger, has founded on Hay and his sons wanting "*rank and figure*," which yet, if they had possessed, would not have been of the slightest avail to them in the given circumstances. Not only in that age, but especially in the circumstances supposed, personal prowess was every thing, and "*rank and figure*" nothing in stemming the tide of victory. Lastly, the learned author concludes his remarks on this battle by saying, "that a plough was unknown in Scotland for a century or two after that battle." It is a pity that the author had not quoted the authority on which so confident an assertion is founded. It is certainly contrary to all that we have read of the ancient state of our country. A plough not known in Scotland till about the year 1100 or 1200 !! One might have thought that the Romans would have introduced the knowledge of the plough into our country eight hundred or a thousand years before this, if it had not been previously known. But what do their historians say on the subject ? Cæsar De bello Gallico, lib. v. says that those "*qui ex Belgis transierunt*" inhabited the coasts "*atque agros colere ceperunt*." Tacitus, De Julii Agricola Vita, speaking of Caledonia, says, "*Solum—patiens frugum, fecundum, tarde mitescunt, cito proveniunt*." Our own historian, Buchanan, says, "*Pieti agris fertilioribus secundum mare Germanicum colendis assuescerent*." How, we may ask, could they cultivate the soil without some kind of plough ? Surely, in making the above

*Coins.*—In 1789 there were found on the farm of Balmbair, at a place called the Dumbie's Know, by the side of a large stone, as many of David's groats and half groats and Edward's pennies, as amounted, at the price of bullion, to three pounds. Some of the groats were in beautiful preservation, and without a single flaw. Obverse, David : Dei. Gra. Rex Scotorum ; reverse, Dus. Ptectorius Lib atorus, (and in an inner circle) Villa Edinburgh. One of these is now in the possession of the Antiquarian Society of Perth.

On the 4th of June 1834, there were found under a large stone, close beside the Thistle Bridge, which is a rock of trap that crosses the Tay *under* the water, about 1500 coins of different reigns and dates. Of these 540 were dispersed among different individuals, of which no account can be now obtained ; and 872 are in the possession of Mr Greig, merchant in Perth, who holds them for sale, and of which the subjoined is a correct list.\*

Obverse. Full face.	Reverse.	Remarks.
Edwr. angl. dels hyb.	R. dia ada leic.	R. de Hadalie was Master of
Edw. Rex Ang. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas London.	the Mint in the 1st 6 years
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	of Edward I. Only 2.
Edwar. r. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edwar. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edward R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Cantor.	
Edwa. R. Ang. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edw. R. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edward B. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edw. R. Angb Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Dureme.	Particular mint mark.
Edwa. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Do. Do.	Do. Do.	With particular mint mark.
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	Ob. with mint mark, rev. with
Edwar. r. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	a cross.
Edward R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Villa Novi castric.	
Do. Do.	Villa Novicatri.	
Do. Do.	Vill. Nov. castri.	
Edwar. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Vill. Novicatri.	Only one found.
Edw. R. D. R. Angl. Dus.	Vill. Novicatri.	
Hyb.		
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Vill. Suedmundie.	
Do. Do.	Vill. Suedmundi.	

asseveration, Lord Kames had either forgot the date of the battle of which he speaks, or had not remembered that Luncarty is in the very heart of the kingdom of the Picts, and in the vicinity of its capital. The battle of Luncarty was fought about the year nine hundred and ninety of our era. Agricola was settled in his camp at Orrea, almost on the same spot, about the year eighty, or nine hundred years before. Not a plough known during all this time!! Credat Judæus! Tacitus shows us, at great length, the care of Agricola to initiate the Scottish youth in the arts and luxury of the Romans ; I wonder he never gave them any lessons in agriculture ; the more especially as some knowledge of that art was absolutely necessary to enable them to pay the tribute, which, the author tells us, consisted of money and corn. And one cannot help wondering how the Scots could discharge these vectigalia before a plough was known among them. Abernethy and Brechin still testify to us, that the Picts were great artificers, but they could be no agriculturists, for a plough was not known in Scotland for three hundred years after the overthrow of their kingdom !!

Edw R. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Vill. Suedmundi.	
Edw R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Eboraci.	Cross with open dots, only 2.
Do. Do.	Do. Do.	Cross and pallets without dots.
Edw. R. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Dunelm.	
Edwa. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	With crook.
Edwa. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Villa Berwici.	The W divided by limb of
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	cross v.l.v.
Edwa. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Villa Bristolie.	
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Oxoniæ.	Only one.
Do. Do.	Civitas Cestrie.	Only one.
Do. Do.	Civitas Lincoln.	
Edw. R. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Vill. Kingestou.	
Henrici Dei Gra.	Romanorum Rex.	Ob. with mint mark and eagle.
Henrici Terci.	Nicoli in London.	Rev. with cross and pellets
Face in a triangle.		in quarters.
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Waterford.	
Do. Do.	Civitas Dublinie.	
	Scottish Coins.	
Alexander Dei Gra.	Rex Scotorum.	
Johannes Dei Gra.	Rex Scotorum.	Fresh and entire.
Johannes Dei Gra.	Civitas S. Andre.	Scarce.
Johannes Dei Gra.	Civitas St Andree.	Only one.

*Ancient Manners.*—For a long time after the Reformation, society was in a state of disorder, the contemplation of which is apt to fill us with profound astonishment. The corruption of manners, which the depravity of the Popish clergy had introduced, and countenanced, was not so speedily reformed as the errors of their faith; and for more than a hundred years after the introduction of Presbytery, not only the immoralities of drunkenness and debauchery, but the grosser and more enormous crimes of adultery, incest, assault, and murder, prevailed to an almost incredible extent. The criminal law against these crimes seems neither to have been regularly nor vigorously enforced, and the correction or punishment of them seems to have been left, in a great measure, to the church. The records of our Presbytery, which extend back to 1619, teem with such enormities, and present us with strong pictures of the corruption of manners,—the defective administration of the law,—and the ancient power of the clergy. There are two instances of this kind, connected with this parish, which are so extraordinary in their nature as to deserve to be recorded. In 1620, Harry Shaw of Pitmurthly, made an assault upon Mr Young, his minister, an aged and infirm man, because he had executed a summons against him, by direction of the Presbytery, “*pursuit him,*” as the record says, “*invadit him to the danger of his life, having in his hands ane rung, with ane long dirk or else ane dalger*; and, although the poor old man repeatedly called for mercy, *made him swear that he would never speak of him before the Presbytery, or by the blood of Jesus he should instantly die.*” Yet the only punishment inflicted for this dastardly and cruel assault was, that he should appear in

the kirk of Redgorton "*ane Sabbath in lynen clothes,*" "*and confess that he did the minister wrang in the manner foresaid.*" \*

The other case referred to is more extraordinary still. On the 23d November 1619, Colin Pitscottie, eldest son of John Pitscottie, of Luncarty, which was then a barony, was charged before the Presbytery with having murdered Alexander Lamb, in Ben-chill, under cloud of night, in the house of Walter Whytock, smith, within the parish of Redgorton. No notice was taken of this murder by the civil authorities. But, after various procedure, Colin Pitscottie appeared before the Presbytery, and confessed himself guilty of the murder. Yet the only punishment inflicted on him for this crime, was, that he was ordained "*to make his public repentance for the murther of umquhil Alexr Lamb, in the kirk of Redgorton, in lyning clothes ane Sunday afoirnoon.*" The details of these very singular proceedings will be seen in the extracts from the presbytery records given at the foot of the page.\*

\* *Extract from the Records of the Presbytery of Perth.*—The presby of Perth halden in the revistry, 12th Sepr 1620. Quhilk day William Young, minister of Redgorton, complains to the brethren upon Harry Shaw of Pitmurthly, of the quhilk complaint the tenour follows, beand in effect, that the said Wm upon Thursday the 7 of Sepr instant, he being among the stooks upon his own gleib, in ane solitar and quyet place, callit the How of the Park, at his meditations in quyet and sober manner, thinking of na evil to have been said or done to him of person or persons, but to have lived under God's pace and our sovairane Lord's. In the meantime, the said Harry Shaw of Pitmurthlie having conceivit ane dedly haterit against the said Wm Young, for citing him before the Presbytery of Perth, upon ane sclander of adultery committed by him wt Janet Mar, the spouse of John Patone, sometime in Pitmurthlie, of set purposis, provision and forethought felonie wt crueltie invadit and pursuit him of his lyfe, haveing in his hands ane rung with ane long durk, or else ane dalger, and the said Wm Young seeing him in ane rage, and threatning him of his lyfe, ran away, the said Harry followed him ane great spacie, and cryed theif thy 'feit shall not beir the from me,' the said Wm Young being ane eagit man, and feiring he sould have fellit him wt the rung, cryed many tymes God's mercy, the said Harry overtaking him that was fleeing callit him traitor, and askit quhat he said of him to the presby, and quhen the said Wm answerit he might speir at Mr Johne Straquhan, his good friend, the said Harry Shaw commandit him to sweir that he sould neevir speek of him again to the presby, or be the blood of Jesus he sould presently die. And wt greit difficultie was steyed from farder troubling him, be some puir men that cam from sheiring of the corns, and immediately thereafter the said Harry made vant of his doing to his ain scheiriris, and expressly declared that he had causit the minister swair, and cry many times God's mercy. The presby ordains information hereof to be sent to my Lord Archbishop of St Andrews, to rais ane summons to summond the said Harry Shaw before the hie commission for the said violent and barbarous fact.

At Perth, 8th day of October 1620.—Quhilk day compeirit Harry Shaw of Pitmurthlie, and being accusit of the wrangis done be him to Wm Young, his minister, and being demandit in special gif he boistit the said Wm Young, and cheisit him and cryit 'theif thy feit sall not beir the from me.' And when the minister cryt God's mercie, gif he said then to the minister, theif quhat said thou yesterday of me to the presby, and bade the minister sweir that he sould never speak of him any moir to presby. The said Harry Shaw with great humiliitie confessit the samyne and every poynt thereof.

The presby ordains him to mak his public repentance in the kirk of Redgorton ane day in lyning clothes, and thair exprimlie confess he did the minister wrang in manner foresaid.

\* The Presby of Perth haldin in the Revistry of the paroch. kirk thereof, the first

*Modern History.*—St Serffs, which, as has been stated, was one of the three parishes which were united together at the Re-

day of December, 1619, Alexr. B. of Dunkeld Modr.—The quhillk day Mr Young, minister at Regorton, informs the Presby that Colin Pitscottie appeirand of Luncardie, recentlie in the month of Novr. last, by past, the 23 day thereof, cruellie murthrit umquhill Alexr. Lambe in Benchill, under silence and cloud of night, committit be him in the dwelling-house of Walter Quhytock, smith, within the parochin of Regortoun, diocese of Dunkeld, sheriffdome of Perth. The presby ordains the said Colin Pitscottie be summond literatorie to compeir befor the Presby the 8 day of Decer. instant, at the tyme of meitting, to heir and see him ordeinit to satisfy the discipline of the kirk, for the removing of the sc'ander arysing of the said murther, wt certification quhidder he compeir or not the Presby will proceed agains him. wt the censure of the kirk.

The Presby of Perth (ut supra) 22 day of Decr. 1619.

Quhile day is product ane summons duely execute and indorsit, bearing that Coline Pitscottie appeirand of Loncardy is lawfullie summonit at his dwelling-house in Myretown of Loncardy, to compeir this day befor the Presby, to answer to the discipline of the kirk, for removing of the sclander arising from the foirnमित murther, wt certification, an he compeir not, the presby would proceed to the sentence of excommunication agais him, as the said summons and execution thereof in themselves at length bears. Quho being oft and diverse tymes callit exprimly at the said revistrie door, lawful tyme of day, and nocht compeirand, be himself nor na utheris in his name, the modr. and brethren finding him to continue in his disobedience, ordains the censures of the kirk to proceed agais him, and to that effect public admonitiones to be given him in the kirk of Redgorton, that he pretend na excuse, and with the admonitiones, public prayeris to be joined, that God may bring him to the knowledge of his sinne, and repentance therfor, that he incur not the fearful sentence of excommunication. The first admonition to be given him next Sabbath.

The Presby. of Perth (ut supra) 16 day of Feb. 1620.

Quhillk day Wm Young reports that he gave the first public admonition on Sunday last to Colin Pitscottie, foirsaid, wt prayeris joyned therewt, ordains him to proceed.

The Presby of Perth (ut supra) 1st March 1620.

Quhillk day Wm Young declares that he admonis hit not Colin Pitscottie on Sunday last, in respect that the said Colin's fathir promisit to send his letter subscrit with his awin hand. The Presby finds fault wt the said Wm Young, that he recedit not agais him, without that he had received his letter befor Sunday last. Therefore ordains him to proceed on Sunday nixt, and gif him the second admonition.

The Presby of Perth, (ut supra) 19 day of Julii 1620.

Quhillk day compeirrit Coline Pitscottie appeirand of Loncardy. and confessit the murther of umquhill Alexr. Lambe, in Benchill, committed by him in the month of November last, he begane his repentance publicly befor the brithrin, and promises for removing of the sclander to declair his repentance publictlye as sall be enjoyned to him. He meined himself to the brithrin, that he has sutchie urgent affairs with friends, that he may nocht be in this countrie for the space of six weeks, and therefore desyrit that his public repentance myght be delayed to his return. The modr. and brithrin grantis him the space of ane month, and ordains him to compeir again befor the presby the 16 day of August nixt to com, quhillk he promisit to do.

The Presby of Perth (ut supra) the 18th day of October 1620.

Quhillk day compeirrit Johne Pitscottie of Loncardie, and declairt that Coline Pitscottie, his sone, was nocht in this countrie, nor will not be afoir Mertimes next, and most humblie besought the modr. and breithrine, to continue the proceeding of the proces and censures of the kirk agais him. And faithfully promises that at Mertimes next he sall compeir, and sall obey their wisdoms in declaring his repentance, for removing of the sclander of that unhappy fact of the murther of umquhill Alexr. Lambe committit be him.

The Presby after advysment upon the said John Pitscottie his promis continues all proceeding agais him until the said terme of Mertimes nixt.

The Presby. of Perth (ut supra) the 21 day of Novr. 1620.

Quhillk day comperit Coline Pitscottie appeirand of Luncardie, and confessit his offence in committing of the murther of umquhill Alexr. Lambe, and promises for removing of the sclander to mak his public repentance as sall be ordeinit to him. The

formation,—was formerly the parish to which the barony of Huntingtower belonged. Abbot Milne, in his History of the Bishops of Dunkeld, gives a curious account of the reason why that church was abandoned as the place of worship of the ancient family of Ruthven, to whom the barony of Huntingtower belonged, and who had their residence at that ancient castle, on the opposite side of the River Almond. He tells us, “ that a son of Lord Ruthven, having come to this church to be baptized, was drowned in the River Almond in returning home, and that from that time the church of St Mary’s, at Tippermuir, became the parish church of the whole lands on that side of the river.”

But the lands whose history is most interesting are the lands of Benchill. These lands were long the property of the Gowrie family, who were generally provosts of Perth. After the Gowrie conspiracy, they were forfeited to the Crown, along with the rest of the family property. They subsequently came into the possession of the Arnots of Benchill, who also, for a long time, were provosts of Perth. They next came into the possession of the family of Nairne, and after the Rebellion 1745, were a second time forfeited to the Crown, with the exception of Nether Benchill, which a few years before had been disposed to Graham of Balgowan, and concerning which a curious historical notice is given below.

*The Chief Land-Owners.*—The principal landed proprietors are, Lord Lynedoch, who possesses two-thirds of the whole parish; the Duke of Athole; Mr Smythe of Methven; and Sir J. Stewart of Murthly.

*Modern Buildings.*—Almost the only modern building worthy of notice in the parish is the Chapel of Ease, now formed into the Ecclesiastical Church of Stanley. It is a very handsome structure, with a tower 85 feet high on the northern end. It is capable of containing 1000 hearers, and was erected at the expense of L. 3000, laid out solely by Denniston, Buchanan, and Company, for the benefit of their work people employed at their extensive cotton-mills at Stanley. Being situated on the top of a bank, of considerable elevation above the river, it forms an object of interest and ornament for a great district of country round it.

There are also at present building, and nearly finished, a mill

Presby. ordains him to mak his public repentance ane day in the kirk of Ragortoun, on ane Sunday afoirnune, conforms to the ordinance set down in the buik of discipline anent murtheris, quihilk he promises to do.



for spinning cotton, and another for spinning flax, of which an account will be given under the article *Manufactures*.

*Parochial Registers.*—The first entry of births in the parochial register is 18th November 1706. The record has been kept pretty regularly since that time, with the exception of the period from September 1709, till June 1715, which is blank, and the year 1743, in which there are only two entries.

### III.—POPULATION.

The following is the population of the parish at different periods.

Population in 1755,	1074	
1763,	600	
1772,	1700	
1798,	2123	
1811,	2216	
1821,	1589	
1831,	1866	
1836,	1912	
In 1831 there were of females,		1005
males,		861
Number of families,		403
inhabited houses,		267
families employed in agriculture,		48
in handicraft and manufactures,		96
not employed in either division,		257
Number of population in the country,	668	
in villages,	1244	

The latter of these numbers is distributed in five villages in the following proportions :

Stanley,	600
Pitcairn Green,	280
Luncarty,	228
Bridgeton of Almond,	95
Craighead,	63
The yearly average of births for last seven years.	36
of marriages,	16
of deaths,	19
Illegitimate births for 3 years	9

The season 1832, in which Asiatic cholera prevailed, was the year in which the greatest number of deaths occurred, the number in that year being 28, of whom 13 died of cholera. If the 13 who died of cholera were not taken into account, it would reduce the average of deaths in the seven years to 17, and render it very nearly equal to the number of marriages. The year 1833, which succeeded the season of the cholera, was more than usually healthy, the number of deaths in that year being only 8. This would seem to prove that some of those who were carried off by cholera were those of feeble constitution, and who would have died by other diseases, or by the course of nature, in the following season. The deaths in the season of the cholera itself too, if the number who died of that disease be deducted, falls below the average; which

seems to favour the supposition, that some who died of cholera would have died that very year of other distempers. At the same time, it is certain that some young and healthy persons, who, by the calculation of human chances, might have survived many years, were carried off by that dreadful malady.

The number of children in the parish has been taken, in the district of Stanley, under fifteen years of age, and in the rest of the parish, under twelve, which give as nearly as possible the same relative result.

The number of children in Stanley district under 15 years of age is	239
in the rest of the parish under 12 years of age is	377
Giving as the average number of children in each family,	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Taking the number of children in Stanley under 15, in proportion to the number of inhabitants in the district, as the rule, it would give as the number of children under 15, in the whole parish,	712
Average number of each family,	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Number of insane persons,	2
fatuous,	4
deaf and dumb,	1
persons above 80 years of age, of whom one is 98,	10

The only residing heritor in the parish is John Marshall, Esq. the principal partner of the Luncarty Company, who hold a feu of upwards of 130 acres from Lord Lynedoch.

The language generally spoken in the parish is Scotch, which, as education advances, is receiving an admixture of indifferent English. None of the natives speak Gaelic, but some recent settlers are imperfectly acquainted with English, and some, as they express it, have the advantage of the "two tongues." Their habits are cleanly,—at least much more so than in country parishes, where there is not such an admixture of people employed in public works.

With the exception of the inhabitants of Stanley, most of those who are employed in public works are engaged in bleaching, which may be regarded as the staple of our manufactures. The people employed at such fields enjoy regular but not extravagant wages; which, with prudence, are sufficient to provide for the comfortable subsistence of an orderly family; but do not give scope for that extravagance, arising from exorbitant wages, which is the fertile source of all manner of dissipation. This secures a propriety in their deportment, and a steadiness in their character, above what is ordinarily found in those who are engaged in public works. We cannot, therefore, free ourselves from some apprehension that the flax and cotton spinning-mills that are erecting in

the parish, may introduce a dissoluteness of manners, and a disregard of religion, which is as yet foreign to the character of our people; and of which we have only had a slight specimen in the few strangers that have been attracted to the flax spinning-mill that is already in operation.

Poaching salmon formerly prevailed in some degree, but is now entirely suppressed. Poaching in game also was formerly more prevalent than it is now. There are still some characters, however, that are suspected to be addicted to it; but these are always looked down upon by the rest of the people. Smuggling and pawnbroking were never known among them.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

##### *Agriculture.*—

There are in the parish	7680 acres.
Of these there are under wood,	860
uncultivated, including roads, fences, &c.	440
in grass about	600
under culture,	5780

*Rent of Land.*—The average rent of land in the parish may be stated to be from L. 1, 10s. to L. 2 per acre. The grazing of a full-grown ox may cost from L. 2, 10s. to L. 3; of a two-year old do. L. 2 to L. 2, 5s.; of a yearling do. L. 1, 10s. to L. 1, 15s.; of a Highland sheep 8s. to 9s.; of a Leicester do. 12s. to 16s.

*Live-Stock.*—The breed of black-cattle in this parish was not, till within these twenty years, distinguished by any peculiar character, but consisted of a mixture of all different forms and sizes. About that time, however, an importation was made of the Teeswater, or short-horned blood; and the prevailing stock on the best farms is now a cross, in various proportions, of that breed with the Ayrshire, or some other breed.

Most of the farmers are also getting into the way of keeping a few Leicester sheep; and Lord Lynedoch has in the parish a small flock of Southdowns. With these exceptions, there is no regular breeding-stock of sheep kept in the parish, but most of the farmers are in the way of having a flying stock, which is bought in autumn, and sold at different periods. If the stock purchased be three year old wedders, they are flaked through the winter on turnips, and sold early in spring. If they be two-year old wedders, they are kept on turnips through the winter, and grazed the following summer; or if, as is the more common case, they be Highland ewes, they are crossed with Leicester rams, and after feeding their lambs, are generally got fat by autumn, when they

are disposed of to make way for a new stock. This system requires the land to be retained for three years in grass, which makes what is called the six course shift, and is followed with great advantage by the best farmers. There are some, however, that still pursue the older practice of keeping their land only one year in grass, and thus taking a white crop every alternate year; which brings the rotation of crops so quickly round, and thereby so tires the land, that speaking in general, there is not more grain raised on a farm by the four than by the six course shift.

*Potatoe Crop.*—The principal dependence of the farmer in this parish, as in the rest of this county, is on their crop of potatoes. The Perthshire reds have for a number of years held a high character in the London market. The price, however, has been very fluctuating, having varied from 7s. to 15s. per boll of eighteen stones. An average crop on tolerably good ground may vary from 30 to 40 bolls per acre. So that a crop of potatoes is more valuable than any crop the farmers can raise; and it is only from this circumstance that they have been enabled for a number of years past to pay their rent. But unfortunately a great failure has taken place, very generally, in this crop, for several years, from a defect of vegetation in the sets planted. In some cases this failure has extended to half the crop; and in some, it has been so complete, that the whole has been ploughed up. Wherever agriculture is treated of, a short statement of the causes and remedies of a failure, which is of such vast importance to the community at large, and of such transcendent interest in the rural economy of this great county, cannot be misplaced. Having paid some attention to this subject, I may state very shortly some considerations, which could be easily established by referring to what has occurred in the practice of various agriculturists.

There are two classes of causes which must be taken into view, to account for this failure, and for all the phenomena which have occurred with respect to it. The first of these may be denominated the remote cause; the second the proximate causes.

The remote or primary cause appears to be a failure in the vegetative power of the potatoe, arising from its age; or the length of time that it has been planted since it was raised from seed.

The potatoe cultivated in Perthshire has been in existence for perhaps sixty years. It is not certainly so long since it came into general use. But its age is to be determined by the number of years that it has been planted, and not in any measure by the ex-

tent of its propagation. The potatoe then seems to be in that stage of its existence in which, under favourable circumstances, it will grow as luxuriantly, and produce nearly as good crops as ever it did; but in which its vegetative vigour is so far diminished that its growth is obstructed by causes, which, in the earlier stage of its existence, it would have overcome.

These causes I have denominated the proximate causes of the failure; and, so far as they have come under attentive observation, they may be reduced to four.

The first, and perhaps the most general of these is permitting the potatoes to spring in the pits. The farmer will tell you, if you state this as a cause of the failure of his crop, that this cannot be the case. For he has repeatedly planted potatoes, when they were much farther sprung, without having a blank in his field. He forgets that a plant will push out its shoots much more frequently in one stage of its existence than in another.

The second proximate cause of this failure is the practice, which has been generally resorted to, of planting the potatoe crop at too late a period of the season, by which means the plant has not time to ripen, or come to full maturity. Betwixt the new and old terms of Whitsunday is the period generally adopted for this operation, whereas it ought to be performed in the middle of April.

The third cause is keeping the potatoes too long above ground after they have been cut. This I know to have been remarked in the practice of several farmers, and was very strikingly exhibited in my own immediate vicinity; where two sacks of old cut potatoes were placed at one end of a field, and two sacks newly cut, placed at the other, and two women set to plant them. They filled their baskets alternately from the one and the other as they reached the ends of the field, and the result was, that every two alternate drills was a complete failure, whilst in the other alternate two, there was scarcely a blank.

The fourth cause is the practice of planting the potatoe sets upon the dung, especially if it be hot from the yard. The soil is the natural place for a plant to grow in; and it will often grow there, when it will grow nowhere else. But my observation of this cause is not founded on this reasoning, but upon what occurred in the practice of a clergyman in the north. Having a portion of a field on which the dung was spread in the drills, but which he could not get planted over night, he directed the harrows to be drawn longitudinally over the drills, in order to throw a little earth over

the dung, that it might not be dried before the morning. The result was, that the potatoes planted upon the hot dung were a great failure, while those planted in the soil were a full crop.

The statement of these causes will in a great measure suggest their proper remedy; and therefore a few words upon the subject will suffice. It is obvious that the first or remote cause can only be remedied by having recourse to plants recently raised from seed, which is the method provided by nature for renewing or preserving the vigour of every one of her productions. Upon this point I cannot but refer to the experiment made by Mr Bishop at Methven Castle, who has been successful in raising a very excellent potatoe from seed, which he has now cultivated to some extent.

It must be a long while, however, before plants raised in this way can be diffused over the whole country, and therefore it is of importance to attend to the remedy of the secondary causes; and of these the first is the only one which does not itself suggest its own cure. Upon the first cause also, it is necessary to say the less, that the farmer has practically fallen on a partial cure by bringing his seed potatoes from the hill country. Plants raised in a cold climate are slower in springing than those raised in a warmer latitude; and if they be not only raised, but kept till about the season of planting, in the upland districts, they are often found not to have put forth a single shoot, whilst in the low country they have grown together like a mat, and perhaps are pushing through their covering. Where this remedy is not attainable, its want may be in a great measure supplied by burying them deep in the pits, or putting a great thickness of earth over them, to prevent if possible the warmth of spring from reaching them before the season of planting.

*Draining, &c.*—Draining has been carried on to a good extent in the parish; and almost all the waste land has been improved, except in the barony of Mullion. There is only one water-meadow in the parish, which has been irrigated within these few years, by Lord Lynedoch. But it is upon a very poor gravelly soil, and although it be certainly an improvement, it has not been found to answer expectation.

*Produce.* \*—It has been seen above that there are 5780 acres in the parish under culture; and about 600 in grass. If from the latter be deducted what is occupied by manufactories, &c. it will leave 500 available for pasture.

\* For woods, see page 166.

The raw produce from the whole, taking the rotation of cropping to be five years, may be as follows :

1156	acres of oats, at 5 bolls per acre, at 15s. per boll,	L. 4335
578	} do. potatoes, at L. 11 per acre,	6358
578	} do. turnips, at L. 7 per do.	4046
1156	do. barley, at 5 bolls per acre, at L. 1 per boll,	5780
1156	do. hay, at L. 4 per acre,	4624
1156	do. second year's grass, at L. 2 per acre,	2312
500	do. permanent pasture, at L. 2 per acre,	1000

L. 28,455

*Fisheries.*—The Tay has long been famous both for the quantity and quality of its salmon. But a great diminution has taken place of late years in the value of the fisheries. This defalcation has taken place over the whole course of the river, and is to be ascribed partly to a decrease in the number of the fish taken, and partly to a fall of the price in the London market. This defalcation has taken place to such an extent, that the rental of the river is not now above one-eighth of what it formerly was. Lord Lynedoch's fishing, for instance, in this parish, which used to bring L. 550, now lets for L. 65 per annum.

*Manufactures.*—Although the village of Stanley, which is connected with the extensive cotton-mills at that place, now the sole property of James Buchanan, Esq. of Duanhill, and his sons, be partly situated in this parish, yet, as the works themselves are in the parish of Auchtergaven, they will fall to be described in the account of that parish.

It has been already stated that bleaching may be regarded as the staple of the manufactures of the parish. But, besides the three bleachfields at Luncarty, Pitcairfield, and Cromwell Park, there are also in the parish two power-loom establishments, a flax spinning-mill in operation, and a cotton spinning-mill, ready to be put in motion, all at Cromwell Park, where there are three falls of the Almond: and a flax spinning-mill at Pitcairfield, also on the Almond, where there are two falls.

Luncarty has long been considered the most extensive linen cloth bleachfield in Scotland. The ground belonging to the company extends to 130 acres and upwards, held in feu from Lord Lynedoch, for the payment of a feu-duty of L. 150. The power required for driving the machinery is obtained by water brought from the Tay, by a dam dike, carried nearly across the river, and conveyed in a lead about two miles long, and which takes in the united waters of the Shochie and the Ordie, by the bed of these rivers being raised to the level of the lead by a powerful dike car-

ried across them. The waters of the Shochie and Ordie are, however, previously brought into the works, by a separate dam-dike, which gives a fall of twelve feet, on these waters by themselves. They are then conducted into the same channel with the water from the Tay, along with the superfluous water which had escaped over the upper dam-dike; and the whole form a very powerful stream, on which three several falls are obtained.

The power thus obtained, gives motion to twenty-four sets of beetles, which are in full operation, along with the corresponding number of calenders, and also to the necessary bleaching machinery, such as washing-stocks, rubbing-boards, &c. &c.; besides a fall reserved for giving motion to four other sets of beetles, in a separate building, which can be set agoing, should a press of business or other emergent, at any time require their operation.

The first part of the operation of drying in some descriptions of goods, and the whole operation in others, which is often a very tedious process, is here accomplished in a very beautiful and expeditious manner, by the cloth being carried over fourteen cylinders, which are heated by being filled with steam. The cylinders are placed in two rows, every one being placed opposite the interstice of two in the other row. The cloth being wove round the cylinders in the two rows alternately, is thus drawn over three-fourths of every one of them, and is taken out in the state of dryness required.

It is stated in last Statistical Account, that there were then 500,000 yards of cloth annually bleached here. There is now at least four times that amount of business done.

There are therefore annually bleached here, of linen cloth, of which a considerable proportion is damask, 2,000,000 yards. In these different operations there are regularly employed from 120 to 130 hands, all of whom are resident on the company's grounds, and the greater part of whom have been born and brought up on the place.

Cromwell Park is situated on the Almond, the water of which is collected and raised by a very beautiful dam-dike, in the form of an arch, having its convex side of course up the stream, and abutting on each side, upon one of those dikes, or veins of trap, which cross the river. Before this mode of arching the dam-dike was adopted, it was repeatedly carried away by the violence of the river when in flood, and from its waters being here confined by the trap dike already mentioned. But from the form



now adopted, it promises to stand as long as the abutment shall endure. By this means, three falls are obtained, which give motion to as many different works.

The uppermost of these is that which belongs to Alexander Reid, Esq., and consists of a flax spinning-mill, power-looms, and a bleach-field; so that the whole operations requisite to work up the flax into a finished article, ready for the market, are conducted on the premises.

In the spinning-mill, there are 430 spindles, which spin flax from 2 to 3 lb. per spindles, and of tow from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 7 lb. per do., 11,000 spindles, per week, amounting to, per annum, 57,200 spindles. This is worked up by 40 power-looms capable of working, per week, of cloth each 150 yards, making per annum, after allowing for stoppages, &c. a total production of about 300,000 yards.

The whole is afterwards bleached upon the premises, and finally finished by four single sets of beetles, for the markets.

The whole of these operations employ 120 hands.

The two next falls are possessed by Hector Sandeman, Esq. who has upon the upper of them a cotton spinning-mill, and power-looms. The spinning-mill is just finished and ready to be started, and will be in full operation before this account passes through the press.

It contains of self-acting mules 1728 spindles; throistles 1152 do.; capable of spinning of No. 40 for warps per week 1000 lbs.; of No. 36 for wefts per do. 1000 do.; making a total per annum of about 100,000 lbs. The whole is intended to be worked by power-looms, of which there are for five-fourths 42 looms; for eight-fourths 20 do.; of which there are in operation 34 do. The water-wheel for weaving is 10 horse power; do. for spinning 20 do. The third fall is employed in driving beetles for dressing cloth, which is bleached at Tulloch-field, and carried back there to be printed. The water-wheel is 17 horse power, and drives four single sets and two double sets of beetles. There are at present employed 45 hands; will be required in spinning 30 do; the whole employing 75 hands. All these different works are on the property of Lord Lynedoch.

Upon the same river there are, at Pitcairn-mill, two falls; to the upper of which the river is taken in by a dam-dike run obliquely across the river, and abutting upon the rock, upon which the old bridge of Almond is founded; a mine being driven through the rock, behind the foundation, for the passage of the water.

This fall, which has been for some time employed in driving a

flour-mill, is intended to drive a flax spinning-mill by day, which is now erecting, and the flour-mill by night. It is held by a company of bakers in Perth, on a subset from R. Sutherland Esq. of which there are only seven years to run, who have again subset it for driving a flax-mill to Messrs M'Dougal and Langlands. The flour-mill, which was formerly capable of grinding 200 quarters per week, will by this restriction not be capable of grinding above 50 quarters, or per annum, 21600 quarters.

The spinning-mill will contain 800 spindles; capable of spinning per week of 3 pound yarn, 2400 spindles; giving a fabrication per annum of 124,800 do. \*

The bleachfield at Pitcairfield is in the possession of Robert Sutherland, Esq., who holds it and the preceding fall on a long lease from Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven. The power here is obtained from the old mill-dam of Pitcairn, where there has been a mill as far back as our records go. This fall, besides the other requisite machinery, gives motion to eleven sets of beetles, which, besides finishing the goods bleached at the field, are employed in dressing a considerable quantity of umbrella cloths; an article, the fabrication of which is much attended to by the manufacturers of Perth. There are employed at this work 50 hands.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—The nearest market-town, there being none in the parish, is Perth, which is upwards of two miles from the most adjacent part of the parish; and upwards of eight miles from the remotest part; except the barouy of Mullion, which is from ten to twelve miles distant. Perth is also the post-town.

*Roads.*—The only turnpike road in the parish is the road from Perth to Dunkeld, which runs through it for four miles, and a branch from it passing Stanley. On this road, the Dunkeld coach passes and repasses every day, as is the case also with the Inverness mail.

There are four statute labour roads in the parish. One crosses it from east to west; one from north to south; one branching off from the Dunkeld road crosses a part of it from south-east to north-west; and one crosses from south-west to north-east.

*Bridges.*—In a parish situated as this is, at the confluence of two rivers, the one of which is seldom fordable, and the other extremely dangerous when in flood, and which cannot be approach-

\* The completion of this work has been stopped since this account went to press, in consequence of the pressure on business in Dundee.

ed, except from the north-west, through the middle of the Grampians, without crossing one or other of these rivers,—bridges must always be an object of great importance.

There is no bridge across the Tay betwixt Perth and Dunkeld, the former about two miles and a-half from the southern boundary of the parish; the latter about eight from its northern limits. The only communication which we have across the Tay, therefore, is by a boat impelled by oars; and which can carry four or five horses, half a score of cattle, or a couple of scores of sheep at a time. This mode of conveyance, however, is not applicable to the River Almond, over which all our communication with the south and west takes place. The Almond is a very rapid river, and often comes down in a flood of four feet in a perpendicular breast, in which no kind of boat could live. Accordingly we have three bridges across that river. Of these, the middle one, called the Old Bridge of Almond, has now stood for more than two hundred years. It consists of one arch, founded on two rocks, and was built in 1619, by a number of gentlemen, the chief of whom was John Graham, Esq. of Balgowan, the ancestor of Lord Lynedoch, as appears from the following very curious entry in the presbytery record.

“ The presby of Perth hauldin in the revestrie of the paroch kirk thereof the 26th day of Maii 1619, Mr Johnne Guthrie moder. Quhilk day comperit Johnne Graham of Balgowan, and exponit to the presby that the water of Almond being ane gryt river, quhairn be the violence thereof many ar yeirliche perishit (as is mair nor notorious,) for remeid quharof he and certaine uthir gentillmen has concertit with certaine measones to sett ane stone brige over the same, quhilk is ane wark wery deir and costlie, and cannot be gottin performit without that godlie and well affectat gentillmen, and utheris, contribute to the building of the same. And in respect that it is ane necessarrie wark for ane common well and wary costlie, he desiris that the brithiring of the ministry every ane will deal with their awn parochineris for helpe to the samin with als greit diligence as possibly they can, that the wark may be endit befor winter come. Quhilk desyre, as godly and reasonabill, the brithrin promises to obey, every ane for their awn pairt.”

The lower bridge is on the line of the Dunkeld road, from two to three miles below the former. It consists of three arches, each of them forming the segment of an ellipse, and was built in 1827.

It is a very neat structure, but the settling has sunk the parapet over the central arch about an inch below the level of the rest of the wall.

The third bridge is that on which we are most disposed to pride ourselves. It is situated at Dalcruive, about as far from the old bridge to the west, or up the river, as the second is below it. As a modern structure, it is remarkable for its elegance and simplicity, for the grandeur of its elevation, and the beauty of its workmanship:—as a benefit, as well as an ornament to the district, it is worthy of the splendid scenery amidst which it is placed:—as an example of munificence and public spirit in an individual, it stands by an unmeasurable distance at the head of all the public, or recorded transactions of this great county. This bridge, like the Old Bridge of Almond, is founded on two rocks, or rather upon a dike, which here crosses the river, and affords a firm foundation for the superstructure on either side. It consists of one semicircular arch of 80 feet span; the abutment of which is upwards of 10 feet high, so that the height of the top of the bridge above the bed of the river is fully 50 feet. The foundation stone was laid 25th August 1832. The arch was keyed 20th August 1836, and the centre struck the 1st of September following; and such is the accuracy of the workmanship, that no perceptible settling has taken place. The approach to this bridge has required the cutting down of two hills, and the filling up of the valley betwixt them; the whole of which, as well as the building of the bridge, has been accomplished, we may say, at the sole expense of Lord Lynedoch, the county having as yet contributed only L. 150 from the road-money towards the expense. One of these cuts too, having been carried through the ridge, along which the ride from Lynedoch to the bridge of Bertha runs, has been crossed by a beautiful little bridge of a semicircular arch, a miniature as it were of the former, at the cost of L. 500. The whole of this public improvement, the building of the bridges, the filling up of the valley over which the road is carried, with the cutting of the hills, and erecting the corresponding retaining walls, has cost his Lordship about L. 4000, a sum rarely expended by an individual in one undertaking for the public benefit.

The erection of the Old Bridge of Almond has transmitted the name of his ancestor, as a benefactor of the public, for two hundred years. The erection of this bridge promises to transmit his Lordship's fame in the same character, to a still more remote poster-

ty ;—and forms, indeed, a monument to his memory, more perishable only than that deathless name which he has carved out with his sword on the field of Barossa, and at the sieges of St Sebastian and Bergen-op-zoom.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church is situated about the centre of the lower part of the parish ; and though not in the immediate vicinity of any village, is as convenient as it could be for the general population, being at an equal distance from the village of Luncarty on the east, and Pitcairn-green on the west. It is therefore from three to four miles from the extremities of the lower part of the parish ; but it is upwards of eight miles from the extremity of the barony of Mullion. Though conveniently situated for the lower part of the parish, it is impossible that it can be so, for a district located from six to eight miles from it, as Mullion is. It was built in 1776, and the only repair it has since received is, that it was ceiled at the commencement of the present incumbency in 1812. It is accordingly both defective in comfort for those whom it contains, and inadequate to the population of the parish. Its discomfort consists in its not being floored or paved below ; and in the narrowness of the pews, which do not admit of persons sitting in them without being cramped, unless they sit obliquely, which the state of the occupancy does not admit of. It is seated for 414, and there are upwards of 500 communicants ; so that it cannot contain the whole communicants at one time. And if it be admitted that every young communicant should have seen the solemn ordinance of the Lord's supper only *twice* administered before he comes to be a partaker of it ; then there must, on a communion Sabbath, be 160 communicants who cannot find accommodation in the church. Accordingly it happens that on such occasions, not only is the church overcrowded, but, from the church door to the church-yard door, there is a mass of human beings who cannot get entrance into the church to keep with decency the memorial of their Redeemer.

The manse was built at rather a later date than the church, and was repaired in 1829. The glebe consists in all of about 8 acres of land ; and there is a rent of 4 bolls of meal, and 10s. Scots paid by Mr Smythe of Methven, for the possession of another. The stipend has been recently modified to 17 chalders, half meal, half barley. But it is as yet uncertain whether this will be made good.

There is a Chapel of Ease, now erected into an ecclesiastical

parish, at Stanley. The minister has a stipend of L. 150 for the payment of which he holds a bond by Denniston, Buchanan, and Co., and that company has also very handsomely given him a house, for which there is no compact in the deed of erection.

There are two Dissenting meeting-houses in the parish; one of which belongs to the United Secession, and is attended by 61 individuals, young and old, belonging to this parish, according to a list taken in 1835-36;—the other of which belongs to the Original Seceders, which is attended by 63 within the parish, according to the same list. But part of both congregations come from the adjacent parishes. The ministers of both chapels are paid, I believe, entirely from the seat rents, and may be stated to have a stipend of L. 70 or L. 80 each.

There are at present belonging to the Establishment 1617; to other denominations 280; not known to belong to any denomination, 15. This, however, would not give a just view of the state of dissent in the lower part of the parish; for it gives nearly a sixth of the population as Dissenters. But it is worthy of observation, that there is a remarkable difference in the proportion of dissent in the two districts of the parish; a difference which shews that dissent is greatly increased by removal from the means of instruction and superintendence in the Establishment. In the barony of Mullion, which contains a population of 100, there are 56 Dissenters, which gives a proportion of more than one-half of the inhabitants; whilst in the lower part of the parish, in the midst of which the church is situated, there are only 224 Dissenters out of a population of 1812, which gives only a proportion of one-eighth of the inhabitants.

There are of families that attend the Established Church,	324
Families of whom part attend the Established Church, and part belong to some denomination of Dissenters,	9
Families attending Dissenting Houses of any kind,	61
Individuals belonging to the Establishment,	1617
Individuals of all denominations of Dissenters,	280
The average number of communicants in the Established Church,	500
In the church of Stanley belonging to this parish,	183
	688

The Established Church is at all times well attended, in summer by as many as the house can contain. And were there better accommodation, or more of the kind that we possess, there would be a still more numerous attendance; as many are withheld from going to church by not knowing where they are to sit, or whether they may obtain a seat at all.

The average amount of church collections for religious and charitable purposes is L. 27, 5s. 11d.

*Education.*—If there be any thing like a reflection upon the he-ritors of the parish, implied in the statement which has been given of the state of our church accommodation, it is gratifying to turn to the encouragement which they have uniformly given to the in-terests of education in the parish. In the year 1828, when the parish school became vacant,—in order to invite a person of respectability to the office, they doubled his house accommodation, and added an additional piece of ground to his possession. And this year, when they found that the number of scholars, whom the character of the person they had selected for teacher had drawn together, could not be accommodated in the school-room, they have added fifteen feet to its length. The number of schools in the parish is three ; of parochial schools one. The salary is the maximum, and the school fees may amount to upwards of L. 30, if the whole are paid up.

There are no children betwixt six and fifteen years of age who cannot read or write ; and only one above fifteen destitute of these qualifications, which is regarded as a phenomenon by those who are aware of the deficiency.

The whole of the barony of Mullion is beyond the distance which children can possibly travel to school ; and, together with some portions of the parishes Auchtergaven and Moneydie, *quoad sacra*, would be greatly benefited by an additional school.

*Poor.*—The average number of poor on the stated roll who are provided for by assessment is 25 ; average amount of monthly payments L. 4, 12s. 3d. ; of yearly do. L. 55, 7s. Besides these, there are a number of poor who are left to the management of the session, who receive L. 47, 2s. 2d. ; making the whole expenditure for the poor per annum, L. 102, 9s. 2d. ; of which the average amount of church collections, dues of morthcloths, &c. is L. 27, 5s. 11d.

*Alehouses.*—There are no less than eleven houses in the pa-rish licensed to sell ale and spirits. But of these, there are five, which being placed on the public roads, and not in villages, may be regarded as supplying the demands of the public *beyond the bounds of the parish*. Still six remaining houses should be more than adequate to supply the necessary demands of the parish, though the others should sell no spirits to the parishioners. And it would be desirable if the means of doing so could be devised, that some of them should be suppressed. Any attempts that have been made

by the kirk-session for the accomplishment of this object have been counteracted from other quarters.

#### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

There are few parishes in Scotland that have undergone greater improvement, since the date of last Statistical Account, than this, whether we look merely at its external aspect, or regard it in an agricultural, or in a mercantile point of view. The woods which were then but recently planted have grown up, both for ornament and for utility. The marshes have been drained, and the waste land improved; and a new and better system of agriculture introduced. It begins to be generally understood that the land cannot stand a constant system of cropping, without intervals of rest. The sheep husbandry is, therefore, daily gaining ground; and the breed of cattle has been improved both in size and earliness of maturity. In manufactures those anticipations of future prosperity which were then indulged have been in a great measure realized, though not exactly in the anticipated lines. There were then five hundred thousand yards of cloth bleached annually in the parish, there are now from three to four millions. There were then about two hundred thousand yards of cloth printed, there is now nearly double that quantity made. The cotton-works now about to be put in motion may be nearly equal to those which were then in contemplation; besides which there are or will be from twelve to thirteen hundred spindles, for spinning flax, and the introduction of power looms has opened up an extensive branch of manufacture, which was then altogether unknown.

In the midst of such extensive operations, it would be useless to speculate upon the capabilities of the parish for future improvement. It is only to be wished that the agricultural and commercial interests of the country may continue, or be increased; of which its local advantages, and the spirit of its people will always make this parish a proportional participator.

*April 1837.*



## PARISH OF MONEYDIE.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. J. W. THOMSON, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—THE parish of Moneydie (spelt Moneydie in the former Statistical Account) is of a long irregular form, extending from S. E. to N. W. about 10 miles in length, and varying from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 miles in breadth. Its superficial extent may be reckoned about 18 square miles.

It may be necessary here to explain the reason of the wide discrepancy between these statements, and those of the former Statistical Account. The present parish of Moneydie consists of two portions, viz. the old or original parish, and the new parish or Logiealmond, which, about eighty years ago, was disjoined from the neighbouring parish of Monzie, and annexed *quoad sacra* to Moneydie. Of these two portions, the author of the former account treated separately,—giving the statistics of each by itself. As the two districts differ so widely from each other in many particulars, some advantage might no doubt be gained in point of minuteness, by giving a distinct and separate account of each. It is hoped, however, that every important and practical end may be gained, and some confusion avoided, by conjoining the two, and describing the parish as one whole, distinguishing them only in those particulars where circumstances seem to render such distinction necessary.

The parish of Moneydie is bounded on the east by the parish of Redgorton; on the south by Redgorton and Methven; on the west by Fowlis; and on the north by Auchtergaven, Little Dunkeld, and a detached portion of Redgorton. The western, or Logiealmond section of the parish, lies on the southern face of the first range of the Grampians, sloping down toward the River Almond, which forms the march with the parish of Methven. The eastern extremity reaches almost to the River Tay, near Luncarty bleachfield. With the exception of the Logiealmond hills, which rise to a height probably of 1800 feet above the level of the sea, there are no rising grounds of any importance in the parish.

*Rivers.*—The Almond is the only river of any consequence in the parish, and abounds with salmon and trout. There are besides two smaller streams, the Shochie and the Ordie, both of which take their rise in the Grampian range, and flow into the Tay, affording excellent trout-fishing.

*Geology, Soil, &c.*—With respect to geological structure, the parish is distinguished by nothing remarkable. The Logiealmond Hills consist for the most part of blue slate rock, blended with smaller portions of other primitive formations. In the lower grounds, every diversity of soil almost is to be met with. In the vicinity of the streams, a light alluvial soil chiefly prevails, varied occasionally by a rich black loam, on a hard gravel bottom. A little farther from the bed of the river, a kind of strong red earth is found, and a considerable proportion also of black loam. On the more elevated grounds, the soil consists for the most part of cold wet till. Clay is of rare occurrence; and, except in the remote parts, near the hills, there is little or no peat moss.

*Quarries.*—In Glenshee, there is a slate quarry, which is now but little worked, owing to the greatly superior quality of the slates found in the neighbouring quarry of Craiglia, situated a few miles to the westward in the same range of hills, but in the parish of Fowlis. About the middle of Logiealmond, there is a quarry of grey freestone, of a remarkably fine quality, and easily wrought.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

In Roman Catholic times, the parish of Moneydie seems to have been a parsonage connected with the diocese of Dunkeld. Little information tending to throw light upon this period of its history can now be obtained. About the year 1480, the living was held by Alexander Myln, Canon of Dunkeld, who also styles himself “Prebendary of Moneydie.” Myln was the author of a work entitled “Lives of the Bishops of Dunkeld,” a rare and curious work, containing much interesting information both of a general and local nature.\* In the Cathedral Church of Dunkeld, the following inscription is found:—*Hic jacet eximius vir Magister Alexander Douglas, Rector de Monidie, qui obiit 17 Dec. anno Dni Millesimo quingentesimo XLVIII.*

*Ancient Proprietors of Land.*—According to Myln’s account a large proportion of the property of the parish seems to have been in the possession of his diocesan. About the middle of the fifteenth

\* This work has been recently reprinted in the first volume of the Transactions of the Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth.

century, he tells us, that Bishop Brown “ purchased from Robert Waus, citizen of Edinburgh, for three years of the fruits of the Church of Cramond, the lands of Wester Kinvaid, Wester Lowstown, and Easter Lowstown. These lands he mortified to the church, and got them united to the barony of Dunkeld, but upon the express condition that a layman was to hold them of the church, and to perform the services to the King which fell to these lands.” In addition to these, the bishop was proprietor of the lands of Pittendynie and Kinvaid. The present glebe of the parish, which has evidently belonged originally to the estate of Pittendynie, was in all probability allocated during the time of this bishop. The next largest proprietor in the parish in these days seems to have been the master of Gowrie: for in an old “ list of lands and baronies contained in the seizin of James Master of Gowrie,” and executed on the 11th April 1584, we find enumerated “ the whole and entire lands of Moneydie, Balmbair, Ragilmy, with the half of the milns, multures, and miln-lands.” The estate of Strathord was then in the possession of Sir Patrick Crichton, from whom it was purchased by the ancestor of the first Lord Nairne. The only other proprietor of that period was Andrew Malcolm of Moneydie Roger, father of the Rev. John Malcolm, minister of Perth, a distinguished scholar, and intimate friend of Andrew Melville. The above were all in the old or original parish of Moneydie. The annexed district of Logiealmond, which extends to more than double the size of the original parish, appears then to have been in the possession of a family of the name of Logie.

*Present Proprietors.*—At present, the original parish of Moneydie is entirely in the possession of Lord Lynedoch and the Duke of Athole: and almost equally divided between them. Logiealmond is wholly the property of Sir John Drummond Stewart, Bart. of Grandtully.

*Eminent Persons.*—In the former Statistical Account, there are notices of two eminent persons connected with this parish. The first “ Bessy Bell,” celebrated in song as the companion of “ Mary Gray,” a daughter of the house of Lynedoch, who, during the ravages of the plague, which seems to have been remarkably severe in this quarter,\* took refuge together in a sequestered spot, (still pointed out) on the banks of the Almond; where, however,

\* In digging the foundations of the new church about twenty years ago, the workmen came upon an immense accumulation of bones, as if they had been thrown together into a pit, supposed to have been the remains of victims of the plague.

receiving occasional visits from a lover, they both caught infection, and fell victims to the desolating malady. The other individual mentioned is a great-grand-uncle of the late Sir William Drummond of Logiealmond, a zealous partisan of the house of Stewart, who signalized himself at Sheriffmuir, not more for his bravery, than for his prodigious feats of strength. His formidable broadsword is still exhibited as a curiosity in the Tower of London. Without any disparagement to the merits of this redoubted warrior, it is presumed that posterity will be more disposed to recognize as the ornament of his family and of his country, his late eminent and accomplished kinsman, the author of "Origines," and the "Academic Questions."

*Antiquities.*—In the department of antiquities, few parishes, it is believed, are more barren than Moneydie. Some years ago, a few vestiges remained of the old castle of Kinvaid, which are now completely removed. The author of the last Statistical Account speaking of this ruin says, "it seems to have been built before lime was known as a cement." From Myln's history we learn that it was built by Bishop Brown, for the purpose of protecting his tenantry from the predatory incursions of some of their lawless neighbours, and cannot therefore be above 350 years old. A spot, supposed to have been the site of a Roman camp, is still pointed out; but its genuineness is very doubtful. Like many other Roman camps, if its history were known, it would very likely turn out to have been a sheep-pen. Or if it must be held to have been a military post, it is more likely to have belonged to the Scots or the Danes, being in the immediate vicinity of the spot where the battle of Luncarty is supposed to have been fought. Several cairns of stones have been met with, which upon examination have been found to cover human bones. One or two circles of stones also may still be seen, which are not unlikely to have been places of Druidical worship; and particularly at the western extremity of Logiealmond, there is one remarkable block about 12 feet high and 18 feet in circumference, standing upon its narrow end, with three other stones in its immediate vicinity. It is commonly called the Kor Stone.

In the boundary line between Logiealmond and the old parish, there is a point at which the three dioceses of Dunkeld, Dumblane and St Andrews met. Tradition has it, that the three bishops, happening to meet at this point in the course of their perambulations, pledged each others health out of three wells that happen-

ed to exist within the limits of their respective territories. One of these wells was in existence forty years ago, and may possibly be so still.

The parish of Moneydie belonged originally to the presbytery of Dunkeld, and was annexed to that of Perth only about eighty years ago. From the presbytery seat of the former it is distant about ten miles, while it is only six from Perth.

*Parish Register, &c.*—The parish register goes back as far as the year 1655, and has been kept with tolerable correctness. One volume, however, embracing the period between April 1680 and August 1717, has been lost. There is also an important blank from August 12, 1666, to August 28, 1670, which is supposed to have been occasioned by the unsettled state of the church at that period. The following is a list of the ministers of this parish, with the dates of their settlement and death, so far as has been ascertained : David Drummond, ordained May 17, 1655 ; William Smythe, ordained before 1679 ; Alexander Chapman, ordained before 1705, died 1716 ; John Gardner, ordained August 6, 1717, died June 20, 1738 ; Gilbert Mann, ordained July 19, 1739, died April 30, 1754 ; Patrick Meek, translated from Rattray, December 26, 1754 ; and again translated to Kinnoul July 1761 ; George Fraser, translated from Redgorton, May 27, 1762, died 1807 ; James Somerville, ordained 1807, died November 30, 1827 ; the present incumbent was ordained August 7, 1828.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish seems to have been at one time much greater than it now is. The causes of decrease may be easily stated. In the old parish, within the last fifty years, many populous hamlets have been completely rooted out, and the small penicles possessed by cottagers have been thrown together and formed into large farms. In Logiealmond, where the system of large farms has not yet been adopted, and where the population is large in proportion to the soil, any decrease that has taken place has been in consequence of emigration. Within the last eight years, upwards of 100 persons have emigrated to Canada from Logiealmond alone.

The population is entirely agricultural, with very few exceptions.

*Births, Deaths, and Marriages.*—The yearly average of births for the last seven years is 17 ; of marriages 8 ; and of deaths no register is kept. It is proper to remark, however, that the number of births here given, does not exhibit an accurate average, as

there are some parents (chiefly Dissenters) who pay no attention to have their children registered.

Number of persons under 15 years of age,	375
upwards of 70,	39

The number of persons at the various intermediate stages, it is not so easy to ascertain.

Unmarried men, bachelors and widowers upwards of 50 years of age,	28
women (exclusive of widows)	45
widows,	42

The average number of children to a family is 3½

At present there are no persons in the parish who can come under the denominations of "insane or fatuous." There are one or two who may be called of weak intellect; one who is deaf and dumb, and one blind.

*Social Comforts, &c.*—The people generally speaking are healthy and robust, and seem upon the whole to enjoy a reasonable measure of the comforts and advantages of society. Among the peasantry, the staple articles of food are potatoes and oatmeal. There are few cottagers who do not keep pigs; but, with the exception of pork, animal food is rarely to be seen, except in the houses of the more substantial farmers.

*General Character, &c.*—With regard to "the general character of the population, intellectual, moral and religious," it is believed that they are pretty much on a footing with other parishes similarly situated. The outward forms of religion are in general punctually attended to; few, if any, habitually absent themselves from public worship; and the general tone of morals is upon the whole sound and healthy. The most prevailing vice perhaps in the present day, and in all parts of the country, is intemperance. Among the many causes that have contributed to bring about this melancholy state of things, there can be no doubt that the lowering of the duty on spirits has had a most material effect; at the same time it may be questioned whether or not the needless increase in the number of public-houses has not contributed as largely to the same mischievous result. Upon this point, the following fact is worthy of notice. In the *old parish* of Moneydie there was not, until within the last six months, a single whisky shop of any description, nor was there known to the minister a single individual habitually addicted to drunkenness. In the Logiealmond district of the parish, on the other hand, there are unfortunately five public-houses, and, as might be expected, the sin of intemperance and its accompanying vices are found to prevail in a proportionate degree. Such a fact as this goes strongly to corroborate the view of those

who trace the increase of intemperance to the increased facilities of indulgence afforded by the multiplication of public-houses. It is a comparatively rare thing to find persons drinking to excess in their own dwellings. The public-house is the invariable place of resort. It is there the habit is first acquired, and there it is strengthened and confirmed. A bottle of spirits is seldom or never found in the house of a person addicted to drunkenness; and, on the other hand, it is as seldom found wanting in the houses of sober persons, in the same rank of life. From this it would appear, that if, instead of adopting the temperance society principle, (which is neither more nor less than entire abstinence, and the chief defect of which seems to be, that it aims at more than the word of God enjoins,) an association could be formed for discountenancing the practice of frequenting public-houses, the members of which association should resolve never to enter the door of a public-house, except on certain occasions to be specified; and if at the same time every exertion were made for diminishing the number of such houses throughout the country, it is humbly conceived that more practical good would be achieved in the way of suppressing intemperance, than by any other mere human means that have yet been suggested.

*Smuggling and Poaching.*—At one time, the practice of illicit distillation prevailed to a considerable extent in the parish. It is now, happily, almost unknown. Salmon poaching, however, still continues to be carried on; but chiefly by persons unconnected with the parish.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

In the old parish of Moneydie there are :

Imperial acres, arable,	2718
Do. pasture,	771
	—3489

In Logiealmond :

Imperial acres, arable,	2237
Do. pasture,	4869
	—7106

Total, 10,595

Of the land under pasture there are about 300 acres in the old parish, and probably 600 in Logiealmond, which, by a judicious application of capital, might be brought under tillage. About 800 acres are under wood; a large portion of which is old and valuable, and consists for the most part of Scotch fir. In the more recent plantations, larch, spruce fir, and oak, chiefly prevail. Of late years, oak has been very extensively planted on the estates of Lord Lynedoch; and as this kind of wood seems to thrive upon every

kind of soil, and to find nourishment where hardly any other trees will grow, there is little doubt that it will turn out a profitable mode of employing waste land.

*Rent.*—The rent of arable land varies from 10s. to L. 3 per acre. The average in the old parish is about L. 1, 10s., and in Logiealmond L. 1, 3s. The real rent of the whole parish is about L. 7800, whereof about L. 3700 are in Logiealmond. The valued rent is L. 3023 Scots.

*Improvement.*—That great improvements have been introduced into the practice of agriculture within the last forty years, are sufficiently indicated by the fact, that the rental of the parish, which was then only L. 2600, is now exactly trebled; a circumstance which cannot be attributed to any rise that has taken place in the price of corn, for at the close of last century, the value of wheat did not differ materially from that which it has borne for the last five or six years. Within the period before-mentioned, however, an immense deal has been done in the way of draining, enclosing, and improving waste land. The system of *run-rig*, which then prevailed to a great extent, is now completely abolished; numbers of small pendicles are thrown together into one large farm; and land, which formerly afforded subsistence to a hundred or a hundred and fifty individuals, is now in the possession of one tenant, not giving food to above twelve or fifteen persons, but proportionably augmenting the rent to the landlord. From these causes, together with various improvements in agricultural implements,—the introduction of new and improved seeds, better systems of rotation, and in general the superior character of the whole mode of farm management, land which used seldom to yield more than three or four returns, now produces eight or ten, and sometimes more.

The most decided improvement that has of late years been introduced is the application of bones as a manure for raising turnips. By means of this discovery, the farmer is now enabled to apply the whole strength of his dunghill to his potatoe crop; and by sowing his turnips with bones, and then eating them off the ground with sheep, his whole fallow break is completely manured, and put in excellent order for the succeeding crop of barley. The advantages of this system are great. Of late years, the quantity of potatoes raised in this part of the country, and exported to the London market, has been very large. With the low price of grain for some time past, the chief dependence of many farmers for paying their rent has been upon the potatoe crop. But experience



has shown, that, without very heavy manuring, there is no crop that more speedily exhausts the land. And there is little doubt, that, in process of time, it must have proved utterly destructive to all light soils lying beyond the reach of town manure, had not the introduction of bones come so opportunely to the aid of the farmer, and enabled him to apply the whole of his farm manure to the potatoes. The ordinary price of bone-dust in Perth is about 2s. per bushel, and about ten bushels are employed to the acre.

Another decided improvement in husbandry consists in pasturing grass land with sheep and cattle, instead of cutting it for hay; but this is a practice, of course, which can only be followed with advantage in those farms which are peculiarly adapted for stock.

*Cropping.*—The system of cropping most commonly followed is what is technically termed a four-course shift, viz. oats, green crop, barley, and grass. Most farmers, however, let their land lie two years, and sometimes even more in grass. There are no beans grown in the parish, and very little wheat. Lint, which at one time was cultivated to a considerable extent, is now seldom sown, owing to the almost entire discontinuance of the practice of domestic spinning.

*Stock.*—Cattle of all descriptions are reared in the parish, from the bulky Teeswater to the diminutive west Highlander. The rate of grazing differs of course very materially, according to the size and description of the animal. The summer grazing of a large full-sized beast when fattening for the butcher, may be rated at L. 3 to L. 3, 10s. The sheep are principally of the Leicester breed, those at least which are fed upon the low grounds. Besides being peculiarly adapted to the nature of the pasture, they are prized chiefly on account of their fattening so easily, being less destructive to the fences than Highland sheep, and also on account of the superior value of their fleeces. Large numbers of wedder hogs of this description are annually reared, and sent to the Glasgow market from this parish, by Mr Richmond of Moneydie, one of the most extensive and enterprising agriculturists in Perthshire, by whom this kind of stock was first introduced into this part of the country, about forty-five years ago. The grazing of a full-grown sheep, including a few turnips in winter, may be rated at from 5s. to 12s. according to circumstances.

*Produce.*—The gross amount of raw produce, according to the nearest approximation that can be formed, may be stated to be,

Grain,	1082 imperial acres, at L. 6 per acre,	L. 11892
Potatoes,	495 do. do. at L. 9 per do.	3950
Turnips,	495 do. do. at L. 4 per do.	1980
Hay,	800 do. do. at L. 3 per do.	2400
Sown grass, pasture,	1180 do. do. at L. 1 per do.	1180
Hill pasture,	5643 do. do. at 1s. 6d. do.	423

10595

L. 21825

*Wages.*—The wages of farm-servants vary from L. 10 to L. 14 per annum, together with  $6\frac{1}{2}$  bolls (140 lbs. per boll) of oatmeal in the year, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  Scotch pints of milk daily. Married men have besides, a house and garden, rent free, and as many potatoes as they can furnish dung to raise upon their master's field. Many of them have, besides, an allowance of coals. The ordinary wages of women servants are from L. 4 to L. 6 per annum. Day-labourers receive 1s. 6d. per diem, and women working in the fields from 8d. to 10d. Harvest-work is for the most part done by threaving, which is generally at the rate of from  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per threave.

*Manufactures.*—There has been recently established in Logiealmond, a flax spinning-mill, driven by water-power from the river Almond. It affords employment to about fifty persons, chiefly females, and natives of the country. When trade is prosperous, as at present, the mill is kept going throughout the whole twenty-four hours, by means of relays of workers—one set commencing at six o'clock in the evening, and another relieving them at six o'clock in the morning. There can be no question that this establishment has tended greatly to promote the physical comfort of the inhabitants of the district, by affording constant work and good wages to many individuals, who formerly could obtain neither. But it may, at the same time, be seriously doubted, whether or not these advantages are not more than counterbalanced, by the usual train of moral evils which the introduction of manufactures seldom fails to bring along with it.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Towns, &c.*—There is no village in the parish. Perth is the nearest market-town, and is six miles distant. It is also the post-town; although there are penny post-offices at Methven and Auchtergaven, each of them at the distance of four miles. No portion of a turnpike road passes through the parish: it is traversed however, by a statute labour road, which branches off from the Dunkeld turnpike towards Logiealmond and Glenshee.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church, which is a handsome and substantial edifice, was built about twenty years ago, and is seated for

460 persons. Nothing, however, could be more awkward or inconvenient than its situation. It is set down at the distance of two miles from the eastern, and seven from the western extremity of the parish, where the great bulk of the population reside. A circle with a radius of two miles round the church, includes only about 330 parishioners, out of 1050, leaving 720 at an *average* distance of 5 miles. Accordingly, as might have been expected, there is a Secession meeting-house, planted in the midst of this population, (in Logiealmond) at the distance of six miles from the parish church. Under such disadvantages, it is not to be wondered at, that, in the course of nearly a hundred years, a large body of the inhabitants have become Seceders. It may be remarked also, that there are no Seceders (with one solitary exception) within two miles and a-half of the church. The following is a statement of the numbers of church people and Dissenters. Individuals belonging the Established Church, 724 ; United Secession, 325 ; Episcopalian, 2 ; total 1051.

At Chapelhill, in Logiealmond, there was an ancient place of worship, which had lain in a ruinous and dilapidated state since the beginning of last century, but which it was thought, by a little repair, might be rendered fit for the reception of a congregation. A subscription accordingly was set on foot in the district, and through the exertions of the people themselves, aided by the liberal contributions of the sole proprietor, Sir John Stewart, and the Misses Drummond of Logiealmond, the edifice was completed in a neat and substantial manner, at an expense of about L. 150 ; and opened for public worship by the minister of the parish on the 5th of October 1834. Since that time, divine service has been regularly performed in it every Lord's day, to the unspeakable comfort of very many persons, who before, on account of this distance from church, were almost excluded from the enjoyment of public ordinances. The Rev. Mr Omond, now minister of Monzie, was the first regularly officiating preacher.

The chapel, which is situated at the distance of four miles from the parish church, and two miles from the Secession meeting-house, is seated for about 320 persons ; and is completely filled, and to a great extent, by persons who formerly, for convenience sake, took sittings in the Secession place of worship. A small seat rent is exacted, averaging 2s. 6d. which, together with the collections at the church door, constitutes a fund, out of which the preacher's sa-

lary and other necessary expenses are defrayed. All the poor are accommodated with free sittings.

Although the erection of this place of worship has had the effect, as was to be expected, of diminishing considerably the congregation assembling in the parish church, it is no small satisfaction to think that, instead of fifty or sixty worshippers, which was all the usual attendance from Logiealmond at the parish church, there are now upwards of 300 in the regular enjoyment of the means of grace in connexion with the Establishment.

*Manse, Stipend, &c.*—The manse, which was built about the same time as the church, is in good repair, but inconveniently small. The offices are old and ruinous. The stipend was augmented in the year 1830 to 16 chalders; but the teinds not proving sufficient, it amounts only to 130½ bolls of victual, two-thirds meal and one-third barley, and L. 103, 5s. 2d. in money. The glebe contains 7 Scotch acres of good average land.

*Education.*—There are three schools in the parish, viz. the parochial school at Moneydie, another at Chapelhill, and another at Heriotfield, both in Logiealmond. The parish schoolmaster has the maximum salary (L. 34, 4s. 4½d.) The fees are small, and do not amount to above L. 10 per annum. He is also session-clerk, the emoluments of which office are about L. 5, 16s. The teacher at Chapelhill has a free school-room and dwelling-house, with 100 merks Scots of salary from the heritors; he has also about two acres of land as cow's grass. The teacher at Heriotfield has merely a free school-room, which is attached to the Secession meeting-house. The branches taught in all these schools are nearly the same, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, book-keeping, and practical mathematics. The parish schoolmaster is also qualified to teach the elements of Latin, Greek, and French; but for these branches there is little or no demand. In all the schools the Scriptures are regularly read, and the catechisms of the church taught. The following is a statement of the number of scholars: At the parish school, 50; Chapelhill school, 76; Heriotfield school, 60; total, 186. It will be seen that there are thus somewhat more than one-sixth of the population at school. It is necessary to remark, however, that many of these are not permitted to remain above eight months out of the twelve, as the circumstances of the parents often render it desirable that their children should begin as soon as possible to do something for themselves. The consequence is, that,

whenever summer begins, numbers of the children are taken from school, and sent to herding or some other employment. So far as is known, there are no persons in the parish of sufficient age, who are unable to read, (except perhaps one or two aged individuals,) and the greater proportion are able also to write. All classes are fully alive to the benefits of education, and anxious to obtain it for their children.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The district of Logiealmond being annexed to this parish only *quoad sacra*, the kirk-session have nothing to do with the poor of that quarter. In the old parish, there are only five persons receiving aid from the poor's funds. They are allowed from 1s. 3d. to 3s. per week. The average amount of collections at the church doors is L. 17 per annum. The kirk-session have besides a sum of L. 70 laid out at interest. There is no assessment; and any deficiency of funds is made up by a half yearly donation of a few pounds from the heritors.

*Alehouses.*—The number of alehouses, (or as they should rather be called whisky-shops, for comparatively little malt-liquor is consumed,) has been already adverted to.

*Fuel.*—In Logiealmond, peats and wood are almost the exclusive articles of fuel. In the east end of the parish, coals, principally English, are used, and which cost at Perth about 1s. 10d. per cwt.

*April 1837.*

## PARISH OF COLLACE.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JOHN ROGERS, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name, Boundaries, &c.*—THE etymology of Collace is uncertain. It is situated 7 miles north-east from Perth, is perfectly inland, and surrounded by the parishes of Cargill, St Martins, Kinnaid, and Abernyte. Its length and breadth being nearly equal, and upwards of 2 miles, it contains nearly 5 square miles.

The surface upon the whole is rather flat, except towards the hills, where the ascent is too steep for the plough. The soil in

general consists of a light, sharp, blackish loam, in some places intermixed with clay; but the bottom is free, being a dead reddish sand. The Sidlaw hills, which commence in the parish of Kin-noull, here assume considerable elevation. *Sid* or *Sud*, in the Gaelic, signifies *South*, a name most appropriate, as they form not only the boundary of Collace on the south, but also of a great part of the valley of Strathmore. Ranging north-east, they traverse the country with little interruption for thirty miles, and lose themselves in the German Ocean, at the promontory in Angus-shire called the Red-Head. The climate is variable. In winter and spring, piercing and stormy winds from the south-east, are accompanied with a chilly *haár* from the sea; but in general the atmosphere is clear, temperate, and salubrious. The mean annual temperature, ascertained from careful observations taken twice a-day for a series of years, is about 47° of Fahrenheit.

There are no epidemical diseases, and as to longevity there are not a few both of men and women seventy years of age and upwards, enjoying wonderfully good health, and engaged in their various occupations; several are above eighty.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—There are neither ancient nor modern historical accounts of this parish, nor have any events taken place worthy of public record. The parochial registers go back to 1713, and have been pretty accurately kept. They consist of six thin folio volumes.

*Eminent Men.*—In reference to the eminently good men connected with this parish, and now numbered with the dead, we have much pleasure in doing justice to the memory of William Nairne, Esq., a younger son of the family of Dunsinane. Bred an advocate at the Scotch Bar, he soon became Sheriff of Perthshire, and in due time was promoted to the important offices of a Senator of the College of Justice, and member of the High Court of Justiciary, with the title of Lord Dunsinnan. A more upright Judge never sat upon the Bench. In 1809, when his public duties were becoming oppressive to his declining years, he resigned both gowns, and retired to his residence at Dunsinnan. He had become sole proprietor of the parish some thirty years before, by purchase from his nephew Sir William Nairne, at whose death the title also devolved on him. To the improvement of his paternal estate, he had as early as possible applied, with unabated zeal and perseverance, and so judicious were those improvements, that Lord Dunsinnan lived to see his rents doubled, and often quadrupled.

To the welfare of the parish, and more especially to their religious instruction, he was equally attentive. He feared God, and honoured the King. He remembered the Sabbath day, and was never absent from church, except from necessity. His example was highly useful in his own time. Still more useful must such praiseworthy conduct be in our times, to put to shame, if possible, increasing impiety, and to stem the overflowing tide of iniquity. Lord Dunsinnan died 22d of March 1812, being upwards of eighty years old, and was buried within the walls of the old church of Collace, now converted into a mausoleum for the Dunsinnan family; and to which there is access by a large arched gateway of uncommon beauty, and of the rare and ancient order of Saxon architecture. Lord Dunsinnan was succeeded by our present sole heir, James Mellis Nairne, Esq. who has followed the example of his predecessor, and has laid out a great deal of money in improving and beautifying his estate, though it is strictly entailed on heirs-male.

*Modern Buildings.*—Dunsinnan House, situated in the north-west corner of the parish, with a fine southern exposure, and screened from the winter blast by extensive plantations, has been lately greatly enlarged and modernized by Mr Nairne. No pains have been spared to render this mansion not only elegant, but capable also of containing the largest family. The offices have been rebuilt on the newest and most approved plan, and are uncommonly spacious and convenient. The new church, which was finished in 1813, is a handsome Gothic structure, with a square tower surmounted by minarets. Built on commanding ground, and surrounded with venerable trees, it is highly ornamental, and much and deservedly admired.

In 1825 a new school and school-house were erected, furnishing ample accommodation for master and scholars. This building, combining every desirable requisite, with a prudent regard to economy, may be safely recommended as a model for all such parochial new structures when they are required. The garden, partly surrounded by a substantial wall, eight feet high, is tastefully laid out, and the whole premises are kept in excellent order.

*Quarries.*—Two quarries, which have been long wrought on the estate, furnish freestone in abundance, and of the best quality, for all the houses and other mason-work in the parish.

*Antiquities.*—Of these the most remarkable is the far-famed hill of Dunsinane, which rises nearly 800 feet above its base, and

1114 feet above the level of the sea. Its oval and conical summit is 169 yards in length, by 89 in medium breadth. Upon this insulated and chosen site, Macbeth, the Thane of Glamis, in 1043, and soon after his usurpation of the Scottish crown, erected a strong and lofty castle. Here he held his court, and for some years was attended by his reluctant vassals, and kept the surrounding country in the most degrading subjection. In the meantime Malcolm, son of the old and good King Duncan, whom Macbeth had murdered, fled into England for protection. The reigning prince, Edward the Confessor, not only gave him a kind reception, but was prevailed upon also to support his claim to the Scottish throne by a powerful army, commanded by his brave General Siward, Earl of Northumberland. The discontented barons flocked to the English standard reared in Malcolm's behalf; and in the course of the year 1094 this overwhelming force approached to Dunsinane. Being observed from the battlements by Macbeth, he considered his fortifications untenable, and immediately fled northward. He was pursued, overtaken, and slain, according to common report, at Lumphanan in Aberdeenshire. His fortress was immediately razed to the ground, and that the destruction might be the more complete, fire was employed, as appears from the calcined matter and scorched materials among the rubbish. Such as take the trouble of ascending this remarkable hill, will find themselves amply repaid. The enthusiasm of classic ground will be felt and acknowledged by the scholar. The scenery, indeed, may call up some of the blackest pages of Scottish history, but our recollections will be accompanied by the grateful feeling of assurance that such barbarous times are for ever gone by. The view presented from Dunsinane on every side is rich, varied, and picturesque. Nor is it a more delightful, than it is a commanding station. In a clear day, there is nothing to prevent the practised eye from taking in fifty miles all around, and obtaining a glimpse of sixteen different counties in the horizon. This eminence is also favourable to devotion. Turning to the north and north-west, an amphitheatre of uncommon grandeur and beauty rises before us. Grampians piled on Grampians in countless succession, rear their heads beyond the clouds. They display the majesty of the Almighty Creator, and fill us with the most sublime conceptions of the power of him "who meteth out the heavens with a span, weigheth the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance.\*"

\* For further particulars, see notes taken on the spot in 1772, by Sir John Sin-



## III.—POPULATION.

By the last Statistical Account in 1793, the population was	473
By the census in 1801,	532
1811,	663
1821,	691
1831,	730

The gradual increase of the population is chiefly among the labourers and handicrafts, which is in a great measure owing to the increase of trade and manufactures. Three-fourths of the people live in the villages, the remainder in the farm-houses and bothies.

The yearly average of births for the last seven years,	18
of deaths,	12
of marriages,	6
The number of persons under 15 years of age,	200
betwixt 15 and 30,	162
betwixt 30 and 50,	212
upwards of 70,	37

Of the 730 inhabitants in the parish 351 are males, and 379 females. The number of families 142, each family at an average consisting of about five persons. Inhabited houses 141. One person blind, and two others fatuous.

During the last three years there have been 7 illegitimate births in the parish.

## IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture and Rural Economy.*—All the land in the parish which is considered arable is under cultivation by the plough, and in a high state of improvement. Iron ploughs are becoming general, and, when drawn by two good horses, can overtake the working of 50 acres Scotch measure. Iron harrows are also coming into use.

The number of imperial acres under tillage, is	1747
under wood, chiefly Scotch fir and larch,	560
under pasture,	100

Hard wood thrives very well in hedgerows. Some of it was lately cut, measuring  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet in diameter. There are some beech trees at Collace village whose girth is not less than 9 feet.

The rent of land varies according to quality. Some of it is so low as L. 1, some of it so high as L. 3 per acre. The average may be taken, therefore, at L. 2. The tenants, while they are most frugal and industrious, are considered, from the crops they raise, as managing their farms in the most skilful manner. Owing to

clair, and published under the title of "Additional information respecting the Castle of Dunsinnan." Sir John, though then only eighteen years old, gave promise of those talents, and of the powers of that inquisitive and discriminating mind, which in due time was to be directed to the acquisition and diffusion of such important practical knowledge, as has raised him to the highest rank among the benefactors of his country. See also Lord Hailes's Annals of Scotland.

the nature of the soil and climate, wheat and beans are not always profitable. The green crop system is therefore commonly followed—a five-shift rotation, including two years in grass, has been found most advantageous, and best adapted to the soil. Ploughmen's wages from L. 12 to L. 14 per annum, with the usual allowance of meal and milk; women's wages, from L. 6 per annum to L. 6, 6s.; mason's and carpenter's from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per day; day-labourers 1s. 6d. In winter, their wages are proportionally less. Women employed at out-door work, 8d. per day; when lifting potatoes, 1s. without victuals.

*Produce.*—The average gross amount of value of raw produce raised in the parish, as far as can be ascertained, is as follows:

Imperial acres.	Quarters.		
78 of wheat, produce	245½	at L. 2, 8s. per qr.	L. 589 4 0
264 of barley,	1064	at L. 1, 9s.	1542 16 0
453 of oats,	1916	at L. 1, 4s.	2299 4 0
500 of grass, (artificial) cut and pastured, value			1303 0 0
193 of potatoes,			1721 0 0
241½ of turnips,			859 0 0
18 of tares or fallow.			
<hr/>			<hr/>
1747½	Total value of raw produce,		L. 8314 4 0

In the above calculations, the green crop (with the exception of part of the hay and potatoes) is understood to be consumed on the farms, which is the practice generally followed in this parish. A few horses are reared for sale, the breed of which, as also of the cattle, being very much attended to, have greatly improved of late years. A considerable number both of cattle and sheep are fed off every winter, and disposed of at a fair profit to the butcher. The farm-steadings are among the best in the country, and kept in excellent repair. The principal farms are let on leases of nineteen years—those of small dimensions for shorter periods.

*Manufactures.*—The produce of the loom has long been our staple article of commerce, and has of late greatly increased. In the progress of human improvement, it has been ascertained, that yarn fit for being woven into linen cloth, can be produced by machinery, not only cheaper and better, but also in inconceivably greater quantities, than by the former tedious means of hard labour—a new direction has thus been given to the industry of this, and of many other parishes in Scotland. The *spinning-wheel* has been entirely superseded, or used only for the very refuse of flax; and the spinsters, thrown out of their old and congenial employment, have been obliged to have recourse to the loom. In weaving the lighter fabrics, we are happy to find they are succeeding

remarkably well, and without any apparent injury to health. This increasing branch of business has attracted a new set of agents, who weekly resort to the mill-spinners of Dundee, purchase their yarn to the annual amount of some thousand pounds, and bring it home in carts, when they distribute it amongst their customers, who work it into cloth, according to pattern laid before them. The webs when finished are returned to Dundee, where they find a ready market,—but with this drawback, the prices are more fluctuating in this than in any other trade, there being a continual dependence on the precarious state of distant and foreign markets, over which the home merchant can have no control.—Upon the whole, however, there is such a profit to the agents as is considered remunerating, and which enables them to give sufficient encouragement to those whom they employ. There are upwards of 100 looms in the parish in full operation, by young and old of both sexes. This new channel for labour, as was to be expected, has occasioned in the *meantime* a slight rise in the wages of servants, and handicrafts of every description.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

In former times, there were two considerable annual markets in Kinrossie. The ancient *Cross* now only remains. The business in cattle and small wares has been transferred to Burrelton, and other places in the neighbourhood. Perth is the chief market-town, to which there is access by an excellent turnpike road, which traverses the parish for two miles, leading eastward to Cupar-Angus, to which there is a daily post-boy from Perth, leaving and taking up letters at a receiving-house as he passes. There is also a splendid daily coach called the *Defiance*, with four very superior horses, which follows the same route, in its way from Edinburgh to Aberdeen.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church, which was built, as has been observed, in 1812 and 1813, is kept in good repair, and is so centrally and conveniently situated, that the bulk of the people are within a mile of it, and none further distant than two and a-half miles. There is accommodation for upwards of 400 sitters. The church is generally well filled, and the number of communicants has often exceeded 400. This includes nearly 100 strangers from the neighbourhood, whose parish churches are at such a distance as renders it next to impossible for their being regularly attended. The unequal, and, as it may be called, reckless division, of many of the parishes in Scotland, is an evil which has been long

felt, and justly complained of. Should this grievance be inquired into by the proper authorities, they would find it quite practicable, and easy to reform so glaring an abuse. This would greatly promote the interests of religion, and contribute much to the comfort and convenience of many thousands, in country parishes. As it would not be proposed to interfere with the *civilia*, but merely with the *quoad sacra* of the church, the arrangements, to give convenience to the fullest extent, would be settled without the smallest opposition.

The glebe contains nearly 9 imperial acres, and may be worth L. 15 per annum. The manse and offices, which were built in 1778, on rather a small scale, have been repaired within these twenty years, and so much improved and enlarged, as to render them more commodious. The amount of stipend is L. 150 yearly, including L. 87, 3s. 8d. from Government.

The average number of persons receiving regular parochial aid is 7. The average sum allowed to each is about L. 4 per annum, including 6s. to each for coal money. A house and garden are provided for each of them *gratis*. Small sums are occasionally given to such as are reduced to straits, but who are not on the poor's roll. There is also an extended roll for coal money, which is distributed annually on the Monday after the sacrament.

The number of families in the parish attending the chapels of Dissenters or Seceders is 12.

*Education.*—The parochial school, which is central, being close to the church, is the only one in the parish. The salary is the maximum, and the accommodation most complete. The fees may amount to L. 30 per annum, and this arises more from the number of scholars (averaging upwards of 70 for three quarters of the year,) than from the rate of payment, which is very moderate; beginning with 2s. per quarter for English, and rising only to 3s. and 4s., when writing, arithmetic, and geography are included.

The schoolmaster, besides being qualified to instruct the rising generation in the common routine of country schools, is capable of teaching geometry, mathematics, and many other branches of education, which are seldom required here. There is no family without a Bible, and no member of it exceeding ten years of age who cannot read it. To assist in effecting this in the case of poor scholars, there is a small fund available. It arises from the mortification of seat-rents in the old church of Collace, by the fa-

ther of Lord Dunsinnan, upwards of one hundred years ago, and the transaction being engrossed in the session records of Collace, is in substance as follows: "The Hon. Sir William Nairne of Dunsinnan, hath by letter under his own hand, of date 16th August 1736, *doted* the seats in the east loft and those under it, to be let, and the money to be bestowed for the benefit of teaching of poor children in the parish of Collace." The amount of these during the last thirteen years was L. 11. There has been a very considerable falling off in this fund, which has arisen chiefly from the erection of the new church, as it contains fewer seats for letting, but Mr Nairne has generously made good the deficiency.

There is a library, under the patronage of Mr Nairne, consisting chiefly of historical, geographical, and religious books, the foundation of which was lately laid, by a handsome donation of excellent works from the patrons, and although only in its infancy, it is most acceptable to the people, and is rapidly diffusing a taste for reading among them.

*Parochial Poor Funds.*—These arise from the interest of money, the use of the mortcloths, and other small sources; but chiefly from collections, made every Sunday after divine service in church, which amount on an average to L. 12, 10s. a year. Donations are also occasionally given by Mr Nairne. About L. 40 are annually distributed to the poor by the kirk-session.

*Inns.*—There is only one inn or public-house in the parish, which is very useful, and under the best regulations, and against which no complaint was ever made, as encouraging in the smallest degree drunkenness or immorality.

*Fuel.*—The fuel generally used in the parish is English coals from Perth, at the average cost of 1s. per cwt.

*May 1837.*

## PARISH OF ABERNYTE.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNDEE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNs.

THE REV. JAMES WILSON, MINISTER.

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### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name Abernyte seems to be of Gaelic origin, referring to the situation of the principal village of that name in the angle near the confluence of two rivulets. One of these, perhaps, was anciently called the Nyte.

*Boundaries, Extent.*—The whole parish, including Glenbran, annexed to it *quoad sacra*, is an irregular kind of oblong parallelogram, terminated by the highest hills above, where several parishes meet from Strathmore, as well as this district. It is bounded by the parish of Inchtute below; Longforan on the east; and Kinaird on the west. Its greatest length may be about 3 miles or little more, and its greatest breadth about 2, and it contains 4 square miles.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The most populous parts of the parish in the lower grounds are nearer Dundee; but those contiguous to Dunsinnan hill, in the parish of Collace, are nearer Perth. The whole is situated in those eminences that rise gradually from the Carse of Gowrie to the top of the Dunsinnan ridge. The highest point here is called the King's Seat, which, according to an average of various measurements, seems to be 1155 feet high. The most cultivated parts of the parish are probably not above 300 feet above the level of the Tay, and about three or four miles in a straight line from it. The highest range of hills, which commands a noble prospect, runs parallel to Strathmore on the north-west side, and on the south-east in most places, to irregular undulations of inferior heights, with some hollows between. These inferior heights also form very interesting points of view through the whole extent, and in this parish pretend, nearly at right angles, two other eminences like arms, on the north and south sides, embracing the beautiful glen of Abernyte. It opens toward the Carse on the south-east, and is bounded on three

sides by bold acclivities of well cultivated fields, watered below by the two united rivulets sufficient for a good mill. And this conformation of the hills and vale, with the nature of the substratum in some places, is well adapted for emitting springs and rills.

*Meteorology.*—

The mean temperature of May 1831, as indicated by the thermometer in the shade was here only . . . . . 57°

Of June, . . . . . 61°

While the hottest day was the 2d, about 67°

Of July, . . . . . 60½°

The hottest day, the 31st, about 66°

Of August nearly, . . . . . 64°

The 2d being the hottest day, . . . . . 70°

Of September, . . . . . 56½°

The hottest day, the 11th, about 60°

The average pressure of the atmosphere in May 1831, according to the barometer was nearly . . . . . 30

In June, . . . . . 29½

In July, nearly . . . . . 30

In August, . . . . . 29½

In September, . . . . . 29

The climate here is good, and the air salubrious; consequently, since the ground has been well drained, the people in general are healthy, not much subject to any particular distempers. The most prevailing complaints are, colds, rheumatism, fevers and dropsy, besides those incident to youth. But the natural small-pox rarely appears; and now at least, there seem to be few or no instances of scrofula, and none of ague, which was formerly very prevalent.

*Hydrography.*—There are some cold perennial springs in different parts of the parish. These, with the drainings, contribute mainly to the united rivulets that pervade the vale, and in confluence with a larger stream below, in the parish of Inchtute, devolve meandering to the Tay. Here is a beautiful cascade of forty feet, almost all perpendicular, at the head of a romantic den, a deep wooded ravine in the low grounds.

*Geology.*—The rocks in this parish are sandstone with amygdaloid containing agates or pebbles.

The arable ground in the lower parts of the parish is in general of a light, but fertile soil, lying mostly on a bed of gravel, and some of clay, or both united. In some places, the soil is pretty deep. The higher ground in general is, of course, by no means so fertile. In some places, it produces little except coarse grass or heath. But now, there is little of that last description left unplanted.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-Owners.*—There are seven heritors, but none resident except one. James Miller, Esq. of Milton, and R. A. Bannerman, Esq. of Abernyte, are the principal heritors in point of valuation. Lord Kinnaird, too, is a non-resident heritor, whose ancestors in very ancient times resided in their beautiful domain of Kinnaird, in this neighbourhood, whence they derived their name.

*Parochial Register.*—The parochial register commenced in the year 1664. The first entry is in these words:

“ December 4, 1664. The whilk day Mr Androw Shippert was admitted minister of Aberneit, by Mr Robert White, minister at Instur, being authorized by my Lord Bishop of Dunkelden to that effect.” “ Collected that day 7 shillings two pennies.” (Scots.) At the first meeting of session, the new minister found, that there was no session record, nothing in the poor’s box, no money lent out, and no mortification for behoof of the poor. He preached his first sermon on Romans 8th ch. ii. ; and on every succeeding Sabbath for a long time, the entry in the session book is, “ the minister preached both sermons upon his ordinar.” There is something interesting about church discipline, which was frequent and severe. But the register is not very regularly kept.

*Antiquities.*—“ Upon the top of a hill called Glenny law, are two cairns,” said the Rev. James Adamson, “ and a few years ago there was another on the glebe, under which a few bones were found. These cairns were said to have been raised in consequence of a battle between two powerful families, the Grays of Fowlis, and the Boyds of Pitkindie, in this parish, in which the latter were victorious. On the same hill, is one of those circles called Druidical, consisting now of only seven stones. And in Stockmuir, about a mile from this one, there is another of nine stones ; both consisted of more ; three or four have been taken from the first not long ago. In a few years there will be no vestige of either. Upon the top of King’s Seat there is the ruin of a circular enclosure, similar to Macbeth’s Castle, but much smaller. This commanded a more extensive prospect than the castle itself ; probably a watch-tower or outpost.”

The “ Long Man’s Grave” is a noted spot at the road side, north-east from the classic ground of Dunsinnan hill. There is a tradition that a traveller had committed suicide there. Hence, perhaps, he was buried there. Others say he was murdered. North from Ballairdie, in the planting, are some remains of



an ancient ruin, called in Stobbie's map "Carquhannan Castle," in Knox's Basin, "Carguhannan." In the neighbourhood, it goes by the name of Balchuinnie. There is a fine spring near it, called "the King's Well." The writer of this account found here, at the manse, what seems to have been in ancient times a baptismal font, an old octagon of hewn stone, perforated in the bottom, to emit the water occasionally.

### III.—POPULATION.

There are here seven proprietors of land above L. 50 of yearly value. At no distant period, the population was probably double of what it is at present, owing to the smallness of farms in those days, to the great number of cottagers, who possessed a large common as cow's grass, owing also to the number of mechanics, particularly weavers, on the old fashioned loom. There are still 64 young and old in two villages, including farm-servants and their families.

The yearly average of births for the last seven years is	5
of deaths,	3
of marriages nearly	2
The average number of persons under 15 years of age, is	94
between 15 and 30,	76
30 and 50,	51
50 and 70,	24
upwards of 70, of whom 1 is 96,	9
Unmarried men, bachelors, and widowers, upwards of 50,	2
Of unmarried women upwards of 40,	3
Average number of children in each family at home, at least in the parish,	4
Number of families in the parish,	48
chiefly employed in agriculture,	18
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	9

There is but one insane pauper, who had been sent to an asylum several years ago. None blind, deaf, and dumb.

The farms have been much enlarged within these forty years, and the mode of living is surely improved. But with increased rents and taxes, &c., the farmers are so burdened, that even they can afford very few luxuries. The lower orders are much at a loss for want of the usual employments of females. For spinning yarn, and knitting of stockings are at so low a rate, that it is now hardly worth the while to attempt that kind of work, and they have hardly any other means of subsistence out of service, except for a time in the fields in summer and harvest.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

In this parish, are cultivated about 1703 acres of standard imperial measure, including a small portion in occasional tillage, and 172 of improved pasture, without any undivided common for many years. There may be 297 imperial acres; which cannot well be

improved but by planting. And some even of that number may be under roads and streams of water. Of plantations, there may be about 341 imperial acres, chiefly firs of various kinds, especially larch and Scotch firs, thriving and properly attended to. Ash, elm, and plane trees thrive well also.

*Rent.*—The average rent of land is about L. 2 per Scotch acre, of grazing an ox or cow L. 1, 10s., ewe 6s. for the season. The real rent of the parish is about L. 2037.

*Wages.*—Farm-servants come to maturity receive from L. 10 to L. 15 per annum, and 6½ bolls of meal, with a pint of sweet milk daily; labourers from 8s. to 10s. weekly; and artisans from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. daily, without meat. Female servants in the house have its common fare, and about L. 6 of wages per annum. In summer, at day's work in the fields, when occasion requires, females receive about 9d. without victuals, and the same rate at threaving in harvest as in the Carse. Carts cost from L. 6 to L. 12; ploughs from L. 1 to L. 4; rollers from L. 1 to L. 10; turnip sowing machines from L. 1 to L. 6, harrows from 10s. to L. 3 per pair; wheel-barrows, from 10s. 6d. to 16s.

*Husbandry.*—There are few parts of the country better cultivated than this, considering the high rents, and the very low prices of grain, which are great checks to enterprise. The proprietors, too, are heavily burdened themselves, and yet make great reductions of rent, notwithstanding the clamour even of many substantial citizens about cheap grain. The land seems sufficiently drained, and, owing to its declivity, it does not admit of irrigation. Very little embanking is here required. The duration of the leases is from nineteen to twenty-one years. The farm-buildings have been greatly improved, and in some instances rebuilt within these few years. But some are deficient, especially for feeding bought cattle, to which attention has been turned of late. The principal improvements recently made consist chiefly in the use of bone dust, in more extensive and regular green cropping, in feeding cattle, and eating a certain proportion of the turnips on the ground with sheep. The improvements in farming are considerable; but cannot be equal in magnitude to those in manufactures by machinery, especially from the fortunate discovery of steam engines. Hence, from the very low prices of the staple commodities, both proprietors and farmers are much depressed in many places. The rents, though greatly reduced, are still too high for material improvements in manuring, deepening, and transporting soil, &c. Exhausted capitals, and

want of enclosures in most places, especially on the higher ground for sheep, are great additional disadvantages; so that a considerable proportion of the land is in the landlord's own hands.

The old valuation of the parish, according to the cess-book, is L. 1126, 13s. 4d. Scots.

*Produce.*—It is difficult to ascertain completely the gross amount of raw produce. But the following statement seems to approximate to the truth.

The value of wheat, with straw, 280 quarters at L. 2, 10s.	-	L. 700	0	0
barley with straw, 879 quarters at L. 1, 8s.	-	1230	12	0
oats, with straw, 1146 quarters at L. 1, 2s.	-	1260	0	0
potatoes 80 acres at L. 10,	-	800	0	0
turnips, 200 acres at L. 5,	-	1000	0	0
hay and second crop, 240 cultivated acres at L. 6,	-	1440	0	0
land in pasture, 720 acres at L. 1, 10s.	-	1080	0	0
inferior improved pasture, 297 acres, at 10s.	-	148	10	0
natural pasture, 172 acres,	-	21	10	0
all the gardens,	-	24	0	0
one orchard.	-	17	0	0
		<hr/>		
Total value of raw produce,		L. 7781	12	0

There are few trees full-grown in the parish, and it is seldom that any of them are cut down. The profits of thinning and pruning young trees do not much exceed the expense as yet; and the profits arising from feeding cattle are already included in the value of the raw produce. There is no trade nor manufacture here, but for domestic purposes.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There are a few small bridges here in tolerable repair. The roads, within these few years, have been Macadamised, and kept in good order without a toll. Some of the fences are pretty good. But three-fourths of the land are unfortunately defenceless.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church is at the lowest extremity of the parish, near three miles from the thinly inhabited places above. But it is commodiously situated for the extremities of some neighbouring parishes. The church was rebuilt in the year 1736, and has been lately repaired. It may accommodate the whole population; and there is no seat rent. The people are very accommodating to one another, and to strangers. The manse seems as old as the church. But about 1820, the manse received considerable repairs and additions, partly at the expense of the incumbent, as well as of the heritors; for the accommodation was too little. But now, it is as commodious as can well be expected. The glebe consists nearly of 7 acres arable, besides 3 of pasture, and a pretty large garden. Being a small living, the sti-

pend, of course, should amount to L. 150; but it has been less for several years, owing to the low fiars.

There is a tabernacle here, built about forty years ago, by Mr Haldane, for the missionaries, when he was an heritor in this parish. It is now occupied by a few Burghers, who have no stated minister. All the families in the parish except four, containing eight individuals, commonly attend the Established Church, and partake of its ordinances. The average number of people who attend both places of worship, though small, it is difficult to state; because it varies so much on different days, according to circumstances. But about 130, on an average, commonly attend the Established Church; and much fewer, the Dissenters. The average number of communicants is about 160. The average amount of church collections yearly for religious and charitable purposes is between L. 2 and L. 3.

*Education.*—There is one parochial school, which seems sufficient for the parish, except a female school, which has been sometimes attempted without a salary. The public school-house, including the school-room lately built, is large and commodious, and could accommodate some boarders. The master has the maximum salary; and teaches English, writing, and arithmetic, geography, and the principles of religion, very successfully, and could well teach mathematics and every other branch that might be required here,—he being now a preacher of the gospel. The probable amount of the school fees may be L. 25 per annum: and from other sources the teacher may receive about L. 4, 10s. per annum.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—Besides a pauper lunatic, there are at present only three families receiving a regular allowance, about a guinea in four weeks. But there are some other families who receive occasional supply. The average amount of collections for the poor, since the Seceders commenced preaching here, is only about 4s. 6d.—with the addition of some allowance at marriages, and for the mortcloth at funerals. There is a regular assessment of the heritors, for a pauper lunatic in an asylum, amounting in general to L. 20. There is but one alehouse in the parish, and the people are sober. Fuel consists generally of coals from Polgavie; and there is a frequent sale of brushwood in the neighbourhood.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The more striking variations between the present state of the parish.

rish, and that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account, seem to consist in improved instruments of agriculture, in using bone dust for turnips, and in the general introduction of thrashing mills by water, where it is practicable ; also, in the enlargement and improvement of farms, and raising of rents : though both the rents and servants wages have fallen since the peace. There is a considerable difference also in the prices of work, of horses, and especially of cattle fattened for the butcher. There is a remarkable difference in the low rate for spinning yarn, in the disuse of lint and of fallow, which is reckoned unnecessary for our free light soil, while potatoes are cultivated to such advantage, and the ground is sufficiently cleaned. But some farmers subdivide their land into too many little patches. There is little waste land here. But it is well known that there are many millions of that description in Great Britain and Ireland. Now, as humble advocates for the comforts of the poor and labouring classes, we beg leave humbly to suggest a plan of general improvement, equally beneficial to rich and poor, especially to labourers, being aware of no public reform more important for the temporal benefit of all classes of the community, without encroaching on the rights and privileges of any. A great proportion of the land in the United Kingdom that is too poor for bearing some useful crop may be still more improved for pasture. And what is unfit both for tillage and for pasture ought to be planted with useful kinds of trees, suitable to the soil. Even the heathy rugged Grampians may be planted to the great advantage of the community, especially of the proprietors themselves. Of this, the late patriotic Duke of Athol set a noble example, whose extensive plantations, in less than seventy years, will, in the opinion of a good judge, who has been appointed to survey them, be worth eight millions Sterling, at 1s. the solid foot. Roads had previously been made through them ; and there is still, at the sides of the roads in various directions, sufficient room for grouse and deer, &c. and shelter for all. Whatever ground in Great Britain and Ireland is capable of improvement, and yet every way neglected, should, by *Act of Parliament*, be taxed or fined at so much per acre, until the suitable improvements are made. Or, perhaps, the same good effects might be produced more agreeably by the stimulus of premiums ; or without premiums, the plan would benefit the revenue. The proprietors, indeed, are in many cases too much depressed already. But the plan in time would tend to enrich them, and improve even

the soil itself. In cases of entail, as much land might be permitted to be sold as would be sufficient. Multitudes of additional labourers might be furnished with cottages, and each with a few acres of improveable land at a moderate rate. It is unnecessary to enter on details. But it may be added, that in every district where it may be expedient, there might be a public ploughman with a pair of horses and implements of husbandry, like common carriers at present. All should be served in their turn, by lot, every year; and the ploughman might have three or four acres, himself. As part payment he might get his horses fed for the day, where he might be working. How greatly this plan would beautify and enrich the country! of what immense importance to the State and to all concerned, to retain thus by encouragement, and to employ beneficially, a race of hardy, healthy, and industrious peasantry, of peaceable and virtuous habits, rather than drive them murmuring and disaffected to great towns, where they would necessarily cause greater stagnations of trade and manufactures, by gluts in the markets, and, perhaps great and dangerous commotions; or to banish them expensively to foreign lands, where they may swell the number of our enemies! This simple plan would meet the growing demand for timber, procure useful employment for the industrious poor, save much of the poor's rates, and in a great measure prevent the needless drain of the precious metals for many foreign commodities. It is unnecessary to say more than that such a plan as this, with embankments and enclosures, and the draining of bogs, with the making and improving of roads, and such public works, would afford employment to the industrious, and advantage to all,—besides improving the climate, adorning the face of nature, and adding greatly to the strength and wealth of the united kingdom.

*May 1837.*

# PARISH OF KINNAIRD.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNDEE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNES.

THE REV. JOHN SPENCE, MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name of the parish (as observed in the former Statistical Account) is of Celtic origin, and is compounded of two words signifying “high end or head.” This is descriptive enough, whether it refers to the parish or to the estate of Kinnaird, both of which are higher at the one end than the other. An old castle or manor house, belonging to the latter, stands on the upper part of it.

*Situation, Boundaries.*—The parish lies about half-way between Perth and Dundee, and has a beautiful southern exposure, looking down on the Carse of Gowrie, part of which is contained within its bounds. It is bounded on the south by Errol; on the north by Collace; on the west by Kilspindie; and on the east by Abernyte and Inchtute. The extent is about 2 miles in one way, and nearly 3 in the other. Several points command an extensive view in all directions, particularly of the Highland mountains. We have nothing here to attract naturalists; the productions of the earth, so far as yet discovered, being all of the more common kinds.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Antiquities.*—This part of the world has not been the scene of any remarkable events, nor has any individual distinguished in the history of his country ever belonged to it; the only thing in any respect curious is Kinnaird Castle, an old and stately ruin, but of which there is little on record. It presents an excellent specimen of the sort of dwelling-places in use, when safety was more considered than comfort,—having walls of an enormous thickness, and the different storeys floored by stone arches. We find that the Noble family of Kinnaird, whose present seat is Rossie, in the neighbouring parish of Inchtute, were once connected with this property, though they have long ceased to be so. “In the reign of King William, 1170, Randolph Rufus obtained from that prince the lands of Kinnaird, in the county of Perth, which

continued in his family till the time of King Charles I., and from that barony took his surname; from him descended Sir Richard Kinnaird of that Ilk, whose son, Reginald, marrying Margery, daughter and heiress to Sir John Kirkaldy of Inchture, in the same county, he with her had those lands, in which he was confirmed by the charter of Robert III."

*Land-owners.*—The sole land-owners in this parish are, Colonel Allen of Inchmartine; Sir Peter Murray Thriepland of Fingask; Robert Richardson, Esq. of Kinnaird; and Alexander Greig of Hallgreig.

*Parochial Register.*—A parochial register is kept with great neatness and regularity; the first entry is dated December 1633.

### III.—POPULATION.

Population in 1811,	445
1821,	465
1831,	461
The average number of persons under 15 years of age,	153
betwixt 15 and 30,	142
30 and 50,	83
50 and 70,	70
upwards of 70,	13
Widowers and bachelors upwards of 50 years of age,	6
Widows and unmarried women upwards of 45,	16
Average number of children in each family,	4
Number of the population residing in villages,	316
Average number of births yearly for the last seven years,	14
marriages,	2
deaths,	7
Number of families in the parish,	90
chiefly employed in agriculture,	30
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	27

During the last three years there have been 2 illegitimate births in the parish.

*Resident Heritors.*—No heritor at present has a residence in this parish. Beautiful situations for houses, however, abound, and there are great facilities for building. Very fine stone for this purpose is found close at hand.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The number of cultivated acres is about 1550 imperial measure; the number of acres that have never been cultivated is about 1500; the number of acres that could be cultivated with advantage does not exceed 50. The average rent of the land in cultivation is about L. 1, 16s. per imperial acre. The uncultivated part of the parish, consisting chiefly of moor ground, is pastured with sheep from the Highlands in winter, at about 1s. 3d. per head, (say from December 1st to April 1st;) the remainder of the season, it is pastured with oxen. The highest



price per head for pasturing oxen is about L. 1, 10s. Farm-servants are hired by the year. They receive about L. 12 in money with sixty-five stones of oatmeal annually, and three imperial pints of milk daily; day-labourers in summer get 1s. 8d. per day, and in winter 1s. 4d.; artisans, such as wrights, masons, &c. about 2s.—no victuals being provided.

*Raw Produce.*—The raw produce consists chiefly of grain, potatoes and turnip. Potatoes, for a number of years past, may have averaged 2s. per cwt.; turnips when sold off the land from L. 6 to L. 12 per acre; grain prices vary a good deal. This year best wheat is L. 2, 4s. per quarter; barley, L. 1, 6s. 6d.; oatmeal 14s. 6d. per boll. Grain is the principal production of the parish, and all the inhabitants may be said to be more or less engaged in agriculture. Rearing of stock is little attended to; the ground which is not arable being unenclosed and of inferior quality. The grain raised is generally of the first quality. The arable land is almost all fit for carrying crops of wheat. The quantity of grain of all sorts raised is about 3250 quarters; of potatoes 1800 bolls (of 5 cwt. per boll;) of turnips about 100 acres; of hay about 10,000 stones; of flax 50 stones; of fruit, apples and pears, the average value is nearly L. 60 Sterling. The total yearly value of raw produce is about L. 7700 Sterling.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Towns.*—There are no market-towns. Markets are, however, held on a small scale in some villages at no great distance. Perth and Dundee are the chief places of resort for the sale and purchase of commodities. Each of these towns is distant from us ten or eleven miles, and the great road passes within half a mile of the parish. There is a port on the Tay, about four miles off, from which much of our grain is shipped, and at which coals, lime, &c. are laid down. This is a great convenience. There is a post-office within rather less than three miles.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church is conveniently situated. It was built only a few years ago, and is abundantly large as well as comfortable. The manse is quite new, and is substantial and commodious. The glebe consists of 7 or 8 acres, and is of good soil, though with the disadvantage of a northern exposure. The stipend is as follows: Imperial quarters wheat, 2.994768; ditto barley, 68.399616; bolls meal, 91.561392; money L. 8, 6s. 8d.

*Dissenters.*—There are no dissenting chapels in this parish. Only one of the inhabitants is a Seceder. The rest belong to the

Established Church, and attend divine service with much regularity and decency.

*Education.*—There is no seminary of learning besides the parish school, which, however, is abundantly sufficient. The people are all anxious that their children should receive a good education, and never grudge laying out money for this purpose; consequently the attendance is very numerous. The heritors have built a large and comfortable school-room, and are soon to erect a new house for the teacher,—the present one being very old. He has the highest salary allowed by law. His fees may amount to L. 24 per annum.

*Libraries.*—There is no public library; but one or two have been established in the immediate neighbourhood, which answer every purpose; a taste for reading seems to spread fast, from which, if always properly directed, much good may be anticipated.

*Poor.*—The average number of persons who receive parochial aid is about 3. They get from 4s. to 8s. per month according to circumstances. There is still an aversion to take assistance in this way, so long as it can possibly be avoided, and, under the influence of this very laudable spirit, many submit to considerable hardships before making an application. It has never yet been necessary for us to make an assessment for supporting the poor. This is avoided principally by maintaining a fund, the amount of which at present is upwards of L. 300. The interest of this, together with collections at the church doors, amounting to about L. 12, 10s. per annum, usually does more than answer all demands.

*Alehouses.*—We have only one alehouse, and there is no occasion for another. The fewer of these the better.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

There does not seem to be a very remarkable difference in this parish, since last Statistical Account was published. No doubt, the mode of agriculture has been improved; some new methods have been successfully tried to make the ground yield her fruits more abundantly, and of superior quality. Several new houses have likewise risen on the ruin of old ones, every way superior to their predecessors. Sundry spots of waste land have also been planted, and much more it is to be hoped will soon be done in this way. One great improvement has recently been made. The higher and lower parts of the parish have been connected by means of a new road, over which carriages of all kinds may travel in any weather; whereas, formerly, there was nothing but a precipitous rut, danger-

ous even for horses. This road is now become a sort of thoroughfare between the Carse of Gowrie and Strathmore, and is of public advantage, as well as private benefit.

*May 1837.*

## PARISH OF MEIGLE.

PRESBYTERY OF MEIGLE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNS.

THE REV. JAMES MITCHELL, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Situation, Extent, &c.*—THIS parish is in the centre of Strathmore, bounded on the north-west and north, by the rivers Isla and Dean; on the east and south, by the parishes of Essie and Nevy, and Newtyle; on the south-west and west by those of Kettins and Cupar-Angus. It lies in  $56^{\circ} 36'$  north Lat. and  $5''$  east Long. from Edinburgh, being in length  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles from west to north-east, and from 1 to 2 miles broad. It probably derived its name from its local situation,—the church and manse being built on a plain between two marshes or “gills,” which might thus have given rise to the word Midgile or Meigle.

*Strathmore.*—Strathmore, “the great strath or vale,” reaches from near Perth to Brechin, about 40 miles long, 4—6 broad, bounded on the south and south-east by the Sidla Hills, and on the north and north-west by the Grampians. There are no caves in the parish, and no part of it is hilly. The gentle eminence on which Belmont Castle stands (says Dr Playfair) is 204 feet above the level of half-flood mark at Panbride, near Arbroath. The village of Meigle lies quite contiguous to the church, and is watered by the burn of the same name.

*Geology, &c.*—Two quarries of red sandstone have been wrought, and used for building. The dip inclines to the west. Marl was dug in great abundance in the Gill, on the south. It was covered with peat-earth. The remains of the marl are now mixed with the moss by cultivation. But where a bed of marl is found (as under the road to Dundee) it is very soft and white, retaining scarcely any remains of shells.

Alongst the side of the marl-moss (called Myres,) and occa-

sionally running into it, there is a stratum of sand, apparently sea-sand, which seems to be the deposit of an arm of the sea, that had flowed through the strath, from near Perth to Douglaston, and thence towards Arbroath. It may, however, be the deposit of an interior lake long ago emptied. On the Sidla hills, distant only one mile and a-half, geologists have observed some marine or aqueous remains.

The soil in general is a fine black mould, inclining to brown, on a bottom of mortar, and yields good crops of wheat, barley, oats, and green-crop. There are also some sandy and clayey soils. Each of them is generally well improved and cultivated.

In the river Dean, good perch, pike, and trout are caught. The trout are often taken in February and March. Their flesh is red, and the flavour excellent. A few salmon ascend the Isla, but very few are taken. The common white trout and also pike are caught in that river.

There are no forests. The plantations are of oak, ash, beech, elms, and of the plane and service-trees, of the larix and different sorts of pines. On moist soils, the birch, alder, and willow are planted, and occasionally elsewhere. There are some fine aged elms, beeches, and ash, chiefly in Belmont park, formerly Kirkhill, where the Bishop of Dunkeld occasionally resided. One of the beeches, standing in a back-court at Belmont, is somewhat remarkable. The height of it to the top is 74 feet, the girth is 13 feet 9 inches at 3 feet from the ground. The solid wood below the offset of the branches, which are large and extended, is 276 feet.

There are some springs of excellent water in the parish; some of them flowing from sandstone rock, others from clay and gravel.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

No ancient history of this parish is known. Boece mentions it, speaking of Vanora's tomb erected here. And there is no modern account of it, previous to the late Statistical Account, by Dr Playfair, then minister of Meigle, afterwards Principal of the United College of St Andrew's, and known to the world by his chronological and geographical works.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, Lord Wharnccliffe; Lord Strathmore, by late purchase; Mr Murray of Simprim; Mr Nairne of Drumkilbo; and Mr Kinloch of Kinloch, whose property is "temporaliter" in Cupar Angus.

*Parochial Registers.*—The earliest date of the register of baptisms is the 31st of July 1727. It is pretty regularly kept; but

no register will be ever quite complete, till it be made imperative on Dissenters and all persons to record the baptism of their children.

*Antiquities.*—In the park of Belmont, there is a tumulus called “Belliduff,” which tradition gives as the spot where M'Duff slew Macbeth; and about a mile distant, stands a large whinstone nodule, or block of twenty tons weight, called Macbeth's stone. In all probability there has been fighting near these apparently sepulchral monuments; but it is more probable that Macbeth was slain at Lumphanan in the Mearns.

A font or trough for holy water was dug out of the rubbish, when the body of the old church was taken down. Its form is octagonal, each compartment having some emblem of the crucifixion upon it, as the “mock robe,” the “spear and sponge,” &c. It is a very hard stone, and placed on a pedestal in the minister's garden.

In the church-yard are the remains of the famous sepulchral monument of Vanora, or Guinevar, wife of the fabulous King Arthur, according to tradition. It relates that Arthur lived in the sixth century—that he lost a battle with the Picts and Scots—and that Vanora was made a prisoner, and detained in captivity on Barryhill, distant about two miles and a half from Meikle. Barryhill, in the parish of Alyth, was fortified of old. Vanora, says tradition, held an unlawful intercourse with Mordred, a Pictish King; and Arthur, when he received her again, enraged at her infidelity, caused her to be torn to pieces by wild beasts. She was buried at Meikle, and a monument erected to perpetuate her infamy. Such is the traditional story. But even Arthur's existence is now doubted, while of the Arthur of romance every one has heard.

The monumental stones called Vanora's have been described so often, and so minutely, that it seems unnecessary to dilate upon them in a work intended to be as concise as possible. Pennant, Dr Playfair, Pinkerton, Forsyth, and Knox, have given ample details, and to them the curious inquirer will at any rate have recourse. Let it suffice to say, that on each of these stones, now quite separated, there is a variety of sculptured figures, chiefly of the monstrous kind. One is a huge serpent fastened to a bull's mouth; another like a centaur—and there are two representations of wild beasts tearing a human body,—and one where the body seems tied or close to chariot wheels,—which may relate to Vanora, or may have given rise to the tradition.

*Buildings.*—The body of the church was built about fifty-four years ago; but two aisles of the old one remain. It is a plain building of stone. Belmont House, the seat of Lord Wharnclyffe, (called Kirkehill till about seventy years ago, when it was rebuilt,) is a handsome quadrangular building, retaining part of the ancient tower, in the back court. The lawn is extensive and finely wooded, and well kept, as is the garden.

Meigle House, Drumkilbo, and Kinloch, are good mansions, and pleasantly situated. Potento, a moderate sized house, occupied by a tenant, is delightfully situated on the south bank of the Dean; surrounded with wood, and near the rocky banks of the river. On the opposite side of the Dean, is Caerdean, where there are still the vestiges of a camp.

### III.—POPULATION.

There is no authentic record of the population till Dr Playfair (Statistical Account) gave the amount at 1148. Since then it has decreased.

Population in 1811,	-	928
1821,	-	847
1831,	-	873

The causes of the decrease are the enlargement of farms, and the removal of a linen manufactory. About 301 persons reside in the village of Meigle; 45 in Longlees; and in the country 530.

The average number of baptisms is	18
of proclamations,	9
But marriages less by 4-5, one of the parties residing elsewhere.	
The average number of persons under 15 years of age is	316
betwixt 15 and 30	245
30 and 50	191
50 and 70	110
above 70	30
Number of families,	191
chiefly employed in agriculture,	81
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	88
The number of bachelors and widowers upwards of 50 years of age	18
unmarried women under 45 years of age,	35
children in each family,	3½ nearly.

One insane (a man) is in the asylum. There are two (males) fatuous; and six of both sexes idiots, or quite silly.

One peer occasionally, and three families of independent fortune, reside in the parish. There are seven proprietors of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The arable acres in the parish, exclusive of Kinloch, are 2726; about 178 acres are under wood, and 100 acres in pasture, a small part of which is in the natural state. In parks

and lawns, trees have been for a long time planted, and pasture and wood-land are thus intermixed. There is no undivided common, but a small part of what was such may be profitably improved by tillage, or planted with trees. The woods and beltings are regularly thinned and pruned.

*Rent.*—Land rent is very various. The average rent (partly in grain and money) of land fit for wheat is reported to me, by factors and tenants, at L. 2 to L. 2, 15s.; that of land fit for barley and green crop, L. 1, 10s.; and of land of an inferior quality, L. 1. But of this last description of soil there is little in the parish. There is little permanent pasture, except in lawns and parks, of much value, and it is either pastured by the proprietor, or let together with arable land. The rent may average about L. 3 to L. 4. The rental of the parish is about L. 5000.

*Wages.*—Wages, including the value of victuals, (oatmeal and milk,) and lodgings of a farm-servant for one year, are stated at L. 20 to L. 24, 11s.; and for a woman, living in the house, at L. 5 to L. 7.

Day-labourers get 2s. a day from March to September. Women for field work, 8d.; masons and carpenters have from 2s. to 3s. in the long day—less in winter in proportion.

*Live-Stock.*—Few sheep are bred. In this parish and the neighbourhood the Leicestershire is generally most esteemed. Angus-shire cattle are the principal stock; but some are bred from a cross with the short-horned (Teeswater) bull, and accounted good feeders, and early fattened. The general duration of leases is nineteen years. The farm-buildings and enclosures are well-preserved. Proprietors give encouragement to improvements, and in most instances have given deductions of rent since the late war—or when times required abatement. And their kind consideration is generally admitted by the tenants.

There is no regular manufactory now in the parish. About fifteen men and women are chiefly employed in weaving coarse linen. Machinery has nearly put an end to hand-spinning, and old women, especially, get little or nothing to do, and are (many of them) reduced to poverty.

A Perth manufacturer who resides here has a work-mill, &c. for dyeing and dressing cotton cloth, for umbrellas. The people employed (from six to eight) live comfortably, and work only twelve hours every lawful day. About 72,000 yards are finished and sent to London annually.

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Markets*—Meigle is a market-town, but has now no regular weekly market. Lately it has had a fortnight tryst for the sale of cattle, which is well attended. It has also two fairs in the year, for cattle and horses, and ordinary traffic, when a considerable multitude assemble. The nearest market-town is Cupar Angus, five miles distant, but Dundee (18 miles) is the principal market-town, and port for shipping of grain. The quantity of grain and of potatoes sold is not ascertained, but is very considerable.

*Means of Communication.*—Meigle has a post-office, and three post-runners daily. There are about six miles of turnpike-road in the parish. Every lawful day a coach runs to and from Edinburgh and Aberdeen, by Perth and Queensferry, and one from Blairgowrie,—and one from Cupar Angus, to meet the rail-road coach, to and from Dundee, at Newtyle, (two miles from Meigle) three times a week.

A very old bridge over the Dean connects Meigle with Airly, in the county of Forfar. A well-built bridge has lately been erected by subscription over the Isla, connecting this parish with Alyth. Bridges over the burn of Meigle, and over-drains, are kept in good repair, as are the fences.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The situation of the church is convenient for the people. Its distance from the extremities of the parish is from two to three miles. The church is in pretty good repair. Two bishops of Dunkeld, and two Presbyterian ministers of the seventeenth century, are buried in the north aisle. The church affords accommodation for about 700 persons. Tenants, and householders have seats free, but, owing to the great inequality of the population on different properties, some seats are let.

The manse was built in 1809–10. The glebe, exclusive of garden, house stances and roads, is about 5½ acres of good soil, and worth L. 17 or L. 18 yearly. The stipend is 14 chalders meal and barley, vicarage worth about L. 3, and L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements.

There are no chapels of ease, or other places of worship in the parish, except an Episcopalian chapel, whose minister is paid by his people. He has two other chapels. There are 23 Episcopalian, and 38 Presbyterian Dissenters in the parish.

Divine service in the parish church is generally well attended. The average number of communicants is from 390 to 400. There is no society for religious and charitable purposes, but charity in va-



rious ways is liberally exercised towards the indigent, and the wants of the poorer inhabitants are readily relieved.

*Education.*—There is one parochial school and one unendowed. The parochial schoolmaster's salary, including L. 2, 2s. 9½d., in lieu of a garden, amounts to L. 36, 7s. 1d.; as session-clerk he has also a salary of L. 2, 10s.; register of baptisms and marriages, L. 5; school fees, L. 25; total L. 68, 17s. 1d. He has good accommodation. The unendowed school produces yearly about L. 15 to the teacher; but he is paid for other things, as collecting the road-money, &c.

In the parochial school, the usual branches of education are taught, also Latin, Greek, French, geography and practical mathematics. In the other, the teacher is qualified in much the same manner, but has no advanced scholars. School fees for reading and writing are very moderate. The poor pay none.

Every person above childhood, or eight years of age, can read, and there are few who cannot write. The people in general are alive to the benefits of education, and endeavour to send their children to school, part of the year. The distance from school is nowhere great.

*Poor.*—The church collections average yearly about L. 36, 10s., which sum, together with interest of money saved by the session, (L. 16, 17s. yearly) and mortcloth-money, has hitherto supported, in part or wholly, from nine to fourteen paupers in ordinary times. According to circumstances, we give from 4s. to 10s. a month.

There is no alms-house or workhouse in the parish, or in any of the towns near it. A house of this kind is much wanted, to which we could send silly or weakly paupers, paying board, &c. for them. Few are averse to receive parochial relief. Some, however, consider it degrading.

*Friendly Society.*—The ploughmen have a friendly society here of about eight years standing, and it is found advantageous. We had a saving bank, but, from the low rate of interest for money, are giving it up.

*Inns.*—There are five inns or taverns in the parish. Not more than two are necessary for travellers, &c.

*Fuel.*—The fuel used is chiefly coal from Dundee, the cost, including carriage, about 1s. 5d. per cwt. Wood is also used as fuel.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since last Statistical Account was written, great progress has been made in the theory and practice of husbandry; and in

Strathmore, landlords and tenants have concurred in advancing the art by all the known and approved methods. The latest improvement is the application of bones for manure, which was introduced by a farmer here, and generally adopted. It is pretty well known in Scotland, that the farmers in Strathmore are amongst the most intelligent and enterprising of their profession.

Great improvements have also been made in building gentlemen's seats, and tenants' houses, and the parish now presents a highly cultivated and pleasing aspect.

*Drawn up 1833—Revised May 1837.*

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## PARISH OF RATTRAY.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. WILLIAM HERDMAN, MINISTER.

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### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name of Rattray seems to have belonged alike to the parish, and to the principal family that dwelt in it, and probably was transferred from the one to the other. It is said that there are records which bear the name of Rattray of Craighall and Rattray, as early as 1066. No account is given of the etymology of the name.

*Boundaries, &c.*—Rattray is the westmost parish in Strathmore, the district adjoining in that quarter being the Stormont. It is bounded by the river Ericht, which runs along the west and south side, the whole extent of the parish, and separates it from Blairgowrie. On the east, it is bounded by the parish of Bendochy, and farther north by the parish of Alyth. The breadth of the parish, from west to east, is about 2 miles; the length from north to south is 5; besides the detached portion of Easter Bleaton.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The whole surface of the parish inclines by a very considerable declivity from north to south. The southern part, washed by Ericht, is flat; but the ground soon begins to rise towards the village, a short way behind which, perhaps not more than a quarter of a mile, these hills commence, which continue to increase in elevation and ruggedness, till they terminate in the Grampian mountains; though at the distance of many

miles beyond the boundaries of this parish. The high grounds on the north break the cold winds from that direction, and render the climate more mild, and the country more sheltered in the lower parts. The soil being dry, and the air mild, the situation of Rattray is thought to be very healthy. The most prevailing winds, though soft, are from the west; the most stormy, and accompanied with most rain and snow, are from the east, coming from the sea. As in other places, there are occasional distempers and fevers in Rattray; for every person must die; but there are no epidemics peculiar to the climate.

*Hydrography.*—The only river in the parish is the Ericht. It issues from some springs in the Grampians; and, taking a southerly direction, holds on through Glenshee and Persie, till it reach the Strone, where it receives the water of the Ardle, a considerable mountain stream from the north-west; the Ericht and Ardle united proceed nearly in the same course as before, pass by Craighall and Blairgowrie, and round the southernmost point of this parish; about two miles beyond which, they fall into the Islay, and thence flowing to the west, they join the Tay at Meiklour, by which they are conducted to the ocean. In winter, and on all occasions of much rain, the Ericht swells into a flood; and if this flood happens in autumn, like her more powerful neighbour the Islay, she carries off large quantities of grain from the low country.

*Mineralogy.*—To the naturalist the mineralogy of this parish might afford matter of curiosity and entertainment. The rocks on the side of the Ericht above Craighall are of singular and formidable appearance. They rise to upwards of 200 feet above the bed of the river, and in front are almost as perpendicular as if cut with a chisel. No use has ever been made of them, and they remain as they issued from the hand of nature, enormous masses of whinstone, and proofs of her gigantic power. As the access at top is hazardous, there is generally a strip of the surface planted, which is enclosed by a stone-wall, to prevent cattle from approaching it.

The soil on the hill grounds is cold, thin, and moorish; yet it is all let for corn and cattle farms, though the only grain raised is oats, as yielding the most profitable return. The soil in the lower part of the parish is dry, gravelly, and a good deal incumbered with loose stones. The produce of such ground must depend greatly on the season. In a dry summer, the crop is very light, and in such a year as 1826, it was almost nothing, either in corn or fodder. In a season of moderate rain, the crop is very good, and the grain true

and pure. The crops commonly raised are oats, barley, and wheat ; though the latter more sparingly than in former years, when the price and increase were more abundant.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Eminent Men.*—In the Civil History of the parish of Rattray, Mr Donald Cargill deserves distinguished notice. He was one of the ministers who lived and suffered under the unhappy reign of Charles II. He was born about the year 1610; his father was proprietor of an estate called Hatton, in this parish, and he was the oldest son of the family. He was educated first at Aberdeen, and then at the University of St Andrews; and after obtaining a licence to preach, was called to be minister of the barony church in Glasgow. This situation, and his own zeal for religion, connected him with the covenanted clergy of that period, and involved him in all their troubles. After undergoing many hardships, and experiencing many escapes, (which it is unnecessary to mention) he was apprehended in 1680, carried to Edinburgh along with some others, tried, and condemned by the Justiciary Court for high-treason, and the following sentence pronounced: “that he should be hanged at the Cross of Edinburgh, and his head placed on the Nether Bow.” This sentence was immediately executed; and such was the confidence and composure of the sufferer at the last, that when about to ascend the ladder, he said, “the Lord knows that I go on this ladder with less fear and perturbation of mind, than ever I entered the pulpit to preach!” Such are the hopes that cheer the just!

*Antiquities.*—If large gray stones be entitled to the appellation of antiquities, or are any indication of the religious worship of our ancestors, a few of these appear in a field, thence called Standing-Stanes, which are supposed to be the ruins of a Druidical temple. A more interesting object appears a little way to the south of that field. A large earthen mound rises in the low grounds, called the Hill of Rattray, on the eastern summit of which are the remains of a large building, named the Castle of Rattray, and which was anciently the residence of the family of that name. The mound is of an oblong form, something resembling the shape of an inverted ship; but the eastern corner of it is circular, as if sucked up by the action of a whirlpool, when the waters were retiring from the earth. In the perilous times, which were so frequent during the reign of our Scottish Kings, the family of Rattray removed from this hill to Craighall, as a place of security against the sudden incursions of enemies.

Craighall is a very singular place. The house is seated on the top of a rock, about 214 feet almost perpendicular above the Ericht. A balcony on the outside of the drawing-room windows, secured by an iron railing, serves as a parade, whence the river, and rocks, and surrounding scenery may be viewed. Craighall is accessible only in front, which is from the south; and on each side of the entrance, a little in advance of the house, are two round buildings, evidently intended for protection, with some openings for missile weapons, as if for the use of archers, a mode of defence very common in former ages. The old house of Craighall, the date of which is not known, was greatly altered about five years ago, by the late Baron Clerk Rattray. Without enlarging the premises, he new-modelled the apartments within, and added turrets to the corners without, which serve considerably to ornament the building.

*Land-owners.*—The principal proprietor in the parish is Robert Clerk Rattray, Esq. of Craighall, son of the late worthy Baron, who succeeded to the estate on the demise of his cousin, Miss Janet Rattray, in 1817. The present proprietor, with his family, reside at Craighall during the greater part of the year. The other heritors are, the Earl of Kinnoul; John Rattray of Coral-Bank; the Rev. George Whitson of Parkhill; Colonel Chalmers of Glenericht; Lord Wharnclyffe; Miss M'Donald of Easter Bleaton; and Mr Crichton of Mains,—besides a number of feuars of inferior note. Rattray is comparatively a small parish, the whole valuation being L. 2575 Scots.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers are of considerable antiquity. They commence about the Restoration in 1660, and, with a little interruption in the Revolution 1688, have been filled up and preserved with tolerable care.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of Rattray must have undergone great alteration. In the time of Dr Webster it was reckoned 751; in the return made to Sir John Sinclair it was stated at 500: the number of the inhabitants at present is 1375,—a large increase in the space of forty years. This population resides chiefly in two villages, called Old and New Rattray, the latter of which did not exist at the date of the last report. The new village is seated on both sides of the road to Blairgowrie, and extends almost to the Ericht, which divides the parishes. The ground for houses and gardens is fixed by the proprietors to persons from the country, and particularly from the Highlands, who, finding it necessary to change their

residence, seek a more sheltered situation. The rate of feuing is about 1s. the fall, or L. 8 the acre, though some of it lately has risen much higher. The two villages are almost contiguous, and the climate and soil of both are warm, dry, and healthy. The increase of population is chiefly owing to the spinning-mills, which have been reared within the last twenty years, and which will require particular attention. The average number of births for the last seven years is 32, of marriages 12; of deaths, though more various, the number is perhaps nearly the same. The population of Old Rattray, of all ages and sexes, is about 400; of New Rattray, 300,—leaving 600 and upwards for the country part of the parish.

The number of proprietors of L. 50 and upwards annually is seven; and the whole rental about L. 2000.

The inhabitants of the country are all engaged in agricultural operations; those of the villages are employed in trades and manufactures. The great business of the common people is weaving of a coarse fabric, the materials for which are sent from Dundee. The inhabitants in general are sober, industrious, and economical. In former times, smuggling in malt and whisky prevailed much in this neighbourhood, but has now almost disappeared, in consequence of the decisive measures adopted by Government. This is a happy change for the character, the circumstances, and the morals of the people. Poaching in game is much complained of by gentlemen at certain seasons of the year; which shows the idle, pernicious, and despicable habits, of a few of the lower orders of the people.

Number of families in the parish,	318
chiefly employed in agriculture,	64
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	149

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—Rattray being comparatively a small parish, and not remarkable for soil, furnishes no great scope for agricultural operations. The farms in general are of moderate size; and those in the higher grounds, intended both for pasture and tillage, are seldom let by the acre, but by as much rent as the tenants imagine they will bear, according to the mode of husbandry to which they are to be applied. The land about the village gives L. 3 per acre. The leases for small portions are for nine or eleven years; for farms, fifteen or nineteen years. On the estate of Craighall, there are considerable plantations of Scotch and larch fir, which were much enlarged by the late Baron Clerk Rattray. They are scarcely in a state for felling, but they are regularly thin-

ned, and the produce sold for fuel to the people in the neighbourhood. Along the sides of the Ericht, the timber raised is copse-wood or small oak, which is cut down at a certain age, chiefly for the sake of the bark, and yields a very profitable return.

There is a commonity in the higher part of the parish, of nearly 300 acres, called the Broad Moss, which is become almost a waste, for want of being divided. The only use made of it is in individuals at pleasure casting turf for fuel, and the neighbouring tenants sending their cattle to brouse on it. Though called a moss, it is more properly a muir, being a high-lying barren subject, but under proper management, might have become a plantation of some value.

The farmers have their grounds laid out in such proportions, that, in addition to grain, they raise potatoes, turnips, and artificial grasses. When potatoes bring good prices, besides their use for the benefit of the family, they are sent in large quantities to Perth and Dundee; when the demand is low, they are consumed at home in feeding cattle. The turnips and grasses are solely for the support of the bestial on the farm. The occupiers of land rear or purchase annually as much stock as they can maintain, which they feed when two or three years old, and sell to butchers or dealers, who send a great proportion of them to the Glasgow market. The Strathmore and Angus breed, which have a mixture of the Teeswater, red and white, are much esteemed for their size and keeping; and for some time past have been the principal article that have put money into the hands of the farmer. The wages of farm-servants are from L. 10 to L. 12 a year with their board; day-labourers in summer get 1s. 6d. or 1s. 8d.; in winter 1s. 2d. without victuals.

*Fishings.*—The principal fishing station in this parish is the Keith, where the waters of the Ericht rush over a rock, and fall into a pool below, whence the salmon are taken. The fishing is the property of Lord Wharnccliffe; and during the season, when there is plenty of water in the river, salmon of the size of from eight to twelve pounds are caught in abundance. I shall transcribe the account of this fishing given by my predecessor, as it is more minute and exact than any which I can pretend to give. “There is, at a little distance from Rattray, a cascade or fall of water, about ten feet high, over a rugged rock, which forms a pool below, where salmon are caught. It goes by the name of the Keith fishing, and rents at L. 30 a year. The mode of fishing is curious. They

make what they call a drumuck, resembling thin wrought mortar, which they throw into the pool to disturb the clearness of the waters. The fishers stand on the point of the rock with long poles, and nets upon the ends of them, with which they rake the pool, and take up the fish." Besides this particular station, fishers and sportsmen, who occasionally visit the Ericht in summer, take trout and salmon by the rod, at various places along the river, as far as it skirts the parish of Rattray.

*Manufactures.*—Under the name of manufactures may be comprehended spinning-mills, of which there are seven in the parish of Rattray. The river Ericht, affording abundance of water, and numerous falls for driving machinery, has induced persons in the neighbourhood and even some from towns, to feu ground, and erect these structures. The mills vary in size from six to twenty horse power. The work about which they are employed, is manufacturing flax and tow into yarn; the former from one to three hanks, the latter from four to eight hanks per spindle. The number of persons necessary for these operations may be stated in round numbers at 250. They work all the six days of the week, commencing their labour at half an hour before six in the morning, and, excepting an hour allowed for each diet, continuing till seven o'clock in the evening. Few are admitted to the mills before twelve years of age, the wages of whom are 2s. per week; and the average amount of all classes, young and old, beginners and experienced labourers, may be 6s. 6d. a week. I am not able to say how far the regulations in the late Factory Bill have been adopted, or what effects they have produced in this part of the country.

It is evident, that, in a pecuniary view, these establishments are highly beneficial. They furnish the young with an income, and parents with the means of supporting their families, to an extent which could not otherwise be procured. But I am afraid that here their praises must terminate. Their effects on health must be deemed injurious, from the long confinement the labourers endure, and the thick atmosphere they are constrained to breathe. Their influence on morals cannot be favourable, unless a rigid superintendance be maintained by proprietors and guardians; as we never fail to observe, that when large bodies of people are assembled, human passions ferment and disorders ensue, except strict vigilance be preserved. A very laudable attempt to correct or prevent these evils, was made by the Legislature in their late enactment.



## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

It has been already observed, that there are two villages in the parish, called Old and New Rattray, in which mostly the articles necessary for family use may be at all seasons found. Blairgowrie, a much more considerable village, is at hand, where there is a post-office, and shops of all kinds in abundance for food and clothing. Cupar-Angus is the next place of consequence, at the distance of five miles from Rattray, and to which there is a turnpike road from Blairgowrie. At Cupar-Angus, the turnpike roads break off to Perth and Dundee; and through Cupar-Angus, the Defiance coach runs daily from Edinburgh to Aberdeen. Lately, a railway was formed across the Sidlaw hills, from Dundee to Newtyle, by which coals, lime, and manure are brought from town in waggons, and grain and potatoes are sent in return. On the railway, there are close coaches for passengers, which are much used as a cheap and expeditious mode of travelling. A bill is just now before Parliament for extending the railway from Newtyle to Cupar-Angus, which is expected to be a great benefit to this district of Strathmore.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church of Rattray was built in 1820 and 1821, is a very commodious house, and in perfect order. It was made to contain 620 persons. In appropriating it, the first consideration was bestowed on the poor. A portion, which would accommodate twelve sitters, was allotted to them. A similar portion was allowed to the elders, and for baptism room; and the same to the minister's family; after which, the area of the church was divided among the heritors, according to their respective valuations. The heritors, after accommodating themselves and their tenants, let the surplus seats to the trade's people in the parish, who have no right of their own. These seats to the lower orders are exceedingly cheap, at an average scarcely amounting to 1s. 6d. the sitter. The whole seats are occupied. The church is very conveniently situated for the parish in general, though there is one property, called Easter Bleaton, ten miles distant from it. This detached portion is cut off from the rest of the parish for five miles, by the intervening parishes of Bendochy and Alyth; but the few inhabitants, there, are accommodated with public worship at the chapel of Persie, a preaching station in the higher part of the parish of Bendochy, not above two miles distant from Easter Bleaton.

The manse of Rattray was built in 1813 and 1814. The glebe

contains 15 acres, the greater part of it outfield; and in whole it might let for L. 20. The living of Rattray is one of the small stipends, augmented by Government to L. 150 per annum. There is a dissenting meeting in the parish, formerly of the Antiburgher connection, but now belonging to the United Associate Synod. Their chapel will contain 340 sitters, but is partly unoccupied. The stipend arises from the seat-rents and collections, and is said to be from L. 80 to L. 100 a-year. Dissenters attend well on public worship; and the members of the Established Church are not deficient in this praiseworthy conduct. The average number of communicants in the parish church may be 500; the collections throughout the year L. 15. Since 1775, there has been an assessment on the parish for the support of the poor, which has had the effect of diminishing the collections, but could not now be easily dispensed with. The number of paupers on the list generally exceeds a dozen; and instead of considering it degrading, every one is eager to prefer his claim as fast as he can. The average annual amount of assessments is L. 45: of church collections, L. 15.

The number of families in the parish attending the chapels of Dissenters or Seceders is 65.

*Education.*—With regard to education, it may be said that there are principally two schools for that important end; the parish school in Old Rattray, and a private one in New Rattray. The parochial teacher has the highest salary allowed by law of L. 34, besides the dues of baptisms and marriages, which must amount to some pounds more. His fees may amount to L. 15 per annum. The private teacher depends entirely on the fruits of his industry. The numbers attending each school are nearly the same,—upwards of 40: the wages for beginners are 2s. per quarter; 2s. 6d. for reading and writing; and 3s. for arithmetic and Latin. Both masters profess to teach Latin, arithmetic, writing, and English. I have reason to believe, that they are not deficient in attention and diligence. Besides these, there are schools on a lower scale kept by females, chiefly for young girls; and some occasionally kept by males for the benefit of those in the remote parts of the parish. Perhaps, there are none of five years of age but have begun to learn to read; and none farther advanced but are taught both to read and write. The blessing of education is brought within the reach of all classes in society. If they are poor, the kirk-session pay for them; if they are in a better situation, they can easily furnish the expense from their own industry. They

need only show a willing mind, and the invaluable advantage will be attained.

*Fairs.*—There are two fairs in Rattray,—the one on the last Friday of April, the other the last Friday of August. They are intended chiefly for the sale of cattle. In all villages, ale-houses exist in abundance, and perhaps there are six or eight of them in the parish of Rattray. Inns are necessary for the accommodation of the public ; but, by the idle and profligate, they are perverted to purposes of disorder and abuse.

*Fuel.*—Coals, the best of all fuel, are rather expensive in this part of the country. They are brought either from Perth, or by the railway from Dundee to Newtyle, and between purchase and freight are necessarily dear. By the wise appointment of the Creator, however, every place possesses its own advantages. In the high grounds, within three or four miles, there are mosses where peats are dug, and dried, and brought home in summer, as a preparation against the approach of winter. There are also occasional sales of wood in the neighbouring plantations, where fuel is got at a reasonable rate. With a portion of each of these, coals, peat, and wood, every person endeavours to be provided. Those on the roll of poor are furnished with a certain allowance of coals at Christmas ; and all others lay up for themselves, as their wisdom or their wealth direct and enable them.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The only other object pertaining to this parish, which I shall mention as a matter of curiosity, is an iron bridge, which Colonel Chalmers of Glenericht, has thrown across the river, a little below his house. The bridge is supported by a stone pillar at each end, from which a direct span, not an arch, stretches across the whole breadth of the river. The bridge is of such wideness as to admit a passage for a carriage, with a foot tract on the side for travellers, the bottom or floor of both of which is covered with gravel to prevent alarm to man or beast. By this bridge, the Colonel has easy and elegant access to his property on both sides of the river, and also to the great road which runs from Braemar to Perth. The bridge was constructed by a Mr Justice in Dundee, and is well worthy of the notice of strangers.

*May 1837.*

## PARISH OF FOWLIS WESTER.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH & STIRLING.

THE REV. ALEXANDER MAXTONE, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—FOWLIS is a Gaelic name, and derives its origin, according to a local tradition, from the following circumstance, characteristic of the age and country: One of the Earls of Strathearn, desirous of having a church in the vicinity of his castle, stood on an eminence, on which he had a summer seat, and resolved to erect it where the sun first shone, which was on the spot where it now stands; and which he denominated Fowgnolish, under the light. The name is limited to this spot, and to the half of the village; the other half is Lacock.

*Extent, &c.*—The extent of the parish is 7 miles from east to west at its greatest breadth, and 10 from south to north. It is situated on the north side of Strathearn, west from Perth 8, and east from Crieff 2 miles; and divided by two mountain ranges. The south range separates the lower part of the parish from Logiealmond, and is 3 miles in breadth, on which are large tracts of moss, and heath, and plantations, and only a few cottages and cultivated farms. The north range is of higher elevation than the south, divides Logiealmond from Strathbraan, and forms a part of the Grampian mountains, extending from the Atlantic to the German Ocean.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The surface of the parish is remarkably irregular. There is only one valley in it, which stretches along the banks of the Pow, the whole extent of its southern boundary. From this valley to the summit of the south mountain range, the position of the ground is greatly diversified, and divided into different names, including the Braes of Fowlis, the Braes of Dury, Gorthy, and Keillor; all of which have an elevated southern exposure, and are interspersed with trees, and clumps, and stripes of copse, which have a fine imposing effect to the eye of the traveller, along the turnpike road, exhibiting rich

enclosures, enchanting slopes, and sinuous ravines, formed by streams descending from the mountains, when swollen by the rains, in noisy and impetuous torrents, to the plains below.

In no part of the parish is the inequality of its surface so striking, as at Cultoquhey, its western boundary. Mounds composed of gravel are piled together there, in great numbers, and arranged in such a singular variety of grotesque sizes and figures, that they suggest the idea of a *lusus naturæ*. They appear as if they had been formed by the course of a river, probably the Shaggy, which is said to have run formerly in this direction. Some of them are covered with luxuriant wood; and the village of Gilmerton is situated at their extremity on the west.

A mile to the east of this, is the gate to Abercairney, which opens to an approach on the margin of a copious mountain stream, meandering in a deep murky ravine, densely crowded with trees and shrubs, which, in its serpentine course, is sometimes invisible, and heard murmuring around projections of rocks. This narrow shady avenue, which is a fine specimen of romantic scenery, leads to a magnificent park, embellished with the enchanting art of imitating nature, in which extensive lawns salute the eye, the antique alley, venerable oaks, clumps and trees scattered in a lavish style of sylvan beauty, whose dark shades serve as foils to set off the lovelier mantle of the verdant surface. No bold features of mountains, and rocks, and cascades, no wild misshapen forms, no grotesque shapes constitute the beauties of this landscape. Nature is here arrayed, in gentle attire, in the softer charms of beauty united with utility; rich meadows, pleasing acclivities, gardens enamelled with flowers, artificial islands and lakes, enlivened with swans and cygnets; and every hortulane and rural decoration, essential to an elegant and commodious residence.

To the north-east of Abercairney, on a rocky protuberance, is Laterbannochy, once the site of a mansion-house, the residence of a family of Murrays, ancestors of Lord Stormont; from which there is a delightful view of the admirable scenery of Drummond Castle; and all the intermediate objects are embraced, at once, by the eye, as in a fine landscape painting. This splendid prospect was probably the cause of fixing on this position for the house, as it is different from the site of the other ancient mansion-houses in the parish. They were generally erected on the brink of those fissures and streams which are so numerous in the braes. Near one of them the manse stands, to the east of Laterbannochy, and

in the same elevation,—having a southern exposure, and commanding a view of Strathearn, Strathmore, and the Ochil and Lomond Hills, forming the grand and distant outline of this extensive prospect.

At the distance of a mile to the east of the manse, once stood the castle of the Earl of Strathearn, on the east side of a den in which the burn of Dury runs. The site was peculiarly appropriate for this Celtic chief, the great proprietor and chief magistrate of the district. The House of Gorthy was situated to the south-east of this, on the side of another den of the same name with itself. It is now demolished, but the lawn is still marked by venerable trees with which it was ornamented. Behind a division of the south mountain range, and towards the eastern extremity of the parish, is the estate of Keillor, in which there is a considerable proportion of fertile soil, well cultivated, and partially inclosed. Here stood an ancient castle, with a den on each side of it, which a rivulet has formed into a peninsula.

To the north of the lands of Keillor is the Almond, a beautiful river, which intersects the parish for the course of two miles. On the verge of this river, in a small but sweet spot, Mr T. Mercer has a neat cottage, embossed in wood and hills, which tower above it. West from this at Buchanty, there is a small copse, which, as well as the picturesque scenery above and below the bridge, are much admired, and numbered among the attractions of the district. There the water in the river finds its noisy way, over fragments and clusters of stones and rocks, torn asunder and hollowed, and worn into a variety of forms, and chasms, and pools, which with trees hanging on its side, in a deep mass of shade, and the soft spray of the cascade, when tinged with the prismatic rays of the sun, form a coup d'œil, truly romantic. To the north-east of this, is the part of the parish in Logiealmond, in which there is a breadth of arable land, which rises with considerable acclivity to the northern mountain range. This range feeds numerous flocks of sheep, and gradually descends on the north side, to the termination of the parish, at the river Braan, famed for its scenery and cascades as it approaches the city of Dunkeld. In the same range, are the hills of Conachan, at the western extremity of the parish, which are pastured with sheep, and extend to Stronaveille in Wester Glenalmond.

*Hydrography.*—The parish is abundantly supplied with water. Copious perennial springs issue from rocks, and are soft and cool

in their temperature. Loch Luag is situated at the western boundary of the parish, in a narrow glen, from which there is a sublime and diversified prospect of the bold romantic scenery of Monzie and Ochertyre, and the stupendous amphitheatre of hills around Comrie, with the lofty Benvoirloch towering to the clouds. The Pow is a slow running river, and once covered a great part of the ground, in its vicinity, before a channel was dug for it, by authority of an Act of Parliament, remarkable for being the last of the Scottish acts. It has its source in the mosses below Methven, and joins the Earn near Innerpeffray. The Almond rises occasionally to a great size, and pursues a rapid meandering course, until it empties itself in the Tay, above Perth. It is joined by the Shellegan, a fine limpid stream, which runs through the arable fields of Logiealmond. There are many pleasing cascades in the numerous ravines, in which the streamlets from the hills flow, but none of them are of great magnitude. The one at Buchanty has attracted most notice, from its singular appearance and curious course.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The mountains and plains are generally composed of rocks of granite, slate, and sandstone, of great thickness and extent; and the direction and dip of the strata are to the north and east. The slates are found in the hills of Logiealmond. There is a species of limestone at Buchanty, and a mass of columnar trap, which runs from east to west. The soil on the banks of the Pow is alluvial, and has been transported and deposited there by the inundations of the river. There is a great variety of fertile soils in the parish, which rest chiefly on rock, and are gravelly, sandy, loamy, and clayey. Where they rest on rock, they are in many parts thin and dry, but fertile; and where the substratum is clayey, they are wet, cold, and retentive. The minuter animals appear less frequently on them than on the loamy soil, where they receive more nutrition.

*Zoology.*—Such of the wild quadrupeds and fowls as are natives of the north, and the migratory birds which frequent Scotland, are numerous in the parish. Goats were pastured on the hills of Logiealmond about fifty years ago; but they are all now displaced by another species of stock. The Fife, the Ayrshire, the Teeswater breed of cattle, and excellent horses of the Clydesdale breed, the Garron and the Cleveland Bay, are reared to great size and value.

*Botany.*—There is a great collection of herbaceous and green-

house plants in the gardens at Abercairney. Pines, grapes, apricots, and nectarines, grow there to great perfection. Few trees grow on the north side of the parish; but there are large plantations of forest trees on the south side of the Almond, to all of which the soil is congenial, except the Scotch fir, which is slow and stunted in its growth. At Abercairney, there are two ashes of uncommon size and age.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Historical Events.*—The village of Fowlis was once a place of considerable importance, where the Stewart of Strathearn held his court. This court is memorable for one decision, at which Sir Alexander Moray of Abercairney, who had been charged with culpable homicide, pled in 1397 the privilege of the law of clan MacDuff; and being within the ninth degree of consanguinity to him he was acquitted, on paying twenty-four merks of silver. The Marquis of Montrose is said to have been riding through the Bog of Bannochy, when his horse stuck at a place which is still called *Montrose's goat*. He first erected his standard at the bridge of Buchanty, where he was joined by the Drummonds and Græmes, on his way from Athole, with Macdonald, before he fought the battle of Tibbermore.

These reinforcements were chiefly from Menteith, and under the command of Lord Kilpout, eldest son of the Earl of Menteith;—they had been raised by order of the Committee of Estates at Edinburgh, and were marching to the general rendezvous at Perth. The advanced party of Montrose's army were startled, when, proceeding through Glenalmond, they came in sight of so large a body of men, posted in their front, upon the hill of Buchanty. Græme of Inchbrakie, who commanded this advanced party, immediately dispatched intelligence of what he saw to Montrose, who, with all his characteristic expedition, brought up his main body to vanquish them, should they refuse to join him. At his approach, a negotiation instantly commenced. The officers being gentlemen of his own family, and Highlanders of a kindred clan, were easily induced to abandon their destination, and to join the royal standard. This unexpected accession to his force, which now mustered three thousand men, animated this enthusiastic leader, and he resolved to commence offensive operations, by attacking Perth next morning.

*Eminent Men.*—Sir David Moray of Gorthy, son of Sir Robert Moray of Abercairney, was Governor to Prince Henry. He ac-



quired reputation by the success with which he wrote in English verse, "The Tragical Death of Sophonisba; Cælia, containing certain sonnets; and a paraphrase of the 104th Psalm." John, his brother, a learned and pious man, was minister of Leith, and an intimate friend of Andrew Melville's. He was prosecuted and ordered into confinement by King James VI., for a sermon which he published, containing some free remarks on the conduct of the bishops. Andrew and George Moray of Abercairney, and Peter Maxtone of Cultoquhey were slain in the fatal field of Flowden, 1513. A proprietor of the latter house has been long famed for a celebrated litany, which he repeated every morning, at a well near his residence. Anthony, of the same family, was, in the reign of Charles I., prebendary of Durham.

Mr Drummond of Broich, was deposed from his office, as minister of Fowlis, at the Revolution, because, as stated in the records of the kirk-session, he would not pray for King William and Queen Mary.—The late Dr Ritchie, Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh, an eminent scholar, and a learned theologian, was a native of the village of Fowlis.—The Reverend Dr Alison of St Paul's, Edinburgh, and the late Principal Taylor, of Glasgow College, were educated at its parochial school, which was then a seminary of reputation.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, James Moray of Abercairney; Sir Patrick Murray of Ochtertyre; Mercer of Gorthy; Stewart of Logiealmond; Maxtone of Cultoquhey; Græme of Inchbraco; Lord Lynedoch; Mrs Robertson Williamson of Lawers; and Captain M'Donald of Sunnysyde.

*Parochial Registers.*—The earliest entry in the parochial registers is in 1674. They are voluminous, and regularly kept, with the exception of a few years after the Revolution.

*Antiquities.*—In the village of Fowlis, there is an ancient Calvary cross, on one side of which is a representation of a wolf-chase, in bas relief, in which there are figures of men on horseback, and a blood-hound. The wolf appears grasping a head in his fierce jaws, and tradition says that, in the course of the chase, he ran through the town of Fowlis, and snatched off the head of a boy. In the same group of figures, are six men dressed in a peculiar grotesque style, and following an animal, supposed to be led to the sacrifice. The figures on the other side are much defaced, but there are gyves or chains on it, which fastened culprits, and exposed them to infamy, a species of punishment similar to the pillory.

On the margin of the Almond, at the bridge of Buchanty, St Methven, the local and tutelary saint of the parish, had a chapel, which is now demolished. At Cultoquhey, there is a small camp in which urns with ashes have been dug up, and which probably was connected with the great camp at Fendock. Tradition says, that Comhal Cult, the father of Fingal, fought here with the Romans, and lost the battle. At the junction of the road from Fowlis with the turnpike, there is a large cairn, on which is a standing pillar, or the monumental stone of some hero or chieftain, who had fallen in a battle, which is said to have been fought here. Heaps of stones of this nature were formerly accumulated on battle fields, and so long as there was any memory of the dead, every passenger added a stone to the heap. Hence the Gaelic proverb, "I will add a stone to your cairn."

The castle of the Earl of Strathearn is now a verdant mound. One of the most considerable families of the kingdom, whose origin is now uncertain, formerly resided in it. Grim, Thane of Strathearn, was killed in 1010, at the battle of Mortlach, where Malcolm II fought with the Danes. Walinus, a man of rank in England, is said to have received this dignity from Malcolm Canmore in 1068. Malise signalised himself as a brave and gallant man at the battle of the standard in 1138. In a council of war held in the Scottish camp, the evening before the battle, the King signified his intention, that the archers and men at arms should lead the van of the army. "Whence this confidence in these men, cased in mail, (said the Celtic chief, Malise Earl of Strathearn,) I wear none, yet will I advance farther to-morrow than those who are sheathed in steel. Earl, said Alan de Percy, you have said more than you dare perform." The King interposed to put an end to the dispute. Ferquhard, his son, with five other Earls, conspired to seize the person of Malcolm IV. at Perth, 1160, and assaulted the tower in which he sought refuge, but were repulsed. Gilbert, in 1200, founded the abbey of Inchaffray. Robert was one of the guarantees, on the part of Alexander King of Scots, for ratifying the differences in 1237, between him and the King of England. Malise, when a peace was concluded between Alexander II and Henry III., was, in 1244, one of the guarantees of the truce. Malise, his son, signed the famous letter to the Pope, and during the minority of David Bruce, opposed Edward Baliol with all his interests; and when that prince prevailed, his earldom was forfeited, and given to Warren Earl of Surrey. His countess also,

in 1320, when a treasonable conspiracy was formed against King Robert the Bruce, through fear or remorse, betrayed the guilty secret, with which she was entrusted, and was condemned to perpetual imprisonment. Malise died without issue, by which the male line of the family became extinct; but the daughters of the preceding Earls had been married to the progenitors of the ducal families of Hamilton, Athole, and Montrose; and to the noble families of Ruthven, Oliphant, and Bothwell, who got with them great estates. Sir John Moray of Drumsergard, (lineal heir and representative of Sir Andrew Moray of Bothwell, his grandfather, the eldest surviving branch of Freskine de Moravia,) was married to Mary, only sister of Malise, the last Earl, who got with her the lands of Abercairney. The earldom, which had been forfeited by Baliol, was resumed by King David, and conferred on their son, Sir Maurice Moray, heir of line, whom failing, to return to the Crown, in the same case, and as entire as possessed by Malise in the time of his forfeiture. Maurice was killed at the battle of Durham, in 1346, and leaving no issue, the earldom returned to the Crown, according to the last grant. The family of Abercairney, continued by Alexander, the Earl's brother, are therefore the lineal heirs and representatives of the ancient Earls of Strathearn, as well as of the Lords of Bothwell.

The only other heritor resident in the parish is Maxtone of Cultoquhey, whose property has been in the singular predicament, during all the time it has been possessed by his family, of being neither increased nor diminished. He has the same common ancestor with the Maxwells, the one name being Maccuston, a Saxon, and the other Maccus-villa, a Norman termination, denoting the town and villa of Maccus, the son of Undyn, who had lands upon the Tweed, which acquired from him the appropriate name of Maxton and Maxwell.

Fowlis appears to have been a favourite seat of the Druids. Several of their clachans have been demolished, but there are still four large Druidic stones, standing west from the village, one of which is a *cromleach*, or altar-stone, in which there is an artificial cavity, where the blood and oil of the sacrifices flowed. On the summit of the hill, due north from the same place, there is a Druidic circle of stones, and a double concentric circle. This is believed to have been the temple of an arch Druid, which when erected was probably in the midst of a forest in which were the oak, and consecrated grove, the favourite objects of their super-

stitution. The circle consists of sixteen stones, between which and the double circle there is a large stone incumbent, where the arch Druid stood, and addressed himself to those around him. The outer precinct of the concentric circle is 18 yards in circumference, in which are forty stones. Three yards north from it, there is a large standing stone, which is probably monumental of some illustrious dead, as they were then interred around those places, where they worshipped the Supreme Being. To the west of this temple, there is a *Si'un*, which signifies in Gaelic a *mount of peace*, near which is a fairy hillock, where urns have been found, and which was believed to have been inhabited by an inferior kind of genii, called fairies. On the *Si'uns*, the Druids held assizes, when it was customary to kindle a large bonfire, called *Samhin*, or *the fire of peace*. On Hallow eve, a Druidical festival, these fires are still lighted up, in this district, and retain the same name.

*Modern Buildings.*—The House of Abercainey is a superb modern edifice, in the form of an ancient cathedral, and in the Gothic style of architecture. Its exterior is much admired for its lightness, elegance, and symmetry; but it is far surpassed by the exquisite enrichments of its interior finishing. The mansion-house of Cultoqubey has also been lately erected. It is a structure of beautiful and substantial workmanship, and graceful proportion, in the style of the Elizabethan age, from a design of Mr Smirke.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the parish has of late fluctuated considerably. By Dr Webster's list it was rated

In 1755 at	1706
In 1770 it was	1100
1794	1224
1831	1681

This fluctuation is owing to the erection of the village of Gilmer-ton, to the *quoad sacra* part of the parish being included in the census, and to the extent of modern farms.

The population in the villages is	396
country,	1285
The yearly average of births for the last seven years is	30
deaths,	26
marriages,	18
The average number of persons under 15 years of age is	541
betwixt 15 and 30,	430
30 and 50,	355
50 and 70,	262
upwards of 70,	93

PERTH.

R

Families of independent fortune who generally reside in the parish,	4
The number of unmarried men, bachelors, and widowers, upwards of 30 years of age.	39
unmarried women upwards of 45, families.	56
Average number of children in each family.	4
Number of inhabited houses, insane and fatuous,	305
	4

## IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—

The number of acres occasionally in tillage, is	7000
pasture,	16000
wood,	2000

*Rent of Land, &c.*—The average rent of arable land is L. 1, 13s. per acre. The rate of grazing an ox or cow is L. 2, and 5s. per ewe or full-grown sheep pastured for the year. The rate of labour for the different kinds of farm-labourers and country artisans is 1s. 6d. per day, in summer, and 1s. 2d. in winter, and the rate of mason, carpenter, and other mechanical work is 2s. The sheep is of the black-faced Linton breed, and attention has been paid to their improvement.

The husbandry pursued is generally of an improved character. Many acres of waste land have been reclaimed, and due attention has been paid to draining; though the Pow inundates the fertile valley, on its banks, and deteriorates its luxuriant crops. Were its channel enlarged, this would be prevented, the soil would be ameliorated, and the aqueous meteors which blight the crops would be less injurious. This great and obvious improvement has often been proposed, but no measures have hitherto been adopted to carry it into effect.

The general duration of the leases is for nineteen years, and the farm-buildings are in a superior style. The greater part of the arable ground is enclosed with hedges and stone dikes, but many of them are insufficient fences, and the enclosures are defective in their subdivisions. Every branch of agriculture has advanced generally of late; but the property of Sir Patrick Murray of Ochtertyre has received the most elegant and substantial improvement, in respect of farm-building, fences, and planting. The chief obstacles to improvement arise from the distance from manure, and sea-ports, and the depression in the value of the produce of the soil, which represses the enterprise and industry of the tenant.

*Quarries.*—On the lands of Abercairney and Cultoquhey, there are two excellent quarries of durable sandstone, which admits of a fine polish, and has a beautiful colour. From them both the mansion houses on these estates have been recently built. Craig-

lea slate quarry, from which 1,200,000 slates are sold annually, is of a superior quality, and has a beautiful dark blue-colour.

*Fisheries.*—The only fish taken in the parish is in the Almond. On the cascade at Buchanty, which is divided in its stream, by the projection of a rock, a basket is suspended, and the salmon and white trout, in attempting to overleap the cascade, which impedes their progress up the river, plunge into the basket, and are captured.

*Produce.*—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish.

Produce of grain of all kinds, . . . . .	L. 17000
potatoes, cabbage, &c. . . . .	2500
hay, . . . . .	1500
flax, . . . . .	200
lands in pasture at L.2 per cow, and at 6s. ewe, or full-grown sheep, pastured for the year, . . . . .	3600
gardens and orchards, . . . . .	400
annual thinning and periodical felling of woods, plantations, and copse, . . . . .	600
quarries, . . . . .	300
miscellaneous produce, . . . . .	1900
	<hr/>
Total yearly value of raw produce raised, . . . . .	L. 28000

*Manufactures.*—The principal manufacture in the parish is the weaving of cotton cloth, and the weavers are furnished with the raw material from Glasgow. The construction of sieves, a species of handicraft, is almost peculiar to this place. Several families have been for generations employed in this trade, who carry them to the Perth and Fife markets, where they meet with a ready sale, at remunerating prices.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The town and lands of Lacock adjoining to Fowlis, are a burgh of barony, with the privilege of a weekly market every Wednesday, and two yearly fairs; but none of these have been held of late. Crieff, which is five miles distant, is the nearest market-town.

*Villages.*—There are two villages in the parish, Gilmerton and Fowlis. The former is neat and well built, in a pleasant situation, through which the turnpike road passes from Perth to Crieff. The latter generally is in the state in which it has been for centuries, and in its exterior appearance is a monument of the building of olden times. The progress of improvement, however, has commenced. Several of the houses have been lately slated, and the inn has been rebuilt, in a substantial and commodious manner, which, with the school-house, is an ornament to the village.

The parish enjoys the means of communication in all directions, by the excellent turnpike roads which have been formed. The

one to Perth, on which the royal mail travels, passes through it, the length of seven miles.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The situation of the parish church is convenient for the population. It was repaired about thirty-five years ago, and affords accommodation for 800 sittings. The manse and offices were rebuilt in a neat and substantial manner in 1820. The extent of the glebe is seven acres, and its value is L. 20. The stipend is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  chalders of barley, and the same quantity of meal. 325 families, and 800 persons of all ages attend the Established Church, and 16 families attend the chapels of Dissenters. The two resident heritors and their families attend the chapels of Episcopalians. 323 persons are connected with the parish of Monzie, and 60 with the chapel at Aumulrie, *quoad sacra*. Divine worship in the Established church is well attended, and the number of communicants is 600.

*Education.*—There are four schools in the parish, in which all the usual branches of education are taught. Two of them are unendowed. The parochial schoolmaster has the maximum salary, and the legal accommodation. The school fees average L. 25. The schoolmaster at Buchanty is provided with a school-house, and has L. 5 of salary paid from the bishop's rents. The expense of education is, for children, 8s.; and for those of greater age and attainments, L. 1 per year.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 24, and the average sum allotted to each is 4s. per month. The amount of contribution for their relief last year was L. 70, the half of which arose from church collections, and the other half from the interest of L. 86 Sterling, and the voluntary assessment of the heritors.

*Fairs.*—St Methvanmas market is held at Fowlis annually, on the 6th of November, and is a useful market for the sale of black-cattle, and hiring servants. This was anciently the festival of the parish, and the anniversary of the saint to whom the church was dedicated at its consecration, when the people constructed pavilions and booths to indulge in hospitality and mirth, which also became a commercial mart, and assumed the name of *feriæ* or holy-day. Many of our most ancient fairs have a similar origin.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The parish, since the date of the last Statistical Account, has made great improvements in rural economy. Waste ground has been planted and brought into cultivation. The roads are in a

superior condition, and new ones have been constructed, which increase the facilities of internal communication. Farm-steadings were then covered with thatch, and indifferent in building and accommodation ; but they are all now slated, well built, and adapted for every necessary purpose. Wheat, potatoes, turnips, and artificial grasses are cultivated in a much greater breadth. More manure is laid on the soil, and it is ameliorated by fences, cleaning and draining. Horses and harness, the different breeds of cattle and sheep, and all the implements of husbandry are much improved. In short, such is the degree of agricultural science generally diffused, and the high state of the culture of the soil, that there is now little prospect of any great future improvement. No doubt more waste ground might be profitably planted and enclosed, and the present enclosures greatly improved. The immediate demands on the soil are so pressing, that less attention is paid to a permanent than a present advantage. By being too frequently in tillage, and operated upon by stimulating manures, it is in some parts in a state of exhaustion, and would require rest to consolidate and invigorate its powers of vegetation.

The cottage system is established in the parish, and has the effect of promoting the industry and independence of the labouring classes. It might, however, be extended. Had labourers and artisans a garden attached to their house, and as much ground at a moderate rent as would feed a cow, waste land would be cultivated, and they would continue longer in a state of comfort and independence. Mr Jacob, who was employed some years ago by the British Government to inquire into the agricultural system of the continental nations, has laid before the public a detailed account of an establishment of this nature in Holland. Such agricultural settlements are deserving of attention. They would yield a due return to the landlord, at a moderate rent, afford profitable employment to the population, furnish them with many of the necessaries of life, and lessen the tendency to pauperism, an increasing evil.

*May 1837.*



## PARISH OF MONZIE.\*

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH & STIRLING.

THE REV. JOHN REID OMOND, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—MONZIE is derived from the Gaelic, *Moighidh*, and signifies a level tract.

*Figure.*—The parish, though extremely irregular in its outline, and not reducible to any known figure in mathematics, nevertheless approaches more nearly to the form of the parallelogram than any other,—being intersected throughout its entire length by the river Almond.

*Boundaries and Extent.*—It is bounded on the north by Dull, Weem, and Kenmore; on the east by Fowlis; on the south by Crieff; and on the west by Monivaird and Comrie. It extends about 12 miles along the course of the Almond, and its greatest breadth is estimated at 7.

*Topographical Appearances.*—Situated within the limits of the Grampians, it presents a wearisome succession of hills, seldom trodden by the foot of man; but, to compensate for this monotony, it contains two valleys, Glensalmond and the Vale of Monzie,—the only habitable parts of the parish,—both of which possess no small degree of attraction to the admirers of natural beauty.

*Vale of Monzie.*—The vale of Monzie commences at the southern boundary of the parish, and extends about five miles in a direction north-east, with a rise of several hundred feet, where it unites with Glensalmond, at nearly right angles. It is watered for about three miles by the Shaggie. The upper part of this small stream,—the lofty banks of which are covered with luxuriant copse-wood,—is rendered picturesque by three waterfalls, one of them 55 feet in height. At that point where the wood terminates, the banks suddenly widen, giving place to a pretty extensive plain. Here stand the parish church, the hamlet, and at some distance

\* Drawn up by Mr John Laurie, Parochial Schoolmaster of Monzie.

the stately mansion of Monzie, embosomed among trees of the largest growth, in "the full efflorescence and stateliness of their manhood." The whole is bounded on both sides by hills of considerable though unequal elevation, and in front by the Knock, rearing its perpendicular masses of pine into the middle air. Here also, including the neighbouring village of Gilmerton, with the numerous farm-houses upon the estates of Monzie and Cultoquhey, are congregated two-thirds of the whole population. To one stationed upon the Highland road, east from the church, the view is of great beauty. In the foreground are the luxuriant woods, the rich pastures, and the House of Monzie, beautifully harmonizing with and forming an appropriate centre point to the whole. Extending the line of vision out of this narrow valley westward, we have, in the middle distance, the dark rampart of the Comrie hills, and far beyond and above these, the delighted eye descries and rests with rapture upon Benvorlich, Benmore, and Benledi, blending their lofty summits with the blue tints of heaven. Were it not a well-authenticated fact, that Dr Johnson regarded Scotland as a region destitute of trees, one might be tempted to conclude, that he had visited this spot, and received from it his first impression of the "Happy Valley," in Rasselas.

*Glenalmond.*—Glenalmond, to the eastward of its junction with the Vale of Monzie, is an open cultivated country, but here the banks of the river suddenly assume the form and character of lofty hills; their bases on the opposite sides of the glen approaching so near, as, in some places, barely to leave room for the bed of the river. They may be said to average from 1000 to 1200 feet in height. They are entirely destitute of trees, but here and there may be seen a stunted shrub, seeking a scanty subsistence among the rocks. One of the highest eminences on the east side of the glen is crowned with the ruins of a Celtic fort, and upon the top of a hill on the opposite side of the glen is a cairn. The river Almond here measures 70 feet in width. Its waters are transparent, and run with considerable velocity over a bed of rock and gravel. Its general depth varies from a few inches to several feet. This romantic pass continues for upwards of two miles, and, on account of its narrowness, is familiarly known by the name of the "Small Glen." A new road, leading to the Highlands, runs through it, formed upon the most approved principles of engineering, and kept in a state of admirable repair. It is nearly upon the same line with the military road, formed by Government for the

improvement of the Highlands, after the suppression of the Rebellion in 1745.

*Clach-Ossian, or Ossian's Stone.*—Towards the upper extremity of the pass, and near the side of the river, is a large stone, eight feet in height, and nearly cubical in form, which is said to mark the grave of the Caledonian bard, Ossian. When General Wade formed the military road, already mentioned, the soldiers, induced either by curiosity or the hope of finding secreted treasure, removed this stone from its ancient bed. Their curiosity was indeed gratified, but that constituted their chief reward. They found below it four stones set on edge, forming a small chamber, 2 feet long,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  broad, and 2 deep, containing bones and some pieces of coin.

This was held decisive of its being a grave; but the question, as to who might be the occupant of this “narrow house,” the “four stones with their heads of moss”—remains unsolved. Another grave having been prepared at some distance, the bones were carried thither to the music of the bagpipe, and again consigned to the earth.\*

Although laid open to the view about ninety years ago, two of the stones still retain their erect position, and the chamber is not more than half-filled with rubbish. Surveying this simple tomb, situated amidst the wild seclusion of Glenalmond, the reader of Ossian naturally reverts to the lines of the bard, so truly descriptive of it; “Narrow is thy dwelling now! dark the place of thine abode! with three steps I compass thy grave, O thou who wast so great before! four stones with their heads of moss are the only memorials of thee, a tree with scarce a leaf.” Above the bridge of Newton, where the Small Glen terminates, the hills on each side recede, leaving a stripe of level ground on either side of this pastoral stream. This is known by the name of Western Glenalmond, and contains several interesting objects, which fall to be noticed under the head Antiquities.

*The Thief's Cave.*—In one of the lateral glens, communicating with Western Glenalmond, is a cave, called the thief's cave, from its having been the retreat of a noted sheep-stealer, called Alastair Baine. It is of considerable dimensions, said to be capable of containing sixty men, and situated about midway up the face of a rock, called the eagle's rock. It might have afforded a more secure retreat, but for its total want of wood. Attracted by

\* These particulars are communicated by Peter M' Ara, an old man of eighty-four, still alive, and a native of Glenalmond, who received them from an eye-witness.

the light of his fire in the night, his pursuers came upon him in the very act of roasting one of his fleecy victims, and for his crimes he underwent the last penalty of the law at Perth, having previously, without the form of trial, suffered the loss of one of his ears for a similar offence committed at Glen Ledneck.

*Kirk of the Grove.*—In the vicinity of the cave is a natural curiosity, known by the name of the “kirk of the grove,” consisting of several large stones piled above one another. Not far from this, stands a solitary and aged pine, perhaps the last of an extensive forest; but as the Caledonians are said to have frequently planted a fir tree near or upon the tomb of a warrior, it requires no great stretch of the imagination to suppose that this may point out the last resting place of an ancient hero:—“a tree stands alone on the hill, and marks the slumbering Connal.”

The small glen having attracted the notice of Mr Wordsworth, any apology for introducing the subjoined beautiful lines, from the pen of that distinguished poet, will, it is hoped, be deemed unnecessary.

In this still place, remote from men,  
Sleeps OSSIAN, in the Narrow Glen;  
In this still place, where murmurs on  
But one meek streamlet, only one:  
He sang of battles, and the breath  
Of stormy war, and violent death;  
And should, methinks, when all was past,  
Have rightfully been laid at last  
Where rocks were rudely heaped and rent  
As by a spirit turbulent;  
Where sights were rough, and sounds were wild,  
And every thing unreconciled;  
In some complaining, dim retreat,  
For fear and melancholy meet;  
But this is calm, there cannot be  
A more entire tranquillity.  
Does then the Bard sleep here indeed?  
Or is it but a groundless creed?  
What matters it?—I blame them not  
Whose fancy in this lonely spot  
Was moved; and in such way expressed  
Their notion of its perfect rest.  
A Convent, even a hermit's Cell  
Would break the silence of this Dell:  
It is not quiet, is not ease;  
But something deeper far than these:  
The separation that is here  
Is of the grave; and of austere  
Yet happy feelings of the dead:  
And, therefore, was it rightly said  
That, Ossian, last of all his race!  
Lies buried in this lonely place.

*Temperature.*—The temperature, as might be expected from the mountainous character of the district, is various; that of Glen-

almond, on account of its elevation, is cold, and contrasts strikingly with the mild atmosphere enjoyed by the southern portion of the parish.

*Prognostics of the Weather.*—Among the phenomena of the atmosphere, that indicate a coming change in the state of the weather, must not be omitted, the sound of the waterfalls upon the Shaggie, and the roar of the distant Turret. In the vicinity of rivers, there are times, especially in the stillness of evening twilight, when the music of the rushing waters, and the fitful sighing of the wind, break upon the ear with more than ordinary solemnity, arresting the attention of the listener as if the voice of a spirit spoke. At such times, if the sound sent forth by the water is clear and loud, stormy weather may be expected; but should it seem to recede from the ear, until it is lost in the remote distance, fair weather will soon follow. The approach of a storm may also be learned from observing the motions of the crows. When these are seen busily feeding, and hurrying over the surface of the ground, all in one direction, and in a compact body, a severe storm may be anticipated.

*Whirlwinds and Earthquakes.*—The small glen having no lateral communication or opening, resembles a funnel cut in the solid earth, presenting in its sinuosities various obstacles to a free transmission of the air; it is therefore subject to contrary currents and eddies of the most violent character. Recent instances have occurred of travellers on horseback having been blown from the saddle, driven to seek shelter in holes or behind rocks, and there detained for hours, until the fury of the storm abated.

Slight shocks of an earthquake, emanating from Comrie, (seven miles distant) as a central point, are frequently experienced in this parish; but their severity has been greatly abated within these thirty years. It may not be uninteresting to mention, that a shock was felt at Comrie, on the 25th of August 1834, one of the days on which an eruption, attended by most disastrous consequences, took place at Mount Vesuvius in Italy.

*Longevity.*—The climate seems to be favourable to longevity, there being many individuals above eighty years of age; and one man died in 1825 at the advanced age of 103.

*Rivers.*—The river Almond, which rises in the parish of Kenmore, traverses the parish of Monzie from east to west for a distance of about twelve miles. After a course of eighteen miles, it falls into the Tay, two miles above Perth. The Shaggie, the Kel-

tie, and the Barvick, three small streams issuing from the hills, after a short and somewhat precipitous career, join the turret, and pour their united waters into the Earn, a little above Crieff.

*Waterfalls.*—Like most Highland districts, this parish presents us with a due proportion of waterfalls. Besides the three upon the Shaggie already mentioned, and many others of smaller note, there is one upon the Keltie 90 feet in height; while the Barvick, throughout nearly its whole extent, is one succession of cascades, the romantic effect of which is heightened by its lofty and steep banks of naked rock, overshadowed by a thick, though unequal covering of such wood as can contrive to extract nourishment from a scanty soil, or from the fissures of the craggy precipices. When the visitor approaches this romantic dell from the west, and his ear is assailed by the moaning of the winds mingled with the sound of the waters, as they leap from rock to rock, the melodious lines of Spenser are vividly recalled to his mind :

“ The water’s fall with difference discreet  
Now soft, now loud, unto the wind did call ;  
The gentle, warbling wind low answered to all.”

*Geology and Soil.*—Slate, sandstone, and limestone, are all found in this parish; but the latter being of indifferent quality, and far from coal is not wrought. The prevailing soil is light, dry, and good.

*Zoology.*—Among the various species of animals may be enumerated the hare, the rabbit, the otter, the badger, the fox, the roe-deer, the squirrel, the weasel, the stoat, the marten and the wild cat : the common gray eagle, the falcon, the salmon-tailed glade, the common buzzard, the sparrowhawk, the merlin, the woodcock, the pheasant, a great variety of the duck tribe, the partridge, the snipe, black game and grouse in great abundance.

There is plenty of common trout in all the streams, and in the Almond are both sea-trout and salmon; the former come up to spawn in the middle of July, and the latter in the end of October, and both return to the sea in the end of November and beginning of December. At Buchanty there is a fall upon the Almond, which effectually prevents the salmon and sea-trout from ascending farther up the river, and many of those that endeavour to take this leap are caught by means of a basket or cruive, so placed as to intercept them in their fruitless attempt.

*Plantations.*—There are several hundred acres of thriving plan-

tation in the parish, chiefly upon the estates of Monzie, Glenalmond, Callander, and Cultoquhey. These consist principally of larch, Scotch fir, oak, ash, elm, and willow; for the growth of all of which, the soil is well adapted.

*Extraordinary Larches.*—In the garden of Monzie are five larches, remarkable for their age, growth, and symmetry. They are coeval with the celebrated larches of Dunkeld, having been brought along with them to this country from the same place, and are now superior to them in beauty and size. The tallest measures 102 feet in perpendicular height: another is 22 feet in circumference at the ground, and at the distance of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the ground, 16 feet, and it throws out branches to the extraordinary distance of 48 and 55 feet from the trunk. The late Duke of Athol, it would appear, evinced a more than ordinary degree of interest in the progress of these fine trees,—sending his gardener annually thither to observe their growth. When this functionary returned and made his wonted report, that the larches at Monzie were leaving those of Dunkeld behind in the race, his Grace would jocularly allege, that his servant had permitted General Campbell's good cheer to impair his powers of observation.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There is no account of the parish, either printed or in manuscript, so far as is known, except that contained in Sir John Sinclair's national work. We shall, therefore, avail ourselves of the little information that can be gleaned from the session records, aided by tradition.

*Establishment of Presbyterianism.*—The records of session commence 5th April 1691, and are dated at Logy, where there was and still is a chapel. The first fact they record is the ordination of nine elders for the parish of Monzie, by Mr William Reid, minister of Rattray, “according to the appointment of the presbytery of Perth thereanent.” The next minute is dated at Monzie, 15th July 1691, and records the ordination of Mr William Chalmer, the first presbyterian minister of Monzie,—Mr Reid of Rattray again preaching and presiding.

*Traits of Ancient Manners, Witches, &c.*—It affords a curious picture of the manners of the age, to be informed, that the parishioners were in the practice of assembling upon the Green of Monzie on the Sabbath mornings to play at foot-ball; and that on these occasions, Mr Chalmer, who experienced great difficulty in indu-

cing his people to attend church, occasionally took part with them in this amusement;—by thus gaining their affections, he prevailed on them to accompany him to the house of prayer, and there listen to his instructions.

Mr Bowie succeeded Mr Chalmer in 1711, and died in 1740. During his incumbency the Earl of Marr set up the standard of rebellion; and on the 12th of November 1715, was fought the battle of Sheriffmuir, within twenty miles of Monzie. In reference to this civil war we find the following entry in the session records:

“ Monzie, June 19th 1715. \* \* \* \* \* The session being informed that there is a rebellion about to be in the nation, and that Alexander Drummond \* \* \* \* \* has joyned that partie, they can doe nothing in that affair at this time.”

For more than two hundred years antecedent to this period, the mania of burning for witchcraft had raged with violence all over Europe. History informs us, that about the year 1515, 500 witches were executed at Geneva in the short space of three months; in the diocese of Como, 1000 in one year; in Germany alone, from the year 1484 to the suppression of persecution for witchcraft, 100,000. England, according to Barrington, put to death 30,000; and Scotland, with a narrower field and a smaller population, was nothing behind,—multitudes being burnt in every part of the kingdom. Need it excite wonder then, if in this sanguinary and appalling tragedy,—when “one-half of the population was either bewitching or bewitched,”—the parish of Monzie should have immolated one solitary victim. Tradition informs us, that the name of the woman who was burned for this alleged crime was M'Nieven. The scene of her execution was the brow of a hill, commonly called the Knock, and the particular spot is still recognized by the name of M'Nieven's Craig. Whether or not she was convicted before the Court of Justiciary is now uncertain; but as the privy-council was in the practice of granting commissions to resident gentlemen and ministers, to examine, and afterwards to try and execute witches all over Scotland, it is probable that this unfortunate creature was convicted before one of those local tribunals. The date of this transaction must be between 1711 and 1722, when the last execution for witchcraft in Scotland took place at Dornoch. While at the stake, she is represented, like the sibyl of old, as pouring out predictions and denunciations: but these, in all probability, are much beholden to the inventive powers of others, and were they now detailed, could not afford gratification to any



rational mind. The unshaken belief of the people in witchcraft, and the atrocities of what, it is feared, was little better than a popular and lawless execution, must have powerfully operated upon their heated minds; for even to this day, when viewed at a distance through time's dusky horizon, the "Witch of Monzie" presents to the imagination a certain undefined magnitude, shedding a dim inglorious halo around this period of our parochial history.—Belonging to the old church of Monzie, taken down in 1830, was an instrument of punishment called the *jougs*. It was simply an iron collar, fastened to the outside of the wall, near one of the doors, by a chain. No person alive, it is believed, has seen this pillory put in requisition; nor is it known at what period it was first adopted for the reformation of offenders; but there can be no doubt, that an age which could sanction burning for witchcraft, would see frequent occasion for this milder punishment. It is now regarded as a relic of a barbarous age, and has been affixed to the wall of the present church merely to gratify the curiosity of antiquaries.

One glimpse more may be obtained into the condition of society at that period. Formerly there were extensive cattle markets held at Crieff, which have since been carried to Falkirk. These necessarily brought down from the north, crowds of Highlanders. They are described by people old enough to remember them, as barefooted and bareheaded, although many of them old men. Being numerous, they used to enter the houses of the country people, take unceremonious possession of their firesides and beds, carry off the potatoes from their fields or gardens, and sometimes even the blankets, which had afforded them a temporary covering for the night.

*New Boundaries of the Parish.*—Logiealmond and Innerpefferay formerly belonged to the parish of Monzie, although lying detached from it, and at a great distance from the church. To obviate this inconvenience, and that all might be admitted to a participation in church benefits, a decret of the Court of Session was obtained in 1702, separating them from Monzie, and annexing the former to the parish of Moneydie, and the latter to Muthil; by the same decret, the lands of Callander, Coynachan, Dalmore, Newton, Crag-na-farer, Curriemuckloch, the three Fendochs, Dalick, the Downies, the Lethandies, Greenfield, and Mill Rodgie, belonging to Crieff,—as also the lands of Cultoquhey, (including Gilmerton,) Counachan, part of the Parkneuck, belonging to

Fowlis Wester, were taken from these parishes, and annexed to Monzie. This is found to be a more convenient arrangement, and is denominated Monzie parish *quoad sacra*; while those lands within the old boundary are called the parish of Monzie *quoad civilia*. The former build and repair the church: the latter build and repair the manse and school, and pay the minister's stipend and the schoolmaster's salary.

*Chief Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, Alexander Campbell, Esq. of Monzie and Inverawe; James M. Patton, Esq. of Glenalmond, Anthony Maxtone, Esq. of Cultoquhey; James Moray, Esq. Abercairney; Mrs Williamson of Lawers; Thomas Patton, Esq. of Glenalmond; and Sir Patrick Murray of Ochtertyre, Bart.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers are comprised in eight folio volumes. The minutes of the kirk-session commence in 1691, and are brought down to the present period; but there is a chasm of five years between 1706 and 1711. The register of baptisms begins 24th November 1720, and is continued for six months. It is then discontinued till 17th May 1724, during which year and the whole of 1725, there are only three entries. No names occur in 1726, and in 1727 the register recommences, and is continued down till 1836. The register of marriages or marriage contracts, or proclamations, commences in 1728, and is continued to the year 1831, without interruption. There is no register of deaths. In addition to the above records, there is a cash-book regularly kept for the funds appropriated to the poor.

The following is a list of all the ministers of Monzie since the establishment of Presbyterianism in 1691: Mr Chalmer, Mr Bowie, Mr Monroe, Mr Lundie, Mr Walker, who had three assistants, viz., Messrs Davidson, M'Leish, and M'Aulie, Mr Bartie, Mr Erskine, Mr Taylor, Mr Cameron, Mr Omond.

*Antiquities.*—This parish possesses some claim to the notice of the antiquary. Indeed there are few localities in Scotland more rich in Celtic and Roman remains than this and several of the adjoining parishes. Within the range of a few miles the traveller may visit the Roman camps at Ardoch, Comrie, and Strageth,—the first allowed to be the most entire specimen of Roman castrametation in Britain,—besides many small forts and fragments of military roads, some of the latter several miles in length.

*Druid Monuments and Subterranean Building.*—But to return to the parish of Monzie. There are, first, its Druidic monuments,

consisting either of a single stone of large dimensions standing on end, or of a whole group arranged in the form of a circle. Specimens of both may be seen in the park of Monzie. Adjoining these is a subterranean building of rude construction, having a few steps of a stone stair within it. The roof is gone, and the building itself is but partially laid open to the view. When explored a few years ago, there were found in it a sword and a stone hatchet, both of which are now preserved in Monzie House. A large Druid stone, with rude carving upon it, lies on the side of the public road, between the villages of Monzie and Keppoch. This was one of a circle, which Mr Monroe, the then minister of the parish, caused to be broken and dispersed; the rest are now built into the stone wall which surrounds the glebe. At a place called "*Clach-na-tiom-pan*," in Wester Glenalmond, is an oblong cairn, measuring about 60 paces in length; and immediately adjoining are several Druidic stones. The cairn appears, from openings that have been made in it, to have been divided into chambers for the reception of the dead.

*Ancient Chapels and Burying Grounds.*—A little farther down the glen, at Tomenbowie, formerly stood a small chapel; it is now in ruins, but the burying ground remains, and even yet occasionally affords within its narrow precincts a last home to the weary. Near the north-east corner of the parish once stood "*Stuck Chapel*," in which, tradition says, sixty men took the sacrament, on the evening before the battle of Luncarty, in 976, and having gone to the field only six returned. The cemetery still exists, but not a vestige of the chapel is to be seen.

*Forts.*—On the top of Dunmore, overlooking the Small Glen and the Roman camp, are the ruins of a fort, believed to be Celtic. It consists of a stone wall, in some places double, surrounding probably half a rood of ground. The stones upon the west side are partially vitrified; and at Middle Lethendy is another of larger size.

*Camps.*—A few hundred yards above the village of Monzie, upon an eminence called "*Knock Durroch*" (the Oaken Knoll,) is a small entrenchment, supposed to be Roman. It is of an oval form, measuring 120 paces in length, and 80 at its greatest breadth. It is surrounded by a double trench, which at one place appears to the eye to be not less than 8 or 9 feet in depth. At Cultoquhey, the property of Anthony Maxtone, Esq. there is a similar camp, but of much larger dimensions.

*Fendoch Camp.*—But the chief object of interest to the antiquary is the camp at Fendoch, called in Gaelic *Raenfhandoch*, i. e. Fendoch point. Its traditionary name is the Roman Camp, and there is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the appellation; and that it is in reality the work of the Roman legions under Agricola, or one of his successors. It is situated upon a table-land, at the lower extremity of that remarkable pass called the Small Glen, already described, and within view of the fort upon Dunmore. The River Almond, issuing from this defile, turns to the left, so as to form a right angle with its former course; and with its steep banks constitutes a natural defence to the camp on the north side. The west is protected by a marsh; the south by a small stream called the Burn of Fendoch; and the east by a natural declivity. It may probably contain 45 acres of ground. It would appear that, at the period when the former Statistical Account was published, the trenches were entire, and in some places six feet deep; but both rampart and trench are now fast disappearing under the operation of the plough. The rampart upon the north side, after running for a considerable distance in nearly a straight line upon the brow of the table-land, suddenly descends into the plain below, incloses a spring of excellent water, again climbs the bank, and pursues its rectilinear course. This is the only spring within the camp. Near the side of the river, there is a small elliptical inclosure, formed of turf and stone, measuring 12 paces by 8. The moor on the east side of the camp bears marks of having once been the arena of conflicting armies, and was covered till lately, to the extent of several acres, with cairns; and when these were removed to form a new road, some fragments of urns containing bones were found underneath. Several of these cairns measured 10, 13, or 14 paces in diameter. On the right hand side of the road leading to Buchanty, and at no great distance from the cairns, is a small eminence called “The Gallows Hill,” and a few yards distant from it is a small enclosure of turf of nearly circular form. It is evident that the former, from its name, is a vestige of comparatively late antiquity.

*Ancient Relics.*—An old man is still alive in the village of Monzie who recollects of having found, when engaged with some companions in a hunting excursion, in his younger days, several heads of spears, in the vicinity of the camp; but they were disregarded as things of no value. There is a silver coin, evidently Roman, in the possession of Mr James Young, Crieff, which was found in

this place. It is of the size of a sixpence, having on one side a head in high relief; and on the obverse three figures, the centre one an eagle; the other two, as well as an inscription on each side, are so much effaced as to be nearly illegible.

In the month of August 1834, while a labourer of the name of Donald Stewart, was employed in digging across the eastern rampart of the camp, for the purpose of constructing a stone fence, he discovered at some distance below the surface, three pots or kettles, the largest of which broke in pieces while he was in the act of raising it from the ground. The other two measured  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, by 3 in depth, and 10 inches in diameter, by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in depth, respectively, and were composed of a series of concentric circles, fastened together with nails, the larger pot having a straight handle 21 inches in length. Along with these were deposited three heads of spears or javelins, 7 inches in length, two of these still having wood adhering to their sockets: a piece of flat iron or other metal,  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, having a striking resemblance to a Roman sword preserved in the Museum of Antiquaries, Edinburgh, except that the latter measures 25 inches in length; but as the former appears to have been broken at one end, it must have been at one time longer: three pair of bits, two pair of shears, 11 inches long, the blades alone measuring 4 inches: a sort of spoon, the handle of which measures 10 inches, including the diameter of the mouth;—this corresponds exactly with the descriptions and representations given of the thuribulum found in Pompeii: a beautiful hinge of a yellowish metal, still covered with a slight coating of what appears to be silver, 4 inches in length, carved, and in excellent preservation: two implements resembling the wimble used by carpenters for boring; a piece of flat iron about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet long, bent in the form of a pair of sugar-tongs, the edges at one end bent inwards, so as almost to meet and form a socket, the other end being broken off. Besides these, there were other articles, whose uses were not very apparent. Those, whose size would admit of it, were found carefully packed in the largest kettle, (which, as already stated, was broken,) and a flat stone was placed over its mouth. The discovery of these relics establishes one important fact, namely, that cavalry lay in this encampment.

The whole of the articles above described, except the hinge and one of the spears, have found a secure asylum in the custody of John Buchanan, Esq. Secretary to the Western Bank, Glasgow, whose property they have become.

While all traces of that power, which the mighty Roman cast

like a mantle over the world, are fast hastening to decay, it would be matter of lasting and extreme regret should all such interesting fragments not be collected and preserved with scrupulous and jealous care. To the imaginative mind it might seem like the gathering up of laurels which have fallen from the conqueror's brow, for here it was that a power mightier by far than that of Rome proclaimed, "hitherto shalt thou come, but no farther."

Besides the antiquities already enumerated, which may be termed native to the parish, the House of Monzie contains a splendid collection of paintings, ancient armour, and many articles of *virtu*. Some part of these are wrecks of the feudal times, which have survived the period of their usefulness; but here also may be seen remains of Roman and even Babylonian antiquity, brought together like converging rays of light, into one common focus, thus combining with the present, ages and countries the most remote, and shedding a lustre over the pages of their written history.

*Modern Buildings.*—The chief modern buildings, besides the church, are the mansion-houses of Monzie and Cultoquhey.

### III.—POPULATION.

The first account taken of the population of this parish, so far as is known, was at the request of Dr Webster in 1755, when it amounted to 1192. Another account was taken in 1792, by the Rev. George Erskine, then minister of Monzie, which amounted to 1136, exhibiting a diminution of 56, in a period of thirty-seven years, or about  $1\frac{1}{3}$  in the year at an average. And by a third enumeration in 1836, made expressly for this work, we find the population to be 940, being a decrease of 196 in forty-four years, or about 5 in the year at an average.

The present population is distributed as follows:—

Monzie village,	118—in 1792, 112
Cuilt,	25
Keppoch,	13
Estate of Monzie, exclusive of these three villages,	184
Gilmerton,	232
Estate of Cultoquhey, exclusive of Gilmerton,	87
Callander,	62
The other districts not included in the above enumeration,	269
	<hr/>
	940

As the village of Gilmerton has sprung into existence within these few years, and Monzie has remained nearly stationary since 1792, the decrease has taken place in the population distributed among the farms, and is to be accounted for by these being let out to fewer hands than formerly.

The yearly average number of recorded births for the last seven years is  $12\frac{1}{7}$ : and the number of illegitimate births during the last three years appears from the session records to have been 10.

*Families of independent fortune and Proprietors of land.*—There are three families of independent fortune who reside within the parish, and six proprietors of land above the yearly value of L. 50.

*Language spoken.*—The Gaelic is spoken in western Glenalmond, while the Scottish dialect, with a strong Highland accent, prevails in the rest of the parish. The fact, however, that few individuals in the southern districts even understand the Gaelic, is evidence sufficient that that ancient tongue is fast falling into disuse.

*Games and amusements.*—During winter, the national game of curling is a favourite out-of-door amusement. The practice of assembling in large numbers at weddings has been long upon the decline. Handsel Monday, old style, is spent in paying and receiving visits, exchanging congratulations and feasting; and where the requisites of music and a commodious apartment, or barn, are to be found, the young people conclude their festivities with a dance. Cards and draughts are also to be found among their amusements, and in summer the game of quoits is a favourite pastime.

*Dress, Ordinary Food, &c.*—The habits of the people in respect of dress may be considered as cleanly, to which the general introduction of cottons has materially contributed. The appearance of the rural population on Sundays indicates a pleasing degree of self-respect and comfort. Like the majority of their countrymen, they are more solicitous about making a decent personal appearance in public, than enjoying the luxuries of good eating. Potatoes, pork, and the produce of the dairy, constitute a very considerable proportion of their ordinary food. Their bread is commonly of oat or barley meal, but the occasional use of tea and wheaten bread is becoming common. In estimating “whether the people on the whole enjoy, in a reasonable degree, the comforts and advantages of society, and are contented with their situation and circumstances,” regard must be had to some standard of comparison. Those accustomed to the modes of living, and to the usages of manufacturing towns, would perhaps pronounce the people of this parish poor, and in want of the luxuries and even many of the necessaries of civilized life. And, although in this there might be no exaggeration, yet the people may be described as more contented with their situation, than those who thus affect to compassionate them. Not—it will be admitted—because poverty is of

itself calculated to produce content, but simply because their wants are few, and their wealth does not exceed their ability to control it. As prosperity seldom sets in upon a rural population with so strong a current as it frequently does upon manufacturing districts, so the former are to a considerable extent without its concomitant improvidence and crime. Life flows on with a more equable current, and as there are not the same alternations of prosperity and depression, so is there less of misery and disappointment.

*Poaching.*—Poaching in game or the salmon-fisheries does not prevail to a great extent, and smuggling, once so common in this parish, is now unknown.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The number of acres in the parish, whether arable or in pasture, cannot be ascertained; and there is no land in a state of undivided common.

*Wood.*—The trees indigenous to the soil are the hazel, birch, oak, alder, plane, fir, common and mountain ash; and those planted are chiefly the larch, Scotch fir, oak, ash, elm, plane, and willow. The management of plantations is well understood.

*Rent and Grazing.*—The average rent of arable land per acre is from L. 1, 10s., to L. 2, but small pieces called pendicles sometimes bring L. 3 per acre. Grazing an ox or cow costs from L. 2 to L. 3, or upon hill pasture from 16s. to L. 1, 10s.: a sheep or ewe, on low ground, from 9s. to 10s., or on hill pasture, from 3s. to 4s.

*Rate of Wages.*—A farm-servant, fit for all work, with bed and victuals, costs L. 12 per annum. A farm labourer engaged by the day, costs in summer 1s. 6d, and in winter 1s. 2d. or 1s. 3d; a female servant with bed and victuals, costs L. 6 per annum; a mason receives without victuals from 12s. to 14 per week; a carpenter from 12s. to 13s.; a thatcher with victuals 1s. 6d per day.

*Live-stock.*—The common breed of sheep are the Highland or black-faced, and great attention is paid to their improvement. The cattle are a cross breed between the Highland and Lowland, and a few Ayrshire cows are kept.

*Husbandry.*—The character of the husbandry pursued may be termed good. A considerable quantity of land has been taken in, drained, trenched, and cleared of stones; but the expense of lime, on account of the long carriage, (being brought from Perth, a distance of from fourteen to seventeen miles,) is a great drawback to improvement.



*Leases and Farm-Buildings.*—The general duration of leases is fifteen years, and this is regarded by the farmer as a favourable period. Many of the farm-steadings have been lately rebuilt upon an improved plan, but much in this respect remains to be done.

*Quarries.*—There is a quarry of excellent freestone upon the estate of Cultoquhey, of a red colour, and great durability; and upon the property of James M. Patton, Esq. of Glenalmond, there is another, besides two quarries of slate, all of superior quality.

*Amount of raw Produce.*—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, as nearly as that can be ascertained, after making a suitable deduction for what may be consumed upon the farms, is as follows :

Grain of all kinds, . . . . .	L. 981
Potatoes, . . . . .	205
Hay, . . . . .	110
Grass parks, . . . . .	1000
Sheep and wool, . . . . .	3195
Cattle, . . . . .	513
Dairy produce, . . . . .	387
	<hr/>
	L. 6341

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There is no market-town in the parish of Monzie; but this deficiency is but little felt, as Crieff is only three miles distant, where there is a weekly market, besides eight fairs in the year.

*Villages.*—The parish contains two villages, Monzie and Gilmerton, the former having a population of 118, and the latter of 232 souls. Monzie is built upon the property of Mr Campbell, and the inhabitants are merely tenants; while Gilmerton is feued off Mr Maxtone.

*Roads and Fences.*—There are about eleven miles of excellent turnpike road, besides several miles of road maintained by statute labour.

As a great proportion of the parish is pastoral, much of the land is unenclosed, but where fences are necessary, they are in general kept in good condition.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The situation of the church, near the southern boundary of the parish, is convenient for the majority of the parishioners. It was built in 1830–31, and opened for public worship, by the Rev. Mr Cameron, on Sabbath, 24th July 1831. It is after a plan by Mr Stirling, architect, Dunblane, and is built to contain 512 persons.

*Manse, Glebe, and Stipend.*—The manse was built in 1779.

The glebe contains about 11 acres of superior land. The stipend is the minimum, the annual sum of L. 15, 16s. 8d., being contributed by the Exchequer.

*Number of Communicants, &c.*—The number of male heads of families in communion with the church amounts in the present year to 153; and the total number of communicants is about 450.

*Church Collections.*—The average amount of church collections for the poor, and to defray incidental expenses, for the last five years, is L. 25, 8s. 2½d.

The number of Dissenting or Seceding families in the parish is 11.

*Education.*—There are two schools in the parish, viz. the parochial, and a private school at Gilmerton. The branches taught in the parish school are, reading, writing, arithmetic, geometry, book-keeping, geography, Latin, Greek, and French. The school salary is the maximum; the school fees average about L. 30, and the parochial schoolmaster has more than the legal accommodation. His other emoluments amount to L. 7, 13s. per annum.

The expense of education per annum is as under: reading, 10s.; reading and writing, 12s.; reading, writing, and arithmetic, 14s.; Latin, Greek, French, book-keeping, or geometry, L. 1. If English grammar is taught with any of the above branches, 4s. additional are charged.

All are taught to read and most to write, and the people are generally alive to the benefits of education.

There are several hamlets and farm-houses in Glenalmond, so distant from the parochial school as to derive little or no benefit from it. These are, first, Easter Lethendy, containing 8 persons; Greenfield, 8; Wester Lethendy, 1; Mill Rodgie, 20; Meikle Downie, 12; Little Downie, 18; Dalick, 35; Easter and Middle Fendoch, 75; total 177. The distance of the nearest of these from the parish school is about three miles, and the children are sent to the school of Buchanty, situated in their immediate neighbourhood, but within the parish of Fowlis. To these must be added Newton, containing 11 persons; Curriemuckloch, 13; Dalmore, 10; Coynachan, 5; Auchnafree, 20; total 59. The nearest to the parish school is Newton, distant about six miles. The children are sent for education to a school at Amulrie, distant from the nearest of them about one mile, and from others from five to seven miles.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The number of persons regularly receiving parochial aid is 7, at the rate of 1s. per week, and five of these are either old or infirm females. Occasionally sums are

also distributed to others, who are not so destitute. The weekly collections made in the church, and the sums drawn for the use of the mortcloth ; and L. 12 of interest for a sum of money placed at the disposal of the kirk-session, for the benefit of the poor,—are, with the aid of private charity, found sufficient for their maintenance. The heritors, however, assess themselves annually in the sum of L. 21, 17s. for the support of a lunatic, in Murray's asylum, Perth, and two illegitimate children. There is, unquestionably, a reluctance on the part of the people to accept of parochial aid.

*Fair.*—There was formerly a fair (St Lawrence's) held on the green of Monzie, on the 22d and 23d of August, for sheep and the ordinary articles of merchandise. The first day of the fair is still held at Monzie, for lambs, sheep, and cattle, but the second day of it has been transferred to Crieff, and is now reckoned one of its eight annual fairs.

*Alehouses.*—There are three alehouses in the parish,—one in Monzie, and two in Gilmerton.

*Fuel.*—The fuel is coal, peat, and wood. A ton of coal, brought from Bannockburn, a distance of twenty-five miles, costs L. 1. The same quantity from Dollar, distant twenty-four miles, costs 15s. A cart load of peats upon the estate of Monzie, including cartage, is 3s., and the wood (which is bought chiefly at sales) is equally dear.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

That this parish has made equal advances in prosperity with other parts of the country, during the last forty years, we do not take upon us to assert ; but when we compare the present period with that in which the last Statistical Account was drawn up, we recognize a great improvement in its general condition.

The present is distinguished beyond the former period by a more enlightened and judicious management of farming operations,—an improved breed of cattle and sheep ; superior roads, a total abolition of smuggling, and, as a consequence, by a greater sobriety ; an improved style of living and dress ; and a more general diffusion of the blessings of education.

The establishment of infant schools (if one might hope for such where the population is so thinly scattered,) with a library containing a judicious selection of books, calculated to instil sound principles and correct views on all subjects, would unquestionably go far to elevate and improve the moral and intellectual condition of the people.

May 1837.

## PARISH OF GASK.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH & STIRLING.

THE REV. THOMAS YOUNG, MINISTER.

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### L—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—GASK, the name of the parish, is admitted to be a term of doubtful origin. Probably it is of Celtic derivation, and, according to the speculations of those acquainted with that language, may be regarded as compounded of two words, *Ga* or *Gath*, signifying a dart, and *uisge* water, thus *Ga-uisge* becomes Gask,—the signification being swift-running water; or it may be from *Gu* or *Dhu-uisge*, and will signify dark-running water,—an acceptance of the term which applies to the Earn passing along the south side of the parish. Others trace it to a Gaelic word signifying a hero or great man; and others suppose it may have been applied to point out the residence of some distinguished individual rendered famous in former times, when the numerous encampments in this parish and its vicinity were inhabited.

*Situation, &c.*—It is nearly a square, each side of which is rather more than two English miles. A Roman causeway intersects the parish from east to west on the highest ground. The beautiful bank on the south side is divided into fertile fields, where the modern system of agriculture has been, for the last twenty years, cultivated with success, the soil being partly clayey and partly loamy.

The River Earn is the boundary on the south. On the bank extending to the north are extensive plantations, with corn-fields and pastures; while a considerable part of this division of the parish is bounded by a moss, which, notwithstanding the inroads made upon it by industrious farmers, still supplies the parishioners with peat for fuel. The Earn, which forms the boundary to the south, is a considerable river, though not navigable, the windings of which from the west to the east side of the parish are about three miles. It produces salmon, white and yellow trout, perch, flounders, pike, and eel.

The parish produces wheat, barley, oats, pease, potatoes, turnips, sown and pasture grass. It supports itself with all kinds of grain, independent of considerable quantities which are sold, and there are more than 1200 acres of wood, consisting of larch, Scotch fir, oak, &c. These woods abound with all sorts of game, such as hares, rabbits, pheasants, black-cock, partridges, wood-cock, snipes; and roe-deer, foxes, otters, badgers, and wild-duck.

Marl is found in different parts, with large beds of freestone and grey slate, which are quarried with little difficulty.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—James Blair Oliphant, Esq. of Gask, is the chief proprietor in the parish. His ancestors for many generations have resided on the property. His house is a large substantial building, erected in the beginning of the present century. In its vicinity are many large and beautiful old trees. A small portion of land to the east belongs to the Earl of Kinnoul, who, along with Mr Oliphant, is the only other heritor in the parish.

*Antiquities.*—The Roman causeway, which extends through the parish, on the highest ground, is 20 feet broad, composed of rough stones, closely laid together. It points west to a Roman camp still distinguishable in the parish of Muthil, near the Chapel of Ease, at Ardoch, and east to another camp in the parish of Scone. By the side of this causeway, Roman stations are still visible, capable of containing from twelve to twenty men. They are enclosed by ditches, which are very distinct. Within Gask's policy, vestiges of two camps may still be traced, one on the south side, the other north of the Roman road or *street*, as it is called by the inhabitants. A few years ago, on one of these Roman stations, north of the causeway, a number of human bones were dug up, all entire, particularly two skulls. The place from time immemorial has been called the Witch Know, and the traditionary account is, that witches were burned there, and, as vestiges of coal-cinders are to be seen, the probability is that some people were put to death on that eminence. In the same place was lately found a small urn, of coarse workmanship, which would contain about three English pints. It was about two feet and a half below the surface.

*Eminent Men.*—Two individuals belonged to this parish, who have risen to high honours in the church,—the late Principal Taylor of Glasgow College, and Dr Stewart, minister of the parish of Newburgh, in Fife. More recently, a native of this parish, Mr

Laurence M'Donald, has been distinguished as a sculptor, particularly in making busts.

*Parochial Register.*—The earliest date of the parochial register is the 10th of January 1669, and it ends 28th December 1679. Next volume commences 25th May 1703, and ends 20th July 1744. Third volume begins 29th December 1756, and has been regularly kept since that time.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population in 1811 was 433  
 1821, 522  
 1831, 428

The decrease during the last ten years is owing to several tenants being removed, in consequence of an enlargement of farms,—a want of employment for young men who go to large towns,—and the death of some aged individuals whose houses are not now inhabited.

The number of families,	89
chiefly employed in agriculture,	66
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	17
persons under 15 years of age,	146
between 15 and 30,	106
30 and 50,	95
50 and 70,	59
above 70,	22
bachelors and widowers above 50,	8
unmarried women above 45,	8
fatuous persons,	4
Average number of births yearly during the last seven years,	8
marriages, taking the same average,	3
deaths,	5

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—All the land is cultivated except the 1200 acres under wood. Teeswater and Ayrshire cattle, Leicestershire sheep, with the common breed of horses, are reared throughout the parish. The average rent of arable land is L. 1, 7s. per acre, and the length of leases generally nineteen years. Farm-steadings have of late been much improved.

*Prices.*—As there is now but little encouragement for females to spin, many of them are employed in the labours of the field, and are paid 8d. per day. The wages of labourers in summer is 1s. 6d. per day, 1s. 3d. in winter. Wrights, 2s. in summer, 1s. 8d. in winter. Tailors, 1s. 4d. with victuals. Masons, 2s. 2d. in summer, 1s. 8d. in winter.

### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Markets.*—There is no market-town in the parish. Dunning and Methven are within four miles; Auchterarder six; and the large

market-town, Perth, only eight miles distant. Turnpike roads have been much improved; but the roads which intersect the parish are far from being good. There is one village called Clathey, containing a population of 84 individuals.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church is conveniently situated in the centre of the parish, somewhat more than a mile from the extremities. It was built in the year 1800, and is in good repair. It will accommodate nearly 400,—all free sittings. The manse was built in the same year, and, as the ground of the glebe is inferior to the former glebe, which was in the neighbourhood of Gask House, it is much larger, being nearly 20 acres. The stipend is L. 150 per annum, of which L. 61, 17s. 8d. is paid by his Majesty's Exchequer. There is no chapel of any kind in the parish. There are, however, six families of Dissenters in the parish; thirty-seven New Light Seceders. The rest of the inhabitants regularly attend the parish church, where divine service is uniformly performed on the Lord's day, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper dispensed twice in the year, the number of communicants being at present exactly 200. Collections made on particular occasions are seldom below L. 6, and seldom exceed L. 10 Sterling.

*Education.*—There is no school but the parochial one in the parish. English reading, writing, arithmetic, and Latin are taught, at the following rate of fees; reading, 2s.; reading and writing, 2s. 6d.; arithmetic, 3s.; Latin, 4s. per quarter. The people discover their regard for education, by generally sending their children to school, and as it is situated near the parish church, none are so far distant as to be unable to attend. The school may contain from 60 to 70 scholars, and the master, as to house and garden, has the legal accommodations, and the maximum salary, amounting to L. 34, 4s. 4½d.

*Library.*—There is a parochial library, which was founded in 1824. It is supported by the contributions of the subscribers, and at different times the Gask family has increased the number of books by valuable donations.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The number of individuals receiving parochial aid is 6, and the average sum given is 1s. 3d. weekly, when they are able to go about and do something for their own support. Besides this weekly allowance, they are allowed supplies of coals and meal in winter. The poor in this parish are much indebted to the Gask family, who pay particular attention to their wants, and bestow liberal supplies. The amount of collections at

the church for last year was L. 17, 10s. 2d. The collections, with the interest of L. 280, under the management of the kirk-session, have hitherto supported the poor without any legal assessment.

*Inns, &c.*—There are no inns or alehouses in the parish.

*Fuel.*—The fuel used is peat, coal, and wood. Peat costs about 1s. per load; coal 2d. per stone, and the price of wood sold by auction is regulated by the demand.

*May 1837.*

## PARISH OF AUCHTERARDER.\*

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH & STIRLING.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Figure, Boundaries, &c.*—THE parish of Auchterarder is 8 miles from south to north, and 3 miles from east to west. It inclines, in the form of a parallelogram, from the Ochil hills to the water of Earn, in a north-easterly direction. It is bounded by Blackford on the west; Glendevon on the south; Dunning on the east; and Trinity-Gask on the north. The greatest elevation is Craig-Rossie, one of the highest of the Ochils, which are 2359 feet above the level of the sea. To the west of this hill, the body of which runs north and south, there is a very striking chasm, commonly called the "Heuch of Coul." From the Ochils various rivulets come down, which meet in the Ruthven, a considerable stream, which nearly bisects the parish, and at the north-east extremity loses itself in the Earn.

*Climate.*—The climate may be regarded as favourable. Crops are ripened earlier than in a more westerly direction, and not a week later than in the Lothians. The situation of the town is high, and more than ordinarily healthy.

*Geology.*—Auchterarder rests upon a formation of old red sandstone. In the lower part of the parish, this sandstone has an argillaceous basis; and is commonly called liver rock, thick in the post, and excellent for building. In the higher parts, it has a siliceous basis; veins of mica slate traverse the rock,—rendering it very hard and frequently unworkable. Near the surface, in some

\* Drawn up by Mr James Aitken.



places, it becomes very micaceous, and schistose, in bands from one to four inches thick, furnishing fit material by its flatness for fences without lime. The strata seem generally to range  $15^{\circ}$  to the north-east, and to dip at an angle of  $13^{\circ}$ . 4'. Several trap dikes cross the parish, almost directly east and west. Great isolated blocks seem to have been thrown up by some giant force, and lie piled upon each other. The direction of these masses is to every point in the compass, and dips with every inclination. The rock of sandstone at the side is highly indurated, very finely grained, bears evident marks of having been under the action of fire, and appears to have received, when in a state of fusion, much of the nature of the trap rock into its composition. Limestone is to be found in the upper part of the parish; but it is not wrought on account of the distance from fuel. Attempts have been made to find coal, but without success. Agate, calcedony, and jasper, may be got in great abundance along the water-course at the base of the hill.

*Soil.*—Boulders were of very frequent occurrence; but, by the aid of gunpowder, and other means, they have been mostly forced to quit the field, and take their place in the fence. In the parish, there is a great variety of soil. The eastern part is sandy, the lower part inclines to clayey loam. The neighbourhood of the town exhibits a fine specimen of rich black loam.

*Zoology.*—Roe-deer are frequently to be seen. A red deer may occasionally be observed crossing the parish, from the north, on its way, it is said, to enjoy the benefit of the salt water. The fox here finds a cover, and the otter a retreat. Wild ducks and sometimes a wild goose, woodcock, and kingfisher, are the rarer species of our undomesticated animals. The horns of an "elk," found imbedded in the soil, render it probable that this species once existed in the parish.

In the ponds at Damside, out of which marl was taken, leeches are to be found. During the greatest part of the year, they are never seen, and are supposed to lie buried in the slime; but during the heat of summer, they come up in numbers to the margins of the different pools. They are of two kinds,—one which cannot possibly be got to draw blood; another the genuine medical leech, *Hirudo medicinalis*. It is larger and more vigorous than those imported into this country, which may be accounted for, by its being taken directly from its native element, and not exhausted by confinement and long carriage. This kind is preferred, by the people in the neighbourhood, to foreign leeches.

*Botany.*—It does not appear that there are many plants peculiar to this parish. *Tussilago* or colt's-foot is of frequent occurrence. *Petasites* or butter-bur grows in one place, larger than we have seen it in any other. *Trefoil* is plentiful in our meadows. The *Orchis* family seem to be natives of this parish.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The earliest notice we have seen of Auchterarder is in a charter by Alexander II. in the year 1227, conveying the teinds of the King's revenue of the lands of Auchterarder to the Convent of Inchaffray. In 1328, King Robert Bruce granted a charter of the lands of Auchterarder to Sir William Montifix, Justiciar of Scotland, on the payment of a small sum, reserving the liberties of the burgh and burgesses, as they were in the reign of Alexander III. One of the daughters of Sir William, marrying Sir John Drummond, received as her fortune the barony of Auchterarder, which brought this property into the possession of the Drummond family, in which it continued until of late. In one of the books of Exchequer, entitled *Liber Responsionum*, 1576, there is this memorandum: "Assignit to the baillies of Ochterardour the tent day of November, to compeir and mak comp, and to that effect bring with thame the copie of their last comp, with sic uther writtes as thai will use for making of thair seasance." This curious excerpt seems to countenance the opinion, that Auchterarder once enjoyed the privileges of a royal burgh. This is, however, rather a doubtful matter. On diligent search, it does not appear from the Rolls of Parliament, that it was a royal burgh, when the act 1696, for the division of commons, was passed, in which was excepted the property of royal burghs, all there enumerated.

Auchterarder was one of the Scottish towns ironically compared by George Buchanan with the fine English cities. Some English noblemen, boasting to King James of the properties of the English towns, the sarcastic Scot replied, that he knew a town in Scotland which had fifty draw-bridges, and which is afterwards described as a "country village between Stirling and Perth, called Auchterardoch, where there is a large strand which runs through the middle of the town, and almost at every door there is a long stock or stone laid over the strand, whereupon they pass to their opposite neighbours, and when a flood comes they lift their wooden bridges in case they should be taken away, and these they call draw-bridges."—So goes the story.

In the troublous times of 1715, Auchterarder appears to have

suffered severely, as shown by the subjoined interesting document, the original of which is to be found in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries.\*

It is almost needless to add, that the indemnification on that occasion proffered by the Pretender was never forthcoming; whilst, on the other side, the reigning family *did* make compensation for the losses sustained by those who had neither personally nor by their friends been implicated in the rebellion. "Burning money," as it is called, was received by many.

The family of Perth, to whom Auchterarder belonged, having forfeited their possessions, the Commission appointed to take charge of the annexed estates appears to have devoted much attention to Auchterarder. In 1778, a survey was made of the barony by Mr Wigh, acting for the commissioners, and published by their authority. In this report, the inhabitants are described as "idle and poor,—farmers not thinking it necessary to thin their turnip while small, allowing them to grow until they be the size of large kail plants, and then it is thought a great loss to take them up, unless in small quantities, to give to the cow. A few tenants excepted, no family had oat-meal in their houses, nor could they get any. They eat nothing better than bear-meal and

\* "BY THE KING, A DECLARATION.

"JAMES R.—Whereas it was absolutely necessary for our service and the public safety, that the villages of *Auchterarder* and *Blackford* should be burnt and destroyed, to prevent the far greater inconveniences and hardships which must have ensued to our subjects, had our clemency and tenderness prevailed upon us to preserve these places. We were, therefore, at last, induced by the strongest motives, though with the greatest reluctance and unwillingness, to give our orders for the effect above-mentioned, which we understand since have been put into execution. And in regard we came into this our ancient kingdom with a sincere and first intention to ease and relieve all our subjects in general of the hardships and calamities which they have laboured under for these several years past; and being, therefore, most sensibly affected with the losses and sufferings of our good subjects, by the devastation of these villages, which justly moves our compassion and tenderness towards them; and being, therefore, resolved to make them suitable reparation for the damages they have sustained on this occasion, so as in the end they may be no losers thereby, It is therefore our will and pleasure, that all and sundry the persons concerned do immediately prepare estimates of their several losses and sufferings, and that they deliver the same in writings to their several masters, so as we may order relief and reparation to be made to them for what losses and damages they have sustained in their houses, goods, furniture, and corns, or any other manner of way whatsoever. This we hope will be sufficient to convince them and all the world, of the tender regard we have for our subjects, and of the part we bear in all their sufferings. And we hereby charge and command the *ministers* of the several paroch churches of *Auchterarder* and *Blackford*, publicly to read this our declaration to their several congregations, immediately after divine service the two *Sundays* next after the date hereof, and copies hereof to be affixed on the church doors, so as all the people concerned may have due notice of this our intention towards them, and may, accordingly, reap the benefit thereof.—Given at our Court at Scoon, this 26th day of January 1716, and in the fifteenth year of our reign, by his Majesty's command.—(Signed) M.A.R."

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a few greens boiled together at mid-day, for dinner, and bear-meal pottage evening and morning."

On this report, Lord Kaimes remarks, that he had twice visited Auchterarder, and made particular inquiries about it, and bears his testimony to the want of employment and distress of the people, and to the necessity of introducing manufactures, and establishing a weekly market.

His Lordship speaks of one that sows clover, and mentions that a formal complaint had been entered before the sheriff against him by his neighbours, for causing them to herd after harvest, contrary to use and wont; and engages, that, if this person should prevail on others to sow clover also, he should receive a reward from the Board. This Commission erected a granary to hold the unsold provisions of one market day until the next; they gave houses, rent free, on condition of beginning and continuing the manufacture of linen. To this Commission we are disposed to ascribe the still rising state of Auchterarder.

*Plan of the Parish.*—A plan or survey of Auchterarder, and some other parishes, was published in 1824, showing the length of the different roads, and their directions, and the names and localities of all the houses in the landward part of the parish.

*Parochial Records.*—The records of the kirk-session have been kept with great accuracy. Those on baptisms, marriages, and burials, commence in 1661; those on discipline and poor's funds, in 1668. They amount to thirteen volumes, and the entries seem continuous.

*Land-owners.*—Captain Hunter, Colonel Græme, Earl of Camperdown, Patrick Brugh Smeaton, James Beveridge Duncan, John Malcolm, Peter Smitton, James Brugh, James Sheddan, John Mailer.

*Mansions.*—Auchterarder House is the principal one in the parish. It is an erection, in the Elizabethian style of architecture, built by Captain Hunter, who, a few years ago, purchased the estate of Auchterarder, and who is doing much to improve and beautify the place.

*Antiquities.*—A little to the north of the town, there is a ruin reported to have been a hunting-seat of King Malcolm Canmore. As happens to many other pieces of antiquity, the romantic has been made to yield to the useful. A great part of this building has been torn down, to put up the offices of a neighbouring farm. The walls of the remaining corner display great strength of masonry; they

are nine feet thick, and cemented so firmly that it is almost as difficult to tear them asunder as to quarry the rock. Half a mile to the east of this, there are the remains of an old church, commonly called Saint Mungo's, evidently an erection of Roman Catholic times. There is another ruin in the parish, the old church of Abruthven. This parish appears to have been united to Auchterarder, before the Reformation. The minister, however, of the united parishes continued to live in the manse of Abruthven, and often preached in that church. Here is the burial-place of the Dukes of Montrose. Their aisle is an elegant and chaste piece of architecture, surmounted by a well executed urn, which, seen from the public road, has a good effect. In this ducal mausoleum, raised upon pedestals, are five crimson-coloured coffins, decorated with plates and escutcheons. In the vault beneath, it is said there lies a long line of illustrious ancestors—men distinguished for arms and address, and for excellent endowments of body and mind.

### III.—POPULATION.

In the year 1755,	1194
1791,	1670
1801,	2042
1811,	2508
1821,	2870
1831,	3182
1836,	3315
Residing in the town,	1981
village of Smithyhaugh,	397
country,	937
Yearly average of births,	63
deaths,	65
marriages,	28

The births are taken from the parish records; but many Dissenters do not register. The number of deaths and marriages may be relied on as correct.

There are in the parish under 12 years of age,	943
upwards of 70,	74
Families of independent fortune,	4
Proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards,	19
Ministers 3; medical practitioners 5; writers 6; teachers 7; banker 1; veterinary surgeon 1;	
Unmarried men upwards of 50,	70
women upwards of 45,	120
Number of families,	763
chiefly employed in agriculture,	108
in manufactures,	478
males employed in retail trade, or handicraft,	233
labourers employed in agriculture,	75
in manufactures,	325
males not included in any of the above classes,	177
male servants above 20 years old,	4
female servants,	115

There are 5 fatuous persons, 1 blind, and 6 deaf and dumb.

*Character of the Population.*—The inhabitants of Auchterarder may be regarded as in circumstances of more than usual comfort. The land is very much subdivided—many cultivating a great part of their own properties. Many have houses of their own, and keep a pig or perhaps a cow. On account of the distance from lime, most of the farmers in the neighbourhood are willing to let the people have as much land for potatoes, as they can supply with manure. By this means, the family with the whole establishment is supported year after year, with a principal article of food.

## IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—

Acres in rotation under the plough,	7176
constantly waste or in pasture,	6571

With the exception of about 150 acres on the banks of the Earn, and some rock and moss upon the hills, all might be cultivated. Traces of the plough are perceptible in the highest parts; but it has been thought more profitable to allow these uplands to remain permanently in pasture.

*Common.*—There is a common of 228 acres, lying immediately to the west of the town. No one can tell how it came to be appropriated to its present use. From time immemorial, every one living in Auchterarder having a cow, has been in the habit of sending it to graze in the moor—quarrying stones, cutting turf, or appropriating to himself out of the moor, whatever he thought proper, without leave asked or obtained from any. Sixty cows belonging to different persons in the town are annually sent to pasture; and the houses are all built with stones taken free from the moor quarry. Attempts have been frequently made to effect the division of this common,—the proprietor of the barony of Auchterarder claiming a great part as his,—the portioners claiming their respective shares,—the feuars also insisting that they have a right of participation. The question has been repeatedly before the Court of Session. In the meantime, the moor is allowed to remain in its natural state, sending up a most luxuriant crop of furze and other indigenous productions.

*Wood.*—298 acres are planted, chiefly with larch and oak. No old wood is now standing in the parish, and little has been cut for sale, for many years. A tree is only felled when thinning is required, or for some agricultural or domestic purpose.

*Rent of Land.*—Average rent of arable land per acre, L. 1, 10s. Average rent of grazing a cow, L. 3.

*Wages.*—Agricultural labourers receive from 1s. 6d. to 2s. a-day; masons and carpenters and other mechanics, 14s. a-week.

*Live-stock.*—The parish of Auchterarder, until of late, was very deficient in stock of cattle, and indifferent to the breed reared in it. A marked improvement in this respect is now visible. Cows of the Ayrshire breed for the dairy, and of the Teeswater for feeding, are universally sought. In the two hill farms which are in the parish, the description of stock raised is reckoned of a superior kind. In the lower part, some attention has been given to the Leicester breed of sheep.

*Improvement of Land.*—Draining has been carried to a great extent. Scarcely is there a field without its drain; and in most places, draining might still be prosecuted with immense advantage. Captain Hunter may be mentioned as having by this means brought many patches of useless morass into a state of profitable tillage, or converted them into pleasure grounds. Much waste land has also recently been reclaimed, by embankments on the side of the Earn. These, however, are not always sufficient to guard off inundations. It is said, that if a few cuts were made to render the course of the river less tortuous, the destruction of fields and of the labours of the husbandmen would often be averted. The farmers on the low lands complain bitterly of the numerous dam-dikes, which obstruct the natural course of the river.

The farm-buildings, with few exceptions, are excellent, recently erected and commodious. The enclosures are far from being good; and in some parts, a fence of any description is never met with to impede the passage either of the wayfaring man, or the wandering quadruped.

An agricultural Association has existed in the parish for upwards of twenty years. It has an annual ploughing-match, when eight premiums are awarded. Considerable doubts are entertained concerning the advantages of this Society, and it is not kept up with very much spirit.

*Produce.*—

Oats, 1435 acres, at 7 bolls the acre, at 17s. per boll,	L. 8538
Barley, 1199 acres, at 7 bolls the acre, at L. 1, 1s. 6d. do.	9022
Wheat, 236 acres, at 10 bolls the acre, at L. 1, 7s. 6d. do.	3245
Potatoes, 600 acres, at 40 bolls the acre, at 5s. do.	6000
Turnips, 600 acres, at L. 8 an acre,	4800
Pease, beans, flax 200 acres, at L. 5 an acre,	1000
Hay, 1435 acres, 140 stones an acre, at 7d. per stone,	5859
Grass 1435 acres, at L. 2 an acre,	2870
Natural pasture 6571 acres, at 4s. an acre,	1314
Thinning wood,	75

Gardens,	140
Quarries.	50
	L. 42,913
Total value of raw produce raised,	6474
Real value, of property assessed in 1815,	5284
Scottish valuation of the parish,	

*Manufactures.*—The trade of Auchterarder consists mostly in the weaving of cotton, supplied from Glasgow. There are upwards of 500 looms in the parish. Malting is carried on to a considerable extent. There are four malt barns, in one of which 7644 bolls of malt are annually made. On the water of Ruthven, there are 13 mills or manufactories on a small scale; grain-mills 4; lint-seed oil-mills 2; flax-mills 2; a saw-mill; a paper-mill; a fulling-mill; a woollen manufactory of shawls and blankets and similar materials.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

In Auchterarder there is a weekly market, held on Saturday. It is the principal mart in the district; and business to a considerable extent is done in grain.

*Fairs.*—There are 6 fairs annually held here, one on the last Tuesday of March; one on the day after Amulree, which is on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of May; one in each of the harvest months, the Friday before the Falkirk trysts, principally with the view of allowing the people in this district, who may wish to buy stock, an opportunity of the cattle passing to Falkirk; and one on the 6th of December, when, besides cattle, the current accounts of the year for lime and other articles required in rural and domestic economy are usually settled.

*Means of Communication.*—There is a daily post by the way of Crieff. The Perth and Glasgow coaches pass daily through the town. There are carriers who go every week to Glasgow, Edinburgh, Perth, and Stirling. The turnpike road extends six miles in the parish.

*Villages.*—The only village of note is Smithyhaugh, recently sprung up. It is distant two miles and a half to the east of Auchterarder. It is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Ruthven; its trade is chiefly weaving from Glasgow. The population of the district amounts to 638.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church stands in the middle of the town of Auchterarder, which is on the north-west corner of the parish. It was rebuilt in the year 1784. In 1811, the front wall was removed out, the old roof supported by a cross beam, and 360 sittings added. The church now contains



930 sittings, and is in a state of good repair. There are two other places of worship in the parish,—one Relief, and one United Secession. The Relief can accommodate 583; sittings let, 433, unlet 150. The Secession can accommodate 500; sittings let, 250, unlet, 250. Many who attend the dissenting meeting-houses come from other parishes. Of the inhabitants of Auchterarder, young and old, 593 belong to the Relief, of whom 342 have seats taken, and 315 are communicants. The attendance at the Secession meeting-houses is as follows: Auchterarder, 366, of whom 234 have sittings taken, and 226 are communicants; Dalreoch, 39, of whom 17 have seats rented, and 20 are communicants; Kinkell, 35, of whom 23 have seats rented, and 18 are communicants; 16 persons attend Dunning. There are 13 Episcopalians, who go to Muthil; 8 Methodists, who go to Perth; and 2 Roman Catholics, who attend at Crieff.

There are belonging to the Church,	2196
to other denominations,	1070
Not known to belong to any,	49
Communicants belonging to the church,	1146
to Dissenters,	636
Having right to seats in any place of worship,	1617
in no place of worship,	755
Whole families without a sitting,	103
Examinable persons belonging to the Establishment who cannot obtain a seat,	555

The greater part of the seats in the parish church are occupied by proprietors or their tenants, by whose favour the people of the town obtain admission to a place in the house of God,—a very disagreeable mode of tenure, and often made an excuse for persons absenting themselves from public worship. No preference seems given to parishioners. Several pews and sittings are held by persons from other parishes. A petition was lately given in to the presbytery, numerously signed, complaining of the want of church accommodation, and praying to be directed how this might be obtained in connection with the national church.

The stipend of the minister of Auchterarder is, meal, 5 chalders; barley, 5 chalders; money, L. 52; communion elements, L. 8, 6s. 8d. The extent of the glebe is 5 acres; its value L. 20.

The stipend of the Relief minister is L. 115; of the Secession, L. 100. They have both houses from their congregations.

*Benefactions.*—The most interesting benefactor of late years in the parish was John Sheddan, Esq. of Lochie. This singular person deposited in the hands of the kirk-session, in the course of several years, L. 611. His beneficence was not confined to any one class of

persons, or mode of distribution, it extended itself to all who were recommended to his compassion, or whom he knew personally to be in indigent circumstances; with his own hand, he is known to have distributed in various sums L. 850. Nor was Mr Sheddan's charity confined to the physical wants of the poor,—he aimed at a nobler object,—the instruction of the mind, and the salvation of the soul. That the education of the poor might not be neglected, in the year 1811, he erected a school-house, and endowed it with adjacent land to the value of L. 1000; and that the heathen as well as his own countrymen might be sharers in his beneficence, he gave L. 200 to the Foreign and British Bible Society. Mr Sheddan died in 1831.

*Education.*—There are seven schools in the parish, two of which are taught by females. There is a parish school, the teacher of which has the maximum salary, and the legal accommodation. His class fees amount to about L. 40 per annum; his other emoluments, though multifarious, are but trifling in amount. There is the school built by John Sheddan, and endowed with the interest of L. 1000, on condition of teaching twelve poor children gratis. The school in Smithyhaugh was built by public subscription, is under the management of a committee of individuals resident in the place, and held rent free by the teacher. The other schools are all on the private adventure of their respective teachers. The branches taught are, reading, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, mathematics, geography, Latin, French, Greek. In those taught by females, there is also needle-work and music. The school fees vary in the different schools; in the parish school, per quarter, reading, 2s. 6d.; writing, 3s.; arithmetic, geography, and grammar, 3s. 6d.; mathematics, book-keeping, Latin, and French, 5s. There are at their education during some part of the year, 587, of whom 307 are boys, and 280 girls; of these, 40 are under five years of age; 383 are learning writing, arithmetic, or the higher branches of education. We do not think there are any above six years of age who cannot read, and very few grown up who cannot write. We would say that the people are generally alive to the benefits of education.

We have a mechanics' institute, in which lectures are delivered to mechanics, during the winter months, on literary, and scientific, and moral subjects; attendance 80; admittance for the season 1s. 6d.

*Friendly Societies.*—Friendly societies in this parish are fast

sinking into decay. Formerly there were five, with a great number of members; but, partly on account of the kirk-session refusing to alimant some of the members, and partly because persons in better circumstances reckoned it rather a degradation to take the funds, a disposition has generally prevailed to dissolve the societies and divide the stock, and year after year has this been effected. One only is now existent, the Weavers' Society, instituted in 1781. It has 161 members, and a capital of L. 450. A motion has also been made for its dissolution.

*Poor Funds.*—Parochial relief is afforded to 22 regular paupers: sixteen receive 1s. weekly; five, 1s. 6d.; one, 2s.; ten of the regular paupers receive L. 1 yearly for rent; five of them 10s.; five, not regular paupers, receive yearly for their rent, L. 1. Distributed in occasional charities, L. 47, 14s. 8d. Total annual amount for the support of the parish, L. 131, 16s. 8d. This expenditure is met by collections at the church door, L. 59, 11s. 3d.; interest on mortified funds, L. 23; annual assessment, L. 50. This last mode of supporting the poor has been recently introduced into this parish.

*Inns.*—There are in the parish 23 public-houses; 21 in Auchterarder, and 2 in Smithyhaugh,—in which spirits and ales are sold. The policy of the Justices, for some time, has been to diminish the number of these, by withholding license, as much as possible, from persons wishing to begin business in this line, and withdrawing it from those who have been guilty of any gross misdemeanour.

*Fuel.*—Coal is the principal fuel used. It is generally laid down at the door at the rate of 8d. per cwt. The Glendevon turnpike has greatly lowered the price of coal in Auchterarder.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the time of last report, Auchterarder has kept pace with the general improvement which has been going on in the kingdom. In the town, old foundations have been erased, and buildings of very superior appearance and comfort erected in their stead. In the country, a much better system of husbandry prevails, principally by the increase of green crop, and the feeding of cattle of a superior breed.

*Water.*—In former Accounts of Auchterarder, the want of water seems uniformly to have been stated as the greatest deficiency. This defect has been abundantly supplied. In 1832, mainly by the kind and scientific exertions of Captain Aytoun, a spring, nine

feet above the level of the town, has been made to pour in 72 gallons, every minute, of the most excellent water, which has been taken into many houses; and baths have been fitted up in some,—the water supplying not only the necessaries but even the luxuries of life.

Few things would tend more to improve the general appearance of the country than the planting of Craig Rossie. This hill projects considerably from the other Ochils, and, covered with wood, it would present an object strikingly grand and picturesque. The erection of a church at Smithyhaugh or Abruthven would be most beneficial to that district, which seems naturally formed to have a distinct pastoral superintendence. The people themselves could not support a clergyman; but we fondly anticipate that, at no distant date, something will be done to assist them in this.

We cannot conclude this Account, without referring to the important law-suit on the power of the *veto* with which Auchterarder has been long connected. In the future histories of our church, Auchterarder will be noticed as having first entered the lists, and fought the battle for all Scotland in defence of the laws of the church, and the rights of the people.

May 1837.

## PARISH OF BLACKFORD.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JOHN CLARK, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—If the name be not altogether English, it may, perhaps, be traced to the Gothic word *fort*, signifying not only a strait or firth, but also a road or passage. Some probability is given to this derivation by the circumstance of the parish being situated between the great vales of Strathballan and Stratbearn, and consequently forming the line of communication between them.

*Situation, Extent, &c.*—It lies midway between Perth and Stirling, and is intersected by the great road between them. Its length from north to south is about 10 miles. It is bounded on the south by the water of Devon, and by the river of Earn on the north. Its breadth is about 5 miles; it is bounded by the parish-

es of Auchterarder and Trinity-Gask on the east, and by those of Muthil and Dunblane on the west.

*Soil.*—In such extent of surface, the soil is necessarily varied. The south part of the parish is traversed by the Ochil hills, and affords good pasture for sheep. The middle is formed by the extensive moor of Tullibardine, which is covered with young plantations. The northern part consists of rich and well-cultivated lands.

*Climate.*—The climate corresponds with the high elevation of the land above the level of the sea. The prevailing winds are those from the west. Rains in summer, and snow showers in winter, are more frequent than in the lower surrounding districts. The difference, however, is not so great as to cause any peculiarity in the productions of the earth; or in the kinds of animals to be found; or in the constitution and health of the inhabitants.

*Rivers.*—Beside the rivers Devon and Earn, at the south and north extremities of the parish, there are three others of inferior size,—the Madransy, which rises in the hilly part of the parish of Muthil, and falls into the Earn at Kingkell,—the Ruthven and the Allan, which both take their rise in Gleneagles. The first is but a small stream, and runs eastward through the parish of Auchterarder till it falls into the Earn. For three miles of its course, it runs through Kincardine Glen, a place of great natural beauty,—its high banks being broken with small cascades, and all covered with fine copsewood of oak, hazel, and birch. The Allan too, is here but a small stream. It runs to the west, through the adjoining parish of Dunblane, and falls into the Forth below Stirling Bridge.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—The landed property in the parish principally belongs to James Moray, Esq. of Abercairney; and to Lords Strathallan and Camperdown. What does not belong to them is the property of three other individuals.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parish records extend back to 1738, and have been regularly kept since that period.

*Antiquities.*—There are not many vestiges of antiquity to be found here. From the immediate vicinity, however, of the celebrated Roman encampment at Ardoch, there are several traces of military works and adventures. There are three places where entrenchments are still so evident as to leave no doubt of their having been used as out-posts to the Ardoch station. And the situation of all the three is well chosen for local defence, for mutual communication, and for extensive survey. In different other

places, there are also many tumuli or cairns, showing the frequency of conflict between the natives and their Roman invaders. In some places, the strife must have been evidently great; as the cairns stand close to one another, and are ranged in a semicircular form, showing how orderly the combatants stood, how closely they fought, and how closely they fell. Beside these, there are two other remains of ancient warfare. These are the ruins of Kincardine and of Ogilvy Castle. Their situation indicates that these castles had been reared for defence, and great strength of masonry was employed in their structure.

There are also a few vestiges of antiquity of another description. These are the ruins of two chapels, the one at Glen-eagles, and the other at Tullibardine. The date of the one is not ascertained; the other was built in the fifteenth century. At Tullibardine also, may be seen a few thorn trees that may be viewed with a kind of antiquarian interest. They are thus referred to in Pittscotie's History: "James the Fourth was fond of ship-building, and built the *Michael*, the largest ship ever seen before. She was 240 feet long, 36 feet within the sides, which were 10 feet thick; she was a year in building, and took up all the oak wood of Fife, except Falkland; she had 300 mariners, and carried altogether about 1000 men. Her length and breadth is planted in *hawthorn* at *Tullibardine* by the wright that helped to make her." Only three of these trees now survive the ravages of time and the encroachments of the plough, so that, like every other human memorial, they have long ceased to answer the purpose which the planter intended.

### III.—POPULATION.

In the year 1811 the population amounted to 1666. In 1821, it amounted to 1892, and 1831 to about the same number. The number of females exceeds that of males by two. 674 of the inhabitants reside in the village, where they are employed as weavers, day-labourers, and mechanics.

Number of families in the parish,	394
chiefly employed in agriculture,	91
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	140

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Wages.*—According to times and circumstances, the wages vary from 1s. to 2s. a-day; 1s. 6d. may be taken as a fair average. Those inhabitants not resident in the village are scattered over a wide extent of country, and employed chiefly in agricultural pursuits. Within the last fifteen years, the industry and skill of the peo-

ple, especially in agriculture, have rapidly improved. Much waste land has been cultivated, and what was formerly under cultivation is now managed in a more skilful manner. Manufactures have improved correspondingly in the same period,—especially a manufactory of coarse woollen cloths, which contains a good deal of machinery, and gives employment to seventy or eighty individuals.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There are two markets held here yearly, but those held at the neighbouring town of Auchterarder render them of little importance. The roads, both public and private, are good, and intercourse between different places is easily maintained. The different turnpike roads extend about twenty miles.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish is within the bounds of the presbytery of Auchterarder. The church is so situated as to accommodate the more populous part of the parish, but inconveniently for the more distant quarters. It was built in the year 1738, and was lately repaired. It contains seating for 500 persons, who pay no seat rent whatever. There is no other place of worship of any description in the parish.

The manse was built about eighty years ago, and was repaired within the last fifteen. The glebe consists of 24 acres of very light gravelly soil; and the stipend, as lately modified, consists of 12 chalders of meal, 2 chalders of barley, and L. 30 in money.

*School.*—The schoolmaster has the highest legal salary, and good accommodation both in dwelling-house and school-house. The usual branches of education are taught, and taught so cheap as to render education attainable by all. The school fees vary from 2s. to 4s. a quarter, according to the branches taught. There are three other schools in different parts of the parish, supported by those who attend.

*Poor and Poor's Funds.*—The number of poor on the public funds seldom exceeds 10 or 12. To support these and other indigent and industrious persons, who require occasional assistance, a sum varying from L. 80 to L. 100 is annually distributed. This money is collected at the church doors, and by contributions from the non-resident heritors. There is certainly less reluctance to become pensioners on this charitable fund, than there was shewn in former times, and there is an increasing indisposition on the part of natural relations to assist one another.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

There have been many and great improvements in the parish,

within the last twenty years. The chief of these has been the formation of roads, which has opened new channels for intercourse, and supplied new means and motives for improvement. With the improvement of the soil, the circumstances and habits of the people have also improved. They have become more industrious, more temperate, more alive to the comforts and conveniences of life, and more anxious to employ means by which these may be procured.

*May 1837.*

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## PARISH OF MUCKART.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDEE, SYNOD OF PERTH & STIRLING.

THE REV. JAMES THOMSON, MINISTER.

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### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name, Boundary, &c.*—THE name of the parish has been written in various ways. The most ancient way appears to have been *Mucard*, the more recent *Muckhart*, and the modern *Muckart*. It is obviously derived from the Gaelic words "*Muc*," a wild boar, and "*gart*," the head, or "*ard*," high; alluding, as some suppose, to the shape of the hill terminating above the Yetts of *Muckart*, which, from one point of view in the parish, is supposed to bear some resemblance to a boar's head; or, according to others, to its being in ancient times infested by the wild boar. The shape of the parish is triangular. Its greatest length in a straight line, from east to west, is about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles, and its greatest breadth, from north to south, about 2 miles: altogether it may contain about 6 square miles. The Devon forms its principal boundary, separating it, with the exception of one farm, from the parish of *Fosso-way*, on the south and east. On the north and west, it is separated respectively, by two small streams, from the parishes of *Glendovan* and *Dollar*.

*Topographical Appearances.*—A branch of the *Ochils*, running east and west, lies along the northern boundary of the parish, and is terminated on the east by a conical shaped hill, called *Sea Mab*,



which is about 1350 feet above the level of the sea. The whole ridge of the Ochils in the parish is covered with grass, mingled with a little heather, and forms excellent pasturage for sheep. The course of the Devon, for some distance above the Rumbling Bridge, presents a remarkable appearance; a passage being apparently cut for it through the solid rock. In some parts of the fissure, on the lower portion of the rock, there are manifest traces of the action of running water; but higher up, the rock is rough, bearing the appearance, in many places, of having been rent asunder. And as the level of the country at the Crook of Devon is such that, with a very little labour, the whole of the stream might be thrown into Lochleven, some who are fond of geological speculation have supposed, that the fissure had been opened by some convulsive movement of the earth, and after the water had found a passage through, it gradually deepened it by wintery torrents, until it reached the present level. In this fissure occurs the natural curiosity usually termed the "Devil's Mill." The water, in falling the height of some feet into a cauldron, is generally supposed to strike against a loose block of stone, which occasions it to emit a sound bearing some resemblance to that of a common grinding mill. And from the circumstance of the sound being constantly heard, on Sabbath, as well as other days, it has acquired its present name. The whole appearance of the fissure is very remarkable, the water forcing its way a little above the mill through a crevice of considerable length, and scarcely six feet in breadth.

*Meteorology.*—In the upper parts of the parish, from its elevation above the level of the sea, the climate is considerably colder than in the lower parts adjoining to Dollar; the difference of level being not much short of 400 feet. And as, in addition, the hills attract a great deal of moisture, the harvest in general is considerably later. The quantity of rain that falls at the Yetts must be very great, as the clouds may often be seen travelling along the face of the hill, and depositing their moisture, when, at the distance of half a mile from it, all is sunshine. And as these clouds in general draw to one point, Sea Mab, and thence proceed along the Ochils to Milnathort, or diverge to the Cleish Hills, on the opposite side of the vale, its neighbourhood gets a goodly share of almost every passing shower. Unfortunately there is no rain-gage to estimate the amount that falls, nor, as far as has been discovered, has any record been kept by any of the parishioners

of the variations of the thermometer or barometer, or other atmospheric phenomena.

*Hydrography.*—The only stream of consequence in the parish is the Devon, which has rather a remarkable course. Rising toward the west of the Ochils in the parish of Blackford, it flows at first in an eastern direction for nine or ten miles, then southerly for about five, when, after passing the Crook, it turns nearly due west, and after a further run of fourteen or fifteen miles, empties itself into the Forth above Alloa, about five or six miles from its source. Its depth varies very much, according to the season, and according to the inclination of its bed. In most places, it may be forded with safety, unless during a flood; but at the same time, it contains a number of very deep pools, which it has cut out in its impetuous course. It is rather rapid, so long as it skirts this parish; but after leaving it, and especially when it reaches the carse grounds, it becomes very sluggish, and presents little that is attractive in its appearance.

Being in many places confined in a narrow bed, and descending from a high to a low level, the Devon, while it bounds the parish, presents many falls, and much natural beauty. While passing the fissure above the Rumbling Bridge, to which allusion has already been made, the whole of its course for half a mile may be termed a succession of rapids. In some places, it may be seen bounding from rock to rock; storming at being confined within such narrow limits, and tumbling into some rounded basin to wind its way out to encounter some further turmoil. And at others, it may be seen through the overhanging wood, at a great depth below, indicating its existence by the whitened spray upon its surface. When viewed from the parapet of the Rumbling Bridge, the scenery beneath, on both sides, is such as is not often to be met with. Raised considerably more than 100 feet above the level of the stream, the passenger beholds it confined within two vast walls of solid rock, forcing its darksome way to the comparative calm and quietude of the scene below. After leaving the Rumbling Bridge, the Devon, in its course for nearly a mile, is rather smooth. But then it presents a very uncommon appearance. It suddenly precipitates itself, by a fall of 30 feet, into a cauldron from which, when the water is not flooded, there is apparently no outlet. The shape of the cauldron is circular, and the fall of water causes it to boil as if some vast furnace were highly heated beneath. From

this cauldron, by an unseen communication, it glides into a second ; from this second, in a similar manner, into a third ; and finally, into a fourth ; when at last, in one body, by a fall of 44 feet, it reaches the open space below it.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The rock that prevails in the upper part of the parish, is trap or whinstone. Near the banks of the Devon, at the Vicar's Bridge, there are some strata of ironstone, limestone, and sandstone or freestone ; and in the west end of the parish, there is a bed of coal. The ironstone is wrought on the Fosso-way side of the Devon, and is esteemed a very rich ore. On the Muckart side, however, it is not wrought, owing to the want of a proper level to carry away the water. The limestone in the parish is occasionally wrought by the proprietors for their own use, but not for sale ; there being abundance of limestone in the neighbourhood. The coal occurs in the shape of a basin, fully half a mile in length, by as much in breadth. There are a number of seams, but only one is wrought ; from which, some thousand tons are taken annually, and carried principally to the western part of Strathearn. In both the ironstone and limestone, a number of fossil remains occurs, principally shells. Some rather pretty specimens of rock crystal are occasionally found, in quarrying trap for road metal. In the upper part of the parish, a number of rolled blocks occurs, composed generally of trap, but occasionally of sandstone, of considerable magnitude,—although there is no sandstone rock in the neighbourhood, but what is at least 200 feet lower. The soil in the upper part of the parish is in general light and gravelly, conjoined occasionally with moss, and, if not resting upon rock, resting upon sand or gravel. Farther west, the soil becomes more retentive ; and on the banks of the Devon, in the immediate neighbourhood of Dollar, in the lower part of the parish, it approaches more nearly to sand.

*Zoology.*—No rare animals occur in the parish, and the only circumstance worth mentioning is the fact, that the same species as the Lochleven trout is in some solitary instances found in the Devon. Some have attempted to account for this, by the supposition, that some of the small tributaries of the Devon and other streams that flow into the loch, may, in very moist weather, be so connected in certain situations, that the small trout from the one may find their way into the other. Sometimes the trout in the Devon attain to a great size. One was caught lately, with the common fly, which measured 22 inches in length, and weighed about 7 pounds.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Accounts of the Parish.*—The only ancient document of which the writer is aware, that gives any information relative to the parish, is Martin's History of the See of St Andrews, written in 1683, and printed 1797; from which it appears that the greater part of the parish, styled in the Golden Charter of the See of St Andrews, Muckartshire, was given to the Archbishop by James III.; that the house of Castleton was built by Archbishop Lamberton in 1320; and that, in 1490, Archbishop William, striving to gain the Earl of Argyle to take part with him against the Archbishop of Glasgow, disposed and feued out to him the Lordship of Muckartshire, for a feu-duty of L. 101 Scots. In his possession the greater part of the parish remained for a considerable time. Part appears, from the date of the charters, to have been feued off in 1500, and part in 1564; and now, the whole has fallen into the hands of different proprietors. In 1644, every house in the parish, including the church, with the exception of one or two at the eastern extremity, was burned by the Marquis of Montrose, when he sacked and destroyed Castle Campbell, at that time belonging to the Earl of Argyle. In remembrance of his barbarous inroad, the pass in Glendovan, by which he entered the parish, still bears the name of the Mandrose Yetts, obviously Montrose Yetts.

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners in the parish who have more than L. 100 Scots valuation are, Mr Haig of Blairhill; Dr Paton of Middleton; Miss Bruce of Castleton; Mr Renny of Balilish; and Dr M'Turk of Middlehall. The remaining heritors amount in number to 15.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial register from 1698 to 1743, containing an account of sessional discipline, proclamations, and collections and distribution of the poor's fund, appears to have been remarkably well kept. From 1787 to the present day, there is also a full account of all sessional proceedings, but none from 1743 to 1787. There is a separate register of baptisms from 1698 to the present day, and another of proclamations from 1800. In addition to the above, there is a small volume of sessional proceedings from 1678 to 1695, very difficult to be deciphered.

*Antiquities.*—The only antiquity in the parish, worth mentioning is the remains of the old house at Castleton, built by Archbishop Lamberton, in 1320. It appears, from some foundation stones lately taken up, to have been a building of considerable size.

From the house down to a small stream flowing past it, there are the remains of a covered way, as if indicating, from the means employed to reach the water in safety, that in these troublous times it was occasionally converted into a place of defence. All that now remains is apparently a small part of a turret or corner of the building. Several stone coffins have, from time to time, been found in different parts of the parish; but there seems to have been nothing about them worthy of notice.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of the parish, according to Dr Webster's account	
in 1755, was	535
1792,	526
1801,	538
1811,	540
1821,	704
1831,	617
1833,	664

The last census was taken by the present incumbent, and included 324 males and 340 females.

From the above it will appear that there is a considerable decrease in the population between 1821 and 1831. This may be accounted for from the circumstance, that, at the first of these periods, very considerable improvements were going on at Blairhill and Balruddery, which required an additional number of labourers; and, moreover, a distillery in the parish was then in active operation, which has now been given up.

The number of the population residing in villages in the parish, in 1833, was	210
in the country,	454
Yearly average of births for the last 7 years,	20
of marriages,	7
Number of persons under 15 years of age,	256
from 15 to 30,	185
30 to 50,	141
50 to 70,	74
70 years and upwards,	9
Number of resident heritors who have more than L. 100 Scots valuation,	3
proprietors who have more than L. 50 Sterling per annum,	15
unmarried men above 50 years of age,	17
females above 45 years of age,	27
families,	135
Average number of children in each family	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Number of inhabited houses,	135
uninhabited houses,	4
houses building,	2
fatuous persons,	2
Number of males employed in agriculture, as farmers, cottars, and farm-servants,	104
in manufacture,	4
in retail trade,	19
in handicraft—masters 13, journeymen and apprentices, 11.	
Number of clergymen, 2; surgeons, 1; schoolmasters, 2	
males employed in mines,	3



set all calculation at defiance. The total rental of the parish, however, as nearly as can be ascertained, may be about L. 4250.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—Alloa, which is about ten miles distant from the centre of the parish, is properly the market and post-town, although there is a penny-post to Dollar, which is about seven miles nearer.

*Means of Communication.*—There may be about six miles of turnpike road in the parish,—one line stretching from Dollar to a bridge over the Devon, on the road to Milnathort; and another from the Rumbling Bridge to about a mile up Glendovan. One coach from Glasgow to Perth passes through the parish daily, and another from Edinburgh to Crieff three times a week. The number of bridges in the parish over the Devon is four, all in good repair. The first is on the road from the Yetts to Milnathort; the second at Fossoway Church;—the third is the Rumbling Bridge, on the new road from the south;—and the fourth the Vicar's Bridge, on the old county road from the south, about two miles east from Dollar. At the Rumbling Bridge, before the present arch was built, there was one beneath it, at about 86 feet above the stream, which still is allowed to remain, and adds much to the effect of the scenery when viewed from below. It was very narrow, and had no parapet, which must have made it very dangerous at any time, and particularly at night. The Vicar's Bridge is supposed to derive its name from an event that took place at the commencement of the Reformation. It was there where the Vicar of Dollar, who had embraced the Protestant faith, met with an untimely end from the hands of his persecutors.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church is situated to the north-east of the principal village called the Pool, very conveniently for the villagers, but not equally so for those residing in the west end of the parish. It appears to have been built since the Roman Catholic times, as the font stone is used to form part of the front wall. The following dates are cut on stone in different parts of the building—1620, 1699, 1715, 1789,—which, as far as can be ascertained, indicate that the church was rebuilt at the first of these periods; got a thorough repair at the second, when the first active Presbyterian clergyman was settled after the Revolution; was again repaired at the third; and was partly rebuilt and repaired at the last. At present, it is rather ruinous, and not sufficient for accommodating the population in connection with the Es-

tablished Church. The consequence is, that many of the young people remain at home, and others make it an excuse for irregular attendance. The number of communicants at present is more than that of the regular seats in the church.

The manse is newly built, at an estimate of L. 600, is very commodious, and does credit to the contractors. The glebe contains 10 acres 1 rood, and may be worth about L. 20 per annum. The stipend is L. 150, part of which is paid by the Exchequer. There is one meeting-house in the parish, connected with the United Associate Synod. The present incumbent, it is understood, in addition to a manse and a valuable glebe of 13 acres, has L. 100 per annum, paid partly from the seat rents, and partly by collections at the church doors. The number of families connected with the Establishment is 89, including 438 individuals. The parishioners connected with the Secession church amount to 226. Their meeting-house contains sittings for about 360, and of these there are about 285 let. Divine worship in the Established Church is generally well attended, and the number of communicants is about 200. The average yearly amount of collections at the church door is about L. 15.

*Education.*—There are two schools in the parish, the one parochial and the other unendowed. In both, the same branches in general are taught, viz. English reading and grammar, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, and Latin, conjoined occasionally with geography, algebra, and French. The salary of the parish schoolmaster is L. 25, 6s. 8d.; the amount of the fees may be L. 17; interest on some mortgaged money, L. 9. These may give as a total income L. 51, 6s. 8d.; along with a house and garden. The school fees are 10d. a month for English reading, with 2d. additional for any of the other branches, such as writing, arithmetic, or Latin. The fees in the unendowed school are understood to be a trifle higher. With the exception of two fatuous persons, all in the parish arrived at years of discretion, as far as can be ascertained, have been taught to read, and almost invariably they have at least got some lessons in writing, although many may have altogether neglected it in after life.

*Literature.*—There is a library in the parish, for the united parishes of Glendovan, Muckart, and Fossaway, containing a good selection of books.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons on the regular poor's roll is six, receiving each at the rate of



L. 4, 0s. 7d. yearly, along with a cart of coals. The poor's funds, arising from collections at the church doors, which may amount to L. 15, 5s. 1d.; the use of the mortcloth, L. 1; interest on L. 240 mortgaged money, L. 8, 2s.; and a voluntary assessment by the heritors, L. 12, 16s. 4d.; amount altogether to the sum of L. 37, 9s. 5d., which is expended in regular monthly allowance to the poor on the roll, in temporary supplies to others in needy circumstances, and in paying the salaries of session-clerk, beadle, &c.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the drawing up of the last Report, a total change seems to have taken place upon the face of the parish. Then, it was difficult of access; but now, by the opening of the new road from Stirling to Milnathort about the year 1810, and that from Dunfermline to Crieff in 1816, it has become a thoroughfare. Upwards of 10,000 tons of coal pass through it annually, and from 4000 to 5000 carts of lime,—besides carriers' carts, and crowds of visitors to the falls, in all kinds of conveyances, in the summer and autumn months. Then, a considerable part of the higher district of the parish was covered with heather or peat-moss, making the ague not an uncommon complaint; now, in the same district, unless in some plantations, the heather is no longer visible, and the moss is converted into a rich pasture meadow, and, instead of being, as it was then, bare and exposed to every wind that blows, this district is already clad with numerous beltings and clumps of trees, and in a few years will be as sheltered and ornamented as any parish in the neighbourhood.

The circumstance, that the rental of the parish is now nearly four times the amount of what it was about the year 1792, although there is no great difference in the price of agricultural produce, may show how busy the hand of man has been in the work of improvement.

*September 1835.*

The materials for the above report were collected in 1833; and the various statements made are to be understood as having a reference to that date.

## PARISH OF MUTHILL.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH & STIRLING.

THE REV. JAMES WALKER, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE author of the last Account of this parish says, that, “as the names of almost all places around are Gaelic, and generally descriptive of their local situation, this parish probably takes its name from an Erse word of somewhat a similar sound, which signifies the *north side of the Hill.*” We prefer to derive the name from the Gaelic word, *Mòdail*, compounded of *Mod*, signifying a court of justice, and *Dail*, a field, bounded by river and hill; and accordingly, that part of the parish lying near to the village presents something of a delightful field or valley, limited by river and hill. The name was formerly spelled *Mothil*, as appears from a brief history of the Culdees, selected by Keith, wherein it is said, that one Michael was parson of *Mothil*, and Macbeath was his chaplain. In the history of Scotland, *Mote-hill* and *Moothill* are often mentioned. On the eminences so named the Druids sate, and delivered their decrees and their addresses to the people. It is said by Skene, de Verb. Signific. “Quhen Malcolm the Second gave all the lands to the barrones of the realm, he retained to himself *Montem placiti de Scona*, the ‘mute hill of Scone,’ where he might hold his courts, and do justice to his subjects, in deciding their pleas and controversies.” Chalmers, in his *Caledonia*, observes, there was a *Moothill* in every district of North Britain, during an age when justice was administered to a coarse people in the open air. In this parish accordingly, there is still a place in the village, called “the Ward,” where the chief of the strath distributed justice to his vassals. From this, *Muthill* would appear to have been held in some esteem, and it is certain that, previous to the Reformation, it was the residence of the Dean of Dunblane, and afterwards the seat of the presbytery, which now meets in *Auchterarder*.

*Boundaries and Topographical Appearances.*—*Muthill* is one of the most extensive parishes in *Strathearn*. Upon a general calcu-

lation, it may be said to contain about 80 square miles. Its figure is very irregular, extending downwards into the vales of the Allan and the Earn. It is bounded on the north-west by Comrie and Monivaird; on the north by Crieff; on the north-east by Madderty; on the east by Trinity-Gask; on the south-east by Blackford; and on the south-west by Dunblane. The village is three miles from Crieff, nineteen from Stirling, and about the same distance from Perth.

As to the general appearance of this parish, it is sufficiently diversified, and will be judged so by the traveller in passing through it; but if viewed at a distance from the east, all inequalities are lost sight of, except that of Torlum Hill, and the aspect which it then assumes is that of two inclined planes, ascending gradually from the north and south extremes to a transverse ridge of considerable elevation. The transverse ridge, however, is found to be double as we come near it, and between the ridges flows the river Machony. The one ridge or part next to Muthill village, extends in a circuitous direction onwards to the foot of Torlum, and is in a state of cultivation; the other, bleak and barren, known by the name of Corryaur, extends from the Muir of Orchill westerly, until it terminates abruptly amongst other hills wild as itself.

The south ridge may be considered the natural division of the parish, and has led us to speak of the Muthill side and the Ardoch side. Each of these sides has its attractions and its beauties; the one has its Allan and its Knock rivers; the other its Earn and Machony; each has its kirk and village, its woods and cultivated lands; but yet we are inclined to think that the observing traveller must give a preference to the Muthill side. And that he may do so, we would place him on the eminence of the northern ridge, on his way from Ardoch by the military road. In this position he sees the parish church, a stately Gothic building, with its adjacent cleanly village, looking through the rows of shrubs and trees,—roads in several directions, half-shaded over with limes and chestnuts,—large fields in the highest state of cultivation, and the winding Earn moving slowly through them. But this is not all. On his left is Drummond Castle, full in view, whose shattered walls remind him of other days; and behind it is Torlum hill, 1400 feet above the level of the sea, unsurpassed for beauty, in its conical shape and its evergreen trees; and then before him is lofty Benchoan, and Turret Glen, and the Knock with Crieff on its sloping side; and on his right, the far extending prospect to the hills of Sidla.

*Climate.*—From what we have already noticed of this parish, there may be expected in different parts of it a difference of climate. Accordingly, in comparing the south side with the north, it is found that snow lies two days longer on the former than on the latter; and in accounting for this we would advert to the peculiarity of the straths, whereof the districts alluded to form a part;—Strathearn, lying deep and flat, is defended by its mountain sides from the violence of the storm, and the reflection of the sun's rays from the hills produce a great degree of warmth in it,—while through the opening of Strathallan, currents of wind, that issue from the glens, sweep along the vale, and render it less warm and fertile. The greater spaciousness of Strathern removes it also the farther from the chilness of the mountain air, or of haze attracted by the mountains; for it is not unfrequently seen, that, whilst on the banks of the Earn the sun is shining, showers of rain or showers of snow are falling upon the hills. The soil also of Muthill may be taken into consideration as of a drier nature than that of the other, because upon an opener bed, less retentive of the rain, and so of the cold,—for doubtless there is a relationship between the soil and the atmosphere. Storms, however, frequently visit both. Our colder winds come from the east and north-east, and the more violent from the south-west.

The parish is, on the whole, healthy. Of the healthy aged we have many examples.

*Hydrography.*—In former days, there were in this parish several springs or wells much esteemed for their virtues, real or imagined. One of these is at Straid, in the district of Blair-in-roan, much frequented once, as effectual in curing the hooping-cough.\*

In the same district, is St Patrick's Well, so named from a chapel once there, probably dedicated to that saint. Part of the foundations of the chapel is still to be seen, and close by these are a few houses lately built, which bear the name of the saint. We know not what connection St Patrick had with this sequestered spot; but it is certain, that the inhabitants, until very lately, held his memory in so high veneration, that on his day neither the clap of the mill was heard, nor the plough seen to move in the furrow.

\* Not farther back than a few weeks ago, a family came from Edinburgh, a distance nearly of sixty miles, to have the benefit of this well. As a piece of useful information, we may add, that the water must be drunk before the sun rises, or immediately after it sets; and that out of a "quick cow's horn," or a horn taken from a live cow, which indispensable horn is in the keeping of an old woman who lives near by the well!!

A third well upon the side of the Machony was of still greater importance. It was called the well of Struthill, and by the credulous was much sought after, as its virtues were considered effectual in curing madness. Doubtless, its celebrity was altogether owing to the artifices of the avaricious religionists, who, it would appear, practised on the superstition of frequent visitors, to call forth their liberality in the shape of offerings cast into the well. That this account is more than mere conjecture, appears from the fact, that the Popish chapel which stood near the well was ordered by the presbytery of Auchterarder, anno 1650, to be demolished, on account of the superstitions which were practised within it. But even this was not effectual to do away the celebrity of the well, or rather, we may say, was not effectual to lessen the avarice of those who kept it; for in 1668 several persons testified before the presbytery of Stirling, that, having carried a woman thither, "they had stayed two nights at a house hard by the well; that the first night they did bind her twice to a stone at the well, but she came into the house to them, being loosed without any help: The second night they bound her over again to the same stone; and she returned loose. And they declare also that she was very mad before that they took her to the well, but since that time, she is working, and sober in her wits." This well was still celebrated, and votive offerings were cast into it, in the year 1723; but such delusions have now happily passed away.\*

Formerly, the only lake in the parish was the loch of Balloch, a natural collection of water at the foot of Torlum, not remarkable for beauty or expansion. But now we have several artificial lakes, one of which is worthy of notice. It is commonly styled the Pond of Drummond. This is an interesting sheet of water, and cannot but be admired by the visitor. On its north side, is a rocky eminence, about seventy feet above its level; around it are well wooded banks; and on it, swans, geese, and ducks are at all times seen. Its length is nearly a mile, and its breadth about half the same. Where the loch is now, there was once a cultivated valley, which was portioned out by the King's Commissioners on the forfeited estates, as a reward to some of the bravest men who hazarded their lives in the Rebellion of 1745; and after all of them had died out, or were removed, Lady Perth desired it to be formed into its present state.

\* See *Darker Superstitions of Scotland*, p. 82.

There are four rivers in the parish. The principal of these is the Earn, which flows out of the loch of that name, and, running through Comrie and Monivaird, forms a line of separation between Crieff and Muthill on the north-east. Leaving Crieff, it passes between this parish, and its *quoad sacra* part, named Innerpeffary; and, keeping its devious course, for at least thirty-five miles through the vale to which it gives the name, falls then into the Tay. This river, although generally beautiful in its slowly flowing waters, yet at times, is truly terrific, when swollen by the mountain torrents. It is to be regretted that no bridge is over this river, at Innerpeffary, for oftentimes, by reason of its flooding, the people of that quarter cannot attend church. But we do not despair of this evil being remedied, as, on each side of the river, the honourable proprietors of the land are both rich and liberal. Innerpeffary may here be noticed as a place of some interest. It has a large room with a library for the use of students in the neighbourhood, founded by David Lord Madderty; and beside it, there is an old church, now the burying-place of the Perth and Strathallan families, and also close by the river is the old castle of Lord Madderty,—all of which remind us of other days.—The Machony is another river which takes its rise from the confluence of rills as they descend from the heights of Blair-in-roan, and flowing along, is considerably increased before discharging itself into the Earn, near the bridge of Kinkell. Though not remarkable in itself, it is somewhat so, in its name, for as it signifies in the Gaelic a fight or battle, so we are led by it to think of Blair-in-roan, which also signifies the spotted battle field, as the place where the Romans and Caledonians fought. On the other side of the parish are the Knaik and the Allan, the only other two rivers in it. The former, rising in Glenlich-horn, and passing by the steep banks which form the west boundary of Ardoch Camps, joins the latter, to form the south limit of the parish, and after that moves slowly on, and meets the Forth near to Stirling by the way of Dunblane. All these rivers are excellent for small trout, the Earn especially, for pike, sea-trouts or whittings, and large salmon.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—Like other parts of the country, this has its variety of stone,—as grayish sandstone at Ardoch, reddish sandstone at Lucas, grayish sandstone at lower Concraig, and at upper Concraig black trap, or as some style it, black whin rock. The three first are used for building, the other is excellent for making roads.

The sandstone or freestone appears in strata dipping northwards at an angle of  $70^{\circ}$ , with till sand interposed between the strata. •

The trap rock, however, is the one which will be most interesting to the geologist, and that not so much in its nature as in its history. At short intervals, it rises in ridges, and is again broken down, and thus forming a range, stretches not only across the parish, but across the island, from sea to sea. Below the loch of Drummond, as also on the side of the loch, it rises about 50 feet, and in the former place is perpendicular in its front, and as smooth as if cut with a chisel or hammer. From these two great rocks, the places in the neighbourhood may have received the name of Con-craig.

Several species of fossil remains have, at different periods, been found in our peat mosses and marl-pits, such as the heads of oxen of uncommon size, and horns of the elk and forest deer; so that we have proof that certain species of animals, which once frequented this part of the country, are now there extinct.

*Soil.*—Along the sides of the Earn and the Allan, the haughs are for the most part a light loam, on beds of sand and gravel, which, with an admixture of lime and marl, produce very luxuriant crops. Between the middle or separation ridge of the parish, and the haugh ground, the soil may be considered to consist of three kinds; one light, with a free bottom, which does not retain water; this is next to the haugh ground, and is excellent for producing grass; the next kind is a strong sandy soil, with a mixture of gravel, but with so much of a till bottom, and so cohesive in its nature, as not to admit the water to pass through it; and the other is so poor and moorish, as only to send up heath and whins. However, almost to the hill top, from the banks of the rivers, the ground is found to be made productive by cleaning, by draining, and by manuring; and so every year, we see a little field made out, farther up the hill. The low grounds especially are very productive when limed, and drained, and manured. Lime to warm and quicken the soil is much required; but that advantage, as yet, is almost denied us, for we have no lime nearer than Loch Earn or Stirling, a distance of about twenty miles.

*Zoology.*—Few places abound more in game than this. Our heath-clad hills and rising grounds are everywhere filled with them. Yet they are not so abundant as they were once, by reason of improvements and cultivation. Goats have entirely disappeared from this quarter, also the forest deer; but there is a sufficiency of

grouse, black-cock, woodcock, partridges, pheasants, plovers, wild ducks, wild geese, snipes, hares, &c. The principal sorts of vermin are foxes, polecats, and badgers.

The following account may give an idea of the quantity of game in this quarter. Killed on the Perth estate, anno 1835, hares, 1521; grouse, 842; rabbits, 6268, &c. The large park of Drummond Castle is still well-stocked with fallow deer, which adds much to the beauty of its pleasure grounds. The stag has now been driven up to Glenartney for his abode.

*Botany and Plantations.*—Although we had nothing more under this head to mention, than the garden of Drummond Castle, yet that should be enough to induce the botanist to visit our strath. It may be said to be in its style partly Dutch and partly French. The castle stands upon an elevated rock, and on its south side is the far-famed flower garden,—famed for the manner in which it is laid out, for its locality, and its size. Scarcely a breath of wind can injure the most delicate flower in it; for on all sides it is protected from the blast; and every thing about it, as its lofty trees, its descending stairs, its little ponds, and its lovely walks, with varied flowers on every hand, render it truly enchanting. We attempt not to number the different kinds of heath, of roses, &c. which are to be found in it; but we notice one kind of plant, in its hot-house, which lately attracted much attention. It was the rare plant *Aloe Americana*. In 1832, June the 30th, it began to flower. Its temperature was the common heat of the hot-house, and it was nourished by frequent waterings. Its height was 23 feet, circumference 11 inches at the bottom, and 1 inch at the top; branches 29, and flowers on each branch 89, in all 2581 flowers. The flowering continued during the month of July, and when all fully blown, the plant died.

What made this plant a matter of curiosity, was, the common belief, that it only flowers once in the hundred years, and then dies; and on that account it was visited by most of the florists in Scotland.

Some rare plants are also found in the parish, such as the *Pyrola rotundifolia*, *Stellaria holostea*, *Polygala vulgaris*, *Eupatorium cannabinum*, *Anemone nemorosa*, *Scabiosa arvensis*, *Blechnum boreale*, &c. The plantations are to a considerable extent, and consist of fir, in its various kinds, larch, oak, birch, sweet chestnuts, and limes. The largest plantation in the parish is that around Torlum Hill, which is said to contain about 600 acres of Scotch



fir. But besides it, there are others on the Drummond estate, as also on the estates of Ardoch, Braco, Orchill, and Culdees, of pretty large size. In fact, the plantations of Strathearn are amongst its beauties, and contribute much to fertilize it.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Accounts of the Parish.*—The historical accounts of this parish are mostly of a traditionary nature; and many of them not much to be depended upon.\* All that is written concerning this parish is to be found in the books of the Presbytery of Auchterarder, and in the parochial registers of the kirk-session, and heritors' book. In the kirk-session records, are contained lists of marriages, of births, and baptisms; an account of the distribution of the funds; and of the meetings and doings of the kirk-session. The earliest date of these records is February 2, 1676; and from that time to 1692, incidents are noticed with great regularity. Afterwards, the register is lost, until 1704, when Hally, the first Presbyterian minister, took charge of them, and kept them very carefully, until 1754. After Hally's time, they become irregular and confused, with the exception of the last few years. It is to be hoped, however, that this part of our parochial economy will be more attended to throughout the bounds of the presbytery than in times past, as it has lately fallen under the particular inspection of that reverend court.

*Eminent Persons.*—As an individual eminent in the church, we cannot pass by the Reverend William Hally, minister of this parish, so well known in the religious world, especially in connection with the revival at Cambuslang, &c.

It is well known that the year 1688 was the glorious time of freedom to the Church of Scotland, from the power and persecution of Popery and Prelacy; but it is also well known that in many parishes these churches held their sway for years, after that blessed revolution. Muthill was one of these. By law, the Episco-

\* Passing along the military road to Ardoch, and near the Mill of Steps, there are still to be seen the foundations of a blacksmith's house, who lived seventy years ago, and who had a beautiful daughter. This young woman could not endure the frowns of her stepmother, and with others embarked for America. On her way thither the ship was captured and carried into Morocco. And the tradition bears that the blacksmith's daughter became the Empress of Morocco! An old farmer, who died about eighteen months ago, told this tale to the writer, and said that he remembered her well, and that she often wrote to her friends at the Mill of Steps. It is farther related that she left two sons, who, about forty years ago, are said to have applied to the government of this country for aid to place them upon the throne of their deceased father, against an usurping kinsman, on the plea that they were of British descent. But the two young men are said to have been entrapped and cut off by some ambitious relative.

paliars were ejected ; and, from the history of that trying time, we find that the presbytery, *jure devoluta*, sought out for an able minister to this parish, but, that it was not until the year 1704 that Hally was ordained by them. In this, the presbytery was fortunate in their choice, for no one could have filled the situation better than he. With a heart devoted to the work given him to do by his Lord and Master, he began, and continued, to labour amongst the people for about half a century ; and although many years have passed since his demise, Hally yet lives in the recollections of the people, for his unblemished character and Christian boldness on the side of truth. At his settlement he had the greatest opposition to contend with. The Episcopalians, although ejected by law, still held out against his ordination, and their minister was resolved to possess the pulpit. "The opposition," says the presbytery record, "proceeded to the extent of a riot. Several individuals of the parish kept the doors of the kirk and kirk-yard, armed with swords and staves, which they made use of, in beating and wounding several that had come there to hear the word."

But the presbytery persevered in their duty, and went on with the ordination of Hally, in the church-yard ; and in that place he preached for many Sabbaths, oftentimes pelted with stones, by his wicked opponents. At last, through the kind interference of the Duke of Athol, and the firmness shown by the presbytery, and especially by Hally himself, the contest was given up, and the keys of the church were surrendered to him. This took place in March 20, 1705. And then Hally entered that pulpit, which he filled in an eminent degree for forty-nine years and eleven months. \*

Hally was succeeded by the two Mr Scotts, father and son,—the former minister twelve years,—the latter forty-two ; these again were succeeded by Mr Russell. They were all faithful servants of God,—and, as a proof of this, there has been no Secession church established here ; and we can say of the parish, at the present time, that there is not perhaps another, in Scotland, where the people are more attached to the Established Church.

*The Drummond Family.*—Few families in Scotland can trace a longer line of descent, or boast of nobler alliance, than the house of Drummond. † Its founder was Maurice, a Hungarian noble-

\* *Vide* Robe's Narrative of the Revival of Cambuslang.

† *Vide* Genealogy of the House of Drummond, by the Honourable William Drummond, afterwards first Viscount of Strathallan, 1681,—one who was as illustrious by his deeds as by his writings. In his publication, are several curious and interesting documents, which merit the attention of the antiquarian.

man, who was one of the attendants of Edgar Atheling, Prince of England, and his sisters, Margaret and Christian, when, in 1068, they took refuge in Scotland, to avoid the insidious designs of William the Conqueror; and who, upon Margaret's elevation to the Scottish throne, was, for his eminent services to the royal fugitives, rewarded with a grant of lands, and distinguished by the name of Drummond.\* After a continued succession in the male line from Maurice the founder, through twenty-five generations, the estate of Perth and representation of the house of Drummond devolved upon the Honourable Clementina Sarah Drummond, the only survivor of her father, James Lord Perth.

In 1807, this lady was married to the Honourable Peter Robert Burrell, eldest son of Lord Gwydir, who succeeded his father as Baron Gwydir, 1820, and his mother as Baron Willoughby de Eresby, 1828; and thus the estate of Perth, and the representation of the house of Drummond, belong now to the Right Honourable Lord and Lady Willoughby de Eresby, who, with their family, are not more distinguished by their rank, than by their kindness and liberality to all around them. Their residence is Drummond Castle, when in this country, which merits some attention. It stands at the foot of Torlum, in the western part of the vale of Strathearn, and has a site of considerable elevation, rising gradually from the public road. It was built in 1490, by John first Lord Drummond, one every way distinguished both for his virtues and his illustrious deeds. Some writings of his, which reflect honour upon him, may be found in the genealogical account already referred to.

The building now exhibits all the appearance of having suffered from the hand of time and from violence. Tradition says, that it was besieged, taken, and garrisoned by Cromwell's army; and that, at the Revolution of 1689, it was demolished, with the exception of some fragments, which are still standing. The south wing was fitted up for a library by the late Lord Perth, but is now an armoury. Respect is paid by the present family to the abode of their ancestors, for some repairs were made last summer upon the old walls, to preserve their ruins from further destruction.

\* An interpretation is given of this word by an ancestor of the family as follows: Drum signifies a *height—onde, a wave*; hence the name Drummond was given to Maurice, to express how gallantly he conducted through the swelling waves the ship in which the royal fugitives had embarked for Hungary, when they were forced, by stress of weather, upon the Scottish coast, where they were received by Malcolm with royal munificence.

The modern castle is a little east from the old, on the same rock, and forms two sides of a square, and although not, at all, such a mansion as the family would have, were they residing constantly in this place, it is, however, comfortable as a summer residence during their visit, and is often the abode of the first nobility of the land.

In the castle, there are a few paintings which interest the connoisseur. Amongst these, we may notice the following : Charles I. with his Queen and children, Duchess of Ancaster, Lady Ann Gordon, Lady Ann Drummond, Lady Sarah Bruce, Cardinal Howard, Lord and Lady Perth, James V., James VI., two of Queen Mary, one in her sorrowful, the other in her happier days, a full-length of Peregrine Beatie, Lord Willoughby de Eresby, 1555, George second Marquis of Huntly, the Duke of Perth, James fourth Earl of Perth, Lord High Chancellor of Scotland, 1684, the Chancellor's son, &c.

*Other Families.*—Other families of high respectability connected with this parish, are those of the house of Ardoch, of Orchill, and Braco ; and Lord Viscount Strathallan, who lives at Strathallan Castle, Blackford parish, has also a part of his property in this parish.

*Eminent Men.*—Few individuals connected with this parish have risen to any great distinction, in science or literature, if we except Dr Barclay, so famed for his skill in anatomy, and his writings thereon. His uncle, the Rev. John Barclay, founder of the sect styled the Bereans, may be noticed as born in this parish.

*Rental.*—The valued rent of the parish in 1835 was L. 7784, 9s. 4d. Scotch. Real rent in 1831, L. 14,937 Sterling.

*Camps at Ardoch.*—All antiquaries who have written on the subject of Roman camps in Scotland, have alluded to those at Ardoch. These camps deserve this distinction, as the most entire in this country, nay, perhaps in Britain ; but we believe they would not have been half so much noticed, were it not for the mystery about them, as to whether they were the *Castra Stativa* of Agricola, when on this side of Bodotria, skirmishing with the Caledonian leader Galgacus, or the abode of some other Roman or foreign foe.

It is not our intention, in noticing these camps, to dispute with the many great authorities, from Richard Cirencester, Hector Boetius, &c., down to a Lieutenant-Colonel Miller, who have published on this subject ; but we shall adhere to the life of Agricola, written by his son-in-law, as the only common source to

which any historian can go for information, regarding the monuments, and transactions of that great commander, who came to subject the hardy tribes of Caledonia to the Roman sway. And certainly from that *Life*, we are as much entitled to fix upon Ardoch, and its neighbourhood, as the scenes where Agricola abode and repulsed Galgacus, previous to the decisive battle apud Montem Grampium, as others are, to fix upon the neighbourhood of Loch Orr, in Fife, Blairgowrie, or Battle Dykes, north of Forfar, or Keithic, near Brechin. We consider the camps at Ardoch and the other places of that nature, connected with them, to have been the abodes of the Romans, in the year 82, when they came to invade the inhospitable regions of the north.

The whole space which was occupied by the Romans in their encampment, at Ardoch, consists of four departments, viz. the station, the procestrium, the great camp, and the less. The station is a permanent camp, situated upon an eminence close by the public road from Stirling to Crieff. The position was happily chosen for defence; on all sides the camp was protected; on the west, by a defence from the banks of the Knaik, rising fifty feet above the surface of the water, and having two fossæ between it and the banks; on the south, by a deep morass that rose a considerable way eastward, with its two fossæ also; and on the east and north, by deep intrenchments of five ditches, and six ramparts parallel to the station; all of which were very sufficient to guard those within, and to keep off besiegers.

The area of the station within the intrenchments may still be seen, and is of an oblong form, 420 feet by 375, with its four sides nearly facing the cardinal points of the compass. The place of the Prætorium or general's quarter is a regular square of 60 feet in the side, in the rear or part farthest distant from the enemy; but it is marked off rather irregularly,—for on inspection, it is not found to be exactly in the middle between the gates, nor parallel with those of the station. It is, however, elevated above the general level of the ground, and appears to have been inclosed by a stone wall. Within this, also, there are the foundations of a building 30 feet by 27, which gives some probability to the conjecture, that there was a place of worship once there, which is still called the Chapel hill.\*

\* From one of the sides of the Prætorium it is said that there was a hole, which went downwards in a sloping direction for many fathoms, in which it was generally believed treasures as well as Roman antiquities might be found. In order to ascertain this, a man, who had been condemned by the baron court of a neighbouring

Of the four gates which belonged to the Roman station, three only can now be distinguished, the fourth being scarcely traceable. Fronting the Prætorium is the Prætorian Gate, crossing the north lines in an oblique direction. Opposite to that gate, and behind the Prætorium where the Decuman gate should be, is a road leading out of the camp, which may have been the Decuman; and onwards to the right and left of the Prætorium, are to be seen the two, which were called principal gates, as being at the ends of the principal street which crossed the camp in front of the Prætorium. Upon the Polybean system of castrametation, this fort would accommodate 1200 men.

Immediately adjacent to the north side of the station, is the Procestrium or pro castrum (for a camp,) or an addition to the other, as probably used by Agricola for containing his men and baggage, when he thought of dividing his army into three parts, in order to watch the movements of Galgacus, and fight him from the neighbouring hills. This procestrium seems to have been strongly fortified, and a subsequent work to the other, for part of the area of the great camp was included in it; but its intrenchments are levelled by the plough, while the corner of the former is yet visible. Its south gate is also to be seen, as connecting it with the station, and this again with the fragments of another gate on the north side. It was of an oblong shape, consisting of 1060 feet by 900, and is capable of accommodating 4000 men.

North-west of the procestrium is the great camp,—so styled

Lord, upon obtaining a pardon, agreed to be let down by a rope. He, at first, brought up from a great depth, Roman spears, helmets, fragments of bridles, &c. ; but on being let down a second time was killed by foul air. A gentleman, who lived at the House of Ardoch, anno 1720, ordered the mouth of the hole to be covered with a mill stone, to prevent hares running into it when pursued by his dogs: but as there was earth to a considerable depth laid over the mill-stone, it cannot now be found, although diligent search has been made for it. Should it ever be discovered, it will probably lead to a tank which was formed by the Romans, in order to receive water filtered from the river Knaik. Sir William Stirling, a former proprietor, inclosed the whole camp with a stone wall, so as to protect the interesting remains from injury. by the ploughshare, or in any other way by the hand of man; and we have little doubt that his successors will be equally careful, in all respects, of these Roman vestigia.

Many stone coffins have been found at different times, in digging about the camps or near them; and the skeletons contained in them have been of an uncommon size. About a mile west from the camps, a stone coffin was found, containing a skeleton seven feet long. A mile and a half distant in the muir of Orchill, another was found of the same length, in Cairn Woehil. These have generally been in cairns or heaps of stones, which may be accounted for, from a practice in former days of throwing a stone upon the respected dead, or upon any place remarkable, in passing by. So among the Highlanders there is still a saying, that if one shall do a favour to another, a "stone shall be added to his cairn;"—that is, his grave shall be remembered and respected.

from its size. Its mean length is 2800 feet, and its mean breadth 1950; it would, therefore, according to the Polybean system, hold about 26,000 men, and this was what induced General Roy to believe that it was in this camp that Agricola held his great army, previous to his dividing it into three bodies, in order to meet and conquer the Caledonians.

The form of this camp is oblong, but not so regular as that of a parallelogram,—a fact which seems to prove that the Romans did not stick close to mathematical nicety, where the nature of the ground did not well permit. The public road to the north, via Crieff, known of old, as the military road, enters by its south gate, and so has cut down one-half of the epaulment which covered it; but the other half still remains rather entire. The north gate is a little east of the road, covered by a straight traverse, and another gate on the west is in the same way protected. On the east side, towards the north, there is a gate that has been defended, not only by a square redoubt, within the lines, but also by a clavicle,—from which circumstance, it may be supposed that a weak legion was there quartered.

On the west side of this great camp is a smaller one of an oblong shape. Its size is 1910 by 1340 feet, and it would afford accommodation for 12,000 men. To the antiquary, this one is very interesting, especially in tracing the itinera of Agricola. It is evidently higher in position than the other camps—one-half of it lies within the other camp, which is adjacent to it—and the fact of its being left so very entire, would incline us to fix upon it, as the abode of the third part of the Roman army that remained with their leader, whilst the others were encamped at Strageath, and Dealgin Ross; for the entireness of the camp proves that it was the last occupied, and that Agricola left it in great haste with his third division, to aid the 9th legion, who were then almost subdued, in the camp of Dealgin Ross, on the plains of Comrie.

As to the fact of these being the camps of Agricola, we shall only refer to Tacitus. We take up the history of Agricola while at the isthmus between the estuaries of the Forth and the Clyde, and trace his steps onwards to the Grampians; and, from the plain reading of the Latin text, throughout the fourth year, it appears he was employed there in erecting forts to secure the conquests which he had made on the other side. This was the case, unless we adopt the very improbable notion that the two rivers named Glōta and Bodotria

were on the borders, or were the boundaries between Scotland and England, and that the Taus is the Solway, &c.—which view would overturn all our conceptions of the Roman movements; and would be making the Taus of Tacitus not that beautiful river which separates Fife from Angus and Perthshire; the Glota not the Clyde; and the Mons Grampius not that grand mountain range so well known to every Scotsman, but some little hill in the south.

But the rivers Forth and Clyde answer too well to Tacitus' description of Clota and Bodotria. "*Nam Clota et Bodotria, diversi maris æstibus per immensum revectæ, angusto terrarum spatio diremuntur. Quod tum præsiidiis firmabatur; atque omnis propior sinus tenebatur, summotis velut in aliam insulam hostibus.*" This description cannot be applied to any other rivers between Anglesey and the Grampian Hills, but to the Forth and Clyde.

This boundary, says Tacitus, would have been sufficient to limit the Roman conquests in Britain, had it been consistent with the bravery of their army or the glory of their name. But as it was not, then we read of their crossing the Frith of Clyde, some say at Dumbarton, the following year. With the new nations spoken of as lying to the west, or opposite the coast of Ireland, he had many successful encounters; and having subdued them, he placed forts with a view to future operations, and afterwards probably returned to the isthmus from which he went, there to winter and make ready for his Caledonian invasion in the spring.

But, before leaving this part of the history, we would advert to a difficulty as to the third year's undertakings.—"*Vastatis usque ad Taum (æstuario nomen est) nationibus.*" Agricola is said to have continued his devastations through the several nations to the mouth of the Tay. This being the case, it is evident he must have returned to the isthmus, where he erected his forts, for his undertaking in the fourth and fifth years were of course posterior to that in the third; and in this view, we require not to correct the historian's words, as some have done, by saying, that by the Tay he meant the Solway Frith, or the Tweed, or the Tyne. In the fifth year, it is said that Agricola placed forces towards the west, on this side of the Clyde, which shewed that he was meditating an invasion against the Caledonians. That invasion he undertook in the summer of the following year; but as to his route from the isthmus towards the camp in which the 9th legion was attacked in the night, and afterwards to the Grampian Hills,



where the decisive battle took place, we are left entirely to conjecture.

Next he encamps at Ardoch, eight miles and a-half from the former station, which agrees with the calculations of Ptolemy and Richard; and, granting all this, the remaining part of Agricola's history, so far as the parish of Muthill is concerned, becomes plain. We have only, in accordance with others, to state, that Agricola being apprized that his enemy surpassed him in numbers, and in the knowledge of the country, and that they meant to attack him in divers bands, divided his army into three parts, and marched, to prevent their surrounding him. One part encamped at Dealgin Ross, the other at Strageath, and the other remained with Agricola, in the small oblong camp at Ardoch.

On this hypothesis, it was the 9th legion which was assailed by the Caledonians, during night, and had their guards slain in the trenches of Dealgin Ross; and this may have been owing to the information which the Caledonians might receive of the 9th legion, as being the weakest "ut maxime invalidam." During the time that they were engaged in the camp, Agricola heard from his spies, in what direction the great body of the Caledonian army lay, and as it seems to have been between him and the camp, so he hastened forward, and commanded the lightest of his foot and cavalry to charge them, whilst yet engaged in the rear, and the whole army presently after to give a mighty shout. This attack of Agricola and his men upon the rear-guard of the Caledonians must have been in a small glen, in the west end of this parish, two miles south of Dealgin Ross; and so the design of the shout would be, that the Romans in the camps of Dealgin Ross might hear and know that those in the small camp of Ardoch had come to their assistance. This may be inferred from the Roman soldiers regaining courage, and beating off their enemy to such a degree, that, had not the woods and marshes served for shelter to the fugitives, the war had been concluded by this victory.

We therefore fix upon Blair-in-roan as the place of the decisive battle between Galgacus and Agricola at this time. Of this we have presumptive evidence,—the name itself, as signifying the spotted battle-field,—a small stream which runs through the glen, and is one of the sources of the Machony, named Tai-na-blair, signifying the stream of the battle-field,—besides, the several upright stones in that quarter, still called by the country people the Roman stones,—and in addition to all this, the discovery a few years

ago, of a very large urn filled with the ashes of the dead, and near by it, several stone coffins, covered over with a heap of stones or a cairn.

The other camp or station of the Romans was at Strageath, upon the banks of the Earn, near to Innerpeffary. Its original work appears to have been of small dimensions, and the intended additions to it, seem never to have been fully executed. All its entrenchments are now levelled by the plough.

### III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population amounted to	2902,
1770, . . . . .	2640, decrease 262
1792, . . . . .	2948, increase 308
1821, . . . . .	2925, decrease 23
1831, . . . . .	3297, increase 372
1836, . . . . .	3421, increase 124

Thus in eighty-one years the population has increased 519, which has been chiefly owing to the improvement of land; for in proportion as more of it is brought under crop, more hands are required. The increase has been both in the villages and in the country.

In Muthill village there are	1210
In Braco village, Ardoch,	384
In the country,	1827
Number of families in the parish,	695
chiefly employed in agriculture,	158
in trade, manufacture, or handicraft,	197
inhabited houses,	463
The average number of births for the last five years,	80
deaths,	50
marriages,	25

The number of illegitimate children during the last year was 6.

*Character of the People, &c.*—Of the inhabitants we may safely say, that they live comfortably and soberly, and at peace with one another. We have not the temptations of a populous city to contend with—neither have we the influx of strangers to captivate us with their novelties and oftentimes with their vices—neither have we any residenters wasting overgrown fortunes amongst us, and exciting the envy or dislike of their poorer fellow men. But we have a rural and simple-hearted people, remarkably kind to each other, and given to “rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.”

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Husbandry.*—This parish consists of ten estates. About two-thirds of the whole belong to Drummond.

Most of the heritors reside on their properties, and agricultural improvements are promoted by them. This is very perceptible in the draining of meadow and marshy ground, and in the

corn-fields rising higher and higher upon the acclivity of our hills ; also in the attention paid to the cropping of land, and the adoption of improved implements of husbandry. The order of cropping in general, is that of five divisions, viz. after lea, oats—next turnips and potatoes—next barley, with rye-grass and clover,—and then grass for hay or cutting,—and afterwards the lea.

Wheat is seldom sown in this quarter, because less profitable than barley. Besides it is an uncertain crop, for by our long winters and continued frosts, there is a danger, some seasons, of its being altogether lost. Much attention is now paid to the growing of turnips, by manuring with bone dust, &c., which crop is found to be very profitable.

*Distilleries.*—Connected with the agriculture of this parish is the distillation of whisky, which is much to be applauded in every thing, except the object for which it is made. The three distilleries here are advantageous in the consumption of the grain, and the feeding of cattle, and the manuring of the ground, as also in employing many workmen ; but when we think of the 100,000 gallons which they annually send forth, as of so little benefit to the human constitution, but rather very productive of much evil both to the soul and body, we would pause before we commend them ; and say that we hope for better days—days when the public purse will not be filled by “Scotland’s scaith.”

*Produce.*—The following table will show the gross amount and value of raw produce raised yearly, on an average price for the last ten years :—

Arable land 11564 acres, rented at 30s. per acre.	Oats, 2312.8 7 bolls at 17s.	L. 137,615
	Barley, 2312.8 6 bolls at L. 1, 2	152,711
	Green crop, 2312.8 Do. at L. 10 per ac.	23,120
	Hay, 2312.8 200st. p.ac. at 6d. p. st.	231,300
	Pasture, 2312.8 Do. at L. 3 per acre.	6942
Plantation 2509 do.	At L. 20 per acre in 20 years.	56,060
Uncultivated 12,170 do.	At 10s. per acre.	6065
<hr/> Total 26,237 do.		<hr/> L. 607,733

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

In this part of our statistics, the statements will be better understood, by noticing Muthill and Ardoch separately, for the latter is now a parish of itself *quoad sacra*.

*Market-Towns, &c.*—The village of Muthill once had its markets, but all these have been properly given up, owing to its nearness to Crieff. The public road to the south passes through the village. At present, its population is about 1210, chiefly consisting of the labouring classes, and those connected with them.

About sixty of its inhabitants are employed in weaving cotton, which is sent to them from Glasgow.

Few villages, we think, can be compared with Muthill, as to the beauty of its locality, its cleanliness, and the simple and artless manners of its people. All its poor are well supplied, and none of them are allowed to beg; whilst, on the other hand, none of its inhabitants are so rich as to keep their hands from working. But what strikes the visitor of Muthill most, is, the amphitheatre of hills around it; and then, its stately church, unequalled, it is said, by any country church in the land.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church is well situated for the convenience of the major part of the people; and, with the exception of 50 in the district of Blair-in-roan, all have it in their power to attend, and do attend the church regularly. Those in Blair-in-roan attend at sacramental times, but in general go to Comrie, because they are two or three miles nearer that place.

The parish church is of a recent date. The old building was condemned in 1825, having stood four centuries. Spottiswood says, that “Bishop Ochiltree succeeded, a wealthy prelate, and well esteemed; and so purchased to his see a great part of the forfeited lands of Strathearn, adorned the cathedral of Dunblane, built the bridge of Knaik and Machant, with the church of Muthill; and did in his time divers other good works.” The ruins of this ancient fabric serve to suggest the thoughts of other days, and other men, who, although dead, yet live in dear recollection. Beside the ruins, a monument, erected by the people, in memory of their late beloved pastor, Mr Russell, may be noticed; and another erected with some taste, beside the grave of Mr Erskine, son of an Episcopal clergyman, who lived and died here.

The foundation stone of the new church was laid in March 14th 1826, and the building was finished in August 1828; expense of the whole, L. 6900; it is of the Gothic style, and is seated for 1600 people. The sittings are all free, and are divided amongst the heritors, in the proportion, in which they paid for the building of the church.

The manse stands on the north side of the village, with the glebe around it. It was built in 1720, rebuilt, or nearly so, in 1782, and since that time, it has been constantly receiving additions and repairs, as every old house must do.

The glebe, inclusive of the site of the manse, and of the garden, consists of 9 acres of excellent land, and the stipend is 16

chalders of grain ; the one-half meal, and the other barley ; with the allowance of L. 10 for communion elements.

Besides the parish church, there is in the village a neat building, where the Episcopalians of Strathearn assemble on the Sabbath, and other days.

The population of Muthill, exclusive of Ardoch district, is, 2472 ; and of these about 44 are Episcopallans, and 9 others, Dissenters.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of poor on the roll is 80 ; and the average sum given to each of them annually is L. 2, or L. 160 in all. This sum is made up from the church collections, L. 52 ; from Ardoch collection, L. 3, 10s. ; and from a voluntary assessment, on the part of the heritors. And it would be ungrateful not to mention the meal-list of Lady Willoughby, on which there are commonly 60 poor persons, and who have also from the same Lady, their rents paid, and an allowance of fuel and clothing.

*Societies.*—A Bible and Missionary Society has for some years been established, in this parish, and is supported by collections on Mondays after the dispensation of the sacrament, which is once in the four months, or three times in the year. The sum raised in this way, hitherto, has been about L. 26 per annum, which, with some other occasional contributions, prove that the people are somewhat alive to the spiritual wants of their fellow men. And this Christian feeling, we would hope, is on the increase amongst us, for during the last half-year, we have collected L. 49 for the General Assembly's four schemes.

*Savings Bank.*—A savings bank has been in operation for more than two years, and promises to do well. At present the amount of its funds is L. 270.

*Education.*—On Muthill side there are eight schools, whereof the parish school is the most important, and by far the most numerous attended. The salary is the maximum, viz. L. 34, 4s. 4½d. which, together with a commodious house and garden, value L. 10, salaries of kirk-session and heritors' clerk, &c. L. 12, 10s. and school fees, L. 16, 10s. make the situation of the schoolmaster somewhat comfortable, although not so much so as it should be. The number of scholars attending the parish school has of late years been about 100, but it is likely that the number will soon be increased, as at present a very spacious and elegant school-house is building, which will contain many more than the former, and be

much more comfortable and healthy. As to the success of the parish school, we have only to remark, that frequently young men have gone from it to college, where they have been highly approved of both as to their scholarship and good behaviour. Three of the other schools are partly endowed by Lady Willoughby. The other four have no endowment, which is a matter of regret, as no teacher of abilities will accept of them, or if he do, his stay will be but short. The number of scholars instructed in all these, annually, as found at their examinations, has been about 400. We have also about 200 attending the Sabbath schools, a part of education truly important and useful.

*Libraries.*—There is one supported by subscription in the village; also in the reading-room furnished by the Right Honourable Lord Willoughby de Eresby, besides a sufficient supply of Scotch and English newspapers, there is a collection of books on agricultural pursuits for the farmers; but the most valuable library in this quarter is that of Innerpeffary, for the use of ministers and students. It was left by Lord Madderty, with a small salary for the librarian, which, with the fees of a school that he teaches in one of the wings of the building, afford him a small living. In the library, there are many rare and excellent books, especially on divinity.

*ARDOCH.*—*Statistics of Ardoch quoad sacra.*—The perambulated bounds of the Chapel district (now a parish *quoad sacra*) extend into the parishes of Dunblane and Blackford, and are as follows: To Glenlichhorn and Green Scores on the west; Muirhouses, Cameron hills, and Redford on the north; Rahallach, Read and Butter Gask, on the east; and Middle Cambuscheny and Toddleburn, on the south.

The church was built in 1780, and styled by the constitution “the Chapel of Ease at Ardoch.” A very thriving village is now rising up beside it, named Braco village, from the circumstance that it consists of feus on the estate of Braco. But we confess that we should have preferred the name Ardoch.

Under the fostering and faithful care of the Reverend Messrs Simpson, Logan, Millar, Young, M'Farlane, and Laird, the members of the congregation have so increased, that there are as many communicants who attend the dispensation of the sacrament, as there are seats, in the church. About a mile and a half south from the church of Ardoch, there is a handful of the United Secession, who have a meeting-house or church. A Mr

Patterson is their minister—number, young and old, 138—stipend promised, L. 60. We give the following statement of the district of Ardoch, as furnished to us readily by its present minister, Mr Laird.

Population.—In Muthil pariah,	949	Belonging to the Established Church,	1401
In Dunblane,	601	United Secession,	159
In Blackford,	35	Episcopalians,	12
	—	Original Seceders,	6
	1585	Relief,	6
		Bereans,	1

For the care of these 1401 people, we regret to say, that the minister has only a bond from the managers of the church for L. 80, with a free house or manse and garden, and keep for a cow; and we regret, also, that the church cannot contain the people.

The people have done much for their church and for their minister; but yet they require some aid to enlarge their church, and some endowment for the better support of their minister; and we trust that both will soon be granted them.

Besides a prosperous church, they have also a prosperous school. A hundred children are well instructed there, in the common branches of learning. The schoolmaster's income arises altogether from the school fees, which doubtless should be otherwise. Another school, where a very few children are taught, is about a mile to the north of the village, and has attached to it L. 2 a year of endowment, left by the Rev. William Hally, minister of Muthill. There are also two unendowed schools in the quarter of Dunblane.

The church is conveniently placed for the district, and has attached to it a space of country of nearly seventy square miles. Number of sittings in the church 600; collections annually, L. 40. Average number of births, 78.

Braco village is rapidly enlarging in its buildings, and in its population. At present it has 180 families, and a population of 384. For their moral improvement there is a well-selected library, kept up by subscription. There are also in it two cattle-markets during the year; and it has also its four public-houses.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

During the last forty years, the population of the parish has increased from 2948 to 3421: its schools have increased from three to ten; and its cultivated fields have increased to double or treble their number. Of Presbyterian Dissenters, the number has been lessened from 160 to 9, and of Roman Catholics from 42 to 2. Other changes have not been so conducive to its well being and

comfort. We allude to the increase of public-houses, from 7 to 20, throughout the parish; and especially in the village, from 3 to 11,—which during last year retailed 1583 gallons of whisky.

*August 1837.*

## PARISH OF GLENDOVAN.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JOHN BROWN, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THE changes in this parish have been so few, that the writer has little to add to the Report which he furnished to the former Statistical Account.

*Name.*—The parish derives its name from the water of Devon, which runs through it in a narrow glen, in a direction nearly from west to east.

It is situated in the middle of the Ochils,—and is 6 English miles in length, and rather more than 4 in breadth.

### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—These commence in the year 1700.

*Land-owners.*—There are five land-owners in the parish, viz. Lord Camperdown, J. S. Hepburn, Esq., Robert Haig, Esq., William Low, Esq., and Miss Jane Rutherford.

### III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1801,	.	149	
1811,	.	170	
1821,	.	139	
1831,	.	192	
Number of families in the parish,			34
chiefly employed in agriculture,			13
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,			7

There were no illegitimate births in the parish during the last three years.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The farms are the same in extent, and managed in the same way, as reported in the former Account: the arable and pasture land remains the same. Of the arable land, seventeen acres have been, at considerable expense, prepared for being watered by the river Devon.



There has also been for some time past, at Burnfoot, in this parish, a mill, on a small scale, for spinning wool. This year great additions are being made to it. The present erection is double the width of the former, and two stories are in the course of being added to it. It is situated in the midst of a wool country, and I hope the tenant will not be disappointed in his expectations.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Since my former Account a toll-road has been made through the Glen: It passes through the parish for three miles and a half. It was executed at great expense: the forming, metalling, cutting earth and rock, building bridges, and conduits, damages, &c. cost L. 5257, 16s. ; but the advantages obtained have been very considerable. The farmers who formerly took from 7 to 8 cwt. seldom more, now take from 15 to 18 cwt. ; and carters, who load heavily, take from 20 to 25 and sometimes 30 cwt. The villagers, who are supplied from Blairengone and Dollar, burn their coal about 5d. per cwt. cheaper than before the road was made, estimating summer and winter together ; and a much greater quantity of lime is now driven by the farmers.

*Ecclesiastical state.*—There are four families in the parish who attend a Dissenting meeting at the Yetts of Muckart. They are descendants of those who separated from the church, when Messrs Wilson, Erskine, Moncreiff, and Fisher left it, and erected themselves into a presbytery. All the rest belong to the Established Church. The stipend amounts to L. 150 Sterling.

*Education.*—The parochial school is the only one in the parish. Salary the maximum. Amount of school-fees received, from L. 25 to L. 30.

*Poor.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is four ; and the average sum allowed to each is 1s. per week. The average amount of church collections for the poor is L. 7 per annum : and there is no assessment.

*September 1837.*

## PARISH OF TRINITY-GASK.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. ALEXANDER H. GRAY, MINISTER.

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### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

TRINITY GASK, generally pronounced Tarnty, occupies a beautiful situation in Strathearn, extending principally on the north side of the river, about four miles east from Crieff, and two straight south from Auchterarder.

**Name.**—The word Gask signifies, I am told, *slope* or *brae*, and this description is perfectly applicable to the parish, as the amount of level ground in it is comparatively very small. There is another place bearing the name of Cow or Coul (*i. e.* behind) Gask, in the parish; and when Kinkell was joined, the united parishes got the name of Trinity-Gask, or the three united braes, which it still retains.

**Extent, &c.**—There are about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  square miles of the parish extending westward on the south side of the Earn; on the north, it is about 5 miles long by 3 broad,—giving a total of  $18\frac{1}{2}$  square miles.

**Hydrography.**—The only remarkable spring is the Trinity Well, a little south of the manse, of great renown in Popish days for the performing of miraculous cures, fortifying against plague, witchcraft, and such other evils. I have heard it said that a prohibition of such practices is to be found in the records either of the parish or of the presbytery, but I have not hitherto been able to discover it. The right of bleaching at this well is one of the privileges of the minister. The Earn is our principal river, flowing along the whole length of the parish, from west to east, in windings beautifully diversified. In many places, its sloping banks are richly wooded by the hand both of nature and of art.

**Mineralogy.**—The parish presents few features of interest to the mineralogist. At Colquhalzie, in the western extremity of the parish, the Earn flows through a deep ravine or chasm of red claystone rock of a soft quality, crumbling by the action of the sun and frost. To the westward, it becomes gradually intermixed with

micaceous particles, assumes a hard and durable quality, passing into red sandstone; quarries of which have been worked near Millearne, and at Lawhill, near the church. The trap dike, so conspicuous at Drummond Castle, traverses the county from west to east parallel with the northern boundary of the parish, occasionally rising into rugged ridges. Specimens of a heavy grayish stone, found at Denburn, on the property of Sir Thomas Moncrieff, were, I am told, sent some years ago to skilful mineralogists, who reported that they contained a small proportion of copper; but the distance from coal is so great that the return never could have compensated the outlay. The parish contains soil of every variety.

*Zoology.*—We have many varieties of cattle. The short-horned breed, recently introduced by the patriotic exertions of the Viscount Strathallan, are rising rapidly in estimation, and very high prices are given for bulls and bull calves of that valuable stock. There are few sheep pastured. The Leicester kind seem the general favourites. The beneficial practice, however, of feeding off turnip with sheep, is rapidly extending, for which purpose the black-faced are most commonly used. The fish found in the Earn are salmon, yellow and sea trout, pike and perch. The Earl of Kinnoul, the Viscount Strathallan, Sir Thomas Moncrieff, Mr Home Drummond, and Mr Hepburn, have a right to fishings, but the operations of the stake-nets on the Tay have for many years rendered the upper fishings of little value.

*Plantations.*—There are no very uncommon plants found in the parish. The extent of plantation is about 1000 acres, principally upon the properties of Mr Oliphant of Gask, Sir Thomas Moncrieff, Viscount Strathallan, Mr Graham Stirling, and Mr Hepburn. The oldest woods consist entirely of Scotch firs, the more recently planted of larch, spruce, and oak, all of which seem to agree well with the climate and soil. The largest hard-wood trees are found around Millearne House and Colquhalzie, but they are in no respect remarkable.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—The Session records of the parish contain accounts of baptisms, fines, collections, distributions, and discipline. They commence in 1641. The most memorable facts mentioned are “on Sunday, the 5th of November 1643, the covenant was read, explicate, and public intimation made that all be present the next day to swear and subscribe it.”—“On Sunday, the 12th November, this day all did swear and subscribe the covenant.” We have also an account of the first provision made by

the kirk-session for a parochial teacher, ordering his salary of 100 merks yearly to be exacted of the parish. The rebellions in 1715 and 1745 are not noticed in any manner. In 1774, there were no less than twenty-four table services; now they seldom exceed five or six.

The parochial registers are very full in some respects, and equally scanty in others. From 1770 to 1834, they have been very correctly and neatly kept, especially whilst under the charge of the late schoolmaster, Mr John Macintyre.

*Eminent Men.*—I am not aware that any eminent characters have been connected with this parish, either by birth, residence, or burial. Dr Kemp, who afterwards became too notorious, was ordained minister of this parish in 1770, and was translated to Edinburgh. Dr David Ritchie, now of St Andrew's Church, Edinburgh, was schoolmaster here for several years; and my immediate predecessor Dr James Burgh, ordained in 1794, died 1834, from his great natural talents, learning, shrewdness, kindliness of heart and of demeanour, would certainly have made no inconsiderable appearance in the church, had he not, for many years previous to his death, been incapacitated for much exertion by bodily weakness and infirm health.

*Land-owners.*—The proprietors of the parish, arranged according to the rental of their properties, are, Sir Thomas Moncrieff, Bart.; The Viscount Strathallan; Thomas Graham Stirling, Esq. of Strowan; J. G. Home Drummond, Esq. of Abbotsgrange; J. Stewart Hepburn, Esq. of Colquhalzie; The Earl of Kinnoull; J. B. Oliphant, Esq. of Gask; Anthony Murray, Esq. of Crieff; William Muckersey, Esq.

*Antiquities.*—The only antiquities are the ruins of an old castle, at the eastern extremity of the parish, called "Gascon Hall," said to have been the place where Sir William Wallace encountered the ghost of Faudon, as narrated by Blind Harry; but its appearance would not justify any such remote origin. No one can furnish any information regarding it; the idle traditions of the country are every one more absurd and contradictory than another. It stands close upon the north side of the Earn; but there are no inscriptions nor monuments of any kind from which its origin and history can be ascertained. The real Gascon Hall is said to have stood about a mile and a half north-east from this, amongst the present woods of Gask. There is also a peculiar-looking stone standing on the high ground, about a mile west, and north from this

ruin, called the "Borestone." It has borne an inscription, but age has so completely obliterated the characters, that it is impossible to decypher a single word. The figures of animals, among which the boar, stag, and elephant predominate, may still be traced. Some maintain that it was a trysting-place for the hunting of the wild boar, others that it was an instrument of punishment, with which idea the stone corresponds. It is about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet high, with two holes at the top, through which the arms of the delinquent might be thrust, and be kept there in a sort of pillory. There are many traditions and legends connected with this relic also, but they are too absurd to be committed to writing. There was a chapel in former times upon the present farm of Cow or Coul Gask. The place still bears the name of Chapel-hill; but it was trenched over some time ago, and not a trace of it is now to be found. Dr Ross, the present tenant, who was born upon the farm, has no recollection of ever having seen crosses or any other curious relics. We have about four miles of the Roman road from the Stormont to the camp at Ardoch in this parish. Two of these are in a dreadful state of disrepair,—in winter indeed totally impassable. The other two, through the active liberality of Lord Strathallan, and other proprietors and tenants, have lately been very much improved, and in a short time will form part of an excellent road to Perth. Some coins have been found in the parish, but none, I believe, of any great antiquity. About six years ago, a tumulus, about 3 feet by 2, consisting of four large stones, and covered with a fifth, was discovered upon the property of Lord Kinnoull, containing a considerable quantity of decayed human bones. It was supposed to be a relic of the Romans, but there was nothing from which this could be positively determined. The remains of the skulls lying at the eastern end would indicate an origin prior to the introduction of Christianity. Around the sarcophagus, and mingled with the stones of the cairn which covered it, were ashes and burnt bones, as if animals or captives had been sacrificed on the tomb of the chief.

*Modern Buildings.*—The only modern building deserving particular notice is the mansion of J. G. Home Drummond, Esq., built in the style of an embattled manor-house. It is in the late or Tudor Gothic style of Henry VII. and VIII. The carving in stone and wood is beautifully executed, and almost entirely by workmen in this and the neighbouring parishes. The grounds are also laid out with the greatest taste, and, aided by its commanding situation, Millearne House constitutes one of the chief attractions

of the surrounding neighbourhood. The gardens and hot-houses contain an extensive collection of exotic plants.

III.—POPULATION.

There are old people in the parish who speak of the population of Trinity-Gask in their early days as having been double its present amount.

In 1755, Dr Webster's report makes the population	913
1796, it was	795
1831,	620
1837,	554

This rapid decrease is caused by the converting of a number of small into one large farm, and the dislike which the tenants have to keeping up the cottages upon them, both from the expense which it occasions, and the annoyance and loss to which they are subjected, by their occupants persisting in keeping poultry, which support themselves at the farmer's expense, and greatly aid the poor people in paying their rents.

The yearly average of births is	8
deaths,	10
marriages,	4
The average number of persons under 15, is	162 churchmen; 71 dissenters.
betwixt 15 and 30,	187 62
30 and 50,	40 31
50 and 70,	8 14
upwards of 70,	9 11
Episcopalians, 8; Roman Catholic, 1.	8 1
	<hr/>
	364 190

The only resident proprietors are, J. G. H. Drummond, Esq. residing at Millearne House; and J. Stewart Hepburn, Esq. whose mansion of Colquhalzie is beautifully situated on the south side of the river. All the proprietors, with the exception of Mr Muckersey, are possessed of lands yielding far more than L. 50 of yearly rent. The number of unmarried men, bachelors and widowers, upwards of fifty years of

age is	9
unmarried women upwards of forty-five,	14

There are 86 families with an average of 4 children. There are only two houses at present building, and three uninhabited. There is only one insane person in the parish; no blind, deaf, nor dumb.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Trinity-Gask is entirely an agricultural parish. We have two or three weavers, as many masons and carpenters as are required for the work of the parish, two shoemakers, but no tailor.

The number of arable acres is 4290. Perhaps 2000 more might be brought in, and they are now in the course of being so. The expense, however, is very great, from the amount of draining requir-

ed. The number of acres under wood is nearly 1000. The trees are, Scotch firs, spruce, larch, and oak, with a few beeches here and there. The management of them is most skilfully conducted.

*Rent.*—The average rent of arable land in the parish may be rated at L. 1, 5s. per acre. It is impossible to hazard any opinion upon the rate of pasture; some of it is worth L. 2, 10s. and other parts again not worth 1s.

Considerable attention seems to be paid to the breed of cattle, and with great success. The character of the husbandry pursued upon the principal farms justly stands decidedly high; draining and embanking are carried on to a great extent; but irrigation, from the steep and unequal surface of the country, cannot be adopted. The leases in general are for fifteen, seventeen, or nineteen years, the last the most common. The farm-houses and steadings are in excellent order. All our landlords are actuated by a praiseworthy desire of seeing their tenants as comfortable and prosperous as possible. The great obstacles in the way of improving the moorish lands are such as no capital nor industry could surmount with any prospect of a reasonable remuneration, arising as they do from the nature of the soil and climate. There are two quarries, both supplying stones for the building of farm-houses, steadings, dikes, &c. They are of an inferior quality. The stone for Millearne House was brought from Dollerie, in the parish of Maderty.

*Produce.*—The average gross amount of raw produce, as nearly as I can calculate, may be,

Grain of all kinds,	. . . . .	L. 7050	0	0
Potatoes and turnips,	. . . . .	4700	0	0
Hay and pasture,	. . . . .	2900	0	0
Gardens of the cottagers,	. . . . .	120	0	0
		<hr/>		
		L. 14770	0	0

The only association in the parish is a society for the encouragement of good ploughing. It assuredly is productive of good, though sometimes giving rise to feelings of jealousy among the competitors, to say nothing of a little excess among the judges when deciding upon the rival claims.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There is no market-town nearer than Auchterarder, fully five miles south from the centre of the parish. There is certainly a boat by which passengers cross the Earn, and save nearly a mile; but, except in very dry weather, the roads are so fearfully bad that the near way is sure to prove the most fatiguing and vexatious. Crieff is six miles west from the centre of the parish. Auchterar-

der is the nearest post-town. We have, however, no regular communication with it, so that our letters sometimes reach us the very day of their arrival, and at others lie for five or six days. The country road from east to west extends for about four miles, and from north to south much the same. There are no public conveyances near us; none, indeed, in the parish. The bridge of Dalreoch, in Gask parish, is the nearest point of the passage of the Perth and Glasgow coaches, and it is fully three miles distant. Kinkell Bridge is the only one in the parish. It was built about 1793, by subscription, consists of four arches, and is kept in good repair.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church stands a little to the east end of the parish. If situated more to the west and south, it would have been more convenient for the great majority of the people. The south end of the parish is worst accommodated. The people are within a mile and a-half of Auchterarder, and generally attend there, except during the dispensation of the Lord's supper at Trinity-Gask. It is about four miles from the western and two from the eastern extremities. It was built in 1770 to contain 350. The seats, however, are so crowded, that it is impossible either to sit or stand in them with comfort. It has not received any considerable repairs since, but the heritors have now agreed to make it decent in appearance, and somewhat more comfortable—the cold during winter being excessive. The sittings are all attached to the farms; no money is ever paid for accommodation. The manse was built in 1772, greatly enlarged in 1820, and is now one of the largest in the country. It is charged with twenty-one window lights. The glebe contains  $14\frac{1}{2}$  acres, and is rented at present for L. 26, 10s., but is worth considerably more. In addition to this, the minister has from 8 to 10 acres of wood, self-planted with Scotch firs. This was originally his peat-moss, but the seeds from the surrounding plantations having taken root, have converted it into a straggling forest, worth at present nearly L. 100. Were it drained and properly planted, it would certainly constitute no inconsiderable addition to the living. The garden and ground around the manse may amount to an acre. The minister has also the privilege of bleaching at a well north from the manse, and of a path for his horse to the ford of the Earn, when travelling that way to the Presbytery.

The stipend consists of meal, 85 bolls, 1 firlot, 1 peck,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lippies; barley, 42 bolls, 2 firlots, 2 pecks, 3 lippies; money, L. 41, 13s. 4d. There has been no augmentation for the last forty years. We have, however, reason to believe that Trinity-Gask will ere



long be put upon a level with the neighbouring parishes. There is one Dissenting chapel, in connection with the United Associate Synod, in this parish. The first was built almost immediately after the Secession took place, and the present about 1790. The present minister (Mr Forrester) came with the understanding that he was to have L. 65 a-year; but the very utmost the congregation can accomplish for him is to pay the rent (L. 39) of the farm upon which he resides, and to give L. 5 a-year, raised by two collections, to defray the sacramental expenses. The congregation, gathered from the surrounding parishes, consists, I am informed, of about 100 hearers, and 84 members. The chapel is seated for 800, but might contain 1000, and in former days was crowded every Sabbath, people coming from distances of twelve and sixteen miles. The number of families in connection with the Established Church is 50, and the average number of persons attending the parish church about 150;—many of the church people, except at the sacrament, attending the Established Church nearest them; those at the east end going to Gask,—at the west, to Muthill,—and at the south, to Auchterarder. The number of communicants, last two years, was 183.

The number of families connected with dissenting chapels in Kinkell, Auchterarder, and Dunning is 36.

The average amount of collections in the church is L. 18; proclamation of banns, 10s. 6d.; mortcloth, fines, &c. L. 1, 11s. 6d.

*Education.*—The parochial school is the only one in the parish; and the branches of education taught are, reading, writing, arithmetic, elements of practical mathematics, English grammar, geography, and Latin. The present schoolmaster is also qualified to teach Greek and French; but these are not demanded by the heritors. His salary amounts to L. 35, 9s. 4d. He is also precentor, and session-clerk, with a salary of L. 2, 10s., and his school fees will make his income fully L. 50 a-year. He has a good house and garden. I have not yet met with any of my parishioners betwixt six and fifteen who cannot read and write. There are 50 upwards of fifteen who cannot write,—none, I hope, who cannot read. The people are deeply sensible of the infinite importance of education, and are willing to make many sacrifices to secure it for their children. The great distance of the west and south ends of the parish must make it inconvenient for young children to attend the parish school at any season of the year, and for all in those quarters during the winter. They there-

fore attend the schools of the neighbouring parishes in preference. Three additional schools, in the south, west, and east ends of the parish would certainly be a great convenience; but there could not possibly be a sufficient number of children to fill them.

*Literature.*—There is no library of any description in the parish as yet; but there is every reason to hope that we shall be able to establish one in connection with the Sabbath school, to which the parents all seem anxious to afford every countenance and support.

*Poor's Funds.*—The average number of paupers is 8; monthly allowance, 4s. When they have no relatives willing or able to take care of them, the house rent is also paid, generally L. 1, 10s. a year. We at present have 5 paupers, and only one house rent to pay. The collections amount to about L. 18 a year. The heritors for some time past have annually given a voluntary contribution of L. 50. In addition to this, we have the interest of a capital sum of L. 80. Allowances of coals are very general. This is assuredly a very heavy charge for so small a population, but there is an insane pauper, boarded at the rate of L. 15 a year, and his clothes; one illegitimate child at L. 4, 16s. and his clothes; and till very lately another at L. 9. There is now good ground for believing that the heritors may be spared nearly one-third. The people do, generally speaking, feel a reluctance to apply to “the box;” and one woman six weeks ago voluntarily gave up her allowance, her health having so much improved that she was able to work for herself.

*Inns.*—We have one public-house, the toll-house at Kinkell bridge, which, perhaps, could not be dispensed with.

*Fuel.*—The want of fuel is perhaps the very greatest drawback upon the comfort of Trinity-Gask. Dollar, at the distance of twenty miles, is the nearest coal-hill. Tillicoultry, of which the coals are of a superior quality, is four miles farther, so that when driving and other expenses are paid they cost  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. a stone,—a present 2d.

Subscriptions are being raised just now in this and all the neighbouring parishes, to sink a shaft at Tullibardine, in the parish of Blackford, on the property of the Viscount Strathallan, with the confident hope of finding coal. The subscription is advancing with great spirit, and, should the attempt prove successful, it will prove the greatest of blessings to all the neighbourhood.

Peats cannot be got nearer than Methven moss, a distance of seven miles from the centre of the parish, and they cost 4s. 6d.

a load. Wood is consumed in considerable quantities,—principally the useless branches of the firs used for country purposes.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

From the last Statistical Account of this parish, we are warranted to infer, that much has been done to advance the style of agriculture pursued, to reclaim lands, and improve them by draining, embanking, &c. The lands close upon the north side of the Earn are now never, I believe, flooded by the river, though often kept for a considerable period under water by the rain and melting snow from the higher grounds. There is now a considerable quantity of bone dust and lime used. More of both would be employed, were not the distance from Perth (thirteen miles) so great. Should any railway ever come near us, it will be a great encouragement to attempt reclaiming many parts of the moor lands which now lie hopelessly waste. Every great farm has a thrashing-mill attached to it, and there are grinding mills, driven by water, at an easy distance from every part of the parish.

The principal road through the parish is very good, and now 100 stones of coal are not considered an unreasonable load, even for so long and continuous a journey. It would add greatly to the beauty of the parish, were more hard-wood trees planted along the hedge-rows, and the fences of every description kept in better repair.

*September 1837.*

## PARISH OF BALQUHIDDER.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING. \*

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name is compounded of the words, *baile-chul-tir*, signifying the town or territory at the back of the country.

*Extent, &c.*—The parish is about 18 miles in length, and between 6 and 7 miles in breadth, and comprises many straths, glens, and valleys, and a vast number of hills and lofty rocks. It seems proper to mention some of these.—Strathyre, signifying in Gaelic the *warm strath*; Glenbuckie, signifying *the glen where roebucks*

\* Drawn up by the late incumbent, the Rev. Mr M'Gregor.

*abounded in ancient times* ; Edinchip, *the hill in the shape of a shoe-maker's last* ; Lochearnhead, where there is a small country village with a good inn, having every requisite accommodation for travellers ; Edinample, from the words, *eadan*, face, and *teampuil*, temple, and importing that a place of worship had been on the face of the hill at a very remote period : here stands an ancient castle belonging to the family of Breadalbane ; it is surrounded with lofty plane-trees ; and there is a grand waterfall close to it, which attracts the attention of travellers : Glenogle, signifying *the terrific glen*, is a narrow pass leading from Lochearnhead to Glendochar in Breadalbane ; it is surrounded on both sides of the road by stupendous hills full of rocks and *scarnachs*, the haunts of foxes and ravenous birds.

*Boundaries.*—The parish is bounded on the south by the parish of Callander ; on the east by the parish of Comrie ; and on the north and west by the parish of Killin.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The country on both sides of the river and lakes is environed by a ridge of hills, some of which are of considerable height, and rise almost perpendicular from the strath. A few of them may be mentioned

Binean, signifying *the mountain of birds*, is nearly as high as Benmore, which is immediately adjoining : Stobchon, *the hill of the dogs* : Beinchroin, *the mountain where the deer used to roar* : Craigrugh Hill, *the King's rock*, where, it is said, King Robert Bruce concealed himself after he had lost the battle of Dalrey, and before that of Bannockburn was fought ; on the south side of this stupendous hill are numerous rocks, cavities, and *scarnachs* ; and to a traveller below, it appears indeed wild and romantic : Sithean a chath, an eminence at the western extremity of the parish : Fioghan situated on the north of the Kirkton Glen, and halfway between Balquhidder and Glendochar. Above the manse is a stupendous rock, much admired by all travellers, and seen at a great distance. It is the resort of hawks, wild pigeons, and martins.

About forty or fifty years ago the face of the hills was generally covered with heather, which has now almost disappeared.

*Hydrography.*—There are a vast number of springs, chiefly perennial, in the parish. The lakes are, *Loch-voil*, *Loch-doine*, half of *Lochlubnaig*, and a part of *Lochearn*. *Loch-voil* or *phuil* signifies *the muddy lake* : *Loch-doine*, *the deep water* : and *Loch-lubnaig*, *the winding lake*. The only river of note in the place is *Balvag*, signifying *the smooth running water*. It takes its rise at *Loch-*

*voil*, and runs smoothly in a serpentine direction to the south-east, about five miles through the strath, and discharges itself into Loch-lubnaig. Calair, a lesser river than Balvag, flows from Glenbuckie, and rages furiously in time of flood, from which circumstance the name is derived.

*Geology.*—The rocks in this parish are mica-slate, clay-slate, quartz rock, primitive greenstone, and porphyry. Veins of galena or lead glance traversing the mica-slate occur in several parts, but none of these appear to have been worked for the ore they contain.

*Woods.*—There are several woods in the parish, consisting chiefly of oak, coppice, birch, ash, alder, and mountain-ash. There are likewise several young plantations of Scotch, larch, and spruce firs, which are thriving well. There are some plane-trees of considerable size, and also oaks. The soil seems to be well adapted for growing all kinds of wood usually planted in the country, such as firs, oak, plane-tree, &c.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Antiquities.*—In a field somewhat to the south-east of the manse, there is a stone resembling an obelisk, about five feet high. The people call it Puidrac: but the nature and origin of it, the writer has not ascertained.

About a mile to the eastward of the manse, a desperate battle was fought between the M'Larens and the Leneys, some suppose in the time of the Alexanders. The M'Larens from time immemorial were inhabitants of Balquhiddy, and the Leneys resided near Callander. The natives mention every circumstance relating to this conflict with great exactness.

*Eminent Men.*—The late Sir John MacGregor Murray, of MacGregor, Bart. was buried in the family vault, about a mile to the eastward of the manse; he was a distinguished Gaelic scholar, and zealous and unwearied in his exertions to collect and preserve the ancient poetry of the Highland bards. He held the rank of colonel in the army, and raised a regiment of infantry, called the Clan Alpins, for the service of his country, which was commanded by his brother, Colonel Alexander MacGregor Murray, who was also buried in the mausoleum belonging to the family.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, the Marquis of Breadalbane; Sir Evan J. Murray MacGregor of MacGregor, Bart.; Alexander Buchanan, Esq. of Arnprior; Earl of Moray; and John Lorn Stewart, Esq. of Glenbuckie.

*parochial Registers.*—There is a register of baptisms and mar-

riages kept in the parish, the earliest date of which is November 1696 : it is regularly kept.

*Mansion-Houses.*—There are two mansion-houses, Edinample Castle, and Glenbuckie House, the former built some centuries back, and the latter about ten years ago.

### III.—POPULATION.

The greatest number of souls in the parish, so far back as can be traced, was 1592 ; by last census, the population was 1049. The yearly average of births for the last seven years is 24, and that of marriages 9.

There are 9 proprietors of land, whose rentals all exceed L. 50 yearly.

Gaelic is the language generally spoken, but it has been rather losing ground within the last forty years.

Number of families in the parish,	218
chiefly employed in agriculture,	113
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	90

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The number of acres which are occasionally under tillage, has not been ascertained. The arable land and hill pasture are generally let together, excepting some small lots, consisting of a few acres arable land and meadow, which may be rented at the average of L. 1 per acre.

*Live-Stock.*—The common breeds of sheep and cattle are the black-faced sheep and West Highland cattle, and considerable attention is paid to improve them, by introducing sheep and cattle from other stocks. As a proof of the attention which is paid to the improvement of sheep stock in this parish, it may be stated that they generally bring the highest prices at the Falkirk Tryst.

### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—There is no market-town in the parish, and the nearest market-town is Callander, distant from the Clachan about twelve miles.

*Villages.*—There are two small villages in the parish, one in Strathyre, and the other at Lochearnhead, both on the turnpike road that leads from Stirling to Fortwilliam.

*Means of Communication.*—The length of the turnpike road through the parish is eleven miles. There is a post-office at Lochearnhead. There are two bridges on the river Balvag, and in full repair.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church is situate about the centre of the parish, conveniently, at that time, for the population. In the

Braes district, to the west of the church, where there were 50 tenants, with a cottar perhaps under every tenant, there are at present only 3 tenants and 1 cottar; so that now the greater part of the population is in the Lochearnhead, or the north-east district, and in Strathyre the south-east district. The church was built in the year 1631, and has been repaired several times since; it may contain about 600, and the seats are all free. The manse was built in the year 1774, and was repaired about twelve years ago. There are no Dissenters in the parish. Divine service is generally well attended in the summer season.

*Education.*—There are three schools in the parish. In the parochial school are taught, Latin, writing, arithmetic, reading, English and Gaelic. In Strathyre district, there is a school supported by the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge, in which are taught English, writing, arithmetic, and Gaelic. There is another school, established at Lochearnhead, and supported by the General Assembly's Committee; the branches of education taught in it are Latin, writing, arithmetic, English, and Gaelic. In all these schools, strict attention is paid to the morals of the youth, and to their religious instruction. The parochial schoolmaster's salary is the maximum, and the school fees may amount to L. 10 a year. He has not a garden, but has the fiars price of 2 bolls oat-meal in lieu thereof. There are none in the parish between six and fifteen years of age who are not taught to read, and the people in general are alive to the benefits of education.

*October 1837.*

## PARISH OF CALLANDER.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. P. ROBERTSON, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—CALLANDER is generally supposed to be derived from the Gaelic names *Calladh*, signifying a ferry, and *sraid*, the way leading to the ferry, by which is meant the ferry across the river Teath, a little below the place where the present bridge stands.

*Extent, &c.*—From east to west, the parish extends about 18 miles. In many places, it is very narrow, varying from one to six miles. A range of the Grampian mountains bounds the parish on the north and north-west.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The most conspicuous mountain is Benledi, contracted for *Beinn-le-Dia*, the hill of God. This name was probably given to the mountain by the Druids, who had a temple on the summit of it, where the inhabitants in the vicinity assembled for devotion once a-year, and it is said that this meeting continued three days. The height of Benledi is 2863 feet above the level of the sea. The view from the summit is very fine. To the east is seen the Frith of Forth as far as the eye can reach; towards the south, the Frith of Clyde and the hills of Arran; and to the north and west is a splendid view of the Grampians, one rising higher than another. Benledi stands about two miles west of Callander, and adds much to the beauty and grandeur of the surrounding scenery. The next mountain to be noticed, is *Stuic-a-chroin*, which in the east is seen between Benledi and Benvorlich, and makes a respectable appearance among the Grampians; it is 3171 feet above the level of the sea. *Uamhmhor*, from the Gaelic words, *uamh* signifying a cave, and *mor* or *mhor* great, may be mentioned also among our higher hills. Tradition says, that in the cave of this pile banditti took up their residence, and plundered the neighbourhood, until in self-defence the tenants were obliged to rise in arms and extirpate them. Such practices were very common in the Highlands, in those feudal times when the law was set at defiance. We



ought not to omit mentioning a very picturesque hill, which rises above the village of Callander, and which, by having been planted a few years ago by Lord Willoughby de Eresby, contributes much to the beauty of the village. The principal valley in this parish is that in which the village is situated, bounded on the west by Benledi: on the north, by the romantic Crag of Callander and hills of Leney, through which the river Teath meanders with its richly wooded banks. The valley may be about 40 feet above the level of the sea.

*Climate, &c.*—The temperature of the atmosphere is considered mild, from the shelter afforded by the surrounding hills. In winter the thermometer commonly stands about 35°; for a few days, last winter, it stood at 24°; in the spring months it commonly stands at 40°; in summer at 75°; and in autumn, it varies considerably. The prevailing wind is from the north-west. But during April and May, the periodical east wind blows, and being generally attended with drought, it is conducive at this season to the operations of the farmer. The climate is reckoned healthy; and the prevalent diseases are those chiefly induced by changes of temperature.

From the position of the parish, its appearance partakes of all the variety of the Highland scenery. The valleys become gradually more narrow, and in many places are almost shut in by lofty ridges. The rivers find a difficult passage, and are often formed into basins and lakes. Upon two sides of Benledi, viz. the north and south, lie two different sheets of water, the former called Loch Lubnaig, and the latter Loch Venachoir, each about four miles in length, and both equidistant from Callander about two miles. Pursuing these valleys and lakes still farther on to the westward, we find each of them connected with two lochs; those to the north-west, called Loch Veoil, and Loch Doin, lie in the parish of Balquhider, while the two lakes to the south-west belong to this parish. They are connected with each other by a considerable river; and that which we approach after passing Loch Venachoir, (the Lake of the Fair Valley,) is called Loch Achray, (or the Lake of the Field of Devotion.) The scenery here is most picturesque. Advancing a little further, you enter the Trosachs, and have a view of Loch Catharine.

*Loch Catharine, &c.*—This is the largest and most interesting of the lochs; it is nearly ten miles in length, terminating at Glengyle, which is also the extreme point of the parish. This lake and mountain scenery is so celebrated, as to render any description of it here un-

necessary. It was for the first time brought to public notice in the Statistical Account of the parish written by the minister in 1791, and since then by Sir Walter Scott's beautiful poem, the "Lady of the Lake." The tourist ought to approach it from the eastward, whence he is introduced to it, as it were, step by step. He ought to walk as far as the Wooded Island, about two miles from the inn, where it is presumed he has secured a couple of men to row his boat. Opposite to the island, he will direct the men to wait him with the boat at a well known peninsular promontory, from which he will pass to the island,—where Lord Willoughby has erected a hut corresponding exactly to the description of the rustic bower, given in the first Canto of the Lady of the Lake. He will then row to a bluff rock, called the Drumbeg, upon the north shore, and follow the pathway to the top of it; after which, he will cross the lake to what was formerly called *Coir-nan-uriskin*, or the goblin's cave, but which is now dismantled of its shading wood; and then return to the boat-house, visiting by the way a lovely little bay, from which the river takes its departure.

*Rivers.*—The river which flows out of Loch Venachoir on the south side of Benledi, called in Gaelic, *Eas-gobhain*, (the waterfall or cataract of the Smith,) and that which comes from Loch Lubnaig on the north side, called also in Gaelic, *Garbh-uisge*, the rough or rugged river, together with a variety of mountain streams which flow into them,—unite about half a mile above the bridge of Callander, and form the river which is called the Teath or warm river, probably from the circumstance of its having mountains on each side, and its banks fringed with wood. Standing upon the bridge of Callander, you have one of the finest views that can well be imagined. Upon the north, is the village with the church in its centre, immediately behind which, is the bold projecting Crag of Callander. In the north-west, you see the Pass of Leney, covered with the wood natural to the country. Immediately in front, is the majestic Benledi, and the river Teath sweeping along through a rich and extensive meadow,—while on the south stand hills of various altitudes. The scene is truly grand, particularly in time of hay-making, when the people are scattered over the meadow, and when many human voices are heard chanting some national air. Besides the river Teath, which runs through the centre of the vale, there is another river of considerable size, at the eastern boundary of the parish, which rises at the base of *Stuic-a-chroin*, and after running several miles among the hills, and receiving additional strength

from tributary streams, makes its way through a most romantic glen between Brackland and Auchinlaich. This spot is much resorted to, from the notice taken of it by tourists; and for the accommodation of the public, a secure bridge has been thrown across the chasm. Upon a small scale, nothing can exceed the wild grandeur of the scene, and nobody can pass the bridge of Brackland without some feeling of apprehension. This and the pass of Leney are the only approximation to waterfalls in the parish. At this bridge, the river takes the name of Keltie, and after skirting the Lawn of Cambusmore, falls into the Teath in front of that mansion, about a mile and a half below Callander.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—Lime abounds in this parish, a quarry of which is regularly wrought, and supplies not only the farmers in the neighbourhood, but many farmers in the stewartry of Monteath, who prefer this lime to that which is to be had at the shore of Stirling. The limestone is of a very beautiful colour and superior quality. The ground of it is a deep blue, intersected with streaks of pure white. The farmers have learned the advantage of using it, by the superior crops produced by this stimulus when judiciously applied to the land. Some of them make a compost of lime, earth, and manure, which produces excellent crops. The direction of the strata is commonly from north-east to south-west. There are also slate-quarries wrought in the parish; one on the farm of Aney, the property of Mr Stirling of Keir; another at the base of Benledi, the property of Mr Urquhart of Kerinloch; and a few years ago, a slate quarry was wrought on the farm of Lanrick, the property of General Sir George Murray. The slate, particularly when the quarry has been wrought for some time, is of a blue colour and very durable. The plum-puddingstone abounds in this neighbourhood, and commonly runs parallel with the limestone and slate, but at some distance from both. It is the chief material used for building. There is also a chain of gray free-stone, which lies across the parish, in the same direction of south-west and north-east, which is very hard and durable, and answers well for building and covering drains. The soil is of a light gravelly nature, but has been greatly improved of late by draining. The example held out by the proprietors in this respect has been successfully followed by their tenantry, and the assistance given by opening drains, &c. is a great encouragement to an industrious tenant to go on improving his farm.

*Zoology.*—We have here the Highland pony and the draught

horse; the breed of horses has been very much improved of late, both in this and in the neighbouring parishes,—as has also the breed of black-cattle. This improvement is owing in a great measure to the encouragement given by the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, not only in establishing general exhibitions of stock of all kinds, but in distributing premiums for the best, and also by district shows, one of which has been held for several years past in this parish. The breed of sheep upon our hills is of the black-faced kind, while the Cheviot and the Leicester are fed upon the low grounds. Roes are to be found in the woods. Lord Willoughby has a forest of red-deer at Glenartney, near the confines of this parish, which are sometimes seen traversing this neighbourhood, particularly in winter. Hares, rabbits, and foxes are numerous; the latter often commit sad depredations among the sheep and game. Wild cats, badgers, &c. are also found. Such places as the Glen of Brackland and the Trosachs afford shelter and security to these destructive animals. We have here the grouse, black-cock, the ptarmigan, the partridge, the pheasant, the snipe, and plover. Wild ducks and other water-fowl abound, and not unfrequently the eagle is seen soaring in the heavens, or perched on the pinnacle of a rock in the Trosachs.

Our lakes, and rivers, and mountain streams, abound in trout, salmon, pike, eel, perch, char, and other small fish.

*Botany.*—The oak, the ash, alder, Scotch fir, birch, plane, holly, hazel, and the willow, grow spontaneously. The oak is valuable, and is cut commonly every sixteen or twenty years, and the bark sold to the tanners. The proprietors pay great attention to their oak woods, and some of them are beautifying the appearance of the country by rich and extensive plantations of Scotch fir, larch, spruce, plane, elm, beech, lime, chestnuts, poplar, and other trees. There are some trees which have grown to a good size, mostly of hard wood, and some Scotch fir. On the glebe are still remaining full grown trees, planted by the Earl of Callander about the year 1596; and a venerable hawthorn in front of the manse, with its branches curiously entwined, is still in full vigour. The most common shrubs which grow upon the higher grounds are broom, whins and, heath of the usual kinds. Of the heath, the Highlanders in former times made a dye, first by boiling woollen cloth with alum, and then with the tops of heath, which produced an orange-colour. It has been used too in tanning leather. Juniper grows in all soils and situations, and of different sizes. The

berries are three years in ripening, and upon the same bush they may be seen in their different stages. The juniper is esteemed a good antiscorbutic.\*

The grasses to be met with are the ryegrass, red, white, crow-foot clover, scirpus or rush grass, eriophorum or cotton-grass, alopecurus or fox-tail; with rib-grass, water-cress, thyme, mint, cow parsnep, chickweed, and wood sorrel. There abound here also digitalis, solanum or nightshade, hemlock, nettle, thistle, dandelion, mugwort, mallow, filices or ferns. These last are much used in the Highlands for thatching houses, and endure for many years. When used for thatch, the fern is pulled out of the earth by the root. It is also used for making manure, and when cut green and properly dried, both horses and cows eat it.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Village.*—The village of Callander is built upon feus held of the family of Perth. To each feu is attached an acre or two of land, for which the feuar pays about L. 1, 10s. per acre, or from that to L. 3, according to the quality of the soil. The houses are built substantially with stone and lime, and covered with slate. The street is wide, and regularly cleaned and repaired. There is an abundant supply of excellent water in different parts of the village, conducted in leaden pipes, the original expense of which was defrayed by Lady Willoughby, who has done much to add to the neatness of the village and the comfort of its inhabitants. Through Callander passes the principal road to the Western Highlands by Lochearnhead, Tyn-drum, and Black-mount; and from this place, there are several other roads branching out in different directions.

*Antiquities.*—About a mile west of Callander, there are the remains of a fortification on the top of a hill, called *Dun bo chais-til*, the hill of the castle. This must have been a place of considerable strength; the face of the hill is perpendicular, rising to the height of about 300 feet, and quite inaccessible on the south. The gateway and three tiers of ditches and mounds are distinct upon the top. The mounds are strengthened with large stones, and within was a sunk well, which has been filled up, as cattle were liable to fall into it. From the summit of this hill, there is an extensive prospect, particularly to the east; the

\* I have heard it said, that when the plague was in Scotland and had reached Callander, the people to the westward at Bridge of Turk, where this plant abounds, were in the habit, two or three times every day, of setting fire to a quantity of juniper. Whether this prevented contagion or not, I know not, but the plague did not reach them.

approach of an enemy might be seen many miles off, and the people of the country would thereby have time to arm themselves and take shelter in this stronghold. In the plain of Bochastle, and in the immediate vicinity of this fortification, is an artificial bank of earth and stone, which perhaps was erected for the purpose of reducing this fort; but we have no authentic record on this subject. In Loch Catherine is an island, which the inhabitants in Strathgartney used for the like purpose. When aware of the approach of an enemy, the most valuable possessions, with the women and children, were immediately conveyed to it. Then the men armed themselves and took possession of the passes and defiles of the Trosachs, to prevent the advance of the enemy. Dr Robertson, late minister of the parish, in a sketch of the scenery of Callander and the Trosachs, gives the following account:—"In one of the defiles of this bye-road, the men of the country at that time hung upon the rear of the invading enemy, and shot one of Cromwell's men, whose grave marks the scene of action, and gives name to the pass (*Bealach an duine*, the pass or defile of the man). In revenge of this insult, the soldiers resolved to plunder the island, and, with this intention, one of the party swam in to fetch the boat to his comrades, who stood on the shore in full view of all that was to pass—but, just as the soldier had got to the nearest point of the island, one of the women severed his head from his body. The hostile party seeing this disaster, made the best of their way out of their perilous situation."

There are still seen at the manse, the remains of the Castle of Callander, which, with the adjoining lands belonged to the Earl of Callander. It consisted of a square strong building of considerable height. The property was forfeited in the reign of James I. or II. of Scotland, and passed to Livingstone, who was created Earl of Callander and Linlithgow. This person probably repaired the castle, after his accession to the earldom, as a stone is still preserved in the walls of the manse, bearing his initials and those of his lady, A. L. E. H. 1596. We find the remains of another fortification on the farm of Achinlaich, the property of Mr Buchanan of Arnprior. The hill is planted, and the ditch and mound on the top have been thus preserved, and are still very distinct. It was probably used for the like purposes as that on the Dun of Bochastle. There is a beautiful circular mount adjoining the church-yard of Callander called *Tom-ma-Chessaig*, the hill of St Kessaig, who was the tutelary saint

of this place. A market is still held here, annually, in the month of March, which goes by the name of *Feill-ma-Chessaig*, i. e. the festival of St Kessaig. There is a similar tumulus, about half a mile west, at a place called Little Leney, where was a chapel of old, and which is still used as a burying-place. There is only one turnpike road in the parish leading from Callander to the West Highlands. The other roads in the parish are kept in repair, by money raised from the tenants, who are assessed according to their rents and the extent of their farms, and also from such others as are able to pay. The money thus collected is laid out by commissioners in repairing roads and bridges. There is a new line of road in progress from Kippen to Callander by Thornhill, which, when completed, will be of essential benefit to this place, as it will open up to us a direct communication with the farmers in the Frews, who have been in the habit of supplying this place with hay, &c.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population in 1755, was	1750
1772,	1700
1787,	1860
1791,	2100
1811,	2042
1821,	2031
1831,	1909

In 1831 the inhabited houses were,	-	-	-	316
Families occupying these houses,	-	-	-	441
Families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	89
trade, manufactures, and handicraft,	-	-	-	167

Several individuals of independent fortune reside within the bounds of the parish; and during summer and autumn, families come here from large towns, and take lodgings for a few months. There are eleven heritors, only two of whom are resident. Captain Houston Stewart lately purchased the property of Gart, upon which he has erected a splendid and commodious mansion-house, and is now engaged in laying out the grounds, in improving the soil, and in beautifying the place, which lies along the north banks of the Teath. Both the English and Gaelic languages are spoken in the parish, and divine worship on Sabbath is performed in both. The name of almost every farm and hill is derived from the Gaelic. The Highland dress is not so generally worn as it was forty years ago.

The people are in general well-informed, intelligent, sober in their habits, kind and affectionate in their dispositions, and upon the whole, moral, religious, and well disposed.

## IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The pasturage of this parish is adapted for the rearing of black cattle and sheep. The attention of the tenants is therefore turned to this object, and many of them cultivate no more of their low grounds than what will serve to raise meal and potatoes, for the consumption of the family. There are, however, farms in the parish which are entirely arable, and these are in general well managed. A regular rotation in cropping is attended to, and green crops are becoming common. The farmer finds the advantage of this, not only as the means of pulverizing and ameliorating the soil, but as of essential benefit in rearing young stock, which enables him to pay his rent when the price of grain is low as at present. A considerable quantity of waste land has been improved and brought into cultivation within the last twenty years, and the draining of wet and *sputy* land has rapidly increased, in some instances at the expense of the landlord, and in others at that of the tenant himself.

*Leases.*—The general duration of the leases of arable farms is from thirteen to nineteen years; and of sheep farms, from nine to thirteen. The style of farm-houses has been much improved of late; many of them are comfortable and covered with slate. Were the farms more subdivided with sufficient inclosures, the industrious tenant would be more encouraged in going on with his improvements. Oats are sown about the 22d of March. Potatoes planted about the end of April. Barley and turnips are sown in the middle of May. Very little flax is now raised in this parish. The kinds of oats sown are the Flemish, the Cupar-grange, the Hopetoun, and the Blainslie. The straw of the Cupar-grange is reckoned the best for feeding cattle, but the others are earlier and more productive, particularly the Flemish. The smooth barley is preferred to the rough bearded sort, and fetches a better price in the market. The barley sells at 19s. 3d. per imperial boll; the oats and oat meal at 14s. 6d. the boll of 140 lbs. avoirdupois imperial weight.

The valued rent of the parish is L. 3278, 10s.

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Means of Communication.*—The village of Callander has its advantages. There is here a daily post; a coach that runs to and returns from, Stirling every lawful day in summer, and twice a-week in winter. Post-chaises and cars are to be had for hire, and there are regular carriers to Edinburgh, Stirling, and Glasgow.



*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church is situated in the centre of the village, and is a neat building, with a spire and bell. It was built about the year 1773, and seated to contain 800. The seats are divided among the different heritors, according to their valued rents, and by them portioned out among their tenants. The manse was built in the same year. An addition was given to the present incumbent in 1810; and the former manse repaired at the same time. It is a comfortable, convenient house, delightfully situated on the banks of the Teath. The glebe contains about 11 acres of very good land. There are no free teinds in the parish. The present stipend, as fixed by a scheme of locality in 1817, is 97 bolls, 1 peck, 1 lippy of meal, 48 bolls, 2 firloths, 2 lippies barley, and L. 72, 14s. 2½d. of money. Divine service in the church is generally well attended; but the extent of the parish renders it necessary that it should be performed at other stations as well as in the parish church. Hence it is customary for the minister to preach occasionally at Bridge of Turk, about six miles from this—and also upon the side of Loch Catharine, at a greater distance. The number of communicants may be about 700. Number of Episcopalians, 2; Seceders, 4; Independents about 16; Roman Catholics, 6. The people are attached to the Church of Scotland. The average amount of collections at the church is in summer L. 1, 10s., and in winter L. 1, which collections are distributed among the poor of the parish.

*Education.*—There are a parochial school, and two others upon the establishment of the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge.—In the parochial school, the following branches are taught: Latin, Greek, mathematics, arithmetic, book-keeping, mensuration, English, Gaelic, and writing. In the school at Bridge of Turk, there are taught, Latin, English, Gaelic, arithmetic, writing; and the other school is for sewing, reading, writing, arithmetic, and English grammar. The parochial schoolmaster's salary is the maximum, and the school fees may average from L. 30 to L. 40 per annum. The salary paid by the Society to the teacher at Bridge of Turk is L. 15; the school fees may be about L. 1, 10s. The teacher of the sewing and reading school has a salary of L. 6. Much praise is due to the excellent Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge; but for it, thousands in the Highlands would have been deprived of the means of instruction. The people are alive to the benefits of education. All in this parish have the means of instruction, and all from six years and upwards can read. A very visible

change in the conduct, morals, &c. of the people has taken place, since the facilities of education were increased.

*Libraries.*—There are three libraries in the parish supported by subscription, consisting of Histories, Travels, Religious publications, &c., and the books are lent out upon paying a small sum quarterly or yearly.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The regular poor upon the roll amount to about 45. The funds from which they are alimented, are the collections in the church, with the interest of L. 200, amounting in all to between L. 70 and L. 80. These funds are managed by the kirk-session. On emergencies, the heritors make a voluntary contribution to assist the kirk-session funds. Much is done privately in this way by the family of Perth, who not only give money, but a regular supply of meal, clothing and coals, to a number of poor. Besides this, there are several opulent resident individuals who are very liberal in their donations, and when applied to in any cases of peculiar distress, cheerfully contribute to alleviate the sufferings of the indigent.

*Fairs.*—There are several fairs held in the parish, one in the month of May for black-cattle, sheep and horses. This fair is called Cockhill, from its being held upon a hill of that name. The stance for the market is given free by Mr Hunter, the proprietor of the lands. Another very considerable market is held in March, called *Feill ma Chessaig*. There are also two or three smaller fairs for the sale of lambs, hiring of reapers, and the transaction of country business.

*Inns.*—Callander forms a regular stage on the road from Stirling to the West Highlands. Owing to this, as well as to the Trosachs being in the parish, it is much frequented by travellers, for whose accommodation a large inn was built some years ago, to which an addition has been made this year. There are other inns in the village, and one on the banks of Loch Achray, near Loch Catharine.

*Fuel.*—Owing to the improvement in the roads, coal is much more generally used as fuel, than it was twenty years ago; and although it is carried from Bannockburn, a distance of eighteen miles, it is found to be cheaper than the making and carrying of turf or peat. The latter, however, is still much used, and found about a mile from Callander.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

There is a marked improvement in the state of this parish since the former Statistical Account was written, particularly in husbandry.

Rich crops of oats, barley, turnips, and potatoes, may be seen growing upon places, which, a few years ago, were covered with barren heath, or so swampy that the cattle could not get access to the few tufts of grass that might appear here and there. Still there remains much to be done, a great deal of land is to be seen lying waste, and in a state of nature, which at a little expense might be brought into cultivation, and abundantly repay all trouble and outlay.

The attention paid by graziers to the breed of cattle has greatly promoted improvement in this respect, and several farms in the parish are noted for the excellence of stock, both of black cattle and sheep. Great attention is paid to the smearing of sheep in the beginning of winter, and selecting proper places in the low country for the wintering of the hogs, so that both the carcase of the animal, and quality of the wool are benefited thereby. The wool is sent to Bannockburn, Glasgow, and Liverpool, and bought by the carpet-manufacturers. Although much has been done by some of the proprietors in the way of planting, there is still a great deal of waste land unfit for tillage, which, if planted, would both beautify the face of the country, and enhance the value of property. Considerable improvement has taken place within these few years in the management of the police of the country; yet there are many crimes allowed to pass with impunity. Would it not tend much to diminish crime if there were fewer licenses granted for selling spirits, and more attention paid to the character of the persons to whom licenses are given?

*November 1837.*

## PARISH OF RHYND.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JAMES TRAQUAIR, MINISTER.

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### L—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Extent, &c.*—RHYND, a term which, we are informed, signifies in the Gaelic language, a *point*, is a small parish situated at the confluence of the Tay and Earn. It is 4 miles in length, and about 1 mile in breadth, resembling, in some respects, an acute-angled triangle. It is bounded on the west, by the parishes of Dunbarney and Perth; on the north and east, by the parishes of Kinfauns and St Madoes, from which it is separated by the Tay; and on the south, by the parish of Abernethy, from which it is separated by the Earn.

As might have been supposed from its situation, the land on the south-east part of the parish, and near the confluence of the rivers, is extremely flat and level, consisting chiefly of clay, intermixed, occasionally, with black loam of the finest quality. In the north-west part of the parish, and behind Moncrieff-hill, it is considerably elevated, and slopes gradually towards the Tay, and is rather of a sharp or gravelly nature, but calculated, when properly cultivated, to repay abundantly the labours of the husbandman.

From the low and flat situation of the greater part of the parish, the air is somewhat moist and hazy, but not unhealthy. It is rather, as we know from experience, the *reverse*. The wind, which blows from the west, sometimes with great violence, and the immense currents of fresh water, which are continually flowing along the two sides of it, tend to purify the atmosphere, and to purge it from the noxious qualities with which it might be apt to be impregnated.—Individuals of every rank and condition of life, often attain, here, an extreme old age, eighty or ninety years being no uncommon or extraordinary occurrence. To this parish, accordingly, we are informed, the inhabitants of Perth, in the days of old, resorted in great numbers, when the plague was raging, in that ill-fated city, and spreading, in all directions, its baleful and destructive influence.

In the course of the last year, also, it may not be improper to observe, only two funerals of the parishioners entered the church-yard, — a sufficient proof of the salubrity of the clime, and of its congeniality to the human constitution.

*Topographical Appearances.*—This parish, as might have been supposed from its situation, is possessed of considerable local beauty. The shelving banks of its rivers, adorned in many places, with stately trees, or with shrubs and bushes,—the meandering of its mighty waters, often in serpentine mazes, along its flats and haughs—the movement of vessels of various descriptions, up and down their channels, at every flux and reflux of the tide, supplying the wants, and administering to the comforts of the inhabitants, who live in the neighbourhood, are calculated to delight the eye, and to charm the imagination.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—There is no resident proprietor in the parish. The Earl of Wemyss and March, the principal heritor, resides at Gosford House, in the county of Haddington, and Mr Macgill of Kembach, the other heritor, resides at Kembach House, in the county of Fife.

*Antiquities.*—This parish appears to have been well known in former times. It was among its woods and winding streams, we are informed, that Wallace, occasionally, was wont to skulk from the malice of his enemies, while he was endeavouring to avenge the injuries of his country, and to deliver his countrymen from a foreign yoke. The nunnery of Elcho, the ruins of which are still visible, demonstrates the skill and judgment of the priesthood in the dark ages, as well as the power and influence of which they were possessed, who always selected, as might have been anticipated, the most eligible situations for erecting those edifices, where literary leisure, as well as piety and peace, might take up their abode, but which, from the folly and weakness of mankind, were often perverted to other and very different purposes.

The Castle of Elcho, situated on the banks of the Tay, at present also in a ruinous condition, must at one period have been a place of some notoriety. Its walls are of considerable strength and thickness, and built of very hard and durable materials. The battlement, on its summit, to which there is access by several winding stairs, which are still in good preservation, affords a varied and extensive prospect up and down the river in all directions. The present noble proprietor has, lately, much indeed to his ho-

nour, covered it with a new roof, in order to preserve from the further injuries of the weather, the residence of many of his illustrious ancestors.

### III.—POPULATION.

The resident inhabitants of the parish are the cottagers, who live in small huts or cottages, scattered up and down, and the fishers, who are employed in the Tay and Earn, and who are also occasionally employed by the farmers to assist them in their agricultural operations; together with two or three tradesmen, whose labours are continually required.

There is no public-house of any kind in the parish—a circumstance which the inhabitants have little reason to regret.

The parish was at one period much more populous than it is at present. At the period of the former Statistical Account, it amounted to 495; it is now, only 400. This diminution was occasioned by throwing into one large farm, a considerable number of small parcels of land, which were occupied by separate and distinct tenants, and who, of consequence, were compelled to leave the place, and remove to other situations, where they could find employment. Of the present population, 88 belong to the Secession, and the remainder adhere to the Established Church.

Number of families in the parish,	74
chiefly employed in agriculture,	24
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	10

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The parish is almost wholly an agricultural parish. The cultivation of the land is the great object which engages attention. The soil, which, in many places, is chiefly alluvial, is of the richest quality, and calculated to produce the most abundant crops. The deep and navigable rivers, by which, on two sides, it is bounded, afford to its inhabitants every facility for exporting their surplus produce, as well as for importing those articles of which they may stand in need, and which are the produce of other lands, or of manufacturing industry.

The farms in this parish, which are at present only six in number, seem of a proper magnitude or dimension for conducting, on a large scale, agricultural operations. They vary from 190 to 400 acres and upwards. They are furnished with suitable steadings, and with dwelling-houses for the tenants, adapted to their circumstances and condition in life, and to the rank and station which they may be supposed to occupy in society.

Though there is no resident heritor or proprietor in the parish,

as was before observed, the want, as far as agriculture is concerned, is not greatly felt. The tenants are, in general, men of skill and capital, as well as of activity and industry, and are, devotedly, attached to their profession,—the most important, without doubt, that can occupy the attention of mankind. They farm on the most approved methods. Their leases are of various duration, varying according to circumstances. Those, for example, on the lands of the Earl of Wemyss and March, are commonly of nineteen years continuance, with few or no restrictions, except towards their conclusion; while those, on the contrary, on the lands of Mr Macgill have been of fourteen, fifteen, and even in one instance, of thirty-eight years continuance, or a double nineteen,—at the expiration of which, it may not be improper to observe, the rental of the lands was nearly quintupled, through the attention and industry of the tenant, and the altered state of the country.

The staple article of their produce is wheat, which the farmers raise in considerable quantities, as well as barley, oats, beans, &c. of the finest quality. Potatoes have, also, of late years been raised in considerable quantities for the London market, and by the price which they have procured, in that great emporium, have not unfrequently, tended to compensate, in some measure, the evils of a bad or deficient harvest.

Before the cultivation of potatoes, on the present large and extensive scale, it was not an unusual practice to lay down in fallow a certain proportion of the land, in the general course of rotation. The raising, however, of this valuable article for the London market has, in many cases, superseded or rendered this practice unnecessary, as the attention, labour, and care, which are necessary for its production, tend thoroughly to clean the ground, and to prepare it for a succession of culmiferous crops. If, therefore, this useful esculent, the native of a foreign clime, should, in the course of time, happen to die out,—a circumstance which is not impossible, the want would be greatly felt, not only by the country at large, to whom it affords an abundant supply of wholesome provision, but also by the husbandman, to whose exhausted fields it affords a seasonable and refreshing change.

On the flats and levels, where the water might be apt to stagnate, draining is practised in this parish, with the happiest success. The tenants seem to be fully aware of the necessity of keeping the ground dry, if they expect to receive a suitable recompense for their labours.

The most prudent and judicious means have, of late, been employed by the Earl of Wemyss and March, for extending the boundaries of the parish, as well as increasing the value of his own already valuable domains. A small island in the Tay, contiguous to his Lordship's farm of Easter Rhynd, was with much labour, joined to the mainland, by a narrow road. Reeds and osiers were planted along its margin, in order to consolidate the fresh mould, and to detain the mud and the other "*debris*" which might be left at every high tide. At length, when the earth was sufficiently consolidated, and a sufficient accumulation had been made, by carrying out the embankment, upwards of sixty acres of the finest land have been procured, which require no manure, and will require none for a considerable time to come, and which produce, more especially in dry seasons, the most abundant and luxuriant crops.

By joining to the mainland another island contiguous to his Lordship's farm of Balhepburn, and by adopting a similar mode of procedure, a process, which is at present, going forward, it is believed, that upwards of 200 acres of land of a similar quality will be obtained, in a short period; besides deepening the channel of the river, and rendering it more adapted for the purposes of navigation,—an important circumstance in this large and extensive county.

The noble proprietor of these lands may, therefore, in some respects, be considered as a benefactor to his country. If the individual, who causes two stalks of corn to grow where only one grew before, be regarded as a patriot or a friend to his species, in what light, ought that individual to be regarded, who causes the richest fields to arise where none were before, or where were only fens and morasses sending forth noxious exhalations, and who is the means of producing provisions for many of his brethren of mankind.

From these and many other circumstances which might be mentioned, the rental of the parish has of late years very considerably increased. At the period of the former Statistical Account, it was L. 1600. It now amounts to upwards of L. 6000, varying, however, according to the county fiars, by which a large proportion of the rent of the farms is paid. The salmon fisheries also, which at the above-mentioned period, were let for L. 300, are now let for L. 600.

The number of acres, at present, under cultivation, is about 1700. There are 100 acres in plantation, and 50 acres behind Moncrieff



hill, belonging to the estate of Kembach, in a state of nature, overgrown with furze and broom, but which seem well adapted for larches, or the several species of hard wood, and which, in the course of time, would abundantly repay the expense of their cultivation, besides beautifying and adorning the country, already, in many places, too bare and naked.

There is no village of any kind in the parish, nor any turnpike, and the roads through it, which are kept in good repair, are supported by the statute labour.

The tenants, chiefly, employ upon their farms, unmarried servants, who live together in a small house termed a "*bothy*," one of which is attached to each farm,—a circumstance, not perhaps, the most favourable for their morals, as they are thereby, in some measure removed from the inspection and superintendence of their masters. They are often extremely migratory, removing frequently at the expiration of the year, according as humour or caprice may dictate, and, like birds of passage, taking their departure to other lands.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church is situated at the south-east corner of the parish, most inconveniently for the great body of the parishioners. It is extremely narrow, and appears, from some inscriptions upon the walls, to have been built more than two hundred years ago. The floor, which is composed of clay, is about two feet below the level of the church-yard without, and is, of consequence, extremely damp and uncomfortable. The timber of the windows is so much corroded by the injuries of time, as in some places, to be almost reduced to dust, and in other places, has literary fallen from the glass. A plan for a new church has, however, been drawn, and which, it is hoped, will soon be built in a more eligible situation.

The manse is a modern edifice, having been built about twenty years ago. The glebe consists of 6 Scotch acres or thereby, and the stipend amounts to 15 chalders of victual, nearly one-half oatmeal, and the other half barley, payable by the highest county fiars, and L. 100 Scots for communion elements. The Earl of Wemyss and March is patron.

There are in the parish 20 Dissenting or Seceding families.

*Education.*—The school is situated much more conveniently, being in the middle of the parish, and is attended by nearly 70 scholars, who are instructed in the various branches of education

usually taught, such as English reading, English grammar, geography, arithmetical, Latin, &c. on the most approved methods. The schoolmaster has the highest salary allowed by law, and a house and garden of such value as to entitle him to a vote in the county. He is allowed L. 5 annually as clerk of session, and for collecting and distributing the poor's money, and may realize about L. 25 per annum from the school fees.

The people of the parish seem to be feelingly alive to the benefits of education. There is none of them but can read and write, and go through the simple rules of arithmetic. The children are sent to school at a very early period, and the fees are made low for their accommodation.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The number of poor upon the list is commonly about 8, who receive each at an average 2s. per week, and 10s. per annum for coals, and L. 1 per annum for house rent. There are others, however, who occasionally receive small donations to assist them in exigencies, and to prevent them from becoming regular paupers. As the collection at the church is extremely inconsiderable, as well as the other funds, an assessment is laid upon the parish according to law, to make up the sum that may be required. The amount of church collections for the poor is about L. 5 per annum; from assessment, L. 35. The poor have also the benefit of the interest of L. 150 lodged in the hands of the kirk-session.

November 1837.

## PARISH OF ERROL.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JAMES GRIERSON, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE most ancient form in which the name of this parish appears in the records, is *Arroll*, although at a very early period we also find it written *Erroll*. These two different forms of its orthography continued to be used indiscriminately, till the end of the seventeenth century. The name is now written Errol, and is probably derived from the Gaelic word *Ear-iul*, which signifies, *Eastern landmark*,—a designation which the place might very na-

turally receive from persons entering this part of Scotland, by sailing up the estuary of the Tay.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—The parish is an irregular four-sided figure, somewhat approaching that of a *trapezoid*,—its longest side being that which coincides with the bank of the Tay on the south, and its narrowest extremity being that toward the southwest. The length of its southern boundary is rather more than 6 miles, but its average length does not exceed  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Its breadth at the eastern extremity is about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles, while toward the western extremity it is not more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Its entire extent may be estimated nearly at 15 square miles, so that it contains about 8600 imperial acres. It is bounded on the south by the Tay; on the west by the parish of St Madoes; on the north-west by Kinfauns; on the north by Kilspindie and Kinnaird; and on the east by Inchtute. The parish of Errol thus occupies the most central situation of the Carse of Gowrie, being at the one extremity only 7 miles distant from the city of Perth, and at the other, little more than 9 miles from the town of Dundee; while, in its breadth, it extends from the Tay, to within half a mile of the foot of those hills which form the northern boundary of the Carse.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The general surface of the parish is low and flat. With the exception of two beautiful eminences, which swell up from the bosom of the surrounding plain, the whole eastern half of the parish is almost an entire level, being scarcely anywhere more than 26 feet above the high-water-mark of the river. The western half, however, though less fertile, is more diversified. The village of Errol, which is situate at little more than half a mile of direct distance from the river, and therefore much nearer to the southern than the northern boundary, is, in regard to the length of the parish, almost exactly in the middle. At the distance of about a quarter of a mile to the east of the village, there commences the largest of those eminences which diversify the western division of the parish. To the west of the village, this ridge assumes considerable breadth, receding also a good deal farther from the river, and continues onward, with occasional irregularities, but on the whole diminishing in elevation to the western extremity, and prolonged through the small parish of St Madoes. Not quite a mile to the north of this principal ridge, and nearly opposite the middle of its course, is another ridge, of rather more than three quarters of a mile in length, and

which, though connected at its eastern extremity with the former, runs afterwards in a parallel direction. About half a mile north of this second ridge, is a third, which is parallel to both, but shorter in its extent, and much inferior in its elevation. The only other eminence in the parish is about a mile to the north of the village of Errol, quite insulated in its position, not much exceeding a mile in circumference, and, like the last of the three parallel ridges, probably not more than 30 or 35 feet above the general level of the district. As to the height of the principal ridge already described, the centre of the public street at the cross of the village, is, by recent measurement, 116 feet above the low water mark of the river, and the platform of the sun-dial to the south of the mansion-house of Errol Park is 132 feet above the same level. About a mile farther west than this point, and on the estate of Murie, the ridge is apparently some feet higher; but even there it cannot exceed 140 or 145 feet.

The river Tay forms the southern boundary of the parish through the whole of its extent. The bank is very flat, seldom more than 20 feet, even above the high-water mark.

*Meteorology.*—The general temperature of the atmosphere in this district is milder than usual in the same latitude. This is what might naturally be anticipated, from the slight elevation of the surface above the level of the sea; from its being sheltered on the north by a range of hills, none of which rise so high as to be within the region of much cold; and from the absence, generally, of those violent currents of wind which are often felt in deep contracted valleys.

The mean height of the thermometer, as ascertained by daily observations, taken at a quarter past nine o'clock A. M., and continued for seven years, is 48.497, and the mean height for the same period, by observations taken at half-past eight o'clock P. M., is 46.889. The mean daily temperature for the year, taken from the average of seven years, is 48.198. The mean temperature for the separate months of the year, taking the same average, will be seen from the following tabular view.

Mean temperature of each month, on an average of seven years, from observations taken at a quarter past nine o'clock A. M.

<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>March.</i>	<i>April.</i>	<i>May.</i>	<i>June.</i>
36.777	39.683	42.086	47.109	53.674	60.385
<i>July.</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sep.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>
62.070	60.166	54.885	49.649	41.142	40.714

The mean of these observations, at a quarter past nine A. M. is

between one and two degrees higher than the mean daily temperature for the respective months.

The average of the greatest heights which the thermometer has reached for seven years, is  $76^{\circ}$ ; and that of the lowest to which it has sunk is  $19^{\circ}$ .

As to the pressure of the atmosphere, it may be stated, that the average height of the barometer, at a quarter past nine o'clock A. M. for seven years, is 29.648, and at half-past eight o'clock P. M., 29.657. With one exception, the average of any one month, during these years, has not varied from this more than a few decimals; but there have been some rare instances in which the instrument has been as high as 30.40, 30.50, and even 30.56, and others in which it has been as low as 28.44, 28.38, and even 28.10.

As to the prevailing winds of this district, it is enough to mention, that, on an average of seven years, there are found to have been 172 days on which the wind has been from the south and south-west; 138 on which it has been from the east and south-east; 89 on which it has been from the west and north-west; and 23 on which it has been from the east and north-east. The most frequent rains, however, are from the east, owing, no doubt, to the proximity of the German Ocean in that direction, the accumulation of vapour from which is one of the surest prognostics of rain.

The climate is mild, and, on the whole, rather dry than moist. On an average of twelve years, the number of fair days in the year is found to be 211, and the number of days on which there has been rain or snow is 154. The average quantity of rain which falls within the year, is 26 inches. In ordinary years, harvest commences by the middle of August, and is quite general in the third week of that month. The climate on the whole is salubrious.

It is proper to add, that less snow falls on the Carse than on the surrounding districts, and that what does fall on it sooner disappears.

*Hydrography.*—The Tay is the only river or frith which is connected with this parish—forming, as has been already stated, its southern boundary. Along the whole of this line, the Tay may be considered as a frith rather than a river, since it has at this part of its course acquired an average breadth of little less than two miles. The ordinary increase of depth, at the time of stream tides, is about 13 or 14 feet, but, under particular circumstances, it sometimes amounts to fully 17 feet.

Although the parish is not intersected by any river, there are three or four large drains, which, under the name of *pows*, serve to convey through the district the streams which are formed in the neighbouring hills on the north, together with all the surface water which is collected by the smaller drains and ditches by which the different properties and farms are subdivided. These *pows* take their origin in the north and north-west parts of the parish, and pursue a winding, irregular course, the general direction of which is toward the south and south-east, till they empty themselves into the flat shores of the estuary,—their mouths forming the small harbours by which the commerce of the district is carried on. The course of these streams appears to have been determined chiefly by natural causes, corresponding generally with that which the water, seeking its own outlet, would have followed. In their shape and dimensions, however, they are artificial. They are on an average between 10 and 15 feet wide at the top, and between 6 and 8 feet at the bottom. The depth may vary between 6 and 10 feet. Except after heavy rains or sudden thaws, they seldom contain more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  or 3 feet deep of water; but, even in the height of summer, they are never in all places entirely dry.

*Springs.*—The only springs that exist seem to have been formed by digging wells for this purpose. Most of them are perennial, but not a few are intermittent. The temperature of one of the most steady and copious of them, is  $40^{\circ}$  in winter, and  $48^{\circ}$  in summer. The water of the perennial ones is generally hard, and of a clear colour. Some of the wells have been sunk to the depth of 30, 40, and even 60 feet, without falling in with any solid rock. The one which has been sunk to the depth of 60 feet afforded no water till that depth was reached; when, apparently on the principle of Artesian wells, the fluid began to ascend, and continued ascending till it became stationary, as it still is at little more than ten feet from the surface.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The general aspect of the parish is rich and beautiful, the flatter portions of the soil making up in richness and fertility for what they want of the picturesque. There is scarcely a rood of waste land to be seen in any part of the parish, although in some places the soil is thin and sandy, or inclined to till. With the exception of the limited portion which is under wood, and of the grounds which are laid out in pasture around the mansions of the principal proprietors, the whole is under cultivation. The east

nalf of the parish consists almost entirely of the richest *carse* land ; and the chief beauty which it presents to the eye is the wide extent of those fields in which all varieties of crops are reared in the greatest luxuriance. The fields are not inclosed or divided by hedges, though, in some instances, intersected by rows of trees, and diversified, at intervals, by extensive and flourishing orchards.

The aspect of the country to the west of the village of Errol, with the exception of the broad fields of rich alluvial soil that stretch along the banks of the Tay, differs widely from that of the fields which lie to the east. Though inferior in fertility, the former is both the most elevated and the most diversified part of the parish. It not only presents a greater variety of scenery in itself, but commands a most beautiful prospect toward the upper extremity of the *carse* and the surrounding landscape. This prospect stretches, on the one hand, to the Lomond-hills in Fifeshire, and the opening of the delightful valley of Strathearn ; and, on the other, to the bold and romantic scenery of those rocky promontories, and wooded steeps which form the north-western barrier of this part of the valley of the Tay ; while, more directly in front, are seen the high grounds which rise in pastoral beauty from the very deepest part of that valley. Beyond these, is seen the loftier summit of the hill of Moncrieff, which divides the Earn and the Tay immediately above their juncture, and which, from the wide panorama which it commands over what is the richest, and also what is the wildest and the sublimest region of our native land, may be allowed to possess some claims to the proud title which its admirers have bestowed on it, in calling it *the glory of Scotland*. Such are the objects which present themselves in the more immediate neighbourhood of the position to which we have referred, on the open high ground about a mile to the west of Errol ; and beyond these, the prospect terminates in the sky, except when, in favourable states of the atmosphere, the spectator obtains a glimpse of the blue mountain tops of the western highlands of Perthshire.

Turning towards the village of Errol itself, the beauty of its situation cannot fail to arrest the attention. However irregular in its structure, yet, situate on the crown and sloping sides of an eminence which is surmounted by the lofty and umbrageous oaks, that adorn the contiguous grounds and avenues of Errol Park, and commanding a view of the richest and the most spacious of Scottish plains, which is bordered on the one side by a long range of beautiful hills, called the *Braes of the Carse*, over which is seen

the round summit of the celebrated Dunsinnan, and on the other, by the most copious and majestic of Scottish rivers,—this village, while itself a conspicuous object, is the centre of a rural amphitheatre, which cannot easily be surpassed, either in the largeness of its dimensions, or the gracefulness of its ornaments. The hills now mentioned, besides being finely diversified in their outline, are cultivated almost to their summits; and whether their inequalities are thrown into light and shade by the slanting rays of the evening sun, while they are clothed in the fresh verdure of spring, or whether, under the effulgence of the mid-day beams, they reflect the golden tints of approaching autumn, they exhibit a scene of peculiar splendour and beauty;—the intermediate valley, with its many thousands of acres of luxuriant vegetation, skirted and studded with the country seats of its proprietors; the still broader expanse of the Tay, which washes its southern border, and forms the magnificent channel by which its varied and exuberant productions are exported in those vessels which are daily to be seen dividing its sparkling waves; the distant sea-port of Dundee, distinguished alike for its manufactures and its commerce; and, more distant still, the ancient and isolated bulwark which guards the contracted outlet by which this majestic river empties itself at last into the German Ocean.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—There are only two localities within the parish, where access has been obtained to the solid strata of rocks. The one is at Murie, about a mile to the west of the village of Errol, and the other at Clashbennie, about two miles and three quarters west from that village. The general direction of the strata is in both places nearly the same,—the prevailing dip being to the south-east, the uppermost strata at an angle of  $15^{\circ}$  or  $16^{\circ}$ , and the undermost at an angle varying from  $20^{\circ}$  to  $25^{\circ}$ . The uppermost strata are those of a coarse limestone quarry at Murie, which has long been disused, and which, owing to the small percentage of lime which the rock contains, seems not to have been used at any time, except as affording a tough and durable stone for building. The solid strata at this place have not been penetrated to a greater depth than about 15 feet; but, from comparing them with the outgoings of the sandstone strata on which they evidently rest, it appears that their whole depth cannot be less than 30 feet. The sandstone here mentioned is of a yellowish white colour, pretty fine in the grain but not very hard. It does not appear to have ever been regularly quarried, and there is a



present no means of ascertaining exactly the depth or extent of the bed, though, judging by circumstances, both must be considerable.

Dipping underneath this sandstone, but with what interposed strata has not yet been ascertained, lies at the distance of fully a mile and a half to the south-west, the sandstone which is found in Clashbennie quarry, on the property of John Lee Allen, Esq. of Errol. This quarry was opened more than twenty years ago, and the excavation is now pretty extensive. The strata have in some places been quarried to the depth of 25 or 30 feet. The colour of the rock in the upper strata was of a dark red, while the texture was coarse without being particularly hard. The lower strata, however, have been of a bluish-red, or somewhat pinky colour, and of a very hard compact structure, from the great additional quantity of silicious matter which the rock contains. Between the strata, is commonly found interposed a thin layer of red clay. Their angle of inclination, as already mentioned, varies from  $20^{\circ}$  to  $25^{\circ}$ . No dike or fissure has yet been found crossing the strata, but on the south side of the quarry, as deep down as the working has yet been carried in that direction, several pieces of trap have been found, in contact with which the sandstone is considerably altered and indurated. As there has been a fall of the superincumbent earth near that spot, the exact situation of the strata cannot at present be ascertained, but appearances would lead to the conclusion, that they are a good deal deranged from beneath, and penetrated by a vein of trap. All these characters seem to justify the opinion which has generally been entertained as to this quarry, that the strata belong to the old red sandstone formation. In various places of this quarry, and occasionally, from the time when it was first opened, there have been found many fossil organic remains and impressions. These, in general, have been of small sea-shells, and seldom very entire. In many instances, the impressions seemed to be those of scales of a striated appearance, and shining with a glossy white enamel. One or two impressions of small fish had also been met with, but no specimens of any great or general interest, till the summer of last year (1836,) when the workmen fell in with a portion of a stratum, about 20 feet down in the solid rock, which contained a distinct and nearly entire impression of a fish,  $27\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, and 13 inches in breadth. That impression, or rather *model* of the fish, was contained on the under side of the stratum, and, when lifted, left its print, as it were on

the indurated layer or coating of clay which adhered to the stratum beneath. This under specimen was unfortunately broken up, instead of being preserved, as a sort of counterpart to the other. The specimen containing the fish itself was soon heard of, and purchased by the Rev. Mr Noble, of St Madoes, to whose residence the quarry of Clashbennie is almost contiguous. A full size drawing of it was soon obtained and sent to the Secretary of the British Association, at Bristol, which assembled in the end of August 1836, and was exhibited at one of the meetings, where it excited much interest. The specimen itself was afterwards conveyed to London for the inspection of the English geologists, by whom it is understood that a more exact drawing and description have been transmitted to the distinguished Professor Agassiz of Neuchatel, with a view to his determining the genus and species of this fossil fish. The opinion of that celebrated naturalist is not yet made known, and till such opinion be furnished, it would ill become an ordinary observer to say much on the subject.

We shall attempt, however, to convey to the reader some idea of the general appearance of this singular creature, although it is difficult to do so by the help of words alone. It will be observed, from the dimensions already stated, that its breadth is nearly equal to half its length, its head being small in proportion to the body. In these respects, the figure bears some resemblance to that of a tortoise,—a resemblance which is rendered the more striking by something like the rudiments of pectoral fins, and two striated fins, one on each side of the tail, pointing outwards and downwards. Besides these peculiarities, the body of the fish is irregularly covered with broad circular scales fully an inch, and some of them nearly an inch and a half in diameter, the surface of which is somewhat ribbed or grooved, and the substance of which seems to consist of a white enamel, such as is often found in smaller specimens. As far as can be recollected of these scales, they do not precisely correspond with the description of any one of the four orders into which M. Agassiz divides the class of fishes.

Singular as it may appear, when we think of the scaly covering now described, the general impression, after attentively examining this fossil animal is, that it is the abdominal or under part of the fish which is presented to the eye of the spectator. The medial line, it is true, can be traced for nearly the whole length of the body, and the slight depression which runs along that line, with the parallel rounding or elevation on each side of it, would half incline

one, at first, to think that it is the dorsal surface which is exhibited to view; but when the head is examined, with the arch of the under jaw seen distinctly within the parallel margin of the upper, no doubt can remain in regard to the aspect presented. From the whole of the statement now given, it need scarcely be added, that the position in which the fish was imbedded in the solid rock was that in which it was wont to move in its native liquid element.

After the purposes of science have been served by the thorough examination of this fossil relic, we are happy to think that it may be deposited for inspection in a public museum not far from the locality from which it was taken, a higher interest being thus imparted by each to the other.

Some months after the discovery of the specimen now described, a considerable number of small specimens were found, with scaly markings similar to the former. Nothing, however, like the impression of an entire animal was met with, except that of a small fish, whose general outline bore some resemblance to the order *Pleuronectes*, of which the flounder is a familiar species. Among other specimens, was one containing what seems to be the petrification of the eye of a small fish within its cartilaginous orbit. Besides all these, there were found about the same time, but not quite so deeply situated in the quarry, a large assemblage of specimens, each of which has some resemblance to the tapering extremity of an ordinary sized haddock, after the tail fin has been cut off. Some of them, however, are a great deal narrower, and others a great deal broader, but always tapering towards a point, though the broad ones are sometimes curved laterally, so as to present a figure somewhat resembling the falcated extremity of a heavy hedging-bill. The substance of them is the dark-red sandstone of the quarry, but they have a sort of *glazing* of red clayey matter, on which are left the impressions of diamond-shaped or triangular scales or plates, which have partly overlapped each other, and which present a surface somewhat like that of a fossil palm. These singular remains were all found intermingled in the same spot, as near each other as though they had belonged to one individual animal, but each so like the caudal extremity of a fish, as rather to intimate that they had belonged to different individuals. Whether they belonged to one or more, no trace has yet been found of any other part of the animal structure with which they were connected.

No ores worth mentioning have yet been found in any of the rocks already described. There are, however, traces of oxide of

iron in the white sandstone, but no nodules of ironstone in any of the few specimens which the writer has had an opportunity of examining. It may here be proper to remark, that this white sandstone bears a strong affinity to the *white blotches* in the more superficial, or new red sandstone, found at the distance of fully five miles in the adjoining parish of Inchtute. These blotches are generally circular, but sometimes oval, and sometimes oblong; and they appear alike frequently, whether by a vertical or a horizontal section of the strata. The circular ones are always found to result from little spherical masses, of which they are the section; and it is probably from a section of these, compressed while in a soft state, that the other figures of the blotches have been produced. These white sandstone balls are much more compact and hard than the red sandstone around them; and, in the very centre of them, there is commonly found a small nucleus of iron ore, seldom larger than a pea.

Almost the only simple minerals which have been met with in the rocks mentioned in this account are calc-spar, quartz, and calcedony.

The alluvial deposit which immediately covers the solid rocks in the particular localities already referred to, is a mixture of gravel and red clay. With regard, however, to the alluvial deposits of the parish in general, it may be stated, first, with respect to the more elevated parts, that, so far as can be ascertained by the sinking of wells, some of them 30, 40, and one of them even 60 feet in depth, the only substance met with, after passing through the till or gravel, which is immediately under the soil, is an indurated clay or *rock-marl*, as the inhabitants have called it, which becomes very friable after continued exposure to the air. After getting a few feet below the surface, this was the only material which was found in digging even the deepest of these wells, with the exception of three pretty large boulder-stones, which were met with at different depths. In the immediate neighbourhood of the limestone quarry at Murie, there was, upwards of sixty years ago, a marl pit, which, however, was never wrought to any great extent, and which has long since been covered with a young plantation.

But, secondly, as to the deposits in the other or *carse* districts of the parish, at least in the lower or eastern division, it may be stated that, soon after passing through the soil, we come to a pale blue clay, which continues for 20 or 30 feet, then to a bed of peat, varying from 3 to 18 inches in thickness; and then to quicksand,

or sometimes to rolled gravel. The writer is not aware that any animal remains have been found in these deposits, with the exception of those sea shells which are met with in great abundance, not in the clay, but in the *silt*, or thin earthy deposit, which is 15 or 16 feet below the present surface, and not more than 5 or 6 feet above the ordinary high-water mark. These shells have not been found higher up the Tay than opposite the village of Errol; but in the lower parts of the parish they are found, not only in the banks of the river, but considerably inland, toward the very centre, indeed, of the Carse. Several different species have been discovered, all having their counterparts in the living representatives which now inhabit the contiguous shores. Their existence in such a situation does not prove, perhaps, that the bed of the river was at one time as high as they now are,—for they may have been carried into their present locality by some extraordinary inundation,—but it does prove that since they were there deposited, the surface of the district has been greatly elevated by alluvial deposition. Connected with the peat, various trees, chiefly of oak, have been found imbedded and in good preservation. The writer has conversed with a man who told him that he recollects distinctly of hearing his father state that, at a period about forty years ago, the latter was engaged in digging in a piece of very low ground on the estate of Megginch, not many feet beneath the surface, when he and his fellow labourer found a small anchor, the figure of which was tolerably preserved, but which mouldered down or went to pieces when lifted.

Such a circumstance as that now mentioned has sometimes been adduced in support of the opinion, that the bed of the Tay was at one period on the north, as it is now on the south side of the Carse. Any one, however, who carefully examines the whole of the particular localities, will perceive that to such an opinion there are insuperable objections. But there is proof in abundance, if not that the whole district must, at one time, have been an immense lake or extended estuary, at least, that the greater part of it must have been under water. The principal elevations in the Carse have been distinguished for time immemorial, by names which imply that they had at first been islands. During this state of things, boats must, of course, have been required for the convenience of the inhabitants, a circumstance which might account for such a discovery as that to which we have now adverted. The gradual manner, too, in which these *circular* islands were enlarged, by the gra-

dual subsidence and draining of the water, may partly account for the *curvilinear* form of the ridges, which has been so universally and inviolably maintained in the agriculture of the Carse lands, and which no one has hitherto attempted to alter, by casting the finest and richest of the long cultivated soil which was accumulated on the *crown* of the ridges, into an opposite position, without ultimately incurring the serious evil of a greatly diminished rate of production.

The various soils appear to have been transported. On the elevated parts of the parish, the prevailing soil is a black earth, in some places of great depth, but in others very shallow. The sub-soil in these elevated situations is generally till or clay, but sometimes it is gravelly or sandy; the soil, in the one case, being naturally wet, and in the other dry. In the low lands, the soil is clayey, containing, in some situations, a considerable intermixture of sand, and being in all greatly modified and improved by long-continued cultivation, and the constant addition of decayed vegetable and animal productions.

The only plants which need be noticed as particularly attached to the soil, are the *Arundo phragmites*, now *Phragmites communis*, or common reed; *Scirpus lacustris*, or tall bullrush; and the *Scirpus triquetter*, or triangular club-rush. The first of these is to be found in all the moist localities of the Low Carse, and it was many years ago regularly planted on the low shores of the Tay, to check the encroachments which the tides were then constantly making on the banks.

*Zoology*.—This parish contains no particular quadrupeds, but is rich in birds. The following are the rarest species: starling, rose-coloured ouzel, snow bunting, lesser redpole, goldfinch, hoopoe, kingfisher, turtle dove, quail, and wild swan. The more ample list furnished by H. M. Drummond, Esq. we regret our limited space prevents us inserting. We may here notice, that after the long intense heat of the summer 1826, the wheat crops were, for four successive years, but especially for the years 1828, 1829, and 1830, very grievously injured by the depredations of the wheat-fly, myriads of which deposited their eggs in the soft pulpy ears of the grain just before it came into flower, and which were no sooner hatched into maggots than they began to devour it. During those three years, it has been computed that, at an average, not less than a third or fourth of the wheat crop was rendered useless, and that, in the whole district of the

Carse of Gowrie, including the *Braes*, a pecuniary loss was thus sustained of not less than L. 96,000.

*Botany*.—There are few rare plants found in this parish. The only ones worth mentioning have been communicated to the writer by Mr Gorrie, Annat Garden. They are the following: *Pyrola rotundifolia*, or round-leaved winter-green; *Dianthus Armeria*, or Deptford pink; *Ranunculus hirsutus*, or pale hairy Crowfoot; and *Bidens tripartita*, or trifold bur-marigold.

There are no forests in the parish, and few plantations. Of the latter, the chief are those which were planted upwards of fifty years ago for the farther protection of the banks of the river against the action of the tide,—those which have been employed for shelter and ornament around the pleasure-grounds of the principal proprietors,—and those which have been found to be the fittest occupants of some of the poorer parts of the soil. In the first of these situations, nothing but hard-wood has been employed; in the second, there is a large proportion of larch, which, however, does appear to agree with the dampness of the soil; and in the third, it has been found expedient to admit a majority of Scotch firs. The species of tree to which the strong soils of the Carse are best adapted, is decidedly the oak. Of this, some very noble specimens are to be seen, both in Errol Park and in some of the other properties. There is one, a little to the east of the park-wall at Megginch, which measures 13 feet in circumference, at the height of about 3 feet from the ground. At Murie, there is a very aged Lammas pear-tree, which has a circumference of 12 feet, at the height of 4½ feet from the surface. Above that, it had divided itself into three main branches or arms, one of which has been torn off, at a distant date, by the violence of some tempest. The *tallest* pear-trees, however, in the parish are to be found at Seaside, and on the contiguous property of Bog-mill. In the orchard at the latter place, there is one which cannot be less than 50 feet high, and another which, though not so lofty, is the oldest fruit tree in the Carse, its age being thought to be not less than 300 years. At the former place, there is another pear-tree, which presents a very singular appearance. It also is of great antiquity. The height of the trunk, before it divides into two principal branches, is fully 15 feet. At 5½ feet from the ground, the diameter of the trunk is not less than 3 feet 6 inches, and at twice that height it is still nearly 3 feet in diameter. But the interior of the trunk is so completely decayed, that a person of

ordinary stature may walk through it, almost without stooping. The two main branches seem prolonged down to the ground, touching each other, and adhering only above the middle of the stem, and thus forming a kind of St Andrew's cross, consisting, at the lower extremities, of little less than the rigid bark. This venerable representative of past ages still continues to bear fruit. To these notices, it may be added, that there are at Megginch Castle a few holly trees, one of which is at the base  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet in circumference, while another has shot up as straight as the mast of a ship, to the height of fully 50 feet. There is, at the same place, a very large walnut tree, and an aged thorn, the trunk of which is 6 feet in circumference.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The earliest accounts of the parish of Errol are derived from popular tradition.

*Family of Hay.*—Referring to the tradition respecting the family of Hay, noticed in the Account of Redgorton in this work, (p. 175,) we have to observe, that whatever value be attached to this tradition, the oldest charter belonging to the estate of Errol, and constituting it a barony, was granted in the time of William the Lion, who reigned from 1166 to 1214. It farther appears, that in 1255, Gilbert de Hay of Errol disposed to his brother William, the property of Leys,—a property lying within the parish, and previously forming the eastern portion of his own. This property of Leys is the only one in the parish which continues to the present day in the possession of the lineal descendant of the original proprietor. It is reported that the second and third sons of the grandson of the said William Hay of Leys became the first proprietors of two of the oldest estates in the neighbourhood. The eldest branch of the Hay family was created Earl of Errol in 1452, in the time of James II. The estate and the earldom continued united till the days of Charles I., when the noble possessor, after having lived in great splendour, was obliged to sell the estate in 1634. This eldest branch of the family ended in a female, who, in 1720, was married to the Earl of Kilmarnock.

The writer is not aware of any written accounts of the parish, either ancient or modern, except the brief description which is to be found in the former Statistical Account of Scotland. He has had an opportunity, however, of consulting the fifth and sixth volumes of an ancient geographical work in folio, written in Latin, and published at Amsterdam in 1662, in the latter of which a



pretty full account is given of the geography of Scotland, and, among other districts, of the Carse of Gowrie. These volumes are enriched by a series of provincial maps, which are very minute and very curious, and show with what tenacity even the most obscure hamlets retain the same names from generation to generation. It unfortunately happens, that the map for this district has been abstracted, but several of the localities in the outskirts can be traced in the maps of the adjoining districts. The volumes in question are in the possession of Vice-Admiral Drummond of Megginch.\*

The lowest parts of the parish, and that which, as being often flooded and the last in being drained, was called the *Myres*, were, in 1742, by order of the Court of Session, divided among the principal proprietors. They amounted in all to some hundreds of acres.

*Remarkable Occurrences.*—The most memorable and important occurrence within the memory of man, was the formation, about forty-six years ago, of the great turnpike road through the carse, between Perth and Dundee, with the branches connecting it with the principal harbours on this side of the Tay, such as the Pow of Errol, now Port-Allen, and Polgavie.

Another occurrence worthy of notice is connected with the state of the river, during the intense frost which prevailed in the month of January 1814. So completely was the Tay, at that time, blocked up, with an accumulation of ice, that, although the distance between Port-Allen and Newburgh is fully two miles, the passage was made by several persons on foot, and so near the time when the storm broke up, that some who crossed the river in this manner returned, next tide, or at least next day, by the passage-boat!

*Eminent men.*—Of distinguished individuals connected with this parish, we may mention the Right Honourable the Earl of Northesk, who resided in it as proprietor of the estate of Errol, at least from the year 1697 till 1714. We may also mention the Rev. John Strang, D. D., who was minister from 1614 to 1626, when he was translated to be Principal of the University of Glasgow; and in particular the Rev. Lauchlan Macintosh, of Dalmunzie, who was minister of this parish from 1724 till 1744. After the

\* The title of the volume on Scotland is, "Geographiæ Blavianæ, Volumen vi. quo libri 12; 13, Europæ continentur. A. n. stælædami, 1662." It contains the ancient tradition about the battle of Luncarty.

death of the Rev. Samuel Nairne, in the month of December 1720, the heritors and kirk-session, although the act of Queen Anne, restoring patronage, had been in operation since 1712, proceeded, agreeably to the usage under the previous act of William and Mary, 1690, to make choice of and *call* a minister to the vacant charge,—the patron not interfering in the matter. Several individuals were proposed, and some of them called, but various difficulties arose in the church courts, to their settlement. At last, in April 1722, an unanimous call was addressed to Mr Macintosh, then minister at Dunning. The presbytery of Auchterarder refused to loose him from his existing charge. A new series of attempts were then made by the heritors, elders, and people of Errol, to obtain a minister, but still without success, latterly because no individual could be found who commanded a decided majority in his favour. In these circumstances, a second unanimous call was addressed to Mr Macintosh in November 1724; and the consent of his presbytery having then been obtained, he was, to the great delight of the parish, admitted to his new charge by the presbytery of Perth, *jure devoluto*, February 17, 1725.

This eminent man was one of the three ministers who were sent by the Commission of the General Assembly, 1734, “to address the King and Parliament, for obtaining relief from the grievance of patronage.” In 1736, he was chosen moderator of the General Assembly; and, in 1743, he was urged by many ministers again to become a candidate for that distinguished office; but declined it. The same year, while attending to his duties in that venerable court, he was seized with an epidemic, then raging in Edinburgh, from the effects of which he never recovered. He died on the 13th of May 1744.

The only other person to be mentioned in this place is John Barclay, A. M., a native of the parish of Muthill, but who, in 1760, became assistant to the Rev. James Jobson, minister of Errol, and in this capacity resided in it for some time. This individual afterwards became famous as the founder of the sect of the Bereans.

*Land-owners.*—The chief of the present land-owners of the parish are:—John Lee Allen, Esq. of Errol; Lieutenant Colonel Allen, of Inchmartin; the Right Honourable Lord Kinnaird; Miss Spence Yeaman, of Murie; David Balfour Hay, Esq. of Leys; Vice-Admiral Drummond, of Megginch; Laurence Craigie, Esq. of Glendoick; Charles Hunter, Esq. of Glencarse and Seaside; James Matthew, Esq. of Waterybutts; Society of Ship-

masters of Dundee ; Henry Black Stewart, Esq. of Balnakeilly ; and John Gardiner, Esq. of Carse-Grange.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers commence in the times of the Reformation. Including the session records, and the accounts connected with the management of the poor, (all of which are generally imbodied in different parts of the same volume), they extend to thirteen volumes, coming down to the year 1837 inclusive. The first entry in the register of baptisms is dated December 27, 1553. Till within the last three years, there is no separate register of deaths or burials, except from 1783 to 1789. In the session records, there is a blank between the years 1654 and 1666 ; and from the year 1788 to 1819, there are only a few detached minutes, but no regular record.

The early records of the kirk-session contain many curious entries. We hope to be indulged in extracting a few lines from them, at a period of great interest to the church and the nation—that of the glorious Revolution.

“ *Subbath—Sept. 8th 1689.*—No sermon because the troopers came into ye toun with sound of trumpet and dissipat the people ; and the Minr. was informed yt they would offer violence to him.”

The minister here referred to was Dr John Nicolson, who was soon after *deprived*, because, as appears from the minute of heritors and elders, when proceeding (January 1691) to nominate and call a successor, he would not submit to the new Government, nor conform to the ecclesiastical constitution which had then been established. An honourable testimony, however, was borne to his faithfulness in the discharge of his ministerial duties. It is dated November 1, 1689, and is expressed in the following quaint but affecting terms:—

“ The session this day with ane voice declared, yt the doctor had been very painful and faithful in ye exercise of all the points and parts of ye ministerial function among yem.”\*

*Antiquities*—There are few antiquities in the parish. Similar to the large stone, at the village of Hawkstane, just within the boundary of the parish of St Madoes, are two others in this parish, both in

\* To this account of the parochial records may be appended a list of all who have been ministers of the parish since the Reformation. This list, the accuracy of which has been fully verified, was made out in the year 1822 by Mr Scott, preacher, who was at that time contemplating a general index of this kind for every parish in Scotland. The dates refer to the year of admission: 15—, Alexander Dunmuir. 1581, James Smyth. 1614, John Strang, D. D. 1626, Alexander Orney. 1640, Thomas Halyburton. 1652, William Bell. 1666, John Nicolson, D. D. 1692, Samuel Nairne. 1725, Lauchlan Macintosh. 1744, James Weinyss. 1759, James Jobson. 1795, David Dow. 1819, James Grierson.

elevated and conspicuous situations; the one in the west, near Clashbennie, and the other in the north-east, near Inchmartin. They are both quite solitary, and without any mark of art; so large as not to have been easily conveyed to their present situation by human contrivance; and yet in such a position as to lead to the inference, that they were intended to be monumental—intended to mark a place of importance, or to perpetuate the remembrance of some memorable event.

In the public burying-ground, there is one small monument sculptured over with emblematical representations, many of them taken from scripture, but so decayed and effaced, that neither name nor date can be found. It contains in a scroll the creed in Latin, and, in the same language, a translation of Rev. ii. 10. In the wall around the burying-ground, is seen the rude figure of a warrior in chain-armor, hewn in white sandstone. The arms are bent up on the breast, the palms of the hands having originally been made to meet, in the attitude of adoration. The figure has evidently been meant to be in a supine position, but when built into the modern wall, chiefly, it would seem, for the purpose of preservation, it has been stuck into it in a vertical position; and as, for the sake of stability, it has been sunk in the ground, nearly up to the knees, the appearance which it thus exhibits is exceedingly grotesque. Two of the ministers of the parish, Mr Omev and Mr Bell, have been buried, each under a stone sarcophagus. Of these humble monuments, the first is adorned with various sepulchral emblems, and both of them are covered with inscriptions. Mr Bell had formerly been minister of the parish of Dron, in which parish he left, under the charge of the Presbytery of Perth, a few acres of land, the rental of which is devoted to the maintenance of a student of divinity in St Mary's College at St Andrews. He died in 1665, and on the south side of the cover of the sarcophagus, under a scroll containing these words,—*Mors patet, hora latet*,—there is a brief historical record of his ministry.\*

About three miles and a half from the village of Errol, there are

\* On the north side, we have an inscription which affords a curious specimen of that grave quaintness of expression which is so characteristic of the taste of the age:—

“ Death crackt this Bell, yet doth his pleasant chiming  
Remain with those who are their lamps a-trimming:  
In spite of death, his word some (?) praise still sounds  
In Christ's church, and in Heaven his joy abounds.”

The top of the cover contains other two lines of the same description:—

“ Here ceast and silent lies sweet sounding Bell,  
Who unto sleeping souls rung many a knell.”

at Westown, the ruins of a small Gothic church, of plain but very excellent workmanship, which, in one of the ancient charters of the estate, is called the church of the Blessed Virgin of Inchmartin. The ministers of Errol used to preach in it, half the day, once in every fortnight; but after the parish church was enlarged and the roads were improved, this practice was discontinued. It is not above fifty years, however, since the building was dismantled, nor nearly so long since interments have taken place in the burying-ground around it. Its situation is one of the most beautiful and picturesque that is to be seen in the whole district. The oldest entire building now in the parish is Megginch Castle. It bears the following inscription:—“*Petrus Hay, ædificium extruxit, A. D. 1575.*”

Within the park at Murie there is an artificial mound, of a circular form, 40 yards in diameter at the base, and about 30 feet diameter at the top; the height from the base being about 20 feet. The platform at the top is surrounded by a low turf wall, with a walk outside of it, and the whole is enclosed with a turf wall at the base, in the form of an equilateral triangle. This mound is called the *Law-knoll*. Its sides are planted with trees, and it stands at the head of an old avenue of lofty oaks, which leads in a straight line towards a place, at the distance of two miles, which is now called *Gallowflat*, but which tradition reports to have been the *Gallow-knoll*,—under the idea that the one knoll was the place where the law was administered, and the other where it was executed on criminals. The *Law-knoll* is, in respect of height, within a few feet of the highest position in the parish.

*Modern Buildings.*—The only modern building worth mentioning is the parish church, which was erected in 1831. The former one had stood only sixty-five years, and had all the appearance of being as substantial as it was capacious. When greatly crowded, however, in the evening of the communion Sabbath, June 1830, a panic arose as to the safety of the gallery, which had nearly been attended with fatal consequences. This led to an inspection of the building, from which it appeared that, though there was no weakness in the gallery itself but what might have been easily remedied, the roof and the walls could no longer be depended on. The new church is a very chaste and perfect specimen of the plain Saxon architecture, after a plan furnished by James Gillespie Graham, Esq. It is in the form of a cross, intersecting a square, and has a handsome square tower with pinnacles at the angles, which rise to the

height of 93 feet above the base of the building. The interior arrangements are peculiarly convenient and beautiful. It is seated for 1448 persons. The whole expense of the building was considerably upwards of L. 5000.

### III.—POPULATION.

The only way by which an estimate can be formed of the ancient state of the population of the parish is that of consulting the baptismal register. It appears that, even so far back as 1578, the number of baptisms which were registered was 59: that in 1632 the number was 72; and that in 1728, nearly a century later, it was no higher. Judging from a comparison of the baptismal registers, the population of the whole parish even in 1632, must have been upwards of 2000; and it is known that, in point of fact, it was in 1743 not less than 2229. The population of the landward portion does not, at the present day, amount to more than about 1720, and, as the population of the village is supposed to have been nearly doubled within the last hundred years, that of the former can scarcely, if at all, have increased. The increase in the village has been owing chiefly to the improvement of manufactures. Where any diminution has taken place in the landward part of the parish, it seems to have been occasioned by the uniting of two or more small farms into one.

The number of the population residing in the village of Errol, is	-	1220
In three small villages in the outskirts of the parish,	-	273
In the rest of the country part of the parish,	-	1449
<b>Total,</b>	-	<b>2942</b>

The total population at the time of taking the census in 1831 was 2992, but fully fifty persons included in that return were strangers who were employed as workmen at the building of the new church. The sum now given was that obtained by a survey taken in 1836, and corrected to the present date.

The average of births for the last seven years is	-	105
deaths,	-	36
marriages,	-	27
The average number of persons under 15 years of age, is	1119	
betwixt 15 and 30,	-	863
30 and 50,	-	540
50 and 70,	-	333
upwards of 70,	-	87
		<b>2942</b>

Number of families in the parish,		680
chiefly employed in agriculture,		224
in trade, manufactures or handicraft,		374

There is only one individual belonging to the nobility who resides in the parish. The number of families of independent fortune who reside in it is 9 or 10.

The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, is	14
The number of unmarried men, upwards of 50 years of age, is	
of bachelors,	39
of widowers,	22
women upwards of 45 years of age,	34
The number of insane persons is 3 ; of fatuous persons, 6 ; of blind persons, 3 ; and of deaf and dumb persons, 4.	

The number of illegitimate births in the parish during the last three years has been 9.

Where so large a proportion of the inhabitants is employed in and dependent on manufactures, by the frequent and often violent fluctuations of which they are necessarily affected, a great deal of distress is occasionally experienced. Still, however, the people are, in general, contented with their situation and circumstances.

In their intellectual character, they are shrewd and deliberate, rather than acute. Where they have enjoyed the advantages of early and careful cultivation, the natural strength of their intellectual powers becomes sufficiently conspicuous. In respect of moral character, the people, as a body, may justly be said to be decent, industrious, and orderly.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The whole number of imperial acres which the parish contains, as nearly as can be estimated from the actual measurement of each property, is 8626, all of which are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, with the exception of those portions which are under wood.

The whole amount under wood, including hedgerows, does not much exceed 200 acres. Very few, if any, of the trees are indigenous. They are confined entirely to the poorer soils, or to the grounds around the residences of the principal proprietors. Except in two or three localities, none of those which have been planted for economical purposes have advanced so far as to be cut for timber. The young wood seems to be under good management, every attention being paid to its periodical thinning and pruning.

*Rent.*—The average rent of arable land in the parish does not at present exceed L 3, 3s. or L 3, 5s. per Scotch acre, which, at the former of these rates, is just L 2, 10s. per imperial acre. The land is still generally let by the Scotch acre, and the rent now commonly agreed upon for the best soil, is four bushels of wheat, six bushels of barley, and six bushels of oats, converted into money at the annual fiars prices of the county. In some instances, it is stipulated that the *maximum* price paid for all these three kinds and quantities united, shall not exceed L 3, 17s. whatever the fiars prices may happen to be,—in other words, that the fiars shall regu-

late the rent, only when the price of the three quantities does not exceed that sum. There are no grazings in the parish except in the parks or enclosed grounds of three or four of the principal proprietors. When these are let, it is always per Scotch acre, the ordinary rent being L. 3, L. 3, 10s. or L. 4. Very fine pasture sometimes brings L. 4, 10s. per acre.

*Produce.*—The principal articles of raw produce may be stated at the following prices, taking the average of the last seven years.

Wheat per quarter,	-	-	L. 2 11 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Barley,	-	-	1 8 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats,	-	-	1 0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pease,	-	-	1 7 7 $\frac{1}{2}$

Oatmeal per half sack, of 140 lbs. avoirdupois, 16s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; potatoes, 10s. per boll, of 32 stones Dutch, equal to 40 imperial stones or 5 cwt., which is at the rate of 2s. per cwt.

The average price of new hay is about 8d. or 9d. per stone.

The ordinary price of provisions is regulated by the markets of Perth and Dundee.

Very little round timber, fit for mechanical purposes, is cut in the parish. What little there is, sells for 1s. per cubic foot. Building stones for rubble-work can be purchased at the quarry of Clashbennie, at the rate of 1s. per ton; and stones for hewn-work at the rate of 6d. per linear or 9d. per cubic foot. Stones for draining are got for 6d. per ton. Quicklime can be delivered at the shore of Port-Allen, at from 3s. to 3s. 6d. per boll, of 52 stones Dutch, or 8 cwts. imperial weight.

*Wages, &c.*—The average rate of mason-work, in the erection of farm-houses, not including materials, is from L. 2 to L. 3 per rood. In building farm-offices the rate is from L. 1, 15s. to L. 2. The average rate of carpenter-work in roofing such buildings, with foreign timber, materials included, is from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per square yard. When home timber is employed, the rate is about 4s. per yard. Flooring, including joists, when of foreign timber, is about 5s. 6d. per yard; and when of home timber, it is about 4s.

*Live-Stock.*—Very few sheep are reared in the parish. Of cattle, no more are reared or kept than are required to consume the grass, straw, and turnips which are raised on the farms, and necessary for turning these productions to proper account. Much attention is paid to the quality of the horses which are reared for agricultural work.

*Husbandry.*—The general character of the husbandry pursued in the parish, seems to be skilful and judicious. About two-thirds



of the soil consist of *clay*, and the other third consists of what is called *black land*, being in general a fine vegetable mould. Of the former, *five-sevenths* annually are kept under a *grain* crop, and of the latter, *seven-twelfths*, according to the following method of rotation: In the clay, the rotations, generally speaking, are these seven: fallow, wheat, beans and pease, wheat, barley, grass, and oats, or, in some rare instances, wheat. In the black land, they are these six: potatoes, wheat, turnips and pease, barley, grass, and oats or wheat. From the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient crop of *grass* so often as once in six or seven years, some farmers have introduced a rotation of sevens, even in the black land, and of eights in the clay; while others seem to think that, adhering to the ordinary rotations, in regard to the other crops, it would be better, where circumstances admit, to divide the land so that this important production should not be required from the same soil, more than once in every alternate course of rotation.

The *drilling* of grains has seldom been attempted in this parish. At the time of the former Statistical Report, indeed, and for several years afterwards, the drilling of *beans*, with the usual intermixture of pease, was a common practice, and some recent attempts have been made to revive it in the district. These, however, have been without success, from the prevailing opinion, that the increase of crop would not afford sufficient remuneration for the increase of labour and expense. One plough is required for about every thirty Scotch acres that a farm may contain. Notwithstanding the curvilinear direction of the ridges, no more beautiful specimens can anywhere be seen than in this district, of equal and regular ploughing.

The rate of production on the best soils is very high. Fallow wheat has often made a return of 16 bolls per Scotch acre,\* and even considerably more. Oats, also, in fine soil, and under favourable circumstances, have sometimes yielded 16 bolls. Barley has yielded 13 bolls; and pease and beans have occasionally produced 14 or 15 bolls. All these, however, are much above the average. Taking in all kinds of grain and all kinds of soil, the average rate of production is thought to be only between 7 and 8 bolls per Scotch acre. Hay is sometimes so abundant a crop, that even the first cutting yields between 300 and 400 stones per acre; but even 300 is reckoned a good crop, and considerably above the average.

\* The Perthshire wheat boll is equal to 3 bushels, 3 pecks, 1.9442 gallons, imperial measure; and the boll for other grain is equal to 5 bushels, 3 pecks, 0.6009 gallons. The Scotch is to the imperial acre as 126 to 100.

Within the last ten or twelve years, many hundreds of acres have been drained so thoroughly that a drain has been laid in every *alternate*, and sometimes in every furrow. The drains are all of the narrow wedge shape.

The general duration of leases is for nineteen years.

The state of farm-buildings has of late years been very greatly and very generally improved.

*Embankments.*—But the principal improvement connected with agriculture, which has recently been made in this parish, is one by which the largest proprietor, John Lee Allen, Esq. has, by an extensive embankment, succeeded in recovering from the river Tay and adding to his estate, about a hundred imperial acres of deep, rich soil. Till about forty-five years ago, the river continued to make, every year, very serious encroachments on the land,—encroachments which were aided by the injudicious practice which then prevailed, of letting all the furrows discharge the surface water over the abrupt earthy banks, instead of collecting it into transverse drains, and directing it obliquely into the lower part of the shores. So serious were the inroads which the river had made on the land on this side, that the farm-house and offices on the farm of Daleally had, at two different periods been moved backwards to a more inland situation, the present one being still within 60 yards of the bank. Nay, so serious were these inroads, that they began to affect the value of the property so circumstanced. A contiguous estate of about 300 acres was sold partly from the idea of its insecurity, and, at all events, for a sum greatly below its actual value.

Soon after this transaction, however, not only was greater care employed in conducting the surface water from the furrows, but the banks were sloped down and planted,—fenced at the top by a hedge, and protected, by a retaining stone wall at the bottom, against the direct action of high tides. Besides all these expedients, projecting dikes, at convenient distances, were built from the bank towards the stream, for the purpose of retaining the copious sediment which was daily deposited on the lower side of them by the retiring waters. And, lastly, a broad *belting* of reeds was planted all along the shores, which, besides serving the important objects of breaking, in some degree, the action of the tides in summer, contributed at all times, by their strong and interwoven roots, to give stability to the soil in which they grew; while the amount of decayed vegetable matter, annually accruing from the

refuse of their stems, when they were cut for economical purposes, was gradually adding to the elevation of the surface.

These reeds, it may be mentioned, were originally planted by *dibbling* at the expense of L. 12 per Scotch acre. The average produce per acre has been about 500 bundles, each of 36 or 37 inches circumference. The expense of cutting, binding, and carrying them out, has been from 3s. 6d. to 4s. per 100 bundles, the rope-yarn being furnished by the proprietor. The average price at which those of the best quality have been sold for thatch is L. 1, 5s. per hundred bundles; and the price of those of inferior quality, now chiefly used in covering drains, is about 15s. per 100. The average number of both qualities yearly raised in the parish, before the recent embankment was made, was not less than 40,000 bundles.

The first two *reaches* of the embankment, both of them to the west of Port-Allen, when taken together, extend to fully a mile in length. The average breadth of the space enclosed is about 200 yards. They were begun and nearly finished in 1836; but in the course of the winter, and before the work was quite completed, a high tide broke in at two or three places, and did considerable damage, which was not thoroughly repaired till the spring of the present year. The width of the embankment at the bottom, is 40 feet, and the height 11 feet. It is 2 feet broad at the top, the general level of which is about 3 feet above the highest tides. The slope of the embankment is thus at the rate of nearly 4 feet in width for each foot in height. The outside of it, however, to the height of about 4 feet, is only a little inclined from the perpendicular, that part of it consisting of a strong dry-stone wall. Above this height, the slope of the outside is the same as that of inside, and is protected, moreover, by a rude causeway of stones on the surface. In both divisions of the embankment, which was constructed in 1836, the *whole* earthy material was taken from the contiguous soil itself, of the area which it was the object of the undertaking to recover. This was a great sacrifice. For about 30 yards immediately within the embankment, the soil has been excavated to a depth of 2 or 3 feet, so that what remains beneath, must, for the present, be in a great measure unproductive. The whole area enclosed, however, is about 70 imperial acres, and it is already bearing a crop of oats, which, in spite of the reeds that have still sprung up in the midst of it, has been sold at the average rate of between L. 8 and L. 9 per Scotch acre.

In the course of the present year (1837), another embankment

has been constructed along the shore to the east of Port-Allen, which extends considerably more than a quarter of a mile in length, and encloses a space which is fully wider than that on the west. The general plan and proportions of the work are the same as in that already described; but the state of the ground has, in the latter case, been more favourable, and the rich soil immediately within the embankment has been greatly saved, by cutting down the steep clayey banks of the former boundary, and employing the material thus procured in forming the foundation of the new. When this part of the undertaking is finished, Mr Allen will have recovered about one hundred imperial acres; and this is only the commencement of a process which by degrees may be carried to a much greater extent. The rest of the shores do not yet appear to be quite ready for embanking, but when this shall be the case, and supposing just the same breadth to be enclosed along the whole, the amount would not be less than another hundred acres. To facilitate such a result, a strong projecting stone dike has been put out between one side of his property and that of Murie, which intersects it on the west; and another between it and that of Seaside on the east. These walls are about three feet above the ordinary high-water mark; and the latter extends in, towards the channel of the river, not less than 600 yards. At the same time, smaller intermediate dikes have been built for the same purpose; and the embankments already executed will afford further facilities for prosecuting the same plan, and will prepare the way for the erection of others, by which they themselves may be enclosed and superseded, or rather levelled for the enriching of the newly acquired territory. Not many years can elapse, when all the three properties contiguous to the river must in this way receive an extensive and most valuable increase.

*Quarries.*—The only quarry now wrought in the parish, is the sandstone quarry at Clashbennie, in the mode of working which there is nothing peculiar. The quantity of rock annually quarried and disposed of is between 4000 and 5000 tons.

*Fishings.*—The only fishings are the salmon and the smelt, or sparling fishings. They belong exclusively to three proprietors, only one of whom attempts a fishing of the latter kind. The average annual rent of the principal salmon fishing is about L. 100; that of the second, about L. 20; and that of the third, little more than L. 10. The rent of the sparling fishing is also about L. 10.

*Gross Amount of Raw Produce.*—The average gross amount of

raw produce annually raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, may be stated under the following heads :

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man, or the domestic animals,	£ 45,600
potatoes and turnips cultivated in the fields,	6500
hay almost all cultivated,	9300
gardens and orchards,	1260
fisheries in the Tay,	560
annual thinning of plantations and occasional felling of wood,	50
a sandstone quarry,	200
reeds,	470

Total yearly value of raw produce raised, £ 63,940

The valued rent of the parish is L. 16,982, 3s. 4d. Scots. The real rent in the year 1829 was L. 26,000 Sterling, including rents of houses and feus ; but, at the present time, it scarcely amounts to L. 24,000.

*Manufactures.*—The principal branch of manufacture carried on in the parish, is that of different kinds of linen cloth. The only other one, indeed, is the manufacture of a species of soft coarse canvas, made from a sort of secondary hemp, and intended for bags or coverings in the package of goods. In these manufactures, there are upwards of 300 persons employed as weavers, exclusive of those who are employed in spinning and winding. Of these 300, more than one-third are women.

Living in a country village, or in rural situations throughout the parish, the operatives do not seem to suffer any injury to their health, from their employment. Nor is there any evidence that they have been injured in their morals.

*Navigation.*—Besides the daily passage boat between Port-Allen and Newburgh, which is fitted also for the transmission of lime, timber, iron, farm-produce, and other commodities, there is but one vessel which belongs to the port now mentioned, the only one in this parish. That vessel is chiefly employed in the importation of lime and coals, and in the exportation of grain and potatoes. Various other vessels, however, are occasionally employed in carrying on the trade of this port. The quantity of lime annually imported into the parish, though not all at Port-Allen, is not less than 5000 bolls. The boll consists, as already stated, of 52 stones Dutch.

The quantity of coals annually imported at the same place, is about 700 tons of Scotch, and 300 tons of English.

The harbour dues are at the rate of 1d. per ton on articles in general, and ½d. per boll of lime. These dues were, till lately, levied by the proprietor, on whose property the harbour is situated ;

but they have recently been claimed by the city of Perth. The proprietor, however, has the acknowledged right of the ferry to Newburgh, and lets it along with a house for the boatman, at the annual rent of about L. 20.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—The nearest market-town is Perth, which is at the distance of ten miles. The principal intercourse, however, is with Dundee, from the extensive manufactures of which, almost all those which are carried on in this parish are derived.

Besides the *village of Errol* itself, there are three others *Carse-Grange*, *Westown*, and *Lee-town*. Of these, the last mentioned is the largest, although even this does not contain a population much above 100 individuals. *Chapelhill* and *Glendoick* are hamlets rather than villages.

*Means of Communication.*—There is a post-office at Flatfield, which is on the public road, almost immediately below the village of Errol, and at the distance of about a mile and three quarters. Besides this, there has for many years been a receiving-house in the village, between which place and the office, a runner goes every morning; and since the month of October last, the postmaster himself has been in the practice of receiving and delivering letters in the village.

The length of turnpike roads in the parish is about nine miles. There are besides the mail, two public coaches which travel on the great turnpike road.

The only harbour yet capable of being made use of, is that of Port-Allen. Its present is rather a dilapidated state. The embankment, however, which is now going on will, among other benefits, serve to deepen the channel, and facilitate the entrance of vessels into the harbour, till such time as steps are taken for completing the new pier and harbour, about three-quarters of a mile farther down the river, and so much nearer the village of Errol.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The situation of the parish church is on a gently rising ground, at the north-east end of the village of Errol. There is no place which could have been more convenient for the greater part of the population, with the exception of that on which the former church was erected, but which could not have afforded a sufficient area for the new, without an interference with the repositories of the dead in the surrounding burying-ground, which it was most desirable to avoid. Its distance from the extremities of the parish does not exceed three and a quarter,

or three and a half miles, except at one place, where the distance is between four and five miles ; but where there are not more than five or six families. It was built in 1831, and is in the best possible repair. The only benefactions on record do not exceed L. 600, the interest of which is devoted to assist in the support of the poor. There is nothing particularly interesting, connected with the history of these charitable bequests. The number of persons, for whom the church affords accommodation, is 1448.

All the sittings are possessed by the occupants, free of seat rent. With the exception of those which are allocated to the poor, and of a certain proportion of the communion table seats, which has been assigned for the promiscuous occupancy of those parishioners who neither possess nor are connected with any farm or pendicle, they are all apportioned to particular individuals ; but no heritor derives any emolument from any of the sittings ; neither do the heritors as a body.

The manse was built in 1798, and repaired in 1820.

The extent of the glebe, including the ground occupied by the manse, offices, and garden, is 4 acres, 2 roods, 11 falls, Scotch measure ; but not less than  $2\frac{1}{4}$  roods have been lost in the construction of a road to the manse, and by the establishment of a right of servitude over another part of the glebe. The annual value of the glebe and garden may be between L. 15 and L. 20.

The amount of the stipend, not including L. 8, 6s. 8d. allowed for communion elements, is 9 chalders\* of barley, and 9 chalders of oatmeal, at the highest fiars prices of the county. The average value of these quantities of barley and meal, for the last ten years, has not exceeded L. 273, 1s. 8d.

There are three Dissenting chapels in the parish. Two of them belong to the United Secession Church, and the other belongs to the Relief Church. Their ministers are paid out of the seat rents, and in as far as these are inadequate to make the stipulated sums, the deficiency is supplied by contributions among the members. In the case of the oldest of the three, the sum to which the minister is entitled, is L. 130, exclusive of a free house and garden. In the case of both the others, the stipend is now only L. 80, with the ordinary addition of a free house and garden. These statements are made on the authority of information which the writer believes to be authentic, though not official.

\* 1 Chalders of barley is equal to 11 qrs. 5 bush. 0 pk. 1.6150 gal. imperial measure ; one chalders of oatmeal is exactly equal to 160 stones.

There are four or five Episcopal families in the parish, but there is no Episcopal chapel.

The number of families attending the Established Church is 467; and the number of persons of all ages belonging to it is 2025. The Episcopalians generally attend the parish church. The number of families attending the chapels of the Dissenters is, as nearly as can at present be ascertained, 218; and the number of persons of all ages belonging to them is 906, exclusive of the very few who are not known to belong to any denomination. Divine service, both in the Established Church and in the Dissenting chapels, is generally well attended. The whole number of communicants belonging to the Established Church, is 996. The average number of those who actually communicate every year is, in the month of June, 815; and in the month of November, nearly 700.

*Societies.*—Of societies for religious purposes, there is, in connection with the Established Church, a parochial association, the object of which is not only to lend its annual assistance to the New Perthshire Bible Society, but also to promote the four schemes of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The contributions of the parochial association have consisted partly of collections made in its behalf at church. The average yearly amount of these contributions has been nearly L. 20. The average amount of church collections for *charitable* purposes, exclusive of the ordinary collections for the poor, has been about L. 12.

*Education.*—The total number of schools in the parish, exclusive of Sabbath schools, is five. Among these, there is only one parochial school. Two of the others are partly endowed, the one by the proprietor who built it on his property, and the other by a society or body of subscribers. The endowment, however, in both cases, consists only in the teacher's enjoying the privilege of a free house and garden, as well as the school-house. The fourth school is altogether unendowed. The fifth is a small school-house in which very young children are taught mere reading, and the girls the additional art of knitting, by an elderly widow. The branches which the parochial schoolmaster is appointed to teach, are, English reading and grammar, writing, arithmetic, geography, practical mathematics, book-keeping, French, Latin, and Greek. In the two schools partly endowed, the same branches are appointed to be taught as in the parochial school, with the exception of languages; and most of these are what the masters, though not re-



quired, are sufficiently qualified to teach. The parochial school, for some years past, has been conducted entirely by an assistant and successor to the schoolmaster. The latter individual enjoys, as a retiring salary, the legal salary, which is the *maximum*, together with an addition, secured to him by the heritors, sufficient to make up to him a complete annuity of L. 40 Sterling. The assistant, so long as he continues in this capacity, enjoys from the heritors a separate and independent salary of L. 25, besides the school-house, which contains the legal accommodation, the schoolmaster's house, and the legal quantity of garden ground, \* all rent free. He is also entitled to the whole of the school-fees. Having, moreover, been appointed session-clerk, he derives from this office an additional income of not less, on an average, than L. 15 a-year.

In the case of the other schools, the fees form the whole of the teacher's income, with the exception of the privileges already mentioned.

The amount of the school fees in the parochial school may, at an average, be about L. 45 per annum. The amount in the largest of the other schools, may be about L. 27; in the next, about L. 18; and in the two smallest, it cannot be more than L. 6 or L. 8. In all the schools, however, there are many instances in which the teacher finds it difficult to realize the payment of the sums which are due.

Even in the parish school, the other branches, such as French and Latin, have very seldom been required by any of the scholars.

At the time of the presbyterial examination of the schools in March 1837, the proportion of those attending them was  $9\frac{1}{4}$  out of every 100 of the population.

With the exception of one district, there is no part of the parish so distant from some one or other of the schools as to prevent the attendance of children. The centre of the district in question is three miles distant from the nearest school within the parish, although it is not more than half that distance from the school of the adjoining parish. The district contains a population of about 200 individuals. One or two of the schools would require to be *enlarged*; but the only *additional* school which might be required would be in this district; but the school fees would be quite inadequate, as the experiment has already proved, to support a teacher.

In the year 1820, there were six Sabbath evening schools form-

\* There is no garden ground belonging to the office of schoolmaster in this parish, but he has the privilege of a garden, for which the heritors pay rent.

ed in the parish in connexion with the Established Church. Owing chiefly to the death of some of the teachers, and the difficulty, in some localities, of finding others to occupy their places, these institutions are now reduced in number to three or four. At present, however, there is the prospect of having them restored to their former number and efficiency. There is also a Sabbath school in connexion with each of the dissenting congregations.

*Literature.*—Besides a small public subscription library, which was instituted in the village of Errol in the year 1824, there is a pretty large and valuable library connected with the Sabbath schools of the Established Church. It was begun in the year 1820, and now contains 378 volumes,—a portion of which is made to itinerate every year among the different local schools. In two at least of the Dissenting congregations, there is belonging to each a similar institution, though not of the same extent. From all these sources collectively, the inhabitants of this parish must enjoy the privilege of having access to the perusal of not less than 1200 volumes of useful and instructive books. This privilege, acquired chiefly through the repeated contributions of the people themselves, appears to have been justly prized, and, in ordinary times, diligently improved, especially by the young, for whom, indeed, it was principally intended.

*Friendly Societies.*—There is only one such institution in the parish, called “The Friendly Society of Errol.” The sole objects of this society are, 1. To afford to its members, after they have been in connexion with it for eighteen months, and paid all the sums that are due to it, a weekly allowance, when under sickness or infirmity, of not less than 6d., and not more than 4s. per week, according to the number of shares for which they have become contributors; and, 2. To afford an allowance for funeral expenses, not less than L. 1, and not greater than L. 4, according to the number of shares which they have taken in this department of the funds, and to which they have regularly contributed from the time of their entrance. The society was instituted in the month of February 1811, and remodelled in the year 1829 according to the data afforded in the Report of the Committee of the Highland Society of Scotland. The present number of its members is only 39. The nature of its regulations is such as is calculated to promote industry, and to cherish a spirit of independence among its members; but, considering the population of the neighbourhood, it would appear that there are few who have

felt inclined, or, if inclined, who have been enabled to avail themselves of its obvious advantages.

*Savings Bank.*—There is also one of these institutions in the parish. It is called “The Errol Parish Savings Bank,” and was established in the year 1815. The sums invested yearly, as compared with the sums withdrawn, will be seen by an inspection of the following tabular statement from the year 1817 to the year 1831, both included.

<i>Years preceding June 1st.</i>	<i>Amount of new deposits.</i>	<i>Amount of sums withdrawn.</i>
1817, -	£123 6 4	£152 3 1
1818, -	58 9 2	53 12 0½
1819, -	100 3 9	70 4 9
1820, -	61 7 9½	65 11 2
1821, -	63 2 9½	48 19 0½
1822, -	113 2 1½	62 9 4½
1823, -	47 3 8½	75 11 4½
1824, -	22 11 8½	48 11 11
1825, -	23 10 11½	83 13 8
1826, -	33 17 10	44 14 8½
1827, -	69 9 4	42 12 5½
1828, -	40 15 11	52 5 9
1829, -	28 6 9	39 8 3½
1830, -	34 13 2½	35 13 6½
1831, -	35 4 7½	25 2 6½

The largest sum total of deposits in the bank in any one year was L. 346, 9s. 6½d.; and the greatest number of depositors at any one time has not exceeded 47. In the year 1832, a panic arose as to the investment of the money belonging to savings banks in the national funds,—in consequence of which, though not unconnected with other causes, more than one-half of all belonging to the Errol Bank was withdrawn. In the year ending June 1, 1836, the institution began very slightly to revive, so that L. 18, 10s. of new deposits were received; and in the year ending in June 1837, a farther increase has been received of L. 16, 2s. 6d.—only L. 4, during the whole of these two years, having been withdrawn. The number of depositors is at present 16. They generally belong to the class of operatives, though there are a few farm labourers and servants. The existing regulations of the bank do not admit of any individual increasing the amount of his deposits beyond the sum of L. 10.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons for the last twenty-five years who have been receiving parochial aid, is 68. Of these 42 have been regular poor, and 26 occasional. At one time, in the course of that period, (1821,) the whole who received parochial aid were so numerous as 90. At present, they do not exceed 56, including two lunatics in asylums,

and four attendants, who receive nothing but in the form of wages. The average of the last eight years, (1829–1836,) during which there has been a compulsory assessment, has been 51 regular, and 21 occasional; in all 72. Of the regular poor,  $33\frac{1}{2}$  have belonged to the Established Church, and the remaining  $17\frac{1}{2}$  to the Dissenters; while of the occasional poor,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  have belonged to the Established Church, and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to the Dissenters.

Taking the average of the same period,—the last eight years,—the total sum annually expended on the poor, regular and occasional included, has, in round numbers, been exactly L. 369; so that the average sum annually allotted to each of the above 72 is exactly L. 5, 2s. 6d. And as all the poor in the same circumstances receive the same rate of allowance, the share of the above L. 369, annually received by those 46 who have belonged to the Establishment, has been, in round numbers, L. 235; while that annually received by those 26 who have belonged to the Dissenters has been L. 134, which is considerably more than *one-third* of the whole.

The proportion of poor to the whole population, during the last eight years, has been exactly as 1 to 41; at present, notwithstanding the legal assessment, the proportion is not greater than 1 to  $52\frac{1}{2}$ .

During the last eight years, the average amount of annual contributions for the relief of the poor has been, as already stated, L. 369. Of this sum, the proportion arising from church collections has been L. 54; from the interest of bequests, L. 20, 15s.; from the hire of mortcloths and the parish hearse, L. 4; and from a general compulsory assessment, L. 290, 5s. This is not the whole sum raised by assessment, but only the sum actually expended on the poor. The expenses of levying the money from the heritors and inhabitants, together with the business charges of a law agent, have amounted annually to some L. 20 or L. 30 additional.

Of the assessment thus actually required for the poor, the proportion exigible from those inhabitants who do not attend the Established Church, has at no time exceeded *one fifteenth* of the whole. At present, it is not much more than *one twenty-eighth*; and the sum actually exacted does not much exceed the half of this, or *one-fifty-sixth*, although to the collections for the poor they contribute no proportion whatever.

Before the year 1828, the assessment for the poor was of a voluntary kind, although according to a scale of equalization, which had the general concurrence of the parties interested. Since that

date, no other mode of procuring funds has been resorted to besides those which have been sufficiently referred to in the preceding statement. As to the operation of the assessment, it must be confessed that, although it certainly has diminished the yearly amount of the ordinary collections by more than one-fourth, it has not hitherto been allowed to increase the number of the poor, nor otherwise, upon the whole, enlarge the expense of maintaining them. It has, however, been attended with a great deal of trouble and vexation. An assessment on means and substance, with all the delicacy that can be used, is of so inquisitorial a nature, that it is sure, in many instances, to give offence; and then men's means and substance are so constantly varying, that the assessment lists have yearly to undergo a corresponding alteration, else complaints and heart-burnings, if not litigations, are the almost inevitable consequences. With all the liberal and conciliatory proceedings which have been employed, it cannot yet be said that the system in this parish has been working smoothly; and several among the heritors themselves are of opinion, that, in so far as concerns their share of the assessment as a body, it would be more expedient to abandon the principles both of the real rent and of means and substance, and revert entirely to the principle of the valued rent; while, with respect to that share which may be required from the tenants and other inhabitants, they would either leave these individuals to furnish it, on any principle on which themselves should agree, or require them to adjust the matter in private with their respective landlords. Some such plan as this would not only save much trouble and expense, but it might even yet be the means of ultimately superseding a general assessment altogether, by stimulating and enlarging the more wholesome form of contributions by collections at church.

*Fairs.*—There were at one time two markets held in this parish, the one in the month of July, and the other in October. The latter has long been discontinued. The July market, though generally attended by an immense assemblage of people from the whole surrounding country, is almost exclusively a *hiring* market.

*Inns and Ale-houses.*—In the village of Errol there are eleven houses for the sale of ale and spirits, not more than three of which can be called inns. In the landward part of the parish there are three or four inns, besides two additional ale-houses. With one exception, there could not conveniently be fewer of these houses in the country districts than there are. With respect to the vil-

lage, however, there does not seem to be, in general, any necessity for a public-house to every hundred of the population.

*Fuel.*—Almost the only kind of fuel which is in general use in the parish is coal. The Scotch is procured from the collieries on the Forth, and the English generally from Newcastle.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The first, though not very striking, difference between the present state of the parish and that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account, is to be found in the increase of the population from 2685 to 2942,—the increase being entirely confined to the village of Errol. Since that time, too, the rent of land, though not nearly so high as it was twenty years ago, has risen from L. 1, 5s. and L. 2 to more than L. 3 per acre. The gross rental, indeed, is nearly tripled, having increased from L. 8000 to nearly L. 24,000,—this last sum including the grounds not in lease, but retained in private possession by the proprietors. Of course, there has been a corresponding increase in the rate of wages,—those of farm-servants, for instance, having risen from L. 7, 7s. and L. 9, 9s. to L. 12 and L. 15. Another difference has taken place in the general change of the rotation of crops from a period of six to a period of seven years. A great and striking improvement has taken place in some of the houses in the village of Errol, and especially in the style and completeness of most farm-buildings throughout the parish. A more striking difference than any of these, and one which is likely to be most important in its consequences, is that by which a large extent of soil is in the course of being recovered from the Tay, where the utmost that was attempted about forty years ago, was to guard against its encroachments. One of the greatest improvements of all, however, and one which has, in a special manner, contributed to most of the others, is the increased facilities of communication, not only by the great turnpike road which passes through the parish, and which is almost at all times in a state of most admirable repair, but also by the multiplication and improved condition of the cross-roads.

In the ecclesiastical state of the parish, an important change took place in the years 1796 and 1797, by the separation of a large body of parishioners from the Established Church, in consequence of an unpopular settlement. Of that body the greater part was formed into a congregation connected with the Relief denomination, although some individuals were added to the small congregation of Antiburghers, which had existed in Errol from an

early period of the Secession, and still more to the Burghers.\* In some respects, this event may have been of advantage to the religious interests of the people, inasmuch as it would have been impossible for a single minister, however faithful and active, to have exercised any thing like an efficient pastoral superintendence over nearly 3000 persons, when almost two-thirds of them were dispersed over a large territorial extent. It is to be lamented, however, as having perpetuated and increased divisions in the Christian community. While those who have now, we regret to say, taken to themselves the name of Dissenters, have incurred the expense of supporting three ministers to labour among not many more than 900 individuals, each of these three, instead of having a geographical district assigned to him, and being placed in the midst of the undivided population committed to his charge, has to encounter the disadvantage of visiting the scattered sections of his little flock over the whole bounds of the parish,—nay, has even to penetrate into other parishes in the discharge of his duty towards those individuals, however few in number, who, in these distant localities, are connected with his congregation, and over whom it can rarely happen that an elder can be placed. To impartial men, these have appeared, and will appear, to be serious disadvantages. Had not the unhappy separation taken place to which reference has now been made, thoughts must by this time have been entertained of creating a second charge, by an ecclesiastical subdivision of the parish; and it is no reflection on any of the existing labourers, to say, be they ever so zealous and able, that two such labourers, with a manageable population of 1200 or 1500 each, within well-defined and moderate limits, would have done the work more effectually, more conveniently to themselves, and more economically to the people, than it can be done under present circumstances by all the four, and that, too, while far greater harmony and unanimity would have prevailed.

The only other important difference which appears between the present and the former state of the parish, is one which relates to the number and support of the poor. In 1791, the number of the regular poor was 36; at present, it is 52, and for the average of the last eight years has been 51. The sum annually paid to the regular poor alone, at the former period, was L. 70; at present, (not including the board of patients in lunatic asylums,) it is L. 212, showing a greatly increased rate of allowance, occasioned partly,

\* The last two are now part of the United Secession Church.

but not entirely, by the increased rate of provisions. At the former period, the annual amount of the collections at church, even when there were comparatively few Dissenters in the parish, was L. 40; at present, when they are 900 in number, and when an assessment, in one form or another, has existed for years, the collections amount annually to L. 54.

*December 1837.*

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## PARISH OF LONGFORGAN.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNDEE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNES.

THE REV. R. S. WALKER, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name, Boundaries, &c.*—THE ancient name of the parish seems to have been somewhat different from the present, as appears from a grant of the lands and barony of “Longforgund” or “Lonforgaund,” by King Robert Bruce, in the year 1315, to Sir Andrew Gray of Broxmouth. The epithet *long*, which is quite appropriate to the village, and by no means unsuitable to the parish itself, is prefixed probably to distinguish it from two other parishes,—Forgan, in Fife, nearly opposite to Dundee, and Forgandenny, in Strathearn, another district of Perthshire. Forgan or Forgund, in the absence of a better or more certain derivation, has been alleged to signify *foreground*,—a term, in fact, by which the parish is not unfitly described. The whole of it, excepting one farm, lies to the south of the Sidlaws, and, with a slight interruption, sweeps gradually downwards from that range of hills to the river Tay, by which it is bounded.

The greatest length of the parish, from north-west to south-east, is about 9 miles. But it varies so much in breadth from 4 miles to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , as to contain only about 14 square miles, or 8992 imperial acres. It forms the eastern extremity of the Carse of Gowrie. It is surrounded on three sides, the west, north, and east, by the parishes of Inchturre, Abernyte, Kettins, Lundie and Foulis, and Liff and Benvie; while for its southern limit it has the Tay, along which it extends for four or five miles.

*Topographical Appearances and Soil.*—This parish presents great



inequalities of soil as well as of surface. From the bold and rocky point of Kingoody, a beautiful and gently sloping bank commences, and stretches in a north-westerly direction, diverging farther and farther from the river, as it advances, till it ends somewhat abruptly at the Snabs of Drimmie; from which a fine view of the Carse of Gowrie is obtained. The low grounds lying to the south of it and interposed between it and the river, are as flat almost as a bowling-green, and the heaviest crops of grain are raised upon them. They consist entirely of clay, and while they bring a high rent to the proprietors, are cultivated by the tenantry in a style of great excellence. The lands forming this bank are composed chiefly of a deep black loam, and yield a most abundant return, not only of wheat, barley, and oats, like the lower grounds, but also of potatoes and turnips, for which the others are very indifferently calculated. In a few spots, the soil is of a reddish colour, being a kind of clay mixed up with gravel, and usually termed mortar; but it is also remarkably productive. The village of Longforan is situated on the ridge, at the height of 120 or 130 feet above the Tay; of which, with the whole intermediate country to the east, and particularly to the south and south-west, it commands an uninterrupted prospect. A little to the north of it, the ground, which now falls off in point of quality, sinks into a hollow, from which it continues to ascend rapidly till it terminates in the hill of Dron, 667 feet high. In a north-westerly direction, and at a considerably greater distance, it rises more gradually into the hills of Ballo and Lochton, which constitute branches of the Sidlaws, and are respectively 992 and 1172 feet above the level of the sea. The soil in the upper parts of the parish is inferior in value to that in the Carse, while the climate is later by ten days or a fortnight. In most of the farms there, however, it is dry and well adapted to the turnip husbandry, which is successfully prosecuted. But in two or three of them it differs materially, and, resting on a cold retentive bottom, is wet and spongy.

*Climate.*—The climate generally is very salubrious, nor are there any distempers peculiar to the district. In spring and the early part of summer, cold easterly winds prevail, and then the atmosphere is less genial and kindly. But the intermittent fevers, which were so common some fifty or sixty years ago, have entirely disappeared, owing in a great measure to the lands being now much more thoroughly drained and kept in a higher state of cultivation. When any epidemic visits the neighbourhood, it is perhaps

felt more severely in a village on the margin of the river than in any other quarter of the parish; and there, too, complaints of the chest, and glandular diseases among children, are of more frequent occurrence.

*Hydrography.*—The Carse of Gowrie has never been proverbial for either the quantity or the quality of its water. But the village of Longforgan, the second in it in respect of population, cannot be considered as ill provided with this first necessary of life. There are two excellent springs, one at either end of it, furnishing an abundant supply to its inhabitants, even in the driest seasons, besides a pump and several draw-wells; the whole of them, however, it may be remarked as somewhat curious, are to the south of the public road; for though water has been repeatedly sought for on the north side of the road, and deep excavations made with this view, all the attempts to procure it there have hitherto been unsuccessful. The streams that run through the parish are inconsiderable, though they impel the machinery of three corn-mills, one lint-mill, and some saw-mills. Its whole southern boundary, however, is washed by the Tay; but, in consequence of the height of the sand or mud banks, and the great breadth with which they stretch into the river, Kingoody, at its eastern extremity, is accessible, even at stream-tides, to no vessels drawing more than ten feet water; while those drawing above six and a-half have difficulty in reaching Monorgan. There is a bay here, formed by two projecting points, at the distance of several miles from each other; and it is understood that a large extent of valuable ground might be gradually gained from the bed of the river, were proper measures adopted, and a combined and vigorous effort for the purpose made by the contiguous proprietors of the Carse; while at the same time, the channel, which is close upon the opposite or Fife side, would be very materially improved, by having an immense body of water directed into it, which at present shapes its course to the northward, and is comparatively useless, in as far, at least, as the advantages of navigation are concerned. Whether such an effort will ever be put forth, remains to be seen. Many believe it to be quite practicable. In two of the adjoining parishes, considerable portions of soil have been already recovered from the Tay, and are now under crop.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, George Paterson, Esq. of Castle Huntly; and the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird, to whom nearly eight-ninths of the whole valued rent belong.

*Mansion-Houses.*—Drimmie House, which became the residence of the family of Kinnaird, after the Castle of Moncur was destroyed by fire, in the beginning of the last century, stood in this parish. It was pulled down, however, a few years ago, and not a trace of it is now visible. Rossie Priory, the present magnificent seat of his Lordship, more than supplies its place; but the site having been removed about half a mile to the northward, it is just within the bounds of the neighbouring parish of Inchtute, in the Account of which it will of course be adverted to.

There are only two other mansion-houses in the parish—Mylnefield and Lochton.

*Parochial Registers.*—There is a register of baptisms, commencing in 1635; and one of marriages in 1633, in five volumes, two of which are in good condition, the other three being somewhat torn, and the writing in many places not very legible. The records of the kirk-session begin in 1654, and consist of eight volumes, some of which are in a very indifferent state of preservation. But, in so far as a judgment can be formed, they all appear to have been pretty regularly kept.

*Antiquities.*—At Dron, on the high ground above the village, there are still to be seen the ruins of a chapel, which belonged to the Abbey of Cupar-Angus, erected in 1164 by Malcolm IV., the grandson and successor of David I., for a community of Cistercian monks. Its north and south walls have long since fallen down or been demolished, and only the gables remain, and these in rather a dilapidated state. In the west one, there is a large window, terminating in a beautiful pointed arch, which springs from a pilaster on either side. It is situated in a dell, through which a rivulet flows; and at the foot of the rocky eminence on which it stands, there is a fountain of the purest and most limpid water, on which the severest drought makes scarcely any impression, and which would doubtless be rendered available in the days of Roman Catholic superstition. Though it is now very old, a nearly direct road from it to the Abbey still remains open.

In 1826, a silver coin of Robert II. or perhaps Robert III., not so much defaced or impaired as might be expected, was found by a farm-servant while employed in pulling turnips, and is now in the custody of his master. The legend round the head, “Robertus Dei gratia Scottorum Rex,” can be read with little difficulty. The inscription on the reverse is not so easily deciphered. It is with-

out date,—the practice of recording the date on the coinage of Scotland not having been introduced till a subsequent reign.

The objects of antiquity mentioned in the last Statistical Account, need not again be enumerated or described. But any account of this parish, which did not embrace a particular notice of Castle Huntly, by far the most remarkable building in it, would be unsatisfactory and incomplete. It is the seat of George Paterson, Esq. and there are few nobler specimens of an old baronial residence to be met with in Scotland. The time of its erection is not known with certainty, but there can be no doubt that it must have been very soon after the middle of the fifteenth century. It has thus already resisted the storms of nearly 400 years; and the strength of its foundation, and the massiness and almost impenetrable solidity of its walls, seem to justify the belief, that, if it is not overthrown by some convulsion of nature, it may stand firm for several hundred years more. It was built by the second Lord Gray of Foulis, who had very extensive possessions in the Carse of Gowrie; and the tradition is, that he named it after his lady, a daughter of the Earl of Huntly. The castle, with the fine estate belonging to it, was sold to the Earl of Strathmore in 1615; but it did not become Castle Lyon till 1672, when, in virtue of a charter obtained from Charles II., the barony of Longforgan was erected into a lordship, to be called the Lordship of Lyon, a name which it retained till 1777, when it was purchased by the late Mr Paterson, the father of the present proprietor, who, having married a daughter of John Lord Gray, the descendant of the founder, very naturally restored its first name of Castle Huntly. Large additions, in remarkably good keeping with the original edifice, were made to it by that gentleman, which had the effect, not only of improving its appearance, but also of greatly increasing its accommodation. Its situation is a striking one, on a rock rising almost perpendicularly out of the surrounding plain, and scarcely accessible, except on the north-east side, from which quarter the approach to it is conducted. It is built of Kingoody stone, which, notwithstanding the long period that has elapsed, can hardly be said to have sustained injury, or to exhibit the smallest symptoms of decay. Its walls are not less than 10 feet thick, while they are as compact and as firmly cemented as the basis that supports them; and the height of the round tower above the ground is 116 feet. The view from the top is much and deservedly admired. There are many views certainly in other parts of Scotland, of which the

character is grander or more picturesque, and there are points from which the eye may wander over a much wider tract of hill and dale, and of mountain and wild; but there are few spots of such moderate elevation, from which you can look down on a richer and more beautiful scene than from the battlements of Castle Huntly. The prospect, with which no stranger can fail to be delighted, comprises the whole of the Carse of Gowrie, studded as it is with gentlemen's seats, and waving with the most luxuriant crops of grain,—the river Tay, from Newburgh to within a few miles of its confluence with the German Ocean,—the opposite coast of Fife, where the east and west Lomonds in particular are very prominent objects,—part of Strathearn, with the Ochils and other loftier mountains in the distance,—the *braes* of the Carse, as they are called, cultivated to their very summits, and over them the higher range of the Sidlaws, by which it is separated from Strathmore.

### III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population amounted to	1235
1795, - - - - -	1526
1801, - - - - -	1569
1811, - - - - -	1809
1821, - - - - -	1544
1831, - - - - -	1638

The population of 1811 exceeded that of 1801 by 240; and the population of 1821 came short of that of 1811 by 265. The difference is to be accounted for chiefly by the great demand for stones from Kingoody, prior to 1811, which induced a number of labourers to settle there, so that the village contained 53 families. That demand afterwards fell off, and, in consequence, the decrease of inhabitants in Kingoody alone amounted in 1821 to not less than 134. The population in the country parts of the parish has, upon the whole, rather diminished since that period; but this diminution is more than balanced by an additional village which has been recently erected on the estate of Mylnefield, and in which nearly 40 families now reside, the majority of them finding employment at a bleachfield, which was established a few years ago in their immediate neighbourhood, though not within the bounds of this parish.

The population is thus distributed :

	Males.	Females.	Total.
There are in the village of Longforan, - -	195	256	451
Kingoody, - - - - -	123	119	242
Mylnefield feus, - - - - -	86	74	160
country parts of the parish, - - - - -	399	386	785
	<hr/> 803	<hr/> 835	<hr/> 1638

The yearly average of baptisms for the last 7 years is	184	174	374
of burials for do.	134	12	254
of marriages do.	84*	9†	174

Illegitimate births in the course of the last three years, 8.

The average of baptisms does not exactly, but yet very nearly, represent the average of births, because, though by far the greater number of births are entered in the baptismal register, yet all of them are not. Neither does the record of burials entirely correspond with the number of deaths, though the difference must be trifling. Persons belonging to this parish are occasionally interred elsewhere. But the funerals, too, of those resident in neighbouring parishes are brought to the burying ground of this, so that the one may not unfairly be set off against the other.

The average number of persons under 15 years of age is	585
betwixt 15 and 30,	476
30 and 50,	824
50 and 70,	205
upwards of 70,	45

*Land-owners.*— There are eight land-owners, viz. George Paterson of Castle Huntly; Lord Kinnaird; James Mylne of Mylnefield; Patrick Kinnear of Lochton; Lord Douglas Gordon Hallyburton of North Ballo; Captain Trotter of South Ballo; William Drummond of Newton; and Mrs Kiell of East Newton. Of these only two are at present resident. The properties are very various in point of extent, but the smallest of them exceeds the yearly value of L. 50.

The number, so far as it can be ascertained, of unmarried men, bachelors and widowers, upwards of fifty years of age, is 28; and of unmarried women upwards of forty-five, 24.

There are 378 families, including *bothies*, in the parish, of whom 117 are chiefly employed in agriculture; 100 in trade, manufactures, and handicraft; and 161 not comprised in the two preceding classes. There is 1 insane person in confinement; 2 fatuous; and 4 deaf and dumb, 3 of whom belong to one family.

*Character, Manners, &c. of the People.*—The people, generally speaking, may be described as industrious in their several callings, as neat and cleanly in their houses and personal habits, and as enjoying a reasonable portion of the comforts and advantages of society. A sensible improvement in point of dress has taken place, partly arising, no doubt, from the comparatively low price at which most of the articles of wearing apparel are now to be procured. Many are accustomed to feed and kill at least one pig in the

\* Both parties residing in the parish.

† One party only residing.

course of the year, besides frequently using other sorts of butcher meat. All have their crop of potatoes and their provision of oatmeal, which are considered as necessaries of life. A good deal of wheaten bread, too, is consumed; and tea, with its appendages, once or even twice a-day, is by no means uncommon. The farm-servants, who, from the large scale on which agricultural operations are here conducted, form no small body, live almost entirely on oatmeal and milk, which they receive as a part of their wages. A laudable attention to their moral and religious duties, and an exemplary conduct in their social and domestic relations, are often to be met with among the labouring classes; but, as might be expected, there are unhappily not a few melancholy instances to the contrary.

We have none of those public works, with which an injurious influence is very generally and justly associated; but *bothies*, or detached houses, in which the unmarried farm-servants sleep and prepare their victuals, and of which there is a very considerable number in this parish, though convenient and beneficial perhaps in some respects, have not certainly contributed to the formation of pious and virtuous habits. It is among those who occupy them that the greatest ignorance is most commonly to be found, and that cases of immorality do most frequently occur. Could some alteration of the system be introduced, which would better provide for the worldly comfort of the young men themselves, and be at the same time more conducive to their intellectual and spiritual improvement, it would be extremely desirable.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture and Rural Economy.*—This parish, in common with the district to which it belongs, is essentially, and, it may be said, eminently agricultural; and the following statement, in standard imperial acres, will indicate the uses to which the land in it is appropriated:

Cultivated,	-	7200
Hill pasture and on river side,	-	189
Under wood,	-	1608

The soft wood, the whole, or almost the whole, of which has been planted, and of which there is a great deal, especially in the upper part of the parish, which it both beautifies and shelters, is the Scots fir, with a mixture of larches, though not nearly in the same proportion. The hard and ornamental timber, of which there are many different kinds, grows most luxuriantly about Castle Huntly, Longforgan, Drimmie, and Mylnfield. It consists of oak,

ash, elm, plane, lime, beech, Spanish chestnut, &c. &c. Much of this wood is old, and some of it of large dimensions.

From the variety of soil and climate by which the parish is diversified, the average rent per acre of arable land in it cannot be ascertained or stated with any degree of exactness.

*Rate of Wages, &c.*—The wages of labourers, in winter, are from 8s. to 9s.; and in summer, from 10s. to 11s. per week. Females are allowed 9d. a-day for hoeing, and 1s. when employed in taking up potatoes. Unmarried farm-servants have from L. 13 to L. 14, with 6½ bolls of oatmeal annually, and a pint of new, or three chopins (English quarts) of skimmed, milk daily. Their master, besides, provides them with fuel and bedding, the whole amounting to upwards of L. 26 a-year. Foremen, or *grievés*, as they are called, receive from L. 5 to L. 8 more, according to their qualifications, and the extent of the charge with which they are entrusted; and those competent to build stacks, &c. get L. 1 or L. 1, 10s. in addition. The yearly wages of married servants are about L. 12, with a house and garden, the same quantity of milk and meal, and the coals which they may wish to lay in brought home to them. But few now have cows kept for their use.—Smiths generally contract for farm-work by the year; but what they receive depends a good deal on the nature of the soil and other circumstances. A cart-wright, when he is occupied ten hours a-day, has 2s. with breakfast and dinner. A *coup*-cart will cost from L. 11 to L. 12; a corn-cart, L. 4, 4s.; a wooden plough, L. 2, 15s.; a harrow, 12s.; an iron plough, L. 3, 10s.; and an iron harrow, 18s. These are the average prices; but of course they fluctuate a little, according to the weight of iron required, and the expense of it at the time.

There is no such thing here as shearing or cutting down corns at so much per day, or at a certain sum for the whole crop, whatever may be the duration of the harvest. These practices, either one or other of which was formerly adopted, are now completely relinquished. The whole work is executed by what is termed *threaving*. A threave of wheat is 2 stooks (shocks) of 14 sheaves each, the girth of the sheaf, when properly bound, being 33 inches. A threave of oats, barley, or beans, is 2 stooks of 12 sheaves each, the sheaf being 30 inches in circumference. The usual allowance for the former is 4½d., while 3d. is paid for the latter. The expense of cutting down a Scots acre in this manner, amounts on an average to somewhat more than 12s. But persons of all ages obtain full employment; and while the young and the old are re-



munerated in proportion to what they can accomplish, the vigorous and expert shearer earns his 2s. 6d. or even 3s. a-day. The work is as well and more expeditiously done, and the difference in point of saving is very inconsiderable.

*Husbandry.*—In the low or Carse district of the parish, consisting as it does of strong stiff clay, and perfectly flat, one rotation is invariably observed, viz. 1st, fallow; 2d, wheat; 3d, pease and beans; 4th, wheat; 5th, barley; 6th, grass for cutting only; and, 7th, oats. Grass is found by experience to answer much better after the two white crops of wheat and barley than after fallow wheat, the great bulk of the straw in the latter case generally having the effect of smothering and destroying it. When the season admits, pease and beans are always succeeded by wheat; and occasionally too, wheat, instead of oats, follows grass, though this has of late been almost entirely discontinued. Wheat is an object of great importance here; but the sowing of it in the clay grounds is rather precarious, depending as it does so much upon the weather, and in ordinary circumstances must be concluded in the first week of October. Potatoes and turnips are rarely cultivated in the Carse, the soil being too stiff and tenacious for them. The second cutting of grass is often remarkably good; but, for some time past, it has fallen off, owing, there is little doubt, to the too frequent repetition of that crop. In the brae or dry land adjoining the clay, which is in general excellent, some of it even superior to the other, and all of it more easily managed, and in the upper district of the parish, where the soil is various and the climate not so favourable, there is no very uniform system pursued. Potatoes and turnips, however, are regularly raised, and the ground pastured for two or even three years in the course of the rotation. The home farm of Castle Huntly is all laid down in grass, which, from its richness, lets at L. 5 per acre. Lime was formerly imported in large quantities from England, but having apparently lost its stimulating and quickening effects, there is not now nearly the same demand for it. Dung is brought from Dundee, by those whose farms are adapted for the green crop husbandry; and bones are used in the higher grounds of the parish for turnips, which are partly eat off with sheep. Rape dust was tried, but with no great success; and oil-cake in feeding is beginning to be employed, principally with the view of improving the manure.

*Live-Stock.*—The cattle are in general a cross of the short-horned breed. *Gowrie*, who gained the first premium for that de-

scription of bulls, given by the Highland Society at Perth in 1829, was bred at Monorgan, in this parish. The Carse part of it is not favourable for raising stock of any kind; but a good many cattle and some sheep are reared in the upper division of it. A few horses also are bred, but the chief supply of them is obtained from other quarters.

*Draining, &c.*—Furrow-draining was introduced into the Carse about eleven years ago. It has been carried here to a considerable extent, not only with stones, which are better for the purpose when they can be procured, but also with tile, and no doubt can be entertained of its advantages. Owing, however, to the perfect flatness of the country, drains do not answer their end so well in time of high floods, when the water is necessarily obstructed in its course towards the leading drain into which it is received. Cross or transverse draining has been long and successfully practised in the higher grounds of the parish, and bogs and patches of wet land have been effectually dried, and rendered as valuable as the fields that surround them.

Leases are generally for nineteen years. The extension of them to twenty-one years, so as to embrace three full rotations, would seem to be desirable. Some of the farm-steadings have been lately rebuilt, and others of them much enlarged and improved, and the dwelling-houses belonging to them, while they are commodious and comfortable in their interior arrangements, are remarkably neat and pleasing in their outward appearance.

The fields in the upper part of the parish are subdivided chiefly by stone dikes which are kept in a proper state of repair. A number of hedges, however, has been very recently planted. There are no enclosures in the lower part excepting those about Castle Huntly and Mylnefield. The clay lands and those immediately adjoining them, are under a regular system of cropping, and when a few acres are occasionally pastured, they are surrounded with wooden railings, which can be conveniently shifted from one spot to another.

The prosperity of the agricultural interest is essentially connected with that of the country at large, and in no way is a landlord more likely to enhance the value of his property, than by giving every support, and holding out every encouragement, to an enterprising and respectable tenantry.

*Quarries.*—The Kingoody quarries, which belong to Mr Mylne of Mylnefield, are in this parish, and close upon the banks of the

Tay. They have already been wrought for several hundred years, and the stone which they produce is considered as equal to any in Scotland. It is of a bluish colour, very hard, and difficult of being chiseled, but extremely durable, susceptible of the finest polish, and scarcely affected by exposure, however long, to the influence of the weather. Castle Huntly, as is mentioned under another head, was built of it in the fifteenth century, and also the old and massy tower of Dundee, which was erected towards the end of the twelfth, and which is still in a wonderful state of preservation. A good deal of it is required to meet the wants of the surrounding country, but the chief demand for it of late years has been from Aberdeen, Perth, and Dundee, where, independently of what has been needed for more ordinary purposes, docks have been constructing, and other harbour improvements in operation. The company who rent the quarries give employment in them to between fifty and sixty men, at the average wages to good workers of about 14s. per week. They have three boats, one of fifty, and two of thirty tons each. The former carries stones to Aberdeen; and other towns on the coast, while the voyages of the latter are confined within the precincts of the river. In some places, there is a depth of rock of not less than 70 feet, and blocks of stone for cylinders and engine seats are furnished, 12 feet long, 8 broad, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  thick, and of the enormous weight of 10 tons and upwards.

There is another excellent freestone quarry on a farm in the higher part of the parish, the property of Lord Kinnaird, from which Rossie Priory was built. Its colour is whiter than that of the Kingoody stone. It admits of an equally fine polish, and were the situation a more favourable one, it might be wrought to great advantage.

*Fisheries.*—The landholders of this parish, whose estates are adjacent to the Tay, at least some of them, have rights to the contiguous fishings on it, secured to them by charter. These were prosecuted with great success by means of stake-nets from about 1802 till 1812, when they were finally interdicted. On the receding of the tide, which leaves nearly a mile of sand between its north bank, and the deep stream of the river, hundreds of salmon were occasionally found enclosed within the nets which were erected when the fishing season commenced, and taken down when it closed. The loss to the proprietors has of course been considerable, and the want of the advantage enjoyed in an ample supply of salmon has been felt in the neighbourhood.

*Produce.*—In ascertaining the gross amount of raw produce

raised in the parish, it is obvious that any estimate we can form will be only an approximation to the truth. But the following view of it, from the principles on which the calculation has been made, is perhaps as correct a one as can be exhibited.

795 Scots acres of wheat, supposed to yield 9265 qrs. 4 bush. at L. 2, 11s. 5d. per gr., being average of fiars for the last seven years,	L. 8395	1	1½
710 do. of barley, yielding 3469 qrs. 2 bush. at L. 1, 8s. 5½d.	4931	5	9½
970 do. of oats yielding 5090 qrs. 2 bush. at L. 1, 1s. 9d.	5585	12	11½
238 do. of pease and beans, yielding 922 qrs. 2 bush. at L. 1, 7s. 7½d. do.	1278	17	1½
358 do of potatoes, at L. 9, 11s. 6d. per acre,	3427	17	0
467 do. of turnips, at L. 3, 3s. per do.	1471	1	0
555 do. of cutting grass, at L. 6, 6s. per do.	3496	10	0
294 do. of pasture, at L. 3, 5s. per do.	955	10	0
974 do. of do. at L. 1, 7s. 6d. per do.	1339	5	0
Produce of quarries,	800	0	0
orchards,	500	0	0
Thinning of wood,	1800	0	0
Total yearly value of raw produce,	L. 36,128	0	0

*Manufactures.*—The goods manufactured in the parish consist principally of Hessian sheeting, and brown tow sheeting and sacking, intended to meet the demand of the home market, as well as for exportation to America. Some plain linen and tweeled sheetings are also made for family use, though not by any means to a large extent. The value of the whole may amount to L. 310 per week. In these different branches, about 150 weavers are employed, of whom 70 are men, and 80 women, the wages of the former averaging 10s., and those of the latter 9s. each, per week. Perhaps 50 women and young persons are engaged in winding and otherwise preparing the yarns for the loom, whose weekly earnings may be nearly 8s. each.

The “Carse of Gowrie Agricultural Society,” which was instituted in 1820, to promote improvements in agriculture, and encourage the breeding and rearing of stock, held its regular meetings in spring and autumn at Longforgan. It no longer exists, however, as a separate establishment, having lately been incorporated with the “Perthshire Agricultural Association,” formed for similar purposes.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town and Villages.*—There is no market-town in the parish, but its inhabitants are favourably situated in that respect, from their vicinity to Dundee (about three miles distant from its eastern extremity,) where there is an admirable supply of both butcher-meat and fish in its season, where all the necessaries and comforts of life can be obtained on the most reasonable terms, and

where farm produce of every kind can be disposed of to the great advantage. There are three villages in it: Longforan, the whole of which belongs to George Paterson, Esq. of Castle Huntly: Kingoody, entirely the property of James Mylne, Esq.; and Balbunnoch, including the range of houses, recently erected on the estate of Mylnefield.

*The means of communication* with other places enjoyed by the parish are diversified and ample. It has the benefit of a post every day in the week, the office, however, being at Inchtute. The great road to Aberdeen by the coast runs through it, and from this two roads branch off, one leading to the Kingoody quarries, and westward through a lower part of the Carse, till it rejoins the turnpike at the sixth milestone from Perth, and the other leading over the Sidlaws to Cupar-Angus and into Strathmore. There are three coaches, and occasionally four (one of them the mail) which pass and repass daily, and, connected as they are with the movements of other public carriages which start from Perth and Dundee, afford constant opportunities of intercourse with all parts of the country. There are very few bridges in the parish, and these over inconsiderable streams, but they are all in good condition, and answer the purpose for which they were originally built. At Kingoody there is a sort of harbour, which was constructed by Mr Mylne, for receiving and sheltering the boats employed in conveying stones to various quarters, not only in Scotland, but also in England. Lime from Sunderland is frequently landed at it for the use of the neighbouring proprietors and farmers. Grain too is shipped from it on their account, and of late years large quantities of potatoes for the London market.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church, which is a very commodious and comfortable one, was erected in 1795, and is at present, with a few trifling exceptions, in a state of complete repair. It is too large, however, containing more than 1000 sittings, nor is there any probability of the ample accommodation which it affords being speedily required. But it could not be better situated for the great bulk of the population, though about 25 families in the north-western quarter of the parish are at the rather inconvenient distance of from three to five miles from it. Some of the communion tables are let annually at very low rates for the benefit of the poor, and a few other seats also are let by those of the tenantry, who, from the extent of their farms, have more church room than is necessary for their servants and cottagers. But all the other sittings are free,

in so far at least as nothing whatever is paid for them by their possessors, though not free in the sense of being open to any who may choose to occupy them.

The manse was built for the present incumbent in 1823 and 1824. It is an excellent house, commanding a delightful prospect, and embracing every accommodation for a family. The glebe consists of between 4 and 5 acres of good ground, and its yearly value may be stated at L. 14 or L. 15. The stipend was augmented in 1824 to 18 chalders of grain, in the following proportions, viz. 138½ bolls of barley, 138½ bolls of meal, and 11 bolls of wheat, all payable by the highest fiars of the county, together with L. 2, being an old allowance for a grass glebe, and L. 8, 6s. 8d. for furnishing communion elements. The whole has amounted on an average of the thirteen years that have elapsed since the decret of modification, to about L. 308 a-year.

There are 310 families belonging to the Established Church, which is the only place of worship in the parish, and which is generally well attended : and 11 connected in whole or in part with the different dissenting bodies ; besides three Episcopalians, and 2 Roman Catholics. The number of communicants is upwards of 600. The church collections for religious and charitable objects have this season yielded L. 22, exclusive of L. 13, 4s. for the destitute inhabitants of the Highlands. The average of them for the last five years is about L. 15.

*Education.*—There are six schools in the parish, viz. the parochial and five others, which are conducted by persons (two of them females) entirely on their own adventure. Three of these are intended for children only, and nothing but a mere knowledge of English in its plainest style is professed to be communicated. In the other three, the branches of instruction usually taught are, English reading and grammar, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, and occasionally Latin and the elements of mathematical science. The quarterly payments for English are from 2s. to 3s., and 4s. when writing and arithmetic are added ; the charge for Latin is 5s. The parochial teacher enjoys the maximum salary of L. 34, 4s. 4½d. and his fees may amount to L. 30 more. A good dwelling-house and a most excellent school-room have been very recently built for him, and though his garden is not of the extent required by law, the deficiency is supplied by an adequate allowance in money. The emoluments of the private teachers are very various ; L. 5, L. 10, and as high as L. 34 annually. There are also

three Sabbath schools, which have been very serviceable in diffusing among the youth an acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures, and of which the good effects would be still more apparent, were the attendance upon them less fluctuating than it frequently is. The value of education is appreciated, and the people in general are so alive to its benefits, and so anxious to procure it for their families, that there are very few above six years of age who cannot read, though numbers read imperfectly. The distance of some parts of the parish is so considerable, as almost to preclude the attendance of children residing there, upon the parochial school. But no great practical inconvenience is experienced on that account, as the school of an adjoining parish is in the immediate neighbourhood.

A *library*, which consists of about 180 volumes, chiefly religious and moral, was formed in 1823. The readers were never very numerous, and it is to be regretted that they are not at present on the increase.

In 1824, a *Savings' Bank* was opened, and the hope was entertained that it might have been useful to many, and that the advantages which it held out would have been recognized and embraced by those for whom it was intended. The situation is not perhaps the most favourable for such an establishment. But, at all events, the expectations of its projectors have been very inadequately fulfilled. The accounts have never exceeded thirty-eight, nor has the sum lodged amounted at any time to more than L. 90. There are now only eight individuals connected with it, and the money bearing interest is L. 36, 11s.

*Poor.*— The number of persons at present on the roll is 20, some of them having families. The provision made for them varies of course according to the age or the necessities of the individual, and other circumstances, rendering their cases more or less urgent, but 4s., 5s., and 6s. are the general monthly allowances. There is an insane person too, confined in the Dundee Lunatic Asylum, at the yearly expense of about L. 16. The funds for supporting them, and for defraying other necessary charges, arise from the ordinary collections at the church, from dues for the use of the hearse and mortcloth, and for the proclamation of bans, and from the interest received on L. 230 of money. When these are found inadequate, the difference is made up by a voluntary contribution from the heritors, proportioned, however, to their several valued rents in the parish, and averaging L. 30 for the last seven years. Annual amount of collections for the poor, L. 49,

10s. 5d. ; of dues for mortcloth and hearse, L. 6, 3s. ; for proclamation of bans, L. 1, 5s. 7d. ; of seat-rents, L. 2, 6s. ; of interest of money, L. 9, 4s. ; contributed by heritors, L. 30 ; total, L. 98, 9s.

Instances are frequently to be met with of persons submitting to considerable hardships rather than be at all dependent on the charity of the public. But I rather think that this very honourable feeling is somewhat impaired, and that the disinclination to apply for parochial relief is neither so strong, nor so universal as it formerly was.

*Fairs.*—Two fairs have been held in Longforgan since 1663, on the first Wednesday of June, and the first Wednesday of October, O. S. Besides these there is a third, known as the *tryst*, which was established by the late Mr Paterson of Castle Huntly, in 1807, and which is kept on the last Monday of April. These fairs are chiefly for the sale of cattle, and a good deal of such business is done. The June fair used to be greatly frequented for the hire of farm-servants, but it is not now so much resorted to for this purpose. It is alleged, and with reason, that there is an impropriety in contracting new engagements five months before the conclusion of those still existing, and that the certainty of their removal from their present situations at the somewhat distant term of Martinmas, is not unlikely to have an unfavourable influence on the minds of servants, to give birth to habits of carelessness, and perhaps to create a feeling of indifference to the interests of their masters.

*Inns, &c.*—There are four licensed public-houses in the parish, besides the toll-house, forming the boundary between the counties of Perth and Angus. They are amply sufficient for the accommodation of the community ; and no friend to the well-being and good order of the neighbourhood, would wish to see their number increased.

*Fuel.*—The fuel principally consumed here is English coal, brought from the harbour of Dundee, or when commissioned by families, as it very frequently is, landed either at Kingoody, in this parish, or at Powgavie, in the adjoining one of Inchturc. The price varies according to its quality, and the expense of conveyance from 4s. to 5s. 9d. per boll of 6 cwt. or 42 stones. Coal from the south coast of Fife, averaging about 6s. a boll, is also used, though not to the same extent, and there is a considerable demand for fire-wood, which is procured from the prunings of trees, and



from the saw-mills, several of which have been erected within these few years.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

When the last Statistical Account was written, the agriculture of this parish and of the surrounding district was probably farther advanced than in most parts of Scotland, and it may not perhaps since that time have made the same relative progress as has been noticed in other places. Still, however, a vast improvement has been effected during the forty years that have elapsed, especially in the upper division of the parish, which exhibits a very different appearance from what it formerly presented. The potato and turnip husbandry was then just beginning to be introduced. But now it is skilfully prosecuted, and these valuable crops are raised in abundance on all those farms which are adapted for the cultivation of them.

Prior to 1790, the roads in the Carse were exceedingly bad, so that, unless in very favourable circumstances, the idea of bringing lime or manure from any distance was not to be entertained. Soon after that the new line of turnpike from Perth to Dundee with its different branches was opened, in which a great change to the better has lately taken place, while the improvement which the statute labour roads have undergone is too obvious not to be remarked.

In 1796, fifteen thrashing-mills were built or building in this parish alone. Now there are not fewer than thirty-two, all driven by horses, excepting five or six on the higher grounds, which are moved by water. There is only one instance as yet in the Carse of Gowrie of the application of steam power to the thrashing-mill, but it is understood to have fully justified the expectations which were formed from it.

*June 1838.*

## PARISH OF AUCHTERGAVEN.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. THOMAS NELSON, MINISTER.

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### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—AUCHTERGAVEN is stated in the former Account to be a word of Celtic original, and to be thus written in that language, *Uachdarghamb-thir*,—a term said to signify the *upper part of the winter land*. No reason is assigned for this derivation, and none is obvious. The name, however, is doubtless of Celtic origin; and I have received these accounts of its etymology, 1. That it comes from *Uachdar*, the top, and *Gabhainn*, a young bullock, a yearling. By the union of these two words Auchtergaven is formed, and literally signifies the *Hill of the young Cattle*—a name which may have been suggested by the circumstance of the elevated ground occupied by the church having been a common on which the parishioners had the right of grazing their young stock: or the name may have taken its rise from a cattle market held in that locality; and indeed a market, chiefly for cattle, is still held annually near the same place, in the month of November. 2. The name by another derivation is said to be compounded of *Uachdar*, and *cun*, dogs; so that Auchtergaven signifies the *Hill of Dogs*; and the reason of the designation is said to have been this: When the Kings of Scotland had their court at Scone or St Johnston, this was the place where the dogs were uncoupled, when the King and his attendants took the diversion of the chase. A district of the parish, at this day famous for its game, bears the name of Kinglands. The first part of the name, *Uachdar*, top or height, is accurately descriptive of the situation of the church, which stands proudly upon the acclivity of an eminence, and is a conspicuous object from the greater part of the parish.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—The parish, from Stanley on its eastern to Corrody on its western extremity, is fully 10 miles in length; and from Marlhaugh, on its southern, to the top of Birnam-hill on its northern extremity, it is upwards of 6 miles in breadth.

This breadth, however, diminishes at Newmill on the south to a mile and a half; while at Safe-landing, towards the east, it does not exceed two furlongs; and at Stanley, it again opens out to a mile in breadth. Its mean breadth is fully 3 miles, and its surface 30 square miles, or 19,200 imperial acres. It is bounded on the north by the parish of Little Dunkeld; on the east, by the parish of Kinclaven and the river Tay; on the south, by the parishes of Redgorton and Moneydie; and on the west, by the brook Shochie, which separates it from Mullion, a detached part of the parish of Redgorton. But within these boundaries, inserted like a wedge, lies a portion of the parish of Methven, named Tullybeagles. This district is fully 4 miles long, and at its thick end more than a mile and a half broad.

*General Aspect.*—The surface within this outline, as viewed on the map of Perthshire, has some resemblance to a balloon, of which Stanley may be regarded as the attached car. The north and north-west sides of the parish include a part of the lower range of the Grampian Mountains. The most elevated points of this range within the parish are, Birnam-hill, Craig-Obney, Craig-Gibbon, Tullybelton-hill, and Corrody-hill. Birnam-hill, by trigonometrical measurement, has been ascertained to be 1300 feet above the level of the sea; and the other hills are not much inferior in height. Although at some points a bare steep rock is exhibited, these hills are not much broken into rugged and abrupt precipices, but have a gradually sloping acclivity. As the parish thus extends from the banks of the river Tay to the summit of the mountains already described, and as it is traversed by several streams which issue from them, it is scarcely necessary to add, that its general aspect is much diversified. Except on the banks of the streams, very little of the arable land can be called level; on the contrary, it is distributed into sloping ridges and swelling knolls. And hence many of the names of the farms, indicative of their elevated situation, begin or end with Ard, Drum, Hill, as Ardonochie, Drumquhar, Berry-hill. The banks of the Tay, where that noble stream bounds the parish, are high, bold, and rocky. Draining, planting, and the improved methods of cultivation have deprived the Stare Dam, where this parish joins that of Little Dunkeld on the road from Perth to Dunkeld, of its indescribable *eeriness* complained of by Morrison, as quoted by Sir Walter Scott in his “Fair Maid of Perth.” The dam is now removed to a situation invisible from the road; and when the young wood has had a few years more

growth, this place will form no contrast to what the same author justly calls at a furlong's distance from it, "one of the loveliest and richest scenes of Scotland—the north-west opening of Strathmore." At no distant period, however, this was a cold and dismal place. And as Morrison adds, "The miserable patches of sickly corn which have with vast labour and cost been obtained, look still more melancholy than the solitary tarn which the barren earth seems to have drunk up. The whole aspect of the place fitted it for being the scene of the trial and punishment of one of the most notorious bands of thieves and outlaws that ever laid the low country under contribution. Ruthven, the sheriff, is said to have held his court on a rising ground to the north, still called the Court-hill; and there were lately, or there still may be, at the east end of Roch-an-roy wood, some oaks on which the Highlanders were hung, and which long went under the name of the "Hanged-men's-trees." Some of these trees still remain in the parish of Little Dunkeld; but the reproach of the Stare Dam has passed away, and must henceforth be spoken of in the past tense.

*Meteorology and Climate.*—The annual range of the barometer at the manse, which occupies a rather low situation, is from  $28\frac{1}{2}$  to  $30\frac{1}{2}$  inches. On the 13th of October last, when the moon was eclipsed, it rose to 36 inches 6-10ths. It is generally high while the wind is in the east. As indicated by a rain-gage kept by the Rev. Mr Mather, the minister of Stanley, the depth of rain in the following years was, in 1833, 28.7 inches; 1834, 29.1 inches; 1835, 26.54 inches; 1836, 34.30 inches; 1837, from 1st January to 30th September, 22.30 inches. The heaviest rains as well as the highest winds are from the south-west. The east wind is generally here, as elsewhere, attended with cloudy weather; but it does not cause here the disagreeable sensation which is experienced on the east coast. The hills on the north-west attract the clouds, in consequence of which a great deal more rain falls on them than on the lower districts of the parish. On the 13th day of October 1831, an uncommon fall of rain on the hills caused a higher flood than had happened in the memory of the oldest person in the parish. All the flat land had the appearance of lakes; and much damage was done to roads and bridges, as well as to potato fields. The snow storm which fell on the 28th of October 1836 covered a great deal of standing corn, as well as almost all the potatoes, so that the harvest was not finished till after the new year; yet comparatively little damage was sustain-

ed. Fogs and hoar frosts are common in the valleys throughout the year, and often prove very detrimental to the potato crop, and severely try the lungs of asthmatic patients. But, on the whole, the atmosphere is of an agreeable temperature, being both mild and salubrious. Even the highest winds and the coldest weather are bracing and healthful. The district is subject to no prevalent distempers, and many of the inhabitants attain to an extreme old age. Within these few years several individuals have died at the age of from ninety to a hundred years. There is now living in the parish a woman in the enjoyment of good health, aged ninety-five; and there are in it several stout and healthy octogenarians, both male and female. The southern and eastern districts of the parish are from a fortnight to three weeks earlier than those at the foot of the hills, but in these lower districts the harvest is as early as in the Lothians.

*Hydrography.*—Numerous and copious springs of pure and excellent water are distributed over the whole parish; and by sinking wells through the alluvial gravel, abundance of good water is found everywhere from ten to twenty feet below the surface. Superstition formerly invested St Bryde's, and Chapel Well, and perhaps some others, with a sacred character, and made them places of resort for pious purposes. Several small streams flow from the hills, and traverse the lower districts of the parish. Such of them as have obtained names, and give a character to the face of the country, are the Corral burn,\* which has its source in a spring at the foot of the Obney hills, and after forming a marsh below the Stare Dam—now nearly drained—passes through the village of Bankfoot, and flows southward till it meets the Garry at a short distance below the Church;—the Aldinny, which also rises at the foot of the Obney hills, and joins the Corral in the meadows of Airlywight;—the Garry, which flows from boggy ground at the head of Glen Garr—a pass through the hills to Strathbran—runs by the manse, receives the Corral, augmented by the Aldinny, and unites with the Ordie at Loak;—the Wynnie, which has its source in marshy land in the barony of Tullybeagles, and joins the Ordie near the mill of Balmacollie;—the Ordie, which rises in a small lake in the hill of Tullybelton, traverses the heart of the parish, receives in its course all the streams which have now been noticed, imposes its name upon the largest district in the parish, namely, Strathord, and at last unites with the

\* This description proceeds from the east side of the parish towards the west.

Shochie at Luncarty, in the parish of Redgorton. The Shochie rises in Glen Shee, and forms the western boundary of this parish for more than five miles, when afterwards it enters that of Moneydie at Argith, and being joined by the Ordie, as already stated, carries all the waters which flow through this parish into the Tay. This also is claimed as one of the streams of this parish, as it bounds it for nearly two miles at Stanley. The beds of all these streams are rough with rolled stones, many of them of considerable size—fragments both of the primary and secondary rocks.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The hills are composed chiefly of clay slate and graywacke. The direction of the strata is southwest, and they dip to the north at an acute angle. Masses of quartz are found in these rocks. In the lower part of the parish, the alluvial deposits rest on the old red sandstone. A very remarkable whin-dike traverses the parish from east to west. It crosses the Tay near Stanley, forming the famous Lin of Campsie. At a short distance from the church it is quarried, and used as metal for the highway—a purpose for which it is well adapted. Here it is forty-five feet across, with regular sides, and associated with the old red sandstone, which is indurated at the place of its junction with the trap rock. This dike is said to traverse the whole extent of the island from east to west. The alluvial deposits which lie over these rocks are, gravel, loam, clay, sand, marl, and peat moss. This gravel forms the subsoil of the greater part of the parish; it is often of great depth, as is ascertained by the digging of wells, the levelling of roads, and the clearing away of the superincumbent matter of stone quarries. When exposed by these operations, large rolled stones are found imbedded in it. It as well as the other alluvial matters have a reddish hue, occasioned doubtless by the presence of iron. Slight traces of bog-iron ore are observable in different parts of the parish. I have never heard of any organic remains either of animals or plants having been found in this alluvial gravel; but fossil wood of different kinds occurs in the peat mosses.

*Soil.*—The soils of the parish are various; but they may be generally characterized as consisting of a sandy loam, mixed with small stones. The decomposed *debris* of the clay-slate rocks forms a strong deep soil, along the foot of the hills. Large boulders were not uncommon in the cultivated fields, but as they interrupted the course of the plough, many of them have been removed of late years. They are, however, still met with in many fields. The

surface of the upper part of the parish is peculiarly tenacious of moisture, so that in soft weather during winter every foot-mark is filled with water, while the lower districts are comparatively light and dry.

*Quarries.*—Roof slates were quarried at no distant date at Obney and Tullybeagles; and are still quarried at Glen Shee. These quarries would be more constantly wrought than they are, were there an easy access to them by means of good roads. The slates obtained are of two kinds, blue and grey. The latter kind is said to be the more durable, and it harmonizes well with the lead with which, when used for roofing, it is associated. The old red sandstone found in the parish forms good building materials, and quarries of it have been opened for that end at Stanley, Corral, Westerton of Kinglands, Hilton, Auchtergaven, and above all at Speedy-hill. From this latter quarry, the stones employed in the new Castle of Dunkeld were obtained. The sandstone rock here has a greenish colour, is close grained, and takes a fine polish. The clay used for making the brick for this edifice—the progress of which was interrupted by the lamented death of the late Duke of Atholl in 1831—was found at Marlhaugh, where this parish joins that of Redgorton. At present, almost none of these building materials are carried out of the parish, except from the slate quarry at Glen Shee.

*Zoology.*—This parish has been long celebrated for the abundance, the variety, and the excellence of its game. The red-deer pays it occasional visits. A few roe-deer make it their home, and early in spring mornings may be seen grazing with their fawns. Hares are very plentiful, and of excellent quality; and rabbits of late have become greatly too abundant, and injurious to the crops. Among the feathered tribes used for game, the pheasant claims the first place; and the grouse, the partridge, the woodcock, the wild duck, the snipe, and the wood-pigeon, follow in their order. These have many enemies; among which are the fox, lurking in the woods or among the rocks; the polecat, the martin-cat, the stoat, and the weasel, frequenting stone dikes, crevices of rocks, old walls, and roots of hedges. Among the birds of prey are the ring-tailed-hawk, the sparrow-hawk, the fork-tailed-gled, the buzzard, not common, the magpie, and the jay-pie. The dotterel, the plover, the lapwing, the curlew, the grey owl, and the fieldfare frequent the moors. The heron haunts a small beautiful lake, surrounded with wood, at the foot of Birnam hill. In stormy wea-

ther during spring, sea-mews visit this part of the country. Jack-daws and crows are abundant; and so are also many sorts of singing-birds, as the lark, the linnet, the blackbird, the thrush, the robin. The house-sparrow, the finch, the wagtail, and other small birds, are common. In summer, the swallow, the land-rail, the cuckoo, and other birds of passage, pay their annual visit. The parish has also its full share of insects and reptiles; and some of the dragon-flies are large and beautiful.

*Botany.*—These plants are found on the hills:

Polygala vulgaris, milkwort	Finguicula vulgaris, butterwort. This
Galium saxatile	plant has some appearance of the P.
Gnaphalium dioicum, mountain cudweed	Lusitanica, which has not been found
Gymnadenia conopsea, fragrant gymnadenia, or sweet-smelling orchis	on this side of the island.
Orchis tuberosus	Carex pulicaris
Trientalis Europaea, chickweed winter-green, beautiful and rare in low lands, more common in the high lands.	Potentilla verna
Viola canina, dog's violet	Pedicularis sylvatica
Pedicularis palustris	Cardamine impatiens
Hieracium alpinum, Alpine hawkweed	Geranium Robertianum
Pyrola minor	———— pratense
	Orchis latifolia
	Lycopodium alpinum.

The three species of heath, natives of Britain, namely, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica tetralix*, and *E. cinerea*, are found intermixed in the hills and moors. All the plants common in most parts of Scotland are also abundant here. And were the banks of the streams, the recesses of the woods, the moors, and the marshes, carefully examined, there is no doubt but a rich botanical harvest would be gathered. All the common sorts of wood grow in the parish, as the oak, the ash, the mountain-ash, the elm, the beech, the laburnum, larch, spruce, Scotch fir, and other kinds of trees. The large plantations consist chiefly of larch and Scotch fir. At Stanley House, there are two very large and fine yew trees, and in the lawn and along the banks of the Tay a great number of beeches, of a large size and beautiful shape. Within six yards of the east corner of the manse is a weeping birch, which, by reason of its broad flat top, and long pendant tendrils, excites the admiration of all by whom it is beheld.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Violence of Former Times.*—Myln, in his Lives of the Bishops of Dunkeld, tells us, that, while James Bruss held that see between 1441 and 1447, his nephew, Andrew Forrester of Torwood, who rented the lands of Little Dunkeld, had an encounter with Robert Reoch Makdonoquhy to the east of the Church of Auchtergaven, where he was so severely wounded in the head that he died in con-



sequence. He was a great scourge to the Church, and in particular had plundered the lands of Little Dunkeld. We are informed by the same author, that Bishop Brown recovered the estate of Makkersy, now called Taymount, in the parish of Kinclaven, from Sir James Crichton of Strathord, in the parish of Auchtergaven, who had taken possession of it by violence. On this account, Sir James laid snares for the Bishop, and did him all the harm in his power. He waylaid and set upon him near the Bridge of Erne with only twelve men, as the other was on his way to Court with a retinue of forty people. The Bishop and the clergy in his train restrained their servants, otherwise Sir James and his people would have been cut to pieces. They parted, however, without exchanging blows; and, to convince the world that the intentions of Sir James were bad, the Bishop returned to Dunkeld without proceeding to Court. From that time, Sir James was very hard upon the Bishop's tenants of Pittendynie and Kinvaid, in the parish of Moneydie. These facts show us the insecurity of peace, life, and property in these times of violence.

*The Family of Nairne.*—When the rebellion of 1715, headed by the Earl of Mar, became public, all suspected persons were summoned by Government to surrender themselves, and give security for their fidelity as the law directed; and in the lists of these persons we find both Lord Nairne, and his son, the Master of Nairne, whose property lay chiefly in this parish. His Lordship, who was brother of the Earl of Atholl, and had married the heiress of Nairne, commanded the fourth of the six Scottish regiments of foot which were at the battle of Preston. And he is thus characterized by a contemporary author: "This nobleman was much esteemed in his country, where he made himself popular by the opposition he made to the Union, as well as by his other great qualities. He was reputed a man of courage, having formerly served in the navy, where it is said he gave proofs of his valour."\* The representative of this family embarked also in the rebellion of 1745–6, and joined the Prince at Perth. He survived the disasters of that insurrection, and followed the Chevalier to France, and thence to Rome, and shared in his friendship and fortunes till the death of the latter. The title of Nairne, which was forfeited in 1746, was revived in 1824. The lineal descendant of the family returned to this country before the conclusion of the last century, and resided in a plain and private way in Perth,

\* Campbell's *Life of John Duke of Argyle*, p. 209.

where his tall and venerable appearance, with his cocked hat and high gilt-headed cane, is still fresh in the recollection of the inhabitants of that city. He was buried in the family burying-place at Auchtergaven. William Lord Nairne, in whose person the title was revived in 1824, was succeeded by his only son, William, born in 1808, and died unmarried in 1837, an event by which the title has become extinct in the male line.\* The principal residence of this ancient family was situated at Loak, in this parish; and the House of Nairne is still spoken of as one of the finest seats of the Scottish nobility. After the forfeited property was purchased by the Duke of Atholl, this residence was demolished; and the only vestige of it which now remains is part of the orchard, with a green mound planted, which terminated one of the avenues; but there are persons still alive, who, amid the levellings of the plough and harrow, can point out the various localities, the favourite walks of the "last Lady Mary," her sylvan bower, the clear pebble well, of which the stream still flows, the old thorn tree, and the bowling green in which Lord Nairne marshalled his clan before they marched to join the Prince at Perth. The exploits of the Lord Nairne who embarked in the rebellion of 1745 have been celebrated in verse.†

While Lord Nairne and other noble chiefs were feasted in the Castle of Strathallan, Callum Dhu, a formidable bandit, who had for some time haunted Methven wood, was talked of. When the castle clock rang the hour of ten, the company broke up; and Lord Strathallan urged Lord Nairne not to return home that night, as he might encounter the robber, his dreary way lying through the wood and across the stream where he had his cave. Attended, however, only by his servant Clarke, he mounted, and hastened homeward. He met the robber, and after a desperate duel, he slew him, and carried home his head as a trophy of his victory. He had received a wound on his shoulder, which his servant wrapped with a bandage to restrain the flowing of his master's blood.

The Old House of Nairne having been consumed by fire, a new mansion was erected at great expense, nor was it completely

\* "By the death of John Lord Nairne, which lately took place at Brussels, Baroness Keith becomes heiress to his barony. Being a female title (Lady Keith having no sons,) it will descend to her daughters, and the family will assume the name and arms of Nairne."—Perth Courier for 11th January 1836.

† "Nairn, a poem, founded on fact, with notes and anecdotes, illustrative of the manners and customs of the natives of Nairn, or Stratherde, in Perthshire, in the eighteenth century," is the title of a legend on this subject, by James Anderson, Perth, printed by Crear and Son, 1825.

finished at the Rebellion of 1745. Sixty masons were employed three years in building it; and were, every Saturday evening during all that time, treated at his Lordship's expense, in a public-house at Loak, each with a large oat cake, a salt herring, and a pint of ale, equal to four English pints. Many who saw the foundation of this house laid, lived to see it taken down to the ground. It was sold, and the materials carried off; and it is said that the clock and weathercock on the spire of the hospital at Perth were originally on the house of Nairne.

*Robert Nicoll*—This was a young man of great promise cut off in the bloom of life. He was born in this parish in 1814, where his grandfather, father, and mother, and other relations still reside. He was educated at the parochial school under the present teacher; and his first outset in life was in a grocer's shop in Perth. But the bent of his mind being toward literature, he opened a circulating library in Dundee, and distinguished himself as a political writer of the liberal school, and as the author of a volume of poems, chiefly in the Scottish dialect, and descriptive of Scottish manners. The title of one of his songs is "The Fouk o' Ouchergaen." When seized with his last illness, he had the management of a newspaper in Leeds, which in a short time he brought into extensive circulation. He died at Newhaven, near Edinburgh, in December 1837. His poetry shows observation, pathos, and right feeling.

*Land-owners.*—In a list of lands and baronies in the seisin of James Master of Gowrie, dated 11th April 1584, communicated to "the Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth," we find the following places in this parish mentioned, *Adanacky*—Ardonochy,—*Harehaugh*—Hardhaugh—a third part of the lands of *Arlewhat*; —Airlywight—the town and lands of *Cultrony*; the lands of *Drumgrain*; and the half of the *Miln of Ochtergavin*, with the half of the multures and miln-lands.

In the record of the valuation of the lands of the parish in 1649, published in the County Cess-Book, the following list of proprietors occurs: The Laird of Strathurd, Robert Graham, the Heirs of John Nairne, Sir William Stewart, the Laird of Grandtully, the Laird of Tullybelton and over Blelock, the Earl of Tullybairdine; Lady Grandtully, elder, for Airlywight and Cultrairie, possessed by her; John Burt of Little Tullybelton, William Wallace of Prieston, the Earl of Athol, and the Earl of Dunfermline, for feu duties.—The present proprietors are, his Grace the Duke of Atholl; Sir John

Drummond Stewart, Bart. of Grandtully;\* James Wylie, Esq. of Airlywight; Robert Robertson, Esq. of Tullybelton; and the poor of the parish of Cockslands, under the management of the kirk-session. The lands of Tullybeagles belong to Lady Keith. The Duchess of Atholl has her locality lands in this parish.

*Parish Registers.*†—The first entry in the parish register is dated 7th December 1740. Since that time the cash collected at the church for the poor, the dates of marriages and baptisms, and the minutes of the kirk-session, as well as the money distributed to the poor, have been regularly kept; and are contained in four folio volumes: the fourth having been provided lately for keeping a roll of male heads of families communicants, in compliance with the regulations for carrying into effect the recent act of the General Assembly on Calls.

*Antiquities.*—In the vicinity of the Stare Dam, at Meikle Obney, in the farm of Middle Blelock, and at some other places of the parish, are found instances of those large rude blocks of stone set on end, so common in Scotland, and of which the original design is so imperfectly known. To the north of Balwharn, in the lands of Tullybeagles, were found, a few years ago, at the ruins of an old chapel, some old coins, and presented, it is said, to the Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth. On the south march of Berryhill farm, in the same lands of Tullybeagles, there is the site of another chapel, where there was a burying-place, where human bones have been recently dug up; and, till of late, the people in the neighbourhood used, on the first Sabbath of May, to drink out of the Holy Well there. This sacred place is on the banks of the Ordie. On the banks of the Tay, near Stanley, are the remains of an old castle or round tower, called Inchbervis, and by some, Inverbervie, of which nothing now is known, except a tradition that it was at one time a religious house in connection with the Abbey

\* Sir John died in May last in Paris; his remains were brought to Dundee by steam, and were interred in the family burying ground at Murthly on the 6th of June 1638. The tenantry, to the number of 400, were at the funeral. He is succeeded by his brother William, who is at present in North America.

† The parish registers must have got into disorder during a vacancy: for on the 23d February 1741, not many weeks after the present register commences, is the following minute. "Session constituted by Mr M'Lagan, minister of Little Dunkeld. In regard there has been for some time no register of sessional deeds in this parish, nor any clerk's fee, the session this day enact, that for the future one be kept, and that the sum of twelve pounds Scots be paid yearly to their clerk for that purpose. They also appoint their present clerk to buy a book at their expense, for entering their records." The clerk at this time was Mr Kemp, schoolmaster of the parish, afterwards minister of the parish of Gask, and father of the late Dr Kemp, one of the ministers of the Tolbooth Church, Edinburgh.

of Dunfermline; and to this abbey, it is said, the proprietors of Stanley grounds are still liable in the yearly tribute of a grilse. At Strathhead, in Tullybeagles, is a shooting lodge; and on the top of Craig-Gibbon, in the same property, is an obelisk, both built by Colonel Mercer, grandfather of the present Lady Keith. The lodge is now inhabited by a shepherd; and the obelisk was built, that Colonel Mercer might distinguish his own hill in the range to which it belongs from his house at Meikleour, twelve miles distant from it, in the parish of Caputh. There is the site of a mound or a cairn at the Westertown of Kinglands, but its foundation has not yet been examined.

*Modern Buildings.*—Stanley House can scarcely be called a modern building with propriety, for it was once a seat of the family of Nairne, and is an old house, evidently built at sundry times. But it has recently undergone a thorough repair, and received some additions, and is doubtless one of the most comfortable and delightful modern residences in this parish, or in any other. By whatever name the lands on which this house is situated may have been called at a remote period, it does not appear, from any document or tradition known concerning it, that the place was named Stanley till some years after 1683, when Margaret, Lady Nairne, succeeded her father Robert, the first Lord. This lady was married to Lord William Murray, fourth son of the Marquis of Atholl by Lady Amelia Sophia *Stanley*, daughter of James Stanley, Earl of Derby. Tradition says, that after the union of the families of Atholl and Nairne, the mansion-house and grounds received the name of Stanley, in honour of the Marchioness of Atholl, that being her family name; and, as the place is always spoken of as having been the dowager-house or residence of those members of the family not in immediate possession of the family honours, it is very probable that the above Lady Amelia, the Marchioness, came to reside in it at the death of her lord in 1703, when the name may have been first applied. This house is delightfully situated on the margin of the river Tay, amid magnificent and beautiful scenery, and surrounded with beech and other trees of the most stately growth, evidently of a great age. Airlywright House, the residence of James Wylie, Esq. of that ilk, is a large well-built edifice, erected within the last thirty years. It is situated on a rising ground, about a quarter of a mile from the public road between Perth and Dunkeld, from which it is a conspicuous object. The House of Tullybelton is the only other man-

sion-house in the parish deserving of particular notice. Since the death of the proprietor, immediately preceding the present, in 1834, it has remained uninhabited, except by a gardener and his family. The parish church, two dissenting meeting-houses, the extensive cotton-mills at Stanley, and five corn-mills, are the principal public buildings in the parish. With the exception of the Stanley cotton-mills, which are chiefly constructed of brick, all these edifices are built of sandstone found in the parish, and covered with slates, also found in the parish, or in that of Little Dunkeld. Home-grown fir has been also extensively used in some of these buildings. Thus the parish contains an ample store of most kinds of building materials, for the clay out of which bricks are made is also found in it.

III.—POPULATION.

The population in 1755, from Dr Webster's return, was	-	1677	
In 1795, according to the last Statistical Account, it was	-	1784	
In 1811, there were	1188 males,	1369 females,	Total, 2557
1821,	1164	1314	2478
1831,	1599	1818	3417

No reason is assigned in the old Statistical Account for the increase of 107, which, according to the preceding statement, occurred between the years 1755 and 1795. In the census of 1811, the population of Tullybeagles was included,—a fact which sufficiently accounts for the excess of the census of that year above that of 1821. Indeed, the wonder is, that the decrease of 1821 was not much greater than the figures indicate, namely, 79, for the population of Tullybeagles is now upwards of 200; and in the period between 1811 and 1821, the parish was not only in a state of transition from small to large farms, but the Stanley cotton-mills remained idle from 1814 till 1823. The great increase of nearly a thousand, which took place between 1821 and 1831, arose from the operation of two very obvious causes,—the activity and extension of the Stanley cotton-mills, and the erection of two entirely new villages on the property of James Wylie, Esq. of Airlyright. In the two last census, the population of Tullybeagles was included in that of the parish of Methven, to which, indeed, the district belongs *quoad omnia*; at least there is no record of its having been annexed to this parish *quoad sacra*; although, for the convenience of the inhabitants, it has always in reality been so, as both minister and people act on the principle that it is so annexed. A considerable number of individuals, both male and female, has of late years emigrated from the parish, but not to the sensible diminution of the popula-

tion, as the place of those who have left it is more than supplied by new settlers. A great increase has taken place since the taking of the last census in 1831, so that at present the population exceeds 4000, and about 2600 live in villages; that of Stanley alone is 1455.

The yearly average of births for the last seven years,	-	56
of deaths for the last five years,	-	48
of marriages for the last seven years,		28

During the last three years, there have been in Stanley\* 9 illegitimate births; and 5 in the other districts of the parish.

No register of deaths was kept in the parish till the beginning of 1833, when one was begun by the present minister. The only families of independent fortune residing in the parish are those of James Wylie, Esq. of Airlywight; and of George Buchanan, Esq. of Stanley. There is nothing peculiar in the strength, size, complexion, or any other of the personal qualities of the people. Many of them are the descendants of those who inhabited the same places in the parish several generations ago; and the intermarriages which have taken place among them have formed them into an extended community of blood-relations. The most prevalent surnames are Paton, Crichton, Duff, Chalmers, and Dow; and, on the whole, the inhabitants of the landward part of the parish afford very favourable specimens of the Scottish peasantry. There are at present three insane, four fatuous, and two blind persons in it. There are four families in the western districts which claim both the English and the Gaelic as their native language. As they say themselves, they speak the former when they go to the south, and the latter when they go to the north. Many native Highlanders have, within the last twenty years, taken up their residence in the parish, and, of course, speak their native language when they meet together. The Scottish dialect, however, is the universal language spoken, and equally well by all. Old Handsel Monday is kept as a holiday by young and old of the working-classes, when they put on their best attire, and visit their friends and neighbours. In general, the people are shrewd, sober, industrious, moral, and religious. Smuggling is now unknown, and poaching, though sometimes practised, is far from being common. Theft is a rare vice.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—It has been already stated that this parish, in its full extent of hill and dale, woodland and pasture, moor and

\* The discipline of Stanley is quite distinct from that of Auchtergaven.

moss, covers an area of upwards of 19,000 imperial acres, of which

about 6000 are unable,  
 — 796 are under wood,  
 — 1200 are in pasture, roads, ditches, &c.

and the remainder, amounting to considerably more than the half of the whole, is hill and moorland, fit only to be employed as sheep-walks, and pasture for black-cattle. There is no part of the parish in the state of undivided common. Each proprietor knows the bounds of his own property, although there is a claim preferred by the Laird of Airlywight, on behalf of his tenants, to cast turf on the ground, once a peat-moss, to which they had a right. But this claim is not sanctioned by the Duke of Atholl. *Sub judice lis est.* Much of the land stated as pasture is capable of cultivation, and much formerly in that condition has been reclaimed of late years. Upwards of 100 acres of green pasture land have been added to the arable portion of the Obney estate, belonging to Sir William D. Stewart, since the commencement of the present leases, seven years ago. Nearly as large a portion has been added to the arable land in the barony of Tullybeagles. And valuable improvements—draining, fencing, and encroachments of the corn-fields upon the moors, are in progress throughout the parish.

*Woods.*—Larch, Scotch fir, and a small quantity of oak, are the kinds of wood planted on the Strathord property, belonging to the Duke of Atholl. The plantations are from twenty to forty years of age, and all thriving well. A considerable portion of the wood in the barony of Obney is oak and other hard-wood trees. It is only seven years old, and occupies a part of the Birnam Forest. The wood is well distributed throughout the parish in clumps and belts, and gives it a rich and sheltered appearance. More than one-half of the Airlywight estate is surrounded by a broad belt of Scotch fir and larch. The woods are regularly thinned, and used for fences, and the wood-work of tenants' houses.

*Rural Economy—Rent.*—The average rent of land in the parish may be stated at L. 1, 5s. per acre. Some farms, however, are let as high as L. 2, 10s. per acre. Grass parks, let annually by public roup in spring, bring about 10s. an acre more than land in lease. A milk cow is grazed at the rate of L. 3; an ox L. 2, 10s.; and a ewe 10s. per annum.

*Wages.*—The general rate of wages for a labourer, per day



in summer, is 2s. and in winter, 1s. 6d. If engaged for any length of time, from 9s. to 10s. a week is a common rate. Slate quarriers get higher wages, as their work exposes them to risk. A woman's wages for weeding and hoeing are 9d., in some cases only 8d. A good ploughman capable of taking the management of a pair of horses gets from L. 12 to L. 14 a-year, with six bolls and a half of oat meal and a Scots pint of new milk a-day. When from home the greater part of the day with carts, they have each sixpence additional. Women-servants get from L. 5 to L. 7, with bed and board a-year. Reaping in harvest is generally done by the threave; and 3d. are given for oats and barley, and 4d. for wheat per threave, exclusive of binding and stooking. A wright gets from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per day, as does also a mason. A tailor when he goes out to work charges 1s. 3d. per day with victuals. A blacksmith gets L. 3 for keeping a team of two horses in shoes, and for keeping the carts, ploughs, and harrows, used by them in order. A cart costs from L. 7 to L. 10; an iron plough,—no other sort used now,—from L. 3 to L. 4; a drill harrow costs L. 1, 10s. There are 140 ploughs in the parish.

*Live-Stock.*—The draught horses are generally large and powerful, and a considerable number of them is bred in the parish.

Number of draught horses,	-	400
milk cows,	-	750
young cattle,	-	1400
sheep,	-	4000

The breed of cattle has been greatly improved of late years, by being crossed with the Ayrshire and the short-horn breeds. Some of the farmers have the pure Ayrshire; and some of them have introduced a few of the Angus-shire with advantage. The black-faced Scotch sheep is the only breed kept on the hills. A small number of the Leicester breed is kept by several of the farmers on the lower grounds.

*Husbandry.*—The most improved and skilful methods of husbandry are practised throughout the parish. The five hand shift is now generally in use, as it has been found by experience a great improvement to have the land in the course of five-years, two of them in grass, one for hay, and the other for pasture. Wheat is raised in the lower districts of the parish, but oats and barley are the most prevalent grain crops. One-fifth part of the farm is always under turnips and potatoes, and the application of bone manure to the former is now much practised. On the large farms, the half of the turnip crop is eaten on the ground by sheep;

and most of the potatoes are shipped at Perth for the London market. What has been said about the failure of this valuable crop, in the Statistical Account of Redgorton, is equally applicable to this parish. It is, however, worthy of notice, that there was no failure—scarcely a blank to be seen—in the year 1837, which perhaps was owing to the uncommon degree of cold, which prevailed in the spring of that year, having retarded the springing of the seed till it was planted. Trenching, draining, fencing, and the removal of boulder stones, with the application of lime and manure, are the chief modes of improvement. And these have been going on progressively for the last forty years, and have completely changed the face of the country. All the proprietors have more or less encouraged their tenants to proceed with these operations, and both have reaped the benefits resulting from them.

Leases are generally granted for nineteen years; and this is considered a term of sufficient length for remunerating an enterprising farmer. Most of the farmers are comfortably lodged in well-built, and well-finished houses of two storeys, with suitable courts of offices. The land is subdivided into fields with thorn hedges, and strong wooden pailings put down for temporary purposes; these are formed with upright posts and cross rails. Flakes are used in pasturing with sheep, and in eating off turnips. The wood for these enclosures in the Duke of Atholl's estates is prepared in the plantations, where it is cut by the woodmen, and driven by the tenants to its destination on the farms, and there put up by the woodmen. A saw-mill is now being erected at Loak for that purpose.

*Quarries.*—Stones for all kinds of mason-work are obtained at Westerton of Kinglands, Speedyhill, Auchtergaven, Carrol, Newbigging, and Stanley. The quarries at the three last mentioned places are wrought at present; and there is no doubt but good building materials would easily be found throughout the parish, wherever they might be wanted, as well as an inexhaustible store of roofing slates in the Grampian mountains within its bounds. The only slate quarry, however, which is wrought at present, is that of Glenshee, near the western extremity of the parish.

*Fisheries.*—The only fishery in the parish is one at Stanley for salmon.

*Produce.*—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish may be guessed at from the following statement :

Grain, oats, barley, and wheat.	L. 14400
Potatoes,	6000
Turnips,	4200
Hay,	7200
Gras parks, and sown grass pasture,	2400
Sheep walks,	8000
Quarries,	500
Fishery,	50
<b>Total raw produce,</b>	<b>L. 42,750</b>
Yearly rental upwards of L. 10,000, Sterling.	
Valued rent is,	4599, 16s. Scots.

The Stanley Company are obliged to pay L. 75 per annum to the Duke of Atholl for the fishings on their grounds; but now let them for L. 28 per annum. A rent of L. 80 a year is obtained for the game of the parish.

*Manufactures.*—Under the head of manufactures, the first place is due to Stanley cotton-mills. They are situated between the village and the house of the same name on the margin of the river Tay; and consist of spinning and weaving mills, propelled by seven water wheels, equal to 200 horse power, and affording employment to 1000 people. These works were first built by George Dempster and Co. in 1785, and continued in their possession till 1800, when they were bought by James Craig and others, who carried them on till 1814, when the works stopped till 1823, when they were bought by the present company, by whom, at vast expense, they have been brought to their present state of magnificence and efficiency. There has recently been some change in the copartnery of the works; and I believe the present firm is “Buchanan and Sons.” The fall of water is 16 feet, and the supply being from the Tay, never fails, though sometimes it is in such superabundance as to stop the works. The lade or water course is carried across a hill 150 feet high, by means of a mine 800 feet long, 8 feet high, and 10 feet wide, arched and paved throughout. Previous, however, to the construction of this subterranean channel, two others were formed through the same hill at different times,—the earlier by John Lord Nairne in 1729, for the purpose of driving a corn-mill; and the latter by Dempster and Co. in 1785, when the works were first erected. The circumstance of a mine of such extent having been formed at the period referred to, shows the public and enterprising spirit of the nobleman under whose auspices, and at whose expense it was undertaken and executed. It is told of his Lordship that he superintended the transporting of the first millstones across the Tay, at the Norlane boat, the only ferry on the river in the parish; and in those days, there being neither car-

riages nor roads suited for the conveyance of such weighty masses, they were rolled on their edges from the quarry to their destination, with a round beam or "wand," through the centre, having a number of men supporting at each end, and horses dragging in front.

Not long ago there were four distilleries in the parish. At present there are only two in a state of activity. Malt is made at one other place besides at the distilleries. There are, as has been already stated, five corn-mills in the parish. There are also two lint-mills in it. Many obtain employment by weaving for the manufacturers of Blairgowrie, Dundee, Arbroath, and Newburgh. White linens and dowlas are the stuffs chiefly sent here to agents to be given out to the weavers, male and female. There are two manufacturers in the village of Bankfoot, who employ a number of weavers; and two others in the parish of Little Dunkeld, who give work to ten individuals resident in it, in weaving linen, sheeting, and shirting for the home market. There are about 300 of the inhabitants of the parish employed in the different branches of the weaving craft, many of whom are young women; many of them also are labourers, masons, wrights in summer, and almost all of them turn out to the shearing in harvest.

The following table will afford an idea of the division of labour, and the different branches of industry carried on in the parish, exclusive of those already described:—Tailors 8, who employ 18; shoemakers, 26, who employ 40; masons, 8, who employ 14; wrights, 14, who employ 20; blacksmiths, 7, who employ 12; surgeons, 5; coopers, 3; quarriers, 12; fishers, 10; seedsmen, 3; slaters, 3; woodmen, 5; gardeners, 4; shopkeepers, 15; tinsmith, 1; watchmaker, 1; turner, 1; sawyers, 6; bakers, 3.

Work is carried on six days in the week, from six o'clock in the morning till the same hour in the evening, with the intermission of two hours for meals. Work at the cotton-mills begins at half-past five in the morning, and ends at seven in the evening, with the intermission of an hour and a half for meals. On Saturday, work ends at three o'clock in the afternoon. Children begin their work at the mills a quarter of an hour to ten A. M., and end it at three P. M., that they may attend school. All in health when well employed can earn an adequate livelihood.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Villages.*—There is no market-town in the parish, although all the necessaries and even many of the luxuries, of life are to be

had within its bounds. Perth and Dunkeld are resorted to, the former on Fridays and the latter on Saturdays, by the farmers for the disposal of the produce of their farms. The greater part of the parish is about equally distant from these towns—namely, from six to nine miles. There are three considerable villages, with eight hamlets, or clusters of houses, inhabited by small farmers and cottars. These were once much more numerous, but Blelock, Ledmore, Tullybelton, and others have been razed to their foundations, and some of those which still remain are destined also to destruction. Self-defence must have been the inducement which made so many of the rural inhabitants congregate together in hamlets. “Their neighbourhood to the Grampians exposed them eternally to that species of visitation from the plaided gentry, who dwelt within their skirts, which made young Norval a warrior and a hero.” But the days of the “creachs of the clans” have long gone by, and now there is not the least danger of a “foray.” The third part nearly of Stanley, which has been so often mentioned, is within the bounds of the parish of Redgorton. It contains a population of upwards of 2000, and it owes its existence entirely to the cotton-mills. Previous to their erection in 1785, there was but one solitary house on the site which it now occupies; and must have been a porter lodge to the house: for it was called the “Yett House of Stanley.” Bankfoot and Cairniehill may be regarded as the same village, as the one stands on, and the other under, the same bank. They have been built within the last thirty years on ground feued by Mr Wylie of Airlywight. They are near the church, and contain 1000 inhabitants. The village of Waterloo, a mile and a half nearer Dunkeld, is also built on ground feued from Mr Wylie. It contains upwards of 100 inhabitants. Most of the weavers, the other tradesmen, and many of the labourers, live in the villages. Numbers of the feuars had once small farms in the parish, which now form parts of larger ones.

*Means of Communication.*—The parish is traversed, for upwards of five miles, by the great north road from Edinburgh to Inverness, on which stage-coaches between Perth and Dunkeld pass daily, as well as the Inverness royal mail coach. There is a penny post from Perth to Bankfoot, at which letters arrive both from the south and the north every day. The statute labour roads in the parish extend to nearly twenty miles; and across the streams in the line of these roads, including that of the turnpike, there are at least as many bridges, but none of more than one arch.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church stands on a sloping bank, at the foot of which is the great road from Perth to Dunkeld. No situation could have been more convenient for the bulk of the population, when it was resorted to by that of Stanley. Since the erection of a church in that village, the population of the eastern extremity of the parish attend divine service there, while that in the western districts still attend the parish church, from which five families are from five to seven miles distant. The great body of the people, however, is within three miles and a half of the church, and many of them much nearer. The present fabric—an oblong building with a tower on its west end—was erected about twenty-six years ago. It is a firm substantial edifice, and seated to accommodate nearly 1200. At a meeting of heritors, held 8th June 1813, they divided the sittings among them according to their valued rent. And the Duke of Atholl's interest in the parish may be known from the fact, that nearly 700 of the seats fell to his share. His Grace built the tower, it is said, wholly at his own expense, besides his proportion along with the other heritors. Miss Mercer, now Lady Keith, assisted in building the church, and has seats in it for her tenants in Tullybeagles. The seats are all free, each farm having a certain number allotted to it; and all have abundance of accommodation, except the people on the Airlywright property, which has been greatly increased by means of the feus in the villages of Bankfoot and Waterloo.

*Logiebride.\**—A small parish, named Logiebride, the church of which stood about a mile and a half to the south-west of that of Auchtergaven, on the banks of the Ordie, and where there is still a burying-place, was united to Auchtergaven, by an act of the Scottish Parliament, in the year 1618, and was afterwards separated by the Bishop of Dunkeld. In 1647, the heritors and the parishioners petitioned the Presbytery of Dunkeld to have the parishes again united: because there was not adequate stipend for two ministers—because the parish of Logiebride lay within the bosom of that of Auchtergaven,—and because all its inhabitants

\* “And as he”—the Bishop of Dunkeld—“found in an old record of his church, that the lands of Gawy, and the lands of Ferdichawe had once been a prebend for the entertainment of strangers, but the former Bishops had for sometime been in the use to apply it to their own advantage, this Bishop,” Brown—“first got the consent of the canons, and then restored the prebend. But as the rents were too scanty for maintaining a decent hospitality, he joined to this prebend the church of Logiebride.”—Miln's History of the Bishops of Dunkeld in the Transactions of the Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth, p. 51.

Thomas Brown, Vicar of Auchtergaven, was family chaplain and clerk to this Bishop. Ib. p. 57.

(not exceeding six score of communicants,) “were within a short mile of any of the two said kirks, without any stop or impediment of kirk-way.” This matter was referred by the presbytery to the provincial synod of Perth and Stirling, which met at Stirling on the 14th April 1647, when in all probability they were put in the way of being again united, although I cannot state that such was the case, as the document, whence the above facts are taken, breaks off abruptly. The hardships of Mr Alexander Anderson, one of the ministers, are strongly insisted on in the petition of the heritors. “He was forced,” they say, “to live these sixteen years in great distress, being burdened with wife, children, and family.” This man’s tombstone is still in the churchyard of Auchtergaven, on which his virtues are recorded. Divine service used to be performed at Logiebride for many years after the union, but not within the memory of any one now living. An old man, upwards of eighty years of age, who died lately, remembered the church of Logiebride standing.

*Manse, Glebe, Stipend.*—The manse was built ten years ago, and is a good plain house, situated a quarter of a mile westward from the church. The stipend consists of L. 73 money, 40 bolls of barley, and 81 bolls of meal. There are two glebes, one at Auchtergaven, and one at Logiebride; and the two together will measure fully ten imperial acres; they would let for about L. 20; the one is rather more than a mile distant from the other. A portion of the “Muir of Thorn,”\* and also of another muir near Tullybelton, are said to belong to the minister of Auchtergaven. But as during the last thirty years the parish has been served by four assistants and successors to the late incumbent, who all that time lived at a distance from the parish, this land has not been claimed. The two first assistants and successors were soon removed to other parishes; the third died in 1830; and the present incumbent has not hitherto deemed it prudent to attempt the establishment of his right to these “muirs,” although he has not abandoned the intention of doing so. There is no grass glebe unless it be these muirs.

*Stanley Chapel.*—Soon after the erection of the cotton-mills at Stanley, the company employed a preacher, with the approbation of the parishes in which the village is situated, to do duty there on Sundays in a school-house. In 1828, the present proprietors of the works petitioned the presbytery of Dunkeld, praying to have

\* This muir extends over a portion of the surface of this parish, as well as that of the parishes of Little Dunkeld and Kinclaven.

a chapel of ease established in their village in communion with the Church of Scotland, and promising to erect a suitable place of worship at their own expense. This petition was favourably entertained, and a constitution for the chapel was sanctioned by the General Assembly of the same year. Mr Johnstone, now in the parish of Auchtermuchty, was ordained its first minister, and the promised chapel was built at an expense of more than L. 3000. It is an elegant building, surmounted by a tower, and contains sittings for 1150 persons. It was erected into a parish, *quond sacra*, in 1834. As the church stands within the verge of the parish of Redgorton, it belongs to the presbytery of Perth; but more than two-thirds of the hearers are from this parish. The Stanley Company have generously given the minister a house and garden, which are in this parish, in addition to a stipend of L. 150.

In the village of Bankfoot; there are two dissenting meeting-houses, one connected with the United Seceders, and another connected with the Relief Synod. About 150 heads of families, inhabitants of this parish, are members of these places of worship, or of a Seceder meeting in the parish of Kinclaven. But many of the younger branches of these families, as well as the servants belonging to them, attend the Established Church. The ministers of these dissenting chapels are paid by the seat-rents of their respective places of worship; but the amount of which I am unable to state. The parish church, when the weather permits, is well attended both by old and young. The average number of communicants at Auchtergaven, is 800; at Stanley, from this parish, 600. The average amount of collections for religious and charitable purposes, throughout the year, is L. 50.

*Education.*—There are at present five schools in the parish, in all of which the common branches of knowledge, reading, writing, and arithmetic, are taught. The parochial teacher has the legal accommodation, and the maximum salary; and besides the elementary branches already specified, he is qualified to teach English grammar, Latin, book-keeping, and practical mathematics. The school-fees are small, and not well paid; they will scarcely amount to L. 15 a year. The Stanley Company maintain a large school at their own expense. They give the teacher a house and garden, and a salary of L. 20 a year, besides furnishing a spacious school-room. This school is generally attended by about 100 pupils, and the teacher is qualified to teach the higher branches of know-



ledge, including those of Latin, Greek, and French. There is a school in the village of Bankfoot, called the "Subscription School." Mr Wylie of Airlywight gave the ground on which it is built, with a play-ground attached to it, and the feuars contributed the money by subscription for its erection. By a legal disposition, the teacher, before his election by the subscribers, which is annual, must have satisfied the presbytery of Dunkeld of the correctness of his moral and religious character, and of his ability to teach the elementary branches of knowledge required. This school has no endowment, but as it is numerously attended, the teacher makes a tolerable livelihood. The other two schools are in situations of the parish too remote from the parochial or the Stanley and Bankfoot schools to be benefited by them. One of them is at Obney, and is unendowed, as is also the other, which is at Tullybelton. Efforts are making at present to have a new school-house at Obney, and to have a school established at the Westerton of Kinglands, on the General Assembly's Scheme—a place where a school is much wanted, and by the erection of which that at Tullybelton would be superseded. The people are abundantly alive to the benefits resulting from education; and all without exception are taught the elementary branches of knowledge, and many of them the higher departments of it. The only fault to be found with parents in reference to the education of their children is a capricious desire of novelty leading them perpetually to change their teachers, till they are themselves taught by experience, that the old were better than the new. From time to time adventurers open schools both in Stanley and Bankfoot, and are supported for a while, but both these teachers and their employers soon become mutually tired of each other. There is a Sabbath school at Stanley, attended by between three and four hundred of the young people of that place. The minister has a Sabbath school in the church of Auchtergaven, attended by from fifty to sixty young people. And another Sabbath school is taught at Tullybeagles, by Mr William Duff, a preacher, assisted by the schoolmaster of Obney school. In all the schools in the parish the Scriptures are regularly read, and the Shorter Catechism, with the Proofs, taught. The situation of the parochial school is somewhat out of the way of the people, and it would be a great advantage were it nearer the church. And no greater blessing could be bestowed upon the parish than a new school-house at Obney, and a school

on the General Assembly's scheme at Kinglands. A school here would also accommodate the barony of Mullion in Redgorton parish, as also a large district in that of Moneydie.

*Literature.*—A library was instituted in the village of Bankfoot in 1822, and is under the management of a committee of the subscribers, consisting of a preses, a treasurer, a librarian, and a clerk, with five members elected annually. The books amount to nearly 300 volumes, and consist of theology, history, and general literature. The entry money is 2s. 6d. and the annual subscription is 2s., paid half-yearly. There is another library at Stanley, which contains 560 volumes of well-selected works on various subjects. The fees are 2s. for entry money, and afterwards 9d. per quarter. Stanley, however, is not a reading community, as those who avail themselves of the advantages of this valuable collection of books do not exceed twenty. By the laws of the library it cannot be alienated, but must remain the public property of the village.

*Charitable Institutions.*—The Benevolent Society of Stanley is entitled to the first notice under this head. It was instituted in 1831, for the purpose of assisting poor people, and is supported by voluntary contributions. The average disbursements have been till lately about L. 40 per annum—they now exceed L. 60—and in such sums as the necessities of applicants may demand, but averaging about 1s. per week. Coals, clothes, food, and medicines are given to the necessitous according to circumstances.

*Stanley Funeral Society.*—A society for defraying the expense arising from funerals was instituted at Stanley in 1831, the members of which are now about 1200. Every member pays 1s. of entry money, and afterwards 1d. for every funeral which occurs. When the head of a family dies, L. 4 are advanced to pay the charges of his funeral; and when a child dies, L. 2 are paid for the same purpose. The sum of L. 30 is always kept in hand, that in case of any unusual mortality taking place at nearly the same time, the collections may not come too frequently upon the members. An educational society has also recently been instituted at Stanley for assisting the poor to pay for the education of their children.

*Savings Banks.*—In January 1831 a savings bank was also established at Stanley by a few individuals connected with the works. The baleful influence of the "cotton-spinners' combination" has prevented this institution from producing the benefits which it is

fitted to yield to the inhabitants of such a village as that of Stanley, for not a few, of whom better things might have been expected, have been busy in crying it down, not only as unnecessary, but in stigmatizing it as a nuisance. These persons think and say, and have been at pains in spreading their opinions, that were they to put their earnings into a savings bank, it would be the signal for their employers to reduce their wages; and prefer spending them as they are won, to laying aside what might be spared against sickness or old age. The consequence of this feeling has been to create a general and a strong prejudice against savings banks; so that in four years only twenty-seven depositors had entered that of Stanley, the amount of their deposits being L. 214. This unhappy prejudice is the more to be regretted, as there exists no Benefit or Friendly Society in the place, or indeed in the parish, although several of the parishioners are members of institutions of this description both in Dunkeld and Perth. A savings bank was instituted in the village of Bankfoot in January 1833, on liberal principles. The stock at present amounts to L. 350. Deposits from 1s. and upwards are received every Tuesday evening. This institution has, no more than that of Stanley, met with the encouragement it deserves.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of paupers upon the poor-roll for the last seven years is 20, and the monthly allowance to each is, according to circumstances, from 3s. to L. 1. They receive their respective allowances once every lunar month; and three times a-year—immediately after the dispensation of the Lord's Supper in summer, at the beginning of winter, and at the new year,—they receive an additional allowance for the purpose of purchasing fuel and warm clothing, and getting a loaf, and perhaps a bit of butcher's meat, at a time of general rejoicing. The funds for the poor in 1837 were L. 120, 9s. 4½d. and were derived from the following sources :

Auchtergaven collections,	-	-	-	L. 23	1	8½
Two-thirds of the collections of Stanley church,	-	-	-	12	5	6
				<hr/>		
				L. 35	7	2½
Cash for proclamations,	-	-	-	11	18	0
Cash for the use of mortcloths,	-	-	-	5	2	6
				<hr/>		
				L. 52	7	8½
Rent of land mortified for the poor,	-	-	-	28	0	0
From the heritors by voluntary assessment and other incidents,	-	-	-	40	1	8
				<hr/>		
				L. 120	9	4½

The average annual expenditure for the last seven years was

L. 115, 9s. 6½d. In the course of 1837, the kirk-session received the sum of L. 50 from the trustees of the late John Thomas, coach-builder in Glasgow, bequeathed by him for the benefit of the poor of this his native parish. This money is at present deposited in the savings bank, and the interest is to be used in buying warm clothing for a few aged persons. There has never been any assessment in this parish enforced by statutory enactment; and it will be obvious from the above statement, that were the heritors resident, and did they attend the parish church, none whatever would be required, as the small sum of about L. 30, voted at their annual meetings according to their valued rent, is but a fraction of what they would give in the course of the year, did they and their families attend the parish church. The only heritor resident in the parish at present is a Dissenter, and consequently contributes not one farthing towards the sum collected at the church doors. The spirit of independence by which Scotsmen have been so eminently distinguished is far from being extinct here. The villages at present absorb the whole of the monthly disbursements except 7s. monthly to a blind man, and 3s. to a bed-ridden old man in the landward part of the parish.

*Fairs.*—An annual fair or market was once held on the banks of the Ordie, at a place called the Hole of Tulybelton, a beautiful dell, at which many Highlanders attended to sell wool, cheese, and butter, and other produce of their land and industry. This market no longer exists; but there is still a fair held at Auchtergaven, on the second Friday of November, for cattle, sheep, and general business.

*Public-Houses.*—There are no fewer than twenty-six houses within the bounds of the parish, licensed to sell “porter, ale, and British spirits,” a number altogether extravagant for the wants of the inhabitants. In the Stanley district alone, there are twelve of these houses, which is about one public-house for every thirty-one families. At least three-fourths of these are public nuisances, and most hurtful to the morals of the inhabitants, as it is by them chiefly that they are maintained. These houses are not so prejudicial in the other parts of the parish, as they are all on the turnpike and other public roads in it; and are supported chiefly by travellers and carriers to and from the Highlands. Still they are more numerous than necessary. It is difficult to get rid of houses of this description which have enjoyed a license any length of time, unless some complaint be preferred against them; but the justices

of the peace have of late very properly set their face against increasing their number.

*Fuel.*—English coals from the depôts in Perth, at the rate of L. 1 a ton, form the staple article of fuel. They are hawked through the villages occasionally by carters from Perth. They are also retailed at Stanley Company's store; and they are kept by one general merchant in Bankfoot for the same purpose. The Duke of Atholl's tenants and the minister of the parish have the right of casting peats in Craigleith moss, situated in the moor of Thorn, which occupies a part of this parish, as well as of those of Little Dunkeld and Kinclaven. The inhabitants of Obney, Tullybeagles, and Kinglands find peats in the Grampians, at the foot of which they have their habitations. The poor have also permission to cast a few loads of peats each in the Craigleith moss. Peeled coppice oak, slaps from saw-mills, in the parish of Little Dunkeld, and branches fallen in the woods are all used as fuel. Many of the farmers in summer drive coals from the coal fields of Fife and Clackmannan.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

In the old Statistical account of this parish, after a statement of its extent, it is added,—“ But a great proportion of this consists of hills and muirs, or waste uncultivated ground.” And certainly, so long as the road from Perth to Dunkeld passed through the Moor of Thorn, the aspect of the parish to the traveller must have been bleak and dreary in the extreme; and consequently in *Gazetteers*, it is described as a “ hilly moorish parish,” and dismissed as unworthy of farther notice. And about forty years ago, when the “ runrig” system of farming prevailed, it must have yielded a very limited quantity of produce in proportion to what now, under an improved system, it is made to yield. The hills stand, and must continue to stand, the north-western boundary of the parish, and a most striking feature in the landscape as far as the eye can reach. But now scarcely a vestige of moor ground can be seen from the turnpike road, and what still remains of it is on the outskirts of the parish, and is every year in the way of being reduced in quantity. Draining, planting, enclosing, improved tillage, and judicious cropping have completely changed the face of the country; so that this parish is entitled to rank with the best cultivated districts in the wide county of which it forms a part. The landlords have encouraged the improvement of their property, and have been seconded by their tenants.

It is to be regretted, however, that the moral improvement of the ploughmen has not kept pace with that of the land, which they know so well how to cultivate. The *bothy* system may be regarded as the main cause of this. Young men associate together in an out-house of the farm, cook their own victuals, which is generally oatmeal brose and milk. Thus they never meet in a domestic capacity, spend much of their time, especially in winter, not under the inspection of their masters, and the bad tend to corrupt the good. The evil arising from these causes is not very flagrant as yet. But instances of young men breaking their contracts, and becoming regardless of the duties of religion, occasionally occur. A corrective of this might perhaps be found by introducing the practice of having married hinds on the farm, as in East Lothian, and causing the unmarried young men to live in their families. At present farm-servants who have wives have their houses not on the farms to which they belong, but in the villages.

The police of Stanley is very efficient; and ill-behaved persons when found out, are forthwith discharged from the mills. And by this means there is not a more orderly or a more respectable manufacturing population in the empire than the inhabitants of that village. But the want of an active Justice of the Peace, assisted by a few steady and faithful constables, together with a temporary place of confinement for delinquents, is deeply felt occasionally at Bankfoot, to check the exuberance of youthful frolic.

*Revised June 1838.*

## PARISH OF KENMORE.

PRESBYTERY OF WEEM, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. DAVID DUFF, A. M. MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—So far back as anything can be traced regarding the parish, it has been called Kenmore; or, as it is found in the records of bygone times, Kenmure, Candmoir, Kandmor. The name is evidently Gaelic, and is a compound of the two simple terms, “ceann,” head, and “mor,” great. The name has originated, in all probability, from the geographical character of the place where the parish church stands, being a beautiful and conspicuous headland projecting into the lower end of Lochtay, and forming the southern bank of the river at its outset. But though this has immemorially been the name of the parish, and though, from an undefinable period, there has been a place of worship where the present church stands, it appears from the session records, and other old documents, that the principal place of worship, as also the burying-ground and residence of the clergymen, were at Inchadyn.\*

*Extent, &c.*—The parish is of great extent, containing probably 62 square miles of surface, or about 40,000 acres. Its figure is exceedingly irregular, stretching on both sides of Lochtay, and with portions detached by the intersection of other parishes. It is bounded on the east by the parishes of Dull and Weem; on the

\* In the “Black Book of Taymouth,” there occurs this statement, “Sir Duncan Campbell, 7th laird of Glenurquhay, had a daughter, Elizabeth, married in the kirk of Candmoir to the 2d son of Irving of Drume in 1621.” And in the session record, of date 28th December 1729, it is said “the minister went to the ferry, but could not get crossing for the storminess of the day, and so no sermon at Kenmure. But at Inchaidon there was both lecture and sermon to all that came thither, and on that side of the river.” The place then and long known by the name of Inchadyn is now hardly to be traced. It lies on the north bank of the Tay, rather more than a mile below the site of the church of Kenmore, and is comprehended within the parks of Taymouth. Prior to the Reformation it was a vicarage, as appears by the following quotations from an old and rather curious MS. in the library of Taymouth. “Obitus domini Morisii M’Naughtyn, vicarii de Inchadyn, apud Weym viii Aprilis an° Di mv° primo, et sepultus in Inchadyn.” (1501.) Again; “Obitus Dmi Dunca-ni M’Naughtyn, vicarii de Inchadyn apud Perth et sepultus in Inchadyn, sexto die Novembris an° Dmi mv° xxiii.” (1528.)

west by part of the parishes of Killin and Weem; and on the south and north by those hills which rise from the sides of the loch, and border on the south with Comrie and Monivaird, and on the north with Fortingal and Weem.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The most striking feature in the district is Lochtay, a beautiful basin of water, extending from the village of Kenmore, at the one extremity, to that of Killin at the other, a distance of nearly sixteen miles. On either side, there is a parallel range of mountains, rising gradually from the margin, and, in one instance at the summit of Benlawers, attaining to an elevation of more than 4000 feet above the level of the sea. The lower portion of these Alpine ranges, from the edge of the lake, and all round it, to nearly a mile upwards, is in a state of tillage, or under pasture, or covered with wood, partly natural and partly planted. At the upper limit of this zone, commences the russet hue of the heath, but yet, all over, pleasingly and richly intermingled with verdure, which in many places prevails to the very loftiest ridge. Nor is there any interruption to this agreeable appearance by the intervention of rough, broken, and precipitous rocks. The line presented to the eye, as far as it can reach, is the varied and waving line of beauty. There is but little of what may be styled low, flat land. At the mouths of the more considerable streams, which rush into the lake, there are formed deltas of some few hundred yards. The most extensive formation of that kind is at the upper extremity of Lochtay, where the waters of Glendochart and Glenlochay discharge themselves, and, by their spoils from above, have composed the rich meadows of Auchmore, Kinnell, and Finlarig. At the opposite extremity begins the basin or valley of the Tay. This opens out at once into a fine plain, about a mile in width, with the river, even at its very birth, full and deep, as if it had been a stream of an hundred miles, sweeping its powerful flood through the splendid parks of Taymouth. With these exceptions, the land rises everywhere with considerable acclivity, from the edge of the water,—the character of the arable portion, being in general that of steep ground, and rather difficult to be worked.

There is a small detached part of the parish in Glenquaich. This valley runs nearly parallel to Strathtay, and its waters, first collected into the Quaich, and afterwards into the Braan, empty themselves into the Tay at Dunkeld. For the space of more than a mile above the entrance of the Quaich into Lochfraochie, there is a dead level of swampy, undrained, and apparently undrainable land.



*Meteorology.*—No register of a meteorological nature has been kept in this district. But we may come to some interesting conclusions by the aid of a set of observations made at no great distance. In Moulin, for instance, where the writer was incumbent for many years, a parish about 12 miles in a direct line to the north-east of this, I found, on an average of six years, beginning with 1813, and terminating with 1818, the state of the thermometer to be 46.5;—that of the barometer 29.43;—that of the rain-gauge 30.81 inches; and the number of days in which the wind was from the west, with its different points to the north and south, to be 158, to which, if we add one-half of the days in which it blew from the north or south, which probably were as often on the west side of these points as otherwise, we shall have 204 days of a westerly wind. Though the distance between Moulin and Lochtay side be but small, I am inclined to think that we have heavier and more frequent rains in Breadalbane, so much so, perhaps, as to raise our average to about 32 inches in the year: as I am inclined also to think that the wind is here oftener from the west. Upon the whole, we are exposed to great degrees of neither heat nor cold. The vast body of water contained in Lochtay probably exercises both in summer and winter, no inconsiderable influence upon the state of the atmosphere. Certain it is, that neither does the loch ever freeze, nor does snow lie long except in winters of extraordinary severity, as those of 1814 and 1838, within a certain height from the verge of the water. In January, and the beginning of February 1838, when the thermometer in the open air was so low as to range between 1° and 32°, the temperature of the lake was found to be 40°.

The atmosphere of the parish is uniformly pure and salubrious, which is sufficiently evinced, as well by the general healthiness of the people, as by numerous instances of longevity. The prevalent distempers may be stated to be affections of the breast and lungs, exhibiting themselves in coughs, consumptions, &c. Rheumatism is a very common complaint.

*Lochtay.*—The principal lake is Lochtay, a vast body of water, stretching from north-east to south-west, in nearly the form of the letter S. It is about 16 miles in length, on an average rather more than a mile wide, and in some places probably not less than 600 feet in depth. It may be considered as presenting a surface of about 17 square miles, or 10,000 acres. Except at the two ends, the channel everywhere shelves rapidly from the edge, so as to bring you by a single step or two into deep and dangerous water. The lake is fed at its south-west extremity by the rivers Dochart

and Lochay, besides the supplies which it receives from the tribute of innumerable streams rushing down the sides of the mountains on both banks. From its north-east extremity, pours out the noble Tay, which, after flowing beautifully through Strathtay, part of Strathmore, and along the Carse of Gowrie, discharges itself into the German Ocean some miles beyond Dundee ; delivering, as is supposed, a greater quantity of water than any other river of Britain. With the water which it is thus removing from us, it is, like all its congeners, incessantly taking away what can be less spared. It were interesting to inquire, (if this were the fitting opportunity,) what quantity of our best soil, the debris of the mountains and valleys, is borne down by this ever-active agent, to the estuary of the Tay, and to the caverns of the deep. Say this river discharges 3000 cubic feet of water per second. It is supposed that in each 200 cubic feet of water, there is contained one cubic foot of mud. Say but the half of that, however. That would give to the Tay, 7.5 cubic feet per second, 648,000 per day, or about 236,520,000 cubic feet of mud per annum. The water of the lake suffers, at times, violent and uncommon agitations. An interesting description of one of these phenomena is given in the former Statistical Account of the parish, ( Vol. xvii. 457.)

Next to Lochtay, is Lochfraochie in Glenquaich, a sheet of water about three miles in length, and one in breadth, of which but a part is in this parish ; there being portions of it connected with the parishes of Dull and Little Dunkeld. The scenery of this lake is rather tame, and so is the general aspect of the glen, as there is hardly any planting, and even but little natural wood. The chief feeder of Lochfraochie is the Quaich, a bold mountain torrent rising in this parish. From the loch, a little above Amulree, issues the Braan, which, after a run of about ten miles through Strathbraan, enters the Tay, as stated before, at Dunkeld.

*Cascades.*—The formation of the country naturally occasions the existence of numerous cascades. Almost all the streams, indeed, which come down the mountain sides, may be regarded, each, as one continued waterfall ; and when swelled with heavy rain, or the sudden melting of snow, they become peculiarly striking. There is one, however, which is well-deserving of being particularised ; the fall of Acharn, or otherwise the hermitage, distant about two miles from the village of Kenmore. Of the many travellers passing through Kenmore, few fail to pay a visit to that remarkable spot : nor, if they have been endowed with the capacity of re-

lishing nature in a state of beauty or grandeur, can they leave it without bearing along with them feelings of high gratification.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*\*—The rocks of the parish are said to consist almost entirely of the oldest or primitive class, and are, for the most part, of a highly crystalline structure, and devoid of organic remains or petrifications. Where the rocks are stratified, the beds or strata run usually in a course from south-west to north-east, and dip generally to the southward, at angles rarely reaching 30°. The mountains generally run in lines from south-west to north-east, parallel to the prevailing direction of the strata. The principal rock in the parish is the mica slate, which presents many varieties, and is in some places intermixed with some of those inter-stratified rocks which are commonly associated with it. There are gneiss, clay slate, chlorite slate, and some varieties of hornblende slate. The chlorite slate is very conspicuous in Benlawers, and in the ridge that is continuous with it. In the southern part of the parish, and not far from the village of Kenmore, where the mica slate joins with the clay slate, there occurs a variety of this, approaching in character both to chlorite and to talc slate, which has been wrought for building the Castle of Taymouth. It is an excellent stone for architectural purposes, and resembles that of which Inverary Castle is built. Beds of primitive limestone occur in two or three places, on both sides of Lochtay, forming beds among the other primitive rocks, and conformable to them in direction and position. They are often extenuated after a very short course, so as to disappear; sometimes, however, they recur again, in the same line, so as to make us suppose, that they have been continued without our perceiving it. The strata about Lochtay appear to form part of the large bed which extends north-east towards Shichallein and Blair-Atholl, between which and Lochtay there are beds of this rock, which appear in several places.

*Zoology.*—It is unnecessary to enlarge our article by many observations on the zoology of the parish, as there can hardly be any thing in this respect to distinguish it from others similarly situated. There is a long zoological list, given by the late Dr Stuart in his *Statistical Account of the parish of Luss*, Vol. xvii. 247; and it is likely that at one time or other of the year, there may be found, either remaining with us, or visiting us, almost every one of the

\* The scientific part of the articles *Geology*, *Mineralogy*, and *Botany*, has been furnished by a member of the writer's family.

animals there enumerated. If you should saunter through the parks or woods of Taymouth, you might regard yourself as being within the bounds of a vast menagerie, so considerable is the variety of animals which you would see. Besides the different breeds of sheep to be found in one set of inclosures, and of cattle in another, you would perceive browsing or bounding here and there, the red, the fallow, and the roe-deer; and besides having your attention ever and anon attracted by the gambols of the squirrel, or the whirings of the pheasant, your walk may chance to bring you within sight, or perhaps encounter, of greater strangers,—the clumsy emu of the Asiatic isles may appear stalking before you; or you may meet the bison, which has come from the banks of the Missouri to astonish with his grotesque figure; or you may find yourself in the vicinity of a staring buffalo, or in the middle of a herd of white Caledonian cattle. But by much the most interesting sight is that of the capercaillie, or cock of the wood, about to be again introduced to the forests of Scotland. With us, the bird has been a stranger for about seventy years. In the course of 1837, there were brought to Taymouth twenty-eight birds of this beautiful species of grouse. They were given to the Marquis of Breadalbane by Mr T. Fowel Buxton, late M. P. for Weymouth, who sent his gamekeeper to Sweden to procure them. Of these, some are still kept in confinement, while a number have been allowed to go at large. The cock appears to be of a bold, pugnacious spirit; is splendid in mien and plumage; and may be about 16 lbs. in weight. The bird must have been pretty common at one period in Scotland.\*

*Botany.*—This parish, like most Highland parishes, presents an interesting field of observation to the botanist.

In the low grounds, on the borders of Lochtay, and in the woods in its immediate neighbourhood, the lover of plants will find the following specimens of the less common plants.

<i>Circæa alpina</i>	<i>Rubus saxatilis</i>
<i>Scirpus sylvaticus</i>	<i>Thalictrum majus</i>
<i>Bromus asper</i>	<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>
— <i>giganteus</i>	<i>Vicia sylvatica</i>
<i>Asperula odorata</i>	<i>Astragalus glycyphylus</i>
<i>Anchusa sempervirens</i>	<i>Hypericum dubium</i>
<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	<i>Cnicus heterophyllus</i>
<i>Polygonum Bistorta</i>	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>
<i>Sedum telephium</i>	<i>Carex pendula</i> .
<i>Reseda Luteola</i>	

\* See copy of a curious letter regarding this sort of game from James VI. to the Earl of Tullibardine in the former Statistical Account, Vol. xx. 473.

In the woods and hedges about Taymouth, the following plants may be found :

Convolvulus sepium	Rosa spinosissima
Campanula latifolia	—— involuta
Solanum Dulcamara	—— cæsia
Viburnum Opulus	Rubus suberectus.
Sambucus nigra	

The *Myrrhis odorata* and *Ballota nigra* sometimes occur in the neighbourhood of houses and villages; and the *Euphorbia exigua* and *Carduus maximus* may sometimes, but rarely, be found in gardens and cultivated ground. The *Scrophularia aquatica*, which is not frequent in Perthshire, is found occasionally in moist, shady places.

In the marshes, the following may be mentioned as among the rarer plants.

Hippuris vulgaris	Chrysosplenium alternifolium
Chara flexilis	Rhodiola millegrana
Eriophorum Polystachium	Listera ovata
Lysimachia Nummularia	Hypericum Elodes.

In the lakes, &c. are found,

Potamogeton heterophyllum	Lobelia Dortmanna
———— perfoliatum	Oenanthe fistulosa
———— densum	Cieuta virosa
———— lucens	Littorella lacustris
———— crispum	Subularia aquatica.
———— pusillum	

On ascending to the higher woods and pastures, a few rather rare plants, such as the following, may be met with :

Eriophorum pubescens	Saxifraga granulata
Melica natans	———— tridactylites
——— uniflora	Melampyrum sylvaticum
Festuca calamaria	———— pratense
Triodia decumbens	Linnaea borealis
Galium cinereum	Orobanchia sylvaticum
Plantago media	Ornithopus perpusillum
Jasione montana	Astragalus hypoglottis
Sanicula Europæa	Hypericum humifusum
Ligusticum meum	Hieracium dubium
Allium ursinum	———— aurantiacum
——— vineale	Apargia autumnalis
Convallaria majalis	Cnicus acaulis
Luzula Forsteri	Habenaria albidia
Trientalis Europæa	——— viridis
Polygonum viviparum	——— bifolia
Adoxa moschatellina	Neottia repens
Pyrola rotundifolia	——— nidus-avis
——— media	Listera cordata
——— secunda	Epipactis palustris
Euphorbia Lathyris	Malaxis paludosa.

And when you are among the higher rocks, or have reached the summits of the mountains, the following are among the less common plants, which will reward the toil of your research ;

Veronica saxatilis	Cerastium latifolium
—— fruticulosa	Spergula saginoides
—— alpina	—— subulata
Eleocharis pauciflorus	Rubus chamaemorus
Eriophorum capitatum	Potentilla aurea
—— gracile	—— verna
Phleum alpinum	Dryas octopetala
Alopecurus alpinus	Thalictrum alpinum
Aira alpina	Ajuga alpina
Sesleria cœrulea	—— pyramidalis
Poa alpina	Bartsia alpina
—— cœsia	Draba rupestris
Cornus Suecica	—— incana
Alechmilla alpina	Cochlearia Groenlandica
Sagina maritima	Cardamine bellidifolia
Myosotis alpestris	Arabis hispida
Azalea procumbens	Astragalus uralensis
Gentiana nivalis	Leontodon palustre
Sibbaldia procumbens	Hieracium alpinum
Luzula spicata	—— Halleri
Juncus capitatus	—— Lawsonii
—— trifidus	Serratula alpina
—— gracilis	Gnaphalium supinum
—— biglumis	Erigeron alpinum
—— triglumis	Betula nana
—— castaneus	Rhodiola rosea
Oxyria reniformis	Carex pauciflora
Tofieldia palustris	—— depauperata
Epilobium alsinifolium	—— Mielichhoferi
—— alpinum	—— capillaris
Vaccinium uliginosum	—— rariflora
Arbutus alpina	—— ustulata
Saxifraga stellaris	—— atrata
—— nivalis	—— pulla
—— oppositifolia	Salix phylicifolia
—— Aizoides	—— sphaelata
—— cernua	—— arbuscula
—— rivularis	—— Myrsinites
—— caespitosa	—— prunifolia
—— hypnoides	—— venulosa
Dianthus deltoidea	—— carinata
Silene acaulis	—— Dicksoniana
Stellaria scapigera	—— herbacea
—— cerastoides	—— reticulata
Arenaria verna	—— glauca
—— rubella	—— arenaria
—— fastigiata	—— Stuartiana
Cherleria sedoides	—— rupestris
Sedum villosum	—— Borreriana.
Cerastium alpinum	

Of the cryptogamic plants, the number is so great, that only a very few can be mentioned. The rarer Alpine ferns are, *Aspidium Lonchitis*, *Cyathea fragilis* and *dentata*, *Woodsia hyperborea*. The *Aspidium lobatum*, *Asplenium viride* and *septentrionale*, *Scelopendrium vulgare*, and *Hymenophyllum Wilsoni*, are found on the moist rocks at the sides of rivulets. In rocky places, the *Polypodium Phegopteris* and *Dryopteris*, *Grammitis Ceterach*, and *Cryptogramma crispa*, may be met with. In upland pastures, the *Ophioglossum vulgatum* and *Botrychium lunaria*; and in fir

woods the *Aspidium dilatatum* and *crisatum*, also occur. The beautiful *Osmunda regalis* grows on the north bank of Lochtay, about two miles west from the village of Kenmore; and on the walls of the Priory ruins in the island of Lochtay, the *Asplenium Ruta-muraria* is found. In wet places and lakes, the *Pilularia globulifera* and *Isoetes lacustris* may also be met with.

Of the order Musci, the following rare Alpine species may be found :

Andrea Alpina	Dicranum polycarpum
Gymnostomum Lapponicum	Bartramia ithyphylla
———— microstomum	Hypnum populeum
Splachnum vasculosum	———— molle
Polytrichum hercynicum	———— flagellare
———— septentrionale	Bryum dealbatum
———— Alpinum	———— crudum
Weisia splachnoides	———— elongatum,

In the woods in the lower parts of the parish are to be found the following species :

Encalypta streptocarpa	Hypnum plumosum
Orthotrichum Lyellii	———— fluitans
Neckera crispa	———— crista-castrensis.
Hookeria lucens	

Of the *Hepaticæ*, the following species are met with; *Jungermannia trichophylla*, *juniperina*, *julacea*, *concinata*, *curvifolia*, *setifera*, and *umbrosa*.

A great number of rare lichens occur, of which the following may be mentioned :

Lecidea fumosa	Cetraria nivalis
———— vesicularis	———— Islandica
Solarina crocea	Peltidea venosa
Lecanora oculata	Cenomyce bellidiflora
———— frustulosa	———— vermicularis
———— erythrella	Isidium corallinum
———— rubra	Cornicularia bicolor.
———— Hookeri	

*Woods, Natural and Planted.*—The soil and climate of this district appear to be particularly favourable to the growth of trees. The indigenous are, oak, ash, birch, mountain-ash, alder, hazel, bird-cherry, hawthorn, holly; and, of some of these kinds, not a few attain to a very great size. The plantations consist chiefly of larch and Scotch fir. There are interspersed, however, through these plantations, or there occur, either in groups by themselves, or in lines, a vast number of beeches, elms, sycamores, limes, chestnuts, both horse and Spanish, spruces, Weymouth pines, silver firs, geans, laburnums, white beams, &c. The laurel, *Prunus laurocerasus*, is found in great profusion and of most luxuriant growth; as is also the Portuguese laurel, *Prunus Lusitanicus*, though by no means in such plenty. You will likewise meet occasionally with fine specimens of the cedar, the

cypress, the yew, the arbor-vitæ of both east and west, the hemlock-spruce; not to speak of a considerable variety of smaller and shrubby evergreen exotics, now in course of planting.

The extent of ground covered with wood, whether planted or natural, is very considerable; probably not less than 8 square miles, or about 5000 acres. And the susceptibility of the soil for the growth of timber, as well as the favourable character of the climate, may be clearly seen from an examination of the subjoined table. It is the result of measurements made by the writer of this article at a few "idle hours," which, it is to be hoped, will not be said to have been altogether idly spent. The specimens selected are all within a circle round the Castle of Taymouth, of a radius little more than two miles, in latitude  $56^{\circ} 38'$ , and growing at an elevation above the level of the sea, ranging from about 360 to about 700 feet; and some of the very largest trees, particularly the larches, oaks, and Scotch firs, are at the latter height. The measurement was taken, in each individual, at two feet above the surface of the ground.

No. of each sort measured	Names of the sorts of trees.	Extreme girths.				Mean of two extremes.		Mean girth of all.	
		Least		Greatest		Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
100	Larch, <i>Larix vulgaris</i> , -	7	6	14	0	10	9	8	8
100	Oak, <i>Quercus</i> , { Robur, Sessiliflora ?	7	0	12	3	9	7	8	5
85	Scotch fir, <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> , -	6	0	14	0	10	0	7	2
66	Beech, <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> , -	8	0	22	0	15	0	9	6
66	Lime, <i>Tilia</i> { <i>Europæa</i> , <i>grandifolia</i> ,	8	0	13	6	10	9	9	5
40	Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudo-platanus</i> ,	7	6	13	8	10	7	9	7
33	Ash, <i>Fraxinus excelsus</i> , -	7	6	18	0	12	9	10	1
33	Spruce, <i>Abies vulgaris</i> , -	6	6	9	0	7	9	7	4
32	Birch, <i>Betula alba</i> ,	5	2	9	6	7	4	6	2
25	Elm, <i>Ulmus campestris</i> ,	7	6	15	0	11	3	9	8
25	Gean, <i>Prunus avium</i> , -	4	6	9	0	6	9	6	2
21	Spanish Chestnut <i>Castanea vesca</i> ,	5	3	14	8	9	11	7	8
11	Weymouth pine, <i>Pinus strobus</i> ,	5	3	7	0	6	2	5	11
11	Laburnum, <i>Cytisus Laburnum</i> ,	3	10	7	1	5	5	4	7
8	Alder, <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> ,	4	1	12	8	8	4	6	8
2	Golden willow, <i>Salix vitellina</i> ,	8	3	8	9	8	6	8	6

If one desires to see specimens of the massy growth of some of these giants of the forest, let me recommend to him to look at the ash behind the Inn of Kenmore; the beech at the saw-mill; the four Spanish chestnuts at the foot of the bank in front of the fort; the elm to the south of Lady Breadalbane's garden; the lime nearly in front of the castle; and the larch beside the Rock-lodge.

It is worthy of observation that many of the trees comprehended



in the list from which the preceding table has been constructed are flourishing in ground to which the plough could never be applied;—in some places, for instance, so steep as to be hardly climbable; and in others so rocky and full of stones, that no labour could remove them. To plant such situations, of which there are thousands in Scotland, seen bleak and naked, is the lesson obviously urged by these facts. Nor would the doing so be a mere waste of labour or ground: on the contrary, there would, in process of time, be drawn from these solitudes more than a remunerating return; and besides, let it be considered how much there would thereby be added to the beauty and picturesque appearance of the country.

*Horticulture.*—Nor do soil and climate appear to be less propitious here to the growth and maturation of several of the gardener's nurslings. Some interesting exemplifications of this remark might be given; as, for instance, the case of a gourd, probably the *Cucurbitus pepo*, which, in the open air, and without the aid of any artificial heat, in the summer of 1837, grew, in the space of about six weeks, to such an enormous size, that it measured round its largest circumference 61 inches, and weighed 59 lbs imperial;—or the case of a cabbage of the flat Dutch which weighed 24½ lbs;—or the case of a plant of potatoe of a third year seedling which had nearly 200 tubers, the weight of the whole being 24 lbs.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The session records, in which there are entries so far back as 1636, bring to view facts illustrative of the manners of the people in former times, by means of which we are able to institute a comparison between them and the people of the present day. The result is an impression decidedly in favour of the superior knowledge and comfort, as well as the superior moral tone of the existing generation. From the middle of the seventeenth to that of the eighteenth century, scarcely a Sabbath occurred, but the session was occupied with a case of discipline, and sometimes with several cases on the same day. These arose out of acts of drunkenness, quarrelling, and incontinence. To show still farther the state of those times, it may be mentioned that processes regarding the use of charms and incantations were not unfrequent. The present age is certainly not without instances of moral delinquency: but I will venture to say, upon the evidence of that document, that they do not amount to a tithe of their number in the days of our forefathers. From the testimony of another manuscript, it would appear

that those days were often disgraced by doings of a more atrocious character. This manuscript, which is in the library of Taymouth, is of the nature of a Diary. The writer was a Roman Catholic, probably Vicar of Inchadyn or Fortingal, and lived several years before the end of the sixteenth century. Among the variety of curious things stated in that manuscript I find mention frequently made of bloody feuds and murders among the people. An event of either description hardly now occurs in a lifetime. There is another manuscript to which I may refer here. It is known by the name of the "Black Book of Taymouth." It is chiefly occupied with a genealogical account of the Glenarquhay family and the narration of facts and incidents connected with the lives of the Barons of that house.

*Breadalbane Family.*—In the outset of that manuscript it is stated, that "Duncan Campbell, commonly callit Duncan in Aa, Knight of Lochow (lineallie descendit of an valiant man, surnamit Campbell, quha cam to Scotland in King Malcom Kandmoir his tyme, about the year of God 1067, of quhom cam the house of Lochow), flourished in King David Bruce his dayes. The foresaid Duncan in Aa had to wyffe Margarit Stewart, dochter to Duke Murdoch; on quhom he begat twa sones, the elder callit Archibald, the other namit Colin, wha was first Laird of Glenarquhay." The following table exhibits a view of the succession in the family, from 1432 to the present day.

Name.	Title.	Connection with last.	Yr. of access.	Died at	Buried at
Colin	Knight	1 2d Son of Dun. of Aa	1432	Traphillan	Kilmartin
Duncan	Knight	2 Son of Colin	1480	Flodden-field	Kilmartin
Colin	Knight	3 Son of Duncan	1513	Hankelquhery	Finlarig
Duncan	Knight	4 Son of Colin	1523	Glenarquhay	Finlarig
John	Knight	5 Brother of Duncan	1536	Lochtay Isle	Finlarig
Colin	Knight	6 Brother also	1550	Balloch	Finlarig
Duncan	Baronet, 1625	1 Son of last Colin	1583	Balloch	Finlarig
Colin	Baronet	2 Son of Duncan	1631	Balloch	Finlarig
Robert	Baronet	3 Brother of Colin	1640		Finlarig
John	Baronet	4 Son of Robert			
John	{ E. of Caithness	1 { Son of John	1677	}	{ Finlarig
	{ E. of Breadalb.		1681		
John	Earl of Breadalb.	2 Son of Earl John	1716	Holyroodhouse	Finlarig
John	Earl of Breadalb.	3 Son of 2d Earl	1782	Holyroodhouse	Finlarig
John	Marquis, 1831	1 Cousin of the last	1782	Taymouth	Finlarig
John	Marquis	2 Son 1st Marquis	1834	Large, largeque faustus sit.	

It were easy, if our space admitted of it, to give some rather curious sketches regarding a few of the persons mentioned in the preceding list. Of Colin, who is at the head of the column, it is

related that, "throch his valiant actis and manheid he was maid knight in the Isle of Rhodes, quhilk standeth in the Carpathian sea near to Caria, and contrie of Asia the less, and he was three sundrie tymes in Rome." Descending along the series, we find Colin, the sixth in succession, represented as having been "ane great justiciar all his tyme, throch the quhilk he sustenit the deidly feid of the Clangregor, ane lang space; and besides that he causit execute to the death meny notable lymarris, he behiddit the laird of M'Gregor himself at Kandmoir, in presence of the Erle of Athol, the Justice-Clerk, and sundrie other nobilmen." Duncan, the seventh in the list, was the first, it is said, who attempted the civilizing the inhabitants of the estate; for before, they were, like their neighbours, more given to arms than to any kind of industry, and living pretty much at large, without distinguishing precisely between "meum and tuum." He set them the example of planting timber trees, fencing pieces of ground for gardens, and manuring their lands; at the same time assisting and encouraging them. One of his regulations of police for the estate was, "that no man shall in any public-house drink more than a chopin of ale with his neighbour's wife, in the absence of her husband, upon the penalty of L.10, and sitting twenty-four hours in the stocks, toties quoties." But the most interesting statement of all, perhaps, is that which we have in connection with Robert, the ninth name in the list. "In the year of God 1644 and 1645, the laird of Glenurquhay his whole landis and esteat, betwixt the foord of Lyon, and point of Lismoir, were burnt and destroyit be James Graham, sometime Erle of Montrose, and Alex. M'Donald, son to Col. M'Donald in Colesne, with their associattis. The tenants their whole cattle were taken away be their enemies; and their cornes, houses, plenishing, and whole insight weir burnt; and the said Sir Robert pressing to get the inhabitants repairit, wairit L.48 Scots upon the bigging of every cuple in his landis, and als warit seed cornes, upon his own charges, to the most of his inhabitants. The occasion of this malice against Sir Robert, and his friends and countrie people, was, because the said Sir Robert joint in Covenant with the Kirk and kingdom of Scotland, in maintaining the trew religion, the King's majestie, his autoritie, and laws, and libertie of the kingdom of Scotland; and because the said Sir Robert altogether refusit to assist the said James Graham and Alex. M'Donald, their malicious doings in the kingdom of Scotland. So that the laird of Glenurquhay and his

countrie people, their loss within Perthshire and within Argyleshire, exceeds the soume of 1,200,000 merks."

Not less eminent than any of his predecessors was John, third Earl of Breadalbane, who, when yet but very young, exhibited an unusual degree of talent, as well as progress in education. As stated in a manuscript at Taymouth, "he possessed the talents of both father and grandfather in an eminent degree; and was, at the age of 22, appointed by King George I., in 1718, Envoy extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the court of Denmark, where he renewed former treaties, and concluded a new one. He filled afterwards several state offices; was Master of the Jewel Office, Lord Chief-Justice in Eyre of all the royal forests besouth the Trent, Lord Privy Seal of Scotland, and Vice Admiral of Scotland. He died in 1782, aged 86."\*

*Land-owners.*—The whole lands of the parish belong to the Marquis of Breadalbane, with the exception of the property of Shian, a three merk land in Glenquaich, belonging to the Misses Campbell of Shian.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers go a considerable way back, the first entry being in 1636. From that date it would appear, though parts of the records have been lost, that marriages, burials, births, and baptisms were registered; and considering the large and scattered nature of the parish, the different entries seem to have been made with laudable minuteness; much more so, indeed, than they are at the present day. A record has also been all along regularly kept of the proceedings of the kirk-session, whether in matters of discipline, or in the management of the funds for the poor.

*Antiquities.*—The ruins of greatest interest by far are those in the Isle of Lochtay. The isle itself forms a beautiful and picturesque object directly in front of the manse, being about a quarter of a mile above the outlet of the river Tay, and separated by a narrow channel from the northern margin of the lake. It is of

\* It may be mentioned here, as a portion of history connected with the parish, that Donald IV. of Scotland, who came to the throne in 632, perished in Lochtay, having been there, as it is said, "at fishing with his servants for pastime."—Old Chron. of Scotland, p. 55.

It may likewise be mentioned here, more as a matter of literary curiosity, than of statistics, that the library of Taymouth contains a copy of the celebrated dispute between John Knox and the Abbot of Crossraguell. It is worth while to record this circumstance, because it is stated by Dr M'Crie, in his *Life of the Reformer*, Vol. ii. page 73, "that the only copy known to exist at present is in the library of Alexander Boswell, Esq. of Auchinleck." That copy is said to be imperfect; so is also the Taymouth copy, the want of leaves 2d, 3d, 14th, and 15th, or 8 pages, making an "hiatus valde deflendus," in a production so rare.

an elliptical form, and may present a surface of nearly  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acre. The ruins consist of two long side walls, extending to about 140 feet, while the two end or gable walls are about 24 feet. There are three transverse walls parallel to these, thus dividing the edifice into four compartments, of which the two extreme ones appear to have been the smallest. They are surrounded and almost hid by a thick belt of fine old sycamores and ashes; to which, on the opposite shore, are corresponding trees of similar antiquity, together with a few superannuated fruit trees, remnants, in all probability, of the Priory garden. The notices regarding this building are rather scanty. "The ruins upon the Isle," observes Sir Walter Scott,\* "now almost shapeless, being overgrown with wood, rose at one time into the towers and pinnacles of a priory, where slumbered the remains of Sibilla, daughter of Henry I. of England, and consort of Alexander I. of Scotland. It was founded by Alexander, and the care of it committed to a small body of monks." It was a cell from the monastery of Scone. This appears by a charter of the same Alexander, in the chartulary of Scone, directed "Episcopis," &c.; and grants the Isle of Lochtay "ut ecclesia Dei ibi pro me, et pro anima reginæ Sybillæ ibi defunctæ fabricetur; et hoc do iis interim quo usque dederò iis aliud augmentum unde locus ille in Dei obsequium exaltetur. Teste Herberto apud Strivelyne." I have extracted this quotation from a manuscript at Taymouth, in which it is stated that Fordun, in Book 6th, confirms this information. "The last residents in the Isle," according to the novelist,† were three nuns, who, when they "did emerge into society, seemed determined to enjoy it in its most complicated and noisy state; for they came out only once a year, and that to a market at Kenmore. Hence that fair is still called "Feill nam ban naomha," the market of the Holy Women. There are no precise data by which to determine the time of the existence of these nuns. It must have been subsequent to the year 1565, for that was the year when a market was for the first time held at Kenmore. This is proved by the manuscript of the Vicar of Inchadyn, already referred to. At page 44, there is this statement, "ye yer of God MVLXV (1565,) ye margat was halden and begun at the Kenmor at the end of Lochthay, and ther was na margat nor feyr haldyn at Inchadan quhar it was wynt till be haldin, al this don be

\* Fair Maid of Perth.

† Ibid.

Collyn Campbell of Glenurquhay." In the interval between the foundation of the priory, and its last occupancy by these holy sisters, the island must have been the scene of some not uninteresting events. The following meagre notices are all that I have been able to collect.

"Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenurquhay, who succeeded Sir Colin in 1480, biggit ye great hall, chapel, and chalmeris in the Isle of Lochtay."—Black Book of Taymouth.

"Combusta fuit insula de Lochthay ex negligentia servorum in Sabbato palmarum ultimo die Martii anno Domini m° quingentesimo nono." 1509.—Vicar's MS. page 8.

"Obitus Mariote Stuart dme de Glenurquhay xxvi die Julii apd Insulam de Lochthay et sepulta in Finlark ao Dmi Mvxxiiii : " 1524.—Ib. page 28.

"Sir John Campbell, 5th Laird of Glenurquhay, deceissit in the Isle of Lochthay, in 1550."—Black Book of Taymouth.

From the foregoing quotations, it is manifest that the island must have been a residence, as well as a place of religious retirement. But it has long ceased to serve either the one purpose or the other. At this day, however, it is not without its inhabitants. Besides being the haunt of some few swans which enliven with their presence and graceful motions this end of the lake, and nestle here for the purpose of rearing their young, the branches of its trees are colonized by a swarm of rooks, far more numerous, and of a nature infinitely more clamorous than were the recluses that first occupied the cells below. From the spot where the writer now sits, and whence the island is distinctly seen, it is often his amusement to witness the wheelings and circlings of these birds over their water-girt dwelling; as oftener still is he pleased to listen to their singular music, when at even they return from their foraging flights, and ere they settle for the night, unite in one universal song, as if they were offering the tribute of their vespers to the Great Parent, who deigns to comprehend them, as He does the highest seraph, within the range of His superintending Providence.

*Coins.*—Some few coins, chiefly silver, of Edward I. of England, and Alexander III. of Scotland, have been found in the parish; and here, as in other districts, the situations where they have been discovered are such as could little have been expected to contain these relics of other days. There are some in the possession of Lord Breadalbane, which were turned up in digging a field near the head of Lochfraochie. In the parish of Moulin

when the writer was minister of that place, there were found, well up towards the ridge of a lofty hill at the head of Glenbriarchan, nearly two dozen of the same sort of coins; of which two or three were of Alexander, and the rest of Edward. Of these the writer has half a dozen; and the singularity regarding those of Edward is, that while the obverse of all presents the head of the king, the reverse of one bears the inscription "Civitas Cantor;" of another, "Civitas London;" of another "Civitas Eborac;" and of a fourth "Civitas Dunelm;" thus indicating, as it were, the different stages of the progress of that rapacious Monarch towards his destined prey. But it would seem that coins of even greater antiquity have been long imbedded in our soil. There is the following statement in a manuscript at Taymouth. "In the year 1755, in making a road across the hill from Taymouth to Glenquaich, there were found, near the crest of the hill, twelve Roman coins, about three inches under the surface of the ground, in what seemed like a bed of charcoal. They appear to be of silver, of the circumference of a sixpenny piece, but much thicker. The dies and inscriptions of most of them are distinct and legible. They are of the Antonines, and their Empresses. They are at Taymouth." There is also at Taymouth, as is mentioned in the same manuscript, "an urn or vase" (a tripod) of a mixed metal, something like a coffee-pot, with a handle and spout. It was found, about the year 1733, in the prætorium of a Roman camp in Fortingall."

*Modern Buildings.*—The modern buildings of any consequence are few. Improvement in that respect, though slowly, is nevertheless gradually taking place. The houses of the tenantry are in progress to become more comfortable in accommodation, as they are made neater in appearance, being built, where a new erection is put up, of stone and lime, and covered with slates. The school-houses, too, are constructed in a style better adapted than heretofore to the purposes of these edifices. The only mansion-house, understanding by that term the residence of a proprietor, besides the Castle of Taymouth, is the house of Shian, situated on the north bank of the Quaich, in the glen which draws its name from that water, and about a mile above its entrance into Loch-fraochie. The castle of Taymouth, formerly Balloch, is truly a splendid mansion, and is placed in a truly splendid situation. It is only within these few years that it has been finished, if indeed it can yet be said to be so; for to the right of the great quadrangle there is still allowed to stand a remnant of the old castle of Balloch,

which, though sufficiently commodious, is hardly in keeping with the wing which stretches out so strikingly to the left. The castle stands on the southern margin of the Tay, in a semicircular lawn or field about a mile below the end of the lake, and in the bosom of woods, which, rising on all sides, seem as if they were interminable. Nothing can exceed the beauty and grandeur of the scenery of this princely domain. Wood and water, mountain and meadow, objects animate and inanimate, in endless variety, are here so blended, and on such a scale, that, when viewed from certain positions, and in certain states of the atmosphere, they give you an impression as if you had been transported to a region of enchantment. But to speak becomingly, there is here the workmanship of far more than enchanter's ken or enchanter's sight ;

" Surrounded by His power, we stand ;  
On every side we feel His hand.  
Oh ! skill for human reach too high,  
Too dazzling bright for mortal eye ! "

The most striking feature in the castle itself is its magnificent staircase, constructed in a quadrangular tower in the centre of the mansion, which rises to a considerable height above the main building ; admitting the light from the flanks and top, and having that light agreeably softened and varied in its hues by being made to pass through the medium of richly stained glass. The apartments, both in finishing and in furnishing, are in admirable keeping with the external appearance, as well as with the elegant staircase by which they are approached. The Baron's Hall, the dining-room, the drawing-room, the Chinese-rooms, are particularly worthy of notice. In the three former of these, as in other parts of the house, are several valuable paintings, there being specimens by such artists as Titian, H. Carracci, Rubens, Salvator Rosa, Vandyke, Teniers, &c. There is a large collection of books, part of which are in the Baron's Hall, and part in a room in the old wing fitted up as a library.

*Mills, &c.*— There is one saw-mill in the parish, situated on a powerful stream, near the village of Kenmore. The only manufacture, properly speaking, is that of wool, and even that is yet but upon a very limited scale, though there are facilities for the purpose, as well in the command of water, as in the raw material being to be had upon the spot. We have sufficient proof that this species of manufacture may succeed with us, from what has been done in our immediate neighbourhood at Camuserney, in the parish of Dull. At that place, a considerable quantity of wool is annually cleansed,



wrought into worsted, and woven into carpets, for which there is a regular demand. The manufactory is on the property of Sir N. Menzies, and receives from that spirited improver every possible encouragement.

### III.—POPULATION.

There are no sufficiently accurate data by which we can with precision determine the ancient state of the population. The materials within our reach indicate a fluctuation, for the last hundred years, between nearly 3000 and about 400 above that number. Thus by

The return to Dr Webster in 1755, it was	3067	
Mr M'Vean's census in 1794, -	3463	
Government do in 1821, -	3347	
Do do in 1831, -	3126	
Parochial do in 1836, -	3158	
In 1794, {	1520 males	In 1836, {
1943 females }		
		1471 males
		1687 females.

It thus appears, as indeed is generally the case in rural situations, that there is a considerable excess on the side of the female population.

*Emigration.*—People have been emigrating from this district, more or less, almost annually for many years back: and yet the population does not appear to have altered in any very sensible degree, in its general amount, for the last hundred years;—a clear proof that, though emigration may relieve temporarily the pressure of a redundant population, it is not sufficient of itself, without the contemporaneous application of other elements, to bring down the aggregate of a given number of years. On the contrary, it may rather have the effect of stimulating population, so as to do even more than fill up the ephemeral blank, unless, along with the encouragement of emigration, there be also, and simultaneously, the exercise of prudent habits, especially in regard to marriage, on the part of the people, as well as the observance of a right economy on the part of proprietors in the letting of land and cottages.

*Villages.*—There are no towns, and even but few such assemblages of houses as are called villages. The only places worthy of this name are Kenmore, with about 80 inhabitants, Sronfernan with about 150, and Acharn with about 90. The population is thus entirely rural.

Average yearly number of births for last seven years,	65
deaths -	55
marriages -	24

Average number of persons under 15 years,	1067
between 15 and 30,	835
30 and 50,	691
50 and 70,	411
upwards of 70,	122

Total, according to census 1831, 3126

It was mentioned in an early part of the article, that there are numerous instances of longevity. In corroboration of this averment, it may be stated here, that, in the village of Kenmore alone, there are eight individuals, all females, of whom the united ages amount to 683, giving an average of 85 years to each. The extremes of these ages are 74 and 94.

There is one Noble family, that of the Marquis of Breadalbane, usually resident for a considerable part of the year in the parish. With this exception, there are neither individuals nor families of independent fortune in the parish.

Number of unmarried men, bachelors, upwards of 50,	18
widowers,	39
women, upwards of 45 years,	90
widows,	95

The number of families is 646; so that the average number of individuals in each family is 4.88.

Number of insane, 7; blind, 5; fatuous, 10; deaf and dumb, 2.

*Language.*—The language almost universally spoken is the Gaelic. It is likewise the language in which the greater part of the ministrations of religion is discharged. While I would say that, within the last forty years, the language has neither lost nor gained ground, I would likewise say that the English language is becoming every day more generally familiar; for there is now hardly an individual who is not capable, more or less, of making use of it. How this invasion of the speech of our southern neighbours is ultimately to operate, seems not a very difficult thing to conjecture. At no distant period, it will, in all likelihood, so far prevail over its less potent associate, as almost entirely, if not altogether, to take its place. Nor does the substitution appear to be an event greatly to be deprecated.

*Habits, &c.*—Our people are no longer the “Reidschankes” of Pitscottie, “cloathed with ane mantle, with ane schirt, fashioned after the Irish manner, going bair-legged to the knie;” for a single instance of the kilt is scarcely to be seen from one end of the parish to the other. Irish-like, indeed, we use a vast deal of potatoes, but then we manage to season these roots with a due mixture of beef, mutton, and pork; not to speak of the milk, cheese, and butter with which we are supplied from our dairies;

or the higher dainties of tea and sugar with which not a few contrive to regale themselves. I believe little or no poaching of any kind takes place in the parish; and it is the same as to smuggling, though it is spoken of as a practice which was at one time very common. Independently of what many families import themselves, there are, within the parish, for the convenience of the public, ten small retail shops, where such articles as tea, sugar, tobacco, snuff, oil, cutlery, woollen, linen, cotton, and even silk stuffs, may at any time be procured. And, as if all this were not enough, two rival bakers from Aberfeldie penetrate, twice a-week upon an average, a considerable way into the parish with well-stored carts, to supplant our oaten cakes by the substitution of the luxury of wheaten bread.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—As this is confessedly the most important, so is it the most difficult part of our Statistical task. There are no accurate plans or maps of the parish to aid us in our calculations; neither has the land hitherto been let at a specific rate per acre. In the statements, therefore, about to be made, whether regarding the extent of ground in tillage, or but occasionally so, or regarding the annual amount and value of live-stock and produce, we must be considered as presenting only approximations to the truth.

The soil, the primary source of wealth all the world over, may be described as being, in general, a light brownish loam with a slight mixture of clay; such a loam as appears when hazel, birch, and the sort of underwood usually associated with these, have been grubbed out, and which has never been either richly or skilfully medicated with manure. “The hilly land,” according to the statement of my predecessor, “chiefly consists of a light mossy kind of soil, which naturally is not unfriendly to vegetation. Heath, bent, and coarse grasses are the general product of the hills and muirs; but the vallies, and water-carried soils in the glens, &c. produce good crops of excellent grasses.” To the enumeration of the articles of produce mentioned in that Account, I have to add the cultivation of turnips and sown grasses: a part of husbandry attended to, more and more every year. It may safely be said, that there cannot, with a profitable application of capital, be made much addition, if indeed any, to the existing cultivated land. The error here rather is to toil on, from year to year, trying to keep in tillage a great deal of land manifestly unfit for that pur-

pose, by being at once too steep and too shallow for the plough, and so unproductive as scarcely to yield a return of three. Perhaps one-sixth of the land at present tilled may be of this character, which it were far better to convert to the state of permanent pasture. There are no undivided commons with reference to landlord and landlord; but there is abundance of them as to one tenant and another; it being no unusual thing, though the practice is now fast wearing out, for four, six, or even eight occupants of a hamlet to send their cattle to one upland common. There may about 5400 acres be in tillage; 8600 in permanent pasture; 21,000 in moor and hill; and, 5000 in wood. The land in tillage may be rated at 16s. per acre, though it is no easy matter to determine this point, because to every arable holding there is attached a corresponding allowance, both of outfield pasture and of hill grazing, for the whole of which there is one undivided rent. The rate mentioned, however, must be near the mark. The pasture may be rated at 6s., and the moor and hill at 2s. per acre; so that, by this mode of reckoning, the rental would be, as in fact it nearly is, as follows;

5400 acres in tillage at 16s. per acre,	-	L. 4920
8600 acres in pasture at 6s. per do.	-	2580
21000 acres in moor and hill at 2s. per do.	-	2100
5000 acres in wood, natural and planted,	-	360
<hr/>		<hr/>
40,000 acres.		Rental, L. 9360

The return from the woods is here stated to be, one year with another, L. 360. But so rich in fine timber are now the plantings of Taymouth, and so much of valuable natural wood, particularly ash, skirts the lake, and covers the numerous ravines on either side, that a much larger revenue might annually be derived from this source, without damage to either the worth or appearance of these places. The value of the woods themselves can hardly be estimated under L. 75,000. The distribution of the cultivated land, as to cropping, may stand nearly thus :

3100 acres in oats; chiefly the late white.
1048 acres in bear; Chester.
640 acres in potatoes; large Perthshire red.
306 acres in turnips, peas, rye, lint.
306 acres in sown grass.

The live-stock is nearly as follows :

521 horses; 3109 black cattle; 12,050 sheep; 500 swine.

*Rent.*—The average rent of grazing for a horse per annum is about L. 2, 10s.; for a cow, L. 1, 2s.; and for a full grown sheep, 4s.

*Rate of Wages.*—The rate of the wages of labour, considering

that there is a numerous population, far from being over-employed, is, upon the whole, high, varying from 1s. 3d. a-day in winter, to 2s. 4d. in summer. The wages of men-servants vary from L. 10 to L. 14 per annum; and of maid-servants from L. 4 to L. 6; and they almost uniformly fare at the same board with their masters and mistresses.

*Breeds of Cattle.*—The common breed of cattle is the West Highland; and of sheep, the black-faced. But the Ayrshire cow may sometimes be seen; as may likewise the Leicester and South-down breeds of sheep, particularly in the parks and pastures of Taymouth. Subjoined is a view of the value of agricultural produce, as also of live-stock.

3100 acres oats, 4 bolls per acre, at 15s. per boll,	-	-	-	L. 9900	0	0
1048 acres bear, 4 ditto, at 19s. ditto,	-	-	-	3982	8	0
640 acres potatoes, 16 ditto at 6s. do.	-	-	-	3072	0	0
306 acres turnips, peas, rye, &c. at L. 7 do.	-	-	-	2142	0	0
306 acres sown grass, 100 stone per acre, at 8d. per stone,	-	-	-	1020	0	0
400 acres meadow hay, ditto, at 4d. ditto,	-	-	-	666	18	4
521 horses, pasture of, at L. 2, 10s. each,	-	-	-	1902	10	0
3109 black cattle, ditto. at L. 1, 5s. each,	-	-	-	3886	5	0
11,050 sheep, ditto, at 4s. each,	-	-	-	2416	0	0
500 swine,	-	-	-	75	0	0
Annual sale of black cattle,	-	-	-	3497	12	0
of sheep,	-	-	-	1355	0	0
of wool, skins, &c.	-	-	-	903	0	0
of butter, cheese, poultry, &c.	-	-	-	95	0	0
of wood,	-	-	-	360	0	0

Value of agricultural produce, L. 34,078 8 4

*Value of Live-stock.*

521 horses at L. 9 each,	-	-	-	L. 4689	0	0
3019 black cattle at L. 4, 10s. each,	-	-	-	13990	10	0
12050 sheep at 9s. each,	-	-	-	5422	10	0
500 swine at L. 2 each,	-	-	-	1000	0	0
Poultry, &c.	-	-	-	150	0	0

Value of live-stock, L. 25,252 0 0

Till of late years, no great attention has been paid either to the management of land, or to the breeding of stock. But the recent efforts of the Highland Society, seconded, as in this part of the country they are, by the spirited encouragement of Lord Breadalbane, and other proprietors, bid fair to lead rapidly to improvements in all the departments of husbandry. The ploughing matches which annually take place in sections here and there in the country, together with the premiums given for green crops, &c. are already accomplishing very perceptible effects, as well in the extent and quality of these crops, as in the better aspect of the ploughs, and horses, and their harnessing. And as we are becoming readers of newspapers, of which an astonishing number

find their way among us, I doubt not but we shall also be gradually stimulated to further exertion, by learning the facilities presented on both sides of the island, from the Tay on the east and the Clyde on the west, for transporting with unerring speed our surplus produce to the great marts of London and Liverpool.

*Leases.*—Leases have as yet been but rarely granted,—the practice in Breadalbane having been for the tenant to hold from year to year. Such, however, is and has been the working of this system, that, precarious and discouraging as it may appear, there have been as few removals, on an average of years, among our peasantry, as are found to happen where the system of letting on lease is in full practice. At the same time, leases are occasionally given, and are for periods varying from seven to fifteen years. The farm buildings, in general, are in an indifferent state; nor, so long as the land continues so much subdivided as it has heretofore been, can they well be otherwise. As lots and crofts, however, begin to be thrown together, so as to make something like farms, an improvement now in progress, neater, more substantial, and more commodious farm-steadings as well as dwellings arise, and, as a matter of course, will more and more arise. The iron plough is becoming not uncommon; and on a farm here and there you will see the drill-harrow, as you will also see larger and stouter-built carts than were formerly used. Exclusive of roads, to be afterwards mentioned, one of the most obvious improvements recently carried on has been the clearing of land from large stones and rocks by blasting. Another is that of draining such parts of the hill pasture as are too retentive of moisture, an operation which seems to promise results highly beneficial. In these works it is needless to say, that the tenants are liberally assisted by the Noble proprietor.

*Quarries.*—There are quarries both of limestone and of stone for building of different kinds, as is manifest from the mineralogical part of our article. That of which the Castle of Taymouth is built has already been mentioned. It is a stone which admits of being dressed to a very fine surface, as may be seen from the castle and other buildings in the vicinity. The cross in particular, an elegant structure of a monumental character, midway between the castle and the lake, on the left bank of the river, may be specified as an instance of the exquisite delicacy of workmanship of which the stone is susceptible. Here it is chiselled in every stage, from the large oblong block of perhaps twelve or fourteen feet, to the

finest imaginable tracery. There has lately started up another uncommonly handsome edifice, intended for a pinery, where the stone is seen in a still more beautiful state of polish; as is another of a harder grain, quarried near the village of Kenmore, which presents a natural face equal in smoothness or polish to that produced by the chisel.

*Quartz.*—Quartz is another stone which occurs in great plenty and in vast masses. It is of an almost snowy whiteness. The dairy in Taymouth park is constructed of this mineral,—an erection well worth the paying a visit to, whether to gratify the taste, or to examine the stone, and to see the use to which it has been so curiously put.

*Mines.*—There are no mines wrought within the parish, though there is good reason to suppose, that the ores of several metals, particularly lead and iron, exist pretty plentifully in our mountain ranges. The attention of Lord Breadalbane is at present directed towards this object, and it is to be wished that his researches may be successful.

*Fishery.*—The only fishery, properly speaking, is a salmon-fishery at the lower extremity of the lake, and for a few hundred yards at the head of the river. It is for the present kept by the proprietor in his own hands. Till the passing of the late act regarding the Scottish fisheries, the Breadalbane family had the privilege of fishing in the lake for salmon all the year over. There are no salmon in Lochfraochie, the fish being unable, I suppose, to surmount the falls in the Braan, at the hermitage near Dunkeld. But in this loch, as in Lochtay, are to be found pike, perch, eels, char, and other trouts. The trout of Lochfraochie, though small, is an excellent fish, firm, and red-fleshed. It is such as to attract the angler from Crieff, Perth, and even greater distances, to take up his quarters often for days in its vicinity.

There is a small manufactory in the neighbourhood of Kenmore, for carding, spinning, dyeing, and weaving wool; employing about a dozen of hands.

*Agricultural Society.*—The only association for encouraging industry is the Breadalbane Agricultural Society, established about two years ago, under the fostering patronage of Lord Breadalbane. It gives premiums for the state of the crops, for improvements in the breeding and rearing of cattle and sheep, and for good appearance in the case of farm steadings and cottages. It promises to be very useful.

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The nearest market-town is Crieff, which is distant twenty-two miles. But the high hill separating the valley of the Tay from Glenquaich has to be crossed, rendering the communication with that town rather difficult and inconvenient. That with Dunkeld and Perth being in the line of the valley, is more suitable, and, though longer, is much more employed. Dunkeld is twenty-three miles below the village of Kenmore, and Perth fifteen more. The principal villages, as already stated, are Kenmore, Sronfernan, and Acharn.

*Means of Communication.*—The means of communication enjoyed by the parish are good. The post from Dunkeld arrives here every day, but Wednesday, about five in the morning, and leaves Kenmore in return at two P. M. and there is a post three times a week to and from Killin, the days being Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, and the time of starting from Kenmore, nine A. M.; and having to be back in the evening. The salary of the postmaster is L. 10 per annum; and the annual revenue of the office, which is *sub* to that of Aberfeldie, is about L. 60. From the village of Kenmore, there diverge, besides the west entrance to Taymouth Park, no fewer than five great lines of road, and all in good condition. If the traveller be bent southward, he finds the outset for some hundred yards to be but one line, but it immediately strikes off in three branches, whereof one takes the side of the lake on towards Ardeonaig and Killin, a second, winding up the hill, forms the access to Glenquaich, Amulree, Glenalmond, and Crieff; and the third is the beautiful turnpike to Dunkeld; the other two being upheld by the statute-labour money. If, on the other hand, the traveller's course be northward, he sets out on that side also by one line of road, across the Tay by a handsome five-arched bridge, bestriding that water just as it becomes a river, in which line he continues for several hundred yards, when, at the foot of the richly wooded hill of Drummond, he finds it going in two opposite directions. The left hand division is the fine turnpike leading by the base of towering Benlawers to Killin; the other is a country road leading to the fords of Lyon, and passing at one point scarcely 300 yards from the Castle of Taymouth. Though not turnpike, it is not a whit inferior to that species of road, and as soon as the Lyon has been crossed, rather a formidable feat at times, the great military road, one of General Wade's, now turnpike, leading from Crieff to Dalnacardoch, and so on to Inverness, is entered on, which is



here little more than two miles from Kenmore. In all directions, therefore, there are convenient outlets, and admirable roads; the only interruption being that now mentioned at the Lyon, where it is much to be wished that a bridge were erected; and as the roads in every direction are good, so is there every facility for travelling. At Kenmore is to be had everything to induce the traveller to remain as long as he pleases, as there are likewise various modes of conveyance whenever his humour inclines him to depart.\*

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church of Kenmore is situated at one extremity of the parish, its eastern boundary being less than two miles distant, the intervening space being occupied with the pleasure grounds of Taymouth, while the western boundary in Glenlochay is about thirty miles distant. Such being the locality of the church, it is manifest that it must be inconvenient for by much the greater part of the population. The territorial division of the parish is in fact exceedingly unsuitable and defective. One portion, for instance, according to the census of 1836, with a population of 149, is in a detached situation in Glenquaiach, the nearest point of which is five miles distant from the parish church, with a high and broad hill intervening. Another portion, with a population of 103, Cloicheran, is in a detached situation on the south side of Lochtay, the nearest point of which is rather more than ten miles distant. A third portion, with a population of 114, is in a detached situation in Glenlochay, the nearest point of which is about seventeen miles distant. And a fourth portion, Kiltirie, Moreinsh, &c. with a population of 517, is in a detached situation on the north side of the loch, the nearest point of which is eleven miles from the parish church, and placed between similar detached portions of the parishes of Killin and Weem. This is, indeed, a most anomalous arrangement.† But singular as is thus the divi-

\* The junction of Lochtay with Lochlomond, by means partly of canal, and partly of railroad, has been recommended by an experienced engineer. See, in particular, "Report by Mr Baird, 24th August 1824, regarding the improvement of the navigation of the river Leven and Lochlomond."

† What could have been the reason of a division so preposterous? The most likely origin of the matter is that adverted to in Vol. ix. p. 486, or in Vol. xii. p. 130, of the former Statistical Account. This explanation is borne out by a statement which I find in the Black Book of Taymouth; "Sir Duncan Campbell, seventh laird of Glenurquhay, gave for the twelf mark land of Cranniche, the twentie pund land of Moreinsh, the ten mark land of Achmoir, and the twa merk land of Kandknock, to the Laird of Weem, 28,000 marks, anno 1602." Now, it happens that Crannaich, Achmore, and Kenknock, are in the parish of Weem, though all at a great distance from the church of that parish, and altogether isolated from the portion contiguous to it. In other words, the Laird of Weem, whose residence, Castle Menzies, is beside the church, chose to have the different parts of his property, wherever they might lie, or however remote, included in the parish of his own domicile.

sion of the parish, it cannot be alleged that any portion of the inhabitants is deprived of the means of public worship, or of religious instruction and pastoral superintendence. The spirit, if not the name of "the Church Extension Scheme," has been in operation here for a considerable time back. It is due to the Breadalbane family, to put it on record, that they have been most efficient church extensionists. No individual along either bank of Loch-tay is at a distance of more than four miles from a place of worship, or the services of a minister of the Establishment. Besides the parish church, there are other two places of worship, in connection with the Establishment, having each an ordained and resident clergyman. These are the chapels of Ardeonaig and Lawers, the one on the north, and the other on the south side of the lake, and each midway between the churches of Kenmore and Killin, which are sixteen miles separate. The parishioners of Kenmore in Glenquach are attached to the mission of Amulree, to the chapel of which they have easy access in the line of the glen, having to travel from four to six miles. In like manner, those in Glenlochay are for the most part within a distance of about four miles from the church of Killin, being that to which they are nearest, and at which they receive Christian privileges. Some few in that glen may be from seven to eight miles distant.

The parish church was built in 1760, and is in a good state of repair. It is a handsome substantial edifice of the form of a cross, with a tower at the east end, and having the centre window in the south wall, immediately behind the pulpit, of stained glass. The church stands in one of the finest conceivable situations, and forms a delightful feature in the rich, varied, and beautiful scenery in the midst of which it is placed. But the interior can hardly be said to harmonize with either its outside, or its surrounding accompaniments. It has rather a cold, damp, chilling appearance, from the circumstance of the walls having never been lathed and plastered, and from its being causewayed under the seats with stone, instead of being comfortably floored with deal. It is besides but indifferently lighted, there being no windows on the north side, except one small circular aperture in the Breadalbane gallery. It is abundantly capacious for the number of parishioners within reach, having been seated for about 700. The sittings are all free, as they also are in the two chapels. The manse was built about the same time with the church. It underwent a very thorough repair, and had a new wing added to it, in 1832, so that it is now

a commodious and comfortable residence. The glebe extends to about 22 Scotch acres, of which 13 are under wood, pasture, house, garden, and offices; the other 9 have usually been in tillage, but the present incumbent has put them almost all under grass. If the whole place were rented, it might be worth about L. 30 per annum. The stipend is 17 chalders, half bear and half oatmeal, and there is an allowance of L. 10 for communion elements. The last augmentation dates from the last half of crop and year 1823.

There are, as has already been stated, two chapels within the parish, connected with the Church of Scotland; those of Ardeonaig and Lawers. They are under the patronage of the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, and intended to accommodate the distant inhabitants of the parishes of Kenmore, Killin, and Weem. They are so conveniently situated as to be little more than three miles distant in any direction from the furthest part of their boundary. The two chapels, with the dwelling-houses and offices, were built entirely at the cost, and by the munificence, of Lord Breadalbane.

The mission of Ardeonaig was established in 1792; the salary is L. 60, with  $17\frac{1}{2}$  acres of glebe land; the cost of the building was about L. 800.

The mission of Lawers, formerly a part of the mission of Ardeonaig, was established in 1833; the salary is L. 50, with  $6\frac{1}{2}$  acres of glebe land; the cost of the building was about L. 685.

One-half of these salaries is paid by the Marquis of Breadalbane, the other half by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge.

*Dissenters.*—There is one small Dissenting meeting-house in the parish, situated within the mission of Lawers, capable of holding about 100 sitters, and belonging to the denomination of Baptists. They, with a few Independents, are the only description of Dissenters in the parish, and altogether they do not exceed 80 in number. There are neither voluntaries to whet our argumentative weapons, nor so much as a single Roman Catholic. The ministers of the denominations to which I have referred are paid by the free-will offerings of their followers, together with, I believe, some petty allowance from funds belonging to these separate bodies of Christians. The people of this part of the country are a church-going people, of which circumstance gratifying evidence is afforded by the distance from which many of them travel to attend public worship. It may fur-

ther be stated, that it is no unusual thing for the separatists to attend our churches and chapels. In fact, the odious spirit of bigotry is scarcely known here, whether among the members of the Establishment, or among those out of its pale. The average number of communicants is 870, and the number of male heads of families in full communion with the church, and entitled to exercise the veto in the settlement of a minister, as adjusted in November last, is 261.

Succession of ministers in Kenmore since 1640 : William Menzies, Patrick Campbell, Alexander Comrie, John Hamilton, John Douglas, James Campbell, Thomas Fleming, Patrick M'Vean, Colin M'Vean, David Duff.

*Education.*—The parish is not deficient in the means of education, in so far at least as that may depend on the number of schools. These amount to 9 ; of which one is the parochial school ; three are endowed by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge ; one is endowed by the Marchioness of Breadalbane, and the remaining four are entirely unendowed, the teachers having no other emolument but that arising from the fees of the scholars, and the hospitality of the parents. The branches commonly taught are, English reading, spelling, writing, and arithmetic. In some, Gaelic reading also is taught, especially in the Society schools. At the parish school, besides the subjects common to the other seminaries, Latin, mathematics, English grammar, book-keeping and geography, are comprehended in the course of instruction. The Scriptures are read daily in all the schools ; nor does a day pass without some portion of religious information being conveyed to the pupils.

The parochial schoolmaster has the maximum salary, L. 34, 4s. 4½d : each of the Society teachers, at the stations of Moreinsh, Ardtallanaig, and Shian, has a salary of L. 15, paid by the Society, besides a free house, and other accommodations, granted by Lord Breadalbane. The Marchioness's teacher at Kiltirie has a salary of L. 10, and suitable conveniences. The remuneration of the four who teach upon their own adventure cannot be accurately stated. The general expense of education for the year may average from 10s. to 15s. reckoning attendance to be but for three quarters ; and it is seldom that there is even so much, parents being usually satisfied, if they can send their children to school for the winter half year.

From the facilities afforded for education, as well as from the

desire of parents and guardians to have the young instructed, I am inclined to think that there are none between six and fifteen, capable of instruction, who cannot read, though there are undoubtedly many, and particularly females, who cannot write. And, in like manner, while they are but few, and these chiefly aged people, above fifteen, who cannot read, there are certainly a great many, both males and females, who cannot write; but the females form by much the greater number. It is due to the people to say that they do appreciate the benefits of education; one for every five of the population; attending school, a ratio of school-going equal to that in any place or in any country. The instruction imparted, more particularly in the unendowed schools, is of the humblest character. Nor could it well be otherwise. The private schools are all taught by young men from among the peasantry, with no advantage but the moderate stock of knowledge which they had acquired by their own exertions, and I may say almost all at their own fire-sides; and with no encouragement but the scanty allowance stipulated for by the parents, many of whom are in indigent circumstances. These inconveniences being considered, it is a matter of wonder that the proficiency of the scholars should be such as we find it to be.

The Marquis of Breadalbane has resolved to place at the disposal of the ministers of Kenmore and Killin, a sum of money to be expended in the purchase of useful books for prizes, to be awarded at an annual competition of all the schools of Breadalbane. It is proposed that, at certain intervals of years, the teachers should also have their respective merits ascertained, so as to be signalled by the bestowal of similar honours.

It would tend greatly to ameliorate the system of education in our Scottish schools, if there were introduced, by authority, an uniform set of elementary books; as matters are at present, no two schools have the same books, and, even in the same school, there is often to be found the most heterogeneous mixture.

*Library.*—There is a small library in the village of Kenmore, established some few years ago, at the suggestion, and by the aid, of Lady Elizabeth Campbell, now Pringle. It is composed chiefly of religious books. There are but few persons, however, who have hitherto made use of it; the people, though advancing, being hardly yet arrived at that state of intellectual improvement that they can be said to have a taste or appetite for reading. But the thing is evidently in progress. Of late also, a small library of well se-

lected, simple publications has been attached to the parochial school, by Lady Breadalbane, for the use of the pupils of that seminary;—a measure likely to stimulate the rising generation to the habit of reading, and so to generate and widen the desire of useful knowledge.

*Saving Bank.*—There is no such establishment as a Savings bank in the parish; but there is one at no great distance in the village of Aberfeldie. It was established in 1833, and is in a thriving condition. The sums deposited yearly exceed those withdrawn, and the ratio is regularly on the increase. The deposits are made chiefly by labourers, and by servants, male and female.

1st year, no. of depositors,	29,	sum deposited L.	215	16	9½	
2d year,	ditto	55,	ditto	432	10	5
3d year,	do	71,	do	673	7	2
4th year,	do	83,	do	879	16	2

*Poor.*—The average number of persons receiving aid from the poor's fund, for six years back, has been 145; and, over head, they may receive somewhere about 12s. each per annum. A few, however, in more helpless circumstances, have an allowance periodically given, at the rate of a shilling or two per week. Besides, we are always ready, from week to week, to give occasional aids of a few shillings, to persons who, from sickness or other valid causes, are brought to the need of temporary relief. In short, instead of being very nice about the technicality of an ordinary and an extraordinary list of the poor, and of making an avowed recognition of the right of any one to have a stated or periodic supply, we choose rather, laborious though the task be, to deal with each case separately, and as it may chance to present itself to our notice at each recurring examination. The funds are

1. Ordinary collections, about	L. 64	11	10
2. Mortcloth, proclamations, &c.	7	9	0
3. Interest of mortified money, &c.	66	0	0

In all, L. 137 14 10

It is also to be taken into consideration that, within a certain distance round Taymouth, the poor are supplied, twice a-week, with nourishing broth and meat from the castle, and, when they are not supplied in that way, they have milk and other articles of food given them from the dairy. Towards the depth of winter, the Marchioness of Breadalbane, with humane and considerate liberality, causes to be distributed a most seasonable supply of clothing, together with some little offerings of money. The number, over the whole of Breadalbane, who share in this judicious act of charity, may amount to about 240 individuals. But with all

this ample fund at command, and more, as I have hinted, if required, we feel that it is, on that very account, the more necessary to be cautious in the discharge of our duty, lest perchance we should augment an evil which is already too formidable. It may appear extraordinary that, in a rural district, such as that round Lochtay, with neither large villages nor manufactories, to occasion fluctuations of employment, we should have such a numerous body of poor. The proportion is unduly high, being rather more than one in twenty of the population. Nor does the evil seem to be one of recent origin. The cause, therefore, is to be sought for, not in any late change, but in something whose operation is permanent. It may not be very obvious what that is. Perhaps it may have resulted from the excessive subdivision of the land, which has long existed on the Breadalbane property, and from the circumstance of the tenant, when no longer solvent, being permitted to descend to the condition of crofter, or even to a lower grade, that of cottar without sufficient consideration whether or not that class of men might be too numerous for the demand for labour existing, or likely to exist in the country. To a certain extent, this has unquestionably happened; and so that class of the population has become too numerous. The consequence is just what might have been expected. It must not be concealed that, generally speaking, there is no disinclination to apply for parochial aid, and that, in too many instances, such application is deemed to be no degradation. Nor is it at all improbable that the very kindness of their superiors may have tended, if not to generate, at least to foster, and to help on this unfortunate descent in spirit and condition. The policy of the Noble family of Breadalbane, for many years has been to retain, for the most part, their poorer tenants and dependents on the property, and to make provision for them by means of pensions, cheap crofts and otherwise. Here, therefore, at the very door, is exhibited a significant exemplification of one of the most important truths of political economy;—that the more prominently you hold out the prospect of making provision for people, and do actually provide for them, you tamper with the salutary spirit of independence, and in so far help to widen the domain of pauperism.

One preventive, at least, of the evil seems, therefore, to be, to have the land so apportioned as to give full occupation to the tenant as a farmer; to have no more cottages than suffice to furnish labourers for field-work, or such crafts as are required in a

rural situation, and for a rural population, and to permit entry to be made to no cottage but according to certain known rules, and with the cognizance, if not the written consent, of the landlord. Under some such management the happiest results might, in process of time, be expected; and, in particular, the peasantry would be trained, in early life, to turn their eyes elsewhere than to the narrow limits of their natal soil for a home, and to learn the wholesome lesson that it was the duty of at least many of the young to betake themselves to other scenes, where their industry and talents would be abundantly in demand.

*Fairs.*—The only place in the parish where fairs are held is the village of Kenmore; and of these there are in the course of the year the six following: 1. The first Tuesday of March, O. S. for horses and general business. 2. The 28th June, for general business. 3. The 26th July, for wool and horses. 4. The 17th September, for cattle and country produce. 5. The Friday of November before last Doune tryst, for cattle and general business. 6. The 22d December for country produce.

*Inns.*—The principal inn is that of Kenmore, so well known as not to require any particular account or commendation: the only other inn is that of Lawers, midway between Kenmore and Killin, known by the name of Croft-House. There is not a single public-house in the parish.

*Distillery.*—There is only one establishment for the distillation of whisky in the parish, and indeed in Breadalbane. It is a still of 150 gallons; uses about 700 bolls of barley, or rather bear in the year, producing about 7000 gallons of spirit; and pays about L. 855 of duty in that period.

*Fuel.*—The principal fuel is peat, which we procure at a vast expense of time and labour. The average distance of the bogs is two miles. It is difficult to give a definite idea of the expense; but it may be confidently said that, if the time and labour bestowed in working and bringing home the production were estimated at their proper value, our peat fires are as costly to us as are their coals to those who are twenty or thirty miles from the pit. It were a welcome boon, indeed, if the instrument for peat making, invented by Lord Willoughby D'Eresby, and exhibited at the meeting of the Highland Society at Dumfries in 1837, should be found to answer the purpose. Wood for fuel may be had from the thinnings of the Taymouth plantations, and the loppings of trees felled for timber. By a few families, coals are brought to



the country, but at an enormous cost, since, at this distance, we find them to be rather more than double the price paid for them at the shore of Perth.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

In briefly noticing the more striking variations betwixt the present state of the parish, and that which existed at the time of drawing up the former Statistical Account, I have to observe particularly,—that, from the patriotic and praiseworthy exertions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, as well as from those of a local nature, considerable improvement has taken place in the management both of land and of live-stock. A greater extent of green crop in general, and of turnips in particular is annually cultivated ;—greater attention is paid to the kind and quality of seed-corn ;—the breed of horses, cattle, and sheep is in progress to be better ;—and the facilities are mightily increased, whether for sending away or receiving produce. Moreover, there are afforded ampler means for the acquisition both of secular and religious instruction, insomuch that it is to be hoped that, simultaneously with the improvement of the productive powers of the soil, and of the domesticated animals, we shall have to contemplate the still higher and nobler result of man's personal advancement in knowledge, power, and righteousness. Nay, this result is not altogether a thing of prospect. In a certain degree, it has already begun to make its appearance. Our festive meetings, our markets, our funerals, our bridals are no longer disgraced with such instances of intoxication, brawling, and fightings as were but too common some fifty or sixty years ago. Common swearing, gross profanation of the Sabbath, low gambling, are vices almost unknown. The kirk-session of the present day does not require, as did a kirk-session of the days of our forefathers, to reprimand the people, because they had gone on the Sabbath to the wood a-nutting, rather than to church ;—or to subject them to a course of discipline, because they had devoted the evening of that hallowed day to the unsabbatical pastime of fiddling and dancing. There is to be found among our peasantry a measure of religious knowledge which might put to shame more favoured situations ; and, while I would fain believe that, in the case of many, that knowledge is a knowledge unto salvation, I rejoice to testify, that, in almost all, it manifests itself in the pleasing fruit of an orderly and respectful regard to the civil and religious institutions of the country. In fine, I would embody in one single sentence what, in my humble opi-

nion, seems calculated to promote the progress of industry, and, so far as regards the peculiarities of this district, the comfort and happiness of the labouring classes. It is this : Let the population be proportioned to what is required for the due management of the land, and for the demand for labour, whether in-door or out-door, existing or likely to exist among us ; and with matters in this healthy state, our valuable institutions, religious, educational, and agricultural, improved and improving as they daily are, will accomplish all else desirable.

And now I close these Statistical lucubrations by saying, in behalf of my own section of the country, as our Scottish classic said in behalf of the country at large,

“ Semper pax tua mœnia  
Colat ; semper in œdibus  
Tuis copia dextera  
Larga munera fundat.—BUCHANAN.

June 1838.

## PARISH OF CRIEFF.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. WILLIAM LAING, MINISTER.  
JAMES FERGUSSON, ASSISTANT.\*

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name, Scenery, &c.*—It is a very common opinion that the name of the town and parish of Crieff is derived from the Gaelic word *Craobh*, a tree; though some have thought it probable that it comes from *Crubha Cnoic*, the “haunch or side of the hill” on which the town is built.

The town of Crieff is situate near the foot of the Grampians, about 17 miles west from Perth, and 22 north from Stirling. It is the second in importance in Perthshire. It takes the rank of capital of upper Strathearn ; and it stands on the slope of a hill, enjoying a fine southern exposure, and commanding a prospect at once sublime and beautiful. Many ancient seats of distinguished families are in the immediate neighbourhood, of which not a few are spacious and elegant ; and these circumstances, together

\* Drawn up by the Assistant Minister.

with the remarkable salubrity of the atmosphere, have long procured for Crieff the distinction of being accounted the *Montpelier* of Scotland.

*Boundaries, Extent, &c.*—The parish of Crieff, *quoad civilia*, is divided into two parts, viz. the Highland and the Lowland, which are separated from each other by the intervention of the parish of Monzie. The Highland division, in addition to Corriemucklock, contains by far the greater part of the strath of Glenalmond, through which the river Almond runs a course of more than nine miles. The lands on the north side of the river belong to two brothers, viz. James Murray Patton, Esq. Perth, and Thomas Patton, Esq. W.S. Edinburgh; and those on the south side belong to Abercainey. The whole of this tract of country, with the exception of the lower portion, exhibits a very good specimen of the wild and romantic, and even sublime in Scottish mountain scenery; and though it be naturally much better fitted to afford occupation to the sportsman, and the shepherd than the husbandman, it was once the home of a goodly number of contented families. When the former Statistical Account was drawn up, the population of Glenalmond amounted to 500 souls, and the annual rent was about L. 700. The rental (including the yearly value of what is not let) has now increased to considerably upwards of L. 2000; but the population has decreased to 230; and while the diminution of the one and the increase of the other, have certainly been caused by the custom which has, for sometime back, been prevailing, of converting the pendicles of former days into large and extensive farms and sheep-walks, we have a striking proof of the fact that the latter mode is the more profitable for the proprietors.

In addition to the district of Glenalmond, there are two detached portions of land in the low country, which belong to the parish of Crieff *quoad civilia*; viz. Callander and Achalhanzie or Alchanzie; the former, consisting of several farms, lies to the north-west of the House of Monzie, and is the property of Sir William Keith Murray, Bart. of Ochertyre; the latter, consisting of one farm, lies east of the House of Cultoquhey, and is the property of Anthony Maxtone, Esq.; and they both together contain a population of 69 souls. But as the whole of the fore-mentioned places have been annexed to the parish of Monzie, *quoad sacra*,\*

\* The following entry occurs in the records of the kirk-session. "At Crieff, September 20, 1702. This day was read from the pulpit the commission of Parlia-

they will more naturally fall under a description of that parish than of this, and we shall therefore take no farther notice of them here than to say, that they are included in every census which has been taken of the parish of Crieff by order of Government.

The lowland division, which is more properly the subject of our observations, is an irregular four-sided figure, and may contain about 3800 imperial acres. It is bounded on the north-east by the parish of Foulis Wester; on the north and north-west by the parish of Monzie, and the water of Shaggy; on the west by the Turret, which divides it from Monivaird; on the east by the Pow, which divides it from the parish of Madderty; and on the south by the river Earn, which divides it from the parish of Muthil; with the exception of a single farm of about 100 imperial acres belonging to Crieff, which lies south of the Earn, and which was cut off by the river having changed its course about the end of the seventeenth century.

The length of the parish from north-west to south-east is about 4 miles; the breadth of it from south-west to north-east is about 3 miles; and the only eminences of any consequence are the *Cnoc* or *Knock* of Crieff, a hill of an oval shape, which rises immediately behind the house of Ferntower to the height of about 400 feet above the level of the sea, and Callum's hill, which stands south-west of the same mansion. They are both in the park of Ferntower, and both are well wooded with different kinds of fir and forest trees.

*Meteorology, &c.*—The climate upon the whole is remarkably good, variable perhaps, but salubrious. The temperature is higher than either in the parish of Monzie on the north side, or in the district of Strathallan on the south; and more rain falls in both these places than in this. The explanation usually given is, that the Ochil hills on the south, and the Grampians on the north, are believed to attract the clouds, and thus to cause a greater fall of rain among themselves, and in their neighbourhood. But whatever may be thought of the explanation, the fact is undisputed, that heavy showers are often seen falling round us, while Crieff and its vicinity are enjoying fine weather. The quantity of rain that annually falls in the strath is ascertained to be much the same with that which falls in Mid-Lothian, and the harvest is generally

ment for the plantation of Kirks, and their decret of disjunction and annexation of several lands within several parochers of the presbytery of Ochterarder, whereby the lands of Easter Glenalmond, Callander, and Alehanzie were disjoyned from this paroch of Crieff, and annexed to the paroch of Monzie."

gathered home in both places at nearly the same time. The snow seldom lies long, and it is the opinion of an intelligent English gentleman, who has resided for some years in this quarter, that though our spring months are colder, our winters are almost as mild as they are in the south of England.

*Winds.*—The directions of the winds are very irregular,—owing, in a great measure, to the different directions of the glens which form the channels of their currents; but the north and west winds are certainly the most boisterous. In severe frost, the south-west wind is the harbinger of a decided change, and it is regarded here as an established fact, that the thaws which sometimes commence, when the wind is in a different direction, are not of long continuance.

Colds, catarrhs, influenzas, and other complaints that are usually found in the train of variable weather, are not uncommon in winter. Consumption may be termed the principal disease of this country, and unfortunately it is not of rare occurrence in this parish; typhus fever is also prevalent among the lowest orders, more prevalent than might have been anticipated, and much more so than it would actually have been, if ordinary attention were always paid to ventilation and cleanliness. There are many old people in Crieff at the present time; and within the last few years, while we could enumerate several individuals who had outlived a century, there was one in particular who had reached the advanced age of 110 or 111 years before she died. It is worthy of remark, that the cholera was never known in Crieff.

*Hydrography.*—The springs in this quarter are all perennial, and the water is of the very finest and purest quality. At the north-west end of the town, rises the ever-flowing fountain of Coldwells,—overbuilt by a substantial stone edifice. From this spring an abundant supply of water is conveyed in a large pipe to St James' Square, in the middle of which stands a plain but handsome structure, enclosing a cistern where the water discharges itself. This building, which forms the centre both of the square and of the town, and which is shaded by some very fine lime trees, is an object of considerable local beauty; and most of the wells that are distributed over the west and south quarters of the town, are supplied by pipes that communicate with this reservoir. The north and east parts of Crieff are supplied from another, and almost equally abundant source; and the memory of St Thomas, the tutelary saint of Crieff, has been rescued from oblivion by a

market and a well, which still bear his name. The principal river is the Earn, which flows from Loch Earn, \* passes through the whole strath,—and joins the Tay above Newburgh, after a course of more than thirty miles. It is joined at Crieff by the Turret, and is the southern boundary of the parish for nearly three miles. It has very obviously changed its channel frequently below Crieff; and tradition says that it has ranged the whole of the level plain between Tom-a-chaistail and Comrie above Crieff,—that it once passed close to Ochertyre House, † and much nearer to Crieff than it now is,—and that its present course, by *Strowan*, must have been formed when its swollen current was impeded by ice or some other obstruction.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—“ The Grampian mountains, which constitute the Highlands of Perthshire, on the north and west of Crieff, extending many miles in breadth, and running from the east coast of Scotland, south of Aberdeen, till they terminate at the extremity of the Mull of Cantyre, near Ireland, consist chiefly of mica slate rocks, with occasional beds of quartz and hornblende slate and some patches of granite. All the high mountains near Crieff, such as Benlawers, Benvorlich, Benichonie, &c. are composed of mica slate. But, on the east edge of the Grampians, there is a narrow tract of clay slate, which may be traced from Stonehaven, in Kincardineshire, to the Gareloch in Dumbartonshire, without interruption. This strip of clay slate approaches within about a couple of miles of Crieff. It may be seen as we descend from Loch Turret to the low country. But its breadth in that place scarcely exceeds half a-mile. There is a patch of granite between Benichonie and Lochearn. It is bounded on the south by Glen Lednick, and extends from west to east about four miles. At the foot of the clay-slate rocks there is a narrow valley, which may be traced for many miles running parallel to the Grampians. To the east of this valley there rise a number of isolated hills;—Cnoc-Mary, Turlum, Lochlin, Tom-a-chaistail, Laggan, Cnoc of Crieff, Glowero'erhim, &c. are well known hills in the neighbourhood of Crieff. Many of these are covered with wood; and, varying much in their shape and appearance, it is to them chiefly that the beautiful landscape to the south-west of Crieff, scarcely equalled in any other part of Great Britain, is owing. These hills are composed of greywacke, varying much in its appear-

\* Loch Earn is 308 feet above the level of the sea.

† See Blackwood's Magazine, Vol. i. No. vi. September 1817.

ance in different places. Sometimes it is a red sandstone in beds almost vertical; sometimes a very coarse red conglomerate, composed chiefly of hornblende porphyry, very like the rocks in Glen-co; and sometimes having the appearance of common greywacke. The sandstone is frequently employed in the neighbourhood of Crieff as a building stone.

“The Vale of Strathearn, from about two miles east of Comrie, consists of a red sandstone, quite similar in appearance to that which accompanies the greywacke; but the beds, instead of being vertical, as they are in the hills, are in the low country about Crieff horizontal, or nearly so. This sandstone occupies the whole strath from the Ochils to the hills on the north side, and may be traced without interruption from the south-west corner of Dumbartonshire to the east coast of Scotland. It is of great breadth. On the west side, its breadth is from Dumbarton to within a mile of the Row Church, or about ten miles; and on the east coast, from Stonehaven to the Redhead, constituting the boundary of the Frith of Tay, not less than thirty miles.

“This sandstone, so far as has been observed, contains no fossil remains either of animals or vegetables. It has been generally considered as the *old red sandstone*. On the north shore of the Clyde it may be seen reposing on clayslate, and we may presume that this is its position also in Strathearn. How far it is similar to the old redstone rocks in the neighbourhood of Bristol, it would be difficult to say. Trap dikes occur here and there in this sandstone; but they are not numerous. There is a very remarkable one between Muthil and Crieff, called *Concraig*, composed of a kind of greenstone, which may be traced for several miles running east and west. There is another consisting of greenstone at Monzie, which is quarried for mending the roads. Many granite boulders occur in Strathearn. A considerable number may be seen on the south-east shoulder of the Cnoc: the most remarkable of these is the one known by the name of the *Cradle-stone*. It is nearly spherical, with a circumference approaching to 30 feet. Its weight is about 30 tons. It has been split in two by lightning, and one of the pieces has made a revolution down the hill. It is composed of syenitic granite. No ores of any kind, so far as I know, have been observed near Crieff. Boulders of sulphate of barytes, water-worn and about the size of an egg, occur in the bed of the Shaggy, indicating a vein of that substance; but it has not been observed *in situ*.”\*

\* We owe the foregoing geological sketch to the kindness of Dr Thomson,

There are no alluvial deposits except those that are found on the banks of the Earn, and those that are left by the mountain streams. They generally consist of sand, gravel, and sometimes of vegetable substances; and do not appear to be in any way remarkable.

The soil varies considerably in different parts of the parish. On the north, west, and south sides, it is light and sandy or gravelly, and occasionally rests upon rocks of freestone of a tolerably good quality; in the immediate vicinity of the town, it becomes a pretty rich loam, owing principally to the quantity of manure which it receives, and the care which is otherwise bestowed upon it; and, on the east and south-east sides, it is in general a kind of stiff, reddish, tilly clay—often wet, and frequently resting upon rocks of the same colour, which do not admit of being hewn, but which are hard and durable, which split easily, and which are much used for building fences.

No mines have yet been discovered in the parish, and it is exceedingly probable that none exist. Several attempts have been made to find coals in the neighbourhood. One was made without success, many years ago, and another is now being made without any flattering prospects, in the district of Strathallan. A proposal was lately made to Lady Baird Preston, of Ferntower, by one who professed to be acquainted with the subject, to sink a shaft in a part of her Ladyship's property, which lies about a mile and a half east of Crieff; and the terms on which he seemed disposed to make the attempt were such as could leave no doubt of his own hope of success. He was willing that the discovery of coals should be made the condition on which he was to be remunerated for his trouble, that he should receive so much if he succeeded, and that he should receive nothing if he failed. The terms were not accepted, because it did not appear right to be the means of bringing any man into circumstances in which the chances of success were believed to be so much against him; but the proposal was so very specious that it gave occasion to very particular inquiries. The result has been most decidedly unfavourable. And, however much we should desire that it were a mistaken one, we fear that the opinion is too well founded, that there are no coals to the north of the Ochils.

*Zoology.*—There are few animals in the parish which can be

Professor of Chemistry in the University of Glasgow. It was written expressly for this Account.



called rare in Scotland, and those that are common in similar districts are also common here. The only species of foreign animals are the pheasant, the woodcock, and the squirrel; and it is not supposed that any which formerly existed have disappeared.

The principal singing birds are, the blackbird, the thrush, the starling, the bullfinch, the goldfinch, the linnet, and the lark. The crested-wren is also known here.

The Game are, the black-cock, the pheasant, the partridge, the woodcock, the snipe, the landrail, the green and grey plovers, the curlew, the heron, the roe-deer, and the hare. The wild goose is often seen, but is rarely got at. To these may be added the wood-pigeon, wild ducks of different tribes, and rabbits in great abundance.

The vermin are, the badger, the fox, the otter, the marten and polecat, the stoat, the weasel, the mole, the rat, and the mouse.

The birds of prey are, the sparrowhawk, the harrier, the merlin, the salmon-tailed glee, the buzzard, the night-hawk, the grey, white, and horned-owls, the raven, the carrion crow, the magpie, and the jay. The eagle is occasionally seen in the Cnoc in severe winters.

Since the establishment of the Agricultural Society, the best breeds of horses, black-cattle, and sheep are reared—the sheep in very limited numbers. There does not appear to be any thing peculiar about the breed of swine; but great numbers of them are reared, and sometimes fed for the Glasgow market.\*

The rivers all abound with the common trouts; and, in addition to this, the Earn contains the salmon, the sea-trout, the eel, the perch, and the pike. The salmon generally comes up the Earn during the months of August and September, spawns in November and December, and returns again to the sea in February and March. The sea trout usually comes up the river earlier than the salmon, and spawns during the months of September and October. And the loch and river trouts appear to seek the brooks with a view to spawn at the same time.

*Wood.*—There are two small coppices of oak and birch, amounting to about ten acres; and, if we except those on the Ferntower property, the plantations are nowhere else of any great extent. The forest trees, which are planted, and which all appear to thrive,

\* The Right Honourable Lord Willoughby D'Eresby has lately sent down a boar and some pigs—the latter as gifts to several of his tenants, with a view to introduce the best English breed into Strathearn.

are reared in a public nursery in the parish, and consist of the following kinds, viz. the common oak, the scarlet oak, Turkey oak, larch, spruce, Scotch and silver firs, Weymouth pines, ash, elm, beech, plane or sycamore, horse chestnuts, limes, walnuts, and poplars of various descriptions.

There is no tree in the parish that is remarkable for age, size, or form, save the yew at Inchbrakie, which is said to be the second largest in Scotland, and in the thick foliage of which the Marquis of Montrose is reported to have been concealed during a season of danger.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Historical Notices, &c.*—“This town,” says one who is every way qualified to give an opinion, “is a place of respectable antiquity;—various notices of it occur in the annals of Scottish history. Justice courts in Air sat at Crieff at a period of a very distant date. It formed the head-quarters of the army of Montrose more than once during the civil wars of the seventeenth century, and in the two last eras of intestine commotion, it was traversed and occupied by the insurgent and royalist forces. In the year 1715 it was burnt down by the Highlanders, and in all probability it would have undergone the same fate in 1745, if the Duke of Perth had not interfered to preserve it from destruction.” \*

The Highlanders had no good will to Crieff; and the fact, that it was steadfast in its loyalty to the then reigning Prince, will be fully sufficient to account for their dislike. They were wont to say of it, that “she would be a bra toun gin she had anither sing”

\* There are no ancient or modern accounts of the history of the parish, in so far as we know, neither are there any maps, plans or surveys, of the parish; but there is a plan of the town of Crieff in Wood's Town Atlas, published in Edinburgh in the year 1822, and, since, accompanied with a “Descriptive Account” of the principal towns in Scotland. The above extract is taken from the account which is there given of Crieff, and it has the advantage of being written by a native. The only other documents of public importance, concerning which we have been able to obtain any information, are the records of the legal and judicial proceedings of the courts of the Stewarts of Strathearn, including those of Chancellor Drummond. These interesting and valuable relics of antiquity, which are said to have consisted of upwards of 40 volumes folio, bound in vellum, together with many loose papers, were certainly in existence in Crieff about the year 1796. There are several respectable individuals still alive, who remember seeing the books, and reading portions of the less ancient of them; but there is much reason to fear that they are now all lost. It is commonly reported that the greater part, if not the whole of them, were burnt instead of fuel, by a regiment of fencibles who were stationed in Crieff in the year 1798, and who made the court-room their guard-house. It is also said that some of them were sent to the Sheriff-Clerk's Office in Perth; but, though careful search has been made through the obliging kindness of Mr James Patton, no trace of them could be discovered in the Sheriff-Clerk's record rooms. The probability, therefore, is, that they were never sent to Perth; and it is somewhat curious that the early records of the parish, both civil and ecclesiastical, have, at separate times, been destroyed by the military.

(singing), and certainly it was from no want of inclination on their part that the "tither sing" was not given it. But they were prevented by the superior, who generously interposed his authority to protect the town, even though its inhabitants had espoused a different political interest from that which he was himself supporting with all his might. We know not how the calamity was permitted to happen in his father's time, or whether any efforts were then made to prevent it. The same authority, doubtless, which averted it in the latter case might have done so in the former; and the subjoined copy of an original order, which was given by the Duke of Perth, in the year 1713, exhibits a specimen of the manner in which that authority was usually exercised, and of the consequences which might be likely to follow disobedience at the hands of the Highland soldiers. It was issued when the Duke was raising those troops with which he joined the standard of the Earl of Marr, and fought at Sherrif Muir. It is titled on the back,— "Order Ja. Ld. Drummond to William M'Gruther, William M'Nivan, and Alexr. M'Gruther, farmers in Glenartney, 1713."\*

Previous to the reign of Malcolm Canmore, in the eleventh century, the chief titles of distinction under the King in this country were those of Abthane and Thane. The Abthane of Scotland was invested with a jurisdiction over the whole kingdom; and the Thane possessed a similar power over a district. But, as Malcolm had lived a considerable time in England, when he fled from the usurper Macbeth, he introduced the English offices and titles into Scotland, after his restoration to the Scottish Crown: and, subsequently to his time, we find the antiquated title of Ab-

\* The order runs in the following terms:—"William M'Gruther in Dalclathick yow are hereby ordered to acquaint William M'Nivan in the same town, and Alexander M'Gruther in Dalchrown, to goe along with yow as officers, to Command the Company of our men that is to come out of your glen, and all the men are hereby ordered to obey your Commands on their highest perill. which you are to intimate to them as you will be answerable to us, and this shall be your warrant. Given att Drummond Castle this fifteenth day of August one thousand seven hundred and thirteen years." "See that none of the men of Achinner of whatever rank be absent, as they will be answerable, and all the men in good order." (Signed) DRUMMOND. This curious document was found among the papers of the late Miss M'Gruther of Migger, and is still in the possession of one of her relatives who resides in Crieff. Miss M'Gruther was a grand-daughter of the above-mentioned William M'Gruther; and it may be worthy of notice that he, together with his two companions, obeyed the instruction of their superior, and took the command of the company that was raised in Glenartney; but, after the insurrection was put down and the disturbances quelled, they were banished to America, on account of that obedience, and sold as slaves. From this captivity the two M'Gruthers, who were ransomed by their friends, returned home in the guise of travelling packmen, and remained seven years in hiding without having either been at kirk or market.

thane giving way to that of *Steward of Scotland*, and that of *Thane to Steward of a district*.\*

The spot is still pointed out where the Steward of the King's estate of Strathearn was in the habit of holding his court, after the earldom was forfeited to the Crown, in the year 1320, by the treason of its heiress, Joanna, daughter of Malise, the last Earl. This lady married the English Earl de Warrenne; and, while the alliance was the means of inducing her to violate her allegiance to Robert I., it proved fatal to all her pretensions as the representative of a noble line of ancestors. She was deprived of her titles, and the forfeiture of her patrimonial possessions gave occasion to the appointment of a steward of Strathearn;—an office which was vested in the house of Drummond; which in course of time became hereditary in the family; and which they continued to enjoy till the abolition of heritable jurisdictions in the year 1748.† The spot referred to is a circle of about 12 yards diameter, which is situated in a field belonging to Mr M'Laurin, of the Broich, about half a mile south-east of Crieff, and which, in comparatively modern times, was surrounded with a low wall of earth and stone which is now hardly discernible. It is marked out by a blasted tree, which stands in the middle of it, and many are the tales of those who were arraigned, and tried, and condemned at this dread tribunal.

The Gallow-Hill, a rising ground where criminals were executed, is a little to the west of Crieff, adjacent to a street which bears the same name. A stunted tree of no great age is now growing where the fatal beam was wont to stand in the memory of a former generation. And the timber of the identical gallows itself is still in good preservation. It is now the property of a lady in Edinburgh.

It would be a very hopeless undertaking to attempt giving any account of the numerous traditional stories which are related concerning the administration of the Stewards of Strathearn. Suffice it to say, that the number of convictions must have been considerable; that the justice which was awarded was always sum-

\* Vide Buchanan, *Hist. Scot. Lib.* vii.

† The house of Drummond has long held a most distinguished place among the ancient families of Scotland. Its representatives are descended from the Kings of Hungary, and they have flourished in this country since the days of Malcolm I. They have been repeatedly connected by marriage with the royal house of Stuart; and, as they were uniformly admitted to the closest courtly confidence, and ennobled with the highest honours which a king could bestow, it is not to be wondered if they were found to cling to the cause of their benefactors with an unswerving fidelity, and to share along with them many of those disasters which were consequent upon their fall.

mary, and sometimes very arbitrary; and that there is reason to fear that the innocent occasionally suffered with the guilty. Crieff was in consequence regarded with no little dread by all those who had any cause of apprehension, and especially by those lawless marauders who infested the country from the distant glens of the north. The fate of those who were once arraigned and brought to trial was looked upon by their companions as being already sealed; and such is the tendency—we should have said the folly—of humanity, that the *kind gallows of Crieff*, as they were pleased to term it, became a byword, at least, if not a jest, among those who deemed it very likely that it might put a period to their own existence.\*

In the year 1665, the present tolbooth was erected in Crieff, for the accommodation of the Steward's Court, (which from this period ceased to be held in the open air,) and for the despatch of other public business.† It now contains a jail in the ground flat, where offenders are occasionally lodged for a night or so; a courtroom, where the justices hold a small-debt court, on the first Monday of every month; and another apartment above, where a public library is kept. There is also a spire attached to it, which contains the town clock, and a good bell, of which tradition says that it was that which was rung at Scone when the Kings of Scotland were crowned. If the tale be true, the bell must have been recast; for it bears a Latin inscription, setting forth, that it was gifted in the year 1725 by John Lord Drummond, uncle of James, the third Duke of Perth. The bell was recast, perhaps we should have said re-recast, in the year 1821, at the expense of the inhabitants of Crieff. The original inscription was replaced, but an addition was made to it. The motto to the Drummond arms is inserted between the old inscrip-

\* Sir Walter Scott alludes to this celebrated gibbet in Vol. i. of *Waverley*, p. 189, 1st edition, and he states in the notes, p. 199, that he is unable to inform his readers with certainty why it was called *The Kind Gallows*; though he seems to think that it may have been so designated from its "being a sort of native or kindred place of doom to those who suffered there, as in fulfilment of a natural destiny."

† Originally the tolbooth contained several apartments, which have been converted to other uses. Some alterations have doubtless been made; but one part of what once belonged to the tolbooth is now a dwelling house; another is a shop, with one of the dungeons for a store cellar; and a third is a coal cellar. This last appears to have been the strongest in the whole building. It is an arched dungeon of small dimensions, which was secured by a strong iron door. It contained the celebrated Crieff cage—a netted iron safe, large enough to contain a man, and covered on the top with a lid of solid metal. And sunk in the ground, under the spot where the cage stood, was what was called the black hole, into which atrocious and desperate offenders were sometimes thrust; though it is believed that this dreaded place was tenanted only on rare occasions. The cage is remembered by several of the present inhabitants of Crieff; and the top, or at least a part of the top of it, is still preserved in the store cellar already mentioned.

tion and the new addition, and the whole is, as nearly as possible, a fac-simile of the old.

The superiority of the town is now vested in the three proprietors, the Right Honourable Lord Willoughby de Eresby; Anthony Murray, Esq. of Crieff and Dollerie; and Alexander M'Laurin, Esq. of the Broich, who hold of the Crown, and who respectively appoint baron bailies to exercise all that remains of the ancient feudal jurisdiction.

From time immemorial, previous to the year 1770, Crieff was the great mart for the sale of black-cattle in the north of Scotland. The dealers from all parts of Britain were regularly accustomed to attend it. And it is stated in the former Statistical Account, that the "old people used then to speak with deep regret of the glorious scene which was displayed to view, when 30,000 black cattle overspread the whole adjacent country." But at the period above-mentioned, the great annual trysts were removed to Falkirk; and Pennant informs us, that, in 1771, 24,000 heads of black cattle were sold there.

*Eminent Characters, &c.*—James Drummond, fifth Laird of Milnab, was forty years steward-depute of Strathearn. A marble bust, with the following inscription, was erected to his memory in the church of Crieff, from which it appears that he had made some figure both as a judge and as a poet.\*

"Juridici, nullo sæcli data crimine pessum,  
Obruta quin senio, busta verenda vides.  
Hunc juvenem amplexæ Musæ charitesque, senectæ  
Sed fuerat gravitas consiliumque decus.  
Quantus adest heros! Viridî ipse pavesco juventâ,  
Ut cineres tanti ceperat urna viri!"

"Obiit anno M.DC.LXIV. Kal. Decembris xvii. ætatis suæ lxxxiii."

Patrick Graeme of Inchbrakie, Colonel of the *Posse Comitatus* of Perthshire, and cousin-german to the celebrated James, Marquis of Montrose, was distinguished by the part which he took in that nobleman's fortunes. He held a conspicuous place during all his wars, and appears to have enjoyed a very considerable share of his master's confidence. He is said to have defeated the Duke

\* Milnab—or Mill of the Abbot, is now greatly reduced both in size and consequence from what it was in former days. We read, in Malcolm's Memoirs, of a royal charter of the lands and mill of Milnab being granted in 1521 by James V. to John Drummond, grandson of one of the stewards of Strathearn. In the year 1677, mention is made of the lands and barony, which contained the town, mill, and mill-lands of Milnab. There was a religious house, connected with Inchaffray, near the mill; and the last generation but one remembered the ruins of it. The family of Milnab was a branch of the house of Drummond, and maintained a distinguished rank in the country for many generations. The line is now believed to be extinct, and the estate is the property of the Right Honourable Lord and Lady Willoughby de Eresby.

of Argyle near Dunnoter, and taken possession of Aberdeen; and in return, Cromwell burnt down his house of Inchbrakie, which, in those days, was a stronghold surrounded by a moat, and defended at the entrance by a drawbridge. There are still some traces of this ancient fortification.

Another branch of the family, a grandson of Colonel Graeme, who is commonly known by the name of Father Graeme, and who is represented as having at first been an officer in the army of James II., afterwards became a monk of the Mendicant Order of Capuchins, at Boulogne, in France. This change of profession is mentioned by Smollet, in his "Travels through France and Italy," as having been caused by a desire to atone, by voluntary penance, for the sin of having killed his friend in a duel; and the current tradition bears a similar testimony. But be this as it may, there can be little doubt that this monastic lived for a long course of years at Boulogne; that he conformed to all the austerities of his order with the most rigorous exactness; that he arose to eminence in the institution; and that he died, at a very advanced age, Superior of the Convent. There is a portrait of him at Abercairney Abbey, in his Capuchin dress; and another at Inchbrakie, together with a family-tree which he had drawn, exhibiting his pedigree for several generations.

Mallet, the poet, and Dow, the historian of Hindostan, are generally believed to have been educated at the school of Crieff. The late Dr William Wright, a physician and naturalist, and Dr Thomas Thomson, the present distinguished Professor of Chemistry in the University of Glasgow, were natives of this parish. And General Sir David Baird, Bart. G. C. B. and K. C. passed the later years of his life and ended his days in the neighbourhood. There is a marble tablet attached to the western gable of the church on the outside, setting forth the important service which this illustrious individual rendered to the parish when that edifice was repaired. The remembrance of his worth and generosity and public spirit is still cherished with enthusiasm. And there is nothing in the memory of the present generation, that called forth anything like the general emotion which was produced by his death.

*Chief Land-owners.*—The following is a list of the heritors in the parish, *quoad civilia*, arranged according to their valued rents.

James Moray, Esq. of Abercairney, valued rent,	L. 887	13	0
Lady Baird Preston, of Ferntower,	764	15	5
The Right Honourable Lord and Lady Willoughby de Eresby,	474	15	10
James M. Patton, Esq. of Glensalmond,	470	12	8
Sir William Keith Murray, Bart. of Ochtertyre,	421	6	7

Alexander M'Laurin, Esq. of the Broich, . . . . .	L. 261 16 8
Anthony Murray, Esq. of Crieff and Dolerie, . . . . .	241 8 7
Thomas Patton, Esq. of Glenalmond, . . . . .	144 18 4
Colonel Graeme of Inchbrakie, . . . . .	140 0 0
Anthony Maxtone, Esq. of Cultoquhey, . . . . .	97 0 0
The Marquis of Breadalbane, . . . . .	59 10 0
Patrick Maxtone, Esq. of Kincardine, . . . . .	59 10 0
Alexander Campbell, Esq. of Monzie, . . . . .	41 6 2
Mr Donald Dow, of Croftnappock, . . . . .	22 0 0
Mr James M'Duff, of Millhills, . . . . .	19 15 9
The Feuars of Croftweat, . . . . .	18 0 0
Mr John Arnot, for part of Pittensie, and Earl of Perth's Feu,	12 5 0

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L. 4196 14 0

*Parochial Registers.*\*—The parochial registers of Crieff do not extend far back, and they are very incomplete. The earliest entry is 20th November 1692; and from that date to the present (August 1837) the register of proclamation of banns is complete, with the exception of one blank between the 1st of March 1713 and the 6th of November 1748. The register of births and baptisms extends from the 27th December 1692 to the present time, with the exception of a blank between the 8th of June and the 16th of November 1746. The records of discipline are very defective. They begin 3d October 1699; and from that date to the present time there are no fewer than four blanks, viz 15th of February 1713 to 16th September 1723; 14th October 1739 to 1st November 1746; 26th October 1760 to 12th July 1761; and 6th December 1772 to 11th April 1833. The accounts of the poor's funds commence 19th June 1700; and from that to the present time the following blanks occur, viz. 18th March 1713 to 25th October 1747, and 19th November 1790 to 24th May 1807. The whole is comprised in eleven volumes of different sizes. The deaths have never been recorded.

*Antiquities, &c.*—The antiquities of the parish are not numerous; and of those that exist we have already mentioned some in connexion with those historical events to which they stand related. We shall now proceed to notice the few that remain.

The Cross of Crieff is certainly a monument of great antiquity. It stands near what was formerly the middle of the town, elevated a step or two on a base of hewn stone, and measuring 6 feet 3 inches in height, nearly 2 feet in width, and 6 inches in thickness.

\* The following extract from the session records may account for the comparatively modern date of the earliest entry. "At Crieff, December 1st, 1699, David Caw and James M'Culloch, in name of David Holmes, not present, report that Mr John Thomson, late session clerk of Crieff, now schoolmaster of Strowan, declares that the session book was taken away by the souldiers; and that David Shearer, late box-master, declares that the box is in the beddal's custody, and the key thereof in his own. They appoint David Caw to require the key."



It is curiously carved in front, having the form of a cross embossed upon it; and there are traces of what is likely to have been a motto or inscription, but the characters are so much effaced that it is now altogether impossible to decipher them. Of its early history little seems to be known, save that it is not the original cross of Crieff. Nobody can tell what or whose it was; but some of the last, or at least of a previous, generation remembered that it stood on the neighbouring farm of Trowan; and on the back part of it (which is not carved) the remains of an iron loop or staple are discernible, to which a ring or collar might have been attached, for the purpose of securing those who were sentenced to the pillory. Another implement of ancient jurisdiction, which was certainly used for this purpose, and which is still preserved, is what is vulgarly termed *Choucks*, probably the French *Jougs*. It is a tapering octagonal stone, about 10 feet in length, to which an iron collar was attached, which locked by a padlock. The ancient Crieff *Stocks* are likewise preserved.

At the demolition of the old parish church (which was an antique Gothic structure, 95 feet long, 18 feet wide, and 14 feet in the quire) in the year 1787, about forty gold coins of Robert I. of Scotland were found deposited in a niche of the wall, about six inches from the floor. Each piece, which was equal in breadth to a modern guinea, and precisely one-fourth of its weight, had the head of this monarch, with the words, "Robertus Rex Scotorum," upon the one side, and St Andrew with his cross upon the other. These relics of antiquity, it is believed, passed into the possession of some of the neighbouring gentry.\*

There is a Roman road, or what is reputed to have been one, passing through the lands of the Broich. It is supposed to have connected the encampment at Strageath with that at Dalginross; and, as a confirmation of the tradition, it is worthy of remark, that, when the present road was being made through Burrel Street, a pavement was discovered under ground, composed of common flag stones, bedded close together, in the usual way that Roman roads are laid, and manifestly surrounded with a different sort of earth from that which was found in the immediate neighbourhood.

\* Fifty-eight gold coins, nearly of the same, and sixty-two of a larger description, were lately discovered in the Cathedral at Glasgow, by some workmen, who were employed in renovating the interior. They were all found deposited under the pavement, about five inches from the base of one of the pillars, which divided the outer High Church from the nave; and they are all said to be in a state of the most perfect preservation.

Close to this road, and near the field where the stewards of the King's estate of Strathearn were wont to hold their courts, stands a large upright stone, which is understood to have been either a memorial of some Roman event, or the remains of a Druidical circle; and, while both suppositions are likely enough, it is impossible to say which should have the preference. It is well known that many of these circles once existed in the neighbourhood, though most of them have been removed for agricultural purposes. There is one, at least a part of one, in the park in front of Fern-tower-House. The largest, and several of the smaller, stones of the circle are still remaining. And the spot is remarkable for more than Druidical rites. It was the scene of a deadly rencontre, which took place in the year 1413 between Patrick Graeme, who had become Earl of Strathearn, by marrying its heiress, a grand-daughter of Robert II., and Sir John Drummond of Concraig, who was then Steward of Strathearn. The Earl was slain by Sir John, and the life of the survivor was embittered ever after. It is also the spot which, according to popular tradition, Sir John Cope, chose for his camp, so long as he remained in this neighbourhood, during the troubles of the year 1745. There is a very fine well, which still goes by the name of "Cope's Well," and, in a bog near it, an old sword was lately found, which certainly confirms the truth of the tradition. This sword is still at Ferntower House; but there is another sword there, which is a trophy of far greater importance, viz. that of Tippoo Saib, which was presented to General Sir David Baird, in the name of the British army in India, immediately after the storming of Seringapatam. There are several other articles at Ferntower, which it may be proper to mention,—such as a magnificent Egyptian saddle, —massy silk window curtains, which were manufactured for Napoleon Bonaparte,—and the remains of what is supposed to have been the bracelets of the Countess of Strathearn, who is said to have been imprisoned at Tom-a-Chaistail, before the castle was consumed by fire. The bracelets have manifestly undergone the action of fire; and the same thing is true of the stones that were dug out when the foundation of General Baird's monument was being cleared. But, for a full account of this matter, we would refer the reader to the New Statistical Account of Monivaird.

*Inchbrakie's Ring.*—There is a curious relic in the family of Inchbrakie, and the history of it is as curious as itself. It is well known that, at no very distant period, there was a war of exter-

mination carried on against all those hapless women who were suspected of being witches; and the last who fell a victim in this quarter, is reported to have been one of the name of Catherine M'Niven, who was burnt at the north-east shoulder of the Cnoc of Crieff, at a spot which is called "Kate M'Niven's Craig," to this day. All accounts agree in giving credit to the Laird of Inchbrakie, for having exerted himself to the utmost to save poor Kate's life, though his exertions proved in vain. When the flames were lighted, and her sufferings commenced, she is said to have uttered various predictions against her enemies,—and, turning round to Inchbrakie, to have spit a bluish stone out of her mouth, which she requested him to take and keep, declaring that, so long as it was preserved in the family, his race would never cease to thrive. The stone resembles, and is said to be, an uncut sapphire. It is now set in a gold ring, and is most carefully preserved. The story of "Inchbrakie's Ring" may not be an unfit companion to the celebrated Lockart Lee-Penny of the West.

*Modern Buildings, &c.*—The parish church is comparatively a modern building; but there is an additional church in progress, which is intended to become the parish church of half the present parish of Crieff, *quoad sacra*, and which is likely to be finished in the course of the present year. It is building by subscription; is calculated to accommodate about 1000 sitters; and is likely to cost L. 1500 before it is completed. It occupies a commanding situation, and will be by far the finest object in Crieff. The ground was gifted by the Right Hon. Lord and Lady Willoughby de Eresby, in addition to a very handsome subscription which they made; and the foundation stone was laid by this nobleman's only son on the 22d August 1837.

There is another new church, nearly finished, in connexion with the United Secession. It is also building by subscription, and stands on the site of their former place of worship. It is fitted to accommodate about 500 sitters, and may cost between L. 500 and L. 600.

The Masons' Hall, or St Michael's Lodge, was erected in the year 1816 at the expense of the corporation, and at a cost of about L. 2000. The weavers built their hall in the year 1786, at an expense of L. 200; and the only other hall in the place is that in the principal inn, which is sometimes termed the Assembly Room, though the other two are perhaps more frequently occupied by the public in this capacity. There are only three mansion-houses in

the parish, viz. Ferntower, Inchbrakie, and the Broich; and the chief manufactories are three tan-works; a barley, a flour, and two corn mills; a bark mill; a flax, and a flax-seed-oil mill; a saw and turning mill; a woollen manufactory, and two distilleries. All these manufactories (with the exception of the tan-works) are situated on the river Turret, and within the space of three quarters of a mile.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the town has for a long time been increasing; sometimes rapidly;\* and Crieff now contains more inhabitants, perhaps, than it did at any former period. But, owing to the decrease of the country population, especially that of Glenalmond, the gross population of the whole parish, *quoad civilia*, has been proportionally slower in its growth than the population of the town.

The following table presents a view of the population from 1755 to 1837, and contains all the information which we have been able to collect on the subject.

In this Table, the numbers that relate to the parish, <i>quoad civilia</i> , are distinguished at the tops of the columns from those that relate to the parish <i>quoad sacra</i> .	Population by Dr. Webster's report.		Do. <i>quoad sacra</i> according to former Statistical Account.				Do. <i>quoad civilia</i> according to the different censuses taken by order of Government.			Do. <i>quoad sacra</i> according to census of Kirk-session, &c.	
	1755	1792	1766	1792	1801	1811	1821	1831	1835	1837	
In the years - - -	1755	1792	1766	1792	1801	1811	1821	1831	1835	1837	
Amount of the whole population,	1414	2640	1977	2640	2876	3900	4126	4780	4906		
Total number of males,		955	904	955		1585	1955	2270			
Do. females,		1432	1073	1432		1715	2261	2510			
Males 20 years old,								1216			
Males above 12 years of age,									1073		
Females above 12 years of age,									1218		
Souls under 7 years of age,									643		
Families, - - -		711	541	711		849	1048	1200			
Do. chiefly agricultural, - -		102	91	102		63	187	117			
Do. in trade, and other families,		609	450	609		786	861	875			
Inhabited houses, - - -						496	655	644			
Houses building and uninhabited,						16	9	21			
Proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards,										11	
Occupiers of land employing labourers,								21			
Do. not employing labourers,								28			
Births at an average of 10 years,		62	52	62							
Marrriages at an aver. of 20 years,										24	

\* The principal cause assigned for the rapid increase of the population of Crieff, previous to the year 1792, is that, having little trade, and being ignorant of the means by which any money they had acquired, could be improved to advantage, the people thought themselves fortunate in having it in their power to invest it in a house and garden of their own property; a spirit which the proprietors of the town were then disposed to encourage and gratify, by granting small feus to those who were inclined to build upon them.

Number of blind, 5 ; deaf and dumb, 2 ; insane, in or connected with Crieff, 5 ; fatuous, in or connected with Crieff, 9.

*Language.*—The language generally spoken is the best Scottish dialect. Within the last two or three years, a Gaelic sermon has been preached in Crieff on communion occasions, and the attendance was considerable. But many of the hearers came from a distance ; and the great majority of them are capable of deriving benefit from Sabbath ministrations in English.

*Habits of the people, &c.*—The habits of the people are cleanly ; they dress remarkably well ; and, in general, they live comfortably. This latter circumstance must doubtless be attributed, in a great measure, to their own industry ; but it is considerably aided by the accommodation which is given by the proprietors of the town and neighbourhood, in the shape of what are ordinarily termed *feus, pecks, and acres.*

*Feus, &c.*—The whole town consists of feus, which have been granted at different periods, and are held at different rates of feuduty ; but its antiquity is not to be confined to the date of the earliest feu-charters ; inasmuch as there is every reason to believe that there was a village in the place, long before the existence of any of the present charters. Crieff, properly so called, lies east of the tolbooth, and the oldest feus are near the cross. They all hold of the family of Crieff and Dollerie, and some of them were granted before the middle of the seventeenth century ; others are of a more modern date ; and the last feus are not yet twenty years old. The remaining part of the High Street, from the tolbooth to Comrie Street, including St James' Square, was feued by James Drummond of Perth, in the year 1738, with the exception of the portion between Fraser's Corner and Hill's Wynd, on the north, and the tolbooth and Brydie's Corner, on the south side, which had previously been feued by George Drummond of Milnab, in the year 1683.

Commissioners' Street ; King's Street, as far as the meadow ; Galvil More ; Tainshe's Lane ; the upper part of Hill's Wynd ; and the back feus west to Comrie Street,—were feued by the commissioners upon the forfeited estates of Perth about the year 1774. Brown's Row, from the Meadow to M'Farlane's Lane, and a small portion of the street at the north of Bridgend ; Mitchell Street ; Miller's Street ; Comrie Street ; and Milnab Street,—were feued by James Lord Perth, after the year 1785, when the forfeited estates were restored.

Bridgend and Pittenzie have been feued by the family of Broich; the former after the year 1730, and the latter after the year 1766. And Burrel Street; Burrel Square; that part of Brown's Row below M'Farlane's Lane; and the villas north of the Comrie road, where the new church is built, were feued by the Right Honourable Lord and Lady Willoughby d'Eresby in the years 1809 and 1810.

These feus are of various dimensions; but the average size is 400 square ells; and the rates of feu-duty are as follows:— The old feus paid considerable sums in the name of purchase money, in addition to a small feu-duty which is annually to be paid to the superiors. Dollerie's old feu-duties range from 2s. 6d. to 10s. each; and Broich's are nearly the same. James Drummond of Perth's feus, and those of George Drummond of Milnab, are possessed on low terms,—so very low, indeed, that, in some instances, the feu-duties are nominal. The commissioners' feus paid no purchase money, but they pay a yearly feu-duty of 4s. each. Lord Perth's feus paid each L. 4 of purchase money, and are paying 2s. 6d. of yearly feu-duty. And Lord Willoughby's feus, as well as those that have of late been granted by the other proprietors, have paid no purchase money, but are paying a yearly feu-duty at the rate of L. 16 per acre.

*Pecks.*—The pecks are patches of lands, containing each a *fourteenth part* of an acre, which are regularly let to the inhabitants at a yearly rent, and which may be continued or recalled at pleasure by the proprietors. They are all the property of Messrs Murray of Crieff and Dollerie, and M'Laurin of the Broich, with the exception of a few which belong to Lord Willoughby d'Eresby. And the rents range between 4s. 6d. and 9s. each; that is to say, they are let at the rate of from three to six guineas per acre.

*Acres.*—The acres differ from the pecks in nothing but their size and rents. They contain from one to seven acres each, and they are commonly let from two to three guineas per acre.

The three proprietors of the town, and Lady Baird Preston of Ferntower, have between them upwards of 300 acres of land, let out in these pecks and pendicles. The community, in general, are thereby enabled to raise corn, potatoes, and other necessaries. Many of them also keep a cow or cows, by which they have it in their power, not merely to add to the comfort of their own families, but also to supply the wants of their less fortunate neighbours, at

a moderate expense; and there is scarcely a single householder who does not possess a pig.

*Poaching, &c.*—Poaching was once very prevalent; but it is believed that it is now on the decline. Smuggling also, at one time, prevailed exceedingly in this quarter; but it may be said to be now altogether relinquished.

*Character of the People.*—The general character of the people, as to intellectual, moral, and religious attainments, is much the same with that of the inhabitants of most of our overgrown Scottish villages. “The tradesmen here,” says the author of the former Statistical Account, “very few individuals excepted, are all on a level; no one chooses to serve another after he understands business himself. When the young weaver has finished his apprenticeship, and acquired as much free stock as will purchase a loom, furnish a room, and defray the expense of a wedding, he scorns to be a journeyman; but sets up for himself, marries a wife, and becomes the father of a family.” The weavers commonly train their sons to their own occupation; the boys are set to the loom at a very early age; their apprenticeships are short; and, by the time they are fifteen or sixteen years old, they are as expert at their business, and able to earn as much as their fathers are themselves.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—There are, as already stated, about 3900 imperial acres in the parish, *quoad sacra*; and these are either planted or cultivated, with the exception of about 60 acres, which are in course of cultivation, and the ground occupied by the streets and houses in the village. The plantations may cover 550 acres, exclusive of about 10 acres of coppice, and the trees are generally a mixture of different kinds, many of them intended more for ornament than use. They are usually interspersed with firs, as nurses for the hard-wood, and the nurses are removed, as soon as they are fit for palings, to leave room for the ornamental trees to grow.

There are few sheep kept, except by the proprietors for their own use, and by the butchers for the use of the public. Any oxen which are grazed are merely put into condition for the home consumption, or for the south country market; and this kind of stock may be changed two or three times in the course of a season. But it is important to remark, that Crieff enjoys peculiar advantages in regard to butcher meat. Not less than 1500

heads of cattle are annually fed by the different distillers within five or six miles round us. The best beef may thus be commanded at a marketable price; and, while the mutton of this district has always been accounted superior, there is no part of the country where a more regular or better supply of both can be had, at all seasons of the year.

The black-cattle are commonly crosses between the Dunlop, and the Highland or Teeswater breeds. The farmers have paid particular attention to the improvement of their stock; and there are few districts in Scotland where a comparison in this respect would not be creditable to them. The breed of horses has been greatly improved of late years by the exertions of the Agricultural Society; and Strathearn might now compete successfully with the south of Scotland.

*Husbandry.*—The husbandry is of the most improved kind, by alternate white and green crops; and particularly by allowing the land to remain long under grass. Draining, too, has been brought to great perfection throughout the parish, and deep or trench ploughing is likely soon to become very general. Colonel Graeme, of Inchbrakie, has drained and trench-ploughed the whole of his home farm; and he has likewise completed about ten acres of flooded meadow. Mr M'Laurin of the Broich has also been in the habit of ploughing his parks very deep, after they have been pastured for a considerable time; and he has practised irrigation successfully for many years.\* The farming at Inchbrakie is thus described by the enterprising proprietor himself, who has obligingly favoured us with the following remarks: "The fields are drained five feet deep. The drains are filled with small round stones to within twenty-two inches of the top, and covered with the earth formerly cast up. In trench ploughing, the common plough drawn by two horses and two oxen is followed by the trench plough, drawn by four oxen and two horses, and making a furrow eighteen inches deep; the ground is then cross-ploughed to the same depth, and in the same manner; and, after the large stones have been blown with gunpowder, and removed, together with the small ones, which should be done with as little delay as possible, it is then harrowed, rolled, limed with forty bolls of shells, which are ploughed in with the small plough to the depth of six inches, and

\* Great care and attention are necessary, in order to flood meadows properly. If the drains or conduits be not well and skilfully managed, the thing is sure to fail; and, if the necessary processes be neglected or delayed, beyond the proper time in spring, success cannot be reasonably expected.



followed with such a rotation of crops as may be deemed expedient for the space of six years. On the expiry of this term, the next stratum, or bed of earth, is ploughed up other six inches, making a furrow of twelve inches deep, and the ground undergoes the same process as before (with the exception of the liming) during the next six years. At the end of the twelve years, the last stratum, or bed of earth, is to be taken up and treated in the same manner, for the third period of six years. And, at the conclusion of the eighteen years, it will probably be expedient to give a half-liming for the nineteenth year, and so on ; but this time must try. A convenient portion of land should be let out in perpetual grass, after it has gone through the routine above specified, with a view to benefit the tenant, who is prevented, by the present system, from having the use of the grass for more than two or three years, and thus from having the advantage which arises from grass parks." By the foregoing mode of procedure, Inchbrakie has converted what was once comparatively an unproductive place into a perfect garden ; and it is only a specimen of what might be still more common than it is, if trench-ploughing were better understood, and more generally practised, by all those farmers who are likely to derive benefit from its introduction.

*Leases, &c.*—The duration of leases is nineteen years. The farm buildings are almost all good, and generally covered with slate. The enclosures are also well kept, and fences of every description are maintained in proper repair.

The superior state of the roads ought not to be passed over without a special commendation. The praise of this is certainly due to the late Sir Patrick Murray, Bart. of Ochertyre, to whose public spirit, Strathearn chiefly owes this, as well as many other privileges. Still, the great expense at which coal and lime are procured, is certainly a bar both to agricultural and commercial advancement.

*Quarries, &c.*—There are five freestone quarries, which are or have been worked by the proprietors, and sold to the public. They are composed of a gritty kind of sandstone, which varies considerably both in hardness and durability. The stones that have hitherto been taken out, are not of first rate quality ; but there is no doubt that the Crieff quarries contain as good materials as any in the neighbourhood, and that stones and flags, admitting of a remarkably fine polish, might be obtained if the veins were worked to a sufficient depth.

*Fisheries.*—The fisheries are never let, though the principal heritors have the right of catching fish with arks, nets, gulleys, cruives, and other instruments, secured to them by their charters. Nets are still sometimes employed on the lochs by the proprietors; and cruives are also in existence on the Earn, in the neighbouring parishes of Muthill and Trinity-Gask. But, with the exception of *set lines*, the rod is the only implement that is used in this parish for the rivers; and the public are permitted to use it, during the proper season, as often as they are disposed to avail themselves of the privilege.

*Raw Produce, &c.*—It would be extremely difficult to arrive at any thing like a correct estimate of the average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish. An approximation might be made to the value of what is raised in the different farms; but the acres, pecks, and garden, are so numerous and so varied in their productions, that the labour necessary to form a tolerably accurate guess of what they may be likely to produce, would not be warranted by any practical good that could arise from a knowledge of the result. Suffice it to say that, with the exception of a few farms, the soil is not adapted for wheat; but it produces excellent oats and barley, and it is particularly adapted for green crops, especially potatoes and turnips. The potatoes which are raised here may compare with those which are produced in any of the neighbouring counties. The great demand that has of late years been made for them in the London market has given a stimulus to their production; and the growing crops are often sold at from L.12 to L.15 the acre.

Table showing the Rates of Labour, &amp;c.:

	1772.			1792.			1837.					
Man-servant's average yearly wages exclusive of board,	L.	3	6	8	L.	10	10	0	L.	12	12	0
Maid-servant's do. do.		2	2	0		3	3	0		6	0	0
Best labourer's hire per day,		0	0	9		0	1	0		0	1	10
Mason's do. do.		0	1	2		0	1	8		0	2	6
House carpenter's do. do.		0	1	1		0	1	6		0	2	2
Mill-wright's do. do.										0	3	6
Currier's wages per week (from 9s. to 16s.),										0	16	0
Tanner's do. (from 8s. to 12s.),										0	12	0
Miller's average yearly wages, exclusive of a free house, meal, and milk,										20	0	0

A Table showing the Rents of Land, &c. and the Prices of different commodities and necessaries of life:—

	1772.	1792.	1837.
Highest rent of land near the town per acre,	L.0 10 0	L.2 17 0	L.6 0 0
Lowest do. do. do.	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 2 0
Average rent of land in the country do.	0 5 0	0 12 0	1 10 0
Do. grazing a cow during the season,			2 5 0
Highest rent of shops and of dwelling-houses in the town,			25 0 0
Average rent of do. do.			10 0 0
Lowest rent of do. do.			5 0 0
Average price of wheaten bread per quarter loaf,			0 0 7
Average price of oatmeal per imperial stone,			0 1 10
potatoes per boll of 4 firlots,			0 5 0
cheese per stone (Tron wt. in 1772 and 1792.)			
in summer, -	0 3 0	0 3 6	3 6 0
in winter, -	0 4 8	0 5 4	0 4 0
butter per lb. (Tron, in 1775 and 1792.)	0 0 6	0 0 8	0 0 10
best beef and veal per lb.	0 0 3	0 0 4	0 0 5
best pork do.	0 0 3	0 0 4	0 0 4
best mutton per lb. (Dutch wt. in 1772 and 1792.)			
in October, -	0 0 2	0 0 3	0 0 5
in June, -	0 0 3½	0 0 5	0 0 5
fowls a piece, -	0 0 6	0 0 9	0 1 3
chickens a piece, -	0 0 2	0 0 3	0 0 9
dozen of eggs, -	0 0 2	0 0 3	0 0 7
tea per lb. -			0 5 0
sugar per lb. (refined),			0 0 10
do. (brown),			0 0 7
coals per stone (Tron wt. in 1772 and 1792.)			
in summer, -	0 0 1½	0 0 2	0 0 2
in winter, -	0 0 2	0 0 3	0 0 2½
coals per cwt. -			0 1 0
barley per lb. -			0 0 2
best cart horse, -			30 0 0
best cow, -			10 10 0
best calf, -			3 0 0
double-horse cart, -			10 10 0
plough, -			3 10 0
pair of harrows, -			0 13 0
goose and turkey, each, -			0 5 0
duck, -			0 1 0

*Manufactures.\**—It is stated in the former Statistical Account, that, previous to the year 1792, the manufactures had had little effect on the population, in comparison of what they would soon be found to produce. But when we compare the statement which was then made with the present condition of the manufacturing interest, we do not feel ourselves warranted in saying that the

\* Our remarks on the manufactures of Crieff are to be understood, as referring to the period immediately preceding the late stagnation of trade.

writer's ideas have hitherto, at least, been realized. The inland situation of the place; its distance from every sea-port; and the great expense of land carriage, have, doubtless, had a very considerable effect in checking the progress of manufacture, and in preventing speculators from making Crieff the field of their commercial enterprises; and yet, notwithstanding all this, it is on its manufactures that it may be said principally to depend. The most numerous class, beyond all question, is the hand-loom weavers;\* and the trade which they are the means of carrying on with Glasgow is the most extensive in the town. There are about half-a-dozen individuals, commissioned by different houses in Glasgow, who give out cotton yarns to the weavers, to be converted into cloth, and to be paid for at so much per web of 180 yards. † There are above 360 looms regularly employed at this work, and producing checks and handkerchiefs. The average value of the yarn that has been annually brought to Crieff from Glasgow for a number of years back, is computed, by a very intelligent and experienced manufacturer, at between L. 15,000 and L. 16,000; the average value of the same when converted into cloth, at between L. 18,000 and L. 20,000; and the average number of webs produced in the year, at about 5200. There are others who are employed in weaving linen cloths and worsted stuffs; but, with the exception of those who are engaged in one manufactory, they are almost entirely confined to articles of home consumption,—so that cotton yarns may be said to be the staple commodity by which the weaving trade of Crieff is supported. The manufactory alluded to has been lately erected on the banks of the Turret, and is confined entirely to woollen goods. The business is extensively carried on in all its branches, embracing the manufacture of blankets, plaiding, shawls, and different kinds of coloured work, from the raw material. It has the advantage of a plentiful supply of water; and all the processes, except dyeing, weaving, bleaching, &c. are performed by machinery. It requires about forty work-people to keep the mill in full play. They work eleven hours a-day, and six days a-week; and their wages are as follows:—weavers, from 10s. to 15s. per week; spinners, from 12s. to 15s. per week; and children from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per week. It is considered a very wholesome occupation; and children, in particular, who enter in a

\* There are upwards of 480 weavers in the parish of Crieff.

† The average sums paid for different kinds of work, in good times, are, L. 1, 2s. 6d., L. 1, 10s., and L. 1, 11s. 6d. per web.

delicate state of health, are often found in a short time to forget all their ailments.

Of the three tan-works now in operation, two belong to one establishment, which does business on a very extensive scale. It employs more men, perhaps, in the processes of tanning and leather-dressing, and produces more leather, than any similar manufactory in the county, and its business appears to be daily extending. The corn, flour, and barley mills, (which are all in the hands of one individual) are likewise on an extensive scale, and the produce is chiefly sold at the Glasgow and Dundee markets. There are two licensed victuallers; 2 distillers; and 5 malt barns at present working. The grain malted may be computed at 120 quarters per week, and it is consumed in making spirits from malt only. The quantity of spirits produced is variable; but at present, it may be stated at about 1400 gallons weekly. The quality is considered very good; and the greater part of it is exported, and sold in the English markets.

Crieff is the seat of the periodical excise collections for the district. The following excise returns for the year ending January 1836 relate exclusively to Crieff, viz. licensed venders of ardent spirits, 48; gallons sold out of stock by permit, 2056; gallons retailed 14,622; revenue arising from duties on malt L. 5244, 12s. 10d.; and revenue arising from the duty on distillation L. 7331 10s. 11d.

The oil-mill appears to have constant employment, and must produce a considerable quantity; but the two other oil-mills, spoken of in the former Statistical Account, have long ago ceased to exist. The same thing is true of the paper-mill, the two mills for carding and spinning cotton, and the extensive bleachfields with suitable machinery, which were then in operation. And, though some females are still employed in what is called tambouring, the manufactory which was established in Crieff for this purpose in 1792, and which gave employment to 30 girls from eight to twelve years of age, is also not in existence.

Tambouring, sowing plain and figured muslins, and filling the weaver's pirns, are the most common occupations of those industrious females in humble life that reside in town; and those who are so employed are seldom able, in their old age, to do any thing more than earn a partial provision—the residue being made up either by the public charities, or else by the private benevolence of the parish. Within the last two years, a manufacturing establishment was dissolved, by the part-

ners retiring from business, which had given regular employment to many of the inhabitants, and particularly to poor women, during the space of eighteen years, and which paid the average sum of L. 60 a-week in wages. The dissolution of this partnership was a great loss to many a poor person in Crieff.

*Agricultural Society.*—The Strathearn Agricultural Society was instituted on the 6th December 1809, by the late Sir Patrick Murray, Bart. of Ochertyre, for the improvement of stock, farm-produce of all kinds, and other agricultural purposes; and it includes a district of ten parishes in the upper part of Strathearn. At its first institution, and for some years afterwards, the meetings of the society were well attended, both by the principal resident heritors, and by their tenantry. But the former became gradually more and more remiss in their attendance, and the latter seceded from it, owing to the neglect of the former, and to the depression in the value of agricultural produce, which took place about the year 1815, and which has continued ever since. From these circumstances, the Strathearn Agricultural Society had fallen into a state of such abeyance that it was found necessary, either to break it up altogether, or to remodel it upon a scale much less comprehensive than that upon which it had been originally framed. And accordingly, on the 27th March 1834, it received a new constitution, and was subjected to new rules, by which its transactions are still carried on.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Town.*—There is no other market-town and no other village in the parish, than Crieff itself, and the population of the landward part of the parish bears no proportion to that of the town. The population of the town amounted in 1776 to 1532; in 1792 to 2071; in 1827 to 3700; and in 1835 to 3835. The trade of Crieff is principally carried on with Glasgow; though mercantile connexions are maintained with Edinburgh, Perth, Stirling, Dundee, and several towns in England. And some idea may be formed of the home consumption of different commodities from the circumstance, that employment is given to not fewer than 7 bakers, 3 bankers, 8 blacksmiths, 12 butchers, 7 carriers, 21 carters, 10 dress-makers, 37 grocers, 10 haberdashers and cloth shops, 6 medical men, 17 shoemakers and shoe shops, 16 tailors (masters,) and 8 writers.

But though there is no lack of tradesmen, and professional persons of every description, it is different with the representatives of civil authority. It is very true, as we have already stated, that a baron-bailie—we should have said that three baron bailies—are

nominally vested by the superiors with all that now remains of that formidable power, that was so rigorously exercised by the higher vassals of the crown in former days; but the exercise of their power is little more than nominal. It is also true that a Justice of Peace Court is regularly held on the first Monday of every month for the settlement of small debts, and the punishment of minor offences; but there are many irregularities of which no cognizance is taken, and which it would be much better to prevent than to punish. And it is likewise true, that there is a most respectable committee, who are appointed by the Right Honourable Lord and Lady Willoughby de Eresby, and their bailie, who take charge of the public affairs of the town, and who are sometimes denominated the town-council; but there is no regular magistracy,—no properly constituted civil authority,—and (with the exception of one individual, who is employed by the committee, and left to discharge, as he best can, a duty for which a considerable number would be necessary,) no police at all. This desideratum is likely to be soon supplied, for Crieff is one of those places for which the Legislature intend to provide a regular magistracy. And it is to be hoped that a regular police will be considered as an indispensable appendage.

*Means of Communication.*—Crieff is a post-town; and the gross annual revenue derivable from the Crieff post-office, on an average of the last three years, may be stated at L. 740. The public roads in the parish and neighbourhood are excellent. The Tay-Bridge Road, through Glenalmond, is perhaps the finest specimen of hill-country road-making in the whole country. And, besides the mail, a stage-coach passes and repasses between Perth and Stirling every lawful day, while an arrangement is made for conveying the passengers to Glasgow by the Canal. There is also a coach from Crieff to Edinburgh, by Gleneagles, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; and it returns from Edinburgh to Crieff on the alternate days. Three carriers leave this for Glasgow, and two for Edinburgh, (the one by Stirling and the other by Dunfermline,) every week. Two carriers leave for Perth twice every week. And weekly carriers come from Comrie, Killin, and Aberfeldy.

“The rivers are all furnished with stone bridges, generally built by the voluntary contributions of the country. That of Crieff was the second stone bridge ever thrown over the Earn. It consists of four large arches; and was built out of the vacant stipend

of the parish, in the interval between the suppression of Episcopacy in 1690, and the readmission of a Presbyterian minister in 1699." \* One of the arches—the farthest south—was broken down by the Highlanders in the year 1715, to arrest the progress of the Royalist forces. It was afterwards rebuilt; but the frame that was used, must have been one which had been employed in constructing some other bridge,—for the new arch is somewhat higher, and not quite in keeping with the remaining arches of the Crieff Bridge.

There is neither a canal nor a rail-road in the parish, but surveys have been made for both. In the year 1806, a survey was made by the late Sir John Rennie, at the expense of the late Marquis of Breadalbane, for a canal between Perth and Lochearn. It was supposed that twenty-six locks would be required; and of these there were to be only six below the town of Crieff. Another survey was made last year, at the expense of some private individuals, by the Messrs Stevenson, for a railway between Perth and Crieff. The lines selected by both surveyors were nearly the same; and though a canal be now out of the question, there is reason to hope that the railway may be laid out at no very distant period. It would be difficult to find a more level country; and, while the want of minerals is the only drawback, the advantages that would result from a railway to the whole community, but especially to the landed interests, are very great.

A gas manufactory for Crieff was projected last year; and some steps were taken with a view to obtain a site, and open subscriptions; but the matter has been allowed to drop.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—"John Drummond was minister of Crieff from 1699 to 1755. In his time none separated from the church who had been previously of the Establishment; but a number still adhered to the Episcopal mode of worship, whose forefathers, in the preceding century, had, in conformity to the wishes of the Court, embraced Episcopacy. During the incumbency of Thomas Stewart, his immediate successor, about the year 1763, the seceders of the class of Antiburghers formed there a congregation. Next in succession was" Mr Robert Stirling, "admitted in 1770. In his time arose the sect called Bereans, whose founder had been a private tutor in the parish, and formed some of his relations and connexions there into a party. The sect of Relief also was introduced there about the year 1785, though a ferment excited by

\* Old Statistical Account, p. 585.



the settlement of a minister on a reluctant congregation in the neighbourhood." After the death of Mr Stirling, which occurred on the 16th December 1813, the right of patronage appears to have been claimed by the Crown; and two presentations were accordingly laid on the table of the presbytery in one day, viz. one in favour of Mr Alexander Maxtone, (now minister of Foulis Wester,) which was issued by the Crown; and another in favour of Mr Alexander M'Intyre, which was issued by the Honourable Miss Drummond of Perth—now the Right Honourable Lady Willoughby de Eresby, whose right had hitherto been undisputed. The question was settled in favour of the claims of the latter; Mr M'Intyre's presentation was, in consequence, sustained by the presbytery, and the usual steps taken with a view to his settlement. But, as he encountered a very strong opposition from the people at the moderation of his call, the matter was referred to the synod for advice, and instructions were given by the court, that a second call should be moderated in. This was done without being followed by any satisfactory consequences; and the call was again carried to the synod, when it was decided that the presentee should be rejected, and that intimation thereof should be transmitted to the proper quarter. Against this decision Mr M'Intyre protested, and appealed to the ensuing General Assembly, where the judgment of the synod was reversed, and a decision given, appointing that the presentee should be ordained with all convenient speed, according to the rules of the church. The ordination took place in the midst of uncommon excitement and demonstrations of hostility. But the unhappy minister, whose health had by this time begun visibly to decline, almost immediately engaged the services of an assistant, and went to the south of England, where he died very soon after. He was succeeded by the present incumbent, who was ordained in the year 1816.

The parish church is conveniently situated in the town of Crieff, and is not more than three miles distant from the farthest boundary of the parish. It was built in the year 1786, and repaired in the year 1827, at the joint expense of the heritors and old feuars, the former paying in proportion to their valued, and the latter in proportion to their real rents. It affords accommodation for 966 persons, allowing 18 inches to each sitter, and as the seats are allocated according to the same rule by which the church was built, the old feuars have obtained a right to about three-fourths of the whole accommodation. The heritors in general retain their sit-

tings for their own use or for that of their tenants; but the feuars let as many as they do not themselves require; and during the last five years, the prices of sittings have ranged from 2s. to 5s. each. There are no free sittings provided for the poor, with the exception of a few that are gifted by Lady Baird Preston, of Fern-tower; but there are temporary forms and stools in the different passages, which the poor have procured for their own accommodation. Divine service is generally very well attended in the parish church.

The manse, which is very inconveniently situated at the distance of more than a mile from the town, was built and declared a free manse in 1701, and frequently repaired since that time. It is now in any thing but a comfortable condition, and whenever a new one may be considered necessary, a more eligible situation should be chosen.

The glebe contains about eight acres imperial; it may be worth about L. 10 annually, and the stipend, which arises principally from teinds, averages L. 175 per annum. There are ten chalders, (two-thirds of which are oatmeal, and one-third barley,) with L. 48 in money. The teinds are exhausted.

There is no other place of worship in connexion with the Church of Scotland; but the new church will be finished by-and-bye, and will afford ample accommodation to all classes of the inhabitants, who are at present destitute of it.\* The General Assembly's Church Extension Committee have voted a most liberal grant of money towards its erection.

An assistant minister has been employed and paid by the heritors and parishioners for many years, who has shared the labours of the pulpit with the minister, and aided him in the discharge of

\* The want of church accommodation in Crieff has for years been a subject of regret to many of the inhabitants. As far back as the year 1822, a public meeting of the feuars under Lord and Lady Gwydir, called by order of the baron bailie upon the estate of Perth, deemed it to be their indispensable duty to submit the urgency of their claim (for an additional church and minister in Crieff,) to Dr John Inglis, convener of the Government Committee for the erection of new churches and endowments in Scotland." They grounded this urgent claim upon the facts that, in 1811, the census of the town and parish of Crieff was about 3300; that in 1821, it was 4216; and that the population was then rapidly increasing. An application was accordingly made in due form by the Managing Committee for obtaining a grant from Government, and an answer was returned by Dr Inglis, which is engrossed in the Committee's minutes, and which is represented as being as favourable as could be expected. The matter, however, was allowed to drop. On looking over the list of the Committee at that time, we find the names of several individuals who are not only unable now to discover any need of additional church accommodation in this parish, but who are entirely opposed to ecclesiastical endowments and establishments of religion altogether.

some of the other duties of a parish which is much too large for any one man pastorally to superintend.

There are three Dissenting or Seceding chapels in the parish, exclusive of a Popish one, viz. the United Secession, the Relief, and the Original Seceders. The ministers of the two former are paid by the voluntary contributions of their people; and at the rates of L. 105 and L. 94 per annum respectively, with allowances for sacramental expenses. The Original Seceders have no stated minister; and the Priest who died lately has hitherto had no successor. There are some adherents belonging to other denominations, who have no place of worship, and no minister in Crieff, but their designations and their numbers may be gathered from the following abstract of a survey of the parish, *quoad sacra*, which was made by the kirk-session in the year 1835.

Different denominations &c. in the parish of Crieff, <i>quoad sacra</i> , in the year 1835.	No. of sittings at 18 in. each.	Clergymen.	No. of adherents.	Communi- cants.	No. Under 7 years of age.	Males above 12.	Females above 12.
Establishment,	966	Rev. W. Laing, J. Fergusson, A.	3427	1621*	643	1073	1218
Relief,	404	Rev. J. Martin,	370		70	112	124
United Secession,	375	Rev. W. Ramsay,	357		63	103	128
Original Secession,	234	No stated minister,	36		6	9	13
Scottish Episcopalians,		Rev. A. Lendrum,	43		6	9	9
Independents,	none	none	10				
Papists,	61	none	36				
Bereans,		none	8				
Quakers,			1				
Not known to belong to any denomination.			24				

The only Association for religious purposes is the Bible Society, which promotes the circulation of the Scriptures without note or comment. Since the period of the Apocrypha controversy, an annual collection in the parish church, towards which the Original Seceders cheerfully contribute, forms the principal source of revenue; and the average sum of L. 9, 18s. 8d. has been annually realized.

*Education.*—The total number of schools in the parish is 15, viz. one parochial school, taught by one male teacher; an infant or juvenile school, taught by one male teacher; three schools on the teachers' own adventure, taught by males; six schools on the teachers' own adventure, taught by females; four Sabbath even-

\* Number of communicants on the roll in the year 1836.

ing schools ; and a Tuesday evening class, for the religious instruction of grown up young men and young women.\*

The Sabbath evening schools have been in operation for a considerable number of years, and they have doubtless been a great blessing to the parish. Crieff has enjoyed the benefit of having one or more of them for nearly half-a-century. And they are in general well attended, though the numbers have varied according to circumstances. The parochial schoolmaster has the maximum salary of L. 34, 4s. 4½d. per annum, and the full amount of accommodation allowed by law. The other teachers have nothing but their school fees to depend upon.

We have not been able to ascertain the exact numbers of those who cannot read or write. There are various circumstances which combine to render the inquiry a difficult one ; but the nearest approximation which the members of session have been able to make is as follows : viz. between six and fifteen years of age, who cannot read, 18 ; between ten and fifteen years of age who cannot write, 29 ; above fifteen years of age who cannot read, 41.

The people in general are much alive to the benefit of education, and there are few who do not contrive to send their children to school, during a longer or a shorter period. But many of them are not able to keep them there a sufficient time ; others are unable to pay the fees for those whom they do send ; and the consequence is, that the teachers, who are ill able to afford it, are losers to a considerable amount. The managers of the Sabbath evening schools were in the habit some years ago, of sending a number of poor children to the week-day schools ; but they soon found themselves involved in such pecuniary difficulties, that they were reluctantly compelled to relinquish the practice, and some benevolent private individuals are still pursuing the same course ; but there are many whom private benevolence cannot reach, and who are in consequence greatly behind in the attainment of that knowledge which it is so desirable that all should possess, and which has for so long been the glory of our Scottish peasantry.

*Morison's Bequest.*—The late Mr Thomas Morison, builder in Edinburgh, who died upwards of eleven years ago, left the bulk of his property (which was very considerable) for the purpose of erecting and endowing an academy, where the higher branches of education might be taught. There is a preference given in Mr

\* This class has lately been changed to the Sabbath evening. It meets after the Sabbath evening schools have been dismissed.

Morison's will to Muthill, the place where he was born, and to Edinburgh, the place where he made his fortune; but his great object was to benefit his fellow-creatures: And, accordingly, his trustees were vested with the fullest powers to carry this object into execution in any way, in any place, and in any form which they might deem the most desirable.

The attempt to find a suitable site in Muthill was unsuccessful, and Crieff was then fixed upon as an eligible situation. Negotiations were entered into with a view to purchase ground; and, at one time, they appeared to be all but completed. But somehow, the affair miscarried, and the plan was relinquished altogether. The attention of the trustees was next directed to Inverness, where they do not appear to have come to any arrangement; and the result seems to be, that hitherto Mr Morison's bequest has produced none of those fruits which the testator was so very anxious to realize. The respectability of the gentlemen who are still entrusted with the management of this legacy is such, however, that it will doubtless be a guarantee to the public for its being managed well. It is supposed that the fund cannot now be much under L. 20,000.

*Literature.*—There is a subscription library in Crieff, which contains about 900 volumes on general literature, and from which books are regularly lent out to the subscribers twice every week.\* There is a circulating library, kept by one of the two booksellers in town, which contains a pretty extensive collection of those books that are usually found in such libraries. There is a small Sabbath evening school library, which consists entirely of books on religious subjects. And there are two public reading-rooms, maintained by subscription, where many of the Scotch and English newspapers are regularly taken in.

*Charitable and other Institutions.*—The most important charitable institution in the parish is the Crieff Female Society. It was instituted on the 9th March 1818, (principally through the exertions of Lady Baird of Ferntower, who has always been its President, and the most liberal of its supporters,) for the purpose of al-

\* The Subscription Library was instituted in the year 1818, when several regulations were framed and printed, office-bearers appointed, and a committee formed for purchasing books and managing other matters. The printed catalogue bears that many books have been presented to the library by private individuals, and that the library of the Strathearn Agricultural Society (which contained between 200 and 300 volumes, of which the greatest number had been gifted to that Society by Sir Patrick Murray, Bart. of Ochertyre.) was transferred to the Crieff subscription library in the year 1819. But the Agricultural Society have reserved to themselves the right of again recalling their books, in certain events, and on certain conditions set forth in the minutes of their meetings on the subject.

leviating the miseries of the sick, aged, and indigent in the town and parish of Crieff, especially the most deserving of them; and it has since continued in active operation, doing much good in a district where the poor are proverbially numerous. We cannot afford the space that would be necessary to give a full detail of the history, means, and management of this society. But we may state, in general, that it commenced under the distinguished auspices of many of the ladies of upper Strathearn; that its benefactions are ordinarily distributed in the shape of meal, coals, and clothing; that the average number of those who receive monthly aid from its funds is between 80 and 90; and that the average annual expenditure exceeds L. 100. It is supported by private subscriptions, donations, and public collections; and the gross amount collected in the parish church in its behalf is about L. 500.

*Friendly Societies.*—Not many years ago there were twelve friendly societies in Crieff, but four of them have been dissolved. Those now in operation are the Masons', Weavers', Shoemakers', Gardeners', Hammermens', Fax-Dressers', Ploughmens', and Patriotic Societies. Those dissolved are the Tailors', Joiners', Strathearn Union, and Friendly Societies. The Masons' Society was instituted by the Duke of Perth, on the 26th December 1737, and their fund is intended for the benefit of the widows and distressed members of the corporation. The weavers formed themselves into a corporation in the year 1770, and began to establish their fund at the same period. And the other societies have risen successively since that time, following the example which was set by the masons and the weavers.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—1. Average number of person receiving parochial aid, exclusive of four lunatics, who are supported at the Perth asylum, 111; 2. average sum allowed to each from the funds of the kirk-session per month of four weeks, 2s. 4d.; 3. annual amount of collections at the church doors, on an average of the three years ending February 1837, L. 88, 5s. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ d; 4. annual amount arising from proclamations of bans, on an average of the same three years, L. 10, 11s. 4d.; 5. ditto arising from bills and interest, on an average of the same three years, L. 14, 6s. 8d.; 6. ditto arising from donations, on an average of the same three years, L. 9, 4s. 11d.; 7. ditto arising from mortcloths, on an average of the same three years, L. 8, 0s. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

In the year 1819, the heritors agreed to assess themselves vo-

luntarily in a sum equal in amount to what is collected at the church doors; this agreement was fully implemented for a considerable number of years, and a majority of the heritors are still found to adhere to it. But some have withdrawn; others have allowed themselves to fall into arrears, which they decline paying up; others again are dissatisfied with a system, which permits some to go free while the rest are submitting to the burden, and they make the payment of all arrears the condition on which they will continue to abide by the compact; and the probability, therefore, is, that the parish of Crieff is, at this moment, on the verge of a legal assessment for the poor.

The average value of the monthly allowance granted to each of those who are receiving aid from the funds of the Female Society, may amount to 1s. 11½d. But a very imperfect idea would be formed of what is actually done for the poor of Crieff, if private charity were not taken into account. They obtain a great deal themselves, both in the town and country, by private begging. They have the privilege of going about, if they be resident, from house to house, and many householders have a list of poor whom they regularly serve, once in the week, in the fortnight, or in the month, as it may suit their convenience. The Right Honourable Lord and Lady Willoughby De Eresby are in the habit of distributing clothes, coals, and meal, at stated periods, to the poor who are resident in that part of the town of which his Lordship is superior.—Lady Baird Preston of Fern-tower, and Miss Preston, are also very liberal in this way and in many others. They support a soup-kitchen, where a portion of excellent broth is regularly dealt out, three times a week, and coals once a month, to each of 60 individuals. They have many pensioners who receive weekly allowances in money. And the extra donations, which were received in the course of last winter, added greatly to the comfort of the poor during a season of peculiar distress and severity. The family of Ochtertyre have, for many years, been steady friends to the destitute in Crieff. And it would not be an easy task to enumerate the whole of what is done for alleviating the poverty of the parish.

With regard to the feelings of the poor themselves, it is believed that some of them,—and these perhaps not the least destitute,—do refrain from asking parochial relief, because they think it degrading. But the feeling does not appear to be, by any means, a general one: on the contrary, that spirit of independence, which

was once so characteristic of our Scottish population, has now greatly declined; and, in as far as paupers are concerned at least, it is in some danger of being entirely lost.

*Prisons.*—There is a jail, to which we have formerly alluded as having been erected in the year 1665. It is still used as a place of temporary imprisonment, till the offenders are otherwise disposed of by the proper authorities. It is seldom that any one is confined in it longer than a single night. And it might perhaps be prejudicial to the health of the inmates, if they were kept there for a much longer period. It is abundantly secure for all the purposes required.

*Fairs.*—There is a weekly market every Thursday, principally for the accommodation of the neighbouring farmers; and originally there were three annual fairs, viz. St Thomas', which was formerly held on new year's day;—Douchlage, which was held on the third Tuesday of June O. S.; and Michaelmas, which was by far the most considerable, and which was held on the 10th of October. But as Crieff occupies a central situation, and as Lord Willoughby has granted a commodious stance, it has been found expedient to transfer the markets that previously belonged to the neighbouring parishes, to this place. Nine annual fairs are now held at Crieff, and they are arranged as follows: St Thomas', held on the first Thursday of January; Strowan do. third Thursday of February; Big Thursday do. second Thursday of March; Lady do. first Thursday of April; Turret do. first Thursday of June; Douchlage do. last Thursday of June; Monivaird do. second Thursday of July; Monzie do. third Thursday of August; Michaelmas do. Thursday immediately preceding the October Falkirk Tryst. These fairs are intended for the sale of cattle, farm produce and utensils of every description.

In former days the principal fairs at Crieff were opened with considerable pomp by the Duke of Perth in person. He held his court (often in the open air) in the morning, with a view to make the necessary arrangements, settle differences, and provide against the commission of outrages among the community. He afterwards rode through the market at the head of his guard, and proclaimed his titles at the different marches or boundaries of his property. Many of the feuars are bound by their charters to provide a given number of the halbert-men that composed the guard at the fairs; and it is not many years since their services were dispensed with.\*

\* The halberts are preserved in the armoury at Drummond Castle.



The regulation and management of the fairs are now entrusted to the committee (formerly mentioned) who have the charge of the town's affairs; and the public funds of the town are principally derived from the grass upon the bleaching green, the public weights, and the rates of customs charged upon the different articles, and subjects that are exposed for sale during any of the market days.\*

*Inns, Alehouses, &c.*—There is one principal inn—the Drummond Arms, which is much frequented, particularly in the summer and autumn, and which is generally approved of by travellers for the superior accommodation, which it affords. Of the 48 spirit licenses, which we have already mentioned as granted, in the parish, by the Justices, a large proportion is held by the occupiers of alehouses. Their effects on the morals of the people here, as well as in every other place, where they are equally prevalent, are injurious in a very high degree; and the half of them might be swept away with great advantage to the best interests of the community.

*Fuel.*—The fuel chiefly used by the richer classes is coal—though peeled oak is occasionally burnt by them; and it is calculated that the average value of the coals that come weekly, from Bannockburn, Dollar, &c. to the Crieff market, may amount to L. 50. The price generally ranges between 8½d. and 1s. 2d. per cwt.;—but, during the last severe winter, it was higher, and averaged 1s. 4d. per cwt. The poor contrive to buy some coals for themselves, in addition to what they receive in charity, and this is perhaps the cheapest fuel they can purchase; but they are not able to obtain a constant supply; and we may still say, in the language of the former Statistical Account, that “there is nothing that the people, in general, feel more than the difficulty of procuring fuel.”

\* Lord Willoughby has let a park, in the immediate vicinity of the town, subject to the markets being held in it. The rent of the park includes the customs realized at the markets, so that the committee do not levy them. But his Lordship makes a suitable allowance to the town in lieu of the customs.

June 1838.

# PARISH OF FORTINGAL.

PRESBYTERY OF WEEM, SYNOD OF PERTH.

THE REV. ROBERT MACDONALD, MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THIS parish is said, at one period, to have had the name of “Cille-Bhrain,” *i. e.* the burial place of Bran, a reputed saint in his day,—of whom little, however, is now known, excepting, that a few places in the parish, as also, in other districts, bear his name; as “Ath-Bhrain” *i. e.* *St Bran's Ford*, upon the river Lyon, near the east end of Fortingal,—“Breanamh” *i. e.* *Bran-naomh* “Holy Bran's,” *i. e.* burying-ground or cell.

The modern name is “Feart-a-chill” *i. e.* Fortingall, the derivation and etymology of which is involved in considerable obscurity. The English term would lead us to conclude that the name is derived from “Feart Fhionnghail,” Fingal's stronghold. And the many circular “Forts” (of which afterwards) in the vicinity, which the uniform tradition of the natives ascribes to the Fingalians, called “Caistealan-nam Fiann”—the castles or strongholds of the Fingalians, support this conclusion. Others resolve the name into “Feart-nan-Gael,” the stronghold of the Gael or Caledonians, and they fix the date of this name to the period when the Romans invaded the country. Situated, however, as the parish is, in the south-west corner of the ancient Caledonian Forest, it might, not inaptly, have obtained its Gaelic name, from “Feart Choille,” “the stronghold of the Forest.”

The derivation of the name, as given by my predecessor, Mr M'ARA in his report of the parish, from Feart-nan-gall, “the works or exploits of strangers,” is one to which I am not inclined to accede.

*Extent, Boundaries.*—The extreme length of the parish from east to west is about 40 miles, and extreme breadth from 30 to 35 miles. But taking the mean length at 35 miles, and mean breadth at 20, the parish will be found to contain 448,000 imperial acres, including about 25,600 acres for lakes, &c. It is bounded on the east by

the parish of Dull, the respective parish churches being six miles distant ; on the north-east, by that of Blair-Athole, parish churches twenty-one miles distant ; on the north, by the parish of Laggan, Inverness-shire, churches being forty-one miles distant ; on the north-west, by the parish of Kilmanivaig, the churches being seventy miles distant ; on the west, by the parish of Appin, Argyllshire, churches seventy-four miles distant ; on the south-west, by the parish of Glenorchy, churches distant forty-four miles ; on the south, by the parishes of Kenmore and Killin, the parish churches being distant six and sixteen miles respectively ; and also by a detached portion of the parish of Weem. The parish thus occupies a very considerable portion of the north-west corner of the county of Perth, and south-west angle of the great Caledonian Forest, as already mentioned. Following the boundary line in all its indentations and projections, it is no less than 130 miles in circumference.

It may be necessary here to premise that the parish is naturally divided into three comprehensive districts, viz. Fortingal (properly so called), Rannoch, and Glenlyon : besides the detached district of Bolfracks on the south side of the Tay, distant by the high road about ten miles ;—all separated from each other by high hills, rivers, and other impediments.

*Mountains.*—The mountains and hills connected with the parish are almost innumerable. Both on the north and south sides it is bordered by high mountains. There is also a high chain of mountains, which may be said to belong exclusively to the parish, extending its whole length from east to west, and dividing it into two grand divisions, and almost into two equal parts, having the districts of Rannoch to the north, and Glenlyon and Fortingal to the south. This ridge rests upon a base of about seven miles broad ; and many of its mountains considerably exceed 3000 feet above the level of the sea. A little detached from this ridge, in the district of Rannoch, is the mountain *Sith-chailinn*, conspicuous as you enter the country by its towering and commanding summit,—a mountain whose name is recorded throughout the scientific world as the scene of observations by Dr Maskelyne, Astronomer Royal, in 1777. “Sith,” by the old Highlanders’ interpretation, means *any hill or mountain disjoined or apart from others*,—“*Sithain*,” a little round hill, is the diminutive of the term ;—which hill was invariably haunted, as was supposed, by the “Sith-chean” or “*daoine-sith*,” “men of peace,”—whence the name, “*Sith-chailinn*,” given to this hill from its being the supposed place of resort of the

*maiden* or *queen* of the fairies. Viewing this lofty mountain from the north-west, it appears of a conical figure; but from the south and east, it is the very reverse. It rests upon a long narrow base, rising from the east end with a gentle acclivity, the west end and both sides being very steep, and here and there covered with a surface of stones; but it is marked on the whole with fewer inequalities from base to top, than perhaps any mountain of equal magnitude in the Highlands of Perthshire.

The height of the mountains within or connected with the parish, above the level of the sea, may be reckoned nearly as follows; but perfect accuracy is not to be expected.

	Feet		Feet
1. Sith-chailinn, (as ascertained),	3564	8. Sgur-cháirie, -	3400
2. Beinn-gharbhlagain, -	3044	9. Garbh-mheall, .	3280
3. Beinn-udlamain, -	3520	10. Meal-Buidhe, -	3480
4. Sgúr-ghaibhre, -	3140	11. Meal Ghaordie, -	3480
5. Carn-dearg, -	3140	12. Beinn-chreachinn, -	3860
6. Cruach—confines of Argyle,	2790	13. Beinn-Sheasgarnich, -	3890
7. Carn-a-mairce—Glenlyon, -	3390		

Besides these, there are many other mountains of considerable magnitude, interspersed here and there, which have the effect of diversifying the character of the scene. From the top of the hill of Comrie, head of Rannoch, there is a very grand and extensive prospect. A spectator finds himself situated in the centre of a vast amphitheatre, 40 miles by 20. The river Gaur meanders by, and Loch-Rannoch, 12 miles long, with its bosky banks, expands below. Of this vast and picturesque amphitheatre, the range of mountains which intersects the parish from east to west, and the mountains of Glenorchy form the south side—the rugged peaks of the “Black mount” and Buachaille Eitibh, the west,—the mountains of Lochaber and Badenoch, the north-west and north;—and on the east “Sith-chailin” and “Beinn-a-chualaich” upon opposite sides,—rear their summits like vast pillars, as if to guard the only seeming ingress to the grand expanse.

*Valleys—Glenlyon.*—This district or valley extends in a westerly direction from the head of Fortingal, to near the stage-house of Tyn-drum, upon the western military road,—a distance of from 32 to 35 miles. A considerable part of the head of the glen is now but thinly peopled, being occupied by extensive sheep-graziers, one of whom possesses a tract of upwards of 15 miles in length, and numbers above 8000 sheep. The glen is very narrow; what may be termed its general level ground by the river’s side, being seldom above a furlong broad; and the mountains often encroaching so far from opposite sides, as even in some places to confine the

struggling river to a bed of not much more than eight yards broad. It is evident that, at one time, there were several lakes in the glen, especially in the lower parts of it; but as the river, in the course of ages, wore a deeper channel through rocks and eminences, they disappeared. The only one now remaining is that at the head of the glen, "Lochlyon," which is the source of the river of that name. To this circumstance may, perhaps, be attributed the name "Glenlyon," Gleann-Linne, *i. e.* the glen of the lakes, or pools. Others derive the name from "*Glen-lighe-amhuinn*," "the glen of the flooding river," a name highly characteristic.

Tradition also bears that a battle was fought in this glen betwixt the M'Ivors, the first inhabitants of the glen, after the Fingalians, (at which period it was called *Gleann-Fasach*, "the deserted Glen,") and Stewart of Garth, commonly called the *Cuilean Curta*, *i. e.* "the fierce wolf," in which the M'Ivors were defeated, and the few that survived expelled the district; and that the Stewarts, on their return from the pursuit, washed their arms, &c. in the river. From the *tinge* thus given to the water, it was called *Gleann liamhuinn*, the tinged river. Various places in the glen take their names from circumstances connected with the battle fought on this occasion, *viz.* *Laggan-a-chatha*, "the hollow of the battle"—*Leachd-nan-cuaran*, the stone of the sandals, it being customary for each man, preparatory to the engagement, to cast off one of his buskins,—so that, on their return, the number amissing might be easily ascertained.

Immediately previous to its assuming its present name, tradition bears that it was called *Gleann-duibhe*, the Glen of the black water:—and during the Fingalian period it was called *Crom-ghleann-nan-clach*"—the crooked glen of the stones;—not, however, because more stony than many other glens in the Highlands, but on account of the many circular castles and forts in several parts of the glen, built entirely of dry stones: and which the people affirm to have been the residences of Fingal and his heroes,—

Bha da chaisteal dheug aig Fionn  
Ann an Crom-ghleann-nan clach,—

"Fingal had twelve castles in the crooked glen of the stones."

For pasturage, Glenlyon is exceeded by few, if any glens, in the Highlands of Perthshire. Its sides are, in general, green to the very top of the mountains. The acclivity of the north side is almost always abrupt; and consequently, the distance to the summit of the ridge is shorter than on the south side, exceeding in no part five miles, and often falling short of this; whereas the latter sometimes exceeds six

miles Many places of the glen have no sunshine for a long period of the winter season : several farm villages are deprived of it from the middle of October to the middle of February.

The dells which branch out from the sides of Glenlyon are very numerous : some of them extensive, being upwards of 4 miles long ; each augmenting the Lyon with its limpid stream,—which in time of thaw or rain comes down with irresistible impetuosity. One of these streams, *Allt-da-ghob*, proceeding from a small glen of that name, is a fine natural curiosity. When viewed from *Chest-bill*, the opposite side of the river, in a swollen state, it rushes from a height of between 400 and 500 feet down a precipice, into a chasm so deep as to be entirely hid from the eye : it appears a second and a third time, bursting over perpendicular rocks, in a solid body, and is immediately lost in the bottom of the same, or in a similar invisible chasm : and on every successive appearance, it bursts again upon the view, as if sprung from the solid rock, or bowels of the mountain. Leaving its confinement, it at last gushes down a precipice of 200 feet in a sheet as white as snow, till it reaches the level ground and joins the Lyon.

The cascades that dash down everywhere, on the sides of the mountains, in a rainy day, are almost innumerable. In a single mile, many of these may be seen,—in places where there is no running stream at other times, rushing from a height of no less than 1000 feet high, parallel to each other, till they arrive at the flat ground. A stranger, wondering from whence they had their rise, would at once conclude that they sprung from the rock, or bowels of the mountains, and that he even observed the spot from whence each issued forth.

The upper part of Glenlyon is very elevated :—The lower part may be about 100 feet above the level of Lochtay.

*Glenmore*.—Situated between Rannoch and Fortingal, and immediately to the south of *Sith-chailinn*, is a considerable valley of this name. At one period, it formed no small portion of the old forest of *Sith-chailinn*, no trace of which is now remaining, save such innumerable roots of trees as the natives were and are yet occasionally in the habit of digging from under ground, for fuel and light,—the roots of the *fir* affording a flame which far surpasses the brilliancy of gas.\* Numerous trunks of oak are also found on such occasions. They are of a blackish colour, and of a

\* See Gen. Stewart's Sketches.

softish texture, but harden on exposure to the air. The country people were accustomed to split these and sell them at markets, as *strakes* for scythe-sharpening,—a purpose to which they are found well adapted.

Passing over a great number of minor vales, such as Glen-mulin, Glen-da-ghob—the vale of Lochs, of Glenlyon, Glenmeran, Glen-duiph, Glen-comrie, Glen-sasun, Glen-caillich, we shall now advert to that of Fortingal.

*Fortingal.*—This interesting vale, from which the parish takes its name, is about 6 miles long. The river *Lyen* meanders through it. The base or level ground is, for the most part, fully half a mile broad. A stranger, stationed at the village of Fortingal, would at once fancy there was no ingress or egress from or to the district. There are, however, three egresses,—one, on the south to the turnpike road on Loch Tay side, Breadalbane; a second, to the north-west through Glenlyon, by and through the remarkable pass, narrow defiles, and romantic scenery of the wood of Chesthill, to which, in the opinion of many, the far-famed pass of Killachrankie is, in point of defence and security against the incursions of a foreign foe, ranked inferior. The third is to the eastward, meeting the Crieff and Inverness turnpike road at Coshville, Appin of Menzies. It is a fact worthy of notice, that, except in the detached district of Bolfracks, there is not a foot of toll road in this extensive parish: yet the country is well accommodated by statute labour roads, kept in very good condition.

Like Glenlyon, Fortingal is surrounded with mountains. Although not equally calculated with those of Glenlyon to raise wonder and awe by their “cloud-capt” summits, their precipitous fronts, and foaming torrents, bursting down their deep furrowed sides,—still it is a beautiful and naturally a picturesque vale, finely sheltered from the northern blast, and adorned with a number of gentlemen’s seats, viz. that of Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell of Garth, Bart., the hero of the Burmese war, and lately Governor of New Brunswick,—which was formerly the property of Major-General Stewart of Garth, author of “Sketches of the Highlands,” &c. and late Governor of St Lucia, where he died,—a name dear to philanthropy, and never to be mentioned but with respect; also that of Mr Menzies of Chesthill, and that of Mr Garden Campbell of Troup and Glenlyon;—all of which are embosomed in wood and environed with verdant fields.

Fortingal is fronted on the south by *Druim-Fhinn*, Drum-

mond Hill, which intercepts from the district the view of Taymouth Castle, the seat of the noble Marquess of Breadalbane. From a point on the east end of this hill, where a strong fortification is still extant, called *Dun-mac Tuail*, the stronghold or fortress of Tuail, a natural son of the King of Denmark, who, as tradition bears, figured much in this quarter during the Fingalian period,—there is to be seen one of the grandest views imaginable, of the whole district between Killin and Dunkeld.

Fortingal is bounded on the west by the hills of Culdares,—green to the very top; and by the pass of Chesthill: on the north, by Sith-chailian and contiguous hills: and on the east, by Appin of Menzies;—forming altogether a grand natural amphitheatre, not so extensive, to be sure, as the one to be seen in Rannoch, but, at the same time, comprehending as beautiful and fertile a vale as is to be met with in any part of the Highlands of Perthshire.

*Bolfracks*.—This is a district of about sixteen ploughs of land, the only detached part of the parish, situated on the south side of the Tay, and containing a population of nearly 200 souls, who, from the distance, are precluded from receiving benefit at their parish church, and participate of Gospel ordinances in other parishes, viz. Weem, Kenmore, and Dull, from each of which they are some miles distant. This population is all connected with the Established Church, two individuals only excepted.

In this district is an extensive quarry of that beautiful stone, of which the splendid edifice Taymouth Castle is built.

*Rannoch*.—According to some, this name is derived from *Rainneach, Ferns*; but, though abounding with this plant, the district is not more “ferny” than others. The name is rather to be derived from “Rath,” water, “*Ratheanach*,” watery—(the *th* being silent in the Gaelic term,)—a meaning very descriptive of the country, especially when Bun-rannoch is covered over with back water, which it frequently is during a thaw after a great fall of snow on the surrounding mountains. Rannoch then appears as if it were one continued sheet of water. We have the term in the names of many waters, as *Uisge-rath*, a considerable stream which pours its water into the head of *Lochtreig*, parish of Kilmanivaig;—*Caol-rath*, a mountain-stream at the head of Badenoch, parish of Laggan;—also *Caol-rath*, the sound separating the isle of Skye from the main-land. The district of Rannoch is collateral, and runs parallel with Glenlyon, extending from the northern base of Sith-chailinn, on the east, in a wester-



ly direction upwards of 30 miles, about 18 miles of which are interspersed with gentlemen's seats, viz. that of General Robertson of Strowan, chief of the clan Robertson, or "*Clann Donnachidh*," as they are called, at Mount Alexander; a seat of Sir Neil Menzies, Bart. of that ilk, at Rannoch-Lodge, holding a valuable property contiguous, consisting of upwards of 70,000 acres Scotch measure; a seat of Lord Grantley's, eldest son of the late Baron Norton of the Exchequer, whose name is yet mentioned with every mark of respect by the natives;—that of Stewart of Bunnanoch; that of Messrs Stewart of Crossmount and Lassintullich; and that of Colonel John M'Donald of Dalchosnie, 92d Highland Regiment.

The breadth of Rannoch from north to south, is in several places nearly 20 miles; the distance from the lake to the top of the surrounding mountains, on the north, is from 12 to 13 miles. On the south, from 5 to 6 miles—the hilly part is generally a wild tract of moors and deep bogs, mostly covered with heath, with here and there, in a sequestered glen, by the side of a lake or at the foot of a mountain, a green spot, where a number of huts or "bothies," called (in Scotch) shealings, are to be met with, to which the natives were, and I believe still are, in some places, in the habit of retiring during the summer months, with their cattle for pasture,—although the sheep-system has, of late years, a good deal superseded this exhilarating and healthy practice.

At the head of Rannoch, on the estate of Robertson of Strowan, there is a tract of flat land upwards of 4 miles square, consisting of moss, swamps, and bogs, a wild of little value, affording but an indifferent pasturage, even during the summer half-year. The Commissioners upon the forfeited Estates, after 1745–6, observing several parts of this tract level or with a gentle slope, thought to convert them into arable land, and thus, in their estimation, benefit a country where the land capable of cultivation bears a very minute proportion to the waste; they accordingly divided a flat of several hundred acres into four or five portions by deep ditches, digged and burnt the moss; but, after carrying on their labours for several seasons, they at last discovered that where nature does little or nothing, art seldom succeeds; and therefore they were obliged to relinquish the design. The parallel ditches still point out the place, and the labours of the Commissioners.

*Caves.*—There are several caves in the parish, which do not appear to have ever been properly explored; consequently, little is known of their extent and internal structure. Old people point out

the cliffs and dales where formerly extensive caves existed, capable of containing some dozens of men under arms—which can no longer be discovered, probably because the earth and sand and even rocks have fallen in, and thus for ever closed them up. They were principally formed by nature, but improved by art; and they were remarkable on account of the events of history connected with them, and the heroes who, in troublesome times, took shelter in them,—such as Gille-Bride, or Bredus of the cave, Sir William Wallace, King Robert the Bruce, Ranald Og, chief of Keppoch. This last, a firm supporter of the royal cause under Montrose, was, after the defeat at Philiphough in 1645, and the butchery at Dunaverty in 1647, obliged to seek shelter in the caves of Rannoch, several of which bear his name to this day.

There is a very remarkable cave near the south-west angle of *Sith-chailinn*, at the “Shealing,” called *Tom-a-mhorair*, or the Earl’s eminence. Some miles to the east, there is an opening in the face of a rock, which is believed to be the termination thereof. Several stories are told and believed by the credulous, relating to this cave;—that the inside thereof is full of chambers or separate apartments, and that, as soon as a person advances a few yards, he comes to a door, which, the moment he enters, closes, as it opened, of its own accord, and prevents his returning.

*Leapa’-dionadh*, or Sheltering Beds.—In several places, there occur the caverns known by this name. They do not extend, like caves, under ground,—being only hollows under the shelves of rocks or precipices where one might rest without being observed, and notice any danger or emergency. Several of them bear the names of those who, in consequence of having offended the law, or flying from some hostile party, betook themselves to these lonely retreats. One or two of them may be noticed. In the north side of Glencomrie, in the district of Rannoch, in a rocky precipice, is *Leaba Dhonnacha Dhuibh-a-mhonaidh*, i. e. the Bed of Black Duncan of the Mountain,—a Cameron belonging to that district, and one of Prince Charles Edward Stuart’s heroes. After the battle of Culloden, he often lay concealed in his cavern viewing the soldiers in quest of him, passing and repassing at the foot of the rock, not more than twenty yards distant from him. This man was remarkable for agility and swiftness of foot. While Prince Charles was besieging Stirling Castle, Donnacha Dubh was sent upon some important business to Fort William. Duncan is said to have performed the journey on foot, eighty-eight miles, in one

day,—a task which few pedestrians of this generation, or probably of his own, could achieve.

Another of these sheltering beds is in the face of a hill, on the farm of Invervar, Glenlyon. It is 14 feet long, 6 feet broad, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet high; and there is a spring of clear water at the end of it. Here, during their cruel proscription, a gentleman of the clan Gregor, commonly called *Jain Buidhe rusdh*, i. e. John of the yellow-reddish hair, concealed himself. He was a man of an extremely handsome figure, possessed some lands in Glenlyon, and resided on the said farm of Invervar. His principal pursuer was Campbell of Lawers, whose emissaries, by flattering promises, prevailed upon M'Gregor's wife to betray him, which she did in the following manner: She desired the pursuers to come to the glen, and wait in ambush in a certain place all night, and, by keeping an eye on the face of the hill upon the north side of the glen about sunrise, she would discover to them her husband's hiding place by coming out of the cavern, and would walk several times backward and forward in front of it. The morning arrived;—and the sun had no sooner illuminated the rugged mountain than the traitress performed her promise; and, upon her husband's remonstrating on the impropriety of her conduct, she expressed her hopes that nobody, at that early hour, would be in the glen to do them injury. So saying she returned to repose beside her devoted husband. M'Gregor, in a short time, happening to raise himself on his elbow, observed his enemies just at hand, started up, and, after upbraiding his wife as false and treacherous, betook himself to the hills; and never again was heard of.

*Meteorology.*—Our high mountains have sometimes their peaks enveloped in white clouds, containing little or no moisture. This takes place only during the continuance of warm dry weather. At other times, the mountain tops are covered with dense black clouds, containing a good deal of moisture, and discharging a considerable quantity of very small rain; while such places as are not covered with clouds, as well as the valleys below, are entirely free from rain. In wet weather, mists and fogs sometimes form many singular appearances. At such times, if the day clears up and is sultry, the exhalation from the earth becomes so great, as to form thick clouds upon the face of the steep mountains. Sometimes, a great number of these little clouds unite into one, forming a stripe, seemingly resting on the ground, several miles in length, and not a hundred

feet in thickness, half way up the acclivity, and maintaining a perfect level along the face of the hill.

In the end of harvest or beginning of winter, cold fogs, which collect upon marshes, lakes, or rivers, that receive mossy waters, often prevail. They are seen to ascend the bottom of the glens in every direction, seldom, however, reaching farther up the hill than 700 or 800 feet perpendicular; and a spectator upon the top of a high hill or mountain, would almost imagine the strath and low grounds, when thus covered, to be a vast spreading ocean, with the upper parts of the hills as so many islands scattered upon its surface.

Winds are seldom steady here in any quarter, for any considerable time. In the end of spring or beginning of summer, we have sometimes east or north-east winds, perhaps for a month or more together. Our narrow glens and high mountains often give a contrary direction to the wind, especially when it blows across them, north or south. We find, then, in the bottom of the glen or foot of the mountains, the wind blowing straight east or west.

*Prognostics of Weather.*—It is well known that large rivers and waterfalls sometimes emit certain sounds, even in the calmest weather, resembling those of cataracts or torrents rushing down rocks and precipices,—which sounds are sure indications of the weather. If the sound of the rapid or cataract descend with the stream, it foretells such rainy weather to be at hand, as will swell the brook or river to its margin; whereas, if the sound ascend along the stream, and die away in the distance, it is an omen of the continuance of dry weather.

If, during a storm of frost and snow in winter, the ptarmigan,—the hardiest among the feathered tribes of the Grampians,—be repeatedly heard in the face of the mountain, an additional fall of snow may soon be expected.

Our climate has all the vicissitudes experienced in mountainous countries,—especially in the higher parts of the parish, where the atmosphere, when not damp and saturated with moisture (which in some seasons is the case for nearly two-thirds of the year,) is keen, sharp, and chill. In summer, our proximity to the mountains has a contrary effect upon the atmosphere. Their steep fronts reflecting the solar rays, occasion a greater degree of warmth in our narrow glens than is felt in lower and more southern situations; and during the continuance of this warmth, vegetation is very rapid.

The upper parts of the parish are liable, during summer and harvest, to cold dews and fogs, which arise from low and marshy places and mossy soils, often destroying the crops.

In the lower parts, the crops are generally sure and early. - Our climate, upon the whole, is healthy. When easterly winds prevail in the end of spring or beginning of summer, catarrhal complaints are common. We have no other epidemical distempers; and often in wet weather and unhealthy seasons, when neighbouring districts are affected with influenzas and other pulmonary complaints, our glens, owing to their hard and gravelly bottoms, are quite healthy.

*Hydrography.*—No mineral waters of any consequence have yet been discovered in this parish. On the south side of Sith-chailinn, there is a spring of clear water, allowed by the common people to be nephritic and diuretic, and persons labouring under complaints of gravel or stone drink plentifully of it. From time immemorial, young people of both sexes, sometimes to the number of several hundreds, on the morning of the first Sabbath of May O. S., have been in the habit of repairing to the mountain to quaff the spring. They come from all the surrounding districts, Rannoch, Foss, Appin, Fortingal, and Glenlyon, often a distance of nine or ten miles. It is reckoned particularly lucky to get the first draught, or what is called the cream of the spring. Often, the crystalline dew of Sith-chailinn is qualified by some other dew of a more exhilarating nature.

*Lochs.*—These are both numerous and extensive, amounting to four or five large, and eight smaller ones,—besides about fifteen pools of considerable size, scattered over the moors.

*Loch Rannoch.*—This lake is about 12 miles long, and its average breadth may be about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile. Its depth has never been exactly ascertained; but there is every reason to believe, that in the greater part of it, especially in the east end, it is from 60 to 85 fathoms, as 50 fathoms were at one period tried and found short. The lake extends nearly due east and west. In common frost, it freezes for a few miles at the west end, and it is there crossed, in time of hard frost, from side to side, by the country people, without apprehension. But the oldest inhabitant living does not remember, nor has heard of its being frozen from end to end, except twice, the last occasion being in the beginning of the year 1809.\*

There are two small islands situate in the upper end of the lake. The east and larger one is wholly artificial, resting upon

\* It was also frozen all over in winter 1838.

large beams of wood fixed to each other. This island was sometimes used as a place of safety in cases of emergency; at other times, as a place of confinement for such as rebelled against or offended the chief. To this retreat, there is a road from a point on the south side,—which road is always covered with three or four feet of water, is very narrow, and has a great depth on both sides of it.

The scenery of Loch Rannoch is grand and picturesque, especially when viewed from near the east end, whence you behold a vast body of water which covers the whole level between the hills. The whole south side, from the very margin of the lake to half way up the face of the mountains, seems one continued forest of native birch and pine, known by the name of the “black wood of Rannoch,” hiding in its bosom here and there, as you go along, several beautiful farm villages and gentlemen’s seats. The north side, also, presents alternately extensive woods and well cultivated spots.

On both sides of the lake, the hills retire—gradually leaving an immense expanse open to the view of the beholder. Above the first tier, the highest mountains present to the eye, their dusky summits; and the snowy peaks of Glenetive and Glencoe, are seen in the west, at the distance of 40 miles, as if piercing the highest clouds.

*Loch Erochd.*—This lake extends from the head of Rannoch in a north-easterly direction towards the stage-house of Dalwhinnie, fully 16 miles. Its mean breadth may be reckoned one mile. A great portion of it belongs to this parish; the rest to the parish of Laggan, Inverness-shire. It is surrounded on both sides by craggy, steep, and lofty mountains, of dreary appearance; but beautiful spots are seen here and there, on which shooting quarters have been erected, and where game of all kinds are to be met with in great abundance. Notwithstanding its elevated situation its water never freezes.\*

\* Before leaving Loch Erochd, it may not be improper to notice a very old but vague tradition prevalent, regarding the circumstance of its original formation. The tradition, old beyond the memory of several generations back, bears that the whole space now covered with the waters of the lake, was once an inhabited district, and formed a parish called the parish of *Feadail*; that, in the course of one night, after the inhabitants had retired to rest, the flood-gates of some great subterranean body of water were thrown open by some fearful convulsion of nature, and the whole district or parish of *Feadail* was thus inundated, and the population, with their cattle, houses and fields, overwhelmed by this sudden and awful catastrophe.

The tradition also bears, that, for a long period of years, the church, and other remarkable houses and objects were distinctly to be seen on a clear summer’s day, under the water. On the confines of this lake, Prince Charles Edward Stuart took shelter for some time, after the battle of Culloden.

*Lochgarry*.—This lake is situated at the distance of nearly seven miles to the north-east of Loch Rannoch, extending, nearly due north about 4 miles, to the confines of the parish. It is about half a mile broad.

*Loch Laoidean* lies about eight miles west from the head of Loch Rannoch, and is about 6 miles long, stretching westward towards Argyleshire. Its breadth is about half a mile. It is a beautiful sheet of water, with many little bosky creeks and promontories, and studded with several finely wooded islands. There is one near the west end, called the Island of Yew, where the red-deer often take shelter, and the noble eagle, undisturbed, builds her nest, and rears her young. It readily freezes.

*Loch Lyon* is situated at the head of the glen of that name, and extends upwards of three miles south-west. Its breadth is not above half a mile. It is a beautiful and romantic little lake.

All the lakes, both small and great, are well stored with trout, with one exception, and that the only one requiring a particular description. This is in a hollow on the top of Bein-a-gharlagan, a detached mountain at the head of Rannoch. It is called *Loch-a-mhigé*,—literally *the whey lake*, and is a real curiosity. It is nearly three-quarters of a mile round, and apparently very deep, and is probably the crater of an ancient volcano; the mountain itself is circular, presenting on the east side a front almost perpendicular, for a space of nearly 1500 feet.

*Rivers*.—The Tummel, in Gaelic *Teth-thuil*, signifying the hot or boiling flood or river, bears a name not inapplicable to the stream after it has passed the boundaries of this parish. This river, issuing out of Loch Rannoch, is a deep smooth flowing water for several miles, until it leaves the confines of Rannoch, during which it is called the “Water of Rannoch:” but leaving this district, it becomes quite impetuous, till it enters Foss, where it properly receives its general name,—Tummel.

This river at one period flowed out of the lake at a considerable distance south of its present channel. At that period, or probably prior to it, the level ground on both sides of the river, if not wholly inundated, was at least covered with water for several miles. That the water had a higher elevation is also quite observable at the head of the Loch, where the water-marks show that the lake has receded some hundred yards.

*Gumhair*, i. e. *Gaoir*, signifying loud noise. The rapids and cataracts of this river when swollen are distinctly heard at the

distance of several miles. It has its rise on the south side of Glen-Étive, in the deer-forest of the Marquis of Breadalbane, or Coirreacha-Batha. Augmented in its course by the union of many mountain streams, it becomes a considerable river. It intersects the military road in the Black Mount, 5 miles south of the stage at King's House. After a course of 10 or 12 miles, and forming some lakes in its way, especially Loch Batha, nearly 2 miles long, and upwards of half a mile broad, with fine woody islets,—it expands into the fine lake, Loch Laoidean, already described. Issuing thence, it assumes the name of Gearr-Ghambair, or short Gamhair, for 4 or 5 miles; then it enters an extensive tract of low meadow land, which in time of rain it completely inundates, presenting a lake of several miles in circuit, called Loch Eathach. Leaving this occasional lake, it enters the inhabited parts of Rannoch, under the name of Gamhair, and after a course of 8 miles between Loch Laoidean and Loch Rannoch, it enters the latter by two mouths, leaving a beautiful green islet in the middle.

*The Lyon.*—The source of the Lyon is the lake of that name. Issuing thence, it immediately receives the waters of Meran from the north. After flowing about ten or twelve miles, it receives the Conait, also from the north. The course of the Lyon, with little variation, is easterly. After flowing upwards of forty miles, and being in its course augmented by innumerable mountain streams and rills, it merges into the Tay below Taymouth Castle.

*Erochd* issues out of the lake of that name, already described. For the space of a mile or two, it is a slow, deep-running water; then it becomes a torrent, tearing its banks with almost irresistible fury, till it is lost in Loch Rannoch. The course of *Erochd* is about 6 miles.

There are a number of other considerable streams; such as *Uisge Arlair*, *Cam-chriochdain*, *Alt-Eathach*, *Meran*, *Conait*, *Duibhe*, &c. &c.

*Cascades.*—These, as might be expected, are very numerous, there being hardly a solitary brook in a sequestered glen without its waterfall.

On the confines of the parish the Tummel forms a fine cascade.

The rivers Gamhair and Duibhe, at the head of Rannoch, present very fine and picturesque waterfalls,—that of the former called the falls of Garbhdhun; and of the latter the falls of Tormòr.

The only cascades on the Lyon are the *Sput-ban*, as you en-



ter the glen; and the fall at Moar, where the river is precipitated from a considerable height into a narrow deep pool. Here, when the river is somewhat swollen, great quantities of salmon are caught.

The Conait, for upwards of a mile before it joins the Lyon, presents a succession of beautiful cascades.

The falls of the Keltney, with its wild and rugged banks and romantic scenery, are also worthy of notice.

*Geology and Mineralogy—Lime.*—The remarkable bed of limestone which traverses the range of the Grampians in a south-westerly direction from Aberdeenshire to Dumbartonshire, passes through this parish towards the east end. The stone is allowed to be of a superior quality. A fine quarry of blue granite has lately been opened and wrought to advantage on the estate of Mr Menzies of Chesthill.

Several veins of marble are to be met with in the parish, (particularly on the estate of Garth,) of various hues and colours.

Rock crystals, spars, and pebbles, of great variety and brilliancy, are frequently gathered among our mountains.

In Glenlyon, there is a vein of lead glance, which is allowed to be of considerable richness. It was wrought for some time about the beginning of the last century, but was then relinquished from some cause or other, probably the want of roads in the district at that period; and it has never since been resumed. Behind the village of Fortingal, there are also several places where the ore partially appears.

Appearances of slate are visible in several parts, particularly on the east side of Sith-chailin, and also in the hill above Fortingal, the stratum evidently following the direction of the fore-mentioned lime bed.

The soil in the bottom of the low valleys is generally gravelly and dry; farther up the hill sides, it becomes cold, yet affords excellent pasturage for cattle, sheep, &c. Still higher up, it is, in general, bleak moor, producing little grass, and covered with heath, abounding with game of various kinds. The summits are often free of heather, and covered with a thick carpet of beautiful moss.

*Zoology.*—The animals which formerly existed among us, but which are now no longer to be met with, were of the quadruped kind, viz. the wild boar and the wolf. The ancient Caledonian *white* cow also inhabited our forests in former times. And many are the places which take their designation from these several ani-

mals, as *Tom-an-twire*, i. e. the knoll of the boar;—*Ruighe-a-mhadaidh*, i. e. the haunt of the mastiff or wolf:—*Doire na-bo-gile*, the thicket of the *white cow*.

Of the feathered race we had, at one time, the capercaillie (caper-coille) or great cock of the wood.

In our remote dells and mountains, there are red-deer: and our woods and forests abound with roes and fallow-deer. We have also the common and Alpine hare; the latter of which is always whitish,—and in winter perfectly white. The fox is of the kind peculiar to high mountains; and although there have been regular fox-hunters in this, as in other quarters of the Highlands, for these seventy or eighty years bygone, they have not yet been able to effect its extirpation. We have, besides, badgers, otters, martins, wild-cats, polecats, weasels and other small quadrupeds. The squirrel has lately also made its appearance in our woods and plantations, as also the rabbit; and another intruder, not quite so welcome, the rat, has forced his way into our most sequestered glens, and even to our most retired apartments.

Among our hills are sometimes seen serpents from a foot to three feet in length; but no person has ever been known to have been hurt by them.

The indigenous birds are the great eagle, the kite, the hawk, the raven, the hooded-crow, the rook, the magpie, water-ouzel, &c.

Those belonging to game are the ptarmigan, the red and black grouse, the partridge, and the woodcock: and towards the end of harvest, the snipe, plover, the fieldfare, the pheasant. Among the migratory tribes that annually visit us and bring up their young with us, are, the swallow, the cuckoo, the corncrake, the sea-mew, the curlew.

We have also the wagtail, the stonechatter, the yellow bunting; as also, on our waters, the crane, wild duck, sand-piper, &c.

In severe winters, flocks of wild geese visit our lakes; but upon the first setting in of fresh weather, they take their departure.

Our finest native songsters are the thrush (*mavis*), the lark, blackbird.

In size and symmetry, our black-cattle, and especially our sheep, yield to few or none in the Highlands; and some of our sheep, and cattle generally, fetch the highest prices, when exhibited at the great cattle-markets in the south.

The lakes, not only those which discharge rivers, but even the small pools in the moors, as already observed, are well stored with

fine trout. In Loch Rannoch, the trout vies in size and shape with the salmon itself, although it is universally allowed that salmon never reach that lake,—being intercepted by the falls of the Tummel. The spawning season of the great and small river trout may comprehend from the beginning of October to the middle of November, when the fish descend into their winter-quarters, in the bottom of the deepest pools.

The best spawning stream in Rannoch, or, indeed, in the whole parish, is Ald-Eithach, at the head of that district. The fish wait the first flood, in the end of September or beginning of October, to ascend this stream; and trout (not salmon) of upwards of a yard in length, and weighing above 30lbs., are met with, and killed by the spear and torch. The otter, too, sometimes destroys the very largest of the trout, and they are often found dead in the water. The mode of his attack seems to be, to seize the fish in shallow water, by the breast, close to the gills; for, when found dead, no other part of it seems injured or touched. At the confluence of the Erochd with Loch Rannoch, the finest trout imaginable are caught by the fly or minnow, in the months of December and January.

The only river in the parish which the salmon reaches, is the Lyon, which it ascends as early as the middle of March. Its spawning-time commences about the middle of October, and terminates by the middle of December. In the *Gamhair* and Lyon, and also in many of the smaller streams, there is abundance of that species of shell-fish, or, as it is called, the horse-muscle or pearl oyster, in which beautiful pearls are sometimes found.

*Botany.*—This parish, from the mountainous nature of it, is fertile in rare botanical productions. On the tops of the highest mountains, the botanist may gather, with the greatest delight, different kinds of plants, such as the various kinds of Lycopodiums, as also that beautiful tribe the Saxifrages; and on some of them, the *Saxifraga reticulata*;—the *Azalea procumbens*, the *Sibbaldia procumbens*, the *Thalictrum alpinum*, the *Epilobium alpinum*, the *Vaccinium uliginosum* the *Vaccinium Vitis-idaea*; and on the tops of some of the hills in the braes of Glenlyon, the *Vaccinium oxycoccus*; also the *Rubus Chamæmoris* the *Arbutus alpina*, the *Dryas octopetala*: and the *Drosera rotundifolia* and *longifolia*, (these two very common), and the *Myosotis rupicola*: also rearing its majestic head among the steepest rocks the *Rhodiola rosea*, and numerous other rare small plants interest-

ing to the naturalist and botanist, and too numerous to be mentioned. But I cannot pass by that beautiful tribe of the vegetable kingdom, the Cryptogamia, without remarking the great varieties of them in this district. Of the Filices, the botanist will find the *Osmonda regalis*, the Lycopodiums, the Polypodium, and the Cytheas; of the Musci tribe, the Sphagnum, the Phascum, and the Splachnum: and that most interesting of all, the Dicranum, and Hypnum.

On the whole, this parish is well worthy of being travelled by botanists, where perhaps they will discover new plants, on mountains never before explored by any with a philosophic eye.

*Forests and Plantations.*—Our plantations, though they meet the eye in many parts of the parish, are not very extensive. They are chiefly of fir; both the spruce and larch seem to thrive almost as well as the native species; as also ash, oak, birch, beech, elm, &c.

In Rannoch, there is a considerable forest of native fir, and a great deal more of birch still remaining, which is considered as part of the ancient Caledonian forest, which, at one time, extended from Glencoe to Braemar, a distance of not less than 80 miles, and from Glenlyon to the Spian, Loch Laggan, and the Spey, Invernessshire,—comprehending a tract of mountains, glens, morasses, and blue lakes, of upwards of 2100 square miles.

What remains of the celebrated yew tree of Fortingal churchyard, described by Pennant in his Tour, appears as two distinct trees, some yards distant from each other. At the commencement of my incumbency, thirty-two years ago, there lived in the village of Kirktown, a man of the name of Donald Robertson, then aged upwards of eighty years, who declared that, when a boy going to school, he could hardly enter between the two parts; now a coach-and-four might pass between them; and that the dilapidation was partly occasioned by the boys of the village kindling their fire of *Bealltuinn* at its root. It is from 52 to 56 feet in circumference.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Battles.*—In the reign of King Robert I. or II., a battle was fought near the River Erochd, two miles north of the head of Loch Rannoch, between Donnachā Reamhar (i. e. athletic Duncan) progenitor of the Robertsons of Strowan, and M'Dougal of Lorn, who, with his followers, had penetrated into Perthshire as far as the Erochd, in order, it is said, to correspond with, or join, the English. Donnacha Reamhar, as soon as apprized of the

circumstance, quickly assembled his followers from Rannoch, Strath-Tummel, and Athole; concealed them near the east side of Erochd, that he might seize the first opportunity to attack the invaders; and, wishing to ascertain as well as possible their numbers and strength, disguised himself as a beggar, and got into the very heart of their camp. The Lorn men anxiously inquired of him concerning the number of the army opposed to them, and Donnacha Reamhar's personal prowess. They were answered that he was allowed by those who knew him to be a very cruel man; but he hoped they would have him soon in their power. Duncan having now obtained his desire, and not wishing to remain any longer surrounded by inquiring crowds of enemies, endeavoured slowly to withdraw to the outside, which raised the suspicions of the invaders that their new acquaintance was either a real spy, or even Donnacha Reamhar himself; and immediately they commenced a keen pursuit. But the Rannoch hero soon distanced them all except one, on whom he turned with all his fury, despatching him before his countrymen could come up to his rescue; then, redoubling his exertions and speed, he came to the Erochd, which he cleared by one spring, and his pursuers were obliged to stop short. Afterwards, with his men, recrossing the river, he came upon the Lorn men almost unawares. They, however, made a noble and determined stand; but after a dreadful conflict, in which many were slain, they were completely overpowered, and a great many taken prisoners; among whom was the Chief of Lorn himself, who, for some time thereafter, was confined in the artificial island of Loch Rannoch, but was afterwards amicably released.

About a century later, a severe conflict took place on the farm of *Dunan Rannoch*. The hostile parties were the Stewarts of Appin, Argyleshire, and a tribe inhabiting, at that time, the head of Rannoch, called *Clann Jain Bhuidhe*, (the children or descendants of John of the yellow hair.) The cause was this,—Two pedlars of the Stewarts of Appin went to Perth for goods, and, upon their return home by Rannoch, were robbed or killed by *Clann Jain Bhuidhe*. As soon as tidings reached Argyleshire, the Chief of Appin gathered his clan, and marched immediately to Perthshire. The first night, he rested his men upon the confines of Rannoch, where he observed at some distance a habitation with some flocks and herds. This belonged to one of the M'Gregors of Roro Glenlyon, who, for some fault, was banished that district by the rest of the clan. Stewart sent him a polite message, requesting some re-

freshment to his men ; when M'Gregor, in the true spirit of ancient hospitality, sent his servant with a fat cow, which pleased the Chief of Appin so well, that he desired an interview with M'Gregor; and proposed that he should accompany him next day, and that, should they be able to extirpate or banish *Clann Jain Bhuidhe* from Rannoch, he should have all their lands to himself. This proposal was readily accepted ; and next day M'Gregor with his servants marched along with the Stewarts. On the farm of Dunan, near the side of the river Gambhair, they were met by the *Clann Jain Bhuidhe* in full muster to receive them. In the battle which ensued, most of the *Clann Jain Bhuidhe* were slain, the rest were hemmed in by the victors, and obliged to swim the river ; and the few that escaped fled to other districts. A small rill, called by old people *Caochan-na-Fola* (the rill of blood), points out, to this day, the place where the action was fought. The chief of Appin, having now had his full revenge, quickly retraced his steps to Argyleshire, after bidding adieu to his new ally, and wishing him joy of his newly acquired possessions. M'Gregor had now as much land as his chieftain of Roro ; and the family of Duuan for many generations was among the most respectable of the clan Gregor in these districts.

Many other battles might be mentioned, such as that of *Laggan-a-chatha*, fought betwixt the Stewarts of Garth and the M'Ivors of Glenlyon ; that of *Glen-Sassun*,—fought betwixt King Robert the Bruce and Edward's adherents ;—of which a short notice was given in the former Statistical Account.

A long and severe feud existed betwixt the clan Cameron and the Macintoshes,—whereof this parish was occasionally the scene, and which continued, it is said, for 350 years ; during which, many acts of cruel retaliation took place, until the latter submitted to Sir Evan Cameron in the seventeenth century. \*

*Remarkable and Extraordinary Leaps.*—These are,—1st, *Donnacha Reamhar's* leap over the river Erochd, when he was pursued by the M'Dougals, as already related. The river is confined by the opposite rugged rock into a breadth of about 16 feet, where the torrent rushes through with irresistible fury ; and this chasm the hero is said to have cleared at one spring,—the bank of the stream at that place being so steep and uneven that it could not

\* Details of these feuds are given in the MS.

be a running but a standing leap. It retains still the name of *Leum Dhonnacha Reamhair*.

*2d, Leum-a-Chleasaiche*, (the man of Feats' leap.) This is at the head of Fortingal, properly so called, where the Lyon has opened for itself a passage in the solid rock, seemingly not worn down from the surface by degrees, as is generally the case; but as if the river had at once burst through, leaving the rock joined above like an arch, which the swellings of the stream have in the course of ages widened and separated. The breadth of the gullet is about 20½ feet. The depth of it is about 20 feet.

*3d, Leum-mhic-a-Cheannaiche*, i. e. the chapman's son's leap, over the river of Bunrannoch,—which consists of first a leap to a rock in the middle of the current, and then a spring to the opposite bank. The hero of this feat is said to have been one of the M'Gregors proscribed by the law at the time,—and pursued by the Campbells and the *black dogs*, as they were called. After gaining the opposite bank, he turned round upon the latter with all his fury, dispatched them, and got clear off.

*4th, Leum Phurraig*.—This was a nickname of one Campbell, who lived in Carie Rannoch in the earlier part of the seventeenth century. He was a famous marksman with the bow and arrow, and very swift of foot,—qualifications he had sometimes occasion to avail himself of. In flying from the Macdonalds of Glencoe, he is said to have made the leap here mentioned over Linne-choimhleum, in the den above Innerchadden and Dalchosnie.\*

*Records*.—Most of the proprietors of this parish having risen with Prince Charles Edward Stuart in 1745, their houses, papers, &c. were destroyed by the royalists, and consequently the principal family records were thus lost. There are in my own possession, documents showing, that, in the reign of Charles II., a parochial school was in existence in this parish.

*Eminent Men*.—Major-General David Stewart of Garth, author of Sketches of the Highlands and of the Highland Regiments, was a native and an heritor of the parish. He died in St Lucia, West Indies, in 1829, Governor of that island, much and justly regretted by all who knew him.

Struan Robertson, chief of that name, and, in his day, one of the most considerable proprietors of the parish, was an elegant poet. An octavo volume of Struan's poems was published after his death from his manuscripts, or rather from the recollection of

\* Particulars are detailed in the MS.

those who heard them repeated at the time ; but while the worst of them were recollected, as generally happens, the best were allowed to escape the memory.

Allan Stewart of Innerchadden, who lived much about the same time, and was also a proprietor in the parish, was a poet no less eminent than the chief of the brave Clann Donnachaidh (Robertsons) above-mentioned. He, as well as Strowan, shared in the common calamities of those who took up arms in favour of Prince Charles in 1745. Their houses were burnt, and their properties plundered.

Dougal Buchanan was another eminent character connected with the district. Though not a native, he resided here for a considerable time after the middle of the last century, as teacher on the establishment of the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge, at Kinloch Rannoch,—a valuable man in his day, and highly useful in enlightening the people in the knowledge of the truths of the Gospel. In his manners among his intimate acquaintance, he was affable, free, and jocular ; he was consequently much esteemed, both by the gentlemen and common people of the district, who, when they had not an opportunity of hearing sermon from the parish minister, flocked to him upon Sabbaths, when he read and expounded the Scriptures to them. He was a severe disciplinarian, feared, but at the same time beloved, insomuch, that the people offered to raise a fund to send him to College, so as to get him licensed to preach the Gospel, and become their pastor in the district on the Royal Bounty ; but, from some cause or other, the plan was not followed out. Dougal Buchanan was the author of a small but valuable collection of sacred poems, in the Gaelic language,—which displays poetical talent of no ordinary kind. They are to this day admired, and read with benefit by every Christian who understands the language. He composed several songs on various subjects, that were never published.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, John Stewart Menzies, Esq. of Foss and Chesthill ; Ronald Menzies, Esq. of Culdares ; Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell, Bart. of Garth ; Francis Garden Campbell, Esq. of Troup and Glenlyon ; The Most Noble the Marquess of Breadalbane ; General Robertson of Strowan ; Sir Neil Menzies of that Ilk, Bart. ; Colonel John M'Donald of Dalchosnie, C. B. 92d Highlanders ; Messrs Stewart of Innerchadden, of Lassentullich, and of Crossmount.

*Parochial Registers.*—The earliest entry in the parochial re-



gisters now extant, is 1748. They are now very irregularly kept, not a tithe of the births or baptisms being recorded.

*Antiquities and Curiosities.*—Among these, may be included the yew tree in the churchyard of Fortingal, already noticed. The Roman Camp, as it is called, is at the west end of Fortingal. The spot where the General's tent is allowed to have stood, is surrounded by a deep *fosse*. To the west of this, at a short distance from each other, are two obelisks, the one about 6 feet high: the other lying on the ground, having been undermined some fifty or eighty years ago. It is 8 feet long. The prætorium, is still complete. A little to the north-west, is an oblong eminence, nearly 60 feet long, and 18 broad, and about 7 feet high, which appears to be a *tumulus*, raised over those who fell in the deadly conflict.

From a slight inspection of the ground, it appears that the Lyon at one period flowed to the *north* of the camp, though now some hundred yards to the south; and this is farther confirmed by the tradition of the country. Nor is it unlikely that all the ditches surrounding the camp were filled with water from the river. The area occupied is allowed to be from 80 to 90 acres in extent.

Near the church of Fortingal, in the middle of a field, is a large Druidical circle. Many of the stones have, from time to time, been buried in the ground, to make way for the plough. The circular forts, of which the ruins of fourteen or fifteen are still distinctly traced, are built without any cement or mortar, of such large stones as would cost the moderns immense labour, if not altogether baffle them, without the aid of machinery, to raise and lay with such nicety and regularity on each other. The diameter of the circles within walls (which are generally 8 feet thick) is sometimes 60 feet. The original height of the walls cannot now with accuracy be traced or ascertained; because of the constant dilapidation carried on by people from the neighbouring villages; but the presumption is, that it was not less than 12 feet. It does not clearly appear that they were watch-towers, as has been conceived by some, as they are but *seldom* in view of each other, and are as often in low as in high situations. That they were real habitations, there can be little doubt; for it is quite evident that, in some of them, there were several halls or apartments; tradition bears that there were twelve. The apartments extended from the wall, which served as a common gable, towards the centre. Some ascribe these buildings to the Druids: but if any credit be due to the uniform tradition of old

people, these buildings belonged to the Fingalians. For Fingal's heroes are said to have had 20 or 21 castles, as they were called, scattered over this parish. In the upper part of the glen, on the farm of *Cashlie*, i. e. Castles, there are, within the distance of a mile, three of these, one—*Caisteal an Deirg*, the Castle of Dargo—another, *Cais-teal an Duihbhe*—the castle of the black hero,—and *Caisteal coin-a-bhacain*—the Castle of the dog's kennel. This bacan, or stake, to which the Fingalians tied their stag-hounds, and from which the castle is named, is a thin stone, about 2½ feet in height, resembling the letter q, with the small end set into the ground, upon a little green eminence.

Although it is difficult or rather impossible to ascertain the era to which these forts should be referred,—the total want of lime in their construction, though it is often found in great plenty in the very neighbourhood, renders it probable that they were built before its use was known to the inhabitants. The presumption also is, that these forts are the first rude specimens of architecture in the country. The difference between these and the castles of succeeding or feudal ages is remarkably striking, and shows clearly that the art of building had, before the era of the latter, undergone a very great change.

Besides the Fingalian castles, there are other two old castles, the residence of chiefs during the feudal ages, and which, before the introduction of fire-arms, might be deemed impregnable. The one in the east end of the parish, was occupied by the *Cuilean Cursta*, or the Fierce Wolf, as he was called, brother of the Earl of Buchan, from whom a great number of the Stewarts of Athol are descended. (See Stewart's Sketches.) This castle is built upon the point of a rock where two deep chasms meet, formed by brooks flowing at their bottom; it was defended by a ditch or draw-bridge.

The other castle is at the foot of Glenlyon, situated on a high steep bank, and defended also by a drawbridge. The last proprietor that resided here, about the middle of the sixteenth century, was Duncan Campbell of Glenlyon, commonly called *Donnacha ruagh na feileachd*, i. e. Red Duncan of Hospitality: he is said to have carried his hospitality to such an extravagant and romantic height, that his fame in this respect was not confined to Scotland, but extended to the sister island, Ireland.

There is on the farm of Inverchadain, an old ruin, called *She-omar-na-Stainghe*, i. e. the Ditch Hall. It seems to have been

built of no other materials than earth and turf, according to the description given of it by Blind Harry. Here Wallace, coming from Argyle, attended by a few faithful adherents, rested with his men for some days. And the Rannoch men, glad of such an opportunity, immediately joined the hero's standard, and marched to attack the English at Dunkeld and Perth.

King Robert the Bruce was in Rannoch on two occasions; on one of which, he gained a victory over the English at Dalchosnie. On another occasion, after sustaining a defeat on the confines of Argyle, he was obliged to conceal himself for a considerable time in Rannoch, at a place, still called after him, *Seomar an-righ*, the King's Hall, a sequestered and beautiful romantic spot on the side of the Tummel, below Crossmount. Gilbride, or Bredus of the Cave, as he is called in history, also took shelter in Rannoch. Being defeated by the King's troops in his attempts to recover possession of "the Isles," he for some time concealed himself till the King's troops should retire. Hence he was called Gilbride of the cave. The cave or hiding-place was no other than the north side of Loch Rannoch, where he principally took shelter; and a farm there got its name from the circumstance, *Aulich*, i. e. *Uamh-fhalaich*, the hiding-place or cave. There is on the face of the hill above the farm, a remarkable well or spring of water gushing out of the earth, the strongest I ever remember seeing, called *Fuaran Ghille-bhrìde*, or Bredus's well. A few such would inundate the parish of Feadail,—of which already. Gillebride's Cairn is not far distant; and other places in the neighbourhood are still called after him.

### III.—POPULATION.

At present, no part of the parish is more populous than it was in 1790; whereas in several districts, the population has since decreased fully a half; and the same will be found to have taken place, though not perhaps in so great a proportion, in most or all of the pastoral districts of the county.

According to census of 1801, the population was	..	3875
1811,	-	3236
1821,	-	3189
1831,	-	3067
Number of families in the parish,	-	621
chiefly engaged in agriculture,	-	273
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	119

One of the principal causes of the decrease has been emigration. Upwards of 120 families from this parish, since the former Account was drawn up, have crossed the Atlantic, besides many

individuals of both sexes ; while many others have sought a livelihood in the low country, especially in the great towns of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Perth, Crieff, &c. The system of uniting several farms together, and letting them to one individual, has, more than any other circumstance, promoted emigration.

There are seven different burying-places in the parish,—two in Glenlyon, one in Fortingal, and four in Rannoch,—at none of which are registers of burials kept.

*Language, Character, &c. of the People.*—The Gaelic is the language of the natives. It is, however, losing ground, and losing its purity, very much of late. Forty years ago, in some parts of the parish, especially in the district of Rannoch, it was spoken in as great purity as in any district of the Highlands. That race of genuine natives having disappeared, many of their phrases and idioms have become almost unintelligible to the rising generation. It is, however, gratifying to the antiquary and to the lover of Celtic literature, that so much has been done to rescue the language and insure its permanency and stability ; still all that is practicable has not yet been achieved. Hundreds of vocables might be collected which have escaped the notice of the several learned compilers of our Gaelic dictionaries.

The people may be characterized as intellectual, sober, and industrious in their habits, honest and religious. Crime and delinquency are ashamed to raise their heads ; and consequently occur as rarely among us, as in any parish of equal extent and population, in the Highlands, or in any part of the kingdom.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—Not even an approximation to the number of acres of arable, waste, pasture, common, woods, &c. can be given.

The indigenous kinds of trees that prevail are the birch, fir, alder, hazel, oak, elm, ash, plane, willow, beech, the yew. The kinds generally planted, and which thrive well, are the Scotch fir, larch, spruce, oak.

The arable land in this parish bearing but a very small proportion to that in pasture, and the holdings invariably consisting of very disproportionate quantities of both,—the rent of small crofts will give the best idea of the rate of land in this parish. The rent of a lot of two acres, with as much hill grazing attached as is sufficient for the maintenance of a horse, a cow, and two dozen sheep, summer and winter, is from L. 6, 10s. to L. 7. ; of a lot of five acres, having

corresponding pasture for a horse, two cows, and one or two young cattle, with some dozen sheep, L. 14 to L. 17.

The average expense of grazing a sheep, of which there are about 62,000 in the parish, is from 3s. to 3s. 6d. per annum. The summer grazing of a cow, of which there are about 1200 in the parish, is L. 1; of young cattle, of which there are about 3000, from 5s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; horses, of which there are about 360, from L. 1, 5s. to L. 1, 10s. on low ground, and L. 1 for hill grass.

*Wages.*—A farm-labourer receives in winter about 1s. per day with victuals; in harvest from 1s. 6d. to 2s. A woman, during the same seasons, respectively, from 3d. and 9d. to 1s., with victuals also. A farm-servant's wages run from L. 10 to L. 13, with victuals in his master's family. A servant-maid's wages are from L. 4 to L. 5, 10s.

*Live-Stock.*—Our sheep are mostly of the black-faced kind, and our black-cattle of the West Highland breed. Great attention is paid to the improvement of both among all classes of graziers; and consequently, when a public sale happens by one of our principal graziers, it is not uncommon to see a bull knocked down for L. 50, a cow for L. 40, and queys at L. 35!

Some of our best sheep stocks, when sold by apprizement, bring L. 26 per clad score.

Leases generally run for five, seven, eleven, fifteen, and nineteen years. Seven is the most general term. Leases are considered favourable to the occupiers, as affording them confidence in carrying on improvements on their farms. The improvements on the old mode of farming have been very great. In my younger days hardly any plough went without four horses, and two athletic men to lead and drive. But that mode of agriculture is now gone by.

The improvements in farm-buildings and inclosures are equally remarkable and progressive. When a new lease is obtained, the heritor or proprietor meets the farmer's wishes, with a liberality that does him credit. Splendid and elegant accommodations are furnished for the tenant; and the steadings and houses for the cattle, &c. are excellent.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—It can hardly be said that there is any market-town or village in the parish. The nearest market-towns are Crieff and Perth, distant respectively thirty and forty miles.

*Means of Communication.*—The means of communication enjoyed by the parish are but indifferent. There are several carriers

from the parish, regularly plying betwixt it and Perth. Between Aberfeldy and the extremity of Glenlyon, there is a runner three times a-week, passing and re-passing through the district of Fortingal; but the graziers in the upper parts of the glen are served indifferently. At Kinloch-Rannoch, a penny post-office was lately established. The communication is with Pitlochry three times a-week. The letters, &c. for the district are regularly brought forward thus far by post, and thence circulated by the best means that offer, through the country.

Our bridges and fences are generally kept in good repair. I would particularly refer to the great improvements made, of late years, in bridges, fences, and roads, upon Sir Niel Menzies's property of Slismine, in this parish. In connection with the trustees of the estate of Strowan, the patriotic Baronet also caused to be erected, last summer, a most elegant new bridge over the Gamhaire, at the west end of Loch Rannoch. I regret to say that the heavy floods of last harvest carried off this beautiful structure; but it is now in the course of being rebuilt by the same parties.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church is situated within three miles of the south-east corner of the parish. There are, also, two Government churches,—one in the district of Rannoch, and the other in that of Glenlyon,—both of which have lately been erected into parishes (*quoad sacra*) by the General Assembly. The three churches form nearly the angular points of an equilateral triangle, whose side is about twelve miles. The parish is thus divided into three great portions or districts, (exclusive of the district of Bolfracks,) south of the Tay. The parish church is about six miles from the limits of its own district, *quoad sacra*, on the west, three from the east, and about four from the north-east; but its distance is from thirty-five to forty miles from the western boundary, *quoad civilia*. The government churches are at least seventeen and twenty-six miles from the extremities of their respective districts. To afford the remote parts of their congregations every opportunity to hear the word, the ministers often preach, the one at a station eight miles, and the other twelve miles, distant from their respective churches. There are eleven heritors or land proprietors in the parish, all whose estates are of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards. It is but justice to mention here, as an instance of their generous spirit and liberality, that a few years ago they built one of

the most handsome school-rooms in the Highlands of Perthshire, for the parish, with suitable accommodation to the teacher.

A most splendid manse and court of offices were also lately erected for the accommodation of the minister; to the building of which the heritors agreed, without any solicitation on his part.

The church, a very old fabric, though as firm as the surrounding rocks, was newly seated, roofed, ceiled, lathed and plastered about the year 1821. It bears every mark of having been a Popish construction; and is rather inconveniently narrow, particularly at the time of dispensing the Sacrament, when immense crowds attend from the surrounding districts.

*Education.*—There are 12 schools in the parish, viz. the parochial school; 2 schools on the General Assembly's scheme; 2 on that of the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge; and 7 others supported by families, which, being remote from the established schools, join in hiring a young lad, to teach their children, during four or five months of the winter only. All are, however, connected with the Established Church. The parochial teacher has the legal accommodations to the full, and the maximum salary, besides an allowance for a garden. The Assembly teachers have each a free house, croft, and cow's grass, and a salary of L. 20. Those of the Society have the same emoluments as the Assembly teachers, with a salary of L. 15 or L. 20, and a few pounds for fuel. The amount of fees received by the teachers of the Assembly and Society schools, owing to the indigence of the inhabitants in their neighbourhoods, is merely nominal, or quite inconsiderable.

*Poor.*—The number of persons receiving parochial aid is from 60 to 70, throughout the whole parish. The weekly collections at the churches may amount to about L. 50 per annum. Some of the poor get only 10s. or 12s; others L. 1 or L. 1, 10s. In cases of emergency, the heritors meet, and assess themselves for the support of extraordinary paupers and lunatics, sometimes to the extent of L. 60 or L. 80.

Rannoch, Glenlyon, and Fortingal have each their separate kirk-sessions and boxes for the poor; and each district may collect L. 16 or L. 18, which goes to the support of their own paupers, while the heritors' assessment is for the whole parish generally.

Few of our poor go about begging,—none in this section of the parish. Still we are infested by a great many vagrants from the great towns of the south. Our poor are thankful and patient un-

der privations; and excepting in cases of real want, and when compelled by the strongest necessity, it may be said that the disposition to refrain from seeking parochial aid is general.

*Fairs.*—There are 7 fairs held in the parish,—one at Kirkton of Fortingal in the beginning of December, lasting two or three days; at which sheep, goats, and cattle are exposed and bought for being slaughtered for winter store. Some of the inhabitants buy a clad score or two. At this market, a great deal of other business is transacted, accounts paid, servants engaged, &c. There is another fair held at Kirkton, about the end of April, called the “Seed Fair,” because the tenants and others resort to it for their lintseed, clover-seed, &c. Another is held in August, being the greatest market for lambs in these bounds. At Kinloch-Rannoch, there are also three fairs,—one in August for lambs, &c., one in the end of October, and another in April for cattle, &c.; and one at Inverwick, Glenlyon, first Thursday, O. S. for sheep, &c.

*Inns.*—There are 4 inns in the parish, affording such accommodations as can be expected in a district like this. There are, besides, 6 other houses in retired or remote districts, where whisky, porter, &c. are sold to refresh the traveller, and to which the tenants in the neighbourhood retire on rent days, weddings, &c.

*Fuel.*—The principal fuel of the parish is peats. In many places, these are scarce, and procured, sometimes, from an elevation of little less than 3000 feet. Wood and turf are partially used also. Coals are brought to the district, by such as can afford it, from Crieff or Perth.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The changes which have taken place since the former Account was drawn up, are quite striking. Then, most of the tenantry in the parish removed, for the benefit of grazing, with their cattle to their shealings, sometimes to the distance of twenty miles. There they remained several months during the summer season, the men employing themselves chiefly in fishing and hunting, the women in spinning and attending to the dairy. And among the middle class of tenants, instances were not uncommon of families paying the rent in this way, by manufacturing lint of their own growth. But now, nothing more is done than what is barely required for family use; because there is no demand. The milk cows are now generally housed every night, summer and winter, and the dairy-maid's musical voice is no longer heard in the fold.



The tale and the song have now also ceased to cheer the winter ingle; and our old people often complain, that the reign of ancient faith and brotherly neighbourhood, which knew no guile, is usurped by mercenary and selfish aims, which have completely done away with that clannish and family attachment, for which Highlanders in former times were so celebrated.

At that time, the women, when they went abroad, dressed in linsay-woolsey, or other homespun apparel, their finest attire; and it was exceedingly rare to meet a woman at church or market, with a straw bonnet or umbrella. Now, the meanest servant maid cannot appear at either, without being provided with both.

Excepting in families of independent circumstances, *tea* was then unknown. Now, it is almost incredible how much is expended on this article by our peasantry. There was, then, little if any clover or turnip sown in the parish; now, even the crofter who rents a few acres, must have his little plot allotted and enclosed for the former, and a ridge or two for the latter. Very great changes for the better have also taken place, in the management of funerals, late-wakes, and weddings. Instead of the unseemly scenes and riots which frequently took place on such occasions, the strictest propriety and decorum now prevail. In husbandry, also, a most remarkable improvement has taken place: and societies for the advancement of every branch of agricultural improvements have been established among us, the beneficial effects of which are visible.

July 1838.

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## PARISH OF BLAIR-ATHOLL.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JOHN STEWART, MINISTER.

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### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name, Boundaries, &c.*—THE four separate parishes of Blair, Lude, Kilmaveonaig, and Strowan, constitute what is now generally designated the parish of Blair-Atholl. Though the conditions and period of the annexation of these parishes are unknown, it is certain that their union took place before 1632. The names

are Gaelic. Blair, *blàr*, signifies a plain; Lude, *leth-ghoid*, *le'oid*, signifies the half of a furrow, and hence a declivity; *Kilmaveonaig*, *Cille-Eonaig*, the chapel dedicated to St Eonaig; *Strowan*,\* *Cille-Ruain*, the chapel dedicated to St Rowan; and Blair in Atholl, or Blair-Atholl, the modern name of the parish, signifies the plain *in or of* Atholl.

Blair-Atholl is a very extensive parish, and is situated in the north-west district of Perthshire. Its length is 30 miles, and it is about 18 miles broad. It is bounded on the east by Kirkmichael and Moulin; on the south by Dull; and on the west by Rannoch; on the north by Laggan and Kingussie, in Inverness-shire; and on the north-east by Braemar, in Aberdeenshire.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The valley of the Garry, from the pass of Killiecrankie to the point of Strowan, may be considered the nucleus of the parish. On both sides of the Garry, there is a considerable extent of plain in a state of cultivation, and which is surmounted by sloping banks of excellent arable land, terminating in hills of valuable pasture, or covered with plantations. The back ground on the north side of the Garry is formed by the lofty Grampians, which separate Perthshire from the counties of Aberdeen and Inverness. Glentilt and Glenfendar, Glengarry and Glenrichkie, are narrow vales diverging from the leading valley of the Garry. They receive their names from their respective streams. Bohespick, Strathtummel, and Borennich, constitute the remaining portion of the parish. These are districts upon the sides of the river and loch of Tummel, separated from the valley of the Garry, by a moor of four miles in breadth, but of inconsiderable altitude.

The Grampians form the northern boundary of the parish. In this extensive Alpine range, there are several mountains of great elevation. *Beinnghlo*, with a base of many miles in circumference, has four separate summits, viz. *Carn-nan-Gabhar*, 3720 feet high; *Airgiod-bheann*, *Carn Liath*, and *Carn Torkie*. And in the same Alpine range, there are other mountains little inferior to *Beinnghlo* in height, viz. *Beinn-mheadhonaidh*, *Beinn-Chait*, *Beinn-deirg*, &c. &c.

*Hydrography—Lakes.*—*Loch Garry* is situated in *Drumuachdar*, and very near the boundary-line of the counties of Perth and Inverness, or where the waters separate. It is surrounded by very high hills, and thus appears to be as it were in a *den*,—hence the

\* *Strowan* is vulgarly understood to signify streams.

etymology of the name. *Garaidh* is a common Gaelic word, signifying a den. The lake is about six miles in circumference, and it abounds in large and excellent trout.

Loch Tummel, *teamhuil*, signifying dark or shadowy, forms a part of the southern boundary of the parish. It is a beautiful little Highland lake, of four miles in length, and about three-fourths of a mile in breadth. Its cultivated banks, and numerous hamlets, and artificial island with its ruins, give it a peculiar aspect of cheerfulness. Si-chaillein, with its barren dreary base, however, throws a gloom upon the scene, which may lead one to say that the appellation is justly merited. It abounds in pike and in trout of superior quality, and of the largest size. It is well known to afford the angler excellent sport.

*Rivers.*—The Garry is the leading and principal river of the parish. It issues from Loch Garry, and, after running for thirty miles, is lost in the Tummel, at the south-east extremity of the parish. It takes its name, like every other Highland river, from the parent lake. In its course it receives many tributary streams, as the Erichkie, the Bruar, and the Tilt. When flooded by a heavy fall of rain, or by the melting of the snow in spring, it forms a large, and rapid, and irresistible current, making destructive inroads upon its gravelly banks, and owing subjection only to the rugged rocks by which it is here and there confined.

The river Tummel flows from the loch of that name. It is a large body of water, and though its course be short, it is one continuous rapid stream from the lake to its magnificent fall.

The Tilt flows from Loch Tilt, upon the summit of the Grampians, and after a course of sixteen miles, it terminates in the Garry at Blair. It is a beautiful mountain stream, whether considered by itself, or in connection with the glen and the scenery through which it runs.

*Falls.*—The fall of the Tummel is remarkable for the great mass of water. Its height is about 18 feet. It is a grand and beautiful object. The turbulent river, with its rugged banks and lofty precipitous rocks, covered with birch to their very summits, present to the traveller a scene of unusual magnitude and grandeur.

The celebrated and well-known Falls of the Bruar consist of a series of falls, the highest of which falls perpendicularly, and is about 60 feet in height. They have many natural and artificial attractions. The deep and narrow chasm of the river, its rocky and precipitous banks, its characteristic bridges, the well-dressed

walks, and the continually increasing interest which every successive step excites, are objects with which the numerous visitors of the scene are powerfully struck. The merit of its wooded banks is generally ascribed to "Burns' Petition:" it may with much greater justice be ascribed to the Noble proprietor.

One peculiar fall, and a rapid turbulent stream, confined by shelving and rugged rocks, form the cataract of the Garry. The banks were enclosed, planted, and ornamented about ten years ago only, by the late Duke of Atholl.\*

*Climate.*—In 1836, Fahrenheit's thermometer ranged from 18° to 75°. The climate is dry, which may be inferred from the central situation of the country, it being equidistant from the German and Atlantic oceans. Rain comes with an east or south-east wind, which, on account of the intervening hills, loses much of its humidity before it reaches the vale of the Garry. The climate is also cold, which its elevation must indicate. The north wind blows with piercing keenness; and frosty dews are frequent in the beginning of summer and in autumn. Rheumatic and inflammatory diseases are the prevailing distempers; and fevers are occasionally introduced from the low country. The great age to which many of the people live attests, however, that the climate is salubrious. The oldest man in the parish at present is ninety-seven years of age. He is in the full possession of all his faculties; and other five persons are alive who are about ninety years of age.

*Geology.*—Glentilt has been the scene and subject of much geological discussion. Playfair, Macknight, M'Culloch, &c. have contributed to its celebrity in that department of science.

Marble of various shades was discovered in Glentilt about twenty years ago. It is found of a light gray and pure white, but the green is the one most prized. The late Duke of Atholl worked the quarry with that vigour and spirit which characterized all his undertakings. The green marble found its way to the principal towns of Britain, and is now frequently met with as mantel-pieces, &c. in many modern mansions.

The great limestone vein which commences in the south-west at Leney, near Callander, runs through the parish, and terminates its course north-east at Braemar. The hills of the country abound in moss, which, when dried, produces black hard peat. The

\* The Falls of the Fendar also cannot fail to be appreciated by the tourist. A minute description of the scenery of the parish in this Account is avoided as unnecessary, for every traveller can so easily furnish himself with a copy of the late Dr Macculloch's correct and ample guide upon the subject. Published in 1823.

mosses are full of decayed fir trees, and whole roots of a very large size, and perfectly sound, are often dug, supplying the people of the country with faggots to light up their cottages in the winter nights, and when dried well are not a bad substitute for oil or candle.

*Forest and Zoology.*—Atholl Forest is understood to mean a mountainous tract of land furnished solely with deer and other game. Its extent and superiority to every other forest are well known. Its immunities and privileges in former times were great, which may be seen from the following curious legal document.

Report concerning Forestries, &c. in Scotland, anno 1680. (*From the original.*)—At Edinburgh, the eighth day of July, sixteen hundred and eightie years, anent the supplicatione presented to the Lords of Counsell and Sessione, by Alexander Robertson of Fascallie, shewing, that where the petitioner having obtaineat ane signature, superscribed by his Majestie's royal hand, of his lands and baronie of Fascallie, containing ane noveladum and erection of the outfield, woods, &c.; which the petitioner having presented to the Lords of Treasurie and Exchequer, to be past by them, after revising thereof; the same was taken up by the Marquis of Atholl, to see, and refused to be reproduced until the Lords ordained him to do the same; and, after reproduction thereof, the petitioner having addressed himself by ane supplicatione to the said Lords of Exchequer, craving that the said signature might be past; the said Lords of Exchequer, by an act made by them thereanent, upon the eleventh day of February last by past, recommended to the Lords of Counsell and Sessione aforesaid, to consider the import and priveledge of a forrestrie, and how far his Majestie's interest might be concerned in the foresaid signature, or the lyke; craving, therefore, that the saids Lords of Sessione would appoint a tyme to the effect foresaid, as the said supplicatione at length bears,—Which being read in the presence of the saids Lords of Counsell and Sessione, they recommended to Sir Alexander Seatoun of Pitmedden, ane of the saids Lords of Counsell ther own number, to call both parties before him; and to hear them and ther Prors. upon the said matter, and to make report thereof to them. According whereunto the said Lord Pitmedden having called both parties, and ther Prors. before him, and having heard them debait in the said matter, did make report of the same to the said Lords of Counsell and Sessione; which report being considered by the said Lords, they appoynteat Charles Maitland of Hattoun Lord Treasurer Deput, Sir Thomas Murray, Lord Regr. Sir David Falconer of Newtown, and the said Sir Alexander Seatoun of Pitmedden, four of the saids Lords their own number, to prepare ane report to the saids Lords of Exchequer, anent the import and priveledge of ane forrestrie, and how far his majestie's interest may be concerned in the said signature, or the lyke. Lykeas, according to the foresaid recommendation, the saids Lords Treasurer, Deput Register, Newtown, and Pitmedden, having considered the debait in the said matter, betwixt the said supplicant Prors. and likeways the Pror. of the said Marquis of Atholl, heretable keeper of his Majestie's forrestrie in Atholl, neir adjacent to Fascallie's estate, they fand, That by the lawes and acts of the Parliament of this kingdom, the priveledge and import of ane forrestrie is, That it is a place appoynted for deer, and for hunting; and that any deer or cattle, or other beasts that are found within the forrestrie, are confiscable to the proprietor and keeper of the forrest; and that his Majestie's and his liegde's interest is, That whereas, by the lawes and custom, of this kingdom, no man is obliged to herd his cattle, or other beasts, except when the corns are upon the ground, after quihilk, the possessor of the ground may keep ther own ground, and turn of other folk's cattle, but cannot oblige them to herd, or keep ther cattle, or pay for the transgression, except in the case of enclosures, where violence is done to the dykes thereof; yet this forrestrie now craved, is not to be enclosed, as commonlie forrestries are open. And by the erecting of new forrestries, all the neighbouring heritors must either herd their goods through the whole year, and keep them off these forrestries; or otherwise suffer the loss of them, by being confiscate for pasturing upon these forrestries. And it is represented, that, in this particular case, there is a forrestrie of the King's foresaid, in which ther is a considerable stock of deer, as the report of the saids four Lords in the said matter at lenth bears; which being read in presence of, and considered by the saids Lords of Counsell and Sessione, this day, they have approv-

ed, and hereby approve thereof, and ordain the same to be reported to the saids Lords of his Majesty's Exchequer. Extracted by me.—(Signed,) THO. MURRAY, Cla. Reg.  
*Edinburgh, 9th July 1680.*

The Lords Commissioners having heard and considered the above written report, doe ordain and appoint, that before Fascallie's signature, above-mentioned, be past in Exchequer, the claus anent the forrestrie, therein contained, be deletit and expunged: As also, that ther be an extract of this report transmitted to his Grace the Duke of Lauderdale, whereby, for the future, when any such signatures, bearing forrestries, sal be offered to his Majesty, for his royal hand, whereunto his Majesty may be graciously pleased to take notice thereof, and to signifie his pleasure to his Exchequer, it being of a great concerne, both to his Majesty and his liedges.—(Signed), ROHNES, Cancell, I. P. D.

“Copie of a letter from the Lords Commissioners of Treasury and Exchequer, to the Duke of Lauderdale, anent the priveledges of forrestries.—9th July 1680.

*Edinburgh, 9th July 1680.*

“May it please your Grace.—In the last winter session, there was presented, to be past in Exchequer, a signature under his Majesty's royal hand, in favours of one Robertson of Fascallie, wherein was an action of a forrestrie; which being taken notice of in Exchequer, and not knowing what the priveledge therof might import, there was a stop put to the passing of that signature, until such time as the Lords of the Sessione (to whom it was remitted) should give ther opinion in that matter; which accordingly they gave in this day into the Exchequer. The extract whereof, with what is resolved thereupon, they have appointed to be transmitted to your Grace, that you may be pleased to acquaint his Majesty therewith; and, that his royal pleasure therin, both as to signatures of the same natur, already past his majestic's hand, not yet expaid in Exchequer, and such as shall happen to be offered hereafter, may, with your conveniency, be signified unto them. May it please your Grace.

Your Grace's most humble servant,  
(Signed,) ROHNES, Cancell, I. P. D.

It is said that there are 7000 red-deer in the Atholl Forest, and the number is not over-rated, if the extent of ground, of which they have the undisturbed possession, be any criterion. The roe-deer also are numerous in the different plantations of the country.

The fox, the wild cat, the martin, the polecat, the weasel, and the Alpine hare, are common. The rabbit, the squirrel, and the rat have lately made their way into the country, and have increased so rapidly as to become troublesome and destructive.

The eagle has his eyry in the mountains of the Atholl forest. The kestrel builds his nest in Glentilt, and at the Falls of the Bruar. Red and black game, the ptarmigan and the plover, and partridges are plentiful. The jay and the woodpecker are to be met with in the plantations of Blair. The oyster-catcher (*Hematopus ostralegus*) comes up the Garry towards the end of March, and nestles upon its gravelly banks. The land-rail, the cuckoo, and the swallow, the woodcock and the fieldfare, are our migratory birds, and visit the country in their season.

*Botany.*—In a tract of country so extensive as this parish, and with such a variety of soil, and climate, and surface, the number of indigenous plants may easily be conceived to be very great. Of the rarer Alpine plants the botanist can scarcely meet with a more productive field than Beinn-ghlo itself. Upon its west side,

*Saxifraga oppositifolia*, *Silene acaulis*, *Dryas octopetala*, *Azalea procumbens*, *Betula nana*, grow abundantly; and it has been said that the *Rubus arctica* is to be found there. *Convallaria verticillata* grows upon the side of the Tilt near the Fender. It is now well known that the *Menziesia cærulea* has been discovered upon Carnan Dobhrain, which has obtained the soubriquette "the Sow of Atholl," to the north of Loch Garry. And Dr Arnott of Arlary, one of our most learned botanists, states, that *Dicranum Schreberi* is found in an old quarry towards the head of Glentilt. Of these two plants, this parish is the only habitat in Britain.

The natural wood of the country consists of oak, birch, ash, aspens, alder, &c. Oak ceases to grow as a natural wood in Atholl, at a height of 400 feet above the level of the sea, and at which the region of the birch seems to commence. This may be owing to the higher elevation, or to a difference in the soil, which certainly exists—or to both causes combined. At Aberwainie, and upon the glebe, about 500 feet above the level of the sea, there was an extensive clump of the largest oaks, and where many standard trees of great dimensions may still be seen. It grew, however, in a well sheltered spot, and in a bank of excellent soil. To the north of Killiecrankie, the birch is the prevailing tree of natural growth, and of which there are numerous and extensive woods. Along the banks of the Garry, the alder abounds, but it is dwarfish in its growth. Every different estate in the parish has its plantations, though some of them were but lately formed. A considerable portion of suitable ground upon the estate of Lude has been planted. The plantations of Blair are very extensive, and the size, age, and quality of the timber render them very valuable. Lime, elm, and plane trees are unusually large and numerous in the park. The surrounding grounds and hills are covered with Scotch fir, spruce, and larch. And though Blair supplied the materials of which the Atholl frigate was built, many magnificent specimens both of larch and of spruce still remain.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Historical Events.*—To give Pitscottie's account of the magnificent hunt with which James V., his mother, and the Pope's Legate, were entertained by the Earl of Atholl, on the north side of Beinn-ghlo, is unnecessary. It is familiar to all the readers of Scottish history, and of Scottish tours from the date of Pennant's Journal to the present day.

The battle of Killiecrankie cannot be said to be a subject which

properly belongs to the account of this parish, and its history also is known to every one. Viscount Dundee had his head-quarters at the Castle of Blair, and the contending armies met on the north side of the Girnag, upon the lands of Runrory or Urrard, in the parish of Moulin. A despatch on the following day from Dundee himself, and which is published in the Stuart papers, contradicts the common belief, that he died near the scene of action; and no good reason has ever been assigned for the assertion that that despatch is a forgery. He was buried in the vault of the Atholl family, in the old church of Blair.

Blair Castle was often occupied as an important military post, not only in the incessant warfare of feudal times, but even in the late Rebellion of 1745. When the Duke of Cumberland arrived with his army at Perth, in February 1746, he deemed it expedient to have a military force in Atholl, where almost all the inhabitants were known to be Jacobites. A detachment of 300 men, commanded by Sir Andrew Agnew, Bart., Lieutenant-Colonel of the Royal N. B. Fusileers, was sent by the route of Dunkeld, and through the pass of Killiecrankie, to take post at Blair Castle.

The chief object of the service committed to Sir Andrew was certainly to prevent any treasonable correspondence, and to cut off by proper parties, at fit out-posts, the communications by the great roads between the south and northern parts of the country.\* So effectual was this manœuvre for the purpose intended, and so annoying was the occupation of this military post by the King's forces, that Lord George Murray was sent from the north to regain possession of Blair Castle. He was accompanied by other officers of rank, and a force of about 100 men. After having completely surprised and made prisoners of all the detached parties without the castle, his head-quarters were established in the village of Blair upon the 17th of March.

From the measures adopted by Lord George, he seems to have wished to reduce the garrison to surrender by famine. He had heard of its scanty provisions, and with his numerous force he blocked up the castle so closely, that it was impossible to receive any supplies into it.

\* At this time no siege or blockade had been foreseen. It was never expected that the open communication with the country, and a regular supply of provisions, would have been interrupted. The quantity of garrison provisions sent to the castle was small. With respect to water, there was a draw-well in the castle. No artillery or military stores even were sent; and when the number of serviceable cartridges of powder and ball in possession of the soldiers was strictly examined, it was found that they did not exceed nineteen per man.



It is also probable that he had some expectation of hastening a surrender, by threatening to set fire to the castle. He fired red hot bullets from two field-pieces which he had brought with him. The point from which he fired at the north side was so distant, that the heated balls only charred the very thick rafters of the roof. And a night or two before breaking up the blockade, he removed his field-pieces to the south side of the castle, whence their shot produced no greater effect than from the former position.

The garrison was reduced to the last extremity, and obliged to eat horse flesh. There was no probability of the blockading force being soon withdrawn. Wilson, the gardener at Blair, and a trustworthy servant, was despatched with intelligence of its desperate state to the Earl of Crawford, who commanded some cavalry and Hessian troops at Dunkeld. On the 1st of April, the day after Wilson set out, not a Highlander was to be seen at Blair. Lord George Murray had received a sudden order to join the main body of the Prince's army near Inverness.

At this distance of time we cannot but admire the prudence and sagacity which this distinguished officer exhibited in the blockade of his native castle. He knew its provisions consisted chiefly of biscuit and cheese, and of which, too, the quantity was small. The allowance fixed for each man was only one pound of biscuit, a quarter of a pound of cheese, with a bottle of water a day. Had the Prince's counsels, guided at the time by weak and ignorant courtiers, permitted Lord George to remain but a few days longer at Blair, the garrison must have capitulated, and Crawford's cavalry perhaps would have been destroyed in Killiecrankie. Though the Prince's affections were alienated by the basest acts, and his confidence withdrawn from his Lieutenant-General, Lord George paid implicit obedience to his commands, and served him with undaunted bravery, fidelity, and zeal. By the unanimous concurrence of the Highland army, he was its ablest officer. He was a man of a noble deportment, of independent mind, and indomitable spirit.

Though it was certain that the Highlanders had raised the blockade in the night-time, the garrison was kept shut up by Sir Andrew Agnew until the next morning. On the 2d of April, an officer arrived on horseback from the Earl of Crawford, and informed the commandant, that his Lordship, with some cavalry, might be expected in an hour. The garrison was accordingly drawn out, and his Lordship was received by Sir Andrew at the

head of it with this compliment—" My Lord, I am very glad to see you, but by — you have been very dilatory, and we can give you nothing to eat." \* To which his Lordship answered laughingly with his usual good humour—" I assure you, Sir Andrew, I made all the haste I possibly could; and I hope that you and the officers will do me the honour to partake with me of such fare as I can give you."

The Hessians would not march from Dunkeld with Lord Crawford against the Highlanders. They were horror-struck at the thought of Killiecrankie. Their commandant feared the swords of the wild mountaineers, as he called them, and which had but recently twice beaten the King's troops with their regular artillery and fire-arms.

Public thanks were afterwards given to the garrison by the Duke of Cumberland, for its steady and gallant defence of the castle, and Sir Andrew Agnew was rewarded with the colonelcy of a regiment of marines.

*Land-owners.*—The heritors of the parish, with their valued rents, are the following :—

The Right Hon. Lord Glenlyon,	-	L. 2542	11	11
The Trustees of the late Duke of Atholl,	-	381	15	10
James P. M'Inroy, Esq. of Lude,	-	696	15	3
Robert Robertson, Esq. of Auchleeks,	-	241	9	3
James Hay, Esq. of Tennandry,	-	147	13	4
Glas Sandeman, Esq. of Collebrochan,	-	120	0	0
Robert Menzies, Esq. of Blairfettie,	-	55	1	8
Charles M'Diarmid, Esq. of Portnellan,	-	54	0	9
Duncan Robertson, Esq. of Kindrochit,	-	35	0	0
— Colquhoun, Esq. of Fincastle,	-	7	10	0

† Robert Richardson, Esq. of Ruidhnancoileach; — Beaumont, Esq. of Glaschorie; W. Alston Stewart, Esq. of Badbheist; — Hay, Esq., and — Milne, Esq. of Stonphadrig.

*Parochial Registers.*—The register of marriages, or rather of the proclamation of bans, is well kept. There never was a register of burials; and the register of births and baptisms, pretty regular and well kept from 1750, fell into disrepute with the pa-

\* Of Sir Andrew's peculiarities and fiery temper, there are many reminiscences. The writer used to hear the following related, and long before he knew the scene of its operations, by a much esteemed and particular friend.

A waggish subaltern in the garrison got hold of the block, upon which he placed Sir Andrew's wig with a cocked hat, an old uniform coat, &c. and set it up one morning in a loop-hole in the castle. The trick succeeded, and the Highlanders instantly commenced pouring their fire upon the window. Sir Andrew was startled at the sudden incessant fire directed against one particular spot, and, upon going to reconnoitre, he soon discovered the reason; and a loud peremptory order was issued, that the playful hero should remove from the view of the Highlanders the object which had excited their hostility, and that, too, without delay, during the hottest of their fire.

† These are shealings, or summer grazings, to which no valued rent is attached.

rishioners after the militia ferment of 1798, and cannot yet be said to have acquired its former regularity.

*Antiquities.*—*Cille Aindreas*, St Andrews, lies upon the banks of the Tilt, and immediately to the south of the inn. The sepulchral remains which were found there, and the names of some adjoining grounds, indicate that the place was the site of an ecclesiastical establishment. *Dail-an-t-sagairt*, the priest's field, is near the spot. The establishment may have been removed to Kilmaeonaig, as a more convenient situation, and dedicated to St Eonaig.

A complete or perfect specimen of a Druidical temple is not to be met with in the parish. Single upright stones, which are evidently a part of such temples, are to be seen in several places. An upright stone at Pittagowan is still known by the name of *Clack an iobairt*, the sacrifice stone. Some writers have maintained that the circular stones so frequent in the Highlands, were places where Druids assembled for the administration of justice, and not for any religious service. Whether that be the case or not, the customs and the language of the Highlanders evince a connection between these stones and religious purposes. Burying grounds are found near these Druidical temples, and to this very day, a village, where a church is situated, is called, *An clachan*, the place of stones. *Am bheil thu dol do'n chlachan*, are you going to the stones? is the common Gaelic expression for, are you going to church?

*Buildings.*—Blair Castle, the baronial mansion of the Atholl family, is the residence of Lord Glenlyon. It is a building of great strength, magnitude, and extent. The date of its erection is not known. It is generally supposed to have been built by John of Strathbogie, a Cumin, who became Earl of Atholl in right of his wife. A part of the castle is still known by the name of Cumin's Tower. Its locality rendered it an important military post in the warfare of feudal times; and in 1750, two stories were taken from its height, and the great military garrison of the country converted into a modern building. Whether James, Duke of Atholl, acted from personal feelings, or in obedience to a mandate of the privy-council, it is much to be regretted that the turrets, embrasures, and bartisans of his feudal castle should have been demolished and replaced by a plane pavilion roof. Its apartments, however, are numerous and elegant, and its accommodations are suited to the residence of a ducal family. The park contains many hundred acres of excellent arable land, exclusive of its extensive plantations; the garden is large and productive; the gravel walks

along the Tilt, the Banavy, and the Fendar, the Bruar, and the Garry; the various and well-conducted carriage drives: all afford the advantage of active exercise, with the pleasure of admiring magnificent scenery; and, if the whole be viewed in connection with the forest and its lodges, its lakes and its rivers, Blair may be justly said to be one of the most splendid hunting chateaux in Europe.

The House of Lude\* has been built at different times, and the greater part of it is old. Its elevated situation, and style of architecture, render it a very striking object in the scenery of the Garry.

There is a good modern house at Auchleeks.

### III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population, by the returns of Dr Webster, was	3257
1791, by the last Statistical Account,	3120
1801, by the census,	-
1811, - - - - -	-
1821, - - - - -	-
1831, - - - - -	2495
Number of families in the parish,	549
chiefly employed in agriculture,	197
chiefly employed in manufactures, trade, or handicraft,	75

Number of illegitimate births during last three years, 7.

There is good reason to suspect that the last Government census is overrated. The present incumbent in his parochial visits, and more especially in 1814, found the number of his parishioners to be about 2333. The parish is divided into eleven districts, with an elder in each district, and in May 1836, according to the census of the elders, the population was found to amount to 2312.

The gradual decrease of the population is easily accounted for. In former times, the higher grounds were inhabited by numerous tenants. Their possessions were small; their supply of farinaceous food was precarious, and in the very best seasons afforded but a scanty subsistence. They had no potatoes, and their principal aliment was animal food. A system of more beneficial management has converted these dreary and comfortless habitations into sheep-walks; and greatly to their own interest, though not perhaps at first so congenially to their feelings, the people have emigrated to the large towns of the south, or to America. And though the population upon the whole has diminished, it has greatly increased in the strath of the country, which is certainly a more natural and suitable residence for man, than the bleak unsheltered wastes of

\* It is said that a very handsome house, in the English manor style, from a plan by Burn, is to be built at Lude.

the Grampian mountains. The parish is entirely landward, and it cannot be said that there is a town or village in it.

*Land-owners.*—There are 15 proprietors of land, and of whom 11 are heritors with a valued rent. Three of the heritors reside constantly, and four occasionally, in the parish. Each of them has more than L. 50 of annual rent.

The people of the country are of the middle stature, active, and capable of enduring much fatigue. Their food is plain and wholesome; and the poor cottar has his cow, which supplies his family with milk. The Gaelic is the language of the country. There are few, however, under thirty years of age who cannot read and write, and speak the English language. The manners of the people, as well as their dress, resemble those of their low-country neighbours, and no power can resist the assimilation of their language. The elementary books now in Gaelic, and the numerous publications of the present day in that language, whether well or ill executed, and the more general reading of Gaelic in the schools, are but indirect methods of enabling the children to acquire a knowledge of English with greater facility. Exertions are also made here and there to restore the tartan costume, and the practice of Highland games. Interest and industrious habits render the people indifferent to the latter; and their dress is now regulated by views of comfort and convenience, rather than by vanity or conceit. The people are quiet and peaceable, and anxious to maintain a good character for honesty, and sobriety, and industry. Even petty thefts are unknown among them; and every species of immorality is discountenanced. They are sincerely attached to the Established Church. They are well acquainted with the plain and fundamental truths of Christianity, and regular in their attendance upon its solemnities.

The illicit distillation of whisky, which some years ago prevailed in the country, might then have been said to have been a necessary evil. A wiser and more favourable system of excise laws has enabled the Highlander now to convert his barley into money, and to abandon a practice which had well nigh ruined the country and its people. Though there be not a legal distillery in the parish, there are many in the lower district of Atholl.

If a young man be occasionally found in our distant and extensive moors with a gun in his hand, it need not be wondered at. Sportsmen from the south train them either as servants, or guides, or sacketmen to a fascinating amusement, and which, when their masters leave off their sport, it is not easy for them to relinquish.

Poaching, however, is not so general now as it was, and it is getting every year into greater disrepute.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture and Rural Economy.*—All the land of the parish is either arable, or hill pasture. There are neither meadows nor outfield. In such an extensive tract of country, it is impossible to ascertain with precision, the number of acres in pasture, or in tillage. From those sources of information to which recourse was had, the following list of acres may be relied upon as being pretty nearly accurate.

Land occasionally or constantly in tillage,	3000 acres.
uncultivated land, or hill pasture,	105,000
under natural wood,	50
under plantations,	2000

The Scots fir was almost the only tree which used in former times to be planted in the country. Experience has shewn that its growth upon light soil and moorish grounds is stunted. It ceased, many years ago, to be a favourite with the late Duke of Atholl, whose knowledge and experience as a planter have not been equalled by those of any British proprietor. The larch is now planted in dry soils, and the spruce where there is moisture. The birch is the indigenous wood of the country, and it grows here and there in extensive clumps, affording excellent shelter for sheep and cattle in winter. The ash and the mountain ash, the aspen and the alder, also grow naturally.

*Rent, &c.*—The average rent of arable land is about L. 2 per acre. To every farm, however, a considerable portion of hill is attached, and which is included in the preceding rent. The expense of hill grass for a cow is L. 1 a year, and for a sheep 3s. The rental of the parish, in which is included the rent for shooting grounds, may be about L. 14,000 a year. The yearly wages of male servants are from L. 10 to L. 12, and of female servants from L. 5 to L. 7. Tradesmen receive about 2s. a day; and day-labourers 1s. 6d.

*Breeds of Live-Stock, &c.*—The black-cattle of the country are the Highland breed, and in this immediate district they have been much improved of late. The black-faced breed of sheep, which in exposed lands are the surest stock, is the only kind to be seen upon our hills. By some of the more intelligent storemasters, a few goats have lately been introduced, as they consume many plants which the sheep reject; and among rocks they can find their way to pasture which is inaccessible to sheep.

*Husbandry and Produce.*—At a remote period, there was certainly a greater quantity of cultivated land than at present. Google

rows, and the traces of the spade, are still to be seen in many spots which are now covered with heather, and have returned to their natural state. And in the higher districts, much even at present under crops, would yield a larger and more certain return under permanent pasture. In such elevated situations, the soil is deep, and mossy, and naturally late, which, with the want of climate, renders the cultivation of the land in spring an arduous labour, and its produce in harvest extremely precarious. In the strath of the country, and upon the sloping banks of the Garry, the arable land is either a light loam, or a gravelly soil. The rotation now pursued is a four or five-shift. The soil is particularly well adapted for the growth of turnips. This valuable crop, however, is raised in small quantities only, and as a food for the cattle of the courtyard. The consumption of turnips by sheep, though the soil be dry and gravelly, has been hitherto on a very limited scale. Leases are generally given for nineteen years. The inclosures are dry stone walls; and, though the old thatched tenements are in general the habitations of our peasantry, many of the tenants have good dwelling-houses and steadings, built of stone and lime, and covered with slates.

*Fuel.*—The greatest obstacle to improvement is the scarcity of fuel. Coals are driven by many from Perth, a distance of thirty-five miles. Our mosses are abundant, but, generally speaking, they are distant. The difficulty of bringing peats home by bad hill roads renders them a troublesome and expensive fuel, and the months of July and August are necessarily devoted to this harassing work. Lime would be more extensively used, and made to contribute to the quantity of manure, if fuel to burn it could be more easily procured.

The proprietors of the country, by their influence and example, encourage its agriculture, and the different breeds of stock; and as constituent members of the Atholl Club, which meets once a year, they stimulate, by a distribution of prizes, a spirit of laudable emulation among the tenantry.

The average gross amount and value of raw produce raised yearly in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows:

3000 acres, arable, produce at L. 5 per acre,	L. 15,000
30,000 sheep, at 5s. per sheep,	7,500
1200 milch cows, at L. 3 per cow,	3,600
100 goats at 3s.	15
100 hill horses, at L. 5	500
Wood and timber,	500

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 L 27,115

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There is no market-town in the parish, and it can scarcely be said that there is a village in it. The people of the country procure what is required either from Pitlochrie, Dunkeld, or Perth. There are four weekly carriers from the parish to Perth. The great toll-road from Perth to Inverness runs through the parish. There are also excellent country roads through Strathtummel and Glenerichkie. Bridges are now numerous, and afford safe and easy access to every separate district of the country. The new Tilt Bridge is a handsome structure. At Blair Atholl is a post-office, where there is a daily arrival from the south and north by the Royal Mail Coach.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Lord Glenlyon is patron of the parish. The walls of the old church of Lude are still standing, and the old church of Kilmaveonaig was rebuilt in 1791 by the Episcopalians of the country, as a place of public worship for those of their own communion. When the parishes were united, the churches of Blair and Strowan only were retained for divine service. Both of them were for many years in a ruinous state; but when the alteration of the public road, so long contemplated, was effected about ten years ago, a very handsome parish church was built, and a new parochial churchyard assigned, and the site was changed so as to correspond with the new line of road. The church is seated for 650 hearers. In 1829, a new church was built at Strowan and seated to contain 450. No seat rents are exacted. Public worship continues to be performed two consecutive Sundays at Blair, and the third at Strowan. The congregations are in a great measure distinct, but the sacrament is dispensed at Blair, only. The people are regular in their attendance at church.\*

In 1752, the manse was removed to its present situation, two miles distant from Blair, and three miles from Strowan. A good new manse with offices was built in 1828.

The glebe upon which the manse is built was assigned in exchange for the conjoined glebes of Blair and Strowan. The glebes of Lude and Kilmaveonaig still remain, and form a part of the benefice. The glebe land of the parish is much beyond the average value of a glebe, and it is worth about L. 100. The stipend, as modified by the Court of Teinds in 1813, consists of 6 chalders of victual, half meal, half barley, with L. 63 in money, including

\* The church of Tennandry is now endowed, and the above was written without reference to the new erection.



L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. In May 1835, the stipend was augmented, and is now 13 chalders of victual, half meal, half barley, with L. 10 for communion elements.

A clergyman of the Scotch Episcopal Church officiates every Sunday at Kilmaveonaig, and the members of his congregation who are parishioners here may amount to 20.

There is also a Baptist meeting-house at Bail-an-t-sabhail. It is conveniently seated for the accommodation of its members from this parish, and Moulin, and Fincastle, in the parish of Dull. The spirit which led to the introduction of this sect into the country, manifested itself more than thirty years ago, and its adherents are not numerous. About 20 persons of this parish are Baptists.

*Education.*—The total number of schools in the parish is 7, viz. 1. parochial school, and 2. Society schools. The private schools are maintained by the inhabitants of those districts which are remote from the established schools. They are generally well attended, and are taught by young men whose incomes depend solely upon their school fees. In the parochial school, Latin and the other usual branches of education are taught. The number of scholars is about 80. The school fees are extremely moderate, and amount to about L. 30 annually. A new dwelling and school-house were lately built, and a garden of one rood of land was assigned for the schoolmaster. He has a salary of L. 34, 4s. 4½d.

There are about 358 children in attendance upon the 7 public schools during the winter months. There are other three districts viz. Bohespick, Glenrichkie, and Glen Garry, in which there is scarcely the semblance of a school, except for three months in winter. The very difficulties which the people encounter and surmount in procuring the means of instruction for their children are sufficient evidence of their anxiety to give them education. And to education we must attribute in a great degree the rapid and striking improvement in the habits and manners of our people. Instead of indolence and sloth, and repugnance to every change, by which they were long characterized, a spirit of exertion and industry is apparent in our Highland glens.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The poor's funds have always been under the management of the minister and elders of the parish. Every elder has the more immediate oversight of the poor of the district in which he resides, and in so extensive a parish, it is necessary that care be taken to have an elder for every separate district. The heritors meet once a year, when they audit the poor's

accounts, and settle any other parochial business in which they have an interest. The number of paupers is about 70, consisting mostly of aged unmarried women, or widows from whom their children have withdrawn their support. The funds are not distributed according to any stipulated rate, but according to the urgency of the case. The funds arise from the following sources, and in 1835 amounted to,—Church collections, L. 32, 8s. 4d. ; interest of L. 193 capital, L. 7, 17s. 4d. ; mortcloth dues, fines, &c. L. 4, 10s. ; total, L. 44, 15s. 8d.

There is a mortification of twelve bolls of meal for six old men, four bolls from Blair, and eight bolls from the lands of Urrard. The benefit of this charity is confined to aged poor men, resident upon the Atholl estate in the parish. Each of them had a free house and garden in the village of Blair. When that village was removed in 1750 by James Duke of Atholl, the bede-men were removed from it, and 6s. 8d. was assigned to each as house-rent, which continues to be regularly paid. There is also a mortification upon the lands of Blair, of 13s. 4d. each to two old men. As to the origin or history of either mortification, no information can now be procured.

The heritors have always given pecuniary aid to the kirk-session when required. If non-resident heritors do not contribute voluntarily to the poor's funds, recourse must inevitably be had to assessment, when property will be severely taxed, and the condition of the poor rather worsened. That there is an encreasing outcry among the poor for pecuniary relief, and that they are well aware of their legal rights, are facts which it would be wrong to conceal. And it must be confessed, that the shame which attached to the receiving parochial aid, now acts but seldom as a restraint upon their claim even for a trifling support. The tenantry of the country are charitable in a high degree. They give alms of meal, and "of such things as they have," to the poor of the parish, with the greatest liberality, and also to hosts of wandering beggars from the south, by whom they are heavily oppressed.

*Fairs.*—The fairs held in the parish are as follows : Blair Atholl (general business) February 2d. Ditto (cattle and horses) May, third Wednesday. Bridge of Tilt (cattle) August 20th O. S. Ditto (Ditto) June 25th. Trinafour (horses) March, third Tuesday O. S. Ditto (cattle) October, Wednesday before Falkirk.

*Inns.*—Upon the great Inverness road within the parish, there are three excellent inns, viz. Bridge of Tilt, Blair, and Dalna-

cardoch, where every accommodation in the way of posting and lodging is found, equal to that of any inn in Scotland. There is also a good inn at Trinafour, at the junction of the Glenrichkie road with the toll-road from Dalnacardoch to Tummel Bridge. Several small houses along the public road, and at proper distances, are licensed to sell British spirits. They afford cheap and convenient accommodation to foot-passengers, and it cannot be said that they are hurtful to the morals of the people.

*Fuel.*—Though coals be consumed by many families, yet peats are the common fuel of the country. In general, they are of excellent quality, but they are distant.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Several important changes in various respects have taken place since the last Statistical Account was written. The great military road from Dunkeld to the north was formed about fourteen years ago into a toll-road, which is kept in the very best state of repair. It has also been much improved by a total change of its line, or lowering its acclivities. A very beneficial change was made at Blair. The old line of road, which was one successive series of ascents and descents for nearly three miles, forming the arch of a circle, was drawn in the diameter, or in a straight line of two miles in length, through a level plain along the side of the Garry. Within the last twenty years, it may be said that L. 25,000 at least have been expended upon buildings and bridges. Several farmhouses with courts of offices have been erected, not inferior to those in the low country. And many of our tradesmen and cottars live in comfortable houses, built of stone and lime, slated and plastered.

About five years ago, Lord Glenlyon conferred upon the country one of the most substantial benefits, by the erection of a meal mill and kiln at Blair, upon the most improved principles of construction. Five wretched mills, to which his own tenants, and those of other proprietors, were thirled, have been demolished. The people have thus been generously freed from a vexatious and expensive thirlage, and permitted to dry and grind their corn at Blair, where the work is done in the most perfect manner, without loss of time to themselves, with a greater return, and at less than half the former charge.\* There are five thrashing mills in the parish, and all these buildings, and an addition of 300 acres to its plan-

\* There is also an excellent meal-mill and kiln at the bridge of Tilt, and a saw-mill at Blair, and one at Lude.

tations, and the regular rotation of cropping, have greatly changed as it were the face of the country.

The Royal Mail from Perth to Inverness leaves letter-bags at Blair post-office every day, and the receipts for postages are considerable.

In their dress, as well as in their domestic economy, the people exhibit a very favourable change. In the houses of the peasantry, there is a much greater attention paid to the simple comforts of life. And the cloths and muslins of the south have superseded the coarse expensive manufacture of the country. Schools are more numerous, newspapers are abundant, and general knowledge is more widely diffused. The acquaintance of the people with the Scriptures, and their serious respect and regular observance of the ordinances of religion, sufficiently testify that they are not indifferent to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus.

Extensive plantations towards Strowan would beautify and improve that naked tract of country. A good road across Sliabh-bac would be highly beneficial, shorten and facilitate an intercourse with the southern districts of the country. And the greatest disadvantage under which this extensive parish labours is the want of divine service every Sabbath day in both its churches. The imperfect system of occasional public worship is the greatest evil and defect in our Ecclesiastical Establishment. It holds out every encouragement to ignorant and wandering sectarian preachers, or it is apt to confirm a people in habits of indifference to the habitations of religion. And if the labours of a minister could be regularly secured for the congregation of the church of Strowan, by which that of Blair would be no less benefited, it would greatly contribute to the well-being and spiritual comfort of a people, who are obliged, as it were, to forsake the assembling of themselves together on every Lord's day, and thus to devote publicly unto the Lord only a third, of those days which he hath sanctified, and blessed to be a holy Sabbath unto himself.

*June 1838.*

## PARISH OF COMRIE.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH & STIRLING.

THE REV. WILLIAM MACKENZIE, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THE ancient parishes of Comrie, Dundurn, and Tullichetal, together with parts of Monivaird, Strowan, and Muthill, are contained in the present parish of Comrie.

*Name.*—The name *Comrie*, signifying in Gaelic *confluence*, is derived from the site of the parish church, at the confluence of the rivers Earn, Ruchill, and Lednock. A dun or fortified hill at the east end of Loch Earn gave name to Dundurn or Dun-d-earn. Tullichetal signifies “the plain of sleep,” referring, it is thought, to the burying-ground where the dead sleep around the ruins of a very ancient church. The date of the conjunction of the three original parishes is unknown. It was in 1702 that the Commission of Teinds, at the request of the General Assembly, made the additions, *quoad sacra*, from the parishes of Monivaird, Strowan, and Muthill.

*Extent, &c.*—The united parish is about 13 miles long and 10 broad, and if a district two miles long at the west end of Lochearn, which in 1702 was annexed, *quoad sacra*, to Balquhiddier, be reckoned, the parish of Comrie, *quoad civilia*, is 13 miles long throughout its entire breadth, and contains about 130 square miles. This parish, lying at the head of Strathearn, is bounded by high mountains on three sides, the east opening on the valley of Strathearn. The principal range of mountains is the Grampians, running from south-west to north-east. Benhonzie is 2900 feet above the level of the sea, and Ben Vorlich, the highest, is 3300, and may be seen from Perth, Edinburgh, and Ayrshire. There is very little low or flat land in the parish; the principal valleys Glenartney, Glen Lednock, and the banks of the Earn are from 200 to 350 feet above the level of the sea, and they open upon the village of Comrie.

In a portion of country like this parish, whose surface is so di-

versified with mountain, glen, and strath, a corresponding difference of climate is to be expected. The dry, gravelly nature of the soil, and the shelter of the surrounding hills, render the climate of the strath mild, salubrious, and favourable to longevity, so much so, as to have formerly obtained for Strathearn the epithet of the Montpellier of Scotland. A thermometer in the village of Comrie was found, during the months of November and December 1831, to average higher than that registered in Edinburgh. The glens are colder than the strath, and the more so the higher they ascend into the mountains. But in them the air is generally dry and clear.

There is nothing so peculiar either in the soil, climate, or mode of living here, as to produce any endemic disease. But, though remote and almost isolated, this parish appears to have no immunity from those diseases that spread in that mysterious manner termed epidemical. It, however, was exempted from the visitation of the cholera.

In the spring and summer of 1831, influenza was prevalent; in the winter, chincough was common; in the summer of 1832, measles appeared; in the spring of 1833, influenza was again very prevalent, succeeded in the autumn by scarlet fever, which was followed by small-pox, that continued till the winter of 1834. Influenza again prevailed in the spring of 1835, and was followed by chincough, which was more general among the children than either of the two preceding epidemics. In the spring of 1836, there were a number of cases of continued fever, and the influenza, so universal at the beginning of 1837, seized at least three-fourths of the population, but apparently not with so many fatal results as in the districts to the east.

Before each of these epidemics appeared, they were prevalent for some time to the east of this parish. As Comrie has little communication from any other quarter, an inference might be drawn from this, in favour of the opinion, that these diseases are caused by contagion alone, were it not a fact that epidemic diseases generally travel from east to west. Typhus fever is very rare; intermittent fevers or agues never occur; common continued fever occasionally prevails, but never in the severe form, (the *typhus gravior*,) so frequent and fatal in large towns. Inflammations fill up the largest space in the catalogue of our diseases, and of these bronchitis appears to be the most frequent and fatal. Pneumonia and pleurisy are not uncommon, but the true idiopa-

thick croup is very rare, while the symptomatic and spasmodic varieties are more frequent. Rheumatism is common and severe; chronic gastritis is a very frequent complaint in this parish, which may be owing to one or both of the following reasons: The frequent imbibing of undiluted spirits, and taking the ordinary diet, potatoes, as hot as they can be got. Scrofulous diseases do not bear so high a proportion as in our larger towns, but they are by no means rare here. The deaths from consumption are as 1 to 9 $\frac{1}{4}$  of the whole mortality.

*Hydrography.*—Loch Earn, the only considerable body of water in the parish, is 7 miles long, from 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  broad, and its depth, in common with some other Scottish lakes, is very great, in many parts about 100 fathoms. Its temperature varies little throughout the year, so that even the river Earn, which flows from it, seldom if ever freezes above its junction with the Ruchill. There is a small artificial island at the east end of Loch Earn covered with ruins; and at a small distance may be traced, under the surface on a calm day, the apparent commencement of another artificial island. There is a tradition that freebooters of the name of Nish occupied the castle on the island at one time, and, having the only boat on the lake, were secure from reprisals, until, having presumed to seize the Christmas cheer of the Laird of M'Nab, on its way from Crieff to Killin, the sons of that chieftain carried on their shoulders from Lochtay, a boat across the Grampians, and, surprising the Nishes when asleep after their Christmas feast, carried back their heads in triumph to the old M'Nab. This feat is commemorated on a monument in the beautiful burying-ground of M'Nab, at Killin. The island was latterly occupied by the family of Ardvorlich, who had an occasional residence and a granary there.

The rivers in the parish are the Earn; the Ruchill flowing from Glenartney; and the Lednock, from the glen of that name.

*Earthquakes.*—This parish has acquired some notoriety from its earthquakes. These very remarkable phenomena have undoubtedly been felt here at intervals for nearly fifty years, but of late have been very feeble and rare. The writer of this felt one earthquake very distinctly, and has heard of several others during his incumbency. At and after the time of the last Statistical Account, the earthquakes were so frequent and violent, and accompanied with such loud noises, as to occasion great alarm,—especially one which occurred on a Sabbath, while the congregation was as-

sembled. There has been no plausible theory of the causes of these local earthquakes; their centre seems to be about the round hill above Comrie; they have been felt at twenty miles distance, but their effects at no time have been serious. Probably there is some connection between the earthquakes and the numerous extinct volcanoes in this neighbourhood.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The scenery around Loch Earn, and along the river Earn, is rugged and picturesque, richly wooded on both sides, and hardly if at all inferior to the scenery of the Trosachs in the next parish. There is a beautiful cascade at Glenbeich, on the north side of Lochearn, seldom visited and little known. There are several on the Lednock, particularly the Caldron, a mile from Comrie, and a few on the smaller streams, as at Dunira, Aberuchill, and Ardvorlich. Few parishes can abound more in varied and striking natural beauties. The views from Lord Melville's monument above the village of Comrie, and from the road to Glenartney, are peculiarly fine. The road from Crieff to Lochearnhead passes through a district that is surpassed in natural and acquired beauties perhaps by no other of equal extent in the Highlands, and being within so convenient a distance from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth, and Dundee, is well worth the attention of tourists.

*Geology.*—The prevailing rock of this district, in common with the other parts of the Grampian range, is the mica slate, containing in the western part of the parish, at Lochearnside and in Glenartney, a very extensive bed of primitive limestone. Granite also occurs in Glen Lednock, and extensive rocks of clay-slate in Glenartney. In the lower part of the parish, as well as in Glenartney, the old red sandstone formation occurs, and also conglomerate, or plum-pudding stone. Marble has been found at Ardvorlich. Lead has been met with in small quantities. Iron ore is abundant, and seems at a remote period to have been wrought to a considerable extent. Many remains of furnaces for smelting iron are to be seen in different parts of the parish.

Clay occurs rarely, and is mixed with sand. The soil is almost universally a light, sharp gravel, abounding with stones, and not very fertile. In some parts of the glens, it approaches more to a loamy nature.

*Zoology.*—Of rarer animals there are found the red-deer and roe in considerable numbers. At the head of Glenartney, to the south-east of Benvorlich, Lord Willoughby de Eresby has a preserve of red-deer, containing several hundreds. It was here that



Sir Walter Scott laid the commencement of the chase in the Lady of the Lake. The ptarmigan, and the alpine or white hare are found in a few of the higher hills. The moor-fowl and black-cock are abundant on most of the estates. The goats that formerly were abundant in this parish, as well as the hill horses, have now almost disappeared.

In the rivers the salmon appears in June or July, and spawns in October or November. The sea-trout generally appears in July or August in the Ruchill only, it being remarked that they are scarcely ever found in the Earn above its junction with the Ruchill, although it is the larger stream, while they go up to within a mile of the source of the Ruchill. Trout of good quality are found in the lake and river Earn; perch also occur rarely. Abundance of small trout are found in the Lednock, and in the Boltachan, a hill loch above Dunira. In Loch Earn, char of excellent quality is found; but, from ignorance of its habits, the fishery has never been prosecuted, although from the demand for that fish in the English markets, a reasonable prospect of success might be anticipated.

*Woods.*—There are extensive natural woods of oak, ash, birch, alder, and hazel, and a large revenue is derived by the proprietors from the annual cuttings of oak-coppice. The soil is peculiarly adapted for oak and ash. There are several natural grown oaks at Aberuchill, about 15 feet in circumference. The trunk of an ash at Wester Fenglen, on the estate of Ardvorlich, is 17 feet 9 inches in circumference. Firs of different kinds with larch have been extensively planted, and have thriven well. Where the soil is dry, rocky, and sloping, the larch thrives best. The Scotch fir grows best where the soil is dry, and barren, with a mixture of peat. When the subsoil is moist and tilly, the spruce and silver fir thrive well.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There are, in several places, remains of Druidical temples, and large upright stones. Tradition reports that Dundurn was a preaching station of Fillan, the Culdee Saint, and at Dun Fillan, the hill overhanging the old church of Dundurn, is a holy well at which many Popish superstitions were practised, even so lately as at the date of the last Statistical Account. These happily are now abandoned. Fifty years ago, there were very distinct remains of two Roman camps at Dalginross. The larger camp is now obliterated by the plough. This station seems to have been connected with those at Ardoch and Strageath, and a Roman road

ran from it eastward, down through Strathearn. It has been supposed that the battle described by Tacitus between Agricola and Galgacus took place on the plain of Dalginross, or, at all events, that it was in this camp that the ninth legion sustained their disastrous night attack from the Caledonians. These suppositions receive some countenance from local traditions and etymologies of the names of neighbouring places.

The noted outlawry of the clan Gregor originated in this parish. The Reformation, though then triumphant in the south of Scotland, had evidently benefited this district as little, as to this day, the south of Ireland. Drummond of Drummondernoch, a forester of James VI., having in 1588 cut off the ears of some M'Gregors whom he had found trespassing in the royal forest of Glenartney, they, with the aid of clansmen, soon after murdered him,\* and after savagely exhibiting his head to his sister, Mrs Stewart of Ardvorlich, upon her own table, carried it to Balquhidder Kirk, where the M'Gregors assembling on the Sabbath, and each man laying his hand on the bloody head, they swore to make common cause with the murderers. This outrage and contempt of Royalty, at the time when James was on his marriage excursion to Denmark, brought upon the clan Gregor, by royal proclamation, the vengeance of neighbour clans, and the proscription of their very name. To this day, there are many of the clan in this parish who are known both by their original surname, so long proscribed, and by their adopted names of Murray or Drummond.

Sir James Campbell, Lord Aberuchill, and the first Viscount Melville, were connected by residence with this parish; the former a Presbyterian, and defender of the Whig government at the British Revolution of 1688,—most of the gentry of Strathearn being then Episcopalian or Popish Jacobites. A very handsome and conspicuous monument has been erected on the hill over the village of Comrie to the memory of Lord Melville, by his friends in Perthshire. Dunira was his favourite residence during the intervals of parliamentary duties, and by him the extensive mansion house was erected. Mr Menzies, the minister of this parish in 1745, rode to Carlisle, and, by his intercession with the Duke of Cumberland, is said to have saved the lives of many of his parishioners who had joined the Pretender's army under the Earl of Perth.

\* Vide the Royal Proclamation, which distinctly states that the murder was committed by the clan Gregor.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, Lord and Lady Willoughby de Eresby ; Sir David Dundas, Bart. of Dunira ; Mrs Williamson of Lawers ; Thomas Graham Stirling, Esq. of Dalginross ; James Drummond, Esq. of Strageath ; Robert Stewart, Esq. of Ardvorlich. The Marquis of Breadalbane is connected with the part of this parish annexed, *quoad sacra*, to Balquhidder. .

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers consist of ten volumes ; the date of their earliest entry is 1693. The money transactions seem to have been always regularly recorded, and the records of marriages and baptisms are tolerably full. I find from the records of Presbytery, which commence in 1660, that there have been three presbyterial visitations of this parish ; one on August 7th 1678, under the system of pseudo-Episcopacy, then established, at which time it is noticed that there were eight elders, who were exhorted to assist the minister in censuring faults, and additional elders were ordered to be elected. A second visitation took place on June 10th 1707, when the elders were exhorted to their respective duties as Christians and elders, and particularly to be careful to attend on meetings with their minister and among themselves for prayer, religious converse, and privy censures. The third visitation was on 20th August 1718.

The ministers of this parish since the Revolution were, Mr John M'Allum, ordained in 1702, translated in 1710 to the parish of Callander ; Mr Dugald Campbell, inducted 1711 ; Mr Adam M'Adam, inducted 1721 ; Mr Andrew Mushet, inducted 1723 ; Mr Æneas Shaw, inducted 1731 ; Mr Robert Menzies, ordained in 1743 ; Mr Hugh M'Diarmid, admitted 1781 ; Mr Patrick M'Isaac, admitted 1802 ; Mr William Mackenzie, ordained 1829. All the ministers previous to Mr M'Diarmid appear to have been inducted on the call of the heritors, elders, &c.

*Antiquities.*—A very curious relic of antiquity has been preserved in the family of Ardvorlich, from a very remote period. It is apparently a lump of pure white rock crystal, about the size and shape of a large egg, bound with four bands of silver of very antique workmanship. Over a considerable district of the country, it is known by the Gaelic name of the *Clach Dearg*, which means the red stone, arising probably from a reddish tinge it appears to have, when held up to the light. The water in which the stone had been dipped, has been considered a sovereign remedy in all diseases of cattle, and many persons even from distant parts of the district are in the habit of resorting to Ardvorlich to procure

the water; but, like all similar objects of superstitious reverence, it is fast losing its repute. It is supposed by antiquarians, that this relic, as well as several others of a similar kind, is of Druidical workmanship. One precisely similar in every respect to this, is to be seen on the top of the Scottish sceptre preserved in the Castle of Edinburgh. Some have asserted that this kind of stone was the official badge of the Archdruids.

*Mansion-Houses.*—The chief modern buildings in the parish are, the mansion-houses of Dunira, Aberuchill, Ardvorlich, Dalhonzie, and Comrie House. The parish church is a plain, substantial building, with a spire, forming a striking feature in the landscape. An excellent parish school has lately been erected.

### III.—POPULATION.

The amount of population, so far as it can be traced, has varied little for upwards of a century.

Dr Webster in 1755 stated it to be,	-	2546
At the period of the last Statistical Account, it was said to be,	-	3000
The Parliamentary census of 1800 stated it at,	-	2458
The census of		
1811	-	2689
1821	-	2614
1831	-	2622

being 1243 males, and 1379 females, in 1831.

Number of families,	-	586
families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	221
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	170

The population of the district annexed *quoad sacra* to Balquhiddy, which at present amounts to 205, so far as known, has never been counted in this parish, unless perhaps by the writer of the last Statistical Account.

The soil and situation of the parish form a natural barrier against the increase of population. Education having been general since the beginning of last century by means of the parish school, and by several schools maintained by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, the people were enterprising and ready to emigrate when they felt straitened at home. Many have emigrated to Canada, during the last twenty or thirty years. The system of enlarging the farms and introducing sheep greatly diminished the agricultural population at the beginning of this century; but the villages which were then in process of being feued, kept up the population of the parish at its usual amount. The high war prices of hand-loom weaving, at the same time, encouraged the village system. The village population at present amounts to 1666, and the country population to 1010.

The register of births being imperfect, and that of deaths be-

ing more so, it is difficult to give their yearly averages. There being 446 children in the parish under seven years of age, 65 may be the yearly average of births. The average of marriages is 15 for each of the last seven years.

There are nine proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards; and of these only three are resident, and one other resides during the summer months in the parish.

The parish maintains three lunatics at the Perth Asylum; besides whom, there are at least ten fatuous persons at present, one blind man, and five deaf and dumb, three of whom have received instruction in the Edinburgh Asylum, chiefly through the liberality of the Dunira family.

The English language is generally spoken, and has gained ground greatly within the last forty years. At present, scarcely a fourth part of the congregation attend on the afternoon Gaelic service, whereas forty years ago, the attendance on English was very limited. An annual meeting for the encouragement and exhibition of Highland games and dress was, some years ago, instituted under high patronage at St Fillans. It is now kept up with very great difficulty, and probably will soon be discontinued. A great improvement has taken place in the habits of the people, in respect of cleanliness in their persons and houses; about three-fourths of their houses being slated, and plastered, and their dress being in general bought, not homespun, as formerly. Their ordinary food is potatoes, milk, and oatmeal. The use of wheat bread is becoming general, though no wheat is ever raised in the parish. There are three butchers, two brewers, three bakers, and more than twelve grocers; and there are annually consumed in the parish upwards of 1567 lbs. of tobacco, 1749 lbs. of snuff, at 4s. per lb., and 2000 gallons of spirits at 9s. 6d.; 3000 lbs. of tea at 5s., and 16,000 lbs. of sugar at 8d; making for these items a sum total of L. 3000, or of L. 1, 3s. for each individual to spend upon these articles of luxury. While the high duties were on spirits, there was much smuggling in this parish, which experience proved to be most detrimental not only to the morals, but to the temporal interests of all engaged in it; now, however, it scarcely, if at all, exists. There is a good deal of poaching, although the game and fish are carefully watched.

Upon the whole, it is believed that the advantages of education which this parish has so long enjoyed, and of ample church accommodation, and above all the preaching of the

Gospel, have to a manifest degree operated beneficially on the intellectual, moral, and religious character of the body of the people. The intelligence of the agricultural class, the religion of the manufacturing, and the morality of both classes, are hence, it is believed, above the average. They read and think for themselves, and are not liable to be carried about by every wind of opinion. They are, on the whole, honest, sober, frugal, and industrious. Only on one occasion during the last seven years, was there anything like a serious disturbance on the streets, and that was at a market, by some young men, who beat each other, and, being taken before the Sheriff, at once confessed, and were dismissed with a fine. Although there has been an endeavour to exercise scripturally strict discipline, no more than about two dozen of persons are under sentence of exclusion excluded from church communion for offences of all sorts. All parents shew a laudable desire to educate their children. The public ordinances of religion are well attended; and the Sabbath is observed with great outward decorum. Some time ago, a south country proprietor, on a visit in this parish, wishing to send away his luggage by a cart on the Sabbath, could not get an individual in the parish who would do this, for favour or money. But, with all our external morality and religion, the vivifying power of the gospel of Jesus Christ seems to be not much sought or experienced amongst us.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

In so extensive a parish, it is difficult to obtain accurate statistics of agriculture; and on various points, we cannot even reach approximations to the truth. The proprietors, or their factors on all the estates, have politely furnished answers to the queries sent to them; and from these, it is calculated that the number of acres, standard imperial measure, in the parish, which are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, amounts to 7097; waste or in pasture 55,571; improvable, 1865; common or disputed, 1315; under wood, 3139. The *quoad civilia* portion attached to Balquhiddy may contain 250 acres arable, and 3500 acres of pasture.

Oak coppice is the species of wood most attended to; and in the larger properties, there are twenty-two annual hags or cuttings, which, sold by auction, amount to the annual value of L. 1248.

*Rent.*—The average rent of arable land is L. 1, 6s. per acre, and of hill pasture 2s. per acre, making the average rental of the parish to be L. 12,000. The valued rent amounted to L. 344, 8s. 10½d. Sterling, or L. 4133, 6s. 8d. Scots, so that the actual rental

is thirty-four times the amount of the valued rent. The average rent of grazing is for an ox or cow L. 2 for the summer half year, and for a sheep in the low grounds 8s., on hill pasture 3s. 6d.

*Wages.*—The wages of men farm-servants are L. 13, and of women L. 6, 6s. a year.

*Live-Stock.*—On the estate of Lawers, which is chiefly in the hands of the proprietor, most attention has been paid to the improvement of sheep. The late enterprising proprietor, Lord Balgray, reported “that the ordinary breed of sheep is the black-faced. These have been improved, entirely by introducing the best breeds from Crawford Muir, Dumfries-shire. Some years ago, the Cheviots were introduced, and they thrive well, and have been very profitable. Of late years, Leicester sheep have been also introduced with much advantage, by taking cross-bred lambs from black-faced ewes. The wool on Lawers has been much improved and doubled in weight within the space of ten years. The most beneficial salve which has been found, is the tar and butter.”

The Ayrshire breed of cows has been very generally introduced, and its excellence kept up by superior animals purchased by the proprietors. Some good stocks of the best Highland breed are also to be found in the higher parts of the parish.

In regard to the general character of the husbandry pursued, the very intelligent land-steward reports as to the Perth estate, which extends over the upper districts south and west: “The arable land is stated at the utmost extent, and comprehends all that was ever subjected to the plough, and, in my opinion, more than is so at the present time, as a great part of the land called arable in that quarter is found to pay better, as pasture, except what may be necessary for the support of the people and stock in the winter, being mostly pasture or grazing farms. The tenant’s principal dependence is stock, the preservation and improvement of it is his chief object. The general husbandry, in the pasture farms, is alternate white and green crops, and long rested as pasture.”

In the low grounds, the usual system is a rotation of five years, in the order of oats, green crop, barley, and grass seeds,—hay pasture. There is no wheat grown in the parish. The soil is excellently adapted for potatoes, barley, and oats, and, if largely manured, produces heavy crops. The deep soil ploughing has not yet been introduced.

On the estates of Aberuchill and Ardvorlich, the cultivated land has been doubled during the last forty years; and a large

quantity has been reclaimed on Dunira of late, and in the time of Lord Melville. It is stated respecting Lawers, that any land attempted to be improved appears to be improved at an expense which affords no remuneration; and respecting the Perth estate, that forty or fifty acres have recently been converted from bog and pasture to arable land, and about one-half of which will return to pasture.

*Leases.*—Leases, when principally of grazing farms, run from nine to eleven years; and when of arable, always nineteen years.

The farm-buildings and enclosures are generally sufficient for the farm, and are in the course of improvement.

*Improvements.*—The improvements recently made in the parish consist of drainage, enclosures, the erection of suitable farm-steadings, irrigation, turning useless marshes into profitable hay-meadows, and planting woods. The oak woods have been brought under a regular system of management; the vacancies planted up with oak, and the barren wood destroyed. Much might still be done, and is now in course of being done. The hill pastures are susceptible of very considerable improvement, were the practice followed in the south of Scotland, of cutting open drains along the hills, generally introduced. Little, however, has been done in that way, except on the estate of Lawers. A whole farm has lately been reclaimed by the proprietor of Dalginross, so as to yield a fair return; and various other improvements have been made on that property.

The lime-quarry at the head of Lochearn (in the *quoad civilia* district of the parish) greatly improves the agriculture of the district. A boat-load, containing from sixty to seventy bolls, may be had, burnt, for L. 3 or L. 4; and usually thirty bolls are applied to an acre. Manure is sold at from 4s. to 5s. the cubic yard.

*Quarries.*—There are two slate quarries on the Perth, and another on the Aberuchill estates. Both are wrought, though not extensively, and seem to yield a fair return. There are a number of whinstone quarries.

*Gross Produce.*—I cannot ascertain with any accuracy the average gross amount of raw produce reared in the parish. The following is a specimen.

The farm of Tullybannoch, on Dunira estate, possessed by Mr M'Isaac, is the largest arable farm in the parish. It contains, in Scots acres, 270 arable, and 1200 uncultivated land; and the average rent is L. 1, 10s. per acre. He grows annually, on an average of years, 250 quarters of barley, 350 quarters of oats, 27



acres of turnips, 8 acres of potatoes, and 80 tons of hay, clover, and rye-grass.

At Mr M<sup>c</sup>Isaac's distillery, the malt made from 10th October 1835 to 10th October 1836 was 7098 bushels. The whisky distilled during the same period was 18,546 gallons; and the whisky sold and consumed within the parish, 1498 gallons.

*Manufactures.*—The manufacture of cotton and woollen cloth is carried on in this parish. The hand-loom cotton weavers are employed by houses in Glasgow and Perth. During the winter months, 136 hand-loom weavers are employed; and of these one-tenth are employed only during three months of winter. The remaining 120 may, on an average, earn 1s. per day, for 280 days in the year,—that is, deducting thirty days in harvest, and Sundays and other occasional vacant days, sixty-five. Of these there are about 50 heads of families who have each good gardens, and a patch of potatoes, and a pig, which may add about L. 4, 10s. to each family's income.

The only woollen manufacture is carried on at the river Lednock, in the village of Comrie. Eleven men and eight children are employed at the mill, and five persons are employed out-of-doors.

There are several streams in the parish, affording excellent water-power for manufactures, which might afford eligible investments for capital, were the contemplated railroad brought to the neighbourhood. But the distances from market, and communication, and coals, will always form a heavy drawback.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The village of Comrie, with the adjoining villages of Dalginross and Ross, contains a population of 1469. The chief trade is cotton weaving. It is a burgh of barony. The baron bailie appointed by the superior, Sir David Dundas, resides in Perth. There are a number of constables, and one is paid by the heritors, to perambulate the villages and keep away vagrants. There is much need of an effective system of police for all the villages in this part of Perthshire. The four villages of Comrie, Dalginross, Ross, and St Fillans have populations respectively of 978, 397, 154, 197. Crieff, in which is held a weekly market, is six and a-half miles distant from Comrie.

*Means of Communication.*—In Comrie, there is a sub-post office to Crieff; its annual revenue is about L. 120. The length of turnpike roads does not exceed twenty miles. No public carriage travels upon them. There is a weekly carrier to Edinburgh and

to Perth ; and one thrice a week to Crieff. The Killin carrier passes weekly through Comrie. There are three stone bridges upon the Earn, three on the Lednock, and one on the Ruchill ; and there are five wooden bridges upon these rivers, all in good repair. There are no canals or railroads, although there have been proposals to make one or other between Perth and Loch Earn. Farm produce and lime might be exported, and coals might be imported by a canal or railroad, to the great benefit of the district, but, it is to be feared, without corresponding advantage to the shareholders.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church, situated in the village of Comrie, at the eastern extremity of the parish, is convenient for the greater part of the population. There are 674 persons residing farther than three miles from it, 107 houses are more than four miles, and 30 houses are more than six miles distant from it. Having been built in 1805 it is in good repair. The accommodation is for 1044 sitters, at eighteen inches each, and there are no seat rents.

The manse was built in 1784, and an addition was made to it in 1822. There are two glebes ; that of Tullychetal at the manse, which is a mile and a quarter from the church, contains eight acres, for which L. 1, 10s. per acre would be a high rent. The glebe of Comrie, adjacent to the village, contains four acres of good soil, and has drawn a rent of L. 12. The stipend consists of 16 chalders of victual, and an allowance of L. 10 for communion elements ; the average value in money for the last seven years is L. 244.

There is a chapel at Dundurn, five miles west of the parish church ; in which the parish minister appears, for a long time back, to have been in the habit of preaching every fourth Sabbath. In 1834, this chapel was almost rebuilt by subscription, and is seated for 400 persons. For the last three years, a preacher having been engaged at a salary of upwards of L. 60, raised by subscription, to officiate in the chapel and neighbouring district, not only have the population around Loch Earn, amounting to upwards of 800, and many of them much more than five miles distant from any church, been supplied with religious ordinances, but also 800 sitters in the church of Comrie are no longer deprived of preaching every fourth Sunday. An endowment would lead to the immediate establishment of a parish at Loch Earn side, and is much needed.

There has been a small body of Seceders in this parish, almost since the commencement of the Secession in Scotland. The per-

sonal influence of Ralph Erskine is said to have originated it. The established pulpit was not very efficiently supplied at the time, and the obligation on the minister to leave the parish church vacant once a month by going to Dundurn, occasioned a deficiency in the ministrations of the national church, which it was most desirable and commendable to supply. The necessity of conducting public worship in two languages gave a farther opening to the Secession, by leaving the increasing English portion of the congregation with only one-half of the ordinary Sabbath ministrations. For a time the Secession provided sermon only on the fourth Sabbath, when the parish church was vacant. The minister has a house and garden, and is said to receive a stipend of L. 90.

About half a dozen individuals occasionally attend the Episcopalian chapel at Muthill. The Roman Catholics, since the last Statistical Account, have completely disappeared from this parish. According to the best information that could be procured, when replies were returned to the statistical queries of the Royal Commissioners and General Assembly, there were of persons of all ages belonging to the Established Church 2357, and of persons belonging to other denominations 317; of communicants belonging to the Established Church 1195, and to other denominations 157.

*Education.*—According to the report sent to the General Assembly for 1836, there were seven schools in this parish, besides four Sabbath and three week-day evening schools, viz. one parochial school; two schools on teachers' own adventure; three supported in part by individual subscription; and one by subscription of the inhabitants of the district. The winter attendance at the seven day schools amounted to one in every five of the population. Besides the common branches taught in all the schools, the parish teacher instructs in Greek, French, and mathematics. The modern improvements of the Normal and Sessional School of Edinburgh, and the training school of Glasgow, have been introduced with success. The salaries amount to about L. 71, and the probable amount of fees per annum to L. 90, besides the value of the legal accommodations of an excellent house and garden provided to the parochial teacher, and of three houses and of land for three cows, provided for three other teachers. The fees in all the schools are, per quarter, 2s. for English; 2s. 6d. for English and writing; 3s. for English, writing, and arithmetic; and 5s. for Latin, inclusive of every other branch. There are none between six and fifteen years of age who cannot read or write; and,

so far as is known, there are no natives of this parish above fifteen years of age who cannot read or write. The people are much alive to the benefits of education. With the exception of the parochial teacher, the others are in no better circumstances than day-labourers; and, from inability to support his family, one of them has lately exchanged his school for a weaver's loom. Small endowments are much needed in two or three districts, especially in Glenlednock, where, for want of one, a teacher is engaged by the inhabitants only during winter. The facilities of education have not been materially increased since last Statistical Account.

*Libraries.*—There is a parochial library at Comrie, containing about 500 volumes. It was commenced in 1822. The subscription is 2s. annually, and the annual proceeds amount to about L. 7. There is also a small subscription library at St Fillans; and a small circulating library in Comrie. There is no public reading-room,—every weaver's shop and farm-house being more or less employed for this purpose. No newspaper is printed in the parish, but a sufficient number is sent to it.

*Friendly Societies.*—There were three, and are now two, Friendly Societies in the parish. The Friendly Society of Weavers was instituted in 1805, and dissolved in 1834. The capital then was L. 270; the members were 200; the widows, 10. St Fillans Highland Society was instituted in 1819; present capital, L. 100; members about 60; widows on fund, 3. The Mason's Society commenced in 1818; capital at present, L. 450; members, 320; widows on fund, 16. This Society is yearly increasing in numbers and capital. Neither of the Friendly Societies has as yet taken the benefit of the Lord Advocate's bill for regulating Friendly Societies; but means are at present employed to obtain this benefit for the Mason's Society.

*Savings Bank.*—A savings bank was established in 1815, by the heritors and minister. It affords an example of the evils of the old law now happily repealed, which did not extend to Scotland the same protection and facilities, as to the English Savings Banks. The funds used at first to be transmitted to Crieff, and lodged in the hands of the agent of the Leith Bank in that place. In 1823, when the deposits amounted to L. 500, that agent failed. The directors expected that the Leith Bank would be responsible for the amount, as having been lodged in the hands of their acknowledged agent; but the directors of that establishment denied that the money had ever been entered into their books. In this di-

lemma, the directors of the Comrie Bank obtained upon their bond L. 300 from the Commercial Bank, in order to pay off the most clamant of the depositors, and to carry on operations until a settlement could be procured with the Leith Bank. This has not yet been obtained; and consequently, although the savings bank is still doing business, it is comparatively on a limited scale. The amount deposited since 1823 is above L. 1200, being an average of L. 90 per annum; the number of depositors 250, consisting of all classes of labourers, but especially of servant girls. The sum actually deposited at present is about L. 600. About L. 300 of the sum invested, previous to the failure in 1823, have been paid up from the funds of the bank, or from the pockets of individual directors.

*Poor.*—The average number of paupers is 55, of whom 45 receive an average monthly alimant of 4s. 2d.; and 10 are occasionally aided. There are three lunatics in Perth asylum, who cost the heritors L. 60 a-year. The annual expense of the poor is thus about L. 180. The practical management of the poor funds is in the hands of deacons, who hold a monthly meeting, and their proceedings are reviewed at an annual meeting of the heritors and kirk-session. The ordinary church collections average L. 90 per annum: about L. 12 accrue from marriages and funerals; and during the last twenty years, one legacy of L. 180, and another of L. 50 have been received.

Since 1816, there has been a voluntary assessment paid by the heritors, amounting to L. 40; a good deal is given in private charity by heritors and other individuals. There is little disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief, and it is not considered so degrading as before the commencement of the village system, and of friendly societies.

There is a small lock-up-house in the village of Comrie, erected about three years ago, but it has been scarcely, if at all, used. The great distance of this parish from the county town makes it necessary to have a place of security to lodge vagrants and disorderly characters for a single night, or at least that they should be aware that such a place is at hand. The village constable, paid by the heritors, keeps the key.

*Fairs.*—There are five annual fairs held in Comrie, in the months of March, May, July, November, and December. The principal of these are, St Kessack's on the third Wednesday of

March, and Clog Market on the first Wednesday of December. The Crieff fairs are the principal ones in this district.

*Inns, &c.*—There are 13 inns or alehouses in the parish, licensed to sell spirits. The number of licensed houses may not be so great in proportion to our population as in several neighbouring parishes; but it is far too high. Four would be quite sufficient for the real wants of the public, and the excess of nine is a source of deplorable evil to the morals of the people. Efforts have been made to get the number reduced, which were so far successful, that from being 16 in 1829 they were reduced to 11; but, in opposition to the strongest remonstrances from the kirk-session, the Justices have lately seen fit to add to the number of these moral pest-houses. The excise returns give 1874 gallons as the quantity retailed in the parish last year.

*Fuel.*—Coals, wood, and peat are the fuel used in the parish. The coals are carried from Bannockburn, a distance of twenty-two miles, and cost generally 1s. the cwt. At the annual sales of peeled oak, a cart load can be had for about 5s. Peats are distant, and not very accessible; they cost 4s. the cart load. It is stated in the last Statistical Account, that the greatest disadvantage under which many parts of the parish labour, is the scarcity and high price of fuel. This disadvantage is still greatly felt, but the making of a shorter road from Bannockburn across the hill between Ardoch and Comrie, and the increased quantity of oak coppice since that time, have both tended to diminish the price of fuel.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Many changes have taken place in this parish since 1795. While the population has continued stationary in amount, it has been changed in two respects; from being resident in farms it has come to be chiefly resident in villages, and from using the Gaelic it now generally uses the English language. The Highland dress is entirely disused. Proprietors have diminished in number to one-half, while their rental has been quadrupled. The system of small farms has been put down; considerable enterprize has been shown in the improvement of land and stock; by means of green crops and sown grass, a proper system of rotations has been introduced; excellent farming utensils are in use; capital and skill have greatly increased, so that, instead of farm produce being imported, a good deal is now exported from the parish. The roads have been exceedingly improved, and a new road to the south has been of great benefit. The manufacture of linen yarn, plaids, and

tartan, has given place to handloom cotton weaving. The coarse woollen manufactory, desiderated in the last Statistical Account, has been set up and is useful. The small whisky stills that consumed 1200 bolls of barley, have all been put down, and a large legal distillery performs their functions. Wages are doubled, and pauperism has increased fourfold. The small old and ruinous parish church has been replaced by a commodious erection, and the chapel at Dundurn has been renewed and supplied with regular preaching. The attendance at the Established Church has increased; education has continued stationary in quantity, but greatly improved in quality; the "Papists" have disappeared, and the "Antiburgher Seceders in the village," have become Voluntary Dissenters.

As to the improvements of which the parish is susceptible, a canal or railroad, chiefly for the import of coal and export of lime, slates, cotton goods, and farm produce, might, if practicable, benefit the parish. A road to Loch-Tayside through Glen-Lednock would be advantageous.

If an endowment could be procured to supply the inhabitants of Lochearnside with an ordained and resident minister, and if at least one endowment were given for an additional school in the village of Comrie, and if the Dissenters could be persuaded to cooperate as brethren with the Established Church, and an endowment procured for their minister, so as that there might be as formerly three endowed ministers freely chosen by their congregations, and three parishes each with a population of about 1000 souls,—the interests of religion, education, and morality would be greatly promoted in this large district, the pressing danger of compulsory pauperism averted, sectarian and party bitterness would be greatly removed, and while a better system of preparation for eternity would be thus instituted, present benefits of great value would, under the Divine Blessing, be largely reaped—according to the promise, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all other things shall be added to you."

*June 1838.*

## PARISH OF CULROSS.

PRESBYTERY OF DUMFERMLINE, SYNOD OF FIFE.

THE REV. A. B. DUNCAN, }  
THE REV. JOHN BALFOUR, } MINISTERS.\*

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### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name is considered to be of Gaelic origin ; and to be compounded of two words, *Cul* and *Ross*, the former signifying *back* or *side*, and the latter a *Peninsula* : and this meaning is certainly descriptive of the town and parish, lying as they do at the back or side of that tract of country, comprehended between the Friths of Forth and Tay, and which in ancient times went under the general name of Ross. The barony of Kincardine, on the west, formerly belonged to this parish, but was disjoined in the year 1672, and added to Tulliallan. It lies on the north bank of the Frith of Forth ; the land, particularly that part where the town is situated, rising abruptly from the shore.

The surface of the parish is generally undulating, with considerable elevation of ground towards the north and north-west, but containing no hills. It is about 4 miles in extent from east to west, and about the same from north to south. The soil which extends along the shore is, for the most part, very fertile, being of a black loam. Towards the middle, it is generally of a clayey nature ; but being generally abundantly fertile, and when under active management, which is almost universally the case, it produces very heavy crops of all kinds. Towards the north and north-west, the soil is naturally much poorer ; but even there, a great deal has been done since the date of the former Account, in the way of improvement ; and the land is, for the most part, either brought into a state of cultivation, or is under thriving plantations. It appears that the proprietors had, then and for some time before, begun to turn their serious attention to the rearing of wood.

*Geology.*—The geological structure of the parish presents nothing peculiar. The soil consists chiefly of clay, mixed in many

\* Drawn up by the Rev. A. B. Duncan.



parts with sand, resting on masses of sandstone and clay slate,—these two substances being laid in alternate strata, and forming sloping banks and eminences of considerable height; and rendering the general surface of the parish extremely uneven. The dip of the strata is inclined to the north-west, at an angle varying from 30 to 40 degrees.

Coal mines were wrought here at one period, but are now too much exhausted to afford a profitable return. In some places, there is found good tenacious clay, of considerable depth and extent, which might be turned to advantage in making bricks, tiles, &c. There is also fire clay of good quality, fit for pottery, and which has been partially wrought. Thin seams of ironstone appear in different places between the beds of clay slate, rich in ore, but not sufficient in quantity to defray the expense of working.

A bed of limestone of about eight feet in thickness is found in one place, but at such an inclination as to be but partially wrought.

*Zoology.*—In zoology, there are one or two species of animals met with in the parish, which are becoming rare. The roe, (*Cervus capreolus*,) the most beautiful of the deer family, is frequently seen: it is, however, much persecuted, being considered very destructive to the young plantations. The badger has also been seen. The viper, (*Coluber berus*,) the only species of the serpent tribe found in Scotland, is seen during the summer months basking in the open sandy spaces among the heath.

*Botany.*—A few of the rarer plants found here may be pointed out. *Narcissus pseudo-narcissus* is found in one spot growing abundantly, and has by some been supposed to be indigenous; but there is reason to think that its existence there, seemingly in a wild state, is owing to its having been cultivated in a garden, at one time situated there. *Doronicum Pardalianches* is found at a short distance from the last mentioned plant. The other plants which are not so common are, *Adoxa moschatellina*, *Aquilegia vulgaris*, *Arum maculatum*, *Ballota nigra*, *Briza media*, *Chelidonium majus*, *Cistus Lelianthemum*, *Corallorhiza innata*, *Nepeta cataria*, *Parietaria officinalis*, *Polygonum bistorta*, *Pyrola rotundifolia*, *Solanum dulcamara*, *Trientalis Europea*.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Town.*—The town was erected into a royal burgh in the year 1588, by James VI., and, in conjunction with Stirling, Dunfermline, Queensferry, and Inverkeithing, sends a representative to Parliament. The object of greatest historical interest is the Abbey or Mo-

nastery of Culross, founded by Malcolm, Thane of Fife, in 1217. It occupies a commanding situation at the top of the town; and some rather beautiful remains of it exist. The only part in good preservation is what now forms the parish church, and which was formerly the chapel of the monastery. It is in the form of a cross with a massive square tower on the west.

The period at which the town seems to have attained its greatest importance, was about 200 years ago. Then, a very active trade in coal was carried on, the coal was conveyed to Holland, and from that supplies of various kinds of merchandise were brought back, and sent from this to other parts of the country. This trade has now, for a long period, entirely ceased; and there does not even exist a supply for the parish,—the coals which are used being all brought from some distance.

Another branch of trade and manufacture was established here, but which has now ceased. This consisted in the fabrication of girdles, a kitchen utensil, formerly much employed for toasting unleavened cakes of oatmeal. The right of making girdles was secured to the girdlesmiths of Culross by patent, both from James VI. and Charles II. But the exclusive right was set aside by a decision of the Court of Session in 1727. But the decline in the manufacture which soon after took place, and which, at the date of the former Account, had proceeded so far, that the manufacture is said to have then almost entirely disappeared, is attributed not so much to the loss of the patent, as to the fact of the same article being made by the Carron Company at a much lower rate, and to the more general use of wheaten bread, which began then to prevail.

*Eminent Men.*—In the history of the place, it is proper to mention the names of two distinguished individuals, who were both for some time ministers of Culross, viz. Drs Webster and Erskine, the former noted as the projector of the Ministers' Widows' Fund, and likewise as one of the most popular preachers of his time; and the other no less distinguished for his great personal piety and worth, and for his theological attainments and writings. It is proper also to mention the late Earl of Dundonald, who appears to have been a person of very considerable talent, and of no mean acquirements in natural science, as his discovery of the method of extracting tar from coal sufficiently proves. And his son, the present Earl of Dundonald, whose abilities and enterprise have illustrated the naval history of this and other countries, is a native of this parish.

*Antiquities.*—Next to the monastery, the object of greatest interest is the house now called the Abbey of Culross, so called from its being situated in the immediate neighbourhood of the old abbey or monastery. It was built by Edward Lord Bruce of Kinloss, about 200 years ago, and here it is said King James VI. was entertained when he visited the proprietors. The abbey with the lands annexed came into the possession of the Dundonald family by marriage, and both were purchased about thirty-five years ago by Sir Robert Preston of Valleyfield, Bart., to whose representatives they have descended since his death.

The church of this place was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and also to St Serf or Servanus, who resided here, and who educated St Mungo or Kentigern, the Patron Saint of Glasgow.

The festival of St Serf was kept yearly on the 1st of July, when the inhabitants marched in procession, carrying green boughs. The custom has not altogether disappeared, although the day has been altered to the 4th of June, the birth day of his late Majesty George III.

A convent was sent to the Abbey of Culross from the Abbey of Kinloss. The last abbot of this place was Alexander, son of Sir James Colville of Ochiltree, who was admitted a Lord of Session anno 1574. Sir James, brother of Alexander, was raised to the dignity of Lord Colville of Culross in 1609, when the King gave him a grant of the dissolved abbey.

At the Reformation, the rental of the abbey amounted to L. 708, 16s. 7d. money; besides considerable payments in kind, of wheat, barley, oats, &c. At that time there were nine monks in the convent of the Cistercian order.

About a quarter of a mile to the west of the abbey, are the ruins of the former parish church; but which, as appears from the terms of an act of Parliament of Charles I. sanctioning the use of the present, as the parish church had not been in use "in the memorie of man."

At the east end of the town are the remains of a chapel, called St Mungo's Chapel, near to which, tradition says, that saint was born.

*Modern Buildings.*—Close on the banks of the Forth, is a modern house called Castle Hill, anciently Dunemarle, that is, the castle by or near the sea. The ancient castle of this name is said to have been a stronghold of the Macduffs, Thaners of Fife, and was considered to mark the utmost boundary of their dominion. According to tradition, it was in the ancient Castle, only small vesti-



Number of persons between 80 and 90 years,	14
90 and 100 years,	1
Average number of children to a family 3, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ .	
There is 1 person blind, and 1 fatuous.	

Illegitimate births in the course of the last three years, 8.

From the great irregularity in registering baptisms, it is not easy to say with precision what the exact number of births may be ; but we think they may be safely reckoned at from 34 to 37 in the year.

The average number of marriages for seven years, is 10 or 11; and of deaths for the same period, 26. In that period, 29 individuals had attained the age of eighty and upwards, at the time of their death. One individual, the late Sir Robert Preston, was ninety-four.

Number of unmarried men, bachelors, and widowers upwards of 50 years of age, 38  
women and widows upwards of 45, 50

The calculation for the above statement was made in the year 1835, and the population, as rated in the Government census of 1831, is a little more. The difference amounting to 34 may be accounted for, by the circumstance that, in the latter year, a number of workmen were employed about the repair of the abbey, many of whom were strangers, but fell to be rated in the return to Government.

When manufactures are depressed, they who are engaged in them experience, of course, an abridgement of their comfort ; but, such seasons excepted, the inhabitants are perhaps as well off as any in similar situations through the country, and they are, generally speaking, contented and industrious. Many even of the humble show an inclination for reading.

The number of persons of all ages employed in weaving is about 70, who are connected either with the Dunfermline linen manufactures, or in working cotton cloths for the Glasgow trade.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agricultural Produce.*—The soil of the parish has already been described, as also its general state as to cultivation ; and we give here a statement of the agricultural produce of the parish, with the value of the same.

314 acres wheat at L. 9 per acre,	L. 2826	0	0
404 do. barley at L. 5 do.	2020	0	0
659 do. oats at L. 5, 8s. do.	3558	0	0
144½ do. potatoes at L. 10, do.	1445	0	0
92½ do. turnips at L. 7 do.	647	10	0
206 do. pease and beans at L. 5 do.	1030	0	0
293 do. hay at L. 3 do.	880	10	0
1247 do. pasture at L. 1, 10s. do.	1870	10	0
154 do. fallow,	000	0	0
<hr/> 3614 arable.	Total value of raw produce,	L. 14277	10 0

855 acres uncultivated, part of which is capable of improvement for cropping,  
 but chiefly fit for planting.  
 60 acres in gardens and orchards.  
 1693 do. in wood, yearly value L. 1563.  
 70 do. preparing for planting.

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5792 acres surface of the parish.	
Real rental of land, - - - - -	L. 4726 0 0
Yearly value of wood, - - - - -	1563 0 0
	<hr/>
Real rental of the whole parish, - - - - -	L. 6289 0 0
Valued rent Scotch, - - - - -	3623 18 3

Since the time of the former Account, the real rental has been more than doubled: nearly double the quantity of wheat is now raised; more than double the quantity of potatoes; and nine times the quantity of turnips.

All sorts of trees are planted, but of hardwood, the oak and beech agree best with the soil of the parish. The management with respect to thinning and felling is very good. Since the date of the former Account, 306 acres have been added to the arable land of the parish, and 492 acres to the plantations.

*Leases.*—The ordinary duration of farm leases is nineteen years, and the wages of a good ploughman L. 14 or L. 16, with perquisites.

*Rent of Land.*—The rent of best land near the town is from L. 3 to L. 4. Land let in large farms through the parish varies from L. 1 to L. 2, 10s., and some in the worst situations, and of inferior quality, lets as low as 10s. and 15s. per acre.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—Although Culross is a royal burgh, it is not a market-town. Dunfermline, distant seven miles, is the chief mart for the produce of the parish.

*Villages.*—There are two small villages in the parish besides the town.

*Means of Communication.*—Since the date of the former Account, the means of communication in the parish have been greatly improved, owing to a turnpike road having been made through the parish from east to west, in place of the former incommodious post road along the sea shore. There are about four miles of the turnpike road in this parish. From the state of the shore being very shallow and rocky, there is, and can be, no good harbour, and as there is no trade the want of one is not felt. A small pier, which will be a great accommodation for the passage and fishing boats, has been lately constructed.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church stands at the upper part of the

town, and although the northern district of the parish is rather distant from it, it is well situate for the population, the great proportion of whom reside in the town. The church being part of the ancient monastery, the time of its erection is the same with that of the monastery. It had fallen, like most other old churches in the country, into a state of great disrepair; but about fifteen years ago, it received a most complete and judicious repair, and is now one of the most comfortable places of worship in the country;—while, from its structure and the ancient tower attached, it has all the venerable appearance which one expects to find in a building that dates so far back. It is seated for nearly 700. The communicants are above 400 in number.

From a date upon it, it is probable the manse was built about 200 years ago. Like the church, it had fallen into great disrepair, and it was substantially repaired, at the same time receiving a considerable addition, soon after the church was put in order.

This parish is a collegiate charge. The second charge was founded about 200 years ago, when the town was in its most flourishing state, and when it and the parish were most populous. The first minister has a manse with a small garden, a glebe of four acres, value L. 11 or L. 12 yearly rent, and about three-fourths of an acre of garden ground arising from private donation. There is no grass glebe, but the heritors have for some years back allowed a small sum of money in lieu of grass. Owing to the great fall in the price of grain, the average stipend drawn for some years back has only been about L. 150. The second minister has no house, but receives a sum of money from the Exchequer in lieu thereof, owing to an extension of the Small Stipend Act, meant to apply to the cases of second ministers in burghs, whose stipends are below L. 200. This stipend has also of late years, and owing to the same cause, amounted only to about L. 150. There are no vacant teinds, but it is believed that some small portions of land in the parish are unvalued.

The number of families in the parish connected with the Established Church is 333, of Dissenting or Seceding families, 16, and one Episcopalian family.

*Education.*—This parish is well provided with the means of public instruction to the young. Besides the burgh and parish school, there is an endowed school for boys and girls, and two female private schools. The salary of the parish teacher is the maximum, L. 34, 4s. 4½d. with house and garden; besides which,

he receives from a charitable foundation L. 10 for teaching twelve poor scholars, and may make from L. 20 to L. 30 in school fees. The salary of the teacher of the endowed school is L. 36, with a house and small garden. On account of his salary, he is required to teach twenty poor scholars and to keep a Sabbath school. He charges fees from all attending, above the number on the list of poor scholars.

In both schools, the ordinary branches of education are taught; and the parish teacher is required, besides, to be able to give instruction in Latin, French, practical mathematics, and the elements of Greek; and the same branches are expected to be taught in the endowed school. Number of children under six years of age learning to read, 15; between six and fifteen years of age who are learning to read, 165; who are learning writing, 97; arithmetic, 67; Latin, 3; Greek, 2; mathematics, 13; geography, 32; total number at school, 180. There is no person in the parish above the age of childhood who cannot read; and only about 40 individuals, and these chiefly elderly females, who cannot write. The inhabitants appear in general alive to the advantages of education. Fees at the parish school, 3s. for reading; 3s. 6d. for writing with reading; and 4s. for arithmetic along with the two other branches. Those at the other public school are nearly the same as the above.

*Charitable and other Institutions.*—Compared with the population, the funds for giving relief to the indigent are very ample. Besides the one for education, already mentioned, there are different establishments for affording relief to the poor, or to those who have fallen into decayed circumstances.

Dr Bill, a native of Culross, who was settled in London as a physician, and who died there in the year 1738, mortgaged a sum of money, which, won by savings made in former times, amounts to L. 1000; the interest of which is employed in giving quarterly allowances in money to four decayed tradesmen, and two tradesmen's widows; in the educating and putting to apprenticeship of some young persons of the town and parish of Culross; and in providing a bursary for a student for four years at any of the Universities in Scotland.

In 1639, Sir George Bruce of Carnock founded an hospital in the west end of the town, for the maintenance of six decayed poor and aged women, widows of colliers or salters, or, if these be deficient, to other decayed poor and aged women in the parish of Cul-



ross. The building having long since fallen into ruin, was lately removed, but the garden exists; the rent of which, along with the alimnt of twenty-four bolls of meal, now apportioned among eight instead of six widows, is given to the incumbents on the charity.

A very important endowment was established by the late Sir Robert Preston and his lady, for the purpose of affording a weekly allowance in their own houses, of meal and money to six aged men and six aged women of respectable character, and who have lived ten years in the parish. These persons receive also some allowance for clothes, and a sum towards the payment of their house rent. In a building connected with this endowment, a supply of soup is given on two days of the week, and for three months during winter, to a number of families in this and the adjoining parish of Torryburn; and a large room is provided, where a Sabbath school is taught, and to the teacher of which a salary of L. 12 is paid out of the funds of the establishment. The appointment to the benefits of this endowment lies in the proprietor of Valleyfield for the time being. The fund has been in operation for several years. Out of the funds of the endowed school, which was founded by the late Patrick Geddes, Esq. provision is made, after the death of certain annuitants, for giving a bursary to a student, and for affording a small yearly pension to five indigent individuals.

Miss Halkerston of Carskerdo, in Fife, left a sum of money to be invested in land, the proceeds of which are to be employed by her trustees for the relief of industrious persons who may be in distressed circumstances, but who may not come so directly under the name of poor, seeking and receiving relief from the parish. Her trustees are the ministers and elders, and the proprietor of West Grange for the time being. The fund has only now come into operation.

*Poor's Funds.*—Notwithstanding the large private funds for the relief of the poor, the disbursements by the kirk-session have been for a long time considerable. The number receiving regular allowances averages between 20 and 30, occasional about 20. The weekly allowances to the regular poor are from 6d. to 1s. 6d. The church collections with some other items amount to about L. 40. There is a sum of money consisting of L. 500, which was left at different times for the use of the poor, the interest of which is applied to the relief of the ordinary and occasional poor along with the collections. An assessment has also existed for a considerable time,

which was as high, some years ago, as L. 60 or L. 70 ; but which of late years has fallen to L. 30 or L. 40.

*Library.*—A parish library has existed for some years. Number of volumes about 200.

There is a benefit society for funerals.

There is no savings bank in the parish, but a good many of the inhabitants have taken advantage of the establishment of a bank in Dunfermline last year, on the national security system, by lodging their savings in it.

*Jail.*—A small jail, containing an apartment for debtors, and another for criminals, is attached to the town house ; it is considered sufficiently secure.

*Inns.*—There are two inns in the town, and five other houses in the town and parish, where spirituous liquors are either sold to customers, or consumed on the spot. It is gratifying to be able to state, that the number of such houses has considerably decreased of late years ; from which circumstance we would willingly argue, that the desire for indulgence in spirituous liquors, which is deplored as such an evil through the country, is on the decline in this place.

*June 1839.*

## PARISH OF ST MADDOES.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JAMES NOBLE, A. M. MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—In ancient records, the name of this parish is almost invariably spelt St Madois instead of St Maddoes, its modern orthography. Neither of these modes however, in which its name is written, will account for the strange appellation it receives from the inhabitants of the district in which it lies, viz. *Semmiedores*. It appears to the writer of this account, that a corruption has taken place alike in its written orthography and its provincial pronunciation. There can be little doubt that the saint after whom it is

named was Madoch or Modoch, who is said\* to have been a Bishop in Scotland in the third or fourth century. The tradition existing in this neighbourhood is, that on coming from France to Scotland, he landed on the banks of the Tay, and that having made converts to Christianity, a church was by them built and dedicated to him, where the present church of St Madoes stands, from which, at a subsequent period, the neighbouring district, when erected into a parish, received its name. Whether there be anything of truth in this tradition, we have no means of judging beyond its common reception; but that Madoch, of whom Ecclesiastical History makes mention as a Gallic Missionary to Scotland in the early times of Christianity, was the person from whom this parish originally derived its name, is much confirmed by the fact, that there is another parish, also within the bounds of the county of Perth, which, from being the place of his usual residence, or from his being buried there, acknowledges him as the origin of its name: I mean *Kilmadock*, in the presbytery of Dunblane. The likelihood therefore is, that the name of this parish originally was St Madoch or Madox, which would easily be corrupted into Madois, and that as easily into Madoes.

*Extent and Boundaries, &c.*—The parish of St Madoes is situated in that division of the county of Perth called the Carse of Gowrie. In point of extent, it is among the smallest in Scotland, containing only 1152 imperial acres. From the irregularity of its form, it is difficult to convey any idea of it in writing. Bounded on the south, by the river Tay; on the east, by the parish of Errol; on the north, by Kinfauns; and on the west, by Kinnoul, it lies about six miles from the city of Perth, and sixteen from Dundee, and therefore forms the western portion of that district so famed for its fertility—the Carse of Gowrie. Strictly speaking indeed, the Carse of Gowrie may be regarded as commencing about four miles westward of this parish, or with the level land which skirts the Tay at the bottom of Kinnoul Hill; but it is when approaching St Madoes that the Carse first begins to be *fully* disclosed to the view of the traveller from the west, and that suddenly he finds himself, from the narrow, though fruitful and picturesque limits by which he has been confined since he entered on carse-land, two miles eastward from the city of Perth,—ushered into the breadth and the beauty, the riches and the luxuriance, of that expanded and variegated ter-

\* Keith's History of Scottish Bishops.

ritory, which for centuries has been renowned as affording the finest in quality, as well as the largest in quantity of Scotland's fruits.

*Topographical Appearance.*—A casual observer would pronounce the aspect of the parish to be that of an uninterrupted flat, except towards the northern part, where it rises into a gentle elevation; but on minuter examination, apart from the more elevated ground, it consists of three different levels or flats, the first commencing on the verge of the Tay, and composed of land which partly within the last six, and wholly within the last fifty years, has been reclaimed or banked off from the river, the greater portion of it being from three to five feet below high-water mark,—the second from six to eight feet higher, having also at no very distant period been under water,—the third and by much the most extensive, rising to the height of fourteen feet above the second, (this is the general level of the Carse of Gowrie). Then commences a gradual ascent, which terminates at an elevation of 42 feet more, the highest part of the parish being thus 62 feet above the level of the Tay at high-water mark. Towards the northern boundary, there is a descent again, corresponding to the ascent from the highest level on the south. The land along this boundary is flat. Like the highest level referred to, it is about 20 feet above the Tay at high-water mark.

Seen from Inchyra Hill, an eminence about half a-mile to the north-west, which places it completely under the observer's eye, this parish presents a very captivating landscape. Skirted by the noble Tay, receiving on the opposite side its finest tributary,—the Earn,—beyond which to the east and west, respectively, appear the town of Newburgh, and the ancient capital of the Picts, Abernethy, resting on the slope of a range of rugged hills; traversed by numerous hedge-rows of oak, elm, and beech, mature in age, studded too with solitary trees of splendid growth and handsome form, that "tell where once some cottage garden bloomed," and holding in its bosom Pitfour Castle with its fine demesne, and the church shewing its humble spire from amid a screen of ancient trees,—the scene is altogether one of the most beautiful that can well be contemplated; and seldom is an observer found to depart from it, without expressing his admiration of the mingled richness, repose, and grace that distinguish it.

*Meteorology.*—The climate is here peculiarly temperate. A variety of circumstances, which the most inattentive observer can hardly fail to notice, indicates and attests the truth of this. Green

pease and potatoes may, with ordinary care, be counted on by the first week of June in the sheltered border. Not only do the more common fruits cultivated in Scotland, such as the apple, the pear, and the apricot, come early to maturity, but the peach, the nectarine, and the fig, are found to bear abundantly, and to ripen to high perfection. The *Fuchsia*, the *Passiflora purpurea*, and several varieties of the *Rosa Indica*, may be seen in ordinary seasons, flowering in the open border in the middle of November; and without any extraordinary protection, these and other exotics even more tender, are found to survive the winter. Still there are drawbacks to be mentioned. In the months of April and May, we are subjected to a *haar* or thick vapour with cold nipping breezes from the east. These prevail for several days at a time, and should they happen during the period when the fruit-trees begin to expand their blossom, they throw a damp over the hopes of the orchardist. In autumn and winter again, rime or hoar-frost is very frequent, and may be seen clothing the trees on the low grounds with a fantastic though beautiful icy foliage, while to the braes around it does not extend. On the other hand, however, snow seldom falls with us but to disappear, suddenly melting away, so that it is quite a common thing to see the hills and uplands within a mile and a-half, deeply covered with a wintry mantle, while the plough is busy at work in the plains below.

By comparing meteorological registers kept here, and in the neighbourhood within a range of three miles, and at heights of from 50 to 150 feet above the level of the sea, I have been enabled to form the following table, which may be regarded as affording a pretty correct account of the average results of meteorological observations for the last six years. The observations were taken at a quarter past nine in the morning, and half-past eight in the evening.

Year.	Morning.		Evening.		Mean temp. for the year.	Depth of rain.
	Bar.	Therm.	Bar.	Therm.		
1882	29.700	49.895	29.716	47.175	48.788	26.17
1883	29.592	48.804	29.607	46.511	47.516	33.
1884	29.731	49.713	29.728	47.170	48.598	23.02
1885	29.645	48.171	29.632	45.508	46.901	25.67
1886	29.463	47.138	29.461	44.687	45.504	33.72
1887	29.716	47.403	29.719	44.506	45.518	27.13

In the temperature, as well as the pressure of the atmosphere, as exhibited by the above table, indications of a genial climate may readily be perceived. The prevailing winds are from south-west

and west. From the north wind, which is generally so blighting, we are greatly sheltered by the hills that form the northern boundary of the Carse of Gowrie.

From the previous statements a pretty correct idea may be formed of the climate in this part of the country. In salubrity it may compete with any part of Scotland. A superabundance of moisture, at a period not more remote than sixty years, rendered it productive of ague; but from the extensive drainage to which the land has been subjected, and the consequent disappearance of those marshy exhalations so pernicious to health, the disease referred to is now never heard of, nor is there any other disease which can be said to be peculiar to the climate. Typhus fever has sometimes prevailed, though not in its most fatal type, and its introduction could generally be traced to individuals who had brought it from some infected town or district. Pulmonary affections are rare, calculous complaints almost unknown, and apoplectic attacks very uncommon. Colds, rheumatisms, and inflammations are our most prevalent distempers.

*Hydrography.*—As already stated, the Frith of Tay forms the southern boundary of the parish. It is here something more than a mile in breadth. Its greatest depth at high water averages 17 feet.

A *pow* or drain, in which is a sluggish stream, winds along the north and west sides of the parish, forming the march between it and portions of Kinfauns and Kinnoul. It is almost dry during the summer months, but in winter and autumn its banks are frequently overflowed, owing to the quantity of water, which, after heavy falls of rain or snow, it receives from the braes of the Carse. When these overflowings occur, they *sometimes* do injury, by soaking or floating away the unhoused grain that may be within their reach, and *always* by driving mud into the drains, many of which empty themselves into the *pow*.

*Springs.*—There are several springs, which may be called perennial, in the parish. One of these, which is situated in the flower garden of Pitfour, is worthy of particular notice. It sends forth a very strong current at all times, the quantity varying little in summer or winter. Its supply is at the rate of 20 gallons imperial per minute. In some distant age it had no doubt been deemed worthy of sacred regard, for the name by which it is still designated is *Tranty* or *Trinity*.

*Geology.*—The whole district of the Carse of Gowrie, as is well known to geologists, rests upon what is termed the old red sand-

stone formation. In that portion of it comprised in this parish, and its immediate vicinity, this formation has been brought distinctly into view. In the low and level parts of the carse district, the superincumbent mass of alluvium is so immensely thick, that only in one single locality has the sandstone been reached. It is in the higher parts of it that opportunity has been afforded for fully examining the geological character of the strata. By a partial up-heaving of the strata, that slightly elevated ridge, lying between the Tay and the braes of the Carse, and running nearly west and east, from almost the western boundary of this parish to nearly a mile beyond the village of Errol, has been raised. In various localities in this ridge, the red sandstone has been brought so near the surface as to be opened for quarries, and thus made subject to investigation. In particular, two quarries have been opened, (one in this parish, called the Cot-town quarry of St Madoes, the property of Sir John Stuart Richardson, of Pitfour, Bart. ; and another in the parish of Errol, the property of John Lee Allen, Esq. of Errol, about half a mile to the east of the former ;) both on the summit of the afore-mentioned ridge, where the character of the formation is very obviously exhibited, and other most interesting circumstances connected with it, have been developed. Clashbennie, the latter of these quarries, are well known ; this, though it is not within the limits of St Madoes' parish, may be regarded as geologically connected with it ; and I do not, therefore, hesitate to interfere a little with the geology of Clashbennie.

The sandstone lies in beds, varying in thickness from one foot to three feet, with thin layers of clay between them. These beds exhibit very much the same appearance, with this exception, that now and then a bed of a brecciated aspect presents itself. Evidences of the action of water in their formation are very obvious, the different layers or laminæ, (if we may apply the term,) of which they are made up, being easily traced by the observer. These most generally lie parallel to the plane of stratification, and are sometimes straight, implying tranquillity,—and sometimes more or less undulated, indicating a corresponding commotion, at the period of deposition. Beds are also to be seen, whose layers are oblique, forming angles of various degrees, with the plane of stratification. Such, however, are rare ; and considering that they present their layers of deposition straight as well as undulated, there is difficulty in accounting for the peculiar form they have assumed. It is but seldom that pebbles of any kind are found im-

bedded in the sandstone. When they do occur they are generally small, very rarely so large as a pigeon's egg, always water-worn, and belonging to the primitive rocks. In the brecciated beds innumerable nodules appear both of brown and green matter, flatly elliptical in form, compact in texture, but soft and soapy to the touch. These are generally supposed to be indurated clay.

The dip of the strata varies exceedingly. In the Cot-town of St Maddoes quarry, it is about  $10^{\circ}$  towards north-west. In that of Clashbennie, which, to the most casual observation, presents extraordinary dislocation and confusion, it will be found in one corner not more than  $2^{\circ}$ , and in another as much as  $36^{\circ}$ ; and perhaps in opposite directions, but the grand dip of the strata is undoubtedly towards north-east. The cause of peculiar disturbance in the stratification is a local one. It is found in the protrusion of a mass of trap, conically formed, through the strata. This exists in one of the most dislocated portions of the quarry, and from deep working was brought into view. The apex of the trap cone might be from sixteen to eighteen feet below the surface of the highest bed. The Sidlaw hills, which form the northern boundary of the Carse of Gowrie, are a trap range, and bear in them evidences of having been lifted through the old red sandstone strata. In various parts at different elevations, portions of these are discovered, generally in great confusion, the lines of stratification being almost indiscernible; and whenever they appear in contact with the trap they are highly indurated. In other parts along the base of the hills, the sandstone is found beneath the trap, the latter having manifestly flowed over it. The ridge of sandstone already referred to, which runs nearly parallel to the Sidlaws from the west side of this parish to the east of the village of Errol, in all probability owed its elevation to the same agency by which the adjacent trap-hills were heaved up. From the circumstance however, distinctly ascertained, that the strata to the south of the Tay have their dip and inclination in a south-eastern direction, while generally those to the north of the Tay have their dip and inclination in an opposite direction, the great axis of elevation applicable to both must be sought for about the line of the present estuary of the Tay.

*Organic Remains.*—Various kinds of these, some of them highly interesting, have been found in both of the fore-mentioned quarries. In them, as in all of the old red sandstone quarries of the district, there may be perceived multitudes of circular spots, varying in diameter from one to eight or ten inches, distinguished by



their dull yellowish colour. On investigation, each of them is found to derive its circularity from being the section of a sphere, and not to be only a thin superficial lamina. Moreover, at the centre of the sphere, there is generally to be discerned a speck differing in appearance from what surrounds it, and lately, I have found numbers of these spheres formed around a very small portion of a scaly substance, so that there can be little doubt they have originated from the influence of organic matter.

In both quarries, scales of fishes exist in great quantities; the deeper the beds, the more abundant are they, particularly in those of a brecciated character. There is one variety very prevalent. Specimens of this may be picked up at any time. Their ordinary size is about an inch and a half in diameter, and a sixteenth of an inch in thickness; but they have been found as large as three inches in diameter, and a tenth of an inch in thickness. Besides this variety, which is the only one that hitherto has been publicly noticed, I have discovered other five, which are obviously distinct, three of them in Clashbennie, and two in Cot-town quarry. All of these are of rare occurrence. Some of them are large scales, being from two to three inches in diameter; one has a strong resemblance to those of the *Megalychthys Hibberti*. Besides scales, the teeth, spines, jaw-bones, and other bones of fishes are sometimes to be met with; portions of rays and fins, more rarely; coprolites frequently; and I have in my possession the eye of a fish, with its pupil, lid, and other appendages imbedded in a piece of sandstone, all as vividly exhibiting the external organization, as though it had immediately fallen from its original position.

Considering the quantity of scales with which the strata abound, it is to be wondered at, that only a very few specimens have been found, exhibiting either complete impressions, or impressions of any large or important parts of fishes. A good many years ago, a specimen which now belongs to the Antiquarian Society of Perth, and which is obviously the fossilized portion of a fish, extending from the shoulders to the tail, was found in Clashbennie quarry; it is seven inches long, two inches in depth, and about three quarters of an inch thick. Although their beds are marked, there are now no scales upon it, neither are there any traces of fins to be discovered. This fossil has, by M. Agassiz, been set down to the genus *Palæoniscus*. It was not, however, till July 1836 that any specimen was discovered, which could serve to determine to what genus of fishes those scales, so abundantly distributed throughout

the rock, both at Cot-town and Clashbennie, had belonged. Then an uncommonly beautiful and complete one was found, covered with scales similar to those prevailing in the rock, few of them being disturbed from their original regularity. To the general description which has already been given of this fossil fish in the Statistical Account of the parish of Errol (pp. 374—376), there may be added some particulars of importance. As there stated, its length is  $27\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and breadth 13 inches across the shoulders. It is proper further to mention that the length of its head, which has no scales like those on the body, but a uniform shagreen-looking covering, is four inches, and its breadth seven inches. From the circumstance of the adherence of its back to a mass of sandstone, it is difficult to determine accurately its depth, but it may be something more than four inches, so that it is decidedly a flat fish. Taking into account the size of the scales,—which is pretty uniform (about two inches diameter), excepting that of those towards the caudal extremities, which all at once dwindle into three-fourths of an inch in diameter,—and the tabular extent of sandstone which this fossil covers, it is perhaps one of the finest ichthyolites that has yet been brought to view. Being anxious to make it subservient to the interests of science, the author of this Account, to whom it belongs, has subjected it to the inspection of the most eminent of our geologists, and it has already proved useful. M. Agassiz, to whom a drawing of it was sent by R. Murchison, Esq. had previously supposed the prevalent Cot-town and Clashbennie scales to belong to a species of fish which he named *Gyrolepes giganteus*. Having described that species, however, from a defective specimen, he had committed a generic mistake, which, from the completeness of my specimen, he has now been enabled to rectify, and instead of being, as his remarks in his great work (v. liv. p. 172) erroneously indicated—a *Gyrolepes giganteus*, it proves to be a new species of the genus *Holoptychus*, which he has named *Holoptychus nobilissimus*. Other species of the same genus have been found in the limestone of Burdie-House (Edinburgh), and in the Gamrie deposit (Banffshire); but “this individual,” Agassiz writes, “will enable me at length to define precisely the characters of the genus which I named *Holoptychus* from the folds of the scales.” The *Holoptychus nobilissimus*, Agass. is figured and minutely described in “The Silurian System of Rocks,” a large work just published by R. J. Murchison, Esq. F. R. S., V. P. G. S., &c. in which all the ancient formations between the coal measures

and the slaty rocks are classified according to their stratigraphical and zoological characters.

There has not been found any other specimen of a *complete* fossil fish, as far as is known to the writer. Several interesting fragments or portions, such as heads with the shoulders, and tails with the fins, are possessed by different individuals; but there is not any of these calculated to throw light on the character of those fishes to which the other scales I have discovered had belonged. They are all of them clearly of the genus *Holoptychus*. There is one specimen, however, in the possession of Miss Craigie of Glendoick, consisting of the head and shoulders of a fish, worthy of special notice,—for, though it be manifestly a portion of one of the genus *Holoptychus*, it is marked by some obvious characteristics of a distinctive species. If complete, it would probably have been about a foot long, and three and a-half inches broad. Its scales are proportionally smaller than those on the large specimen already referred to, but instead of having *ten* rows of these like that specimen, running from the neck towards the caudal fins, it has only *six*. Organic remains of a different class have also been found in the old red sandstone. These are the more interesting, that they appear not only to belong to a new *species*, but to be the first, I believe, of the *genus*, that have as yet been discovered in any of the members of the carboniferous system. The first fragments of this class that were found are noticed in the Statistical Account of Errol parish, (p. 376). They consisted of a considerable number of pieces, of various, but principally of *vandyked* shapes, of sizes from 2 to 10 inches long. They had every appearance of organisms, being very distinct in their outlines, having the upper surface divided into *rectangular* compartments, and their edges turned under like a scroll; but so strange was their aspect—so utterly unlike any known appendages of organized creation—and so difficult was it to conceive any purpose which they could have served to a living creature, that the geologists who examined them were completely non-plussed. Few, however, doubted that they had belonged to some animal species of another age. Two specimens have since been obtained, which render it probable, that these extraordinary organisms had been owned by creatures of the *reptile* tribe. The first of these specimens to which I refer consists of a slab of sandstone five feet by two, which was accidentally discovered by the writer, having been bought as a cover for a drain. In this are imbedded a great number of angulated organisms similar

to those above referred to, and from having combined with them very vivid impressions of what strongly resemble 'thighs or legs, they had most probably pertained to the swimming apparatus of some creature of the Saurian genus, which indeed had greatly differed from any of that tribe that has hitherto been discovered, either in the new red sandstone or oolitic rocks. The slab now referred to, I may mention, was found in a different part of the quarry from that in which the organic remains, previously noticed, were found ; and, moreover, when I went to the quarry, after discovering the impressions on the slab, to make inquiries about the locality from which it had been taken, I saw a mass of smashed fragments containing similar impressions, which, had it been possible to collect them, I have no doubt, would have covered a superficies six times the size of the slab. The other specimen of the same class was discovered a few weeks ago, and while it possesses all the distinguishing characteristics of the former one, the organisms contained in it had clearly belonged to a much younger creature, being but a-sixth part of the size of the former, and much more delicately formed, both as to outline and covering. From the size of the specimen, or pieces which form it, this creature, though young, could not have been less than five or six feet long. Whatever on more minute comparison and investigation, by M. Agassiz, (for he alone of living men is qualified to give a correct judgment regarding these fossil remains,) they may turn out to be, they are exceedingly important, if, as supposed, they exhibit organisms of a class of creatures apparently higher in the scale of organization than any that has as yet come to light from the old red sandstone, or its associate formations.

With a single exception, there has no specimen been discovered of organic remains belonging to the vegetable kingdom. That exception affords partial impressions of a plant seemingly of the equisetaceous class. It was found in the Cot-town quarry, and is now in the possession of Sir John S. Richardson, Bart.

*Deposits.*—In as far as there have been any opportunities afforded of judging, the deposits considered as underlying the cultivated soil, are, over the whole extent of the parish, *alluvial*, differing in character according to the positions which they occupy. In the level parts, on the south and north, where what is termed Carse soil forms the surface, they consist of an adhesive clay, sometimes assuming a stratified aspect, but generally the contrary, with here and there a bed of fine whitish-coloured sand. It is but seldom

that any fragments of rocks are to be seen either in this clay or sand, and no remains of animals or plants have been noticed in them. In the higher parts of the parish the alluvium is more varied in its character. In some places it consists of a species of clay, or, as it is called, *mortar*, peculiarly tough, and containing a considerable portion of calcareous matter, but altogether destitute of stones or pebbles. In other places it consists of a clayey earth mingled with quantities of the debris of the old red sand-stone and masses of the trap rocks; most commonly it consists of a soft brownish sand, in which the layers of deposition are apparent when a perpendicular section is made, and in which rounded water-worn boulders of gneiss, greenstone, &c. sometimes occur.

*Soils.*—In order to give any thing like a correct account of these, it is necessary to divide the parish into three parts. The highest part, which comprises about one-third of the whole, is a rich brown loam, mostly incumbent on the soft brownish sand above referred to, but partly on clay. That which lies on sand is deep, varying from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 feet, and consequently dry and very rich; that on clay is not so deep nor dry, though in other respects similar. In depth it varies from 10 to 20 inches. The next division extends along the south, west, and north sides of the former, being narrow on the north, but of considerable breadth on the south and west sides. The part of this division which lies farthest south has been reclaimed from the Tay at no very distant date, being but little elevated above high water-mark, and considerably below the height of spring tides. It is composed of a rich alluvial clayey loam, fitted for the production of every kind of crop in large returns. The remaining portion of this division consists of a strong adhesive, but fertile clay, with the exception of a small part on the south-east side of it, which is of a much less adhesive and less fertile nature. It is what is called “end clay,” *i. e.* clay standing in vertical layers. Being easily acted on by the weather,—frost quickly pulverizing it,—rain, again, running it into a solid body,—drought, as suddenly separating it into flakes—the roots of plants are thus so exposed to extremes, that they are prevented from deriving the nourishment needful for the promotion of their health and vigour. The third division consists of 80 acres imperial, exclusive of embankments, reclaimed since 1826 from the Tay. The soil is a very rich alluvial loam, producing heavy crops of all kinds without manure.

*Boulders.*—There are but few of these now to be seen; but

some fifty or sixty years ago, there were many of various sizes scattered over the surface, or slightly penetrating the soil in the higher part of the parish. In the progress of cultivation they have been removed, and are now to be seen about the foundations of farm-offices, &c. They were *invariably* of the primitive rocks, most generally of granite, gneiss, and primitive greenstone. This is a striking fact when viewed in connection with another fact already stated, viz. that in that species of alluvium, which consists of a clayey earth, mingled with debris of the old red sandstone, there are also considerable fragments of the trap-rocks; for it seems to intimate that, subsequent to that watery agency which had deposited the alluvium, or as geologists would perhaps term it, the diluvium mentioned, there had been some tremendous torrent which had rolled the superincumbent boulders from the primitive mountains in the west, the nearest of which is upwards of twenty miles distant.

*Zoology.*—The following *Mammalia* are found in the parish.

Vespertilio murinus, common rat.  
Erinaceus Europæus, hedgehog.  
Talpa Europæa, mole.  
Vulpes vulgaris, fox.  
Mustela vulgaris, weasel.  
Mus Musculus, common mouse.

Mus sylvaticus, wood mouse.  
—— Rattus, black rat.  
—— decumanus, brown do.  
Arvicola agrestis, field mouse.  
Sciurus vulgaris, squirrel.  
Lepus timidus, hare.

*The Reptiles* are but few, being only

Bufo vulgaris, toad.  
Rana temporaria, frog.

Triton aquaticus, eft.

*Of Birds* there is a considerable variety.

#### I. LAND BIRDS.

Perdix cinerea, partridge.  
Phasianus Colchicus, pheasant.  
Falco Nisus, sparrow-hawk.  
Corvus frugilegus, common crow.  
—— Pica, magpie.  
—— Monedula, jackdaw.  
—— cornix, hooded-crow.  
Strix stridula, screech owl.  
Turdus musicus, thrush.  
—— merula, blackbird.  
—— viscivorus, misselthrush.  
—— pilaris, fieldfare (in winter.)  
Hirundo rustica, swallow.  
Sylvia rubecula, redbreast.  
Accentor modularis, hedge sparrow.  
Columba palumbus, wood pigeon.  
Cuculus canorus, cuckoo.  
Alcedo ispada, kingfisher.  
Alauda arvensis, skylark.  
—— arborea, wood lark.  
Motacilla alba, water wagtail.  
Pyrgita domestica, house sparrow.  
Emberiza citrinella, yellow bunting.  
—— miliaris, common do.  
—— nivalis, snow flake (in winter.)

Pyrrhula vulgaris, bullfinch.  
Fringilla Chloris, greenfinch.  
—— Coelebs, chaffinch.  
—— Carduelis, goldfinch.  
—— cannabina, brown linnet.  
Troglodytes vulgaris, common wren.  
Sylvia phœnicurus, redstart.  
Sturnus vulgaris, starling.

#### II. WADERS.

Ardea cinerea, heron.  
Ortygometra crex, corncrake.  
Gallinula chloropus, water hen.  
Scolopax rusticola, woodcock.  
—— major, great snipe,  
—— gallinago, common snipe.  
Vanellus cristatus, lapwing.

#### III. WATER BIRDS.

Anas Boschas, common mallard.  
—— Penelope, widgeon.  
—— mollissima, eider duck.  
—— Crecca, teal.  
—— Querquedula, summer teal.  
—— acuta, pintail duck.  
Mergus merganser, goosander.

Last winter, the wild swan frequented the Tay,—a circumstance which had not occurred for forty years before.

*The Fishes* are the following:—

Pleuronectes Flesus, water flounder.	Leuciscus Phoxinus, minnow.
Gasterosteus aculeatus, banstickle.	Clupea pilchardus, pilchard.
Salmo salar, salmon.	Acipenser Sturio, sturgeon.
—— trutta, salmon trout.	Petromyzon marinus, spotted lamprey.
—— albus, finnock.	—— fluviatilis, lesser do.
—— fario, common trout.	Anguilla vulgaris, common eel.
—— eperlanus, spirling.	

*Of Insects* the variety is great, particularly of the Lepidopterous class. They are only such, however, as are common in other parts of the country, and, excepting those that have lately proved injurious to the husbandman or the horticulturist, are scarcely worthy of being specified. Among these exceptions is the *wheat-fly*, a creature so tiny that its existence is endangered even by the commotion caused among the stalks and leaves of wheat by a slight breeze. Yet, under particular circumstances, with all its apparent insignificance, it might in the course of a few days not only materially abridge the farmer's wealth, but bring a nation to the verge of famine. This is not the place to enter into a minute history of its nature and habits, or to do any thing more than make a few general statements regarding it. The name of the *wheat-fly* has been given it on account of its affection for the wheat-plant, for though when under necessity it will betake itself to barley, to most if not to all the varieties of the *Triticum genus* it discovers a peculiar attachment. It is not, however, as a devourer of food for its own sustenance, but as a foreseeing provider of it for its progeny, that it seeks the wheat-plant. Depositing its eggs within the glumes of the wheat about the time when it comes in ear, these speedily are transformed into living worms, in various numbers, from one to six. These worms fix upon the vessels intended to carry the juices of the plant to the point where the grain is formed and nourished, and, cutting off the communication between the sap-channels and the embryo corn, they appropriate for their own aliment what in due time would have swelled and hardened into good fruit. At the time that the worms or maggots come to maturity, being then about one-tenth of an inch in length, the ears of wheat may be seen covered with multitudes of a small insect call the *Tipula Tritici*. This is a blind, but in its own peculiar way, an active and ardent destroyer of the wheat-fly. It watches the maggots, (supplying its defect of sight by incessant

movements to and fro) as they are ready to be ejected from the glumes, which expand under the influence of a bright sun, and devote them to the use of its future progeny,—piercing their body as a nidus for its eggs,—and these being hatched, their place of shelter is converted into nourishment for the young brood. If the maggots escape this enemy, they spring downwards, and soon penetrate from half to three quarters of an inch under the surface of the soil, where, if undisturbed, they remain till a suitable temperature produces a transformation, and brings them from the torpidity of the chrysalis into the activity of the fly-state. The safety of the wheat crop from their ravages, seems in a great measure, to depend upon the period at which this temperature occurs. If it take place about the time when the wheat comes in the ear, and the weather be quiet, mild, and favourable for laying eggs, the race is perpetuated in perilous multitudes; but if the temperature occur too early or too late for wheat-eating, or should it be accompanied with strong sunshine and a sharp breeze, their numbers are proportionally diminished. The havoc which the wheat-fly made in the Carse of Gowrie district of the crops of 1827, 1828, 1829, and 1830 is almost incredible. It has been computed, that during those four years, little less a sum than L. 100,000 Sterling was, through its instrumentality, lost to the tenantry. This loss was felt the more that the wheat crop is that on which they mainly count to meet the rent-day. Many of them had a sore wrestle ere they could rise above it, and there are some who have not yet been able to overcome the difficulties which it generated. Had the landlords not been patient and indulgent, as generally they were,—though only in a few cases to the extent which a just view of their own interest, as well as of the comfort of their tenantry, should have dictated,—perhaps half the number of these, or even more, would have been compelled to abandon what their industry and frugality entitled them to cherish,—the hope of a comfortable subsistence for their families, and on the wreck of their property to embark in doubtful speculation for some distant country. During the seasons that the wheat-fly committed such depredations, many remedies were proposed for the purpose of preventing future injury from its attacks,—some founded on the idea of its possible extirpation or subjugation, others on the alleged existence of one or more species of wheat which it refuses to employ as a residuum for its eggs. No attempt, however, of any consequence was made to apply these remedies. Before they had been



well proposed, indeed, the evil was abated; the fly, by a higher than human agency, had been checked in its destructive powers. The wheat crop of 1831 generally escaped its ravages, and though here and there, as has doubtless been always the case, in that year and those that have succeeded it, a field might be found in which partial damage was induced by its appearance, it has not proved a prevalent destroyer. May the search for remedies to prevent its injurious effects long continue to be as needless as in these latter years!

There are several insects which molest and prove injurious to our fruit-trees. The *common aphid* or green fly annually attacks the peach, nectarine, and plum-trees, and sometimes it descends even to the gooseberry-bushes. This insect is easily destroyed by the application of tobacco-juice, or of soap mixed with water. The *web-apple caterpillars*, which are very destructive if they be allowed to remain undisturbed, may also be easily subdued if care be taken to pick them off before they have separated from the web, and been distributed over the tree. The *Aphis lanigera* or woolly bug, has been gradually extending itself for the last thirty years; and although it does not seem to have infested the orchards in any great measure, there is scarcely a garden to be found in the district into which it has not been introduced. It is by far the most mischievous of all the insects that infest the apple-tree, to which its attacks are confined. Numbers of it cluster together and digging into the bark, they abstract the sap in its progress, produce excrescences in the branches, and thus render the tree sickly, while the fruit is crined. They know well, moreover, how to choose the best, for if there be a Ribston Pippin, a Cornish Jellyflower, or a Margile in the garden, they are almost sure to give them the preference. Various methods, such as clotting with oil and immersing in hot water, have been tried to eradicate them, but I have never known a single instance of their effectual removal from a tree when they had once fairly established themselves upon it. After some experience, and with a full sympathy with the reluctance which every one has to adopt such a course, I have arrived at the conviction, that the only certain way of getting rid of the *Aphis lanigera* is to root out and commit to the flames every tree infested with it. Every year I believe that this mode of procedure is delayed, will only afford new and most vexatious evidence of the necessity of adopting it, adding, in all probability, to the number of its victims.

*Botany.*—There is very little that is worthy of remark in the botanical productions of this parish. The plants that abound are those well known as invariably existing in deep loamy soils, or in alluvial clay. Though a considerable number of the rarest numbered in the *Scotica Flora*, are to be found in the neighbouring braes and glens, there are not any here that can well be called uncommon. Approaching to such may be mentioned the *Typha angustifolia*, and the *Listera ovata*, the former of which has its habitat in a mill-dam at Cairnie, and the latter in a belt of wood, on moist soil, to the south of Pitfour Castle.

*Plantations.*—The extent of land under wood is about 33 imperial acres;—the whole has been planted. About one-third of the plantations is from seventy to eighty, nearly another third, forty to forty-five, and the remainder from twelve to seventeen years old, with the exception of a few standard and hedge-row trees, which have reached to ages of from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and thirty years. Some of these, particularly the planes and elms, are of large dimensions, and of excellent quality of timber. Planes of size suitable for beetling beams and other mechanical purposes were sold in the end of 1837 at 3s. per cubic foot.

Almost every species of forest tree cultivated in this country has been planted in the parish; but the sorts most general are, the oak, elm, ash, plane, beech, lime, Spanish chestnut, horse-chestnut, (the three latter being principally for ornament,) larch, Scots fir, spruce, and silver fir. On the higher grounds all these kinds of trees grow luxuriantly, but elm and ash manifest symptoms of decay at an earlier period than any of the others; indeed, they are the only trees of deciduous character which show any tendency to disease in that part of the parish. This tendency, however, is not general, but in particular trees, and it is more frequently found on the slope than the summit. Most probably it arises from the roots penetrating into strata of the subsoil, through which the water from the higher ground descends. On the lower grounds, where the soil is strong clay, several sorts of trees do not thrive, particularly ash, elm, plane, and lime. Oak and Scots fir, however, attain great age, with rapidity of growth, and vigorous health. About twelve acres of poor clay soil were planted seventy years ago with Scots fir, which is still in good health. Larch and spruce planted at the same time, have for the last twenty years been in a state of internal decay. A very convincing proof of a fact, which, till within the last six or seven years, had escaped the notice of

arboriculturists—viz. a tendency in larch to disease when planted where Scots fir has grown—was afforded by a plantation in this part of the parish. The proprietor, fifteen years ago, having occasion for a considerable quantity of timber for the repair of steadings, &c. cleared off about two acres of Scots fir, and replanted the ground with oaks and larches, both of which throve to all appearance with great vigour; but in thinning out some of the larches, which were only intended as nurses for the oaks, they were found, though only six years planted, to be in a state of disease. The whole have since been cut out, and although externally they looked healthy, not an individual plant was sound; from the root even to the point of the smallest branch, the core was rapidly decaying. The plantations in the parish are kept in good order as to thinning and pruning. No periodical felling is adopted; but occasional cuttings of oak and other hard-wood take place.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Traditionary Account.*—There is a vague popular tradition, that, at a remote period, this parish formed a portion of the parish of Rhind. Connected with this tradition it is alleged, that the Tay, which now divides them, instead of joining the Earn where it now does, took its course from somewhere about Inchyra, along the braes of the Carse to Invergowrie, where it formed a junction with the Earn. The only proof that believers in this tradition have to urge in behalf of its truth, is derived from the words of an ancient ballad—no great authority certainly—which speaks of

“ The stannin stanes o’ Semmiedores,  
“ *Be sou* the river Tay”—

Present circumstances and appearances are entirely at variance with the main fact which is alleged in this tradition. The existing levels are so utterly and obviously incompatible with the idea of the Tay having run by the bottom of the Carse braes, that any one who looks at them must at once dismiss it from his mind. That, at a period perhaps not very remote, a fresh water lake extended a considerable way along the braes of Carse, is indicated not only by soils, which have all the characteristics of lacustrine deposits, but also by beds of the *Arundo phragmites*, which present themselves in various places, and still more decidedly by a well-defined horizontal ledge or beach, with all the appearance of having been produced by the mechanical action of water. This ledge is peculiarly distinct along the whole of the north side of St Madoes parish. It is not unlikely that the tradition regarding

the former course of the Tay, owes its origin to the existence of such a lake as that just referred to.

*Parochial Registers.*—The existing parochial records, which contain the transactions of the kirk-session and registers of baptisms and marriages, consist of six volumes. The oldest of these is a curious one. It is entitled “The Book of the Assembly of St Maddos,” and is partly in the handwriting of the famous Alexander Lindsay, who was afterwards Bishop of Dunkeld. It commences with a minute of the 7th September 1591, in which there is contained an account of the nomination of elders and deacons, by commissioners from the presbytery of Perth, among whom were some of the most celebrated men of that period, viz. Patrick Galloway, William Rhind, Henry Guthrie, and Archibald Moncrieff. In this volume there is abundant evidence of a strict and faithful administration of the discipline of the church during the period to which it refers. There is also a variety of circumstances, incidentally stated, of an interesting character. The accounts, for instance, of collections made for harbours and bridges in different parts of the country, attest the interest then taken by the church in the civil prosperity of the people; and the names of witnesses at baptisms, with their designations, throw light upon the division of property at that period. This volume closes with a minute of the 30th of April 1615. The next existing volume commences with a minute of October 2, 1659, from which date to the present time, the session records are complete.

*State of property, ancient and modern.*—Sir John Stuart Richardson, Bart. of Pitfour, is the sole proprietor of the parish. It may be worthy of notice, that property here and in the neighbourhood is in a strikingly different position as to ownership, from what it was in former times. From the old session record just referred to, it appears that, 250 years back, there were in this parish four distinct lairdships, Pitfour, Pitcog, Cairnie, and Dumgreen; and from the same source it may be gathered, that the neighbouring district had been divided into small lairdships, four or five then existing for one that now exists. The principal land-owner in this parish, in 1592, was a man of high lineage, being one of the Cochranses of Dundonald. The lands of Pitfour, soon after that year, were sold by him to the Hays of Megginch; but he continued to reside here till his death; and his descendants, reduced to the humble condition of cottars, were to be found in the neighbouring parish of Errol, about a generation back, when the last of them died.

*Antiquities.*—Druidical circles had abounded in this part of the

moderation rare enough in those times, while he also retained the pastoral charge of St Madoes. From the records of the Presbytery of Perth, it is evident that he bestowed considerable pains in the management of that part of his diocese. As perpetual moderator, he appears down to the year 1632 to have been a very regular attender of the meetings of Presbytery, which were then of almost weekly occurrence. Like the other bishops of that period, when the power of Presbytery became again ascendant, Lindsay had complaints lodged against him for his *prelatic* conduct. These, as the record bears, were brought forward by the "Laird of Moncrieff and Mr William Row, in the name of the gentry and burghesses of the Presbyterie," and the bishop was called upon to answer them before the General Assembly of 1638. The Assembly found him guilty "of receiving consecration to the office of Episcopacie condemned by the Confession of Faith; of pressing the kirk with novations in the worship of God," &c.; and while he was "*deposed from the pretended Episcopall function, and suspended from all ministerial function,*" it was provided, that, "if he should acknowledge that Assembly, reverence its constitutions, and make his repentance conforme to the order prescribed, he should be continued in the ministrie of St Madoes." On the 30th of January 1639, he gave in his declaration of repentance to the Presbytery of Perth, and became again the humble minister of St Madoes, where he continued till his death, which happened soon after.

Archibald Stevenson, minister of this parish from 1747 to 1784, was a man of great talents, learning and piety. He was one of the leaders of the popular party in the Church, and in point of a knowledge of her constitution and laws, he was regarded as superior to them all. The late Dr Inglis of Edinburgh, who remembered his appearances in church courts, always spoke of him as second to no man in his day in the management of church matters. He left no token of his powers behind him, but what is to be found in a speech on Catholic Emancipation, (now very rare), in the General Assembly, 1779, distinguished by extraordinary sagacity, and great power of diction and of argument.\*

\* The following is a list of the ministers of this parish since the Reformation. A reader preceded the first Protestant minister, who was

Alexander Lindsay,	admitted 1591, died	1639
James Campbell	do. 1640, do.	1667
John Omev,	do. 1668, translated to Dumbarnie,	1676
George Drummond,	do. 1676, died,	1687
Thomas Hall,	do. 1688, ejected for disorderly practices,	1698
George Blair,	do. 1701, translated to Perth,	1706

## III.—POPULATION.

Although there are not any data by which the amount of the population in ancient times can be *correctly* determined, there can be no doubt that, looking at its present state, it has rather diminished than increased; for, from a roll of examinable persons, regularly kept from 1596 to 1617, it is evident that during that period they were considerably more numerous than they now are. Then, it appears, a large proportion of the people were huddled together in five or six hamlets or villages, each family having a few acres of land attached to their house. The majority of these hamlets has long since disappeared; the land attached to them having been thrown into large farms. For the last hundred years, the population has varied but little in amount, rating from 320 to 350, which latter is exactly its present number.

The average births for the last seven years is	-	-	-	-	-	5
deaths,	-	-	-	-	-	44
marriages,	-	-	-	-	-	3
The average number of persons under 15 years of age is	-	-	-	-	-	127
betwixt 15 and 30,	-	-	-	-	-	97
30 and 50,	-	-	-	-	-	88
50 and 70,	-	-	-	-	-	27
70 and 80,	-	-	-	-	-	8
80 and 90,	-	-	-	-	-	3
The number of families in the parish is	-	-	-	-	-	62
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	-	39
in trade, weaving, handicraft, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	14

There has been only 1 illegitimate birth in the parish during the last three years.

*Character of the People.*—It has often been remarked, that the inhabitants of the Carse of Gowrie are rather of a phlegmatic temperament, and somewhat wanting in quickness of apprehension. In as far as the people of this parish are concerned, the writer of this account has formed a very different opinion. Though a stranger might be ready to mistake a coolness and deliberation of manner by which they are characterized for constitutional heaviness, or a little reserve for lack of intelligence, he who comes into close and familiar intercourse with them in the ordinary matters of life, will soon discover, that while they are as much alive as men in general to what is going on in the world, they are shrewd, sensi-

John Dempster, admitted	1706, died,	1721
Robert Watson, do.	1722, do.	1727
Andrew Shaw, do.	1729, became Professor in St Andrews,	1740
Patrick Bannerman, do.	1741, translated to Kinnoul,	1746
Archibald Stevenson, do.	1747, died,	1784
David Black, do.	1785, translated to Edinburgh	1795
Thomas Kennedy, do.	1795,	1828
James Noble, do.	1828.	

ble, and calculating. In their worldly callings they are industrious; in their mode of life, frugal and provident; in their general conduct, sober and orderly, just and upright. They, as their fathers for generations past have been, are distinguished for their regularity and decorum in attending on divine ordinances, an obvious consequence of which is to be seen in their comparative exemption from flagrant immoralities.

#### IV. INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The parish, as previously stated, contains 1152½ acres standard Imperial measure, the whole of which, with the exception of 33 acres under wood, are arable. About 60 acres are laid out in permanent pasture, the remaining 1059 are regularly cultivated.

*Rents.*—The rents are fixed in grain, (with a very trivial exception), paid at the rate of the highest fiars' prices of the county. They average about 3½ bolls per Scots acre, in equal portions of wheat, barley, and oats. The average price by the highest fiars for the county for the last seven years for the 3 bolls (*i. e.* 4 bushels of wheat, 6 bushels of barley, and 6 bushels of oats), is L. 3, 2s., making the average rent per Scots acre L. 3, 7s. 2d., or L. 2, 13s. 8d. per acre Imperial. As to *Wages, Live-Stock, and Husbandry*, the remarks made in the account of the parish of Errol are entirely applicable to this parish, and therefore it is unnecessary to do more than refer to these remarks.

*Draining.*—The system of wedge or furrow-draining first introduced to this district sixteen years ago, and first practised on the farm of Pitfour Mains by Mr R. W. Rannie, has been adopted to a considerable extent by all the tenants in the parish; the result has been a great improvement, especially in the more retentive clays. Different materials have been used in the formation of these drains. When they were first introduced, turf was very generally used, but was found not to endure many years, particularly in clays much impregnated with ferruginous matter. Wood cut into boards four and a half inches broad by one inch or three quarters of an inch thick, was then adopted and found to answer well in tenacious clay; in more friable soils, stones broken to the size of road metal were preferred. Within the last five years, tiles have come into very general use for draining, but have not till the present year been introduced to this parish. The spirited proprietor, Sir John S. Richardson, having lately erected at a considerable expense an extensive range of buildings, consisting of drying sheds,

engine and moulding sheds, and kilns, for the purpose of manufacturing drain tiles by machinery, they are now within easy reach of the tenantry, who are beginning to employ them to a considerable extent. It cannot be doubted that much benefit will accrue to the surrounding district, as well as to Sir John's own property, from this manufactory. An article admirably adapted for draining will thus be brought within the reach of many, who, from the expense incurred by the purchase and carriage of wood and stones, which are with difficulty procured here, have hitherto been deterred from draining to any extent. Such, indeed, has been the demand for tiles since last spring, when their manufacture commenced, that Sir John has resolved to double the size of his sheds, &c., and to work the machinery by a steam-engine. Such too is the feeling towards him among the agriculturists not only in the Carse of Gowrie, but also in Strathearn and the Stormont, on account of his spirited conduct in setting agoing, solely at his own risk, this tile manufactory, that, while I am now writing, he is under an invitation by some three hundred of them to a public dinner, in which, I may be permitted to add, they are joined by a number of the inhabitants of Perth, from a sense of the obligations under which they lie to him for his attention to their commercial interests.

*Embankments.*—About 68 Scots acres of land have been here at different times reclaimed from the Tay by embankments. In 1826, in consequence of an arrangement between the proprietor and Mr R. W. Rannie, tenant Pitfour Mains, by which the latter agreed to raise an embankment at his own expense, and after being allowed to take the first crop rent free, to pay L. 4, 10s. annually per Scots acre for the reclaimed land during a lease of nineteen years, operations were commenced which resulted in the complete reclamation of fifty acres during the autumn of that year. The whole expense of embankment, sluices, levelling, water-cuts, and trenching amounted to L. 1530. So productive, however, did the new soil turn out, that Mr Rannie has been amply rewarded for his enterprise. According to his own account, he has had, *before liming and manuring*, on some parts of a field about 60 bolls of potatoes per acre, the average produce being from 40 to 50 bolls. *After liming and manuring* he has had on some parts of a field 70 bolls per acre, the average from 50 to 60 bolls of 32 stones Dutch to the boll. He has had of oats, *before liming and manuring*, from 10 to 11, *after liming and manuring* from 12 to 13 quar-



ters per acre, and of wheat from six to seven quarters per acre. He commenced liming in 1829 and manuring in 1835, the rotation up to that period being potatoes, and wheat or oats alternately. In 1833, Sir John Richardson reclaimed 18 acres more at an expense of L. 1200; and by means of head-dikes, breakwaters, &c., which he is from time to time throwing out in the river for the purpose of accumulating silt, upwards of 150 acres more may ultimately be added to the parish; of these from 15 to 20 may be banked off in the course of two years. It is worthy of being mentioned here, that Sir John, in a paper on his Embankments, read before the Highland Society, and for which he received the Society's medal, states, "that if various conflicting interests could be reconciled, there would be added to the Carse of Gowrie a tract of land equally rich with that which has been described, and extending to many thousands of acres." He adds, "This scheme was originally suggested by my grandfather forty years ago, and I trust that, before another forty years are gone, the now barren sand-banks of the estuary of the Tay may be converted into fertile fields."

*Fishings.*—The only fishing carried on here is the salmon, the right to which belongs solely to Sir John Richardson. The annual rent is estimated at about L. 1000.

*Average gross amount of raw produce.*

Wheat,	-	-	-	-	L. 2800
Oats,	-	-	-	-	850
Barley,	-	-	-	-	832
Beans,	-	-	-	-	560
Hay, (cultivated)	-	-	-	-	842
Potatoes,	-	-	-	-	1640
Turnips,	-	-	-	-	360
Pasture,	-	-	-	-	261
Orchard fruit,	-	-	-	-	25
Fishings,	-	-	-	-	1500
Thinnings of wood,	-	-	-	-	30
Reeds,	-	-	-	-	20

Total value of raw produce, L. 9720

The valued rent of the parish is L. 1300 Scots. The real rent is about L. 4000 Sterling.

*Manufactures.*—The only branch of manufacture carried on in the parish is that of linen and coarse canvass, the flax and hemp being supplied to hand-loom weavers by Dundee merchants, who pay so much per web for weaving. The number of these weavers does not exceed a dozen, and their labours at the loom are confined to the winter months, as they prefer being employed at the salmon-fishery during the rest of the year.

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—The nearest market-town is Perth, six miles distant, where the produce of the parish is principally disposed of, and from which the inhabitants receive their supplies.

*Villages.*—There are two small villages, named Hawkstone and Cot-town, with a population of 50 and 67 respectively.

*Means of Communication.*—The post-town is Perth, with which by coaches and carriers there are daily opportunities of intercourse. The great north road from Perth to Aberdeen by Dundee runs along the northern boundary of the parish, and the road from Perth to Errol passes through its northern parts. Various roads intersect it, affording easy access from all the farm-steadings to the turnpike-road from Perth to Dundee.

*New Pier.*—A pier and shorehouse were erected about seven years ago by the proprietor on his reclaimed land, nearly opposite to the junction of the rivers Tay and Earn. There has thus been provided an excellent and most convenient shipping-place, very advantageous to the inhabitants of the parish. Large quantities of potatoes are here shipped annually for the London market, while coals, lime, manure, &c. are received. The shore-dues are at the rate of 1½d. per ton.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Sir John Stuart Richardson is the patron. The parish church, although situated near the northern boundary of the parish, cannot be said to be inconveniently distant from any of the inhabitants, as there are not any of them farther from it than two miles. The old church was taken down, and the present one built in 1798. It is in good repair, and in every way comfortable, having lately had attached to it a stove for warming it with heated air.

The number of sittings in the church is 410, a number fitted to accommodate nearly twice the examinable inhabitants of the parish. A considerable portion of them, however, are occupied by persons from the neighbouring parishes of Kinnoul, Kinfauns, and Errol, who are from two and a-half to six miles distant from their own parish churches, while they are quite close to St Maddoes' church; so that there is not a sitting that is not appropriated and occupied. There are no seat-rents exacted, the proprietor permitting even those persons who are in the habit of coming from the fore-mentioned parishes to have free sittings.

The only benefaction on record is one of 200 merks left by Mr Campbell, minister of the parish in 1676, which, with good management, and savings from the weekly contributions added to it, from

time to time, by the kirk-session, has accumulated to a considerable sum, the interest of which is employed for the support of the poor.

The manse was built in 1804, and repaired in 1829. The glebe consists of between 22 and 23 acres Scots, exclusive of garden, orchard, shrubberies, &c. which may contain two acres more. The soil is generally of excellent quality. Having lately been subjected to thorough draining, its productive powers have been much increased, especially in reference to green crops. According to the mode in which land is let in the parish, the glebe would draw an annual rent of three bolls of grain per acre, (*i. e.* 4 bushels of wheat, 6 of oats, and 6 of barley,) which, according to the average of the fiars prices of the county for the last five years, would amount to between L. 70 and L. 80. The present stipend is 14 chalders, half meal, half barley, the average amount of which for the last five years, inclusive of an allowance of L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements, is L. 208, 10s. 5d. The last augmentation took place in 1818. The number of families in the parish who attend the Established Church is 62, and the number of persons of all ages belonging to it is 335. The number of families not in the parish, but who regularly attend the church of St Madoes, is 34, these affording upwards of 100 church-goers. There are 4 families in the parish belonging to the Dissenters, containing 15 persons of all ages. Divine service at the Established Church is attended by all classes with the greatest regularity. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is dispensed twice a year, (in February and in August); at the former time the average number of communicants is 225, at the latter 245; of these from 70 to 80 come from the neighbouring parishes.

There is a society for religious purposes in the parish. Its members all belong to the Established Church, and its funds are mainly appropriated to the advancement of the Church of Scotland's four great schemes. The average amount of these for the last ten years is L. 25 annually, this partly obtained by private subscriptions, and partly by public collections.

*Education.*—There is no week-day school in the parish but the parochial, in which English reading and grammar, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, practical mathematics, and geography, with Latin and Greek, if required, are taught. The schoolmaster has the legal accommodation and the maximum salary. The school fees are small and ill paid, the whole sum realized from them not exceeding L. 10 Sterling annually, although the average num-

ber of scholars throughout the year be nearly 50. It appears from one of the old session-records that, upwards of 100 years ago, the then Laird of Pitfour set apart two acres of land for the benefit of the schoolmaster in all time coming; but somehow or another they have since been swallowed up, and even tradition does not very clearly mark their locality.

There is a Sabbath school taught by the minister and schoolmaster, which is pretty numerously attended not only by children belonging to the parish, but also by those of the parents from neighbouring parishes who attend the church of St Maddoes, and even by some children of Dissenting parents. It numbers at present 51.

*Literature.*—There is a religious library which was instituted in 1836, by the liberality of Lady Richardson, to which all the people who are in the habit of attending the church, as well as the parishioners of St Maddoes, have access for the small sum of 4½d. per quarter. It now consists of 200 volumes.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons for the last ten years, who have received parochial aid in one form or another, is ten. Of these four have been regularly on the poor's roll, three of whom received from 6s. to 7s. a month each, besides a free house and two bolls of coals. The fourth is a fatuous person, who is boarded at the expense of the parish, and whose maintenance and clothing amount to between L. 16 and L. 17 a-year. The annual amount of collections in church averages about L. 30; and from other sources, as money lent on hand, mortcloth dues, &c. there is an additional sum of L. 23, available for the benefit of the poor. It ought to be mentioned here, that, besides the allowance of two bolls of coals by the kirk-session, to each pauper annually, Sir John and Lady Richardson are in the habit of sending them firewood and coals. There yet remains among the poor a good deal of that spirit which recoils at the idea of parochial relief; and although they will readily enough receive what is offered as private charity, they are not only reluctant to apply for, but unwilling to take aid from the session funds.

*Inns and Ale-houses.*—There is but one in the parish, situated on the pier. It is a necessary convenience not only to those who may have to transact business in shipping their farm produce, but to the traveller who has to cross the ferry, which is here established between this part of the Carse of Gowrie district and the opposite districts of Fife and Strathearn. Being well conducted, it

cannot be said to have any evil effect upon the morals of the people.

*Fuel.*—Among the poorer classes a good deal of wood is used, which is procured from the periodical thinnings and fellings in the parish and neighbourhood. Coal, however, is generally used, partly from the south coast of Fife, and partly from Newcastle, and being landed at the parish pier, is secured at a moderate rate—15s. per ton for Scots, and 16s. 6d. per ton for English.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The more striking variations betwixt the present state of the parish and that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account are, its enlargement by the making up and embanking of new lands on the river side,—its more complete drainage, the fields in general not only being pervaded by furrow drains, but every bog and morass being dried, so that there is not a single fall of ground in the parish, with the exception of what is under wood, that is not fitted for bearing grain,—and the improved means of communication from one part of it to another by good roads. The feeling among the farmers with regard to the adoption of new modes of cultivation, and supposed improvements in agriculture, has also considerably changed. Prejudices in behalf of the olden ways and plans have greatly abated, and whether it be by giving a fair trial to methods of culture, which would in former times have been despised, or to new varieties of grain, which once would have been rejected, the farmers are now showing that they have sense, and are reaping their reward. With regard to the improvements of which the parish is still susceptible by a better system of husbandry, there cannot be much said; but certainly for many years past there has been a far larger proportion of wheat sown than is consistent with justice to the soil; and the writer of this account is persuaded, from his own observation and experience, that, if the agriculturists of this parish and of the Carse of Gowrie in general, would adopt a system of cropping by which they should not have wheat oftener than once every four years, they would be gainers in the end.

*January 1839.*

## PARISH OF MOULIN.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. DUNCAN CAMPBELL, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—A STRANGER alive to the sublime and beautiful in nature's works, in coming to this district would be immediately struck with the aspect of five elevated and singularly commanding eminences which bound the horizon to the north of the village of Moulin. In the vernacular language they are called *Mill-Uaine*, green mountains, and it is supposed that the greenish appearance of these commanding eminences may have given the name both to the village and the parish. Others suggest that the Gaelic for the English word Mill, viz. *Mullionn*, is sufficient to account for the name, more especially as the fertile *How*, so called, was known, in olden times, to have been famous for its mill. Those, however, who would thus derive the name, must be strangers to the manner in which the natives pronounce Moulin, which is very different from that given to the Gaelic of Mill. In the former Statistical Account its etymology is thus resolved: "A small lake once stood in the neighbourhood of the village, and has been converted by means of draining into meadow ground. The word Moulin seems to have some reference to this lake; perhaps it may be *maoth-linne*, a smooth pool, or *magh-linne*, pool field."

*Extent, Boundaries, and Topographical Appearances.*—Owing to its mountainous character, the extent of the parish is not correctly ascertained. Its length diagonally from the south-west to the north-east boundary may be 15 or 16 miles. As the parish of Logierait projects considerably into it on the south-east, and that of Blair Atholl into the north-west, its figure is extremely irregular. It has been divided into two districts, the Atholl and the Strathardle district. A hill of from three to four miles divides them. The Strathardle section extends in length about 8 miles north-west to south-east,

and in breadth 7 miles. The length of the Atholl division from north-west to south-east is 7, its breadth varies from 5 to 7 miles. It is bounded on the north-east, by the parish of Kirkmichael; on the south-east, by Logierait; on the south-west, by Dull; and on the west and north-west, by Blair Atholl. The Atholl division of the parish is bisected by the Garry and the Tummel. It lies principally, however, to the north of these rivers. The arable land rises in some places more gradually, in others with greater acclivity from their banks. The only striking mountain is Beinvrackie, Beinn Bhreacaidh, a "speckled mountain,"—a mountain which forms a prominent feature in the scenery of the whole surrounding country, and, from whatever situation viewed, is always graceful, and grand. The prospect from it is remarkably fine, and abundantly compensates the trouble of ascending it. Its elevation above the level of the sea is nearly 3000 feet. In the Strathardle district the general appearance is bleak and mountainous. The rich green hills of Glenfarnate stand, however, in pleasant contrast to the sombre and sterile aspect of the surrounding mountains; and the young and rising plantations of Kindrogan and Dirnanaen give a clad-like appearance to the eastern extremity of the valley. The Strath is watered by the Briarachan and the Ardle, and is brought into a state of good cultivation through the persevering exertions of its industrious tenantry.

*Meteorology.*—The climate varies considerably in different parts of the parish. The Strathardle district is often clothed in the white robe of winter, while in the Atholl division there is not a particle of snow. And it has often been remarked, that the temperature is very different from what it was some sixty or seventy years ago. In exchange for the great and long-continued heat of summer and the excessive cold of winter which was then experienced, we have now very little of fine summer weather, and, with few exceptions, the winters are generally mild and temperate. Winter 1838 was one of these exceptions. In February of that year the cold was intense, the thermometer stood at 3° of Fahrenheit; and on the 5th January 1839, the barometer stood 27½ inches, a degree of depression never before witnessed here. Of late, during the summer months the thermometer ranged from 45° to 75°, and in winter from 20° to 50°. Situated nearly in the centre betwixt the Atlantic and German Oceans, the air here is not so humid as it is, a little more to the south-west. Our geographical posi-

tion may also account for other unexpected and sudden variations to which we are liable. The prevailing winds are south-west and north-west, and east and south-east; and it is no uncommon phenomenon to observe the clouds travelling northward, while the wind on the surface of the earth blows in the opposite direction.

As a proof that we breathe the wholesome and bracing air of a highly salubrious climate, we may mention that, according to a census taken in December 1838, and January 1839, there were 112 individuals in the parish above the age of seventy; of whom 29 were above eighty, and 2 above ninety years of age.

*Distempers.*—Rheumatism is the most common complaint, after which comes the whole class of inflammatory ailments, those of the chest occurring most frequently. Typhus or infectious fevers scarce ever prevail, and only exist when persons labouring under them are brought into the parish. Hooping-cough, measles, scarlet fever, &c. visit the district occasionally—and also small-pox, but it is generally modified and seldom fatal, from the prevalent adoption of vaccination. This operation, however, is not always left to our eminently skilful and much esteemed practitioner, Dr Irvine, and in consequence is less efficacious than it ought to be, on account of its being often performed by unqualified persons.

*Hydrography.*—The only lake is Lochbroom, (Loch Bhraoin, the lake of showers,) situated in a hill on the confines of the parish of Moulin and Logierait; well known for the abundance and fine quality of its fish, and therefore often frequented by anglers during the summer months.

*Rivers.*—The rivers are the Briarachan, Arnate, Ardale, Garry and the Tummel. The Briarachan, rising in the north of the parish, and after changing its name four different times, mingles its waters with the Tay above Kinclavin. The Arnate, "*Fearn-ait, the alder district,*" takes its rise from Lochloch in the north-east of the parish, and runs through Glenfarnate, and its junction with the Briarachan forms the Ardale. The Ardle or Arndale, "*Fearn-dail,*" the Ardle-dale, is formed by the junction of the two preceding rivers, and after a course of ten miles, joins the Black-water.\* The principal rivers that wind their course through

\* There is a tradition that the Ardle received its name from that of a person of distinction who was killed in an engagement fought between the Danes and the Caledonians, on its banks, near to the place where it is formed by the Briarachan and Arnate. The name of this personage was Ardle, *Ard-fhuil*, noble blood, and hence the



the parish are the classic Garry and Tummel. The Garry, "*Gath-ruth*," the flight of the dart, or more probably "*Garaidh*," a den, takes its rise from a lake of the same name in the north-west of the parish of Blair Atholl. It is perhaps one of the most furious and impetuous rivers in Scotland; and when flooded, the rapidity of its stream, and the rumbling noise of its many waters, tearing up every thing that obstructs its progress, is terrifically grand. It has several striking cascades in its course, and its banks, after it enters this parish, are richly wooded. After flowing nearly thirty miles, and receiving in its course many tributary streams, it unites with the Tummel, near the celebrated falls of that name.

The Tummel, *teth-thuil*, a hot or boiling flood, or rather *teámh-thuil*, a dark flood, or perhaps *teámh-thuill*, a gloomy den, issues from Loch Rannoch, in the parish of Fortingal. Its current is rapid and turbulent, until it unites with the Garry, after which it becomes a majestic stream meandering through a fine and fertile valley. The scenery of the Tummel in point of beauty and magnificence is seldom equalled. After running a course not exceeding twenty-five miles, "its name and its waters are alike swallowed up by the all-devouring Tay at Logierait."

*Cascades*.—In a parish abounding in so many large streamlets rushing down with an impetuous current from mountains of considerable altitude, the formation of cascades is to be expected as a matter of course. But, with the exception of the beautiful and picturesque cascades at Edradour,\* and at Urrard, and that of the Tummel, they are all, I believe, unsung and uncelebrated. "The fall of the Tummel is truly a fine object: whether to the mere admirers of waterfalls, or to those who know better in what the main merit of this class of scenery consists. It is a peculiar and rare merit in the cascade of the Tummel, that it is beautiful in itself, and almost without the aid of its accompaniments. Though the water breaks white almost throughout, the forms are so graceful, so varied, and so well marked, that we can look at it long without

name of the river and of the district. The grave of Prince Arde is still pointed out on the property of Dirnanæan in this parish. The Briarachan has an equally romantic origin, which will readily suggest itself to him who is conversant with Gaelic antiquarian lore. If he be at a loss, Ossian's characters will help him. The banks of the Arnate and Arde are covered with alder or Scotch mahogany, and it is singular enough that none of it grows upon the banks of the Briarachan. The only growth of the arboreous description which finds existence there is the brier, and that in great abundance. There is an obsolete Gaelic word *Briar*, a brier or thorn: does that word form any part of the composition of Briarachan? if so, it would not inapplicablely represent what the district may have been at one time,—"*fields of briers.*"

\* Edradour—*eadar-da-dhòbhar*, between two waters—*urrard*—*ur-ard*, high heath.

being wearied with monotony, and without attending to the surrounding landscape. Whether low or full, whether the river glides transparent over the rocks to burst in foam below, or whether it descends like a torrent of snow from the very edge, this fall is always various and always graceful. The immediate accompaniments are, however, no less beautiful and appropriate, and the general landscape is, at the same time, rich and romantic, nothing being left to desire to render this one of the most brilliant scenes which our country produces.”\*

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The rocks of which our mountains are composed are chiefly the mica slate, which is penetrated in every direction by veins of quartz. This rock contains schorll, both the common and tourmaline, and also common and precious garnets, which may be considered as forming an essential component part of mica-slate. To form a correct idea of the geological and mineralogical character of the parish, it may be best to begin in the south-east extremity, and travel northward. At Aldour, on the north bank of the Tummel, the bed there consists of micacèous granular quartz. This rock has the peculiarity, that its dip is to the north-east, at an angle of from 15 to 20°, whereas the inclination of all the other seams is in a different direction. It is of a cream or buff colour, well adapted for architectural purposes, and has been wrought for building the House of Faskally. A little farther north, the stratum is hornblende slate dipping north-west. The next deposit consists of primitive limestone, which traverses the parish, as all the other strata do, in a north-east and south-west direction. Its dip is at an angle which varies from 45° to 60° north-west, its general thickness is about 60 feet; it is extremely hard, and of a light blue colour. It is so intermixed with sandy particles, that it is scarcely ever used for other than agricultural purposes. The mountains to the north-west and the whole of the Pass of Killiecrankie, are composed of mica-slate or quartzose mica-slate. The strata in Killiecrankie are nearly vertical. At the Girnag the dip is south-east, at an angle of 60° to 70°, so that the conformation of the strata within the parish resembles very much an arch. In the How of Moulin, there are scattered large masses of primitive limestone or marble, of a beautiful crystalline texture, and of a

\* If it be true, that the falls of Bruar had their petition granted in consequence of Burn's poetical effusion in their behalf, would that a Burns undertook to plead the cause of the Tummel. Its cause is not less urgent, and the theme not less poetical.

Equisetum sylvaticum	Parnassia palustris
Erica cinerea	Poa alpina
—— Tetralix	—— rigida
Eriophorum polystachion	Polygonum Hydropiper
Festuca Myurus	—— viviparum
Fraxinus excelsior	Polypodium dryopteris
Galeopsis versicolor	—— ptegopteris
Galium boreale	Potamogeton heterophyllus
—— palustre	Rubus chamaemorus
—— saxatile	—— saxatile
Genista anglica	Salix aquatica
Geranium lucidum	—— caprea
—— sylvaticum	—— fusca
Geum rivale	—— herbacea
Gnaphalium supinum	Sexifraga azoides
Gymnadenia conopsea	—— stellaris
Habenaria alba	Scirpus sylvaticus
—— bifolia	Scutellaria galericulata
—— - viridis	—— villosum
Hieracium alpinum	Sibbaldia procumbens
—— denticulatum	Solidago Virgaurea
—— paludosum	Sparganium natans
—— sabaudum	Spergula subulata
Juncus trifidus	Stellaria holostea
—— triglumis	Thalictrum alpinum
Listera cordata	Trientalis Europæa
Lobelia dortmanna	Triglochin palustre
Luzula spicata	Triodia decumbens
Lycopodium alpinum	Trollius Europæus
—— clavatum	Vaccinium Myrtillus
—— Selago	—— uliginosum
Menyanthes trifoliata	—— Vitis idæa
Orchis maculata	Veronica alpina
—— mascula	—— officinalis
Orobus tuberosus	—— serpyllifolia
Paris quadrifolia	

*Forests, &c.*—There are several kinds of plantations in the parish. The sorts of timber to which the soil appears most congenial are, oak, ash, Scotch fir, spruce, birch, and larch. There is a considerable extent of natural wood, consisting of oak and birch. The highly picturesque and romantic pass of Killiecrankie\* is clothed chiefly with the latter. All species of fruit trees and all varieties of shrubs and roses, are to be found in our orchards, shrubberies, and flower-gardens.

\* It was, I think, Dr M'Culloch who says, that Killiecrankie derived its name from the site of a chapel recently existing there. The Gaelic of the word is *coik-chrionach*, decayed brushwood, and in contradistinction to which there is in the neighbourhood "Orchil" *urchoille*, young wood; "Faskally" *fas-choille*, a young thriving wood. It is true this latter word may also mean "a desert wood." There can be no doubt, however, as to the meaning of Killiecrankie. The old Gaelic proverb explains it: "*Cha chuirinn mo thugh Bhearnach ann do choille-chrionach.*" "I would not put my chipped axe in your withered brushwood." For many a year subsequent to 1689, Killiecrankie was an object of dread to the regularly disciplined soldier. Such was the impression which the Hessian troops entertained of this pass, that, in 1746, no argument could prevail upon them to approach it. In their imaginations, it was the *ultima thule* of a civilized country.

There is a sprinkling of evidently old trees round the mansion-houses of the present proprietors; a few also point out the residences of several families now extinct, and consist for the most part of Scotch fir, ash, plane, elm, and oak. I am not aware that any of the trees of this parish deserve particular notice, with the exception, perhaps, of the green tree at Edradour, which, at thirty inches above the surface of the ground, is 11 feet in circumference,—and the memorable ash in the church-yard, which at the ground is 17 feet, 5 inches, and 13 feet, 3 inches in circumference at six feet above ground,—the Weymouth pines at Faskally are reckoned among the finest in Scotland,—and the two magnificent oaks which stand in all the pride of “monarchical” independence in the lawn of Urrard,—the largest measuring at the base, 17 feet, and at eight feet above the earth, 13 feet in circumference. Its stem contains 298 cubic feet of timber, and the lateral branches cover a space of ground nearly 80 feet in diameter. The late Major Alston Stewart is said to have refused L. 70 for it. At the same place, there are also two fine larches, the largest measuring 9 feet, 4 inches, and the other 8 feet, 9 inches in circumference, at 3 feet above ground.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Historical Events.*—The parish has been the scene of two historical events of considerable importance in different points of view: the one, as it secured, at the time, the stability of the *Protestant* succession; the other, as it afforded a striking manifestation of the power of *Protestant* Christianity on the soul of man.

On the 27th July 1689, the celebrated battle of Killiecrankie was fought in this parish, between the forces of General M'Kay, Commander of the government troops, for the protection of the Revolution settlement, and the Highlanders, who flocked round the standard of Graham, Viscount of Dundee, in behalf of King James VII. Of this engagement, many interesting accounts have been written. Chalmers, in his *History of the Rebellions*, Browne, in his *History of the Highlands*, and M'Kay of Rockfield in his *Life of General M'Kay*, have detailed every circumstance connected with this battle, with a degree of minuteness which leaves nothing for future historians to supply. In a *Memoir of Lord Viscount Dundee*, by an officer of the army, printed in London in 1714, we have the following appalling picture of the savage and unrelenting ferocity with which, on that memorable occasion, the Highlanders, with their claymores and Lochaber axes, attack-

ed M'Kay's men: "The clans earnestly entreated Dundee not to engage in person, on the ground that their method of fighting was quite different from that of regular troops, and if he should be killed, King James's interest would be lost in Scotland. But no argument could dissuade him from engaging at the head of his troops. General M'Kay's army out-winged Dundee's near a quarter of a mile, which obliged the clans to leave large intervals between each clan, and by declining towards the wings, they wanted troops to charge the centre, where a detachment of Lesly's and Hasting's English regiments were. The Highlanders threw away their plaids, haversacks, and all other utensils, and marched resolutely and deliberately in their shirts and doublets, with their fusils, swords, targets, and pistols ready, down the hill on the enemy, and received M'Kay's third fire before they pierced his line, in which many of the Highland army fell, particularly Lord Viscount Dundee,\* their general, the terror of the Whigs, the supporter of

\* The controversy as to the genuineness of the letter alleged to have been written by Dundee to King James, conveying the intelligence of the victory, can be of no great moment. The consequences that followed the engagement are of far greater importance. As, however, it is a matter of considerable interest in the estimation of some people, the following is subjoined as the result of inquiries made on the subject. *1st*, We find that all Dundee's other letters are carefully dated, the time when and the place where they were written being given—whereas that in dispute wants both; neither does it bear when or where the action took place. *2dly*, If he had survived the engagement, the author of the "Memoir," whose partiality appears to lean towards Dundee, would not fail to mention a fact that would tend "to heighten the romance of his character, and to increase the stage effect of his fall;" with Nelson at Trafalgar, he would make his hero be heard to exclaim, "I thank God I have done my duty." On the contrary, he states, that he "fell in the field of battle." *3dly*, King James himself, in a letter to Stewart of Balcachin, dated 30th November 1689, states, that "he fell at the entrance into action."—See General Stewart's Sketches, &c. of the Highlanders. *4thly*, King James says in another communication, that when crossing over the plain to give some orders on the left, where the enemy made the most opposition, he was most unfortunately killed by a random shot."—See Clark's James II. Vol. ii.—See also Crawford's Peerage, published 1716, and Balcanes' Memoirs. On the other side, it is maintained, *1st*, that though Dundee "fell at the entrance into action, it does not necessarily imply that his death was immediate. *2dly*, the author of the last Statistical Account, who was a son of one of the ministers of Blair-Atholl, and of course acquainted with the traditional history of this subject, states that Lord Dundee fell at a spot called Mount Clavers; but it is *believed* that he was afterwards carried to Blair, where he died of his wounds. This circumstance gives the appearance of plausibility at least to the story of the letter found among the Nairn papers, and printed by M'Pherson among his Original Papers. The following is a copy.

"It hath pleased God to give your forces a great victory over the rebels, in which three-fourths are fallen under the weight of our swords. I might say much of the action, if I had not the honour to command it; but of 5000 men, which was the best computation I could make of the rebels, it is certain there have not escaped 1200, we have not lost full out 900. This absolute victory made us masters of the field and enemy's baggage, which I gave to the soldiers, who to do them all right, both officers and common men, Highlands, Lowlands, and Irish, behaved themselves with equal gallantry to what I ever saw in the hottest battles fought abroad by disciplined armies, and this M'Kay's old soldiers felt on this occasion. I cannot now, Sir, be more particular, but take leave to assure your Majesty, the kingdom is generally dis-

King James, and the glory of his country. Then, the Highlanders fired, threw down their fusils, rushed in upon the enemy with sword, target, and pistol, who did not maintain their ground two minutes after the Highlanders were amongst them, and I dare be bold to say, there were scarce ever such strokes given in Europe as were given that day by the Highlanders. Many of General M'Kay's officers and soldiers were cut down through the skull and neck to the breasts; others had their skulls cut above their ears like night-caps; some soldiers had both their bodies and cross belts cut through at one blow; pikes and small swords were cut like willows, and whoever doubts of this may consult the witnesses of the tragedy." Victory declared on the side of Dundee. The loss which his party sustained is variously estimated; that of M'Kay's was dreadful, upwards of 2000 of his men were hewn down by the Highlanders. King William, who could not be expected to recline on a bed of roses, when he heard of the utter discomfiture of his troops, and, at the same time, of the death of his victorious antagonist, is reported to have said, "Well, were it not so, Dundee would have been at my gates to tell it himself." On the other hand, the death of Claverhouse proved fatal to the prospects of King James; his fall put an end for ever to the Stewart dynasty. Dundee was interred in the church of Blair-Atholl.\*

The other event to which we alluded is still fresh in the memory of many in the parish, and at the time created no small sensation

posed to your service, and impatiently wait for your coming, and the success will bring in the rest of the nobility and gentry, having had all their assurance for it, except the notorious rebels. Therefore, Sir, for God sake, assist us, though it be with such another detachment, as you sent us before, especially of horse and dragoons, and you will crown our beginning with a complete success, and yourself with an entire possession of your ancient hereditary kingdom of Scotland. My wounds forbid me to enlarge to your Majesty at the time, though they tell me they are not mortal. However, I beseech your Majesty to believe, whether I live or die,—I am entirely yours,

DUNDEE."

\* The following is Dr Pitsairn's character of Dundee, with Dryden's translation:

Ultime Scotorum, potuit, quo sospite solo,  
 Libertas patriæ salva fuisse tuæ:  
 Te moriente, novos accepit Scotia cives  
 Accepitque novos, te moriente, Deos.  
 Illa nequit superesse tibi, tu non potes illi  
 Ergo Caledoniæ nomen inane vale:  
 Tuque vale, gentis prisæ fortissime ductor,  
 Ultime Scotorum, ac ultime Græmæ, vale.

Oh, last and best of Scots! who didst maintain  
 Thy country's freedom from a foreign reign;  
 New people fill the land, now thou art gone,  
 New gods the temples, and new kings the throne.  
 Scotland and thou did each in other live;  
 Nor would'st thou her, nor could she thee survive.  
 Farewell, who dying didst support the state,  
 And could'st not fall but with thy country's fate!

in this country. We allude to the "religious revival" which took place here in 1800 under the ministration of Dr Stewart, who died minister of the Canongate, Edinburgh. The Rev. J. Sievwright of Markinch, in his memoir of Dr Stewart, gives a full and detailed history of this remarkable awakening. To that memoir we would refer the reader, who may feel disposed to inquire further into the subject. A few even of those, who were in 1800 accounted subjects of conversion, are still living, and have uniformly through life, by the piety and consistency of their conduct, given proof of the reality of the saving change that had been effected on their heart. Dr Stewart's memory is highly revered and affectionately cherished by the older people in the parish. \*

*Eminent Characters.*—It is an honour of which we have reason to be proud, that Moulin gave birth to Dr Duff, the Church of Scotland's first missionary to India. Dr Inglis, whose master-mind conceived the plan of evangelizing the millions of India by means of native teachers, was requested by the General Assembly to look out for a young man to whom the undertaking could be entrusted. Dr Duff, who was then a student at the University of St Andrews, and well known for his missionary spirit, was fixed upon as a person eminently qualified for carrying out the views of the Church in regard to India. The services of a more suitable person could not be secured. Uniting genius, talents, and learning, piety, zeal and energy, and withal an eloquence of the most unfettered, commanding, and effective character, admirably adapted to demolish the strongholds of heathenism among the nations of the East, he left Britain in the Lady Holland in October 1829, and, after suffering shipwreck and losing his all, he landed on the shores of India on the 30th May 1830, opened our Institution in Calcutta in the end of July following, and in the course of a short period had the happiness to see, that the realization of the originator's fondest hopes was a matter that could no longer be considered problematical. Such, indeed, was the success which attended our Institution at Calcutta, that the Church was encouraged to open similar schools in the other Presidencies: and from time to time we receive the most cheering intelligence from these sister establishments. Separated for a season from his coadjutors in this glorious cause, Dr Duff has for some time astonished his country-

\* Dr Stewart published, while at Moulin, a grammar of the Gaelic language, a work distinguished for philological research, acuteness, and ability, and evincing a mind minutely and thoroughly acquainted with the language, the principles of which he so ably and so clearly unfolds.

men no less by his thrilling eloquence than by his soul-harrowing disclosures of Pagan barbarities. His late powerful and impressive appeals to the General Assembly, and in all parts of Scotland, in behalf of the native outcasts of that country, excited an interest towards them which, it is hoped, will never die away. With his heart in India, he is again preparing, with a constitution in some measure renovated, to join his able and efficient fellow-labourers there, in the work of infusing into the minds of the native youth, *principles* which may eventually tend to subvert the whole fabric of Hinduism, and to erect, on its ruins, the pure, humanizing, and Heavenly system of Christianity.

Mr Duncan Forbes, Professor of Oriental Languages and Literature in King's College, London, is likewise a native of this parish.\*

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners, according to their valued rent are,

Mr Butter of Faskally,	L. 1489	11	1	Scotch money.
Lord Glenlyon,	1065	3	2	
Mr Stewart of Balnakeilly,	426	13	6	
Mr Alston Stewart of Urrard,	327	15	6	
Mr Fergusson of Baledmund,	295	9	5	
Mrs Stewart of Strathgarry,	121	16	10	
Mr Small of Dirnansen,	116	9	8	
Mrs M'Parlane of Donavouird,	106	4	6	
Mr Small Keir of Kindrogan,	97	17	10	
Mr Stewart of Atholl Bank,	16	10	8	
The Kinnaird portioners,	42	11	8	

*Parochial Registers.*—The date of the earliest entry is 1707. They have been kept pretty regularly since, and contain ample evidence of the troublous times in which our fathers lived. In 1745–6, while the rebel army was in the country, it is stated that public worship was, in consequence, suspended for several Sabbaths. The clergyman of Moulin, at the time, was known to entertain hostile feelings towards the Prince's cause; but the only loss he appears to have sustained was from a visit of Charles's followers, who, *sans ceremonie*, dismantled his kitchen of some nicely dried summer provisions.

*Antiquities, &c.*—The description given in the former Statistical Account of the old ruin which stands in the neighbourhood of the village of Moulin, corresponds very much with the state of the building as it is at present; the only difference is, that the area,

\* Donald M'Intosh, the eminent antiquarian, the compiler of the Gaelic Proverbs, the last priest of the Old Scots Episcopal Church, and the founder of the M'Intosh Library, Dunkeld, was born in the year 1743, on the farm of Orchilmore, in this parish.



which is considerable, has been planted with larch trees, which, as they now conceal some portion of the ruin, from whatever situation viewed, the effect of the whole is, in consequence, not so imposingly venerable. The names by which the ruin is known are, "An sean chaisteal," and "caisteal dubh Mhaothlinne," the former expressive of its antiquity, and of the absence of all authentic information regarding its history, and the latter appears to be a name frequently given to such castellated buildings, as "Caisteal dubh Ghairt," the black castle of Garth. The epithet "dubh" literally signifies black, but is occasionally applied to denote something of a sad or calamitous nature. It is impossible to say when or by whom this castle was erected. The style of architecture would assign to it the eleventh or twelfth century.

Sir John Campbell of Moulin, who was created Earl of Atholl by his cousin, King David II. is the only person of distinction who is known to have taken his title from this district; and hence it is supposed that he may have made it his place of residence. From Douglas's Peerage, we find that David de Strathbogie, eleventh Earl of Atholl, had the office of Constable of Scotland conferred upon him by King Robert Bruce, but soon after revolting against him, his estates in Scotland were forfeited, and these were granted to Sir Neil Campbell of Lochow and Mary, his spouse, sister to the King, and John their son. This son was Sir John Campbell of Moulin, afterwards created Earl of Atholl, as appears from a charter of King David II. to Robert, Lord Erskine, of the customs of Dundee. He was killed in the battle of Halidon Hill, 19th July 1333, without issue, whereby the title reverted to the Crown.\*

Of upright stones, which are generally honoured with the venerable name of Druidical remnants, there is no want in this parish; and here and there large upright flags of considerable thickness, with a Roman cross cut upon them, point out what are considered to be sites of Roman Catholic places of worship. Specimens of ancient round forts, which are absurdly attributed to the Danes, not only in Scotland, but throughout Britain generally, are also to be seen.

*Coins.*—Coins have been dug up in different parts of the parish. A few of Edward I. of England, and Alexander III. of Scotland were found several years ago, on the farm of Stroncha-

\* Among the charters of King Robert Bruce is the following: "To Mary, the King's sister, and John Campbell, her son, omnes terras et tenementa quæ fuerunt Davidis Comitis Atholie, in comitatu Athole, quas idem David forisfecit."





decently attired, but really the privations which, in after life, many of them will have to endure, force one to deplore this extravagance of dress, as one of the follies of our age. Though there are bakers and butchers among us, the style of living is not materially altered from that of our forefathers. Meal, milk, and potatoes, are the staple articles of diet. Poor, indeed, is that family which does not rear a pig, and the more comfortably circumstanced, in addition to bacon, provide themselves also with other dried meat. The consumption of butcher-meat, which is now very considerable, is chiefly by families of the higher rank, and by our respectable villagers. As "to tea, snuff, and tobacco," they appear to have become necessary luxuries with all classes, be they ever so poor. On the whole, the people may be said to enjoy in a reasonable degree, the comforts and advantages of society, and are in general contented with their situation and circumstances in life. They are a humane, social, moral, religious, and intelligent people. They are fond of reading, and inconveniently situated as they are in regard to any valuable circulating library, it is matter of astonishment and heartfelt gratification to find them in possession not only of the ephemeral and evanescent productions of the day, but of many of our standard works, historical, moral, and religious. Among the religious works, there is to be met a variety of commentaries—Henry's, Scott's, Brown's, Haweis, and others,—some of Henry's works, Scott's, Brown's, Baxter's, Booth's, Boston's, Bunyan's, Dolittle's, Doddridge's, Dwight's, Erskine's, Flavell's, Harvey's, Newton's, Owen's, Willison's, Watts, &c. &c. The intercourse between them is of that friendly and kindly nature, that, in as far as books are concerned, "mine and thine" are synonymous. If it be true, then, that the character of a district often takes its tone from the authors read in it, it will be superfluous, after the preceding enumeration, to remark, that the inhabitants of this parish are distinguished for the high respect which they pay to religion and its ordinances. Many of them are not only well acquainted with the peculiar doctrines of Christianity, but deeply imbued with the spirit of genuine piety, and are living under the power of Divine truth. Spurious liberalism and soul-withering infidelity, have as yet made little progress among us. But it is much to be dreaded, that the never-ceasing intercourse with this district, and the large manufacturing towns in the south, may eventually lead to the introduction and diffusion of sentiments and opinions which tend

work. The number of ploughs in the parish is 121, and of carts, 221. Of four-wheeled carriages, there are 10, and of gigs 4.

*Live-Stock.*—The common breed of cattle is the Highland, and of sheep the black-faced. Of late, a number of other varieties has been introduced. The pure Ayr and Angus-shire breeds of cattle are reared by some of the gentlemen. A cross between the Ayrshire cow and the Highland bull is a common description. Of late years, also, great attention is paid to the improvement of horses, by crossing the native breed, which is Highland, with the Clydesdale horse. A few Leicester sheep may be seen as followers of the milch cows.

*Husbandry.*—The system of agriculture pursued is far from uniform. The mode in general application is that of the four years rotation, being successively, 1. oats, 2. green crop, 3. barley, 4. hay. A few of the farmers are beginning to adopt the five-shift course. Bone manure is extensively used, and the turnips so raised are generally eat off by sheep. Great attention has been paid of late to the kind and quality of seed-corn.\* The Hopetoun oat and the Chevalier barley were at one time like to have superseded all others, but little of either is now used. The early Essex has supplanted the Hopetoun oat, and the Dunlop barley has taken the place of the Chevalier, which is found to unite earliness with a very fine quality of seed, and suits a light soil and a late season. The general kinds of seed are the potato oat; the Chester and the common English barley. The potatoes planted are chiefly the Perthshire "reds," a few of the Glasgow "buffs," and of the Aberdeen "blue-coats," and the various kinds of "yams." Till 1838, we had nothing like a failure in our potato crop. In that year there appeared a few blanks in several fields. The causes assigned were extremely various, but in no one case satisfactory. The turnips are, the "red and white globe," the "green-top yellow," and a few "Swedish." Tares are getting common. There is very little lint now sown, except what is intended for family purposes.

*Leases.*—The general duration of leases is eleven and fifteen years. It would, doubtless, be advantageous both to proprietor and tenant

\* At the annual competition for grain and potatoes which took place at Pitlochry on the 14th of this month, the premiums were adjudged to the following samples:—

*Barley.*—1 quality weighed 56½ pounds per bushel; 2 ditto 56½ ditto; 4 do. 55½ do.; 4 do. 55½ do.; 5 do. 55½ do.

*Oats.*—1 quality weighed 45½ pounds per bushel; 2 ditto 45½ ditto; 3 do. 45½ do.

*Bear.*—1 quality weighed 54½ pounds per bushel; 2 ditto 53½ ditto.

to have the leases extended, were it not for the friendly understanding that subsists betwixt them, and which enables the latter to look forward with confidence to a renewal of his lease. It is not uncommon for several successive generations of the same family to occupy the same farm. Within the last two or three years most of the farms in the parish were re-let, and such is the activity with which the occupants commenced improving them, that, if the spirit at present manifested does not relax, a few years more will bring under cultivation every inch of waste land worth the reclaiming.

*Fisheries.*—Salmon are caught in the Tummel and Garry, but not nearly in such abundance as at former periods. The rent is about L. 20.

*Raw Produce.*—The following is the average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, as nearly as that can be ascertained:

Barley, 544 Scotch acres, at L. 6, 12s. per acre,	L. 3590	8	0
Oats, 544 do. L. 6, 10s. do.	3536	0	0
Green crop, 544 do. L. 9, do.	4896	0	0
Hay, 544 do. L. 6, 10s. do.	3536	0	0
12985 sheep pastured at 3s. per head,	1947	15	0
609 cows do. L. 1. 15s. per milk cow,	1065	15	0
915 young cattle do. 15s. per head,	686	5	0
137 horses do. L. 2,	274	0	0
83 Leicester's do. 6s. 8d. per head,	61	0	0
Annual thinning, &c. of wood-copse,	150	0	0
Gardens and orchards,	50	0	0
Fisheries,	45	0	0
Quarries,	50	0	0

Total yearly value of raw produce raised, L. 19888 3 0

*Value of Live-Stock in the Parish.*—

411 horses, valued at L. 12 each,	L. 4932	0	0
609 milk cows, valued at L. 5, 10s. each,	3949	5	0
915 young cattle, valued at L. 3 each,	2745	0	0
12,985 sheep valued at 12s. each,	7791	0	0
183 Leicesters, valued at L. 1 each,	183	0	0
Swine, poultry, bees,	900	0	0

Total, L. 19,900 5 0

It will be observed that the third only of the horses are stated as pastured in the parish. A few are summered in parks in the neighbouring parishes, and the rest may be said to be fed on hay, straw, the refuse of distilleries, clover, and vetches. It may be remarked also that the above averages may strike many as too low, and that is certainly the case in regard to the How of Moulin, where an acre of barley will bring L. 10 and L. 12, and horses L. 20 and L. 25 and upwards.

*Manufactures.*—Previous to the passing of the Distillery Act  
PERTH.

1. Geo. IV. chap. 74, there were but two licensed distilleries in this parish. From that period to the passing of the Act 4. Geo. IV. chap. 4. illicit distillation was carried on to a great extent. The lowering of the duty on spirits, together with several other salutary regulations embodied in the last act, encouraged a few of the more enterprising farmers to enter into partnership, and erect one or two legal distilleries on a small scale. A few others followed their example, and in this way legal distilleries gained a footing in the district. Illicit distillation began immediately to disappear, and it is believed there is now nothing of the kind carried on within the bounds of the parish.

There are seven distilleries in that part of the Pitlochry\* excise district situate in this parish, working with little intermission throughout the year. There are two stills in each, for converting worts and wash into spirits, which are fit for immediate consumption, without any further rectification. The contents of the stills vary from 130 to 460 gallons each, with other utensils of proportional magnitude. Till very recently, the various operations of pumping, removing worts, spirits, &c. from one vessel to another, were performed by manual labour, and the malt mills were propelled by horses; but now these operations are generally performed by machinery propelled by water,—a power for which the natural declivities of this country are peculiarly adapted.

The whole of the spirits are extracted from malted barley, and are much esteemed for their strength and flavour. They are disposed of in Dundee, Perth, and Edinburgh. The greater part, however, is sent to Dundee; some of them are exported to England—arrangements having been made recently by one of the distilleries for supplying regularly some of the London dealers.

The quantity of spirits manufactured yearly may average 90,000 gallons. To produce this quantity requires about 9000 bolls of barley. This parish yields about 2900 bolls. Deducting 3 bolls for the consumption of each family, there remains for the purposes of distillation about 1700, so that there is imported from the neighbouring parishes and from the low country about 6300 bolls of barley. The quantity of malt manufactured yearly in the parish is about 24,000 bushels. A considerable portion, therefore, of the 6000 bolls of barley imported is brought into the parish in the state of malt. Calculating the spirits distilled at 7s. 6d. per imperial gallon, the whole whisky annually exported will amount to

\* Pitlochry is the seat of the periodical excise collections for the district.

L. 35,750. But the yearly amount of excise duty charged in respect of spirits and malt may be estimated at about L. 20,000. Deducting the price of the raw material at the rate of L. 1 per boll barley, there remains in the hand of the manufacturer a small sum, indeed, to indemnify him for his time, servants' wages, tear and wear of his utensils, and the losses to which he is necessarily exposed.

One of the great advantages which the farmer derives from his connexion with these distilleries arises, as already stated, from the means which they afford for enriching his farm. And when it is considered that many of the partners are persons who were previously engaged in the "duty free trade," certainly the most demoralizing scourge that ever visited the Highlands, it may be some consolation to our "temperance friends" to know, that the temperate, industrious, and honest legal trader has been engrafted on the once intemperate, improvident, and lawless smuggler!

*Public Associations.*—The Atholl and Weem Agricultural Club meets once every year, either at Weem or Pitlochry. The liberal encouragement given in the way of premiums to the successful competitors has been the means of directing the attention of the tenantry to the improvement of their farms and stock of cattle. The beneficial influence which this Association has had on the farmer and on his farm has been very considerable. A spirit of laudable emulation is excited, the farmer's own knowledge is increased, his farm is in consequence greatly improved, and his attention also is thereby directed to the proper breeds of cattle.

Till within a few years, good ploughing was little thought of. The ploughing matches that have taken place of late, under the auspices of some of the country gentlemen, have been of great benefit in teaching the young men, and impressing the farmers in this respect with a just estimate of inferior and superior workmanship.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town, &c.*—Dunkeld is the nearest market-town, distant nearly thirteen miles. The villages are Moulin and Pitlochry. The number of families in the former is 48, and the population 185. The number of families in the latter is 67, and the population 321. Pitlochry is a remarkably thriving village. Its locality is favourable, as situated on the great north road. It supplies not only the immediate district with all kinds of mercantile goods, but its means of communication enable it to extend its trade in various directions, and to great distances. Till within a few years



ago, Dunkeld and Perth were the places with which this district of country used to transact its business; but of late, young men of intelligence, enterprise, and capital, established themselves in Pitlochry, who have immediate connexion with the principal commercial cities in the south. The country, therefore, is now equally well served, and as moderately, with every article of merchandise, as in either of the above towns. One of the mercantile establishments is well lighted with gas, a novel spectacle in these quarters! In 1834, a laboratory was opened in Pitlochry. In 1836, a branch of the Central Bank of Scotland, and also in the same year a branch of the Commercial Bank, were established there.

It had been often the subject of complaint that such a village should have been so long without a suitable inn. The want is now remedied. Mr Butter of Faskally has built a good commodious house, where the tourist will find himself comfortably accommodated; and should he be a real admirer of nature's beauties, few districts there are, if there be indeed any in Great Britain, to equal it in the rich variety of its scenery. By adhering, however, to the high road, as the ordinary traveller can scarce avoid, he will lose the better part of what he might obtain, if, as the poet says, "he wooed nature in her coy retreats."—"He, then, who can command, or borrow, or steal an hour from time, will be unpardonable if he does not linger at Pitlochry; and he who can rob the day of two or three, will be still more so, if he does not diverge to visit the unexpected and strangely placed village of Moulin, a village than which it would be difficult to point out another more picturesque; an irregular mixture of houses, and mills, and bridges, and falling waters, and noble trees; a careless profusion of the elements of rustic landscape, to which is added a rich and singular surrounding country, offering all the characters of ancient wealth and cultivation, backed, on the one hand, by the beautiful declivity of Beinvrackie, and extending its views over the magnificent expanded vale of the Tay."\*

*Post-Office.*—The post-office is in Pitlochry, and yields to the revenue about L. 400 a-year. The Royal Mail commenced running between Perth and Inverness on the 6th July 1836. It passes through Pitlochry on its way north, about half-past one P. M., and on its way south about eleven o'clock A. M. It runs every day. Rannoch, to which there is a runner three times a week, is a sub-office to Pitlochry. In the summer and autumn months, two

\* See M'Culloch's Work.

stage coaches run every lawful day between Perth and Blair Atholl. During these months, our roads present a scene of the most lively description. Travellers from all parts of Britain, as well as from foreign countries, visit a place so rich in inspiring associations, and so justly celebrated for the beauty and sublimity of its scenery. We are highly delighted to see them, but deeply regret that they could not find it convenient to avoid Sabbath-day travelling, which prevails to a great extent, and which is most offensive, and may prove injurious, to the religious feelings and religious habits of our people.

*Turnpike.*—The old military road was converted into a turnpike. There is a toll-bar about the middle of the pass of Killiecrankie. The present rent is L. 213. The length of the turnpike road in the parish is seven miles.

*Parish Roads.*—Of late a very laudable spirit has been manifested on the part of our road trustees. The improvements contemplated, and now in a great measure completed, will add essentially to the comfort of travelling. The statute labour roads between Pitlochry and Kirkmichael and on both sides of the Tummel, reflect great credit on the road trustees, and especially on those of them who have sacrificed much valuable property to accommodate the public. These roads diverge in different directions from Pitlochry, and though not much frequented by strangers, are, in many respects, little inferior to the turnpike. They are necessarily in several parts steep; but one can have no idea of the magnificent scenery of alpine character which, in every direction, is presented to the eye. “Hills over hills, and alps on alps arise,” to fill the mind with the loftiest conceptions, and to “raise it from viewing nature up to nature’s God.”

*Bridges.*—In 1832, a substantial bridge of two large spans was built, by subscription, across the Tummel, nearly a mile west from Pitlochry. An error, which is not likely soon to be remedied, was committed in the unfortunate locality in which this bridge was erected. Had it been built at Portnacraig, a spot which seems formed by nature for that purpose, it would have been found much more convenient. As it is, our present spirited road trustees might find it no unprofitable investment of capital, to open a turnpike between this district and Strathtay, beginning at the White-fall bridge, and ascending the “*Monadh-meadhonach*”—in a zig-zag direction, descending the south side of the hill by a westerly inclination, and leading to Weem, Aberfeldy, and Taymouth. As the

beauties and advantages of this line came to be appreciated, the outlay, which at first must be considerable, would be found to repay with interest. Travellers would prefer taking that route from Dunkeld to Kenmore, or *vice versa*, rather than the present. They would lose nothing, and be gainers to an agreeable amount.

In 1833, another substantial bridge was built, by subscription, across the Garry, at the junction of the Girnaig with that river.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Lord Glenlyon is patron of the parish. The church is situated in the village of Moulin, and convenient for the greater part of the population. It is nine miles from the north-east, and six from the north-west extremity. There are 155 families more than two; 130 more than four, and 65 more than nine, miles from it by the nearest practicable route. It was built in 1830–1; the style of its architecture is the Gothic; the altitude of the tower is inconsiderable; the windows are, however, of a small size, and, owing to the abutments between them, the light is greatly obstructed, and the church in consequence, uncomfortably dark. It is seated for 650; the sittings were allocated to the different heritors according to their valued rent, who divided them among their respective tenantry free of rent.

The manse was built in 1820. The glebe, including the garden and the ground occupied by the manse and offices, is about four acres and a half, worth L. 12. There is no grass glebe, but the minister receives in lieu thereof, L. 1, 13s. 4d. The stipend is the minimum. There are 73 bolls, 3 firlots, 2 pecks, 1 lippy of victual, half meal, half barley, and L. 29, 7s. 6½d. in money, and the deficiency made up by Government.

*Chapel of Ease.*—In the neighbouring parish of Blair-Atholl, a chapel of ease, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, was opened in September 1836, to which a section of this parish, containing a population of 269, was annexed. The whole population attached to the *quoad spiritualia* parish of Tenandry, from the three parishes of Dull, Blair, and Moulin, is about 700. This church, though located in the parish of Blair, was erected chiefly to accommodate the people of Glenfincastle, who are fifteen miles from Dull, their parish church. It was built and endowed by Mr and Mrs Hay of Seggieden, and Miss Stewart of St Fort. The endowment is L. 85. The allowance for communion elements, L. 8, 6s. 8d., is from the Sunday collections. The appointment of the minister rests with the Founders and Endowers during their lifetime, and thereafter devolves on the Society for

Propagating Christian Knowledge. The present incumbent is the Rev. William Grant.

At Strathloch, in the Strathardle district of the parish, the minister officiates five or six times a-year. There is no church.\* The preaching is in the open air. The inhabitants of that territorial division of the parish are inconveniently situated in regard to the means of religious instruction and pastoral superintendence. Access to the church for 83 families, or 412 inhabitants, is impeded by a hill of from three to four miles in length. The nearest residence is five miles from the parish church, and the eastern extremity of the Strathardle district is about two miles from the church of Kirkmichael.

The Church is generally well attended, and, notwithstanding the section of the parish, containing 269 souls, attached to the recent erection of the Tenantry, there are still great complaints of the want of comfortable family accommodation. The sacrament of our Lord's Supper is generally dispensed on the third Sabbath of June. The average number of communicants is 600, and of these, 200 are entitled to exercise the "veto" in the settlement of a minister, according to the roll adjusted in November 1838.

There are only seven Dissenting families in the parish; three of these are Episcopalians, connected with the excise, who have lately come to reside within the bounds; of the other four families, three are of the Baptist, and one of the Independent persuasion. There are also a few single persons. The whole number of Dissenters, reckoning the children of Dissenting families as such, is 58; of these, 22 are Episcopalians. Their places of worship are in the adjoining parishes. It may here be remarked, that the children of some of the members of the Dissenting body are connecting themselves with the Established Church. Within a few years, the writer of this Account baptized two adults, one of whom was a married man, whose parents were Baptists. There seems to be no disposition on the part of the people to secede from the Established Church. On the contrary, they are deeply and ardently attached to the church of their fathers.

*Ministers of Moulin.*—William Balneaves was minister of Moulin in 1648; died in March 1705. James Stewart was translated from the parish of Scone, 1st October 1707. Adam Fer-

\* A subscription, amounting to L. 130, has been lately raised in the parish for the purpose of building a church at Strathloch, and it is hoped that, ere long, with aid from the General Assembly's Church Extension Committee, we may be able to effect so desirable an object.

guson, ordained at Killin, 28th September 1728, and translated to Moulin, 3d February 1736. Alexander Stewart, ordained 21st September 1786, translated to Dingwall in 1805. David Duff, ordained 21st February 1806, and admitted into his present charge, Kenmore, April 1831. Duncan Campbell, ordained 1st March 1832.

*Religious Societies.*—There is no regular organized religious association in the parish, but a subscription for religious and charitable purposes, conducted by the ministers and members of session, has been made for the last two years, amounting in, 1837, to L. 49, 17s. 11d., and in 1838 to L. 52, 17s. 3d.

*Education.*—There are 7 schools in the parish, one parochial, one connected with the General Assembly's Scheme; and the rest on the teachers' own adventure. The branches of instruction generally taught are, Gaelic, English, English grammar, arithmetic, mathematics, book-keeping, geography and Latin. The parish schoolmaster has the legal accommodations except the garden, for which he receives the allowance which the act assigns. The salary is the maximum, L. 34, 4s. 4½d.

In January 1839, the number of scholars in all the schools throughout the parish was 388, boys 234, girls 154. There were learning to read, 112; joined writing to their reading, 276, and of these again there were at arithmetic, 77; at English grammar, 31; at mathematics, 10; and at Latin, 6.

In Pitlochry there is a sewing schoolmistress, who receives L. 5 from the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge.

*Sabbath Schools.*—There are six Sabbath evening schools in the parish, attended in January 1839 by upwards of 300 scholars.

The people are in general fully alive to the benefits of education. Many of them are at such distances from school as to make it inconvenient for their children to attend regularly. The Strathardle district of the parish, I grieve to say, is very destitute of the means of education. There is truly no lack of teachers, but, from the encouragement given, they are necessarily of an inferior description. An active, zealous, and intelligent teacher, such as might be expected from the General Assembly's Education Committee, would be an unspeakable blessing to the children of that remote portion of the parish.\*

\* It is gratifying to observe the lively interest that is being taken of late in the educational prosperity of that section of the parish, and it is hoped that, ere long, we shall see the Strathardle division enjoying the privileges of our more favoured localities.

*Libraries.*—An attempt was made some years ago, to establish a circulating library in Moulin, but did not succeed.

*Friendly Societies.*—There are none in the parish, but many of the parishioners are connected with the Atholl Wrights Brotherly Society, instituted at Logierait, 1st January 1812, and conformed in 1835 to the Friendly Society Acts of 10 Geo. IV. ch. 56, and 4 and 5 Will. IV. ch. 40. During the twenty-three years of its existence prior to 1835, it is stated in the preamble of the rules and regulations of the society, that it had been of incalculable benefit to many individuals and families who had the misfortune to require its seasonable and effectual aid. In proof of the magnitude of the society's operations, and the extent of its utility, it is mentioned that it has already expended the sum of L. 2221, 0s. 9½d. in relieving the sick and distressed belonging to it, and that in 1835, its net stock was L. 1073, 12s. 4½d. The largest allowance to which a sick member is entitled is 4s. per week. If he continue unwell and unable to work, the sum is gradually reduced, and should he remain in that state for the period of a whole year, he is then put on a superannuation allowance of 1s. 6d. a-week. The advantages of this society are great and obvious. Many, who, had they neglected to join it when in the possession of good health, would, on being overtaken by sickness or distress, be compelled to apply for parish aid. This last resource, so painfully degrading to an independent mind, is, however, happily avoided by being a member of this brotherly society.

*Savings Bank.*—A branch of the National Security Savings Bank of Edinburgh was established in Pitlochry in December 1836. Its business is conducted gratuitously by Mr Alexander M'Naughton, agent of the Commercial Bank. The following is a statement of the first and second year of its operation; 1st year, invested, L. 76, 3s.; withdrawn, L. 31, 15s.; 2d year, invested, L. 117, 2s.; withdrawn, L. 50, 10s. The classes by which the investments are generally made are workmen and servants.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The number of poor at present on the roll is 39; of these 21 are ordinary, and 18 occasional poor. The sum generally allotted to each regular pauper, is L. 2, 8s. a-year. The allowance, however, depends entirely on the nature of each individual's case. The session-clerk and precentor's, the synod and presbytery clerk's, and the church officer's dues, amount to L. 5, 19s. a-year. Our funds consist of L. 400, which yield 4

per cent. interest. The collections, &c. of 1836, 1837, and 1838 were as follows :\*

	Church collections.	Donations, &c.	Interest.	Tota'.
1836,	L 48 10 6½	L 19 9 3½	16	L 85 19 10
1837,	59 4 3½	33 9 8	16	108 13 11
1838,	56 1 1	13 8 3½	16	85 9 4

In the collections of 1837, there is included L. 6, 12s. 9½d., and in 1838, L. 4, 0s. 3d. received as our proportion of the collections made in the church of Tenandry.

It is still considered as degrading to receive aid from the poor's funds, but necessity has of late weakened that noble spirit of independence, with which our people used to view any connexion with the poor's revenues. Spinning, the occupation by which females were wont to live, has of late years completely failed, and there being no other suitable employment for them in the country, they are obliged in consequence to apply for parochial relief.

*Mendicity.*—Really some measure should be adopted to suppress the system of mendicity, which has lately prevailed to such an annoying extent in the district. To use a homely phrase, we are perfectly ate up with beggars. To supply from 8 to 12 a day is no uncommon call on our benevolence. This, surely, is a positive evil,—but an evil which, though we deprecate the system, is still encouraged, from a principle of false humanity. Nor is this the only ground of complaint; mendicity often brings other evils in its train. Issuing from the unhealthy and thickly-peopled lanes and closes of our large manufacturing towns in the south, these mendicants, ill-fed and ill-clad,—being themselves the easy victims of infection,—carry all manner of contagion with them, either in their person or in their clothes. The consequence has too often been, that they leave, as a *legacy* behind them, the most loathsome diseases. Scarlet fever, hooping-cough, and small-pox are generally traced to them. Have we not, then, good reason to complain when our charity is thus frequently rewarded? If, however, the *statute*, making every parish support its own poor, were in full force, then the sums expended in charity would be more profitably applied, the interests of morality and religion would be better secured, and the poor themselves would be far more adequately relieved.

\* It appears from our kirk session records, that the annual collections in this parish, including fines, &c. were a century ago as follows: in 1736, L. 5, 6s. 4d.; in 1737, L. 6, 16s. 8d.; in 1738, L. 5, 16s. 8d. In 1735, a collection was made for educating for the ministry young men who knew the Gaelic language, which amounted to L. 4 Scots, and in 1761 for distressed ministers and congregations in America, amounting to L. 9, 8s. 6d. Scots money. Comparing the amount of these collections with that of those recently made, the advancement which, in the last century, this parish has made in industry and prosperity, clearly appears.

*Prisons.*—There is no prison in the parish; but it is said that the “New Prison Bill” provides Pitlochry with one,—for what purpose I am at a loss to conceive, if it be not to accommodate the law-violators of the neighbouring parishes, or to receive the swarms of idle vagrants and sturdy beggars that prowl among us from the south at different seasons of the year. For any other purpose, a prison in this parish will be a tenantless erection, and the office of a jailor a sinecure.

*Fairs.*—At Moulin, there is a fair held on the first Tuesday of March, for the sale of horses and the purchase of seed-corn. At Pitlochry, there is a fair held for cattle and horses the Saturday before the Amulrie market, which is held first Tuesday of May; and likewise in the same place, on the third Wednesday of October, O. S., there is another for cattle and horses.

*Inns.*—There are *seven* ale-houses in the parish, and, as formerly stated, *seven* licensed distilleries. The influence of these on the morals of the people is far from being of so demoralizing a nature as one might be apt to imagine. That there are a few individuals who are notorious tipplers will not detract from the general character of the people, which, in regard to high-toned morality, may challenge comparison with any peasantry in Scotland.

*Fuel.*—A great quantity of wood is burned by the distillers and others. The consumption of coal is considerable, but the principal fuel is peat, found in the neighbouring hills, and procured at a great expense. If it was dreaded fifty years ago, how much greater reason is there now, to apprehend a scarcity in this necessary article. In consequence of the immense quantity used by the numerous distilleries in the neighbourhood, it is feared that, unless a more judicious and economical system be adopted of cutting the mosses than is at present in operation, the peat will, ere long, be so exhausted as to add very considerably to the present outlay. Should the once-projected railroad betwixt Perth and Dunkeld go on, it will tend much to remove all grounds of fear, and to diminish the expense to which, in the article of fuel, we are at present necessarily subjected.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

At the time of writing the former Statistical Report, the real rent of the parish was estimated at L. 3000; *now*, it is upwards of L. 7000. *Then*, land in the neighbourhood of the villages paid from L. 1, 10s. to L. 1, 14s.; *now*, the same land pays at the rate of L. 3 per acre. *Then*, some of the farms were intermixed toge-



ther in the way called runrig; *now*, there is no such thing: the land-owners have laid out their estates in farms of convenient size, which are subdivided by the farmer into four or five divisions, according to his rotation. *Then*, the ploughs were small and clumsy, drawn by four horses yoked abreast, and driven by a man who held the horses by the halters, and walked backwards; *now*, the iron plough is universally used, and two horses instead of four. *Then*, turnips and clover with rye-grass were cultivated by a few gentlemen only; *now*, they form a part of the regular rotation, even of every one acre croft. *Then*, there were no thrashing machines in the parish; *now*, there are five thrashing mills, and two of them built within the last two years. *Then*, beef was 3d. per lb., but very seldom sold in the parish; veal, 2d.; mutton, 2d.; and pork, 4d.; *now*, beef is 6d.; veal, 6d.; mutton, 6d.; and pork, 5d. per lb., and of these, especially beef and mutton, a great quantity is consumed. *Then*, a man-servant's wages, employed in husbandry, were from L. 6, 15s. to L. 7, and a maid-servant's from L. 2, 15s. to L. 3 a year; *now*, a man-servant receives from L. 12 to L. 16, and a maid-servant from L. 5 to L. 7 with victuals. *Then*, the yarn exported during the year brought a return in cash of about L. 2680; *now*, the return in cash will not amount to as many shillings. *Then*, a woman who was a good spinner and employed in nothing else would earn 3s. a week; *now*, a spinner has enough to do to earn the fourth part of that sum! *Then*, there were 24 licensed retailers of ale, beer, and other excisable liquors; *now*, there are only 7! *Then*, there were two distilleries of 30 gallons each; *now*, there are seven, varying from 130 to 460 gallons each. *Then*, there was no post-office; *now*, the Royal Mail runs daily through the parish. *Then*, there were no bakers, no butchers, no bankers; *now*, there are all 3,—no bad indication of the favourable change in the circumstances of the people. And a glance at the following tables will readily show the more striking variations, in the particulars of which they consist, betwixt the present state of the parish and that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account:—

*Value of Live-Stock in 1839.*

411 horses, valued at L. 12 each,	-	-	-	-	-	L. 4932	0	0
609 milch cows, at L. 5, 10s. each,	-	-	-	-	-	3349	5	0
915 young cattle, at L. 3 each,	-	-	-	-	-	2745	0	0
12,965 sheep, at 12s. each,	-	-	-	-	-	7791	0	0
183 Leicesters, at L. 1 each,	-	-	-	-	-	183	0	0
Swine, poultry, bees,	-	-	-	-	-	900	0	0

Total value of stock, L. 19,900 5 0

*Annual Produce.—*

544 Scotch acres of oats, producing 3586 bolls, at 16s. per boll,	L. 2828	16	0
544 Do. barley, 2992 do. L. 1 do.	2992	0	0
544 Do. green crop, at L. 9 per acre, - - -	4896	0	0
544 Do. hay, at L. 6, 10s. do. - - -	3586	0	0
Straw, at 4s. per boll of corn, producing 6528 bolls,	1905	12	0
Pasture, - - - - -	4084	15	0
Annual produce of thinnings, &c. - - - - -	150	0	0
Gardens and orchards, - - - - -	50	0	0
Fisheries, - - - - -	45	0	0
Quarries, - - - - -	50	0	0
<hr/>			
Total value of annual produce,	L. 19,888	3	0

*Value of Live-Stock in 1790.*

Number of tenants' horses, 564, valued at L. 5 each,	L. 2820	0	0
Saddle and carriage do. 20, at L. 16 - - - - -	320	0	0
Best cattle. 52, at L. 2, - - - - -	104	0	0
Inferior do. 1410, at L. 1, 14s. - - - - -	2397	0	0
Best sheep, 2400, at 8s. - - - - -	800	0	0
Inferior do. 7000, at 5s. 6d. - - - - -	1925	0	0
Goats, swine, &c. supposed worth in all, - - - - -	1000	0	0
<hr/>			
Total,	L. 9366	0	0

*Annual Produce.—*

1020 Scotch acres of oats, producing 4590 bolls, at 14s. per boll,	L. 3213	0	0
656 Do. bear, 2624 do. 14s. per boll,	1896	16	0
64 Do. pease. 192 do. 12s. do. - - -	115	4	0
75 Do. potatoes, 1875 do. 6s. 8d. do.	625	0	0
75 Do. flax, 2700 stones, at 13s. 4d. per stone,	1800	0	0
Meadow hay or natural grass, 5000 do. 5d. do	104	3	4
60 Scotch acres of sown grass, at L. 8 per acre,	480	0	0
Straw at 3s. per boll of corn, - - - - -	1023	6	0
Pasture at L. 1, 15s. per horse; L. 1 per cow; and 2s. per sheep,	3885	0	0
Annual produce of woods and plantations, about	225	0	0
Fisheries, total value caught, about - - - - -	200	0	0
<hr/>			
Total value of annual produce,	L. 13,007	9	4

The preceding comparison will enable the reader to see the progress which this *Highland* parish made in the course of nearly the last half century. What farther improvements other fifty years may bring about, it is difficult to say. As matters now are, everything bears the marks of intelligence, industry, and prosperity. The aspect of the parish is greatly altered. Forests of trees have risen up. Gentlemen's grounds have been ornamentally laid out, to harmonize with their elegant mansions. The farmer's neat slated cottage now meets the eye in every direction. Instead of thorns and briars, and mosses and quagmires, we have everywhere beautiful fields of rich arable land. Our roads are also in the same proportion improved, and the "old military road" converted into turnpike. Trade of every description is keeping pace with the other improvements. The connexion which so many of the respectable farmers have with the numerous distilleries scattered over the district, gives to our roads the lively appearance of a city vic-

nity, rather than that of a quiet country parish. For the male part of the population, there is, therefore, no want of employment, but the female portion, it must be admitted, is not so fortunate. To ameliorate their condition is an object well worthy the consideration of the philanthropist. At the time of writing the former Account, females could not only largely contribute to the support of their respective establishments, but it is an ascertained fact, that in many instances, *the whole rent, amounting to a considerable sum*, was the earnings of the wife and her handmaidens. How altered, in this respect, the state of things! Spinning, except for family purposes, may be reckoned among the things that were. The very fact that, of the 39 paupers supported by the kirk-session, 32 are old women, is sufficient to shew that the *weaker sex*, do what they will, if depending upon their *own* efforts for subsistence, *must* anticipate *old age* with feelings of the most painful solicitude!

“ This is a sight for *pity* to peruse,  
Till she resemble faintly what she views,  
Till *sympathy* contract a kindred pain,  
Pierc'd with the woes ‘ *these females feel in vain.*”

COWPER.

February 1839.

## PARISH OF CAPUTH.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. ALEXANDER WILSON, MINISTER.

### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—It appears from our session records that formerly the name of this parish was variously spelt, Keapoch, or Kapoch,—more commonly Capoch; but for the last half century invariably Caputh. The origin or meaning of the term is entirely lost in obscurity. *Keapoch* in Gaelic signifies “ a decayed wood,” as I am told; but how it applies to this parish I cannot discover.

*Situation.*—It is situated in that district of Perthshire which is called the Stormont, and comprehends the greater part of the plain of the Stormont, which is just a continuation of the extensive vale of Strathmore, towards the foot of the Grampians.

*Boundaries.*—Its figure is very irregular, save on the south, which is nearly a straight line for 10 miles, marked by the course of the Tay, from Dunkeld to the mouth of the Isla; which river forms the boundary for a considerable space on the east, viz. from where it receives the Lunan. This latter stream again separates it on the north-east from Blairgowrie. On the north it is bounded by Lethendy and Clunie; on the west, by Dunkeld and Dowally. It contains about 16,000 square acres, or 25 square miles. It is about 13 miles in length from west to east, and varying from 2 to 7 miles in breadth.

In the *Lives of the Bishops of Dunkeld*, (a MS. written by Alexander Mylne,\* Canon of Dunkeld), it is related that Bishop Brown, in the year 1500, divided the parish of Little Dunkeld into the old parish of Little Dunkeld and the parish of Caputh; and “at Caputh he built on his own charges, a quire, with painted ceiling and glazed windows. He gave for the support of the vicar, a vicarage, which had been formerly united to his own see, four acres of glebe-land, and the rising ground, called the Mute-hill, to build a church upon.”

From the same author, it appears that the parish of Dowally was originally a part of Caputh. “Upon information (says Mylne), that the Irish was spoken in the Highland parts of the parish of Caputh, the Bishop (Brown) built and endowed a church in honour of the blessed Mother, St Anne, among the woods of the church lands of Dowally.”†

\* Alexander Mylne lived in the times of George Brown, Bishop of Dunkeld, from 1484 to 1514, and of his successor, the celebrated Gavin Douglas, to whom his work is dedicated. The original MS. in Latin, was presented by the late Duke of Atholl to the Antiquarian Society of Perth, and printed in a volume of their Transactions. A MS. translation of it is in possession of a gentleman in Dunkeld, who kindly favoured me with a perusal of it.

† There has been, for a considerable time past, a good deal of discussion as to the precise boundary between Caputh and Dunkeld. The small burn of Ketlochy, which rises in Craige-Barns, and which runs through the eastern part of Dunkeld into the Tay, a little above the bridge, was the ancient boundary. But this boundary is no longer visible, the water being conveyed by a conduit beneath the houses on the west side of Atholl Street, so that all of the town on the east side is in Caputh parish. The cause of this singularity will appear from the following extract taken from the Statistical Account of Dunkeld and Dowally, written by Principal Baird in 1798: “The boundaries of Dunkeld, viewed as a parish, are not extensive, but they are not hitherto distinctly ascertained. As it was the seat of the Bishop, and the service of the cathedral was performed either by his chaplain, or by some of the clergy who had fixed benefices in other quarters of the diocese, it was not necessary at that time to constitute it formally a parish, or to mark its limits. In fact, it does not appear that this was ever done. It is not entered as a parish in the cess-books of the county, and none of the old title-deeds of the proprietors describe the property as lying within the parish, but within the city of Dunkeld. What is now, therefore, the parish, includes only what was formerly within the boundaries of the city. These, in the course of the present (eighteenth) century, have been considerably altered; for during the commotions of 1689 the greatest part of the houses were burnt by an irritated and licentious

Besides what is contained within the extensive boundaries already described, there are several detached portions scattered throughout the counties of Perth and Forfar, viz. Balholmie, lying within the parish of Cargill; West and Middle Gormack, in Kinloch; East and West Logie, Cairns, Chapelton, Meadows and Crofty, in Clunie; and Craigtown of Dalrulzian, in Kirkmichael, all in Perthshire. Also, South Bandirran, in Collace; Balbeuchly, (through which the Newtyle Railway passes), in Auchterhouse; Broughtay Castle and fishings, and a small piece of ground at Mylnfield, near Dundee; and Fofarty in Kinnettles; all in Forfarshire. In Fofarty there is a field of about four acres, called, from time immemorial, "the minister of Caputh's glebe," and which was believed to belong to him, though unoccupied by any person. On being claimed, however, a number of years ago, by the late incumbent, the Rev. W. Innerarity, he was opposed by the Trustees of the Earl of Strathmore, and the Court of Session determined in their favour.

*Surface and Climate.*—Its surface is very diversified. To the south-east, stretching towards Strathmore, it is almost a perfect level, and presents a rich and beautifully cultivated champaign. To the north and west it partakes of much of the grandeur of Highland scenery, without its wildness, being an agreeable succession of hill and dale, and pleasant little valleys opening their bosoms to the sun, enlivened by lakes or rippling streams. The temperature accordingly varies with the situation, being more keen in the higher parts, but the climate is everywhere genial and salubrious. There are no prevalent distempers, and longevity is very common. At present there are several persons on the verge of ninety years, and two or three advanced beyond that period.

*Hydrography.*—There is no stream of any consequence flowing directly through this parish. But the Tay, which forms its southern boundary for ten miles, from the bridge of Dunkeld to its junction with the Isla, is a splendid river, from 150 to 200 yards in width, and

soldiery, and such of them as had stood to the west and north-west of the cathedral were not rebuilt. The ground which they, and the gardens which had lain intermixed with them, occupied, is supposed to have extended to about five acres, and this space now forms a part of the Duke of Atholl's lawn and policy. But as the boundaries of the town receded on one quarter, they stretched out in another. Several new houses were built on the slope of the eminence which rises to the eastward of the town. These are uniformly described in the title-deeds as lying in the parish of Caputh. That parish, indeed, completely surrounds Dunkeld, (except where it is skirted on the south by the Tay), and in former times had reached, it thus appears, close to the site of the buildings. Stipend is paid to the minister of Caputh from a piece of ground lying but a few yards from the cathedral."—Vol. xx. pp. 412, 413.

nothing can be more lovely or picturesque than the scenery upon either side. On the north there is a chain of lochs, formed and connected by the burn of Lunan, which rises in the Grampians, and first passing through Loch Ordie, (a most romantic and much visited sheet of water at the base of Duchray, a lofty conical mountain in the parish of Dowally), soon after enters the parish of Caputh, and rapidly descending a deep wooded glen of two or three miles in length, in which are situated Birken Burn, Hatton, and Calley, (at the latter of which are an ornamental loch and garden belonging to the Duke of Atholl), it reaches the loch of Craighlush, immediately adjoining which is the beautiful loch of Lows, about two miles north-east of Dunkeld; a little to the eastward is Butterstone Loch, all of which are in this parish. Leaving the last mentioned, the Lunan runs eastward to the loch of Clunie, in that parish, famed for its ancient castle, situated upon an island, once occupied by the Admirable Crichton, now possessed by the Earl of Airly. Emerging thence it pursues its course to the loch of Drumellie, both stream and loch forming for a considerable distance the northern limit of this parish. From Drumellie it continues its former direction, separating the parishes of Lethendy and Blairgowrie, till it reaches Littleour, where it forms the boundary between Caputh and Blairgowrie, till it falls into the Isla, about three miles west from Coupar Angus, and seven miles east from Caputh church.

*Soil.*—The surface being so extensive and diversified, the soil must also greatly vary according to the locality. In the higher parts it is cold and wet, though yielding excellent crops. In the lower grounds it is light and dry, and along the bank of the Tay and Isla it is a rich loam. Much of the soil is alluvial; these rivers often overflowing their banks, though now more carefully confined within their proper channels by strong embankments.

*Mineralogy.*—There is a great abundance of clay-slate and limestone. At Newtyle, a little to the east of Dunkeld, the clay-slate is extensively quarried, the slates are in great request—200,000 being often disposed of in a month.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There is no historical record of this parish, but in Milne's History of the Bishops of Dunkeld, (already noticed), Caputh is frequently mentioned as being one of the *mensal* parishes belonging to the cathedral.

*Proprietors.*—There are 30 heritors and portioners. THIR-  
PERTH.

teen of these stand in the cess-book at upwards of L. 100 Scots valued rent. The principal heritors are, Sir John Muir Mackenzie, Bart. of Delvine; Lady Keith, or Countess Flahault of Meikleour; the Duke of Atholl; Keay of Snaigow; Menzies of Culdares; Sir William Drummond Stewart, Bart. of Murthly; Kinloch of Gourdie; Haggart of Glendelvine; and Murray of Kincairney. The whole ancient valued rent of the parish is L. 9369 Scots, being the highest in the county save Errol. The valued rent of Delvine is L. 3144 Scots, being one-third of the whole.

*Parochial Registers.*—The register of baptisms and marriages, and records of session, commence with the year 1671, and are continued without intermission till the present date, though some of the books are greatly worn and decayed. The insertion of births appears to have been omitted till a recent period. A register of deaths has been twice attempted, but left off after a few years' trial, owing, no doubt, to the want of fees to the clerk, and there being no proper authority to enforce the registration, as in the case of baptisms and marriages.

The ministers of this parish in succession were, Robert Gordon, admitted 12th March 1682; James Crockat, 16th December 1688; James Hogg, 21st September 1721; James Bisset, 30th August 1753; William Innerarity, 11th December 1783; Alexander Wilson, the present incumbent, was ordained assistant and successor, 4th August 1835, and succeeded Mr Innerarity, 17th March 1837.

*Antiquities.*—With regard to the antiquities of this parish, there are but few objects of that nature deserving notice, and of these little can be said with certainty. Of cairns, Druidical stones, Pictish forts, and Roman encampments, not a few traces are to be found, but their history is almost entirely lost, and the vulgar conjectures regarding them are too vague for being recorded. The only truly classical ground is that of Inchtuthil, which is allowed, by the best antiquarians who have examined it, to have been the station *in medio* mentioned by Tacitus in his *Life of Agricola*, and to which the Roman general led his troops after the celebrated battle with Galgacus. Inchtuthil, signifying “the island in the flooded stream,” lies about two and a-half miles east of the church, on the north bank of the Tay. It is a singular piece of flat oblong table-land, with a steep declivity on all sides. On the north extremity of this table-land, stands Delvine House;

on the south extremity, overlooking the Tay, are the distinct remains of what is supposed originally to have been a Pictish fort, and latterly a Roman encampment. It is evident that it must have been a place of great strength, giving the command of the whole district to the person who held it. It is particularly described by Mr Pennant in his Tour.

The following information respecting Inchtuthil is from the Statistical Account by Mr Innerarity in 1792: "It is a flat of 160 Scotch acres, regularly steep on every side, and in every part of equal height, that is, about 60 feet above the great plain of the Stormont, on which it stands. Here the Picts had a town, which must have been a place of great strength, and of which the vestiges may be discerned at the south-west corner of this singular elevation. Boetius calls it *Tuline* or *Tulina*, and says that it was populous and well fortified, but deserted and burned by the Picts, on the approach of the Romans under Agricola. He adds, (as translated by Holinshed,) "the Scottishmen in our time call the place Inchtuthil." The Romans also availed themselves of this situation. Their camp stood on the north-east border, and commanded an extensive view of the plain. It is 500 yards square; the walls to a considerable height were strongly built,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick, with stones brought from a quarry two miles distant; the stones have been gradually removed, and the walls are now almost levelled by the plough. In the course of ploughing, fragments of weapons, and some entire utensils, were formerly found. There are two *tumuli* or *barrows*, and a redoubt, on the south-east side of the camp. A few years ago, the largest of these barrows was opened, and consisted of a rich black mould, possibly composed of the ashes of the funeral pyres that had been consumed there. It is now distinguished by a clump of trees. Inchtuthil is likewise believed to have been part of the land granted by Kenneth III (who began his reign in 977,) to Hay, for his bravery in the battle of Luncarty; and his descendants possessed it till the beginning of the seventeenth century. William, Fifth Earl of Errol, (who succeeded in 1506,) was in his father's lifetime designed William of Caputh, and Master of Errol."

Cairnmure, or the Big Cairn, is about a mile and a-half north-east of the church, and is the largest in the county, being 456 feet in circumference, and 14 feet in height. It formerly gave name to the property in that district, but its origin and use are quite unknown. At some distance to the south-west, stands another,



357 feet in circumference, and 14 feet high. In a line with these two, and at the same distance, there is a third of a smaller size. Near the burying ground there are the remains of a *cairn*, where probably a *cross* had once been erected in Popish times, as the place is still called *Crosscairn*. Near the top of the craig of Stenton, (a remarkable detached conical hill, about a mile west from the church,) is a place called Kemp's Hold, or the Soldier's Fastness, bearing evident marks of having been a fortified spot. About two miles north of the church, in a very elevated situation, between the farms of East and West Cuilt, there is a small Druidical circle. Beside it are two larger stones, deeply sunk in the ground; the top of the lowest is artificially formed into an inclined plane, facing the south, and contains a number of small cavities, which may have been used by the Druids in the performance of religious rites.

*Mansion-Houses.*—The principal residences of proprietors are, Delvine House, the seat of Sir John Muir Mackenzie, Bart., a plain, but commodious building, and placed in a most beautiful and sheltered situation, on the extremity of the remarkable tableland before-mentioned. Meikleour House, the seat of Lady Keith, on the north bank of the Tay, a little above its junction with the Isla, and opposite Kinclaven Church. Snaigow House, the seat of the late James Keay, Esq. Advocate, recently erected, upon the model of the English baronial style of building, about two miles north of the church. A little to the north of Snaigow is Kinclairney House, the seat of Mungo Murray, Esq. Glandelvine House, the seat of James Valentine Haggart, Esq. S.S.C. is at present erecting (1839,) on a similar style with Snaigow, about a mile north-east of the church. Stenton House, belonging to Captain Beaumont, opposite to Murthly Castle, on the Dunkeld road, one mile west of the church. Hillhead, belonging to Dr Henry Fisher, an elegant building, on the summit of the brae, on the east of Dunkeld, romantically overlooking the town, the river, the bridge, and ducal palace, and commanding a panoramic view of the adjacent scenery.

*Manufactures.*—Happily for the peace and purity of our quiet rural population, no spinning mills have yet been erected; neither is any great public work going on at present in this parish.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population does not appear to have varied much during the last half century, and for the last twenty years has been nearly stationary. This is owing to the absence of all feus, and the se-

veral villages being the properties of the respective land-owners, which they have built chiefly for the accommodation of their own labourers and tradesmen.

The population given by Dr Webster in 1755, was	2048
As taken by the Rev. William Innerarity in 1784-85,	2023
By ditto, 1791-92,	2045
According to Parliamentary census of 1811, males, 1062, females, 1198,	2260
1821, 1094, 1213,	2307
1831, 1123, 1180,	2303

There are several villages in the parish, containing from 10 to 60 families. The largest is Spittalfield, upwards of a mile eastward of the church, in which is the parish school. It is entirely the property of Sir John M. Mackenzie, and contains nearly 300 inhabitants. The next in size is Caputh, including all the houses adjacent to the church, occupied by 250 persons. The next is Meikleour, the property of Lady Keith, five miles east of the church, containing nearly 200.

The average of births for last seven years,	52½
of marriages,	17½
of deaths, about	16

Number of illegitimate births for the last three years, 1 per annum.

The principal, and almost sole permanently resident heritor, is Sir John M. Mackenzie of Delvine; of the others, a few reside only during the summer months; and the rest are scarcely ever seen on their properties, or care to be kept in remembrance by any good deed done in the parish.

*Language.*—The Stormont dialect, of course, prevails, in which the chief peculiarity that strikes a stranger is the pronunciation of the Scotch *oo* as *ee*, poor being pronounced *peer*, moon *meen*, aboon *abeen*, &c. The Gaelic is not spoken by any of the natives; but not a few Highland servants have of late been engaged by farmers and others who understand the English or Scotch very imperfectly, and who thereby occasion some annoyance to the minister in his parochial rounds of visitation and examination.

*Habits.*—The people are quiet and industrious, remarkable for their kind and benevolent disposition towards one another, and retaining much of the old rural simplicity and frankness in their manners. In general they are sober, temperate, and exemplary in their habits; and were it not for the very culpable conduct of those in authority licensing so many public houses, intemperance would be unknown among them. But so long as a license is granted to every man who takes it into his head to sell whisky, and rob thoughtless tradesmen and labourers of their hard-won earnings, dissipation and immorality must spread and prevail among the lower classes, and the country become the haunts of vice as much as the

towns. A road extends straight through the heart of this parish, of eleven miles in length, from Dunkeld to the Bridge of Isla. On that line of road there are seven (and were lately eight) public-houses! Can all these be necessary? or is it possible for servants driving their master's horses along this road to resist these seven temptations, if they have a sixpence in their pockets?

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.\*

There is now very little undivided common in the parish.

*Rent of Land.*—The rent of the arable land ranges from about L. 1 to L. 3 per imperial acre. The average rent of land in the parish is probably about L. 1, 15s. The best soil, and consequently the highest rented, lies along the north bank of the Tay.

*Husbandry.*—In no part of the surrounding country has the style of husbandry more rapidly advanced. All the recent improvements have been eagerly adopted, and are generally practised. Ground bones have been largely applied ever since they were first introduced as a manure into Scotland; it is of the greatest advantage, on account of the distance from the weightier manures, as it enables the farmer to pursue a more extensive system of green cropping, and consequently of keeping and feeding more sheep and cattle on the farm. This, as well as common manure, has been applied at Delvine as a top-dressing to the pasture grass with the most beneficial effect; bone dust, at the rate of 20 bushels per acre, and common manure at the rate of 15 tons per ditto.

Mr James Liston, Hallhole, in this parish, some years ago, invented a very efficient and economical apparatus for dibbling bone manure, which he attached both to double and single turnip sowing machines. A great many of these have now been made, and old machines altered agreeable to Liston's plan, and found to answer well. These divide the bone manure most equally, at any rate from 7 to 20 bushels (or even upwards) per acre, and in small quantities at any given number of inches apart. (See Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

*Draining.*—Smith's (of Deanston Works) method of frequent draining and deep ploughing is yet but partially known in the district; but will unquestionably in a few years be generally and profitably applied, especially in the higher parts of the parish, where the subsoil is close and retentive, and the harvests generally late. From the results already experienced of this system in those places where it has been adopted, it seems the best calculated to effect a

\* The writer is indebted for the article Industry to Mr George Bell, Factor, Delvine.

great improvement, not only in the labouring of the soil, but also in the quantity and quality of the crops; and it is presumed that proprietors can in no way more effectively and permanently promote at once their own, and the interest of the tenant, than by giving liberal encouragement to carry it into full operation.

*Embanking.*—After sudden thaws or heavy rains the Tay frequently rises to a great height, and is therefore liable to inundate the low grounds along its sides. At Delvine it rose in 1831 fifteen feet above the lowest mark there in 1826. The late Sir Alexander Muir Mackenzie, and Lady Keith, raised embankments to a great extent, and on the most scientific principles; these, with self-acting flood valves on the drains, &c. now completely protect these estates from all ordinary inundations of the river.

*Live-Stock.*—The cattle are of a mixed breed. The larger and finer breeds of Teeswater (short-horned) and Ayrshire being introduced among the original stock, which were principally of the Angus-shire dotted cattle, have much improved it. They grow to a good size, are early fattened, and are generally sold in Blairgowrie, for supplying the London, Glasgow, and Edinburgh markets.

*Horses.*—The local agricultural associations have done much for the improvement of the breed of horses for agricultural purposes, by awarding high premiums for the best Clydesdale horses to travel the district.

*Sheep.*—Many of the farmers are getting into the way of keeping a few Leicester sheep, which, from the high price of wool, and the benefit these are to the land, are rather a profitable stock. Others of them purchase what is termed a flying stock in the autumn. These are in general three year old wethers, which they feed off on their turnip, and sell them the following spring; but what is more general, the farmers let their turnip with fodder, to graziers and others, to be eaten down by sheep. The sheep husbandry is much approved of, and found very profitable on dry soil.

*Swine.*—There is a great variety of breeds of swine. However, the large mill swine are most sought after from the great size they grow to, but the American and the original Highland breed are of much better quality.

*Wages.*—The wages of a common farm-servant vary from L. 12 to L. 14, with board and lodging; and those of women servants from L. 5 to L. 7 for the year; labourers from 8s. to 10s.

per week ; women employed in field-work, from 8d. to 10d. per day ; carpenters and masons from 12s. to 18s. per week.

*Leases and Farm Buildings.*—The leases on farms of moderate size are generally for nineteen years. The farm buildings have been much improved of late, and are now good and commodious.

*Quarries.*—At Newtyle, on the Dunkeld or Atholl estate, and about two miles to the eastward of Dunkeld, a slate quarry has been extensively wrought for many years. The colour is a beautiful dark blue, and the quality durable. There is abundance of good limestone in many parts of the parish. On the Gourdie estate limestone has been most extensively burnt, to the great advantage of the adjoining country. The quality is good, and lime might be sold at a moderate price, but for the expense of the coal, which hitherto has been carted from Perth, a distance of seventeen miles ; however, coal may now be procured at Cupar Angus, which will shorten the carriage about one-half. The construction of the kilns is such that the manager of the works, some years ago, obtained a premium from the Highland Society.

*Fisheries.*—There are several fishing stations on the Tay and also on the Isla. However, I am sorry to say, that the farm-servants in the parish may now safely omit a clause in their engagements, in former days regularly inserted, namely, that they were not to be offered fish oftener than three times a-week.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Towns.*—There is no market-town in the parish. The nearest are, Dunkeld, five miles west from the church ; Blairgowrie, seven miles north-east ; Coupar-Angus, ten miles east ; and Perth, the county town, twelve miles south.

*Means of Communication, &c.*—Dunkeld is the post-town, and a daily runner between that and Delvine House accommodates all within the intermediate distance.

The only turnpike road in the parish is that between the boat of Caputh and Dunkeld, a distance of five miles, which is beautifully Macadamized, and is allowed to be the finest approach to the splendid scenery of Dunkeld. There is an excellent statute-labour road from the church to the bridge of Isla, six miles in length, another branching off northward to Clunie, and a third, branching off the latter, by Snaigow and Loch of the Lows, to Dunkeld, all kept in constant and thorough repair, so that every part of this extensive parish is easy of access. There is no coach or public

conveyance, that runs through any part of this parish,—which is a source of inconvenience to travellers. About four years ago, a railway was projected between Perth and Dunkeld, which would have passed by Stanley mills, and then have crossed the Tay, and run westward through a great part of Caputh. But upon a survey being made, the estimated expense was found far to exceed any profits ever likely to be realized by it, and the scheme has therefore been dropt. Had it succeeded it would have been of very great advantage, not only to this part of the Stormont, but to a great part of the Highlands, by saving carriage and cheapening fuel.

*Bridges, Boats, &c.*—The Tay, bounding the parish entirely upon the south, and the Isla on the east, must have presented a great obstacle to traffic in former times, when there were no bridges, and but very indifferent boats. Now that obstacle is greatly remedied, if not entirely removed. Since the last Account was written two splendid bridges have been built, and two boats of a novel and ingenious construction have been erected, at the most suitable places on these rivers. The elegant and spacious bridge of Dunkeld, erected by the late Duke of Atholl in 1809, supplies the place of a dangerous ferry, which long existed a little to the east of it, called Eastferry. Nearly about the time that this commodious outlet was formed at the west end of the parish, another was opened at the eastern extremity, by a bridge thrown over the Isla, a little above its junction with the Tay, and which connects the Perth and Blairgowrie roads. Again, at Caputh Ferry, opposite the church, in the centre between these two extremes, in place of the common chain-boat which formerly plied there, in 1834, a boat was erected, under the superintendence of the late Sir Alexander Muir Mackenzie of Delvine, consisting of a large platform placed upon two long narrow-pointed boats lying parallel to each other and at several feet distant, which, by a simple machinery, are made to present their sides to the action of the stream, and are thus propelled to either side of the river, and the greater the strength of the current, the more rapid the conveyance across. A chain is also stretched across the river, and which, passing over a fly-wheel fixed to the side of the platform, keeps the boat in a straight course. It is capable of taking in four loaded carts at one time, without unyoking the horses, and the passage is performed in five minutes. By this ferry access is obtained to Perth by Stanley, the former being distant from the boat eleven miles and

three-quarters, and the latter, four miles and a-half.\* Another boat after the same model has been very recently placed on the ferry at Meikleour, five miles below Caputh boat, by which the Blairgowrie and Stanley roads are joined.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church stands on a commanding eminence about 400 yards due north of the boat. Though placed near the south border of the parish, and above eight miles from the northern extremity, it could not have been situated more conveniently, being in the heart of the population, and nearly equidistant from the west and eastern extremities. It was built in 1798, and is a plain and commodious structure, seated for 800, but easily containing 1000. It has at this present date (Oct. 1839) undergone considerable repairs and improvements, both internally and externally, and has received a new porch at each end, by which it is rendered more comfortable. The old church stood on the rising ground, called the Mute-hill, about 600 yards west of the present, and where the burying-ground still is, around which a most substantial new wall is just now building and nearly completed. The ground on which the present church is built was given by the late Sir Alexander M. Mackenzie, on condition that no interment should take place within the new enclosure. There are no seats let, save two or three pews, belonging to a property attached, *quoad sacra*, to another parish, let on behoof of the poor at a very low rate. The heritors subdivide their respective portions among their tenants. But while the farmers have accommodation for their families, many of the villagers have no family seats, and are obliged to press into any empty space they can find.

*Manse.*—The manse was built in 1803, and last year was repaired and considerably enlarged, and is now a commodious and comfortable habitation. It is situated in a most choice and sheltered spot, having the little wooded brae, on the top of which the old church stood, immediately at its back, concealing it from the Dunkeld road, and the glebe in front stretching down to the river, which is about 200 yards south of it, and the splendid new castle of Murthly, rising among the gigantic trees on the further bank, and the classic Birnam hill, towering in majestic grandeur in the distance. The offices were built in 1818, and are in excellent order. The glebe consists of 10½ Scotch acres of superior arable land contiguous to the Tay, of the yearly value of L. 27.

\* The inventor and fabricator of this boat was Mr James Fraser of Dowally, who had shortly before constructed a similar one to ply upon the Tummel at Logierait.

In 1807, an excambion was made of 16 acres of hill common belonging to the minister for  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres, lying before the manse, and now annexed to the east side of the glebe. The stipend was last modified in 1824 to 255 bolls, 1 firloft,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lippies, two-thirds meal, and one-third barley, with L. 12, 3s. 10d. in money, including L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements.

There is no chapel of ease, nor Dissenting meeting-house of any description within the parish. The whole population belongs to the Established Church, save nearly 30 Seceders, and 5 or 6 Independents, and as many Episcopalians; the latter, and some of the former, usually attending the parish church.

The Lord's Supper is dispensed twice a-year, in June and October, the number of communicants at the former occasion averaging 800, and at the latter, 600. There are upwards of 1000 communicants altogether.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The church-door collections for the last seven years have averaged L. 80 per annum, exclusive of several very liberal collections for extra purposes, and dues arising from hearse, mortcloth, &c. Happily as yet no assessment for the poor has been needed; though the increasing list of paupers may render this unpleasant mode of raising funds for their support ere long indispensable. There are at present 29 regular paupers receiving from 4s. to L. 1 per month, besides some who receive occasional aid.

The only mortification in behoof of the poor was that of Mrs Steel at Ruffel, who, in the year 1536, bequeathed the sum of L. 200 to the kirk-session, the interest of which only is allowed to be used. The capital is at present in the Edinburgh National Security Savings Bank, and, with the consent of the session, the interest is chiefly applied to the education of poor children.

*Education.*—There are 5 schools. The parochial school in Spittalfield is well situated, and well attended. The salary is the maximum. The house and garden are good. The school-fees are, 2s. 6d. for reading; 3s. for reading and writing; 3s. 6d. for arithmetic, &c.; and 5s. for the higher branches of education. The total amount of fees received by him per annum is about L. 18. There is a school in Meikleour, with a house and salary of L. 5, 5s. from Lady Keith. The three others are in Caputh village, Snaigow, and Butterston, and one on the teacher's own adventure. The means of education are well supplied, and there are few, if any, who cannot read, and most can write. Beside the



day schools there are 5 Sabbath schools at the above places respectively, attended by upwards of 300 scholars, and which undoubtedly are instrumental in promoting the religious knowledge and morals of the young.

*Libraries.*—There is also a Sabbath school library on the itinerating principle, having a press with books at each school, which are given out to the scholars only on the Sabbath, when the class is dismissing. Once a year the presses are arranged, and moved forward to the next station or school; and thus one library is subdivided into five, and a constant interest kept up by the annual change of books. There are at present about 600 volumes altogether, and the number is from time to time increased, by means of occasional collections and donations. There are also small village libraries for more general reading in Caputh, Spittalfield and Meikleour respectively; but they are now nearly superseded by the Sabbath school library.

*Savings Banks.*—A Savings Bank was established in 1815, but the number of depositors is not great. The young men seem more disposed to become members of friendly societies, of which there are several; and a good many persons are members of two or three of these at once, and thus, in case of sickness or infirmity, are able to draw from several sources a tolerable support. These societies are well conducted, and are of incalculable advantage to the working classes.

*Fair.*—The only fairs held in the parish are at Meikleour in the months of June, August, and October, for cattle.

*Public Houses.*—There are 9 public-houses in the parish, and 3 in the immediate vicinity of it!—the one-half of which are a nuisance. There are also two distilleries, one at Stralochie, and the other at Haughend.

*Fuel.*—Coals, carted from Perth, are almost the only fuel that can be procured. Sales of oakwood and thinnings of plantations frequently take place, which are eagerly looked after by the working classes, as coals are very expensive. There are no peats to be found, save at a moss beyond Reimore, a distance of nine miles from the church, and therefore of no service to the parish in general. The scarcity of fuel is, perhaps, the greatest hardship to which the poor in this quarter are subjected. The session endeavours so far to remedy this evil by annually distributing a certain quantity of coals among the more needy, and which are generously carted by the farmers gratis.

## PARISH OF LOGIERAIT.\*

PRESBYTERY OF WEEM, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. SAMUEL CAMERON, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE parish is never spoken of by the Gaelic inhabitants but by the name of Laggan. In old authors, we find “Logie in Athole” mentioned. It would appear, therefore, that Rait is a modern affix to Laggan or Logie,—the name by which the parish or district was originally known, and which means *a hollow*. Perhaps Rait was added to distinguish it from the parish of Laggan in Badenoch, which was anciently within the same regality, under the “Lords of Badenoch and Athole,” who were princes of the Royal family of Scotland. *Rait* is supposed to be the same word with *reite*, which means arbitration or settlement of differences. *Logierait* is, therefore, *the hollow of arbitration*,—very descriptive of its situation and character as the seat of a court of regality. It must, however, be observed, that, according to the usual uncertainty of Gaelic etymology, *Rait* is a syllable to which several different meanings may be given.

*Extent, Boundaries, Appearance, &c.*—The figure and locality of the parish are both very irregular, on account of its occasional dispersion, by detached and sometimes distant parts, into other parishes. On the north side of the river Tummel it has for its eastern, northern, and western boundaries the parishes of Dunkeld, Kirkmichael, and Moulin,—the first and last of which, however, insert themselves into it respectively, in considerable portions, at some distance from the boundaries. Its southern boundary is the Tay until it crosses that river near Aberfeldy, and introduces itself in a detached fragment between the parishes of Dull and Fortingall. The portion of it which lies between the Tay and the Tummel has for its eastern boundary these two rivers at their junction, and is bounded on the west by Moulin, Dull, and Weem. This part of the parish receives two different insertions from the

\* Drawn up by the Rev. Thomas Buchanan, now Minister of Methven.

parish of Dull, forming the estates of two proprietors. The parish then takes a bound of twenty miles and upwards over the parishes of Weem, Dull, and Fortingall, and is found, in two separate portions, in the district of Rannoch. Its extent must be estimated rather from the particulars of its statistics than from any statement of its length or breadth in miles, since there are so many interruptions to its contiguity. The greatest length may be stated at probably 12 miles, and the mean breadth at 5.

This parish, and, in particular, the larger division of it, which lies between the Tay and the Tummel, is very remarkable for beauty. Washed by these, among the most romantic of the *Scoto-Celtic streams*; formed by them into two straths, which a sloping ridge of hill divides and commands, Strathtay on the one side, Slisbeg, or the narrow country, on the other;—cultivated as if by the gardener; or varying its beauty by wood and pasture, and living water; with many a fair residence ranged along both slopes of the hill as along a gallery,—it would be difficult, in any country, to point out a scene of more perfect amenity. It is relieved from the character of tameness by the frowning features of rocks and mountains which overlook it from the neighbouring parishes.

*Climate.*—The air is here pure and dry,—qualities which it probably owes to the light sandy character of the soil, the infrequency of marshes, the comparative distance of very high mountains, and the remoteness of the situation from either ocean. Fevers and small-pox are rare, except when imported by vagrants, when they are sometimes very difficult to expel from the poorer hamlets and cottages. The aged suffer from rheumatism, and the young are somewhat liable to consumptive disorders. There is reason to believe in the extensive prevalence of scrofula; dropsy is also common, and what are called nervous disorders.

*Hydrography.*—We have no lakes, unless one or two small pieces of water on the summit of mountainous ridges deserve the name.\* The only rivers are the Tay and the Tummel. The falls of Moness are formed by the stream which divides Logie-rait from Dull, near Aberfeldy.

*Soil.*—The soil is of a light and pervious nature, consisting of gravel, with a mixture of alluvial soil from the higher grounds. This description applies to the haughs or low lands. On the slope the soil is deeper, and of a thick substantial loamy quality. But,

\* The most distant part of the parish, indeed, skirts Loch Rannoch for about three miles.

in the district north of the Tummel, as you ascend the slope, the soil is apt to be cold and spouty, as they call it, or abounding in springs, with a subsoil of retentive clay.

*Mineralogy.*—Useful quarries, for common purposes, are occasionally opened on almost every estate; but, except some strata of limestone, which cross the parish in one or two places, there are, as I am given to understand, no mineralogical phenomena of which it is worth while to give a detail.

*Botany.*—The plants are such as are common to the other localities, of which the haughs stretch along the banks of the Tay and Tummel. The mountain district of the parish on the north of Tummel is, in its character, identical with the other elevated parts of Athole, full lists of whose natural productions, in the department of Botany, occur in the articles of Blair-Athole and Moulin, already contributed to this work. The trees, to the growth of which the soil and climate are most propitious, are, the larch, with the different varieties of fir cultivated in Scotland, the oak, the ash, the elm, the beech, the poplar, and the plane. In some situations, the alder seems, at one time, to have grown very plentifully. In pleasure grounds and gardens, trees and plants of considerable delicacy are found in a thriving state. There are many specimens of the Acacia. Walnuts frequently ripen; and a vine, on the southern wall of one of the residences in Strathtay, has been known to yield ripe fruit. There is a remarkable ash-tree in the innkeeper's garden, near the village of Logierait. It measures at the ground  $53\frac{1}{2}$  feet in circumference, at three feet from the ground 40 feet, and at eleven feet from the ground 22 feet. The height is 60 feet; but the upper part of the stem appears to have been carried away. The height is said to have been, at one time, nearly 90 feet. The trunk is hollow from the base, and can contain a large party. This venerable stem is surmounted by a profusion of foliage, which, even in the advanced age of the tree, attracts the eye at a distance to its uncommon proportions. An old man of the age of one hundred is at present in the habit of taking his seat daily within the hollow formed by its three surviving sides,—no unsuitable companion to the vegetable relic!

*Zoology.*—The animals are such as are common to the neighbourhood. Squirrels are extremely numerous in the woods and plantations.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

This parish does not appear to have been the scene of any event of historical importance. The people, however, seem to have taken much interest, and commonly to have taken a part in transactions which have made Athole, as a province, so celebrated in Scottish history. The names of Stewart, Robertson, and Murray, are very frequent, and speak to the part which the natives must be supposed to have acted in times of commotion, and more particularly in the Jacobite wars. There were 600 prisoners sent hither from the battle of Gladsmuir by Lord George Murray. Stewart of Ballechin, chamberlain to the Marquis of Athole, took possession of the Castle of Blair-Athole at the beginning of Viscount Dundee's insurrection, and fortified it for King James. He rendered completely abortive a mission of the Marquis's eldest son to his father's tenants, for the purpose of securing their neutrality, and refusing the young nobleman admission to his own father's house. In the battle of Killiecrankie, a son or nephew of this person, who is said to have been a clergyman, distinguished himself by prodigies of strength. He cut down (as tradition says) Brigadier Balfour with an enormous two-handed sword, which he used with such vigour and application throughout the day that, it is said, his hand could only be extricated from the basket-hilt by cutting away the net-work.

*Court of Regality at Logierait.*—The jurisdictions of the House of Athole were very extensive down to late times. They were administered by a commissary and other officers. Logierait was the seat of court. And there are scattered around the neighbourhood a variety of memorials of the formidable power exercised under their authority, in the names of *Bal-na-Maoir*, "the town of the rogue-takers;" *Tom-na-Croich*, "the gallows-hill," &c. There are, I am sorry to understand, no records extant of the procedure of the Court, although there is a record, in good preservation, of the jurisdiction of the same family in their barony of Huntingtower. Justice—such justice as was then current—seems to have been dispensed with much energy by the Lords of Athole within their Regality Court of Logierait, down to the farthest date at which such power could be exercised with any safety, and that at least, if there be truth in the following anecdote:—Somewhere about the year 1745, Lord President Forbes happening to be on a visit at Blair Castle, was told by the Duke of an application, strongly backed, for mercy to a poor fellow whom his Com-

missary at Logierait had sentenced to be hanged. "But you know," said the President, "that mercy belongs to the King, and cannot be extended by a judge after sentence." To which the Duke's answer is said to have been a peremptory express (ordered within hearing of the Lord President) to his commissary, to set the criminal immediately at liberty. But by this time we suppose the Regality of Athole had sunk into a plain Court of Barony, where law was stately administered by a bailie and commissary within memory. I find in the session records some strange instances of application, on the part of the session, to the commissary, to grant warrant against and imprison parties under scandal for refusing to delate or compear, *e. g.*, 24th February 1717. "The minister reported he frequently conversed with Elspet Kennedie to no purpose; that she continued stubborn and unruly, until that he procured a warrant from his Grace the Duke of Athole to incarcerate her in the common jail of Logierait; and after she was brought by a party to the place, finding no relief, she procured James Stewart, miller in Pitnacree, to bail for her submission to the session," &c.

There was here a court-house of such ample proportions, that the principal hall is said to have been the noblest apartment in Perthshire in its time. The building, in a ruinous state, is still well remembered; and the justiciary hall is said to have been upwards of seventy feet in length, with galleries at the ends. The powers possessed by Courts of Regality, which, as the name denotes, was royal, and almost unbounded, must have been sufficiently terrible, in such hands, for example, as those of the famous Wolf of Badenoch, whose *legal reign* embraced the lordship of Athole and Badenoch, and extended from Strathspey to Loch Katrine.

*Antiquities.*—In the neighbourhood of the village, there are the ruins of an ancient building, said to have been a castle or hunting-seat of King Robert III. The royal residence may be traced in the names of *Bal-na-gard*, "the guard's town;" King's Stables; *Glaic-an-righ*, or "King's hollow," which are names of places in the neighbourhood. King's Stables is the name of a spot about 800 yards to the west of the ruin. In digging into a hollow for soil and decayed vegetable matter near the place, the tenant, some years ago, found a causewayed floor, at the depth of several feet below the surface, from which he picked up the iron of a small pitchfork of antique appearance. The place is again filled up, and the stones were most likely in part displaced. Two copper

coins are in the same person's possession, and bearing apparently the date 1070. They were found in the field between the King's Stables and the ruins of King Robert's castle. *Glaic-an-rioh* is a hollow way, cut through the side of a steep eminence, which forms part of the glebe. This is supposed to have been the access to the royal residence, and must have been a work of immense labour.

There are, near Middlehaugh, the lines of an encampment, such as are so frequently met with in Perthshire; and there is, near Aberfeldy, in the parish, an eminence called the Torr or battle-hill, surrounded with similar lines. We have many stones, either single or ranged in circles, and burial-grounds of great antiquity; but I have discovered nothing remarkable except the stone of Dunfallandy, which was long the object of much superstitious attention to the natives. The part of it above ground, for it is much sunk, discovers the grotesque figures of several animals.

On one side there is some ambitious tracery and fretted work. The animals are of nondescript appearance and proportions. The figures are indeed partly decayed or effaced. The human forms bear an awkward resemblance to the knave on a pack of cards. On the other side, are two sitting figures, attired, as seems, in priestly vestments, with a tall cross between them. Below is an armed figure on horseback—most probably some military saint or knight-errant.

Such stones are frequently met with, as at Abernethy, St Ma-does, Dunkeld, &c. and are very improperly regarded as Runic monuments. They are in fact rude samples of the Popish rage for sculpture, being always found in connection with the ruins of chapels.

There is, at Dunfallandy, another stone still more celebrated, though presenting nothing to the eye but a rude block, marking the *bloody eminence* from which the locality derives its name—the scene of a dreadful scene of murder and usurpation.

A medal, supposed of Trajan, was found in this neighbourhood, and presented to the late Professor Fergusson of Edinburgh.

*Eminent Characters.*—Dr Adam Fergusson was the son of the Rev. Adam Fergusson, minister of the parish of Logierait. Authentic particulars of his life, from information partly collected in this place of his nativity, will be found in the Supplement to the fifth edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Of course nothing can now be added to the well-known particulars of the life of so eminent a public character.

Robert Bissett, LL.D., author of a *Life of Edmund Burke*, and of some other publications, was the son of the Rev. Dr Bissett, minister of this parish.

Dr William Dick, of Tullymet, was, during many years, a physician of great eminence in the East India establishment. It appears by the following notice of this excellent individual, that he on one occasion laid his country under obligations of no ordinary nature. In a letter to Mrs M'Lean Clephane, Sir Walter Scott writes, (in 1819, when his life was in danger,) "My health, however, seems in a fair way of being perfectly restored." (After noticing his regimen,) "Dr Dick of the East India Company's Service has put me on the course of cure, and says he never knew it fail, unless when the liver was irreparably injured." (*Lockhart's Life of Sir Walter Scott*, Vol. iv. p. 281.) Sir Walter considered Dr Dick as the preserver of his life; and has recorded his sense of obligation on a valuable silver inkstand, suitably inscribed, now in possession of the family.

*Land-owners, with their valued rents :—*

The Duke of Atholl,	L.1481	0	10	Scots.
R. Stewart, Esq. of Ballechin,	910	17	11	
J. Menzies of Pitnacree,	492	18	4	
R. S. Flemyng of Killiechassie,	596	4	0	
Major-General Sir R. H. Dick of Tullymet,	353	17	6	
Colonel Macdonald of Dalchoisnie,	234	0	0	
W. S. B. Campbell of Cloehfoldich,	217	11	5	
F. G. Campbell of Troup,	216	5	0	
Archibald Butter of Fascally,	211	19	4	
A. Fergusson of Dumfallandy,	191	0	0	
Mrs M'Glashan of Eastertyre,	165	0	0	
J. M'Gregor of Fonab,	137	0	0	
A. Stewart of Findynate,	129	6	8	
J. S. Robertson of Edradynate,	120	0	0	
The Marquis of Breadalbane,	111	15	0	
R. D. Macfarlane of Donavoured,	03	0	0	
General Robertson of Strowan,	87	13	4	
J. M. Fergusson of Middlehaugh,	38	4	0	
J. S. Hepburn, Esq.	31	0	0	

The real rental is upwards of L.8000.

*Ministers of the Parish.*—Mr James Moray was admitted 1650, and filled the charge with much acceptance, *per varios sui temporis motus*, as his epitaph says, till 1695. This respectable clergyman was the second son of Patrick Moray of Ochtertyre; and his eldest brother was the first Baronet of that family, (created 1673.) He was succeeded in the parochial charge by his son, Mr Mungo Moray, who died in 1714; and was succeeded by Mr Adam Fergusson, ordained minister of Crathie and Braemar in 1702, and admitted to Logierait in 1715.



A variety of procedure occurs in the Presbytery records in relation to this settlement; as, a counter-presentation by Lord Stormont, claiming to be patron of the parish, in favour of Mr Moncrieff, minister of Methven, "a person ignorant of the Irish language;" and a complaint against Mr George "Robertson, for intruding upon the paroch of Logierait, and kirk thereof, praying in express terms for the Pretender," &c. This person's proceedings seem to have originated in the authority which he conceived himself to have received from the following strange document, of which I have the original before me:—

"By William Marquess of Tullibardine,

"These are ordering and empowering you to preach every Lord's day, and other solemn occasions, in the church of Logierait, and to exercise all the other parts of the ministerial functions within that parish, as you'll be answerable at your peril; for doing of which this shall be to you a sufficient warrant. Given at Logierait the 12th of December 1715 years,

(Signed) TULLIBARDINE."

Annexed is the solemn seal of that Noble person.

Mr Adam Fergusson officiated in the ministry at Logierait till 1754; when Dr Thomas Bissett was admitted, who died in 1800; and was succeeded by Mr Thomas Menzies, who died in 1831; he was succeeded by Mr Thomas Buchanan, admitted minister of Methven in November 1841; and he by the present incumbent, inducted August 1842.

*Parochial Registers.*—The most complete (the volume commencing with Mr Menzies's ministry excepted) is a volume containing minutes from 1639 to 1664. This volume was recovered and restored to the kirk-session by Principal Lee in 1819.

The volume had been, it seems, advertised for sale in Mr Constable's catalogue, several years before the title attracted Principal Lee's notice; and when he inquired at Mr Constable how he might be able to trace it, he found that Mr Constable had transferred it from his stock in trade to his own private collection, whence he withdrew it that he might present it to Principal Lee. Shortly thereafter, Principal Lee took occasion to replace it in the custody of the kirk-session, in whose records the fact is very properly and gratefully acknowledged, "I considered it at the time when it came into my hands," the Principal observes, "as a curious memorial of the state of the country in the time of the Covenanters, and still look upon it as an important document, though I have examined

many others which enter into much more minute details. The parts of the volume which appeared to me most interesting related to the schools. I have reason to believe that the state of education in Perthshire was much better from the year 1640 to 1700, than it was from 1740 to 1800." The remaining fragments are from 1672 to 1682, and thereafter with many breaks and lost leaves down to 1714, after which the record is continued with rather more regularity down to the beginning of this century, when it becomes in all respects more regular and complete. The temptation to abstract the lost volume seems to have been the curious elegance of the penmanship in which the entries are generally made.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population has, during several years, remained nearly stationary. There are very few villages in the parish, and the change in the agricultural system pursued by the landlords has not been so great as to make any observable difference in the number of the rural population.

The population of the parish in 1831 was	3138
Males,	1483
Females,	1655
The number of inhabited houses is,	683
Average number of persons in each family from	4 to 5
The number of houses uninhabited or building,	32
Population in 1841,	2774

There are 4 insane, 5 fatuous, 2 deaf and dumb, 2 blind.

Yearly average of births during the last seven years, about	70
marriages when both parties are in the parish,	9
the man only was in the parish,	5
the woman only in the parish,	4

There is no register of deaths, and it would be exceedingly fallacious and unsafe to offer any conjecture on that subject from the mere amount of mortcloth dues, on account of the number of parishioners, who bury in other parishes, and of extra-parochial persons, who bury here. It is to be regretted that parents are careless in the extreme of the privileges and duty of registering the names of their children.

The language generally spoken is the Gaelic. It cannot be said to be getting into disuse as the language of the fireside among the common people; but it is falling into manifest decline as a branch of school education.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

#### *Agriculture.*—

Imperial acres either cultivated or occasionally in tillage,	5002
which have never been cultivated, exclusive of moor,	3209½

Imperial acres which are reported as improvable, but as in some situations wood is displaced to make room for crop, if this system is found to answer, a much greater space may be recoverable for tillage,	284
Acres in a state of common,	768
under wood,	2899
under moor,	15588

The larch plantations of the Duke of Athole cover the greater part of the ground which is described as under wood. In this situation, they are in the highest degree healthy and thriving; although I should judge from appearance, that thinning is in some cases not sufficiently attended to. In woods of such immense extent, this object is perhaps scarcely attainable, and the thinnings are in some degree according to the demand for materials for fences, &c.

*Rent of Land.*—The rent of arable land in the parish varies from L.1, 5s. to L.2, 10s. per acre. The haugh lands, on the banks of the Tay and Tummel, give the highest rent, although by no means formed of the richest soil in the parish, which is commonly found on the slope ascending above the haughs. The haughs have of course the advantage in point of dryness, easy cultivation, and early ripening; and, when enriched by strong distillery manure, are usually distinguished in the award of premiums for crop.

*Live Stock.*—The breeds of horses and cattle are too generally of the mixed and non-descript character, long established in the district. Spirited examples of a better and more improved style of breeding have been set, however, of late, both by some of the proprietors and tenants. Horses for improving the breed have been introduced under the auspices of the Weem and Athole Agricultural Club. Leicester sheep have, in some instances, replaced the more ordinary breeds with great success. The Ayrshire breed of cattle is preferred on the best farms. An attempt has been made this year to improve in feeding qualities the Ayrshire breeds, by crossing them with a short-horn bull; but of course nothing can be said decisively as to the result in so short a time.

A cow may be grazed at from L.1, 5s. to L.1, 15s.; a ewe in the parks, at 5s., and on the hill, at 3s. per year.

The following may be given as a specimen of the prices of labour. Farm-servant's wages, L.14; maid-servant's do., L.6 per year; day labourer without victuals, 1s. 6d.; with, 1s. 2d.; female labourer, 8d.; journeyman mason, 2s. 6d.; carpenter, 2s.;

weavers and shoemakers, 10s. per week; tailor, 1s. a-day with board.

*Improvements.*—Embanking and draining have been carried on to a great extent in certain situations of late. There are on the banks of the Tay and Tummel, about 6400 roods of embankment. Waste land is in course of being reclaimed with great activity and skill in almost every district of the parish. In this parish some attention has been paid of late to the improvement of lands under wood. The ground on which the experiments have been made, was formerly planted, for the most part, with Scots fir and oak. The results are said to be, in a considerable degree, promising, and it is possible, that, as the value of coppice has been declining from a variety of causes, there may be inducements elsewhere to the adoption of a similar practice where the soil chances to be worthy of redemption.

The method adopted is to contract in the month of August to trench such a portion of waste and woodland as may be determined on. The trenching is performed to the depth of fourteen inches. The operation is finished about December, so as to give the benefit of the winter frost, to break the rough clods. Early in the ensuing spring, the land is thoroughly drained; the large stones blasted out; the drains are then filled with the small stones, and the remainder removed to the boundaries of the field for fencing.

The land is subsequently twice ploughed, and then drilled for turnips, which are dibbled in with bone-dust at the rate of sixteen bushels per acre. In ordinary seasons, the result is a fair crop of turnips, which are eaten off the ground by a flock of Leicester sheep. The following year, the land is limed with twenty bushels of the best lime per acre, and sown with potato oats and the finest mixed perennial natural grass-seeds. The *after-math* is then pastured with sheep, and the parks, subsequently depastured with that stock, for at least three years before it is broken up for tillage. By this mode of management, it has been found, in some cases, that the capital expended on each field has been redeemed in five years or crops.

*Obstacles to Improvement.*—The only obstacles to the improvement of agriculture that I am aware of in this parish are, first, the prevalence of small holdings, and, second, the consequent want of capital to be expended on improvement by that class of agriculturists. In many situations, the land is let in little patches, varying

from one acre to fifteen, to the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages or hamlets. The disadvantages of this system are to the landlord over-cropping, expense in buildings and repairs, sometimes to the amount of five or six years' rent at the commencement of a lease, and the neglect of any improved system of tillage; and to the tenant, a frequent struggle with difficulties in keeping up the skeleton of a little farming establishment, in paying for smith and wright work, and in combining with the labour of his own land extra jobs as a labourer. This and similar depressing concomitants would seem to point out the advantage of a gradual change of system to all parties. I am, however, no friend to the expulsion of any part of the community not chargeable with crime, and would humbly suggest, that caution, tenderness, and time be used and allowed in the treatment of the hamlet population, and in the alteration of their circumstances. The remedy, I should hope, may in part be left with themselves, as I observe in this class a growing anxiety to educate their children, and to send them from home for improvement and employment—a practice which in many individual cases has resulted in raising their children far above the depressing circumstances in which they began life.

Farm-houses and offices are of a very inferior description, as might be expected, unless of very recent erection. But of late great attention has been paid to the improvement of this department; and in two or three instances, resident owners of estates have set an example of the most perfect kind of accommodation suitable to a large farm, by the erection of home steadings, or offices on the most improved principles, with saw-mills and other facilities for fences and enclosures. The duration of leases is nine, thirteen, and fifteen years.

The five-shift rotation of crops is generally adopted by the tenants of farms, and the four-shift by the cottars. A very few of the farmers practise the six-shift rotation.

*Produce.*—The crops raised are, wheat, producing 9 bolls per Scots acre; oats, from 5 to 8 do.; barley, from 5 to 9 do.; potatoes, from 40 to 50 do.; rye, 9 do. Rye is sown in small patches by the tenantry for their own use; as is also lint, which, forty years ago, occupied perhaps every fourth arable acre in the parish. Turnips are extending in breadth every year. The only other crop is clover, the average yield of which may be stated at 200 stones of 22 pounds per acre. This crop will, in all probability, soon cease to form part of this rotation, as its produce is rapidly de-

creasing every year. When first introduced, the second cutting was much more luxuriant than the first at present, and even a third cutting was on good land often obtained.

*Distilleries.*—There are six distilleries at work in the parish. The consumption is about 32,565 bushels of malt yearly, from which there are distilled 65,087 gallons of spirits, paying a net duty to Government (before the late addition) of L.8678, 5s. 4d. It deserves to be stated, in fairness, that the result of late inquiries as to the interference of these distilleries with the sanctification of the Sabbath, was very creditable to the Christian feeling of the several partners; and that the near neighbourhood of distilleries does slightly affect the morals of the parish, but, owing to some regulation, less, on the whole, than might have been supposed. Edinburgh and Dundee, and occasionally Glasgow, are the markets to which the spirits are chiefly sent; but an increasing quantity is now consumed in Perth and Perthshire. The duty on malt is not included in the above estimate of the revenue paid to Government. At the time when the inquiries were directed to the distilleries, the duty on malt was 2s. 7d. per bushel, and on spirits 2s. 8d. per gallon. The whole malt is distilled within the parish, and the malt duty is to be estimated with the drawback. About one-third of the barley consumed is the produce of the parish.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Villages.*—The village of Logierait, near the church, contains a population of about 150 persons, and the portion of Aberfeldy which belongs to this parish may contain nearly 300. The village of Logierait is almost ruinous, and the only relic of its former very considerable importance is an annual fair on the 22d of August. Wester Aberfeldy is improved with a number of excellent new houses and shops.

*Means of Communication.*—Strathtay has the convenience of an excellent turnpike road. At Logierait, the communication with this road is by two ferries, one on the Tay, and the other on the Tummel. These ferries connect the Strathtay road with the great road to Inverness on the north, and with that to Breadalbane (from Dunkeld) on the south. There are good ferry-boats. That on the Tummel is of novel construction, adapted by the artist and inventor, Mr James Frazer, mill-wright, Dowally, to the character of the river. It is a fly-bridge, consisting of two boats placed along-side of each other, at the distance of a few feet, and connecting amid-ships by a platform, moveable on pivots, placed over

the centre of each boat, and by a connecting moveable rod fastened to the stern heads. The vessel is slipped across on a chain, —there being a suitable apparatus for changing the relative positions of the boats and platform. The main improvement on the action of the common ferry-boat is, by setting the boats below in an oblique position to the stream, when, if the boats are placed so as to receive the impulse of the current on the larboard bows, they will be moved gently to the starboard across the river, and, by shifting their position till the stream impinges on the starboard bows, the bridge will return to the point from whence it started, and that without any assistance of manual labour. There is a swing-boat on another part of the river; but the near vicinity of a bridge lately erected has caused it to be, in a great measure, disused. There is a fourth regular ferry in the parish. There is a post daily, with the exception of Tuesday.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church I regard as, under present circumstances, conveniently situated. It is within half a mile of the junction of the Tay and the Tummel, and within a few hundred yards of the two principal ferries. As about a third of the population is located on the farther side of the Tummel ferry, and as a considerable number of the parishioners of Little Dunkeld are located in a parallel situation to this parish on the south side of the Tay ferry, there can be no doubt of the convenience of the situation of the church, in so far as they are concerned. On the other hand, the length of Strathtay, at nearly the extreme end of which the church is placed, renders the situation, in some respects, inconvenient to the inhabitants of that district, who, in consequence, are partly driven to seek such accommodation as they can find in the parish church of Weem and the chapel of Grandtully. Frequent interruption to regularity of attendance occurs in winter from the swollen state of the rivers, by which the ferries are rendered impracticable. Otherwise, there is a very commendable attention paid by all classes, and, I may add, by all religious denominations in the district to sacred ordinances. The church was finished in 1806, and is in a good state of repair. It accommodates 1000 persons. The manse was built in 1804; it has since received extensive additions in the kitchen and servants' department. In 1833, sufficient and substantial offices were built. The glebe consists of four acres and a half Scots, exclusive of grass for two cows. The stipend amounts to sixteen chalders, half meal and half barley, at the highest fiars prices for the county, with L.10

for communion elements. The Parliamentary church of Rannoeh embraces, *quoad sacra*, the part of the parish which is situated in that remote district. There is no chapel of ease, missionary, or catechist. There is an Episcopal chapel, and also a Baptist meeting-house. There are in this parish 50 Episcopalians, 30 Baptists, 10 Independents, and 2 Roman Catholics. There were distributed this year the following sums for religious and charitable objects, and I consider the amount as fairly proportionate to the resources of the parish, as well as an average specimen of what is done in this department: Perth Infirmary, L.8; India Mission, L.5; Assembly's Schools, L.5; Church Extension, L.4; Colonial Churches, L.4; parish Sabbath schools, L.5; circulation of missionary intelligence, L.2; total, L.33. There have also been collected among different denominations for the Branch Bible Society at Dunkeld sums ranging from L.10 to L.16 per annum, during a number of years. The provision and outlay for the poor is, on an average, as follows: Collections, L.50, 6s. 4d.; interest of stock of L.150, L.6; church dues, mortcloth, donations, &c., L.32, 14s. 2½d.; extraordinary provision for idiot poor, L.18. At present none is supported in any asylum.

There are on the poor's roll commonly about 32 persons, exclusive of Parliamentary district; and the number of persons occasionally relieved is about 12. The monthly allowance varies from 2s. 6d. to 4s. A very few cases are relieved to the amount of 6s. monthly.

*Education.*—There is one parish school, one free or endowed school, and there are eight adventure schools; total number of scholars receiving the benefit of a common education, 634. The parish school is endowed with the maximum salary, and L.5 yearly from the rents of the bishoprick of Dunkeld.

*Stewart's Free School, Strathtay.*—David Stewart was a native of Strathtay. Removing to Edinburgh in early life, a poor lad, he found employment in the family of one of the Barons of Exchequer, and subsequently became a macer in that court. Besides leaving funds, which are soon to become available for the endowment of an hospital in Edinburgh, he left a sum for the purchase of six acres of land, and the erection of a school-house, for the encouragement of education in his native district, with the interest of L.2500 for the support of a master and assistant, and the supply of stationery and prizes. The duties of the trustees and masters are ascertained by the contents of a deed containing



a variety of useful instructions. Here nearly 200 scholars annually receive, gratis, the benefit of a most excellent education in the ordinary branches. A similar endowment, that should put the northern wing of the parish on a footing with Strathtay, would, in addition to the parochial school, form an ample provision for the educational necessities of this wide-spread parochial charge. The scholars throughout the parish are in the proportion of 360 males to 270 females. Persons that cannot read, above fifteen years of age, 50. There are two sewing-schools on a Society salary. About 50 girls attend. There are six Sabbath schools, which are taught gratis, either by the ordinary teachers, by members of the kirk-session, or other qualified individuals. It is deemed advisable to teach them on a uniform and very simple system. Each teacher is provided with a small manuscript book, prepared by the minister, in which are marked, under several periods, a series of Scripture lessons, adapted to give a general and consecutive view of the Bible history. The principal dates, with numeral references to the chapters or parts of chapters illustrative of each period, as also to the prophecies delivered under each, are alone entered in the manuscript. A rigorous, patient, and minute examination on each portion of Scripture read forms the chief exercise, and is entrusted to the teachers under the occasional and periodical supervision of the minister. The Shorter Catechism is gone over, by very minute portions at a time, in the same way. Memory-work is in a great measure dispensed with, except as connected with intellection and reference; the first end in view being to lead the young to a habit of reading the Scriptures with attention and understanding. There are 230 scholars in attendance on six Sabbath schools.

*Friendly Societies.*—The Strathtay Farmers' Friendly Society commenced in January 1826. Since that time, 620 members have been entered in their books, including about 50 honorary members, who derive no benefit from it. It has paid upwards of L.1000 to the objects of its institution, and has about as much more at interest. It allows 4s. a-week for the first sixteen weeks of a member's illness, 3s. for the next like period, and 2s. so long as he may continue on the invalid list.

The Athole Wrights' Brotherly Society was instituted at Logie-rait in 1812. 676 members have since been entered on the books. Expended L.2568. Present stock at interest, L.1148. There are at present 13 men and 4 widows receiving seasonable support from the fund.

*Savings' Bank.*—At Aberfeldy there is a Savings' bank. It was instituted in 1833. There is but a small portion of this parish which has the privilege of depositing, by which nearly L.200 have been deposited and about L.70 withdrawn.

*Inns and Ale-houses.*—There are two inns and seven ale-houses; of the latter description certainly by far too many. The *Feill-ma-choit*, (Sacred festival of St Machutus?) was once a very considerable market; and there is a small cattle-market at Pitnacree in spring.

*Fuel.*—Fuel is scarce and expensive. It consists of oak-cuttings, at about 5s.; peat, at 3s.; coal from Perth, at about L.1, 5s. a cart, including carriage.

There are eight meal-mills, two flax, two saw-mills, and one for the manufacture of potato-starch.

#### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The march of learning, and, in some respects, of real improvement, since the last Statistical Account was published, is very noticeable. Then, linen yarn was the staple article of export and manufacture, bringing into the parish yearly nearly L.3000 Sterling. Now, there is no reason to suppose that a single stone of lint is in any shape exported from the parish. Then, the philabeg and tartan hose were commonly worn. Now, this dress is almost never seen. "Many of the young women," says the former statist, "had printed cotton gowns and duffle cloaks." Now, silks and cloth pelisses are, I suspect, as common as those luxuries of dress then were. Several of the farmers and handicraftsmen had then clocks in their houses, and many of the young men wore watches. Now, the rarity would be to find a house without a clock, and a young man without a watch. Then, there were 3000 arable acres in the parish; now, the number is 5000. Then, the rents amounted to less than L.3000; now, these amount to about upwards of L.8000, exclusive of land in the hands of proprietors. Then, the fields, whether in crop or in pasture, were generally open; now, there is hardly an arable field that is not inclosed. Then, the people were praised for their aversion to litigations: now, no dispute can be adjusted out of the legal courts. But why pursue the parallel? Since the result of such comparisons is ever the same, indicating a regular progression in physical and economical amelioration, with the drawback of a too certain retrogression from the blessings of contentment and simplicity.

November 1842.

## PARISH OF WEEM.

PRESBYTERY OF WEEM, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name of this parish must undoubtedly have been derived from the Gaelic word, *uamh* or *uamha*, signifying a cave. But of the cave, which was the origin of the name, and is said to have afforded frequent shelter to the lawless and oppressed, no trace whatever is now to be found.

*Extent, &c.*—It would be difficult to give any thing like an accurate account of the extent of this parish, from the manner in which it is disjoined and intersected by others. The following remarks on the separate parts may, however, be suitably introduced.

*Glenlochay.*—Several extensive farms of this parish are in this glen, which runs north-west of the village of Killin, and is thinly inhabited for an extent of eight miles; and even these farms are disjoined and intermixed with other parishes. There is here a considerable quantity of good arable land, but the whole district is chiefly pastoral. The grazings are excellent; and some of the stocks of sheep reared in it are said to be seldom equalled, and scarcely surpassed, in the prices which they bring in the markets of the south. The intersecting and bounding parishes are those of Kenmore and Killin.

*Achmore.*—This district, of which the eastern boundary is nearly in a straight line south from the parish church of Killin, extends more than two miles eastward, first for a short way on the south bank of the river Dochart, and then of Lochtay. It also is chiefly pastoral. A considerable part is wooded, and the greater part is in the possession of the proprietor. The parishes which bound it are the preceding.

*Crannich.*—This district extends about two miles on the north side of Lochtay, somewhat nearer the west end of it, and is bound-

ed, east and west, by the parish of Kenmore. It now belongs to the Marquis of Breadalbane, but once belonged to the family of Menzies; as it appears, from the history of that family, that in the fourteenth century, Sir Robert de Maynoers or Meyners got "from David de Strathbolgy, Earl of Athole, and Constable of Scotland, the lands of the Thanage of Cranach in Desewer\* in vice de Perth;" and this, with other similar facts, may furnish an explanation of the disjoined state and great distance of several parts of this parish.

*Glenlyon.*—A continuous district of this glen, of some miles in extent, under the general name of the Roros, is in the parish of Weem, besides some other extensive farms, which are detached, and somewhat distant from this larger part. The whole is intersected and bounded by parts of the parish of Fortingal.

*Newhall.*—Newhall and Sticks, on the south side of the river Tay, and between the villages of Kenmore and Aberfeldy, may be said to be all included in the grounds of Taymouth Castle. There is, however, a considerable population here, consisting wholly of the work people employed by the proprietor. These parts are intersected and bounded by the parishes of Dull and Kenmore.

*Comrie.*—The ancient barony of Comrie, hitherto consisting of several small farms and holdings, and lying on the south side of the river Lyon, near the point at which it falls into the Tay, is now becoming the chief agricultural farm of the proprietor, the Marquis of Breadalbane. The ruins of the old family castle stand on the banks of the river, in a state of considerable preservation. This part is bounded by the parishes of Kenmore and Fortingall.

*Glenquaiich.*—There is a district of considerable extent and population belonging to the parish of Weem, on both sides of the river in this glen, through which the road from Kenmore to Crieff, the market-town of all that district, passes. Here are supposed to be some of the highest cultivated lands in Perthshire, which produce little else than straw in very late seasons, but which are not deficient in early harvests, either in quantity or quality of grain. This glen is always bleak, and often exceedingly stormy in winter, and almost all ingress and egress is sometimes cut off by snow; but at other seasons, it presents to the lover of pure natu-

\* In Gaelic, *Deisearach* or *Dels-threach*, is a common name for the north side of Lochtay, and is sometimes applied to any place with a southern exposure.

ral scenery, no uninteresting appearance.\* Descending, at the west end of it, from the heights of the Kenmore road, towards the end of summer or beginning of autumn, and looking eastward on its lake, its green meadows, its fields beginning to take their yellow tinge, and its sloping sides in many places clothed in green grass to the top, unwooded as it is, he will find much to admire. A remarkable feature in the scene is, a ridge of hills at the lower end, stretching from north to south, and appearing to be so united to the sides, like the base of a triangle, that the eye would seem to look in vain for a tract by which the waters could escape, or where roads could be found; and hence must have arisen its name of Glenquaich, from the resemblance which it bears to a basin or cup, to which *Cuach* and *Quaich* are the corresponding terms in Gaelic and in Scotch.

*Murthly*, on the south bank of the Tay, and near a mile east from Aberfeldy, is bounded, east and west, by the parish of Dull.

*Weem*.—This part, by much the most populous, extends about a mile and a half on the north bank of the Tay, and is bounded by the parishes of Logierait and Dull.

The only probable reason which can be assigned for this disjointed and intersected state of the parish of Weem, and of several neighbouring parishes, has been already given, and will further appear from an account of the Menzies family, to have been the desire of proprietors to connect their properties with their own parish church; but all the disadvantages which might be apprehended have not arisen from this inconvenient arrangement, as it has been and continues to be, the practice of ministers to perform many, and in some instances all, of the ministerial duties among those who are near them, though they be not their parishioners.

*Mountains*.—The greater part of the south side of Benlawers is in Crannich Lochtayside, and all the north side is in Roro Glenlyon. This mountain, which is 4015 feet above the level of the sea, is the highest in Perthshire, and among the highest in Scotland. Though all the divisions of the parish are hilly, no other part requires particular notice except the rock of Weem. It is at least 600 feet above the low grounds around Castle Menzies at the foot of it, is beautifully wooded, and in some places rises up so steep, as to be almost perpendicular.† It may safely be pro-

\* In a small publication, called the *Geography of the Holy Land*, by the Rev. David Esdaille, it is stated that some travellers compare the scenery of Amulree, in Glenquaich, to the locality of Jerusalem.

† The following anecdote has been told of the late incumbent of this parish, who

nounced one of the grandest objects of the kind in Scotland, and it may be wondered that it has not been a resort for travellers, as the fine view from its top would amply repay their labour in climbing it. Castle Menzies, with its rich haughs of Appin, a great part of Lochtay, and the towering summits of Benlawers and Benmore, the highest points of that line of the Grampians, are the most striking objects on the west side; Aberfeldy with the wooded den of Moness, and the rich and beautiful valley of Strathtay, with its circle of hills behind, and a higher and more extended circle of Atholl hills beyond them, on the east side; while the windings of the Tay, from west to east, enliven the whole of this interesting scene.

*Hydrography.*—There is a fine spring about the middle of the rock of Weem, with which the superstitious notion had been once connected, that St David, the patron of it, on receiving a suitable offering, would grant such wishes as were preferred to him. The spring was cleaned out a few years back, and several proofs of wishes preferred were found in it, from a half-crown piece down to far more humble offerings. Tradition relates of this guardian saint, that he was one of the lairds of the place who had turned monk, and that he had a chapel on a shelf of the rock, still called *Craig an-t'sheapail*, or the chapel rock.

Loch Tay is the principal lake connected with this parish, but there are two hill lakes of considerable size on an extensive farm, called Lochs in Glenlyon. The river Dochart rises on the borders of Argyleshire, and receives the waters of the Lochay, which rises in the western hills of the glen of that name, very near the west end of Loch Tay, into which it flows. The river, on issuing from the east end of the lake, takes the name of Tay, receives the Lyon between Taymouth and Castle Menzies, and the Quaich after taking the name of Bran, a little above Dunkeld. The name both of the river and of the lake has most probably been derived from the Gaelic word *Teth*, which may signify either hot or warm; and the well-known fact, that Loch Tay is never known to freeze during coldest winter, must have procured this name for it, and for the river after issuing from it.

had undergone a suitable preparation for executing the commission intrusted to him by an apprenticeship of some years in the Mission of Glenco: That about sixty years ago, he had been requested by the baronet of that time to conduct Mr Playfair (afterwards Principal), to the top of the rock by the most difficult passes consistent with safety; and that when he had executed the commission to the letter, Mr Playfair on looking back at the rock which he ascended, exclaimed, "Has there ever been a living creature here before?" and received for answer, "Oh yes; goats and eagles."

The rapids of a fine cascade in Glenlochay are in this parish, but the description belongs to Killin.

*Soils.*—The character of the soil is almost as various as the divisions of the parish are numerous. In a few places, it is wet and marshy, in the highest parts light and gravelly, and much of it, especially in the district of Weem, is loamy, with a strength and exposure capable of bearing wheat or any kind of crop, were it not for the frequent overflowing of the Tay, which would be difficult in any circumstances to prevent, and to which the interfering rights of proprietors are an additional obstacle.

*Zoology.*—Besides the species of quadrupeds common to many districts in Scotland, there are in this parish, roe and fallow deer, mountain hares, which are dun in summer, but turn white in winter, and are smaller and more fleet than the common hares; and a few bisons, which are to be found only in the parks of Taymouth. The rarer species of birds are eagles, black-game, and pheasants; the beautiful ptarmigan, which occupies a still higher region than the mountain hare, and like it becomes whiter in winter; and a few capercaillies on the grounds of the Marquis of Breadalbane.

The principal fishes are, salmon, trout, and pike; and anglers from various places resort to parts of this parish, and the districts in which they lie, especially to Glenquaich, not only for the sport of angling which loch Freuchie, and the streams that fall into it afford, but also for enjoying the pure and bracing air of this quarter.

*Botany.*—The full account from the parish of Kenmore on this subject renders it inexpedient to offer an inferior one from an adjoining parish.

The dimensions of the following trees in the lawn of Castle Menzies, some of which have been measured several years back, and others just now, are worthy of being given:—

1. Solid contents of a plane, 1132½ feet; extreme height, 77½; girth at the ground, 23, at four feet high, 16, and at six feet high, 15.
2. Contents of a second plane, 957 feet; girth at four feet high, 18½, and at seven feet and a half, 15.
3. Of a third plane, 810 feet; girth at four feet high, 20½, and at seven feet and a half high, 15.
4. Of a Spanish chestnut, 618½ feet; girth at base, 21, and at six feet high, 14.
5. Of a second chestnut, 522¾ feet; girth at base, 18½, and at six feet high, 13.
6. Of a third chestnut, 450; and girth at base, 16.
7. Of a silver fir, 312¾ feet; extreme height, 96½; girth at base, 14¾, and at ten feet high, 10½.
8. Of a spruce fir, 216¾; extreme height, 93;

girth at base, 13; and at six feet high, 10. 9. Of a Scotch fir, 183½ feet; and girth at base, 13½. 10. Girth of a larch at base, 13 feet. 11. Of an oak at base, 15 feet; and at six feet high, 10½. 12 and 13. Of each of two oaks at base, 14 feet 2 inches. 14. Of an elm at base, 15 feet 11 inches; and at six feet high, 10 feet 9 inches. 15. Of a second elm at base, 15 feet 3 inches; and at six feet high, 12 feet 1 inch. 16. Of an ash at base, 16 feet 4 inches; and at five feet high, 11 feet 3 inches. 17. Of a second ash at base, 16 feet. 18 and 19. Two beech trees; girth of the one at base, 17 feet 2 inches, and of the other, 19 feet.

Many other trees in the same place nearly equal these dimensions; and an ash was blown down two years ago of the girth at base of 20 feet. There is a remarkable beech that separates near the ground into two branches, which again unite about four feet above the point of separation, and have an opening between them through which a person of ordinary size might pass.

There are also many large old trees, chiefly of oak, both at Achmore and Newhall.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Family of Menzies.*\*—The ancient history of this family is involved in considerable obscurity, from the burning of the family castle in the sixteenth century, when many of their private papers were consumed. They are generally supposed to have come first to England with William the Conqueror, to have been the same with the Maners, from which the Rutland family is descended, and to have settled in Scotland soon after the Conquest, in the reign of Malcolm Canmore. They became connected by marriage with many of the greatest and noblest families of the land.

1. The first who is specially mentioned in any records, and appears to have been of considerable consequence, is Anketillus de Mayoers, who lived in the reign of William the Lion, which commenced in 1165.

2. Robert de Meyners, Knight, supposed to have been his son, lived in the reigns of Alexander II. and III., was Lord High Chamberlain of Scotland, one of the barons called Magnates Scotiae, and frequently employed in embassies to England, "which he discharged with great honour and commendation." His immediate connection with this country, with his power and possessions in it, is proved by the grant of a charter of the lands of Culdares, "Matthæo de Moncrief pro homagio et servitio suo."

\* Chiefly abridged from Nisbet's Heraldry.



3. Sir Alexander de Meyners, Knight, was one of the patriots who stood firm to the interests of their country against the oppressions of Edward I. of England, for which he was imprisoned by that Monarch. He is specially stated to have got the lands of Weem and Aberfeldy, in vice de Perth; and as he signed as witness to a charter by Robert I. before the Marischal of Scotland, it may be inferred from this preference that he then held a public place of considerable rank.

4. Sir Robert de Meyners, in his father's lifetime, got several lands in the Abathnage or Lordship of Dull, from Robert de Bruce, besides Cranach, as already described, with Edramuckie and Morinch in Deserver, also explained.

5. John succeeded his father, Sir Robert.

6. Robert de Meyners must have had great influence with the sovereign, as he got charters of several lands in Dumfries, Edinburgh, Lanark, and Fifeshires, from Robert II.

7. Sir David de Meyners succeeded his father. He was one of the hostages for King James I.'s ransom, was employed in several embassies to the Court of Denmark, and made Governor of the Orkneys, then belonging to the King of Denmark. He afterwards became "a monk of the Sestertian order in the monastery of Melross," and made many extensive and valuable donations of land to religious houses.

8. John de Meyners succeeded his father, Sir David.

9. Sir Robert succeeded his father in 1487. "It was in his time that the mansion-house of the family was burnt, which induced the sovereign to give him a new grant of his whole lands and estate, and to erect all of them into a free barony, to be called the barony of Menzies." Roro, in Glenlyon, also belonged to him.

10. Sir Robert succeeded his father in 1520.

11. Sir Alexander succeeded his father, Sir Robert, in 1557.

12. James succeeded Alexander, his father.

13. Sir Alexander succeeded his father James in 1588.

14. Duncan succeeded his father in 1624.

15. Sir Alexander succeeded his father Duncan, and was created a Knight-Baronet, 2d September 1665. His eldest son, Robert, who predeceased him, married the eldest grand-daughter of Viscount Canada, and the issue of that marriage are said to be the heirs of the territorial possessions of the first Earl of Stirling, and of the hereditary lieutenantship of Nova Scotia. His second son,

Captain James Menzies, had Comrie, and lived in the castle, of which the ruins are still standing.

16. Sir Alexander, son of the said Robert, succeeded his grandfather.

17. Sir Robert succeeded his father.

18. Sir John succeeded his cousin, Sir Robert.

19. Sir Robert succeeded his cousin, Sir John.

20. Sir Neil succeeded his father, and is now in possession of the estate of his ancestors. He resides constantly on his property, is a spirited improver of his estates, and a practical farmer to a great extent. He has lately been elected Honorary Secretary of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, a merited reward for his attention to the objects of that distinguished and useful association.

*Land-owners.*—These are, Sir Neil Menzies of Menzies, the patron of the parish; the Marquis of Breadalbane; and to a comparatively small extent, Ranald Menzies, Esq. of Culdares.

*Parochial Registers.*—The first entry in the parish registers was in 1692; but they do not appear to have been kept with much regularity till 1741, and at no period have the names of all the children been inserted.

*Antiquities.*—There are two upright crosses, close to each other, in the district of Newhall, said to have been the sides of a gateway to a Druidical place of worship at no great distance, but in a neighbouring parish. Here must have been anciently the business village of the surrounding district, as a fair called *Feill Dàidh*, or St David's, had been held at it, which was removed to the village of Kenmore, where it is now one of the principal fairs, and is held in March. There was a burying-ground, also, with a similar name, *Cill Dàidh*, but no tradition exists concerning this guardian saint.

In the east end of the old church of Weem, which is still standing, and is now altogether the property of Sir Neil Menzies, there is a monument of very curious and varied sculpture, well-worthy of the minute examination of an antiquary, bearing, by a Latin inscription upon it, to be to the memory of Sir Alexander Menzies, the thirteenth in order of the family, and of his spouse, Marjory Campbell, and others.

Castle Menzies, the chief seat of Sir Neil Menzies of Menzies, Baronet, and where he generally resides, stands in the midst of a rich, beautiful, and extensive lawn, finely interspersed with

large trees, of various kinds, such as oak, plane, and chestnut, at the foot of the rock of Weem, by which it is effectually sheltered on the north side, and greatly ornamented. The level of the grounds being less than 300 feet above the sea, their favourable exposure, and their sheltered state, render them capable of producing all the fruits which can be reared in the open air, in the highest state of perfection; and the Castle Menzies gear, especially, has been celebrated all over the country. The castle, which appears, from a date upon it, to have been built in 1571, is a fine old building, with several turrets, but it is now in the act of receiving a very large addition, quite in character with the former part, which will render it one of the most striking mansions in the north, and likely to be equalled by few in its suit of public apartments.

The House of Auchmore, originally a small old building, but now modernized and greatly enlarged, stands in a park of considerable extent, separated on the west from the parish of Killin by a lively stream shaded with wood, washed on the north-west and north by the Dochart, the Dochart and Lochay united, and Lochtay, and wooded on the south and south-east. The present Marquis of Breadalbane resided here a considerable time before his accession.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish was, by Dr Webster's report,	1295
in 1811,	1372
1821,	1354
1831,	1209
1841,	890

Except in the district of Weem, where there is a small increase, the population has considerably decreased since the last census, and is continuing to decrease, partly by emigration from the country, and partly by removal from the parish to other places, arising from the enlargement of farms on the estate of Breadalbane.

The people may be all said to reside in the country, as the village of Weem, the principal one in the parish, is small, and most of its inhabitants are occupiers of land.

The average number of births for the last seven years was	28
of deaths,	19
of marriages,	9
The number of persons under 15 years of age is,	265
betwixt 15 and 30,	242
30 and 50,	239
50 and 70,	107
upwards of 70,	48

The only family of independent fortune residing in the parish

is that of Sir Neil Menzies. Each of the three heritors has land in it of more than the yearly value of L.50.

There are 28 unmarried men, bachelors, and widowers, upwards of 50 years of age, and 45 unmarried women upwards of 45 years. The number of families is 190, and where there are children, they seem to average about 4. There is one fatuous person in the parish. The language generally spoken is the Gaelic.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The number of acres in cultivation, as nearly as can be ascertained, is about 1647. There may be about 300 more in grass, which were once in cultivation, partly in parks within the grounds of the two great heritors. No particular statement can be given of the number under wood; but there are in the rock of Weem alone 190, and there must be about four times that number over the whole parish. The kinds of trees that are planted are chiefly larch and oak, and next to these, ash, elm, and beech; and those which are indigenous are the Scotch fir, birch, hazel, and mountain ash. There is much attention paid by the proprietors to the management of their woods.

*Rent.*—The rent of arable land must be very doubtful, as it is almost always let with large portions of grazing; but it may safely be stated, that it differs in value so much as from 15s. to L.2, 10s. an acre, according to soil, climate, and exposure. The rent of grazing a cow is from 18s. to L.1, 10s., and from 3s. to 5s. for a sheep during the whole year.

*Wages.*—A man-servant receives from L.12 to L.15 a-year, and a woman from L.4 to L.6. A day-labourer receives about 1s. 3d. in winter, and from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. in summer, without victuals.

*Live-Stock.*—The sheep are almost all of the black-faced kind, and there are in Glenlochay alone, in this parish, from 3000 to 4000 of them. The cattle are chiefly of the west Highland breed, but there are some Ayrshire cows in two places very distant from each other, at Castle Menzies, and in the braes of Glenlochay.

*Husbandry.*—The husbandry of this parish has been very much improved, but not to the same extent in every place. In the more favourable parts, the four or five-shift rotation is regularly adopted; and the young ploughmen in this district would not be afraid of competing with the most skilful men of the south in performing their work, chiefly in consequence of annual ploughing-matches,

at which prizes are bestowed by Sir Neil Menzies on the successful competitors. A society, called the Atholl Club, for encouraging improvements, both in husbandry and in the breeds of cattle, have their meetings every third year in this village, for inspecting stock and adjudging their premiums.

*Leases.*—The general duration of leases is fifteen years, but there are several places where none appear to be given.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The nearest market-town is Dunkeld, at the distance of eighteen miles; but the chief business of this district is done in Perth. The village of Weem is small in respect of population, but other circumstances render it of considerable importance. It is a polling-place for elections; the Atholl Club hold their triennial meeting in it; the Commissioners of Supply have their statutory road meetings and others; the justices of the peace have monthly meetings for small debt cases, and occasional meetings for Excise purposes. These last are now a mere matter of form compared to the time when crowds of offenders against the Excise laws were called together, to await with anxiety and dread the awarding of the penalties to which their offences subjected them. It is also the seat of a Presbytery, erected by an act of the General Assembly, May 24th 1836, "into a separate Presbytery, to be called the Presbytery of Weem," and appointed to meet in October following. It consists of ten parishes, six original, three Government, and one chapel-of-ease, which were all disjoined from the Presbytery of Dunkeld.

*Means of Communication.*—There is a post-office in the village of Aberfeldy, about a mile distant, and a penny-post from it passes through this village six days of the week. There are turnpike roads through the Weem, Murthly, Crannich, Newhall, and Sticks divisions; and there are good roads in most of the other parts. The post drives a four-wheeled carriage for the conveyance of passengers. There were two public coaches running through this parish during the last summer, from Dunkeld to Tarbet on Lochlomond side; and there is a weekly carrier to the village, and others passing through it.

The Bridge of Tay is a very fine building, of five large arches over the river of that name, between the village of Weem and that of Aberfeldy, and opening up the communication of all this northern district with the south. It was finished in the year 1733, under the direction of General Wade, Commander of the Forces in Scotland.

Near this bridge, the Forty-Second or Royal Highlanders, with which so many of our brave countrymen have been connected, and which has been concerned in so many of the gallant achievements of our army, was first formally embodied into a regiment, exactly a hundred years since, under the name, *Am Freiceadan Dubh*, or the Black Watch. The seat of one of its distinguished officers, the late Colonel Alexander Stewart of Clochfoldich, who commanded it at the battle of Alexandria after the senior commanding officer had been wounded, is quite near this place of its first embodying. Another spot is pointed out, between the bridge and the village of Weem, where Sir John Cope's army is said to have encamped in 1745. There is a bridge over the Lochay near Killin; and there had been one over the Lyon, close to the old Castle of Comrie, which has fallen down some years since, and has not been rebuilt, though much needed.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The situation of the parish church is convenient for a much greater part of the population than any other place could be, but many are cut off from all access to it by their distance, which, in the case of some, is from twenty to thirty miles. It was built in 1835, affords comfortable accommodation for about 600, and the sittings are all free.

The manse was built in 1830. It has a neat external appearance, but its internal accommodation is very ordinary, as well as that of the outer buildings. The glebe is about five acres, and worth about L.10. The stipend is six chalders, half meal and half barley; and L.66, 13s. 4½d. including L.8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements.

There is no chapel-of-ease in the parish, but parts of it are connected with the mission chapels of Lawers and Amulree. The Government church, or now *quoad sacra* parish of Glenlyon, is *quoad civilia* in the parish of Fortingall; but a part of this parish is annexed to it.

Ten individuals in the parish attend the chapels of Dissenters.

Divine service is very well attended at the Established Church, but a great part of the congregation is from contiguous parts of the parishes of Dull, Logierait, and Fortingall. The average number of communicants is about 650; but many of them, like the congregation, are from the preceding parishes. Besides the weekly collections for the poor, there is raised yearly, at an average, by church collections, for religious purposes, from L.8 to L. 10.

There is a Bible Society in the parish; and an account of its progress in distributing the Scriptures in a district, populous, indeed, but by no means remarkable for its former want of the Bible, may show what can be done among our people when a facility of supply is brought near them, and when this supply is offered at the reduced price of Bible Societies. In six years and a-half, the exact period which has elapsed since the Society has begun, there were sold 1855\* copies of the Scriptures, 773 being the whole Bible, and 1082 being the New Testament only. In a district where English and Gaelic are both spoken, it may be interesting to state the numbers which were sold in these languages separately. There were in English, 1046; and in Gaelic, 809; but a fair inference cannot be drawn from this statement as to a preference for either language, until the books which have been required for schools, and which were almost all in English, be subtracted. Deducting these, which amount to 515, there remain 569 in English, and 770 in Gaelic, thus showing a preference, in family and private reading, for the Gaelic. There is now reason to hope that all our families are well supplied with Bibles and Testaments, as 289 of the largest type have been sold; and that the younger members have either pocket Bibles or Testaments, so that such of them as may enter into service at a distance may not be liable to the complaint which has been often heard in private concerning this class of people, and which has sometimes been introduced at public meetings, that they neither know nor possess the Scriptures. A farther satisfaction has arisen from the establishment of this Society, that many of our emigrated countrymen are now in possession of Bibles purchased here, several of them in the back-woods of Canada, and a few on the shores of Australia. The same Society has sold, at reduced prices, 219 of the London Tract Society's books, chiefly Doddridge's "Rise and Progress," and Baxter's "Call" and "Saint's Rest," besides some of their smaller tracts.

*Education.*—The schools in the parish are, the parochial, three others which are partly endowed, and one which is unendowed. Besides the ordinary branches taught in all the schools, geography, practical mathematics, and Latin are taught in some of them. The parochial schoolmaster has the legal accommodations and the

\* L. 148, 14s. 1½d. have been drawn from the sale of these Scriptures, and remitted, from time to time, to the Society which furnished them, besides occasional donations, amounting in all to L. 33, 8s. for the benefit of selling at the reduced prices.

maximum salary. The schoolmaster of each of the three schools which are partly endowed, receives about L.5, 11s., being the third of the interest of 6000 merks mortified for that purpose by Mr Archibald Campbell, who died minister of this place in 1740. The fees are extremely low in some of the schools; but they are generally from 1s. 6d. to 4s. per quarter, according to the branches in which instruction is received. There are L.8 yearly of a mortification for educating the poorer scholars at the parochial school. The people in general are very much alive to the benefits of education, and make great exertions to have them imparted to their children. A better encouragement to the schools which are poorly endowed, or not endowed at all, is more needful than the establishment of new schools. There are no persons betwixt six and fifteen years of age who cannot read, and most of them can write; but there are seven above fifteen years who cannot read, and many more who cannot write. A Sabbath school has been taught in the church during the present incumbency, generally from the middle of March to the beginning of November, by the minister and one of the elders resident in the village; and it has been attended by an average of about 50 scholars yearly.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number receiving parochial aid in the parish is 18, and the average sum allowed to each of them in the year is L.1, 8s. There are besides from 12 to 14, in the contiguous sections of other parishes, who receive some aid from this fund. The average amount of contributions for their relief is, from church collections, L.29, 5s. 4d.; from proclamation and mortcloth dues, L.4, 15s. 7d.; and from interest of money, L.8, 8s. The disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief is by no means what it has formerly been, and they cease, in too many instances, to consider an application degrading.

*Fairs.*—Two annual fairs for general business, now very ill attended, were wont to be held in the village of Weem.

*Inns.*—There is an inn at Weem, a second-rate one at the bridge of Lochay, and a small ale or whisky-house in Glenquaich; but they do not appear to have any bad effect on the morals of the people.

*Fuel.*—Peat is the common fuel of the country people, which is generally bad in quality. They sometimes burn wood with it. All who can afford, burn coals, brought at a great expense from Perth.



# PARISH OF DUNNING.\*

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH AND  
STIRLING.

THE REV. DR JAMES RUSSELL, MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Boundaries and Extent.*—THE parish of Dunning is bounded on the east by Forteviot; on the west, by Auchterarder; on the south, by Fossaway; and on the north, by Gask. It measures about 7 miles from north to south, and 4 from east to west, which, were the surface level, would give an extent of 28 square miles. About one-third of the whole is situated among the Ochil hills.

*Name.*—There are two suppositions entertained regarding the origin of its name: one, that it is from the Gaelic term *Dun*, a hill or fort, the other that it is derived from *Doucha*, an abbot of Dunkeld, who is said to have fallen here in battle in the year 964.

*Hydrography.*—The inhabitants enjoy an abundant supply of excellent spring water. The rivulet, called Dunning Burn, rises among the Ochil hills, and, after a rather rapid descent over a bed of gravel, falls into the Earn. In the western division of the parish, upon the property of Lord Rollo, is a lake called the “White Moss,” covering about eleven acres of ground. It rests upon a bed of moss and gravel, contains a variety of small fish, and abounds with wild duck.

*Soil.*—The soil along the banks of the Earn is light and sandy; in other parts, it consists of clay or gravel; and the Ochils afford excellent pasturage for sheep.

*Plantations.*—There are many plantations in this parish, varying in extent from three to twenty acres. These consist chiefly of oak, fir, ash, elm, and poplar. In the garden of Duncruib, the seat of Lord Rollo, is an old spruce, planted in 1707. According to a measurement taken in the month of March 1838, its

\* Drawn up by Mr John Laurie, parochial schoolmaster of Monsie.

height is 79 feet, circumference of the trunk at the ground 23 feet; do. at 3 feet from the ground, 11 feet, 10 inches; diameter of the circle of ground covered by its branches, 60 feet.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Historical Events and Antiquities.*—Colonel Miller, in a paper published in the fourth volume of the “*Archæologia Scotica*,” places the scene of the battle of Mons Grampius between the Ochil and the Lomond hills; and, assuming Caerpow as the site of the city Victoria, founded by Agricola, and Castle Law at Colteucher, as Lindum, he traces a line of forts along the northern base of the Ochils to Ardoch; and from thence to the wall of Antoninus; these he is inclined to attribute to Agricola, as a protection on the north to his newly acquired territory. Three of these forts are in the parish of Dunning, namely, Ardargie, Rossie Law (called by Colonel Miller, Garrison Law), and Ternavie. The latter resembles the hull of a ship inverted; hence, as is commonly supposed, its name (*terræ navis*.) Remains of ancient armour, with a great quantity of human bones, were dug up a few years ago, a little to the east of Ternavie, upon the farms of Rossie. Of these, two helmets, a small hatchet of yellow metal, and a finger ring, are preserved in Duncruib House.

Subsequently to the time of the Romans, the parish must have often been the theatre of strife and bloodshed, from its proximity to Forteviot, the Pictish capital. There are vestiges of several camps and fortifications besides those already mentioned, and the discovery of urns and stone coffins is a matter of frequent occurrence; but whether these are Roman or Pictish, it is impossible to determine, as the natives practised the Roman mode of sepulture, long after these invaders had left the country.

The family of Lord Rollo is in possession of three banners: one measuring two feet two inches square, that belonged to a body of Perthshire militia, at the Revolution of 1688, (which date it bears,) commanded by the Lord Rollo of that period; another that was wont to be unfurled at the head of a troop of horse, commanded and maintained by Lord Rollo, for the protection of the country in troublous times. It exhibits the figures of two armed men on horseback, with the family motto, “*La fortune passe partout*,” measures 4 feet 7 inches, by 1 foot 8 inches, and is without a date; to the third there attaches an importance, derived from historical associations, which will render it an object of interest so long as that hallowed fire of patriotism and piety which has

burned with so pure a flame on many a hard contested field, shall continue to glow in the breasts of Scotsmen. This banner once waved over the heads of the Covenanters, and it beheld their discomfiture at the battle of Bothwell Bridge. There, standard and standard bearer were both captured by the Honourable Major Archibald Rollo, second son of Lord Rollo. It has been perforated in seven different places by musket-balls, and has the following words inscribed upon it in gold letters, "Covenant. For Religion, Crown, and Kingdoms." It measures 2 feet in length, by 1 foot 10 inches in breadth.

The Earl of Marr, after the battle of Sheriffmuir, 12th November 1715, withdrew his army into Angus, burning down as far as Perth, all the villages on his line of March, in order to retard the advance of the Royalist forces. Dunning, situated at the distance of twelve miles from the scene of action, was, accordingly, burnt to the ground, with the exception of one house, said to have been occupied by a miller. This man, by setting fire to wet straw within, induced the Highlanders to believe that the work of demolition was already begun. They accordingly abandoned it, as they conceived, to inevitable destruction. This house, or rather one erected upon its site, is still pointed out to strangers as an object of interest. The inhabitants, actuated by the same feelings that prompted the citizens of London to erect "the monument" after the great fire in 1666, planted a thorn tree to commemorate the destruction of their village. This venerable thorn, although it has now braved the storms of a hundred and twenty-three winters, and has stood the silent witness of more than one change in the entire population of the village, still promises fair to protract a green old age, and hand down the tale of its origin to other generations that have not yet appeared on the stage of time.

The two following entries occur in the session records of Dunning: the first dated nearly two months before the battle of Sheriffmuir, the latter about a year subsequent to it.

"September 18, 1715, There was no sermon this day and several Sabbaths following, on account of the commotions that were in the country, by reason of Marr's unnatural Rebellion.

"October 2, 1716. Transmitted to the session of Dunning, from Mr William Mitchell, minister at Edinburgh, and Mr William Hamilton, Professor of Divinity there, L.18 Sterling, as part of the donation of a charitable person for the relief of such (as

being well affected to the present Government) were brought to straits by their sufferings in the late Rebellion."

*Chief Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, Lord Rollo; Robert Graeme, Esq. of Garvock; John Pitcairns, Esq. of Pitcairns; Lord Airlie; and Alexander Belshes, Esq. of Invermay.

The descent of the family of Rollo of Duncruib can be traced back in a direct line for a period of 1000 years, and can number at least one alliance by marriage with the royal family of France. The limits of this work will only permit a reference to a few of the names that occur in this long line of ancestry.

*Family of Rollo.*—Eric Rollo, the Dane, established himself in Normandy about the year 800; a lineal descendant of whom having conquered the country from the Crown of France, and married the King's daughter, became first Duke of Normandy. Passing over several generations of this family, we come to William Duke of Normandy, commonly styled the Conqueror, who became King of England in 1066. Eric de Rollo, a descendant of a collateral branch of the first Duke, accompanied the Conqueror to England, in capacity of secretary; a portrait of whom, taken in the 98th year of his age, is preserved in Duncruib House. Richard de Rollo, a son or grandson of the latter, came to Scotland during the reign of David I, by whom he was graciously received, and who conferred on him houses and lands about Edinburgh and elsewhere. He then settled in Perthshire, where the family, having obtained successive grants of land from the Crown, have remained ever since.

*Parochial Registers.*—The first record of session begins 19th April 1691. The register of marriages begins 20th January 1709, and is discontinued after October 28th 1714. The register of baptisms begins May 16th 1708, and ends October 23d 1716. These registers have been resumed at different dates, but have not the appearance of having been accurately kept. Indeed, the register of baptisms cannot be expected to be so, as few of the Dis-senters record their baptisms, at least with the parochial clerk. Some improvement, however, particularly in the registration of banns, has taken place since 1783.

*List of the Ministers of Dunning since the Reformation.*—Mr William Reid, ordained April 1691, died January 28, 1716; Mr Lachlan M'Intosh, ordained October 3, 1716, translated to Errol March 21, 1725; Mr Andrew Smyth, ordained May 14, 1728, died January 31, 1761; Mr Alexander Smyth, ordained

September 24, 1761, died February 20, 1768; Mr Lewis Dunbar, ordained 1769, translated to Kinnoull, November 7, 1782; Mr John Baird, ordained February 27, 1783, died 1812; Mr Charles Hardy, ordained April 20, 1813, died in the winter following; Mr John Grierson, ordained 1814, translated to Dunblane 1818: Dr James Russell, the present incumbent, ordained September 24, 1818.

*Modern Buildings.*—The only modern buildings are, the mansion-houses of Pitcairns and Garvock, both erected within the last fourteen years.

The amount of the population, taken at six different periods, is as under:—

### III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, (By Dr Webster,)	1491
1797, (By Sir J. Sinclair,)	1600
1801, (By Government,)	1504
1811, Do. . .	1728
1821, Do. . .	1876
1831, Do. . .	2045
1841, Do. . .	2125

There are three families of independent fortune who generally reside in the parish, and about ten proprietors of land above the yearly value of L.50.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The number of acres under tillage is not ascertained, and there is no land in undivided common. There are at least 200 acres planted, and the average rent of land is about L.2 per acre. Grazing is at the rate of L.4 per ox or cow for the summer half-year. Good labourers generally receive 10s. per week; wrights, 12s. Masons and other artisans are paid at the rates current in Glasgow and Perth. The system of raising white and green crops alternately is adopted, and the most skilful farmers interpose pasture between their rotations to insure a better return. The leases are generally for nineteen years. The farm-houses are substantial and commodious stone and lime buildings, roofed with slate.

*Draining.*—Draining has been extensively practised in this parish. The richest soils have been brought into cultivation by means of it. Upon the estate of Lord Rollo alone eighty acres of very superior land have been reclaimed by this process, which, if let, would bring a rent of L.7 or L.8 per acre. The draining of this marsh land, which consisted originally of four separate and detached portions, containing about twenty acres each, was long

deemed impracticable, from the want of sufficient declivity to carry off the water. The mode in which this was effected upon one of these swamps, called the White Bog, was as follows: The morass was intersected longitudinally by a drain eight feet deep, which collected and discharged the water into the channel of a neighbouring rivulet, about 80 yards distant. This apparently simple process was attended with difficulties. The bed of the stream, having a greater elevation than the marsh itself, required to be greatly deepened. In consequence, it was found necessary to underbuild the foundation of a bridge five feet, where a public road crossed the stream. Again, at a point considerably above, the brook had formerly given off a supply of water to turn machinery, but which, by the deepening of the channel, was now cut off. Hence, one of two things became necessary, either to relinquish the use of the water for driving the mills, or to carry it forward at the same level as formerly by means of an aqueduct. The latter was preferred, care being taken to coat the bottom and sides of the aqueduct with clay, to render it impervious to the water. Thus terminated the labour of draining the White Bog. The substances composing the marsh were vegetable mould, clay, &c. and were found to rest on a bed of sand. The channel cut for the water was 14 inches deep in this sandy stratum. The water everywhere flowed gently from the sand. The White Bog vanished, and in about one month from the time when the operations were brought to a close, the boggy materials had shrunk several feet, exhibiting upon their surface cracks and fissures in all directions. This now valuable land was sown with oats the following spring, (1820), and the produce of about three acres being sold brought L.57, 10s. The remainder not being offered for sale was estimated at L.20 per acre. The whole was planned and brought to a successful conclusion by Dr Martin, then factor to Lord Rollo; and it is a proud monument to the ingenuity and skill of that gentleman, that, in place of a dreary swamp, producing only what is noxious, there is now a smiling and luxuriant meadow, enlivening the landscape by its beauty, and yielding a liberal return to enlightened and well-directed enterprise.

*Quarries.*—There are several quarries of durable stone in the parish; and an extensive liver formation of white freestone has recently been discovered on the estate of Balquhandy, the property of Major J. G. Drummond. The Ochils abound with

whinstone, and in the beds of the streams are found boulders and pieces of quartz.

*Manufactures.*—This parish contains three corn-mills, one flour-mill, a saw-mill, and a wool-mill, at which a considerable woollen manufactory is carried on, two malt-mills, a distillery, and a brewery. A great proportion of the inhabitants are weavers, and are supplied with work from Glasgow.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The village of Dunning contains many substantial houses, and is held in feu from the Right Hon. Lord Rollo. It is placed under the superintendence of a baron-bailie, and enjoys the advantages of a post-office and a reading-room for newspapers. Of the latter there are 110 delivered weekly at the post-office. So lately as the year 1764, there was only one newspaper read in the whole parish. It was received by the family of Lord Rollo, who are still in possession of the first number ordered, and is entitled “The Craftsman, or Say’s Weekly Journal.” It sold at 2½d. including a halfpenny for duty. There is no jail, but in lieu of it there is that old-fashioned instrument of punishment called the *jougs*. The only other village in the parish is the new town of Pitcairns.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church stands in the village, and affords accommodation for 1000 persons,—the sittings all free. It was rebuilt and enlarged in 1810, is in a state of proper repair, and convenient for the greater part of the population, being situated at the distance of one mile from the east boundary of the parish, two from the north, three from the west, and five from the south. The patron is Lord Kinnoull.

The extent of the glebe is eight acres and a quarter; its annual value, L.20 Sterling. The amount of the stipend is 16 chalders, half meal and half barley, with L.8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements.

There are four Dissenting chapels in the parish, two belonging to the United Associate Synod, one to the Associate Synod of Original Seceders, and one to the Relief. Divine service at the Established Church is generally well attended, as it also is at the several chapels, with the exception of the Relief, which has had no stated minister for the last nine years.

*Education.*—There are five schools in the parish, the parochial and four unendowed schools. The branches of education generally taught, are English, writing, arithmetic, and Latin. The

salary of the parochial teacher is the maximum. The fees are as under : for reading, 2s. ; reading and writing, 2s. 6d. ; arithmetic, 3s. ; Latin, 5s. The parochial teacher has the legal accommodation.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 20. The average sum allotted to each is 5s. per month. To meet this demand there are annual contributions, amounting to betwixt L.60 and L.70 ; church collections, averaging L.20 ; and assessments, L.40 ; with L.9 of interest from a sum of money.

*Fairs.—Alehouses.—Fuel.*—Dunning has 3 annual fairs. There are 13 alehouses in the parish. The inhabitants are supplied with coal from Blairingone, thirteen miles distant ; and from Tillicoultry, sixteen miles distant. The price of a single-horse cart-load is at present 14s.

November 1842.

## UNITED PARISHES OF MONIVAIRD AND STROWAN.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH AND  
STIRLING.

THE REV. JOHN FERGUSON, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE parishes of Monivaird and Strowan were originally distinct, but have been united for about two centuries. “The modern name, *Monivaird*, is a corruption of the ancient, which was *Moivard*, as appears from a grant made by the Earl of Strathern, in the beginning of the thirteenth century, of the church of Saint Servanus, or Serf of Moivard, to the monastery of Inchafrey.” It is derived from the Gaelic words *moi-var-d* or *mon-var-d*, signifying the *hill* of the *bards*. The pronunciation, *Moivard*, is still retained by those inhabitants of the parish who use the Gaelic language.\*

\* In the former Statistical Account, the word *Moivard* is interpreted as signifying “the plain of the bards ;” but “hill of the bards” agrees more closely with the Gaelic and the nature of the locality.



*Strowan* is a corruption of *St Rowen*, *Howan*, or *Ronan*, the tutelary saint of Strowan parish. St Rowen is said to have lived about A. D. 660, was a clergyman, and proprietor of the estate now called Strowan. He was famous for his learning, travelled through France and Italy, and became a professor in one of the German universities. According to Bede, he engaged with Finan, Bishop of Lindisferne or Holy Island, in a protracted controversy respecting the day on which Easter should be observed; the Bishop and all the British churches contending for one day; the Pope and Church of Rome, supported by Rowen, for another.\* Many names in the neighbourhood derive their origin from St Rowen. Thus, *Pol-Ronan*, or the *Pool of St Ronan*, is a deep linn in the river Earn, about 100 yards above the bridge of Strowan; *Fil-Ronan*, i. e. "the festival of St Ronan," is the Gaelic name given to Strowan fair or market, formerly held on the site of the present mansion-house of Strowan, close by the pool above-mentioned. The name Rowan was also given to a spring of fine water adjoining the mansion-house of Strowan, and to a dam-dike across the river, where the Saint had a *cruive* which supplied him with fish on his fasting days.

*Extent, Boundaries, and Figure.*—These united parishes, of which Monivaird forms the northern, and Strowan the southern division, are situated in the upper part of Strathearn, and are bounded by the parish of Monzie on the north, by the parishes of Monzie and Crieff on the east, by that of Muthil on the south, and by that of Comrie on the west. In figure, they may be said to approach nearest to an irregular ellipse or oval, of which the transverse or longer axis extends in length about 9 miles from north to south; and the conjugate, about 6 miles from east to west in breadth. Two arms of the parish, however, project beyond this general outline into the adjacent parish of Comrie, and are annexed to it *quoad sacra*, viz. one on the south-west, in the direction of Glenartney, comprehending the farms of Easter and Wester Meiggar, Findoglen, Auchnashelloch, Colnacarry, Trian, Drumchork, Dunivarran, and Milnmaik; and the other up Glen-

\* He left three acres of ground to the bellman of Strowan, requiring in the charter which accompanied the grant, as the service to be rendered in return, that the bellman and his heirs should ring the holy bell of St Rowan under his gown when mass was said. The name *Dewar* in Gaelic signifies a bellman; and a family of Dewars, some of whom still survive, occupied a piece of ground at Strowan for several generations under this grant, and until within these few years. The bell, apparently made of brass and iron, but wanting the tongue, is in the possession of the present proprietor of Strowan, Thomas Graham Stirling, Esq.

lednock, towards the north or north-west, comprehending Carroglen, Balmuicks, Laggan, and Lurg. The superficial extent of the parish, making allowance for irregularities, may thus be computed at or about 35 square miles, and may contain about 22,000 imperial acres.

*Mountain Ranges, &c.*—A ridge of the Grampian mountains, running from east to west, forms the north boundary of the parish. The highest mountain of this part of the range is Benchonzie, *i. e.* the mossy mountain (there being about 40 acres on its summit covered with a species of whitish moss), on the northern extremity of the parish. Its elevation above the level of the sea is 2922 feet. Turleum, a hill on the south-east extremity of the parish, is about 1400 feet above the level of the sea. Betwixt the lower hills which skirt the base of the Grampian range on the north, and Turleum on the south-east, Laggan, Drummachargan, and Tom-a-chastel, a connected series of picturesque, conical hills, stretch on the east side of the parish in an oblique direction south, or rather south-west, across the valley of the Earn. These beautiful knolls, closely clad with copse, and o'ertopped with stately firs planted along their summits, present a fine contrast to the bold, craggy face of the higher surrounding mountains, and a scene of great romantic beauty to the eye of the traveller. They are separated from the lower ridge of the Grampian hills on the north, by a pass through which the northern branch of the Lochearn turnpike road leads from Crieff, along the finely wooded margin of the Loch of Monivaird, by Comrie to Lochearnhead, and they terminate on the south, with Tom-a-chastel already mentioned. At this point, through a pass or defile still narrower, the Earn flows in a swift strong but smooth current, and along its south bank the other branch of the Lochearnhead road leads to Comrie, where it joins the northern branch, and also the Glenlichorn road from Comrie to Stirling.

Emerging from either of the passes just noticed, the valley again opens up on the west towards Comrie, and exhibits to the eye a delightful amphitheatre, richly diversified with every variety of natural beauty, wood, and water, hill and dale, and surrounded by lofty mountains on every side, over which Benchonzie, Benvoirlich, and Benmore, are seen towering in the distance,—now raising their green summits to the skies,—now enveloped in robes of cloud and mist,—and again crowned with their diadems of snow. On the north, the lower ridges of the Grampians, co-

vered with extensive plantations of stately forest trees, except where here and there a rugged precipice advances its bare craggy front, decline into the Strath,—sometimes with a gradual and pleasing slope,—sometimes with an abrupt irregular descent,—and form a fine contrast alike to the bold, bleak mountain scenery above, and to the rich valley and meandering river below. Along the banks of the Earn, which intersects the valley, elegant mansions, spacious lawns, extensive plantations, fertile corn and pasture fields in a high state of cultivation, increase the beauty and variety of the scene. So beautiful and varied, indeed, is the aspect of the country, that travellers have been often struck with its great resemblance to some of the most delightful and romantic scenes in Switzerland. Another narrower valley, but of equal diversity of natural aspect, is situated on the banks of the Turret, which, on the north-east, partly divides Monivaird from the parishes of Monzie and Crieff. The scenery of Glenturret, at the head of this valley, presents a fine contrast to that of the lower district, being wild and grand in a very high degree.

*Meteorology.*—An estimate of the atmospheric pressure and temperature may be formed from the fact, ascertained by a rain-gauge kept for a period of several years at Dunira, in the immediate neighbourhood, where the vapours exhaled from Loch Earn are more subject to be intercepted by the closely surrounding hills, and condensed by their attraction,—that the quantity of rain which fell at Dunira was very nearly the same as at the observatory in Edinburgh.

*Climate.*—The climate is one of the least variable in Scotland, and, on account of its salubrity, the parish is more exempted from epidemic distempers than almost any other district in Scotland.

*Hydrography.*—There are several small lakes in the parish, the largest of which, Loch-turret, lies in the bosom of Glenturret, at the foot of Benchonzie, surrounded by bold craggy mountains, and abounds with trout, pike, and perch. It is about a mile long, and a-quarter of a mile broad, and covers about 113 Scotch acres.

*Loch-Ouan*, a small lake in the same glen, and about a mile north from the former, is remarkable for the great number of trouts which are collected in a small opening in the middle of it, the only place which is free from weeds. In the lower part of the parish there are three small lakes, well-stocked with pike, perch, trout, carp, tench, and eel. The largest of these, the Loch of Monivaird, already noticed, covers about 30 Scotch acres.

It is situated at the base of a fine hanging wood, having a southern exposure, in the midst of which stands the mansion-house of Ochtertyre. The lake is surrounded by the pleasure-grounds and plantations, and the scenery around it is equal to any in Scotland. For many years up to 1814, shell-marl was dragged from the bottom of this lake by means of a floating-machine, in many places from a depth of 25 feet, which was sold at or about 1s. 1d. per boll. In the year 1809, no less a quantity than 10,585 bolls were raised, and sold for L.573, 7s. 7½d. This manure was very extensively used in the district, and with great utility, especially in the cultivation of waste land. It was also particularly adapted for producing fine grass, and contributed much to raise the beautiful pastures with which the parish is clothed.

The principal river is the Earn,\* already mentioned, issuing from Loch Earn, in the adjacent parish of Comrie, which, with many windings in its progress, flows in a direction nearly east from its source for about thirty-six miles, and falls into the Tay at Rhynd. The Turret, issuing from the loch of that name, previously noticed, rushes with a more precipitous current, affording, in its course of nearly six miles southerly, many falls capable of impelling the heaviest machinery, and unites with the Earn near Crieff. A dike having been built within these few years across the mouth of the lake, an ample supply of water can be commanded even in seasons of the greatest drought.

At the falls of Ochtertyre, on the Turret, about a mile north from the mansion house of Ochtertyre, and in the bosom of a deep and thickly planted dell, where this stream, as if struggling to find a passage, has worn a chasm in the opposing and nearly meeting rocks, a beautiful cascade is formed, of the height of thirty feet, over which the water, when swollen with rain, rushes with a deafening roar. A bridge has been thrown across the stream a little below, and opposite the fall, a grotto has been cut out of the rock by the late proprietor, and seated for the accommodation of those who visit this enchanting spot. Along the north-east boundary of the parish, flows the rapid stream of the Barvic, dividing Monzie and Monivaird, and falling, after a headlong course of four miles, into the Turret. Immediately before its junction with the Turret, the Barvic runs through a very rugged and romantic ra-

\* Buchanan, in his History of Scotland, lib. ii. c. 36, arguing that the Gaels came originally from Spain, notices the existence of many similar names of places, &c. in both countries; and among these, Ierne, the name of a river in Galicia, and of a river in Strathearn.

vine, where it forms a series of beautiful cascades, and falls 500 or 600 feet in the distance of an eighth of a mile.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—This department of the subject will be best illustrated by the following communication from the pen of Dr Thomas Thomson, the distinguished Professor of Chemistry in the College of Glasgow, with which the writer has been very kindly favoured.

“ The parish of Monivaird is situated chiefly in the range of low hills that skirt the Grampians, upon the south-east side, in Perthshire.

“ The Grampians constitute a range of primary mountains, which begin a little to the south of Aberdeen, and pass in a south-westerly direction across the whole of Scotland, till they terminate in the sea at the Mull of Cantyre. The portion of the Grampians connected with Monivaird consists of clay-slate mountains, containing here and there thin beds of quartz and limestone. No veins have been discovered, and clay-slate rocks are usually poor in extraneous minerals.

“ Separated from the Grampians by intervening vallies, there is a range of picturesque hills connected with the parish of Monivaird, which form a kind of amphitheatre round Crieff; these are Cnock Mary, Turleum, Lochlin, Tom-o-Chastel, Laggan, Cnock, Glower-o'er-him. They are very varied in appearance and form,—are all richly covered with wood, and it is to them chiefly that the beautiful landscape to the south-west of Crieff, stretching through Monivaird onward by Comrie—scarcely equalled in any part of Great Britain—is owing. These hills are composed of greywacke rocks, which assume various appearance; sometimes old red-sandstone, in beds very nearly perpendicular; sometimes a very coarse red conglomerate, composed chiefly of hornblende-porphry, very like the rocks at Glenco, but sometimes very nearly like common greywacke.

“ The cement of the old red sandstone is sometimes clay, sometimes clay-slate. The grains are free, and it contains much mica. Quarries of it may be seen in the hill of Laggan. It is frequently employed as a building stone. The veins of lead-ore, which have been so long wrought at Leadhills and Wanlockhead, occur in a rock of the same nature as the one here described; but no metallic veins of any kind have been detected in the transition rocks of Perthshire.

“ The flat country constituting Strathearn is composed of beds

of fine-grained red sandstone, very nearly horizontal. I could nowhere observe the junction of these beds with the greywacke beds. But, from the difference of the position, it is evident that the two are unconformable. Hence I conclude that the Strath consists of beds of *new* red sandstone.

“ Between the greywacke rocks and the new red sandstone, the coal-beds are usually interposed. In Strathearn, these beds are either wanting, or buried so deep under the new red sandstone as to be unavailable.

“ Dikes of trap-rock traverse the low country in various places. There is one of greenstone at Monzie, of which materials for mending the roads are taken. The dike at Concraig crosses the road between Muthil and Crieff. It is a kind of greenstone, and is said to have been traced for thirty miles.

“ Many boulders of granite may be seen upon the greywacke hills, and in the low country. They are all water-worn, and must have been brought from the north-west from a distance of not less than fifty or sixty miles. The largest of these boulders lies upon the south-west shoulder of the Cnock (of Crieff), and is called the “*Cradle stone*.” It is a mass of sienitic granite, nearly spherical, and about  $9\frac{1}{4}$  feet in diameter. It weighs about 30 tons. It has been split in two by lightning, and the greater fragment has made nearly a revolution down the hill.

“ Few countries are less rich in minerals than the parish of Monivaird. Except the rocks just described, and the alluvial soil of which the carses are composed, we saw no mineral of any importance whatever.”

In connection with this subject, although not strictly within the limits assigned to this Account, it may be mentioned, that a notion very generally prevails in Strathearn, that the appearances on the surface afford, in several places, strong indications of the presence of coal, and repeated attempts at discovery have, at different periods, been made to the eastward of the parish. In the year 1792, a subscription was raised to defray the expense of a search in the property of Lord Perth, on the moor of Tullibardine, near Auchterarder, and, from appearances then judged favourable, persons acquainted with the business maintained the opinion, that, if a thorough search should be made by boring, no doubt could be entertained of coal being found in that moor. The undertaking, however, was not long persevered in at that time, and a very general opinion, whether well or ill-founded, prevailed in the district, that

the professional persons employed to conduct the search were bribed by proprietors of coal mines in the south to abandon the undertaking.

A similar experiment was made within these few years on the estate of Anthony Maxtone, Esq. of Cultoquhey, about two miles to the eastward of Crieff, and it was at first attended with seeming indications of a favourable result. Another trial was recently made, and boring carried on by practical persons, on their own responsibility, for a considerable time on the lands of Lord Rollo, near Dunning, where it is also said favourable indications were discovered; but, it is understood, the projectors did not receive encouragement sufficient to induce them to continue their operations. In 1837, nearly L.800 were raised in Strathearn for the purpose of making another trial at Tullibardine, and a bore was made to the depth of 40 feet; but, from present appearances, the undertaking is likely to share the fate of its predecessors. It must be observed, however, that Dr Thomson, in the previous article, states, that coal-beds are either awaiting or buried at such a depth as to be unavailing, and other eminent professional men coincide in this opinion. But still the object is, in every point of view, of such importance, as to merit a more combined effort upon the part of the landed proprietors, and of the inhabitants of the country generally.

*Soil.*—The soil is various. On the low ground, it is in general light and gravelly, and the greater part of it, on both sides of the Earn, may be said to be of a free generous quality, admitting of being easily pulverized. The haughs or holms, provincially termed carses, on the banks of the river, which are of considerable extent, are enriched by alluvial deposits formed by frequent inundations, and produce excellent crops, particularly of barley. The rocks are generally covered with peat, turf, or moss. There is an extensive peat-moss in Glenturret, on the estate of Ochertyre, the digging of which is limited to the consumption of the tenantry.

*Zoology—Quadrupeds.*—The sportsman will here meet with all the varieties of game common to those districts in the north of Scotland which present similar topographical appearances of mountain and dale, woodland and lake. But there are no wild animals of a rare species peculiarly calculated to attract the curiosity or attention of the zoologist, if we except the Alpine hare, which is sometimes seen on the more elevated points of the parish; it is of a bluish colour in summer, and white in winter. The roe fre-

quents the neighbourhood of the extensive plantations in the district, and often, during severe winter storms, visits the low grounds in quest of food. In 1805, the late Sir P. Murray introduced the spotted Asiatic or Manilla deer into the pleasure-grounds of Ochtertyre,—the only pure stock of the kind then in Scotland. The low grounds abound with hares and rabbits; and the usual descriptions of vermin, such as foxes, martens, wild-cats, weasels, badgers, &c. are occasionally to be met with. In dredging the loch of Ochtertyre for marl, stag horns of great size and dimensions have been frequently found. In former times, Glenturret was kept as a forest for red-deer; but the forest was broken up upwards of a century ago. In the Account of the Rev. Mr Porteous afterwards referred to, it is stated, that, about the middle of the seventeenth century, two wolves, the last seen in Scotland, were chased from the wood of Trowan, and followed by their pursuers into the Highlands, where they were killed.

Of the feathered tribes, the birds of prey chiefly entitled to consideration are, the black eagle, various species of the falcon, the raven, the carrion-crow, and the hooded-crow. The eagle hatches annually in the stupendous cliffs of Glenturret, on the east side of Benchonzie; and to secure the young, which is generally accomplished by a person armed with a fowling-piece, and let down by means of ropes from the rocks above, forms an enterprise, which, whilst it affords considerable amusement, is not altogether unattended with danger. This glen, we are informed, was also noted, in former ages, for producing falcons of a superior breed, which were eagerly sought after when hawking formed a favourite, if not the principal, amusement amongst the field sports of the country;—and it is remarked, in the former Account of this parish, that the pair which were presented to George III. at his coronation by the then Duke of Atholl, as a symbol of the tenure by which he held the Isle of Man, of the Crown of England, were procured from Glenturret. The eagles commit great depredations upon the sheep-flocks during the scarcity of game, frequently carrying off lambs in their talons to feed their nestlings; and the raven and crow are also destructive when they find sheep entangled in bushes, or lambs straggling from their mothers, or unable to follow them closely by reason of weakness or cold. They commence their attack by picking out the eyes, and afterwards feed upon the carcase; but, by a wise provision of nature, restricting all noxious



or ravenous animals to a small brood, combined with the vigilance of the shepherds, their numbers are kept within limits.

The ptarmigan, which frequents only the highest hills, is found on the top of Benchonzie. The moors abound in black and red grouse, plover and dotterel. The woodcock and snipe are frequently shot. Partridges are plentiful on the low grounds, and the plantations are well stocked with pheasants, which were introduced at a comparatively late period. Of the aquatic birds which visit the parish in the course of their migrations, the principal are, wild geese, wild ducks, teals, widgeons, gulls, herons, &c. The plantations are enlivened by the melody of the various species of birds of song; and the other varieties of the winged tribe, which usually breed in a well-wooded district, are common.

*Botany.*—The following more rare plants have been found in this parish by Lady Keith Murray :

Lycopus Europæus	Stellaria nemorus	Hieracium aurantiacum
Calamagrostis Epigejos	Reseda lutea	Habenaria viridis
Solanum nigrum	Rosa sabini	————— albida
———— Dulcamara	Tormentilla reptans	Listera nidus-avis
Juncus biglumis	Scutellaria galericulata	Veronica scutellata
Epilobium angustifolium	Teesdalia nudicaulis	Vicia sylvatica
Adoxa moschatellina	Malva moschata	Potamogeton lucens, varie-
Chrysoplenium alternifolium	Astragalus hypoglottis	ty prælongus.
Dianthus deltoides	Ornithopus perpusillus	

This curious variety of *Potamogeton*, or pondweed, has not been before observed in this country, until found by Lady Keith Murray, in Mouivaird Loch, near Ochtertyre.

The following plants have also been found in the parish, chiefly near to the House of Burn :—*Chelidonium majus*, *Erysimum alliaria*, *Oenothera biennis*, *Oxalis corniculata*, *Trollius Europæus*.

*Horticulture.*—From the encouragement given, and example shewn, by the landed proprietors, horticulture has of late made very considerable progress, and the several kinds of pot-herbs and roots, confined at a former period to the gardens of gentlemen, are now raised by all classes. Along the north side of the Earn, from Comrie eastward through this parish, the rays of the sun are powerfully reflected from the hills on the north, and the fine sloping banks are favourable to the growth of fruits of various kinds. The farmers have accordingly of late years evinced a laudable taste for improvement, by planting in their gardens fruit trees of various kinds; and as apples, pears, plums, and cherries of different sorts

are thus more generally produced in the district, fruit is abundant in quantity, and reasonable in price.

*Forests.*—The locality is very rich in wood, and much of the natural copse in this and the neighbouring parishes is supposed to be the remains of the Caledonian forest, which extended from Callander to Dunkeld, a distance of nearly fifty miles. The soil is well adapted for the growth and nourishment of all descriptions of forest trees reared in Scotland, which thrive here uncommonly well, more particularly the oak, to which the soil seems peculiarly congenial. Immediately around the mansion-house of Ochtertyre, there is a very splendid collection of old oaks, and on the estate of Lawers are some remarkably fine specimens of Scotch fir, and other kinds of wood. The whole district, indeed, is most tastefully and finely wooded, and the oak, ash, elm, plane, pine, birch, laburnum, and other different kinds of hardwood intermixed in the older plantations, produce, while in leaf, the finest effect, and gratify the eye in a very high degree. Within the last thirty years, extensive tracts have been laid out by the late Sir Patrick Murray, on the estate of Ochtertyre, by the late Lord Balgray on Lawers, and by the late Thomas Graham Stirling, Esq. on Strowan, in plantations of Scotch fir, larch, and spruce, having hardwood, chiefly oak, intermixed, with the view ultimately, when the purpose of shelter shall have been served, of clearing out the soft wood, and leaving the oak for copse. Innumerable clumps and belts have also been planted in suitable spots, and hedge-rows of all the varieties of hardwood everywhere appear;—improvements which, whilst they are conducive to ornament and shelter, afford a ready supply of all that the country demands for purposes of utility, and insure a profitable return for the public spirit manifested by the proprietors. The utmost attention is paid to thinning and pruning, and the management is of the first order.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

An account, illustrative of the history of these parishes, drawn up by the Rev. Mr Porteous, formerly minister of Monivaird, will be found in Part I. Vol. II. of the Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries. From this compilation, the writer of the present Account has derived various points of interesting information. It is there stated, that the plague ravaged Monivaird in the reign of Charles I. “An old man,” says the writer, “informed me that his father, having recovered at that time, was a cleanser; and

and succeeded in their object, were returning in triumph to their homes. At this juncture, Duncan Campbell of Dunstaffnage, attended by a body of his followers, arrived from Argyleshire, bent on avenging the death of his father-in-law, Drummond of Monzie, who, with his two sons, had recently before been killed by some of the Murrays. The Campbells and Drummonds united their respective parties, and the Murrays being now out-numbered, were in their turn forced to retreat, and take refuge within the walls of the church of Monivaird. There, for a time, they eluded the search of "the avengers;" and the Master of Drummond was at length about to give up the quest, when, unfortunately, one of the Murrays observing a Highlander within musket-shot of the church, and unable, even in such perilous circumstances, to restrain his thirst for blood, fired upon him, and thus at once attracted the notice of their pursuers, and increased their appetite for revenge. The sacredness of the place afforded no protection to its inmates, but for a while its natural advantages promised to stand them in better stead. To the summons of surrender the Murrays returned a haughty defiance, and for a time repelled all the assaults of their foes. At length the Drummonds, unable to draw them from their retreat, or to force its defences, called for fire, and instantly the heath-covered church was enveloped in flames. No quarter was given by the infuriated Drummonds, and all within the church perished on the spot. James IV. administered the laws of the kingdom too firmly and impartially to allow this bloody massacre to pass unpunished; and William, the Master of Drummond, son of John, first Lord Drummoud, was immediately apprehended, and conveyed to Stirling, where he, with several of his followers, was tried, condemned, and beheaded.\*

*Families.*—From Knox's History of the Reformation it appears that Colonel Campbell of Lawers commanded a regiment of Reformers, and contributed considerably by his good services to the success of the great cause of civil and religious liberty in Scotland. His successor was created Earl of Loudoun, (having

\* According to our traditions, twenty-three men perished in this scene of outrage. In the Rev. Mr Porteous's account, it is more generally stated, that "a great number were burned to death;" while Sir Walter Scott, in the introduction to the "Legend of Montrose" (Waverley Novels, Vol. xv.) makes the number "eight score of the Murrays, with their wives and children;" and adds, that one of the Murrays was permitted to escape from the burning kirk by a Drummond, upon whom he had formerly conferred a favour. The fact of such a scene having occurred on this spot is beyond a doubt. In 1809, on laying the foundation of the mausoleum on the site of the old "heath-covered kirk," a quantity of charred wood was found, supposed to be the remains of part of the timber burned in 1511.

married the Countess and heiress of Loudoun), and Chancellor of Scotland. His brother, who succeeded to the estate, raised a regiment during the civil wars, encountered the Protector at Inverkeithing, but was signally defeated. In the history of the son of this last-mentioned individual, we find another incident strikingly illustrative of the character of the times. Dwelling on the borders of the Highlands, he was appointed to the command of a company of soldiers, and invested with authority to restrain the freebooters of the surrounding district, or to bring the refractory to justice. In the discharge of his commission he apprehended a number of the Macgregors, who were subsequently executed. This roused against him the vengeful passions of the clan, and they resolved to accomplish his destruction. They accordingly assailed the house of Lawers by night, forced their way to his bed-chamber, and were about to put him to death there even in the presence of his lady. With difficulty they were prevailed upon to allow him time to commend himself to God, by offering up prayer in the chapel adjoining ere they took his life. On their way thither, he employed his time so well, and appealed so successfully to their love of gain, which they were as eager to gratify as their revenge, that they agreed to spare his life on condition of his paying a ransom of 10,000 merks on the following Monday, at a tavern in the neighbourhood. Faithful to his agreement, Lawers proceeded to raise the sum,—no inconsiderable amount at the time;—the greatest part was collected in halfpence, and carried on horseback to the place appointed. But whilst he thus fulfilled the letter of his covenant, he also performed more than he had promised, or his captors expected. While the money was being paid, a troop of military surrounded the house, and made the freebooters with their chieftain, Captain Oig Macgregor, prisoners. Perhaps profiting by the example of ingenuity lately exhibited, they offered a ransom in their turn; if so, their captor, profiting also by the experience of the past, resolved to trust no longer to their tender mercies, but conveyed them to Edinburgh, where they were condemned and publicly executed.

The Ochtertyre family is the oldest resident in these parishes. The founder of the family was Patrick, third son of Sir David Murray, sixth Baron of Tullibardine, ancestor of the Athole family, who died in 1476. The present Sir W. Keith Murray is the fourteenth in the line of descent from the founder; and it is a singular fact, that throughout the thirteen preceding generations,

the father has been regularly succeeded by his eldest son, without any collateral descent; and of the fourteen, the first four heads of the family were Patrick and David alternately, and the remaining ten have been Patrick and William alternately.

The late Honourable Sir Patrick Murray of Ochtertyre, Bart., was born in the year 1771, was twice elected to represent the city of Edinburgh in Parliament; was appointed, in 1810, Secretary to the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India; and, from 1820 to 1837, discharged the duties of a Baron of the Exchequer Court in Scotland. While his talents and attainments enabled him to hold these public offices with advantage to the community, and with honour to himself, it was especially in the character of a country gentleman that Sir P. Murray shone conspicuous. There his active and intelligent mind sought and found full scope for its exercise; and the judgment and taste with which he improved and adorned his own property—the attention which he bestowed on all the public interests of the neighbourhood—and the kindly and highly honourable feelings with which he discharged the public duties of his situation, will long perpetuate his name, and preserve the remembrance of his worth in the district in which he lived. To him, chiefly, Perthshire is indebted for many of the splendid lines of road which now intersect and adorn its rugged and formerly inaccessible districts, and to his example must, in no small degree, be traced the rise of that spirit and taste with which the landed proprietors of the county have improved and embellished their domains. He closed his highly honourable and useful life on 1st June 1837.

The Right Honourable Sir George Murray, brother of Sir P. Murray, was born at Ochtertyre in 1772, entered the army as an ensign in 1788, rose rapidly, by his distinguished talents and bravery, to the highest posts, and after having served in Europe, Africa, and America,—discharged various important diplomatic missions,—acted as Quartermaster-General to the English Army during the whole of the contest in the Peninsula and south of France, and been engaged in most of the eventful scenes and conflicts of the last war, he obtained, at its close, the rank of Lieutenant-General in the British Army, and the order of a Knight of the Bath, in addition to many honours conferred upon him by foreign princes. Sir G. Murray then proceeded as Governor-General to Canada, and returning to Europe in July 1815, was appointed Chief of the General Staff of the Allied Army of Oc-

cupation in France, consisting of 150,000 men, commanded by the Duke of Wellington. In 1824, he was made Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance, and in 1825 was appointed to the chief command of the troops in Ireland. In May 1828, Sir G. Murray was appointed Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, with a seat in the Cabinet, which offices he continued to hold till the resignation of the Duke of Wellington in 1830. He came again into office in 1834 with Sir R. Peel, as Master-General of the Ordnance, retired with Sir R. Peel in 1835, and was again appointed Master-General of the Ordnance on the change of Ministry in 1841. He has been six times elected to represent the county of Perth in the House of Commons.

*Land-holders.*—The following are the land-owners in the parish, with the amount of their respective valued rents, as rated in the county cess-books.

Sir William Keith Murray, Bart. Ochtertyre, &c.	L. 1928	15	0	Scots.
T. G. Scirling, Esq. Strowan, &c.	1214	15	11	
Mrs Robertson Williamson, Lawyers, &c.	1108	6	8	
Lady Baird Preston, Trowan, &c.	457	1	8	
W. L. Colquhoun, Esq. Clathie,	252	0	0	
Sir David Dundas, Bart. East and West Meiggar,	184	6	8*	
Right Hon. Lord and Lady Willoughby D'Kresby, Perth estate,	158	6	8	
——— M'Caills of Drummondernoch,	128	15	4	
Lieutenant-Colonel Balmain, Ibert,	10	13	4	
	L. 4843	2	0	

*Parochial Registers.*—Up to 1835, the parochial registers consist of six volumes, commencing with September 9th 1685, but are not very perfect. Money transactions, proclamations, and baptisms, with occasional minutes of discipline, are all blended together. Separate registers for baptisms, marriages, burials, money transactions, and minutes of discipline, have been regularly kept since 1835.

*Antiquities.*—Several Roman antiquities have been found in these parishes, as might be expected from their vicinity to the stations of the Roman camps at Ardoch, Dalginross, and Strageath. In 1783, a bronze vessel, resembling a coffee-pot in shape, was found near a spring (called St Serf's) in the plain of Monivaird. In 1805, a bronze head of a spear was raised from the lake of Ochtertyre; and in 1808, three similar heads of spears were found near the new church of Monivaird. All these pieces are undoubtedly Roman relics, and are in the possession of Sir W. Keith Murray, Bart.

\* The greater part of Easter Meiggar, which stands valued at L.33, 6s. 8d., belongs to Lord and Lady Willoughby, but no division has as yet been made.

In the year 17—, there was found, about one hundred yards to the westward of the old church of Monivaird, a barrow containing a stone-coffin, in which were inclosed two coarse earthen urns, the one filled with burnt bones, the other containing the bones of the head. Of these, the under jaw-bone and the teeth were very entire. In the stone-coffin was also found a stone-hatchet, bluish-coloured, very hard, about four inches long, and of a triangular shape,—a remain which proves the barrow of very remote antiquity—prior to the use of iron. The stone-hatchet is preserved at Ochtertyre. A barrow was discovered some years ago at Balmuicks, on the estate of Lawers, at the north-west extremity of the parish, but has never been opened or examined.

Throughout the parish several other barrows have been found, but they have been removed for the purpose of building stone fences, and no memorial now remains of the illustrious dead whom they once covered.

A cross, bearing the initials of Jesus Nazarenus Rex Judæorum, still stands, a little to the south-west of the present mansion-house of Strowan, on a spot where the market of Strowan was formerly held. The ruins of an old chapel are still discernible to the south of the house of Lawers.

The most remarkable ruin presently existing in these parishes is an old castle, situated on the north of the Loch of Monivaird, on a peninsula, which, being separated from the mainland by a very narrow isthmus, must in former times have been often converted into an island, and approached only by a drawbridge, for the purposes of strength and security. The building, which is now reduced to a square tower of about 17 by 18 feet within walls, had formerly been more extensive. The walls are about five or six feet in thickness, and still hard as adamant. There is a vague tradition that this castle belonged to the Red Cumin, Bruce's antagonist and rival for the throne of Scotland. And in the charter by which the lands of Ochtertyre came into the family of the present proprietor, and which is dated 1467, it receives the appellation of *antiquum fortalitium*, from which it appears, that, even at the distance of 400 years, it was regarded as an old building. The proper name of it is Castle Cluggy. Sir William Murray, first Baronet of Ochtertyre, inhabited this castle for some time about 1650, during the usurpation of Cromwell; and the spot on which it stood, then received the name of the Dry Isle. In the lake of Ochtertyre, about 80 yards distant from the Dry Isle, is

an artificial island, formed of stones, supported by oak trees, which tradition represents to have been a sort of prison attached to the castle.

*Modern Buildings.*—*Ochertyre*, the residence of Sir William Keith Murray, Bart., is a modern structure, most delightfully situated on a richly wooded terrace sloping southward to the banks of the lake, and, from position and prospect, is one of the finest sites in the country. The views from various neighbouring points are exceedingly interesting and rich. The *mausoleum* of the family of Ochertyre is an elegant Gothic building, with stained-glass windows, erected on the site of the old church of Monivaird.

*Lavers*, the seat of Mrs Robertson Williamson, is also a very beautiful and romantic residence, surrounded with very fine wood, and having in the distance a great resemblance to an Italian castellated villa. A magnificent avenue of old trees stretches to the distance of a mile directly in front of the house and lawn.

*Strowan*, the residence of T. Graham Stirling, Esq. and *Clathick*, the mansion of W. L. Colquhoun, Esq. are modern and commodious buildings, erected on very pleasing sites.

One of the most interesting structures in this scene, especially arresting the attention, from its own elegance and the romantic beauty of its site, as well as from the varied ancient and modern associations connected with the spot, is the monument recently erected on Tom-a-chastel to the memory of General Sir David Baird, late of Ferntower, Bart., the Hero of Seringapatam. This monument is an obelisk built of beautiful Aberdeen granite, some of the stones weighing five tons. It is 82 feet 4 inches in height, and is an exact fac-simile of, and of the same dimensions with, Cleopatra's needle,—most fitting model for the monument of the gallant Soldier, who was the first with an European army to ascend the Red Sea, cross the Desert, descend the Nile, and display the united standards of Britain and Brama on the shores of Alexandria.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of these united parishes in 1755 amounted to 1460

1793,	:	1025
1833,	:	610*

From this statement it appears that the population has decreased upwards of one-half during the last eighty years. Between 1755 and 1793, a space of thirty-eight years, the decrease was 435; between 1793 and 1833, a space of forty years, the de-

\* The tables of population, &c. were drawn up in 1833. Population in 1841, 433.



crease was 415, exhibiting a total decrease of 850 from 1755 to 1833, or during seventy-eight years. This extraordinary decrease of population is to be ascribed, in a great measure, to the extent to which the practice of consolidating the pendicles of cottars and small farms into larger ones, has prevailed in these as in many other parishes, during that period.

There are in these parishes only two small hamlets, each containing about half a dozen houses, and the rest of the population is considerably scattered.

The yearly average of births for the last seven years is	13
deaths,	12
marriages,	5
The number of persons under 15 years of age is	186
between 15 and 30,	161
30 and 50,	152
50 and 70,	76
above 70,	35

There are four families of independent fortune resident in these parishes. All the proprietors of land possess property of the yearly value of upwards of L.50, being the heritors previously mentioned, of whom, the four principal, the proprietors of Ochertyre, Lawers, Strowan and Clathick, reside in the parish.

Number of bachelors in the parish upwards of 50 years of age is,	7
widowers,	11
unmarried women upwards of 45,	15
widows,	22
families,	142
Average number of children in each family,	4½
Number of inhabited houses,	125
uninhabited houses,	0
houses now building,	1 or 2

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The number of imperial acres cultivated or occasionally in tillage, is about	3000
But a very considerable portion of good land is laid out in pasture, as the most profitable mode of employing it.	
Number of acres which never have been cultivated, and remain constantly in hill pasture,	16,000
There is no common undivided, and all the land capable of being cultivated has been brought under tillage.	
Number of acres under wood, partly natural, partly planted,	2000

The kind of trees planted, and the nature of management, has been previously noticed.

*Rents, Wages, &c.*—The average rent of arable land per acre is about L.1, 15s.; grazing an ox for summer, L. 2, 2s., for winter, 18s., for a whole year, L. 3; cow for summer, L.2, 10s., for winter, L.2, 10s., for a whole year, L.5; ewe on low ground, 12s.,

on high ground for a year, 3s. ; a man (farm) servant's wages, average from L. 12 to L. 14 ; a female do. from L. 5 to L. 6 ; a male labourer's wages per day in summer, 1s. 6d., in winter, 1s. 4d. ; female do. in summer, 8d., winter, 6d. ; a man's wages in harvest, about 2s., female's do. 1s. 6d. ; a mason's per day, 2s. 4d. ; a carpenter's, 2s.

*Live-stock.—Horses.*—About thirty or forty years ago, the description of horses reared and used in the district consisted of what were provincially styled *garrons*, being introduced from the North or West Highlands, and were supposed to have been originally a cross breed betwixt the Spanish Jennet, (numbers of which were cast on the shores of Britain upon the dispersion of the Spanish Armada,) and the Scotch pony. They were not very handsome, being long eared, and long shanked, in proportion to the size of the body, but were reckoned very hardy animals. Within the last twenty-five years, the breed of agricultural horses in particular has been very much improved,—attributable principally to the laudable spirit of emulation introduced in consequence of premiums distributed yearly by the Strathearn Agricultural Society, instituted on 20th November 1809, by the late Sir P. Murray, Bart. The Clydesdale breed is now the favourite horse for agricultural purposes.

The common breed of sheep in this parish is the black-faced or mountain sheep. In gentlemen's inclosures, there is also the Leicester breed. In the hill district, Highland cattle are found ; in low grounds, crosses from the Teeswater, short-horned, and Ayrshire breeds.

*Husbandry.*—The general rotation in husbandry is the following : at first breaking up from lea, oats are sown for one, or occasionally two years ; then turnips or potatoes drilled ; next white crop with grass seeds ; then a crop of hay ; and the two following years, pasture. Sometimes when the land has remained in pasture for fifteen or twenty years, two or more crops of oats are taken in succession after the lea is broken up. The kinds of turnips cultivated here are chiefly the yellow, a proportion of the white globe being also sown to be first consumed, as they do not stand the frost well. The potatoes cultivated are chiefly the red, but buffs are also becoming common, and a new species of American white is now in much request. The grains usually sown, according to the quality of the soil—if best, potato or Flemish oats ;—

if clayish, generally Angus-shire oats; and if very inferior, Irish oats. The English barley is generally sown.

Draining has been carried on to a considerable extent, but embankment might still be prosecuted in the western district of the parish to much advantage. The state of farm buildings and enclosures has extremely improved within the last thirty or forty years; but there is still considerable room for further advances in these respects, in some parts of the parish. The general duration of leases is nineteen years. On the whole, these parishes are in a very thriving state as regards agricultural interests and operations, and this must certainly be ascribed in a great degree to the encouragement afforded, and the example exhibited by the landed proprietors of the district.

*Quarries.*—There is one quarry of excellent gray freestone, not, however, easily wrought, but admitting a fine polish. There are several other quarries of freestone, but fit only for rubble work. A slate quarry has been recently opened on Clathick property.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Markets.*—There is no market-town or any village in these parishes. But at Crieff there is a market held every Thursday, which is within half a mile of the east end of Monivaird; and another every Wednesday at Comrie, which is within a few hundred yards of the west end.

*Means of Communication.*—Two excellent turnpike roads run through these parishes between Crieff and Comrie, each about six miles in length, the one line through Monivaird parish on the north side of the Earn, the other through Strowan parish, on the south side of the same river. No mail or stage-coaches travel on these roads. A runner carrying the mail passes every morning along the north line from Crieff to Comrie, and returns every afternoon. Two or three carriers also pass through, three or four times every week, on their way to or from Crieff, Perth, &c. There are five or six stone bridges in these parishes, or connecting them with the adjoining, all of which, with the fences, are in good repair.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Little is known regarding the ancient ecclesiastical state of these parishes. During the prevalence of Popery in Scotland, it would appear that Monivaird and Strowan were separate and distinct parishes, as it is stated in the former Statistical Account that the Earl of Strathearn, in the beginning of the thirteenth century, made a grant of the Church of St Ser-

vanus, or Serf of Moivard, to the monastery of Inchaffray. Whereas, on the other hand, Keith, in his "History of the Church and State in Scotland" (B. iii. App. p. 191,) includes Strowan in the list of the parsonages or parochial churches in Scotland remaining unappropriated to bishops or religious houses at the time of the Reformation. The exact period at which Monivaird and Strowan were united, is involved in obscurity, but it is evident, from the reports of the Commissioners of Teinds from 1661 to 1673, that the union had taken place previous to the year 1662. Each parish had its own church, in which Divine worship was observed every alternate Sabbath, and the communion dispensed every alternate year, until 1804, when a new church was erected in a central situation, equally convenient for both parishes. The population being considerably scattered, the majority are from one to two miles from the place of public worship, while very few individuals are distant above three miles. The church is in good repair, and affords accommodation for 600 persons. All the sittings are free. It is a remarkable fact, that the incumbency of the two last ministers extended over the long period of 105 years; the Rev. James Porteous having been ordained 4th August 1730, died 25th November 1780; the Rev. Colin Baxter, ordained 23d August 1781, died 5th January 1835. The present incumbent was ordained 9th June 1835. The manse is distant a quarter of a mile from the church (1837.) It is an excellent and commodious house, and regarded as the best planned and finished manse in this district of the country. The glebe contains twelve acres, and is worth about L.20 a-year. The amount of the stipend is 16 chalders (not quite fully realized, the teinds being exhausted,) two-thirds meal, one-third barley, with L.32, 10s. 7½d. in money.

There are no Dissenting or Seceding chapels in the parish.

The number of families belonging to the Establishment is 128. In these there are 569 individuals of all ages. The number of Dissenting or Seceding families is 14; viz. 4 Episcopalian, in which there are 10 individuals; 10 Seceding, in which there are 31 individuals.

That the great body of the people is warmly attached to the Church of Scotland is clearly proved by the fact, that, when petitions in favour of Church Establishments were forwarded to Parliament in 1835, every male person above the age of fourteen, with the exception of eleven, adhibited his signature. Divine service is generally well attended; and the average number of communi-

cants is about 300. A Parochial Church Association, having for its object the extension, defence, and reformation of the Church of Scotland, was formed in 1835. During the two last years, the period of the incumbency of the present minister, the congregational collections for religious purposes amounted to L.58, 7s.

*Education.*—The parochial school is the only one in these parishes. The branches of instruction generally taught are, English reading, writing, and arithmetic. The school and dwelling-houses are in good repair, and the teacher has the legal accommodation. The salary is the maximum, L.34, 4s. 4d. The school-fees average about L.15, and the emoluments, arising from session-clerkship, &c. amount to about L.7 per annum. The expense of education per quarter is, for English, 2s. 6d.; writing and arithmetic, 4s. All the young betwixt six and fifteen years of age are taught to read and write. A considerable number of individuals above that age may be unable to write; but there are only two or three who cannot read. The school is situated in the centre of the two parishes. The average attendance of children at school is about 40,—a very small proportion, which may be partly accounted for by the fact, that the most populous parts of the parish are adjacent to the schools in the neighbouring parishes. The people are generally alive to the benefits of education; but it is to be regretted that the attendance of many of the children is not so very regular or long-continued as it ought to be. There is one Sabbath school in these parishes.

*Literature.*—In 1831, a parochial library was begun to be formed, in which there are now upwards of 250 volumes, chiefly religious works.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons receiving regular parochial aid is 11, being at the rate of about one in 55 of the whole population. The average weekly allowance to each is about 1s. 1d. Besides these 8 persons receive occasional assistance. In 1837, the sum of L.72, 19s. 3d. was contributed for the relief of the poor, of which L.47, 19s. 3d. arose from church collections, proclamation and mortcloth dues, L.20 from legacies, and L.5 from interest on two sums, each of L.50, bequeathed to the poor by William Toshach, Esq. of Jamaica, and Alexander Riddoch, Esq. merchant in Dundee, both natives of the parish of Monivaird. Unless in cases of extreme exigency, there is a reluctance to accept parochial aid.

*Fairs.*—Three fairs were formerly held in Monivaird and Strowan; but they are now transferred to Crieff.

*Alehouses.*—Until lately there were four public-houses in these parishes, but now only two exist; and with these also we would cheerfully dispense, for in this as in most districts they have in various instances been the cause of great immorality and wretchedness.

*Fuel.*—Peats procured from the moss at Loch Turret are much used for fuel, the cart costing about 3s. or 4s. Coal is now also pretty generally burnt; but as it is conveyed from Bannockburn, a distance of twenty-five miles, it is a very expensive fuel, the cwt. costing about 1s. when brought thither. Barked oak is also not unfrequently used for fire-wood.

*Drawn up April 1838.*

*Revised December 1842.*

Since the preceding Account was drawn up, this parish and neighbourhood have been visited by many smart shocks of earthquake, originating in the adjacent parish of Comrie. These earthquakes were first felt about fifty years ago, when they are said to have been pretty violent; but they seem subsequently to have become less alarming, until the autumn of 1839. At this time, however, they began again to be frequently felt, nearly twenty shocks being occasionally experienced in twenty-four hours. The most violent one happened about 10 o'clock on the evening of 23d October 1839. The shock seemed to pass along through the parish of Monivaird, from the north-west to the south-east. For a second or two, every house for miles around the village of Comrie was shaken from top to bottom; and while the motion was passing away to the eastward, it was accompanied with a tremendous subterranean noise, like the roar of a hundred pieces of ordnance discharged at once, and gradually dying away in the distance. This earthquake was partially felt throughout a great part of Scotland, as far as Inverness, Dunbar, Berwick, and the banks of Lochawe. In this neighbourhood, it was very alarming. Several individuals fainted, and most of the inhabitants of the village of Comrie spent the whole night in the streets, or in the churches, which were very properly opened for prayer. Many stone-dikes were thrown down, walls of houses rent, and chimney stalks shattered, the stones being frequently shifted from their places, but no serious damage was sustained. The shocks have again diminished, both in frequency and violence, since the autumn of 1839.

*December 1842.*

# PARISH OF MADDERTY.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH AND  
STIRLING.

THE REV. WILLIAM STODDART, MINISTER.

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## L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Situation.*—THIS parish is situated on the western boundaries of the parishes of Gask and Trinity-Gask, and on the eastern of Crieff. It has Fowlis on the north, and part of Trinity-Gask on the south. The climate is rather wet and cold.

*Hydrography.*—The only water or rivulet worth notice in the parish is the Pow, which, for a long way, is confined in a canal or cut dug to straighten its course nearly a century ago. This cut is about 24 feet in width, and 6 in depth. The Pow rises from the red moss about a mile eastward of the parish; one part runs eastward, and empties itself into the river Almond, and the other part runs westward, and empties itself into the Erne at Innerpefray. The descent of the part that runs westward is so very gradual, that the water appears generally stagnant. The lands adjacent are low and flat; which, with other circumstances, exposes them to frequent inundations. This would certainly have a tendency to enrich and fertilize the lands, could these floodings be kept under control. Embankments and sluices may to a very considerable extent, but cannot altogether, prevent the damage sustained by these floodings. At present, from the want of sufficient high embankments, a very heavy loss is frequently sustained.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—The register of baptisms commences 25th July 1709; the kirk-session minutes commence in February 1701; the register of collections, 1741; the minutes of the meeting of heritors, 1796.

*Land-owners.*—These are, Lady Preston Baird of Fern Tower, valued rent, L.1131, 15s. 2d.; Major Moray of Abercairney, L.508, 15s.; W. L. Campbell, Esq. of Williamstone, L.274, &c

10d.; Alexander Anderson Henry, Esq. of Woodend and South Ardberry, L.796, 16s. 4d.; Anthony Murray, Esq. of Dollerie, L.211; Lord Lyndoch of Balgowan, L.164, 2s. 8d.; Rev. A. Maxtone, Fowlis, North Ardberry, L.193, 6s. 8d., and Redford, L.45, 6s. 8d.; Miss Rattray, Dubheads, L.146, 10s. 4d.

*Mansion-Houses.*—The only mansion-houses in the parish are those of Dollerie and Woodend.

*Antiquities—Abbey of Incheffray.*—This religious house was founded in the year 1200 by Gilbert Earl of Strathearn, and his Countess Matilda. It was dedicated to the honour of God, the Virgin Mary, and John the Apostle and Evangelist. The site of this famous abbey is on a small rising ground, which seems, from its situation and name, to have once been an island surrounded by the water of the Pow. In Latin, it is denominated *Insula Missarum*, which is said to be a literal translation of its common name, Inch-èffray, for Inch-peffray, the Island of Masses, or the island where mass is said. It was endowed with many privileges and immunities by David and Alexander, Kings of Scotland. The edifices of this abbey, which were once extensive, are now in ruins, and have, on several occasions, supplied abundance of stones for building houses and making roads in the neighbourhood. The few remains of this ancient abbey, with six or seven acres of land in the immediate vicinity, belong to the Earl of Kinnoul, who, in consequence of this comparatively small possession, is patron of about twelve parishes that formerly were attached to the abbey. Mauritius, abbot of this place, was present with Robert the Bruce at the battle of Bannockburn, and is reported to have had brought along with him the arm of St Fillan. This relic might, indeed, have given some encouragement to the superstitious; but one arm of a brave Scotsman, fighting in earnest for the liberty of his country, had more effect in obtaining that memorable victory than could have been produced by the innate virtue of all the relics of the dead that could have been collected. “James Drummond, a younger son of David Lord Drummond, and his lady, a daughter of William Lord Ruthven, was first styled Lord Inchafry, being Commendator of that Abbacy, and afterwards created Lord Madderty by King James VI. in the year 1607. He married Jean, daughter to Sir James Chisholme of Cronlicks, and with her got the lands of Innerpefry, which were her mother’s portion, being heiress of Sir John Drummond of Innerpefry. He had, by his said lady, two sons, John Lord Madderty, and Sir James, the



first Laird of Machony."—*Nisbet's Heraldry*, Vol. i. (Old Account.)

### III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1801,	.	650
1811,	.	702
1821,	.	714
1831,	.	719
1841,	.	634
Population of the village of St David's,	.	80
Billyclône,	.	44

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

#### *Agriculture.*—

Number of acres in the parish cultivated,	.	2820
never cultivated,	.	160
under plantation, about	.	450

*Rent.*—Average rent per acre, about L.1, 12s.; valued rent of the parish, L.3472, 1s. 8d.; real rental of the parish, about L.4600.

Draining is the most important agricultural improvement, which of late years has been carried on to a considerable extent in the parish.

Agriculture is in as high a state of improvement as in the neighbouring parishes. The farms are in general of moderate size.

### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

A turnpike road now runs through the parish, and the parochial roads are in tolerably good condition.

The village of Craig may now be said to be almost extinct, and in its place is substituted the new and thriving village of St David's, consisting of about thirteen or fourteen feus. At the village of St David's, there has also been erected, within the last seven years, by Lady Preston Baird, an elegant and commodious school and school-house, both highly ornamental and useful. The school was principally designed by her Ladyship for sewing and knitting, and children there also receive the first rudiments of education before they are able to attend the parochial school. The female teacher has from her Ladyship an annual salary of L.10, free house, and several other perquisites. This, if properly conducted, will be a most useful and efficient institution. The estate of Craig of Maderty, upon which St David's is built, the property of Lady Preston Baird, enjoys the peculiar privilege and advantage of having been erected, in 1626, into a free burgh of barony, by the late Lord John Maderty, in virtue of a charter under the Great Seal, which was ratified and confirmed in the Scottish Parliament.

By that charter, the privileges are extensive. It is declared thereby, that the said burgh shall have the hails privileges, commodities, and immunities of a free burgh of barony; it also gives special power to the proprietrix for choosing, constituting and creating bailies, burgesses, officers, sergeants, and hails other officers necessary within the burgh for the government thereof, and the said bailies and other officers are thereby authorized to elect yearly and empower as to them shall seem expedient, with full and special power also to the burgesses of the said burgh, present and to come, to peck and peat, and to buy and sell wine, wax, linen, and woollen cloths, broad and narrow, and all other merchandise and staple goods, and to have a weekly market every Friday, with four free fairs yearly. There have been, of late, courts held occasionally at the village of St David's, within the barony, for settling disputes which may arise in the barony, and also for the internal peace and good government thereof.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—100 families belong to the Established Church, and there are 13 or 14 Dissenting families.

The stipend is 15 chalders, payable half in meal and half in barley.

The extent of the glebe is about nine acres, value about L.13 or L.14. The manse is at present in a tolerably good state of repair.

*Education.*—There are two schools in the parish, and also a school for sewing and knitting, under the superintendence of a female. The parochial teacher's salary is the maximum. Probable amount of fees paid to parochial teacher, from L.10 to L.12. The parochial teacher holds the situation of session-clerk, for which he receives a salary of L.3; and other perquisites therewith connected may amount to L.3.

*Savings' Bank.*—There is a savings' bank in the parish. For the last three years, the average sum deposited was L.43; sum withdrawn, L.90.

*Poor.*—Average number receiving parochial aid, from 10 to 12. The average annual amount of contributions for their relief from L.40 to L.50; whereof, from church collections, L.10; from voluntary assessment, L.30; legacies, L.3 or L.4.

*November 1842.*

## PARISH OF DULL.

PRESBYTERY OF WEEM, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. DUNCAN DEWAR, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—This parish derives its name from the district of country in which the parish church is situated, being in the fertile and beautiful vale of Appin of Dull, or, as it is sometimes written in old records, “Apnadull.” This term is evidently of Gaelic origin, and may be thus analyzed, *Ab na dail*, “Abbot of the Plain,” or, by transposition, *Dail na h-Aba*, may either mean “the Abbot’s Plain,” or “the Water’s Plain,” the obsolete *ab* signifying also *water* in Gaelic. That the former is the true derivation, there can be little or no doubt, from the recorded fact, that an abbey or monastery existed here, probably in the eleventh or twelfth century.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—The *quoad civilia* boundaries of this parish extend from the parish of Crieff on the south to the parish of Blair in Athole on the north,—a distance of not less than thirty miles. But it is so completely intersected with other parishes, that its breadth is not proportionate, varying from four to twelve miles, and averaging about seven miles, so that its extent is about 210 square miles, or 134,400 imperial acres, including roads, rivers, and lakes. It is bounded on the north by the parishes of Blair Athole and Moulin; on the west by Fortingall, Weem, and Kenmore; on the south by Comrie, Crieff, and Monzie; and on the east by the parishes of Foulis-Wester, Little Dunkeld, Weem, and Logierait; and is situated between  $56^{\circ} 25' 20''$ , and  $56^{\circ} 45'$  north latitude, and  $3^{\circ} 45' 15''$ , and  $4^{\circ} 1'$  west longitude of Greenwich.

*Topography.*—The general aspect of the parish is varied and uneven. A series of parallel hills, forming a part of the Grampian range, runs through its whole length and breadth from south-west to north-east, diminishing in height as they approach their eastern termination. Between these hills lie the valleys or straths

of Glenquaich, Appin, Foss, and Fincastle, each strath having its own respective river flowing gently or rapidly along; and its sides interspersed with cultivated, and in many places wooded braes, waving downwards in rich luxuriance to the plain below, or intersected by occasional deep and romantic ravines, through which the mountain torrents force their turbulent way to the principal and more gentle streams in the lower vales.

Lying among the Grampians, and consisting, as we have said, of hill and dale, this parish comprehends scenery of every class of excellence, from the sublime and picturesque to the beautiful and comparatively champaign. By far the finest of its vales is Appin, of which Strathtay and Grandtully form a continuation.

Some of the hilly ridges above-mentioned rise gradually from the base, others abruptly, with majestic boldness; some are of a conical, others of an elliptical shape, while the whole is everywhere divided by deep gullys formed by innumerable brooks, or interspersed with swelling eminences, fine mossy levels, and sloping open dales, yielding pasture for numerous flocks of sheep and herds of cattle, as well as shelter and sustenance for game. The highest of these ridges is the middle one, rising from the vale of Appin towards the north, and separating it from that of Foss; and the most elevated points within its range are, Schiehallion, partly in the parish of Fortingall, and Farragon, wholly in this parish,—the former rising to an elevation of 3,513, and the latter to 2,535 feet above the level of the sea, from whose lofty summits the prospect, on a clear day, is various and extensive, though rather of a wild and mountainous character. The most imposing and picturesque view, however, in the whole parish, is from the top of the rock of Dull, immediately behind the manse. From this eminence, the eye of the spectator is gratified with every thing beautiful and sublime,—woods, waters, hills, edifices, and fertile fields. Immediately to the west is seen the contracted but rich vale of Fortingall, with its green sloping hills; to the south-west appears Loch-tay, as far as the promontory of Acharn, reclining in calm repose; the Bridge of Kenmore spanning the pellucid and new-born stream, with its church nestling among the neighbouring trees; and a little nearer the princely mansion of Taymouth, with its noble-wooded environs luxuriantly blooming with ever-varying vegetation; to the east, again, the eye surveys Strathtay with its inclined banks tastefully adorned with variegated plantations; and beyond it the Braes of Tullymet and St Columba's farm are seen classically diversify-

ing the landscape, distinct as in a map; while directly in the foreground the whole level expanse of the richly cultivated Appin is spread out before the eye like a well-watered garden, headed by the bluff-looking Hill of Drummond, having its southern base washed by the gentle Tay gliding between its sylvan banks, and its northern by the furious Lyon pouring down its rocky channel, until it joins the former meandering gently along the southern boundary of the vale below,—presenting an agricultural panorama, perhaps, without a parallel in the Highlands of Scotland. Contrasted with this lowland scenery appear to the north-east the Sidlaw Hills facing the celebrated Hill of Birnam, proudly rising its head above its fellows in the south-east; immediately in the north-west boundary of the parish the huge Schiehallion rears its lofty head, while the wild summits of the still loftier Benlawers rise upon the view to the west, and, stretching away in a long vista, the conical Benmore recedes gradually in the distant haze, furnishing a termination of awful grandeur to the scene.

*Caves.*—High up the Cliff, and on the north-west side of the principal Fall of the Tummel, a gloomy cave, accessible only by clambering along the face of the impending rock, is pointed out where a party of the clan Alpin sought an asylum from the cruel persecutions to which they and their proscribed race were then continually exposed. Here, however, they enjoyed neither safety nor repose of any duration ere they were detected by some of their numerous and unrelenting pursuers, led hither by their bloodhounds. The unhappy outlaws defended for a time their rocky domicile, with their wonted fortitude, but, being at last overpowered by superior force, the remaining few, at one desperate effort, broke through their implacable foes, and, with amazing agility, sprung into a tree which overhung the lofty and giddy precipice. Thither their enraged persecutors had not the courage to follow them, but they instantly commenced to cut down the tree with their heavy claymores, and never ceased until they hurled both it and the unfortunate Macgregors into the gulf below.

*Meteorology.*—The most marked trait in the meteorology of this parish, is the dense masses of fog or mist to which its straths are subject in spring and autumn, with the exception, perhaps, of Glenfincastle, which is considerably elevated above the bed of the river, and has no remarkable stream of its own to attract them.

*Climate.*—While in the lower grounds of Appin, the crops are

ripe and secure as early as in any part of Midlothian, in Foss, Glenfincastle, and especially in Glenquaich again, they are generally a fortnight, and, in backward seasons, sometimes a month later in being secured. In these districts, the comparative absence of plantations, the great masses of peat marshy soil which shed an unhappy influence over the arable land, and the greater elevation of the ground, in connection with the increased rarity and coldness of the atmosphere, combine to render the general aspect of the country bleaker and more barren, the winter frosts more intense, and the falls of snow heavier, and of longer continuance. As instances of longevity, it may be mentioned that there are at present living within four miles of the parish church, four individuals, whose united ages amount to 364. A woman of the name of Lilius Clark died some years ago, at the advanced age of 107; and what is still more deserving of being recorded, a person well known in this part of the country by the appellation of the "Aberberfeldy tinker," or the more gallant title of "the colonel," made his exit at the extraordinary age of 112, after having lived in three centuries, a term of life which few have been permitted to enjoy since the patriarchal age.

*Hydrography.*—Perennial springs everywhere abound throughout its numerous hills and dales. St Ninian's Well, situated at the back of the village of Dull, is said to have been much frequented at one time, by invalids both from far and near, on account of the healing virtues supposed to be communicated to its otherwise salubrious waters, by the abbey's tutelary saint, whose name it bears: but this well's imaginary virtues have long since ceased, and with them its deluded votaries.

*Lochs.*—There are no less than twenty-one lochs either situated within this parish, or connected with it. Our limits, however, will only permit us to notice two or three of the most remarkable. Loch Fraochy lies in Glenquaich, the most southern district of this parish, and is partly also in the parish of Kenmore. It is about two and a half miles in length, and half a mile in breadth, and abounds in trouts, which, though small, are highly esteemed both for their colour and flavour, and afford excellent sport to the angler. The south bank is graced by a shooting-lodge, belonging to the noble proprietor, the Marquis of Breadalbane, skirted to the eastward with a few indigenous trees of birch and alder; and adjacent to it, in the south-west corner of the lake, stands a small island, with a tuft of growing larches, famed in ancient Celtic song

as the scene of an interesting legend.\* The rest of this valley has a bleak and sterile aspect, having little arable land, and less plantation. Its surface throughout is covered with marshy meadow soil, and chiefly adapted for pasture. But cold and exposed though it be, still in summer it is not devoid of natural beauty. On the one hand, the neighbouring mountains, in some places rising rocky, lofty, and precipitous, and in others, diversified with dells, passes and ravines, give a sort of rude grandeur to the surrounding scenery; while, on the other hand, the loch imparts a lively character to the bare and barren tract by which it is encompassed at their base. There is now, at Amulree, a distance of little more than a mile from the east end of the lake, a new, handsome, and commodious inn, much resorted to in summer and autumn by parties of pleasure from Crieff, Perth, and Dunkeld, partly on account of the salubrity of the climate, and partly to enjoy the fishing of Loch Fraochy. The accommodations are excellent, and such as suit every class of society from the bustling statesman down to the humble cottager.

Loch Ceannard is situated in the hill of Grandtully, about two miles to the south of the ancient baronial residence of the Grandtully family, and, but for the assistance of art, would have rather an uninteresting appearance. It is nearly a mile in length, and about one-fourth of a mile in breadth, and is hemmed in upon all sides with bleak and barren mountains. Towards the middle of the loch there is an islet supporting the ruins of an ancient shooting-lodge, formerly overshadowed by a few, but now decaying willows. It is all but surrounded with a belt of larch plantation, affording cover to numerous flocks of black game, and its north bank is beautified with a neat modern villa in the cottage style, altogether giving it a lively and cheerful aspect. It is in the vicinity of several other minor lochs, all of which abound with excellent trout, pike, or perch, and which tend not a little to give this spot of retirement and seclusion an additional charm in the estimation of the enthusiastic sportsman.

By far the most picturesque and interesting of the whole is

\* The legend above alluded to is described in a beautiful poem entitled "Duan Fraoich," and published in "Gillies's Collection of Gaelic Songs." Its beauty attracted the notice of Mr Jerome Stone, a native of Fifeshire, but then schoolmaster of Dunkeld, by whom it was translated into English, and sent for publication to the editor of the Scots Magazine.

See Gillies's Collection of Gaelic Poems, published at Perth in 1786; and the Scots Magazine, Vol. xviii. Edinburgh, 1756.

Loch Tummel. It is mostly situated within the *quoad sacra* parish of Foss, now disjoined from this the original parish, and is also connected with the parish of Blair-Athole. It is about four miles in length, and one in breadth. Its lower end is gradually filling up with the alluvial deposits of its parent stream; but operations are in progress for clearing away the debris so accumulating, whereby upwards of 200 acres of arable and meadow land will be very greatly improved. It is much frequented in winter by great numbers and variety of water fowls, but chiefly swans, whereof there were at one time in the winter of 1840 thirty-six, and a flock of twelve remained for nearly three months. Salmon occasionally get up into it; but the Fall at Fascalley prevents them, excepting in certain states of the river. It abounds, however, with trout and pike, some of the former weighing fourteen pounds, while those of the latter have been known to weigh upwards of thirty pounds. Its shores throughout, beautifully diversified with woods and rocks, here presenting bold projecting promontories, and there long retiring bays, along with the noble outline of the surrounding rugged mountains, interspersed towards their base with patches of wild cultivation, form a picture of peculiar and surpassing beauty. Towards the north-west end of the lake, there is an artificial island covered with wood, where the ruins of a castle are still to be seen, and which is said to be one of the many fastnesses of Robertson of Struan, the chief of the "Clan Donnachie;" and upon either side there is a good road, from which the surrounding scenery is seen under entirely different but ever-beautiful aspects.

*Rivers.*—The principal rivers connected with the parish are, the Tay, the Lyon, the Quaich, the Tummel, and the Garry, besides a great number of mountain-streams which cannot be particularized. The Tay enters this parish two miles below Kenmore, and continues to meander along it for the space of ten miles, intersecting it in some parts, and forming the boundary line betwixt it and some of the adjoining parishes in other places. At some remote period, it had here altered its course in several places, ere it formed its present channel, and it still overflows its banks when flooded by westerly winds and rain, which is often the case, especially in winter. Upon these occasions, a great part of the valley of Appin actually becomes a lake, so that the thoroughfare at Taybridge is, perhaps, interrupted for several days together. Generally speaking, however, it only averages from 250 to 300 feet in breadth, and from 2 to 14 feet in depth, and in this neighbourhood is in many



places easily forded. Its general velocity along Appin may be estimated at the rate of four miles an hour; but after it passes Aberfeldy, its acceleration is increased by the greater declivity of the ground, and the roughness of its channel. At Logierait it takes a south-east direction, and passing Dunkeld, receives the Airdle, the Isla, the Almond, and various minor streams. Having passed Perth, it is joined by the Earn, its last great tributary, and forms a spacious estuary from two to three miles in breadth, which is partially contracted again at Dundee, but anon widens, and gradually expands into the bay of St Andrews and the German Ocean.

The Lyon takes its rise from a loch of the same name in the parish of Fortingall, and, after having received great accessions on either side by innumerable streams and rivulets, enters this parish at Coshievile; when, after pouring in a south-easterly direction, and forming the march betwixt this parish and that of Weem on the south-west, it falls into the Tay at the east point of Drummond hill. In this part of the Lyon, fresh water mussels are to be found, as there are also in the Tummel. The Lyon mussels are highly prized for their pearls, some of which being as large as a common pea.

The Quaich rises amongst the hills in the south of the parish of Kenmore. About eight miles from its source, it spreads out into Loch Fraochy, already described. On emerging thence it proceeds eastward to Amulree, where it turns towards the north-east, and assumes the name of the Bran. There its velocity considerably increases, and, pursuing its brawling course for eight miles along Strathbran, to which it gives name, and forming several cascades, discharges itself in the Tay, a short way below the village of Inver, in the environs of Dunkeld.

The Tummel issues from Loch Rannoch, in the parish of Fortingall. The impetus of its waters is very variable. At its entrance into this parish, a short distance west of Tummel Bridge Inn, its course is rather rapid; but ere it reaches Loch Tummel it becomes almost stagnant, meandering amidst broad rich meadows, and forming many beautiful curves, in miniature intimately resembling the windings of the Forth below Stirling. Upon issuing from the lake, it becomes rapid and furious, rolling and tumbling through a rocky, narrow, wooded channel, until it mingles its waters with the Garry, when it becomes more gentle and steady;

and, proceeding in a south-easterly course, falls into the Tay on its left bank, at the south-east extremity of Logierait.

The Garry has its rise from a loch of that name in the parish of Blair-Athole. In its course it is greatly augmented by the Bruar, the Tilt, and other mountain torrents. Besides partially intersecting this parish, and forming the boundary line betwixt itself and the former parish at Shierglass, it again wholly intersects the north-east corner of Dull, a little below the pass of Killiecrankie, and, sweeping through it in a southerly direction, joins the Tummel in the neighbourhood of Fascally, amidst lovely and imposing scenery.

*Cascades.*—The cascades which chiefly claim attention are, the Falls of Keltnie, Camserny, Tummel, and Moness. The first of these is in the vicinity of Coshievile inn, and forms the march betwixt this parish and the adjoining parish of Fortingall on the west. The Keltnie here forms a series of beautiful cataracts, the highest of which issues from a dark narrow opening, and, precipitated in one foaming torrent over a pile of perpendicular rocks into the deep and gloomy dell below, makes a fall of sixty feet. There is a footpath leading to them on this side, from which they appear to better advantage; and the traveller who rests at the inn, and is in search of the picturesque and beautiful, will find ample gratification and reward in visiting them.

About half-way between Coshievile and Weem is the Fall of Camserny. It is higher than the former, but more broken and tortuous, which, however, tends to give it an additional charm. As the tourist approaches Camserny bridge from the west, a beautiful, though somewhat distant, view is presented to his eye, on the left hand, of its foaming sinuosities struggling and dashing in milky whiteness over its precipitous and rugged channel, until it is swallowed up by the woody and rocky bank bounding it on either side.

The principal fall of the Tummel is situated near its junction with the Garry. It is inferior to the two preceding falls in point of altitude, but superior as to the quantity of water and sublimity of scenery. The roaring of the waters, rushing forward with heedless impetuosity, and falling over a height of about 18 feet, in one continued sheet of white foam, fills the visitor with admiration, not unmingled with awe.

The Falls of Moness are situated in the vicinity of the populous village of Aberfeldy, and have been celebrated by Burns's lively

muse, and characterized by Pennant as an " epitome of every thing that can be admired in waterfalls." The ascent is from the village, where a guide may be obtained, and romantic walks have been formed and seats erected, at every little interval, for the use and convenience of travellers. That the prospect may increase in interest and leave a deeper impression, the tourist should ascend by the west side, and return by the east side of the falls. On ascending half-way up the dell, he comes to a scene of a very imposing and picturesque character. A rugged precipice discovering here and there a naked crag, but mostly covered with coppice, weeping birches, and mountain ash, rears itself on his left; and there is rising majestically towards his right hand a lofty, perpendicular, and larch-crowned rock, threatening destruction to those who approach its summit, having its bold front covered over with hoary lichens, and its crevices nestled with daws, wood-pigeons, and numerous flocks of other smaller birds; while directly in the foreground, and over the thicket, there is an enchanting peep of the principal fall, fearlessly shooting forth from its dark lowering chasm in one impetuous torrent of foam, and immediately losing itself in the wood-covered abyss below. While advancing thence along the sylvan but giddy precipice, through which he hears the water rolling and tumbling far beneath, the rustic bridge thrown across the upper fall bursts all at once upon his view, whence the fall is seen to great advantage. If he would escape, however, being drenched with showers of the dashing waters, let him hasten thence to a seat on the opposite bank, from which it appears to still greater advantage, and in a character of beauty and grandeur which it is unnecessary here to describe. Leaving this lovely spot, the traveller now wends his way downwards, and descends, not without difficulty, by a zig-zag path, railed at its farthest extremity for the security and protection of the lover of the wild and romantic, into the bottom of the dell below, which he no sooner enters, under an overhanging cliff, than the principal fall bewilders and astonishes him with all its loveliness and grandeur. Far up the rocky den the water gushes out furiously from its gloomy contracted channel, and reels, and foams, and roars from precipice to precipice, now concealed by a projecting rock, and now flashing upon the sight, until at last its strength is quite exhausted, when, after enjoying a moment's breathing and again recruiting its fury, on a sudden it bolts with the thunder's distant roar into a black, narrow, and rock-bound chasm, where it swiftly glides out of sight.

Whichever way the spectator turns, nothing meets his enraptured view but the foaming torrent, in connection with overhanging woods and moss-covered rocks, rising on either side to the height of 300 feet, supporting over-head a small speck of the blue-vaulted sky, and producing a dark and gloomy aspect even at noon-day.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The rocks of this parish, like those of the Grampians generally, consist chiefly of mica-slate, occasionally interspersed with quartz, granite, chlorite, and hornblende slate, and, where stratified, the general direction appears to be from the south-west to the north-east; but, from the various nature of the stratification, and the different degrees of disintegration it has undergone, the dip is so very unequal in different places, that it is very difficult, if not impossible, to state precisely the general angle. Boulders of whinstone, granite, and gneiss occur in almost every district of the parish, and are used by the inhabitants for the purpose of fences and architecture, as well as for Macadamizing the public roads. In the district of Foss, particularly, rolled blocks of granite appear in vast quantities, and are piled upon each other in masses of wild confusion. A stratum of the same kind of rock, of which Taymouth Castle is built, and which is said to approximate “in character to chlorite and talc slate,” occurs upon the Aird of Appin, immediately opposite to the quarry at Bolfracks, where most of the materials used in constructing that noble mansion were obtained. There are indications of slate at the base of Schiehallion, but its quality has not hitherto been ascertained, as no attempt has been made at working it. But by far the most important rock in this parish, for economical purposes, is limestone. It occurs in the form of a bed, traversing the parish in a south-westerly direction, and appearing at intervals in different places of the adjacent districts. At Tomphobuil there is a limestone quarry, evidently situated in the bed of limestone which ranges through the parish. Marl, in small quantities, occurs in several districts of the parish; and, a little to the eastward of the village of Dull, a pit was opened at no distant period, whence it was dug and used by the inhabitants for manuring their farms; but the bed discovered was of such inconsiderable depth that it was soon exhausted. Small bivalve and spiral shells were here found intermingled with the marl. These, together with oak, fir, birch, and other indigenous trees found in the mosses with which our hills are replete, and occasionally deers’ antlers, are the only organic remains generally discovered in this part of the country.

Hitherto no mines of any kind have been discovered. At one time, it was thought that a coal seam existed in the vicinity of the above limestone quarry, and such were the prospects held out to Sir Niel Menzies, the proprietor, of finding it, that he was induced to let the quarry to a practical miner, with the view of ultimately boring for that useful mineral; but somehow or other the attempt was never made.

*Soil.*—In some places, it consists of a mixture of clay and loam, and in other places it is light and gravelly. In some districts, it partakes of a wet mossy nature, and in other districts, again, it consists chiefly of a thin mould, or a brownish loam mixed with sand. This last kind of soil predominates in the lower grounds of Appin, and is, in many places, incumbent upon coarse porous gravel and boulders of stone, evidently rounded and smoothed by the action of water.

*Woods.\**—A great part of the surface of this parish is beautifully diversified with clumps of trees, both natural and planted. The indigenous woods consist chiefly of birch, interspersed with oak, ash, hazel, willow, alder, and mountain-ash; while the plantations are composed of beech, ash, plane, elm, oak, Scotch fir, spruce, and particularly larch. The former predominate in the district of Foss, especially on the north side of the river Tummel, towards Bonskeid, Fincastle, and the Pass of Killicrankie. Here indigenous birch constitutes almost the only wood. “So large and so perfect are these trees,” says Dr M’Culloch, “that where they form continuous woods their effect on the landscape is equal in richness to that of oak forest, round, full, and swelling, and, from the shape of the land, thrown into broad masses of endless variety; while, where they are disposed in groups or in scattered clumps, or where they stand as solitary trees, their effects are even more beautiful, more airy, and more in character with that general lightness which here, as at Loch Catrine, forms so essential a part of the effect of the scenery.” The clumps of planted wood seem to be well adapted to the soil, and are generally in a thriving condition, although they have not attained to any remarkable size or maturity, none of them exceeding seventy or eighty years of age, with the exception of numerous ancient standards of oak, ash, elm, plane, and beech, which are scattered in greater or less numbers and variety over the parish, many of which are much admired for

\* For the Botany of this parish, see the Statistical Reports of Kenmore and Forcingall. The writer is not aware that there is any plant peculiar to the parish which is not taken notice of in one or other of these Reports.

their size and symmetry, and all of which greatly add to the beauty of the general landscape. The largest of these known to the writer hereof are to be seen in the vicinity of Grandtully Castle, Moness House, and in the plain of Appin. In the lawn at Moness House, we meet with trees of the following girths at two feet from the ground : ash, 15 feet ; cedar of Lebanon, 13 feet ; larch, 11 feet ; poplar, 9 feet. Some of these splendid trees may be seen towering above their less noted, but still magnificent, compeers of the forest, and raising their lofty heads to the height of 100 feet. Towards the east of Camserny Bridge, in Appin, there are three elms whose circumferences at two feet from the ground measure respectively 14 feet, 13 feet, and 11 feet. These trees are planted upon the south side of the road, in a line with the hedge, and, if coëval with it, cannot greatly exceed 100 years of age, as a person, who only died last year, recollected when the hedge was quite young, and guarded by a fence on either side. And last, though not least worthy of being noticed, are two golden willows in the manse garden. These beautiful willows were brought from Bolfracks, as a riding switch, by the late incumbent, about thirty-six years ago ; and their respective girths at the same height with the above now measure 8 feet and 7 feet. The elms and willows are planted in soils equally congenial to the nature of both, and, if the age of the former be accurately ascertained, the mean annual growth of the willow will be found to correspond with that of the elm as  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  nearly. The only kind of wood hitherto planted which seems not to thrive in this parish, excepting in low and very favourable situations, is the Scotch fir. The rock of Dull is almost exclusively covered with it, which gives it a sombre and uninteresting aspect in summer ; but in winter, again, it has quite the appearance of an oasis amidst the bleak and leafless forests by which it is surrounded.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—There is no district, perhaps, in the Highlands of Perthshire where the tenure of property is so fluctuating as in this parish. In corroboration of this, it is sufficient to observe, that no fewer than thirteen estates, belonging thereto either in whole or in part, have passed by purchase into the hands of different proprietors during the last fifty years. The following list comprehends the names of the present land-owners connected with the parish, and the valuations of their respective properties situated within the same :

The Most Noble the Marquis of Breadalbane, . . . . .	L.921	9	7
The Right Honourable Lord Glenlyon, . . . . .	47	5	4
Sir Niel Menzies of that ilk, Baronet, . . . . .	1471	6	9
Sir William D. Stewart of Grandtully, Baronet, . . . . .	832	5	8
John Stewart Hepburn, Esq. of Cluny, . . . . .	325	0	0
Archibald Butter, Esq. of Duntaulich, &c. . . . .	275	0	0
Robert Colquhoun, Esq. of Fincastle, . . . . .	231	13	4
Alexander Stewart, Esq. of Derculich, . . . . .	222	10	0
Glas Sandeman, Esq. of Bonskeid, . . . . .	161	4	8
James M'Inroy, Esq. of Shierglass, . . . . .	123	8	4
John Campbell, Esq. of Kinloch, . . . . .	87	2	0
Charles M'Diarmid, Esq. of Bohally, . . . . .	61	16	0
George Dow, Esq. of Tircharly, . . . . .	55	6	8
John Campbell, Esq. of Wester Garrows, . . . . .	47	2	1
Miss Campbell, of Easter Garrows, . . . . .	35	11	3

Total valued rent in Scots money, L.4898 1 8

*Assessed Property.*—The value of assessed property within the *quoad civilia* boundaries of this parish in 1815, amounted to the sum of L.3980.

*Constituency.*—The constituency of Dull at the last registration was 130. Of this number, four were freeholders, thirty-four L.10 voters, and ninety-two farmers of L.50 rent and upwards.

*Justice of Peace and Sheriff-Courts.*—There are four justices of the peace within the original parish. It is included in the Weem district, and the resident justices within the same, hold their courts always upon the first Monday of the month at the inn of Weem; but these courts are now all but superseded by the sheriff's court since the Small Debt Act came into operation. The latter court is held quarterly at Aberfeldy, in this parish, and, in addition thereto, it has jurisdiction over the parishes of Kenmore, Killin, Fortingall, Weem, and also partly over Logierait and Little Dunkeld. The following abstract, furnished by the depute-clerk, exhibits the number of cases tried, together with the value of the sums claimed at each court during the four years the act has been in force.

Courts.	No. of causes at each court for debts not exceeding L.5.	Do. for debts above L. 5.	Total no. of causes at each court.	Total amount of debts sued for at each court.
1838, 1st court, . . . . .	51	15	66	L.219 5 6½
2d do. . . . .	32	6	38	100 6 0
3d do. . . . .	24	6	30	94 5 2½
1839, 1st do. . . . .	67	24	91	311 11 4½
2d do. . . . .	33	20	53	227 15 2½
3d do. . . . .	59	20	79	235 4 3½
1840, 1st do. . . . .	82	31	113	281 1 7
2d do. . . . .	30	13	43	160 8 3
3d do. . . . .	17	9	26	111 9 11¼
4th do. . . . .	25	9	34	110 14 8
1841, 1st do. . . . .	23	15	38	154 6 1½
2d do. . . . .	35	19	54	209 0 3
3d do. . . . .	13	7	20	82 11 3
4th do. . . . .	33	5	38	88 3 9
14 courts, 524	199	723	L.2386 3 5½	

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers consist of six volumes, two of which contain entries of baptisms and proclamations of marriage banns,—other two, cases of church discipline,—and the remaining two exhibit transactions relative to the poor, and economics of the parish. The earliest entry is made in the year 1703, during the incumbency of the Rev. John M'Kerchar, who appears to be a greater observer of discipline than of book-keeping. At that period, registration of births and marriage banns may not unfrequently be seen intermingled with minutes of session recording the compearance of persons guilty of moral delinquency before the congregation upon twelve, and sometimes more, consecutive Sabbaths previously to their being absolved from scandal.\* Besides being thus irregularly kept, intervals of time, and that at different periods, were allowed to elapse without any entries whatever being made in the earlier registers; but, in the more recent ones, these faults have been, in a great measure, avoided.

*Antiquities.—Abbey.*—At what period this abbey was first established, we have now no means of accurately ascertaining. But it appears from Scottish history, that an Abthanedum was attached to it at a very early period. This peculiar appellation existed nowhere but in Scotland; and even there we read of only three, the Abthaneries of Dull, Kirkmichael, and Madderty. These three Abthanedums, from the earliest period to which they can be traced, held of the Crown, and the monks of Dunkeld had ancient rights vested in all of them. Crinan, Abbot of Dunkeld, who married Beatrice, daughter of Malcolm II., and who gave a long line of kings to Scotland, is denominated by Fordun “Abthanus de Dull ac Seneschallus insularum.” But as the term Abthane is not so much a distinctive title as a modification of thane, which was only introduced into Scotland along with the Saxon policy, the title could not exist in the time of Crinan, but must have originated at a later period, most probably in the reign of Edgar. This sovereign conferred upon his youngest brother, Ethelred, who was Abbot of Dunkeld, the three Abthanedums above-mentioned, under the peculiar appellation of Abthaneries; and as he was the only Abbot of royal blood, to whom such a munificent gift

\* Rigid in matters of discipline as Mr M'Kerchar certainly was, one of his successors in office, Mr M'Lea, was still a greater disciplinarian. It appears from the register of discipline, that during the latter's incumbency, offenders often appeared in sackcloth before the congregation for twenty-four consecutive Sabbaths ere they were absolved; and, at one period, no less than three of the heritors made their compearance in a body, and were publicly and frequently reprov'd by the moderator for violating the seventh commandment of the decalogue.



was appropriate, so these were the only Abthanedums in Scotland, and, at his death, they all reverted to the Crown. "This will likewise account," says Skene, "for the appellation given by Fordun to Crinan. At that period there was certainly no such title in Scotland; but it is equally certain that there were no charters; and although Crinan had not the name, he may have been in fact the same thing. He was certainly Abbot of Dunkeld, and he may have likewise possessed that extensive territory, which, from the same circumstance, was afterwards called the Abthanedum of Dull. Fordun certainly inspected the records of Dunkeld; and the circumstance can only be explained by supposing that Fordun may have seen the deed granting the Abthanedum of Dull to Ethelred, Abbot of Dunkeld, which would naturally state that it had been possessed by his *proavus* Crinan, and from which Fordun would conclude, that, as Crinan possessed the thing, he was also known by the name of "Abthanus de Dull."\*

The religious structure which thus gave the title of Abthane to a prince of the blood-royal of Scotland, we imagine to have been an abbey or monastery of a useful class of monks, being likely of the order of Tyronenses, who had here a college of industrious artisans, in which were to be found smiths, masons, joiners, &c. This conjecture is not only borne out by the names of different localities in and about the village of Dull, for which there existed no justifying cause from time immemorial, such as *Sraid nan Gaibhnean*, *Sraid nan Clachairean*, &c. *i. e.* "the smith's street," "the mason's street," &c.; but there also existed, and still exists, a popular tradition in this country, that a college was established here at a very early period, but which was afterwards transferred to St Andrews,—a tradition which is so far founded upon fact that Hugh, Bishop of Dunkeld, granted the Monastery of Dull to the Priory of St Andrews by charter, upon condition of "Reditu viginti solidorum qui nos et clericos nostros contingit de Abthania de Dull."†

The church or chapel attached to this establishment was dedicated to St Ninians, the companion of St Columba, and one of the fathers of the Scottish Church, but there is not a vestige of it now to be seen. There is a heap of ruins in the field below Dull, which is said to be the remains of the abbey church, but whether it is that or the ruins of a pit or tolbooth which was

\* See Skene's *Highlanders of Scotland*, Vol. ii. chap. v.; and also Brown's *History of the Highlands*, Vol. iii. chap. vi. of *Highland Clans*.

† Chartulary of St Andrews.

connected with the monastery, as was frequently the case in those times, is now entirely a matter of conjecture. The name of the locality tends to confirm the latter supposition, being still called *Ach an Toll-bùth*, or the "tolbooth's field."

Dull had, and still has, what was then considered indispensable to all places of importance, a market cross. It is a tall time-worn stone, placed in a large round socket of the like material, and stands in the centre of the village. The most remarkable privilege attached to the monastery was, perhaps, connected with the erection of this obelisk or cross. A considerable part of the surrounding ground was constituted into a sanctuary, or sort of holy-rood, where debtors and offenders of all sorts were secured from molestation on fleeing to the above cross or its inviolable precincts, which were pointed out by three crosses of a somewhat similar description,—a large and two smaller ones,—running for half a mile in a direct line from south-west to north-east. The largest of these crosses was erected in the intermediate space betwixt the other two, and the place where it is situated is still called *Druimdiamhain*, which is evidently a corruption of *Druim an dion*, "the centre of defence or safety." These ancient land-marks were, not many years ago, sacrilegiously removed, and, with a Goth-and-Vandal-like taste, erected to grace a neighbouring gateway; and now the only remaining evidence of the abbey's fallen greatness is the "Cross of Dull."

*Moat-hills*.—Towards the west end of the vale of Appin, and within half a mile of the junction of the Tay and Lyon, there are three apparently artificial mounds of earth, of a flattish conical shape, situated within a short distance of each other, and forming a quadrant of a circle. They are now covered with tall stately beech trees, which must have been planted long after the original purpose ceased for which the mounds were raised.

*Barrows or Tumuli*.—It is recorded in ancient Scottish history, that in the eleventh or twelfth century, a keen contest took place betwixt the Fingalians and Picts, at the bridge of Keltnie in this parish, the former fiercely but vainly defending that pass against the inroads of the latter, by whom the last of Fingal's race was shortly afterwards killed. At the pass of Keltnie, accordingly, quite close to the present bridge, and on the south-east side thereof, there is a mound or hillock, now covered with birch and other indigenous trees, which, on the west side, has all the appearance of being artificial, and which still bears the traces

of a rampart or fortification illustrative of its name, being called "*Tom an t-sabhail*," literally "*the hill or mound of protection or safety*." But this is not the only corroborative circumstance. In the winter of 1836, while Mr Menzies, the present innkeeper at Coshievile, was removing a large barrow of stones situated betwixt his house and the river Lyon, and in the immediate vicinity of the scene of action already mentioned, the workmen discovered no less than ten or twelve sarcophagi above the ground and under the cairn, which was of a conical shape but flat in the top. They were composed of rough unhewn slabs of stone, set at right angles, and covered by a similar slab above. On the lid being removed, there were found in some of them urns of unglazed argillaceous substance containing black ashes, while the others contained ashes and pieces of bone; without any urns. In the contiguous field, there are three or four other large barrows, but differently shaped from the former, being of an oblong form resembling the inverted hull of a ship.

*Forts.*—The remains of several buildings of very great antiquity are still to be seen in this district of country. These being of a circular form, are said by some to be of Danish origin, by others again they are ascribed to the Picts; and, from being generally within sight of each other, they are supposed to have been beacon or watch towers. It is evident, however, that some of them at least, from the art and labour bestowed upon them, could not have been mere watch-towers, but that they were built for strongholds, and were probably constructed by the Caledonians, and used as places of defence and safety against the incursions of the Romans, when they penetrated into this part of the country under Agricola. The most remarkable of these buildings in this parish is in the wood above Moness House, and is called the *Dùn*. It measures upwards of 50 yards in diameter within walls, and appears to have been defended on all sides save the north-east, where the hill is very rugged and steep, with two concentric ramparts. On the south-west side, and close to the outer rampart or dike, there was a large artificial pond or well, which is now almost filled up with debris. The walls of the fort, which measured about six yards in thickness, and were built without either lime or mortar of any kind, were carried away several years ago, and appropriated to the building of a fence around the plantation with which the hill is covered, so that nothing beyond the vestiges of the foundation can now be traced of this ancient fortress.

Situated within sight of the above, on the north-east shoulder of Drummond Hill, and in the parish of Weem, is another fortress, commanding an extensive prospect of the whole vale of Appin, and part of Grandtully and Strathhtay. But instead of being circular as the former, it is in the form of a parallelogram, and is built upon the top of a rock measuring from 150 to 200 feet in height, so as to have its south and east sides naturally formed thereof. The wall on the west side measures about 60 yards in length, that on the north again is about 80 yards, and from near the east extremity thereof, another wall projects at an angle of about  $30^{\circ}$  towards the north-east, and as these sides were the most accessible, they were defended by frenches or some sort of an out-work, which can still be easily traced. There is a part of the building still standing, from which it appears that the stones were regularly coursed and banded. The walls are of similar thickness with those of the preceding, and like them too are void of either lime or mortar in the construction thereof. The principal access led from the north-east along the edge of the precipice, and it was covered on the north-west by the foresaid projecting wall. The rock forming the south and east sides of the garrison had its base defended by another rude but strongly built wall, through which a minor entrance led from the south to the fortress above.

*Druidical Temples.*—The completest circle of this kind in this part of the country is to be seen in the park at Croftmoraig in this parish, a little to the east of the principal lodge leading to Taymouth Castle, and on the right hand as the traveller proceeds from Kenmore to Aberfeldy. Besides this, there are several standing stones to be met with in Appin, and elsewhere through the parish, both single and in groups; but whether these are *Druidical* remains, or monuments of departed heroes, is now entirely a matter of conjecture.

*Mansion-Houses.*—By far the most remarkable seat in the parish is Grandtully Castle, one of the family residences of an ancient branch of the Stewarts. It is a fine old baronial mansion. Until within these two years, its walls and turreted roof were mostly mantled over with ivy, but being found to have an injurious effect upon the building, it was pulled off, which greatly detracts from its former air of antiquity and grandeur. The other principal mansion-houses are those of Foss, Moness, Cluny, and Der-culich.

## III.—POPULATION.

According to Dr Webster, the population of the original parish in 1775 amounted to			4897
By former Statistical report,			4676
By Government census in 1811,	males, 2080, females, 2290 =		4370
1821,	2178	2390 =	4568
1831,	2225	2365 =	4590
1841,	1806	2004 =	3810

The above decrease is mostly owing to emigration, arising from the enlargement of farms.

Besides the village of Dull, containing about 150 inhabitants, there are several other small ones, varying in population from 50 to 140, and in the aggregate amounting to 860; but the only village of any note is Aberfeldy, and in that portion of it which belongs to this parish, there is a population of 610 by last census. The rest of the population residing in the country amount to 2190.

The yearly average of births registered for the last seven years is,	66
deaths, (no register thereof kept.)	
marriages,	30
The average number of children in each family is about	3
Number of inhabited houses in 1841,	750
uninhabited houses,	6
houses building,	4
insane and fatuous persons,	6
deaf and dumb,	2
blind,	2

There are eight families of independent fortune resident within the parish, of whom three are heritors and proprietors of land of the yearly value of L.50 and upwards.

Although almost all the people can both speak and understand the English language, still the generality of them have a decided predilection for the Gaelic. This appears from the fact that it is the ordinary medium of their daily intercourse, but it nowhere appears so evident as during public worship in church on the Sabbath. While the common classes are apparently indifferent and unconcerned during the English service, they are all eyes and attention during the Gaelic, and hanging with anxiety, as it were, on the lips of the preacher, thus indicating that it is by means of their vernacular tongue the voice of instruction can principally reach them “savourily and to profit.”

The Highland garb, once the graceful costume of the peasantry, has fallen almost completely into desuetude; and their once popular games and prevalent superstitions have vanished before the fairy wand of civilization. They enjoy an ordinary share of the comforts of life, and are apparently happy and contented with their

condition. To their superiors they are courteous and respectful; in their intercourse with each other, social, peaceable, and friendly; and both kind and hospitable to strangers. With a few exceptions, they are irreproachable in their moral character, sound in their religious principles, and regular and exemplary in their attendance upon the public ordinances of religion.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

By the Government census of 1841, there were 691 males employed in agriculture, including farmers, cottars, and farm-servants; and 282 males employed either in manufactures, retail trade, or in handicraft, masters and workmen included, viz. millers, 8; bakers, 4; fleshers, 2; flax-dressers, 4; woollen-dyers, 4; hand-loom weavers, 44; stocking-weaver, 1; tailors, 34; shoemakers, 35; saddlers, 2; masons, 27; slaters, 3; plasterers, 3; house-painters, 2; carpenters, 56; wheel-wrights, 3; turners, 3; coopers, 2; carriers, 3; blacksmiths, 18; coppersmiths, 2; shopkeepers, 12; hawkers, 6; clock and watch-maker, 1; auctioneer and appraiser, 1; mole-catchers, 2.

Number of male servants upwards of 20 years old,	68
under 20 years old,	113
	— 181
female servants upwards of 20 years old,	113
under 20 years old,	89
	— 202

*Agriculture and Rural Economy.*—The parish contains about 134,400 acres of standard imperial measure, which may be thus arranged :—

Under cultivation or occasionally in tillage, say	8,500 imperial acres.
pasture,	9,000
meadow,	1,000
wood, natural and planted,	3,000
moor and hill,	106,900
roads, rivers, lakes, &c.	4,000
	— 134,400

By dint of labour and considerable expense, about 600 acres might perhaps be reclaimed and brought under tillage; but it is very doubtful if much more could be added to the cultivated land of the parish with a profitable application of capital, whether it were afterwards to be occasionally ploughed or permanently pastured. There are two pieces of undivided common in the parish. The one lies on the east shoulder of Schiehallion, and belongs to the Marquis of Breadalbane, and Mr Garden Campbell of Troop; the other is the joint property of Mr Stewart of Derculich, and the neighbouring proprietors in the parish of Logierait. But their

extent is not known, as neither of them has ever been measured. The woods, both natural and planted, are carefully attended to, and regularly thinned. The thinnings are either given or sold to the tenants for their farm-steadings and implements of husbandry, and larch is purchased to a considerable extent, from the forests of Breadalbane, for sleepers to the rail-roads carrying on in the south.

*Husbandry.*—The most approved method of husbandry is carried on in the district of Appin; but in most of the other districts of the parish, the four rotation system is still adhered to. It must be admitted, however, that the patriotic efforts of the Highland Society have given a stimulus to agriculture all over the parish, perhaps unprecedented at any former period. These are now aided by other local Societies, so that, betwixt their united agency, and the facility and encouragement given by the heritors to every branch of agricultural improvement, not only the beautifying and fertilizing of the soil evince their beneficial effects, but also the rearing and symmetry of the cattle.

*Live-stock.*—The principal stock of cattle reared is of the West Highland breed, with the exception of a few Ayrshires, introduced of late years for dairy use. On the lower grounds, there are some Cheviot or white-faced sheep kept, and a few Leicesters are there occasionally to be met with also; but the common breed is of the black-faced kind, and to the rearing of these, as well as to the purity and improvement of the Highland cattle, the strictest attention is paid, particularly by graziers. Accordingly, their stock is of a superior description, and generally brings high prices. At sales effected within the last two years, on some of the principal farms in this neighbourhood, queys brought from L.16 to L.22 each; and, on one farm, the wedder lambs are annually disposed of about Lammas, when they generally bring between 9s. and 10s. a-head.

The average number and value of live-stock, young and old, within the *quoad civilia* parish, may be thus stated, viz.

Number of horses, say 770, at L.10 each,	L.7,700
black-cattle, 4,600, at L.5,	23,000
sheep, 18,160, at 12s.	10,896
swine, 650, at L.1, 10s.	975

— L. 42,571

*Rent, &c.*—In some districts, the arable land is let so low as 17s. per acre, and, in other districts, the same quantity brings about L.3; but the average rent per arable acre, of standard aereal measure, over the parish may be stated at L.1, 10s. It

may be proper to observe, that there is no separate rent laid upon the pasture, as it is commonly let with the arable ground; but the hill grazing may perhaps be estimated at an average of 1s. 6d. and in the inland or better sort of pasture, situated within the head dike, at 5s. 6d. per imperial acre. The summer grazing of a horse upon this latter sort of pasture is about L.2, 8s., and of a cow, L.1, 4s.; but their grazing in the hill or moor comes to little more than the half of these respective sums; and the annual grazing for a full-grown sheep is about 5s. Leases extend from seven to nineteen years' duration. A great number of the small holders, however, have no leases, but are tenants at will, or occupants from year to year, which is alike disadvantageous to the tenant, and unfavourable to improvement.

*Real Rental.*—The real rental of the parish amounts in the aggregate to about L.13,250.

*Prices of Implements of Husbandry, &c.*—A full-mounted cart, with wheels and iron axletree, costs L.8; a pair of wooden harrows, full-mounted, L.1, 5s.; a full-mounted wheelbarrow, 18s.; a peat-barrow, 8s.; a full-mounted long cart, exclusive of wheels and axletree, L.3, 3s.; an iron plough, full-mounted, L.4, 4s.; a rood of mason work, containing 36 square yards, from 2 feet to 2 feet 6 inches thick, exclusive of furnishing materials, about L.2; building dry stone dike of 5 feet high, 3s. per lineal rood; drain-making varies, in proportion to depth and the nature of the ground, from 6d. to 1s. per rood; boring and blasting stones, including powder, costs 6d. per foot of three-fourths of an inch bore. Full-grown fir-wood is sold at 1s. per cubic foot; hard-wood, viz. oak, 2s. 6d.; ash and elm, 1s. per do.; sawing of fir-wood, at pit by hand-saw, costs 2s. per hundred feet; larch, 2s. 6d.; and hard-wood, 5s. per do.; while again the price of sawing these at the mill is one-fourth less respectively.

*Prices of Provisions.*—The price of provisions here as elsewhere, must necessarily vary according to the state of the market; but the current average price thereof may be thus stated: beef costs 6d.; mutton, 7d.; pork, 4½d.; fresh butter, 8d. per lb. respectively; salted butter sells at 17s. per stone of 22 lbs.; and cheese at 6s. per stone of same weight. Fowls bring 1s. 2d. each; eggs, 5d. per dozen; quartern loaf costs 9d.; oatmeal, per boll of 140 lbs., 19s.; barley-meal, per boll of same weight, 14s.; and potatoes, 5s. per old boll of four firlots or six bushels.

*Quarries.*—The only quarries of any consequence in the parish



are the lime quarry at Tomphobuil, and a sort of freestone quarry, of a bluish colour, upon the Aird of Appin. In order to accommodate the tenants, the former is let at a nominal rent, and it supplies this and the neighbouring parishes with excellent lime, both for architectural and agricultural purposes; and the latter furnished most of the hewn materials required by the recent addition and improvements at Castle Menzies.

*Fisheries.*—There are no fisheries in Dull, excepting what there is of salmon-fishing upon the river Tay, and that is retained by the heritors whose respective properties border therewith in their own hands. Of late years, they have been far from successful, in consequence, it is supposed, of the distance from the sea, and the many obstacles which the fish have to encounter in their progress thitherward.

*Raw Produce.*—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, as nearly as that can be ascertained, may be thus stated, viz.

Imp. acres.					
2,125	under oats, at 5 bolls of 6 bushel per acre, at 15s. 6d. per boll,	1..	8234	7	6
2,125	barley, do. at 18s. 6d. do.	.	9624	2	6
1,125	potatoes, at 30 bolls do. at 5s. do.	.	8437	10	0
1,000	turnips, beans, peas, &c. at L.6 per acre,	.	6000	0	0
2,125	sown grass, at 130 stones per acre, at 7d. per stone,	.	7437	10	0
1,000	meadow hay, at 100 do. at 4d. do.	.	1666	13	4
770	horses, summer pasture of, at an average of L.1, 16s. each,	.	1386	0	0
4,600	black cattle, do. do. 18s. do.	.	4140	0	0
48,160	sheep, annual grazing of, do. 5s. do.	.	4540	0	0
	Annual sale of black cattle,	.	4600	0	0
	sheep,	.	2522	0	0
	wool,	.	1008	0	0
	dairy produce,	.	458	0	0
	swine,	.	120	0	0
	wood,	.	290	0	0
	Miscellaneous produce of gardens, orchards, &c.	.	250	0	0

Total yearly value of raw produce, L.60,913 3 4

*Manufactures.*—There was a carpet manufactory established some years ago at Camserney, by Sir Niel Menzies, Bart., a gentleman who deserves well of his country, and who cannot be too highly spoken of for his laudable and assiduous exertions in promoting every species of improvement connected with mechanics and agriculture. This manufactory has hitherto been attended with considerable success. It affords employment to between 20 and 30 hands, and has an annual consumption of about 600 stones of wool.

Situated near the above manufactory, and upon the same stream, there is a saw-mill, and a wheel-wright-mill, which has also a saw-mill conjoined therewith. At the former, a good deal

of wood is cut, and prepared for country use, as well as for barrel-staves and other cooper purposes; and at the latter, besides wheel-making being carried on, quantities of bobbins are manufactured; and both bobbins and staves are regularly sent to the Dundee market, and other manufacturing towns.

In addition to these, there is, at Aberfeldy, in this parish, a dye-mill, with carding and spinning machines. The woollen yarn here spun gives employment to a number of weavers, and the webs are afterwards dyed and milled, and then exposed for sale at the country fairs to the natives for wearing apparel.

At the time of the former Statistical Account, linen yarn was spun to an extent more than sufficient to pay the rents; but now this is almost wholly superseded by the manufacturing establishments of the south, so that scarcely any flax is either raised or spun, certainly not sufficient to meet the demands of home consumption.

*Distilleries.*—Within the last fifteen years, there were three distilleries in the district of Appin alone. The buildings were erected, and all the necessary utensils and apparatus furnished and kept in repair, by Sir Niel Menzies, entirely at his own expense, for the sole accommodation of his tenants; but, owing to some mismanagement, they were not successful, and after a few years' operation the buildings were either pulled down or converted to some other purpose. There are still two distilleries in active operation, and although not locally within the parish, they are yet intimately connected with it; in as much as more than two-thirds of the shareholders are parishioners of Dull. The one is situated at Blackhill, in the parish of Logierait, and the other at Pitilie Burn, in the parish of Weem. The former distills upwards of 14,000 gallons of whisky, and pays about L.3080 of duty annually; and there are in the same space of time upwards of 6000 gallons distilled, and about L.1320 of duty paid by the latter. The spirit manufactured at these respective distilleries is universally prized for its fine flavour and superior quality, and is readily disposed of at the highest market price.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Towns.*—The nearest market-towns, properly speaking, are Dunkeld, Perth, and Crieff, at the respective distances of nineteen, thirty-four, and twenty-six miles from the parish church. But all the necessaries and even some of the luxuries of life can be easily and moderately obtained by most of the parishioners at the

villages of Pitlochrie and Aberfeldy. The latter contains 2 surgeons and laboratories; 1 writer and notary-public; 1 printer, stationer, and bookbinder; 6 grocers; 4 haberdashers; 2 clothiers or merchant tailors; 1 hardware and pottery retailer; 2 bakers; 2 fleshers; 2 copper-smiths; 1 saddler; 2 dress-makers; 3 milliners; 2 female accoucheurs; 3 shoemakers; 1 sheriff-officer; 1 constable; 2 appraisers and auctioneers; 1 tallow-chandler; 2 smiths; and various other tradesmen and artisans.

*Means of Communication.*—The parish is in the possession of ample and various means of communication. There is a regular post-office at Aberfeldy, through which the diligence, conveying the mail, and carrying three or four passengers, passes to and from Dunkeld every day in the week, with the exception of Tuesday. From the same office, and upon the same days, the Dunkeld diligence runs through a detached district of this parish, on the south side of the Tay, to Kenmore, and another conveyance, of an inferior description, but for similar purposes, branches off to the north, and passes through Appin to Fortingall, and both return the following morning to Aberfeldy. The inhabitants of Glenquaich and neighbouring districts have their letters and parcels conveyed and dispatched four times a week by means of a runner betwixt Dunkeld and a sub-office stationed at Amulree; and to accommodate the people of Foss and Fincastle, and places adjacent, a post-gig runs three times a-week to and from Pitlochrie, and another sub-office at Kinloch-rannoch. Besides the Dunkeld mail, a public coach was started, about three years ago, betwixt Dunkeld and Lochlomond, by some of the principal inn-keepers on that line of road, for the accommodation of tourists and travellers, and it still continues to run for three or four months in the summer. There are portions of three turnpike lines of road in the parish. Their aggregate length may be about thirty miles, having three toll-bars within the parish. On these roads, there are weekly carriers to and from Perth and Crieff. The rest of the parish is variously intersected with private roads. A bridge, however, is much wanted over the Lyon, to communicate with Kenmore.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church is situated in the village of Dull. Considering the extent of the parish, the church could not have been placed originally, perhaps, in a more central situation; but the inhabitants of several districts had to travel a great distance. Since that period, this has been, in a great measure remedied by the erection of additional places of worship.

The church is a long building, with a small belfry, and has a gallery at each end. The date of its erection is unknown. In 1840, it was completely gutted, and thoroughly floored and re-seated, so that it is now, in a manner, comparatively comfortable. The area of the church is divided among the heritors in proportion to their respective valuations. It accommodates about 600 persons, and no seat-rents are exacted.

A new and commodious manse, with a suitable range of offices, were this year built for the minister by the heritors, at an expense of about L.940.

Previous to the Reformation, the lands and immunities attached to the living of Dull were far superior to what they now are. It would appear that the then Popish vicar, a David Guthrie, wished to alienate, as was usual in the immediate prospect of the Reformation, the whole lands of his benefice, with the exception of what he considered a sufficient establishment for a minister of the parish. Accordingly, in the year 1561, he granted a feu-right to George Johnston *alias* M<sup>c</sup>Gregor, and Janet Burgh, his spouse, and longest liver of them two, in liferent, and to the said George's heirs and assignees in fee, of all and singular the half of the kirk-lands of Dull, viz. "Omnes et singulas dimidietas terrarum ecclesiasticar. de Dull, viz. totas et integras terras de Croftclachan, Drumdewan, Kynell, cum integro molendino de Dull, cum suis multuris et privilegiis totar. et integrar. terrar. Ecclesiasticar. de Dull solit. et consuet. Necnon dimidietatem totius montis de Craigdull, dimidietatem terrarum de Achtavve, decimis garbalibus omn. præfat. terrar. inclusis, cum suis pertinen. jacen. in Regulitate St Andreæ et infra Vicecomitatu de Perth, excepto manso nostro, cum hortis et toftis eid. adiacen. cum illis duobus domibus vocat. Market-stance et lie Clerk's house, cum libera p-tate pascendi, seu libera pastura, ad sex summas animalium, cum animalibus dict. Georgii et Jacobi hæredumque suor. respective in terris præfatis. Cum cespitibus, viz. lie pettis, feal, et divotts in terris prædictis pro reparatione domor. et edificiorum præfat. prout in n-ro desup. co-fecto latius co-tinetur." Of the same date with the feu-right of the first half, the said David Guthrie, vicar of Dull, with the consent of the commendator of the priory of St Andrews, granted another feu-right to Alexander Stewart, brother to Grandtully, and his spouse, of the other half of the said kirk-lands of Dull, viz. "Omnes et singulas dimidietates terrarum nostrum ecclesiasticar dict. nostræ parochiæ de Dull, viz. to-

tas et integras terras de Carse, Carsmucky, et Pitvassie, cum dimidietate totius montis de Craigdull, una cum dimidietate terrarum de Achtavie, decimis garbalibus earundem inclusis, et cum toftis, croftis, et singulis suis pertinen. jacen. in regalitatem Sancti Andree, et infra vicecomitatum de Perth, &c. excipien. toto et integro manso-ro cum hortis, toftis, et croftis eidem adjacen. nunc occupat, per Magistrum Duncanum Maclaggane, una cum domo vocat. Mac-kilties house, et alio domo vocat. lie Clerkis house, cum libera pastura ad sex summas animalium, cum animalibus dict. Alexandri et Isabellæ, hæredumque suorum, respective subscript. in terris nostris prædictis, cum cespitibus, lie peattis, feal, et divot, in terris prædict. pro reparatione domorum et ædificiorum præfatorum.” \*

Such were the alienations suffered by, and the immunities reserved to, the benefice of Dull in 1561; and when an excambion had taken place during the incumbency of Mr Campbell in 1758, the same privileges were confirmed to the living by the deed of excambion betwixt the then Sir Robert Menzies of that Ilk and the presbytery. Accordingly, the minister still enjoys the privilege of casting peats, feal, and divot, and pasturing twelve soums of sheep or cattle over the church lands, in addition to the manse and glebe. The glebe contains about 11½ acres, including site of manse, offices, and garden, and is capable of being much improved. Within the last two years, the writer hereof has laid upwards of L.60 out in the way of draining and clearing it of stones, and when these improvements, which are still going on, and which will take L.80 or L.100 more to carry them into effect, are eventually completed, its yearly value, including the above immunities, may then be estimated at about L.40. The stipend consists of sixteen chalders of victual, half meal and half barley, payable in money, according to the highest fiar prices of the county, with L.8, 6s. 8d. for furnishing communion elements out of the teinds of the parish, together with 5 bolls of bear, and 18 bolls of black oats out of the teinds of the priory of St Andrews, conform to use and wont, and, in the aggregate, may have amounted to L.250 on an average of the last seven years. The benefice is in the gift of the Crown, and, according to the Royal Commissioners' Report of 1886, there are L.70, 18s. of unappropriated teinds.

The following is a list of the different ministers who served in the cure since the Reformation, with the date of their incumben-

\* The above quotations are from the title-deeds of the family of Menzies of that Ilk.

cy, so far as that could have been ascertained : Duncan MacLagan, 1561-79 ; John Cunison, 1684 ; John M'Kerchar, 1699 ; Thomas Menzies, 1713 ; Duncan M'Lea (presented *de jure devoluto*), 1717 ; James Campbell, 1750 ; James Stewart, 1761 ; Alexander Campbell, 1769 ; Patrick M'Vean, 1771 ; Archibald Menzies, 1789 ; Duncan Dewar, 1839.

The district of Foss was disjoined from the original parish in 1830, and annexed, *quoad sacra*, to the Government church there erected ; and in 1836, the district of Fincastle was similarly attached to the new erection at Tenandry, within the parish of Blair-Athole.

There are two chapels in connection with the Established Church, and under the patronage of the General Assembly's Committee for managing the Royal Bounty within the parish ; the one is at Amulree, and the other at Grandtully. The minister of the former has an annual salary of L. 65, including L. 5 for communion elements, and is paid entirely out of the royal bounty ; the salary of the latter again is L. 90, including a similar sum for communion elements, of which L. 40 are paid either by Sir William D. Stewart of Grandtully or his tenants, and the remaining L. 50 are paid by the Royal Bounty Committee. Besides, the ministers of these respective missions are accommodated with a house, garden, and four or five acres of arable land, rent-free, by the proprietors, and provided gratuitously with fuel by the tenants connected with their missions.

There is a chapel at Tummel-bridge in connection with the Scottish Episcopal Church, where the minister of Strathtay officiates once in the fortnight during summer, and who is paid, partly by the Episcopal Church Society and partly by members of the congregation. The average attendance does not exceed 15 ; and for four months in winter there is no service.

An Independent congregation was established upwards of forty years ago in Aberfeldy ; and in 1817 a chapel and house to the minister were built, at an expense of about L. 650. The chapel contains about 500 sittings, and, if not lately liquidated, it was burdened with considerable debt. Excepting in winter, perhaps, the attendance is generally but small, and the congregation is composed, not only of the parishioners of Dull, but also, in a great measure, of the people of the adjoining parishes. The minister's stipend is raised from the seat-rents and Sunday collections, and, with L. 10 paid by the Congregational Union of Scotland for itinerating, may average about L. 50 annually.

There is no society established in the parish for religious purposes, but collections are almost annually made for the General Assembly's Schemes, and other religious and charitable objects, which may average about L.30.

The following table exhibits the number of families, communicants, Dissenters of all denominations, and population, in the respective districts allocated to the different places of worship in connection with the Established Church within the *quoad civilia* parish :

Place of worship.	No. of families.	No. of communicants.	Dissenters.				Total population.
			Episcopalian.	Independents.	Baptists.	Roman Catholics.	
Dull, .	477	650	8	46	4	1	1929
Foss, .	88	140	9	1	0	0	439
Amulree .	85	220	0	0	2	0	406
Grandtully,	144	400	4	1	0	0	731
Tensandry,	59	70	0	0	7	0	305
	853	1480	21	48	13	1	3810

*Education.*—There are at present nine schools in operation within the territorial boundaries of the parish, viz. the parochial school at Dull; four schools supported by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, whereof one is stationed at Aberfeldy, Amulree, Grandtully, and Foss, respectively; together with four schools taught by young men entirely on their own adventure; and the aggregate average attendance at these schools is about 600. The parochial schoolmaster has the maximum salary of L.34, 4s. 4½d.; his yearly receipt of school-fees may average L.18; and his other emoluments, as precentor and clerk to the heritors and kirk-session, may probably amount to L. 15, making an annual income of about L.67. He has besides the legal accommodation of house and garden; but both dwelling-house and school-room are at present in a most wretched state of repair, and alike uncomfortable and incommodious.

*Libraries.*—There are two libraries in the parish. The one is a subscription, and the other a circulating library. The former was established many years ago, and is denominated “The Aberfeldy Evangelical Library.” Most of the books, consisting of nearly 400 volumes, are of a religious and moral character. The latter was only instituted about three years ago by Mr Cameron, bookseller at Aberfeldy. It contains about 250 volumes, consisting principally of fictitious works, travels, and voyages.

*Friendly Societies.*—Many of the parishioners, especially in

the districts of Appin, Grandtully, and Strathtay, are members, either of "The Atholl Wrights' Brotherly Society," instituted at Logierait in 1812, or of the "Farmers' Friendly Society," instituted at Pitnacree in 1826. The entry-money to these societies varies from 10s. to L.4, 18s. 6d., according to the age at which members are admitted, being from sixteen to forty years of age; and the annual subscription towards the funds is 6s. Several of the parishioners are likewise brethren of the "Tay and Lyon Mason Lodge," whereof a branch was established some years ago in Aberfeldy.

*Savings Bank.*—A savings bank was established in this parish at Aberfeldy in March 1833.

The following is an abstract state of the funds of the institution since its commencement, showing the number of depositors, the amount of the sums lodged and drawn, together with the net balance on hand, at each annual meeting—the first of which was held in January 1834.

Annual Meetings.	No. of Depositors.	Amount lodged.	Amount drawn.	Balance on hand.
1834,	29	L. 215 16 9½	L. 4 10 0	L. 211 6 9½
1835,	55	452 10 5	38 10 4½	394 0 0½
1836,	71	673 7 2	73 0 10	600 6 4
1837,	83	879 16 2	90 17 6	788 18 8
1838,	99	1023 9 2	256 15 10	766 13 4
1839,	108	1096 9 9	191 13 10	904 15 11
1840,	115	1209 19 4	280 9 2	929 10 2
1841,	134	1284 8 0	254 16 0	1029 12 0
1842,	154	1365 16 8	268 6 4	1117 10 4

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is about 100, and the aggregate amount of church collections at all the places of worship belonging to the Established Church within the original parish, including three-eighths of the collections of Tenandry, is about L. 56. There is also a sum of about L. 24 yearly realized from other sources, such as dues for proclamation of marriage banns, and use of mortcloth, fines, and occasional donations, amounting in all to about L. 80 annually. This sum, with the exception of a few pounds which go to pay the clerks and officers of synod, presbytery, and kirk-sessions, is distributed among the above number of paupers, and the pecuniary assistance afforded to each yearly varies from 6s. to L.3, according to the recipient's respective necessities. The average amount of assessment levied upon the heritors during the last three years is about L. 120, being at the rate of nearly two and a-half per cent. upon their respective valuations. And, although it must,



weigh heavily upon some of them, still, from an anxiety to ward off the burden otherwise imposed by statutory law upon the tenants, they have hitherto confined the assessment solely to themselves. Nor is this the only instance of liberality deserving of notice relative to the poor. Through the active sympathy and generosity of the Most Noble the Marchioness of Breadalbane and the Honourable Lady Menzies, not a few of our poor on the Breadalbane and Menzies' estates are often both clad and fed. Willingly would the writer hereof say, if he could, that the poor show no disposition to ask parochial aid; but such is not the case.

*Fairs.*—The following table exhibits the number of fairs observed annually within the parish, the place where, the time when, and the purposes for which they are held.

Name of Place.		Date of Fairs.	Purposes of Fairs.
Aberfeldy,	1	January 1, Thurs. O. S.	{ Cattle, horses and agricultural produce.
Do.	2	{ March, Tuesday before Kenmore fair.	{ Horses and general business.
Do,	3	May, last Thurs. O. S.	{ Cattle, sheep, and general business.
Do.	4	July, last Friday. O. S.	Cattle & country business.
Do.	5	October, last Thursday.	Horses, cattle, and sheep.
Do.	6 = 6	Nov. 1, Thurs. O. S.	{ Cattle, sheep, and dairy produce.
Amulree,	1	May 1, Tues. & Wed.	Cattle and sheep.
Do.	2 = 2	Nov. Frid. bef. first Wed.	Cattle and sheep.
Coshieville,	1	October, last Thursday.	Cattle and sheep.
Do.	2 = 2	{ December, day before Fortingall fair.	Cattle and sheep.
Foss, Kirkton of,	1	March, Tuesday, O. S.	Horses & country business.
Do. Tummel-bridge,	2 = 2	Oct. last Friday, O. S.	Cattle and sheep.
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12			

*Inns.*—There are five inns in the parish and six ale-houses. The former are indispensable for the accommodation of travellers, but the latter may, with great propriety, be suppressed.

*Fuel.*—The fuel of the common people consists almost wholly of peats; but, along with these, the better classes burn a good deal of coal and *white-wood*, or oak-copse. The coal is brought either from Perth or Crieff, and, in consequence of the long carriage, costs between 1s. 6d. and 1s. 8d. per cwt.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the former Statistical Report was published, the general aspect of the parish, both in a physical and moral point of view, has undergone a very manifest improvement. The real rental was then little more than L.4500, but now it is considerably upwards of L.18,000. Formerly, agriculture in all its branches was

at a very low ebb throughout the parish ; farms were not unfrequently let on the monstrous principle of run-rig ; leases were seldom or ever given ; the system of rotation, was all but unknown ; and even fields which were under the plough were not unfrequently broken and detached, either by banks, heaps of stones, or marshy meadows. Now farms are divided and inclosed ; green crops and rotation in cropping are generally introduced ; cattle and sheep are improving both in size and symmetry ; and the tenants are encouraged in draining, liming, and clearing their farms by getting leases, so that almost every district of the parish witnesses a yearly improvement in husbandry. The total want of turnpike roads, together with the shocking and all but impassable state of repair in which the parish roads were kept, were then a bar to the social and mercantile improvement of the parish ; but now the opening up of turnpike, and the regular repairing and macadamizing of private, roads ; the establishing of regular carriers ; the letting of horses, post-chaises, and other vehicles for hire at most of the principal inns, united with the frequent and regular conveyance of letters and newspapers by means of the post-office system, are sufficient indications of the wonderful transition experienced by the inhabitants of this district in their social and trafficking intercommunication with their more southern neighbours. Formerly, the tenants were restricted to particular millers and smiths, to whom they were obliged to pay certain heavy servitudes ; but now they are happily relieved from these remains of feudal slavery, so that they may choose their smith and miller where they best can. Then, the old Scotch plough, which was universally used, was drawn by four Highland ponies yoked abreast and led by a driver walking backwards ; the horses' harness were rudely made of tow ; sledges and creels were generally used instead of carts ; thrashing-mills had no existence ; and private gigs and carriages were exceedingly rare, if not unknown. Now, all the implements of husbandry are generally of the most improved and superior description ; thrashing mills are coming into use ; and private carriages are comparatively numerous. At the period above referred to, the common people's finest attire was made of coarse home-spun apparel. The men's only head-dress, both at church and market, was a common blue bonnet ; that of the matrons consisted of what was called the *curch*, made of linen, and tied under the chin, while the unmarried females, again, appeared bare-headed, with their hair tied up with a piece of ribbon

or fillet; and neither male nor female had any other cover to screen them from sun or rain save their plaids, variously dyed and wrought. But now, most of the young men appear on public occasions dressed in West of England cloth, hats, stocks, or silk handkerchiefs; and while the matrons deck themselves in Merino and sombre-coloured cotton gowns, with straw and silk bonnets, the young unmarried females are gaudily dressed in fashionable prints, *mousselines de laine*, or silks, and caps with a profusion of gum-flowers, not unfrequently surmounted with Leghorn bonnets, having their full share of ribbon. At that time, the baneful and demoralizing practice of smuggling was carried on in almost every hamlet throughout the parish. Now, these seminaries of impiety and dissipation have almost all disappeared before the establishment of legal distilleries, and the rigid observance of excise laws. Then, many were the men who could neither write nor cypher, while none of the women could do so, and but few of these could perfectly read. Now, there is hardly a man under sixty years of age to be met with that is not ordinarily versed in these branches of education, and mostly all the young females can both read and write, and not a few of them can cast accounts.

But, great and manifest as these improvements are, others might still be effected with some trouble and expense. Ample as are the means of communication already enjoyed throughout the parish, still the rebuilding of Comrie Bridge over the Lyon would greatly add thereto, and it were certainly desirable that those local and private interests which have hitherto opposed the erection thereof, would ere long give way to the far higher interests of the public necessity and welfare. The abolishing of servitude, still exacted by the proprietors from many of their tenants, in name of *kain*,—the building of more commodious and comfortable houses and steadings for the tenants, and neater cottages for the poor and labouring classes,—the planting of some of the knolls, presently lying waste and irreclaimable, but more especially, the planting of a belt along the head dike which separates the hill from the lower ground, with larch or some other wood congenial to the climate and nature of the soil, would also tend mightily to add to the personal domestic comforts of the people, as well as to the sheltered and ornate appearance of the parish,—while the repressing of unnecessary ale-houses; the encouragement of frugality and industry, by means of subsidiary savings banks and friendly so-

cities ; a greater facility in acquiring every branch of useful knowledge, by introducing more generally the most approved system of tuition and suitable class-books into all our schools, combined with a more extensive diffusion and higher standard of education, by establishing additional schools, and raising the endowments of such as are already established,—are means well calculated to advance the moral and spiritual improvement of the community, and which could not ultimately fail, by the blessing of Providence, to yield the peaceable fruits of

“ A virtuous populace to rise the while,  
And stand a wall of fire around our much-lov'd isle.”

December 1842.

## PARISH OF KIRKMICHAEL.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. PETER DRUMMOND, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Boundaries, &c.*—THIS parish is bounded by those of Logierait and Moulin on the west ; Braemar and Crathy on the north ; Glensla and Alyth on the east ; and Blairgowrie, Kinloch, Cluny, and Caputh, on the south. It comprehends the greater part of Strathardle, the whole of Glenshee, and a district lying at the lower extremity of that glen, on the west side of the river called Black Water. Strathardle is about 10 miles long, and from 1 to 2 miles broad, and includes part of the parishes of Moulin, Kirkmichael, Blairgowrie, Bendochy, and Kinloch. Glenshee is about 7 miles long, and less than a mile broad. At the head of this glen are two smaller ones, narrow, and about 3 miles long. The district bordering on the Black Water is of a form nearly circular, measuring somewhat more than 2 miles in diameter. Though this parish is pretty extensive, there is no part of it detached. Its figure does not vary much from a parallelogram, being 17 miles long from north to south, and from 6 to 7 miles broad.

According to tradition, Strathardle was anciently called in Gaelic *Strath na muice brice*, *the strath of the spotted wild sow* ;

PERTH.

3 D

which name it is said to have retained till the time of the Danish invasions, when, in a battle fought between the Danes and the Caledonians, at the head of the country, a chief, named Ard-fhuil, *high, noble blood*, was killed, whose grave is shown at this day. From him the country got the name of Srath Ard-fhuil, *Strathardle*.

*Hills, Lochs, &c.*—A hill at the head of Glenshee, called Beinn-Ghulbhuinn, is distinguished by having been the scene of a hunting which proved fatal to Diarmid, one of the Fingalian heroes. Here are shown the den of the wild boar that was hunted, a spring called Tobar nam Fiann, the *fountain of the Fingalians*; a small lake, called Loch an Tuirc, *the boar's loch*; also Diarmid's grave, where he was buried by his comrades. The highest hill in the country is Mount Blair, which divides this parish from Glenisla. The only lochs of note are, *Loch Sheshernich*, and *Loch nan ean*, situated pretty high among the hills. These abound in excellent trout. There are one or two medicinal springs, which are believed to be of an antiscorbutic quality.

*Climate, Soil, Crop.*—The country being more elevated than Athole on the one hand, and Marr on the other, and being in general open and unsheltered, the climate is colder than in either of these districts, and more exposed to the severity of a cold or stormy season.

The soil on the banks of the Ardlie is thin and dry, having a sandy bottom, and yields in general light crops. In the higher grounds it is wet and spongy, unfriendly to vegetation, except in dry warm seasons, when it yields a pretty good crop. The same description applies to the soil of Glenshee, and of the Black-water district.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Antiquities and Curiosities.*—In the middle of a pretty extensive and elevated heathy moor, stands a large heap of stones or cairn, 90 yards in circumference, and about 25 feet in height, which are described particularly in the old Account. There can be little doubt that all these are relics of Druidism.

About a mile north-east from the above-mentioned great cairn, on a flat-topped eminence, surrounded at some distance with rocky hills of considerable height, and steep ascent, stands one of those rocking-stones which the Druids are said to have employed as a kind of ordeal for detecting guilt in doubtful cases. This stone is placed on the plain surface of a rock level with the ground. Its

shape is quadrangular, approaching to the figure of a rhombus, of which the greater diagonal is 7 feet, and the lesser 5 feet. Its mean thickness is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet. Its solid contents are therefore about 51,075 cubical feet.

On the north side of the stone, at the distance of 60 yards, on a small eminence, are two concentric circles, similar to that already described, and a single circle adjoining to them on the east side. Beyond this, at thirty-seven yards distance, on another small eminence, is another pair of concentric circles, with a single one adjoining to them on the east side. Beyond these, at forty-five yards distance, is a third pair of concentric circles, with their adjacent circle on the east side. Farther on to the north-east, at the distance of 90 yards, is a single circle, and beside it, on the west side, two rectangular enclosures of 37 feet by 12; also a cairn 23 or 24 yards in circumference, and about 12 feet high in the centre. Several small cairns are scattered in the neighbourhood. One hundred and twenty yards west from the rocking-stone is a pair of concentric circles, with a small single circle beside them of 7 feet in diameter. All the pairs of concentric circles are of the same dimensions, the inner one being about 32 feet, and the outer about 45 or 46 feet in diameter; and all of them have a breach or doorway four or five feet wide on the south side. The single circles are, in general, from 32 to 36 feet in diameter, and have no breach. The vestiges of all these structures are perfectly distinct, and many of the stones still retain the erect posture in which all of them had probably been placed at first. Cairns and circles similar to those described are to be seen in other hills of this parish, particularly between Strathardle and Glenderby. There are likewise several tall erect stones, called here in Gaelic, *Crom-leaca*, or *Clach-shleuchda*, *stones of worship*.—(*Old Account*.)

*Parochial Registers*.—These begin in the year 1650, and contain records of the marriages and births, and, at times, of deaths. They have not been regularly kept till of late years.

*Land-owners*.—These are, Mrs Farquharson of Invercauld, valued rent, L.355, 17s. 4d.; Miss Rutherford of Ashintully, L.320, 12s.; Patrick Small Keir, Esq. of Kinmonth, L.336, 14s. 11d.

*Mansion Houses*.—These are, Ashintully, the residence of Miss Rutherford; and Woodhill, the residence of Adam Fergusson, Esq.

## III.—POPULATION.

Amount in 1801,	.	1563
1811,	.	1460
1821,	.	1551
1831,	.	1568
1841,	.	1411

## IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—

Cultivated or occasionally under cultivation,	.	4419 Imperial acres.
Never cultivated,	.	44616
That might be cultivated with profit,	.	901
In undivided common,	.	1460
Under wood,	.	683

*Rent.*—About L. 1, 2s. per imperial acre. Real rental of the parish, L.6450, 12s. 6d.

About 400 acres of waste land have, of late years, been brought into cultivation. Lime, of which there is abundance in the parish, is applied with great success as a stimulant. The modern system of husbandry in the low country has been introduced in all its departments. Most of the farmers have neat and comfortable houses, instead of the mean and unseemly hovels which they formerly occupied. These improvements have been greatly facilitated and accelerated by the formation of good roads, and the erection of bridges. One of the most important of these, a handsome bridge of two arches, was built during last summer across the river Ardle at Kirkmichael, the expense of which, amounting to upwards of L. 500, was raised by voluntary subscription among the public-spirited proprietors and inhabitants of the district.

*Manufactures.*—There is one distillery on the property of Patrick Small Keir, Esq., conducted by Mr Alexander Fraser, Pitcarnuck.

*Fishings.*—There are none except trout-fishing in the streams and lochs. Several of the proprietors have a grant of the right of salmon-fishing in their charters, thereby clearly demonstrating that valuable fish at one time frequented the rivers of Ardle and Blackwater, which unite a little below the Bridge of Cally and form the Erich; but in consequence of a natural obstruction in the river last named near Blairgowrie, thirteen miles from Kirkmichael, advantage was taken of the circumstance, perhaps 150 years ago, to raise an artificial barrier, which effectually intercepts the progress of the salmon upwards.

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—269 families belong to the Established Church; 7 families are Dissenters or Seceders; and there is 1

Roman Catholic family. Stipend, L. 150. Glebe, in extent 5 acres arable, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  of pasture.

The manse is at present in tolerably good condition, and was built in the year 1818.

*Education.*—There are two parochial schools; one in the village of Kirkmichael, and the other in Glenshee. As the valleys of Strathardle and Glenshee, which run nearly parallel, compose the parish, and the parochial schools are situated at the west or upper end, an additional school is required near the eastern extremity in Strathardle. The first teacher has the maximum salary; the second L. 15 yearly. The first has about L. 15, the second about L. 10 yearly of fees. The first has L. 15, the second L. 2 a-year from other sources.

*Poor.*—The number on the roll is about 12, exclusive of two lunatics, whose maintenance requires about L.30 annually. They receive about 2s. per week. About L. 88 annually is the amount contributed for their relief; whereof about L. 42 is from church collections, and L.4 for mortcloth and hearse. The heritors have hitherto voluntarily contributed what is required in addition to the ordinary funds. There is a sum of L.8, 8s., being the interest of a capital sum of L.220, bequeathed by Messrs M'Dougall, Bruce, and Lyons; also L.200, bequeathed by the late Patrick Dow to the poor not on the pauper-roll, to be under the management of the kirk-session. There are also two mortifications; one yielding L.17 a-year, bequeathed by a Mr. Stewart, for the education of boys of the name of Stewart at the schools of Kirkmichael, Glenshee, and Drumfork; and another, yielding about L. 20 a-year, mortified by the late Patrick Dow, Esq., for establishing bursaries in favour of young men educated at the parish school of Kirkmichael, failing which, at the adjoining parish school of Moulin. The University of St Andrews is directed to be preferred.

*December 1842.*



# PARISH OF DUNBARNY.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. ALEXANDER CUMMING, MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name of this parish is written Dunbarnie, Dunberny, Dumbarny, or Dumbarnie. In ancient times its usual orthography was Dunberny. It is supposed to be compounded of the two Celtic terms *Dun*, a *hill*, and *Bearn*, or *Beairn*, or *Beirn*, which signifies a *breach* or *fissure*. Accordingly, in former times, the church, as well as the most considerable village in the parish, were situated on an eminence close to Dunbarny House, fronting the Craigend cottages, where a gap or aperture in a ridge of hills exists, through which the road between Edinburgh and Perth now runs.

*Extent.*—The extreme length of this parish from east to west is 4 miles; its greatest breadth, north to south, is 4 miles; its average breadth,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Its superficial extent may be estimated at 5 square miles.

*Boundaries.*—It is bounded on the north, by the parishes of Rhynd and Perth; on the east, by the Rhynd and Abernethy; on the south, by Abernethy and Dron; on the west, by Dron, Forgardenny, and a detached part of Forteviot.\* Its form presents a very irregular and waving outline.

*Topographical Appearances.*—This parish is intersected by the river Earn, which, though it pursues a winding course, upon the whole, rolls its current in a direction from east to west, and its generally level form is diversified by Moncrieff or Moredun Hill, which towers to an altitude of 756 feet above the surface of the

\* It may excite the surprise of a reader not well acquainted with this district to be told, that any part of Forteviot bounds the parish of Dunbarny on the west. It ought, therefore, to be stated, that an insulated tract of Forteviot, embracing the Mailor and the Hiltown of Mailor is in immediate proximity to Dunbarny, joining it at Craigend, which is seven miles east from the parish church of Forteviot. The inhabitants of that district have been, for generations, in the habit of attending Dunbarny church, although they are properly under the pastoral superintendance of the minister of Forteviot.

sea. The summit of this hill commands a view which has been termed by Pennant "the glory of Scotland." Towards the east the Carse of Gowrie, with its fertile and spacious plains, extends before the eye, with the Frith of Tay gradually widening, till at Dundee and Broughty Ferry, its waters swell to a majestic expanse. Towards the south and west, Strathearn spreads out its ample surface, being an irriguous and highly cultivated valley, richly adorned with wood, studded with gentlemen's seats, enlivened with the graceful and picturesque sweeps of the Earn, and bounded by the verdant and gently swelling Ochils. A curve made by these hills intercepts a view of Stirling, but the hills of Monteith may be seen stretching beyond it. The spectacle of mountainous grandeur towards the west and north-west is august and imposing. Benvoirlich, Benmore, and other hills frown with a commanding appearance. Two monuments or obelisks of granite, commemorating the achievements of illustrious men, may be seen beyond Crieff; that of Sir David Baird, the hero of Seringapatam, on the elegant and conical hill of Tomahastle, in the parish of Monzievaird, and that of Lord Melville near Comrie. A spectator turning toward the north will observe, in the distance, a considerable part of the alpine scenery of Perthshire, and other contiguous counties. At his feet is a romantic view of Perth, the Tay, Kin-noul Hill, and Kinfauns Castle. Before the trees that crown Moredun top had shot up to their present stately growth, Perth and Dundee could be seen from the same spot on it.

Moncrieffe-Hill forms one of the most imposing objects that beautify the scenery of this district. It is covered with a rich variety of wood, which, contrasted with the bold and craggy precipices which adorn its southern declivity, gives it an appearance strikingly picturesque.

*Hydrography.*—The river Earn rolls through this parish. Its waters in this district have by no means the crystal transparency which distinguish them near Crieff and Comrie. After traversing the rich loamy soil, which extends several miles along its course above the Bridge of Earn, it becomes considerably tinged by the fertile banks through which it meanders. It is reported that formerly its channel ran close to the bank on which the manse is built. A spectator stationing himself on the new bridge, and looking westwards; will perceive the banks along which it formerly winded, and which it has now deserted; they are a little to the south of its present current. It is gradually shifting its channel

farther towards the north, in consequence of which it was found necessary, last century, to add an arch to the old bridge to span that part of it that was penetrating northward. Formerly, the Earn, after gliding along the bank close to the manse, rolled through what is now the garden attached to the inn. This will be easily understood by any individual who looks towards the old bridge. He will perceive it could only be by such a direction of its stream, that it could sweep in at right angles to that ancient structure. The current at present strikes that bridge obliquely, which could not have been the case when it was originally built, as bridges are placed at right angles to the current. It would have changed its bed much more, had not artificial embankments confined it; and this accounts for the comparatively few deflexions it has made from its course since the fourteenth century, when the old bridge was reared. The velocity of the Earn is from one and a half to two miles an hour.

The fish found in the Earn consists of salmon, salmon trout, whittings, and pike. The whittings are found from August to April, pike, chiefly after floods, being carried down by the impetuosity of the current. The salmon-fishing on the Earn has materially declined in value. The fisheries connected with Moncrieffe property yield only £31 per annum; at one period, they produced more.

*Pitkeathly and Dunbarny Mineral Waters.*—There are two traditions current in this quarter concerning these mineral waters. The first is, that the notice of the country people was first attracted to them by observing pigeons frequently resort to them. But the most prevalent tradition is, that their medicinal virtue was first discovered by reapers, who, when using them to quench their thirst at their mid-day meal, experienced their strong effects. The first authentic notice which is any where to be found concerning them is supplied by the session records of this parish. The following interesting extract from these documents bears the date 20th September 1711: “Session met according to appointment, and took into consideration the profanation of the Sabbath by people frequenting the medicine well of Pitkeathly, whereupon some of the elders were desired to visit the well every Sabbath morning, and dehort the people from coming to it on the Lord’s day, and inquire what parishes they belong to, that word may be sent to their respective ministers to discharge them;” and John Vallance is

\* It has been already mentioned, that the principal village in this parish was si-

forbidden to give them passage at Dunberny boat, and Thomas Drummond desired to spread the report, that they are to be stopped by constables, by authority of the justices of the peace."

About sixty years ago, great complaints were made that the waters were turbid and foul. This happened from a variety of causes, but principally from persons laving their distempered limbs in them. Subsequently, a building was erected on what is now the property of John Grant, Esq. of Kilgraston, in which the water might be dealt out, and hot baths furnished. Great numbers of individuals crowd to this district every year for the benefit of the water.

The following observations on the Pitkeathly waters are from the pen of Dr Edward, one of the medical practitioners at the Bridge of Earn.

"The mineral water of Pitkeathly belongs to the class saline, as distinguished from the acidulous, chalybeate, and sulphureous. Along, however, with the alkaline and earthy salts which form the basis of its constitution, it likewise contains a notable portion of carbonic acid, and it is the presence of this acid which gives to this mineral, when poured from one vessel to another, in a slight degree, the sparkling appearance so characteristic of water impregnated with this gas.

When the Pitkeathly water is heated, its transparency is slightly affected, from the expulsion of the carbonic acid, and consequent deposition of carbonate of lime, which was held in solution by the gas, and this takes place in all mineral waters where carbonic acid and carbonate of lime exist together. There is also the escape of a quantity of atmospheric air, and an inconsiderable portion of nitrogen gas.

Its other constituents are alkaline and earthy salts, and on these whatever medicinal properties it possesses altogether depend. The salt present in largest quantity is the muriate of lime, or, more properly speaking, chloride of calcium, and it is also the most important in a medicinal point of view.

There are different analyses of the Pitkeathly water, but they all nearly agree in the ultimate constitution of the mineral, although there is great disparity as regards their quantity, and state of

tuated at Dunbarny. It would appear from this minute of session, that a boat was regularly connected with it, furnishing a more expeditious route to Perth than the circuitous one by the Bridge of Earn. The Dunbarny family have the privilege, when they choose to avail themselves of it, of going to Perth by a ferry-boat, and travelling through the fields on the opposite side, though belonging to a different proprietor.

combination. The following very nearly coincides with the analysis of Dr Murray,—the only difference being the existence of a minute portion of nitrogen gas, which, however, might have been produced, during the analysis, from the decomposition of atmospheric air, as the mercury used in collecting the gaseous products was very impure. The temperature of the Pitkeathly spring was 49° at the time the trial was made (July), being 24° under the temperature of the air.

Proportion of ingredients in a gallon :—

Carbonic acid, 9.5 c. inches.	Nitrogen, 1.5 c. inches.
Carbonate of lime, . 5.7 grains.	Sulphate of soda, . 6.3 grains.
Chloride of calcium, . 170.	Chloride of sodium, . 114.5

The most delicate tests afforded no indication of either iron or hydriodic acid, which, by some, have been supposed to exist in the Pitkeathly mineral. The effects of mineral waters on the animal economy must not be supposed to coincide with the individual action of the substances composing them,—for not only do these exist in different states of chemical combination from what we would infer from analysis, but their action is considerably modified by the manner in which they are admixed.

Much has been said about the medicinal properties of the Pitkeathly mineral, and there are few diseases in which it has not been recommended and tried. Like many other minerals, too, it is considered by not a few to be a panacea for all disorders,—a sort of Paracelsian elixir, by which not only the sick may be restored, but even the constitution of the healthy sustained and invigorated.

It is to be regretted that this belief in their universal efficacy is so prevalent, since it induces many to employ them in diseases where they cannot but be prejudicial; and many, also, who enjoy the utmost health, to persevere in their continued use, very much to the derangement, and it may be ultimate hurt, of their constitutions. There is not the least doubt, too, that many of the cures effected during a course of mineral waters, and willingly ascribed by the patient to the potent virtues of his favourite mineral, are, with far greater truth, to be attributed to the less equivocal agencies of change of air, healthful exercise, and buoyancy of spirits, the usual concomitants of rustication. It must not be supposed that these remarks are intended to underrate the value of the Pitkeathly mineral; for the benefit to be derived from its judicious use, in some forms of disease, is very great. Their only object is to guard against its inordinate and indiscriminate employment,

in many instances either aggravating the previous disorder, or inducing others equally hazardous.

It would be useless to specify all the cases in which these waters might be advantageously used, as they should be employed in no one of any importance without the sanction and advice of the physician. A few of the more decided, however, may be mentioned.

In plethoric habits of the body, and where it is desirable to counteract such a tendency, they may be taken freely, provided the presence of no other disease forbids their employment. If not sufficiently active, some saline purgative, such as the Epsom or Rochelle salt, should be added.

When this plethoric state of the body is accompanied with what is by no means uncommon, determination of blood to the head, threatening apoplexy, their continued use will be highly serviceable, since there is no form of medicine better adapted for quickly lessening the amount of the circulating fluids than the saline, and in the state which nature has furnished, it is more likely to be perseveringly continued than would be the less palatable prescription of the physician.

In some chronic diseases of the liver, particularly that form of liver disease induced by residence in tropical climates, the benefit to be received from them is in most cases very decided. They afford relief in such cases, by unloading the large vessels in the neighbourhood of the disease, and it may be also, in some degree, by acting as a counter-irritant. Other remedies should be conjoined; but these, of course, it is the province of the medical attendant to regulate, as the quantity and extent to which they are necessary, must depend entirely upon the peculiarity of the particular case.

The diuretic properties of these waters (dependent on the large quantity of the chloride of calcium they contain) is the subject of remark by most individuals who use them, and this peculiar property renders them useful in some forms of calculous disease. There is no good reason, however, to suppose (looking at their constitution) that they possess any specific control over the disease mentioned. Indeed, if such remedies are required, we possess them of far greater influence, and more to be depended on, than the one in question.

Their alterative and diluent qualities render them of considerable utility as an adjuvant in the treatment of some forms of syphilitic complaint.

When the muriate of lime (chloride of calcium) was considered by physicians to be a remedy worthy of trial in the treatment of scrofula, these waters, from containing it in large quantity, were, of course, highly extolled. This remedy, however, has since fallen into merited disrepute, and it is now on all hands allowed to be of little or no service in checking the disease in question. The same remarks, of course, are applicable to the Pitkeathly water: in such cases it can be of no service; and, by usurping the place of more active remedies, must be prejudicial, by incurring all the evils of procrastination.

There is a vulgar notion abroad that these waters possess great efficacy as an external application, and poor people from all quarters may be seen every season with diseases which a little surgical skill and attention could easily have eradicated, daily performing the required ablutions, in the confirmed hope of an almost miraculous cure: and this belief is not confined to that particular class, for it obtains also among those whose education would be a guarantee for their better judgment.

It is a pity that such is the case, as most of the diseases alluded to are such as proper surgical treatment could soon overcome, whereas, the result of the treatment adopted is a degree of irritation which renders the disease previously manageable, altogether incorrigible.

Among diseases of this kind may be mentioned, chronic abscesses, ulcers, and some affections of the eye.

The Pitkeathly warm-bath has been recommended in diseases of the skin, but on what grounds cannot be ascertained, as it contains no substance in its composition that can have the slightest specific action on the vessels of the skin. Of course it answers all the purposes of ordinary bathing, and may be used to the same extent.

In concluding these observations we cannot help remarking, that whatever may be said against the indiscriminate use of these waters, they are at least valuable in so far, that they are generally taken cheerfully, and when other medicines would be refused or neglected; the patient must undergo change of scene, salutary exercise, and, in short, altogether be placed in the situation of all others most conducive to the speedy recovery of an invalid."

The mineral water may be found in greater or less abundance over an expanse of from 10 to 12 acres, stretching over the Pitkeathly, Dunbarny, and Ballenderick properties. On one of the

fields in the Ballenderick grounds, which is commonly designated the Nether Oxfang field, and is contiguous to the Pitkeathly and Dunbarny estates, the mineral water is so copious that when any part of the west end of it is dug to the depth of six or seven feet, it immediately accumulates in great profusion, and of the same quality as that diffused through the springs already mentioned.

The new village of the Bridge of Earn was built for the accommodation of strangers frequenting the wells. There the lodgings are good, cheap, and abundant. There are two inns or hotels in this parish intended for the entertainment of strangers,—one near the wells, and another at the Bridge of Earn. The former is the old mansion-house, formerly occupied by the proprietors of Pitkeathly. Of late it has undergone considerable repairs.

But the hotel that is most resorted to, is that of the Moncrieffe Arms, at the Bridge of Earn. It is one of the most commodious inns in Scotland, finely situated on the banks of the river, and near the handsome bridge that has been erected over it.

*Mineralogy and Geology.*—The rocks which occur in this parish belong to the secondary formation; a great part of it consists of secondary trap, commonly called whinstone, and the remainder of sandstone. Trap composes the whole of Moncrieffe Hill; at the north of the parish, it extends over the greater part of Dunbarny property; it may be seen to advantage in the whinstone quarries on that estate; and at Glencairn cottage, in the vicinity of Mr Craigie's mansion house. The sandstone, which stretches through a part of the southern division of the parish, is that kind of sandstone which lies below the coal formation, and which is supposed by some to be the old red sandstone. It is to be regretted that, though the trap and sandstone are found within a few hundred feet of each other, there is no place where their junction can be discerned.

The trap of Moncrieffe Hill embraces the three different varieties of clinkstone, greenstone, and amygdaloid, which are frequently found in the same mountain. The amygdaloid occurs in various parts of the hill, but may be seen to the greatest advantage in the quarry near Easter Moncrieffe. The following contains an enumeration of the various minerals imbedded in the amygdaloid found there, and in the amygdaloidal masses distributed through the other parts of the hill: barytes or heavy spar, calcareous spar, fibrous limestone, jasper, agate; but the predominating mineral at that quarry, and one which is frequently disseminated in the



amygdaloid of Scotland, is green earth, or compact chlorite. It is found in small globular pieces, and in such abundance, that it is scarcely possible to detach a fragment from the rock at the quarry without perceiving several specimens. This green earth is sometimes used as a pigment in water-painting, and is the mountain-green of painters.

*Quarries.*—There are five trap or whinstone quarries in this parish, which are now, or have been wrought at other times. One of them is on the Kinmonth property, about two and a-half miles from the parish church; two on the Moncrieffe property (one at Craigend and the other at Easter Moncrieffe); and two on the Dunbarny property, about a mile and a-half west from the church. The stones taken from these quarries are used for drains and road-metal. A few blocks are occasionally employed as materials for building; but from the copious masses of sandstone found in different parts of the neighbourhood, little whinstone is required for this purpose. At Dunbarny and Pitkeathly, there are sandstone or freestone quarries of a dark-red hue. Both dip towards the south-east. The sandstone of Dunbarny is of a durable character, and from it great quantities of stones have been conveyed for building, not only to different parts of this parish, but also to Perth, Abernethy, and other places. It is wrought with iron wedges, the application of gunpowder being seldom resorted to as in whinstone quarries. Some of the strata are uncommonly hard, and to penetrate and detach them requires great labour on the part of the workmen. More than seventy years have elapsed since the Dunbarny quarry was opened. It yields an annual rent of L.17.

The sandstone of Pitkeathly quarry is composed of softer materials, and from this cause the working of it has been discontinued for several years. The mansion-house of Kilgraston was built, partly from the Dunbarny and partly from the Pitkeathly quarries.

At Dunbarny quarry, stone for hewn work is sold at from 3½d. to 5d. per foot; rubble or building stone at 6d. per cart-load.

*Botany.*—Plants found on the face of Moncreiffe Hill.

Atropa Belladonna	Dianthus deltoides	Geranium molle
Anchusa officinalis	Rosa spinosissima	———— sylvaticum
Gentiana campestris	Cistus helianthemum	———— columbinum
Erica Tetralix	Meconopsis cambrica	———— lucidum
———— alba	Antirrhinum cymbalaria	———— sanguineum
———— cinerea	Thymus flora alba	Ornithopus perpusillus
Calluna vulgaris	Digitalis alba	Gnaphalium dioicum

## Plants found on the back of Moncrieffe Hill.

<i>Circaea Lutetiana</i>	<i>Polygonum viviparum</i>	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>
<i>Pinguicula lusitanica</i>	<i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i>	<i>Parnassia palustris</i>
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	<i>Comarum palustre</i>	
<i>Trientalis europæa</i>	<i>Astragalus hypoglottis</i>	

## Ferns.

<i>Asplenium viride</i>	<i>Asplenium Trichomanes</i>	<i>Scolopendrium ceterach</i>
— <i>adiantum nigrum</i>	— <i>septentrionale</i>	<i>Blechnum boreale</i>
— <i>Ruta muraria</i>	<i>Scolopendrium vulgare</i>	<i>Pteris crispa</i>

On the north bank of the Earn, a short distance west from the bridge, is found the *Aira cæspitosa vivipara*, one of the most elegant of the Scots grasses.

## Plants found in the neighbourhood of Dunbarny House.

<i>Veronica saxatilis</i>	<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	<i>Geum rivale</i>
<i>Alchemilla vulgaris</i>	<i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i>	<i>Ficaria ranunculoides</i>
— <i>pubescens</i>	— <i>rosea</i>	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	<i>Vicia cracca</i>
<i>Scabiosa succisa</i>	<i>Dianthus cæsius</i>	<i>Orchis maculata</i>
— <i>arvensis</i>	<i>Tormentilla reptans</i>	— <i>bifolia</i>
<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	<i>Potentilla argentea</i>	
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	

The Moncrieffe garden contains many rare plants, such as heaths, *Pelargoniums*, and other natives of the Cape of Good Hope; also a considerable number from New South Wales and other regions.

*Trees.*—Till about eighty years ago, scarcely any trees grew in Strathearn, except a few sprinkled around gentlemen's seats. The whole valley is now studded with plantations; one effect of which, according to the testimony of old people, has been to abate very sensibly the violence of the blasts.

About forty years ago, Moncrieffe hill was overgrown with furze and broom; it is now covered with thriving wood of various sorts. Around the house are some very fine trees: horse chestnuts, measuring eighteen feet round the stem; walnuts, twelve; ashes, ten; and a willow, planted some years ago, is above ten feet in circumference. The number of acres in the parish under wood is 419. In the management of trees, there is a great improvement in the parish in comparison of former times. The trees which have been planted in the grounds of Moncrieffe are, oak, ash, elm, birch, beech, Spanish chestnut, silver and spruce-firs; and larch and Scotch firs are used for nurses; but when it is intended to embellish any portion of the grounds, without reference to the profit to be ultimately derived from the wood, horse chestnut, lime, plane, and walnut, are interspersed amongst the former varieties.

Among the most remarkable vegetable productions in the pa-

rish is a tulip tree at Pitkeathly House, which is supposed to be above one hundred years old, and has been observed to flower for several seasons. It is perhaps the largest in this neighbourhood. It is generally supposed that the tulip-tree does not blossom in this part of the country until it is very old; but there is one in the grounds of Sir Thomas Moncrieffe that flowered in 1836, and was planted by the late gardener in 1796.

There is a stately and umbrageous Spanish chestnut-tree, near Old Kilgraston, which is said to have been planted on the day of the capitulation of Perth to Oliver Cromwell.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The teinds connected with the parish of Dunbarny, and patronage to the benefice, belonged formerly to the Town-Council of Edinburgh. The revenue of St Giles's\* Church in that city, which were administered by the Town-Council, arose from the teinds of several parishes scattered through Scotland, such as Eastern and Western Weems, Limpetlaw, Brotherstones, Gogar, and, among the rest, Dunbarny. The charter of King James VI., given under the Great Seal of Scotland, and which confirms to the city of Edinburgh many former charters and privileges granted by previous monarchs, from Robert the Bruce downwards, designated the Golden Charter, given at Holyroodhouse, 15th March 1603, confirms a decree pronounced by the Lords of Council and Session, in 1583, "ordaining and declaring that the churches of Dunbarny, Potty, and Moncrieffe do, and in all time coming shall belong to the aforesaid provosts, bailiffs, councils, and community of the said town of Edinburgh, according to the tenor of the aforesaid infestment, granted to them by our said dear mother, of all the benefices, prebendaries, and other foundations within the liberty of the said burgh, conform to the union and annexation of the tithe sheaves, and emoluments of the rectory of the aforesaid church of Dunbarny, whereof the said churches of Potty and Moncrieffe are appendages, and were anciently annexed to the collegiate church of St Giles, situated within the said town of Edinburgh, as is more fully contained in the said decret; the

\* St Giles, though before the Reformation only a parish church (not being constituted into a cathedral till 1633) had attached to it a considerable religious body. It consisted of a provost, curate, sixteen prebendaries, a sacristan, bedall, minister of the choir, and four choristers or singing boys. The patronage of St Giles's was, in remote times, lodged in the hands of the bishop of Lindesfern, or Holy Island, in Northumberland, and subsequently transferred to the abbot and canons of Dunfermline, with whom it continued till it was vested in the magistrates and council of Edinburgh. See Maitland's History of Edinburgh.

charter of confirmation given and granted by us, confirming the charter aforesaid, dated the 14th day of April anno 1582, and of our reign the fifteenth year."

Several other documents, which might be quoted, bear a reference to the same right bestowed on the Town-Council of Edinburgh.

King James VI., by act of Parliament of this date, (*i. e.* 5th June 1592), " approves, and confirms, and annexes, to remain with the magistrates of Edinburgh, (for maintaining the ministry and hospital), whereof they have now the property and superiority, as the Popish clergy had, to whom these lands and annualrents formerly belonged, viz. the donations and mortifications granted by Queen Mary, his Majesty's mother, and himself at divers times, of the lands, benefices, and rents, which formerly pertained to any bishop, abbot, and prior, or other ecclesiastic, and the general annexation of the temporality of benefices, to the act of Parliament, 29th July 1585, is dissolved, in so far as it may appear to extend to the premises, or to the annexations formerly made in favours of the college and hospital in Edinburgh, of the teinds of Dunberny, (which pertained to the chapel of St Giles's kirk in Edinburgh), in the sheriffdom of Perth, whereof the kirks of Potty and Moncrieff are pendicles, the parsonage of Currie, and half the vicarage thereof, pertaining to the archdean of Lothian, the lands, annualrents, houses, yards, and biggings of the Trinity College, within Edinburgh, pertaining to the provost and prebenders thereof, and common lands and annualrents of the same, which annexation, his Majesty, with advice of Parliament, ratifies and approves, as also of new annexes the other half of the vicarage of Currie, to which no person is provided; and the whole vicarage of the kirk of Dunberny, vacant by the deprivation of N. N.\* last possessor thereof, to remain with the council and community of Edinburgh in all time coming, declaring that none of the particulars aforesaid before disposed, and newly annexed for the sustentation of the ministry within the burgh of Edinburgh, and entertaining the hospital thereof, are, and shall be comprehended in the general annexation of the ecclesiastical lands to the Crown." The patronage of Dunberny remained in the possession of the town-council of Edinburgh till the year 1820, when it was sold to Mr William Anderson, Junior, merchant, Newburgh, for L.1400. It now belongs to Sir Thomas Moncrieffe, Bart.

\* The initials only of this individual are contained in the charter.

The church of Potty continued an appendage to Dunbarny till 1652, when, from the distance of its locality from the Dunbarny kirk, it was annexed to Dron *quoad spiritualia*; but, for long after this date, it was connected with this parish *quoad civilia*. In the valuations of the county of Perth, taken in 1649 and 1667, part of Balmanno estate, Kirkpotta, Meikle Fielde, and Cloch-ridgestone, are marked as constituent parts of Dunbarny, though they now belong to Dron.

It appears, that, in 1645, shortly before the battle of Kilsyth, the camp of the Covenanters was pitched at Kilgraston, in this parish. (Vide Wishart's Memoirs of Montrose).

*Eminent Men.*—Robert Craigie of Glendoic, Lord President of the Court of Session. He was son of Laurence Craigie of Kilgraston, born in the year 1685, and admitted advocate 3d January 1710. “He was appointed Lord Advocate, in the room of Charles Erskine of Tinwald, 4th March 1742; and, on the death of Robert Dundas of Arniston, was promoted to be President of the Court of Session, and took his seat on the 2d of February 1754. He was named by patent, 18th June 1755, one of the Commissioners for improving the fisheries and manufactures of Scotland. Of this judge Lord Woodhouselee observes, “He united, to a very profound knowledge of the laws, and an understanding peculiarly turned to the unfolding of the systematic intricacies of the feudal doctrines, the most persevering industry, which, introducing him to notice in some remarkable cases where those talents are peculiarly requisite, were the foundation of a very extensive practice at the bar. His rise to eminence, however, was slow, as he had none of the exterior accomplishments that attract attention; and, though an acute and able reasoner, his manner of pleading was dry, prolix, and deficient both in grace and energy. In the earlier part of his life, he had, for several years, given private lectures in his chambers to students of the law, before he had any considerable business as a barrister; but his industry, and the gradually prevailing opinion of his deep acquaintance with jurisprudence, overcame at length every obstacle, and he rose to the first rank among the counsel who were his contemporaries. His Lordship died 10th March 1760.\*

Lord Craigie, one of the Senators of the College of Justice,

\* See an Historical Account of the Senators of the College of Justice, from its institution, in 1592, by George Brunton, Solicitor, Edinburgh, and David Haig, Assistant-Librarian to the Faculty of Advocates.

was born in this parish in 1754, and buried at the old churchyard of Dunbarny, in 1834.

John Grant, Esq. who purchased Kilgraston in the year 1784. He was several years a Member of the Assembly and an Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court, in the Island of Jamaica, where he obtained the office of Chief Justice. He died at Edinburgh, the 29th of March 1793, and was interred in the West Church burying-ground, Edinburgh. He was connected with this parish only by the purchase of property.

Mr John Bonar, minister of Torphichen. The session register bears, that he was born on the 16th January 1671, and baptized on the 18th January, by Mr John Wemyss, minister of Dunbarny. He presided over the spiritual welfare of the inhabitants of Torphichen from 1693 to 1747. He had the honour of being the last of the twelve "marrow men" to whom the twelve queries were sent by the Commission of the General Assembly of 1721; but, after the answers were returned to the transmitted queries by the eleven others, he was seized with indisposition, and unable to give his personal attendance. He was well known as a zealous and godly minister. Mr George Whitfield commends him for his ardent zeal in the cause of Christ. He published a sermon in 1719; and afterwards a large and interesting letter to a society of young men in Edinburgh, on prayer meeting.\*

\* He was father of the Rev. Mr Bonar of Fetlar, grandfather of Mr Bonar of Perth, great-grandfather of the eloquent and heavenly-minded Mr Archibald Bonar, who was successively minister in Glasgow, Newburn, and Cramond, and the author of two volumes of sermons; the great-great-grandfather of the Bonars ministers in Larbert, Greenock, Kelso, and Collace. The family from which Mr Bonar sprung were portioners or small heritors in the parish of Dunbarny.

In a statement of the families who possessed the lands of Kilgraston in 1625, which we have seen, the following notice occurs:—"Johannes Bonnar, portionarius de Kilgriston, hæeres Euphemie Bonar, matris." About the year 1658, one of the Bonars, who is described as being an heritor in this parish, is represented as applying in that capacity for a seat in the church. This family are mentioned in a charter of James V. extending as far back as 1540. Not one individual of that name now resides in this quarter.

*Old Families.*—The following notices of some of the families among whom the property of Dunbarny parish was once parcelled, may be interesting to the curious reader:—

1. Oliphant (Lord Laurence) was a very extensive proprietor in Strathearn. To him belonged "the lands and barony of Aberdgalie and Duppline, with the mills, fishings, and advocations of the churches, lands, and barony of Gask, dimidietate terrarum de Dunbarny, 2 quarteres terrarum de Pitcaithlie, quarta parte terrarum de Pitcaithlie, nuncupata 'Stewart's quarter.'" In the lands which he possessed in Dunbarny parish he was infest 14th June 1604.

2. Oliphant, (Laurence of Pitcaithlie, for several years treasurer to the kirk-session of Dunbarny,) succeeded his father, of the same name and title, and was infest in the "quarter of the towne and lands of Pitcaithlie, called Stewart's quarter, within the parochie of Dunbarny, 1654." His son succeeded him in 1693.

*Land-owners.*—Sir Thomas Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe, Bart. The present family of Moncrieffe is a younger branch of the original family of that name. Matthew de Moncrieffe, great-great-grandson of Ramerus de Moncrieffe, (the founder of the family, and who was keeper of the wardrobe to King Alexander I.), obtained a charter of the lands of Moncrieffe from Sir Roger de Mowbray, the superior of them. This charter has no date; a circumstance not uncommon at that period. Matthew got the same lands erected into a barony by Alexander II., February 1, 1248, therefore the charter must have been received previous to that date. \*

His lineal descendant, Sir John Moncrieffe, the second baronet of the family, was obliged, from his extremely embarrassed circumstances, to sell the estate of Moncrieffe, which was purchased in 1666, by Mr Thomas Moncrieffe, his cousin, who was created a baronet by King James VII. of Scotland, by his royal letter patent to him and his heirs male, dated the 30th of November 1685. He was clerk of the Exchequer and Treasury, and had realized great wealth by the situations he occupied. He was founder of that branch of the Moncrieffe family from which the present Sir Thomas Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe is descended. The mansion-house of Moncrieffe was erected by him in 1679. It is nearly of a square form, and resembles the structures of that period. The armorial bearings of Sir Thomas and his lady are cut in stone over the principal door; the latter belonged to the family of Hamilton, and her armorial bearings are impaled with those of the Moncrieffe family. It is to this lady that the parish is indebted for the two silver communion cups it at present possesses. The following inscription is engraved upon them: “DAM. BETHA. HAMILTON, Spouse to Sir Thomas Moncrieffe of that Ilk, left in legacy those two cups to the

3. 1681. A charter was given to Mr David Oliphant of Colcuquhar, eldest son of Mr William Oliphant, under the Great Seal, at Hayston Court, to ratify to him and his heirs the barony of Forgandenny, and also, (*inter alia*), “All and hail the two parts of the shady half of that oxgate land of Pitcaithlie, called the oxgate of Pitcaithlie, with tennents, tennendries, service of free tennents thereof, lying betwixt the lands of Pitcaithlie and the lands of Kilgerstoun, within th eparochin of Dunbarrie, &c. &c. also the toun and lands of Ardarie, with the privilege of erecting a burgh of barony on the west end of the toun and lands of Forgandenny, or on any part adjacent thereto, with weekly mercats thereof, to be holden on Tuesday weekly, with the free fairs of the same twice in the year, one on the 10th June, the other the 20th October, yearly, with all the tolls and customs, casualties, and duties, of the said burgh of barony, and as partially mentioned in the infestment of the same granted by King Charles I. of ever-blessed memory, to Sir James Oliphant of Newton, of date, at Ha'yruide House, 23d June 1680.”—*See Acts of Parliament of Scotland.*

\* The charter here alluded to is in the Moncrieffe archives.

church of Dunbarny, ANNO DOMINI 1703." She also bequeathed to this parish a large silver baptismal plate or font.

2d. Sir Thomas dying without issue, his estate and title devolved on his nephew, Thomas, who was the second baronet of this branch of the family. He married Margaret, daughter of David Smyth, Esq. of Methven. His second son, David, became Moncrieffe of Moredun, and was one of the Barons of Exchequer in Scotland. Sir Thomas died in 1738, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

3d. Sir Thomas Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe, the third baronet, who married Catherine, daughter of Sir William Murray of Ochertyre, Bart. He died in 1739, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

4th. Sir William Moncrieffe, the fourth baronet. He married Clara Guthrie, daughter of Guthrie of Craigs. He was succeeded by his son,

5th. Sir Thomas Moncrieffe, the fifth baronet. He married Lady Elizabeth Ramsay, daughter of the Earl of Dalhousie, by whom he had one son,

6th. Sir David, who was the sixth baronet, and father of the present, being the seventh baronet, and the fifteenth generation of this ancient family, in a direct male line, reckoning from Matthew de Moncrieffe. The mansion-house of Moncrieffe contains a number of paintings, the most valuable of which is a full-length portrait of Charles II. in his coronation robes. The ancient mansion stood nearly half-way between the present house and the chapel. There is a tradition that a subterranean gallery communicated between this ancient building and the vault of the old chapel. It is now closed up.

There are two bursaries, the patronage of which is vested in the family of Moncrieffe. The history of their origin may be comprised in a few sentences. Henry White, Dean of Brechin, in the year 1554, mortified 800 merks for the maintenance of two bursars, one in St Mary's College, and the other in St Salvator's. The right of presentation to these two bursaries was afterwards disposed to Sir John Moncrieffe of that ilk. His descendant, Sir Thomas Moncrieffe, in order to afford a more liberal subsistence to the said bursars, mortified, in the year 1701, the sum of 4000 merks, of which the one-half was allotted to the New or St Mary's College, and the other to St Salvator's or the United College. The bursar of St Mary's must be a regular student of divinity,



and is entitled to a seat at the College table, in lieu of which he now receives, along with the eight foundation bursars, an allowance amounting annually to two bolls of wheat, two of oats, and five of bear, and L 1, 17s. 2 $\frac{8}{7}$ d. Sterling, the victual to be converted every session at the Fife fiars prices for the crop immediately preceding. The annual allowance to each bursar from the United College for four years is L 5, 11s. 1 $\frac{4}{7}$ d. One of the colleges purchased from Mr Thomas Halyburton the lands of New Grange, in the parish of St Andrews, amounting to eleven and a-half acres, with the sum of 2000 merks left by Sir Thomas Moncrieffe, and some other monies added to it, composing altogether the sum of 3750 merks.\*

John Grant, Esq. of Kilgraston. { Mr Grant's family is that of the Grants of Glenloch, lineally descended from the family of the Grants of Grant, the chiefs of the clan of that ancient name. Kilgraston was purchased towards the end of last century by John Grant, Esq., who was succeeded by his brother, Francis Grant, Esq., the father of the present proprietor. The mansion, which is large and commodious, is in the Grecian style of architecture. It contains a collection of valuable pictures. Amongst these is an allegorical representation of a legend of St Louis by Guercino, measuring 12 feet by 9. It illustrates a story related of Louis IX., that, having been seized with a brain fever, he sent for his confessor, and vowed, in the event of recovery, his abdication of the crown and assumption of the cowl. It is farther stated that, having been restored to health, his Queen induced him to believe, that a vow taken under these circumstances could not be binding, and that, as there were many religious monks and few religious kings, he was likely to do more for the glory of God in the latter than in the former capacity. The picture, which is one of Guercino's finest works, represents St Louis with his hair closely cut off, having assumed the surplice, with the crown of France and the *flour-de-lis* at his feet, presenting himself before the guardian angel of France, while a seraph is crowning him with a heavenly chaplet. A choir of angels heads the composition. There are likewise among the most remarkable pictures, a head of the Saviour and of the Virgin by Leonardo da Vinci; a fine "Coronation with Thorns," by Schedoni; a beautiful portrait of a child by

\* Evidence, oral and documentary, of the Royal Commissioners for St Andrews in 1627.

Van der Helsted ; a battle-piece, by Salvator Rosa ; portraits of the Duke of York, Lord Macartney, and Lord St Vincent, by Sir Joshua Reynolds ; of Charlotte de la Tremoville, by Vandyke ; and of James I. of England, by Luchars. The House of Kilgraston stands in a spacious and wooded park.

George Clerk Craigie, Esq. of Dunbarny. Mr Craigie is a branch of the family of Craigies who possessed Kilgraston, and of whom several were elders in this parish. They were remarkable for the elegant improvements they made on their estates ; and it is to their public spirit that the community is indebted for several avenues of trees which adorn the roads in the parish.

Small Keir, Esq. of Kinmonth, who has no place of residence in the parish.

Alexander Stoddart, Esq. of Ballendrick.\* The House of Ballendrick, as well as all the buildings connected with it, was erected about seventeen years ago. The steading attached to it is most commodious and complete. There are on Mr Stoddart's property a few neat and substantial cottages, built with foreign wood, and slated ; they are occupied by labourers and artisans in his employment.

*Parochial Registers.*—These compose eight volumes, viz. two in quarto and six in folio. The register of baptisms is comprised in the two quarto volumes, and commences in 1594. The session-

\* *Ballendrick* is a word of Gaelic etymology, and probably signifies "the town of the blaë-berries" or bilberries. *Balle* in Gaelic means a city or village, *lann*, a house, repository, or church (Shaw's Gaelic Dictionary), and *dearc* or *dearc roide* a bil or blaë-berry ; hence *Balenderick* or *Balle-lann-dearc*, as *Ballendrick* denotes "the town of the land" or "church of the bil-berries." "Hence," says the writer of the old Account of the parish of Lanark, "*Lan-deareach* signifies also bilberry-land or repository, pretty descriptive of all the Lanarks, such as Drumlanark, in Dumfries-shire, Lanark, in Stirlingshire," &c. Most of the names of places in this district, as well as in Fife, Kinross, &c. are of Celtic origin. This need not excite surprise when we remember, that the Gaelic language was spoken, even in the lowlands of Scotland, from A. D. 849 to 1097, and to a considerably later period. Even so late as the beginning of the sixteenth century, Major the historian and Munster inform us, that one-half of the Scottish people spoke Gaelic. It can be proved, from many existing ancient charters, that, about the year 1190, in a controversy decided about the lands of Kirkness, near Loch Leven, where Constantine, the Earl of Fife, and Great Judge in Scotland, and Macbeth, Thane of Falkland, were present, as well as at a perambulation of land at the Mearns, and of other lands in Fife, about A. D. 1190 and 1231, the names of the persons who composed the jurymen were all Gaelic, *e. g.* Gillie Constantin, Gillicolm, Gillipatrik, &c. An ecclesiastical council to reform abuses and novelties that had crept into the Scottish Church, was convened in A. D. 1074. A difficulty soon occurred when the council met. The Scottish clergy could speak nothing but Gaelic ; Margaret, the Queen, who was the principal prolocutor, could speak nothing but Saxon ; the King, Malcolm III., who understood the English language (from his long residence there) as well as the Gaelic his native tongue, acted as interpreter, in imitation of Oswald the Northumbrian at a similar conference.

## PERTSHIRE.

records or minutes of discipline begin at the date of April 27th, 1657. In all probability two volumes of these records are lost, one embracing the occurrences of some years previous to 1594, and the other commencing with that date. The volumes which are extant have been kept with great accuracy and minuteness, except a few chasms during the period of the Revolution in 1688, the Rebellions in 1715 and 1745, and for more than a year about 1777 (through the culpable negligence of the session-clerk, for which he was dismissed from his office,) they are nearly entire, and exhibit an interesting and curious account of the fidelity and benevolence of the session, and the state of education and manners among the population for nearly two centuries.\*

The register of deaths, or, as it is entitled, "the names of the defunct persons," begins on December 1st 1598, and ends in October 1615, after which there is merely a record of mortcloths. The register of proclamations of marriages dates from February 1598, but a few blanks occur in it as well as in the register of baptisms. The register of collections for the poor, entitled "distributions to the misterfull within ye parochin of Dunbarney," begins in November 1600. The poor were at that date carefully distributed into three classes.

*Antiquities.*—Reference has been already made to the chapel of Moncreiffe, as constituting an appendage to the church of Dun-

\* The following entries occur in the session records. The first refers to a period during which the plague committed great ravages in this district. "September 25th 1608, Thair is intermission of 3 Sundays, and yat in respect of ye plague."—"The town of Perth being taken by Mar's rebel army, September 16th 1715, no sermon was here till February 12th 1716." Such was the disturbed and agitated state of this part of the country at that period, that for several months no public worship was performed in the parish church of Dunbarny. This may be easily understood by the following statement. When the Earl of Mar projected the scheme of his insurrection in favour of the Pretender, he found the disposition of the Highlanders most favourable for his enterprise. After placing himself at the head of a formidable body (of which the Highlanders composed the most effective portion) he fixed his head quarters at Perth. After the battle of Sheriffmuir, the clans perceiving that they had gained no advantage, uttered murmurs of discontent, many of them returned home, and some became mutinous, while the royal army received accessions by reinforcements from England. During this interval, the vicinity of Perth was in a state of turbulence from the swarms of Highlanders passing by the Bridge of Earn, some of whom committed acts of violence in the church and parish school-house. In the session records, it is stated, that "the windows and seats of the parish school were burnt during the Rebellion, and ordered to be repaired by the kirk-session, October the 8th 1716." In December, the Pretender landed incognito at Peterhead. Being soon known, he was attended by Mar and Marshall, and, after being proclaimed in all the towns through which he passed, arrived at Scoon on the 7th of June. Soon after this, the intelligence that the Duke of Argyle was in full march to attack him, made him retreat northwards with the utmost precipitation. When he arrived at Montrose, he set sail with some of his followers for France. The Bridge of Earn, from being in the line of the great northern road, shared in the troubles of that distracted period.

barny. It stood about 300 yards south-east from the present mansion-house. Its dilapidated ruins still exist, though so deeply embosomed in wood, that a stranger may be near it without being aware of its existence, from the thick foliage of the trees and evergreens by which it is surrounded. Bones occasionally dug up, and other appearances, as well as the uniform voice of tradition, concur in proving that the ground encircling it was used as a cemetery. The interior of it is used as a burying-place by the family of Moncrieffe, where the ashes of many successive generations repose. The walls of the edifice are nearly entire, though not a vestige of the roof remains. It is 30 feet long, 18 broad, and the walls 10 feet high. It has a north aisle, containing a vault underneath, and a small belfry at the east gable, the bell formerly belonging to which is still preserved in the House of Moncrieffe. This ancient and venerable pile is thickly overgrown with mantling ivy, and has a solemn aspect suitable to the spot where the bones of so many illustrious men are mouldering to decay. Douglas states in his *Baronage*, that at so remote an era as 1357, Duncan Moncrieffe of that Ilk and his lady were buried here. The families of the Moncrieffes of Tippermalach, and the Moncrieffes of Kinmonth were at one time interred within the same chapel. The remains of an edifice which constituted the residence of the latter family, may still be seen a little to the west of Easter Moncrieffe; a part only of the walls have survived the ravages of time.\*

\* George Moncrieffe, son of Sir Malcolm Moncrieffe, who was appointed by King James II. one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature, (now called Lords of Session,) was the ancestor of the old family of Tippermalach. His lineal descendants possessed the estate of Tippermalach from 1473 to 1664 or 1666. Matthew Moncrieffe, brother of the said George Moncrieffe, was ancestor of the family of Easter Moncrieffe. He married Christian Mauld, the heiress of Easter Moncrieffe, in 1447, and had by her two sons, John and Archibald. John succeeded him, but died without issue in 1514; he was then represented by Archibald, who had two sons, John and James. The history of these two brothers is connected with some facts relative to the ancient property of the church. "Adam Foreman, the last prior of the charter-house near Perth, when his house was demolished by the Reformers, retired with his brethren to Errol, of which church they were patrons, and there he let out, with consent of those who staid at home, to John Foreman, son and heir to Robert Foreman of Luthrie, for a sum of money,—Terras suas de sacello beatæ Mariæ Magdalene (the Magdalene lands) nuncuptas, terras de Frireton, terras de Craigie, et insulam australem burgi de Perth, tenacum piscaria sua salmonum, super aquam de Tave infra vice comitatu de Perth. This charter is granted to John Foreman, but the lands specified came all into the possession of the family of Moncrieffe, to whom the Foremans were nearly allied, and have ever since belonged to them; for, contemporaneous with the granting of the above-mentioned charter to John Foreman, the property of the charterhouse itself, with the houses, grounds, and gardens connected with it, was sold to John Moncrieff, the eldest of the brothers, previously referred to by a charter dated 14th November 1569, and this deed is afterwards confirmed by a charter from James VI. dated 18th May 1572, in favour of his brother, James, who succeeded him, and who is there designated Jacobus filius Archibaldi Moncreif de Easter Moncreif."

*Kirk Pottie.*—The church of Kirk Pottie was situated about three miles south from the Bridge of Earn, at the entrance to the north end of Glen Farg. Its ruins have been swept away within the last twelve years, and the site on which it stood, with the burial-ground belonging to it, are now occupied by the garden and dwelling-house of the tenant of Kirk Pottie Mill.

A few hundred yards west from Moncrieffe House, on the north side of the avenue, may be seen what is supposed by some to be the vestiges of a small Druidical temple, consisting of a circle of eleven rude stones of ten feet in diameter. In the centre of it is a tree that was planted on the birthday of the present possessor of Moncrieffe.

On the summit of Moncrieffe or Moreden hill, (i. e. the large hill,) the distinct traces of a fortification may be seen. There is a circular fosse about sixteen yards in diameter; in its centre stood Carnac fort, which belonged to the Picts, whose monarchs during the eighth and ninth centuries fixed their capital at Abernethy, about four or five miles south-east from the Bridge of Earn. On the tops of several hills in this vicinity, as well as in other parts of Scotland, fortresses were erected in ancient times, which served as watch-towers, where persons were stationed to give signals of approaching danger. This was the case on Tomahastle, a conical eminence in the west of Strathearn, where the indubitable traces of a fort are conspicuous; it coincides with Moncrieffe Hill, in the important point of commanding an ample range of prospect, and was therefore well fitted for the purpose now mentioned.

*Village of Dunbarny.*—At a remote period, when the church stood on the Dunbarny property, a considerable village existed close to the mansion of Mr Craigie, occupying for a short distance each side of the road conducting from it to the Bridge of Earn, and which was till seventy years ago the only line of communication between Forgandenny and the Bridge of Earn. It contained thirty-six families. For their accommodation, a ferry-boat plied on the Earn, in a line with the west wall of the old church-yard, after crossing which, the villagers travelled to Perth by the Hilton knowe, the field called the "Muckle Bank," and St Magdalen's farm.

*The Forest of Black Earnside.*—The ancient forest of Black Earnside, or Black Ironside, extended along the banks of the

Earn, and probably received the designation of black from the deep overshadowing gloom of the trees. It was four miles in length and three in breadth, and was signalized by the adventures of Sir William Wallace, and especially by a sanguinary conflict which he there maintained with the English.

This forest has been long cut down, but large masses of black oak, which are supposed to be the remains of it, are found imbedded in the soil, along various parts of the territory over which it once stretched. A large tree of this black oak was dug up on the south bank of the Earn, having been found when an excavation was made for the foundation of the new bridge. The lintels of one of the houses in the Bridge of Earn were made out of it. Four hundred yards further down the river, the Earl of Mansfield, some years ago, employed a number of men nearly twelve days cutting an oak found there. Large pieces of the same valuable timber may be seen near the banks of the Earn, in the parish of Abernethy.

*Old Bridge of Earn.*—The old bridge over the Earn was probably built about 500 years ago. There is extant, among the records belonging to the abbacy of Scoone, an order from King Robert the Bruce to the abbot and monks connected with it, to allow the magistrates of Perth the liberty of digging stones out of the quarries of Kincarochie and Balcormac for building the bridge of Tay and the bridge of Earn. The tenour of it is as follows: “Robertus Dei gratia Rex Scotorum, religiosus Abbati et conventui de Scona, delectis et fidelibus suis, salutem, nos rogamus, quatenus, ad instantiam nostram concedere velitis licentiam capiendi lapicediorum de Kynkarochi et Balcormac, pro edificatione ecclesiæ de Perth et Eryn, ita quod dicta licentia non cedat vobis in damnum aut præjudicium. Datum apud Glasdua quarta die Julii anno regni nostri vigesimo tertio.” The above was granted A. D. 1329. The bridge over the Earn was upheld till the Reformation by the liberality of churchmen, who supplied stones for its repair as they had done for its original construction. It was composed of five arches, as an additional arch was reared about eighty years ago, in consequence of the inroads the water was making on the northern bank of the river. This constituted the fifth or last arch.

When the new bridge was built, a fragment of the old one was left, comprehending two arches. This dilapidated ruin is begin-

ning to be overgrown with ivy, and presents a picturesque appearance.\*

*Notices of the Ministers of Dunbarry since the Reformation.*—  
1. Mr Patrick Wemyss was minister of Dunbarry, Potty, and Moncrieffe in 1569, and probably the first minister placed at Dunbarry subsequent to the Reformation. His stipend is stated in the Register of Ministers, Readers, and their Stipends, printed for the Maitland Club, to have been L.100 (Scots), “now is providet to the kirk of Dumberny, and instantly gettis the thryd thereof, extending to L.60, and also to 4 chaplanriis, quhilk will extend to L.40.”† In 1594, his name appears at the beginning of the oldest session register of baptisms, which commences in 1594. In 1599, his stipend is stated to be, ‡ “thrid of the personage of Dumberny, Paty, and Moncrief, iclxxli. (i. e. L.180), with manse and gleib, with the hail vicarage thairof lxli.” (i. e. L.60 Scots.) In 1607, besides the above, there is added “the hail vicarage of Dron, with the thrid of the chaplanries of Dunkeld, called St Nilians and St Peter in Perth, xv. li. viiis. xd.,” (i. e. L.15, 8s. 10d. Scots.) Mr Wemyss was living in 1611, when he was present at the diocesan synod at St Andrews; but in 1614 and 1615, the church is not mentioned in the books of assignation.

It is proper to notice here the following statements, viz. § “Andro Disart, reidar,” (at Moncrieffe, i. e. at the old chapel of Moncrieffe, where public worship seems to have been conducted then),

\* In an historical account of the internal government of the borough of Perth from 1745 to 1785, submitted to the Committee of Convention by the committee for the guildry of Perth, the following notice of the old bridge occurs: “By an act of James VI. the borough of Perth have right to a certain pontage at the Bridge of Earn, with the burden of upholding the bridge. Some years ago an arch of the bridge was thought insufficient, and was taken down. It was an arch not above 30 feet wide, but the building of it cost the town considerably more than L.3000 Sterling, although a complete new bridge over the same river, about six miles above, (viz. Bridge of Forteviot), was done by subscription for L.500 Sterling. This was not all,—for the county, before the arch was taken down, offered to take the turden on them, in all time coming, on being allowed the pontage. The town’s managers refused that, and they draw about L.60 a year for it. If this was prudent management the disinterested will judge.”

The following notice of the old bridge is extracted from a MS. in the Advocates’ Library, Edinburgh:—

“22d January 1614. Being Saturday, the northmost pend and bow of the Bridge of Erne fell down, being evil bigged from the beginning, filled only with clay and earth, and without any blind pend, as the Brig of Tay has been in the same manner formerly bigged of old. The burgh and shire, with all diligence, caused David Jack and David Mill, craftsmen, put up the same with timber-work.”

† “Ane obligatune quyle he gets full payment of the prōnuge,” i. e. parsonage.

‡ Extracted from the Books of Assignation and Modification of Ministers’ Stipends, preserved in the General Register House, Edinburgh.

§ Register of Ministers, Readers. 4to, printed for Maitland Club.

“respective” (stipend) “L.20” (Scots). John Thomson, in his room, the same stypend, sen Beltyn 1569.\*

I have been unable to discover when Mr P. Wemyss died, or who was his successor, in consequence of the loss of the two oldest volumes of the presbytery register of Perth, the first of which begins about 1593. The third volume is the oldest one now in their possession, beginning only at the year 1618. But it appears from the MSS. of the late Rev. James Scott of Perth, which are now in the Advocates’ Library, Edinburgh, that there was a minister here named,

2. Mr William Black, some time before 16th September 1622, and it appears that he either died here or was translated to another parish in 1623.

3. Mr John Hall was ordained here 6th November 1623. He was called to Kilspindy and the annexed kirk of Rait on 6th May 1646, and admitted there on the 27th of May 1647. He was formerly a preacher in the bounds of St Andrews presbytery, and afterwards in Edinburgh. Several of Mr Hall’s children were baptized in Perth, and their names inserted in the Perth session register. A considerable number of country ministers seems to have resided at this time in Perth, probably owing to the want of convenient manses.

4. Mr Robert Young was presented by the town-council of Edinburgh, and ordained at Dunbarny on the 3d of February 1647. This excellent minister was deposed after the Restoration on the 13th December 1664, by Archbishop Sharpe, for nonconformity, by a sentence passed in the Archbishop’s own chamber, only one minister being present. The circumstances attending the deposition are narrated in Wodrow’s Church History,† and illustrate the character of Mr R. Young.

Notices of Mr Robert Young are found in the presbytery register of Perth, under the following dates, 19th March 1651; June 2d 1652, March 28th 1665, February 4th 1657, April 8th 1657.

It appears, from Wodrow’s Church History, that Mr Young was alive in March 12, 1673. No notice can be traced of his subsequent history, with the exception of a short statement occurring in the session records. From this it appears, that such was the regard he entertained for the parish of Dunbarny, and such

\* Books of Assignment, 1574.

† 8vo edition, Vol. ii. p. 212, A. D. 12th March 1673.



his anxiety for the education of the poor residing in it, that, by his last will, dated at Edinburgh, 4th July 1677, he left or mortgaged to the kirk-session 500 merks, the interest of which was to be paid yearly to the schoolmaster for his "encouragement to teach pair bairns who are not able to pay quarter payment." He left also a similar sum, for like purposes, to the parish of Avondale, which was probably the place of his nativity.\* He had been one of the resolutioners, and, though a moderate man, was yet firm in his non-submission to Prelacy.

A considerable interval now elapsed, during which only one sermon was preached in the parish church; it extended from December 1664, to the 8th of June 1665, on which day,

5. Mr John Wemyss, chaplain to Viscount Stormont, was ordained at Dunbarry. He was son of Mr David Wemyss, minister of Scone, (who was ordained in 1620, and died in 1664), and he had three brothers ministers of the Church of Scotland, one of whom succeeded his father at Scone, while the other two exercised their pastoral functions at Lecropt and Aberdalgie respectively. He died on the 8th of June 1675.

He seems, from the session records, to have been one of the

\* Since writing the above, I have met with the following interesting notice of Mr Robert Young:—"Mr James Wiseman being admitted Professor of Philosophy 10th November 1638, programs were emitted indicting a new trial for the vakaing profession of humanity, left by Mr James Wiseman. Two competitors appeared, Mr Robert Fairley, son to an honest citizen, laureat, anno 1624, and long practised in the profession of humanity, *cum laude*: and Mr Robert Young, son to Mr Andrew Young (late minister of Abercorn), who had been laureat in Glasgow at the Lambmass precedeing, the rigorous tryal *ad aperturam libri* was made use of. No man doubted but the first named (having so many advantages, and being so well seen in humanity,) should carry the prize. But it pleased the Lord so far to desert him at that time, that no man did voice for him; whereupon Mr Robert Young was admitted Professor of Humanity 14th November 1638." On the resignation of Mr Alexander Hepburn (1644), who had been regent (of the 56 class, 28 in No.) for about nineteen years, "many of the town council inclined to choose Mr Robert Young, who now had professed humanity in the College of Edinburgh for five years. At length, in the beginning of October, with general consent, Mr Fairley was elected and established in the profession of philosophy, and Mr Robert Young (an eloquent preacher), at first employed to assist the ministers of Edinburgh, there being some places vacant, and thereafter was presented by the city council, as patrons, to the kirk of Dumbarry."

Mr Young's legacy was peculiarly seasonable, as it appears from the annexed extract, that, at this period, one-half of the population were unable to read,—a strange contrast to the present state of the parish, as there are not now three adults in it unable to read. It will be seen, however, that other parishes were in the same condition.

From the presbytery register of the date of March 28th 1649, "A list of the families, wherein some of them can read, within the parishes following:—

Scone,	25	Kinnoul,	16
Dron,	36	St Martins,	16
Dumbarry,	55	Redgorton,	9
St Madoes,	9	Arngask,	16
Rynd,	25	Abernethy,	100."

presbytery bursars in 1658, 1659, and 1660; his allowance from the kirk-session was L.6, 5s. per annum.\*

6. Mr John Omay, formerly minister of St Madoes, was admitted here on the 12th of January 1676, and translated to Methven about the 12th of June, where he was inducted on the 30th of July, and died in that parish after the Revolution, about the year 1693.

7. Mr David Anderson, formerly Professor of Humanity in St Leonard's College, in the city of St Andrews, was admitted here on the 4th of September 1679, and transported to Perth (with Alexander Ross) on Wednesday the 27th of October 1680, "with all haste." He afterwards returned and preached a farewell sermon at Dunbarny. Mr D. Anderson was ejected from the pastoral charge of Perth, soon after the battle of Killcrankie, 27th of July 1689, from having been found guilty of disaffection to the new Government.

8. Mr John Balneaves, who had been assistant and successor to his father, Mr Alexander Balneaves, of Tibbermuir, was admitted here on the 5th of January 1681. He was ejected at the Revolution. He was succeeded, after a considerable interval, by

9. Mr John Tullidaph or Tullideff, son of William Tullideff, Principal of St Leonard's College, St Andrews, and who was supposed to have been one of the ministers ejected after the Restoration. He was ordained here on the 14th of January 1691, and died the 26th of August 1714,† "after a long vacation of more than three years."

\* In the third, fourth, and fifth volumes of the session records, there is frequent allusion made to the pecuniary supplies annually given to bursars of theology. To elucidate these references, as well as the statement we have now given about Mr Wemyss, it may be mentioned, that it was a practice formerly prevalent in Scotland, and almost coeval with the Reformation, for every presbytery of the church to support a bursar. "About the year 1641, it was enacted by the General Assembly, that every presbytery, consisting of twelve ministers, shall maintain a bursar of Divinity; and where the presbytery is fewer than twelve, they shall be joined with those of another presbytery where the number exceeds." This injunction was cordially complied with; for documents, still extant, demonstrate, that, at this time, there were at least seventy bursars of Theology. Their maintenance was derived from the kirk-session penalties, according to the provisions of an act of Assembly; and every bursar was to have allotted to him at least L.100 Scots. This act was suspended, by another finding of Assembly, and formally repealed in 1756. About the beginning of last century, there were, altogether, about 160 bursars of theology. See extracts from evidence before the University Commission in 1828,

† Extract from presbytery register: "The Episcopal incumbent, (i. e.) Mr John Balneaves, having been very early deprived of his office, the lairds of Kilgraston and Dumbarney presented a call to the presbytery, August 9th, 1690, in favour of Mr John Tullidaph, preacher of the Gospel, to be minister of Dumbarney. The presbytery finding several informalities in the call, and particularly that there was not yet a constituted session in that parish, first proceeded to ordain a qualified session here, and after this was done, and all the necessary formalities observed, Mr John Tullidaph was ordained and admitted minister of Dumbarney, January 20th 1691." His son was the celebrated Mr Thomas Tullidaph, Principal of St Andrews.

10. Mr Thomas Finlayson was ordained here on the 11th of September 1717, and died on the 22d of May 1744. On the 5th of May 1715, a popular call, by the heritors, elders, and heads of families, had been moderated in for Mr Chapman of Monedie; but for some reason that cannot be now traced, he declined accepting of it.

11. Mr James Lindsay, minister of Laucher, was settled here in 1745, and translated to Lochmaben in 1750.

12. Mr James Gillespie, minister of Abdy, was unanimously chosen minister here by the heritors, elders, and heads of families, and inducted on the 21st of March 1751. He was transported to St Andrews on the 25th of October 1757, where he was invested with the office of Principal. Mr George Lyon of Strathmiglo received a call to succeed him in the pastoral office; but he does not appear to have complied with it.

13. Mr David Beatson, preacher in the parish of Kinross, was called on the 4th of February, and ordained on the 10th of May 1759. He died here in 1795, and was succeeded by his son.

14. Mr James Beatson, minister of Kingsbarns, who was inducted on the 26th of November 1795, and died on the 17th of November 1820.

15. Mr (now Dr) Anderson was inducted here on the 9th of August 1821. He was translated to Newburgh in 1833, and succeeded by the present incumbent on the 23d of January 1834.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish has undergone great fluctuations. In 1755, it was 764; in 1759, 600, in consequence of proprietors letting out the lands in small possessions. It increased in 1774, to 1026; in 1792, to 1260. The village of the Bridge of Earn was erected in a great measure subsequent to the date last mentioned; but any accession it has brought to the population has been more than compensated by the diminution arising from the contemporaneous abolition of the small farms.

The population, in 1801, was	.	1066
1811,	.	1037
1821,	.	1164
1831,	.	1162
1841,	.	1105

If we may draw any inference from the number of baptisms in former times as compared with the present, it would seem that from 1658 to 1700 the population was larger than at any subse-

quent period, for the average amount of baptisms annually was, from 1658 to 1700, 35, considerably higher than it has since been. After 1700 it seems slowly to have declined, till, in 1755, it was reduced to 764.

Population of the Bridge of Earn, . . . . .	292	85 families.
village of Kintulloch, . . . . .	106	86
landward part of the parish, . . . . .	762	284
Number employed in agriculture, . . . . .		97
Labourers, . . . . .		25
Weavers, . . . . .		11
Number employed in trade, and manufactures, and handicraft, . . . . .		129

There are of insane and fatuous persons, 14; blind, none; deaf and dumb, 2.

The average rate of mortality for the last ten years is 12, or one in the hundred; a remarkable proof of the extreme salubrity of this district. The average number of births and marriages cannot be given with an approximation to rigid accuracy.

*Villages.*—The Bridge of Earn may be said to consist of two villages, an old and a new. The first houses which existed in the Bridge of Earn were built by Mr John Gilloch, wright and undertaker, who obtained, about 1769, a ninety-nine years' lease of an acre and a half of ground, from Sir William Moncrieffe, comprehending the tract of land between the old bridge of Earn and Seales bridge.

Alexander Wilson purchased from him the houses next the old bridge; but there was a stipulation in the bargain that L.1 per annum would still be paid to him for what is called the shore, or beach where ships unload their goods. Hence, when the former sold one of his houses with the shore to Robert Ford, the latter was bound to pay L.1 per annum to Mr Gilloch. Robert Ford's family possess the shore, and levy duty from the vessels that sail to the bridge and disburden their cargoes there.

Gilloch pays yearly a rent of L.3 to the house of Moncrieffe, and is bound at the end of the ninety-nine years' lease (of which only thirty years are now to run) to leave a house of the value of L.10 on each of the half acres above specified.

The new village of the Bridge of Earn was erected ten years ago. Its buildings are so disposed as to form a row or street, and have been much admired for the symmetrical regularity of their architecture.

The village of Kintulloch is situated about half a mile south-west from the parish church, and is terminated by a magnificent

gateway, through which the principal approach to Kilgraston runs. It is possessed by cottagers and pendiclers, and is remarkable for the taste with which its inhabitants embellish the fronts of their houses, by means of evergreens and roses, and for the uncommon cleanliness by which their interior is marked.

The word Kintulloch signifies, in Gaelic, the top of a gentle rising ground, or green eminence, and appropriately describes its situation, which is contiguous to a slope that rises from a brook that rolls a little to the south. The most remote allusion we can find to the lands of Kintulloch is in Chalmers's *Caledonia*, (Vol. i. p. 590). "Hugh Say, an Englishman, obtained a grant of the lands of Kintulloch, in Perthshire, under William the Lion. His estate descended to Arabella, his sister, who married Reginald de Warrene. (Reginald is a witness to a charter of William de Ruthven, Lord of Ruthven, during the reign of Alexander II. *i. e.* from 1214 to 1249. See charter of Scone, 74.) Arabella after the death of her husband, granted, in 1249, to the monks of Scone, a toft and a croft, with three acres of land, in her territory of Kuntilloch," (Ib. 65.) Kintulloch, after passing successively through various hands, has devolved upon Mr. Grant of Kilgraston. When it belonged to the Craigies of Dunbarny, its inhabitants were "thirled" to the wind-mill that stood a little to the west of Dunbarny House, and of which the remains may still be seen.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Soil, Agriculture.*—From the bridge of Forteviot to the confluence of the Tay with the Earn, there is along the banks of the latter a spacious tract of deep clay, chiefly of a brown colour. In the vicinity of the Bridge of Earn, there is a considerable number of feet below ground a stratum of moss, from one to three feet in thickness. It has been often observed when a shaft has been dug in the earth for finding water. It is owing to the presence of this stratum for some hundred yards along the margin of the Earn, in the parish of Dunbarny, that no good water is obtained at the village of the Bridge of Earn, as, in every well of water dug there, the liquid is impregnated by a disagreeable infusion from the moss. In the village of Kintulloch, situated about half a mile from the river, that precious fluid is found in the utmost state of purity, because the moss does not extend so far. Various kinds of timber and other vegetable substances are found imbedded in it, and uniformly with their trunks and stems stretched in a direction from

north-east to south-west. They have been sometimes employed as fuel, but not frequently, from the offensive smell which the burning of them diffuses. Below this moss and its load of superincumbent clay there is a stratum of sand of 18 inches in thickness, and below it a variety of soils. This moss must, like that designated the Moss of Flanders, have been formed by the progressive decay of vegetable substances, and especially trees.

While in the soil along the Earn we may see fragments of imbedded timber that grew many years ago, we sometimes see in its banks a phenomenon, which, though not leading us so far up the stream of time, is yet of an interesting character, that is, parts of branches of trees which, having become imbedded in the sand at the margin of the river, have been gradually petrified; and it is easy to see how the process advanced. While the work of decomposition was going on in the vegetable substances, the particles of sand insinuated themselves into it, so that as each vegetable particle successively disappeared, it was replaced by a stony particle. Thus the sand or stony substance gradually occupied the spaces left vacant by the decay of the vegetable parts; and, being moulded in their cavities, assumed the contexture of the original branch. The petrified wood presents such an exact imitation of the real wood, that, upon cutting it transversely, we can trace the concentric rings which marked the annual growth of the tree. About three miles above the bridge of Earn, many specimens of such petrified wood may be seen in a high bank close to the river. In several instances the petrification is complete, in others it is going on, the sand by degrees penetrating the decayed vegetable, and copying the exterior form of the organic body.

In this parish there is to be found every variety of soil, from a rich loam to the poorest clay. The lands on the south side of the river consist of a strong, wet, clay soil, and are very flat; those on the north side consist chiefly of a rich loam; while towards the west end of the parish a red stiff till predominates. The mode of cultivation varies considerably on the different properties. On the Moncrieffe estate, all the farms were formerly cultivated upon a four-shift rotation, viz. 1st, fallow or green crop; 2d, wheat; 3d, grass; 4th, oats; but latterly, in consequence of the tenants seldom or never fallowing the ground, and the green crop being almost entirely potatoes, with the exception of a few turnips to supply their milk-cows, and the potatoes being all disposed of for the London market, while in most cases no manure was purchased in lieu thereof,

it was deemed advisable not only to bind the tenant to purchase a certain quantity of manure for the green crop sold, but likewise, except on clay soils, to stipulate that the farm shall be cultivated on a six-shift rotation, viz. 1st, green crop or fallow; 2d, wheat or barley; 3d, grass; 4th, grass; 5th, oats; 6th, oats; or on a seven-shift rotation,—two years in green crop; two in white crop; two in grass, to be pastured the second year; and one in oats after pasture.

These rotations were much objected to at first, but the tenants are now finding them more productive than the former severe method of cropping, so much so, that they are followed by others in the neighbourhood who are not bound to adopt them; and the proprietor of Moncrieffe affords every facility for his tenants doing so, by supplying them with wood, which is cut up at his saw-mill, for fencing the unenclosed lands, though it is arranged that they drive the carriages and erect the paling. On the greater part of the lands in the parish the following six-shift rotation is practised, viz. 1st, fallow or potatoes; 2d, wheat; 3d, beans or turnips; 4th, barley; 5th, grass; 6th, oats.

Number of acres in the parish, . . . . .	3236
Of these there are under wood, . . . . .	419
Total under culture, . . . . .	2840
In waste, roads, water, &c. . . . .	177

Pasturage has become more common than formerly, as farmers find it conducive to their own interest to practise it, both because less manure is thus required, and the value of subsequent crops is thereby increased. The ground is pastured chiefly by cattle, few of the tenants having as yet introduced sheep to their farms. Some, however, are beginning to use sheep for eating off their turnips.

In most of the farms of this parish potatoes, and those chiefly of the Perthshire red, are planted. They are exported chiefly to the London market; and, generally speaking, the cultivation of the potato remunerates the farmer more than any other crop, on all those farms where the soil is adapted to the culture of this root. When the last Statistical Account of this parish was written, not two acres of potatoes were cultivated in any of the largest farms, whereas now, on a farm of fifteen acres, two acres are occupied by their growth. About 6000 bolls are annually exported from the Earn to London and Newcastle.

Turnips as well as potatoes are cultivated to a much greater extent than formerly, and are consumed principally by the cattle reared on the farms. A few cattle are fattened in this parish, but

no operations of this kind are carried on to the same extent as in many other places.

*Rent.*—The average rent of land per acre is L.2, 10s. The duration of leases is generally nineteen years, except in special cases, and they are framed on equitable terms to the occupier, the proprietors always considering any unfavourable stipulation incurred by the tenant as inimical to their own interest.

*Produce.*—The following is a statement of the agricultural produce of this parish.

Of 2640 acres under culture—

One sixth part, or 440 acres in wheat, yielding $3\frac{1}{4}$ quarters per acre, at L.2, 10s. per quarter,		L.3850
Do. do. in barley, yielding 4 quarters per acre, at L.1, 6s. per quarter,		2288
Do. do. in oats, yielding 4 quarters per acres, at L.1, per quarter,		1760
Do. do. in pease and turnips, one-half of 440 or 220 being in pease, yielding 2 quarters per acre, at L.1, 12s per quarter,		704
And one-half in turnips, at L.8 per acre,		1760
Do. do. in potatoes and fallow, one-third being fallow, and two-thirds potatoes, at L.10 per acre,		2988½
Do. do. in grass, at L.6 per acre,		2640
		<hr/>
		L.15935½

The rental of the parish is nearly L.7000.

The produce of the orchards in the parish not included in the 2640 acres is L.120.

The parish has of late years been much improved by draining.

*Manufactures.*—There are eleven looms in operation in this parish, and chiefly for linen fabrics.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Towns, &c.*—The nearest market-town to the Bridge of Earn is Perth, at the distance of four miles to the north-west. The Bridge of Earn is a post-town, and from it runners go to Newburgh, Dunning, and Auchterarder, delivering letters at these and the various intermediate places. The post-office here yields to Government an annual revenue of L.300.

Several coaches pass through the Bridge of Earn every day,—two mail-coaches, the Coburg, the Aberdeen Defiance, pass and re-pass in travelling between Edinburgh and Perth, and the Fife Defiance does the same between Perth and Kirkcaldy. There is one toll-road in this parish, which traverses its surface the length of three miles, being part of the great northern road. Besides it, there are four good statute-labour roads; one of these is the old



turnpike, which intersected it, in passing from the Wicks of Beglie to the old bridge.

The greater part of the parish is inclosed, and the fences are kept in good condition.

*Bridges.*—The foundation stone of the new bridge was laid in May 1821, and the whole fabric was completed in the same year. It consists of three elliptic arches, each being 75 feet in span; the width of the bridge is 24 feet over the parapet; the roadway is about 28 feet above the bed of the river, and the total length of the masonry, including the wing or parapet walls, is 345 feet. The bridge was reared at the expense of L.16,000 by the city of Perth. To reimburse them for this large outlay, a pontage was put upon it which yields an annual return of nearly L.1000. The farmers on the estate of Moncrieffe might have been exempted from the payment of this pontage; but Sir David Moncrieffe, actuated by a spirit of uncommon liberality, was contented to forego this privilege. When it was opened, foot-passengers were charged a halfpenny every time they passed along; but, by the kind intervention of Sir David, this tax was abolished.

There are two small bridges over a little stream which consists of two branches, one issuing from the Ochils in this parish, and the other from Forgandenny, which form a junction near Pitkeathly House, and formerly impelled the machinery of three mills. One of these bridges is near the west end of Kintillo, and, as appears from the parochial registers, was originally built, and long maintained by the church door collections.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The present church of Dunbarny was erected in the year 1787, and can accommodate 651 persons, allowing 18 inches to each. No seat rents are exacted. It occupies a central position in the parish. The greatest distance at which any of the inhabitants reside from it is three miles, and, perhaps, this is one cause of the extreme regularity with which they attend the dispensation of public ordinances. The number of communicants is 400. Previous to the year 1787, a church stood a few yards west from the site of the present ecclesiastical fabric. It was erected in the year 1684, but was taken down not from any decay in its materials, but because it was not of sufficient dimensions to accommodate the whole population, which was doubled between the years 1759 and 1787. Previous to 1684, the parish church stood a mile west from the Bridge of Earn, in the burying-ground near the mansion of Dunbarny. This site being near the

extremity of the parish was found very inconvenient, and on this account it was judged necessary to transfer it to the Bridge of Earn. In 1684, while the church was building, public worship was observed in the chapel at Moncrieffe. The ancient house stood in the hollow immediately south from the place of sepulture, at Dunbarny, and was constructed of clay and turf. The old burying-ground is still used as a cemetery. It is defended by a substantial stone wall of 10 feet high. It is situated on an elevated spot about one-third of a mile from the Earn, and in it stood the ancient kirk of Dunbarny. The modern church-yard at the Bridge of Earn was formed partly in the year 1821, and partly some years after. It is altogether artificial, being composed of 2000 carts of sand conveyed from the banks of the river. The present manse was erected in the year 1775. A handsome addition of two capacious public rooms was subsequently made to it on the north side by the Rev. James Beatson, at his personal expense. The glebe consists of seven acres, and its annual value may be estimated at L. 28. The stipend is as follows : Wheat, 16 bolls, 2 firlots, 0 pecks, 2 lippies : meal, 114 bolls, 3 firlots, 2 pecks, 3 lippies ; bear, 67 bolls, 3 firlots, 2 pecks, 2 lippies ; money L. 2, 13s. 7d. with a vicarage teind of 44½ loads of coal, reckoning the load 2s. 6d.

The number of Dissenting families in this parish is 20. Of these, 3 are Episcopalians, 3 belong to the Relief body, 13 to the Associate synod, and 1 to Mr Pitcairn's congregation, or the Irvingites, Perth. There is no Dissenting chapel in the parish.

*Poor.*—The church collections average yearly about L. 63, which sum, together with the interest of L. 200 belonging to the session, mortcloth and proclamation money, amounts to L. 80. There is a voluntary contribution made by the heritors, varying according to the exigencies of each year. About L. 100 is distributed to the poor annually. The number of regular paupers is 17, and the largest allowance 10s. per month. There are about 12 occasional paupers.

*Education.*—With regard to education, this parish enjoys peculiar advantages. So far as can be ascertained, there are no children above six years of age who cannot read ; and all above fifteen have been taught both writing and reading. Ample provision has been made for affording instruction to the poorest. In 1677, the Rev. Robert Young mortified 500 merks, which benevolent provision was afterwards increased by John Craigie, Esq.

of Dunbarny, who, in 1743, mortified L. 5 Sterling; and still more by the late Rev. James Beatson, who, in 1820, mortified L. 108 Sterling, the annual interest of which sums is paid to the schoolmaster for teaching poor children. Shortly after the present teacher was appointed, the late Sir David Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe, Bart., bequeathed to the school a bursary of L. 100 Scots, to be awarded as a prize to the best classical scholar; and in addition to the above mortifications for the education of the poor, the Right Hon. Lady Lucy Grant of Kilgraston allows annually the sum of L. 5 Sterling (limited to the present teacher) for the same benevolent purpose. The parochial teacher's salary is the maximum. The school is commodiously situated, and the dwelling-house is a neat modern fabric.

*Fuel.*—The parish is provided with coal principally from Kelty, Lochgelly, and other districts in Fifeshire, besides supplies conveyed from the neighbourhood of Newcastle to the Bridge of Earn in small vessels by the river Earn, and which are sold about the same price as in Perth.

*Cottages.*—At Craigend on the Edinburgh road, about two miles from Perth, the Moncrieffe family have erected a number of elegant cottages, which have a certain space of ground for gardens attached to them. They are built with projecting eaves somewhat in the English style. Three years ago, the Highland Society agreed to award ten prizes to such cottagers in the county of Perth, paying L. 5 of yearly rent or under, whose cottages should be distinguished by general neatness and cleanliness, and whose gardens should be laid out and kept with a superior style of tastefulness and elegance. The inhabitants of five of the Craigend cottages became competitors for these prizes, and the first five of the prizes held out to the whole county were adjudged to them.

*Libraries.*—A public library was established in this parish many years ago. It comprises 300 volumes, consisting of standard works in history, divinity, and other departments of knowledge. There is also a library connected with the Sabbath-school, containing 250 volumes on religious subjects, which are read with the greatest avidity.

*Savings-Bank.*—There was a Savings-bank organized in the parish some years ago, but it was dissolved through a groundless apprehension, very generally diffused through the country, that Government wished to appropriate the funds of such institutions.

*Ale-houses.*—There are 11 public-houses in this parish, exclusive of the Moncrieffe Hotel.

Besides the provision made for the education of poor children already adverted to, there were several sums of money mortgaged by the Rev. James Beatson, and which are entitled “Beatson’s mortgaged sums,” and which are to be appropriated to the benefit of Dunbarny parish. After the legacy-duty was deducted, these amounted to L.378. The sum of L.30 was mortgaged by the mother of the Rev. James Beatson, the interest of which was to be a stated annual fund, providing a salary for a Sabbath-school teacher in the parish of Dunbarny.

*December 1842.*

## PARISH OF INCHTURE.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNDEE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNES.

THE REV. J. A. HONEY, MINISTER.

### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name Inchture, it has been suggested, is probably derived from the Gaelic words *innis*, an island, and *ear*, the east,—the eminence on which the church and village stand being the eastern of those elevations in the Carse of Gowrie, which were anciently islands.

*Situation.*—It is situated to the north of the estuary of the Tay, in the county of Perth, between Perth and Dundee, thirteen miles from the former, and 9 from the latter.

*Extent.*—In extent it measures about 4 miles from north to south, and about 3 miles from east to west; and contains an area of about 12 square miles.

*Boundaries.*—On the east, it is bounded by the parish of Longforgan; on the south, by the Frith of Tay; on the west, by the parishes of Errol and Kinnaird; and on the north, by those of Abernethy and Longforgan. In figure it is nearly an oblong.

*Topographical Appearances.*—Looking at the parish when the tide has ebbed, we have, first of all, several hundred acres of sand-banks indented by “water-runs,” &c. the seaward course of the “Pow,” numerous temporary embankments, and a pretty broad

fringe of reeds towards the land. Then, at the height of about twenty feet, forming a section of the Carse of Gowrie, stretches onward a plain of rich alluvial soil for from two to three miles northerly, and the whole breadth of the parish, at the extremity of which rises, first of all, the eminence on which Inchture stands, and then, after one or two undulatory elevations, the hills of Rossie, Baledgarno, and Ballindean, a portion of what in the district is termed "the braes of the Carse," and of the verge of the Sidlaws, whose acclivities are not very great, and the heights of which may be about 500 feet.

The parish is in one of the most fertile districts of the kingdom, in the midst of an exceedingly rich and beautiful, as well as extensive, amphitheatre, and forms one of the most imposing portions of it. In the low ground, while the surrounding landscape is very rich in fields, and trees, and plantations, and parks, and edifices, and churches, and villages, not the least attractive, if not the most, are those of Inchture; whereas from any one of the hills, which lie on its northern boundary, is to be descried a prospect which, in few places, can be equalled, and in scarce any surpassed,—the Carse of Gowrie, not inappropriately designated "Scotland's Garden," in all its richness, and the noble estuary of the Tay, dotted here and there with glistening sails, forming the foreground, while the back-ground comprises the hills east and west, north and south, in the direction of Dundee Law, the Fifeshire Lomonds, the Hill of Kinnoull, and the far-famed one of Dunsinnan, till their peaks are lost in the "blue distance," and their bases in the ocean.

*Climate.*—The climate is, on the whole, mild and balmy, particularly in the vicinity of the "braes," as exhibited in the early foliage and richer fruits.

*Hydrography.*—The Frith of Tay, the southern boundary of the parish, is here about three miles broad. At low water, however, it is confined to a much narrower channel on the southern or Fifeshire side. Owing to the extensive banks over which the tide flows, and the rapidity of the current, there is always a quantity of sand suspended in the water, and its volume being so immensely greater than the contents of the river which are mingled with it, it is strongly impregnated with salt. The rapidity of the flow at neap-tides may be from two to four miles an hour, and, at stream-tides, from four to six during the same period. At the harbour at Polgavie, the water rises from six to eight feet during

neap-tides, and from eleven to thirteen during spring-tides. Occasionally it has risen as high as seventeen feet, and these extraordinary risings usually correspond with the remarkable flowings in the Thames, which lay many of the lower parts of London under water, and in the Frith of Forth, as noticed at Granton Pier, &c.

The parish is partly bounded, and partly intersected, by streams of no great magnitude, called "pows," probably from the Gaelic *poll*, a pond, a bog, marsh or mire, some of which names, portions of them in their passage from the highlands, through the alluvial soil to the frith, at a former period, no doubt well deserved. They take their rise among the hills to the north, and being joined by various tributaries, flow, the one for a considerable way on the western extremity of the parish into the frith at Polgavie, forming and preserving the harbour of that name; and the other, after uniting the burns of Baledgarno, which partially intersects the parish, and that of Rossie, which partially bounds it for some length on the eastern extremity, where it diverges into the parish of Longforgan, and reaches the frith some miles to the eastward.

There are numerous excellent wells in the parish. The upper part is particularly well supplied with water; and it is probable, were the wells in the lower part deepened, a fair supply, and of good quality, might be obtained there likewise, the experiment having succeeded well in other parts of the Carse.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The parish affords few geological features of importance and interest, as may be apparent from the preceding description of it, nearly three-fourths being almost level, a small portion only being undulatory, and the remaining fourth hilly.

The level portion is almost wholly composed of rich alluvial clay of great depth, and seemingly resting on a bed of old red sandstone. A small portion, at the base of one of the hills, is of a darkish hue, indicating peat. Some of the undulatory portions consist of rich loam on old red sandstone, elevated above that supposed to form the substratum of the Carse, by the upheaving of the trap;\* others again are gravelly. The hills are chiefly the result of eruptions from beneath, partially only of denudation from above. All of them are composed principally of trap. That

\* The contact of the upheaved trap and of the uplifted sandstone is very manifest in the valleys which divide the hills in the parish.

of Rossie is covered with gravelly sandy soil. That of Baledgarno is similarly overlaid, though toward the top it is sprinkled with huge blocks of trap; while that of Ballindean presents both limestone and sandstone towards its base, in addition to the other characteristics.

The trap, when exposed to view in the quarries opened for supplying metal to the roads in the neighbourhood, and for building, exhibits a columnar appearance, indicative of the greatness of the agency employed in forcing it, and of the greatness and the power of Him "who toucheth the hills and they smoke."

The red sandstone, again, is mottled with circular and oval spots of a whitish colour. They do not in general present any thing peculiarly striking, beyond their greater hardness than the darker coloured material in which they are imbedded. In a few of these, however, are to be traced some very interesting formations. In one of them in Rossie flower-garden, the section, which is circular, of about six inches diameter, presents a number of very distinct figures, resembling specimens of gypsum, or moss or the veins or arteries in the animal frame. In another in the same place, and of a like size, around the centre rise several beautiful concentric bands of different shades, not unlike the human eye.\*

The limestone, I am given to understand, is of good quality.

In digging the foundation for Rossie Priory, several veins of copper were discovered.

On the hill of Ballindean have been found a considerable number of valuable pebbles, as well as a variety of other minerals.

*Zoology.*—Among the rarer species of birds may be noted the water-rail and water-ouzel. A multitude of cross-bills made their appearance in the winter and spring of 1839. Their visit, however, was only temporary.

Very fine Ayrshire and short-horned cattle are bred in the parish, as well as Leicester sheep; and particular and highly successful attention has been paid to the breeding and rearing of these different kinds of stock on the home-farm of Lord Kinnaid. His Lordship has also lately enlivened the beautiful den of Baledgarno with a number of healthy and thriving fallow-deer.

On the banks in the frith, on the southern boundary, salmon

\* Similar appearances are to be found in quarries in the neighbourhood, and to be seen in the stones of which the walls of the church are composed.

used to be taken. They have not, however, been fished for of late, owing to various causes.

*Botany.*—The uncultivated spots in the parish being so few in number, it cannot be expected that the botanist in search of varieties will be very much gratified. The following, however, may be noted, furnished me by Mr Kidd of Rossie Priory garden :

In the ponds or edges thereof are to be found *Lemna gibba*, or duckweed, and *Epilobium hirsutum*, or codlins and cream. In the ditches, *Lythrum salicaria*, or common lythrum. On the roadsides, *Malva moschata*, or marsh-mallow ; *Rosa rubiginosa*, or sweet-briar ; *Festuca loliacea*, or spiked fescue grass. In the corn fields, *Bartsia odoutites*, or red bartsia, and which, though common here, is rare in many parts of Scotland. Also *Melilotus officinalis*, or common melilot, and *Galeopsis Ladanum*, or red hemp-nettle. The pastures present us with *Anthemis arvensis*, or corn chamomile, and the old pastures with the rare *Botrychium lunaria*, or moonwort. The dens again abound with *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium* and *alternifolium*, or golden saxifrage ; *Primula elatior*, or oxlip primrose, and *P. vulgaris*, or common primrose, of which there is every variety, and of all shades and colours ; *Geranium lucidum*, or shining cranesbill. In the parks is to be found *Acinos vulgaris*, or basil-leaved acinos. And in the hills, *Potentilla argentea*, or cinquefoil silvery ; *Symphytum officinale*, or common comfrey, &c. &c.

There are many thriving woods and plantations in the upper part of the parish. The parks of Rossie are ornamented with many fine patches of wood, and numerous very splendid trees. The hills of Baledgarno and Rossie are likewise beautifully wooded. On Rossie hill, among many others deserving notice, may be remarked several very large and splendid silver firs, and its summit is capped by a clump of the *Pinus sylvestris*, the native Scots fir, apparently that described by the late talented botanist, Mr George Don of Forfar, in the second volume of the Caledonian Horticultural Society's Memoirs.

There are also many fine trees within the enclosures of Ballindean. One larch is said to be the same with the famous larches of Athole.

The predominating kinds are, oak, ash, elm, beech, birch, larch, spruce and Scots fir, lime, alder, &c. &c.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Maps, &c.*—There are several maps and surveys of the parish,



as well as of the several properties in the possession of the different proprietors.\*

*Eminent Characters.*—Not a few individuals of eminence have been born in the parish, or connected with it by residence, among whom the following may be instanced :

In the noble family of Kinnaird, which takes its rise so far back as 1176, Randolf Rufus having obtained a grant of the lands of Kinnaird from King William the Lion; and George Kinnaird having been knighted by Charles II. in 1661, and afterwards created Lord Kinnaird of Inchture in 1682,—while many of its scions might be particularised, it would be impossible to pass over the late Lord Kinnaird, eighth Lord, whose talents were of the very first order.

Among the ministers who laboured in the parish in former times; may be noticed the Rev. George Blaikie, the first Protestant minister subsequent to the Revolution, translated from the parish of Redgorton by the presbyteries of Dundee and Forfar to the united parishes of Inchture and Rossie, on a popular call. As also Randal of Stirling, and his son, the late Dr Davidson of Edinburgh. The former appears from the records, to have preached in Inchture for a considerable time previous to his settlement,—his predecessor, Mr Thomas Rankine, translated

\* “Gregory (XI.) episcopus, &c., to our beloved sons the prior and chapter of St Andrews in Scotland, &c.—Seeing your petition, lately presented unto us, contained that our venerable brother William (de Landel) Bishop of St Andrews, fearing that, from the violence of the sea beating against the rock on which the church of St Andrews is situated (a great part of which rock the continual action of the waves had demolished, so that the foundation and superstructure of the said church were threatened with total ruin), and, seeing that the rents and revenues appropriated to the upholding of the fabric were insufficient, on account of the wars and pestilences in those parts, to protect the rock and sustain the church; and the said bishop being desirous, as a provision against such danger, to grant the parish church of Inchture, with its chapel of Kinnaird, situated in the diocese of St Andrews, being one of the mensal churches belonging to him and his predecessors, and which he then peaceably possessed with all its rights and pertinents, he accordingly, with the advice and consent of certain jurists, gave and bestowed the same in perpetuity on the said church of St Andrews. But as your petition to us contains that you doubt whether a grant of this kind may hold good in time coming, and that you may hereafter possibly be molested in regard to it; therefore we, moved by your prayers, and anxious as far as possible to provide against this danger, will, and by our apostolical authority permit, that you retain the aforesaid parish of Inchture, with its chapel and other pertinents, for a period of twenty years, reckoning from the date of these presents; and that you apply the same to the upholding of the said church of St Andrews, provided always that you take care that the said parish church of Inchture be not thereby defrauded of its dues, and that the cure of its souls be not neglected; but that it be served by a good and sufficient vicar, who shall receive an adequate portion of its revenues for his maintenance. Therefore let no one infringe this our decree, &c.—Given at Avignon, Id. April, the second year of our pontificate.”—(A.D. 1372.)—Read at meeting of St Andrews Literary and Philosophical Society, 6th December 1841.

from Clunie, having died 14th December 1737, and his ordination having only taken place 21st March 1739. He was called to Stirling in 1770, and was, (as is perhaps not generally known,) the author of the 49th paraphrase, in which Christian love, "of all the graces best," is pourtrayed in all its charms. His son was regularly called, and settled in this parish 21st February 1771. Afterwards he was translated to the Tolbooth church in Edinburgh, where he was reckoned an eminent minister of the Gospel of Christ.

The late Commodore Douglas is also deserving of being noticed here. Leaving the parish school, he entered into the service of a lady in Edinburgh, who obtained admission for him as a midshipman into his Majesty's service. He rose by degrees through several of the subsequent steps, and ultimately terminated his career as a Commodore in the Portuguese service. He bequeathed L.1000 to the industrious poor of this, his native parish.

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners are, the Right Honourable the Lord Kinnaird, Captain R. K. Trotter, and James Vaughan Allen, Esq.

*Parochial Registers.*—There are nine volumes of parochial registers, sessional records, heritors' minutes, &c. pretty regularly kept. The earliest entry is 1623. For a considerable period in the beginning of that century, there were no records of session kept, and different kinds of business were mingled together throughout several of the volumes. Some of the records of the parish of Rossie are preserved in one of the volumes.

For a long period, baptisms seem to have been attested by witnesses; and it was a common practice at one time to certify on behalf of those travelling into England, as reapers, &c. that they were not "rebels."

*Antiquities.*—The cross, which occupied a prominent place in the village of Rossie, still remains, though there is scarce a vestige of the habitations that once surrounded it.

On a somewhat romantic elevation at the foot of the den, and the southern terminus of the hill, are the interesting ruins of the ancient church of Rossie, overgrown with ivy and ash, while around it lie the remains of generations which have passed away.

To the eastward of these ruins, and on the boundary of the parish, is a large stone, which is spoken of in the neighbourhood as the "Falcon stane," and to which the subjoined paragraph, from

Boethius's History of Scotland, 1500, is supposed by some to refer. The battle of Luncarty having been turned against the Danes by Hay and his two sons, Boethius says, " Sone eft ane counsal was set at Scone, in the quhilk Hay and his sonnys war maid nobil and voted for thair singular virtew provin in the field, with sindry landis to sustene thair estait. It is said that he askit fra the king certane lands (quhilk he knew richt plentuous afore) liand betwix Tay and Arrol, end gat as mekil thairof as ane falcon flew of ane mann's hand or sho lichtit. The falcon flew to ane toun four miles frae Dundee, called Rosse, and lichtit on ane stane, quhilk is yet callit the falcon stane, and sa he gat all the landes betwixt Tay and Arrol, six miles of length, and four of breid, which landis are yet inhabit by his posteritie."

Another large stone, similar to the former, lies on the hill to the north of the priory, said to be of Druidical origin. Another is to be found near the church at Rossie. Another is spoken of as having been near Castlehill, and another near the castle of Moncur.

Castlehill, and Baledgarno, the village lying at its base, are deserving of peculiar notice under this head. The author just quoted from, tells us that the castle which, doubtless, once stood on the eminence alluded to, and which gave rise to the name the village beside it still bears, was founded by Edgar, fourth son of Malcolm and St Margaret, who was anointed King of Scotland by Lodovick, Bishop of St Andrews, in 1001,—of whom he says, " he had na uncouth waris nor trubyl in his dayis, and governit his realme in gude peace, and was haldin in mair veneration than terour among his peppl;" also, that it was repaired by Alexander, his brother, who succeeded him, who is represented as building the Abbey of Scone of Canons regular, and dedicating it to the honour of the Trinity and St Michael;—also the Abbey of Canons regular in honour of St Colme, and completing the Abbey of Dunfermline, besides endowing the Abbey of St Colme, and the convent thairof, as well as the church of St Andrews.

The castle, he expressly says, was " foundit by Edgar in Gowry, wha gat certane landis fra the Erle of Gowry, and annexit his name to the castle." And some of its foundations and pavements have been met with, in preparing for the erection of the buildings now standing on its site.

The only other antiquity of interest is the Castle of Moncur,

which is said to have been destroyed by fire about the beginning of last century, and is now in ruins.\*

*Modern Buildings.*—Rossie Priory, the seat of the Right Honourable Lord Kinnaird, is situated on the upward slope of Rossie hill, at an elevation of 132 feet above the level of the sea, and commands one of the richest prospects that can well be conceived. It was founded in 1807, and erected of very superior stone from the quarries on the estate, by the late Lord Kinnaird, though it has been materially enlarged and improved by its present noble proprietor. The design was by Atkinson, and it is one of the most magnificent edifices of its kind.

Ballindean House is situated near the base of the hill of Ballindean, and was built chiefly by the late Mr Trotter. It is characterized by the taste for which he was distinguished.

The parish church is in the Gothic style, and was built according to a plan by Mackenzie of Duudee in 1835, the material being old red sandstone from a quarry in the village. It stands to the south of the high road between Perth and Dundee, in the village of Inchture, in the midst of the church-yard, which has been elevated from six to eight feet above the surrounding level, apparently from a hollow in the vicinity.

Under the aisle of the church, which is wholly the property of Lord Kinnaird, is the family vault, where rest the ashes of the ancestors of that noble family, for many bygone generations.

In 1838, a thrashing-mill, the machinery of which is propelled by steam, was erected on Powgavie, the largest farm in the parish, by Lord Kinnaird, the proprietor, and is deserving of notice, as being the first and only one under the same moving power in the district. It has completely answered the end of its erection.

### III.—POPULATION.

At the time of the publication of the last Account the parish is said to have contained about 1000 souls and 184 families.

In 1821, the population was	965	Males, 474	Females, 511
1831, . . . . .	878	. 450	. 428
1841, . . . . .	765	. 374	. 387
			4 aboard ship.

The apparent decrease is to be attributed partly to the enlargement of the farms, parks, and pleasure grounds—the carrying of

\* A late author, quoting from the Annals of Ulster, the most valuable of the Irish chronicles, states that it was near to this castle, during a civil war among the Picts, that Hungus defeated Nectan 728, two years before he slew Elpin at Pitlessie in the neighbouring parish of Liff, and became triumphant over every competitor for the throne.

the high road through the principal village, where twelve houses were sacrificed, &c. The decrease, however, is not so great as it appears—the time of taking up the last census being that when many families were absent at the sea shore, and numbers of the younger branches were employed as herds on the higher grounds in the adjacent part of the country and in Strathmore. My own visiting list shows, during the last five years, 825 as the lowest, and 850 as the highest amount in the winter and spring.

The following statement, therefore, refers to my own enumeration :

Resident in villages, . . . . .	410
the country, . . . . .	415
Average number of births in 7 years,	16
marriages in do., . . . . .	8½
under 15 years, . . . . .	310
betwixt 15 and 30, . . . . .	221
30    50, . . . . .	164
50    70, . . . . .	99
upwards of 70, . . . . .	31
Number of unmarried men and widowers above 50,	7
women and widows above 45, 37	
families, . . . . .	182
Average number of families, . . . . .	4
Number of inhabited houses, . . . . .	195
uninhabited houses or building, . . . . .	13
Deaf and dumb, . . . . .	1
Blind, . . . . .	2
Lunatic, . . . . .	1

With few exceptions, the habits of the people are good, and they are entitled to be characterized as cleanly, sober, and industrious, attendant on ordinances, while, in not a few, the good seed of the Word seems to have taken root, and is producing the peaceable fruits of righteousness.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The number of acres cultivated, or occasionally in tillage, is upwards of 3000, Scotch measure. Several hundred acres might be reclaimed from the river, and are now in process of being added. Under thriving woods and plantations are about 400 acres. Considerable sums of money are annually realized from the sale of the prunings, thinnings, &c.; and the management is excellent.

The grass parks let from L.1 to L.6 per acre.

*Live-Stock.*—The Carse of Gowrie, in which the greater part of the parish lies, being chiefly a “corn” country, not so much attention has been paid to breeding as otherwise would have been. Several of the farmers, however, have been directing their atten-

tion more of late to this most important matter, as regards Ayrshire and Teeswater, or short-horned cattle, as well as horses.

*Husbandry.*—The system of cultivation pursued is not surpassed in Scotland, probably not in the world. The parish, consisting chiefly of rich alluvial soil, the greater part, about two-thirds, is farmed according to a rotation of “sevens,” *i. e.* wheat, pease and beans, wheat, barley, grass, oats, and fallow. The other third nearly may be described as farmed after a rotation of “sixes,” *i. e.* wheat, pease or turnips, barley, grass, oats, and fallow, or potatoes. Of late, a few more acres of potatoes and turnips have been cultivated in the clay portion than formerly.

A great portion of the farms is now very thoroughly drained; and the reclaiming of the land at present overflowed by the tide is going on apace.

The ordinary duration of leases is nineteen years.

*Farm-Buildings and Enclosures.*—The houses and farm-buildings are, for the most part, good, having had their share of improvement with most other things. The enclosures are as yet almost confined to the upper part of the parish, though hedge-rows have of late been planted to a very considerable extent on the property of Lord Kinnaird in the lower part. Where they do exist, they are in general good, being either hedge-rows or strong paling.

*Quarries.*—There are several quarries in the parish of trap or whinstone and red sandstone. A limestone quarry was opened on the Ballindean property at one time, but it has not been made available for several years.

*Mines.*—Several veins of copper ore are to be found in the parish. They have, however, never been wrought.

*Average gross amount of raw Produce.\**—The produce of the parish may be nearly as follows :

236 acres of wheat	@ 9 bolls, or 1069-192 imp. qrs.	@ L.2, 11s. 6d.	L.2753 0 8
...	@ 7 bolls, or 831-541	...	2141 4 8
... barley	@ 6½ bolls, or 1126-432	L.1, 8s. 5d.	1600 9 5
... oats,	@ 8½ bolls, or 1473-025	L.1, 2s. 3¼d.	1641 15 7
... pease	@ 7 bolls, or 831-547	L.1, 8s. 5d.	1180 15 11
... grass,	or 300-1616 imperial acres, L.9.514,	.	2855 14 9
... fallow.			
138 acres of wheat	@ 9 bolls, or 619-9169 imp. qrs.	@ L.2, 11s. 6d.	1596 5 9
... barley	@ 7 bolls, or 482-154	L.1, 8s. 5d.	685 1 2
... oats	@ 9 bolls, or 904-3495	L.1, 2s. 3¼d.	1007 19 5
... pease	@ 7 bolls, or 703-382	L.1, 8s. 5d.	999 7 9

\* The principle of the above estimate is, that the parish contains about 3700 Scotch acres, two-thirds of which are usually in cultivation,—1666 farmed according to a rotation of “sevens,” and 833 according to a rotation of “sixes;” of the remaining third, about two-thirds are usually in grass, and the remainder in wood. The average of prices for the last nine years is adopted.

136 acres of grass, or 174 imperial acres, @ L.9.514,	L. 1655	10	8
... fallow.			
* Quantity usually in grass may give	1500	0	0
Sales of wood may give annually	600	0	0
Orchard and garden ground,	150	0	0
Reeds and other produce,	30	0	0

*Manufactures.*—There is a manufacture of linen, which is understood to afford a fair remuneration to those engaged in it. It is principally carried on in the houses of those employed.

*Breweries.*—Inchture has long been famous for its beer, which is the produce of a pretty extensive brewery in the village, from whence supplies are weekly sent to Perth, Dundee, Cupar-Angus, and the surrounding district for many miles.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—Dundee is the market-town, at a distance of about nine miles.

*Villages.*—In the parish are the villages of Inchture, Baledgarno, Ballindean, and several hamlets.

*Means of Communication.*—There is a post-office in the village of Inchture, which is a great advantage, the only other in the district being that at Errol, and its branch on the turnpike. Three coaches to the north and south, inclusive of the mail, pass through the parish every lawful day.

*Navigation.*—The Frith of Tay, forming the southern boundary of the parish, there is a harbour opening out into it at Powgavie, which is frequented by a considerable number of vessels laden with coals, lime, seed, grain, manure, &c. for importation, and with grain, potatoes, wood, fruits, &c. for exportation. The number of vessels is not at present so great as formerly, owing to a variety of causes.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church is almost new. It is situated in the centre of the parish, or nearly so, the most distant families being little more than three miles from it, while the greater number are within half that distance. Exclusive of the aisle, which is the property of Lord Kinnaird, one-half of which is occupied as a family-seat, and the other for the domestics and others, it affords accommodation for 550, and is apportioned, after the usual allotment of heritors' seats, &c. among the farmers and their servants,—the table-seats and the greater part of the galleries being appropriated for the villagers. No part is

\* Most of the land usually in grass is not inferior to that usually in crop; and a considerable portion of the fallow land being now either planted with potatoes or with turnip, the annual gross produce will be considerably larger than the above.

let. The public services of religion are generally well-attended, The average number of communicants for the last five years is 320.

In connection with the Sabbath school, there is a library, comprising between 300 and 400 volumes. It is much resorted to.

The average amount of collections for the last five years for religious and charitable objects, has been L. 25, 5s. 5d.; and for the poor, L. 48, 13s. 1d. L. 1000 in the 3 per cent. consols, as before noticed, was bequeathed by the late Commodore Douglas for behoof of the industrious poor. It was reduced by expenses to L. 795, 1s. 2d. L. 10 has also been mortgaged for the education of poor children.

The manse was built upwards of fifty years ago, and has lately been enlarged very considerably, and repaired.

The glebe is upwards of 10 acres, including the site of the manse, offices, and garden, &c.

The stipend, inclusive of the annual value of the glebe, manse, &c. is stated by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners at L. 250 a-year.

*Education.*—In addition to the parochial school, there are three schools under the management of females. There is a dame's school at Baledgarno. The salary of the parochial schoolmaster is the maximum, L. 34, 4s. 4½d. The school-fees may amount to about L. 25 per annum, and he has the legal amount of accommodation. He is also heritors' and session-clerk. The other schools are almost entirely supported by Lord Kinnaird.

*Poor.*—Eleven is nearly the average number of persons receiving parochial aid, or rather on the poor roll during the last five years; the lowest sum being 4s. per month. It is to be taken into account, however, that these 11 and about 20 others receive 2½ bolls of coal, as well as other occasional assistance in money from extraordinary collections, &c. and that many are kept off the poor's fund altogether by the benevolence of those on whose property they reside.

*Inns and Alehouses.*—There is an excellent inn in the village of Inchture, much resorted to by travellers; and one alehouse at Polgavie, for the accommodation of those frequenting the harbour.

*Fuel.*—Coal is generally used in the parish, though a very considerable quantity of wood is also burnt, and is obtained from the woods in the neighbourhood at a reasonable price.

December 1842.



## PARISH OF ABERNETHY.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. DAVID DUNCAN, MINISTER.

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### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE ancient form of the name by which the town and parish are known, was *Abernethyn* ; and so late as 1420, Winton, the rhyming chronicler, and prior of St Serf's Inch, in Loch Leven, makes the final syllable to rhyme with the Scottish word, "syne," (Anglice "since.") The word evidently denotes the town upon the Nethy, a small stream which flows through the centre of the parish, and close by the town. About a mile farther down, on the same stream, and nearer to its influx into the river Earne, is *Innernethy*, formerly the family residence of the Freers, and now belonging to Sir Thomas Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe, and a place, the name of which may be traced back to the time of King William the Lion.

Chalmers says, that "*Neith*" or "*Nid*" in the British language denotes a stream that forms "whirls" or "turns," and that *Nethan* or *Nethy* are diminutives.\* It is proper to add, that, in the last Statistical Account of the parish, drawn up by the father of the present incumbent, it is alleged that the name which the Highlanders give to Abernethy is *Obair*, or *Abair Nadchtain*, i. e. the work of Neathan or Nectain, a name of more than one of the Pictish kings, who are supposed to have been founders of Abernethy, and by whom it was selected as their capital and place of residence.

*Boundaries.*—The parish is bounded on the north by the rivers Tay and Earne ; on the west, by the parishes of Dron and Dunbarny, and the Farg, a rivulet which joins the Earne at Colfargie, and flows through the romantic scenery of Glenfarg ; on the east, by a small rivulet which separates it from the parish of New-

\* Winton's Chronicle, Vol. i. p. 242, 270. Register, Aberbroath, quoted in Jamieson's App. Chalmers's Caledonia, Vol. i. pp. 34, 480, 47.

burgh, and is also the boundary in this quarter of the counties of Perth and Fife. On the south, its confines adjoin the parishes of Auchtermuchty, Collessie, Strathmiglo, and Arngask. A small portion of the southern district is in the county of Fife, but by much the larger part of the parish is in the county of Perth. It forms a very irregular trapezoidal figure, whose greatest diameter from the north-west to the south-east may be about nine miles. Its length and breadth from east to west, and from south to north, vary much in different places. In the middle of the river Tay, opposite to Mugdrum, (which is in the parish of Newburgh,) is an island belonging to the parish, called Mugdrum Island, about an English mile in length, containing an area of 35 acres of arable land of the richest quality, which, by the improvements in progress and embankments, &c. may be greatly extended, as has been the case by similar operations, along the opposite shores of the Carse of Gowrie.

The parish may comprise an area of about 7030 acres, two-thirds of which, forming part of the range of the Ochils, are hilly; the remaining part, lying between the Ochils and the rivers Tay and Earne, is arable, and in the highest state of cultivation. It forms the lowest part of the vale of Strathearne, and its beauties, as well as fertility, not exceeded by those of any other district in Scotland, are too well known to require notice.

In examining the soil along the banks of the Earn, and the sections in which the strata are exposed to view, there appears, under a thick layer of clay, a bed of peat of about two or three feet thick, being apparently a continuation of the submarine forest discovered in the neighbourhood of Flisk by Dr Fleming. Below the peat is a stratum of white or yellow sand, the depth of which is not known. The contents of the peat are thus arranged: Immediately above the white sand, lies the lowest and hardest part of the peat, composed of the leaves and branches of trees, principally birch. Above this, is a stratum composed of moss, and a considerable quantity of seeds, similar to those of the common broom. Above this, the peat passes into a sedimentary like matter, forming the uppermost part of the bed of peat, in which are found remains of reeds extending upwards into the bed of clay. These are found in abundance in that part of the bed of clay immediately above the peat, leaving their impression on the clay. These remains are frequent for a space of three or four feet above the peat, but as we ascend they gradually become fewer and less dis-

tinct, till they entirely disappear, leaving a bed of pure clay or loam.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The old red sandstone, which fills up so much of the Carse of Gowrie and Stratherne, was at one time quarried at Innernethy, near the junction of the Earne and Tay, and is visible in contact with the trap about 300 yards to the south of the manse, as also about half a mile distant from the House of Ayton, in the channel of the Farg. Though concealed elsewhere by a thick mass of alluvial matter, it most probably constitutes the only rock in that part of the parish which lies between the Tay and the first trap range of the Ochils. It declines towards the north at an angle of from  $15^{\circ}$  to  $20^{\circ}$ . It occasionally inclines to conglomerate. In the Glenfarg quarry, near Ayton, have been discovered fragments of scales of those extraordinary *ichthyolites*, which have of late been found in abundance at Clashbenny, in the Carse of Gowrie, and Duraden to the south-east of Cupar, Fife. The Ochil Hills, among which a considerable portion of the parish is situated, consist wholly of trap, and in this quarter, of the varieties known by the names of clinkstone, amygdaloid, porphyry, and claystone. A singular blood-red variety of the last of these is found around Balvaird Castle. From the Castle Law west towards Glenfarg, on the north face of the hill, trap tuffa, resembling some of the gravel stones of Colonel Imrie, prevails. The boulders which are scattered over the parish, and are especially prevalent on the tops of the hills, consist chiefly of gneiss, primitive trap, and quartz rock.

*Quarries.*—The only quarries worked in the parish are from the greenstone and clinkstone rocks in the Ochil range. They are used generally for road-metal, but sometimes for coarse building. The quarry in Glenfarg, immediately above Ayton and in Lord Mansfield's grounds, exhibits the clinkstone arranged in beautiful distinct concretions. The Zeolites of Glenfarg have been long so celebrated, that they need not be particularly described. They are found on the rocks stretching from Ayton to Balvaird Castle. In the same locality, and particularly on the estates of Balvaird and Catochil, agates of various kinds, jaspers, and calcareous spars, are in abundance.

In the range of hills near Auchtermuchty there are limestone rocks.

*Zoology.*—The quadrupeds which abound are those common to

the surrounding districts, the roe-deer, the fallow-deer, the fox, hare, rabbit, and weasel. The polecat is occasionally found; and there are the ordinary varieties of the rat, mouse, and mole.

As for the feathered tribes, there are the varieties of species common to this and other parishes. Vast numbers of water-fowl are found around Mugdrum Island. Among these, specimens of the magnificent wild swan are sometimes observed. Wild-geese make their appearance in great flocks about the middle of October, and continue throughout the winter; while, all the year round, there are found on the shores of the rivers the mire-duck, the sheldrake, the teal, the poker-duck, the coote, the water-hen, and various tribes of divers, the red-shank, the curlew, the green and yellow plover, the heron, and sometimes, though very rarely, the bittern. The larger and lesser gull visit us in stormy weather; while kittiwakes, sea-swallows, and sea-pies, continue with us through the summer. Many other varieties of water-fowl are occasionally found.

The mammifera which frequent the waters of the river itself are, the seal, the otter, the grampus, and the porpoise. The two latter are rarely seen above Newburgh, and the otter seldom without the mouth of the Earne.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There are few parishes so rich in antiquities as Abernethy; and the town itself, though no longer occupying any prominent claims to attention on other grounds, is to be traced to a very remote period, and was much more populous and extensive than at present. According to traditions which exist, and which are confirmed by the discovery of ruins of buildings, it extended a considerable way to the eastward of the present village. We may here introduce a curious passage, as given by Sir James Balfour from Campden Manuscript Col. Stratherne. "Or ever the river Earne hath joined his waters with Tay in one streame, so that now Tay is become more spacious, he looketh up a little space to Aberneth, seated at the feete of the Ocellian mountains, anciently the royall seat of the Picts, and a weel peopled city, which, as we reade in ane ancient fragment, Nectan, King of the Picts, gave unto God and St Bridget, until the day of doome, togidder with the bounds thereof, which lay from a stone in Abertrent, to a stone nigh Carpul, (supposed Carpow), and from thence as far as to Ethan," supposed to be Hatton, the name of a farm-steading.

The oldest Scottish historians represent Abernethy as the capital of the Pictish nation, both in civil and religious matters.

Most probably, a church was built at Abernethy at a very remote period—in the fifth century, by Nethan Morbet, a king of the Picts, according to the Pictish chronicle; towards the close of the sixth century, by King Garnard M'Jourmach, according to Fordun, Winton, and Major; or in the beginning of the seventh century, by King Nethan II., Garnard's immediate successor, according to the Register of St Andrews.

Pinkerton supposes that Nethan III., who asked architects or masons from Ceolfrid, Abbot of Weremouth, in the eighth century, and who, according to Winton, founded Rosemarkie, may have been a founder of Abernethy also; or, at least, have substituted more substantial buildings in place of the original wooden erections.\*

According to the Pictish chronicle, the founding and endowing of the church of Abernethy was a sacrifice which the Pictish king offered to God and St Bridget, in acknowledgement of the recovery of his kingdom; and over the sacrifice, *i. e.* on the occasion of dedicating the church and lands to the use of religion, hallelujahs were sung by Darlintach, an Irish abbess, who had previously in her own country prayed for the restoration of the Pictish king, and was then, as it would appear, placed at the head of an establishment of nuns in her capital. Fordun, indeed, does not scruple to relate that St Patrick himself introduced St Bridget and her nine nuns into the religious establishment of Abernethy.†

The antiquity as well as dignity of the church of Abernethy may be seen in this, that it was the seat of the Bishop of the Picts. Fordun says, that there were three elections of bishops at Abernethy, while as yet there was only one bishop in the whole kingdom of the Picts; and that the church of Abernethy was founded 227, some said 244, years before the church of Dunkeld.

According to Boethius and Buchanan, Kenneth M'Alpine, King of the Dalriad Scots, translated the Episcopal see, after he subdued the Picts, from Abernethy to St Andrews, in the ninth century; and the Bishop of St Andrews henceforward was known as the national Bishop, *Episcopus Scotorum*.

The bishopric of Dunblane, within which the parish of Aber-

\* Pictish Chron. in Pinkerton and Innes; Fordun's Scot. Chr. Lib. 4, 12; Winton, Vol. i. p. 127; Major's Hist. p. 65; Regis. St Andrews; Pinkerton's Inquiry, Vol. i. p. 296, edit. Edin. 1814.

† Boethius's Hist. pp. 158, 160.

nethy came to be included, was founded in the twelfth century, by King David I., seemingly out of the great national bishopric of St Andrews, according to the manuscript missal.

Of the early history of the monastery established at Abernethy, and of the institutions of the Culdees, who had one of their principal seats in this parish, we possess scanty information. From a confirmation of some lands which were given to the Culdees of Lochleven, we learn, that, towards the end of the eleventh century, there were schools at Abernethy, in which was taught the whole circle of the sciences, as far as they were known in dark ages, and among a barbarous people. Among the witnesses are, the rector of the school of Abernethy, three priests of Abernethy, and a fourth, who is styled priest of the Culdees. Almost all the names are evidently of Celtic origin, and indicate that the Saxon had not yet supplanted the ancient language in that part of the country.\*

In the following century, Orme, the son of Hugh, proprietor of various lands in Angus and Fife, received the lands of Abernethy from King William the Lion; and from these lands, he and his posterity assumed their surname. A charter of the same King and of Lawrence de Abernethy, conveyed to the Abbey of Arbroath, as a free and permanent alms-gift, the church of Abernethy and its advowson, with all its pertinents, the chapels of Dron, Denboig, and Errol; the lands of Balloch, Pittenlower, (Pitlour), and tithes of several kinds. But, among other things, there are excepted the tithes of Mukdrum, Kerpull, (Carpow), Balchere-well, Baltolly, and Innernethy; which tithes, as well as the lands themselves, were the property of the Culdees. The charters were confirmed by the bishop of Dunblane, within whose diocese the church of Abernethy lay. But the avarice of the Abbey of Arbroath; the poverty, as it seems, of the see of Dunblane; and the growing dislike of the hierarchy towards all the institutions of the Culdees, soon operated to the disadvantage of the monastery of Abernethy.

About the year 1240, the altarage of the church, with the lands of Pittenlower, and a moiety of those of Balloch, were transferred to the bishop of Dunblane; and, in return, the bishop engaged to provide for the service of the church of Abernethy; to establish a vicar in his own cathedral, in the name of the abbot and

\* Register of St Andrews, in Jamieson's Culdees, App. No. 5.

monastery of Arbroath; to enrol Abernethy among the prebendal churches of the diocese; and to instal the abbot of Arbroath, as a prebendary or canon, with a manse and privileges similar to those of the other canons.

At last, the fate which sooner or later overtook all the Culdee institutions, came upon Abernethy also in 1278, when the ancient monastery became a priory of canons regular, and a cell of Inchaffray, from which place came the new order of priests.\*

It would appear, that, in process of time, the priory of Canons regular became a provostry or college of secular priests. Forbes says, that a provostry was founded at Abernethy by the Earl of Angus; and Sir James Balfour speaks of Abernethy as a collegiate church with eight prebends, founded by Henry Lord Abernethy, the nobleman, perhaps, who is mentioned in 1455, in the Parliamentary forfeiture of the Douglasses. It might have been expected that the provostry had been the work of an Earl of Angus, probably of the Earl George, who, receiving a great part of the forfeited estates of the Earl of Douglas in 1457, was one of the first subjects in Scotland, both in power and popularity, and rendered the Douglasses of Angus formidable to the throne as well as to civil liberty. But, be that as it may, we hear no more of Canons regular in this district; and there is every reason to believe that, for a very considerable period before the Reformation, Abernethy was a collegiate church, at the head of which was a provost.† In a charter of privileges given to the town of Abernethy, of date 28d August 1476, and by which charter the government of Abernethy was and continues to be vested in two bailies and fifteen councillors, one of the witnesses is John Frizzel or Frazer, who is designated provost of the collegiate church of Abernethy.

The common seal of the collegiate church or establishment at Abernethy, of which a *fac simile* or plate is given in Jamieson's History of the Culdees, was as follows: Obverse, a shield of arms in a shield gule; a lion rampant, surmounted with bend dexter argent; Legend, "Sig. commune Collegii de Abernethie." Reverse, an abbess, probably representing St Bridget (the supposed tutelar saint, concerning whom there are traditions,) in a veil, holding a crosier in her right hand, and at her right hand is

\* Regist. Aberbroth. in Jamieson's Culdees, App. No. 1, 2, 3, 4. Fordun's Scotichron. lib. x. 33.

† Forbes on Tithes, page 90. Jamieson's Culdees, page 115. Pinkerton's History of Scotland, Vol. i. p. 490, 238.

a small figure of a bull, deer, or such other animal. Legend, "In domo Dei ambulavimus concencu,"—words which are taken from the vulgate Latin of the 55th Psalm, verse 14, a *c* being erroneously substituted in the place of *s* in the penult syllable. It is remarkable that the matrix for making casts of this seal was found so late as 1789, and so far from home as Euiskillen, in the county of Fermanagh, in Ireland. It is of brass, and, at the period when the last Statistical Account was published, was in the possession of the Honourable Mrs Drummond of Perth. Whether it be still preserved by her successors, the writer has not been able to ascertain.

In 1531, in a rental of the churches of the Abbey of Arbroath, the church of Abernethy is stated at 293 lib. 6s. 8d.

In 1560, at the time of the Reformation, the valuation of the kirk of Abernethy is said to be 273 lib., a sum which is somewhat smaller numerically than that stated in the rental of 1531, and much smaller in actual value when the diminished weight of the coin is considered. After the Reformation, the church of Abernethy seems to have come under the denomination of a parsonage, like, perhaps, several other vicarages; for the bond by which they were connected with bishopricks, abbeys, and other religious establishments, was then dissolved. The rental of the provostry at the time of the Reformation was as follows:—Money, 13 lib. 13s. 4d.; bear, 2 chal. 9 bolls, 1 firloft, 1 peck; meal, 5 chal. 2 bolls, 3 firlofts.

Of the events in the department of civil history connected with Abernethy, few have been handed down. Fordun, Winton, and the English historians tell us that, in 1072, when William the Conqueror invaded Scotland, Malcolm Canmore did homage (probably for his English possessions) at Abernethy.

Goodal, in his introduction to Fordun's History, says that the place was on the river Nith, in the south of Scotland; and his opinion is generally approved by subsequent Scottish historians. But the harangue of an English general, before the battle of the Standard, in the following century, implies that William had passed through several provinces before Malcolm made his submission; and David M'Pherson, the editor of Winton, supposes that the English army advanced as far as Stratherne. Winton's language is:—

"Ae thousand twa and seventy yere,  
William Bastard, with his powere  
In Scotland came, and wasted syne,  
And rode throught till Abernethyn."



Alexander de Abernethy, the great-grandson of him who co-operated with William the Lion, in granting the church of Abernethy to the Abbey of Arbroath, swore fealty to Edward I. in 1292 and, adhering to the English interest, was appointed warden of the counties between the Forth and Grampians in 1310, by Edward II. His lands seem to have been forfeited, after the battle of Bannockburn, by King Robert Bruce, and they were probably saved by the marriage of his three daughters, who carried them to husbands better affected towards the Scottish Crown. With Margaret, the eldest daughter, John Stewart, Earl of Angus, inherited the lordship of Abernethy. Margaret Stewart, their grand-daughter, married William, Earl of Douglas. Their son, George Douglas, on the resignation of his mother in 1389, became Earl of Angus; and Lord Douglas, as the representative of the Earl of Angus and Duke of Douglas, is still superior of the town of Abernethy and many neighbouring estates.† In the early history of Scotland the Douglasses were a most powerful family. Their historiographer has observed that, "so many and so good as the Douglasses have been, of one surname, were ne'er in Scotland seen." Pennant states, that "they went about with 2000 men with them, and had their councillors and established ranks, and constituted a Parliament, and might have provided a House of Peers out of their own family."

The family, during their early and more intimate connection with the parish, seem to have had a castle or place of residence, which, tradition says, was near to the House of Carpow. In this parish also, it appears, was a place of sepulture, in which the ashes of some of the family repose, and which is supposed to have been within an aisle of the old church, taken down in 1802. At Abernethy, says Monipenny, in his *Scottish Chronicle* in 1612, the Earls of Angus have their sepulture. Earl George, the second of the name, a loyal and good man, the head of the aristocracy, and chief of his family, after the forfeiture of the older branch, and who was probably the founder of the provostry, was buried here in 1462; as was also Alexander, his great-grandson in 1556, who led the van of the Scottish army in the unfortunate battle of Pinky. George's son, the Great Earl, as he is called, or Archi-

\* Hales's *Annals*, Vol. i. p. 369, edition, Edinburgh, 1819. M'Pherson's *Geographical Illustrations*.

† Doug. *Peerage*, Vol. ii. p. 466. Robertson's *Index*, page 15. *Statistical Account*, Vol. xi. page 445-446.

bald Bell-the-Cat, whose two oldest sons, with 200 gentlemen of their name, fell at Flodden in 1513, ended his days in the following year at Whittern in religious solitude; but some time previously, he had given to Abernethy a proof of his favour in the charter before referred to, which erected the town into a burgh of barony, and vested the municipal government in two bailies and fifteen councillors. Earl William renewed the charter in 1628.\*

*Antiquities.*—The most remarkable evidence of the antiquity of Abernethy, and of the prominent place it occupied in the civil and ecclesiastical history of Scotland at a very remote period, is the round tower, to which there is nothing similar in Scotland, except at Brechin. It is 74 feet in height, and consists of 64 courses of hewn stone. The external circumference is 48 feet at the base, and diminishes somewhat towards the top. The thickness of the wall is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The door stands a little above the base, and faces the north; is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet in height, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet in width from jamb to jamb. Towards the top of the building are four windows, equidistant from one another, and pointing to the four quarters of heaven, each of them 5 feet 9 inches in height, and 2 feet 2 inches in width. The steeple or tower is a hollow pillar, and the only mode of ascent is by scaling ladders attached to different wooden platforms erected for the purpose. It stands detached from, but near to what was the site of the buildings connected with the college and ecclesiastical establishment, and where stood the parochial church, one of the oldest in Scotland, which was taken down in 1802, when the present new church was built in a different locality. It is now, and has been, occupied from time immemorial, as a belfry for ecclesiastical purposes; and a right to use it for civil purposes connected with the burgh, has been claimed and exercised within certain limits. Though this tower is generally, and by the voice of tradition, ascribed to Pictish times, and supposed to have been connected with ecclesiastical purposes, much obscurity rests on the subject, which has not yet been removed, and will probably remain on it.

Circular towers, of the same kind as those at Abernethy and Brechin in Scotland, are found in different parts of Ireland, and also in some parts of Asia. As to the origin and uses of these towers, there has been of late much speculation, and various theo-

\* Doug. Peerage, Vol. i. 433, 437, 434. Stat. Account, Vol. xi. p. 446. Jamieson's Culdees, p. 126.

ries have been proposed. O'Brian has recently drawn much attention to this class of antiquities. The theory which he endeavours to establish is, that the round towers of Ireland and Scotland are by much the earliest buildings we possess, dating their existence before the Christian era, and owing their origin to oriental idolatry, being the temples of the Buddhist worshippers. This theory seems to derive much weight from the arguments adduced in its support by the most recent and brilliant historiographer of Ireland, as well as the learned writer of the Pictorial History of England. Among those who ascribe the circular tower to Pictish and Christian times, some conceive that it was not only connected with ecclesiastical purposes, but was also designed as a place of sepulture for the Pictish kings, during the period Abernethy continued to be the capitol of their kingdom. A few months ago, the public attention was directed, through the newspaper press, to the discovery of a human skeleton within the basement of the round tower of Ardmore, in the county of Waterford. In the process of digging within this tower, there was found, first, a layer of large stones, then a perfectly smooth surface of mortar, and beneath this a bed of mould, in which, at the depth of some feet, a skeleton was discovered lying from east to west. After seeing this statement, the writer of this report had a communication with the proprietor of Ardmore, and also with Mr Windele, the secretary of the South Munster Antiquarian Society.

It would appear from these communications, that the subject of round towers, which are numerous in Ireland, occupies at present much attention; and that, with a view to throw light on the origin and uses of this class of antiquities, some of these towers have been particularly examined by competent judges. One of the results of their investigation has been to prove, that they were generally used as places of sepulture. Evidences of this fact have been found in the round towers not only of Ardmore, but of Ram Island and Timahoe, and latterly in the tower of Cloye.

Of the operations in this last place, the writer has received from Mr Windele the account which follows: "In September 1841, the workmen under the superintendence of Mr William Hackett, after penetrating through about two feet of rubbish, reached a solid floor, about a foot in thickness, formed of small stones laid in gravel, so firmly bedded as to yield only to repeated efforts with the crow-bar and pick-axe. Under this they found, within a space of six feet diameter, a stratum of earth mould, in which were dis-

covered three skeletons laid west and east, two of them lying side by side of each other, and the third under these. The gentlemen under whose directions these researches were prosecuted, and who were in attendance on this interesting occasion, were the Rev. Messrs Horgan, Rogers, Jones, Bolster, and D. Murphy, Messrs Hackett, Sainthill, Abell, Windele, Kelcher, and F. Jennings." While upon this subject, it is worthy of being noticed, that, in May 1821, the Rev. Andrew Small, author of a curious work entitled *Roman Antiquities in Abernethy and neighbouring parishes*, discovered a stone-coffin, with an entire skeleton and several human skulls and other detached bones, within the tower at Abernethy, while digging in the foundation of the building. An account of the discovery will be found in the work to which I have referred, published in 1823.

After all, however, which has been written or suggested as to the origin and uses of this class of ancient monuments, it must be admitted, that the researches of the antiquarian have hitherto failed in producing any theory on which much reliance can be placed.

" On the summit of a hill immediately behind Pitlour, and in this parish, are the remains of an ancient fort, called 'the Roman Camp,' which Colonel Millar, in his *Essay respecting the site of the battle of Mons Grampius*, supposes to have been occupied by the army previous to the great battle, which he supposes to have been fought in the plain below. The sides of this hill, except on the north-east, where it is connected with the general range of the Ochils, are steep, and it rises about 400 feet from its base. The summit is surrounded by a chain of rocks upwards of 300 yards in circumference, which forms a sort of natural citadel, and is still called 'the fort.' It has besides been well fortified; and many of the stones used for that purpose have been brought from a great distance. Upon clearing the ground for planting it in 1828, the road leading to it, laid with stone, was laid open. The entrance on the east side was also discovered cut through the rock, and the pavement in the inside quite entire. Upon digging, many human bones were found, both within and without the circumference of it, also the bones and teeth of horses. A little below the summit, and on the side facing the Lomond hill, the slope was cut into terraces, similar to those at Markinch, with this difference, that these seem to have been faced with stone. They are now all levelled but one, which is used as a farm road. Although this fort

may have been occupied by the Romans, there seems little reason to doubt that it had previously been a British fortress, and that it had even subsequently been used by that people for the same purpose.”\*

Among the Ochils, in the south-west corner of the parish, and in Fifeshire, stands Balvaird Castle, a relic of feudal times,—the property of the Earl of Mansfield and of his ancestors since the days of Robert II. Andrew Murray of Balvaird was settled minister of Abdie in 1618, knighted in 1633, and created Lord Balvaird in 1641, some conceive in consequence of the manner in which he acted in the important Assembly of the Church of Scotland of 1638. He died in 1644. His son, David, the second Lord Balvaird, succeeded a kinsman in the older titles of Scone and Stormont in 1658.

The seventh Viscount of Stormont succeeded his uncle in the Earldom of Mansfield in 1793, and was grandfather of the present Earl.

At an early period the titularity and patronage of the parish were granted by the Crown to Sir Andrew Murray of Balvaird, who was one of the Lords of Erection.

“The Castle of Balvaird is at present in a ruinous state, but it has obviously been, in former times, a place of considerable strength and importance. No date can now be traced on any part of the building; but there are the remains of several coats of arms, almost wholly obliterated, on different parts of it. Above the door which opens into the principal building from the court-yard is a shield, on which two coats of arms are emblazoned. They are very indistinct; but they appear to be those of Margaret Barclay and her husband, Sir Andrew Murray. And if this be the case, the building must be as old as the reign of James IV. In the open green in front of the castle, lies the recumbent figure of a female carved in freestone, which has obviously formed part of a monument. The stone was brought from the old church of Arngask at the time it was taken down, and is said to have been the monument of Lady Margaret Barclay, who married Sir Andrew Murray, youngest son of Sir William Murray of Tullibardine, and who, as the only surviving child of James Barclay of Kippo, to whom the barony of Balvaird and Arngask previously belonged, brought with her in marriage these baronies. Since that period, a considerable portion of the lands included in these

\* Vide Fife Illustrated, by Joseph Swan, &c. p. 206.

baronies have passed into the hands of other persons, who hold them in feu of the Earl of Mansfield, with whom the superiority still remains."\*

Besides the relics and monuments of other times, to which I have referred, there are others in the parish which, for some years, have drawn much attention, and have led to the conclusion, that here there was an important and extensive Roman station at a former period.

On the lands of Carpow, and near to the junction of the Earn with the waters of the Tay, there have been discovered foundations of buildings. These are within the policy grounds around the mansion-house of Carpow: and, when the surface of the ground was scorched by the extreme drought of 1826, attention was particularly drawn to them and to their extent.

A recent excavation in these grounds brings to light the foundations of many old walls. They are rudely constructed of stones and pieces of brick, with what would now be considered a very superfluous expenditure of lime and cement. One apartment, pretty entire, of which the walls are standing to the height of 20 inches, measures 10 feet by 18, and seems to have been neatly floored with tiles. Another appears to have been fitted up as a bath. It is 7 feet by 10, and the floors and sides are carefully plastered over with a hard compact cement, apparently composed of lime and brick-dust.

Near to this there was dug out, a few years ago, a piece of lead pipe about an inch and a half in internal diameter, and rudely soldered together with a coarse external seam. It is now, together with some Roman urns, coins, and fragments of bones, &c. found in the neighbourhood, in possession of Peter Hay Paterson, Esq. of Carpow. While Sibbald refers to ruins as existing in his time, in this district, he also refers to a Roman road as leading from thence to Ardoch, and another to Perth.†

The Castle Law, about three-quarters of a mile south-west from the village, is a steep, picturesque, grassy hill, rising to the height of about 600 feet. On its summit, from which there is a most delightful view of Strathearn and the Carse of Gowrie, are the vestiges of a very imperfect vitrified fort. The principal enclosure seems to have been surrounded by a rude mound of irregular

\* *Vide Fife Illustrated*, by Swan, &c. pages 205, 206.

† *Vide article in the Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries in Scotland*, by Lieutenant-Colonel Millar, C.B. and F.R.S.L. Vol. iv. Part I. Edin. 1830.

stones, many of which are burnt or partially fused. The form is somewhat like the section of a jargonelle pear cut longitudinally.—the greatest diameter from east to west being 16 yards, and from north to south, 24. Two indistinctly visible outworks, lower down the hill, as also a winding terraced walk, seem to have been connected with it. It might have perhaps been designed to guard the pass into Abernethy Glen, which it overlooks, or to watch the Roman station below. Supposing it to have been a signal-post, an office for which the site and construction of other hill forts point them out as well adapted, it could communicate with the vitrified forts on the Law Hill, seven miles east from Dundee; with those on Evelick and Dunsinnane Hill to the north, with which it nearly forms a straight line; with Dunmore at the mouth of Logiealmond, on the north-west; and with its magnificent namesake, the Castle Law, about six miles west, in Strathearn, in the same range of hills.

The Chronicle of the Church of Abernethy is the title of a record long since lost, but to which there is reference in Fordoun, and in Innes's quotation from the Book of Paisley. In consequence of the loss of this document, and also the imperfect and mutilated state of the records of the diocese of Dunblane, within which Abernethy was, posterity have perhaps been deprived of much that would have been interesting in relation to the ecclesiastical and literary institutions of Abernethy. In order to set aside or depreciate their claims to notice, it has been asked why so little has been found concerning them in the registers of Scone, or in that of St Andrews, the metropolitan seat. This, however, will appear less surprising if we remember that it was the system of the canons regular, after they obtained the superiority of the Episcopal seats and monasteries, to keep the Culdees and their institutions in the shade as much as possible, and to seek their extinction.

To the ecclesiastical antiquities of Abernethy, and to the prominent place which the Culdees (who had their principal seat in this parish) occupy among those who were witnesses for the truth in a dark age, by testifying against many of the errors of the Church of Rome, the public attention has been directed in the collections of Sir James Dalrymple, and, more recently, in the Historical Account of the Ancient Culdees of Iona, and their Settlements in Scotland, England, and Ireland, by John Jamieson, D. D., F. R. S., F. A. S. E. To these sources the author must

refer his readers for fuller information on this interesting subject than can be given within the limits of a statistical report of the parish. If Abernethy, as associated with the name of the Culdees, the pioneers of the Reformation, be a scene interesting to the Christian inquirer, both as a seat of learning and religion, it became, in a later age, one of the original seats of that secession from the Church of Scotland, which has now extended so widely, and produced an important change in the state of society in Scotland.

One of the fathers of the Secession, the Rev. Alexander Moncrieffe, was minister of Abernethy, and proprietor of Culfargie, a considerable estate in the parish. He was the son of Matthew Moncrieffe, Esq. of Culfargie, and born about the year 1696. His grandfather was the Rev. Alexander Moncrieffe, minister of Scoonie, in Fifeshire, from 1643 to 1660, who was ejected at the Restoration, and died in 1688. After prosecuting his studies in Scotland, and for some time at Leyden, in Holland, he returned home, and soon after was licensed to preach the Gospel by the presbytery of Perth, and was ordained minister of Abernethy in September 1720.

He was one of the four ministers who protested against the Act of the General Assembly of 1733, which restrained ministerial freedom, and who, being afterwards ejected from the Established Church, constituted themselves into a presbytery for bearing testimony to the covenanted work of the Reformation in Scotland, and against all defections from the same. He is the author of two volumes of sermons, and of different pamphlets on subjects connected with the controversies and errors of the times. He was appointed Professor of Divinity to the General Associate Synod, after the death of Mr William Wilson of Perth, about the year 1742, and continued to have the charge of the students of divinity at Culfargie till the period of his death in 1761. His popular talents, and the influence which his property in the parish gave him, enabled him to draw away from the Establishment a great proportion of the population; and though a great change has since taken place, the name of Moncrieffe is dear to many connected with that body of Christians in which he acted so prominent a part. After his ejection from the Church, he continued to live on his paternal estate of Culfargie, and out of his private funds immediately erected a large substantial meeting-house, in the vicinity of Abernethy, capable of accommodating about 1000



persons, and also gave the ground for its site to the congregation gratis. But besides the place of worship, he left them, for the support and accommodation of their ministers, four or five acres of valuable land, on which the manse and offices are built for the incumbent. It is understood that, both in relation to the meeting-house and glebe, the rights are given to Mr Moncrieffe's successors in the charge of the Secession congregation, only so long as they continued to adhere to the principles for which he had seceded.

The Rev. John Brown, who was for thirty-six years minister of the Associate Burgher congregation at Haddington, and the author of the *Self-Interpreting Bible* and other valuable works on theology, was born at Carpow, in this parish, in 1722.

*Parochial Registers.*—Many of the session records preceding the period of the Secession seem to have been carried away or lost during the troubles of this period, and all attempts to recover them have hitherto failed. The register of baptisms commences in the year 1667, and, with the exception of a few years before and after the Secession, has been continued to the present time. It is to be observed, however, that in this, as in other parishes in similar circumstances, many of the Dissenters, as well as some connected with the Established Church, have not registered the births of their children. Hence the little value of the register as a statistical document in relation to the number of births in the parish. The same remark applies to any records which have been kept of marriages and burials, &c. The defects which exist in all our parishes, with few exceptions, in the system of registration, suggests the necessity of some legislative measure on the subject.

*Ministers of the Parish.*—The following is a list of the ministers of this parish, with the dates of their settlements and deaths, so far as it has been ascertained:—1. Robert Jenkins, deposed by the council for not praying for William and Mary, &c. September 7, 1689; 2. Alexander Dunning, ordained, 1691, died, 1719; 3. Alexander Moncrieffe, ordained, 1720, deposed, 740; 4. Andrew Grey, D.D., \* ordained, 1747, died, 1779; 5. William Duncan, ordained, 1780, died, 1809; 6. David Duncan, ordained, 1809. From a small document, entitled *Some Notices of the Family of Moncrieffe of that Ilk, and its branches in Perthshire*, furnished to the author by Mr Rowand, keeper of the Theological Library, Edinburgh, it would appear that one of the numerous branches

\* Author of a valuable work on the Parables.

of the family of Moncrieffe was the Moncrieffe of Culfargie, in this parish. Alexander Moncrieffe, deposed in 1740, and one of the fathers of the Secession; and his son, Matthew, the second minister of the Seceding congregation at Abernethy, belonged to this family, and were proprietors of Culfargie. It would appear, from the document adverted to, as well as from the presbytery books, that persons of the same name, and probably belonging to the same family, had been ministers of Abernethy before the Revolution.

The first of these was Archibald Moncrieffe, who, after receiving his education in England, returned to his native country, and became minister of Abernethy about 1579 or 1580. He appears to have taken an active part in the disputes of the times between the Court and the Church, and in general to have supported the Court party. In the act of the Secret Council for support of the Protestant religion in 1589, his elder brother and himself are both named as commissioners. He supported the King's measures, violent as they were, in the Provincial Assembly of Perth, in 1607. But this is not surprising, when it is observed that his two brothers-in-law, David Murray of Balgonie, and Sir George Auchinleck of Balmanno, were joint commissioners for the King, with Sir David Murray of Arngask, the comptroller. Being appointed to attend the meeting of Assembly, they contended, with most incessant violence, to carry a point the King had much at heart, viz. the appointment of bishops to be perpetual moderators of the Church courts. Mr Archibald Moncrieffe does not appear to have had fortitude to resist their influence. He was accused, besides, of aspiring to a bishoprick, and was for some time in the Court list for that situation, though he never obtained it. These facts are detailed in the manuscript copy of Calderwood's history, a much more complete and larger work than the printed book which bears his name. Mr Archibald Moncrieffe was also named by the Court party to be a member of the meeting, then called the "Privy Conference at the General Assembly of Perth in 1618 (a committee the same in substance with regard to the ecclesiastical assemblies which the Lords of the articles were with regard to the Parliament of Scotland); and although he does not appear to have attended, he was nominated one of the Court of High Commission in 1619. His father had acquired the property of the monastery of Elcho, which was in the vicinity, and, in 1601, Archibald Moncrieffe,

the minister of Abernethy, was appointed prior and commendator of that priory and monastery, with a right to the whole rents belonging thereto, which must have been considerable.

Archibald Moncrieffe married Margaret Auchinleck, the sister of Sir George Auchinleck of Balmanno, who was admitted a Lord of Session 14th February 1626. The fruits of this marriage were three sons and three daughters. His second son, George, was minister of Arngask, and afterwards represented the family. His eldest son, Archibald, was his heir, and also successor as minister of Abernethy. He succeeded his father about the year 1630, and married Barbara, eldest daughter of David Moncrieffe of Balcas-kie, one of six brothers who all belonged to the household of James VI. Archibald, the second of the name who was minister of Abernethy, lived till after 1662, as appears by a document of that date, in his own writing, in the possession of the late Sir Henry Moncrieffe of Wellwood.

*Land-owners.*—The greater part of the parish belongs to the following heritors, who are non-resident: The Right Honourable Earl of Mansfield, who is patron of the parish, and takes one of his titles from Balvaire; the Right Honourable Earl of Wemyss and March; Sir Thomas Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe, a branch of one of the most ancient families in Scotland, the genealogical accounts of which go back to the beginning of the twelfth century, and represent Ramerus de Moncrieffe as the founder, who lived between A. D. 1107 and 1124, and is said to have been keeper of the wardrobe in the family of King Alexander I. The principal resident heritors are, Peter Hay Paterson, Esq. of Carpow; Joseph Murray, Esq. of Ayton, formerly Craigmottie; James Ritchie, Esq. of Carey, &c. The feuars generally hold of Lord Douglas, and are numerous, the number of heritors at present on the roll being 78. Though the greater proportion of these occupy only from one to three acres, yet, from the conjoined value of their lands and houses in the village, the number of individuals in the parish who enjoy the political franchise under the Reform Bill is very large.

### III.—POPULATION.

The return to Dr Webster, in 1755, was	.	1490
1792,	.	1415
1831,	.	1776
1841,	.	1915

It appears from the census of 1841, compared with that of 1831, that there has been an increase in the population to the ex-

tent of 139. This increase may be ascribed to the recent accession made to the villages of Glenfoot and Abernethy; but chiefly to the establishment of a bleachfield at Clunie, in the eastern part of the parish. Of the population about 1100 reside in the villages of Abernethy, Glenfoot, and Aberargie, and the remainder are scattered over the landward part of the parish, which is extensive.

The comparative state of the population, &c. in 1831 and 1841 is exhibited in the following certified extract :

Population of Abernethy parish in 1841 :

	Inhab.	Houses.	Uninhab.	Build.	Males.	Females.	Total.
County Perth, Abernethy parish (part),	316	20	1	855	907	1762	
County Fife, Abernethy parish (part),							
	32	1	0	78	75	153	
Total of parish,	348	21	1	933	982	1915	

Population in 1831.

County Perth, Abernethy parish (part),	296	11	2	747	865	1612	
County Fife, Abernethy parish (part),							
	28	0	0	84	80	164	
Total of parish,	324	11	2	831	945	1776	

In the villages by far the greater proportion of the inhabitants, both male and female, are employed in weaving linen yarn. During the fishing season on the Earn and Tay about 70 individuals are engaged in the salmon-fishery, a great proportion of whom have recourse to the loom during the winter months.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—There is no accurate survey of the parish, but the total number of acres, as nearly as can be ascertained, may be 7030, or thereby, which may be classed or subdivided as follows :

1st, The north division, or low ground of the parish, forming the lowest part of the fertile and beautiful vale of Stratherne, may contain one-third of the whole, or 2568 acres, the produce and value of which may be thus stated :

528	acres in wheat, at 3¼ quarters per acre, = 1848 quarters, at					
	L.2, 10s. per quarter,				L.4580	0 0
428	in barley, at 5 do. do. = 2140 do. at					
	L.1, 8s. 6d. per do.				3049	10 0
428	in oats, at 5 do. do. = 2140 do. at					
	L.1, 2s. 6d. per do.				2407	10 0
300	in beans, at 3 do. do. = 900 do. at					
	L.1, 10s. per do.				1350	0 0
250	in potatoes, at L.10 per acre,				2500	0 0

128 acres in turnips, at L.6 per acre,	.	.	L.768	0	0
128 in fallow,	.	.			
378 in grass, at L.4 per acre,	.	.	1512	0	0
<u>2568</u>			<u>L.16167</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

2d, The high ground, or hilly ground, forming part of the Ochil range, comprises the remaining two-thirds, and contains 4460 acres, divided thus :

Arable,	.	2660 acres.
Permanent pasture,	.	950
Under plantation,	.	850
<b>Total,</b>		<b>4460</b>

Of these, the arable may be classed as follows :

740 acres in oats, at 3½ quarters per acre, at L.1 per quarter,	L.2500	0	0
600 in barley, at 3 do. do. at L.1, 5s. per do.	2250	0	0
250 in turnips, at L.4 per acre,	1000	0	0
220 in potatoes, at L.9 per do.	1980	0	0
350 in hay, at L.3 per do.	1050	0	0
500 in pasture, at L.1 per do.	500	0	0
<u>2660 acres arable,</u>	<u>Value,</u>	<u>L.9370</u>	<u>0</u> <u>0</u>
950 acres permanent pasture, at 5s. per acre,	.	L.237	10 0
850 under plantation, new and making, no returns.			
Total acres of high ground, 4460	value, L.	9607	10 0
Do. do low ground, 2568	do.	16167	0 0
<u>Total acres in parish, 7028</u>	<u>Total value,</u>	<u>L.25774</u>	<u>10</u> <u>0</u>
To this add value of fisheries and orchards,	.	500	0 0

Total value of gross produce of parish, after deducting seed, L.26,274 10 0

There is no district in which there is a better specimen of agricultural operations, conducted on the most improved principles of cropping and cultivation, than the parish of Abernethy, and particularly that part of it which stretches along the rivers Earn and Tay.

The valued rent of the parish is L.8884, 15s. 1d. Scots.

The present average rental of the low land may be from L.2, 10s. to L.3, 15s. per acre; of high land, from L. 1 to L. 1, 15s. per acre. Some of the burgh acres are rented so high as L.5, 5s. per acre.

The annual rental of the fishings on Earn and Tay, belonging to the parish of Abernethy, does not, during the present year, exceed L.250 Sterling; but in some preceding years, they have brought a much higher rent. It is supposed that the Carpow fishings have been greatly injured by the operations in progress for clearing and widening the channel of the Tay. The preceding statements in relation to agricultural statistics of the parish have been drawn from materials furnished by an intelligent farmer in the parish, Mr David Barclay, tenant of Balgonie.

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There are in the parish, besides Abernethy, which is a burgh of barony holding of Lord Douglas, two villages, Aberargie, and Glenfoot. Two markets are held at Abernethy in the course of the year, but for a considerable period few have resorted to them, and little business has been done. A penny-post office was established at Abernethy about two years ago, but our nearest regular post-offices are at Newburgh and Bridge of Earn. The great turnpike road from Perth to Edinburgh, passing through the romantic scenery of Glenfarg, is for a considerable way in this parish. The other roads in the district are upheld by statute labour, and one of these is the line of road leading from Perth to Cupar, Fife. In this line there has been erected since the last Statistical Account was published, a new bridge over the Farg, where it was much needed.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church, which was built in 1802, is conveniently situated, and although externally it be a plain and unadorned edifice, is very substantial and commodious. It contains about 600 sittings, and would not be nearly sufficient for the population if a considerable proportion of the people who have no right to seats in the parish church, did not find accommodation in the Dissenting meeting-house.

According to the census of the parish, given in the Statistical Account of 1792, when the whole population amounted to 1415, 628 were connected with the Establishment, and 787 with the Secession congregation. Since that period the population has greatly increased, and a very considerable majority of the people are now connected with the Establishment. Amidst all the influences which have been at work to agitate the public mind, and to widen the unhappy breach which exists between the Church of Scotland and Dissenters, it is gratifying to be enabled to state, that the ministers of the different congregations in this parish have continued to live in harmony and friendship.

The manse was built in 1774, and, though very inferior in accommodation to many built at a subsequent period, is sufficiently comfortable.

The present stipend is 17 chalders of victual, half meal half barley, and L.8, 6s. 8d. is the allowance for communion element money. The glebe does not exceed the legal minimum extent of four acres, and might bring a rent of about L.3 per acre.

*Education.*—Some years ago, the heritors erected a large and

commodious school-house and school-room, and provided a garden for the schoolmaster. The present incumbent, who is now old and infirm, has withdrawn from teaching, and his place has, for some years, been filled by a teacher selected by the minister and some of the heritors, who provide a salary in addition to the school fees. The average number of scholars attending the parochial school for the last three years has been about 80; and the school fees may amount to from L.20 to L.25 per annum.

The rates of fees are, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 3s. for the ordinary and elementary branches of education; and 5s. for Latin, book-keeping, practical mathematics, &c.

The schoolmaster retains all the fixed emoluments, which consist of the maximum salary, and the interest of L.190, being a sum mortified by the Earl of Mansfield for behoof of the parish teacher. He has besides the perquisites as session-clerk, which may amount to L.10 per annum.

Besides the parochial school, and a school in Abernethy connected with the Secession congregation, there is a third school in the village of Aberargie, under the patronage and superintendence of Joseph Murray, Esq. of Ayton, who gives the teacher selected by him, besides the fees, an annual salary, with a school-room and house. The teacher is a member of the Established Church, and has his school annually examined by the presbytery. In this school, the average attendance may be about 60, and here, as in the parochial school, the most approved modes of tuition are introduced. The heritors of the parish of Abernethy are entitled to much praise for the sacrifices and exertions they have made for the education of the people, and the fault is with parents themselves if they neglect the ample provisions made for the instruction of their children.

There are Sabbath evening schools both at Abernethy and Aberargie, conducted by the teachers and assistants, and under the superintendence of the parish minister. Libraries are connected with these schools, from which books, chiefly of a religious character, are circulated among the children attending the schools, farm-servants, and other classes of the population.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of paupers on the roll for the last three years is 33, and the allowance given to each individual varies from 2s. 6d. to 9s. per month. Additions, however, are occasionally made to these allowances in cases of distress, &c. Relief is also sometimes given to persons who are

not on the list of regular paupers. The sources of revenue are the collections at the church doors, and the rents of lands mortgaged for behoof of the poor, and under the administration of the kirk-session. The average annual revenue does not exceed L.85 Sterling. Hitherto there has been no assessment in the parish; but as the regular income has not for some years been found sufficient for meeting the increasing wants and numbers of the poor, it has been necessary to make up the deficiency by obtaining voluntary donations from the principal heritors, who, much to their credit, have not resisted the appeals made to their benevolence.

There was a period when the Dissenting congregation contributed largely by their collections to the relief of the poor in the parish. It is stated in the last Statistical Account to the amount of L.20 Sterling; but it is to be regretted, that, for some years, this source of charity has been almost entirely closed by the difficulties felt in raising the stipend payable to the ministers.

*Alehouses.*—There are within the limits of the parish five houses licensed to retail spirits. This number may not be considered large when compared with that of other parishes; but it is more than sufficient for all purposes of trade and good morals.

Much of the poverty and misery existing in our parishes is to be traced to the increasing use of ardent spirits. Any measure calculated to check an evil so inconsistent with the temporal and spiritual interests of the people, is deserving of the countenance and support of all who would desire to see an amelioration in their condition.

*Ferries.*—There are two stations on the river Earn where passage-boats are provided, the one at Cary, little used, and the other at Ferryfield, on the estate of Carpow, near the junction of the Earn with the Tay. There are passage-boats daily plying betwixt Ferryfield and the Carse of Gowrie, where there is now a good pier and landing-place, on the property of Sir John Richardson of Pitfour. If low-water piers were erected at Ferryfield and the opposite side of the Tay, it would be a great addition to the means of intercourse, and would be most beneficial to the public.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

At the time when the last Statistical report of the parish was drawn up by the father of the writer of this article, there were few districts in Scotland which furnished a more favourable specimen of the state of agriculture. Since that period, the parish has kept



pace with the progress of improvement. The new system of draining, &c. has been generally adopted with much benefit; and for this mode of improvement there are now great facilities in a brick and tile work which has recently commenced at Ferryfield, on the estate of Carpow. In consequence of the division of two commonities, which was effected some years ago, a considerable addition has been made to the number of acres in plantation, or under cultivation.

*December 1842.*

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## PARISH OF DRON.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. PATRICK J. MACFARLANE, A. M., M. D.,  
MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name, Extent, &c.*—THE name *Dronn*, in the Gaelic language, is said to signify a *ridge* or *projection*, a *hunch* or *bunch*, which is descriptive of the situation of that part of the parish where the church and manse are placed. The parish is situated about a mile south of the river Earn, and five miles south-east of the town of Perth. It extends in length from east to west between three and four miles, including a narrow strip of the lands of Pitkeathly, in Dumbarry parish, which intersects it; and in breadth from north to south, about three miles. The principal and lower part stretches, in a sloping position, along the bottom of the Ochil hills, which form the southern boundary of the rich and beautiful vale of Strathearn, and presents to the view of the traveller passing along the great road which leads from Perth to Kinghorn and the Queensferry, a very agreeable prospect of well-cultivated and inclosed fields. The face of the hills here is generally smooth and regular, uniformly green, and adorned with strips and clumps of plantation. Some are covered with an extensive wood of firs, birch, ash, &c. which at once ornaments the prospect and enriches the country. A few farms, more extensive than rich, occupy the higher part of the parish, being situated on the summit of the Ochil hills.

*Rivers, Springs, Minerals.*—Though there are no rivers which run through this parish, yet it is plentifully supplied with water, by springs and little currents which descend from the hills. The only river which borders on the parish, and divides it from Abernethy is the Farg. It rises in the Ochil hills, about five or six miles above, and runs through a deep and narrow and wooded glen, of romantic beauty, (through which the Great North Road passes,) for a considerable way, before it issues into the plain; and after a short course directly north it bends to the east, and loses itself in the river Earn, at a place, which derives its name from it, called Culfargie. This river abounds with fine trout.

There is some freestone in the parish, but seldom wrought, except on a particular demand. The appearances of coal are so great, that many attempts have been made to discover it, by digging, boring, &c. but hitherto without success. Many different trials have been made within this parish since the year 1758, and sanguine hopes have been entertained, but as often disappointed. The nearest coal mines are at Keltie and Loch Gellie, at the distance of eighteen and twenty miles south, from whence they are usually brought in carts during summer, for the supply of all the country south of Perth. There is no moss nearer than eight or nine miles. This scarcity of fuel is severely felt by the lower classes of the people.

The soil in the lower division of the parish, though various, according as it approaches to the bottom of the hills, or the level of the Strath, is in general strong and fertile, consisting partly of clay, till, and loam, producing plentiful crops of potatoes and turnips, wheat, beans, pease, barley, clover, oats, which is the usual rotation observed here. The soil of those farms which lie on the hills is of a lighter kind, shallow and interspersed with rock, lying at the bottom of the furrow, and frequently jutting out above the surface. But in the flats and hollows the soil is good, and produces very tolerable crops, chiefly of barley and oats, turnips and potatoes, pease only in small quantities. Wheat has been also cultivated with success, and grass. Large tracts, however, in these farms are unfit for cultivation, and only afford an extensive range of indifferent pasture for cattle and sheep. From the elevated situation of these farms, they are much exposed to suffer from high winds and late harvests.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—There is a register of baptisms, marriages,

collections, and minutes of session, in eight volumes, commencing in 1682, and continued apparently with considerable regularity to the present time.

*Principal Land-owners.*—Alexander M. H. Belshes, Esq. of Invermay, possessing nearly half of the parish; heirs of the late Mr Husband of Glenearn; Earl of Wemyss; J. Beatson Bell, Esq. of Glenfarg.

*Mansion-Houses.*—Balmanno Castle, formerly the seat of the Murrays, Baronets of Balmanno, is now the property of Alexander Murray Hepburn Belshes, Esq. of Invermay, nephew of the last baronet, who was killed at the age of twenty-two at Long Island, in the American War. It is a fine specimen, in perfect preservation, of the old Scottish castle and mansion-house; part of it of great antiquity. It is now partly occupied by the farmer. There is also the modern mansion-house of Glenearn, a neat small country-house.

*Antiquities.*—In the parish church-yard there is the grave and grave-stone of John Welwood, a celebrated minister of the Gospel in the times of the persecution under Charles II., who died in Perth in 1679, and was brought out and buried here during the night. In the old church-yard at Ecclesiamagirdle, there is the grave of a Covenanter killed in these times.

There were in former times two small chapels in this parish besides the parish church. One of these, which stood in the east corner of the parish, at the mouth of Glenfarg, where now stands the mill of Pottie, is now totally in ruins, no vestige of it remaining except some part of the foundation below ground. The other chapel of Ecclesiamagirdle is at Glenearn, in the west end of the parish, and still remains, though in a ruinous state.

*Rocking Stone.*—On the south descent of the hill, opposite to the church and manse, stands what is called the rocking stone of Dron, presenting at once a monument of ancient ingenuity and superstition. It is a large mass of whinstone, of an irregular figure, about ten feet in length, and seven in breadth, and stands in a sloping direction. (Vide Old Account.)

### III.—POPULATION.

The inhabitants of the parish consist exclusively of a few farmers of high respectability and great skill, and an industrious rural population. There are no resident heritors, and the parish is divided into six large farms and four smaller hill farms. The population by the last census (1841) amounted to

441. The number of houses in the parish is about 90 or 95. There is no village. Number of illegitimate births in the parish within the last three years, 3.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—About 2600 imperial acres are cultivated. About 1100 acres are in hill pasture. Every acre in the parish is cultivated, both on the high land and the low, where cultivation would make any return. About 400 acres are under wood.

*Rent of Land.*—The average rent of land may be stated at about L.2 for arable, and 9s. for pasture. The entire rental of the parish is about L.5000. The agriculture of the parish is in a high state of improvement. The most recent agricultural improvement is that of tile-draining, which is carrying to a great extent, and for which the soil is peculiarly fitted, being for the most part retentive and clayey, and much of it on a low dead-level, not drainable by other means.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Seventy-two families belong to the parish church; about ten families to different Dissenting bodies. Number of *bothies* in the parish, 8, of which the inmates belong to the Establishment.

*Stipend.*—About 1 chalders wheat, 4 chalders barley, 10 chalders meal, money, L.12, 13s. 9½d.; coals, L.6, 5s. 1½d. Average in money, L.175. No allowance for communion elements. Teinds said to be exhausted. Glebe, about 4 acres, value about L.12.

The present manse was built about twenty-five or thirty years ago, and received extensive alterations, improvements, and repairs, besides a large addition four years ago, at the expense of the heritors and the present incumbent. The church was built about fifteen years ago in a plain and handsome style, and is an excellent model of a country church. It is seated for 350 persons, and cost about L.800. The situation of the church and manse is one of great beauty, on an elevation at the foot of the line of the Ochils, and commanding a rich, and varied, and extensive view over the whole lower part of Strathearn, the upper part of the Carse of Gowrie, and the whole extent of the braes of the Carse on the one side, and of the Ochils on the other, as far as the Law of Dundee. An entirely new school and school-house have just been built by the heritors, in the neighbourhood of the manse and church, in a handsome style, and on a commodious plan, at an outlay of about L.600.

*Education.*—No schools in the parish but the parish school, which is in a flourishing state. Salary, the maximum. Probable yearly amount of fees actually paid to schoolmaster, about L.21. Probable amount of the other emoluments, about L.8 or L.9, including salary as session-clerk and heritors' clerk. There is a small piece of ground, about seven acres, adjoining to the minister's glebe, which was mortified by a Mr William Bell, minister here, 1641, and afterward conveyed to the parish of Errol, for the purpose of maintaining a student of divinity; the management and disposal of this mortification is in the hands of the presbytery of Perth, who let the lands, and appoint the rent to be paid annually as a bursary to the student whom they have chosen, and who continues in the possession of it for four years. The bursars are obliged to attend the university of St Andrews. The present rent of these lands is about L.21, exclusive of all public burdens, but subject to a deduction of one-fifth for stipend. Ministers' sons in the presbytery are preferred to all others.

*Public-Houses.*—There are three public-houses in the parish.

*Poor.*—Average number of persons receiving parochial aid, 9 or 10, besides one in the lunatic asylum. Average sum allotted to each of such persons per week or year, about L.3, 15s. per annum. Average annual amount of contributions for relief of the poor, L.60. From the poverty of the greater part of the population, and the total want of resident heritors, the collections are small; average, about L.6 or L.7. There is no legal assessment, but the heritors voluntarily assess themselves for the support of the poor to the amount, at present, of L.53 or L.54, of which L.23 are for a lunatic in the Perth Asylum.

*December 1842.*

## PARISH OF TULLIALLAN.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. GEORGE HOPE MONILAWS, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Situation and Extent.*—THIS parish is situated in the south-west extremity of the county of Perth, on a beautiful hill, gently declining to the south and west, and sloping to the north and north-east; and this local peculiarity, in all probability, gave to the parish the name of Tulliallan,—the *beautiful hill*. It consisted originally of the barony of Tulliallan only; but in 1673, the barony of Kincardine, lands of Lurg, Sands, and Kellywood were disjoined from the parish of Culross at the instance of the Earl of Kincardine, “with concurrence of the King’s advocate and solicitor, and the recommendation of the presbytery.”\* The extreme length of this parish is about  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles, and its breadth nearly  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles. It contains about 3850 imperial acres.

*Soil, Climate.*—The soil is various, consisting of coarse clay, loam, moor, peat, and rich alluvial soil recently reclaimed from the sea. Sheltered on the north and east by rising ground and extensive plantations, and exposed on the south-west to a free current of air, this parish is noted for a mild and temperate climate, the healthiness of its inhabitants, and the absence of those diseases and fevers which prevail in many neighbouring parishes. Agues, formerly prevalent, have not appeared for many years, and the recent improvements in agriculture have undoubtedly proved beneficial to the general health of the people.

*Coast, Ferry.*—The situation of Kincardine is one of the best on the Forth for trade and shipping. There is water on the roadstead to the depth of 21 feet, where 100 vessels may ride in safety. The ferry across the river here is decidedly the best on the Forth. It is under excellent management. The ferry is three-quarters of

\* Connell on the Law of Parishes, p. 49. Edin. 1818.

a mile at high water, and only one quarter when the tide is out. Two steam-boats are attached to the ferry, which pass in about five minutes at all times of the tide and in all states of the weather. The piers at the ferry were built in 1826 and 1827 by Lord Keith's Trustees, at the cost of L.6468, 5s. 9d.

*Minerals.*—This parish abounds with excellent freestone, coal, and ironstone. The quarry of Longannat, in the east part of the parish, and near the river, is well known for its excellent durable white freestone. It was once wrought by the Dutch, and it is said that the Stadt House of Holland was built of the stone of this quarry. The Royal Exchange, Infirmary, and Register Office in Edinburgh are partly built out of it. There is abundance of coal under the recently reclaimed land.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Antiquities.*—The old Castle of Tulliallan, which formerly belonged to the Blackadders, is the most remarkable old building in the parish. It stands upon a small rising ground to the west of the town. A moat, communicating with the Forth, formerly surrounded the building, which at that time was within 150 yards of the river. It must have been a place of great strength. A portion of the moat is still visible. Nothing remains of the building but the walls and the arch over the ground flat, which consists of three rooms. It has given the name to Tulliallan Castle,—the chief mansion-house in the parish. The old church at Overtown forms the tomb for Lord Keith's family. Some of the tomb-stones are very old. Gold, silver, and copper coins of the English Edwards' reign are found in the earth of this old church, and in the tomb of the Blackadder family. Some Roman urns, partially filled with ashes, were dug up on the farm of Damend, in the north of the parish, so recently as 1830.

*Land-owners.*—These are, Trustees of Tulliallan estate; James Johnstone, Esq. of Sands; Lord Abercrombie.

#### III.—POPULATION.

Population in 1801,	.	2800
1811,	.	3194
1821,	.	3558
1831,	.	3550
1841,	.	3119—families, 819.

Of this number, nine-tenths are contained in the town of Kincardine, and the remaining part is scattered over the landward district of the parish.

## IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The arable land in this parish is in a state of yearly improvement.

Imperial acres, either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, about	3055
remaining waste or in pasture,	20
under wood, natural and planted,	505

The valued rent is about L. 2589, 9s. 6d. Scotch, but the real rental of the landward part of the parish is L. 4549, 5s. 4d. Sterling, and this added to the rental of the town, which is L. 1772, 14s., makes the whole rental of the parish L. 6322, 1s. 4d. The average rent of land per acre is about L. 2, 10s. The most important improvement in the parish for the last twenty years, is the addition made to the arable land by two extensive embankments, one on the west, the other on the east of the town of Kincardine. The former of these was commenced by the late Lord Viscount Leith, in the spring of 1821, and was completed in 1823. The length of this embankment is 2020 yards. Its height is 11 feet 6 inches above the level of the river Forth. The land thus reclaimed is equal to 152 imperial acres, and the expense of the embankment was L. 6104, 0s. 7d. The other embankment to the east of the town, extending from the shipping pier on the west to Longannat point on the east, is in length 3040 yards, or nearly one mile and three-quarters. Its height averages 16 feet. The land reclaimed is equal to 214 acres of alluvial mud, which, when the salt is extracted, will bear the richest crops. This embankment was commenced by the Trustees of the late Lord Viscount Keith, in 1829, by a stone embankment, by way of a break-water, and was finished with a head embankment inside the stone in 1839. The work proceeded slowly, in order to allow an accumulation of mud inside, and the tide water which deposited the mud, was not excluded until the month of January 1838. This embankment cost nearly L. 14,000, and is regarded by competent judges to be one of the best in Scotland. The land thus reclaimed constitutes a new farm, and is a great improvement to the parish. The soil is strongly impregnated with salt, which must be extracted by the sun, rain, and frost, before vegetation commences, and the first plants which appear on the surface are always those which are to be found in salt-marshes, and on the shores of the sea.

*Trade and Commerce.*—These are decidedly on the decline in



this parish. The extensive distilleries, collieries, and salt-works, which formerly employed many workmen, are totally extinct. The shipping interest is also on the decline. Formerly many vessels were built here, and during the winter nearly 100 were to be seen in the roadstead. In 1786, there were nine on the stocks at one time; in 1842, there are only three. The ship-owners buy or build vessels of large tonnage elsewhere, and these are seldom seen at this port, being chiefly employed in the East and West India trade,—the Brazils, Mediterranean, and New South Wales. The tonnage of vessels belonging to Kincardine is about 9000 tons, and allowing L.12 to the ton, the capital invested in them will be L.108,000. There are two small manufactories, one for rope, and the other for sailcloth. Several girls are employed in tambouring. There are a few plain cloth and damask weavers in the town, and the other labourers are chiefly employed by the farmers in the parish.

*Fisheries.*—These were once numerous and successful in this part of the river, but there are now only a few cruives or baskets employed for this purpose, which catch a few small fish in autumn, and a few salmon are taken with nets in July and August. The large quantity of moss floating down the river is supposed to have injured the fishings.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—There are three places of worship in the parish, two connected with the Church of Scotland, and one belonging to the United Associate Synod. Lady Keith is the patroness of the parish, and her ladyship, in the exercise of her patronage, has always manifested a due respect to the wishes and opinion of the people. The present parish church is an elegant and substantial building, erected in 1833, at the cost of L.3400, and contains accommodation for 1176 sitters. The great majority of the population belongs to the Established Church, and their number has been lately increased by the union of the Old Light Seceders with the Church. There are no Episcopal or Roman Catholic families in the parish. The stipend enjoyed by the parish minister is about L.259. The extent of the glebe is about 13 acres, and its annual value L.40. The present manse was built in 1823. It is situated west of the town, and is a comfortable and commodious dwelling.

*Education.*—There is a parish school, confessedly too small, with

a dwelling-house and garden. The school is taught by the master, aided by an assistant, and is attended by 180 scholars. The salary is the maximum. The fees are not well paid. The master received for fees last year L.60, out of which he pays L.40 to his assistant. Within the last year, a subscription school has been built by Government aid. It is taught by an elder of the Established Church, and an assistant, and is attended by 130 scholars. An infant school has been lately opened, and promises to be successful. There are three other schools in the town and parish, in which sewing, knitting, and the ordinary branches of education are taught. There is a general library in the town, consisting of upwards of 1000 volumes, which has afforded much instruction to the community, and is under excellent management. There are two other small libraries, chiefly religious, for the benefit of the members of the churches to which they belong. The state of education and instruction in this parish is good, and, under the Divine blessing, must prove highly beneficial to the moral and intellectual character of the rising generation.

*Town of Kincardine.*—The town of Kincardine, which contains the greatest proportion of the population of the parish, is situated on the north bank of the Forth, about midway between Stirling and Edinburgh. It is a burgh of barony. The Trustees of Lord Keith are the superiors, and they appoint baron-bailies as magistrates. The town has been very irregularly built. The houses are mostly one story, and covered with tile; but those recently built contain two or three flats, and are covered with slate. The streets are in a bad state, but there is a prospect of their being improved. There are two good inns in the town, and at the post-office there are two arrivals from the east and west during the twenty-four hours. There is a branch of the Glasgow Union and Commercial Banks in the town, which affords great accommodation to the surrounding district. A coach passes through the town daily for Glasgow, and steam-boats ply regularly between Edinburgh and Stirling, and take in passengers at the pier.

*Poor and their Provision.*—The number of the poor on the session roll is 51. This number is small in proportion to the population of the parish; but many of the parishioners receive Trinity money and other annuities, and are thereby rendered more independent of parochial assistance. There is also a society of ladies who minister much to the comfort and support of the poor. One of the

causes of pauperism is, the increased population of many parishes, where not one-half of the people are known by either the minister or elders. Applicants are put on the roll of whose name and circumstances, the session knows nothing. "Wherever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together." The success of one applicant encourages others, and in a few years the poor roll of a parish may be crowded with the names of those who may be among the least necessitous of the poor. In any parish where the population exceeds 3000, this may happen, and the alone practical sufficient remedy for this evil is, the reduction of our large parishes to such an extent as shall enable the minister and elders to be acquainted with every family and individual within their bounds. The heritors of Scotland would consult their best interests by aiding the Church in any device for bringing the people under a strict efficient parochial superintendence, and thereby mitigating the manifold evils which flow from the ignorance, poverty, and vice of a neglected and discontented population. In this parish, however, every individual is known by name to the minister and elders. Application for relief is made by the elder of the district in which the applicant resides, and the case is disposed of according to its merits. Occasional aid is given to those who may fall into distress from sickness and other causes. In some cases, where the habits of the poor are bad, their allowance in money is converted into some of the necessaries of life, and given to them as such. They receive payment every Monday morning, and are generally contented and grateful. The elders have a sympathy for the poor, and this produces mutual confidence and respect. The average sum allotted to each per week is 1s. 6d. Their support and other expenses connected with the church and parish are defrayed out of the collections, aided by donations from the heritors. These last year amounted to about L.200.

*December 1842.*

# UNITED PARISHES OF ST MARTINS AND CAMBUSMICHAEL.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. WILLIAM RITCHIE, MINISTER.

## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name, Extent, &c.*—THESE two parishes were united about 150 years ago, and took their names from the saints to whom they were dedicated. The united parish extends from the banks of the Tay about 5 miles to the east, forming an oblong square, averaging nearly two miles in breadth. The soil in general is a black mould, with a till bottom, and seems originally to have been taken from moor, but is now mostly all cultivated. Limestone is also found, though not used to any great extent.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—The registers commence in 1712. Till about 1820, matters of church discipline, cash transactions, births, and marriages were all huddled into one book; but since that period, there has been a distinct and accurate register of each kept.

### *Land-owners, with their respective valuations in Scots money.—*

William Farquharson Macdonald, Esq. of St Martins,	L.1852 14 8
The Earl of Mansfield,	728 14 8
Guildry Incorporation of Perth,	248 10 0
P. M. Matthew, Esq. of Newmils,	207 3 0
Mrs Drummond Nairne of Gardrum.	121 13 4
Andrew Couper, Esq. of Auchmague,	90 0 0
Colonel Steele of Evelick,	20 0 0

Total, . . . L.3268 15 8

*Antiquities.*—Under this head fall to be noticed the remains of Macbeth's Castle at Cairnbeddie, (*Caer Bed* or *Caer Beth*, the *Castle of Macbeth*). It is still known by this name among the people of the country. The ground on which the castle stood is considerably elevated, being a circular spot of about 230 feet in diameter, and surrounded by a moat 30 feet in breadth. Tradition has handed down, that this place, not being secure against the

many insurrections of the times, Macbeth removed to the celebrated Hill of Dunsinnan; that by the advice of two witches, the most celebrated at that time in the kingdom, and living one on each side of Macbeth, he fortified the castle on Dunsinnan Hill; that they met him one night at a place still called "the witch stane" (where a remarkable stone still stands), about a mile from his old residence, and warned him to beware "Till Birnam forest come to Dunsinane." About twenty-four years ago, a great quantity of earth was removed from one side of the mound, and horse shoes, apparently like those of ponies, were found in great abundance; likewise handles of swords and dirks.

### III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1801,	-	1186
1811,	-	1076
1821,	-	1004
1831,	-	1135
1841,	-	1071

Number of illegitimate births in the parish within the last three years, 6.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

#### *Agriculture.*—

Number of acres, standard imperial measure, in the parish, which are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, about	14,900
Number of acres under wood, whether natural or planted, about	1,100

Average rent of land per acre, L.2.

Much has been done in draining and fencing of late years. An Agricultural Association has likewise been formed.

*Manufactures.*—A coarse linen manufacture is carried on, in which about 30 hands are employed.

### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical Stñte.*—A handsome new church has just been erected, capable of containing more sitters than the law requires, though not yet open for public worship.

Number of families in the parish belonging to the Established Church, 210; Dissenting or Seceding families, 20; Episcopalian families, 1; Roman Catholic families, 2.

The stipend averages from L.180 to L.200 Sterling. The teind, however, is not all exhausted, and it is upwards of twenty years since an augmentation. There are two glebes,—one seven acres, the other, four and a half, worth about L.2, 10s. per annum. The manse was built in 1791, and thoroughly repaired in 1837. It is commodious and comfortable.

*Education.*—There are two schools in the parish, both efficient-

ly taught. The parochial teacher has received a classical education, and is so highly esteemed that young men often come to him from other parishes to finish their education. The salary is the maximum. He receives about L.24 Sterling from school fees, and about L.6 from other sources. With regard to the other school, there are no emoluments but the school fees, which are very small, and the ground for school and school-house, furnished by the Guildry Incorporation of Perth. There are likewise two Sabbath schools in the parish; one taught by the minister, for young persons, fourteen years or upwards, the other for young children.

*Savings Bank.*—There is a Savings bank in the parish, which is a branch of the Perth Savings Bank. It was recently established.

*Poor.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 19; and the average sum allotted to each of such persons is about 1s. 6d. per week, or L.3, 18s. per year, exclusive of house-rents, coals, clothing, &c. The average annual amount of contributions for relief of the poor is about L.99, 17s. 3d. Sterling; viz. from church collections about L.51, 15s. 3d.; from voluntary contributions of heritors, L.20; from alms or legacies, &c. L.4, 2s.; and from interest of L.600, L.24.

*December 1842.*

## UNITED PARISHES OF ABERDALGIE AND DUPPLIN.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. C. C. STEWART, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—The Old Statistical Account states that the parishes of Aberdalgie and Dupplin were united into one parish in the year 1618. In the times of Episcopacy, the parish of Aberdalgie seems to have been included within the diocese of Dunkeld, while that of Dupplin belonged to the diocese of Dunblane. Indeed the church of Dupplin seems only to have been a family chapel,

attached to the Castle "de Dupline" for the benefit of its possessors.

*Extent, &c.*—The extent of the parish, from east to west, is about 3 miles; and from north to south, about 2½ miles. It is compact, situated upon the rising ground which forms the northern boundary of the beautiful vale of Strathearn, while the view is limited to the south by the Ochil Hills. The Earn forms the southern boundary of the parish, separating it from the parishes of Forgardenny and Forteviot. This high land range slopes gradually again to the north, overlooking the rich and wide-spread valleys of the Almond, the Tay, and Strathmore; while the noble range of the Grampians in the distance, with their towering summits, forms a splendid boundary to this panoramic scene. On the north-east, the parish is joined by the landward part of the East Church parish of Perth; and on the south-east, by a portion of the parish of Forteviot; on the north, it is bounded by the parish of Tibbermuir; and on the west, by that of Forteviot.

The Earn is remarkable for its beautiful windings through the Strath, especially from the bridge of Forteviot to the Bridge of Earn. The various elegant seats of noblemen and gentlemen on the declivities, and the substantial farm-houses and offices, all ornamented with much fine wood, form a scene which strikes the eye of every traveller with delight. The river is subject to great inundations. It is famous for salmon and a variety of fresh-water trouts, which are caught by the net or in cruives.

*Geology.*—The prevailing stratum of this parish, along with tracts of the surrounding country, is sandstone of the older formation. There are several quarries in the parish, the finest of which is at the Milton. Of this stone the present manse has been built.

*Plantations.*—In no part of the country is finer wood to be seen and of greater variety than around Dupplin Castle. The sweet and horse chestnuts are of great age. Black spruce of the greatest dimensions, with quantities of beech, and the fine old Scots fir, with its massive gnarled arms of great size, adorn the avenues leading to the castle. Larger solitary trees may be found in other places; but it is generally acknowledged that few seats in Scotland are surrounded by such an extent and variety of large and valuable wood as Dupplin Castle. The old plantations extend to about 200 Scots acres, and the present Earl has planted about 150.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The oldest session record is of date February 14, 1613, and is

preserved with singular regularity, and but few omissions, down to 1656. This manuscript, if deciphered, might prove interesting. The records disclose a lamentable picture of the state of the country during Cromwell's usurpation. Mr Playfair was superannuated during the keen debates between the Resolutions and Protesters, and incapable of taking an active part in these troublous times. After many difficulties, Mr Francis Hay, Laird of Balhousie, and sole heritor of Aberdalgie and Dupplin, granted a competent stipend for a colleague and assistant to Mr Playfair, when, in the end of the year 1656, a call was moderated in favour of Mr George Halyburton, who was ordained in August 1657. Mr Playfair died about 1658, when Mr George Halyburton, (named Junior to distinguish him from his cousin, minister of Perth, and who afterwards, conforming, became Bishop of Dunkeld in 1662, and died in 1664,) became sole minister till 1662, when he was ejected and deposed, along with five other ministers of the Presbytery of Perth, and about 300 ministers of the Church, for nonconformity. He married Margaret Playfair, daughter of the Rev. Andrew Playfair, his predecessor. These were the parents of the eminent and pious Thomas Halyburton, who was born in Dupplin in 1674, and afterwards minister of Ceres, and Professor of Divinity in St Andrews, in 1710, and who died at the early age of thirty-eight years.

Upon Mr George Halyburton's ejection, in 1662, Mr George Hay, Laird of Balhousie, Aberdalgie, and Dupplin, a gentleman of exemplary piety, and a great sufferer for nonconformity, provided him with a house and refuge near Dupplin, where Mr Halyburton dwelt with his family in great privacy, till his death in 1682.

During the prevalence of Prelacy, succeeded, 23d August 1663, Mungo Weemys, son of David Weemys, the conforming minister of Scone. About 1675, succeeded David Lauder; and, February 19th 1679, John Hardie, who was early deprived of his office after the Revolution.

After the Revolution, in 1688, David Shaw was ordained 23d September 1691, at which period the kirk-session records are resumed, after a blank of thirty-five years, and are continued with great regularity till about the time of Mr Shaw's translation to Auchterarder, which took place in October 1718. Mr Shaw was succeeded by Mr James Mercer of Clavage, well known as the bitter opponent and accuser of Ebenezer Erskine of Stirling for his synod sermon, delivered at Perth in October 1782, which



proved the origin of the great secession from the Church of Scotland. He was translated from Forteviot to Aberdalgie 31st December 1718.

From 1717 to 1736 the volume of the kirk-session records has either been lost or destroyed.

Mr Thomas Rankine, who was ordained minister of Kinnoull in 1733, was translated to Aberdalgie in November 1745, and died in 1781; when Mr William Garvie succeeded him on January 10, 1782. Mr Garvie was translated from West Calder, and died in 1831, at an advanced age; when he was succeeded by the present incumbent, Mr Charles C. Stewart, on March 15, 1832.

*Dupplin Castle.*—The castle mentioned in the last Statistical Account was burned to the ground by accident on the 11th September 1827, and in the course of five years afterwards, a new and very handsome edifice was erected on the same site by the present Thomas Robert Drummond Hay, Earl of Kinnoull, under the auspices of Mr Burn of Edinburgh, after the Elizabethan style of architecture, at a sum exceeding £30,000. The greater part of the valuable library and paintings were fortunately preserved from the conflagration, though some valuable manuscripts of historical interest were unfortunately destroyed.

The Lords Oliphant of Bachilton were for centuries the feudal lords of Aberdalgie. A full account of this ancient family is given in Douglas's and Crawford's Peerage.

### III.—POPULATION.

At every decade since the beginning of the century the population has been decreasing.

Amount of population in 1801,	.	542
1811,	.	513
1821,	.	490
1831,	.	434
1841,	.	360

The principal causes of the decrease seem to be the throwing of small farms into larger ones, and the decay or destruction of cottars' houses, while fewer are erected than those which were destroyed. The farmers consequently complain of want of labourers, especially during the spring and harvest, when they find it requisite to send to the town of Perth for labourers.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—This parish is not behind the rest of the district in its agricultural improvements. The most essential of these has certainly been the system of wedge-draining, now so generally

adopted, which, from its instant effects in drying wet and tilly lands and cold subsoils, speedily repays the tenant for his labour and expense. The introduction of turnip husbandry has likewise proved very beneficial both to the tenantry and to the lands, and has been the means of introducing not a little sheep-husbandry, especially during the winter season. Potatoes, which have become of late years a valuable article of export from Strathearn, have been much grown in this district, and have much improved the lands, owing to the facilities thereby given to the obtaining of foreign manure, great quantities of which are driven to this parish from Perth.

Wheat is much cultivated in the south part of the parish, where the land is of a rich loam and clay, and where it is well exposed to the genial influence of the sun; but in the northern district, which is much exposed to the north winds, and a cold tilly soil, oats, barley, pease, and beans form the only corn crops.

The valued rent of the parish of Aberdalgie and Dupplin is about L.3000 Scots. The average rental of the last seven years, L.3200 Sterling.

The parish consists of six large farms, containing from 156 to 280 Scots arable acres, exclusive of pasture, and three smaller ones varying in extent.

The number of arable acres may amount to 2500, and there are about 50 acres incapable of cultivation, and lying waste. The total number of Scots acres in the parish is about 2900.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Means of Communication.*—The road from Perth to Stirling passes through the parish for nearly three miles. Lord Kinnoull advanced L.3000 for the commencement of this road. It was finished in the year 1811, and has proved an unspeakable benefit both to the commercial and agricultural interests of this part of the country. Many excellent farm-houses have been built along its line, and the facilities afforded for the conveyance of lime and other manures, as well as for the export of the produce, have greatly increased the productiveness and value of farms which formerly boasted but of little arable land. The old road passes likewise through the parish upon its northern declivity; but a far better line has been adopted for the new one in the plain below.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The present church of Aberdalgie was built in the year 1773, and a vault was constructed beneath the church for the burying-place of the noble family of Kinnoull.

The ancient burying-place, however, is at the church of Kinnoull, where a monument was erected in 1635 to the memory of Sir George Hay, Lord Chancellor of Scotland, and the first Earl of Kinnoull, who died in 1634.

The church stands in need of considerable repair, but might be easily rendered very comfortable. It is a pretty object, adorned with abundance of the creeping ivy, and surrounded by sycamores of exceeding beauty, rendering the burying-ground attached to it sheltered and retired, an emblem of the peace and repose which reigns in the graves beneath, "where the weary are at rest."

The foundations of the old church of Dupplin remain within the small enclosed burying-ground, situated at a beautiful bend of the river, while a little above it, on an eminence, stands the Castle of Dupplin. Until the death of the late incumbent in 1831, the manse and glebe were contiguous to this old church-yard; but in 1832, upon the induction of the present incumbent, an excambion of the glebe lands was made, and they are now situated close to the parish church.

In 1833, a new manse and offices were built by the Earl of Kinnoull, from a plan furnished by Mr Burn of Edinburgh, which is regarded, almost without exception, as the best and most commodious manse within the bounds of the presbytery. The new glebe, including the site of manse and offices with the garden, is about 14 acres in extent, and may be valued at L.1, 10s. per acre. The stipend is L.92, 17s. in money, 4 bolls, 1 firlo, 3 lippies of barley, and 9 bolls, 1 firlo, 3½ lippies of meal, which, at the average fiar prices for the last seven years, would be L.12, 3s., making the stipend amount to the value of L.105. An annual grant is made by the Exchequer of L.53, 14s. 8d., which includes in it an allowance of L.8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. The Earl of Kinnoull is sole heritor of the parish, and is vicepatron of the living with the Crown.

In the "*Rotuli Scotiæ*," preserved in the Tower of London, and ordered to be printed by George III., mention is made of one "Adam Parson (curate) of Dippling and vicar of Perth." This is the earliest ecclesiastic whose name has been met with as connected with this parish. This document is dated Berwick, 2d September 1296. The name of Sir John Myrton, canon of the cathedral of Dunkeld, and prebendary of Forgandenny, and rector of the parish church of Dupplin, occurs as witness to a

charter, dated 31st December 1489, of the Carthusian convents and priory of Perth. He died 2d August 1507.

After the Reformation in 1560, the paucity of ordained ministers was so great, as to render it expedient to unite many parishes under the care of one ordained minister, and to supply the deficiency by readers *pro tempore*.

Agreeably to this arrangement it appears, from "the Register of Assignations for the ministers' stipend for the year 1574," preserved in the Advocates' Library in Edinburgh, that the following parishes were united in one cure for the time:—Tibbermuir, Dupplin, Aberdalgie, and Pitcairne; Alexander Young, minister. Aberdalgie and Dupplin, William Melrose, minister, William Gibson, reidar, 1569. Robert Symsonn, reidar at Dupplin; John Moir, reidar at Aberdagy. These were probably the very first persons settled here after the Reformation. The presbytery or session records supply us with no information of an earlier date than February 14th 1613, when Mr Andrew Playfair was ordained here under the forms of Episcopacy, which the year before had been re-established by James VI.

*Education.*—The present school-house and schoolmaster's residence were built in 1826. The schoolmaster's house affords little more than the legal accommodation; but both it and the school-room are well finished. The salary is the maximum, L.34, 4s. 4½d.; amount of fees, about L.10; and other emoluments, about L.3, 10s., with the legal quantity of garden ground.

*Poor.*—The number of persons receiving parochial aid is 12. The church collections are quite inadequate for their maintenance; but the present Earl of Kinnoull has proved as kind and benevolent a friend to the poor of the parish as any of his Lordship's Noble predecessors. His Lordship makes up whatever sum is found necessary for their comfortable subsistence; and it is but justice to state, that in few parishes are the wants of the poor so amply supplied.

*December 1842.*

## PARISH OF ARNGASK.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. ALEXANDER BURT, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—ARNGASK, sometimes erroneously written Arngosk, is the ancient as well as modern name of this parish. It has been supposed to be compounded of the Gaelic words, *Ard-nan-gaisg*, *the hill or height of heroism*. Though we are unable to point to any authentic account of a battle having been fought, or to the performance of any extraordinary feat of valour, to entitle the locality to be regarded as a scene of bravery, yet it is not improbable that Cairn Geddes, referred to under a subsequent head, may be connected with some event which would justify the application of the name.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—The parish extends about four miles from east to west, and nearly three from south to north. Its superficial extent forms an area of fully  $9\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. Its figure is somewhat of a circular form. But the boundary line is irregular, in consequence of slight indentations produced by some of the contiguous parishes. It is bounded on the east, by the parish of Abernethy; on the south and south-east, by the parishes of Orwell and Strathmiglo; on the west, by those of Forteviot and Forgandenny; and on the north, by that of Dron.

The climate is on the whole favourable both for vegetation and health. There is no distemper peculiar to the parish.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The counties of Perth, Fife, and Kinross meet at Damhead, and the parish is almost equally situated in these counties. It embraces a portion of the Ochil Hills, which stretch from the Forth, in the north-east of Stirlingshire, to the immediate vicinity of Ferry-Port-on-Craig, on the southern bank of the Tay, and may therefore, in its general aspect, be denominated hilly, consisting, as it were, of a combina-

tion of gentle rounded waved-like elevations, varying in height from 600 to 800 feet above the level of the sea. The grounds, particularly of Conland, Newfargie, Letham, Paris, and Duncrivie are laid out in a tasteful manner, substantially enclosed, and embellished with wood. The general appearance of the parish is pleasing and varied, and the views from many parts of it are singularly beautiful and extensive. The prospect from Cairn Geddes, a part of the lands of Fordel, is particularly splendid, comprehending the Frith of Tay, Carse of Gowrie, the Sidlaws, terminating in Moncrieff and Kinnoull hills, the upper part of Strathearn, and a considerable portion of the Grampian range.

*Hydrography.*—The parish abounds with springs, which afford, at all seasons, a copious supply of excellent water. These springs, owing to the general structure or undulating form of the parish, give rise to numerous rivulets, most of which are tributaries to the Farg,—a small stream which rises near the western extremity of the parish, and, for upwards of a mile, separates it from that of Forgandenny. It then flows through the parish, separating, till it reaches Damhead, the county of Kinross from that of Perth. Then it begins to separate the county of Perth from that of Fife, and continues to form the boundary between these counties till it arrives at the point where it leaves the parish, about the middle of the romantic and beautifully wooded glen to which it communicates its name, and which travellers so much admire. The Farg abounds with trout, and is much frequented by the angler.

*Geology, &c.*—The parish does not present any thing of much interest, considered in a geological point of view. It is composed of trap rocks, and, from certain appearances, it is not improbable that these are of igneous or volcanic origin. The most remarkable vein traverses the parish from east to west: it is composed of greenstone, which, as it passes through the lands of Pittillock, Arngask, and Hilton, is of a compact and fine texture, and of a dark hue, in consequence of containing a great proportion of augite; but, in passing through the lands of Blair and Plains, while the rock is equally compact, it is of a coarser grain, consisting of felspar and hornblende, and, when broken, it presents a rough crystallized aspect. Instances of porphyritic rock are to be seen upon the lands of Fordel; and beds of amygdaloid, frequently coarse and tuffaceous, are found in several parts of the parish, and,

in the vesicular cavities by which this kind of structure is characterized, we find beautiful specimens of agate, calcareous spar, and zeolite.

*Soil.*—The soil, of which there exists a considerable diversity, is principally formed from the decomposition of the trap or whinstone rocks. In general, it is of a black loamy character; and though some fields are light and shallow, yet many others are comparatively rich, and capable of yielding abundant crops. There is not much of it of a gravelly description; but, among the waste or uncultivated land, there is a considerable extent of moorish or heathy soil.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Notices regarding the Parish.*—In the chartulary of Cambuskenneth, preserved in the Advocates' Library, are contained several charters relating to the church of Arngask, and certain lands in the parish. From this source, we learn that, in 1281, Gilbertus Frislay, dominus de Forgey, gave to God and to the monastery of Cambuskenneth the patronage of the church of Arngask, with the piece of land which lies near the house of the priest "in territorio de Arngosk." Soon afterwards, this grant was confirmed by William, Bishop of St Andrews, with the whole revenues "paupertati dicti monasterii compacientes." We next find a charter of resignation, in 1282, by Radolphus, dominus de Symmersdburn, rector of the church of Arngask. Then appears a document styled "Institutio ejusdem ecclesie," &c. and this deed was followed, in the same year, by a confirmation, by the chapter of St Andrews and John, the Prior of the cathedral, of the church and church lands of Arngask. Henricus de Frislay, dominus de Forgey, in 1295, made a grant of the mill of Arngask, with two acres of land near it, to the abbey of Cambuskenneth, "pro salute animæ suæ." Sir William Frislay, miles, dominus de Forgey, confirmed the deed of his predecessor, which is ratified by a charter under the Great Seal of King Robert at Glasgow in 1325. The Frislays, it appears, possessed the barony of Arngask "et dominium de Forgey" till about 1332, when the heiress of that name married Sir Richard Barclay of Kippo. Hugh Barclay, laird of Kippo and Arngask, by a charter to the Blackfriars of Perth, dated at Perth 18th September 1389, "granted to them," according to the superstition of those times, "for the salvation of his own soul and the souls of his predecessors and successors, in pure and per-

petual alms, to God, the blessed Mary, and the Predicant Friars of Perth, ten shillings Sterling out of his lands of Arngask, to be paid in equal proportions at two terms of the year, viz. five at the feast of Pentecost, and other five at the feast of the blessed Martin in winter, for the sustenance of one burning lamp in the choir of the foresaid friars, from year to year for ever," &c. (29th charter in the chartulary of the Blackfriars of Perth.) The Barclays continued in possession of the baronies of Kippo, Arngask, &c., till the reign of James IV., when James Barclay of Kippo died without male issue, and was succeeded by his daughter, Margaret, as his sole heiress. This lady was married, about 1491, to Sir Andrew Murray, second son of Sir W. Murray of Tullibardine, and, on the 24th January 1507, she resigned, in the hands of King James, her whole estate for new infeftment to herself and her husband, Sir A. Murray of Balvaird, in liferent, and the fee to their offspring. The said lady, with consent of her husband, and Sir David Murray, their son and heir, founded a chaplainry in the parish church of Arngask, and endowed it with an annuity of 14 merks and two acres of land, lying contiguous to the church, for the prosperity of their sovereign James V., and for the health and welfare of themselves, their heirs, and successors, "et omnium fidelium defunctorum." The deed of mortification is dated at the Castle of Balvaird in 1527, and the name of one of the witnesses is John Bullerwale, curate of the said church of Arngask.

By an act of Parliament, in 1606, the abbacy of Cambuskenneth, with which Arngask, and many other kirks had been connected for several centuries, was erected into a temporal lordship in favour of John Erskine, Earl of Mar. These churches were hereby disunited and dissolved from the said Abbacy, and the Kirklands were comprehended within the newly created lordship of Cardrois, or lordship of Cambuskenneth, as it is styled in charters held by proprietors of church lands within this parish. The act provides that the foresaid parsonages and vicarages 'sall be provydit and plantit with qualesfeit, godlie, and learnit persons, apt and hable to instruct the parohineris thairof, in the knawin veritie. For which purpose the advocation, donation, and full right and titill of all sundrie the foresaid kirks are given, granted, and disposed to the foresaid Lord John, Earl of Mar," &c. This important act re-enacts and declares the parish church of Arngask and the others named with it, to be, in all time coming, the legal



parish kirks of their respective localities, as they had formerly been so before the Reformation. \*

The parish must have been originally small. But it was considerably enlarged by a decree dated 25th November 1642, disjoining Clashjeuglie, Glendymiln, Blair, Plains, and the lands of Easter and Wester Fordell with their pertinents, from the parish of Forgandenny, and annexing them to the parish of Arngask in all time coming. And on 28th July 1669, it received a further enlargement, and attained its present magnitude. On that occasion, as we learn from Connell on the Law of Parishes, "the minister, of Arngask obtained a decree disjoining the lands of Hiltown and Grammore" (Carmore) "from the parishes of Orwell and Strathmiglo, and annexing them to Arngask, as being much nearer thereto, MS. D." We have not had an opportunity of examining the authority to which Sir J. C. refers; but while Hiltown is unquestionably in this parish, Carmore is still considered as belonging to Strathmiglo.

*Ministers of the Parish.*—Soon after the Reformation, when there was a great scarcity of Reformed ministers, John Pittblado, as we learn from the register of ministers, exhorters, and readers, and of their stipends, sen the yeir of God 1567, (which was printed for the Maitland Club in 1830,) was reidar at Arngask about the year 1569, with xvi. li., *i. e.* L. 16 Scots of stipend. And Alexander Wardlaw, as we find from the register of assignations for the ministers' stipends, for 1574, (an ancient MS. in the Advocates' Library,) officiated here in the same capacity. It appears from the Presbytery record that the parish was for a considerable time under the pastoral superintendence of the ministers of Strathmiglo. 1. Mr George Moncrieff, son of Mr Archibald Moncrieff, minister of Abernethy, was the first Protestant minister of Arngask. From a minute of Presbytery, August 14, 1633, we find that a letter from his relative, Mr Andrew Murray, minister of Abdie, was produced in favour of Mr Moncrieff, "desiring the brethren to license the said Mr George to preach at Arngask kirk, till the said kirk be provided and planted. The brethren having considered the same, gave license to the said Mr George, till the first day of November, and no further, lest, under pretext of his serving the cure, the plantation thereof be hindered." He was appointed the minister of the parish in October 1635, and continued in the discharge of his pas-

\* Scots Acts of Parliament, Vol. iv. p. 343.

toral duties for the period of nearly thirty years. He was one of the sixteen ministers of the Presbytery who, in 1662, conformed to Prelacy. It is stated in the Presbytery record, 1664, that in the Privy Censures, Mr George Moncrieff, minister of Arngask, was appoven in life and doctrine." 2. Mr Robert Geddeis, in August 1665, became the Episcopal incumbent of Arngask, and, according to the Presbytery Record, "was unanimously accepted by the heritors thereof." But at the Revolution he was served with a libel by the Presbytery, and, as repeated acts of drunkenness were proved against him, was deposed from the ministry on the 8th October 1690. 3. Mr Gilbert Melville, who had been one of the field preachers under the persecution period, was appointed, 18th December 1688, to officiate as a Presbyterian minister at Arngask, though the Episcopal incumbent was neither deprived of his office by the Privy-Council, nor as yet deposed by the church. But not having been regularly called to the parish, and probably enjoying little or no remuneration for his services, he accepted a call to Glendevon, and was loosed from Arngask on the 2d of June 1694. 4. Mr John Dempster received a call from the parishioners of Arngask, 27th November 1694, and was ordained by the Presbytery, and legally admitted minister of the parish on the 27th February 1695. He was loosed from Arngask 13th March 1706, and transported to St Madois on the 27th of that month. 5. Mr James Gillespie had a call moderated to him, 17th December 1706. "All the heritors and elders voted and subscribed, *nemine contradicente*." Session record. He was ordained on the 21st of May 1707. The day of his death is not specified; but it appears from the session record, that he preached for the last time on the 23d November 1729, and was buried on the 8th of the following month. 6. Mr John Johnston was ordained 10th March 1731, and died on the 28th of December 1746. The Rev. Dr David Johnston, who was long the minister of North Leith, and much distinguished for his Christian worth, was his second son. 7. Mr Andrew Williamson was ordained on the 3d November 1747, and continued to be the minister of the parish for thirty-five years. He was transported to Auchtergaven in December 1782. 8. Mr William Lang, who had for several years previously assisted Sir Robert Preston, one of the ministers of Cupar, received a unanimous call to be minister of Arngask on the 26th of June, and was ordained on the 18th

September 1783. He died on the 10th of January 1827. 9. The present incumbent, a native of the parish, was ordained assistant and successor to Mr Lang, 14th October 1819.

*Parochial Registers.*—These consist of several volumes, and, upon the whole, have been regularly kept. They extend back to 1688, and the date of their earliest entry is the 18th December of that year.

*Land-owners.*—The heritors of the parish at present are 28 in number, and, with the exception of five of the non-resident, are proprietors of land of the yearly value of L.50 and upwards. The chief of these, in the order of their valued rents, are, W. Murray, Esq. of Conland; J. Hay, Esq. of Paris; A. Coventry, Esq. of Pittillock; Mrs Captain Wardlaw, and R. Low, Esq. of Fordels; J. Burt, Esq. portioner of part of Duncrивie and Deuglie; J. Whyte, Esq. of Arngask; Colonel G. Miller of Eastertown; Rev. A. Burt, of Wester Deuglie; Mrs Barclay, of Glendymill; J. Murray, Esq. of Forresterseat; W. Hay, Esq. of Haysmill; W. Henderson, Esq. of Blairstruie; C. G. Sidey, Esq. of Letham; J. Bogie, Esq. of Oldfargie; W. Simpson, Esq. of Hayfield, &c. Ten of the heritors are resident, and some of them farm their own lands.

*Antiquities.*—The parish scarcely affords any materials for the exercise of antiquarian skill. We may state, however, that on the farm of Newfargie, near the turnpike road which passes through Glenfarg, there is a large block of mica-slate weighing several tons, which, until a recent period, was so nicely balanced on a rock, that it moved by a slight pressure of the hand. This was long regarded as a singular curiosity; but the equilibrium, by some means unknown, has been completely destroyed. The stone must have reached its present position by human ingenuity; but in what way, or for what purpose, remains to be discovered.

We are equally incompetent to furnish a satisfactory account of the origin of Cairn Geddes, a small artificial mound in the north-west district of the parish. It was formerly covered with a considerable quantity of stones, but these have been recently removed for the purpose of filling drains. No account or tradition concerning this cairn has come down to us. It was partially opened in the centre some years ago, and a rude stone coffin was discovered about three feet from the surface. Had the work of excavation been more extensive, it would probably have led to

more important discoveries. As yet, however, nothing has been ascertained which can warrant us to affirm with precision, that under the cairn were deposited the ashes of a once renowned but now forgotten hero.

It may not be uninteresting to add, that in the church, which was demolished previous to the erection of the present edifice, there was a statue of rude workmanship, with the beads employed by Roman Catholics attached to the hands. This relic of antiquity lay for many years on the site of the former church; but, in consequence of directions given by the late Earl of Mansfield, it was at last removed to the Castle of Balvaired. This statue, it is supposed, was formed in honour of Margaret Barclay, spouse of Sir Andrew Murray of Balvaired, who, in 1527, as already stated, founded and endowed a chaplainry in the church of Arrgask.

III.—POPULATION.

When the census was taken by Dr Webster in 1755, the population amounted to 736, but in 1790, when the last Statistical Account was drawn up, it had decreased to 554. By the Parliamentary census of 1801, it was found to be 564, and by that of 1831 it amounted to 712. The Government census of 1841 represents the population at 750, of whom there are 380 males, and 370 females. By a minute numerical survey which the incumbent took in 1839; the total number of inhabitants was ascertained to be 724.

Of this last number, 267 were under 15 years of age.  
 148 were betwixt 15 and 30  
 179 . . . . . 30 and 50  
 106 . . . . . 50 and 70  
 24 . . . . . 70 and 90

The yearly number of proclamations, taking the average of the last 7 years, is 65  
 The yearly average number of interments, . . . . . 11½  
 The average number of births per annum, . . . . . 18½  
 Number of bachelors and widowers above 50 years of age, . . . . . 22  
 widows and unmarried women above 45 years of age, . . . . . 40

From the number of baptisms registered, it is obvious that the population, during the first half of the last century, was fully as great as it is at present. The diminution which took place during the second half of the century appears to have been occasioned chiefly by the removal of cottages, and by converting, at least in one instance, several small pendicles or farms into one. Candy, during that period, consisted of four distinct farms, with an equal number of cottages, and thus afforded accommodation for eight fa-

milies; whereas, for the space of nearly half-a century, the only dwelling-house on the farm has been occupied exclusively by the tenant. Lustielaw, during the same period, exhibited the appearance of a village, and contained upwards of twenty families, many of whom, along with their cottages and gardens, rented small pendicles; but these cottages, with the exception of half-a dozen, which still remain, have long since been demolished. The increase which has taken place during the present century has been occasioned by the erection of houses along the side of the new turnpike road.

The people are in general intelligent, steady, sober, and industrious. The bothy system has, of late years, been partially introduced; but the effects which have hitherto resulted from its operation prevent us from bearing our testimony in its favour. The demoralizing practice of smuggling has, for a period of more than twenty years, been completely suppressed. Poaching in game, it is to be regretted, prevails to some extent.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—There are 6116 acres standard imperial measure in the parish. Of this number 4590 are arable, 1291 uncultivated, and 235 under wood, planted chiefly within the last thirty years.

*Rent and Leases.*—The valued rent, according to the cess-books of the three counties in which the parish is situated, is L. 2614, 4s. 4d. Scots. The real rent is about L. 5217 Sterling. Some of the lands being occupied by the proprietors themselves, can only be reported at an estimated value; but, from information collected by the writer, the above sum, it is believed, must be exceedingly near the present yearly rental. The average rent of the whole, exclusive of the portion under wood, is upwards of 17s. per imperial acre. A considerable portion of the arable land is let at L. 2; and some fields, when let for pasture during the season, occasionally bring L. 4 an acre. The average rent of the arable land per acre may be reckoned at L. 1, 1s. 9d.; whereas that of the permanent pasture, or uncultivated ground, does not exceed 3s. 5d. Leases are generally granted for nineteen years, but not a few are of shorter duration.

*Husbandry.*—A very considerable portion of the parish is, generally speaking, under a regular system of tillage, the rotation of crops varying to suit the different qualities of the soil. In the more fertile districts, the rotation is usually five or six years, viz.

oats, turnips, and potatoes, barley, grass-seeds cut in hay, followed by either one or two years' pasture. On those farms where the soil is of a more varied description, a rotation of eight or nine years is in many cases adopted, taking two successive crops of oats after three or four years' pasture. Turnip husbandry now prevails to a considerable extent, and appears to be admirably suited to a great part of the arable land. The cultivation of this valuable root has been, within the last few years, greatly extended, chiefly in consequence of the introduction of the use of bone manure, and the increased fertility of the soil occasioned by the turnip crop being eat off by sheep.

*Produce.*—The average value of the raw produce annually raised in the parish, as nearly as it can be ascertained, is as follows :

White crop, including wheat, oats, and barley,	L. 6482	0	0
Green crop, including pease, potatoes, and turnips,	3200	0	0
Hay, both meadow and cultivated,	720	0	0
Pasture of all kinds,	1824	0	0

Total annual value of raw produce,	L. 12,176	0	0
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*Mills, &c.*—There are 4 mills for grinding corn, 1 saw-mill, and 22 thrashing-mills. Of the latter, twenty are moved by horses, one by steam, and another by water. There are about 62 ploughs regularly employed upon the different farms; and, besides these, four or five are occasionally used by persons occupying small penicles, and frequently acting in the capacity of carters. There are only 8 hand-loom, weaving being carried on to a small extent. In four shops, groceries are sold. And, besides some journeymen and apprentices, there are 4 masons, 7 carpenters, 3 smiths, 4 tailors, 3 shoemakers, and 1 plasterer.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Means of Communication.*—The parish enjoys ample means of communication. It is traversed for upwards of three miles by the Great North Road from Edinburgh to Aberdeen, on which four public coaches, including the mail, regularly travel to the north and to the south. The Statute Labour roads are generally well kept, and are nearly ten miles in extent. The stone bridges, consisting each of a single arch, are in a proper state of repair. Four of these are across the Farg, six are over some of its tributaries, and one is upon a small stream which flows south from Damhead, and unites with the Eden at Burnside.

*Villages.*—There are two small villages in the parish, Duncrивie and Damhead. The former is pleasantly situated on rising

ground near its southern extremity, and contains 108 inhabitants. The latter, which is more central, stands in the vale through which the turnpike-road passes, and contains a population of 122. At this village a post-office, in connection with Kinross on the south and Bridge of Earn on the north, was established by the post-office authorities in January 1838. This arrangement, which was much needed, proves a great accommodation to the surrounding district.

*Market-Towns.*—The chief market-towns are Kinross and Perth, the former being seven and the latter ten miles distant from the centre of the parish. Newburgh, at which a stock-market is held every Tuesday, is principally frequented by the farmers, for the sale of agricultural produce; and Milnathort, at which only samples of grain are exhibited, is resorted to by some, on Wednesday, for a similar purpose.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church, which is situated on gently elevated ground, was built in 1806, and is a plain but substantial edifice. If the present turnpike-road had been formed previous to its erection, it would in all probability have been placed in the vicinity of Damhead; but as it occupies a central position, and only a few families are distant from it upwards of two miles, it is by no means inconveniently situated for the great mass of the population. It was found necessary, in 1821, on account of the increasing demand for church accommodation, to erect galleries, by which 140 additional sittings were obtained. The whole of the sittings in the church, amounting to 380, belong exclusively to the heritors, who in general gratuitously accommodate their tenants and other parishioners.

The manse, a substantial and commodious edifice, was built in 1828, and finished in 1829. The offices, which were erected at the same period, though equally substantial, are scarcely of sufficient extent. The glebe, including the site of the manse and offices, comprehends little more than the statutory allowance. But, in 1829, it was slightly augmented by Mrs Lang, a relative of the incumbent, who purchased upwards of an imperial acre of land contiguous to it, and, by a legal deed, secured the same to him and his successors in office. The whole, if let, would bring about L.9 per annum. The sum of L.20 Scots is paid, in lieu of a grass glebe, by the proprietors of the kirk-lands.

The stipend, including the allowance for communion elements, averages L.179. It consists of the whole teinds of the parish,

which amount to L.172, 8s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ; 5 bolls, 3 firlots, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  lippies of meal, and 2 bolls, 2 pecks,  $\frac{3}{4}$  lippies of meal. Mrs Wardlaw and Robert Low, Esq. of Fordels are joint patrons.

There are 170 families in the parish, exclusive of a few bothies. Of these families, 149 belong to the Established Church ; and 21, including 82 individuals of all ages, are chiefly connected with the United Secession Church. The number of male heads of families in communion with the church is 115 ; and the total number of communicants, taking the average of the last seven years, is 280. There is no other place of public worship but the parochial church ; and the people, with few exceptions, are most regular in their attendance upon the stated services of religion.

There has been a parochial society in operation for upwards of twenty years, whose object has been to assist in disseminating the pure and unadulterated word of God. Since its formation in 1813, it has been connected with the Kinross-shire Bible Society, and contributed to the funds of that institution the sum of L.184, 5s. 3d. Occasional collections have been made in aid of the funds of the Scottish Missionary Society. And for many years we have had collections in behalf of the benevolent schemes which are sanctioned and recommended by the General Assembly. The average amount of annual contributions and church collections for religious and charitable objects is L.15. \*

*Education.*—The parish is amply supplied with the means of education, there being two schools in active operation within its limits, viz. the parochial school, which is situated near the church, and a school in the village of Duncrivie. The number of children attending each of these schools is nearly equal, and, when taken together, they are found to vary from a seventh to a sixth part of the population. It is to be regretted that the attendance of some at school is of very short duration. At the same time, there are none who do not obtain a share of education to the extent of being, in some measure, qualified for perusing the Sacred Scriptures.\* The branches of instruction generally taught in both schools are, reading, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, and geography. Latin and Greek are also occasionally taught in

\* There is a striking contrast between the present state of education in the parish and that which existed in the seventeenth century. In the register of the presbytery of Perth, 28th March 1649, is inserted a list of the families within several of the parishes belonging to that presbytery, wherein some of the members could read. Arngask is one of the parishes there specified, and, at the period referred to, it was found to contain only sixteen families in which some of the members could read.



the parochial school. The teacher of the unendowed school has a free house, but is otherwise entirely dependent on the school fees. The parochial teacher's house affords little more than the legal accommodation. His salary is L.34, 4s. 4½d.; but this sum is inclusive of an allowance for a garden. He receives from the heritors L.2 per annum, being interest of money in their hands, and mortified by a native of the parish, Robert Glass, late merchant in Perth, for the purpose of "being chiefly applied to the means of education of the young." In return for the above sum, and with the view of carrying into effect the intention of the benevolent donor, he teaches four children, who are annually selected by a committee of heritors, and whose parents may be in indigent circumstances, but are not receiving parochial aid. The total sum arising from school fees, if properly paid, may be stated as amounting to L.26. There has been a Sabbath evening school, for many years, in the village of Duncrivie. It is principally taught by one of the elders, and is generally well attended. There is a small library attached to it for the benefit of the children.

Ample as our means of education are, it is gratifying to add, that, through the munificence of John Glass, Esq. we have an immediate prospect of their extension. He has recently erected upon his property at Newton of Balcanquhal, in the locality which gave him birth, an excellent and commodious dwelling-house and school-room, and is at present adopting measures for obtaining a properly qualified teacher, to whom he intends to secure the handsome salary of L.50 per annum. The school was opened in October 1841, but the teacher's salary, it is understood, is now reduced to L.36 per annum.

*Library.*—A parochial library has been recently established, and is under the management of the kirk-session. It includes a variety of excellent publications, chiefly of a theological character, and has been formed by donations from a few of the heritors.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons regularly receiving parochial aid, exclusive of those who obtain occasional relief, is 10; and the monthly allowance granted to each varies, according to circumstances, from 5s. to 12s. The kirk-session, in several instances, also allow a quantity of coals, and pay the house rent of the pauper. They further defray the expense of educating the children of paupers, which, at an average, amounts to the sum of L.2 per annum.

The annual revenue at the disposal of the kirk-session, and

available for the maintenance of the poor, and the payment of the united salaries of the precentor, kirk-officer, presbytery and synod clerk, arises from the following sources; church-door collections, mortcloths, proclamations, and land. The yearly amount of church-door collections, taking the average of the last seven years, is L.7, 14s.; the average amount of mortcloth dues is L.1, 9s. 9d.; and that of proclamation dues is 10s. 3d. The sum of 2s. is only payable to the poor's fund when the bride belongs to the parish. The kirk-session purchased, in 1726, for the benefit of the poor, two small pendicles at Newton of Balcanquhal, for the sum of 2600 merks. And for a similar purpose another pendicle, quite contiguous to these, was purchased in 1838 by the present kirk-session for the sum of L.650 Sterling. These pendicles now form one small farm, which is let to an active and industrious tenant at an annual rent of L.61, 10s., from which, however, land-cess, feu-duty, and other sums constituting the public burdens, fall to be deducted. Besides the dwelling-house occupied by the farmer, there is another upon the property, which is at present let to two families; but the session intend to employ it ultimately in accommodating some of their paupers.

The parochial fund has attained its present state of prosperity, under the gratuitous and careful management of the kirk-session, and, if the sources of supply are not allowed to be dried up, it will continue adequate for ameliorating the condition of the poor, and warding off a legal assessment. For several years, however, the expenditure has fully equalled the income, owing to the expense incurred in effecting necessary improvements upon the property. It is proper to add, that, though there is occasionally shown little or no aversion to be put on the poor's roll, yet, in general, a considerable reluctance to accept parochial relief is still displayed.

*Fairs.*—There are four annual markets or fairs for the sale of cattle. One of these has been held at Lustielaw, from time immemorial, on the third Tuesday of May, O.S. The other three, established about twenty years ago, are held at Damhead, on the last Tuesday of April, O.S., first Thursday of August, and first Tuesday of October.

*Inns.*—There are four houses licensed to sell by retail, beer, ale, and other exciseable liquors. The number of houses of this description, though they are upon the whole well regulated, is far from producing beneficial effects. Two of them might be sup-

pressed with great advantage to the interests of morality. The other two, established at Damhead, along the line of the great north road, would prove amply sufficient for the accommodation both of parishioners and of the public.

*Fuel.*—At a former period, turf, furze, and peat were used to a considerable extent, but now coal is almost exclusively employed as fuel. It is generally conveyed from Kelty, at the distance of twelve miles from the centre of the parish; but it is also frequently brought from the collieries of Lumphannan and Lochgelly, a little farther off. It varies in price; at present it is sold at the pit mouth, at the rate of 3d. the cwt., 4s. 16 cwt. or four loads, which is the usual quantity put upon a single cart. A cart load, including carriage and tolls, costs in the parish, 9s. or 9s. 6d.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

During the last fifty years, a striking change has been effected in the general aspect of the country. New lines of communication have been opened up, and in many instances, districts which were once remarkable for bleakness and sterility, are now in a state of cultivation, or embellished with thriving plantations. The spirit of improvement has certainly reached the portion of the Ochils of which this parish is composed. All who knew it half a century ago, and remember its extensive tracks of furze and of heath,—its comparative want of roads and enclosures;—and now witness its well cultivated fields, substantial fences, excellent roads, and beautiful stripes and clumps of wood,—must be convinced that a decided change to the better has taken place. Of the various improvements which have been carried into effect, one of the most important is the formation of the new turnpike road which passes through the parish. The portion of this road which runs through Glenfarg to Damhead was executed between 1808 and 1810, but the part which extends from Damhead towards Milnathort was not completed until 1832. If, in addition to what we already possess, the proposed Western Fife Railway be ever executed, our means of communication may then be considered as most complete.

*Drawn up September 1841.*

*Revised December 1842.*

## PARISH OF BLAIRGOWRIE.\*

PRESBYTERY OF MEIGLE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNS.

THE REV. ROBERT M'DONALD, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—IN the former Statistical Account, the name of this parish is said to be derived from the Gaelic word *Blaar*, signifying a place where moor and moss abound. By another theory, it is connected with the Gaelic word signifying battle, or the place of battle. Gowrie was the ancient name of the district in which the parish is situated, and seems to have been added to the term Blair, to distinguish it from other places of the same name, as Blair-in-Athole, Blair-Logie, Blair-Drummond, &c. The barony is said to have formed a part of the extensive possessions of the unfortunate family of Gowrie.

*Extent, Boundaries, &c.*—The figure of the parish is exceedingly irregular; but the length is considered to be about 7, and the average breadth about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles English, which would give a superficial extent of about  $10\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. This computation is exclusive of two detached portions of the parish, (to be immediately noticed), which, it is supposed, contain together about 6 square miles additional, making a total superficies of some  $16\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. The main division of the parish is bounded on the east, partly by a detached part of the parish of Bendochy, but principally by Rattray parish, from which it is separated by the river Ericht, which forms the boundary line of the parish for the space of 10 miles; on the south, by Bendochy parish; on the south-west and west, by the parishes of Caputh and Kinloch; and on the north, partly by another detached part of Bendochy, and partly by the parish of Alyth. As already noticed, there are two portions of the parish separated from the main division, by the intervention of branches of the parishes adjoining. The largest of these detached parts lies to the north-west of the

\* Drawn up by William Shaw Soutar, Esq. Writer in Blairgowrie.

principal division, from which it is separated by branches of the parishes of Kinloch and Bendochy. It comprehends part of the district called the Forest of Cluny, and a considerable tract on both sides of the river Ardle, consisting of the properties of Black-craig, Wester Cally, and Whitehouse. Its superficial extent may be about 4 square miles. The Forest of Cluny, within the memory of man, contained a considerable population, who cultivated small farms along the banks of the Burn of Lornty, which traverses the district; but this population has been entirely swept away, and their possessions thrown into one large grazing. The other detached portion of the parish lies to the north-east of the main division, from which it is separated by the parish of Rattray, and is supposed to contain about 2 square miles. It is known by the general name of the *Creuchies*, and is but thinly inhabited.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The parish lies on the north side of the magnificent valley of Strathmore, partly within it, and partly along the series of gentle elevations which form its northern boundary, rising in height, as they recede from the plain, till they swell out into the lofty summits of the Grampian mountains. Longitudinally, the parish extends nearly due north and south, and is naturally divided into two districts, nearly equal in extent, the Highland and the Lowland; the former being the hilly division, which lies to the northward of the great strath, the latter, the portion lying within its boundary,—each differing from the other, as well in the characteristic features of natural scenery, as in the habits and manners of the population, though, in the latter respect, the difference is daily becoming less remarkable. The upper division extends for a distance of several miles along the west side of the romantic Glen-Ericht, which forms the entrance of one of the great passes into the Highlands, and through which the Ericht\* pours its impetuous torrent towards the valley of Strathmore, in a direction nearly south-east. The first of the series of elevations rises with a somewhat steep ascent, from the level of the strath, to the height of a few hundred feet. It is known by the name of the Hill of Blair, and is entirely under cultivation. Immediately behind this eminence rises another ridge, rather higher than the first, called Knock-ma-har, partly cultivated, and partly covered with plantations of Scots fir, and sloping abruptly on the north side down to the bed of the burn or water

\* *Ericht*, a Gaelic name, meaning literally "rough" or "rapid."

of Lornty, which flows nearly due east to join the Ericht. Beyond the Lornty, the ground rises very abruptly into another ridge, much higher than those already mentioned, and of very wide extent. On the south and east, this ridge or hill, though steep and difficult to farm, is in general well cultivated, and produces good crops of grain. This district of the parish (at least that part of it lying next to the Ericht), is known by the general name of the Maws; The Braes of Maws, the Cloves (or cliffs) of Maws, and the Heughs of Maws, are all local terms descriptive of the more marked features of its general aspect. To the westward of the Maws, along the north side of the course of the Lornty Burn, lies the ground of Drumlochy, which was anciently a barony or lairdship, possessed by a family of the name of Heron, the ruins of whose fortress are still to be distinctly traced, by the enormous thickness of the loop-holed walls, amid the meanness of the present modern farm-offices. Above Drumlochy there is another farm, which extends to the summit of the ridge, and is called *Ard* or *Aird*, a Gaelic name meaning literally the "head" or "top." The top of this great ridge presents a wide undulating tract of moor and moss, which stretches away to the west, many miles beyond the boundary of the parish in that direction. The great peat-moss of Cochrige,† on this ridge, supplied fuel to the inhabitants of the surrounding district to a considerable distance; but coal is now fast superseding the peat even in the higher part of the parish. On the north, this ridge slopes down to the bed of the Ardle, and on the east to the vale of Glen Ericht. At this point, the western boundary line of the parish, after crossing the ridge, runs in a slanting direction, with a partial interruption from an intervening portion of the parish of Kinloch, down to the river Ardle, and then follows the course of the river to its junction with the Shee or Blackwater, about a mile below the Bridge of Cally. Crossing these united streams, (now the Ericht), it follows the eastern bank of the Blackwater for a space of nearly three miles, to a place called Kingseat, which is the northern extremity of the parish. Where it crosses the Ericht, the parish is narrowed to little more than a mile in breadth; but beyond the stream it rapidly widens, so as to embrace the whole district of Clayquhat on the south,

\* This moss (the description of which belongs more properly to the statistics of the neighbouring parish) was accidentally set on fire in the beginning of the great drought of 1826, and continued to burn underneath the surface, till extinguished by the snows of the following winter and spring.

and Ashmore and the Kingseat on the west side of the hill of Clayquhat or Colliemore, the summit of which is within the parish. This hill, though of gentle and easy ascent, is the highest elevation in the parish. Its height has never been correctly ascertained; but it is supposed to be about 1000 feet above the level of the sea. A large portion of the upper part of this hill is covered with plantations of larch. The vale of Glen-Ericht, especially along the banks of the river, is adorned with a good deal of wood, both spontaneous and planted; and the scenery is picturesque and beautiful in a high degree.

The lower division of the parish stretches away to the south, from the foot of the hill of Blair to the middle of the valley of Strathmore, a distance of four miles. It comprises an extensive superficies, and is considerably diversified in the nature of its soil and the character of its scenery. A narrow tract, lying directly at the foot of the hill (comprehending the manor-farm of Blairgowrie and some smaller farms), consists of a good sharp soil, and is in a good state of culture. To the south of this cultivated part, there is an extensive tract of flat moorish ground, extending to about 1000 acres, called the "muir of Blair," the greater part of which is covered with thick plantations of Scots fir; and where there is no wood, it is clothed with heath, furze, and broom. The surface of the moor consists of two or three inches of light dry soil upon a gravelly bottom, and could only be brought under tillage at a great cost. All along the side of the Ericht, including a large portion of the south-east extremity of the parish, the land is fertile and highly cultivated. Along the southern boundary, beyond the muir of Blair, the soil, though generally thin and light, is under cultivation. The estate of Ardblair occupies a considerable extent on the west side, and is partly under cropping and partly laid out in grass parks.

The town or village of Blairgowrie occupies a pleasant situation on the west bank of the Ericht, on a rising ground, which forms the first step of the acclivity of the "hill of Blair."

The church is finely situated on the summit of the hill of Blair, immediately above the village. Close behind the church there is a deep ravine or dell, finely wooded, both banks of which, at its eastern extremity, descend almost perpendicularly to the bed of the river. From the churchyard, which lies in front of the church, the prospect is one of great extent and surpassing beauty,—embracing the whole valley of Strathmore, from its western extremity

to the Hunter Hill of Glamis on the east,—shut in on the south by the picturesque range of the Sidlaw Hills. This noble valley, so richly cultivated, and so diversified in its scenery, forms one of the most magnificent panoramic views that can be conceived. The river Ericht, debouching from the narrow defile on the left, sweeps rapidly past the village towards the hollow of the Strath, forming a fine reach of a mile in length, before it turns to the eastward, and disclosing occasional glimpses of its waters in the distance, as it tranquilly winds onwards in a devious course to its junction with the Isla.

About three miles to the north of Blairgowrie (on the estate of Craighall, belonging to R. C. Rattray, Esq.), the course of the Ericht, for the space of nearly two miles, lies through a deep chasm or ravine, the sides of which are of great height, consisting in some places of perpendicular precipices rising sheer 300 feet from the bed of the river; in others, of steep banks clothed with thick underwood of oak and hazel, interspersed with clusters of tall and graceful trees, disposed in the most picturesque and tasteful manner. One of the most remarkable of these precipices is to be seen on the west or Blairgowrie side of the river, and is called *Craig I.iach* or “the Eagle’s Craig.” It is a huge rock about 300 feet in height, presenting a vast gray front, so uniform and unbroken in its surface as to resemble a work of masonry, and it is fringed on either side and along the summit with forest trees and underwood. In this rock, at the base, there is a cave or fissure, which seems to have been formed by the violent breaking off and detaching of huge masses from the solid rock. It is low in the roof, and extends only about 30 feet underneath the rock. Immediately beyond this precipice, at a sudden bend of the river, the scenery is indescribably grand and savage; the rocks on either side are lofty and imposing, most bizarre and eccentric in their shape, and overhanging a deep and gloomy chasm, at the bottom of which the river forms a deep and sullen pool, black as night, and apparently of great depth. Nor is the mysterious legend befitting such a scene wanting to heighten its romantic interest. Upon an angle of the rock, and on the very verge of the precipice, are still to be traced the ruins of a circular tower, once of great height and strength, still known by the name of Lady Lindsay’s Castle, in which, some centuries ago (so runs the legend) a daughter of the noble house of Crawford was confined for life in obedience to a fiat of the Pope, to expiate, by a dreary



penance, some deep and deadly sin which she had committed. On the Rattray side of the river is to be seen the mansion-house of Craighall, occupying a magnificent position on the verge of a high cliff which overhangs the river, adding greatly to the picturesque aspect of the scenery. The view from the windows up the river is much admired, and allowed to be unsurpassed in pictorial beauty by anything of similar character and extent in Scotland. The whole scenery about Craighall has been recently invested with a new and powerful interest, by the publication of the fact, of its being the prototype of the Tully-Veolan of Waverley.\*

*Natural History.*—The temperature of the atmosphere during winter is in general rather higher in the district of the parish immediately surrounding the village of Blairgowrie, than in the neighbouring and less elevated parishes; a circumstance which is in a great degree owing to the southern exposure of the surface, and the shelter which the rising grounds to the north afford from the cold north winds. The temperature, in common with all districts bordering on the Highlands, is subject to frequent and sudden variations. †

\* Sir Walter Scott visited this part of the country in the course of a Highland excursion. "Another resting-place," says Mr Lockhart, "was Craighall, in Perthshire, the seat of the Rattrays, a family related to Mr Clerk, who accompanied him. From the position of this striking place, as Mr Clerk at once perceived, and as the author afterwards confessed to him, that of Tully Veolan was very faithfully copied, though, in the description of the house itself and its gardens, many features were adopted from Brunsfield and Ravelstone."—*Lockhart's Life of Scott*, Vol. i.

† While upon this subject, it may not be out of place to give here a brief account of the various phenomena attending the earthquake which was felt throughout this district in the month of October 1839. The most severe shock was felt about twenty minutes past ten o'clock on the night of the 23d October, and was accompanied by a noise resembling distant thunder, or the rapid passage of a heavy-loaded vehicle over a newly-metalled road. The motion, at the commencement of the concussion, was of a waving or undulating nature, and terminated in a vibration or tremor, becoming gradually less distinct, until it ceased altogether. The shock appeared to be most strongly felt in houses situated on elevated ground, in some of which it was so severe as to excite very great alarm in the inmates; and in one house, situated in the town, the motion was so great as to force open some of the doors. In the districts of Glen-shee and Strathardle, about ten or twelve miles to the northward, the shock was much more violently felt than in this neighbourhood; so much so, that several people who were asleep at the time were awakened by the shaking of their beds; and one person, who was lying in bed awake when the shock commenced, describes the feeling he experienced to be as if his bed had been heaved up, and pushed, first to one side and then to the other, from west to east, and afterwards shaken violently; and he at the same time heard a loud noise, of the nature already described. The sound, in the opinion of the majority, proceeded from the ground, advanced from the north or north-west, and died away in the opposite direction.

The atmospherical appearances which attended this convulsion were not in any respect remarkable, excepting that, during the whole evening, before the shock occurred, the eastern horizon was overspread by a dull, lurid light of a yellowish hue; and for some days previously, a very great quantity of rain had fallen, which had increased to a torrent on the evening of the occurrence, accompanied by a pretty strong

*Hydrography.*—There are one or two chalybeate springs in the parish; but they have never been chemically analyzed, so far as the writer of this account is aware. There is one very fine spring, called the “heugh well,” which deserves particular notice. It springs from the face of the “heughs of Mause,”—(a mortar cliff of singular appearance, which descends abruptly into the bed of the river with an almost perpendicular declivity of about 200 feet)—and judging from its colour, contains a considerable quantity of ferruginous matter. The use of its water has been found to be very beneficial in cutaneous eruptions, and affections of the stomach.

There are no less than six lakes in the parish, viz. the Stormont Loch, (or Loch Bog,) Black Loch, White Loch, Fingask Loch, the Monkmyre Loch, and Ardblair or the Rae Loch, all of which abound with pike, perch, and eels. The first mentioned loch is very shallow, the depth being in general not more than from 2 to 3 feet, and the bottom is composed of soft mud or moss of considerable depth. Black, White, and Fingask Lochs are situated close together, in a line from east to west, and communicating with each other by small burns running from one to the other. Black Loch is more properly a morass or mossy pool than a loch, exhibiting merely a collection of reeds and other aquatic plants, with a small space of clear water; but it contains some very powerful springs, as is evident from the circumstance, that although it receives no supply of water from the surface, a large stream runs out of it into the adjoining lake of White Loch, sufficient to turn a mill, and this stream is never diminished in quantity even in the driest weather. White and Fingask Lochs are sheets of water of about one mile each in circumference. The bottom of the former is gravelly, while the latter rests upon a bed of clay or marl, of which great quantities were formerly excavated, and used for agricultural purposes by the farmers for many miles around. Of late years, however, the use of this substance as a manure has been almost entirely discontinued. Ardblair or Rae Loch is a small sheet of water, lying close to the road between Blairgowrie and Dunkeld. Its depth is believed to be greater than that of any of

breeze from the east. The barometer also had previously, notwithstanding the continued rains, risen rapidly, and stood at “set fair” on the index. It was also observed, that the river Ericht fell several inches below the level it had attained during the day, although the rain had, in the interval, continued with unabated violence. Two other shocks were felt on the same evening, but they were much less violent than that already described.

the others, but it has never been accurately ascertained. The depth of the others varies from 2 to about 20 feet. The Monkmyre Loch, as the name indicates, scarcely deserves the name of a loch, having been originally merely a shallow pool or "myre," surrounded with moss and reeds, and abounding with marl, in the course of excavating which substance, it was gradually deepened, until it assumed the form of a small lake. The rivers connected with the parish are the Ardle and Blackwater, which skirt part of the northern division of the parish,—the Ericht which is formed by the junction of these two near the bridge of Cally,—the Lunan, which partly bounds the parish on the south,—and the Lornty, which flows through part of the parish and falls into the Ericht, about half a mile above the town. The two latter are more properly large burns than rivers. The Ardle rises among the Grampians, at the head of the valley of Strathardle, and, after a course of ten or twelve miles, forms a junction with the Blackwater. This last-mentioned stream has its source near the summit of the Cairnwell mountain, and flowing, under the name of Beg, through Glenbeg, debouches at the Spittal of Glenshee into Glenshee, where it is joined by the Tetnich water, and takes the name of the Shee for about six miles farther. It then again changes its name to the Blackwater, which it retains until its junction with the Ardle, when the two united form the Ericht. The whole course of this stream to its junction with the Ericht is about twenty miles. The Ericht flows along the north-east boundary of the parish, through the romantic scenery of Craighall, passes close by the town of Blairgowrie, and falls into the Isla at Coupar Grange, after a course, under its own name, of about ten or eleven miles. The upper part of its course, including that of the Shee and Blackwater, is very rapid and impetuous, particularly in winter, when, swelled with the torrents that pour into it from the hills on both sides, it comes thundering down with headlong fury, carrying away everything moveable within its reach. Close to the town of Blairgowrie, the bed of the stream has a considerable descent to the valley of Strathmore, and forms a small cascade called the "Keath," which has been heightened by artificial means, so as to create, for the benefit of the fishings below, an obstruction to the upward progress of the salmon from the sea. In great floods, however, this contrivance is rendered of no avail, for at such times the impetuous torrent fills up the whole space betwixt the rocky banks—so as to obliterate the fall altogether, and admit

of the passage of the salmon up the stream. In summer, when the river is low, its course is here so hemmed in by encroaching rocks on each side, that it is quite possible to leap across, although the feat is certainly attended with some peril.

The scenery of the river, in the vicinity of the town, is very beautiful, comprehending those most essential elements of romantic scenery,—wood, water, and rocks, in finely diversified combinations.

*Geology.*—The chief geological formations in the parish are of three kinds, 1st, greywacke; 2d, greenstone; 3d, sandstone, or conglomerate. In the northern division of the parish we find an extensive bed of clay-slate at a place called Rochalzie, about four miles to the northward of the town, where it was some years ago quarried for roofing houses, a purpose for which it seemed to be well adapted. This quarry has for some years past been discontinued, owing partly to the difficulty and expense of carriage, and partly to the limited demand for the slates, which, though of durable quality, were of a disagreeable yellowish-blue colour. This formation seems to stretch across the parish in a westerly direction; but it is not again visible on the surface at any other point. Its thickness is supposed to be about 40 feet, and it dips at an angle of about 40° north-west. Proceeding southward, we meet with a stratum of greenstone or whinstone, stretching along the summit of the ridge already described, called Knock-ma-har, and extending quite across the parish, from east to west, into the adjoining parish of Kinloch. The same formation is seen also in the adjoining parish of Rattray, at a place called the Cats-craigs, where it rises into cliffs of considerable elevation. The strata are nearly horizontal, with a slight inclination to the north-west. Still farther south, all along the southern slope of the ridge immediately to the north of the town, and extending into the lower ground to the south and west, there is a very extensive stratum of coarse red sandstone or conglomerate, of great thickness, running in a north-westerly direction across the parish. It dips towards the north-west with an angle of about 15°. About a mile to the south-east of the town, this red sandstone assumes a much finer grain and darker colour, and forms a perpendicular cliff of considerable height on the bank of the river, at a place called the Red-brae, where it was partially quarried some years ago. About a mile to the south of this, there is another very regular and beautiful stratum of fine grey

sandstone, of excellent quality for building, and apparently of great thickness. This bed has been extensively quarried at Parkhead, within this parish; and at this point the strata appear to be nearly horizontal. On both sides of the bed of the Ericht, and about half a mile to the northward of the town, there is a fine dike of columnar basalt, in horizontal layers, so very regular as to resemble in some degree a work of art, and to obtain for the locality the popular name of the "Deil's Briggs." The basalt is not visible at any other point in the parish.

All the rocks in the parish which are of any height are formed of the conglomerate above-mentioned; and in some places, (such as Craighall and other points along the course of the Ericht,) they rise into lofty mural precipices, exhibiting scenery of the most picturesque and romantic description. The whole strata of conglomerate are intersected by occasional fissures at right angles to the planes of their stratification.

The alluvium which covers the strata already described is a species of till of very irregular quality and thickness. At a place called the "Heughs" or "Cloves of Mause," half a mile north of the town, it forms a precipice of a very singular and picturesque appearance, rising from the bed of the river to the height of nearly 200 feet. To the north-west of this, the greywacke already described is covered with moss to a very great extent, forming the great moss of Cochridge, an extensive tract of barren moor, covered with heather and pools of water. To the southward of this, on the slopes of the ridges rising to the north of the town, the soil is a brown stiff clay, of considerable fertility; and in the southern division of the parish it is a strong black loam, yielding a large return to the labours of the farmer. A large extent of barren unproductive gravel, however, intervenes, forming the "Muir of Blair," a great part of which, as formerly mentioned, is under plantation, and the remainder covered with heather.

*Zoology.*—There are no rare kinds of the quadruped or feathered tribe in this parish, with the exception of the jer (or ger) falcon, which breeds amongst the precipices about Craighall, and which was highly valued in ancient times when the sport of hawking was the favourite pastime of the nobles and gentry of the land. Now that this sport has fallen altogether into desuetude, however, these birds are permitted to breed and bring up their young in

their rocky habitations, unmolested. The Stormont Loch is, in summer, frequented by immense flocks of sea-mews or gulls, which build innumerable nests amongst the reeds and rushes, by which a considerable part of the surface of the lake is covered. Their eggs are highly prized, and are annually gathered and sold for the benefit of the proprietor or his tenants. These birds arrive from the sea-coast about the beginning of March, when they may be seen in thousands fluttering about the surface of the water. For the first week after they make their appearance, they go back to the sea every night and return the following morning; but after this *reconnoissance* is over, they finally take up their residence on the loch, and commence building their nests with great assiduity. These nests are formed merely of a few rushes laid on the surface of the water, amongst the reeds and grass with which the loch is covered. After bringing up their young, and when they are strong enough to fly, they take their departure again for the sea in the end of autumn, to return to this, their favourite haunt, again with the mild weather in the following spring. All the lakes in the parish are well stocked with pike, perch, and eels. In the Stormont loch, especially, both perch and pike are occasionally caught of a very large size,—the nature of the bottom being peculiarly favourable for their growth and subsistence. The Ardle, Blackwater, Lunan, and Lornty' abound with trout, and the Ericht, below the Keath, with both salmon and trout. Salmon generally begin to appear in the Ericht, from the sea, early in April, and sometimes sooner, if the weather is mild, and they continue running, when the water is in flood, until the month of June. In the months of July and August grilse make their appearance in the river, and occasionally a few of these are found newly run, until the 14th of September, when the fishing closes in this river. In the end of September, salmon and grilse begin to ascend the river for the purpose of spawning, and commence spawning in the fords and shallows about the middle of October, and sometimes earlier, when the weather is cold. They continue spawning until about the end of December or beginning of January, when they retire to the deep pools, in which they remain until they have somewhat recruited their exhausted strength, when the male fish make for the sea; but the female fish often remain in the river until the month of March and beginning of April. It is supposed by some, that the female fish do not leave the river, until the young fry are able to accompany them to the sea. The

young fry or smolt begin to leave the river on their way to the sea in the end of April, and are all off before the end of May.

*Wood.*—In the southern division of the parish, there are extensive plantations of Scotch fir, formed, about forty or fifty years ago, on ground which had been previously a barren moor or common, covered with heather and broom, and which was, about that period, divided amongst the heritors and feuars. A great part of this moor, as already mentioned, still remains in a waste and unproductive state; but some parts of it have lately been planted with Scotch fir and larch, to the growth of which the soil of the parish seems to be most congenial.

There are also a few detached plantations of hard wood in the parish, but none of any considerable extent; and the face of the country generally is embellished with clumps and belts of oak, elm, ash, and beech trees, none of which, however, have attained any remarkable size. The northern division of the parish is comparatively bare and destitute of trees, excepting the banks of the river, which are richly clothed with wood, chiefly natural, such as birch, hazel, mountain-ash, alder, and oak coppice. About Craighall, especially, the oak coppice is of considerable value. It is cut periodically every eighteen or twenty years, and the proprietor realizes a considerable sum at each cutting from the sale of the bark and of the wood for fuel, &c. But, although the parish does not now contain any tracts of wood deserving the appellation of forests, there is reason to believe, as well from the names still attached to certain portions of the parish, as from the fossil remains (chiefly oak of great size) which are frequently discovered in excavating the mosses for fuel, that, in ancient times, the face of the country had been much more densely wooded than it is at present. Thus there is an extensive tract of country, now barren and covered with heather, which still bears the name of the *Forest of Drimmie*, and another of the same description, in the north-west quarter of the parish, called the *Forest of Cluny*; and the country people, in digging for peats in these districts, have often uncovered huge logs of oak as black as ebony (thence called "black oak,") and in as perfect a state of preservation as if they had but yesterday fallen under the axe of the woodman. The writer has seen one of these logs which measured upwards of three feet in diameter. Mr Tytler, in the second volume of his *History of Scotland*, mentions the *Forests of Drimmie and Alyth* as being royal forests, preserved for the recreation of the kings of Scotland.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Till of late years, the parish, from its remote situation, and the rural character and occupations of its inhabitants, was little noticed, and comparatively insignificant. Owing to these circumstances, also, it had little or no share in the great religious and political contests which so frequently, in former times, agitated the great body of the population, and deluged the country with blood; or, at least, its share in these (if it had any) was too insignificant to obtain a place in history. The village is, however, casually mentioned, in the History of Montrose's Wars, as one of the places through which that great warrior passed in one of his hostile descents from the Highlands into the valley of Strathmore.\*

*Eminent Men.*—The eminent men connected with this parish are, 1. George Drummond, who was repeatedly elected Lord Provost of Edinburgh, and was the principal projector of the North Bridge of that city, and other important and useful public undertakings connected with it. He was born in the Newton Castle, which is situated within a quarter of a mile of the village. 2. Thomas Graham of Balgowan, afterwards Sir Thomas Graham, now Lord Lyndoch, who was formerly proprietor of the estate of Blairgowrie, including the Mause district.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners of the parish are, William Macpherson, Esq. of Blairgowrie; Robert Clerk Rattray,

\* About the time of the outbreaking of the French Revolution, the village of Blairgowrie, obscure and insignificant as it then was, shared in the general excitement which pervaded the nation, and numbered amongst its inhabitants a very few of the *soldisant* "friends of the people." At the time that the Militia Act first came into operation, also, the class of persons who were liable to serve under its enactments, and the lower ranks in general throughout the country, were greatly discontented with the measure; and on the day when the Justices of the peace for the district met in Blairgowrie for the purpose of balloting for those who should serve, this discontent broke out into open violence. Great crowds of people from this and all the other parishes of the district collected in the village—made prisoners of Colonel Macpherson of Blairgowrie, Sir William Ramsay of Banff, and the other gentlemen assembled,—and confined them in the inn until they got hold of the only "writer"† then in the village, whom they compelled (*malgré lui*) to draw out what they called a *bond*, to be executed by the Justices, by which they should be bound to abstain in future from any measures for enforcing the obnoxious act. This precious document was accordingly duly prepared, written out on a stamp,—(a ludicrous attempt to legalise an illegal document by a rigid observance of the statutory solemnities).—and subscribed by the captives under the threats of the mob. Satisfied with the victory they conceived they had gained, and in the full belief that they had effectually extinguished the Militia Act, these deluded men then allowed their prisoners to depart, and themselves peaceably dispersed to their respective parishes. But a week had not passed over their heads when a strong body of the Sutherland Fencibles made their appearance in the district,—pounced upon the most active of the rioters, and set most of the others scampering to the hills to avoid a similar fate. This vigorous proceeding effectually quelled the disturbance, and the provisions of the act were thenceforward carried into effect without further trouble. Several of the most active of the mob were sentenced to various periods of imprisonment, of from one to four months.

† *Anglicè*, Attorney.



Esq. of Craighall ; Colonel Chalmers of Glenericht, C. B. ; Sir J. M. M'Kenzie of Delvine, Bart. ; the Right Honourable Lady Keith, (Countess Flahault) ; J. L. Campbell, Esq. of Auchalader ; J. B. Oliphant, Esq. of Gask and Ardblair ; Sir James Ramsay of Banff, Bart. ; and Robert Geekie, Esq. of Rosemont.

*Parochial Registers.*—The earliest parochial register now extant belonging to this parish commences in the year 1647, and continues down to August 1658. There is no register from the latter period down to 1702, from which time to the present the books are complete, and appear to have been regularly and accurately kept. The book or books in which the register betwixt 1658 and 1702 was kept have been lost. The existing volumes contain the register of births and marriages, and the records of session, but no register of deaths. In the more ancient session records, there are several rather curious entries, illustrative of the strictness of discipline enforced in the Presbyterian Church, the internal discord and contentions which then distracted the kingdom, and the rude and ignorant condition of the population ; and it may not be uninteresting to the readers of this account to give a few extracts from them, so far as they relate to these points : “ October 15, 1648, The minister asking if there was any new scandal, the session declare that George Clyde, Andrew Keay, and Walter Butchart were shearing corne the last Sabbath, and George Watson did threshe the said Sabbath. The kirk-officer ordained to summon them against ye next day.” “ October 29, 1648, The above parties called compearit, quho, after long denying, at last being convinced, confessed the breach of ye Sabbath, as they alleged after sunseting. After ye minister had aggravated yair sinne, by shewiug yat ye whole Sabbath is religiouslie, to be observed not only in the kirk, but in yair private families, the sessione ordain them to satisfie ye next Lord's day, before ye pulpit, in humbling themselves and acknowledging their breach of Sabbath before ye congregation.” Again, “ November 27, 1648, Sundrie people fined,” (under an ordinance previously made regarding the keeping of the Sabbath), and “ ordained to satisfie before ye pulpit. Further, ye sessione, for the suppressing of this sinne upon the Lord's day, doe also hereby ordain that every taverne keeper, or seller of aile, quho runs aile in tyme of sermon, or ye whole day in ane excessive manner to any, sall pay hereafter as much as ye drinkers, *toties quoties*, it sall be found they are guiltie therein.” An ordinance of session

having been made on August 5, 1649, that the elders should search the "taverne houses" during afternoon service, "for contemners of the Word," there occurs, on next Sabbath, the following entry: "August 12, 1649, The elders being required to give account of yair diligence anent searching ye taverne houses for contemners of God's worship, reported that two of them had gone through the towne, and searched, and had found sundrie in their awin houses, quho declared to them that they were presentlie going to ye church before yair coming in to them. The sessione, therefore, to the end that the wicked prevaricatione of these persons may be better detected, ordaine that hereafter they search, not immediatelie at the beginning of ye afternoon service, but betwixt ye closure of ye sermone and ye blessing, or betwixt ye last prayer and Psalme, that such persons as then sall be found may be clearly rendered inexcusable." One George Ambrose having been called before the session to answer a charge of being absent from church and "selling of aile" on the preceding Sabbath, appeared on the 16th January 1654, and gave the following curious account of the cause of his absence from church:—"The said George denyed that he sold any aile that day in tyme of Divine service, and that the trow cause of his absence was, that he had but ane playd betwixt his wyfe and him, and that she had the use thereof that day, and was in the church." Notwithstanding this *naïve* excuse, however, the session "reprove him of his sinne, and ordaine him to keepe the kirk in tyme cumand, under ye paine of censure."

Innumerable other entries of this nature occur in these records, from which the session appears to have exercised the most vigilant superintendence over the conduct of the parishioners in the observance of the Sabbath, and to have visited the slightest fault with severe censure and punishment.

These records also contain numerous entries of historical interest, such as intimations of fasts on account of national occurrences, &c., a few of the most curious of which we shall extract. On the 10th December 1648, "the Covenant, and ane publick acknowledgement of the sinnes of the land, were publickly read before the blessing, and a fast for this effect intimated, to be kept on Thursday first and the next Sabbath immediatelie following; and the Covenant intimated to be renewed on ye said Lord's day, according to ye ordinance of the Commissione of ye Generall Assemblie."—"Aug. 16, 1649. The same day there was intimat

and read causes of a solemne fast, appointed by ye Generall Assemblie to be kept throughout all the congregations of the kingdom upon ye last Sabbath of this instant;" the causes whereof were, *inter alia*, the following: "1. We are to mourne for the continuance and increase of sinne and profanitie, especallie of *the abominable sinne of witchcraft*, which abounds in ye land, as appears from ye frequent discoveries thair of in all corners and quarters of the countrie. 2. We are to afflict our souls before ye Lord for ye sad interruption of the Lord's work in England and Ireland, and for the sore oppressione of his people, and such as ar stedfast in his cause in these kingdoms, by a prevailing partie of sectaries in ye one, and of malignants in the other. 3. It is matter of humiliatione to us, that our King hath not as yet granted the just and necessarie desires of this kirk and kingdome for serving of religion, and that he hath made peace with the Irish rebels, who have shed so much blood of ye Lord's people, and hath *graunted unto them the full libertie of Poperie*," &c. And again, on the 14th November following, another fast was intimated, one of the causes of which was stated to be "ye pregnant scandall of witchcraft and charming within this part of ye land;" and on 26th May 1650, solemne thanksgiving is intimated "to be keeppit upon the 2d of June, the next Lord's day, for that wonderfull victorie over James Grahame and his associates of late in the north." On the 28th of July following, "ther was read from the pulpit a declaratione of the Generall Assemblie, in answer to a declaratione of the armie of England, upon their march into Scotland, and intimatione given of a fast for the sinnes of ye land, and for the great danger the cause and the work of God are into by the invasions of sectaries." On the 10th October 1652, intimation is given of a collection "for the sadd condition of the toune of Glasgow, being half brunt." Under the date of 12th December 1653, it is intimated, that there was "na sessione, in respect the elders were withdrawin in attending some of Glencairne's souldiers, who were ranging throw the paroch."

There are still farther in this ancient manuscript several curious entries respecting parochial matters and discipline, and of a miscellaneous nature, which we cannot resist the temptation of transcribing, even at the risk of being charged with tediousness. The following are a few of the most remarkable of these: "December 24, 1648," (a schoolmaster being required for the parish school, a person of the name of Fittie had presented himself to the session

As a candidate for that office, and attended on them for several Sundays to obtain their decision on his application. The following rather *naive* minute at last occurs under the above date, from which it may be inferred that the applicant had at length become rather importunate, and that the session stood somewhat in awe of the bold "troopier".) "Compeared Mr Patrick Fittie desyring an answer. The sessione (he being removed) declare yt he was presently a troopier before he presented himself, and yt he was cashiered as being upone ye unlawfull ingadgement. The sessione resolve, calling him in againe, to discharge him in a *fair way*, in respect thair was not a competent provision yet agried on, and ordained to give him twentie-four shillings" Scots. On the 12th August 1649, "compeared James Ireland (adult') in ye publick place of repentance (for the *twenty-fourth time*,) and the minister aggravating his sinne, and exhorting him to sorrow and grieffe of heart for the same, *was continued to give farther evidence* of ye treuth of his repentance." "February 17, 1650, Given this day to Sir Robert Mubray, sometyme laird of Barnbougall, now become through indigence, ane poor supplicant, twentie-foure shillings." On the 24th February 1650, "the Presbyterie Act anent brydalls, ordaining thair sould not be above eight persons in ye syde, that thair sould be no debaucht pypars nor fiddlars, nor promiscuous dancing, nor excessive drunkennesse, was lykeways intimate out of ye pulpit." Finally, on the 19th July 1650, there occurs the following minute of session: "The minister inquiring if there was anie new scandall, it was declared be some yat Andro Malcolmme had most despytefullie and devilishlie railed against ye sessione, cursing minister and elders. The said Andro ordained to be cited against next day."—Afterwards ordained to evidence his repentance in face of the congregation, but proving "refractory and contumacious," was put into "the jouggs" till he agreed to obey the former ordinance.

*Antiquities.*—This parish contains few remains of antiquity possessing much interest. Amongst those deserving of notice are the *Häer* cairns, of which there are, or rather *were* several, in various parts of the parish, marking the scene of mortal conflict, and the last resting place of the slain. Most of these have now been either partially or wholly removed in the course of modern agricultural improvements; and in the process of excavation, human bones in great quantities have been found, and two stone coffins, formed of four flat stones, containing a skull and a quantity of ashes.

About twenty years ago, the workmen engaged in removing a large mound of gravel in the western part of the town, uncovered two Roman cinerary urns containing burnt bones, but these were unfortunately broken and thrown away by the men as of no value. A Roman spear head was also found many years ago in the great moss of Cochrage, already mentioned, and is now in the possession of the writer. Another was found, about eight years ago, near the bed of the river. There was also found in the neighbourhood of the town, and close to one of the cairns above mentioned, a coin of the Emperor Hadrian in bronze. Close beside the manse, there formerly existed a green conical mount, about 200 yards in circumference, called the "Hurcheon" or "urchin hill," on which, according to tradition, the Earls of Gowrie and their predecessors, in times still more remote, held their baron courts, for administering justice (or at least such justice as the weak could expect from the strong in these barbarous times,) to their vassals and retainers; and, as these fierce barons were then invested with the formidable power of "pit and gallows," this mount must, doubtless, have often witnessed the last despairing glance of the wretched offenders against their despotic chiefs, ere they were hurried away to their doom. There is a ridge or rising ground within less than a quarter of a mile to the westward of this knoll, which still bears the name of the "gallow (or gallows) bank," where, according to tradition, the unfortunate criminals condemned at the neighbouring baronial court were immediately afterwards, and without further ceremony, hung up to the bough of a tree. The hill or mount, in its original and perfect state, had a flat space on the top, which was surrounded with an embankment or rampart of earth; but most unfortunately the whole of the earth composing it was some years ago carted away, and put upon part of the glebe, and there are now few vestiges remaining.\* There is a small island in one of the lochs already described, on which the traces of a building are still to be discerned, and tradition states that, in times of peril, the inhabitants of the surrounding district removed their most valuable effects to this

\* In the course of digging the foundations of the new wing added to the manse, in 1838, there was discovered, in the centre of the space formerly occupied by the mound, a circular excavation, about three feet in diameter, and six feet in depth, which had been dug far down into the hard gravel, and afterwards filled up with black unctuous looking mould, intermixed with ashes and pieces of charred wood. The writer examined this excavation, but can form no conjecture as to its origin or purpose, unless it may be supposed to mark the spot where *witches* were formerly burnt,—many of whom, according to tradition, were executed on this knoll.

mont or "Store Mount Loch." There are likewise some remains of a building on a wooded knoll near Ardblair, about a mile west from the town of Blairgowrie. This knoll, according to tradition, was at one time surrounded with water,—a circumstance which is partly corroborated by the nature and aspect of the surrounding ground, which is low, flat, and mossy, and even at this day partially covered with surface water in winter. The Newton Castle, situated close to the town, is a good specimen of the castellated style of mansion-houses which prevailed about the latter end of the seventeenth century. It possesses the finest prospect imaginable, commanding the whole valley of Strathmore with all its picturesque and varied scenery; and, occupying an elevated site, forms itself a very picturesque object, and is visible from a great distance. Like most other ancient buildings, this old mansion is provided with a ghost, in the shape of a lady dressed in a green silk gown, thence called the "green lady," which is said (and *believed* by some even in this modern age of scepticism on these points,) still to haunt some of the apartments of the castle. About a gunshot to the west of Drumlochy Castle, already mentioned, on the opposite side of the deep ravine which forms the boundary between the parishes of Blairgowrie and Kinloch, are to be seen the still imposing ruins of the ancient castle of Glasclune, once a place of considerable strength, both natural and artificial, possessed of old by a powerful family of the name of Blair. An inveterate feud subsisted between the Blairs of Glasclune and the Herons of Drumlochy, which the proximity of their strongholds afforded them abundant opportunities of gratifying, by a constant and harassing system of petty warfare, attended with considerable bloodshed on both sides, till at length the struggle was ended in the total discomfiture of the unfortunate laird of Drumlochy, and the demolition of his fortress. Notwithstanding the tempting nature of the subject, however, which is full of interest, both antiquarian and historical, we must refrain from describing the ruins of this castle, that we may not encroach on the province of the statist of Kinloch parish, within the boundaries of which it is situated.\*

\* It may be here noticed that Mr Knox, in his "Topography of the Basin of the Tay," confidently argues that the high ground extending westwards from the town of Blairgowrie, is the true locality of the battle-field where the decisive encounter betwixt the Caledonians under Galgacus and the Roman legions of Agricola, described by Tacitus as the battle of the Grampians, and which has been so long a "bone of contention" amongst antiquarians, took place. He supposes the Cale-

## III.—POPULATION.

The population of the parish in 1792 appears to have been 1651, of which 1226 were in the landward part of the parish, and 425 in the village. It is thought that, for perhaps two centuries preceding the period to which this report applies, and down to about the year 1812 or 1814, the population continued nearly stationary, or, at all events, that the increase was very small, if any.

On comparing the return by Dr Webster in 1755 with that furnished in the last Statistical Account, we find that, in the intervening period of nearly forty years, the increase over the whole parish was only 55.

The following table shows the state of the population of the country part of the parish at different periods betwixt 1792 and 1836, and the comparative increase or decrease at each period :

	Population.	Increase.	Decrease.	Total.
Population in 1792,	1226			
1811,	940		286	
1821,	1018	78		
1831,	1051	33		
1841,	1226	171		
			282	
	Total decrease,			4

The disproportioned *increase* in the latter part of this period is chiefly owing to the number of families who have of late years taken up their residence in the neighbourhood of the various spinning-mills adjoining the town. The writer is at a loss to account for the large *decrease* which seems to have taken place among the rural population between 1793 and 1811, unless on the assumption, that there must have been some mistake or inaccuracy in the return for the former year.

The state of the population in 1841, and the respective proportions residing in the town and country, is as follows :

Number of inhabitants in the town,	2242
country,	1226
Total population of the parish,	3468

donians to have occupied the ridge or elevated ground extending from the Erich to Forneth, about five miles to the westward, having their left covered by the precipitous banks of the Erich, and their right by a deep ravine to the westward of Forneth; and he advances a very ingenious hypothesis as to the mode of attack, the various movements of the two hostile armies during the battle, and the fatal error committed by the Caledonians, of descending from their vantage ground, and exposing themselves to the impetuous attacks of the Romans on the plain. Without venturing any opinion on this subject, it is sufficient to refer the reader who may feel any interest in this much disputed question, to Mr Knox's work. The nature of the ground, as well as the numerous remains of Roman encampments and ramparts which are still to be seen in the neighbouring parishes, certainly favour the hypothesis alluded to.

Population of the town	{ in 1831,	1593	
	{ in 1841,	2242	
		Increase,	649
Population of the country	{ in 1831,	1051	
	{ in 1841,	1228	
		Increase,	175
Total increase in ten years,			824
Total number of males in the town and parish,		1571	
females,		1897	
Excess of females,			326
Number of inhabited houses in 1841,		604	
uninhabited,		20	
houses building,		3	
Total,			627
The number of families in the parish is			583
Average number of individuals to each family, including the parents, about			4 $\frac{1}{2}$

The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L.50 and upwards residing in the parish is four.

In the upper district of the parish the Gaelic language is still partially spoken by the common people; but there are none who cannot also speak English. The Gaelic is, however, gradually disappearing; and it is likely that, in a short time, it will be altogether disused.

The general character of the people, both in a moral and intellectual, and also in a religious point of view, now stands as high, it is believed, as in any parish similarly situated in Scotland.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The strict accuracy of the following returns cannot altogether be depended on, but they have been made up with as much correctness as the nature of the information obtained would admit of.

The number of acres which are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage is estimated at	4987
Do. which have been cultivated, and which remain constantly waste or in pasture,	3800
Do. which might be profitably brought into cultivation,	302
Do. under wood, natural and planted,	1407

The species of trees most generally planted are larch and Scotch fir. Of the latter especially, as formerly stated, there are large plantations in the southern district of the parish. There are no plantations of hard-wood of any great extent, but there is a considerable quantity of ash, elm, and beech planted, either in hedgerows, belts, or small clumps, and these kinds appear to thrive well. The kinds which are indigenous to the parish are, the alder, the birch, the hazel, and the mountain-ash, which (especially the first) grow in con-



siderable quantities along the banks of the rivers and burns in the parish. The management of the plantations, with respect to thinning and periodical felling, appears to be good; and of late years considerable attention has been paid by the proprietors of the district to these operations. The Scotch fir has been invariably found, after reaching a certain age and size, to stop growing, and, soon after, begin to decay, so that this species of tree is generally cut when it has reached the age of from 40 to 60 years, or, if left after that period, it begins to get fogged or covered with moss, the branches lose their dark green hue and become yellow, and in a very short time the wood gets deteriorated in quality, and exhibits that bluish colour, after being cut up, which is always perceived in what is technically called "back-going wood." This is not the case with the larch, however, which continues to improve to the last, and even after it has apparently ceased to increase in size, the wood goes on improving in quality and hardness. For this reason, the more recent plantations are either altogether composed of this useful tree, or at least contain a large intermixture of it. The writer regrets to add, however, that a great proportion of the larch planted within the last fifteen or twenty years is already beginning to wither and decay, but whether this is owing to the bad quality of the seed or to the nature of the soil, he cannot take it upon him to express an opinion.

*Rent.*—The average rent of arable land in the parish is L. 1, 10s. per imperial acre. In the upper district of the parish, the rent is considerably lower, and it is much higher in many parts of the lower district, while in the immediate vicinity of the town it is as high as L. 3 and L. 4 per acre; but the average, as nearly as can be estimated, is the sum above stated.

*Live-Stock.*—There are few or no sheep reared in the parish; but many sheep farmers are in the habit of purchasing sheep in the autumn, feeding them on turnips in the fields during the winter, and selling them again in spring in a fattened state. Considerable quantities of turnips are eaten off the ground in this way by sheep, either belonging to the farmer himself, or to sheep-farmers in the Highland districts, to whom he lets the turnips at a certain rate per acre, varying according to the quality of the crop.

Within the last few years, great attention has been paid to the improvement of the breed of cattle in the parish; and by the introduction of short-horned bulls, and crossing them with the native

breed of cows, the quality of the stock is now equal to that of the best agricultural districts of the country. A large quantity of cattle are annually fed and sold for the Glasgow and Falkirk markets.

With regard to the system of *cropping*, it is the opinion of those most intimately and practically acquainted with the subject, that it would be a decided improvement to introduce, for good soils, in place of the present system, which is one of *fives*, a rotation of *sevens*, in the following order: viz. *1st*, oats; *2d*, potatoes with dung; *3d*, wheat, barley, or oats; *4th*, turnips with bone-dust, a proportion of which to be eaten off the ground with sheep; *5th*, barley with grass-seeds; *6th* and *7th*, two years grass, one of which at least to be pastured.

Very considerable improvements have of late years been made in draining and inclosing, and the face of the country now presents, in this respect, a very remarkable contrast to its appearance at the period of the publication of the last Statistical Account.

The general duration of leases is nineteen years, although several are only fifteen; and the stipulations are in general favourable to the tenant.

*Quarries and Mines.*—The only kinds of stone found in extensive beds in this parish, and which are at all adapted for building, are the coarse red sandstone or conglomerate already mentioned, and a species of whinstone of a very dark colour, a stratum of which, as mentioned under a previous head, stretches in horizontal layers along the ridge of Knock-ma-har. This latter has been used only to a very limited extent in building, owing to its sombre and gloomy colour, and its almost impracticable hardness. Of the former there is a large quarry within half a mile of the town, which was worked for a great number of years, and out of which the greater part of the stones used in and around the town were taken. Some years ago, however, the proprietor of the neighbouring villa of Altamont, which is situated in the close vicinity of the quarry, having experienced great annoyance from the process of blasting the rock so close to his house, took a lease of it from the trustees of the proprietor, and shut it up; so that it has not been worked for several years. A quarry of the same material has been opened about half a mile to the south-west of the old one, and is now in full operation. The stone, as already mentioned, is of very coarse quality, and not easily dressed, but durable. Another quarry of red sandstone, of finer quality but softer texture, was opened some years ago and worked for some time on the

ground of Rosemount, in the face of an almost perpendicular cliff rising out of the bed of the river; but it has now been abandoned. There is still another quarry of fine gray sandstone at Parkhead, in the southern district of the parish; but it has not been worked to any considerable extent of late years, owing to the expense of carriage, and the difficulty of keeping the excavations free from the water, with which they are liable to be inundated.

*Fisheries.*—The only fishery carried on in the parish is salmon-fishing, which has now much decreased in value, owing to the fish being intercepted and destroyed in such numbers on their way from the sea at the fishing-stations further down, in the Tay and Isla. Previous to the commencement of the present century, salmon and grilse were very plentiful in the river; so much so, that, in the year 1804, no less than 336 salmon and grilse were caught at one haul in a pool called the Coble Pool, in the neighbourhood of the village; but, owing to the cause already mentioned, they are now scarce and high-priced. The fishing along the whole course of the Ericht, from the Keith to the boundary of the parish, is now let for L.21, 12s. per annum; and even this sum is considered much too high.\*

\* It may not be considered out of place here to describe the method of fishing with the hand-net, which is curious, and is believed to be peculiar to this parish. The net used is what is called a pock-net, about six feet six inches in depth, fixed on a hoop or "scob" formed of elastic hazel wands. This hoop or "scob" is about four feet in diameter, of an oval or circular form, and is attached to an elastic pole or handle about 21 feet in length. When the river is in flood, the fishermen, standing on the rocky brink of the water where it is narrowed by the approach of the rocks on each side to a breadth of from 8 to 12 feet, dips down the net into the eddies formed by the projecting points of rock turning aside the force of the stream, and into which the salmon retire to avoid the strength of the current, and recover themselves before attempting to leap the fall immediately above; and, by means of the long elastic handle, he moves the net slowly along from six to eight feet beneath the surface of the water, and the moment he feels any obstruction to its progress, he hauls it rapidly up, and lands the fish on the rock without trouble. In this way, when the fish are plentiful, and the river swollen with rain, considerable numbers of salmon and grilse are caught. When the river is small and clear, it is artificially discoloured, by throwing a quantity of mortar into it above the fall about the dusk of the evening, and the fish are then caught in the same way during the night. There is still another expedient put in practice for the destruction of the fish. When the river is small, its breadth from rock to rock, about thirty yards below the fall, is not more than six or eight feet; and at this narrow part a net nearly of the same form as those already described, but shorter in the handle, and sufficiently large to fill up nearly the whole space from side to side, is put down into the water, as near to the bottom as possible, and the fish are dislodged from under the rocks above, and forced downwards by means of a long pole with a mass of red cloth at the end of it, which is pushed under the rocks. Terrified and confused by the noise† and splashing, and the glare of the uncouth instrument with which it is performed, the salmon rush blindly down to escape from it, and fall into the net placed to intercept them. Frequently, however, they escape the danger, either by getting past or under the net, or by darting out of it again before it can be raised to the surface.

† We are satisfied, from personal observation, that salmon do hear, though this is a disputed point in natural history.

day after a flood, when the wind is from the east, and the sky cloudy, but without any appearance of rain, the fish rise readily to the common salmon and grilse fly; and in the warm summer months, when the river is low, they will sometimes readily take a minnow in the deep pools early in the morning.

*Produce.*—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish is, as nearly as can be ascertained, as follows, viz.

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for the food of man or the domestic animals, . . . . .	L.12,000	0	0
Potatoes and turnips cultivated in the fields, . . . . .	7,550	0	0
Hay cultivated, and sown grass pastured, . . . . .	6,600	0	0
	<hr/>		
Total yearly value of raw produce of arable ground,* . . . . .	L.26,150	0	0

*Manufactures.*—The only branches of manufacture carried on here are the spinning of flax and tow into yarn, and the weaving of these yarns into cloth of various fabrics. There are no fewer than five spinning-mills in the parish, engaged in the first-mentioned branch of manufacture, and the machinery of all of them is driven by water. Three of these are situated on the Ericht, one on the Lornty Burn, and one on the Lunan, (a small stream which forms the south-west boundary of the parish.)† The following table shows the number of hands engaged at each of these mills, distinguishing the males from the females:—

	Males	Females.	Total.
Blairgowrie Mill,	9	32	41
Oakbank, . . . . .	35	36	71
Lornty, . . . . .	8	21	29
Ashbank, . . . . .	32	40	72
Carsie, . . . . .	1	5	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	85	134	219

The flax used at these mills is imported into Dundee from the Baltic ports, and, after being spun into yarn, is either reconveyed to Dundee for sale there, or disposed of to manufacturers in the neighbourhood, and in Alyth and Cupar-Angus. The value of flax weekly consumed in the three mills at present in operation in the immediate vicinity of the town, is from L.400 to L.500, or from

\* The writer of this account has not been able to obtain sufficient data to enable him to hazard any estimate of the probable value of the produce of the unarable ground pastured, or of the annual thinning and periodical felling of copse and plantations, which is of a very fluctuating and uncertain nature.

† Besides the mills above enumerated, there is another large mill, (employing above 200 hands), situated in the close vicinity of the town, in the adjoining parish of Rattray, a large proportion of the people engaged at which reside in the town of Blairgowrie.

L.20,800 to L.26,000 per annum; and the value of yarn spun at the same mills, from L.650 to L.700 per week, or about from L.33,000 to L.36,00 per annum.

The other branch of manufacture, the weaving of yarn into cloth, employs about 370 hands. The yarns are purchased by the master manufacturers of the place, who employ weavers to weave it into cloth, which is then sent to Dundee and sold to cloth merchants there. Part of the cloth, however, is shipped direct, at the risk of the manufacturer, to North and South America and France. The greater part of the cloth manufactured consists of Osnaburgs and coarse sheetings; but there is also a considerable quantity of fine dowlas and drill manufactured. The weavers employed by the master manufacturers are paid for their work by the piece, and their earnings average for men, 8s.; and women, 5s. per week, working fourteen hours per day. The whole of the weaving is done by hand-loom, no machinery being employed for that purpose.\*

About the period of the publication of the last Statistical Account, a considerable quantity of flax was grown in the parish, the produce of which was spun with the common spinning-wheel by domestic servants, and women who were not fit for any harder work, and it was quite a common thing for expert hands to earn from 3s. to 4s. 6d. a-week in this way. The yarn was then woven into linen, sometimes of very fine texture, for shirting, &c. The introduction of machinery, however, has now completely superseded this branch of industry.

With regard to the effect which these occupations may have upon the health of those employed in them, the writer is not prepared to say that it is *prejudicial*, at least to any great extent,—certainly much less so than in large towns where the operatives do not enjoy equal advantages in respect of air and exercise; and were these operatives more regular in their habits of living, and more attentive to cleanliness in their persons and dwellings, it is thought that they would be equally healthy with other classes of the population who are also engaged in occupations of a sedentary nature.

Their effect on the *morals* of the operatives are unfortunately much more marked and observable, and is such as might naturally have been expected, and has invariably followed, from the pro-

\* Messrs Leadbetter, Adamson, and Co. have lately erected power-loom in their large mill at the Haugh, on the opposite bank of the river.

without any efficient control or surveillance over their conduct.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town*.—The only market-town in the parish is the town of Blairgowrie, which was erected into a barony in favour of George Drummond of Blair, the then proprietor of the estate of Blairgowrie, by a Royal charter from Charles I., dated 9th July 1634. In the year 1809, the town was created a free burgh of barony by a charter from Colonel M'Pherson, the feudal superior, whereby the burgesses were empowered to elect a bailie and four councillors for the management of the affairs of the burgh. The bailie and two of the councillors vacate their offices every two years, and their places are supplied by others elected by the burgesses qualified to vote in terms of the charter.

The population of the town in 1841, the period when the last census was taken, was 2242. Since the publication of the last Statistical Account, its population has been quadrupled, as will appear from the following table :—

Population in 1793,	. 425	. Increase.
1811,	. 1025	. 600
1821,	. 1235	. 210
1831,	. 1598	. 358
1841,	. 2242	. 649

Total increase since 1793, . 1817

The police of the town is regulated by the provisions of the General Police Act, and is under the management of the chief magistrate and four commissioners, the latter being elected annually by the L.10 householders. These commissioners have the power of levying, for the purposes of the act, an assessment to the extent of 8d. per pound on rents at and above L.2; and the funds thus raised are applied under the management of these commissioners, to defray the expenses of lighting and cleaning the streets of the town, and other necessary charges connected with the police of the place. The provisions of the Act regarding watching and paving have not been adopted, the householders being bound by the charter of constitution, either themselves to take their turn of watching, or to provide substitutes. This is not a very burdensome duty, as it only devolves about once a-year on each inhabitant.

The town is now well lighted with gas, supplied by a joint-stock company established in 1834, and gas is now very generally substituted for oil and candles, both in the shops and private dwell-

ling-houses in the town, although the high price charged for it, (14s. per 1000 feet), and the expense of pipes and fittings, has somewhat retarded its introduction into general use among the poorer classes. The company now pays an annual dividend of five per cent. to the holders of the stock. There is a branch of the Bank of Scotland, and another of the Commercial Bank in the town.

There is no other place in the parish deserving the name of village.

*Means of Communication.*—Besides private roads, there are three public roads which intersect the parish, viz. 1. the Great North Road from Perth to Fort George, which enters the parish at its southern boundary, about two miles from the town; 2. The road from Cupar-Angus to Blairgowrie, which was made a turnpike in the year 1832, and is now kept in excellent repair. It enters this parish about two miles to the south of the town, and terminates at Blairgowrie; 3. The line of road from Kirriemuir, Forfar, &c. to Dunkeld, passes through the town and across the parish from east to west. There is not much traffic on this line of road, even in summer, and it is not therefore kept in a very sufficient state of repair.

There are five bridges in the parish, viz. the Bridge of Blairgowrie, by which the Great North Road crosses the Ericht, the Bridge of Craighall, where it recrosses the river; the Bridge of Cally, where it crosses the Ardle; the Bridge of Carsie, by which it crosses the water of Lunan, and the bridge of Lornty, where the old military road crossed the Lornty. These bridges are all in tolerably good repair; but they are all built on the old construction, with a considerable rise in the centre, and very narrow. The Bridges of Craighall and Cally, especially, are not only too narrow to admit of the passage of two vehicles meeting, but also form an acute angle with the road, which renders them both inconvenient and dangerous. At the Bridge of Cally, there is a very steep ascent on both sides from the bridge, with an almost perpendicular declivity on one side of the road, quite unprotected by any fence or parapet, so that any carriage going too near the side of the road would infallibly be hurled down the steep bank to the river, a depth of from 60 to 100 feet. Besides the bridges above enumerated, there is a very elegant suspension bridge of iron over the Ericht, erected by

seat.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The situation of the town of course determined that of the parish church, which, as already stated, is situated close to it. In a parish of such extent, it necessarily follows that the church is inconveniently placed as regards some part of the population; but, as its site is nearly equidistant from both the northern and southern extremities of the parish, it is quite accessible to the great majority of the inhabitants. It is true the districts of Clayquhat and Cally are from four to five miles distant from the church, while the detached districts of Blackcraig and Wester Cally are upwards of seven miles distant; but although, owing to this circumstance, the inhabitants of these districts are, in general, unable to attend the parish church, their comparative proximity to the chapel of Persie, (a chapel of ease for the accommodation of the inhabitants of detached parts of Bendochy, Blairgowrie, Alyth, and Kinloch parishes,) materially lessens the inconvenience which would otherwise result from their remote situation. The most distant points of these districts are not more than three or four miles from the chapel of Persie. The parish church was erected in 1824, on the site of the old church, (which had become much too small for the accommodation of the rapidly increasing population,) and it is of course in good repair. It is calculated to hold about 1000 people, although in the scheme of division of the seats among the heritors, the number it would hold was computed at only 900. There are no free sittings, with the exception of a very few which are reserved for the poor. The manse was built in 1771; but in the year 1838, the whole house and offices, with the exception of the wing containing the dining and drawing rooms, were taken down and rebuilt, and several additional rooms added to the dwelling-house. Both the dwelling-house and offices are now, therefore, in the most complete and sufficient state. The repairs and additions cost upwards of L.500. The glebe, including 5 acres which were given in lieu of a right of pasturage formerly enjoyed by the incumbent, extends to about  $9\frac{1}{2}$  acres, and its average annual value may be about L.18. The stipend is partly money and partly “victual,” in the following proportions, viz. money stipend, L.109, 1s.  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d; meal, 71 bolls, 2 lippies, 2 pecks; barley, 62 bolls, 3 firlots, 1 lippy, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pecks, convertible into money at the highest fiars prices of the year.



In the year 1837, the parish church having been found to be much too small for the adequate accommodation of the parishioners, and a chapel belonging to the burgher congregation being then for sale, a subscription was entered into for the purpose of purchasing the building, and opening it as a preaching station in connection with the parish church. Nearly L.300 having accordingly been raised by subscription, the chapel was purchased for the sum of L.399, and the title taken to certain trustees (appointed by the subscribers,) and their successors in office, for behoof of the subscribers; and the chapel was opened as a preaching station in the month of December of the same year. The subscription raised having proved inadequate for the payment of the whole price, the Church Extension Committee granted L.100 from their funds for the benefit of the chapel. This sum has completely relieved it of all debt, and the annual income arising from the seat rents and collections having hitherto proved sufficient for the payment of the minister and all incidental charges, the undertaking has turned out a most successful one, and promises to be of great and lasting benefit to the community at large. The chapel is situated in Brown's Street, Blairgowrie, and is a plain building of hewn stone. It is capable of containing about 600 souls, and is for the present amply sufficient for the supply of the destitution of church accommodation which previously existed. The minister receives the whole free income arising from the seat rents and collections, after deducting the necessary expenses, and the sum paid to him from this source for the last year was upwards of L.140. The seat rents for the current half year (December 1842) amount to L.42, 0s. 4d., and the collections average upwards of L.1 per week.

There is one Independent and one Catholic chapel in the parish, the ministers of which are paid, it is understood, partly from the seat-rents and collections, and partly by voluntary contributions from the members of their congregations; but the annual amount of their stipends is not known, being rather fluctuating and uncertain. Public worship is performed in the Catholic chapel only once a month, and it has no resident clergyman—the gentleman who officiates having his residence in Perth, and having under his charge several other chapels besides the one in this town. There is a considerable number of Seceders in the parish; but no chapel belonging to that body within its bounds. Those who belong to that sect attend either the chapel lately erected in the

neighbouring parish of Rattray for their accommodation, or the Seceder chapel, at Lethendy, three miles distant.

A congregation in connection with the Scottish Episcopal Church was formed in the year 1841, and the number of individuals belonging to it is at present not more than 90,—the regular weekly attendance in its present temporary place of meeting averaging from 30 to 40. Its founder and pastor, the Rev. John Marshall, is at present engaged in the erection, chiefly at his own expense, of a handsome Gothic edifice, in the early English style of ecclesiastical architecture, to be named “St Catharine’s Church,” which will afford accommodation for about 200. Being intended as a model of the style and form of ecclesiastical edifices previous to the Reformation, it consists of a nave and chancel; the latter containing a beautiful window of stained glass, ornamented with various devices relating to church subjects. There is a vestry and library attached to the building; and the latter is not intended exclusively for the use of the congregation, but for persons of all denominations, and contains many works in science and general literature.

The number of families in the parish that attend the Established Church, either in the parish church, Brown Street chapel, or Percy chapel, is about 560; the number of individuals, about 2400. The number of persons attending the chapels of Dissenters and Seceders is about 560. The number of individuals belonging to the Episcopalian church is about 90; and to the Roman Catholic persuasion about 40.

There is a Sabbath evening school held in the church, at which the attendance is upwards of 400, and the good effects of the religious instruction there communicated are beginning to appear very conspicuously in the evident and rapid improvement of the population, and the sensible decline of vice and immorality of every description.

The average number of communicants in the parish is 1100.

The average amount of *church* collections yearly for religious and charitable objects, exclusive of the regular weekly collections for the poor, is L.18, 10s. 9d. Sterling; but there is a society in the parish, called “the Juvenile Parochial Missionary Association,” whose average annual contributions for the last three years amount to no less than L.87. The funds raised by this association are devoted to the five schemes of the General Assembly, and to female education in India.

*Education.*—The total number of schools in the parish is four, whereof one is a parish school, and the other three are taught by individuals on their own account, without any endowment or other emolument than the school-fees. Three of these schools are situated in the town, and the other at a place called Banchory, in the lower extremity of the parish. The salary of the parish schoolmaster is the maximum; and the parochial teacher has the legal accommodations. The general expense of education per annum, in all the different branches taught in these schools, is from L.1 to L.1, 12s.

The whole population of the lower part of the parish, and the greater proportion of that inhabiting the upper district, are within a convenient distance of one or other of the schools above enumerated, or, at least, they are accessible to them without much inconvenience; but the inhabitants of the detached districts of Blackcraig and Cruchies, and also the district of Clayquhat, are at too great a distance from all of them to derive any benefit from their operation. The wants of that portion of the population are, however, partly supplied by a school near the Bridge of Cally, which is open in the winter season only, and by another school situated at a place called Ballentuim, in the parish of Kirkmichael. The former of these is supported partly by voluntary subscription, and partly by the school-fees, which are very small, and the latter altogether by the school-fees. The district of Cruchies is supplied partly by a school supported chiefly by Sir James Ramsay of Bauff, and partly by the parish school of Alyth. An endowed school, established at or near the Bridge of Cally in this parish, would be of very great benefit to the population of that district of the parish, which is very considerable. A bequest of the late Mr George Barty, connected with this subject, is afterwards described under the head of Charitable Institutions.

*Literature.*—There are two circulating libraries in the town of Blairgowrie besides the library attached to the Episcopal church, already mentioned; and a small parochial library has also been formed in connection with the Sabbath school. There is likewise a small printing press in the town, which is chiefly used for printing handbills and advertisements.

*Charitable and other Institutions.*—The only institutions of a charitable nature at present in operation in the parish are, a Society for the purchase and distribution of clothing to destitute families, and a Savings' Bank. The latter was established in Oc-

dit deposits amounting to L.1197, 19s. 7d. The institution is a branch of the National Security Savings Bank of Perth, with which its funds are invested, and the rate of interest paid on deposits is 3½ per cent. The deposits vary in amount from 5s. to L.30.

The late Mr George Barty, formerly tobacconist in Perth, and a native of this parish, by his settlement, bequeathed one-third of the free residue of his estate to the Dean of Guild and Guild-Council of Perth, in trust, for the purpose of laying it out on heritable security, and paying the interest thereof annually to the parish schoolmaster of Blairgowrie, and his successors in office, to defray the expense of educating "all the orphan, fatherless, and poor children" belonging to the parishes of Blairgowrie, Rattray, Bendochy, and Kinloch in the parish school of Blairgowrie, the children to be recommended by the minister and kirk-session of these parishes, and those bearing the names of Barty and Soutar to be preferred. Mr Barty died in the month of June 1838, and his bequest came into operation at Martinmas 1841. The fund thus mortified amounts to about L.1400, and there are now forty children enjoying the benefit of the bequest. These children are taught the same branches, and enjoy equal advantages in other respects with the other children attending the parish school.

There are still two other institutions, which will properly fall to be alluded to under this head, viz. the Monthly Deposit Company, and the Tee-total Society. The former of these is something of the nature of a savings' bank, although conducted on different principles. It comprehends about 106 members, who each deposit 5s. per month for a period of ten years, at the expiration of which the whole funds, principal and interest, fall to be divided amongst the depositors or their representatives. The funds as they are periodically collected from the depositors are lent out at interest, either on personal or heritable security, and they at present amount to upwards of L.2000.

A Tee-total Society was established in November 1838, and numbers about 700 members, including those inhabiting the neighbouring parish of Rattray.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons receiving aid regularly from the poor's funds of the parish is 37; and the average sum allotted to each is 5s. per month, or L.3 per annum.

The average number of persons receiving occasional relief from  
PERTH.

the funds is 38; and the average sum paid to the whole collectively is L. 16, 14s. per annum, or about 8s. 9d. each person. The average annual amount of the whole contributions for the relief of the poor, from whatever source, is as follows, viz. collections at church gate, L. 69, 6s. 5d.; voluntary contributions of the heritors, L. 38, 18s. 8d.; proceeds of mortcloth dues and other seasonal emoluments, L. 11; total, L. 119, 3s. 1d.

There is no other regular mode of raising funds for the support of the poor than those above enumerated. When there is any deficiency in the ordinary collections for the poor, it is supplied by the heritors, who assess themselves voluntarily in the necessary sum, according to their respective valued rents.

Until within the last twenty or thirty years, there existed amongst the poor a very great disinclination to seek relief from the poor's fund. Unhappily, however, this noble and independent spirit is now in a great measure extinct, and the kirk-session are continually overwhelmed with applications for relief, often from those who have relatives quite able to afford them such help as would render such applications unnecessary.

*Prisons.*—The only place for the confinement of delinquents is a sort of cell in the lower story of the town-house, which is divided into two apartments, and well secured with sufficient locks on the doors, and iron gratings on the windows. The cells are under the superintendance of the town-officer, whose duty it is to report to the bailie the apprehension of every offender as soon as he is secured in the cell, or, at all events, next morning, if he has been incarcerated late on the previous night, and the bailie then holds a court upon the prisoner without delay, hears the charge and evidence, and inflicts a punishment according to the nature of the offence, varying from a fine of 1s. to L. 2, or from twenty-four hours to twenty days' imprisonment in the cells on bread and water. This system has been found to be very efficient for the prevention of drunken brawls and other breaches of the peace, which are now much less frequent than they formerly were. The number of prisoners confined in these cells during the year 1841 was 128; and the offences were petty thefts, drunkenness, assaults, and other delinquencies of the same nature.

*Fairs.*—The fairs held in the town are the following, viz. the third Wednesday in March; the 26th May (if a Wednesday, if not the first Wednesday after;) the 23d July; the first Wednesday in November; the 22d of November (or first Tuesday there-

for cattle and grain is also held every fortnight, on Wednesdays, during the winter and spring, which is much frequented by the farmers and graziers of the district.

The number of licensed inns and alehouses in the parish is 36, the whole of which are in the town, with the exception of two.

*Fuel.*—The fuel generally used in the town and the lower part of the parish is coal and wood; and, in the upper district, peats. The coal is procured from Dundee and Perth, and costs, including carriage, from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d. per cwt., or, if sold by the ton, from L. 1, 3s. to L. 1, 6s. The wood used for firewood is furnished by the thinnings of the fir and larch plantations in the parish, the branches lopped off the hardwood trees, and the oak copse when periodically cut for the bark. The peat is obtained principally from the great moss of Cochrage already mentioned, but it is not much used in the lower division of the parish, except for kindling the fires. It cost about 3s. the cart-load.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The changes that have taken place within the parish since the publication of the former Statistical Account are numerous and very remarkable. The population has been nearly doubled; trade and manufactures have grown up and flourished in an unprecedented manner; agriculture has been extended, and brought to great perfection; and a vast and beneficial alteration has taken place on the social condition of all classes of the community. The character, manners, and habits of the people, have likewise undergone an important and striking change, in some respects, for the better, but in many, it is feared, for the worse. It appears that, while the population of the rural districts has decreased, that of the village has augmented in more than a corresponding ratio. About forty years ago, Blairgowrie was a quiet and insignificant village of mean and thatched houses, collected in the vicinity of the parish church and the seat of the proprietor of the barony. It is now a large manufacturing and market-town, containing good streets, filled with all the bustle of an active and industrious population.

In the rural districts the change is not less remarkable. There is now, properly speaking, no *peasantry*, the whole class coming under that denomination having been swept away by the breaking up of the cottar system throughout the parish, and the prevalence

of the practice, now so generally adopted by Scottish landowners, of throwing several small farms into one,—a practice which has had the effect of transferring the agriculture of the parish to a body of men possessed of superior intelligence, and such a command of capital, as enables them to conduct it on a liberal scale, and on the most approved principles. The result has been a vast improvement in the whole system of agricultural management, and, consequently, in the general aspect of the country, since the publication of the last Statistical Account. *Then* nearly two-thirds of the parish lay quite open and unenclosed: Almost every field was intersected in many places by stripes of waste ground, called “baulks,” on which the stones gathered from the ground under crop were deposited: there were no drains to carry off the superfluous water, and no plantations to shelter the fields from the cold and blighting winds: a proper system or rotation of cropping was almost unknown, and a great extent of ground remained wholly waste and unproductive, or yielded but a scanty pasturage for cattle during the summer months. *Now* almost every farm is properly subdivided and enclosed; the “baulks” have been all removed; the wet ground has been drained; and many plantations formed for shelter to the more exposed grounds. A proper rotation of cropping and manuring has been introduced; and the greater part of the waste ground has been either reclaimed and cultivated, or covered with thriving wood. Nor is the improvement in the domestic economy of the farmer less marked. Instead of the miserable thatched hovel,—dark, dirty, confined, and withal ill furnished,—in which he formerly contrived to exist—he now inhabits a good substantial slated house, well-lighted, clean, commodious, and comfortably furnished. Instead of the ill-fashioned garments, of coarse home-spun materials, which he formerly wore, he is clad in well-fitting clothes of good broad-cloth; and the hat of modern shape has taken the place of the broad blue bonnet of former days. The change in the whole style of his “house-keeping” is equally observable; and, without entering into a minute detail on this subject, it may suffice to remark, that the habitual style of living which now prevails among this class marks the acquisition not only of new tastes and refined habits, but of the means of gratifying them; and, however opinions may differ on the question, whether this change may not have been carried farther than their station and circumstances warrant, the

of forty years ago, is unquestionably both elevated and improved. It would be extremely gratifying to be able to record an improvement in the moral and religious character of the population, commensurate with that which has taken place in their external circumstances and mode of living. But it must be admitted that in this respect there has been a very evident and decided falling off; that the strictness of religious principle has been relaxed; and the general tone of morality greatly lowered. The chief cause of this unfortunate deterioration is undoubtedly to be found in the great influx into the parish, from Dundee and other large towns, of immoral and dissolute characters of both sexes, who obtain employment in the numerous spinning-mills in the neighbourhood; and it is not difficult to foresee that the contagious effect of this moral pestilence must inevitably be felt throughout the community. Great exertions are at present making, however, by the gratuitous instruction of the children of the working classes in Sabbath schools and otherwise, to counteract this evil influence, and to promote the growth of practical religion and morality throughout the parish; and it is to be hoped that the means employed for this object may, through the blessing of God, be attended with the desired effect, and lay the foundation of a gradual and thorough reformation.

*January 1843.*

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## PARISH OF KINNOULL.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JOHN EDWARD TOUCH, MINISTER.

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### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Extent, &c.*—THIS parish is of a very irregular form, being intersected in different directions by those adjoining. It includes the village of Balbeggie on its northern extremity, betwixt and which the parishes of Scone and St Martins intervene, while the village of Inchyra, lying on its eastern extremity, has the parish of Kinfauns interjacent. Its greatest length may be stated at 12 miles, its greatest breadth 4. The central part of the parish, con-



taining about seven-ninths of the population, lies immediately opposite to Perth, from which it is separated by the Tay : and, rising from the margin of the river till it reaches the summit of the hill of Kinnoull, presents many striking features of natural beauty.

*Geology.*—The principal part of the parish being situated on the western terminal slope of the Sidlaw hills, consists almost entirely of the different varieties of trap, of which a large portion of that range is composed. One slight and solitary exception occurs in a thin bed of stratified sandstone, seen to lie over the trap in a quarry near the church. Great beds of water-worn gravel rest on the rocky strata, some two hundred feet above the present level of the river, and these are peculiarly conspicuous near the toll-bar at Barnhill, about three-fourths of a mile, south-east from the church. On the river side, rich alluvium prevails like that which constitutes the soil of the lower Carse. In the Inchyra section of the parish, trap also is alone visible, although it is extremely probable that the great bed of red or greyish sandstone which fills up the Carse of Gowrie, and the westernmost quarries of which are at Pitfour, in the adjoining parish of St Madoes, extends as high up as Seggieden, and consequently may be found around Inchyra. The rich alluvium here, however, is so thick, that after quitting the slopes of the trap on the hill side, and descending to the level ground, no rocks of any sort are visible. The Balbeggie division of the parish, though lying within the region of the old red sandstone formation, consists chiefly of the same material as that alone appearing in the other two districts. Greyish red sandstone is found, however, and is abundant in the neighbourhood. It is of considerable beauty, and from its compactness and durability, is in demand as a building stone.

The minerals in the parish are so common, and are so universally found in trap districts, that it is unnecessary to enumerate them. The splendid agates, of which most museums in Britain contain specimens, and which are known by the name of Kinnoull stones, though found in the hill of Kinnoull, are so chiefly, in that part of it lying in the parish of Kinfauns.

*Climate, &c.*—The climate of this parish may be said to be generally salubrious. From the fine exposure of that part of it which lies opposite to Perth, and the shelter from the east which the rising grounds interpose, there are here the earliest indications of coming spring. Close to the river, no doubt, hoar frost is occasionally very severe, as is seen in its effects on shrubs and plants

these occupying the elevation, and by their growth, some are to be found, having acquired a prescriptive right to the name of evergreens—others, again, almost refusing to be deciduous.

*Rivers, Salmon-Fishing, &c.*—The Tay, forming the western boundary of the parish, divides itself into two parts a little below the church, forming a small island called Moncrieff island, one-half of which is in this parish, and the other in that of Perth. That branch of the river on the farther side of the island is the course which larger vessels hold, in coming to Perth, while that on this side is navigable by vessels of about 60 tons burden, and affords a somewhat shorter passage, when, in spring tides, they seek to make Kinnoull shore; and from which, within the last few years, two vessels of that measurement have been launched.

Of the many valuable salmon-fishings on the river, Kinnoull has its share,—the stations or hauls belonging to it being rented at about L.1200 per annum.

*Hills.*—“There are two hills in this parish, Kinnoull-hill, and the hill of Murray’s-hall, which are rather different parts of the same ridge of hills, at the distance of two miles from one another; from which there is one of the most beautiful and extensive prospects. The hill of Kinnoull is the most remarkable. Its height above the level of the Tay is 632 feet. On the south it is exceedingly steep, consisting of ragged rock, and presents a very striking and formidable appearance. It is covered with a thriving plantation to the very summit. On the north side of the hill there is a gradual ascent, through a serpentine walk, by which a carriage can easily go to the top. This is called Montague’s walk, from the late Duke of Montague, who was in Scotland when it was formed.

“There is a steep and hollow descent betwixt two tops of the hill, which is called the *Windy Gowle*. Near to this place, in certain positions, there is a remarkable echo, that repeats above nine times; and on the face of the hill there is a cave in a steep part of the rock, which, it is said, will contain about a dozen of men. It is called the *Dragon-hole*. We are informed from the ancient records of the kirk-session of Perth that, during the time of Popery, a great number of people assembled here on the 1st of May to celebrate superstitious games, which the Reformers prohibited under severe censures and heavy penalties. There is a tradition

in this hole of the rock, where he absconded for some time."

*Botany.*—This parish affords no inconsiderable variety of plants, in consequence of its embracing part of Kinnoull hill, together with some small detached portions of moor and upland pasture, as well as fertile fields in conjunction with the Tay. From a list of upwards of 430 species which might be enumerated, the following are given as the most rare :—

Acinos vulgaris	Galium boreale	† Poterium sanguisorba
Anchusa sempervirens	† Geranium pyrenaicum	Primula elatior
Allium carinatum	————— columbinum	Ranunculus hirsutus
Arabis hirsuta	Grammites ceterach	Rumex sanguineus
Centaurea scabiosa	Hesperis matronalis	Scirpus sylvaticus
————— alba	Hyocyamus niger	† Sedum album
Cerastium semidecandrum	Lactuca virosa	Serophularia vernalis
Cichorium Intybus	Leonurus Cardiaca	Stachys arvensis
Cheiranthus Cheiri	Lepidium campestre	Thlaspi arvense
Conium maculatum	Lotus tenuis	Trientalis Europæa
Cynoglossum officinale	Myosotis collina	Viola hirta
Echium vulgare	Parietaria officinalis	Veronica anagallis.
Erythraea Centaurium	Potentilla argentea	
Fedia dentata	————— verna	

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, the Earl of Kinnoull; Lord Gray; Niel Fergusson Blair, Esq. of Balthayock; Andrew Murray, Esq. of Murrayshall; Robert Crystal, Esq. of Inchyra; Sir Thomas Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe, Bart.; ——— Farquharson Macdonald, Esq. of St Martins; Captain Moncrieffe of Barnhill or Woodend; Archibald Turnbull, Esq. of Bellwood; and the Directors of James Murray's Royal Asylum. Besides these, there are many proprietors of villas, in the central part of the parish, having from two to eight acres attached.

*Parochial Registers.*—The session registers commence in 1618, and, with the exception of the period between 1725 and 1730, have been regularly brought down to the present time.

*Eminent Characters, Antiquities, &c.*—As from this parish the title of the Noble family of Kinnoull has its origin, so did it continue for many generations to be their burial-place; and within the aisle which was attached to the old church, there still remains, in high preservation, a very striking monument, erected in 1635, to the memory of George, first Earl of Kinnoull, and Chancellor of Scotland. In a recess behind four columns, enriched with a variety of curious ornaments, and surmounted by a pediment em-

\* Those marked † may most probably have escaped from the nurseries. They are quite naturalized on rocks and walls in the immediate vicinity of Kinnoull church.

placed, side by side, the Great Seal of Scotland, &c. (insignia of his office), and a human skull. There is no inscription. The simple but striking device explains itself.

This curious relic is carefully roofed in and preserved; and there is reason to believe that the present Noble representative of the family is disposed to give even greater external character to a building under which the ashes of his ancestors have long reposed. The site of this mausoleum is peculiarly striking, occupying the centre of the old parish burying-ground, which immediately overhangs the river.

The character of the Chancellor is given by Crawford in his "Lives of the Officers of State," as "by a person of honour and great probity, who had very good access to know. That he had the reputation of a very wise man; behaved himself very well in his function, and appeared equal to it, and carried himself so moderately, both in Parliament and council, that he did his master much service, and preserved himself in the good opinion of the nation,—a favour very few other men in any high trust at that time were indulged with."\*

Although no inscription is to be found on the monument, an epitaph, by Dr Arthur Johnston, is given by Crawford.

About a quarter of a mile south from this spot, some small vestiges of the old Castle of Kinnoull remained at the date of the last Statistical Account, but which have now disappeared, the site being occupied as an orchard attached to one of the many villas

\* A curious anecdote, strikingly characteristic of the resoluteness of the chancellor in maintaining the high privileges attached to his office, is recorded by Sir James Balfour in his Annals of Scotland. It appears that the King, in a letter to his Privy-council, had commanded that the Archbishop of St Andrews, as primate and metropolitan of Scotland, might have the precedence of the Lord Chancellor, "and so, consequently, before all others; wich, notwithstanding, the Lord Chancellor Hay, a gallant stout man, wold never condescend too, nor even suffer him to have place of him, doe quhat he could, all the dayes of his lifetime. I remember (continues Sir James) that King Charles sent me, the day of his coronatione, in the morning, in Ao. 1633, to show the chanceler that it wes his will and pleasure, bot only for that day, that he wold ceed and give place to the archbishope; bot he returnid by me to his Majestie a wery bruske ansuer, wich wes, that since his Majesty had beine pleased to continue him in that office of chanceler, wich, by his meines, his vorthey father, of happye memorie, had bestowed upone him, he was redey, in all humility, to lay it doune at his Majestie's feete; bot, since it wes his royall will, he should enjoy it with the knowne prævilidges of the same, no preist in Scotland should sett a foot befor him so long as his blood was hotte." The King finding his chancellor immoveable, and his own somewhat disingenuous proposal thus thwarted, seems to have been in no good humour when, on hearing the result of the conference, he replied, "Weel, Lyone, letts go to bussiness. I will not meddle furdur with that olde cankered gootische man, at quhose hands there is nothing to be gained bot soure wordes."

existence preserved, is the name given by the proprietor to his residence, Castle Bank.

At Balthayock, the seat of a branch of the ancient family of Blair, are the remains of a castle, bearing marks of great antiquity, and supposed to have belonged to the Knights Templar. It consists of an oblong tower of about 50 feet in height, and the sides 52 and 37 feet. The walls are still entire, and of prodigious thickness. Its position is very commanding, cresting the top of a deep ravine, which the frowning mass, as seen from the Carse of Gowrie, appears to overhang. The present mansion-house of Balthayock, which stands within a few feet of the tower, had been built at different periods, and is also of considerable antiquity. The more modern part bears the date 1578, while that to which it is attached is supposed to be of a date about two centuries earlier. There is nothing striking in the character of the edifice beyond the *substantialness* which marks buildings of that period.

*Modern Buildings.*—The principal modern buildings (besides the church and Murray's Asylum, afterwards to be noticed,) are the mansion-house of Inchyra—a very handsome edifice of polished ashlar work, and in the Grecian style; and Bellwood, occupying a very striking position on the face of the hill of Kinnoull fronting Perth. The other mansion-houses in the parish are Murryshall, and Barnhill, or Woodend.

*Bridge of Perth.*—So far back as 1329, a bridge connecting Kinnoull with Perth appears to have been constructed. In 1573, this erection was partly swept away. Again, in 1582, “the down-falling of five bowis” (arches) is recorded. In 1589 the “bra trein pillars of the brig” appear to have given way; and from that period being “ready to fall without help,” it continued under repair, and a considerable portion of it was built anew, until, in 1617, the work was supposed to be at last substantially completed. But only four years thereafter (1621) “it was haily dung down, excepting only one bow thereof standing.”

Strange to say, all after attempts to renew the fabric seem to have failed for a century and a-half, during which long period the only communication across this—one of the most frequented passes in Scotland—continued to be carried on by means of ferry-boats. At length, in 1766, the foundation stone of the present handsome structure, as planned by Smeaton, was laid by Thomas, eighth Earl of Kinnoull, and the work completed on the 13th of Novem-

not only was it commenced under his auspices, but a fund for its completion actually secured, by his Lordship's generous pledge of no inconsiderable part of his private fortune. From the substantial character of the building, and the scientific principles upon which it is constructed, it promises to afford a lasting monument of the skill and taste of its able architect, while the memory of its chief promoter will continue to be associated with the manifold advantages, not to Perth and its neighbourhood only, but to the country at large, which it has been the medium of conferring. It consists of ten arches, the clear water-way being 590 feet, and its extreme length 906 feet. It has often, of late years, been severely tested at the breaking-up of the ice in the river, when several of the arches have occasionally become nearly gorged by the gigantic masses which continued to accumulate on its upper side. Notwithstanding the tremendous pressure, it stood, as "still unshaken and unscathed it stands." Repeated proposals have been of late years made to widen the carriage-way—an improvement called for by the great increase of traffic; and it is now understood there is an immediate prospect of such a plan being adopted as, without disfiguring the structure, will not only effect this object, but afford a wider space for foot-passengers.

*Bridgend.*—This village, or rather suburb, which, before the new bridge was built, consisted chiefly of a few cottages occupied by the boatmen employed on the ferry, has so increased, as now to contain about four-sevenths of the population of the parish. It extends almost continuously from the church to the southern boundary of the parish of Scone, a distance of nearly three-fourths of a mile, the bridge being nearly equidistant from these two points. This district of the parish, like that stretching from the church towards Baronhill on its southern extremity, is richly studded with villas, which, from the striking position many of them occupy, whether on the river side, or on the rising grounds towards the north and east, contribute in no small degree to the picturesque beauty of the landscape which bursts upon the eye, when Perth and its environs are first seen on approaching them from the south. The Earl of Kinnoull is superior of the village, and in his Lordship's charter, it is styled the burgh of Kinnoull, with certain rights of markets, fairs, &c. but which have long since gone into desuetude. The houses, streets, and roads in and about

extended the other benefits of the Police Act lately obtained for Perth.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish, as returned in 1755, was	.	1163
1795,	.	1465
1801,	.	1927
1811,	.	2431
1821,	.	2674
1831,	.	2957
1841,	.	2870

The most remarkable period of increase is seen to be between 1795 and 1811, the increase being at no less a rate than 66 per cent. ; while, by the census taken in 1821 and 1831, it is about 10 per cent. at each of these periods. The erection of the bridge in 1771 may be stated to be almost the sole cause of this large and progressive increase which has taken place in Bridgend and its neighbourhood. A decrease of nearly 3 per cent. is for the first time observable in 1841 ; and this is to be accounted for by the depression in trade and manufactures, which has been felt here as elsewhere, since the date of the former census. Hence, not a few families have recently emigrated, and no less than 77 dwellings in the parish are at present uninhabited. There is no public work or manufactory in the parish.

The population in 1841 is reported as thus distributed :

Central part of the parish included within the par-	{ Bridgend,	1578	} 1926
liamentary boundary of the burgh of Perth,	{ Barnhill,	348	
Corsiehill, including Murrayhall, &c.,	.	.	225
Balthayock,	.	.	172
Balbeggie,	.	.	255
Inchyra,	.	.	137
In Murray's Lunatic Asylum,	.	.	150
Slept in a barge on the night of 6th June 1841,	.	.	5
Population in villages, about	.	1900	} 2870
country,	.	970	
Number of inhabited houses,	.	.	432
uninhabited,	.	.	77
building,	.	.	None

*Births, Marriages, &c.*—It need scarcely be remarked, that the following averages, given from the session records, afford no satisfactory conclusion, especially in a locality so closely connected with Perth. The yearly average number of recorded births for the last seven years, is 40 ; of burials no register is kept beyond the mortcloth book, which records 30 ; proclamation of banns, 24.

Number of illegitimate births during last three years, 5 ; insane persons in the parish, 2 ; fatuous, 2 ; blind, 2.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

Almost every variety of soil is to be found in the parish ; and

ment, that very few spots remain in which the best systems of husbandry are not practised. The latest improvement introduced is that of tile-draining.

Number of imperial acres in the parish,	3700
Of which, arable and pasture lands,	3100
Under wood,	580
Undivided common,	20
	— 3700

*Rent of Land.*—The average rent of land may be stated to be from L.2, 5s. to L.2, 10s. per acre; but in the central part of the parish, *i. e.* in the immediate neighbourhood of Perth, from L.5 to L.10 per acre is readily paid; and along the bank of the river, grounds for villas have of late years been sold at no less a rate than L.1000 per acre.

*Rental of the Parish.*—The old valued rent of the parish is L.4775, 18s. 6d.

The real rental, as made up in 1823, and by which the assessment for building a new church was regulated, was declared to be L.12,303; but the rents both of lands and houses having since considerably fallen, perhaps L.10,000 should be now substituted. In this sum, the rent of the salmon-fishings in the parish is included.

*Nurseries.*—So far back as the year 1767, a nursery was formed here, on the east bank of the Tay, by Mr Dickson of Hassen-deanburn, in Roxburghshire. He was soon thereafter succeeded by his brother, Mr William Dickson, who, for the long period of sixty-three years, continued to conduct this extensive establishment in a spirit of enterprize and improvement, and with a good taste, which not only made his professional name well known throughout the island, but insured him a wide field of demand for those endless varieties of nature's productions which he was so successful in rearing. Since his death in 1835, its various departments have been conducted in the same spirit, and even on a more enlarged scale, under the direction of his nephew, who had for many years taken an active part in its management. These grounds now extend to not less than 60 acres: and from their *lie*, their natural and artificial shelter, and the variety of soils which they contain, it is difficult to conceive a situation more adapted, whether by nature or art, for every possible purpose to which such establishments are sought to be appropriated. Its giving employment to between 70 and 80 individuals, may be mentioned as not



the less important of the advantages which it confers on the parish and neighbourhood.

At the northern extremity of the village of Bridgend, another nursery, containing about eight acres, has within these few years been formed.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Mr Lewis Dunbar was translated from the parish of Dunning, in the presbytery of Auchterarder, to Kinnoull, 7th November 1782, and died there on 22d February 1829. The present incumbent was translated from the parish of Maderty, in the presbytery of Auchterarder, and admitted minister of Kinnoull on 24th September 1829.

The former church of Kinnoull, rebuilt in 1779, accommodated only 400 sitters; and although in 1795, the last incumbent complains, that even then, it was “much too small,” it continued down to the year 1826, without addition or enlargement, the population still continuing steadily to increase, and nearly one-half of those connected with the Establishment being thus necessitated to seek accommodation in the various churches of Perth. In that year, however, the present handsome and spacious structure, in the Gothic style, from a plan of Mr Burn, was erected within a few hundred yards of the old one, at an expense of about L. 4000. The internal arrangements, and the chasteness of the exterior, are alike creditable to the architect. It contains upwards of 1000 sittings.

The only other place of worship in the parish, is in the village of Balbeggie, five miles distant, where an Antiburgher meeting-house was built in 1788, but which was taken down a few years ago, and replaced by one of more ornate character, containing about 350 sittings. It is in connection with the Associate Synod. There is a comfortable house for the minister, with garden, offices, &c. attached.

A new manse and offices were built in 1829, immediately after the induction of the present incumbent. They occupy a very favourable position on the rising ground above the Tay, commanding a view of a considerable stretch of the river. Several old trees, planted about a century ago, skirt the buildings. One of these, a larch, is rather a picturesque object, from the fantastic form it has assumed.

The glebe adjoins the manse, and contains about 4½ acres. It

ance for one.

The present incumbent is in possession of an instrument of seisin, dated 18th June 1726, giving infeftment in these acres to the then incumbent, Mr Andrew Darling, for himself and his successors in office—rather a rare mode, it is believed, of making good the title of a minister to his glebe lands. It follows on a contract of excambion between George, Earl of Kinnoull, and Mr Darling, and contains a power of resiling, so soon as the minister or his successors “ shall complain of the quantity of his glebe, and desire to have the same augmented.”

The stipend was in 1835 augmented to 124 bolls, 3 firlots, 3 pecks,  $\frac{1}{4}$  lippie of barley; 129 bolls, 3 firlots, 2 pecks,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  lippie of meal. L. 42, 10s.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d Sterling; and L. 10 for communion elements. A small part of the money stipend, which is laid on the feuars of Bridgend, has hitherto been lost to the present incumbent, from the difficulty of apportioning it.

The proportion of the population belonging to the Establishment, as given up to the Royal Commissioners in 1836, was stated to be about 2060; belonging to other denominations, 780; not known to belong to any, 160. But in this last number were included 91 patients in the Lunatic Asylum; and the remaining 69 included the children of those who were not members in any church. The difference in the above proportions since that period is so trifling as to be scarcely perceptible.

There are eight Episcopalians in the parish, and three Roman Catholics.

From the circumstance, before noticed, of so many of the parishioners having, for a period of half-a century, been accustomed to seek accommodation for themselves and their families, in the different places of worship in Perth, it can easily be understood that the habit of resorting thither still continues with not a few; and when it is farther considered that, within the last seven years, two additional churches, connected with the Establishment, have been reared there (while the population, both in Perth and in this parish, has been rather on the decrease,) it is not, perhaps, to be wondered at, if the same fluctuations in the attendance of parishioners are observable here as in other localities similarly situated. The partial disruption of the parochial system, which such concomitant causes tend gradually to introduce, it is difficult to obviate, and more especially where such a quantum of accommo-

withstanding, however, this somewhat anomalous state of things, and the hindrances thence arising to the working of a scheme for supporting its poor, which has been introduced since the induction of the present incumbent, the fact of the collections being nearly treble the amount of what they were before the new church was erected, indicates a quantum of attendance throughout the year, as large as can, in the circumstances, be expected. The whole population, of all ages, connected with the Establishment, residing within two miles of the church, does not exceed 1500; and of these, from 500 to 550 are hearers at Kinnoull; whilst about 200 attend other Established churches in Perth. The number of communicants varies from 420 to 500. The Lord's Supper is dispensed twice in the year, on the same days on which that solemnity is observed in Perth. Occasionally a few individuals from the distant corners of the parish join here at these times, but the great majority of such, partake of the ordinance in the churches of St Madoes, St Martins, and Kinfauns, where, on account of their distance from their parish church, they seek the benefit of Sabbath-day service throughout the year. From 80 to 100 of the parishioners communicate in these churches.

*Education.*—The parochial school is well attended by about 130 scholars on an average; the salary is the maximum; and the amount of the teacher's fees is about forty guineas annually. His emoluments as session-clerk may be reckoned at L. 10; but these are still more contingent. There is a good school and school-house, with an excellent garden attached.

The higher branches of instruction are rarely sought for here, Perth, with its academy and grammar-school, being close at hand. There are three unendowed schools; one at Bridgend, and two lying on the outskirts of the parish, namely, at Balbeggie and Balthayock; the latter located in Kinfauns, but within a few yards of the Kinnoull boundary. In these districts, much difficulty is felt in retaining the services of a good teacher. A small salary, in addition to the scanty amount of school-fees, is required, and endeavours are at present employed with a view to secure this object. The people may be said to be generally fully alive to the benefits of education, and there are few, if any, of their children betwixt six and fifteen years of age who cannot read or write. Where poverty is pleaded or known as the hindrance to bestowing this invaluable boon, the parochial teacher, on the recommendation of the

variously. There are several Sabbath schools in the parish, that in the central part being conducted by the parochial teacher and the minister, and having upwards of 100 scholars in attendance.

*National Security Savings Banks.*—One of these useful institutions exists in Perth; and it is noticed here, on account of its benefits being as immediately available to the inhabitants of this parish as to the adjoining city, where it has its head office. Although established under the sanction of the more recent legislative enactments, no farther back than 1839, with a capital of L. 3032, the sum at the credit of depositors at November 1842, amounted to no less than L. 35,254, showing an increase in the course of four years of L. 32,222; the number of depositors increasing in the same period from 859 to 2800. These results furnish evidence of perhaps a greater proportional measure of success than distinguishes any similar institution in the country, that of Edinburgh excepted. ✓

It is conducted under the superintendence of a very numerous and highly influential body of trustees and managers, and its benefits extend to the country as well as to the city, the branches or receiving-houses being six in number. The important fact, that it continues to grow in the estimation and confidence of those for whose benefit it was specially intended, is proved by the details given in last annual report, which make it evident that it is chiefly resorted to by the labouring classes, and is, in truth, what it professes to be,—“the Working Man’s Bank.” Notwithstanding the late depression in trade and manufactures, the increase on deposits during the last year was L.4914. At the same time, there is little doubt that its beneficial operation is in no small degree hindered by the number and proximity of licensed alehouses, to which circumstance, some measure of the poverty and want of domestic economy and comfort here occasionally observable in the families of the working-classes, may be traced. The evil has of late been sought to be lessened by an annual representation from the kirk-session to the Justices of the Peace, at the time of granting licences. The fact of such endeavours having been encouraged, and so far rendered effectual, is gratefully recorded.

*James Murray’s Royal Asylum for Lunatics.*—To the benevolence of Mr James Murray, a native of the parish of Perth, the public are indebted for this splendid institution, which is admitted to be one of the best conducted in the kingdom. A short

to bequeath the funds for its establishment, may not be uninteresting.

Mr William Hope, the son of Mr Murray's mother, having gone to India in early life, realized in Madras a very large fortune as a merchant. Having, by the advice of his physicians, determined to return to Europe in 1809, he early, in that year, executed his will, providing handsomely for his wife and four daughters, and bequeathing, at the same time, considerable legacies to his mother and her two sons. The deed, however, contained no provision against the event which afterwards followed; but by a peculiar interposition of providence, when Mr Hope was about to embark with his family, he hurriedly, as appears from his will, provided, that, in the event of himself and his family perishing at sea, his fortune should go to his mother and her sons. On the 30th of January 1809, he, with his wife and daughters, embarked for England in the *Jane Duchess of Gordon*. The sad fate of that vessel, and of other three Indiamen of the same fleet, is still well remembered. Mr Hope and his family were among the hundreds who perished in the storm. Neither ships, nor crews, nor passengers were ever seen or heard of since the fatal night of the 15th of March 1809. Out of this appalling event a succession opened up to Mr Murray, which enabled him to endow this institution on its present splendid scale.

The building, which is spacious and handsome, stands on the acclivity of Kinnoull hill, commanding an immense range of view. Upwards of L.40,000 have been expended on the house and grounds; and latterly, the directors have purchased a farm adjoining, at an expense of nearly L.7000. The plan, and indeed the whole of the arrangements, were designed by Mr Burn, and these may be said to have been so contrived as not only to embrace every modern improvement, which is to be found in similar institutions throughout the kingdom, but to render available the many special advantages connected with so favourable a locality. The house stands in the middle of a park of twelve acres, with its gardens, walks, and shrubberies, in which the convalescent patient may seek exercise or amusement. A number of verandahs commanding the extensive view before referred to, afford him the benefit of enjoying healthful occupations in the open air, during the greatest heat of summer, or the most inclement weather of winter. While all is sufficiently secure to prevent injury or escape, all is free from the gloomy aspect of con-

ains to strike the visitor as pervading the whole arrangements of the institution. It was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1827, and its management vested permanently in twenty-five directors, viz. nine *ex officio*, four for life, and twelve elected annually. It was opened on 28th June 1827, and at present contains 140 patients.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—Many years ago, the heritors of this parish found it necessary to meet the wants of the poor by annual voluntary contributions. Finding, however, the burden becoming gradually heavier, in consequence of the great increase in the population, a fund of about L.170 was uplifted and applied; and, finally, in 1823, it became necessary to resort to the last and least desirable expedient of a legal assessment. The evils arising out of this system were soon felt and complained of, and almost immediately after the present incumbent's induction, he was urged by his parishioners to seek for a renewal of the previous system. Some difficulty was experienced in the first attempts to accomplish the object. The following pleas continued to be urged, however, on the part of the kirk-session: *1st*, That the heritors would have for the present (1831) to contribute somewhat less than they had been in use to pay for the preceding seven years; *2d*, That the expense connected with collecting from upwards of 400 individuals would be saved; *3d*, That the plan proposed might operate, in some degree, as a check upon what seems to have become the necessary concomitants of stated assessments for the poor, viz. an increase in their numbers and in their demands; and, *4th*, That it would at once remove that feeling of dissatisfaction and grudge, and even of resistance, which had manifested itself, and lead to the revival and enlargement of that true charity which gives not by constraint, but willingly. Then, and not till then, was it held to be likely that any successful appeal could be made to this Christian principle among the parishioners generally.

The heritors soon thereafter agreed to make the experiment, and the results have been such as to encourage its continuance up to the present time,—for one and all of the anticipated consequences have been the result, *1st*, the heritors themselves continue to pay somewhat less than before; *2d*, the expense of collecting, and of the legal proceedings occasionally required to enforce payment, are saved to the parishioners generally,—the minister and elders themselves undertaking the work of gathering in the

gations, or from those who are but occasional hearers in the parish church; 3d, the number of ordinary or stated paupers has considerably lessened; and, *lastly*, the collections at the church door have continued considerably to exceed the estimated probable amount. Average collections for the three years preceding the imposing of assessment in 1824, L.47, 17s. 2½d.; for the three years following, L.29, 9s. 8d.; for the three years, 1839, 40, 41, L.114, 0s. 7d.; average contributions by heritors for do. L.65; do. by parishioners attending other churches, or but occasional bearers at Kinnoull, L.23; average mortcloth dues, proclamations, &c. L.8, 15s.; highest rate of annual relief to paupers on roll (exclusive of those in Murray's Asylum), L.6, 16s. 6d; lowest, L.1, 11s. 6d. The average number of ordinary poor is now reduced to 20; but there is a like number of orphan children upon the roll. Occasional relief is furnished to about 25 not on the roll. Coals are distributed annually in January to about 60 of those receiving permanent or occasional relief. The whole expense of management since 1831 had been only L.5 annually, but in 1840, the heritors augmented the allowance to the kirk treasurer, which is now L.10.

It is to be hoped, that nothing may occur to mar the operation of this scheme, which has already proved so successful.

*December 1842.*

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## PARISH OF FORGANDENNY.\*

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JAMES DRUMMOND, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Extent.*—THIS parish is about 10 miles long and 2 broad on an average. It stretches from the river Erne, its northernmost boundary, south-west into the Ochil hills, until it joins the parish of Milnathort. It is bounded on the east by the parishes of Dunbarny, Dron, and Arngask; on the west, by those of Forteviot and

\* From Notes furnished by a parishioner of Forgandenny.

and Minnathorpe. A considerable portion of it, on the south-west, is in the county of Kinross; but by far the greater part lies in Perthshire.

Its whole extent is computed to be about 12,800 acres.

*Topographical Appearances, &c.*—It naturally divides itself into two parts, the lower and the higher; the former reaching, by a gradual ascent, from the Erne to the foot of the Ochils, a distance of about a mile and a-half; and the latter including all that part of the Ochils which lies in the parish. The lower part is generally of a rich soil, some of it being the best carse land, and in a state of high cultivation, producing wheat and all other kinds of grain in great abundance. The higher part is also, on the whole, well cultivated; but its climate being considerably colder, and its soil lighter, wheat is seldom grown on it.

The Ochil hills occupy fully three-fourths of the surface of the parish. Hardly any part of these can be said to be rocky, as they are all either pastured by sheep and cattle, or regularly cropped. They vary greatly in their respective heights, beginning on the north side by gentle acclivities, until they reach about 1000 feet above the level of the sea, which is the height of the highest hill in the parish.

There is a deep fissure on the boundary which separates this parish from Dron, on the edge, of which, it is said, one of the inhabitants was shot in the time of the persecutions under Charles II.

On the eastern boundary of the parish, and on Lord Ruthven's property, there are one or two springs, possessing exactly the same medicinal properties as the Pitcaithly wells.

The river Erne skirts the whole of the northern side of the parish. A great part of it also is intersected by the May, a beautiful mountain stream, which, taking its rise in the upper part of the parish of Auchterarder, flows westward through the Ochils, forming the northern boundary between this parish and Dunning, and dividing it in the highest part.\*

*Geology.*—Nearly the whole of the parish, and especially the Ochil part of it, is composed of trap. This rock is, indeed, found at different depths, and varies considerably in its degree of hardness, being softer and more brittle where it has approached near

\* Forgardenny was one of the eleven prebendaries of the Cathedral of Dunkeld, and is ranked as the seventh in order. The church was a mensal church of that cathedral, and furnished a stipend for one of its prebends.



trap seems to overly the sandstone, with one trifling exception, throughout the whole extent of the parish ; and in the case of this exception, the sandstone strata is found nearly in a vertical position. At that spot, too, the trap has changed the sandstone at the line of junction. The old red sandstone, doubtless, might be found in many places by cutting through the trap ; but this has never been tried in any part of the parish. In the upper parts are to be found beautiful specimens of conglomerate in great abundance, the nodules of which are either trap or porphyry. Beautiful specimens of the blue and purple pebbles also abound in the decomposed trap. It is a singular circumstance, that, in so extensive a parish, and all lying upon rock, there has not been discovered any portion of the trap, with one solitary exception, sufficiently hard to build even a common dike with. It has its uses, however, and these are of no small importance,—being excellent for metalling roads, and making drains.

The only other variety of mineral found in the parish is a thin layer of laminar limestone on the lands of Dumbuils ; but, from the great distance of coal, and the thinness of the seam, the present proprietor, Lawrence Oliphant, Esq. of Condie, has not considered it worth working.

It is stated in the former Statistical Account, that copper had at one period been wrought in the wood of Condie ; but no traces of this metal have been lately met with.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Eminent Men.*—The only public characters we have been able to discover in connection with this parish were, Sir William Oliphant of Newton, who was King's Advocate in the reign of James VI., and at whose instance many of the trials for witchcraft, so prevalent at that period, were conducted ;—his grandson had the misfortune accidentally to kill his mother, and was obliged, in consequence, to fly the country : And Mr James Graeme of Newton who, before the Revolution in 1688, was solicitor to James VII.

In the churchyard, on the south side of the church, there is a tombstone bearing this inscription : “ Here lies Andrew Brodie, wright in Forgandenny, who, at the break of a meeting, October 1678, was shot by a party of Highlandmen, commanded by Bal-lechan, at a cave's mouth, flying thither for his life, and that for his adherence to the word of God, and Scotland's cove-

of the Church of Scotland, Vol. ii. p. 484, substantially agrees with this inscription. He says, "By an attested account I find this year (1678), there was a conventicle in Perthshire, at the hill of Caltenachar," supposed to be what is now called Culteuchar, one of the Ochils, and belonging at present to Lawrence Oliphant, Esq. of Condie, "in the parish of Forgandenny: and upon the Lord's day, an officer, with a company of wild Highlanders, came suddenly upon them, and, without any orders to dismiss, or essaying to seize any of them, discharged their pieces among the poor unarmed people. By good Providence, there was but one man killed—Andrew Broddy, a wright by trade, who lived at my Lord Ruthven's gate, in the green of Freeland. He left behind him a widow and four orphans."

The only point in which the record on the martyr's stone, and Wodrow's account seems to disagree, is the particular spot where the martyr was killed. The stone says it was a cave's mouth; while Wodrow's testimony is, that it was on the hill of Caltenachar. The tradition of the parish is, that the event took place at a cave, or rather what in this quarter is termed a deigh, or dell, on the boundary between this parish and that of Dron, and not more than two or three hundred yards from the hill of Caltenachar. In all likelihood, in those days, the whole of the range extending east to that deigh might be called Cultenchar, and Andrew Brodie's murder might be perpetrated at that spot. His descendants, some of whom are still resident in the parish, say, that after he had been shot, his wife, who was also present at the conventicle, immediately went and covered his body with her scarlet mantle or cloak. One of the party of soldiers then came up to her, and asked her what she now thought of her husband? To which she replied, "More than ever I thought of him." The same thing is related of the widow of the poor pious carrier, John Brown of Priestfield, in the parish of Muirkirk, whom Claverhouse shot with his own hand; but there is no difficulty in supposing that these widows might both speak in these terms of their husbands.

The earliest registers of the parish begin with September 24th 1654; and from that date down to the present time, the entries are made with great regularity and distinctness. They are not voluminous.

On the north side of the Ochils, there is a hill of considerable

of great extent. The description given of this hill and fortification in the former Statistical Account, is very accurate, and is still strictly applicable. "Somewhat more than a mile," or more nearly two miles south of the village of Fogandenny, is a place called Castle-Law. It is situated upon the summit of a high hill, which resembles a low cone. The circumference of its area is about 500 yards. This spot is defended on all sides by a stone wall, the vestiges of which are yet to be seen. These vestiges are of a form nearly circular, and the walls seem to have taken their form from the top of the hill on which they were built. Besides this wall, there are also several outworks, which seem to have been formed for defence; particularly on the south side, where the hill is less steep, and the ground below higher, there are three distinct mounds of earth parallel to the wall and to each other. Within the area of this castle or fortification are the vestiges of buildings, which vestiges cannot now be easily traced; and there was erected by a former Lord Ruthven on this spot a sort of half tower, part of which is still standing. The top of this hill commands a prospect of the county to the mouth of the Tay or the German Ocean on the east; all Strathearn to the Grampian mountains on the west; a great part of Perthshire and Angus-shire on the north and north-east; and the summit of the Lomond hills on the south. The general opinion concerning Castle-Law is, that it had been a Danish fortification." Another opinion, however, which has been much entertained of late, is, that it must have been a vitrified fort. I believe some pieces of vitrified stone have been found among the immense mass of rubbish which it contains. At all events, both the hill itself, and the remains of the fortification, bear a very close resemblance to the Castle-Law, in the parish of Abernethy, which is allowed on all hands to have been a vitrified fort.

On the estate of Ardargie, belonging to Mrs Fechney, and lying about a mile and a-half south-west of Castle-Law, there is a beautifully preserved small Roman camp, which has been so called from time immemorial. Its walls and ditches are quite distinct, and almost entire. The proprietors have all along prevented them from being altered in any way. This ancient encampment is situated upon a high sloping bank looking towards the west, immediately above the May, and commanding a wide prospect of that part of the Ochils, and also a view of the great Roman road which passed from the Tay to the great encampment at Ardoch. From

ties from descending in that direction to the adjacent valley of Strathearn. Its figure is an exact square, each side of which is about 90 yards long. On its south side, it is defended by a deep hollow, through which a small brook runs; and on the remaining three sides, by deep trenches. The width of these trenches at the top is about ten yards; their depth, on the sides next the encampment, is about 14, while on the outside it is 10.

There are the remains of another fortification on what is called the Law of Dumbuils, belonging to the estate of Freeland, about a mile south-east of the village. This Law is a low craggy eminence; it is elliptical in its form; the south and west sides, being a precipitous rock, form of themselves a natural wall; while on the north and east sides a wall has been formed of very large granite boulders, many of which still occupy their original position. This Law commands a beautiful and extensive view of the lower part of Strathearn, of the north part of the coast of Fife, of the windings of the Tay, and of the Carse of Gowrie, all the way to Dundee, a distance of more than twenty miles.

*Land-Owners.*—The principal land-owners in the parish are, the Right Honourable Lord Ruthven of Freeland; Lawrence Oliphant, Esq. of Condie; James S. Oliphant, Esq. of Rossie; and Mrs Fechney of Ardarvie. With the exception of the barony of Struie, which holds feu of Stirling of Keir, and which formerly belonged to that family, and also that part of the parish, containing about 1000 acres, which lies in the county of Kinross, and which holds feu of the Grahams of Kinross; the remainder appears to have been divided betwixt the houses of Oliphant and Ruthven, who, during the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth centuries, possessed large estates in this neighbourhood. About three-fourths of the parish still belong to the descendants of these houses.

*List of ministers who have been settled in this parish since the Reformation:—*

1. Mr William Row, who preached before James VI. at Stirling.
2. Mr John Row, who died in 1589.
3. Mr William Row, who died October 1634, in the seventy-first year of his age.
4. Mr William Row, who was ordained assistant to his father, and died in 1658, in the thirty-fourth year of his ministry.
5. Mr David Orme, who was called in 1659, and ordained on

having removed with Episcopacy was introduced in Charles II.'s time.

6. Mr John Liddell. He was presented by George Halyburton, Bishop of Dunkeld, on the 25th April, and admitted to the parish in the following August. He was translated to Scone in February 1667.

7. Mr Andrew Hardy was settled in 1667, and continued minister of the parish till the Revolution in 1688.

8. Mr William Dick was called in May, and ordained on 4th September 1695. He was translated to Cupar in Fife by the commission of the General Assembly in June 1702.

9. Mr Peter Pilmer was called 18th November 1702, ordained on 13th May 1703, and died 16th February 1749, in the sixtieth year of his age, and the thirty-seventh of his ministry.\*

10. Mr John Glen, who was called 25th December 1740, ordained 23d April, and died 10th October 1792, in the eighty-fourth year of his age, and the fifty-second of his ministry.

11. Mr John Willison, who was ordained on the 17th September 1793, and died on the 7th February 1828, in the seventy-fourth year of his age, and the thirty-fifth of his ministry in this parish, having been translated from West Calder, where he had been settled eight years.

12. Mr James Drummond, the present incumbent, who was called 3d July 1828, and ordained on the 11th September of the same year.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish must once have been much larger than it has been for at least the last fifty years.† This decrease

\* Of Mr Pilmer we find a very interesting notice in Mr Fraser of Kennoway's "Life and Diary of the Rev. Ralph Erskine of Dunfermline."

"Nor was Mr Gow of Cargil," says the author, "the only clergyman whose caution ultimately prevailed against his courage. We may here specify the Rev. Mr Pilmer of Forgandenny, as supplying another instance. An intimate friendship subsisted between him and Mr Wilson of Perth. Soon after the secession, Mr Pilmer was seized with an illness that terminated in death. During the time of his affliction he was anxious to enjoy much of Mr Wilson's company, who gratified him on this point as far as he could. Conversing one day very closely, Mr Wilson hinted to him, 'Brother, I think you should have stood forth with me, and some others, and borne an open testimony against those indignities which you have often lamented, and which are so injurious to your Master's cause and interest at this day.' The good dying man replied, 'Yes, brother, I have always been deficient in courage and zeal for my Lord and Master, but I hope, by the riches of his mercy, that sin, and all my other sins, shall be as the iniquities of Israel, which shall be sought for, and there shall be none, and as the sins of Judah, that shall not be found.'"

† In an Old Account dated 1727, it is said to have contained above 1000 exami-

The population in 1801 was	958
1811	902
1821	902
1831	913
1841	796

Of the 796, the present population, about eighty live in the village of Fogandenny. The rest are scattered over the rural parts of the parish, with the exception of about forty, who live in a small village in the Ochils, called Path Struie, and now more commonly the Path of Condie.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—About 2000 acres have never been cultivated; although one-half of these, it is supposed, might be cultivated with advantage. Mr Oliphant of Condie, who is a very intelligent and enterprising agriculturist, has of late years broken up a great deal of these waste lands, carrying his improvements to the very hill-tops, and has them now laid down in beautiful sheep pasture, and enclosed with excellent fences. Two of his tenants in the Ochil part of his estate are following his example, and have their extensive farms laid down in the same manner. No part of this parish is now in a state of undivided common. About 438 acres are planted, and about forty of these are covered with natural wood. About 100 acres of the lower part of the parish are of rich clay land, through which the Erne has cut its way, and formed a low bed of alluvial soil, formed by the same process as the Carse of Gowrie.

The rent of the lands in the parish varies from L.3 to 3s.

The fishings on the Earne are let at about L.10 a year.

In looking back two hundred years to the quantity of produce, or to the value of land, as estimated in 1650, compared with the present time, we do not find that great rise which is exhibited in many of the other parishes of Scotland. This is easily accounted for; three-fourths of the parish being hilly, and producing little else but grass, in which state it still remains to a great extent, it is obvious that it would feed as much stock 200 years ago, as it does at present. The difference of value, therefore, can arise only from the difference of value of the animal, and not from the number. Three-fourths of the parish being admirably suited for turnip husbandry, sheep-walks may be carried to the tops of the

able persons, taking the age from seven and upwards. The annual number of baptisms was then about 30, and of deaths about 20.

the estate of Condie, under the direction of the present intelligent proprietor. At this moment, he has growing, on the summit of the highest hill in the parish, as beautiful a crop of turnip as is to be seen in any part of Strathearn. Several years ago he introduced wire fences into the hill part of his property, and has already erected six or seven miles of these. He was the first to introduce them in this part of the country, and his example is now generally followed, not only here, but in many other parts of Perthshire. A facility of enclosing has thus been obtained, the want of which was the great drawback to systematic improvement in the upper parts of this parish, as no stones are to be found fitted for building dikes or walls. These wire-fences are composed of oak, or larch, or ash posts, placed three and four yards apart, with five horizontal wires, the whole costing about 6d. per yard.

A great portion of the lower part of the parish has been furrow-drained. These drains have been filled chiefly with broken trap; but drain-tiles are now beginning to be introduced to a considerable extent, particularly on the estate of Freeland.

Fallows, except upon the stiffest clay, have been entirely given up, to make way for the growth of potatoes for the London market, which is largely supplied with these from this parish.

A striking improvement has taken place in farm buildings of every description, since the last Statistical Account was published. At that period, almost the whole houses in the parish were thatched with straw; but now, every new building is either covered with reeds brought from the Carse of Gowrie, or with slates.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The stipend is 12 chalders, 2 bolls, 1 fir-lot, 2 pecks, 1½ lippy of grain, two-thirds of which are meal, and one-third barley, and L.24 payable in money. This includes an allowance of L.5 for communion elements.

The glebe, including the stance of manse and offices, and the garden, is about six acres. Its value is about L.12.

There are about 180 Dissenters in the parish, chiefly belonging to the United Secession body, who have a small church at the Path of Condie.

*Schools.*—There are two schools in the parish, viz. the parochial school, in the village of Forgaudenny, generally attended by about 70 scholars at an average, and another at the Path of Condie.

the superintendance of, the Church of Scotland. It seems to have been instituted shortly after 1663, by an act of the presbytery of Perth, dated October 3d 1660, which was afterwards confirmed by the Privy-Council in the year 1663, empowering the heritors to uplift the vacant stipend of 1659, and appropriate it to the formation and endowment of a school at the Path of Condie. The money thus raised is laid out at interest for the behoof of the teacher. This sum, however, is small; but the last incumbent of the parish, Mr Willison, bequeathed a small field for its support, which, with a house upon it, yields L.7, 10s. annually.

The parochial schoolmaster's salary is the maximum; and the probable amount of fees paid to him yearly is about L.35. His other emoluments arise from the office of session-clerkship.

Both of the above schools are very efficiently taught. The teachers have adopted the most approved modern methods of instruction.

There are also two Sabbath schools in the parish, which are attended by 70 or 80 children.

*Poor.*—During the last six years, there have been collected for the poor the following sums:—

For 1836,	.	L.30	6	1
1837,	.	29	5	2
1838,	.	42	13	8½
1839,	.	42	19	4½
1840,	.	66	8	2
1841,	.	45	1	10

During the same period, the following sums were distributed:

For 1836, to 8 regular paupers,	L.34	7	0
1837, to 9 do.	37	11	0
1838, to 7 do.	26	3	0
1839, to 8 do.	37	6	0
1840, to 9 do.	43	19	0
1841, to 9 do.	43	12	1

During the same period, there were distributed to occasional poor the following sums:—

For 1836,	.	L.4	1	10
1837,	.	2	14	8
1838,	.	2	11	7½
1839,	.	2	9	6
1840,	.	0	12	6
1841,	.	2	4	6

There is no legal assessment for the poor.

January 1843.



# DUNKELD AND PARISH OF DOWALLY.\*

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JOHN MACKENZIE, MINISTER.

## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE word Dunkeld † is derived from three ancient British words, *Dun*, “a stronghold,” and *Kaled* and *in*, “a rough mountainous country.” ‡ By joining these words together we have *Dun-kaled-in*, “the stronghold of the rough mountainous country;” —or, the stronghold of Kaledin.

The letter C in the ancient British language was very frequently used as K; § and hence the word *Kaledin* came to be written by historians Caledin, Calidon, and Caledon. ||

Prior to the fifth century, the Caldones or Caledonians had a stronghold situated, it is supposed, upon a knoll called the King's Seat, at the entrance of the vale of Atholl, near to the city of Dunkeld. The stronghold, from its position, had the effective command of the passes leading into Atholl. It appears to have been at the time an important feature in the country, for Hollingshed, in speaking of the sanguinary battle of Monteith, between the Scots and Picts, adds, for geographical direction, that the field of

\* Communicated by Thomas Baird, Esq. writer, Dunkeld.

† Though the city of Dunkeld and the parish of Dowally are now commonly considered as forming one parish, yet the statistical circumstances of each differ so widely as to justify their being noticed separately.

‡ Camden in his *Britannica* says *kaled* signifies hard, and the plural of it is *kaldion*, from which comes the word Caledonia, that is, a people hardy, rough, uncivilised, as northern nations in general are. Dr Macpherson, in his *Critical Dissertations on the Caledonians*, p. 26, says, that *kaled* in both the ancient British and Gaelic languages signifies hard. In both these languages *in* or *yn* signifies a country. From the monosyllable *in* comes the diminutive *innis*, which, in the Welsh and Gaelic, is of the same import with the English word island. By joining *kaled* and *in* together we have *kaledin*, signifying a rough mountainous country, which is exactly the signification of Alba, the only name by which the Highlanders distinguish Scotland to this day. See also Bullet's *Memoires sur la Lang. Celt.* under the word *kald*. Chalmers's *Caledonia*, Vol. i. p. 338.

§ Verstegan, p. 177. Ed. 1655.

|| Caledon in ancient writers is spoken of only as a division of Scotland. The Roman writers added their Latin termination *ia* to the word Caledon; hence Caledonia. Camden says that the word Caledonia was latterly applied by the Romans to the whole of Scotland.

late from Eastern, otherwise called Dunkeld. In the sixth century, King Conal built a monastery for St Columba, where he and Kentigerne resided for six months. For greater security to them, and to the religious men who should come there to reside and teach, it was built near to that stronghold. The followers of Columba, from their purity of conduct, soon acquired considerable influence, and were enabled to give protection to a fixed or permanent residence. From that time dwellings increased around the monastery, the locality grew into importance, and derived its name from the *Dun* or stronghold of Kaledin or Caledon. For some ages subsequent to 848, it would appear, that the religious establishment of Dunkeld formed the primacy of Scotland, until it was supplanted by St Andrews.†

The word *Dunkaledin* is found spelt in Camden and other ancient writers *Dunkelden*, and by innovation is now pronounced Dunkeld.‡

The late Principal Baird, in the former Statistical Account, makes it appear, that Dunkeld derived its name from the Gaelic words *dun chalden*, "the hill of the hazels." Such was the derivation given by Dr Buchanan, the Scottish historian.§ Dunkeld, however, is surrounded on all sides by hills, and hazel grew on almost every hill in Scotland, therefore *dun chalden* might apply to every place in Scotland where there was a hill covered with hazel-trees. Dr Macpherson|| says, that, had Dr Buchanan properly considered his native tongue, he would have found that there was no such word as *calden* to be met with in the Gaelic language.¶ The Gaelic for a hazel-tree is *calltuinn*; therefore,

\* Hollingshed, Vol. i. p. 206.

† Chalmers's Caledonia, Vol. i. p. 428.

‡ Little Dunkeld parish was originally Dunkeld, the *minor* charge. Within its bounds various clergy officiated. They presided over the chapels of Inver, Inchmagranochan, Logynallochie, &c. The city of Dunkeld, being the site of the cathedral, and the residence of the bishop and other dignitaries of the church, was the *major* charge. The two Dunkelds are separated by the river Tay, and are styled in the locality Little and Muckle Dunkeld.

§ A number of sensible people still assert, that the hazel-hill, meant by Dr Buchanan, is Stanley hill, within the Atholl pleasure-grounds; and that from that hill the word Dunkeld is positively derived. Anciently, that hill was a small insignificant knoll, where the town's children amused themselves in wrestling. It was a bare sandy knoll, and it was graphically called by them "Shawkee Hill." In 1790, James, Duke of Athole, heightened the knoll at very great expense, and formed it with military slopes, like a German fortification. As a specimen of the taste of a former age, it is a curiosity. This artificial mound, the Duke called Stanley Hill, after his mother, Lady Emily Stanley. The village of Stanley, in Redgorton, derives its name from the same source.

|| Critical Dissertations, p. 24.

¶ *Calden* appears to be a mis-spelling of *kaledin* or *caledin*. By clothing the word according to the rules of the Gaelic language, with the letter *h* for the genitive case, the Doctor has created the new word *chalden*.

have been *Dun-challtuinn*, not *Dun-chalden*.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—Dunkeld, with the enclosed pleasure-ground, is somewhat of a semicircular form, about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile in circumference, and about three-fourths of a mile in diameter. It is surrounded by high hills on the east, west, and north, and skirted on the south by the river Tay.

Dunkeld lies about fifteen miles to the north of Perth, and at an elevation of 130 feet above the level of the sea. It is bounded on the west by the parish of Dowally; and, with the exception of the site of the cathedral church and part of the town, the ground lies within the parish of Caputh.

The boundaries of Dunkeld as a parish, properly so called, are not only limited, but not very easily ascertained. As Dunkeld was the Bishop's see, and the service of the cathedral was performed by his chaplain, or by some of the beneficed clergy in the neighbourhood, it was not, during the time of the bishops, thought necessary to constitute it formally a parish. In fact, it does not appear to have been done. It is not entered as a parish in the county cess-books. What might be called the parish *quoad civilia* can be no more than what was formerly included within the boundaries of the old city of Dunkeld. It is said that the cathedral church stood about the centre of the old town. In 1689, the city, with the exception of the cathedral and three houses, was reduced to ashes by the adherents of James VII. It is impossible now to state what were the boundaries of the old city, or even to name the extent of ground they embraced. The last Statistical Account says, that the houses and gardens to the west and north-west of the cathedral occupied a space extending to about five acres, and that that portion of the town was never rebuilt. In 1690, the present town was built to the east of the cathedral. There is a small burn called the Ketloch or Catloch, contained in a common sewer which runs through the town. On the west side of that burn, the properties are, by the title-deeds, described as lying not within the parish, but within the city of Dunkeld. On the east side of it, the properties are titled to be lying within the parish of Caputh.

Dunkeld is not a parish, properly so called, but, as an ecclesiastical parish, it consists of two parts,—the city of Dunkeld, and that part of the city, within the parish of Caputh; the former

quod dicitur.

By the form of the presentation to the minister, he is presented to the united churches of Dunkeld and Dowally. At neither place is there a manse and glebe; but he receives a pecuniary equivalent. From the circumstance of presenting to the *united churches*, the people, in common speech, though erroneously, have, for the last century, called Dunkeld the *parish* of Dunkeld; and, under the Reform Act, proprietors in the town of Dunkeld, in claiming a right to vote in the county, describe their property as lying in the said city, and within the united parishes of Dunkeld and Dowally.

At what period the cathedral church of Dunkeld was united to the church and parish of Dowally is not known.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The situation of Dunkeld is very remarkable, being surrounded on all sides by hills of great height and of diversified forms. Travellers, from the general appearance of the place, have very graphically compared it to a punch-bowl. From the position and natural advantages of the ground, it must anciently have been a valuable encampment of our warlike ancestors. It is situated at the entrance of the vale of Atholl and Strath-braan, and at the outlet leading from Dunkeld by Birnam to the opening or pass of the Grampians, which overlooks the valley where *Orrea*, one of the five Pictish towns, was situated. The immediate hill to the east of Dunkeld, called Newtyle,\* commands the whole of the Stormont, and a magnificent view of the valley of Strathmore. The other surrounding hills furnished posts for learning the advance of an enemy, and affording time to the camp below to arrange the proper place where to meet and give them battle. In the year 138, the Romans encamped east of the Grampians, within six miles of Dunkeld, but never ventured within the fastnesses of Atholl.

Dunkeld appears to have been, at one time, covered with water to a great height. The surface of the ground to the eastward is quite a level, but to the westward it is irregular, and, in many places, presents very singular forms, which can only be attributed to the violent action of the waters.

With the exception of the site of the present town of Dunkeld, the whole vicinity is converted into pleasure-grounds.

\* From a point on the top of this hill may be distinctly seen, without a telescope, the city of Perth and its bridge, together with Dunkeld and its bridge, and the surrounding alpine scenery.

from the cathedral to the top of the hill on the eastward, by which hill the traveller had to descend to the town. The old residence of the Atholl family in Dunkeld was built to front this old approach to the city, and the double rows of trees which lined the access to the mansion are still standing. After the erection of the Dunkeld Bridge in 1809, the town completely changed both its form and ancient appearance. The great north road from Perth to Inverness was made to intersect the town, and a new street of handsome buildings was formed, in a line with the bridge. In the old part of the town, near to the cross, the weekly cattle markets are held, and all imported vegetables, &c. are sold. A small yearly assessment on the inhabitants repairs the streets; but there is no assessment for lighting the town during winter, which is a great desideratum. There is no gas-work; no public green for bleaching; and no ground for public amusements. The cleaning of the streets is paid by the sale of the sweepings. The inhabitants at one time intended to avail themselves of the act of Parliament termed *Loch's Act*, for the better management of the town; but, on a representation to them, that it was not a burgh of barony, but only a portion of the barony of Dunkeld, that movement terminated. The police of the city is at present regulated by a magistrate, deputed by the Duke of Atholl, who is the hereditary bailie, in place of the Bishop of Dunkeld. The salary of the Bishop's bailie is L. 40 Scots, payable out of the Bishop's rents.

The city is now built in the form of a cross. Its extent is not perceived by a stranger until he reaches the centre of the Dunkeld Bridge. At that point he has a full view of the town. Its cathedral church is here displayed in a picturesque and favourable point of view, relieved by the deep back-ground of the richly wooded pleasure grounds of Dunkeld, above which rises the hill of Craig-y-barns, whose varied and picturesque outline, with its sides richly clothed in wood, forms the chief object in the landscape, while the extreme distance is constituted by the long woody ridge of Craig-vinean. Perhaps, however, the most striking feature of this picture consists in the river Tay. As it retires from the eye in a prolonged and varied perspective, silent, smooth, and dark, its source seems lost in the deep woods and rocky recesses of the lofty hills by which it is overshadowed; while, on the other hand, trees of endless variety skirt its margin, often feathering down into

About a century and a half ago, the capacity of the grounds which now form the Dunkeld park was neither understood nor valued. The great improver of the grounds was John, the last Duke of Atholl, one who never saw a difficulty in his gigantic undertakings. In all his improvements he combined utility with ornament. Limited though the grounds are, the Duke so planned them as to have a home farm, grass parks, an extensive garden, ornamental walks, picturesque carriage drives, American gardens, and a lawn, all within the inclosures. In appropriate spots he planted different kinds of wood, which now enhance the varied beauty of the grounds. In every walk the stranger can take, he sees before him variety without confusion, and ornament without the least appearance of design. So often have the beauties of the Dunkeld Park been described by pen and pencil, to lengthen this account by enlarging upon them would be useless. As one of the evidences of their popularity, however, it may be stated, that, from 1815 to 1842 inclusive, the grounds have been visited by about 60,000 persons of all ranks; nearly 4000 of which number were foreigners.

It may be observed, that many persons content themselves with walking over the pleasure-grounds to the hermitage or waterfall, and back. This, however, is but a small portion of the beauties of Dunkeld. To see the place properly, the visitor requires to spend two or three days, and visit the summits of Newtyle, Craig-y-barns, Craigvinean, and Birnam, where he will see landscape and alpine scenery nowhere to be surpassed in Britain.

Within the pleasure-grounds to the north-west of the cathedral, are the two noted larches, the first that were introduced into Britain. They were brought from the Tyrol by Menzies of Culdares in 1738, and were at first treated as green-house plants. They were planted only one day later than the larches in the Monzie gardens near Crieff. The two Dunkeld larches are still in perfect vigour, and far from maturity. The height of the highest is nearly 90 feet, with girth in proportion.

A little to the east of the two larches stood the old residence of the Atholl family; and to the west, stands the new house in the course of erection. At the death of Duke John in 1830, the operations ceased, a mournful dispersion of the work people instantly took place, and from that hour not a stroke has been heard

among the walls. Two floors of this noble edifice are nearly finished, as well as a gallery 96 feet long, besides an elegant private chapel, a spacious staircase, and several noble Gothic windows, which were to have been emblazoned with all the family shields and quarterings, carved in stone. The walls have been temporarily covered for protection.

In this neighbourhood, it is a singular coincidence, that the twin houses of Dunkeld and Murthley have both lost their founders, and have remained ever since unfinished.

*Climate.*—Dunkeld and Dowally are, generally speaking, very healthy, but more particularly the town of Dunkeld. Fever is comparatively very rare, though it is not uncommon in neighbouring towns of the same population. It has been supposed, from the abundance of wood about the town and its neighbourhood, that Dunkeld would, in all probability, become more liable to disease, and to fever in particular. This supposition has not hitherto been borne out, for since the late Duke of Atholl extended his immense plantations, both here and in other parts of his estates, disease has become notoriously less frequent. In proof of the situation of Dunkeld and its neighbourhood being healthful, it may be mentioned, that it is often recommended by physicians as a suitable summer residence for invalids. Many instances of longevity might be mentioned. About half a century ago, a friendly company occasionally met, which was called the *Eighty-four Club*, where no member was admitted till he had attained that age. The meetings are said to have been characterized with fun and good humour.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*\*—The geological character of Dunkeld and Dowally is extremely simple. The limits are confined to about ten miles of the northern side of the valley of the Tay. Of these, the rocks *in situ* are exclusively of the transition clay slate, nearly devoid of simple minerals, and only remarkable for the singular contortions into which the strata, or rather laminæ, have been twisted, previous to their becoming indurated, which has given the blocks of stone much the appearance of knotted timber.

The soils naturally arising from the decomposition of this slate are, in general, cold and poor, and seem better suited to the growth of timber than for agricultural purposes. The most productive parts of Dunkeld and Dowally consist of those great platforms and rounded knolls of water-worn and stratified sand

\* By George Fairholme, Esq. author of several works on Geology.

loaded, and which are usually known as diluvial deposits, plainly bespeaking the violent action of waters at a much higher level than the waters of the Tay could ever have reached. Of these diluvial deposits consist the most productive farm-lands. Although these gravelly soils are in some parts too dry to be productive, especially in dry seasons, yet nowhere can be seen finer pastures, or more beautiful woods, than throughout the whole length of Dunkeld and Dowally; and in addition to the more usual varieties of timber common to Great Britain, which are all found here in the greatest luxuriance, the earliest and finest specimens of the larch which are known in the kingdom are to be found around Dunkeld. The vast scale on which this useful species was planted by the late John, fourth Duke of Atholl, and the truly national object which his Grace had in view in so doing, render the subject too important to be passed over in silence, in taking a statistical survey of this district.

The only known indication of the more valuable mineral productions around Dunkeld and within this district, is a small vein of copper ore in the eastern base of the mountain called Craig-y-barns, but which has not been worked. The valuable slate quarries a little lower down the Tay are in the neighbouring parishes of Caputh on the north, and of Little Dunkeld on the south of the Tay.

Gold in grain has been occasionally found in a sand-bank about three miles above Dunkeld, and fully twenty feet above the level of the Tay. A few small trinkets were made of it, but the quantity of gold was so small, and the expense of extracting so great, that no attention is now paid to the discovery.

Pearls, of a coarse kind, but occasionally of good form and colour, are produced by the species of muscle common in the Tay. About half a century ago, the collecting of the pearls was a trade. A merchant in London who had contracted to receive all that was collected became insolvent, which caused a loss to the inhabitants who were engaged in the traffic. Since then, the people of the place have ceased to collect them. Many of the pearls that were collected brought high prices.

*Zoology.*—Both Dunkeld and the parish of Dowally are very rich in natural productions.

Of the *Carnivora*, there is a considerable variety, although they are not so numerous as they were some years ago, in consequence



keepers.

There is one species of the tribe *Plantigrada*, the common badger, or *Meles vulgaris*. This used to be a very common animal in the neighbourhood; but, since the introduction of the wild rabbit, it has been hunted down and destroyed, under the idea that it was destructive to the young litters. A number, however, are still to be seen.

Of the *Digitigrada* there are several species. The sanguinary polecat, *Mustela putorius*, Cuv.; the weasel, *M. vulgaris*; and the ermine or stoat, *M. erminea*, are very common, and very destructive to the game and poultry. The elegant and beautiful pine martin, *M. abietum*, Ray, used to be frequently met with, but is now, comparatively speaking, a rare animal. The fox, *Canis vulpes*, is now rarely seen in the neighbourhood.

The common otter,—genus *Lutra*, Ray,—is still to be observed about the banks of the river and neighbouring lakes. This animal afforded at one time a considerable revenue to some of the country people, who, during part of the winter, used to hunt it down for its skin. This has now ceased, in consequence of the preference given in the market to the skin of the sea-otter.

Of the genus *Felis*, the only indigenous species is the common wild-cat, *Felis Catus*, Linn. They were at one time in great numbers, and of great size in the woods around Dunkeld; but, like the fox, they are now rarely to be found.

*Rodentia*.—There are numbers of these to be met with. The squirrel is so plentiful as to be a nuisance to the nursery and seedsmen. The hare and rabbit are common. The alpine hare is to be found in great plenty in the upland parts of Dowally.

*Pecora*.—Of this order, the only species common in this neighbourhood is the roe-deer, *Cervus capreolus*, Linn. About Dunkeld and Dowally they abound to an enormous extent. In the large larch plantations of the Atholl family, they are as common as sheep on the moors. A stray red-deer, *Cervus elaphus*, from the Blair forest may also be occasionally seen.

*Ornithology*.—Of the class *Raptores* there are, the peregrine falcon, *F. peregrinus*, Linn. Although not common, yet it cannot be called a rare bird. The merlin, *F. Esalon*, Linn.; the kestrel *F. tinnunculus*, Linn., very common. Of the next division, or sub-typical, there are, the sparrowhawk, *Accipiter fringillarius*; the osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*. During the winter of 1840, Dunkeld

legged buzzard, *Buteo lagopus*, of Fleming; but they are only occasional visitants. A beautiful specimen of the honey-buzzard, *Pernis apivorus* of Cuvier, was shot here some years ago. It is the only one we have heard of north of the Frith of Forth. The stuffed bird is in the possession of the Right Honourable Fox Maule, Birnam Lodge.

The barn and tawny owl, as well as the small short-eared owl, are very common.

Amongst the *Insessores* a few of the beautiful kingfishers, *Alcedo Ispida*, are to be seen by the banks of the river in the neighbourhood of the town of Dunkeld. It is one of the rarest and certainly the most highly adorned of all our birds, and yields to few of its foreign brethren in lustrous beauty. In winter, the cross-bill visits this quarter in great numbers.

Of the *Rasores* there are the wood-pigeon in abundance, the pheasant, black grouse, and partridge.

The migratory birds, both summer and winter, visit us in great number and variety.

*Botany.*—The following list of the native plants to be found in and around Dunkeld has been drawn up by Mr Andrew Cruickshanks of the Dunkeld Gardens.

Achillea millefolium	Calluna vulgaris	Epilobium montanum
—— ptarmica	Caltha palustris	Erica cinerea
Ægopodium podagraria	Campanula rotundifolia	—— tetralix
Ajuga reptans	Capsella bursa pastoris	Eriophorum angustifolium
Alchemilla alpina	Cardamine pratensis	—— polystachion
—— arvensis	—— hirsuta	Euphorbia helioscopia
—— vulgaris	Centaurea nigra	Euphrasia officinalis
Anagallis arvensis	Cerastium semidecandrum	Festuca duriuscula
—— tenella	—— viscosum	—— elatior
Anchusa sempervirens	—— vulgatum	—— ovina
Anemone nemorosa	Chelidonium majus	—— vivipara
Anthyllis vulneraria	Chrysanthemum leucanthemum	Fumaria capreolata
Artemisia vulgaris	—— segetum	—— officinalis
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Chrysosplenium oppositifolium	Galium cruciatum
Arctium lappa	Comarum palustre	—— palustre
Asperula odorata	Conium maculatum	—— saxatile
Aspidium Filix-mas	Corylus avellana	—— verum
Asplenium adiantum nigrum	Cynosurus cristatus	Genista anglica
—— ruta muraria	Cytisus scoparius	Gentiana amarella
Atropa Belladonna	Dactylis glomerata	Geranium dissectum
Avena fatua	Digitalis purpurea	—— molle
—— flavescens	—— alba	—— robertianum
Bartsia Odontites	Drosera rotundifolia	—— sylvaticum
Bellis perennis	Echium vulgare	Geum rivale
Botrychium lunaria	Empetrum nigrum	—— urbanum
Briza media	Epilobium angustifolium	Glechoma hederacea
Bromus asper		Gnaphalium dioicum
Bunium flexuosum		Grammitis ceterach

Ononis arvensis	Pyrola rotundifolia	Serophularia nedosa
umbellatum	Orchis latifolia	Senecio Jacobæa
Holcus avenaceus	— maculata	— vulgaris
— lanatus	Orobus tuberosus	Sinapis arvensis
— mollis	Oxalis acetosella	Silene inflata
Hyacinthus non-scriptus	Papaver dubium	— maritima
Hypericum perforatum	Pedicularis palustris	Sisymbrium officinale
— pulchrum	Pinguicula vulgaris	Solanum Dulcamara
Ilex aquifolium	Plantago lanceolata	Solidago virgaurea
Juncus conglomeratus	— major	Sonchus arvensis
Juniperus communis	— media	Sparganium simplex
Lamium album	Poa annua	Spergula arvensis
— purpureum	— pratensis	Spiræa ulmaria
Lathyrus pratensis	— trivialis	Stellaria holostea
— sylvestris	Polygala vulgaris	— graminea
Linum catharticum	Polygonum bistorta	Stellaria media
Listera cordata	— convolvulus	Symphytum officinale
Lobelia dortmanna	— viviparum	Teucrium scorodonia
Lolium perenne	Potamogeton natans	Thymus serpyllum
Lonicera caprifolium	Polypodium vulgare	Tormentilla officinalis
Lotus corniculatus	Primula vulgaris	Trientalis europæa
— major	— veris	Trifolium pratense
Luzula campestris	Prunella vulgaris	— reptans
— pilosa	Prunus spinosa	Tussilago farfara
— sylvatica	— padus	Ulex Europæus
Lychnis dioica	Pteris aquilina	Urtica dioica
— flos-cuculi	Pyrethrum inodorum	Vaccinium myrtillus
— viscaria	Pyrola rotundifolia	— oxycoccus
Lycopodium alpinum	Ranunculus ficaria	Veronica beccabunga
— clavatum	— flammula	— arvensis
Lysimachia nemorum	— reptans	— chamaedrys
— nummularia	Rhinanthus crista-galli	— hirsuta
Malva moschata	Rosa involuta	— montana
Melampyrum pratense	Rubus idæus	— officinalis
Mentha arvensis	— fruticosus	Vicia cracca
Menyanthes trifoliata	Rumex crispus	— sepium
Mercurialis perennis	— acetosa	— sylvatica
Myosotis arvensis	— acetosella	Viola canina
— palustris	Sagina procumbens	— tricolor
Myrica gale	Saxifraga aizoides	
Narthecium ossifragum	— granulata	

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

At a very early period Dunkeld was, from its natural position, deemed a place of great note among the Caldones or Caledonians. The Romans, in the year 138, approached near to the place; but, from the many passes and dangerous defiles with which it abounds, they never could successfully invade it. After they left Scotland, and prior to 500, the inhabitants, to meet the improvements in war, built a stronghold, which, in Gaelic, was called *Dun-ghael-dhuin*, and by the Southernns *Dun-Kaledin*, or *Dun-calidon*. It is authenticated by historians, that, about 570, Dunkeld became the abode of the Columbans or Culdees.\* They were a religious body of

\* In Gaelic Culdee signifies a monk. In the same language *Ceile* signifies a servant. Hence *Cille-de*, the servant of God, *de* being the genitive of *Dia*, God.

northern districts of Scotland, materially improved. Conal, King of the Scots, about 570, built a monastery for them near to the Castle of Calidon, now called Dunkeld, where Kentigerne and Saint Columba, the leader of the order, resided about six months, "teaching and preaching to the people of Atholl, Calidon, and Angus, who came in great numbers to hear their godlie instructions."\* This establishment was conducted after the original at Iona. Over it an abbot ruled.† The followers of St Columba, though erroneously called monks, were yet a body of regular clergy, whose form of government was essentially Presbyterian. To the members of their synod or assembly was given the name of seniores, or elders, to whom, in their collective capacity, belonged the right of appointing and ordaining those who engaged in the ministerial office. To these, when settled in any particular locality, was given the name of Bishop, a dignity not different from that of presbyter or pastor. These bishops were subject to the discipline of the College of Iona, with which they kept up a regular correspondence. They taught and preached the truths of the Scriptures, but had no fellowship with the Church of Rome.‡ The Columbian institutions were formed for residence, teaching, and for worship. They were not only beneficial to the Scots and northern Picts; but were also advantageous to the northern English, as an asylum from the severities of war.

The original monastery of Dunkeld, like the Abbey of Iona,

\* Hollingshed, Vol. i. p. 204, and Smith's Life of St Columba, p. 13. Dean Mill, in his MS. History of the Dunkeld Bishops, says, that the monastery was founded by Constantine III., King of the Picts, "about the year 729, being 226 years, 9 months, and 6 days after the church of Abernethy was built; others bring it the length of 224 years." But Columba died on the 9th of June 597, leaving his monasteries firmly settled, a people converted by his labours from Paganism to Christianity, and a name for the celebration of every age. Chalmers's *Caled.* Vol. i. p. 323.

† The abbots of Dunkeld were persons of great influence in Scotland. Many of them held offices of trust, and figured in several of the bloody scenes of the Scottish Government. The Ulster Annals, under the year 865, state the death of Tuathal MacFergus, the Archbishop of Fortren, and Abbot of Dunkeld. The annalist merely means to speak of the primate by the florid expression of *Archbishop*. Under the year 872, the same annals state the death of Flavertach Mac Murtach, the primate of Dunkeld. These notices evince, in opposition to the claims of the Register of St Andrews, that Dunkeld long held the primacy of the kingdom. Duncha, the Abbot of Dunkeld, was slain at the battle of Duncrub, in the attempt to dethrone Duff. Chron. No. 3, Innes. Under the year 964, the Ulster Annals state, that Crinan, the Abbot of Dunkeld, married Bethoc, one of the two daughters of Malcolm II., and fell in battle 1045, in an attempt to restore her grandson to the throne. Ethelred, the son of Malcolm III., was Abbot of Dunkeld. Crawford's *Officers of State*, p. 430.

‡ The Culdees employed their time in teaching and transcribing the Scriptures, not indeed in the Hebrew, but in the Latin translation. Religion of the Ancient Irish, p. 6. They also instructed the people in secular knowledge.

in the country. Building with stone and mortar was the work of an after and more intelligent age. In 729, the monastery was rebuilt of stone, but not founded as a new institution, as stated by Dean Mill. This institution, however, is neither noticed by Keith nor by Spottiswood among the religious houses of Scotland.

In 834, Brudus, the king of the Picts, summoned all his subjects who were able to bear arms to meet on a certain day in *Nether Calidon* with a suitable supply of provisions.\* They mustered there in a great body. Hollingshed says, that this army passed over the Tay, and marched into the castle of Calidon, previous to engaging Alpinus, the King of Scots, at Angus. From this it may be inferred that, at that time, the dwellings erected near to this castle were so considerable as to have afforded, along with the castle, the requisite accommodation for so great a body of men. The various attempts of the Danes to plunder Dunkeld, also favour the view that the place was not only extensive, but its monastery was reputed important and wealthy. About 845, the Danes, under their celebrated sea-king, Regner Lodbrog, on their advance to plunder Dunkeld, were successfully engaged and defeated between Cluny and Dunkeld by Kenneth MacAlpin, who united the Scots and Picts into one kingdom.† About 905, the Danes advanced a second time, when they successfully plundered the town. The extent of their booty is nowhere recorded. Under the reign of Kenneth III. they meditated a third attack for a similar purpose, but they were met at Luncarty by Kenneth, where he fought a famous battle and routed them.

In 848, Kenneth MacAlpin built a church at Dunkeld, from respect to the memory of St Columba, wherein he deposited the relics of that saint,‡ which had become unsafe at Iona from the rapacity of the Danes. The site of this sacred depository has not

\* Chron. of Scotland, Vol. i. p. 60. Hollingshed, Vol. i. p. 246.

† Chron. No. 3 in Innes's App. Langbeck's Scriptorum, Dan. Vol. ii. p. 2, *et seq.*

‡ Dean Mill, *MS. Hist.* in reference to the bones of St Columba, and the pestilence which broke out in Scotland in 1500, says, "What follows is surprising, and yet I think it must not be passed over. The Bishop had marked out and consecrated burying ground for his people, being much afraid of the pestilence. In the meantime, he visited some of the church tenants of Caputh, who had been bad of that disease, and gave them such consecrated things as might be of use to them. Next day he caused dip the bones of St Columba in consecrated water, and sent it to them to drink by the chancellor. Many did drink and were cured. But there was one forward fellow among them, who said to the chuncellor, 'for what does the Bishop send us water to drink? I wish he had sent us some of his best ale.' But he and the rest, to the number of thirty, who refused to drink of the water, died of the plague, and were buried in one grave a little below the ordinary burying-ground."

St Columba became the patron saint of Dunkeld and its church.†

In 1127, the monastery of Dunkeld was converted by David I. into a regular episcopate.‡ It has been thought that he expelled the Culdees to make room for a bishop. On the contrary, he guaranteed to them during life the rights and possessions which had formerly belonged to their abbey. The Culdees continued to nominate their superior, but a short time, when they were superseded in their elections by the canons regular.

In 1318, Bishop Sinclair, better known as Robert the Bruce's *own bishop*, built the choir on the site of part of the old monastery,—the old abbey church, built by Kenneth, serving as the place of worship until the new edifice was finished. As a memorial of his having built the choir, he placed on the top of the eastern gable a cross *ingraillé*, part of the arms of his family, where it remained, much dilapidated, until the repairs of 1817, when it was renewed. § In the middle of the gable are to be seen several reddish stones, which formed part of the wall of the monastery. Bishop Peblis, in 1880, glazed the eastern window of the choir, and adorned it with several figures painted on fine glass.

Bishop Cardney, on the 27th April 1406, founded the nave of the church, and raised it as far as the second row of arches commonly called the “blind storijs.” Bishop Ralston, who assumed the mitre in 1447, finished the nave, and began the aisles of the cathedral. Dean Mill says, this bishop “had this work so much at heart, that he and one or two people of high rank who staid with him had a custom of carrying every day out of the quarry of Burnbane several burdens of stones.” The stones for building the choir and cathedral were all of a small size, as they had to be

\* From the preceding foot-note, it would appear that the remains of St Columba had been disturbed by some of the early Roman Catholic bishops.—Chalmers's Caledonia, Vol. i. p. 426.

† The armorial bearings of the town of Dunkeld have been blazoned, with a view to the dedication of its church to St Columba, “Sable, a dove *argent*, holding in its beak an olive branch proper; the shield is surrounded with a ribbon, *or*, whereon is written Caledonia, and in the bottom part of the shield is a thistle proper; the whole is encircled with two palm branches vert.”—MS. Cumin. Chal. Caled. Vol. i. p. 435.

‡ Dean Mill says, “*erexit in Cathedralem Ecclesiam*.” It is questioned whether the expression involves a physical or other meaning. It would seem to imply a change of physical structure.

§ In the centre of the choir the bishop made a burial-place for himself, near to the entrance of the chapter house. There was a marble monument over his tomb, and a handsome statue of him in alabaster. The statue was either mutilated by the mob in 1560, or by the soldiery in 1689. The tomb was lost sight of in the various changes which the interior has undergone.

subsequent inventions. The workmen's wages did not exceed 3d., nor that of the labourers, 2d. Scots per day. The mortar was carried in baskets on horseback. The cost of a man with a horse and baskets, or with a curach, was 3d. Scots per day. In 1460, Bishop Lauder finished the cathedral. He built the porch of the south gate, and adorned it with several fine images. There is a gateway at the western end, of which there is no record. In 1464, Bishop Lauder dedicated the church to its old patron, St Columba.\*

The palace of the bishops stood a little to the south-west of the cathedral. It consisted of several long houses of two stories, thatched after the manner of the times. For greater security to that residence, a castle was erected close to it in 1408. The castle contained "a great hall, with vaulted granaries and a larder,"—a precautionary step against any long-continued attack

\* It may not be uninteresting to give, from Dean Mill, a list of some of the ornaments presented to the church by the different bishops. In 1406, Bishop Cardney gave a handsome and very valuable mitre and bishop's staff. In 1441, Bishop Bruce "a cope and four vestments of great value." In 1450, Bishop Lauder "procured many priests vestments of silk, and a deal of silver work, such as six candlesticks, one cup, two phials, three flaggons, a box for the chrisam, a cross, in which there is a part of our Lord's cross, a vessel for holding the eucharist of considerable weight, and another for the holy water, two instruments for sprinkling the holy water, and two incense censers. There was over against the great altar a piece of painting representing the twenty-four miracles of St Colme, and overhead of this, two statues of that saint. There were two pillars on which rested two angels, who held two candlesticks of fifteen branches, agreeable to what is said in the Revelation of John. Each of these branches was suspended by a silken rope. He made a pillar for supporting the great wax lights at Easter, with a bishop's chair, and a bench for the choristers. Bishop Brown in 1500 gave various gorgeous dresses, as also a cover for the altar of blue and gold. He made a pulpit of brass, divided into four, each division of which supported the statue of an Evangelist, and when the Gospel was read, it was in that division which answered to the name of the Evangelist which was then read. He made a lesser pulpit, which was supported by the statue of Moses behind, on which there was a candlestick of three branches. He caused paint the upper parts of the pews. He made new the throne of the holy cross, the chancel, the altars of St Martin and St Michael. He caused make images of the apostles, and portraits of the other saints, to be drawn upon the wall all around. But as to the King's noblemen, bishops, and others who had been benefactors to the church he caused their figures be drawn upon the wall behind the altar, that the whole quire might, in time of prayers, have their eyes upon them. He also beautified all the altars with proper figures, and for the use of each gave proper vestments to the priests. He bought two great bells,—the lesser called George, and the greater St Colme. He procured another greater, named Maryford, which he left his successor." A number of the prebends contributed vestments and other valuable and weighty silver ornaments. The prebend of Fungorth gave two chalices, silver gilt, two silver phials, and a pot adorned with the image of St Columba, his guardian saint.

The altars in the church were dedicated, 1. to the Blessed Virgin—"save us from the pains of hell." That altar stood to the right of the principal altar; 2. St Michael; 3. St Martin; 4. St Nicholas; 5. St Andrew the apostle; 6. the Innocents; 7. All Saints; 8. Stephen the Martyr; 9. John the Baptist; 10. St Catherine; 11. St John the Baptist; and the 12. is believed to have been the altar of St Ninians or St Salvador.

to the palace, and adjoining to it a handsome private chapel. Bishop Brown furnished the palace in 1509, and left the furniture to his successors in office.

In 1469, Bishop Lauder built the chapter-house, and also the steeple or greater tower of the cathedral. The height of that tower is about 96 feet, and its base 24 feet each side. It was at one time mounted with small cannon, and occupied, in 1689, by the Cameronians in their defence of the town. There is, on the west side of the tower, a singular zig-zag rent from the top to the bottom, which seems to have been caused by the insufficient foundation of the north-west corner. In the upper flat of this tower is the town clock and six music bells,—the property of the Atholl family. The morning and evening bells, to begin, and to return from, labour, are rung,—the former at six o'clock, and the latter at eight o'clock.

It has often been a matter of surprise how any religious institution could have existed 1800 years ago in such a spot as Dunkeld, and that it should, through so many ages of trouble and changes of character, have continued to the present day. So far as is known, the early clergy experienced little or no annoyance from the uncultivated clans within the diocese; but when the benefice grew in wealth and importance under the Romish hierarchy, the clergy were fearfully harassed. It is pretty well established, that, at that period, the clans suddenly, through want of education, became more attached to the possessions of the bishops, than to their religious instructions. Many of the influential barons seized such portions as lay near to their own estates, and forced the bishops to grant them feudal rights, which they were glad to give as the price of peace. At the same time, it is amusing to find that, over the superstitious and half-instructed minds of some of the savage chieftains, the terrors of the church would occasionally assert their way. After they had attacked the prelate and his vassals with sword and buckler, or stolen his cattle, or burned his stack-yard, they would come to the altar in sackcloth, and at once implore the forgiveness of Heaven and of his Lordship. Once forgiven, they held themselves free to sin again. From Dean Mill, we learn that neither the sacred office of bishop, nor the sanctity of the church, deterred the clans from attacking the prelate in his palace, or within the walls of the cathedral. In



1187, Bishop Garsney had to fly from his palace, from a band of marauders who sought to murder him. In 1441, Robert Reoch Macdonachie, the progenitor of the Robertsons of Strowan, who are to this day still called the clan Donachie, fought Bishop Bruce and his vassals more than once, with loss on both sides. Robert was a powerful man, and a great scourge to the church. He plundered the church lands of Little Dunkeld, within sight of the bishop's castle, and fought the church tenants at Auchtergaven. After his engagement he appeared at Perth, before the King, from whom he received the lands of Strowan for apprehending the Master of Atholl. Singular enough, about 400 years after, these lands came into the hands of the family, on whose account they had been gifted. In 1452, Bishop Lauder, on assuming the mitre, found his diocese plundered in every quarter, and was obliged to solicit the King's commission as bailie. In virtue of his office he imprisoned and hanged the most outrageous. By the terror of his authority, he got rid "of an arch robber, Macbre, his sons, and his whole gang. This man was reckoned the most bold and infamous person of his time. The name he took was that of the Bishop's *Sorner*, that is, one who went about to extort money and victuals from the bishop's tenants." The bailie's authority, however, seems not to have been much respected by the clan Donachie men. On one occasion he imprisoned one of them. The chief, on being told of the detention, collected his followers, marched to Dunkeld, in order to punish the bishop and release the prisoner. They found, on arrival, that the bishop was celebrating mass in the cathedral. Regardless of all decorum, they entered the church, and threw a shower of arrows at him as he stood by the altar, which "obliged him to give over the service, and to take shelter behind some of the timber of the quire." It is not recorded how the people in the cathedral or in the town acted on that occasion. It appears, however, that the poor bishop had to give up his prisoner, and hostilities ceased. A complaint was made to the King; but the chieftain being son-in-law of Lord Glamis, a court favourite, the matter was hushed. For fear of the *catherans*, the bishop was obliged to remove the synod from Tulilum, near Perth, to the church of Dunkeld. Bishop Brown, one of the most conscientious of the bishops, had also his share of trials. In 1494, he recovered the church lands of Muckersey, which had been violently possessed by Sir James Crichton of Strathord. On that account, "Sir James, with twelve men, lay

bishop and the clergy of his train had not softened them, he had surely been cut to pieces by the Servants. However, they parted without coming to blows; and, to convince the world of Sir James's bad intentions, the bishop returned to Dunkeld." Subsequently, both parties were reconciled. This bishop had the fruits of his benefice, on their way to Dunkeld, repeatedly carried off by bands of robbers, who seem to have defied his vigilance and despised his authority. It is said that Andrew, Lord Annandale, the then chancellor, favoured the laity in all suits for recovery of church lands, where there had been peaceable possession. For that reason, the bishop, in his last will, left a peculiar charge with his successors to recover, "under his heavy curse if he did it not," the church lands of Fordale, unjustly detained by James Fotheringay, who was connected with the chancellor by personal obligations. After the death of Bishop Brown, the Earl of Atholl, nephew to James II., called the canons of the church of Dunkeld together, and requested them to make choice of his brother, Andrew Stewart, as bishop. The canons, from personal fear, unanimously elected him, though he was not in full orders. Pope Leo X. rejected the appointment, and nominated the celebrated Gavin Douglas, uncle to the Earl of Angus, the Queen's husband. On Bishop Douglas's arrival at Dunkeld, he found Andrew Stewart, the postulated bishop, had armed his servants, and had possession of the palace and the steeple of the cathedral. He retired to the dean's house, to receive the homage of the clergy, and while engaged in consultation with them what course to follow, he was informed that Stewart was in arms to relieve the palace. It is recorded, that at that instant, a shower of cannon shot came from the steeple and the palace. The people of rank hurried to the bishop's defence. Notice was sent of this transaction to the bishop's friends in Angus and elsewhere, upon which there came next day such crowds from Montrose, the low parts of Fife, and the country round about, that the city of Dunkeld could scarce hold them. But, for all their numbers, the prebendary of Alyth had laid up such abundance of everything, that there was room and provision for all the men and their horses." Stewart not being able to relieve his servants who held the palace and steeple, retired to the woods. By threat of excommunication, and partly by force and stratagem, possession was yielded. Stewart was al-

lowed to retain what he had collected of the bishop's rents, and he got the churches of Alyth and Cargill, on paying a small trifle yearly to the bishop. After the bishop had obtained peace with Stewart and the clans, he set about doing good works.

The revenue of the bishops of Dunkeld was considerable. During the reign of James II., Bishop Lauder got the church lands, south of Forth, erected into the barony of Aberlady; and on the north, into the barony of Dunkeld. The bishops had four palaces; one in Edinburgh, Perth, Cluny, and Dunkeld. Bishop Brown could ride from the Dunkeld palace to the palace of Cluny on his own ground, a distance of seven miles, by four different routes,—by Cairdneyn, the Litter, Stenton, and Caputh. The different parishes which were subject to the jurisdiction of the commissariat court of Dunkeld are given by Keith, p. 186, in his Catalogue of the Scotch Bishops.

The cathedral, which had been erected with so much taste and ability, became a noble ruin in 1560, and stands to this day a striking picture of the mutability of human opinions. On the 12th of August that year, an authority, in the handwriting of Lord James Stewart,—judging from his signature,—and subscribed by him, Argyle, and Ruthven, directed the lairds of Airtully and Kinvaid “to pass incontinent to the kyrk of Dunkeld, and tak down the hail images thereof, and bring furth to the kirk-zayrd and burn tham oppinly. And siclyk cast down the altaris, and purge the kyrk of all kinds of monuments of idolatyre. And this ye fail not to do, as ye will do us singular empleseur; and so committis to the protection of God. Faill not, but ze tak guid heyd, that neither the dasks, windocks, nor durris be ony ways hurt or broken—eyther glassin wark or iron wark.” It would have been well had this order been literally obeyed, but the demolition was unfortunately carried on with a disposition of mind and temper more worthy of reprobation than applause. The cathedral and the choir were completely sacked. The windows were smashed, and the doors torn from their hinges. For the credit of the mob, it does not appear from the walls that fire had ever been applied as one of their engines of destruction. Tradition affirms that what these lairds had left undestroyed was demolished by the Laird of Cairdneyn, among whose family papers the original order for the destruction is to be found. This laird unroofed the cathedral, although one of his ancestors had honourably presided in it as bishop,

part of his power as king had been acquired.

At the Reformation of 1560, the revenue of the Dunkeld church was upwards of L. 1600, but the benefice afterwards became so poor, that the king, as is understood, by an entry in the secretary's books, of date 23d October 1685, had to make a gift of L. 100 Sterling yearly to the incumbent. It appears that the Episcopalian bishops did nothing towards the repairing of the cathedral, for, in 1600, Stewart of Ladywell repaired the choir, and roofed it with slate at his private expense. Although Episcopacy was subsequently supplanted by Presbyterianism, yet there is still a Bishop of Dunkeld who regulates the Episcopal worship within the united diocese of Dunblane, Dunkeld, and Fife. The bishop at present resides in Aberdeenshire, and the Dean of Dunkeld in Forfarshire.

By the Acts of the General Assembly of 1586 and 1593, Dunkeld was appointed as the seat of presbyterial meetings, which continues to be the place of meeting to the present day.\*

In 1647, Sir James Galloway, Master of Requests to James VI. and to Charles I. was created Lord Dunkeld.† His grandson James was attainted at the Revolution of 1688, and dying about the year 1700, the title became extinct.

In 1689, Viscount Dundee endeavoured with a Highland army to oppose the Revolution settlement of 1688 in the north of Scotland. With that view, he marched to Perthshire, where he fought and died at Killiecrankie. His troops, after the battle, marched down and attacked the town of Dunkeld. It was garrisoned by the Cameronians, now the 26th Regiment, then a body of raw recruits. The battle began at seven o'clock in the morning of the 21st August 1689, and continued with intervals till eleven o'clock at night. The fiercest struggle was made on the site of the pre-

\* During the period of Episcopacy, the following notice occurs anent the obsequies and burials of the great:—Assembly of 7 July 1579. *Sessio 5.* Anent the buriall of the Earle of Atholl of good memorie, the kirk thocht meit to direct from the Assembly Mrs John Row and John Durie to desyre of them that all superstition be avoyded thereat: quho reported that they had made information to their honours, that the bruit was of some superstitious rites quhilk were prepared for the buriall, as ane qwhyte cross in the mortcloath, lang gownes with stroupes and torches: Quhais answer was that it was not ane crosse, and grantit the gownes and denyit the torches; alwayes desyred the kirk to direct two to sie if sic things as was prepared were superstitious, and they could be reformit: According qwhairto war immediately sent to them David Fargysons, John Braid, and John Durie, to declare. The kirk thocht the crosse and stroupes superstitious and ethineque like, and to desire them to remove the same; who returned with answer, that the Lords should cause cover the mort-cloath with black velvet, and the stroupes should be removit."

† Guthrie's Memoirs, p. 155. Glasgow, 1748.

of the houses from which they galled the soldiers by their fire. To dislodge them, small parties of the soldiers, with burning faggots, were sent to fire the houses. "Where they found keys in the doors, they lockt them, and burnt all within," which raised distressing cries of help from those in the fire.\* There were sixteen consumed in one house. The town was burned to ashes, excepting the cathedral and three houses where some of the soldiers were advantageously posted. The inhabitants found shelter in the church. After the enemy retired, the seats of the church were carried out, and the defences repaired, in the event of a second attack,—which the enemy never made. The Cameronians lost several officers, among whom was Lt.-Col. Cleland, the father of William Cleland, Esq. the original of the celebrated "Will Honeycomb" in the *Spectator*. After the battle, the dead were buried on the south of the cathedral.

In 1691 or thereabouts, the Atholl family repaired the choir for worship at their own private expense. In 1762, Government contributed L.300 towards a first repair, and in 1815, L.1000 towards a second repair, to which the Duke of Atholl added L.5000, and restored the choir, with some slight variations, to its original state.† The cathedral still stands unroofed, and unheeded by government. But from time to time it has received such repairs from the Atholl family as will prevent it becoming a total ruin. The area of the cathedral, once the highly prized cemetery of the great, is, with a scrag of ground to the south of it, the only burial-place of the inhabitants of Dunkeld. Where the inhabitants interred their dead prior to 1560, is now difficult to tell. Although the cathedral and place of interment are situated within the walls of the Dunkeld park, yet access is freely given by the keeper of the east gate, at reasonable hours, to every person who have there a right of sepulture.

During the reign of Charles II., an offer was made to erect the town of Dunkeld into a royal burgh, but that offer was at the time declined. Queen Anne renewed the offer in 1704, which was accepted. The requisite charter was prepared, and ready for the royal signature, when, as traditionally reported, a dispute

\* Life of Col. Blackadder, Chap. 5. Also Aikman's Edition of Buchanan's History of Scotland, Vol. v. p. 268.

† In lowering the floor of the choir, many foreign, Roman, and Scottish coins were found by the inhabitants. One person who had thirty coins,—some Roman, sold them to a travelling jeweller for L.1.

which they refused to pay, and the matter was allowed to drop. The charter was dated 17th April, and written to the great seal, 16th, and sealed 20th September 1704.

In 1745, the Marquis of Tullibardine, on his way from the north with the Pretender, took transient possession of the Castle of Blair, in the absence of his younger brother, the Duke of Atholl, and spent a short time with the Prince in the ducal palace, which, but for him, the Marquis might have called his own. Lord Nairn and Lochiel were sent forward to proclaim the Pretender at Dunkeld, which they did at the old cross.\* Neither upon that occasion, nor on the Prince's resting with the Marquis on their way to the south, did the inhabitants manifest much attachment to the Pretender, or his pretensions. The Duke of Cumberland, early in 1746, made Dunkeld and Blair in Atholl his advanced posts. These detachments lived on the inhabitants, plundered the houses of the rebels, and committed very wanton excesses. On their departure, the stations were occupied by the Hessians; but being ignorant of the country, and of the Highland mode of warfare, they were daily harassed by the Athollmen. Many well fought skirmishes took place between them near Dunkeld.

Dunkeld was visited by one of our early kings, William the Lion, for deer hunting. It is reported that he took his station for shooting the deer, on a small knoll now called the king's seat. It is a small terraced hill, on the summit of which is the remains of a building and the out-works of an ancient fort. The road which runs between that knoll and Craig-y-barns is called the King's pass. Mary Queen of Scots also visited the locality for a similar amusement. On one of her hunting excursions, she narrowly escaped serious bodily injury from the leader of a herd of deer, who ran in the direction where she stood, and which she selected contrary to the advice of her attendants. For the entertainment of that Queen, the then Earl of Atholl employed 2000 Highlanders to collect the deer of the central Highlands.† It is traditionally reported, that Queen Anne, who raised the Marquis of Atholl to ducal dignity in 1703, did subsequent to that year visit the castle of Blair, on matters connected with Scotland, and subsequently

\* The old cross was a round pillar, on which was four round balls, supporting a pyramidal top. It was of stone, and stood about 20 feet high. The pedestal was 12 feet square. On the pillar hung four iron jugs for punishing petty offenders. The cross was removed about forty years ago.

† Pennant's Tour, Vol. ii. p. 64.

Queen Anne's bed-chamber. At a former period, the High Commissioner of Scotland made a formal visit, and was royally entertained. Many of the present monarchs of Europe have visited Dunkeld, and enjoyed not only the Highland hospitality of the Atholl family, but have been liberally indulged in all the sports which the locality so amply affords. The last royal visit to Dunkeld was paid by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in September 1842. Her Majesty was received on the boundary of the Dunkeld property by a guard of the Atholl men, and conducted to the park, where Lord Glenlyon, the heir apparent of the Atholl title, received her Majesty at the head of several hundred Highlanders, and conducted her to the Royal tent.\*

*Bishops of Dunkeld.*—As they are identified with the civil history of the locality, it has been considered proper to subjoin a catalogue of them, so far as they can be collected, from historical writers.†

\* The royal tent stood on the lawn to the north of the cathedral, which commanded a view of the wild alpine scenery to the west, north, and south of Dunkeld. This view is bold, but it is softened when combined with the mellowed beauties of the lawn, and the grey walls of the cathedral. Nature and art here harmonise. The tent was appropriately situated for the gratification of royalty, and the lieges present. Her Majesty first reviewed the Highlanders, and then walked along the line formed by the members of the local Societies, inquiring into the provident objects of each body, with which she expressed herself much interested and delighted. The Queen, with a select party, afterwards retired to the tent, where a princely lunch was served up on gold and silver, with the most choice liqueurs, and Atholl brose. Her Majesty tasted a little of the brose out of Neil Gow's glass. After lunch, the officers of the Atholl clan were formally introduced to the Queen, and kissed hands in the tent. Several of them at her request danced a set of the Highland reels; the sword dance, which is very intricate from the gradual rapidity of its movements, was also gracefully performed. Her Majesty, after enjoying a few hours at Dunkeld, departed for Breadalbane. The Honourable Captain Murray, his Lordship's brother, rode beside the carriage to the boundary of the Atholl property, in Strathstay, a distance of 13 miles, giving the names of the places, which Her Majesty carefully noted down. The Royal salutes on her arrival and retiring from Dunkeld were fired from Stanley hill.

† 1. Cormac, who came out conspicuously in the stage of life.—Chalmers's *Caled.* Vol. i. p. 429. He was witness to two charters of David I. to the monastery of Dunfermline, along with Robert, Bishop of St Andrews, consecrated 1128. See Keith's preface to his *Catalogue of Bishops*, p. 9.

2. Gregory is found after Cormac, attesting, between the years 1147 and 1162, with Robert, Bishop of St Andrews, several charters of King David I. and his grandson Malcolm. Gregory died 1169.—Chron. Melrose and Fordun.

3. Richard de Prebenda. Fordun, lib. viii. c. 13, calls him "*Capellanus Regis Willelmi.*" He was one of the Commissioners for Scotland in negotiating with Henry II. in 1174 for the release of King William, at that time a prisoner in England, (*Fœdera Angliæ*, t. 1, p. 39,) and in 1176 he attended William to a council held at Northampton by Cardinal Huguccio Petreleonis, the Pope's Legate.—Hoveden, 550. Mill and Keith think he died in 1173 or 1174; but the facts mentioned prove this to be a mistake. Fordun, lib. viii. c. 13, says he died in 1178.

A difficulty occurs as to Richard's successor. Dean Mill says it was Cormac who died in 1174. Keith adds nothing in confirmation of such an election, and Dal-

icated a chapel to St Ninian. It stood upon the ground now

rymple says Cormac never came to settle at Dunkeld.—Collect. p. 240-5. Supposing Cormac to have been the bishop, his successor is another difficulty. Dalrymple makes Gregory to be the fourth bishop, but Keith expresses doubts on the subject. Mill omits Gregory altogether, and makes Walter to be Cormac's successor. If Fordun be correct as to the time of the death of Bishop Richard de Præbenda, which he says was in 1178, Walter would then be his successor, for his consecration takes place in the same year.

4. Walter de Bidon was one of the Clerici Regis, and afterwards Chancellor of the kingdom. Though elected to the See of Dunkeld, it is said that he died before his consecration, and cannot therefore be numbered as one of its bishops. Mill says that he was consecrated in 1178, and died full of years and pious works.

5. John Scot. This prelate was, in 1177, elected Bishop of St Andrews by the chapter. "Electus est (Fordun, lib. vi. c. 35) Rege Willelmo totis viribus renitente;" that monarch passionately exclaiming, when the election was announced to him, "By the arm of St James, John Scot shall never be Bishop of St Andrews." The Pope, however, supported the pretensions of John, and a controversy ensued, which agitated Scotland, and embroiled William with the Head of the Church for several years. The Pope, in consequence, was about to put Scotland under interdict, but by Scot's entreaties that step was prevented. The dispute, however, terminated at last, by the nomination of John Scot to the diocese of Dunkeld, with liberty to retain the emoluments belonging to him as Archdeacon of St Andrews, an office which he previously held.—Ford. lib. vi. c. 35-38. This Bishop had great influence with Pope Alexander III. "eum in quamlibet partem quam vellent ratione tamen prævia inclinavit."—Ibid. That Pope, at his request, constituted Argyle, which, till his time, was a part of the diocese of Dunkeld, a separate see. John Scot held the mitre twenty-five years, and died in 1203, and was buried in the north side of the quire of the Abbey-church of Newbottle, "ubi (says Fordun) claret miraculis." The Bishoprick of St Andrews was then estimated at the yearly revenue of L. 8018, 3s. and that of Dunkeld at L. 1206, 6s. 8d.—Chart. Aberbrothock, Vol. i. fol. 10, as quoted in the Annals of Scotland, Vol. iii. p. 205. The life of Scot was written by William Benyng, prior of Newbattle, afterwards Abbot of Coupar, and by Bishop Lauder of Dunkeld.

Richard de Præbenda. He was one of the King's clerici, and his kinsman. It is said he was consecrated in 1203, and died at Cramond in 1210, and was buried in Incheolm.—Fordun, lib. viii. c. 64 et c. 78. But,

According to Mill, there was a Richard Provan named John's successor, who must have died shortly after, and before consecration, for there is no mention of him as bishop in Keith or any other writer. John of Leicester, cousin to King William, succeeded John, and filled the see eleven years, and died at Cramond 1214. Keith says that Richard de Præbenda is not designed bishop, nor is it likely that there should have been two bishops so near to one another of the same name and surname.

6. John of Leicester died in 1214.—Mill, Ford. lib. ix. c. 27.

7. Hugo, called Hugo de Sigillo, a monk of Arbroath. Fordun, lib. ix. c. 47, calls him "vir mansuetissimus qui dicebatur puerperum Episcopus." Mill says, that Hugo died within the year, on the 2d January, and was succeeded by Gilbert.

Mathew Scot, Chancellor of the kingdom, 1227-31, is said to have been elected, but died before his consecration.—Fordun, Ibid. Although stated as Chancellor, Chalmers's Caled. Vol. i. p. 712, he died before 1231. Scot is not in Mill's Cat. of Bishops.

8. Gilbert. He had been chaplain to his predecessor, Bishop Hugh. He appears as a witness to a deed of Alexander II. in 1227. A copy of this deed was published in 1771, by the late John Davidson, Esq. along with some other curious papers, in the Appendix to the Annals of Scotland. Though it proves that Fordun, lib. ix. c. 47, is mistaken in saying, that Gilbert was not elected till 1229, it does not fix the date of that event. Gilbert filled the see twenty-two years, and was buried at Incheolm 1236.

9. Galfrid Liverance succeeded in 1236. Mill says that he reformed the cathedral worship in imitation of the Church of Sarum, and the music according to the Gregorian manner. According to Fordun, lib. ix. c. 63, Galfrid died at Tibbermuir in 1249, and was buried within the old Church, formerly the Abbey Church of Dunkeld, "quam prædiis et possessionibus dotavit, quam regulis et institutis informavit,



—Atholl Street. It is recorded, that the bishop of the lands of  
quam vestibus et ornamentis decoravit, quam fere per omnia exaltavit." His epi-  
taph was,

Hac, Dunkeldensis cleri decus, regis et ensis  
Gaufridus tumba pausat, sub patre Columba.—*FORDUN, ut supra.*

After Galfrid, Mill places Richard, but

David was elected in 1250, though never consecrated.—*Catal. of Bish. p. 50.*

10. Richard of Inverkeithing was appointed 1250. He was one of the Regents of the kingdom during the minority of Alexander III. (*Fœd. i. 566*), and Chancellor, 1255-7.—*Chalmers's Caled. Vol. i. p. 718.* Cardinal Ottobonus de Fieschi, in 1266, came as Legate from the Pope to Scotland, and required a contribution from the Church to defray the expense of his visitation. The King, with the advice of the clergy, forbade it to be levied. The Legate called a council, and Richard was deputed by the Bishops to attend it: "Ne quid, ipsis absentibus in eorum prejudicium statueretur."—*Fordun, lib. x. c. 24.* He died in 1272, "vir," says the same author, *lib. x. c. 30*, "magnæ maturitatis et gravitatis, qui fuit fidelissimus regis et regni consiliarius et justitia inflexibilis."

11. Robert de Stuteville. He was a man of high birth, and Dean of Dunkeld. According to Mill, he filled the see twenty-eight years with great character, and died in 1300. Historical facts, however, seem to disprove the time of his death, for,

12. Mathew was elected in 1295 or earlier. In that year, he appears as one of the Commissioners sent to France to negotiate with Philip an alliance, by the marriage of the daughter of the Count of Anjou with the son and heir of Baliol.—*Fœdera, t. ii. p. 695.* By the treaty, L. 1500 was stipulated as the lady's jointure; and of this sum, L. 500 was secured upon Crown lands in Scotland, "annui redditus de quibus mille libris Sterlingorum in locis infrascriptis, videlicet, de Lanark, de Kadior (hodie, Hamilton), de Malsdaley, de Cunyngham, de Haddington, et de Castro de Dundie in agro Scotiæ affidebit eadem." Mill says, that in Mathew's time "St Michael killed the English Governor of Perth for oppressing the canons." The same writer states, that this bishop died in 1312. But he must have died in 1309, as appears from *Fœd. t. iii. p. 194.* A bishop of Dunkeld appears as one of the ten Scottish commissioners who met the twenty commissioners of the English nation, by order of Edward, at London, September 1305, immediately after the unjust death of William Wallace, to establish regulations for the government of Scotland.—*Ryley, 503, as quoted An. of Scot. v. i. p. 312. Chalmers's Caled. Vol. i. p. 671.*

13. William Sinclair. On the death of Mathew, John de Leek was elected by the chapter, and Edward applied to the Pope and the College of Cardinals, *Fœd. t. iii. p. 164-165*, earnestly urging the confirmation of his election; but the partisans of Robert Bruce, who favoured the election of William Sinclair, brother to the Laird of Roslin, prevailed. Leek was in 1311 appointed Archbishop of Dublin. In a letter of thanks for this appointment, written by Edward to the Pope, he is styled, "Johannis de Leek capellanus noster karissimus, nuper Dunkeldensis ecclesie electus."—*Fœd. t. iii. 258.* Sinclair then was consecrated without opposition to the see of Dunkeld. It has been asserted, that in 1332 he assisted at the coronation of Edward Baliol, at Scone; and that his signature is found at that disgraceful instrument, by which the Scottish Parliament, held at Edinburgh in 1333, surrendered the independence and liberty of their country to the English monarch. Lord Hailes is of this opinion.—*Vol. ii. p. 172-186.* But it ought to be stated, that very shortly before the coronation, the bishop opposed Baliol in the field, near to Perth, and was taken prisoner with many noblemen, all of whom were forced, from their desperate condition, to take the oath of allegiance to Baliol.—*Buch. Hist.* Sinclair's conduct was the result of necessity. He was witness to an agreement in 1329, and is bishop 1334.—*Fœd. Ang. Vol. iv.*—and he died 1337. Mill says Duncan succeeded. Keith says that, although these different dates are all well vouched, yet

14. Walter was bishop as early as 1324.—*Cart. Glasg.* He is said to have this particular and remarkable designation, "Episcopi Dunkeldensis ac conservatoris totius cleri Scotici." Keith says it is possible that William Sinclair may have died in 1323, and Walter have succeeded, and then another bishop of the name of William chosen, and established in the see. It is difficult to reconcile this with Scottish history. Mill has neither Walter nor William in his catalogue. When Walter or William died is unknown.

15. Duncan. Mill says that he died in 1363. But this is an error, for

16. John assumed the mitre in 1356. He was present in the Parliament which met at Edinburgh, and agreed to pay 100,000 merks to the English for the ransom

of David II.—Fœd. t. vi. 39, 40. In 1369, he was a witness to the treaty for a truce between England and Scotland, for fourteen years.—Fœd. t. vi. 632. Mill has omitted this bishop.

17. Michael Monymusk. He was the great Chamberlain of Scotland, and died in 1376.—Mill.

18. John Peeblis. This bishop was King's Chancellor, and intrusted with various important national negociations.—Fœd. t. vii. p. 441. It was he who drew up the celebrated act of Parliament which recognised the title of Robert II. to the throne of Scotland. He died in 1396.

19. Robert de Cairdney. He showed great zeal and assiduity in adorning the cathedral, and improving the revenues of his diocese. He acquired the lands of Cra-mond in excomban for Cammo.—Catal. of Bish. p. 53. The chartulary of Cambuskenneth, as quoted, (*Ibid.*), mentions that this bishop was excommunicated for refusing to comply with the formalities of ecclesiastical processes required by the Pope. He was one of the hostages for the redemption of James I.—Fœd. t. v. p. 125.

20. Donald Macnaughtan. He was Dean of Dunkeld, and elected by the chapter on the death of Robert; but King James opposing his appointment, he took a journey to Rome to obtain confirmation from the Pope. On this journey he died. Nisbet, *Heraldry*, p. 419, gravely says, "Donald Macnaughtan was by James II. raised to the Episcopal see of Dunkeld, where he exercised his Episcopal function till his death, as in Spottiswood's *History of the Church of Scotland*." It happens unfortunately for the credit of Mr Nisbet's accuracy, that, in the passage referred to, Spottiswood says, that "James opposed this bishop's election, and he died on his way to Rome."—Spot. p. 100. Donald endowed the church of Clunie.

21. James Kennedy. He was the son of Sir James Kennedy of Dunure, by Mary, younger daughter of Robert III. and Queen Annabel. In 1438, he was chosen bishop, and in 1448, translated to St Andrews, became a Privy Councillor, and Chancellor of Scotland, and afterwards one of the Regents of the kingdom, during the minority of James III.—*Historical Genealogy of the Royal House of Stuarts*, by Mark Noble, p. 68. Keith, p. 18.

Alexander Lauder, who had been rector of Ratho: "Venerabilis vir," says Fordun, *lib. xvi. c. 26*, "et nunc morum probitate conspicuus." Mill says he died in October 1440, before consecration.

22. James Bruce, first rector of Kilmeny in Fife. He became Chancellor of the kingdom, and was promoted to the see of Glasgow, but died before his translation in 1447.

William Turnbull, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, was nominated in 1447, to succeed James Bruce in the see of Dunkeld; but on the death of that bishop he was translated to Glasgow before his consecration for Dunkeld.—Keith.

23. John Ralston, Dean of Dunkeld, Keeper of the Privy-Seal, and Secretary to the King, was raised to the See in 1448. He was afterwards created Lord High Treasurer, and employed in several foreign embassies. Fœd. t. ii. p. 2420. Mill says, "John died about 1450; but it was after the 6th November 1452, for on that day he is witness to a charter under the great seal."—Keith.

24. Henry Douglas, son to the Earl of Douglas, succeeded Ralston. He is said to have filled the see two years.—*Life of Leslie, Bishop of Ross*. Neither Keith, Mill, or Spottiswood make mention of Henry.

25. Thomas Lauder assumed the mitre in the sixtieth year of his age. He was tutor to James II. Mill, who lived in Bishop Lauder's time, says of him: "This venerable prelate had such acquaintance with divinity, that he himself preached the faith to his people." He died in 1481, having in 1476 resigned the see on account of his advanced age. After his resignation, he was styled "Episcopus in universali ecclesia."

26. James Livingston, Rector of Forteviot and Weem; said to have been remarkable for his stature.—Mill. He was Chancellor, but held the office a short while. He erected a chaplainry in honour of St Columba, in the church of St Giles in Edinburgh, and died in 1483.

Alexander Inglis was next elected by the chapter, but the Pope annulled the election, because he had not been previously consulted.

Robert appears as Bishop of Dunkeld in 1483-4-5.—*Catalogue of Bishops*, p. 56. This fact is difficult to reconcile with the history of Mill, who lived at the time, and does not mention a bishop of that name.

died 16th January 1436, and was honourably buried under a stone monument within the walls of the chapel. See *Monuments*.

27. George Brown, Rector of Tynngnham was consecrated at Rome in 1484, by Pope Sixtus IV. He was rigid in enforcing church discipline. He divided his diocese into four deaneries.—one for Atholl and Breadalbane, another for Angus, the third for Fife, and the fourth for their church lands south of the Forth. He appointed Gaelic preachers for the Highlanders who were unacquainted with the English language. He erected the parishes of Caputh and Dowally, which formerly were part of Little Dunkeld, and erected churches in the two former. Mill says, that this bishop latterly suffered great bodily distress. Previous to his death, he entered a solemn protest, to the effect, that, being then of sound mind and firm in the faith, if he should "afterwards, through bodily weakness, be tempted by the Devil, or by the arguments of designing men," and turn from the faith, he should not be judged of, by what he then did.—Brown died 1514.

Andrew Stewart, brother to the Earl of Atholl, a prebend of Craig, and not in full orders, got himself, through his brother's influence, postulated bishop, but Pope Leo X. opposed his admission.—Mill. He was afterwards made Bishop of Caithness.—Keith.

28. Gavin Douglas, uncle to the then Earl of Angus, was, through the Queen's solicitation, his uncle's wife, preferred by the Pope. Andrew Stewart, however, prevented Gavin being consecrated till 1516. This bishop holds an eminent place in the literary history of his age. He was a profound classical scholar, a well informed antiquarian, and an elegant poet. He wrote, *Auræ Narrationes*, *Comediæ aliquot Sacræ*; et *De Rebus Scoticis*; but none of these works have descended to our times. His *Palace of Honour*, and his translation of the *Æneid* of Virgil, however, still remain, and present very honourable monuments of both the correctness of his taste, and the vigour of his imagination. Living in dark and turbulent times, he enjoyed not the felicity of indulging his genius in security and repose. He was involved in the agitations and hazards of those commotions with which the disputes of the Queen Mother and the Duke of Albany, and of Arran and Angus, embroiled the kingdom. To avoid these, he retired to England, when he became the intimate acquaintance of Polydore Virgil. Douglas died in London, 1522, and was buried in the Hospital Church of Savoy.

29. Robert Cockburn. In 1524, this bishop, with the Earl of Cassilis and Dean Mill, went as Ambassadors from James V. to Henry VIII. of England, to negotiate a truce between the two kingdoms. They were successful in the embassy. *Fœd. t. xiv. p. 27.*

30. George Crichton. "A man," says Spottiswood, *Hist. of Ch. of Scot. p. 101*, "nobly disposed, and a great house-keeper; but in matters of his calling not very skilled." He died in 1543.—Keith.

31. John Hamilton, Abbot of Paisley, and brother to the Earl of Arran, was elected, but by intrigue not confirmed till 1546. He was translated to St Andrews in 1549.

32. Robert Crichton, nephew to the former Bishop George Crichton, was promoted to this see, in which he remained till the Reformation. He was one of the commissioners for divorcing Earl Bothwell from Lady Jane Gray, to enable Bothwell to marry Mary Queen of Scots. On the necessity of this marriage, see Tyler's *Dissert.* published 1792, in the *Transactions of Antiquarian Society of Scotland*, Vol. i.

The Bishops of Dunkeld from the period of the Reformation to the Revolution in 1688.

1. James Paton was appointed to the see by James VI., in 1571, the see having been declared void through a process of forfeiture against Robert Crichton, who was then alive. In 1572, an Assembly of the church was held at Leith, where it was agreed to retain the order of bishops in the new ecclesiastical constitution. This agreement was ratified as an *interim* regulation at a future Assembly, which met soon after at Perth.—Spottiswood's *Hist. of the Ch. of Scot.*, p. 260, 261. In 1575, he was present in the General Assembly, *ibid. p. 276*; and was deposed or surrendered the bishoprick to avoid a charge of simony. He previously dilapidated the benefice.—*Catal. of Bish. p. 179.*

2. Peter Rollock. In 1596, he was created an extraordinary Lord of Session, and being afterwards removed, in order to reduce the number of extraordinary Lords to

lar from St Ninian's, built on the top of the eminence east of the town called the Hillhead, which was dedicated to St Jerome. The chapel was principally erected for the inhabitants of Fun-  
gorth. The building is now levelled; but its site is enclosed by a stone wall. From the name of the saint, the people of Fungorth are ludicrously called to this day *Jorums*.

*Monuments.*—In the vestibule of the choir is an ancient monu-  
ment of the Wolf of Badenoch, in a recumbent position, clad in  
armour, with a lion at his feet. Round the stone plate is the fol-  
lowing inscription: “Hic jacet Alexander Senescalus, filius Ro-  
berti Regis Scotorum et Elizabethæ More, Dominus de Buchan  
et Dns. de *Badenoch*, qui obiit vigesimo quarto die Julii.” The  
rest of the inscription is awaiting. The words in Italics are cut  
on a different kind of stone, and recently added. The statue  
stood in the ancient choir, and that part of the inscription may  
have been broken off at the Reformation, in 1560, or, in 1689,  
by the soldiery. The sculptor, however, has given a wrong date:  
the Wolf died 20th February 1394. This personage was the ce-  
lebrated Alister More Mac an Righ, the third son of Robert II.,  
and better known by the name of the Wolf of Badenoch. He  
appears to have been a sort of Rob Roy in his day, and consider-  
ed it no sin to plunder church lands. He was excommunicated  
by the Bishop of Moray, on account of some predatory outrage  
against his ecclesiastical possessions. The Earl, however, reta-

four, he was readmitted in 1610.—Lord Hailes's Catalogue of Lords of Sess. p. 12,  
note 45. In 1603, he attended King James to England.—Spot. Hist. of the Ch. of  
Scot. p. 476, where he was naturalized.—Keith.

3. James Nicolson. He was Parson of Meigle, and was chosen to preside in the  
Assembly which met at Linlithgow in 1606.—Calderwood, p. 552. He was called  
to Court, for agreeing with the contentions of the clergy, He died 1607.

4. Alexander Lindsay, parson of St Madoes, succeeded. He was deposed for ma-  
lignancy in 1638.—Acts of Assembly. It appears that he next year abjured Epis-  
copacy, and accepted his former charge of St Madoes.—Unprinted Acts of Assembly,  
1639.

5. George Haliburton, minister of Perth, was appointed Bishop of Dunkeld by  
Charles II. in 1662. He died in 1664.

6. Henry Guthrie, was minister at Stirling, but deposed “for malignancy,” in  
1648.—His own Memoirs, p. 299. After the Restoration he was again admitted to  
the office of the ministry, and became Bishop of Dunkeld in 1665.

7. William Lindsay, minister at Perth, was consecrated to this see in 1677, and  
died in 1679.

8. Andrew Bruce, Archdeacon of St Andrews, was advanced to the bishoprick of  
Dunkeld on the death of William Lindsay, and was ejected in 1686, for his opposi-  
tion to the measures of the Court. In the year following, “his Majesty's dispensa-  
tion,” says Keith, p. 180, “was issued to Dr Bruce, late Bishop of Dunkeld, for ex-  
ercising the office of the ministry.” Keith adds not unnaturally, “A right strange  
paper truly!” In the year 1688, he was appointed bishop of Orkney.

9. John Hamilton, son to John Hamilton, who was Archbishop of St Andrews at  
the time of the Reformation. This prelate survived the Revolution, and died one of  
the ministers of Edinburgh, and subdean of the Chapel Royal.

Elgin, its hospital, and its magnificent cathedral. For this sacrilegious misdemeanour he was compelled by his father to appear, barefoot and in sackcloth, at the door of the Black Friars at Perth, and afterwards to appear at the High Altar, where he promised before his father and the nobles there assembled to make indemnification to the Bishop of Moray. Dr MacCulloch facetiously remarks, if the Wolf "claims that Dunkeld shall canopy his bones till doomsday, it is probable that he obtained the privilege by disgorging to Bishop *Moneymusk* some of the good things of which he had robbed their fraternity in the north."

In the centre of the vestibule is a very neat and affectionate tribute of respect to the memory of the Rev. John Robb, minister of Dunkeld, who perished in the wreck of the Forfarshire steamship, at the Fearn Islands, in 1838.

In the north wall of the choir is a plain stone, bearing an inscription commemorative of Thomas Bisset, late commissary of Dunkeld. It is a well-expressed eulogy on the strict integrity and blameless manners of the man, and is one of the few instances where a tombstone is made to speak nothing but the truth.

In the south aisle of the cathedral is the monument of Bishop Cardney, lying in a recess of the wall, under a canopy adorned with crockets. The figure of the bishop is represented in *pontificalibus*, wearing his mitre. The inscription on the stone-plate is very much defaced. It runs thus: "*Hic jacet Dns. Robertus de Cardony, Eppis. Dunkeldenni qui.*"—Three words are here defaced, and the inscription on the plate to the back is partly broken off. What remains is, *ad incarnationem Dne M.cccc.xx.* This monument was brought from St Ninian's chapel, and placed in the cathedral subsequent to 1464. (*Ancient Chapels.*) In the east aisle stands the decapitated statue of Bishop Sinclair. Around the outer walls of the choir and cathedral are to be seen the arms of the different bishops who erected the edifice. The portion erected by each bears the arms of his family.

Among the tombstones within the cathedral, there are two which mark the resting-place of two dignitaries of the church,—the Dean of Dunkeld, 1476, and the Rector of Moneidie, in 1548.

In the chapter-house there is a marble statue of John, fourth Duke of Atholl, attired in his Parliamentary robes. It is a very faithful likeness, and was erected by his Duchess, in 1833. To the back of it is a tribute to the memory of their son, Lord Charles Murray, who died in Greece. And close to that tablet is a very taste-

quarterings of his many powerful connections. The vault of the chapter-house is now the burying-place of the Atholl family.

It is traditionally reported, that the upright stone situated in a field near to *PolF-nan-gobhair*, now called Pol-na-gates, marks the grave of a Highland chieftain; but the name or cause of his death is unknown. The two upright stones at the Doo's Nest, near Newtyle, are understood to mark the graves of two Danish warriors, who fell in one of the engagements that were fought near to Dunkeld in the tenth century. There is a natural curiosity on the top of the hill to the west of Dunkeld, called in Gaelic *Creag-bhan-righ* or *Creag-nam-ban righ*, but better known in English as Craig-y-barns. It is a huge mass of stone, supported, at some distance from the flat surface of solid rock on which it stands, by means of three fragments. Dr MacCulloch and others are of opinion, that it is merely the relic of a heap of fragments, from which time, having produced the whole, has carried off the smaller parts.

*Antiquities and Ancient Places.*—The first is the roofless cathedral. It measures 120 by 60 feet; the walls are 40 feet high; and the side aisles 12 feet wide. On each side are seven spacious Gothic arches with fluted soffits, resting on six plain Norman pillars having shafts 10 feet high, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet in diameter, and two half columns. Over the arches are two tiers of windows, the lower semicircular, the higher acute. Buttresses project between the windows of the side-aisles, surmounted above the church with traceried spiracles. The windows are all of different designs. At the west end rises the great tower or steeple, and adjoining it, a small octagonal watch-tower, which is very much admired. There are two upright stones on the south of the cathedral, which formed part of the old monastery. The oldest house in the town, and which belonged to the Dean of Dunkeld, stands not far from the choir. It is the only house now standing out of the three that escaped the conflagration of the town in 1689. Its walls are of great thickness.

On the eminence east of the town is a very extensive terrace with a pyramidal-formed hill rising in the centre, called the Craigwood, which commands a very fine view of Dunkeld and the passes leading into it. On this terrace, close to the hill, are to be found water-stones of various shapes and sizes. The hill where the bishops hanged many a lawless freebooter is situated close to the second lodge of the Dunkeld grounds; and the hollow ground

to the back of the lodge is the place where sorcerers were burned.

The only two castles within Dunkeld were ancient Caledon, and the bishop's. In Dowally was the castle of Rotmel, occasionally occupied by one of the Roberts. It was removed about forty years ago. A number of coins were discovered under the foundation-stone, now believed to be in the possession of the Dalguise family.

*Caves.*—On the side of Craig-y-barns, overlooking the King's pass, there are two caves,—one called the Hermit's Cave, the other, Duncan Hogg's Hole. Neither of them are of any size. Duncan, who was a lawless character, was shot, on his return from the well of St Columba, on the east side of the King's Seat. The Duchess's Cave is on the east side of Craig-y-barns. It is partly artificial. At one time, it was very neatly fitted up, but it is now much destroyed.

*Parochial Records.*—The register of discipline does not extend farther back than 1830. The former register has been accidentally mislaid. There is no register of deaths. The register of births, baptisms, and marriages go back to 1672. The inhabitants, however, are not very strict in recording their families' births and baptisms; but this may, in part, be attributed to the circumstance of a division of the town lying in the parish of Caputh.

### III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population of Dunkeld and Dowally was	1296
1791,	1773
1821,	1917
1881,	2032
1841,	1752

The census of 1831 shows an increase attributable to the great improvements that were commenced at Dunkeld in 1829. The population of Dunkeld in 1831 was 1471. In 1841, it was only 1094, and is still decreasing. Around Dunkeld the country is very thinly populated.

*Character and condition of the People.*—The inhabitants of Dunkeld and Dowally may be generally characterized as intelligent, moral, and industrious, frank and courteous in their intercourse with strangers, and among themselves obliging and neighbourly. To the resident poor they show great kindness. In all their transactions they exhibit shrewd good sense. They are very particular about having their children well educated, for which the town schools afford every facility. The attendance at church is uniformly regular.

summer months, the labouring classes are principally employed in peeling oak, and in spring and harvest work in some of the adjoining parishes. For the remainder of the year they are idle. The principal trade and manufactures of Dunkeld, half-a century ago, were yarn, linen manufacture, and tanning, which were carried on to a great extent. These have now ceased. Shoemaking is now the chief business. There is no kind of manufactory. There are two slate quarries in the neighbourhood, and also a saw-mill, which give employment throughout the year. There are several excellent falls for machinery and ground for bleaching-fields in the neighbourhood of Dunkeld.

*Habits and Amusements.*—There is no singularity in the habits of the people as regards dress or mode of living. The English language is spoken in Dunkeld. In Dowally, with the exception of 110 persons, English is spoken with fluency, but they prefer Gaelic. Gaelic is still preached, and it is taught, along with English, at school. Smuggling prevailed extensively at one time in the district, but after the late Duke of Atholl got the Highland distilleries legalized, smuggling ceased. Poaching is rare; when committed, it is generally by strangers. Crimes of a serious character are equally rare, although petty offences do occasionally occur. The holiday kept in the district is *Auld Hansel Monday*. The Highland games are contested for once a-year. Curling is the favourite game during winter.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

From inability to obtain a sight of the plans and measurements of the Dunkeld grounds, it is impossible to give a table of the contents as required under this head.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town, &c.*—The weekly market is held in Dunkeld on Saturday, and there are five annual fairs for the sale of cattle, feeding servants, &c., 14th February, 25th March, 5th April, 9th June, and second Tuesday of November. The customs, which are small, belong to the Atholl family, and are collected by the tacksman of the markets. The post-office has a daily delivery, at which money orders can be obtained. There are the offices of excise, stamps, and taxes. The branch banks are, the Commercial Bank, the Perth Bank, and the Central Bank. There is no savings bank. There are agents for several of the English and Scotch Life and Fire Insurance Companies. There is a public library, called the Macintosh Library, containing nearly 2000 volumes of varied reading.



Rev. Donald Macintosh, a priest of the old Scots Episcopal church, and the last of the non-jurant clergy in Scotland. It is managed by curators. There are two large and commodious hotels with posting establishments, at which the *Laverness* mail stops daily. Besides these, there are three secondary inns, and excellent summer lodgings. The lodging houses for the humbler classes are under the surveillance of the county police. The district justices hold their courts in the town. Their clerk is also the fiscal and the sheriff-clerk for issuing small debt summonses. The quarterly sheriff's small debt court, the registration court, and all public meetings are held in the mason lodge. The commissary court, before it was removed to Perth, was first held in the Bishop's castle, and afterwards in the under flat of the steeple; in the room above the records were kept. The Court day was Saturday.\* The old prison was removed about 1743, but one of the land arches of the Dunkeld bridge is now used as a *lock-up*. It is a cold damp hole, without a fire-place, windows, or furniture, or even straw for a bed. It is intended to build a small prison with a court-room, and a room for keeping the district records. At one time there was a town drummer and piper, whose dress was faced with blue. These functionaries were supplanted by a bellman, whose insignia of office bears the following inscription: "Dunkeld kirk-session, *Soli Deo Gloria*, 1693." It was called the *buihbean*, or funeral bell.

The town is well supplied with butcher-meat and all other provisions, excepting sea-fish, which are occasionally brought in carts from Arbroath, Dundee, and Perth. Coals sell about L. 1, 5s. per ton; peats are not openly sold, as the Highland tenantry are restricted from disposing of them. The principal fuel is wood, which is purchased by the cart load. There is a brewery; a distillery; and also malt barns.

The properties in the principal street are held in feu; but the rest of the town property is a branch-holding. The old feuars have a right to quarry stones in Newtyle hill, for building within the city, as a part of the consideration for their right of the commonly hill of Dunkeld, which they sold to the Atholl family about 1812, and which is now under plantation. House property in

\* On removing the commissary records to Perth, there were found, books, records, and warrants of the Court of Regality of Dunkeld; and of sundry regality, barony, and prebendary courts, and other papers, all of which were, conform to inventory, transmitted to the sheriff-clerk of Perth in July 1834. Many ancient writings relative to properties in Dunkeld and Dowally are only to be found in these registers.

Fews in Little Dunkeld are considered more valuable.

The first bridge over the Tay at Dunkeld existed in the year 830. In 1461, Bishop Lauder laid the foundation of one to be built, "partly of timber and partly of stone," but there is no evidence of its completion. In 1512, Bishop Brown laid the foundation of another bridge to be built of stone. He finished the first arch. His executors, in 1514, drove the piles for two arches, and gave Bishop Douglas L.240 Scots, with which the bridge was finished for foot-passengers. No account exists when it was destroyed or swept away. Its ruins, however, were visible within these few years. The danger and inconvenience of the ferries at Dunkeld, by the occasional swelling of the river, which has been known to rise seventeen feet above its usual level, was long seriously felt. To obviate this complaint, the late Duke of Atholl commenced the present Dunkeld bridge in 1805, and completed it in 1809, at an expense of L.30,000,—L.5000 of which was contributed by Government. The pontage, which still exists, lets, on an average, at L.700 per annum. The bridge was constructed almost wholly on dry land, and the river afterwards changed in its course, so as to flow through its finely formed arches. It would be difficult to persuade any one that the channel in which the river now flows was not the one formed by itself. His Grace subsequently widened, embanked, and cut miles of turnpike road, and opened up the Atholl districts. Before 1809, the traffic was mostly all conducted on horseback. There was a post runner to Dunkeld, but there was no post beyond it, except his Grace's runner to Blair. Now, there are nearly twenty carriers that pass Dunkeld weekly to the Highland districts. There is the daily mail to Inverness through Atholl, and a stage-coach to Perth thrice a week. In the summer months, there are daily stage-coaches from Dunkeld to Inverness, Dundee, Lochlomond, Perth, &c.

*Societies.*—To guard against the casualties of sickness and mortality there are the Carpenters, Gardeners, Highlandmen, and Mason's Provident Societies. They have large funds, and have been productive of much good. There are two masonic lodges, and a curling club. Besides a charitable society for the destitute and infirm of both sexes, there are a Bible and a missionary society.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The cathedral church of Dunkeld, which was substantially repaired in 1817, is seated to contain 700. The seats are let from 4s. to 2s. each. The poor have free sittings. The stipend does not exceed L.180. It is paid, partly by the

Queen Anne in 1704, and George II. in 1744. In lieu of manse and glebe the incumbent has an yearly allowance of L. 60 Sterling. Communion elements, L. 8, 6s. 8d.

The Episcopalians, 25 in number, have no chapel in Dunkeld, but it has been proposed to build one. The Roman Catholics for years have performed worship in the house of one of their number. Prince Maximilian and suite went there, for worship, on their visit to Dunkeld, in 1815. About two years ago a small chapel was consecrated on the Murthley estate, where the Catholic service is now performed. The Congregational Union erected a chapel in 1800 in Dunkeld; they are few in number. The Independents or Glassites were a strong body some years ago; only four or five now reside in the town, but it is unknown whether or not they meet together for worship.

*Schools.*—In 1567, James VI. made a grant for the erection of a grammar school at Dunkeld, which is designated by the charter “the Royal School of Dunkeld.” The right of presentation is conferred on John Earl of Atholl, and his successors, but the examination and admission to office of the person presented is intrusted “to the superintendent of the church of God within the bounds of Perthshire.” By the grant it is declared, that the rector shall reside within the city of Dunkeld, and shall teach in the school himself.\* The salary, according to the grant, amounts to L. 67, 11s. 1d. Scots, exclusive of school fees. He has also an official residence. The school and dwelling-house are kept up by the Atholl family, the sole heritors of Dunkeld. The average number of scholars may be estimated at 80. The branches of education are similar to those taught in the first establishments in Edinburgh. There are half-yearly examinations; one for recitation exclusively, called the “Orations,” which is succeeded by a ball in the evening; the other examination is general, and is conducted by the presbytery.

There are in the town five unendowed schools for education, but there is no infant school. The fees are moderate.

In 1788, Jane Duchess of Atholl instituted a school for teaching the different branches of female education, such as sewing, tambouring, &c. with an annual salary to the teacher. By the death of the late Duchess, the patronage and support of the semi-

\* He is removable from office by a decree of the synod of the church, if found negligent in life or doctrine, affording a scandal to the young. The rector is also the chaplain of St Ninian, and in virtue thereof, is the superior of the lands of Mucklarie.

ber of scholars who have three years free tuition.

The Sunday school was instituted in 1789 by Jane Duchess of Atholl, and is conducted according to certain regulations well calculated to impress on the youthful mind the great principles of religion. Two years ago, the late Duchess built a room at her own expense, exclusively for the scholars. This institution is supported by contribution.

*Bede-House.*—Bishop Brown, in 1510, erected a house, called St George's Hospital, for the support of seven old men, who were each to have a free house, five bolls of meal, and five merks Scots yearly. In 1689, the hospital was burned; small low cottages were then built, but, subsequently, substantial buildings were erected on their site. Part of the buildings were sold; the rents derived from the remainder are laid out in meal, which is equally divided among the bedemen. The commissary has the sole administration of the hospital funds.

*Poor.*—The funds are derived from the church collections, dues of proclamation, and mortcloth dues, which, on an average, amount yearly to about L.60 Sterling. There is also a yearly sum of L.2, 6s. 8d. from Burt's mortification. Any deficiency is made up by the Atholl family as heritors. There are standing, at present, upon the poor list, 5 men and 14 women, with an allowance of 1s. per week. They are allowed free houses and fuel from the Atholl family, and many of them receive assistance from the Ladies' Society. In 1842, there was paid to resident paupers, L.53, 11s. 11d.; and for lodging paupers, and passing them through the town, L.3, 14s. 4d.

## DOWALLY.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

ABOUT the end of the fifteenth century, Dowally was the Highland district of the parish of Caputh, which, prior to 1400, had formed part of the parish of Little Dunkeld. During the pestilence which ravaged Scotland in 1500, many persons settled in the baugh of Dowally, under the belief, that, from its proximity to Dunkeld, they would escape the calamity,—the prevailing report being, that the city of Dunkeld was preserved\* from every pesti-

\* Dean Mill's Lives of the Bishops of Dunkeld, MS.

settlement was ten miles distant from the church of Caputh, and five miles from the Dunkeld cathedral. That the new residents, who spoke the Irish Gaelic, might have religious instruction imparted to them in their own language, Brown, then Bishop of Dunkeld, in 1500, erected Dowally into a parish. It is not known whether the parish received its name from the Gaelic *Duille*, a neglected people; or from *Doullach* or *Daullach*, a second charge. The parish is, however, generally denominated in Gaelic conversation either *Dubh ailean*, the black-meadow; or, *Dail a charne*, the haugh of the cairn, the name by which the "haugh" where the "cairn" was situated, is known. The cairn stood fifty years ago, a little to the eastward of the present church, and to the westward of two high upright stones called *clachinmore*. On removing the cairn, it was found to consist entirely of land-stones; in the centre there were an iron-chain, and a single stone-coffin, 6 feet in length, and 4 in breadth, with a quantity of rich black earth, but no bones within it. The cairn was 30 feet in diameter, and about 6 in height. A small distance from the cairn, were found a few rude stone coffins. When the late Duke of Atholl directed the present turnpike road to be cut through the field on which the cairn was situated, the people at first refused to do it, because the pestilence had been buried there, and might renew the calamity. His Grace's firmness, however, overcame their superstitious fears.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—Dowally is situated to the westward of Dunkeld, from which it is separated by a small interjected portion of Caputh. The main body of the parish of Dowally stretches along the north bank of the river Tay, in the shape of a parallelogram, beginning at the "*Pley Burn*," a mile from the town of Dunkeld, and extending to the north-west upwards of six miles, where the parish of Logierait divides it from the barony of Dulcapon, which forms a part of the parish of Dowally. This barony lies on the north bank of the river Tummel, and extends three-quarters of a mile. The breadth of the parish is uncertain, from the hills having been placed under plantation before any exact measurement had been deemed necessary. The main body of the parish of Dowally is bounded on the east by Caputh; on the north, by Kirkmichael; on the south, by the river Tay; and on the west, by Logierait. The barony of Dulcapon is bounded on the east and west by Logierait; on the north, by Kirkmichael; and on the south, by the river Tummel.

the vale of Atholl, and consists of a range of hills running northward, with a small shelf of ground towards the river Tay.

The public road enters the parish at the King's pass, and descends gradually for three miles along the side of a precipitous hill, until it reaches the low grounds at the village of Dowally. The declivity of the hill is frequently seamed by deep ravines, and so rapid is the ascent of the declivity, that in some places the wall of the bridge is not three feet above the surface of the road, while the other is above forty. The great complaint of travellers is, that several of the bridges are too narrow, and that the parapet walls of others are not sufficiently high to prevent danger. These complaints, it is believed, will speedily be removed.

The haugh or low grounds of Dowally spread out in a semicircular form, and have originally been part of the bed of the river Tay. They are embanked. The soil is light. The soil of the fields upon the brow of the hill is deeper and stronger, with a slight mixture of clay.

The hills to the back were at one time a common pasturage, where cattle and horses ran wild. They presented a barren bleak appearance, and an indifferent soil. These hills have now, however, been converted into a larch forest. It begins at Craig-y-barns, which is elevated nearly 1000 feet above the level of the sea, and runs northward in a direct line a distance of fourteen miles, varying from three to six miles in breadth. The carriage drives through the forest exceed eighty miles. This forest is only a part of the Atholl woods. Their value, considered as individual wealth, or as national resources, raised from inferior soil, is incredible. We are, however, prevented from going into the history of these plantations, as it has been made very generally known by the Highland Society of Scotland, who circulated a very interesting account of them in 1832.

*Hydrography.*—Within the forest of Dowally, there are several lochs. On the summit of the hill of Duchray, nearly 1900 feet above the level of the sea, there is a loch of half a mile in circumference. Loch Ordie, or Lochard, or in English, *the highly situated loch*, is elevated about 700 feet, and is several miles in circumference. There are also the two lochs of Rotmel. These lochs flow into the burn of Dowally, which discharges itself into

then rolls on by the village of Dowally.

Loch Oishnie, or the lake of many angles, also flows into the Tay, passing the Kilmorich distillery, and the village of Kindallachan. Loch Broom flows through the barony of Dulcapon, and discharges itself into the river Tummel, near to Moulinearn.

*Fishing.*—Lochs Broom and Ordie are famed for trout; the latter is preserved. The rest of the Dowally lochs contain perch, &c. There is a salmon-fishing station at Dowally; and the banks of the river Tay, all along the parish, afford good sport to anglers.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

In Dowally, the Culdees had a place of worship at the Mains of Kilmorick, which was subsequently possessed by the Romish Church. About 1340, one of the bishops of Dunkeld erected a house at Guay, for the entertainment of strangers, which was supported by the rents of certain church lands. Some of his successors, however, shut it up, and misapplied the rents, but Bishop Brown, somewhere about 1490, restored it. It ceased at the Reformation. At the present day, the Guay Inn is the only licensed house in the parish. Dowally, it is believed, was the last parish erected in Perthshire. It took place in 1500. At that time, the bishop built and endowed a church in honour of the blessed mother St Anne, among the woods of the church-lands of Dowally. It was a long narrow inelegant structure, and uncomfortably seated.\* It became ruinous in 1755, when it was repaired. There are two villages in the parish, one at the church of Dowally, and the other at Kindallachan, about one mile distant. There is no post-office, although there might be one, most conveniently for the parish, at Guay, and another at Moulinearn. At present, there is a post runner from Dunkeld, although the mail passes daily through the parish.

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners are Lord Glenlyon and the Duke of Atholl's Trustees. The latter are the patrons. Neither have a residence in the parish.

\* A singular custom existed throughout the Highlands. A bankrupt wearing the *dyvour's* dress was obliged to wait at the church-door till all the parishioners were seated, before he could enter to join in the worship. This humiliating dress was one-half yellow and one-half brown, with a hood for the head, which the supreme Court had the power to dispense with. It was finally abolished during the late King's reign.

tive of this parish. He is a most ingenious mechanic, plain and unassuming in his manners. He invented the self-propelling twin ferry-boats now used in various parts of the rivers Tay and Tummell, for which he received a gold medal from the Society of Arts. In 1822, he invented the Archimedes screw, and proved its value for working boats on the Atholl lochs. A model of this invention was sent to the War Office by the late Duke of Atholl. His Grace instructed Fraser, in 1830, to construct a boat with the Archimedes screw for Loch Ordie, but it was never finished, owing to His Grace's death. Fraser, however, had the mortification to find that his invention, with a slight alteration, had lately been secured by a patent in favour of another person. Fraser next invented the fanner hand-bellows, which another person also secured by a patent. At Dowally, this ingenious mechanic has erected a wheel, which drives at one time, a saw-mill, a thrashing-mill, &c. turning-lathes and grinding-stone, and it also acts as a furnace-blast.

*Antiquities.*—Near to the church of Dowally, are two upright stones, apparently Pictish monuments. They are rude blocks of stone, without any marks of an instrument, without carving, inscription, or hieroglyphics. They are plainly the monuments of an early age, when letters were little understood. The purpose for which they were erected is unknown. The only Druidical remains found in the parish were, a Druidical circle and a sacrificial flag, which were situated in the barony of Dulcapon near to Moulisnearn. The mystic wells within the parish are, St Muireach's at the Mains of Kilmorick; St Anne's at Dowally; Sancta Crux at Crueshill:\* and there was one at Dulcapon, now destroyed, but the saint's name is unknown. The waters are not medicinal. Many persons, however, still believe in their efficacy. Until very lately, hundreds of people, for miles round, resorted to the Crux well on the first Sunday of May O. S. to get the cream of the water. Tents were erected and refreshments sold as openly as at a fair. Their pilgrimage uniformly ended in riotous assaults. Many mystic wells, on being cleaned out, have yielded up gold and silver coins and trinkets, which the more wealthy of the pilgrims had cast in to propitiate the saint. At each of these mystic wells in Dowally, there was a chapel, excepting at St Anne's, where the parish church always stood.

*Caves.*—There are several in the wood and on the face of the

\* Crueshill is a corruption of Cruxhill, the hill of the cross, or the cross hill.



battle of Culloden. They are difficult of access, and known only to the old parishioners.

### III.—POPULATION.

In 1790, the population of Dowally was	687
1881,	561
1886,	596
1841,	656

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

In the absence of any accurate data, Dowally may be taken, at a rough guess, to contain about 12,000 acres, whereof

Arable,	1200
Pasture,	300
Woods,	10,200
Lochs,	200
	<hr/>
	12,000

The valued rent of the parish is L. 1399, 2s. 2d. Scots. The average rent of the arable land is L. 1, 15s. per acre. There are thirty farms of various sizes. Of late years, the farm steadings have been built of stone and mortar with slated roofs. The roads are good. There are three markets and three meal mills within a few miles of the parish. The potato mill at Tullimet, adjoining Dowally, which uses nearly forty bolls of potatoes per working day, is the mart for the potato crop of the district. There are two saw mills in the parish. The ancient markets within the parish were the Kindallachan market for sheep, and the herd's "japping" market at Dowally for fruit.\*

A great proportion of the farmers have their lime-kilns for farm purposes. Limestone is to be had in the parish of Blair, twelve miles distant. Bone manure is now much used, and answers well the soil. The shifts in cultivation are in some places four, five, six, and seven. Oats and barley are the general produce. The oats are the potato and Hopetoun; barley, Dunlop and English; the Chevalier is given up. Patches of bear or bigg, rye, and lint are occasionally to be seen. Wheat has been tried without any beneficial result. Tares, potatoes, and turnips are general. There is no meadow hay; it all consists of rye-grass and white and red clover. The principal fuel is peat.

Farming, draining, and enclosing are well understood in Dow-

\* The japping market was discontinued about 100 years ago. The herds, in the course of the day, arranged themselves on each side of the Burn of Dowally; on a signal given, they beat the water one against the other with stieks, till one of the sides gave way. The vanquished then left the market, and the victors had the exclusive honour of treating the lasses to fruit, and of enjoying their society at the ball.

few English and black-faced sheep.

Harvest labour has undergone a great change of late years, shearing having now been nearly abolished, and the scythe generally used. The farming utensils are mostly of the newest pattern. The smith and wright work are excellent. A few of the farms have thrashing-mills. There is an agricultural association in the district, which has been productive of great benefit.

The wages of out and in-door servants are similar in amount to those of the surrounding parishes.

All the lands in the parish, excepting the barony of Dulcapon, were thirled to the mill of Dowally, which does not now exist.

Farmers some years ago were sadly pestered with tinkers and sturdy beggars, who used to encamp in great numbers in the well-sheltered Bog of Dowally, but they have disappeared since the introduction of the county constabulary force.

In 1700, there was no road through the parish. The military road was cut in 1739. It was made in a straight line, just sufficiently broad, but not conveniently formed for a horse to travel. There were no bridges. The Duke of Atholl, in going from Dunkeld to Blair, at that period, was carried in a sedan chair. The journey was through the low grounds of the valley of Atholl, a distance of twenty-six miles, and took thirteen hours even with the aid of the tenants. About 1760, when the roads were a little better improved, the Duke travelled the same journey in a carriage drawn with six horses, which occupied twelve hours; the tenants assisting to get the vehicle over holes and rivulets. The first bridges built in the parish were those over the waters of Dowally and Oishnie, about seventy-eight years ago. When the late Duke succeeded to the title, he widened the military roads; and here and there he cut out a new and more convenient line, and erected several bridges. There are now twenty-seven bridges within the parish. He compelled the farmers to follow a mode of rotation in cultivation, and brought the locality, in little more than forty years, into its present improved state. At the present day, there is a daily mail to and from Inverness, with about twenty weekly carriers. In summer, there are five stage-coaches, which pass through the parish, exclusive of travelling carriages, &c. to the northern counties.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church was erected in 1818, nearly on the site of the old one. It is conveniently fitted up.

The iron jowls, for containing petty offenders, which hung on the side of the old church door, were ordered to be replaced at the door of the new church, where they now hang as a memorial of the rude olden times. On the east wall, are the family arms of Bishop Brown, the founder of the church. The burial-yard surrounds the edifice.

The Rev. Donald Munro, the Gaelic assistant to the present incumbent, resides in Dowally. There is worship every Sunday, and the sacrament is dispensed once a-year. The service is performed both in English and in Gaelic.

*Education.*—There was no regular school prior to 1780. The Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge fixed one of their schools in the parish, which was productive of great good. After it was withdrawn, one of the parishioners opened a school for the common branches of education, which he taught up to 1832. On an application from the inhabitants to the Atholl trustees, they, in 1833, appointed a parochial teacher. The salary is the maximum, L.34, 4s. 4½d. with school fees. He has as yet no dwelling-house. The school-house, erected in 1836, has been found too small, and is to be enlarged. The attendance is irregular.

*Poor.*—The funds are derived from the church collections and the mortcloth dues. They are divided monthly among the poor, and consequently the division is greater in some months than in others. They receive assistance from the farmers. In sickness, they are visited by their neighbours, and every relief and attendance given without ostentation or parade. The Atholl family gives them fuel and free houses.

*February 1843.*

# UNITED PARISHES OF LETHENDY AND KINLOCH.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

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THESE parishes were united in the year 1806.

## PARISH OF LETHENDY.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Boundaries.*—Lethendy is bounded on the east by the parish of Blairgowrie; on the south by Caputh; and on the west and north by Clunie.

*Situation and Extent.*—The extent of this parish in a direct line from east to west, is 5 miles. Its greatest breadth from south to north,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile. It is bounded on the east by the burn of Lunan, which divides it from the parish of Blairgowrie; on the south, by Caputh, and on the west and north, by Clunie. From the eastern extremity, the ground rises gently westward, the whole length of the parish, except on the west point, where it falls suddenly for about half a mile.

*Soil and Climate.*—The west half of the parish is a black mould inclining to a reddish clay, excepting some small corners, exceedingly rich, and well adapted to all kinds of crops. Towards the east, the soil becomes blacker, more wet, and less productive. From the southern exposure of the parish, the climate is perhaps a little milder than that of the parishes immediately adjoining. The difference, however, is not material.

### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—The first register extant of the kirk-session of Lethendy commences at the ordination of Mr George Freer, 1698; the second in 1754; and the third in 1823. It is unfortunate that each of these registers has been devoted to several purposes, such as acts of church discipline, collections and distributions for the poor, marriages and baptisms, &c. Some of the registers have, upon the whole, been well kept, but are much injured by having been exposed to damp. Others of them have been very carelessly kept for the last twenty or thirty years, owing

was a session-clerk, there was no session for the greater part of the above period.

*Land-owners.*—These are, Andrew Gemmel, Esq. of Lethendy, valuation L. 830, 15s. 1d. Scots; Sir John Muir Mackenzie, Bart. Delvine, L.264, 12s. Scots; David Kinloch, Esq. of Gourdie, L.165, 4s. 1d.

*Antiquities.*—The tower of Lethendy, the property of Mr Gemmel, is a very old building. It is supposed to have been a stronghold, before the use of fire arms was introduced into this country; but, upon the whole, it does not appear to have been well defended by its situation, especially on the east and south.

A few years ago, a pot was found in the peat moss at Blackloch. It is supposed that it was one of the camp pots used by the Romans. It is made of a compound metal, something like our brass or bell metal. It stands upon three feet, is about 17 inches high, is 3 feet 4 inches in circumference, and capable of holding about six Scotch pints. It was found about 6 feet under the surface.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population in 1841 was 287, viz. 132 males, and 155 females. It is altogether rural.

The number of illegitimate births in the parish within the last three years, 3.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

Number of acres, standard imperial measure, in the parish, which are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, about	1486
Number of acres which never have been cultivated, and which remain constantly waste or in pasture,	16
Number of acres that might, with a profitable application of capital, be added to the cultivated land of the parish, whether that land were afterwards to be kept in occasional tillage or in permanent pasture, about	3
Number of acres in a state of undivided common, under wood, whether natural or planted,	0 128

Average rent of land per acre, about L. 1, 5s. Real rental of the parish, L.1797.

*Live-Stock.*—There are only about 70 horses in the parish. The number of black-cattle in the parish, young and old, is now about 270. On some farms, the number of young cattle kept three years for sale (that being the general selling time) is one-third of the whole stock; on other farms, one-half; and on our largest farms, they form five-sixths.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Number of families in the parish belonging to the Established Church, 65; Dissenting or Seceding families, 4. Amount of stipend, in all about L.78. Glebe, 8 acres imperial in extent, and may be worth about L.2, 5s. per acre.

*Education.*—The only school in the parish is the parochial. The salary is the maximum. Probable yearly amount of fees actually paid to schoolmaster, L.12; other emoluments, L.2.

*Poor.*—Average number of persons receiving parochial aid, two permanently. We have also some occasionally needy. Average sum allotted to permanent paupers, from L. 2, 10s. to L.3 per annum: it being presumed that they provide a little for themselves, or are partly supported by relations. Average annual amount of contributions for relief of the poor, L.9, 10s. Church collections and mortcloths are almost the only sources of support for our poor; from church collections, about L.8, 10s.

## PARISH OF KINLOCH.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Boundaries.*—Kinloch is bounded on the east and north by the parish of Blairgowrie; on the south by Clunie and Caputh; and on the west by Clunie.

*Lakes, Brooks, &c.*—There are two large brooks in the parish, viz. Lornty Burn, and Lunan Burn. There are three lakes or lochs in this parish, viz. the Loch of Drumelie, the Rae Loch, and the Fenzies Loch, all the property of Mr Farquharson of Invercauld. Drumelie Loch is situated a little to the westward of the house of Marlee; the Rae Loch about a quarter of a mile to the eastward of it; and the Fenzies Loch about a mile to the south-east of the house.

### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—The first register extant of the kirk-session of Kinloch commences at the ordination of Mr James Gray, 1697; the second in 1726; the third in 1741; the fourth in 1762; the fifth in 1783; the sixth in 1803; and the seventh in 1823. The first of these registers is much decayed, and in many places illegible. Upon the whole, they seem to have been well kept, but, as the same book has been devoted to different purposes, (although a separate place has been assigned to each,) such as acts of discipline, collections, and disbursements for the poor, &c. the same remark applies here that was made as to the Lethendy books.

	Valuation 1850.
John Campbell, Esq. of Achalater, . . . . .	L.539 6 8
J. Farquharson, Esq. of Invercauld, . . . . .	413 15 8
George Hog, Esq. of Wester Kinloch, . . . . .	267 1 0
Rev. John Buist, minister of Tannadice, proprietor of Nether Balcairn, . . . . .	133 6 8
James Oliphant, Esq. of Gask, . . . . .	52 0 0
Total, . . . . .	L.1705 10 0

*Antiquities.*—There is one Druidical temple in the parish, on the road leading from Blairgowrie to Dunkeld. There is an old castle at Glassclune, situated on the promontory of a steep bank. There is a vast number of tumuli called the Haer Cairns in a moor in the parish.

### III.—POPULATION.

The amount of the population in 1841 was 369; viz. 181 males, and 188 females, altogether rural.

Number of illegitimate births in the parish during the last three years, 2.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

#### *Agriculture.*—

Number of acres, standard imperial measure, in the parish, which are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, . . . . .	1503
Number of acres which never have been cultivated, and which remain constantly waste or in pasture, upwards of . . . . .	1000
Number of acres which might be cultivated, but at great expense, probably . . . . .	500
Number of acres under wood, whether natural or planted, . . . . .	269

*Rent of Land.*—The average rent of land per acre, about L. 1, 4s. 6d.

*Rental.*—The real rental of the parish is about L.2200.

### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The number of families in the parish belonging to the Established Church, 69. There are no Dissenting or Seceding families in the parish. The number of Episcopalian families, 1. Amount of stipend, about L. 120. Glebe, about eight acres imperial in extent, and may be worth about L.2, 5s. per acre.

*Education.*—No schools but the parochial. Yearly amount of parochial schoolmaster's salary, L. 34, 4s. 4½d. Probable yearly amount of fees actually paid to parochial schoolmaster, L. 14; other emoluments, L. 2.

*Poor.*—Average number of persons receiving parochial aid, three permanent, and two or three occasional paupers.

*December 1842.*

# PARISH OF LITTLE DUNKELD.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. ROBERT ALLAN, MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THE parish of Little Dunkeld is a united parish, consisting of Little Dunkeld and the old parish of Laganallachy. Its extent from east to west is 16 miles. It is of an irregular form, nearly resembling the letter *y*, the narrow extremity being toward the east, and the broad towards the west. It is divided into three districts, viz. Murthly, Strathbran, and the Bishopruck, these two last diverging from the other near the village of Inver, and separated from each other by a mountainous tract of waste ground. Though called Little Dunkeld, it is of much greater extent and population than its neighbouring parish of Dunkeld, and has probably got its name from the circumstance of there being formerly a small village on this side of the Tay opposite to Dunkeld. There is an extensive range of hilly ground throughout the parish, with a considerable quantity of arable land in the low grounds, and which also extends a good way up the face of the mountains on each side. The celebrated hill of Birnam rises in majestic grandeur, on the southern extremity of the parish, to a very conspicuous elevation, from the top of which there is a fine and extensive view of the surrounding country.

*Hydrography.*—There are several lakes in the parish, all abounding in excellent trout. In one of them (Loch Skiach) there is said to be a good deal of pike. These lakes lie in the mountains which separate the two western divisions of the parish. The river Bran, which gives its name to the district through which it runs, takes its origin from Loch Freuchy, at the south-west extremity of the parish. It is precipitous in its course, and has some fine cataracts in its progress towards the Tay, which it joins opposite to Dunkeld. The scenery on the river Bran, for three miles above Little Dunkeld, is very romantic. The Rumbling Bridge is an object of curiosity to visitors. The bridge is thrown



great violence among the rocks. Farther down is situated the Hermitage, as it is called, on the north bank of the river, encircled in wood, the property of the Duke of Atholl. Here is another cascade; and the place is one of great resort in the summer months to strangers. There are guides appointed to conduct through the grounds, who receive payment from the visitors. It is to be regretted that these walks have been long open to visitors on the Lord's day. Considerable desecration of the Sabbath is the consequence, as these Sunday pleasure parties not only absent themselves from the house of prayer, but set a bad example to the inhabitants of the district. Application was made some years ago to the proper authorities to have the nuisance put a stop to, by shutting the walks on the Lord's day. The concession granted was, that the gates should be shut "during divine service."

*Woods.*—In the districts of Murthly and the Bishoprick, there is a considerable extent of woods. The planted trees are, oak, ash, Scotch fir, larch, and plane. The indigenous are birch and hazel. The oak and fir are of most extent, and also the most profitable. The former is divided into coppices, which are successively cut down once in twenty years, and affords a good return for land in other respects of little value. It fetches a good price for the sake of the bark; and, in the summer season, gives employment to a good many people. A considerable quantity of Scotch fir and larch, of large dimensions, has been cut of late, and sent to England for ship-building. The birch, which gives so much beauty to Highland scenery, is nearly extirpated in this parish, and the oak is taking its place. At Inver there is a powerful saw-mill, driven by water, which gives employment to a good many hands. Here there is a very large quantity of timber prepared and exported to England for railroads and other purposes.

*Geology.*—Near Murthly, in the eastern district of the parish, there is a quarry of freestone, of a fine grain, and light ash colour. The cathedral of Dunkeld was built of this stone, and also the fine bridge which crosses the Tay at Dunkeld. In Birnam hill, there is a slate quarry, which furnishes abundance of excellent slate, of a deep blue colour, resembling violet.

*Soil.*—There is a considerable variety of soil in the parish. The best seems to be in the eastern district, consisting generally of black loam. In the other districts, the soil is composed partly of black mould, and partly of sand and gravel.

There are but few remains of antiquity in the parish. As is the case in several other Highland parishes, there are to be seen the relics of Druidical circles, where our rude ancestors performed their superstitious rites; and for these remains the people have still a veneration. On the farm of Bahinloan, there is a remarkable stone, of large size, called *Clach a mhoid*, or the stone where the court was held. It is said that a baron in the neighbourhood held his court here for the trial of offenders, with power to "hang and drown; (*Comas croiche agus poll*;) and tradition says, that the last baron who exercised these functions was not undeserving of one or other of these ends himself. There are two very large trees near the church, on the bank of the Tay, and said to be the remains of the once celebrated forest of Birnam; the one is oak, the other plane-tree, and each about 18 feet in circumference. They are objects of curiosity to strangers, and are interesting from their antiquity, being the twin survivors of a numerous family long ago departed.

In a plain on the banks of the Bran, four miles from Dunkeld, are to be seen the ruins of the Castle of Trochery, once a residence of the Gowrie family. A small circular part of the wall is still standing. From its weather-beaten appearance, it must have withstood the shock of many a pitiless storm; but its pride and glory have long since passed away, like those of its original owners, showing nothing but the melancholy wrecks of time.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, the Duke of Atholl; Sir William D. Stewart; John Stewart, Esq. of Dalguise; and Mr Campbell of Kinloch.

The valued rent in Scots money is L. 4805, 16s. 4d.; and the real rental is said to be about L. 11,620 Sterling.

*Parochial Registers.*—The register of births and baptisms begins in 1759; and the register of proclamation of banns for marriage in the same year.

*Mansion Houses.*—The principal of these is Murthly Castle, the seat of Sir William D. Stewart, Bart. (of Grandtully), situated about four miles below Dunkeld, on the south side of the Tay. There is a new mansion lately erected in front of the old castle, remarkable for beauty of design and elegance of architecture. The shell of the house, or mason-work, was completed ten years ago; but the rest remains in an unfinished state. The present proprietor has expended a considerable sum in levelling the ground in front, and transplanting rows of ornamental trees, which, if they thrive

will add to the beauty of the site. The situation of Murray Castle, with its undulating grounds and woods, is very fine. The whole bears the marks of antiquity, exhibiting an interesting appearance, and leading the mind back to the rude ages of feudal power.

The family seat of Mr Stewart of Dalguise is situated in the Bishoprick; the mansion-house is partly old and partly modern, and is prettily situated on the left of the public road which leads to Taymouth.

Two miles above Dalguise, on the right, is Kinnaird House, the residence of the Lady Dowager Glenlyon, the property of the Atholl family. It is situated on a rising ground near the bank of the river Tay, and the situation is romantic.

Besides these, there is Birnam Lodge and Birnam Cottage, nearly opposite to Dunkeld,—the former the residence of the Honourable Fox Maule, the latter of Dr Smyttan, late of India. There is also a handsome mansion now being built, in the cottage style, by a Perth gentleman (Mr Wallace), on the western face of a beautiful detached hill called the Torwood. It looks toward Dunkeld. The situation is very fine, and the prospect lovely.

The Bridge of Dunkeld is so well known, that it is not necessary here to give a minute description of it. It was built in 1809 by the late Duke of Atholl, assisted by a grant from Government. It is a splendid specimen of architecture, and of vast benefit, not only to the inhabitants of the surrounding districts, but to the country at large.

*Family of Stewart of Dalguise.*—The following brief notice of the family of Dalguise has been communicated: “This family derives its descent from Sir John Stewart of Cardney and Arntullie, the youngest natural son of King Robert II., by Marion or Mariote de Cardney, daughter of John de Cardney of that ilk, and sister of Robert, Bishop of Dunkeld, from 1396 to 1436.

“From King Robert III. his brother, Sir John Stewart, obtained a charter of the two Cardneys and Butterston *inter lacos*, dated 12th February 1399. There was also granted to him a pension ‘furth of the customs of Dundee.’ He was knighted in 1424 at the coronation of King James I., and married Jean Drummond, sister of Arabella, Queen of Robert III. To the Laird of Arntullie, bailie of the regality of Dunkeld, the descendant of Sir John Stewart, the Regent Earl of Murray, addressed his order in 1560, directing him to take down, and burn openly, all the

church of all monuments of idolatry; but to preserve from destruction the desks, windows, and doors, the glass and iron-work, &c. King James VI., by warrant dated in 1592 (still extant), appointed the son of the preceding laird to hold the office of bailie, 'as his predecessors had bruicked the same.'

"The lands of Dalguise in this parish, which had been given by King William the Lion, in 1060, to the church of Dunkeld, were, in 1543, granted by Bishop Crichton to John Stewart, the second son of Stewart of Arntullie, and Elizabeth Stewart his wife; and from them the proprietor is descended. John Stewart, the first of Dalguise, who married a daughter of Alexander Stewart of Grandtully, died in 1576, and was buried in the church of Little Dunkeld. His next younger brother, Sir Thomas Stewart, was vicar of Dowally. John Stewart, grandson of the first laird, married Isabel, daughter of William Stewart of Kinnaird. He is traditionally remembered in the Gaelic language as *Ian Mor Macalastair*, and was engaged, along with the Atholl Stewarts, in most of the military actions of the civil war, under the gallant and unfortunate Montrose. He was also, for some time, chamberlain to the Bishops of Dunkeld, and died in 1653. His great-grandson, John Stewart of Dalguise, was born in 1689. Having embraced the cause of the exiled royal family, and after being present at the Battle of Sheriffmuir, he was subjected to fine and imprisonment. He built the House of Dalguise, which bears the date of 1716. Hew Stuart, a younger son of John Stewart of Dalguise, was Governor of the British settlement at Bencoolen in Sumatra. David Stewart, another of his younger sons, was a banker and merchant in Edinburgh, and Lord Provost of that city about the year 1778. John Stewart, the seventh laird, having possessed the estate during the long period of seventy years from 1706 to 1776, and having attained the age of nearly ninety years, greatly beloved and respected, died at Dalguise in September 1776.

"The present proprietor, who is the great-grandson of the last mentioned, is employed in the Colonial Civil Service, and resides abroad."

### III.—POPULATION.

Population in 1801,	.	2977	.
1811,	.	2932	.
1821,	.	2977	.
1831,	.	2867	.
1841,	.	2715—males, 1307, fem. 1408.	.

PERTH.

perhaps partly owing to the decay of the linen trade, which gave employment to a great many persons, and perhaps also from the system adopted by some of the proprietors, since the passing of the Reform Bill, of converting small farms into large.

The great bulk of the population reside in villages, of which there are about twenty-four, the principal of which are Inver, Dalguise, and Balnagard.

The average of births for the last seven years about 70; of marriages, 16. There is no record kept of burials. The number of persons under mental imbecility, 12; deaf and dumb, 1.

The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L.50 is 6. There is only one of these resident in the parish at present.

*Language.*—The language generally spoken in the two most populous districts, viz. Strathbran and the Bishoprick, is the Gaelic, which does not seem to be losing ground, though the English is more generally understood than formerly. About four-fifths of the inhabitants are a Gaelic population, and much attached to their vernacular tongue.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

##### *Agriculture.*—

The number of imperial acres of uncultivated land about	7511
constantly waste,	12500
which might be improved,	367
under wood,	3204

*Live-Stock.*—The people are chiefly engaged in grazing and agriculture. There are a good deal of black-cattle reared in the parish, which are sold in the southern markets. It is not a sheep country, though there are considerable numbers kept by some of the tenants, chiefly the black-faced, and some also of the white. The breed of cattle cannot be expected to improve while the people keep more than their small portions of land can well support, though this is chiefly done with the laudable view of meeting the yearly demand for rent.

*Rent.*—The average rent of land may be stated at L.2, 5s. per acre, some of it so high as L.3, and even L.4 per acre. This must be far beyond the ability of the people to pay, even with that frugality and industry for which they are remarkable. When the present low price of produce is considered, the uncertainty of the crops in this district from unfavourable and late seasons, the inferior quality of the grain produced, and the great distance from market (eighteen to twenty-four miles), the land in

the kingdom. The people are so attached to their native soil, that they frequently offer more than the land is worth, which keeps them poor, and deprives them of many of the comforts of life. In the Strathbran district, until very lately, most of the tenants had no lease but from year to year, nor did they care for any lease, considering themselves sure of their lands while they lived under their late kind and indulgent landlord, Sir George Stewart; and, in many cases, the same farms were possessed by the same families for three or four generations. Within the last sixteen years, a great extent of waste land has been reclaimed by the industry of the tenants, which must have added very considerably to the value of the property. Such tenantry deserve encouragement and kind treatment from their landlord. Yet it may be observed, that letting land only from year to year can be beneficial neither to tenant, landlord, nor property. The system of giving leases has now been adopted, varying from twelve to nineteen years; and the larger farmers follow a rotation generally of five years. The crops raised are barley and bear, oats, turnips, and potatoes. Wheat growing is hardly ever attempted. The quantity of potatoes raised in this parish is very great, and the quality excellent, and, from the preference given to them in the London market, vast quantities of them are shipped for that place. The potato trade is indeed the great stay of the farmer, though the carriage to Perth, the shipping-port, is expensive.

There are a few as good practical farmers in this parish, perhaps, as in Scotland, among whom may be mentioned Mr Grant tacksman of Claypotts, and Mr M'Naughton, tacksman of Inch, both on the Duke of Atholl's property. In Strathbran there is some very good land, especially in the flats, and on the north side of the Bran, where there is a southern exposure; but on the south side, the land is spouty and cold, producing late crops.

The present proprietor in this district (Sir W. D. Stewart) is converting the small farms into large ones. The consequence is, that many of the small tenants are turned out of their possessions, to shift for themselves and families the best way they can. Some of them have sought farms in other parishes, and some have emigrated to Canada, never again expecting to return to the land of their nativity, and of their early associations.

*Orchards.*—In the Bishoprick, there are several orchards, which

so very low, that they are of very little value.

*Fisheries.*—Though the parish is bounded on the north for sixteen miles by the noble Tay, yet the produce of the fisheries in all that “reach” is very trifling. The cause of the failure of the salmon is not well understood; for although the fish have many snares and enemies to encounter in their progress up the river, yet, in spite of all these impediments, were the fish very plentiful, they would still find their way up our noble river in abundance as in days long gone by. The rents of the fisheries have fallen prodigiously, within the last thirty or forty years, to the great loss of the proprietors. This trade appears to have been conducted with too great cupidity and thirst for gain, and the present state of the fisheries may be a just retribution. For many years, most of the salmon caught in the Scotch rivers have been sent to the London market; and for the few fish sold at home, very extravagant prices have usually been demanded; so that the community in general have little reason to regret the failure.

*Manufactures.*—Flax, which was at one time an article of great importance in this parish, and afforded employment to a considerable portion of the inhabitants, is now in very few instances grown. The linen trade has been in abeyance for many years. There is but one lint-mill in the parish. The extensive use of machinery in this trade has given a sad blow to the domestic spinning-wheel, by which many females earned a comfortable livelihood. The vast importation of American cotton, and the increase of that trade has occasioned a great fall in the value, and consequently in the price of linen manufacture. There are only two linen manufacturers in this parish, both of them active and intelligent men, and who are said to do business to the extent of nearly L.2000 each per annum.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—There is no market-town within the parish. Dunkeld is the chief market-town for the surrounding country. There are generally four held yearly. The Martinmas market is the chief, and usually attended by great assemblages of people from considerable distances. At this market there is a good deal of business transacted in the way of buying and selling, engaging servants, and other necessary matters. Still these markets are attended with evils, from the great gathering of idle and loose

use but to swell the number of dram-drinkers.

*Villages, Roads, &c.*—There are from twenty to thirty villages or hamlets in the parish, with a population in each varying from 30 to 180 inhabitants. There is a good turnpike road in each of the three districts of the parish; that in Strathbran is ten miles long; the one in the Bishoprick the same; and in the eastern division, about four miles, and all in excellent condition. There is a new bridge across the Bran, nearly half-way between Dunkeld and Amulree. It crosses the river at a romantic bend of the stream, opposite to a beautiful copse of birch which skirts a pretty cottage, or shooting-lodge erected by the Murthly family.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church is situated near the south bank of the Tay, nearly opposite to Dunkeld, and was built in 1798. It is commodious and comfortable. The situation is fine. It is nearly surrounded by trees; and for its neat and simple appearance, may be considered a model for Scottish country churches. In respect to the population, however, the site is not the most eligible. Though seated for upwards of 800, there is not the half of that number within three miles of it. The people, however, who reside in the different extremities of the parish, usually attend the nearest church in the neighbouring parish. The mission of Amulree, at the west end of Strathbran, is connected with this parish, and to which a district of it, comprising 500 or 600 of Highland population, is attached *quoad sacra*. The sittings are all free.

The manse was built in 1820, and is rather a handsome modern house. There are two glebes; one at Little Dunkeld, the other at the old church of Laganallachy; the former contains about eight acres, the latter about four, but not very valuable; both may be valued at L.20. The stipend is 10½ chalders nearly, partly meal and partly barley, and L.8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. The teinds are said to be exhausted. The stipend is paid according to an interim locality, and is considerably less than in the time of the late incumbent, between whom and one of the heritors (Logiealmond) a process had been going on for years. Soon after the admission of the present incumbent, and for whom no appearance was made in court, an interlocutor was pronounced in favour of the heritor.

There is another church in the parish, that of Laganallachy, which name may signify “*the valley for burying*,” from the two



Aulachy, a traditionary saint. This church is in Strathbran, about three miles from Dunkeld, and near the celebrated Rumbling Bridge. It contains from 400 to 500 people. Service is performed here once every month, and wholly in Gaelic.

There is no Episcopalian nor Catholic chapel in the parish, if we except a small old and decayed chapel attached to Murthly Castle, and lately fitted up for service by the present proprietor. It is believed that there is not one other Roman Catholic in the parish. There are a very few families in the eastern division of the parish who belong to the Secession, and attend a meeting-house on the confines of the parish of Kinclaven. These appear to be diminishing in number.

The attendance in the principal church of Little Dunkeld varies from 400 to 700; the average number of communicants, 740.

There is a parochial association for religious purposes, which distributes annually about L. 20 for the spread of the Gospel at home and abroad, and for support of the Assembly's schools. Besides this, there are occasional collections for other charitable purposes, to which the people very readily contribute.

*Education.*—The number of schools is seven, of which two are parochial, three on the establishment of the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, and of great benefit to the parish. The remaining two are private schools. The number of children attending these schools during winter may be about 400. The salary of the first parish schoolmaster is L. 29, 18s. 11½d., of the other L. 10, along with the fees, which are not considerable. The salaries of the Society teachers average L. 15; but, their schools being situated in populous districts, their fees are considerable. In all these the expense of education is low. Some are taught gratis; and the schools are so judiciously distributed, that the children have easy access to them.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number on the poor list is 31. The lowest allowance, 5d. and 6d. weekly, the highest, 2s. 6d. and 3s. The amount annually contributed for their relief is about L. 100; of which L. 24, 10s. arises from church collections; L. 12, 16s. of interest of money in hands of the heritors, and belonging to the poor. The rest is raised by voluntary assessment.

It may be mentioned, that, “ towards the beginning of last century, John Stewart, Esq. of Grandtully, mortified the sum of

his estate, of the Scotch Episcopal communion, appointing his own heirs, and the heirs of three other families allied to his own, administrators of this fund. About 1740, a building was erected for the objects of the benefaction in the district of Murthly; but for certain reasons, the original plan was not carried out. In the former Statistical Account of this parish it is said that the sum had accumulated to L.2600 Sterling,—the interest of which is distributed among certain poor persons in this and other parishes, without regard to their religious creed.

*Library.*—There is a small parish library, and the subscription is so low that the great body of parishioners have access to it.

*Fuel.*—The fuel used by the common people is peat, which appears to be abundant, but much of it of inferior quality. The securing of this necessary of life costs the people much care and labour. Coals are used by those who are in better condition. These are a very expensive fuel, from the extent of land carriage.

*Inns.*—The number of inns in the parish is 14, too many for any parish in the kingdom. Within the compass of one mile, in the vicinity of the parish church, there are no less than four.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

This parish may be said to hold its place in the general march of improvement since the former Statistical Account was written. Ploughing-matches have been long ago introduced; the rotation of crops better understood; the old clumsy wooden plough has almost universally been succeeded by the iron one; and on some of the larger farms, comfortable houses and good offices have been erected for the occupiers; yet, we are constrained to say that these advantages are, in too many cases, more than counterbalanced by the very high rate at which farms in general are let in this parish. The roads in this parish are now excellent.

*January 1843.*

# UNITED PARISHES OF FOSSOWAY AND TULLIEBOLE.

PRESBYTERY OF AUCHTERARDER, SYNOD OF PERTH & STIRLING.

THE REV. PETER BRYDIE, MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name is found written variously; formerly it was *Fossowey*, *Fossoquhey*, and sometimes *Fossoquich*; at present it is often *Fossaway*;—but the more correct spelling is supposed to be *Fossoway*. The first of these modes of spelling favours the conjecture, that it is composed of two Gaelic words signifying the “desert of the deer.” *Tulliebole* is also thought to be of Gaelic origin, and to signify “the Poet’s hill.”

*Extent and Boundaries.*—The figure of the parish is very irregular. The river Devon forms one of its boundaries to the extent of about nine miles. The course which that river here follows is not unlike the form of a shepherd’s crook, having the long end in the low ground pointing westward in the direction of Stirling, and the other in the Ochil Hills, on the north, pointing nearly due west. The bend which the river thus makes is called the “Crook of Devon.” The lands within its curve, are, as respects the southern and greater portion of them, in the parish of Muckart, and the remainder in that of Glendovan. *Fossoway* is wholly on the outside of the curve, and stretches from it to the opposite boundary on the north, east, and south, to an extent varying from about two to five miles. Its greatest length from east to west is about 11 miles, and its greatest breadth about 10. Besides adjoining the two parishes already mentioned, it adjoins *Dunning* on the north; *Orwell* and *Kinross* on the east; *Cleish* and *Saline* on the south; and *Clackmannan* and *Doilar* on the west. It extends to within a few hundred yards of the Church of *Cleish* on the south-east, and to within about half a mile of that of *Glendovan* in the opposite direction.

*Topographical Appearances.*—*Fossoway* and *Tulliebole*, originally two separate parishes, were, it is supposed, united about the year 1614. The former consists of two extensive districts; the

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united parish. These, at the nearest points, are upwards of a mile distant from each other. The northern district comprehends, besides several farms of considerable extent, the baronies of Fossoway and Carnbo. It was once entirely in Perthshire, but the latter barony was, with the exception of one farm belonging to Stewart of Grandtully, annexed about a century and a half ago to the county of Kinross. This district contains a considerable portion of the Ochil Hills. These afford excellent pasture for sheep and cattle; while at the same time they furnish, in the intervening valleys, good soil for cultivation. The hills may vary in height from about 1000 to 1500 feet above the level of the sea. One of them, called Easter Downhill, presents a very pleasing appearance, especially when viewed from the south or west. It is of a conical shape, clothed with verdure to the top, and skirted with natural wood around the base, along which, in a deep ravine, the Devon pursues its winding course. At the bottom of this hill the bridge of St Serf, on what was the road to Perth by Dunning, till the present turnpike road was formed, less than thirty years ago, is still standing, though now much out of repair. The hill is of considerable height, and the view from its summit in clear weather is very extensive and varied. In respect of height and extent of prospect, however, it is surpassed by Innerdownie, which is the highest hill in the parish, and commands at once a view of the Forth and of the Tay.

The southern district of Fossoway is wholly in Perthshire. It consists of the barony of Aldie on the east; of the barony of Solsgirth and the lands of Blairngone on the west; and of the baronies of Gartwhynean and Pitfar in the middle. Here the wide valley, reaching from the Ochil Hills on the north to the hills of Cleish and Saline on the south, is divided by the Devon, between the parish of Fossoway and that of Muckart. The parish of Tulliebole, however, lying chiefly east of the curve formed by the river, extends over the whole breadth of the valley.

All of Tulliebole belongs to the county of Kinross. It includes the baronies of Tulliebole and Coldrain, and the farm of Briglands. Though the lands in it and the southern branch of Fossoway are low, compared with the hills on the south and north, yet comparatively little of them are flat. They rise into ridges of different heights, stretching from east to west, and thus form sloping banks more or less steep.

Hydrogeology. Thermal springs of pure water abound throughout the parish. There is a petrifying spring on the lands of Devonshaw. But the most remarkable is that which was discovered fifteen years ago on the lands of Blairgone, which has erroneously been called "Dollar Water." It has been found wonderfully efficacious in healing cuts, lacerations, and several other external injuries.

The following extract from a letter of Dr Thomson, Professor of Chemistry in the University of Glasgow, of date 1830, will show the analysis of the water and its properties :

" Its specific gravity is 1.0109, and an imperial gallon of it contains the following ingredients :

Common salt, . . . . .	5.87 grains.
Sulphate of soda, . . . . .	170.99
Sulphate of alumina, . . . . .	953.18
Dipersulphate of iron, . . . . .	1753.10
Persulphate of iron, . . . . .	141.55
Silica, . . . . .	58.70
	<hr/>
	Grains, 3093.39

" It is by far the strongest mineral water I ever heard of, an imperial gallon containing rather more than half a Troy pound of salts. It is too strong for internal use, but when diluted sufficiently with water, it might be of service in the numerous diseases for which iron and the sulphate of alumina are useful. As an external application, it would act powerfully as an astringent."

The Devon, which rises in the Ochils, and, after a long and devious course, empties itself into the Forth, is the only current of water connected with the parish that deserves the name of "River." There are, however, several other streams which have their rise either in the parish or on its boundary, and which, like the Devon, are well supplied with trout. The chief of these are the north and south Queichs and East Gairney, which run into Lochleven, and the West Gairney, which joins the Devon below the Caldron Linn.

*Cascades.*—To strangers, the great objects of attraction belonging to this parish are the Rumbling Bridge and Caldron Linn. These are so fully described in the Old Statistical Account, that it is deemed unnecessary to say much of them here. With respect to the former, however, it is proper to state, that, while the original bridge remains entire, there is now another bridge corresponding with the turnpike road passing that way, standing directly above it; and that the adjoining scenery is inspected with much greater convenience and effect than formerly, owing to the

ferent points whence the most striking views are obtained.

*Mineralogy.*—There are whin and freestone quarries in several parts of the parish. In the west end of it there are lime rock, iron ore, and coal. At present three collieries are in operation. The colliery of Blairngone is of very long standing; the working of the other two commenced but recently. The work at the ironstone mine was, for a considerable number of years, till about two months ago, actively prosecuted. A mixture of copper is found in a rock near the Rumbling Bridge, but it appears that the proportion which the copper bears to the alloy is not sufficient to render the working of it advantageous.\*

*Soils.*—There is great diversity of soil in the parish. In some parts it is mossy, in others gravelly, in some places clayey, and in others loamy. Some of it is of good quality, while not a little of it is very inferior.

*Botany.*—There is a good deal to interest the botanist here. The following are some of the plants found in the district:—

<i>Circœa alpina</i>	<i>Rumex saxatilis</i>	<i>Vicia sylvatica</i>
<i>Veronica montana</i>	<i>Nymphœa alba</i>	<i>Hieracium umbellatum.</i>
<i>Gentiana campestris</i>	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	
<i>Rumex alpinus</i>	<i>Geranium pratense</i>	

There are some fine old trees in the parish, but none of them of very remarkable size. Within these few years, much of the larch fir has appeared to be in a back-going state. Till then, the cultivation of it was accounted profitable. Spruce and Scotch fir, ash, elm, plane, and beech thrive well. Oak, till of late years, was not much reared; where it has been tried, however, it promises well.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Till the year 1729, there was a church for each parish, and the minister officiated every third Sabbath in the church of Tulliebole. In that year, a new church was built in a more central situation, to accommodate the inhabitants of both parishes. The spot fixed on is on the south of the Devon, in the western part of Tulliebole, about a mile and a-half west from the former church of that parish, and about two miles south from the old church of Fossoway. Soon after the erection of the church in its present situation, the glebe and manse of Fossoway were sold, but the churchyard was retained; and in it, as well as in that of Tulliebole, some of the

\* The late proprietor of Briglands, Thomas Young, Esq., got it scientifically examined, and had in his possession some very neat seals made of it.

Fossoway thus ceased to be the residence of the minister, it has continued to be inhabited. It was lately thoroughly repaired and somewhat enlarged, and now forms a very commodious dwelling for a genteel family; it is pleasantly situated on the sunny side of the Ochils, near the bank of the Devon.

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners of this parish are numerous. Thirty-seven of them are severally possessed of property in the parish, amounting to upwards of L. 50 of yearly value. The principal proprietors are, Baroness Keith of Aldie; William Scott Moncrieff of Fossoway; Sir James W. Moncreiff of Tulliebole: and Captain William Patton of Devonshaw. The two last-mentioned have family mansions in the parish, the former being occasionally, and the latter constantly resident. The family residence of the former is the castle of Tulliebole, built in the year 1608.

*Antiquities.*—The Castle of Aldie, built in the sixteenth century, though for long uninhabited, is still standing, with its walls and roofing entire. The ancestors of the Duke of Athole had once a family residence on the lands of Blairngone, but no trace of it now remains. A portion of the lands, together with the colliery, however, still belongs to his Grace.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population by the return to Dr Webster in 1755 was	1765
by former Account,	1505
by census	1821, 1846
	1891, 1876
	1841, 1724, 881 males, 843 fem.

The increase of population of late years has been chiefly owing to the working of the ironstone mines, and the demand for labourers arising from agricultural improvement. About 700 reside in villages. Yearly average of births for the last seven years, 58; average of marriages, 10. No register of deaths is kept.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The land cultivated, or occasionally in tillage, may amount to 8690 Scotch acres; and the land which has never been cultivated, and which remains constantly waste or in pasture, to 5425. So much progress has already been made in adding to the cultivated land, that it is not supposed above 300 acres remain that would likely remunerate for the outlay required for its improvement. There are about 75 acres of undivided common, and about 600 under wood.

*Rent.*—The average rent of arable land in the parish is L. 1 per acre Scotch. The real rental of all the land in the parish amounts to about L. 9700. The average of grazing is about L.3, 15s. for each cow, and 4s. 6d. for each sheep per annum.

The general duration of leases is nineteen years.

The farm-houses, with very few exceptions, are good and comfortable dwellings. The fences are generally stone dikes; the thorn hedge is also partly used. The wire fence, with wooden posts, has of late been introduced to a considerable extent on the estate of Fossoway.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Towns.*—The nearest market and post-town to the east end of the parish is Kinross; and to the west end, Dollar. The former is six miles from the parish church, and the latter about five.

The principal villages are Blairgone and Crook of Devon. These, as stated in the former Account, are boroughs of barony. There is also a small village at Easter Gartwhynean.

*Means of Communication.*—The turnpike road from Dunfermline to Crieff intersects the parish from south to north, and that from Kinross to Alloa from east to west, passing near the parish church. Parallel with the latter, and about two miles to the north, another turnpike passes through the parish, being the road from Stirling to the eastern district of Fife. The turnpike road to Dunning also passes through a part of the parish. At one time a public coach from Perth to Glasgow, and another from Crieff to Edinburgh, travelled through the parish. But for some years, there has been no public conveyance to be had nearer than Kinross, Dunfermline, or Alloa. The parish does not thus enjoy great facility of communication with other parts of the country. The want of a post-office is felt to be a great inconvenience.

*Bridges.*—There are six bridges on the Devon connected with this parish. Of these four belong to turnpike roads, and two to county roads. All of them are kept in good condition.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Till the opening of the Extension church at Blairgone, about five years ago, the parish church was the only place of public worship within the parish. Though it could not have been placed in a more central situation, yet it is above five miles from some of the extremities of the parish. It was built in 1806, and is commodious and in good repair. It affords accommodation for 525 persons, allowing 18 inches to each. The manse was built in 1781, repaired and a little enlarged in 1827,



Scotch acres in extent, and may be valued at about 12s. per acre. The stipend is L. 70, 8s. 2½d., and about six chalders of victual, half meal, half barley, payable according to the fiars of the county.

The number of householders in the parish at the time of the last census was 372. Of these 309 belong to the Established Church; 59 to the United Secession Church; 2 to the Synod of Original Seceders; and 2 to the Roman Catholics.

In favourable weather, divine service is well attended at the Established Church. The number of communicants since the erection of the new parish of Blairgone in 1841 is upwards of 300; before that time, it was from 400 to 500. There are some contributions yearly for the General Assembly's schemes, and for the purpose of education in the parish.

The Extension church already mentioned was opened for public worship in the spring of 1838. It is situated in the west end of the parish, a little east from the village of Blairgone, and about four miles from the parish church. The ground on which it stands was given gratuitously by Mark Watt, Esq.—that gentleman, in addition to a handsome subscription, having generously made us a present of half-a Scotch acre of land. The church was used for some time as a preaching station, the minister of the parish officiating in it when his presence was required to administer the ordinance of baptism.

By the constitution of this church, agreed to at a meeting of the subscribers on 28th October 1839, the boundary between the proposed new parish and the parish of Fossoway was fixed; one article containing these words, in reference to this point, that the parochial territory of the church of Blairgone shall be “That part of the parish of Fossoway lying to the west of a line from the conflux of the Garney and the Devon, immediately by the east of the house of Barnhill, to the southern boundary of the parish.” But, after this agreement, an attempt was unhappily made to extend the boundary much nearer to the parish church. This attempt, however, was successfully resisted, and the matter finally settled by the Presbytery, acting under a remit to them by the General Assembly at their meeting in December 1840, when they determined to hold by “the original boundary agreed upon by the subscribers.” The population within that part of the parish of Fossoway thus assigned was, at the last census, 558, most

These, and the inhabitants of the adjoining districts of the parishes of Clackmannan, Dollar, and Muckart, form a population as numerous as the church of Blairngone can accommodate, it being seated for from 200 to 300.

The necessary steps having thus been taken, the present incumbent was ordained minister of Blairngone in autumn 1841. He holds a bond for L.60 per annum, payable from the seat-rents and church-door collections.

*Education.*—There are 4 schools in the parish. Of these, one is parochial, two are on the teachers' own adventure, and one is aided by a small sum raised by individual subscription. The branches taught are, Latin, English, writing, arithmetic, and practical mathematics. The parochial teacher has the maximum salary, house, garden, and a few acres of land. The land was purchased with vacant stipend, and a small sum borrowed from the poor's funds, for which the teacher pays interest.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of paupers in the parish is about 11. At present there are only eight on the roll, the average allowance to each of whom is about L.4, 7s. yearly. The funds for their support, and for occasional aid to others, arise from the collections at the parish church, interest of money, donations from heritors, and burying-ground sold in the church-yard. Many of the poor, but not all, manifest a reluctance to apply for parochial aid.

*Fairs.*—There are two fairs kept in the parish yearly, at which a few cattle and some small wares are exposed for sale.

*Inns, &c.*—There are 14 inns or public-houses in the parish. It appears that three would be sufficient for the accommodation of travellers. The increased number of these houses tends very much to deteriorate the morals of the people.

*Fuel.*—The fuel in general use in the parish is coal procured within the parish itself. Peats are also used, but to a small extent.

*January 1843.*

# PARISH OF CLUNIE.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. GEORGE MILLAR, MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Extent, &c.*—THE parish lies in the district of Stormont, and extends about 9 miles in length and 4 in breadth. It is bounded by a section of the parish of Blairgowrie on the north; the united parishes of Lethendy and Kinloch, on the east; and the parish of Caputh, on the south and west.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The parish is supposed to contain upwards of 8000 acres, and exhibits great variety of climate, surface, scenery, and soil. The arable parts comprehend, probably, about from 2000 to 3000 acres. The soil, though light and gravelly in many parts, affords good crops of oats, barley, and wheat, equal to any in the neighbourhood. Upon the estates of several proprietors in the parish much has been done in planting. Hundreds of acres, not many years ago covered with heath, furze, broom, and brushwood, are now crowned with beautiful thriving plantations of fir and larch.

Benachally, the highest mountain in the parish, commands a most extensive and varied prospect. At the foot of Benachally is a loch of the same name, about one mile in length and a-half-mile in breadth.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Four miles to the south is the Loch of Clunie, having a beautiful little island, on which stands an old castle belonging to the Earl of Airly. On the island is the site of an old chapel. There are the remains of three others yet visible in different parts of the parish. The Loch of Clunie is from two to three miles in circumference, and abounds with trout, perch, and pike. Its greatest depth is about seventy-four feet. The castle on the island is said to have been the birth-place of the Admirable Crichton. On the west side of the loch stands the old Castle Hill, a large green mound, on the top of which are the ruins of an old building, said to have been the sum-

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mound stand the parish church and manse.

*Curiosities and Antiquities.*—In the face of Benachally, which looks towards the east, there is a cave of considerable magnitude. It is called the *Drap*, or Drop, from the water oozing through the crannies, and perpetually dropping from the roof. Below the Drop, and near the foot of the mountain, is a cove, called Henry's Hole, from its having been in former times the hiding-place of robbers or plunderers of that name. A little to the north of Stanley Know, there is a rising ground styled the Gallow Drum, and about 300 yards south-west of the minister's glebe is another eminence, named the Gibbet Know, both which were places of execution in the times of baronial jurisdiction. On the east side of the moss, at the foot of Benachally, we find a sepulchral cairn which has never been opened; and a few furlongs to the southward of this cairn, there is a great number of small cairns. There are two immense collections of stones, one on the south-west, and the other on the north-east extremity of the parish. These are said to have marked the boundary here between the Caledonian and Pictish kingdoms. At the east end of the Hill of Gourdie, in the middle of a cultivated field, may be seen a curious piece of antiquity, called the *Steeds-stalls*. It consists of eight mounds, with eight corresponding trenches; perhaps some more have been obliterated by the plough. The mounds and trenches are of equal length, alternate, and parallel. At the south end of each trench or fosse, there is a circular concave, the centre of which lies in the line of the fosse, and to this circular concavity the fosse seems to have formed the entrance. It is said that an advanced guard of the Caledonian army was posted here, to watch the motions of the Romans, when they lay encamped at Inchtuthill, about two miles to the southward in the plain below.

*Mansion-Houses.* — There are two that merit description. Forneth, the seat of James Speid, Esq. stands on the north-west bank of the Loch of Clunie, on a fine elevation, commanding a small but beautiful prospect of the island, the loch, and the adjacent grounds. The Lunan, washing, in gentle meanders, the foot of the bank, steals softly into the loch, a little below the house. Gourdie, the seat of David Kinloch, Esq. is a large, convenient, and substantial house, beautifully situated. The prospect from it is delightful. Immediately under the eye, you see the

cent house of that name, rising on a woody bank about a mile and a-half to the south.

### III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1811,	.	1060
1821,	.	942
1831,	.	944
1841,	.	763

There are 189 families in the parish. One family is Episcopalian, but regularly attends the parish church. Three families, with a few other persons, belong to the Secession church, and attend their own place of worship in the immediate neighbourhood. All the families, however, with these exceptions, are connected with the Establishment.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

Great improvements in agriculture have been for some time taking place. Wet grounds have been drained, rough grounds cleared, stone fences built, and hedges planted. Lime is brought from the quarry and lime-kilns upon the Gourdie estate, belonging to David Kinloch, Esq. Rich clays are applied to sand, and a good permanent soil formed where there was no soil before; green crops begin to be raised, and a regular rotation of crops begins in some places to be understood. The valued rent of the parish is about L.4000 Scots money.

With one or two exceptions, the farms in general are small. Few of them probably rent above L.200 Sterling, and the greater part of them are under L.100. Each plough, at an average, turns annually about twenty-seven acres; and the rent of the infield acre varies according to the quality of the soil, &c. from 10s. to L.2, 10s. The parish, besides supplying itself, exports a quantity of victual to Perth, Dunkeld, and the Highlands. The staple grain is oats and barley.

### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church was erected in 1840. It is a most substantial building, of the Gothic style of architecture, with a handsome ornamental tower. The church accommodates about 600 people, and was built entirely at the heritors' expense, who have shown great taste and much liberality in the erection of a place of worship every way so comfortable.

The manse was built about forty years ago. There was, however, an addition made to it in 1839, with several extensive alterations and repairs, which have rendered the present manse both

paired at the same time by the heritors of the parish, who in every way have been forward to promote the comfort of the present incumbent.

A part of the stipend is payable at the term of Martinmas in money. The greater proportion, however, is a grain stipend. The amount exceeds the minimum.

Including the area of manse, offices, and garden, the glebe contains about six acres of ground inclosed. The Duke of Athole and the Earl of Airly are vice-patrons.

*Education.*—There is a good dwelling-house and school-room for the parochial teacher, both of which were repaired in 1840. The school-room is large and commodious, having attached to it a considerable extent of play-ground for the use of the scholars. At present there are about 40 young people taught the ordinary branches of reading, writing, and arithmetic. Two only at present are learning Latin. The teacher receives the maximum salary.

There is, besides, a chance school in the parish, taught by two females. The girls attending this school learn knitting and needlework. The number of scholars at present is 51.

A Sabbath-school is taught by the minister. The number of names upon his list at present is from 80 to 90.

*Library.*—A library has been established for about two years in the parish. The wish having been expressed by the minister from the pulpit, that a library might be established for the benefit of the parish, and a collection having been intimated for that object, the people came willingly forward and contributed to the large amount of L.20 and upwards. Several handsome donations of books have since been given.

*Poor.*—The parish supports its own poor. The number of poor and infirm at present upon the list is 10. There are others, however, receiving occasional assistance. The poor receive from 3s. to 6s. each per month, besides aid in fuel, clothing, and house-rent, as circumstances require. The money is distributed by the kirk-session. Church-door collections, which average each Sabbath about 8s; the use of the mortcloth, the purchase of burial-ground, occasional legacies and donations, and the interest of a principal of L.80 in the bank,—are the sources from which the session funds are derived. By the late minister, the Rev. William M'Ritchie, a sum of about L.50 was left in the hands of the kirk-session, the interest of which, according to the

farmers drive the coal from Perth free of expense.

February 1843.

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## PARISH OF TIBBERMORE.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. WEIR TULLOCH, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name which is commonly given to this parish by strangers is Tibbermuir, and sometimes Tippermuir; but the proper name is undoubtedly Tibbermore; for we find it written in a charter granted by William the Lion, Tibbermorra; in Fordun's History, Tybbermore; and in a very ancient tombstone in the wall of the church, Tibbermire. This word signifies a *great well*, referring, in all probability, to a perennial spring that once issued from behind the church, and was long known by the name of "the Lady Well," but which has lately been carried away by the draining of the adjacent field.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—The parish is about six and a-half miles in length, and from one to three in breadth. It contains about 4700 Scots acres; and is bounded on the north by the Pow and the Almond, which separate it from Methven and Redgorton; on the east by the Tay and Perth; on the south by Aberdalgie and Forteviot; and on the west by Gask.

*Topographical Appearances.*—This parish lies behind the high ridge which bounds the north of Strathearn, and falls with a gradual declivity down to a level plain which is watered by the Pow and the Almond. The greater part of it, therefore, has a northern exposure. On the west there are several old plantations of Scotch fir, the wood of which is said to be of excellent quality. There is a considerable extent of uncultivated moor, and a peat-moss, from which the farmers on the barony of Cultmalundie have a right to cut turf for fuel.

The eastern portion of the parish is studded with a number of neat comfortable houses, the seats of resident proprietors, most of

greatly to the beauty of the general landscape. But the most remarkable feature of the parish is a large plain or valley, which sinks down abruptly to a considerable depth below the surrounding country. It is about three miles long; and from a-quarter to three-quarters of a mile broad. On the south, north, and west, it is bounded by precipitous banks, rising from 50 to 100 feet high, while, on the east, it opens out into a level plain, which stretches onwards to the Tay. On digging a well into it lately, there was found beneath a thick bed of gravel, sand, and clay, a considerable depth of peat-moss. This fact, together with the general appearance of the banks, would almost seem to indicate that in some remote age it had been the basin of a fresh water lake. Now, however, it is the site of two of the most thriving establishments in the parish.

*Hydrography.*—The parish seems once to have contained several wells of considerable note. One of the most celebrated of these was situated in the eastern part of the parish, at a place called the “Hole of Ruthven,” in the neighbourhood of Perth. The civil and ecclesiastical records of that city testify that this well was long the source of great annoyance both to magistrates and ministers. Its virtues were so famous, that neither the authority of the one, nor the admonitions of the other, although most rigorously applied, could deter the citizens from frequently trying their efficacy. The name of the place still remains, but the well has long since lost not only its fame, but its existence.

The river Almond bounds the parish on the north. It is described at full length in the accounts of the parishes of Methven and Redgorton. There is a stream of water taken off from this river, which runs through the parish. The dike or weir thrown across the river, at the point where this stream leaves it, is called “Low’s Wark,” and none can tell the origin of this name. We find from various indentures written upwards of three centuries ago, that the stream of water which issues from the Almond at “Low’s Wark,” was then, as it still is, called the “Mill-Lead,” and that the family of Ruthven, with the town of Perth, and the proprietor of Balhousie, had mills upon it. Its great object seems, however, to have been to drive the mills of Perth, for it appears, from a charter of confirmation granted by James VI., 15th November 1600, that this aqueduct was regarded as belonging exclusively to the community of



family of Ruthven and the Eviots of Balhousie had, by special grant or otherwise, acquired a right to mills upon the course of it. The community of Perth still possess their ancient rights over the "Lead," and a committee of the town-council perambulate its banks every year, to see that they are kept in proper repair. The utility of this Lead has been greatly extended in modern times. Instead of the three mills which it originally drove, it now affords sufficient water power to drive the machinery of Huntingtower bleachfield, the Ruthven mills and Ruthven printfield, in the parish of Tibbermore; and the Tulloch printfield, the Balhousie mills, and the Perth mills, in the parish of Perth.

*Geology.*—This parish, like most of the neighbouring, rests upon the red sandstone formation. In two or three places the sandstone is penetrated by trap dikes of considerable extent, where excellent quarries have been opened for making and repairing roads. The sandstone also is deemed of very superior quality, and has been quarried to a great extent. There are three quarries, which have been in operation for a number of years, and from which most of the stones used for building in Perth and the neighbourhood have been taken.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Historical events.*—This parish has been the site of several historical events of no small importance; but, as most of them are rather national than local, they are to be found detailed at length in all our Scottish histories, and, therefore, it is not necessary to give any particular account of them in a work of this description. It was here that Gowrie, Mar, Lindsay, and the master of Glamis perpetrated that assault upon the liberty of James VI., which is commonly called the Raid of Ruthven. The castle where the King was first seized and for a time confined, is still standing and in considerable repair. It is now the property of General Cunningham, and was then called Ruthven, but now Huntingtower Castle. It was here that the Covenanters under Lord Elcho sustained a signal defeat from Montrose with his Irish auxiliaries. The raw untrained bands which had been hastily raised in Fife, Perth, and Angus to oppose Montrose, were encamped in the south of the parish on the night before the battle, where traces of this encampment are still in some places distinctly visible. There were indeed within these few years, men alive in the parish, who well remembered that it was

the ground in the neighbourhood to find gun bullets, broken spears, and many other memorials of this disastrous battle.

*Land-owners.*—Until lately, this parish was divided into two large baronies, Huntingtower and Cultmalundie, and, with the exception of about 500 acres, was entirely possessed by the Duke of Athole and the Earl of Kinnoul. The barony of Cultmalundie is still the property of the Earl of Kinnoul, who, besides this, has recently purchased several other properties in the parish, so that he now possesses nearly twelve-twentieths of the whole parish. He has no seat in the parish; but Dupplin Castle, his family residence, is in the immediate neighbourhood. The barony of Huntingtower was broken down into a number of small properties, and sold by the late Duke of Athole, upwards of thirty years ago. These properties were chiefly purchased by men who made their own fortunes, and were the founders of their own families. Those heritors who possess land in the parish of the yearly value of L.50 and upwards, besides the Earl of Kinnoul, are General Cunningham of Newton and Huntingtower; the Glover Incorporation, proprietors of Tullilum; Thomas Ritchie, Esq. of the Hill of Ruthven and South Black Ruthven; William Dron, Esq. of North Black Ruthven and Marlefield; the Rev. Dr Thomson of Ruthven Farm; William S. Turnbull, Esq. of Ruthven mills; Thomas Duncan, Esq. of Ruthven Field; Mrs Black of Law Grove; John Martin, Esq. of Newhouse; Thomas Millar, Esq. of Letham; James Macmillan, Esq. of Alexanderia; D. S. M'Lagan, Esq. of Ruthven House. Huntingtower bleachfield is the joint property of Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven, and Sir John Richardson of Pitfour.

*Parochial Registers.*—Our parochial registers do not extend farther back than 1724, nor do they appear to have been kept with great regularity for a considerable time after that period. For the last thirty years, however, there has been a regular entry made of most of the births, deaths, baptisms, and marriages in the parish.

*Antiquities.*—Huntingtower Castle is a very ancient building, but it does not appear to have ever been a place of great strength. It is chiefly interesting as the seat of the Gowrie family, who long performed a conspicuous part in the business of the nation. Besides the Raid of Ruthven, and other public transactions connected with this castle, tradition has

preserved the memory of a private exploit which has contributed in no small degree to its renown. The story, as told in Pennant's Tour, is this, "A daughter of the first Earl of Gowrie was courted by a young gentleman of inferior rank, whose pretensions were not countenanced by the family. When a visitor at the castle, he was always lodged in a separate tower from the young lady. One night, however, before the doors were shut, she conveyed herself into her lover's apartment, and some prying duenna acquainted the Countess with it, who, cutting off, as she thought, all possibility of retreat, hastened to surprise them. The young lady's ears were quick; she heard the footsteps of the old Countess; ran to the top of the leads, and took the desperate leap of 9 feet 4 inches over a chasm of 60 feet, and luckily lighting on the battlements of the other tower, crept into her own bed, where her astonished mother found her, and of course apologized for her unjust suspicion. The fair daughter did not choose to repeat the leap, but the next night eloped and was married." The place between the two towers is still familiarly known as the *Maiden's Leap*. This castle, with the adjoining barony, became the property of the Athole family by a marriage with the Tullibardine family, who had received it from James VI. after its forfeiture by the Gowrie Conspiracy. It is now a mere appendage to a small portion of the ancient barony, and is let to a baker, who has converted the lower flat into dwelling-houses, and the upper flats into granaries for wheat, &c.

Tibbermore was the residence of several bishops of Dunkeld, particularly of Bishop Geoffrey and Bishop Sinclair, who both died here, the one in the year 1249, the other in 1397. During their times, the principal place of worship belonging to this parish was the Church of St Servanus, commonly called St Serf's Chapel, situated on the north side of the river Almond, and now within the parish of Redgorton. The desertion of this church is ascribed, by tradition, to the melancholy accident of a child of the Lord of Ruthven, who had been baptized there, having, on the way home, been drowned in the Almond.

### III.—POPULATION.

In 1841, there were in the parish 359 families, consisting of 814 males and 847 females, in all 1661, being an increase on the population of 1831 of 437. This increase is to be accounted for by the revival of Ruthven printfield, which had been, for a num-

which was its amount in 1821, to 1223, its amount in 1831.

*Character and Habits of the People.*—The employments of the people are very various, and their characters are in no small degree influenced by their respective avocations. They may be divided into three great classes,—agriculturists, bleachers, and printers. With the exception of about twenty farmers, the agricultural population consists of ploughmen and cottars. There is some reason to fear that these last named classes are neither so intelligent nor so moral as they were fifty years ago. The bothy system and the practice of our great landed proprietors accumulating on their estates great quantities of game, are daily producing havoc on the morals of our agricultural population. Migratory habits also operate most perniciously upon their general character. Most of them change their master and also their parish every year, so that it is scarcely possible to bring any of the usual means of religious instruction to bear with effect upon them.

The bleachers are perhaps the most moral and religious portion of our population. Many of them live and die in the place where they were born. A strong attachment exists betwixt them and their respected employer, who maintains an affectionate but very firm discipline among them. Their temperate habits, their constant employment, and their regularly paid, though by no means high wages, enable them to maintain their families in comparative comfort, and to give their children a respectable education; and the result of this is, that fewer cases of scandal and fewer instances of abject poverty are to be found among them than in any other class in the parish. The character and habits of our calico-printers are, I believe, very similar to those in other parishes where they are to be found.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture and Rural Economy.*—The parish contains about 4670 Scots acres. The whole is arable, and in a high state of cultivation, with the exception of about 200 acres, which are under wood, and about 150 acres covered with heath and peat-moss.

*Rent of Land.*—In the neighbourhood of Perth, there is some land let as high as L.5, 10s. per acre, while there is some in the parish as low as L.1. There are several farms let on a grain rent, which, of course, varies every year. On an average, the rent of the parish may be said to be from L.3 to L.1, 10s. per Scots acre. The valued rent of the whole parish is L.4921 Scotch

L. 10,700 Sterling.

*Husbandry.*—There is a considerable diversity of soil in this parish. Upon the banks of the Almond, it is a sandy loam; in the neighbourhood of Perth, it becomes stronger, and approaches to clay; on the higher grounds, it is light and thin, on a gravelly bottom; towards the west, there is some deep dry black land, of an excellent quality; but the greater proportion is on a tilly subsoil, which renders it naturally damp. Our farmers are all men of capital and intelligence, and in general manage their farms according to the most approved modern systems. Drauing has already been carried to a great extent on the wet soils, and is still going on with great vigour. Turnip husbandry is universally followed on those soils which are fit for it; and the practice of resting the land, by allowing it to be two or three years in pasture, is now become very general. By these means the average produce is greatly above what it was twenty years ago. The gross value, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows:—

Wheat,	. . .	L. 4400	0	0
Pease,	. . .	960	0	0
Barley,	. . .	4116	0	0
Oats,	. . .	5863	0	0
Potatoes,	. . .	4185	0	0
Turnips,	. . .	2100	0	0
Hay,	. . .	3200	0	0
Pasture,	. . .	2100	0	0
Quarries,	. . .	600	0	0
Miscellaneous produce,		1360	0	0

Total yearly value of raw produce, L 28,904 0 0

*Manufactories.*—As early as 1774, Huntingtowerfield was formed for the purpose of bleaching linen cloth. This work was carried on with great spirit and success for forty years, by Messrs Richardson and Co., when it was let by the present proprietors, Sir John Richardson of Pitfour, and Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven, to Messrs William Turnbull and Son. Under the energy and activity of the present lease-holder, the work has now become one of the first in Scotland. At present about 40 Scotch acres are covered with cloth. The quantity whitened annually is about a million and a-half of yards, besides from 80 to 100 tons of linen yarn for a power-loom factory in the neighbourhood. The number of people employed is about 150, of whom nearly one-third are women and boys.

Immediately below this work, on the same Lead, are the flour and barley-mills, the property of Mr Turnbull, the tacksman of the bleachfield, at which a considerable amount of business is done.

About sixty years ago, this waterfall was employed in turning an oil-mill, when Messrs Ross, Barland, Meliss, and Co. obtained a lease of the premises from the late Duke of Atholl, and erected upon it a bleachfield, which they carried on for a considerable time. They sold their lease to Messrs Young, Ross, Richardson, and Co., who soon afterwards became proprietors of the place, and converted it into a printfield. This business was carried on by them for many years with great success, and to a very great extent. From 1000 to 1200 people were constantly employed at it, who printed goods to the value of nearly half a million Sterling annually. At length this company resolved to wind up their extensive and very prosperous business, and to sell the whole of their premises; but, as it was some time before they could meet with a purchaser, the work lay dormant till 1830, when it was sold to the Messrs Duncan from Glasgow, the present proprietors. These gentlemen have revived the work, and are now carrying it on with great spirit. Nearly 2,000,000 of yards are printed by them, in every variety of style, for the home and foreign market. At no other field has the printing of mousselines de laine been carried on with greater success, or to a greater extent, than at Ruthven. About two-thirds of the whole are performed by block-printing, and the remainder by machine-printing. There are employed at this work 188 men, 67 women, and 113 children; among whom there are 5 drawers, 8 engravers, 19 cutters, and 123 printers. The average wages of the drawers are from L.1 to L.2, 10s.; of the engravers, from 15s. to L.1, 10s.; of the cutters, from L.1 to L.1, 10s.; of the printer, from L.1 to L.1, 15s. per week. This is, of course, when they are constantly employed, which unfortunately has not been the case for these some years past; although it is generally allowed by the men themselves, that employment has been more regular at Ruthven field than at any other field in Scotland.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Villages.*—The villages of this parish are now nearly all swept away. At one time, there was a large village of cottars and pendiclers at Wester Cultmalundie, who used to send to the moor with their herd, no less than eighty cows. Of this village, four small cottages are all that now remain. There was once a considerable village around the church, with its malt-barn and public-house; but this also is gone, with the exception of one house,

some extent at the Hole of Ruthven, and there is still to be seen in the neighbourhood an old stone cross, where a regular market was wont to be held ; but the village is now no more. The only villages in the parish at present, are those at the two public works, Huntingtower field and Ruthven field.

*Means of Communication.*—The roads in the parish are in general very good. The turnpike road to Crieff passes through it for about three miles, after which the line is continued to the west of the parish by a statute-labour-road, not much inferior to the turnpike. There is also a good statute-labour-road along the north of the parish to the new bridge of Almond, and it is intercepted from north to south by another excellent road. The roads are kept in good repair, and they are all of easy access from the principal farm-steadings and public works.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The main body of the church is very ancient. It appears to have been built as early as 1632. The walls are very strong, and the whole fabric is in excellent repair.

In the year 1810, the Ruthven Field Company were permitted to build an aisle to the north of the church for the accommodation of their work-people. This aisle was purchased by the heritors in 1835 for L.120, when about L.100 more was laid out in repairs on it and the rest of the church. The aisle is nearly as large as the church, and they both together contain about 600 sitters. This was nearly the legal amount of accommodation at that time ; but the population, and also the church-going habits of the people have increased so much since, that every seat is occupied, and there is a constant demand for more. A considerable number of families reside within a mile and a-half of Perth, which is fully three miles from the parish church. Hence many of them find church accommodation in Perth. The church is planted very near the centre of the parish, and must have been commodiously situated for the population when it was built. The erection of the public works, however, has removed the great body of the people to a considerable distance, so that the majority of the hearers travel from two to three miles to church. There is no Dissenting place of worship in the parish ; but there are two or three in the immediate vicinity, and there are in the parish about 70 families not connected with the Established Church.

The manse was built in 1824 for the sum of L. 735. The of-

pend is 17 chalders, one-half barley and one-half meal. There are about 10 acres of glebe land, including the garden and the ground occupied by the manse and offices. The land is worth about L. 2, 10s. per acre.

*Education.*—There are two schools in the parish, viz. the parochial school, in the neighbourhood of the church, and another at Ruthven field. The parochial school is taught by an assistant teacher, who is allowed a small salary by the heritors, and all the fees. The schoolmaster has retired, being allowed to retain the school-house, salary, and other emoluments. The school is attended, on an average, by about 40 children. The school at Ruthven field, with the exception of a free school-house, is entirely an adventure school. Mr Duncan, the master of the work, guarantees L. 50 to the teacher, should the fees not amount to so much, but the fees are supposed to be rather above than below that sum. This school is attended by about 60 children through the day, and nearly as many in the evening. One great drawback to the education of this and many other parishes, is the early age at which children are permitted to enter public works. No one ought to be permitted to receive into his service any young person without a certificate from his minister, testifying that he can read the Scriptures with fluency, and write so as at least to be able to sign his own name.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—There are about 20 regular paupers on the roll, besides several occasional, who require assistance to pay their house rent and to procure coals in winter. The regular paupers receive from 4s. to 12s. per month, besides house-rent and coal-money. The funds from which they are supplied are raised by assessment and church-door collections. The assessment is levied only from the heritors and farmers, and amounts to about L.70, and the church-door collections average nearly L.50 annually.

*Ale-houses.*—There are 6 public-houses in the parish, which is at least 4 more than there ought to be; but although it has been tried, it has not hitherto been found practicable to lessen their number.

*Fuel.*—Coal is the principal article employed for fuel, which is brought to Perth in ships from Newcastle and the Fife collieries. There is a large peat-moss in the north-west of the parish, from



wood, also, is eagerly bought up by the people for the same purpose.

February 1843.

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## PARISH OF DUNBLANE.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING

THE REV. WILLIAM MACKENZIE, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—DUNBLANE is supposed to take its name from St Blane, a Culdee, and Holme Hill, an eminence or dun overlooking the cathedral.

*Extent, &c.*—The extent of the parish is about nine miles in length, by six in breadth. It is bounded by the parishes of Lecropt, Logie, Blackford, Muthill, Comrie, and Kilmadock. Its situation at the western termination of the Ochill range, and reaching to the “braes of Doune,” an offshoot of the Grampians, renders it, especially around the “city” of Dunblane, well sheltered from the east wind; the climate is consequently found to be salubrious to persons who suffer in an eastern exposure. Its position in the centre of Scotland exempts it equally from the damp of the west, and the cold of the east wind.

*Mineral Well.*—The mineral well of Dunblane, two miles distant from the town, was casually discovered in 1814, and for a time, being deemed more mild and safe, rivalled the well at Airthrey. The concourse of strangers promised to restore to Dunblane the standing it had lost by the fall of Prelacy and loss of its bishop. The inhabitants used every effort to encourage this; but the refusal to do or permit what was necessary to render the discovery available, has kept Dunblane far behind its rival,—at which now has sprung up the beautiful and prosperous village of the Bridge of Allan.

The analysis of the mineral spring, by John Murray, M. D., gave the following results: In a pint of water there are,

Muriate of soda,	.	24. gr.
of lime,	.	18.
Sulphate of lime,	.	3.5
Carbonate of lime,	.	0.5
Oxide of iron,	.	.17

daily to a neat lodge erected close to the town.

*Rivers.*—The rivers in this parish are the Allan and the Ardoch.

*Soil.*—The red sandstone formation underlies the whole of the parish, and its soil varies from gravel to a reddish clay.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Dunblane is said to have been the residence of a Culdee fraternity. By David I. it was erected into a Bishop's See. The names of thirty-one bishops have been handed down, of whom twenty-five were Popish. One of these was canon of St Andrews, and one of the three first professors in the infant university there. Another, Maurice, obtained the see, from being King Robert Bruce's chaplain at the battle of Bannockburn. A third, Bishop Chisholme, at the Reformation alienated the whole lands, and, as Spottiswood angrily asserts, utterly "wracked" the benefice. And a fourth, Graham, was the first bishop in Scotland to give up the Episcopal office as unlawful, which he did in the very General Assembly that condemned Prelacy as unscriptural. A sixth, Ballanden, was the confidential correspondent and agent of Laud in introducing his Popish novelties; and a seventh, was the distinguished Bishop Leighton.

He was son of Dr Alexander Leighton, a sufferer under the tyranny of Laud, who publicly thanked God when Leighton was sentenced to have his nose slit, his ears cut off, and his cheek burned, for an alleged libel, entitled *Sion's Plea against Prelacy*. Robert Leighton, after being minister of Newbattle, and Principal of the University of Edinburgh, was, by his Popish brother, Elisha, private secretary to James II., then Duke of York, and at the personal solicitation of Charles II., persuaded to accept a bishoprick, and took Dunblane, as the poorest. After vain attempts to reconcile Prelacy with Presbytery, he abandoned his office, broken-hearted, declaring that he "would not have Christianity itself, much less a form of church government, planted in a country, at such expense of blood." His *Commentary on 1st Peter* is a model of excellence. He bequeathed his library to the clergy of the diocese of Dunblane; and his executors, being his sister, Sapphira, and her son, Edward Lightmaker, erected, at their own expense, a house to contain the books, and mortified L.300, the interest of which to go to a librarian, and to uphold the fabric, and add to the books. After the full establishment of Presbytery, Mr Lightmaker constituted seven trustees,—the Right Honourable

Campbell of Aberuchill, John Graham, commissary-clerk of Dunblane, and their heirs-male, the minister of Dunblane, and two other beneficed clergymen of the Presbytery of Dunblane, chosen by the Synod of Perth and Stirling. Various additions by will and purchase have been made to the books. L. 100 of the mortified money have been expended on the repair of the house. About 700 volumes have been lost during the last fifty years. The room has recently been refitted as a subscription reading-room. By the new catalogue it appears that there are excellent editions of the classics, several works of the fathers, a host of obscure theological writings of the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, a thin sprinkling of publications of last century, and few or no modern publications.

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners, in the order and amount of their valued rent, are as follows :—

John Stirling, Esq. of Kippendavie, . . . . .	L.2492	6	1	Scots.
The Earl of Kinnoul, in right of his second son, . . . . .	1445	3	4	
Archibald Stirling, Esq. of Keir, . . . . .	811	13	4	
Sir James Campbell of Kilbryde, Bart. . . . .	754	0	0	
A. H. M. Belsher Esq. of Invermay, . . . . .	500	0	0	
W. M. Murray, Esq. of Abercairney, . . . . .	452	0	0	
D. Macgregor, Esq. of Balhaldie, . . . . .	426	13	4	
Robert Gardner, Esq. of Rottearns, . . . . .	250	0	0	
Alexander Smith, Esq. of Glassingall, . . . . .	210	13	4	
Lord Abereromby, . . . . .	78	6	8	
Mrs Jane Lawrence of Rottearns, . . . . .	46	0	0	
Rev. Thomas Young of Gask, . . . . .	43	0	0	
James Stirling, Esq. of Holmehill, . . . . .	41	10	7	
John Finlayson, Esq. of Greenhill, . . . . .	37	0	0	
John and James Galloch, Esqs. . . . .	5	0	0	

Total valued rent, L.7578 6 8

The real rental may amount from L.15,000 to L. 17,000.

*Antiquities.*—The battle of Sheriffmuir took place in this parish in 1715, between the Earl of Mar and the Marquis of Argyle, which established the throne in the house of Hanover.

The great relic of antiquity in this parish is its cathedral. Date of its erection uncertain, possibly 1140, in the reign of David I. None of the diocesan records are known to exist. The nave is 130 feet by 58. It was unroofed probably at the Reformation. The choir, which is the parish church, is 80 feet by 30. There were no transepts. The tower is 128 feet high, and seems, from its three different styles of architecture, to have been erected in three successive periods. Probably a church

into the nave, and had the choir added at a subsequent period. Some of the prebend stalls, in curiously carved oak, are placed in the lobby of the parish church, and the original Popish roof is still over the choir. The windows of the choir were renewed at considerable expense, in the ornamented Gothic style, in 1819, and the interior having been then repaired at the instance of the Earl of Kinnoul, the whole appearance of the parish church is striking and elegant.

The ruins of the bishop's palace are still to be seen to the south of the cathedral, both overhanging the Allan.

Kilbryde castle is the ancient seat of the Campbells of Aberuchill, a family once honourably distinguished for support of the Reformation and revolution settlements. There is no mansion on Cromlix, the Episcopal heritage, now Lord Kinnoul's. Keir and Kippendavie houses are substantial modern mansions.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers have been preserved with considerable care.

The Presbytery records of Dunblane extend back as far as 1616. The record of the Episcopal synod of Dunblane, from 1662 to 1688, is extant, comprehending the whole of Leighton's Episcopate. It might be interesting to some if published.

### III.—POPULATION.

So little encouragement having been given to public improvements, Dunblane has been as neglected a spot as any in Scotland. It contains 1800 inhabitants, a great number of whom are extremely poor, and some in the lowest degradation and wretchedness. The population of the whole parish is 3367, including 631 in the portion assigned to the district of Ardoch *quoad sacra*. A violent settlement of a parish minister, about a century ago, scattered the Established congregation, and it has never been well gathered since.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

On the estates of Keir and Kippendavie, there has been every modern improvement in agriculture and buildings; but in consequence of the tenure on which the Cromlix property is held, there have not been many improvements on it.

There are three manufacturing establishments in the parish at Dunblane, and mill of Keir and Kinbuck, together with a considerable number of private looms in the town. At present there is a very great depression and want of employment.

*Market-Town, &c.*—Dunblane is a market-town.\* Kinbuck is a village with 125 inhabitants. There is a post-office in Dunblane. Three mails and three stage-coaches pass through daily. The only bridge of importance is that over the Allan in Dunblane; very old and very narrow, and being on the mail-road between Glasgow and Perth, it loudly calls for enlargement. The parish church is the chancel of the cathedral, in the most convenient place for the parish; date of erection uncertain; walls in good repair, but roof very old, and not deemed quite safe. The accommodation does not amount to 500 sittings: very inadequate for so populous a parish. All the seats allocated, and all therefore free; but numbers are excluded. The manse was built in 1829, and is one of the largest and handsomest in Scotland. The glebe is four acres in extent, and having been lately well fenced, brings a rent of L.15. The amount of stipend last year was L.277. There are three Dissenting chapels belonging to the United Secession; two in Dunblane and one in Greenloaning. The stipends are said to be L.130, L.30, L.60. A room in Dunblane is at present hired for a few Episcopalians. The number of communicants in the Established Church, in July 1842, was 444.

*Education.*—There is one parochial school, besides four unendowed, and two schools supported by individual subscription. There is still, however, a considerable deficiency of education.

*Libraries.*—Besides Leighton's library, there are two others of religious books.

*Savings' Bank.*—A savings' bank was established about a year and a-half ago, which the great depression of trade has kept from making much progress.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of poor on the roll is 45, among whom from L.6 to L.7 are divided every fortnight. The voluntary assessment amounts to L.250. The church collections average L.30. There is little disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief.

*Prison.*—A new prison was erected last year by the Prison Board, for the western district of Perthshire. It contains eight cells and a house for the jailor.

\* The sheriff-substitute of the western district of Perthshire resides in Dunblane. Connected with his court there are a sheriff-clerk, procurator-fiscal, and four other practising attorneys.

rits, &c. were retailed. In 1831, there were 22, and at present there are 16. The evils in connection with such houses have been incalculable.

February 1843.

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## PARISH OF SCONE.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JAMES CRAIK, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE common name, for a long period, given to this parish is Scone, sometimes written and generally pronounced Scoon. Its vulgar pronunciation, Scin, or Skuyn, is frequently heard among the older inhabitants. It receives from Slezer, in his *Theatrum Scotiae*, the names both of Scoon and Skuyn.

Scone, it is well known, became distinguished very early in Scottish history. It was probably a royal residence even before the subversion of the Pictish monarchy. Analogy would, therefore, lead us to look for its name in the old British language. The situation of the old castle, and the grounds adjoining it, to which alone, properly speaking, the name of Scone applies, tend to confirm this conjecture. It is a gentle ascent, which, gradually rising from the Tay, extends into the interior of the parish with little interruption for a mile or two, when it attains an elevation of some hundred feet. In strict accordance with this topographical fact, we find that, in the Welsh language, *ysgwn*, or *ysgyn*, (pronounced *iscoon*, or *iscin*,) signifies “a rising,” “an ascending,” “a rising or ascending ground.” This seems the most probable etymology of the term Scone, or Scin, as vulgarly pronounced.

The common derivation of Scone, from the Gaelic *sgáin* or *skain*, “a rent or chasm,” seems altogether inadmissible, as it would here be perfectly unmeaning. There is no chasm in the neighbourhood to which such a term could apply.

*Extent, &c.*—The superficial extent of the parish may be some-

west by the Tay, which separates it from Perth and Redgorton ; on the north, by the parish of St Martins ; on the east and south-east, by St Martins, Kilspindie, and Kinnoull. The ground rises gently from the Tay, towards the north and east. Much of the soil is light, and considerable portions consist of dry gravel, but by far the larger proportion is in a state of high cultivation. There is much good arable ground included within the extensive parks and large plantations of the Earl of Mansfield ; and towards the river, there are patches of strong rich clay.

The parish is not intersected by any river. There are one or two rivulets or burns, of which the Annaty may be mentioned as one supplying several good waterfalls for the movement of machinery. From the quantity of ground through which drains have been cut, the supply of water is somewhat irregular. A remedy for this has been suggested by Professor Anderson of St Andrews, who surveyed the whole course of the stream ; but it has not yet been carried into effect. The Tay, by means of an artificial canal, affords an abundant supply of water for the machinery connected with a bleachfield at Stormontfield, in the north-west district of the parish, and also for flour-mills in the same quarter.

*Geology.*—The southern part of the parish is occupied by thick reddish-gray sandstone, which dips from the Sidlaw hills towards the north-west ; the same beds on the south of the range dipping towards the south-east. For several miles along the course of the Annaty Burn, the outcrop has been laid bare by the stream, and exhibits well-defined sections of the deposit. It is one of the lower members of the old red sandstone formation, which abounds in this part of the country. There is little variety in the aspect or structure of the rock, except that here and there a bed of a lighter and darker colour, more or less abounding in comminuted scales of mica, occasions slight apparent variations. Several dikes of whinstone or trap traverse the sandstone nearly in straight lines. Some of them are remarkably regular, and where worked out for road-metal, for which the stone is admirably adapted, leave a cut like an immense drain, the sides of which are scorched or semi-furred by fire. At Spoutwells, the sandstone may be observed partly lying above the trap vein in the form of an arch only a few inches thick, and partly as it has been mixed with the mass in a

the vein, consist of thin laminæ, varying from a few inches to half an inch in thickness, and afford the student of geology an excellent opportunity of observing the manner in which the igneous mass has been injected into the stratified deposit.

The lower portions of the quarry at Lethendy, consisting of the common sandstone of the district, seem of indefinite thickness, and are very compact. The rock is chiefly composed of clay, sparingly mixed with silicious particles and mica. Above the hardest rock in the quarry, there is a bed of about three feet in thickness, remarkably well defined, chiefly composed of mica. It may be split up into a thousand of the thinnest laminæ, between which the shining scales may be observed, varying from the eighth of an inch to nearly a quarter of an inch in diameter. The bed is extremely friable, and feels very unctuous when compressed in the hand.

*Minerals.*—Further to the east, nodules of compact earthy carbonate of lime, such as are burned as limestone, appear in the softer beds of the sandstone, especially in the line of the turnpike Strathmore road. Small pieces of jasper, and several of the more common minerals that prevail in similar situations, are also found.

*Botany.*—The following account of the botany of this parish has been supplied by a reverend friend, partly from personal inspection, and partly from a list drawn up by another botanist. He states, that “the botany cannot fail to be interesting from the number of rare plants to be found in the parish,” and notices particularly “*Pyrola uniflora* which is so singularly rare and so much sought after by our Scottish botanists.” He has not himself seen the plants to which an asterisk is prefixed in the following list :

* <i>Veronica scutellata</i>	<i>Avena fatua</i>	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>
<i>Scirpus sylvaticus</i>	* <i>Radiola millegrana</i>	* <i>Myrrhis odorata</i>
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	<i>Echium vulgare</i> †	<i>Statice armeria</i>
<i>Aira aquatica</i>	* <i>Prinula elatior</i>	* <i>Convallaria majalis</i>
<i>Briza media</i> *	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	----- <i>multiflora</i>
* <i>Triodia decumbens</i>	* <i>Polemonium cæruleum</i>	* <i>Hyacinthus non-scriptus</i>
<i>Festuca ovina</i>	<i>Symphytum suberosum</i>	<i>Juncus triglumis</i>

† This plant is often found in the corn-fields, having been sown along with the grain in the same manner as *Agrostemma githago*, corn-cockle; *Cichorium Intybus*, wild succory; and *Centaurea cyanus*, corn blue-bottle; which are exotics introduced with foreign grain; but it here exists in such large beds as to show that it is indigenous.



Berberis vulgaris†	Stachys sylvatica	Tragopogon pratensis
Trientalis Europæa	Antirrhinum cymbalaria‡	Hieracium sylvaticum
*Epilobium angustifolium	*Linnaea borealis	Cnicus heterophyllus
Pyrola uniflora†	Geranium sanguineum	Doronicum pardalianches
Saponaria officinalis	----- sylvaticum	Pyrethrum parthenium
Silene inflata	*----- pratense	Centaurea scabiosa
----- maritima§	Genista anglica	Orchis maculosa
*Viburnum opulus	Fumaria capreolata	----- latifolia
*Adoxa Moschatellina	Hesperis matronalis	----- conopsea
*Agrimonia Eupatoria	Vicia sylvatica	----- Bifolia
Rubus saxatilis	*Oroleus sylvaticus	*Equisetum hyemale
Rosa spinosissima	*Ornithopus perpusillus	*Botrychium lunaria
----- involuta	Astragalus glycyphyllos	Asplenium trichomanes
----- Sabini	Trifolium arvense	----- Adiantum ni-
*Chelidonium majus	Hypericum quadrangulum	----- grum
Thalictrum minus	----- humifusum	Aspidium dilatatum
*Ranunculus hirsutus	----- perforatum	----- Filix-mas
Malva moschata	----- hirsutum	----- femina
*Clinopodium vulgare	----- pulchrum	Blechnum boreale

“ *Agaricus campestris*, common mushroom,” it is added, “ grows in extraordinary abundance in Scone Park, interspersed copiously with *Bovista nigrescens*, snuff-box fungus, more sparingly with *Agaricus oreades*, small pale mushroom, interesting from its growing in fairy rings, occasionally with the highly poisonous *Agaricus semiglobatus*, grey-mottled mushroom; and *Agaricus Georgii*, large yellow mushroom, frequently mistaken for *Agaricus campestris*, but which, from its tough quality, is infinitely inferior for the table, if at all fit for it, and may easily be distinguished by its yellowish whitegills, and smooth thick yellow stalk.” It is said that those kinds of mushrooms that are wholesome in one country are not so in another. In great Britain, the *Agaricus campestris*, the *A. pratensis*, or *oreades*, and the *A. Georgii*, are the only roots that it is safe to eat, while the *A. muscarius* and *A. virosus* are ex-

† This plant is said to be the frequent cause of black or smut in wheat.

‡ This abundant habitat of *Pyrola uniflora* is referred to in the Statistical Account of Redgorton; but a wrong description of it is given in consequence of the bridge of Isla road having been mistaken for that to Cupar Angus. The habitat here given has been verified by personal inspection.

§ Of this plant the writer remarks, “ we regret that we cannot enter into Sir W. J. Hooker’s arrangement of this plant, in his *Flora Scotica*, who makes it only the variety  $\beta$  of *inflata*. The two plants are dissimilar in every particular. The flower of the *maritima* is always crowned and cleft beyond the middle, that of the other is generally naked and not cleft so deep: the stalk of the former is simple, with not more than three terminal flowers, that of the latter forked and many flowered; the root of the former is creeping with long runners, that of the other fibrous; the capsule of the former is round, that of the latter ovate.”

|| “ The Scottish roses are yet in a very unsatisfactory state. It is not even definitely settled what should constitute a species in this genus; but this is the most decidedly marked of the whole, and is the original of all those uncultivated varieties known in the Gardens as Scottish roses. These all retain the characteristic of this, of creeping extensively with their roots, which is one of the greatest inconveniences in their cultivation. The brilliant colouring of *Rosa involuta* might perhaps reward the trouble of similar improvements in the cultivation of that species.”

¶ Not indigenous in this situation, though it has withstood the severest winters.

There are extensive plantations on the same estate, belonging to the Earl of Mansfield, consisting chiefly of oak, larch, Scotch fir, and various sorts of useful and ornamental trees. And in other parts of the parish, there is a considerable quantity of larch, and also hard-wood of various kinds.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Scone is well known to have early obtained historical importance. It received, it would appear, the title of the "Royal city of Scone," so early as A. D. 906, or A. D. 909; by another calculation, the Pictish Chronicle informs us that Constantine, the son of Ed, and Kellach the bishop, together with the Scots, solemnly vowed to "observe the laws and discipline of faith, the rights of the churches and of the Gospel, on the Hill of Credulity near the Royal city of Scoan (Scone.)" "Here," it has been remarked, "we have an account, not only of a very early national council, but of one that may be reckoned a council of Culdees. The very language in which the result of their meeting is expressed, indicates a very different spirit from that which characterized the generality of subsequent councils. We hear nothing of the authority of the pope or of bishops. The laws and discipline of faith, the rights of the churches and of the Gospel, is a style of writing peculiar to an age comparatively unadulterated."

If the Stone of Destiny was transferred by Kenneth Mac Alpine from Dunstaffnage, in Argyleshire, to Scone in A. D. 838, we may see a reason for the title of "Royal city of Scone," which seems to have been acquired before the meeting of the ecclesiastical council. One of the most memorable of the combats with the Danes was fought at Collin near Scone, in the time of Donald IV., the son of Constantine II., for the possession of this stone. This must have been previous to A. D. 904, in which year Donald fell in battle at Forteviot. It is said that a religious house was established at Scone when the stone was transferred by Kenneth Macalpine. There seems no doubt that there was a foundation of Culdees at this place before the reign of Alexander I. We might indeed infer this from the circumstance, that the church of Scone at that early period was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the established mode of dedication with this religious body. We learn from the "Chronicle of Mailros," that in 1115 the church of Scone was delivered up to canons regular, who deprived the Cul-

dedicated to the Trinity and Michael the Archangel. The residents were canons regular of St Augustine, under the direction of a prior, and had various privileges conferred on them. The abbey wall is supposed to have enclosed about twelve acres. During the reign of Alexander, Scone seems to have been occasionally a royal residence, and, like St Andrews and other places in which monasteries were established, it was a market for foreign nations. Alexander addressed a writ to the merchants of England, inviting them to trade at Scone, and promising them protection, on condition of their paying a custom to the monastery. This custom was an impost on all ships trading with Scone, from which it appears to have been anciently a port. About a mile from the river there was at a comparatively recent period, a bog called the *full sea mere*, which, according to tradition, had been covered by the tide, and in which, when digging for a pond, stones similar to those in the bed of the Tay were found. Whatever may be the value of the commonly received fact, as to the transference of the fatal stone to Scone, there can be no doubt that many of the Scottish kings were inaugurated here. Here, also, during the reign of Culen, there was a great assembly of the states convoked for the purpose of organizing the government of the nation.\*

According to Buchanan, Culen was slain on his way to this assembly, near the village of Methven, by Rohard, or Radend the thane, whose daughter he had violated.† At this assembly the bold and energetic Kenneth III. was crowned, and several important statutes were enacted, which are said to be dated at the "Royal Palace of Scone." I have not, however, been able to verify this statement by any inspection of these statutes. It does not appear that any of the competitors for the throne, left vacant by the death of Kenneth, were crowned at Scone. Constantine IV., a son of Culen, is regarded as having been crowned first. He, within a year, was succeeded by a son of King Duff, who assumed the sovereignty under the name of Kenneth IV. and is known as Kenneth the Grim. But neither in their coronation, nor in that of Malcolm II., the son of Kenneth III., whose reign, during its earlier

\* *Que saniores erant e nobilitate, duplici malo circumventi, ac, de summa rerum consutare coacti, conventum publicum Sconam indicunt.*—Buch. Lib. vi.

† *Ibi rex adesse jussus, ut una cum ceteris, in tam præcipiti rerum statu, sui publici prospiceret* \* \* \* *Igitur cum Sconam iret, satis magno comitatu, sed intelli, ac jam ad Methuanum vicum propinquum provenisset, a Thano regionis, ob stuprum per vim filie illatum, est occisus.*—Buch. Lib. vi.

does there seem to have been any ceremony of inauguration on the fatal stone; and the next notice of Scone is as the place at which Malcolm III., surnamed Canmore, was declared King on, according to the best authorities, the 25th of April 1057, the Festival of St Mark. Of the immediate successors of Malcolm, Edgar, his son, is said to have been crowned at Scone, A. D. 1098. As already noticed, the transference of the religious house at Scone, from the Culdees to the Canons regular of St Augustine, is said to have taken place during the reign of Alexander I. in 1115. According to Keith, "the Canons regular of St Augustine were first brought to Scotland by Atelwolphus, Prior of St Oswald of Nostel, in Yorkshire, and afterwards Bishop of Carlisle, who established them at Scone at the desire of Alexander I. A writer (the author of *Sconiana*, Edin. 1807), asserts, without quoting any authority, that "the Culdees led very profligate lives, and were dismissed by Alexander." Sir James Balfour, under the year 1114, has the following statement: "After the death of Edgar, his brother Alexander, surnamed Ferres, succidit him. Quhill he was a priut man, he had at his christening, by the donatione of hes vnckell, Donald Bane, Earle of Gowrey, the lands of Liffe and Innergowrey, quher, in the first zeire of his raing, he began then to buld a staitly palace and castle, bot was interrupted by the rebels of Meirnes and Murray, quho besett him in the night, and had doubtlesy killed him, had not Alexander Carrone firmly carried the King save away \* \* \* and by a small boat saived themselves, to Fyffe and the south pairts of the kingdom, where he raised aue army, and marched against the forsaid rebels of Meirnes and Murray, quhome he totally overthrew and subdewèd, for which great mercy and preservatione, in a thankful retribution to God, he foundit the monastarey of Scone; and too it gave hes first lands of Liffe and Innergowrey, in A° 1114."

This foundation of the monastery, in 1114, may have paved the way for the dismissal of the Culdees in the following year. We have no means of ascertaining whether there was any connection between this step and the long contest in which Alexander was engaged with the English archbishops, on the subject of their assumed authority over the Scottish church; but after Eadmer had been compelled to resign the bishoprick of St Andrews, and his petition to be restored had been rejected by the King, we find

four informs us that David, the immediate successor of Alexander, was crowned at Scone; and we learn from several sources, that Matilda, or Maud, the wife of David, the daughter of the Earl of Northumberland, and widow of Simon de St Liz, Earl of Northampton, was interred here. At Scone, also, Malcolm IV., as yet only in his twelfth year, is said to have been crowned; and here, about A. D. 1163, the Bishop of St Andrews delivered an address to the King on the subject of the vow of chastity, by which it is alleged he had bound himself, at a great national council held for the especial purpose of taking this vow into consideration.

The coronation of Alexander III. took place "at Scone on the 13th" of July, the Bishop of St Andrews knighting the King, as well as placing the crown on his head. \* \* After the coronation oath had been administered to the King, both in Latin, and in French, the language of the nobility, he was placed upon the sacred Stone of Destiny, which stood before the cross in the eastern end of the church; and while he there sat with the crown on his head, and the sceptre in his hand, a gray-headed Highland bard stepping forth from the crowd, addressed to him a long genealogical recitation in the Gaelic tongue, in which, beginning, "Hail Alexander, King of Albion, son of Alexander, son of William, son of David, &c. he carried up the royal pedigree through all its generations to the legendary Gathelus, who married Scota, the daughter of Pharaoh, and was the contemporary of Moses. It may be doubted if Alexander understood a word of this savage paean, but he is recorded to have expressed his gratification, by liberally rewarding the venerable rhapsodist." Pict. Hist. of England, Book iv. chap. i.

It was at Scone that the General Convention of the States was held after the death of Alexander's daughter, the Queen of Norway, and of his son, Alexander, the Prince of Scotland, in his twentieth year. Margaret of Norway had left only an infant daughter. "On the 5th of February 1284, the Parliament was assembled at Scone, when the estates of the kingdom solemnly bound themselves, failing Alexander and any children he might have, to acknowledge for their Sovereign the Norwegian Princess, 'the Maiden of Norway,' as she is called by the old writers." Her marriage with her cousin, the son of Edward I. of England, was afterwards agreed to; but having set sail for Britain, she fell

died there about the end of September 1290, in her eighth year. This event, as is well-known, was most disastrous for Scotland, but it is not necessary to do more than refer to the competition for the Crown that then took place;—to the claims of Edward to be Lord Paramount of Scotland;—and to the final decision pronounced by him on the 17th November 1292, in the great hall of the Castle of Berwick, “that John Baliol should have seisine of the kingdom of Scotland.” On the 19th, “the Great Seal, that had been used by the Regency, was broken into four parts, and the pieces deposited in the Treasury of England, in testimony, as it was said, to future ages, of England’s right of superiority over Scotland. The next day, Baliol swore fealty to Edward at Norham. On the 30th (St Andrew’s day) he was solemnly crowned at Scone.” Two years afterwards, that is, towards the latter end of 1294, we find a Parliament assembled at Scone. Even the degraded Baliol had been now somewhat roused against the unrelenting tyranny of Edward, and the nobles also became convinced that it was necessary to make some effort to cast off the yoke. This Parliament directed, “that all Englishmen maintained at the Court should be dismissed, and then appointed a council of four bishops, four earls, and four barons, without whose advice the King was restricted from performing any public act.” The suspicions of Edward having been awakened by such proceedings, he made demands, that certain towns to the south of Scotland should be delivered up, and, advancing into the kingdom at the head of a powerful army, reduced Baliol to a state of the most abject submission. Edward penetrated to the north as far as Elgin. “It was on his return from this triumphal progress, that he ordered the famous stone, on which the Scottish Kings had been wont to be crowned, to be removed from the Abbey of Scone, and conveyed to Westminster, in testimony, says Hemingford, an English contemporary chronicler, of the conquest and surrender of the kingdom. He appears to have been at St Johnstone’s, or Perth, on Wednesday the 8th of August 1296.” A few years afterwards, A. D. 1300, in an account of the wardrobe of Edward, there is a particular account of the sum expended on this stone, in having it fixed in a new chair, &c. Although not mentioned in the Treaty of Northampton, (A. D. 1328), it was then, as we shall see, stipulated that the stone should be restored. This, however, like the other conditions of that treaty, were never

by Edward, it still remains in England. "This fatal stone," says Sir Walter Scott, "was said to have been brought from Ireland by Fergus, the son of Eric, who led the Dalriads to the shores of Argyleshire. Its virtues are preserved in the celebrated leonine verse :

*" Ni fallat fatum, Scoti quocunq; locatum  
Invenient lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem."*

" There were Scots who hailed the accomplishment of the prophecy at the accession of James VI. to the crown of England, and exulted that, in removing their palladium, the policy of Edward resembled that which brought the Trojan horse in triumph within their walls, and which occasioned the destruction of their royal family. The stone is still preserved, and forms the support of King Edward the Confessor's chair, which the sovereign occupies at his coronation ; and independent of the divination, so long in being accomplished, is in itself a very ancient remnant of extreme antiquity." In preparing this chair for the coronation of her present Majesty, some small fragments of this stone were broken off. I have been assured by a geological friend who contrived to obtain part of them, that stone, of exactly the same kind, is to be found in some of the quarries on the Scone property. Edward seems to have carried away, besides the stone, the regalia of Scotland. John Baliol is said to have been stripped of the regal ornaments when he surrendered his kingdom after the battle of Dunbar. When, therefore, Robert Bruce was crowned and inaugurated at Scone, 27th March A. D. 1306, neither the ancient crown nor the stone could have been used. A circlet or ring of gold, was hastily prepared for the occasion, and the Bishop of Glasgow furnished robes and a banner. The ceremony was performed on the 27th by the Bishop of St Andrews ; and on the 29th, Isabella, sister of Duncan Earl of Fife (whose family had the privilege of crowning the Kings of Scotland,) and wife of the Earl of Buchan, having secretly repaired to Scone, placed the crown on the King's head, in assertion of the pretensions of her family. At this coronation there were present William of Lambyrton, Bishop of St Andrews ; Robert Wisheart, Bishop of Glasgow ; the four brothers of Bruce, Edward, Nigel, Thomas, and Alexander ; his nephew, Thomas Randolph of Strathdon ; his brother-in-law, Christopher Seaton of Seaton ; Malcolm, fifth Earl of Lennox ; John of Strathbogie, tenth Earl of Athole ; Sir James Douglas ; Gil-

David Barclay of Cairns in Fife; Alexander Fraser, brother of Simon Fraser of Oliver Castle; Walter de Somerville of Linton and Carnwath; David of Inchmartin; Robert Boyd; and Robert Fleming.—Lord Hailes' Annals.

During the reign of Robert Bruce, that Parliament was held at Scone, in December 1318, at which it was enacted that, in the event of the King dying without issue male, his successor should be Robert Stewart, son of the Princess Marjory and of Walter, the Lord High Steward of Scotland; and that, should Robert be a minor at the time of the King's death, Randolph, Earl of Moray, should be his tutor. In this Parliament many other laws were passed. All were required to assume military attire, which was minutely described. Churchmen were prohibited from purchasing Papal bulls, and absentees residing in England were required to draw no money out of Scotland. The enactment respecting the succession was, in some measure, rendered of no avail by the birth of a son to the King at Dunfermline 1323, who, after a long minority, became King of Scotland under the title of David II. In the various conferences that were carried on about this time between Scotland and England, the coronation stone that had been removed from Scone by Edward was demanded, but at that period the negotiations were broken off without any settlement of the disputes. The restoration of the stone, though omitted in the treaty of Northampton, of which the original duplicate is preserved among the archives in the general Register-House in Edinburgh, was stipulated by a separate instrument. The stone, as is well known, was never restored. This treaty was most unpopular in England; and so much opposition was felt to the restoration of the fatal stone, that the populace of London "arose in a riotous manner, and would not suffer that emblem of the conquest of Edward I. to be removed." In the treaty, it was agreed that all instruments and charters having relation to the independence of Scotland should be delivered up to Robert Bruce. Edward, when at Scone, had mutilated the ancient chartulary of that Abbey, and carried away some of its charters, his object being to destroy every monument connected with the antiquity and independence of the nation. The treaty, though ratified by Parliament, was never promulgated, nor does it appear among the ancient records.

The coronation of David II. took place at Scone with the usual solemnities, in 1331, when that prince was in his eighth year, on



then conferred this distinction on several of the nobility.

When the assistance of the English King had enabled Edward Baliol to invade Scotland, and his success in the battle of Dupplin emboldened him to take possession of Perth, where he was joined by many of the disaffected, he was crowned at Scone on the 24th September 1332. After the restoration of David II., who returned from France in his eighteenth year, and, with his wife, landed at Inverbervie on the 4th of May, Scone is mentioned as the place where the Parliament assembled. It was in a Parliament held at Scone in March 1363, that David Bruce, whose weakness contrasts so unfavourably with the gallantry of his illustrious father, and whose wife had died childless the year before, proposed that Lionel, Duke of Cambridge, Edward's third son, should be chosen to fill the Scottish throne in the event of his dying without issue. The proposal was rejected with indignation. After the death of David in February 1371, his nephew Robert, the Steward of Scotland, ascended the throne. During his reign, a Parliament was held at Scone, in which the succession of his children by his first wife, Euphemia, was set aside in favour of his former children by Elizabeth More. This king was succeeded by his son John, who was crowned at Scone under the name of Robert III., the name John having been unfortunate for kings, both of England and France; and here also, it is said, was the Parliament held at which David, the King's eldest son, afterwards starved to death in Falkland, was created Duke of Rothesay, and Robert, the King's brother, Duke of Albany. Buchanan, however, states, that this Parliament was held at Perth, and notices, that these were the two first Scottish dukes. "Hic sane honoris titulus tum primum inter Scotos, magno ambitionis, nullo virtutis incremento, est celebratus: nec cuiquam postea feliciter cessit."—Buch. Lib. x.

The next interesting incident at Scone was the coronation of James I. and his queen. He had married, on the 24th of February 1424, the Lady Joanna Beaufort, the daughter of the Duchess of Clarence by her first husband, the Duke of Somerset, and the descendant of Edward III., to whom he is said to have become attached some years before. The treaty for his liberation from his long imprisonment in England had been concluded in September 1423, but he is said to have seen and admired his future queen from his prison in the Round Tower in Windsor Castle, and that this suggested his poem of "The King's Qubair." "He

May was solemnly crowned with his queen in the usual venerated sanctuary, the Abbey Church of Scone." From this time the importance of Scone greatly diminished. It was neither the place at which the immediate successors of James were crowned, nor where the legislative assemblies were held during their reigns. The abbey must have given it some importance in an ecclesiastical point of view, but Edinburgh had now become the seat of civil government, as it was the metropolis of Scotland. Passing over more than sixty-four years, the next coronation which took place at Scone was that of James IV. After the funeral of his father in the Abbey of Cambuskeneth, James was overwhelmed with remorse for his undutiful conduct. He immediately proceeded to Perth, and thence to Scone Abbey, where he was crowned with the usual rejoicings on the 26th of June 1488, in his sixteenth year. Both James V. and Mary were crowned at Stirling, so that the next notice of Scone occurs after the lapse of more than seventy years. On the 11th of May 1559, John Knox preached a sermon at Perth against the mass, idolatrous worship, and the adoration of saints and images. From the zeal of the people in the Protestant cause, and the daring opposition of the Roman Catholics to the doctrines delivered by Knox, the altar, images, and other ornaments of the church were torn down and destroyed. In their subsequent destruction of the monasteries, the people acted in conformity with the wisdom said to have been inculcated by Knox, "that the best way to keep the *rooks* from returning, was to pull down their *nests*." On the 14th of June, the church at St Andrews was stripped of its images and pictures, and the monasteries overthrown; and on the 27th of the same month, it would appear, the abbey and other religious houses at Scone were burned to the ground by a furious mob, who had come from Dundee on this work of destruction. This has been described as having been done "under the auspices of Knox;" but it is right to quote his own words from his "Historie." Having mentioned the provocation given to the populace by the Bishop of Murray and his friends, who were living there, and noticed what seems to have been the Bishop's palace, he adds, "So was that abay and plaice (palace?) appointed to sackage; in doing whereof, they tuk no lang deliberation, but committed the holle (whole) to the merciment of fyre, whereat no small number of us

of the Abbey of Scone passed into the hands of the family of Gowrie. Such was the state of affairs until 1600, when the whole was forfeited to the Crown, in consequence of the mysterious conspiracy, as it is called, of John Earl of Gowrie and his brother Alexander, the sons of William, Earl of Gowrie, who had been beheaded in 1584, for his share in the Raid of Ruthven.

This affair occurred in August 1600, and soon after an act of annexation was passed by the legislature, by which the lands, lordships, baronies, &c. which pertained to the abbacy and monastery of Scone, were annexed and incorporated to the Crown. In 1605 or 1606, a considerable portion of the Gowrie estates was taken from the Crown's patrimony, and erected into a temporal lordship in favour of David Lord Scone. He had been Sir David Murray of Gospertie, a descendant of Sir William Murray of Tullibardine, also ancestor of the Dukes of Athol. Previous to this, he had received various marks of distinction, having enjoyed, besides his other honours, the office of Ranger of the Lowlands and Forester of the Woods. He was Master of the Horse, Captain of the Guards, and cup-bearer to James VI., and was created Lord Scone in 1604 or 1605, and Viscount Stormont 1621. In a charter, of date 1616, he is styled David Lord Scone. The representative of the family is William David Murray, Earl of Mansfield, lineal descendant of Sir David Murray, and through him, enjoying all the Scottish titles and property, to which large additions have been made, together with the English honours of his great-grand-uncle, the Chief-Justice. There seems to be no authority, by charter or otherwise, for the title of Hereditary Keeper of the Palace of Scone, commonly assigned to the representative of the family. The property was erected into a temporal lordship in favour of Sir David Murray, but neither in this, nor in any subsequent charter, is there any reference to this office, the whole property, with all rights and privileges appertaining, having been entirely severed from the Crown, with the following reservation in the statute of 1606: "Reservand and exceptand allways furth of this present act and erection all regalities, and all privileges thereof, possessed by the abbots and titulars of Scone of before, to remain with our Sovereign Lord and his Highness' successors, and their Crown, inseparable in all time hereafter."

Subsequently to this period, Scone was not marked by the oc-

and abbey having been destroyed, the rest of the town may have also suffered. It is probable, however, that, as soon as the rights and possessions of the ancient abbey passed into the hands of the Gowrie family, a residence would be built. It seems to have been erected between the abbey and the river, and perhaps was called a palace, as being nearly on the site of the palace occupied by the Bishop of Murray, and burned to the ground. At all events, the Gowrie family appears to have had a residence at Scone in 1593. The lands erected into a temporal lordship in favour of David Lord Scone, ancestor of the Stormont family, have ever since continued in their possession. They consequently belonged to Viscount Stormont in 1651, when the coronation of Charles II. took place at Scone. The circumstances of this coronation are minutely detailed in a small quarto printed at Aberdeen, entitled "The Form and Order of the Coronation of Charles the Second, King of Scotland, England, and France and Ireland, as it was acted and done at Scone, the first day of January 1651." From this account, it appears that the house partially built, probably by the Gowrie family, and subsequently by Lord Scone or his descendants, was regarded in some respects as a palace. We read of the King being conducted from his bed-chamber to his "chamber of presence," and that he was there placed in a chair, under

\* From a List of the Magistrates of Perth, with such occurrences as happened under their magistracy, printed in the second volume of "The Muses Threnodie, Perth, 1774," we learn that John Earl of Gowrie was provost of Perth from 1592 to 1600, although during part of that time he was abroad. Sir David Murray of Gospetrie is entered under that title as provost in 1601, 1602, and 1603, but, in 1604, he appears as David Lord Scone, and, in 1621, for the first time, as David Viscount Stormont. The last year in which he filled that office was 1627. He was elected provost on 6th October 1628, but by a decree of the Lords of the Secret Council of the 21st February, the election was declared illegal. The Viscount was laid aside, and Peblis of Chapelhill elected in his room. There were laws which prohibited noblemen or gentlemen not resident, nor bearing burden as citizens, to be elected into the magistracy.—Vid. Muses Thren. Vol. ii. p. 113.

Lord Scone, together with Lord Binning and Lord Carnegie, were his Majesty's Commissioners to the General Assembly, that met in the Old or St John's Kirk, on the 25th August 1618. "The Assembly met in the Little Kirk; Mr Spotiswood, Archbishop of St Andrews, placed himself in the moderator's chair without election, which was objected to. The Archbishop answered, that the Assembly was convened within his diocese, and he hoped no one would take his place." The King's letter to this Assembly was somewhat stern: He says, "Do not think we will be satisfied with refusals, or delays, or mitigations, and we know not what other shifts have been proposed, for we will content ourselves with nothing but with a simple and direct acceptance of these articles in the form by us sent unto you." On the 27th, the five articles received the suffrages of all the members except one nobleman, one doctor, and forty-five ministers. They were ratified in Parliament at Edinburgh, eighty-one voting for, and fifty-nine against. The ratification on Saturday 4th August 1621, "called by the people," says Calderwood, "the Black Saturday. It began with fire from earth in the morning, and ended with fire from heaven in the evening." There had been a severe storm in the course of the afternoon of hail and lightning.

pointed by the King for that day." He was afterwards conducted to the Kirk of Scone. Of this "kirk" there remains now only an aisle, which was probably erected by the first Lord Scone. On the north side is his monument, finely executed in marble and alabaster, and on which there is a long inscription. Here, also, is a statue of his Lordship in armour. He is represented kneeling on a cushion at an altar, with a book lying open before him. On either side of the large statue is a man in armour; the one said to be the Marquis of Tullibardine, and the other the Earl Marischal.

This kirk, we are told, was prepared for the coronation, with a table, whereupon the honours\* were laid. "A chair was also set in a fitting place for his Majesty's hearing sermon, over against the minister, and another chair on the other side, where he sat when he received the Crown, beyond which there was a bench decently covered. Besides these, there was a stage for the throne. All being quickly composed into attention," the sermon was preached by Master David Douglas, Moderator of the Commission of the General Assembly. His text was 2d Kings xi. 12, 17. After the King had been solemnly sworn, he signed the National Covenant, the League and Covenant, and a copy of his oath. Having taken the coronation oath, and having been invested with the royal robes instead of the prince's robe with which he entered, the King was brought to the chair on the north side of the kirk, and then Archibald Marquis of Argyle, having taken the crown in his hands, and the minister having prayed, the said Marquis put the crown on the King's head. "It was remarkable," says Sir Walter Scott, "that upon this occasion the crown was borne by the unhappy Marquis of Argyle, who was put to death in no very legal manner, immediately after the Restoration, using upon the scaffold these remarkable words, 'I placed the crown on the King's head, and in reward, he brings mine to the block.'" It is supposed that the seat of the Scone family, now removed to the parish church in New Scone, was used at this time, and that

\* These honours, consisting of the crown, sceptre, and sword of state, &c. were soon after this carried to Dunnottar Castle. After being preserved in a remarkable manner by the dexterity of Mrs Granger, wife of the minister of Kinneff, they continued to be produced in public, during the sittings of the Scottish Parliament, down to the Union, when it was stipulated that they should be kept in Scotland in all time coming. It was, however, supposed by many, that they had been removed to London, until on February 4, 1818, they were found in the Crown-Room of Edinburgh Castle, deposited in a chest, in the very state in which they had been placed there in 1707. Vide "Description of the Regalia of Scotland" by Sir Walter Scott.

when the crown was placed on his head, stood behind the bench in front of this seat. It is made of elegantly carved oak, having towards one end of the front of the canopy, the arms of Lord Scone, with the motto "*Meliora spero,*" and beneath, the words "DAVID LORD SKONE." Towards the other end, in the corresponding place, carved also in the oak, is a different coat of arms, with what seems to have been intended for the motto, "*nec temere, nec timide,*" and beneath, "ELIZABETH LADY SKONE," with the date 1616. The star and crescent had formed part of the ornaments, and seem to have been highly gilded. Lord Scone, as appears from the inscription, married Elizabeth Beaton, said to have been an ancient baron's daughter of Crich, *i. e.* Criech, in Fifeshire.

After mentioning several additional ceremonies, the account concludes in these words, "Then did the King's Majesty descend from the stage with the crown upon his head, and receiving again the sceptre in his hand, returned with the whole train in solemn manner to his palace, the sword being carried before him." It does not appear in what sense the house or castle was called "his palace." He may, perhaps, have appointed it to be so, like the chamberlain, "for that day;" but the whole seems to have been in the possession of Viscount Stormont, who is not mentioned among the nobility then present. In these troubled times, the authority of the Assembly and of those noblemen who adhered to the Church was triumphant. There is no reason to suppose that there was any other house in Scone in which the King could have had a bed-chamber and presence-chamber except that castle or palace begun to be built by the Gowrie family, afterwards enlarged, though never entirely completed, by their successors, and almost wholly removed when the present splendid house was built, about the beginning of this century.

It was probably in the same palace that the Pretender fixed his residence, when, after embarking at Dunkirk, he arrived at Peterhead on 22d December 1715. Having reached Dundee, he hastened to Scone, and there held a council on the 16th January 1716. When he received intelligence that the royal army had reached Auchterarder, a council of war was held on the 30th of January, when the question was proposed, whether to fight or fly? The council came to no decision; but a few hours afterward it was determined by a select committee to fly, when the Pretender hastened to Perth, supped and rested, and next morning fled with his

Charles also visited Scone in 1745.

The residence of Lord Stormont had been chiefly built by Lord Gowrie and the first Lord Scone, but considerable additions were made by David, seventh Lord Stormont, and Earl of Mansfield, as heir to his uncle William, Lord Chief-Justice. The arms of the first Lord Scone were painted on the ceilings and walls, with the date 1627. The gallery, which was about 167 feet in length, with a wooden ceiling painted in water-colours, and representing the hunting and hawking of James VI., is said to have been erected by this nobleman. But the house was never finished, nor entirely furnished. There was no communication between some of the adjoining buildings, which made it necessary to pass through the outer court to reach several of the apartments.

*Palace.*—The present "Palace of Scone," as it is now generally called, was built about the beginning of the present century, having been begun in 1803 and finished 1808. The design was by the late William Atkinson of Grove-end, London, and the erection might cost about L.60,000 or L.70,000. The ground on which the former house stood is occupied by this splendid mansion; but in its imposing Gothic style of architecture, and magnificent halls and spacious apartments, the modern palace is incomparably superior. The late Earl of Mansfield, the grand-nephew of the Chief-Justice, spared no expense on this edifice. In most instances, the walls of the former house were entirely taken down and rebuilt. A new front, facing the river, 240 feet in length, was an entire addition. The apartments were greatly enlarged, with the exception of the gallery, which is now 150 feet long, part of it having been taken off for an entrance by a porch. It is a very elegant room. The floor is of tesselated oak, the dark having been found in the beds of the Tay and the Earn. On the windows, partly of stained glass, are represented the various coats of arms of the family. The roof still retains somewhat of an antique form. It is splendidly furnished, having at the upper end a large and richly-toned organ, and in different parts of the room several very valuable cabinets, lately purchased, of the age of Louis XIV. Among the ornaments are marble busts and vases of great beauty, both as to material and workmanship. Almost the only portions of the old walls not taken down but merely incased, are in that part of the house immediately under the dining-room and the drawing-room. The dining-room, music-room, and Library, are elegant and spacious apartments, containing, in the midst of many

former house. In these rooms are several valuable paintings by Vandyke, Titian, Guido, Paul Veronese, Teniers, &c. There is a "Dutch Burgomaster" by Rembrandt, and a portrait of Basano by himself; a "Denial of St Peter," and a "Judith and Holofernes," by two old masters. There are some excellent portraits by Sir Peter Lely, exhibiting all the softness, beauty, and delicacy of his style. Among the family portraits are those of the first Earl of Mansfield, the second Earl, the late Earl, the Countess Dowager, &c. As a modern room, the drawing-room is the finest. It commands one of the most magnificent views that can be found, from any point, of the richest parts of Perthshire, and its interior is fitted up with great elegance.

There seems to have been an intention to combine with the splendour and comfort of the present age, some remembrance of the simplicity of the past. The entrance, for example, has an air of antiquity, having an ancient *knocker* with the initials D. V. S. The door-way is surmounted with the arms of Lord Mansfield in stone, and the motto, "*uni æquus virtuti.*" The house is partially surrounded by terrace walls, and bastions, one of which commands a very extensive view. There are several large trees at a short distance, one of them an ash, said to have been planted by James VI., and many ash and sycamore trees about 300 years of age. One is commonly known as Queen Mary's tree. The ground slopes gradually to the Tay, which flows within about 600 yards of the palace. The house may be approached either through an ancient gateway on the east, or by the modern terrace gate on the south, to which there is a drive entering the park at the distance of about a mile from Perth. This new drive passes over a bridge which crosses a ravine at no great distance from the terrace gate. The gardens lie to the south-east of the palace. At the recent visit of the Queen to Scone Palace, the royal cortege entered by the terrace gate, and were received at the grand entrance by the Earl of Mansfield, the Countess Dowager, and the Ladies Murray. Apartments were fitted up with great elegance for her Majesty and Prince Albert. The Queen reached Scone Palace about seven o'clock p. m. on Tuesday, September 6, 1842, and left early next day for Dunkeld and Taymouth. Among the various costly preparations made for her Majesty's reception may be mentioned two magnificent chairs, quite unique, procured from London, on which the Queen and Prince Albert sat at dinner. The carving and other rich ornaments of the royal bed, with the furniture



the Prince, are of a beautiful and magnificent description. Before the Queen's departure, the magistrates of Perth sent a deputation to the palace to solicit the honour of her Majesty's signature in the guildry books of Perth, where James VI. and Charles II. had written their names; the former thus: "1601, *Parcere subjectis, et debellare superbos.*—James R." And the latter as follows: "Nemo me impune lacesset, July 24, 1650.—Charles R." Sir Robert Peel carried the book to the Queen, when her Majesty and Prince Albert recorded their names.

Among the remnants of antiquity within the palace may be mentioned an old bed of dark-brown Genoa velvet embroidered, which is said to have been worked by Queen Mary. The Queen, when at Falkland, is supposed to have given the bed to one of the ancestors of the family, to whom she showed great favour. It was probably conveyed to Scone at the time when the Balvaird branch succeeded to the title of Viscount Stormont. The bed and furniture of a room are preserved, which was called the King's room, and in which there is a tradition that James VI. slept, but it was more probably the "bed-chamber" of Charles II., of which notice is taken in the account of his coronation. The bed and furniture are handsome, and more conformable to his age than to an earlier period. The bed on which the celebrated William, first Earl of Mansfield died, was put up in the room in which he is said to have been born.

*Village.*—The village, or "royal city," of Scone was built in the immediate neighbourhood, and partly during the era of the monastery. One street was named the *chanter gate*. Near this street there were some trees that are said to have stood in the garden of the monastery. Among them were some remains of a wall. At the end of the *chanter gate* was the *gallows knowe*, and in another direction the *prison-house*, which would suggest that extensive rights were attached to the place. Some of the houses of the village, which had belonged to the abbey, were appropriated to the courtiers who accompanied James VI., who is said to have been wont to come to Scone for the purpose of hunting. One house was called, at a comparatively recent period, the Earl of Errol's stables. He probably attended on the king as hereditary grand constable of Scotland. Part of a wall which stood between the palace and the village still remains, together with an ancient gateway. A little to the east of this is the cross, the only vestige now of the village. It consists of an upright pillar, 13 feet high, slightly ornamented at the top, standing

small flat octagonal stage from which the pillar rises.

*Antiquities.*—The greater part of the ground in the immediate neighbourhood of the palace seems to have been disturbed at a former period, probably about sixty years ago. In making some alterations on the terraces in 1841, and up to the present date, various fragments of grave and other stones have been found. In 1841, the workmen came upon what may have been the foundations of the monastery. One apartment, which seemed to be a sort of cell, was found in pretty good repair. It was surrounded by stone seats, about 15 inches broad, and might be from 10 feet to 12 feet in dimension. Near the same place was two stone-coffins in good preservation, but from the appearance of the skeletons, they appeared to have been previously disturbed. They were of different shapes and covered with flat stones, but with no inscription. Between the present palace and the church-yard, there were a great many stone-coffins, some rough, and others in some degree hewn, in which the skeletons were very entire. In one of these were found a piece of gold lace, a piece of a leathern belt, and some buckles. Above these were large stones, rising like a ridge in the middle, and bearing inscriptions, but so much defaced as to be illegible. At no great distance were many skeletons without any coffin, and apparently committed to the dust in the most confused manner. Very recently a coffin was found composed of various stones, and covered with a large flat stone, on one end of which there is apparently part of an inscription. There is no date, but the form of the letters strongly resembles that used about the year 1216, as given, for example, on the great seal of Henry III. The first line is "Alexander Mar"—the second seems to contain the following letters: "Abbassex de m;" the letters beyond the *d*, and the *m* are unknown. It is probably the grave of an early abbot of the monastery. One of the oldest grave-stones bearing date, lately found, is that of "ane honest voman, Bessy Ferry, spouse of Gilbert Couper, quha depertit this 1607." The ancient gateway on the east is supported on either side by a round tower. Walls at one time seem to have run from each of these towers towards the house. The royal arms are cut in stone immediately above the gateway, and in the towers there are the same arms and mottos as those represented on the seat in the church. The only additional pieces of antiquity dug up are parts of a rude leaden water-pipe, in the neighbourhood of what seems to have been the site of the monastery; and an old bell found about a hundred years ago.

consequence of their relations having been interred there, lies at some distance from that part of the grounds in which these stone-coffins were placed.

It is stated in the old Statistical Account, that "the Roman military road leading from the camp at Ardoch to the bottom of the Grampians, enters this parish on the west, a little above a farmhouse on the Tay, and passes through till it leaves it on the north-east quarter. On the other side of the river opposite to the place where the road enters the parish, stood the ancient town of Bertha, now a hamlet bearing that name; and it is said that, in former times, there was a bridge over the river, and that several large beams of oak yet to be seen under the water formed a part of it."

"About a quarter of a mile up the river from this place are the vestiges, it is supposed, of an encampment. It is a spot of ground inclosed on the west by the Tay, and on the other sides by a fosse. Its figure is nearly an oblong, and its circumference about 535 yards. A small brook runs through it; and on the south side of this brook, about 30 yards up from the river, are the vestiges of a fortification called the Silver castle; probably from a vulgar idea that money was hid in it. This place is situated nearly about half-way between the Roman military road, and a place on the opposite side of the river, where the battle of Luncarty was fought between the Danes and the Scots. But time, and the recent operations of the plough, have now almost obliterated those monuments of ancient times." This last remark, made about fifty years ago, is still more applicable now.

What was vulgarly called the "*boothill*," or "*omnis terra*," every man's land, remains to be noticed. It is evidently a corruption of *Motehill* or *Moothill*. "The term," says the late Dr Jamieson, "is evidently Gothic, denoting a place of meeting. Skene calls it "the *Mute-hill* of *Scone*;" verb. signifying vo. *Mote*, vide Etymol. Dictionary of the Scottish language vo. *Mote*." In the history of the House of Douglas and Angus, written by Master David Hume of Godscroft, Ed. 1644, it is said, "Robert Bruce was crowned at Scone in the year 1306 in Ap. at which Sir James Douglas assisted, casting into a heape, as others did, a quantity of earth of his lands of Douglas, which making a little hill, is called yet *omnis terra*. This was the custom of those times, by which homage they that held the King of Scotland supreme under God were distinguished from others." This story Dr Jamieson characterizes as "a palpable and very silly fable." According to the

north from the old Abbey church. Of this church there were scarcely any vestiges when that Statistical Account was written. "Such changes," it is there said, "does time introduce, that on that spot where our ancient kings were crowned, there no<sup>w</sup> grows a clump of trees." The church, of which the aisle remains, seems to have been built on the Mote-hill by the first Viscount Stormont about the year 1624. "The people in the Highlands," it is said, "call the Boothill at this day Tom-a-mhoid, *i. e.* the hill where justice is administered." Is the "*gallows knowe*" connected with this? or the fact that Macbeth, the earliest sheriff in the shire of Perth, was styled Sheriff of Scone?

On the farm of Bonhard, which lies on the eastern side of the parish, are two circles of large stones. Each circle is about 7 yards in diameter, and contains nine stones, placed at unequal distances. They are said to be Druidical temples. There are also the remains of an old castle in Lower Springfield, the greater part of which is now in ruins. It has been twice burned to the ground.

*Eminent Characters connected with the Parish.*—Of the eminent characters connected with the parish by birth, residence, or burial, may be mentioned the gallant Hay, so distinguished at the battle of Luncarty, who is said to have been born here. At no very remote period, the inhabitants were wont to point out the remains of his humble habitation. They are now entirely obliterated. According to tradition his name was originally *Deluce*, for the change of which to *Hay*, a ludicrous and silly reason is assigned, in connection with his fatigue after the battle. The families of Errol and Kinnoull are generally said to have had their descent from this individual. According to the common story, this "husbandman, who chanced to be busy at work in a neighbouring field, having, accompanied by his two sons, armed only with their plough-beams, opposed a chief division of their countrymen, when flying from the fight in a moment of panic, and "drove them back to victory." In this, it is said, originated the nobility of the Hays of Errol. "The armorial bearing of this family, which exhibited three escutcheons, supported by two peasants, carrying each the beam of a plough on his shoulder, is appealed to in proof of the story; but it is just as likely that the story may have been invented to explain the arms. At all events, the arms are of much less antiquity than the battle of Luncarty, at the date of which event armorial ensigns were unknown. It is well established that the Hays are a branch of the Norman de Hayas, whose ancestor came over to England

than a hundred years after the battle of Luncarty; and that they only obtained the lands of Errol from King William the Lion of Scotland about the middle of the twelfth century. It was not till the middle of the fourteenth century that they were ennobled.”\*

The celebrated William, first Earl of Mansfield, was born at Scone, according to common report, on the 2d of March 1704, O. S. By some authorities, however, he is said to have been born at Perth. He was the fourth son of Andrew, one account says, but, according to Debrett, of David, fifth Viscount Stormont, and Margery, daughter of David Scott of Scotstarvet, in Fife. He was removed in his infancy to London; admitted a King's scholar at Westminster school in 1719; entered at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1723; and called to the bar in 1731. He soon rose to great eminence, and after conducting the defence in a cause in which his leader was prevented by sudden illness from appearing in Court, so great an amount of business flowed on him that his income rose at once from a few hundreds to thousands a-year. In 1743, he was appointed Solicitor-General, and obtained a seat in the House of Commons, where his brilliant eloquence and legal knowledge raised him to the greatest eminence. He was made Attorney-General in 1754, and two years afterwards he was appointed Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and raised to the peerage by the title of Baron Mansfield of Mansfield, in the county of Nottingham, becoming at the same time a member of the Cabinet. Strong inducements were held out to lead him to devote his talents entirely to politics, but he firmly refused to abandon his position as Chief Justice. For a short time he held the seals of office as Chancellor of the Exchequer on the resignation of Legge, and was then entrusted by the King with full power to negotiate respecting a new administration. He incurred much popular odium on the trial of the publishers of Junius's letter to the King, but he did not court popularity.

Lord Mansfield's house in Bloomsbury Square was attacked and set fire to during the riots of 1780. The superb furniture, flung into the streets, was destroyed by fire, together with some thousand volumes, many capital manuscripts, mortgages, papers, and other deeds, besides the rich wardrobe and some very valuable paintings. On this occasion, Lord and Lady Mansfield made their escape through a back-door only a few minutes before the rioters entered and took possession of the house.

\* Pictorial History of England, Vol. i. p. 220.

thirty-two years, his Lordship retired in 1788. On September 20th 1788, he had married Elizabeth Finch, sixth daughter of Daniel Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham. He left no issue.

On October 31st 1776, he had been created Earl of Mansfield with remainder to Louisa Viscountess Stormont, wife of David Viscount Stormont, his nephew, it being then held that a Scots peer was disqualified from taking a peerage of Great Britain even in remainder. Her ladyship still survives, having become Countess of Mansfield on his death. A different opinion, however, was afterwards established respecting the descent of a British peerage, and in August 1792, the Earl was created Earl of Mansfield of Caenwood, in the county of Middlesex, with remainder to his nephew David, seventh Viscount Stormont, K. T., who consequently became Earl of Mansfield at his uncle's death, in the eighty-ninth year of his age, on the 20th of March 1793.\* This second Earl of Mansfield dying September 1st 1796, was succeeded in his Scotch and English honours by his son William, born March 7th 1777. At his death in February 1840, the present Earl succeeded. He was born in 1806 ; married in 1829 Louisa, daughter of Cuthbert Ellison, Esq. who died November 24th 1837, leaving a daughter, Lady Louisa Nina, born 1830, and a son, Viscount Stormont, born 1835.

The seventh Lord Stormont and second Earl of Mansfield was much engaged in the political transactions of his time, and filled the offices of ambassador at the courts of Vienna and Versailles. The canopy of state which his Lordship then used has been converted into a bed, which is still preserved. He was appointed ambassador in the room of Lord Harcourt, who succeeded Lord Townsend as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland in 1772. In October 1779, Lord Stormont was appointed one of the Secretaries of State, in room of Lord Suffolk. Lord Stormont went out with his party, when the Marquess of Rockingham was appointed first Lord of the Treasury ; but was President of the Council during the Duke of Portland's administration, when the Earl of Mansfield was made Speaker of the House of Lords, and the great seal was put in commission. This coalition ministry was formed April 2, 1783. Before his appointment as an ambassador at Paris, Viscount Stormont had spent much of his life in a diplomatic capacity. He married first, Henrietta Frederica, daughter of Henry Count Bunau, who

\* The first Earl of Mansfield survived his elder brother David, sixth Viscount Stormont, for the long period of forty-five years.

died March 16, 1766. He married second in 1776, Louisa, daughter of Charles ninth Lord Cathcart, and sister to William, the present venerable Earl of Cathcart. She still survives, Countess of Mansfield in her own right, as already mentioned.

Among the individuals deserving remembrance connected with the parish, may be mentioned the Rev. John Honey of Blairhall, and at his death minister of Bendochy, in the presbytery of Meigle. He is well remembered by many of the parishioners of Scone, not merely for his piety and professional attainments, but also for his active exertions in the cause of humanity. His name in St Andrews continues to be associated with the dangers and the preservations experienced on that coast, in several instances of which his intrepid humanity was displayed. He married, on September 20, 1809, a daughter of the Rev. D. Adamson, one of the ministers of St Andrews, and Professor of Civil History in the University. He was ordained minister of Bendochy in 1812, but was cut off by fever in the prime of life on the 14th October 1814, being then only in his thirty-sixth year.

The celebrated bonanist and traveller, Mr David Douglas, was a native of Scone. He was born in this parish in 1798. His father, John Douglas, was a working mason. David was chiefly educated at the parochial school of Kinnoul, and at an early period became apprenticed as gardener in the garden of the Earl of Mansfield, where his activity and obliging disposition were soon perceived. He was afterwards employed in the garden of Sir Robert Preston of Valleyfield, whence, in about eighteen months, he removed to the botanic garden of Glasgow. Having here attracted the notice of Dr (now Sir W. J.) Hooker, Professor of Botany, and accompanied him in his excursions through the Western Highlands, assisting in collecting materials for the *Flora Scotica*, Douglas was recommended, through Dr Hooker, to Joseph Sabine, Esq. the late Secretary of the Horticultural Society, as a botanical collector. In consequence of this, he was despatched to the United States in 1823, where he procured many fine plants, and greatly increased the Society's collection of fruit-trees. He returned in the autumn of that year, and again, in July 1824, he sailed for the purpose of exploring the botanical riches of the country adjoining the Columbia River, and southwards towards California. He collected many rare orchideous plants, when the vessel touched at Rio de Janeiro; shot many curious birds in his voyage round Cape Horn; visited and sowed a collection of gar-

Vancouver on the Columbia, on the 7th of April 1825. The vast collections of seeds which he transmitted home from this locality, amply proved his talents and assiduity. He traversed the country across the Rocky Mountains to Hudson's Bay in 1827, and returned to England in the autumn of that year. Having been then introduced, through Mr Sabine, to the Literary and Scientific Society in London, he was elected, free of expense, a member of the Linnæan, Geological, and Zoological Societies, and contributed some valuable papers. After remaining two years in London, he again sailed for Columbia in the autumn of 1829. He continued his favourite pursuit. Afterwards he visited the Sandwich Islands; and when his return was expected, intelligence was received of his death in very shocking circumstances. He had fallen into a pit made by the natives of the Sandwich Islands, for the purpose of catching wild bulls, and a bull being let into the pit at the time, this celebrated botanist was killed in the most horrible manner. This event took place on July 12, 1834, in the thirty-sixth year of his age.\*

*The Chief Land-owners.*—The land-owners of the parish are as follows: The Right Honourable the Earl of Mansfield; Andrew Murray, Esq. of Murrayshall (Murrayshall is in the parish of Kinnoull, but part of Mr Murray's property is in the parish of Scone); Alexander Macduff, Esq. of Bonhard; Jelf Sharpe, Esq. of Kincarrochy; Rev. John A. Honey of Blairhall; Patrick Matthew, Esq. of Barclayhills; George Grant, Esq. of Limepotts; and the Trustees of Scone's Lethendy.—Vid. New Stat. Account, Perth, p. 128. There are many feuars, who hold chiefly of Lord Mansfield and Mr Murray.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers are very defective. The earliest entry is dated 17th February 1622, and goes on to 7th November 1647. There is no register of any kind for the next twenty-seven years. From 1673 to 1688, there are some memoranda of births, &c.; but from 1688 to 1716, nothing whatever. From 1716 to 1740, there is a book containing some brief notices, and again, after a gap from 1740 to 1762, there are registers from 1762 to 1772. Minutes of session seem to have been kept from 1773 to 1787. Subsequently to that date they

\* For a more detailed account of the life of Douglas, the Companion to the Botanical Magazine may be consulted, and also the Gardeners' Magazine, Vol. xii. p. 602. A particular account of a monument erected to his memory in the churchyard of Scone, may be found in the MS. of this article.



riages. Regular session records have been kept since 1852 to the present date (February 1843) together with registers of births and marriages, when parties apply to have the birth of their children registered and pay the fee. Since 1838, a register of deaths has also been kept, stating the age and the disease that proved fatal when known.\*

The only apology for the loss of any part of the session records appears in the following entry: "Feb. 5, 1716, After sermon, session met and was constituted with prayer, and were present the Rev. Mr Tho. Schaw, minister, and the elders. This being the first Sabbath after dispersing the rebels, they having banished many ministers of this corner from their flocks, and that confusion and disturbance occasioned the loss of the session minutes from November 25, 1713, to February 5, 1716."

On the north-west of the parish, there is the large bleachfield of Stormontfield, together with the requisite buildings. There is an abundant supply of water, as it is on the banks of the Tay, and suitable fields for carrying on the operations. This field has long maintained a high reputation under the present tenant, John Maxton, Esq., who makes every provision for the comfort of those workmen and their families who conduct themselves with propriety. There is accommodation for between twenty and thirty families, all the members of which, able to work, are generally employed. The late Earl of Mansfield erected a neat and commodious school for the children in the neighbourhood. Stormontfield, with the land for a great extent on the east side of the Tay, belongs to the Earl of Mansfield.

### III.—POPULATION.

Formerly the population was more scattered over the parish; but as the land has been divided into larger farms, the village has increased. Several valuable farms are now in grass, forming the extensive parks around and beyond the palace. The population has increased progressively. The village of New Scone has been almost entirely built within the century. Much of it is occupied

\* The session seems to have exercised complete control over education within the parish. "Oct. 25, 1676,—This day it is enacted, that no person nor persons whatsoever, to wit, neither men nor women, shall have libertie, nor be permitted within Scone nor the paroch thereof, to teach nor instruct children, that is to say, neither male nor female to syllabicat nor reade directly nor indirectly, to the hurt and prejudice of the publick school and schoolmaster." And over the seats in the church, "Sep. 13, 1675, This day it is enacted that every seat or chair standing in the kirk floore that is found emptie two Sabbaths together, shall be throwen to the church door by the kirk officer, except upon reasonable excuse made to the minister."

partly by giving an equivalent in land, obtained possession of the feus at Old Scone. The village of New Scone has been greatly extended, containing between 1200 and 1300 inhabitants. Many of the feuars have sub-feued their properties; and other proprietors have increased the village by encouraging feuing on their ground. A large part of the village stands on the property belonging to Andrew Murray, Esq, of Murrayshall, and some on that of the proprietor of Kincarrochie.

The only nobleman connected with the parish is the Earl of Mansfield.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The average number of acres, either cultivated or occasionally under cultivation, may be as follows:

Wheat, about	200 Scotch acres.
Barley, . . . . .	400
Oats, . . . . .	700
Potatoes, . . . . .	380
Turnips, . . . . .	300
Hay, . . . . .	660

The average rent of the cultivated land may be about L.2, 10s. per Scotch acre. The average rate of a cow's grazing may be about L.3, 15s. Ordinary ploughmen, engaged for the year, have from L.11 to L.14 wages, besides board and lodging; foremen have from L.15 to L.20. Day-labourers earn from 1s. 4d. to 2s. in summer, and from 1s. to 1s. 8d. in winter, per day; artisans from 2s. to 3s. in summer, and from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d. in winter.

The general duration of leases is for a period of nineteen years. The farm-buildings are generally good; but the cottages, in several places, very uncomfortable. Some part of the parish is well enclosed, but there are considerable portions where enclosures are but little attended to. A great improvement has taken place in the whole economy during the last thirty or thirty-five years. The produce of oats, at an average per acre, may be rated at 46 bushels; of barley, 38; of wheat, 34; of potatoes, 8½ tons per Scotch acre. Neither beet nor cabbage are cultivated in the field. The average value of an acre of turnips may be about L.9; of hay, about L.6; and land for pasture may bring from L.1, 15s. to L.2 per Scotch acre.

The above was furnished in 1837. There has been since then a diminution in the value of all kind of farm-produce, and, in some degree, of wages, both for farm-servants and labourers. The difficulty of obtaining employment as hand-loom weavers has increased

the number of out-door labourers, and consequently brought down their wages.\*

*Fisheries.*—The fisheries in the parish belonging to Lord Mansfield extend from opposite the palace to Cambusmichael, and were let last year for about L.100. Lord Kinnoull has a fishing in the lower park above Quarry Mill-dam, let for about L. 20, making about L. 120 of rent. About eighteen years ago, the rent was about L.1100. The reason for the extraordinary diminution is to be sought for in two causes,—the greater keenness with which the lower fishings are worked, and the reduction of the value of the fishings above the tide-way, occasioned by the alteration of the close-time. The close-time, formerly from 26th August to 12th December, is now from 14th September to 1st February. I am assured by the intelligent gentleman (R. Buist, Esq., Perth,) to whom I am indebted for this information, that “our ancestors were right in their close-time, and that the sooner we return to it the better for the fishings on the Tay.”

The fish got in the Tay opposite Scone are, salmon, grilse, sea-trout, yellow-trout, pike, perch, eels, and, occasionally, trouts that frequent burns and streams running into the Tay. The fish are seen going down the river after spawning, the males very early in the season, in December and January, and the females and fry in the latter end of March, April, and beginning of May.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The market-town is Perth. There is no village of any extent except New Scone, which is within two miles of Perth, thus rendering any market-town within the parish unnecessary. There is in the village a sub-post-office to Perth, and a delivery of letters, free of expense, on the arrival of the south mail. The turnpike road from Perth to Coupar-Angus passes through the parish for more than four miles, on which the Defiance coach travels north and south daily.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Before the village was transferred to New Scone, the parish church was situated in the old village. It had been built in 1784, but in 1804 it was removed to New Scone, the same materials being as much as possible made use of. The present situation is not very central, but being near the village, it is much more conveniently situated than it would have been at Old Scone, now that the bulk of the population are in New Scone. The whole seating of the church, exclusive of Lord Mansfield's seat is said, in a minute of a meeting of date 1786, to be 677 feet,

\* The information as to agriculture was supplied by a very intelligent farmer, and may be relied on so far as it goes.

106 feet, 8 inches. In the year 1834, it was found that the parish church, though in good repair, was too small to accommodate the members of the congregation, whereupon some of the heritors and a number of the feuars agreed to build an additional aisle by subscription. This was done at an expense of above L.280, and furnished about 180 additional sittings, besides greatly improving the appearance of the church. The manse was built at the time at which the church was removed. Considerable repairs were made on it in 1832-3, but it is deficient in accommodation. The stipend is as follows: barley, 105 bolls, 1 firloft, 1 lippie, one-half peck; meal, 113 bolls, 1 firloft, 2 lippies, one-quarter peck. Money, L.61, 3s. 4d.; for communion elements, L.10. The glebe is about 27 Scotch acres. Nearly twenty-four of these are let at a money rent.

There is a Dissenting congregation in connection with the United Associate Synod. The parish church is, in general, very well attended, as also the Dissenting chapel. The average number of communicants at the Established Church is about 600. In 1833, there was a society established in connection with the parish church, for the purpose of raising contributions in aid of the schemes under the direction of the General Assembly, and for procuring Bibles for gratis distribution, and at a cheap price. The collections for the poor at the church-door amount to between the sum of L.50 and L.60 a year; the collections for the schemes to somewhat above L.20. For some years, there was a collection for the Infirmary at Perth, but the scheme of parochial subscription was adopted last year, realizing about L.35. There are also from time to time collections for the Sabbath school.

The late Earl of Mansfield and his ancestors exercised the right of patronage up to a recent period.

On the 12th November 1828, a summons of declarator, at the instance of his Majesty's Advocate against the Earl of Mansfield, was raised for the purpose of having it declared, "that the right of patronage of the churches and parishes of Redgorton, Kinfauns, and Scone," belongs to, and is invested exclusively in, the Crown. The Lord Ordinary, in 1830, decided in favour of the pursuer. This decision was acquiesced in without appeal to the House of Lords. So far as can be ascertained, the following were ministers of Scone: Before 1673, Mr John Liddell. He seems to have died end of June 1686. In 1687, Mr John Murray was minister. In 1716, the

James Knox,\* probationer, whose predecessor had been admitted on a call, was admitted minister of this parish on a presentation by the Viscount of Stormont's commissioner. On 27th October 1777, Mr Charles Wilson,† Mr Knox's successor, was admitted minister on a presentation by the Viscount of Stormont. On 15th August 1782, Mr James Hunter, Mr Wilson's successor, was admitted minister on a presentation by the Viscount of Stormont. On 25th September 1793, Mr John Wright, Mr Hunter's successor, was admitted minister on a presentation by the late Earl of Mansfield. On November 19, 1795, Mr William Aitken, who succeeded Mr Wright, was admitted minister on a presentation by the late Earl of Mansfield. The present incumbent, who succeeded Mr Aitken, was presented by the Crown, and ordained September 20, 1832.

*Education.*—There is a parochial school exceedingly well attended, and admirably taught by the present teacher, Mr William Keay. His salary is the maximum. The fees are not high. The branches required, according to minute of election, are English reading, writing, arithmetic, and Latin; but mathematics, French, &c. are also taught. There are other schools for girls in the village, but the attendance is very small. The teacher at Stormontfield has always had an allowance of L.4 from Lord Mansfield, and L.2 from Mr Maxton; but this is purely gratuitous, and may be withdrawn at any time. By a sermon preached at Stormontfield annually, a small addition is made to his salary, and his fees are rather higher than at the parish school. He has in winter about fifty scholars. There are at the parish school in winter from 130 to 150. The Sabbath school is numerously attended.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of poor receiving parochial aid may be about 28 or 30. The allowance varies from L.2, 8s. per annum to L.4, 16s. or L.5. The funds

\* Mr Knox was descended from William Knox, minister of Cockpen, brother of John Knox the Reformer. William had three sons, who were all ministers of Cockpen, Kelso, and Melrose respectively. William, the eldest, succeeded his father as minister of Cockpen. Simon Knox, minister of Girton, was his third son by the second marriage. Simon's son was William Knox, minister of Dairsie, and his third son was James Knox, minister of Scone. His grand-daughter married the late Rev. John Johnston, first of the Relief, and, at his death, of the Established Church, in Edinburgh.

† Mr, afterwards Dr Wilson, had been minister of Auchtermuchty before he came to Scone. From Scone he went to St Andrews as Professor of Hebrew, and is well known as the author of the "Elements of Hebrew Grammar."

of money, above £10, less on Mortality, and for the last two years, a voluntary assessment, on the part of the heritors, amounting, in 1841, to L.80, and in 1842, to L.60. The sum of L.40 is paid by the trustees of the Cupar Angus turnpike road, as interest on L.1000 lent them. This sum of L.1000 was the price paid by Lord Mansfield for some ground belonging to the poor at Old Scone, and which was sold to his Lordship at the time of the removal. Continued privation seems to prevent the poor from feeling that it is degrading to accept relief. With a few exceptions, those who once begin to receive parochial aid, continue to take it without much hesitation. A number of individuals, not on the list of ordinary poor, have been in the habit of receiving from the family at Scone Palace, for many years, assistance in the way of coals and flannel, besides other benefits. This is continued in all its fulness up to the present date. The Earl of Mansfield has given much employment to those inhabitants of the parish able to undertake out-of-door labour,—a method of doing good still better than merely giving charity.

*Inns, &c.*— There are within the parish nine taverns in which ardent spirits may be procured. There can be no doubt that they have an injurious effect on the morals of the people.

*Fuel.*— The fuel generally consumed is sea-coal, procured from Perth, at the rate of from 15s. to L.1 per ton, besides the cartage and toll. Scotch coal is also used, being brought for sale, during the summer and autumn months, from the collieries in Fife. A considerable quantity of oak, from which the bark has been removed for the use of the tanner, is also consumed, together with brushwood from the plantations.

*March 1843.*

# PARISH OF KILLIN.

PRESBYTERY OF WEEM, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. ALEXANDER STEWART, M. A., MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name of this parish is variously derived. It may signify “the chapel, churchyard, or burying-place of the pool,”—the ruins of an old chapel and church-yard being situated on the bank of the river Lochey, and having one of the deepest pools in the river just behind them. But a more romantic derivation has been given. A spot near the village of Killin has, from time immemorial, been pointed out as the grave of Fingal. This was once the site of the church, and also of the church-yard. The name agrees with either derivation, *Cill-linne*, or *Cill-Thinn*. There are considerations, however, which lead the writer to adopt the latter. One of these is, that the church and churchyard of the parish were near the site of Fingal’s grave, and therefore at a considerable distance from the pool. Another circumstance deserves to be mentioned. The course of the Lochay seems to have been at one time considerably distant even from the present churchyard, and still more so from the old one referred to. There is additional strength given to the traditional derivation, by the fact, that the ancient seat of the Breadalbane family, which is situated near Killin, is called Finlarig, or the field or plain of Fingal. That the tradition has been occasioned by the name of the parish, as the writer of the former Account seemed to believe, and not the name by the tradition, is by no means probable, and indeed can scarcely be entertained for a moment.

*Extent, &c.*—The parish is of great extent; the extreme points Inverarnan, near the head of Lochlomond, and Ardeonaig, on Loch Tay, being distant from each other about twenty-eight miles, while,

160 square miles.

The figure or shape of the parish is very irregular, and several isolated portions of the parishes of Kenmore and Weem intersect it on Loch Tayside and in Glenlochay, so that though the distance between the extreme points be as above, the greatest length of the parish of Killin, *quoad civilia*, may be reckoned about 24 miles. It is bounded on the east by the parish of Kenmure; on the south, by Comrie and Balquhiddier; on the west, by Arrochar and Glenorchay; and, on the north, by Glenlyon, which forms part of the old parish of Fortingall.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The surface of the parish is irregular, presenting a succession of mountain ranges, and fertile glens and valleys. The highest mountain is Benmore, situated in Glendochart, about ten miles from the village of Killin. It rises, in a majestic conical form, to the height of 3900 feet above the level of the sea, and presents an object of the most attractive interest to the eye of the traveller. The mountain-range, from Benmore to the head of Lochlomond, is unquestionably one of the most magnificent in the Highlands, and the admirer of Grampian scenery will rarely find his taste so highly gratified, and his toil so amply repaid, as by travelling up Glenfalloch on a summer evening, and from the summit of the road which passes through that most romantic of Highland glens, gazing on the grand chain of mountains which extend, as in a continuous line, from Benmore to Benlomond. Another range of exceeding interest and grandeur is that of *Craig-Chailleach* (old wives' craig), in the immediate neighbourhood of Killin, rising abruptly (and richly wooded more than halfway up) from the noble plain of Finlarig, at the head of Loch Tay, and stretching westward into Glenlochay. It forms the grandest by far of all the objects which combine to render the scenery of Killin so rich in the variety of its parts, and so splendid in its general aspect. The turretted peaks of this mountain-range may be seen to great advantage by moonlight from any spot near the church; and the tourist who is fortunate enough to obtain this view, will confess that it is grand beyond expression.

The hills, though rising to a great height, are, generally speaking, clothed with verdure to their summits. The principal valleys are, Glendochart, stretching westward from Killin about ten



miles; Strathfillan, which may be considered a continuation of the same valley, extending about eight miles further till it meets the parish of Glenorchay, at the boundary between the counties of Perth and Argyle: Glenfalloch, branching off from Strathfillan in a southerly direction, and extending to the boundary between Perthshire and Dumbartonshire, near the head of Lochlomond; and Glenlochay, stretching from Killin to a distance of about fourteen miles in a line nearly parallel to Glendochart, from which it is separated by a fine range of hills, called the Mid-Hill. These valleys are rich and fertile, yielding good crops of corn, potatoes, and turnips; and in the more marshy districts, on the banks of the river, bearing meadow hay of excellent quality in great abundance. Their scenery is in many places highly picturesque, being enriched with thriving plantations, and a considerable quantity of natural wood. With the exception of these valleys, which in few places hardly exceed a mile in breadth, there is very little flat land in the parish. The fine plains of Finlarig, Kirmell, and Dall may, however, be mentioned.

*Meteorology.*—The temperature of the atmosphere in this parish varies to an extraordinary degree, according to the changes of season. During the winter and spring months, it is generally very low; towards the middle of April, a change often very mild takes place; and generally during the summer months, the heat is great, sometimes excessive, causing the most rapid vegetation. There is in general much cloudy weather, especially in the latter end of autumn, and in the winter and spring months, when there are frequent and heavy falls of rain. As might be expected in so elevated a region, far removed as it is from the sea, the snow, which falls in great quantities, remains long, especially on the high grounds. In the beginning of the year 1838, there was a storm of uncommon severity; the whole surface of the ground being covered (in some places to a depth of several feet) for eight weeks, while the ice on the river Lochay was ascertained to be about fourteen inches in thickness. It is no uncommon thing to observe considerable quantities of snow on the high grounds till far on in the summer, and traces of the old snow have sometimes been noticed even in August.

The prevailing winds are the west and south-west; but in the spring months, there is a good deal of northerly wind, which is peculiarly keen and piercing. In summer, there is often a long

a breath of wind can be felt.

*Climate.*—The climate is, during a great part of the season, decidedly damp. It is also very variable, except during the summer months, and after long-continued frosts of winter and spring. It is, however, decidedly healthy, and many of the inhabitants live to a great age.

We have before us a register of the state of the barometer and thermometer at Killin, at 8 A. M. and P. M., kept by the late Mr M'Gibbon, schoolmaster, from the year 1800 till his death, and since that time by a member of his family. The following table gives the average for 1820, for each month, and for the whole year:—

January, average, Barometer,	29.4226	Thermometer,	31.226
February,	29.5276	.....	39.241
March,	29.4709	.....	41.354
April,	29.5	.....	47.633
May,	29.2903	.....	51.806
June,	29.4666	.....	57.6
July,	29.4836	.....	63.161
August,	29.2903	.....	58.516
September,	29.4	.....	53.
October,	30.1290	.....	42.677
November,	29.4166	.....	42.8
December,	29.5516	.....	41.922
Whole year,	29.495	.....	47.528

In the opinion of some, the winters are not so cold, nor the summers quite so warm now as they were then; but the average is still the same. The state of the thermometer, for May 1840, was 50.9, and for November, 43.1.

*Hydrography.*—The principal lake connected with the parish is Lochtay, at the west end of which Killin is situated. It extends eastward from Killin to Kenmore, about fifteen miles, varying from one to two miles in breadth. It is generally of great depth, and has never been known to freeze. The scenery of Lochtay is much admired, especially at the two extremities. The mountains on either side, and especially on the north, are lofty, and rise abruptly from the edge of the loch. Its shores are also tastefully skirted with wood, and the sloping sides of the mountains are cultivated to the height generally of about half a-mile from the margin of the lake. To the tourist in search of views and romantic scenery, the road by the south side of the lake is recommended. Into Lochtay, two rivers discharge their waters, the Dochart and the Lochay. The for-

the boundary of the counties of Perth and Argyle, then flowing through Strathfillan, under the name of Fillan, for a distance of about seven miles, it enters a small lake called Loch Dochart, and thence issuing, enters Lochure. These two lakes are nearly joined. It then, under the name of the Dochart, flows rapidly through the romantic glen of that name, and, after a course of about ten miles, joins the Lochay, and falls into Lochtay. The river Lochay rises in the braes of Glenlochay, through which it flows for about fourteen miles. There is another stream, the Falloch, which runs through the beautiful glen of that name, and discharges itself into the queen of British lakes, Lochlomond.

*Cascades.*—In times of rain, thousands of cascades dash down the sloping sides of the mountains. The falls of the Falloch, as it pursues its way through the lovely wooded glen, will richly repay a visit. The falls of the Dochart at Killin are much admired by the traveller of taste. From the bridge, looking upwards, few scenes present a more striking and grander appearance. The falls of Lochay, about three miles from Killin, are uncommonly grand. The glen is naturally divided into two parts, and the river has forced its way through the solid rock of the precipitous defile which separates the upper from the lower glen. This part, extending to about a mile in length, is not inferior in grandeur or richness of scenery, in rugged knolls and wooded dells, to the far-famed Trosachs, while the falls have been pronounced equal to those of Clyde. The different points from which the best views may be got, are accessible by romantic winding walks formed through the woods. From these points, at one time high above the foaming cataract, and sometimes near its edge, it may be seen tumbling and dashing in majestic grandeur, sending clouds of spray to a considerable distance.

Mr Pennant thus describes the view from a hill above the manse: "A most delicious plain," he observes, "spreads itself beneath, divided into verdant meadows, or glowing with ripened corn; embellished with wood, and watered with rivers, uncommonly contrasted. On one side pours down its rocky channel the furious Dochart; on the other glides between its wooded banks the gentle Lochay, forming a vast bend of still water, till it joins the first, both terminating in the great expanse of Lochtay."—"Killin," says Dr MacCulloch, "is the most extraordinary collection of ex-

country, and, perhaps, on earth, and a perfect picture-gallery in itself, since you cannot move three yards without meeting a new landscape. A busy artist might here draw a month and not exhaust it. Fir-trees, rocks, torrents, mills, bridges, houses,—these produce the great bulk of the middle landscape, under endless combinations, while the distances more constantly are found in the surrounding hills, in their varied woods, in the bright expanse of the lake, and the minute ornaments of the distant valley,—in the rocky and bold summit of Craig Cailliach, and in the lofty vision of Ben-lawers, which towers like a huge giant to the clouds, the monarch of the scene.”

*Geology.*—The predominating rock is mica slate in the greatest variety of mineral character. The talcose, chloritic, and hornblende rocks are of frequent occurrence, and of considerable thickness. Limestone, of a highly crystalline character and greyish colour, is abundant. Trap veins are also to be met with, and porphyry and syenitic greenstone. Lead-ore is abundant. The Tyndrum mines have been re-opened and carried on with spirit for some years past, under the direction of experienced German miners. Cobalt is found, and is so rich as to yield sixty ounces of silver in the ton. In Craig-Chailliach, near Killin, there is a rich vein of sulphuret of iron. It has been examined with the view of working it for the manufacture of sulphur. Specimens of rock-crystal, amethystine quartz, smoke quartz, and imbedded garnets, are to be met with. A large crushing-mill has been erected at Tyndrum, and rails laid for conveying the ore down the steep descent to the mill.

The country is rich in metallic veins, though the great distance from coals and from the market may render them less valuable. The working of them would be highly beneficial to the people; and this is the object chiefly in view in the researches of the noble proprietor.

*Pearls.*—In the Dochart the pearl-muscle is found, from which beautiful and valuable pearls are extracted.

*Soil.*—The soil is generally on limestone, and is light and dry. A considerable part of the arable land is wet and marshy, particularly in Glendochart and Strathfillan, and the crops are often endangered or swept away by the overflowing of the river; so that an autumnal flood, converting our valleys into lakes of many isles,

to the anxious farmer. The soil, though capable of producing good crops of oats, barley, potatoes, and turnips, is best adapted for pasture. The hills afford the richest sheep-walks.

*Botany.*—The following valuable paper, on the Botany of the district, we owe to the able pen of Sir William Hooker.

There is not, perhaps, in all Britain a more interesting field for the botanist, than the vast mountain tracts of the Breadalbane range, so large a portion of which is imbedded in the present parish. It may, indeed, in this point of view, be looked upon as classic ground; for here the lynx-eyed Dickson, the indefatigable Don, Mackay, Stuart, (Rev. Dr, the friend of Lightfoot, and a most important contributor to his valuable *Flora Scotica*,) Turner, Borrer, Wilson, Hooker, Graham, and a host of competent students of the two professors now mentioned, have scaled the highest peaks, and explored the deepest glens with such ardour, that no part of the Highlands has been better investigated as to its vegetable riches, than the district in question. Our limits will only allow us to give a brief notice of the rarer, and especially the alpine species.\*

The following list of the rarer, chiefly alpine species, is arranged according to the natural orders:

<b>RANUNCULACEÆ.</b>	<i>Alchemilla alpina</i>	<b>CAPRIFOLIACEÆ.</b>
<i>Thalictrum alpinum</i>		<i>Linnaea borealis</i>
	<b>ONAGRARIÆ.</b>	<b>RUBIACEÆ.</b>
<b>CRUCIFERÆ.</b>	<i>Epilobium alsinifolium</i>	<i>Galium boreale</i>
<i>Subularia aquatica</i>	_____ <i>alpinum</i>	
<i>Draba verna</i>	<i>Circea alpina</i>	<b>COMPOSITÆ.</b>
_____ <i>rupestris</i>		<i>Apargia Taraxaci</i>
_____ <i>incana</i>	<b>CRASSULACEÆ.</b>	<i>Hieracium alpinum</i>
	<i>Rhodiola rosea</i>	_____ <i>Halleri</i>
<b>CARYOPHYLLÆ.</b>	<i>Sedum villosum</i>	_____ <i>Lawsoni</i>
<i>Silene acaulis</i>		<i>Saussurea alpina</i>
<i>Spergula saginoides</i>	<b>SAXIFRAGÆÆ.</b>	<i>Cnicus heterophyllus</i>
<i>Stellaria cerastoides.</i>	<i>Saxifraga stellaris</i>	<i>Gnaphalium dioicum</i>
<i>Arenaria verna</i>	_____ <i>navalis</i>	_____ <i>supinum</i>
_____ <i>rubella</i>	_____ <i>oppositifolia</i>	<i>Erigeron alpinum</i>
<i>Cerastium alpinum</i>	_____ <i>cernua</i>	
<i>Cherleria sedoides</i>	_____ <i>rivularis</i>	<b>LOBELIACEÆ.</b>
	_____ <i>hypnoides</i>	<i>Lobelia Dortmanna</i>
<b>ROSACEÆ.</b>	<b>UMBELLIFERÆ.</b>	<b>VACCINÆÆ.</b>
<i>Dryas octopetala</i>	<i>Meum Athamanticum</i>	<i>Vaccinium uliginosum</i>
<i>Rubus suberectus</i>	<i>Myrrhis odorata</i>	<i>Arbutus Uva-ursi</i>
_____ <i>saxatilis</i>		
_____ <i>Chamaemorus</i>	<b>ARALIACEÆ.</b>	
<i>Potentilla alpestris</i>	<i>Cornus Suecica</i>	
<i>Sibbaldia procumbens</i>		

\* The Geographical Distribution of British Plants, " by Hewett Cottrell Watson," may here be referred to as peculiarly applicable to the vast Breadalbane range.

Azalea procumbens  
Pyrola media

**GENTIANÆ.**

Gentiana nivalis  
—— campestris

**ASPERIFOLIÆ.**

Myosotis alpestris

**SCROPHULARIÆ.**

Bartsia alpina  
Melampyrum sylvaticum  
Veronica alpina  
—— saxatilis  
—— fruticulosa

**PRIMULÆ.**

Trientalis Europea

**PLUMBAGINÆ.**

Statice Ageria

**PLANTAGINÆ.**

Littorella lacustris

**POLYGONÆ.**

Polygonium viviparum  
Oxyria reniformis

**SALIX**

reticulata  
—— arenaria  
—— Stuartiana  
—— sphacelata  
—— Andersoniana  
—— Forsteriana  
—— rupestris  
—— petraea  
—— tenuior  
—— laxiflora  
—— radicans  
—— Borreriana  
—— tetrapla  
—— Weigeliana  
—— bicolor  
—— vaccinifolia  
—— carinata  
—— prunifolia  
—— venutosa  
—— myrsinites  
—— procumbens  
—— herbacea  
Juniperus communis  
var. nana

**ORCHIDÆ.**

Gymnadenia conopsea  
Habenaria viridis  
—— albida

**MELANTHACEÆ.**

Tofieldia palustris

**JUNCÆ.**

Luzula spicata  
Juncus castaneus  
—— trifidus  
—— biglumis  
—— triglumis

**CYPERACEÆ.**

Rhynchospora alba  
Eriophorum capitatum  
—— gracile  
Carex pauciflora  
—— Mielichofere  
—— ustulata  
—— atrata  
—— pulla  
—— rigida  
Elyna caricina

**GRAMINÆ.**

Phleum alpinum  
Aira alpina  
Melica nutans  
Sesleria cœrulea  
Poa alpina

An equally rich catalogue might be made of the rare ferns, mosses, and other cryptogamic plants, were it not that space would be occupied which requires to be devoted to subjects of more general interest.

*Plantations.*—There are about 1000 acres of wood in the parish, and of these a great part consists of very thriving plantations. In the higher parts of Strathfillan, where there is now rather a want of wood, it is evident it once abounded, as the trunks of large trees are very frequent in the ground. The following kinds of wood are indigenous, and grow to a large size: oak, ash, mountain-ash, birch, elder, hawthorn, and hazel. The plantations consist chiefly of Scotch and silver fir, spruce, and larch. At Finlarig, some fine specimens of yew may be seen, and a plane probably three hundred years old. Laburnum and holly are also abundant. The following table of trees, measured about three feet from the ground, will give some idea of the adaptation of the land to the growth of wood:—

	Feet.	Inches.		Feet.	Inches.	
5 Ashes, smallest	12	0	.	Largest,	17	0
4 Chestnuts, do.	13	10	.	Do.	15	10
3 Beeches, do.	13	2	.	Do.	14	0
1 Horse-chestnut,	11	5	.	Do.	—	—
4 Oaks,	12	6	.	Do.	14	0
3 Planes,	11	0	.	Do.	17	0
3 Elms,	10	0	.	Do.	10	

2 Silver-hk,	7	8	Largest	12	3
1 Holly,	8	8	Do.	—	—
3 Scotch firs,	10	0	Do.	12	5
1 Walnut,	10	8	Do.	—	—

*Zoology.*—The following animals abound : roe-deer, brown and mountain-hares, rabbits, black-game, grouse, ptarmigan, pheasant, brown and white partridges, woodcocks, snipes, plovers, &c. The following, which are found in this country, are reckoned rare : the scaup-duck, the water-rail, the ring-ouzel, the greater spotted woodpecker, the nut-hatch, the greater and lesser red pools, &c. There are the following quadrupeds : foxes, badgers, wild martin, and polecats :—of birds of prey : eagles, kite-glade, buzzard-glade, falcon, hawk, hen-harrier, kestrel, merrin, sparrow-hawk, owls, white, brown, and horned :—of aquatic birds : the swans, wild geese, sea-gulls, and herons.

*Fish.*—The following abound in the lakes and rivers : salmon and trout, also pike, char, and eels. Salmon of thirty-six pounds have been killed in Lochtay; and pike, weighing upwards of twenty pounds. The angler may have excellent sport in the lochs, or in the rivers and mountain streamlets. The salmon-fishing is worth about L.150 per annum. At the Bridge of Killin, the visitor may see a curious mode of fishing. Standing on a rock beside the deep foaming pool, may be seen an aged weather-beaten fisherman, having in his hand a rod fourteen feet long, with a strong twine attached with a sinker of half a pound weight, and a large steel hook two and a-half inches wide. In the dark pool the salmon rests after ascending the lower rapids, and before he ventures to attempt the raging cataracts above. The fisherman throws his line into the foaming linn, and the moment the sinker reaches the bottom, he gives the rod a sudden jerk, and not unfrequently the hook gets fastened in the side of a large salmon, when the deadly but unequal struggle begins, and the fish is speedily landed on the rock. Neither fly, nor worm, nor minnow is used; and yet the fishing, though in dark and troubled waters, is often very successful. From the spot where the fisherman stands, the lover of the sublime may obtain a grand view of the descending river, and of the towering Benmore in the distance. Several sketches of this scene have been taken from the Innisbuidhe, but none from the spot pointed out.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Family of Breadalbane.*—The history of the Noble family of

Finlarig, one of their ancient seats, is near Kinnin. It occupies a fine site, embosomed in wood of a venerable age at the north-west end of Lochtay, with the river Lochay sweeping past its base. The castle was built by Sir Duncan Campbell, seventh Laird of Glenorchay. The following incidents are from the "Black Book of Taymouth." 1. Sir Colin Campbell, first Laird or second son of Duncan, in a Knight of Lochaw, "conquessit the takis of the ten mark landis of Auchmore."

2. Sir Duncan Campbell, second Laird of Glenurquhay, who was at the Field of Flodden with King James IV. "He conquessit the heritable tytill of the barony of Finlarig."

3. The third Laird, Sir Colin Campbell, son to the second, who died 1523. "He biggit the Chapel of Finlarig to be ane burial for himself and posteritie."

6. The sixth Laird, Sir Colin, who succeeded 1550, and died 1583, "conquessit the superiority of M'Nabb, his hail landis."

7. Sir Duncan Campbell, "sevint Laird of Glenurquhay," who died 1631, "in his time biggit the Castle of Finlarig, Pitt, and office-houses thair of; repaired the chapel thair of, and decored the same inwardlie with pavement and paintine; for the bigging and workmanship quhair of he gaiff ten thousand poundis." "Item, in the zeir of God 1627, he causit big ane brig over the watter of Lochay, to the great contentment and will of the countrie." "He was ane great Justiciar all his tyme, throch the quhilk he sustenit the deidly feid of the Clangregour ane long space. And besydes that, he causit execute to the death mony notable lymmaris. He behiddit the Laird of Macgregor himself at Kandmoir, in presence of the Erle of Athole, the Justice-Clerk, and sundrie other nobilmen."

Several other families of the clan Campbell, such as Glenfalloch, Lochdochart, &c., connected with, or cadets of, the family of Breadalbane, long resided in the parish, and owned extensive properties. Many scions of these houses have distinguished themselves in the service of their country.

*M'Nab of M'Nab.*—Kinnell, on the banks of the Dochart, was long the residence of M'Nab of M'Nab, who was descended from the abbots of Glendochart. A manuscript in our possession gives a minute account of this ancient family. In the reign of David

\* For an interesting account of the Breadalbane family, see the able Account of Kenmure.



son and heir of the abbot. The Baron of M'Nab fought with Balfour against the Bruce at Dalree. The manuscript quotes several ancient charters; one is by King David Bruce, under the Great Seal, dated 1336: "Gilberto M'Nab et hæredibus suis, &c. de Bovain in dominatu de Glendochart," &c. Another is by King James III. to "Finlao M'Nab et filio, &c. de omnibus et singulis terris de Bovain, Ardchyle, &c., dated 1486." Another date, 1502, is, "Finlao M'Nab de Bovain et hæredibus suis terrarum de Ewar Leiragan," &c. From another deed, confirmed by a charter under the Great Seal from Queen Mary, dated 27th June 1553, it appears the Laird of M'Nab mortgaged a great part of his lands to "Colino Campbell de Glenurchy et hæredibus suis, &c. de omnibus et singulis terris de Zeuir et Leragan cum suis pertinent. ac etiam de terris de Bovain, Ardchyle," &c. John M'Nab of that Ilk suffered much for his adherence to the cause of Charles I. He was with Montrose at Kilsyth, and was killed at the battle of Worcester.\*

This ancient family intermarried with some of the best and oldest houses in the country.

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners are, The Most Noble the Marquis of Breadalbane; W. L. Campbell of Glenfalloch; T. H. Place of Glenure; Miss Campbell of Coninish; Mr M'Naughton of Suie; Dr W. Shaw of Craignavie. They are all non-resident except Mr Place, who occasionally passes a part of the autumn at Glenure House.

There are several genteel residences in the parish. Besides Auchmore House (though *quoad civilia* in Weem) and Kinnell, there is Achlyne, beautifully situated on the Dochart; Glenure,

\* Interest was used to have his sequestrated estates restored to his infant son, and the following was the reply of General Monk.

"I do hereby declare that it was not intended by my order for repairing the Laird of Glenurchy's leases by the M'Nabs out of their estates, that the same should extend to the molesting and intermeddling with the estates of any of the M'Nabs who live peaceably; and, for as much as I understand that the widow of the Laird of M'Nab hath lived peaceably, you are hereby authorized, and I desire, in case any vexation be offered to the outing or dispossessing of the said widow or her children of the said lands, or anything that belongs to them under color of the said order, to preserve the rights that to them belong, as if the said order had never been made, and to enter and receive them into their lands: and this favor also is to be extended for Archibald M'Nab of Acharane. Given under my hand and seal at Dalkeith, 18th January 1654. S. S. GEORGE MONK. Directed to Captain Gascoigne, Governor of Finlariq." But, adds the manuscript, "it had no effect."

At the Restoration a considerable part of their lands was recovered. The whole property was sold some years ago.

somed in the woods of Glenlochay.

*Ministers of Killin.*—1. The Rev. Robert Stewart was minister of Killin before the Revolution, and till the year 1728. 2. He was succeeded by Mr Adam Ferguson, who was translated to Moulin in 1736. 3. Mr James Stewart, who died in the year 1789. 4. His son, Mr Patrick Stewart, had been ordained assistant and successor to his father in 1781. He died 1796. 5. He was succeeded by Mr Hugh M'Dougall, who died in 1827. 6. Dr Hugh M'Kenzie, M. D., who was translated from Clyne in Sutherland, and died in 1834. 7. Mr Robert Elder, who was translated from Kilbrandan, and was called from Killin to St Paul's in Edinburgh in October 1838; and was succeeded by the present incumbent in July 1839.

In the manse of Killin the present version of the Gaelic Scriptures was begun. The Gaelic Testament was executed by Mr James Stewart, from whom his son, the well-known Dr Stewart of Luss, obtained that knowledge of and taste for Gaelic literature which enabled him so faithfully to finish the Gaelic translation of the Bible. Killin may then fairly lay claim to the honour of this great work.

*Parochial Registers.*—The register for proclamations commences in 1687, and the register of baptisms in 1689; and, with the exception of ten years, from 1717 to 1727, they have been regularly kept to this date. The meetings of session are not recorded till 1771. Cases of discipline appear to have been were very frequent. One person was publicly rebuked eight times. Fines also were imposed on culprits. These went to the poor's funds. It appears also, that it was usual to make a collection for the poor after the marriage-service, as, along with the sum paid by a party "for the benefit of marriage on one proclamation," there is, almost uniformly, another entry, "collected at said marriage." Such entries as the following, showing the charity of the session, and the number of strange poor which visited the district, are very frequent: "To a travelling object. To a poor object. To a poor object from the Isles. To a poor object from the Highlands. To 17 objects from different quarters. To the Presbytery sexton for three years. Given out for a Gaelic Testament for a poor orphan. Quire of paper for certificates for the begging poor."

Clandestine marriages were then frequent, but are now unknown.

vered castle of Finlarig.\* In Loch-dochart there is a ruin, said to be one of the seven towers built by Sir Duncan Campbell. This castle was once taken by the M'Gregors, who approached it on the ice, and having surprised the inmates, put them all to the sword. There is at Strathfillan the ruins of a building, 120 feet long and 22 broad, which is said to have been a cathedral. Parts of the walls are still standing. The time when it was built is very uncertain. There are several Druidical circles. One may be seen near Kinnell. Old coins have been frequently dug up, some of which are now preserved at Taymouth.

At Strathfillan there is a deep pool called the Holy Pool, where, in olden times, they were wont to dip insane people. The ceremony was performed after sunset on the first day of the quarter, O. S., and before sunrise next morning. The dipped persons were instructed to take three stones from the bottom of the pool, and walking three times round each of three cairns on the bank, throw a stone into each. They were next conveyed to the ruins of St Fillan's chapel, and, in a corner called St Fillan's bed, they were laid on their back, and left tied all night. If next morning they were found loose, the cure was deemed perfect, and thanks returned to the saint. The pool is still visited, not by parishioners, for they have no faith in its virtue, but by people from other and distant localities. We have not heard of any being cured; but the prospect of the ceremony, especially in a cold winter evening, might be a good test for persons pretending insanity.

The bell referred to in last Account was about the size of a hand-bell, and was an ancient relic of the chapel. It was stolen by an English antiquarian about forty years ago. Popish tradition endowed it with the power of returning to its resting-place; but it would seem England is deemed a congenial home. At the mill of Killin, there were long kept a stone called Fillan's Chair, and seven small round stones that had been consecrated by the saint, and endowed with the power of curing diseases. Each of them had its peculiar merit. They got a fresh bed every Christmas eve from the straw and weeds cast ashore by the river. Five of them are still preserved at the mill, where they may be examined by the curious.

\* Beside it is the Breadalbane mausoleum, embosomed in the dark shade of trees of a venerable age.

gernie, an old rifle, four feet long, with an octagonal bore. It was afterwards used by the celebrated Gaelic poet, M'Intyre, when one of Lord Breadalbane's foresters. In his classic poem "Beinn dourain," he thus praises his companion :

"Ochd-shlisneach gun fheall,  
Stoc d'en fhiodh gun mbeang,  
Lotadh an damh seang  
Sa leonadh e."

It had, however, been used for other purposes than wounding the antlered monarchs of Coire-cheathaich and Beinn dourain. A party of soldiers had, in 1745, been sent from Finlarig Castle to burn the House of Coire Chaorach near Benmore. They were watched by M'Nab of Innisewen from the opposite side of the glen. After setting fire to the mansion, they were again on their march to Finlarig, when, happening to look back, they observed that the fire had gone out. One of them was sent back to rekindle it. He was observed by M'Nab, who, from his place of concealment, fired and killed the red-coat. The rest of the party, seeing the fate of their companion, rushed down to the river, but ere they had reached it, other three were made to kiss the earth. M'Nab then retreated to the rocks above, still watching his pursuers, and, from the heights, he killed three more of his enemies, when the rest became terrified, and gave up the destructive pursuit. In the stock of the rifle there is a recess for a supply of bullets. The same person has the celebrated bottle, known to many of M'Nab's friends as the Bachelor, and containing nine gallons. It was long in use at Kinnell. He has also a very handsome gold brooch, which used to adorn the shoulder of Rob Roy M'Gregor: also his powder-horn, elegantly mounted in silver.

There is in the possession of the minister a copy of Bishop Beddell's Bible in the Irish Gaelic, with this inscription, "1688. The donation of the honorable, pious, and lair'd Rob. Boyle, Esquire, a principal Member of the Royal Society, bestowed on the church of Killin, to continue there as a church-Bible for the use of the present minister and his successors, ministers of that parish."

### III.—POPULATION.

There are no data older than the last Account by which the state of the population can be ascertained. At that time there

and in 1841, the number was 1702.

Number of persons under 15 years of age,	511
from 15 to 30	475
30 to 50	398
50 to 70	270
above 70	110
	<hr/>
	1702

Of these, 817 are males, and 885 females. There are 394 families, giving  $4\frac{1}{2}$  nearly to each family. There are 23 miners, 14 shoemakers, 12 tailors, 11 smiths, 14 wrights, and 18 weavers.

In the village of Killin, there are 26 persons above seventy; one is ninety-two, and another one hundred and five, with all their faculties entire.

Owing to the number of burying-places in the parish, there is no register of deaths kept. Many also neglect to register the births of their children; but the following may be taken as an average of births, deaths, and marriages: Births, 35; deaths, 20; marriages, 10.

There are 6 fatuous persons and 7 insane.

*Language.*—Though nearly the whole population can understand and speak less or more of English, Gaelic is still, and will long be the language of devotion and of the affections of the people.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

##### *Agriculture.*—

The number of arable acres is	2500
of wood,	1000
of pasture,	8600

There are no undivided commons.

*Rent.*—The valued rent is L.3115, 6s. 8d. Scots, but the real rental is about L.8640. The average rent for grazing a horse is L.1, 10s.; an ox or cow, 15s.; ewe or wether, 4s.

*Live-Stock.*—The number of sheep is about 30,290; black cattle, 1138; horses about 200; and swine about 250.

##### Value of Live-Stock.

30290 sheep @ 15s. each,	L.23217	0	0
1138 black cattle @ L.7 each,	7966	0	0
200 horses @ L.8 each,	1600	0	0
200 swine @ L.1, 5s.	250	0	0
	<hr/>		
	L.33033	0	0

The smearing of sheep costs the farmer at the rate of sixpence each, and the expense of winter-quarters in the south is at the rate

stock is usually wintered from home. Allowing five fleeces to the stone, the wool will amount to about 6000 stones. The sheep are the black-faced, and of the best kind. A few Leicesters and South-downs may be seen in the parks. The cattle are of the pure West Highland breed. There are also a few Ayrshire cows introduced for dairy purposes.

*Wages.*—A ploughman gets from L.12 to L.15, and a female servant from L.5 to L.7 a-year; the wages of a common labourer are from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. a-day without victuals; masons and carpenters, from 2s. 6d. to 3s.

*Husbandry.*—The husbandry is undergoing rapid improvement. Draining is carried on to a considerable extent, also blasting, the proprietor paying one-half of the expense. Could the rivers be embanked, an immense benefit would accrue to the farmer. The deepening of the channel has been attempted with some success.

The farm-houses and offices are still in many places very inferior, but they are gradually giving place to neat slated accommodations. The five-shift rotation, though adopted with advantage by many, is still disliked by some. The leases generally are from seven to fifteen years.

*Manufactures.*—There is a wool-mill, where spinning and carding are carried on. There are two saw-mills, and two mills for meal and barley.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Towns.*—There are no market-towns in the parish. The nearest is Crieff or Stirling; the former being twenty-seven, and the latter thirty-eight miles distant.

*Villages, &c.*—There are two villages, Killin and Cliftown. Killin contains a population of 400. It has a sub-office of the Central Bank of Scotland, and also a savings' bank. There are several shops where goods can be purchased at a reasonable rate.

There is a daily post to and from the south, so that the Glasgow papers may be read at Killin at five or six o'clock P. M. of the day of publication. There is a post three times a-week to and from Kenmore and Aberfeldy.

*Means of Communication.*—The roads and bridges are in excellent repair, and the means of communication very good. There is a weekly carrier to Stirling, &c. and one monthly to Glasgow *via* Dumbarton, also one monthly to Crieff. In summer, there is a daily or thrice a-week coach running between Killin and Dun-

held, while a coach leaves Killin every morning for Lochmichael to meet the steamer on that lake.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The site of the church is, on the whole, very convenient, especially as there is a church at each extremity of the parish, where ordained clergymen officiate every Sabbath. The church was built in 1744, and repaired in 1832. It has 905 sittings. Of the population, 488 are attached to the mission or *quoad sacra* parish of Strathfillan, and 288 to the mission of Ardeonaig, leaving 926 to Killin. To this may be added 473 belonging to the adjacent parts of Weem and Kenmore, who attend the church of Killin, receive ordinances there, and are under the pastoral superintendence of the minister. Except about 45 persons, the whole population belongs to the Established Church. The Dissenters are Baptists and Independents, who worship in a hired room in the village. They have no stated pastor. There are no Episcopalians. The manse and offices are good, and the heritors evince every disposition to make the minister comfortable. The stipend is 16 chalders, half meal and half barley, at the highest fiars of the county, and L.10 for communion elements. There is a considerable amount of free unexhausted teinds, and the last augmentation was given in 1815. The glebe extends to about thirteen acres, and may be worth about L.13. The solemn ordinance of the Lord's Supper has since 1840 been administered twice a-year, and the additional opportunity has been gratefully appreciated. The number of communicants in the whole parish may be about 600. The present incumbent has, for the last eighteen months, been in the habit of occasionally officiating on the Sabbath evening in the remote districts of the parish, particularly at Ardchyle, where the school-house is always crowded.

There are several Sabbath schools in active operation. The minister of Strathfillan has L. 60 per annum, arising from a sum mortified by the pious lady Glenorchay, for the maintenance of a chaplain in that district. He has also a manse and glebe, with a valuable hill pasturage. The minister of Ardeonaig has also a stipend of L. 60, with manse and a glebe, consisting of  $17\frac{1}{2}$  acres. The half of his stipend is paid by Lord Breadalbane, and the other half by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge. The noble family of Breadalbane have long been distinguished church and school extensionists.

*Education.*—The parish is well supplied with schools, viz. 1 parochial; 3 societies for Propagating Christian Knowledge; 2

ture schools. In the parish school, besides the ordinary branches, Greek, Latin, mathematics, and book-keeping are efficiently taught. In March the number in attendance at all the schools was 435, being one in four of the population. The parish school is endowed with the maximum salary, with a commodious house and garden. The Society's teachers have from L. 15 to L. 17, with a free house, croft, and cow's grass. Lady Breadalbane's schools are also endowed. The teacher at Killin receives L. 20, with a free house, garden, and fuel. In this school about 50 girls and 10 boys receive their education gratis. The girls, in addition to the usual branches, are taught sewing and knitting. There is also a dame school in the village, where very young children attend, and are taught the rudiments of English and Gaelic with knitting, and we are not sure but the venerable teacher might lay claim to the honour of having invented the infant school system; she has a free house from the Marchioness.

All the children above six years of age can read, and nearly all in Gaelic and English. Among the aged, especially the females, there are many that cannot write, but of the young, both boys and girls, almost all learn writing and arithmetic. The expense of education may average for the whole year about 10s. We must add that nearly all the people, even the poorest, make an effort to give to their children the benefits of education. Most of the teachers bestow much care on the communication of religious knowledge to their pupils.

*Literature.*—There is a library in the parish, consisting of about 300 volumes, principally of religious books. The Breadalbane Philanthropic Association has been in existence for several years, and has been of great use in furnishing the Scriptures and school books to the people at a low rate.

*Savings Bank.*—It was instituted in 1832, and its advantages are felt and acknowledged by the population, for it often stands in good stead when rent-day comes round. The following gives a view of its progress for the first three years: 1832, amount deposited, L. 91, 15s.; depositors, 17. 1833, amount deposited, L. 158, 9s.; depositors, 17. 1834, amount deposited, L. 201, 2s. 10½d.; depositors, 23. Total deposited in eleven years, L. 2371, 18s. 5½d.; withdrawn, L. 1479, 12s. 11½d., leaving due the depositors, L. 1128, 5s. 11d.

*Poor.*—The average number of poor receiving aid from 1836



them have a free house, and many of them a small garden, rent-free. They have the liberty of cutting peats, and occasionally get a supply of fuel. The average money expenditure for six years is L.180, being L.2, 4s. to each pauper. Besides the above, several persons have private pensions from the Marquis; and the Marchioness causes a yearly distribution of clothes to be made about Christmas among the most necessitous poor. In addition to the above, about L.40 worth of meal is annually allowed to the poor. The old feeling of independence and unwillingness to be on the "box" is, we regret to say, fast disappearing.\*

*Fairs.*—There are several fairs held at Killin. One for general business on the third Tuesday of January: the first Tuesday of May for business, and the 12th for cattle; and the first Tuesday of November O. S. for general business and for cattle. There is a market at Tyndrum for lambs and wool on the third Thursday of July.

*Inns.*—There are six excellent inns in the parish; and at five of them post-horses and carriages are always kept. They have been lately much enlarged and improved. Streethouse Inn is receiving very extensive additions, which will make it a very commodious house.

*Fuel.*—Fuel is scarce and expensive. A cart of peeled oak costs 5s., of peats, 3s.; and a ton of coals, L.1, 10s.

It may here be mentioned, that this parish was visited by her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, on the 10th September 1842. The day was all that could be wished. The lake, about to receive its Queen on its bosom, though sometimes rude and boisterous, assumed a holiday placid appearance. All classes of the people, from the infant lisping the name of its sovereign, to the gray-haired sire of 92 and the venerable dame of 105, in their gayest attire, hastened to see and welcome their Queen. Royalty had not visited the parish since the illustrious Bruce fought at Dalree.

\* In addition to the sums arising from collections, donations, mortcloth and proclamation-dues, about L. 190 has been raised by voluntary assessment, according to the valued rental of property. The sum annually collected for the poor averages about L.40. This is inclusive of the collections at Strathfillan, and of about the half of those at Ardeonaig.

*April 1843.*

# PARISH OF PORT OF MENTEITH.\*

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

, MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name, &c.*—THIS parish is not known to have ever had any other name. The principal of the landing-places of the Priory of Inchmahome and of Talla, a seat of the Earls of Menteith, was naturally called, by eminence, Port, a word of the same meaning in Gaelic as in English; and, when a church was built here, it gave its name to the parish.

In the Parliamentary erection of the abbacies of Dryburgh and Cambuskenneth and priory of Inchmahome into a temporal lordship in 1606, the parish of Port is mentioned as having anciently belonged to the Priory.

In January 1615, the parish of Lany was dismembered, and part of it annexed to that of Port; † of which the dimensions have since been, in extreme length from east to west, about 9 English miles; and in breadth, 6. The southern confine is nearly 8, the northern 3 only. The general shape is an irregular square.

*Topographical Appearances.*—About half of the parish is mountainous moor and level peat-moss; and the productive surface is farther diminished by lakes, the largest of which is in the centre, and towards five miles in circumference; and the rest, five in number, amount jointly to a third of the other. The mountainous tract is on the north, at the commencement of the Scottish Highlands, to which the transition from the lowlands is here abrupt. The lake of Inchmahome, close to the

\* Principally drawn up from an account written by a late incumbent, the Rev. William M'Gregor Stirling.

† See Manuscript note by a land-owner of the parish of Port, Alexander Graham, Esq. of Duchray, Writer to his Majesty's Signet, made in or before the year 1724, and inserted with his hand in the Macfarlane Collections in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh. Mr Graham states, as the reason of the dismemberment of Lany, the smallness of the stipend.

ing and empty in the river form, into which it sends the sluggish stream of the Guidie.

The mountainous tract above-mentioned is part of the Grampian. The highest point, being that of Craig Dhu or Black Craig, is from 1800 to 2000 feet. This mountain, of which the general form is that of a sow's back, and which is harshly cut into five or six parts, is composed of conglomerate rock and of limestone. The latter, blue and streaked with white, is fit for being cut into chimney-pieces; and specimens are, as is believed, to be seen in the house of Ballikinrain, distant from the quarry about ten miles. When burnt, it affords a quick-lime of the purest white. In another mountain, which stands on the east, and is, by the lowlanders, called the Craig of Port, but, by the Highlanders, from its colour, as seen from the north, Craig Dhereag or Red Craig, there occurs, on the south side, in the lands of Auchrig, a rock avalanche a quarter of a mile long. Masses of rock, detached from the mountain, and interspersed with ivy of ancient growth, are piled in rugged disorder, and resorted to by the fox and the badger. From their base, a copious stream of limpid water issues in the driest weather. Of Craig Dhereag the height may be estimated at from 1500 to 1600 feet. Immediately above the rock avalanche now described, and within 300 feet of the highest point of the mountain, a lake occurs about half a mile in circumference, and of which the outlet is towards Loch Venachar, which bounds the greater part of the parish on the north. This sheet of water, from its being invisible from the lower parts of the country, is called Lochan-falloch, or "hidden little loch." South of Craig Dhereag about half a mile, and in a moor considerably higher than the country south of it, is Loch Rusky, about a mile in circumference, having a small island, on which are the ruins of a house, partitionally assigned to that noted Sir John Menteith of Rusky by whom the patriot Sir William Wallace was apprehended. In the neighbourhood of this lake are some medicinal springs, which have never been scientifically examined.

*Geology.*—Of the strata in the mountainous tract above-mentioned, the dip is towards the south-east. In a ravine, a quarter of a mile north of the lake of Inchmahome is a deep fissure, cut, by the stream of Glenny, in a tortuous direction, and to the length of about a hundred yards. The sides, about thirty feet high and

in the same proportion forward.

In the champagne district, there is a deposit of bluish-gray sandstone, of a close texture, and of great use for pavements and staircases. This, indeed, is part of a deposit which extends diagonally across Scotland many miles. It has the same dip as the strata of the Grampian range.

The soils of this division of the parish are various. Of the peat-mosses the principal is part of the extensive Moss-Flanders; another is the moss of Gartur; and a third, smaller than either, is Talla-moss. There are some tracts tilly and difficult to drain; others gravelly and ferruginous, and comparatively barren; others consisting of meadows and swamps, more or less fertile; others of a shallow loam, very fertile; others of a shallow loam on rock, and considerably productive; and, along the Forth, which bounds the greater part of the southern frontier, and intersects the parish on the south-west, so as to have the barony of Gartmore wholly on its southern bank, there is a rich carse, part of which has been acquired by floating off the incumbent peat. Some fields include, each of them, several of the soils above-mentioned.

The climate inclines to moisture, owing, as is supposed, to the proximity of the Grampians, to the profusion of peat-moss, and to the want of acclivity.

*Hydrography.*—Of the lakes, namely, Inchmahome, Rusky, Lochanballoch, Loch-lettir, and Loch-macanree, the first is by far the principal. A sixth lake, Loch Drunky, principally in the parish of Aberfoyle, and three-quarters of a mile long, runs a short way into the parish of Port, through which its rivulet finds its way into Loch Venachar. The lake of Inchmahome is, for the most part, shallow, but in some places abruptly deep. Nigh shore, opposite the porter's lodge of Rednock, the sounding is 46 feet; and between Inchmahome and the north shore, 88. Half-way from Inchmahome to the old ferryman's house at Gateside, it is 63; and in the large bay south of Talla, south-west of it, and more than half-way to the shore, 42. This sheet of water quickly freezes; and the ice, in even the deepest parts, is sometimes so strong as to bear loaded carts. Its scenery is of a tranquil character; and the epithet classic has been applied to it. The island of St Columba, as *Inch-ma-home* is supposed to signify, constitutes the leading feature. It consists of about five acres, surmounted by a forest of ancient trees, of which the

mostly in a state of decay. These, interspersed with pines and ashes, considerably old, and with a profusion of under-wood, more particularly the Spanish filbert, form an appropriate accompaniment to the ruins of the priory, which, embosomed in this forest, is seen in glimpses from the northern shore, where from twenty to thirty full-grown park trees, the plane, the Spanish chestnut, and the oak, scattered over the fields, and around the richly-wooded hill of Coldon, heighten the effect. From an eminence north-west of the lake, and over which the public road passes, the whole prospect, including the islet of Talla, which, too, is profusely wooded, and contains the ruins of a castle of the late Earls of Menteith, is enhanced by Stirling Castle in the remote distance, with a considerable tract of country still more remote, seen over the hills of Inchy covered with thriving plantations, and Lochend, adorned by an extensive grove of full-grown trees.

Tradition, as intimated by an intelligent statist, who wrote an account of this parish above a century since, asserts that the vale of Monteith contained an arm of the ocean as far as the south-west confine of the parish, the hill of Gartmore; and this is countenanced by the lowness and flatness of the surface to that point, where, as stated by the author now referred to, there was in his day a stone with a hole in it, and in which there was an iron ring for tying boats to; "which stone," he says, "is to this day called *clack-nan-loang*, or the 'ship or boat-stone.'" This name, it may be added, still marks a place or small farm on the hill of Gartmore.\*

It may be mentioned that, above twenty years since, in driving a level in a ditch which, due east of the church port, forms the march betwixt the estates of the Duke of Montrose and General Graham Stirling, the exuvæ of the marine mussel, the periwinkle, and other shell-fish, were thrown up from seven feet below the surface of the incumbent soil, consisting of from three to four feet of gravel, and, next, of a substance resembling pipe-clay, and applicable to the same domestic use.

*Zoology.*—The osprey built, till lately, in a tall oak at the east end of the ruined church of Inchmahome, but, scared by the repeated plunder of her nest, has deserted the lake. The white-horned owl builds in the ruins of both islands. Various species of the hawk hover about the lake. The *Falco gentilis* has his eyrie

\* MS. by Alexander Graham, Esq. of Duchray, in Advocates' Library, Edinburgh.



*Historical Notices.*—The only known account of the parish of Port, previously to the very short one in the former Statistical Account, is that by Alexander Graham, Esq. of Duchray, It was, as stated by the author, composed in the year 1724, and, along with accounts of sixteen others of the parishes around, is inserted in the valuable collections of the late Walter MacFarlan of MacFarlan, deposited in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh.

Timothy Pont's Map of the Lennox, from a survey made early in the seventeenth century, includes the parish of Port, and part of that of Aberfoyle, neither of which belonged to that ancient division of Scotland.

A much more particular map of the parish of Port, surveyed above half a century since by James Stobie, along with the rest of Perthshire, and with Clackmannanshire, was soon after published, and is a model of minute correctness.

Some letters and other papers, illustrative of local antiquities, and preserved, amongst others, in the archives of the Earls of Monteith, and latterly in the house of Gartmore, have been in print since 1815.

In regard to the early history of this part of the vale of Monteith, one of the points occurring for consideration is the site of a town of the Picts, as stated by an English historian, the venerable Bede, in the earlier part of the eighth century. This topic is naturally suggested by the stream of Guidie, being that by which the lake of Inchmahome discharges its superfluous waters into the Forth eight miles east of the efflux. To claim the site of the ancient town of Guidie to the parish now treated of, is no part of the writer's intention. It may, however, be, from a concurrence of circumstances, inferred, that Guidie was situate near a stream which, at even the present hour, bears its name. Corresponding to Bede's intimation of the extent of the Friths of Forth and Clyde, and their joint intersection of Britain till each of the parts could be said to be nearly contiguous, is the tradition above-mentioned, that the eastern arm of the ocean anciently extended along the vale of Monteith as far as Gartmore. The stream of Guidie, indeed, till drained artificially, which it was at no very distant epoch, formed a lake, and, in old writs, is styled "the lake of Guidie." It hence occurs, as not only not unlikely but most highly probable, that the Pictish city of Guidie was situate near the water bearing the same name. That no vestige of a city should

isted in the eighth century.

The well-known Sir John Monteith, Commissioner of Edward I. of England, and the individual who delivered Sir William Wallace into Edward's hands, was younger son of Walter Stewart Earl of Monteith, and took his mother's surname, having obtained part of her lands, the barony of Rusky. Between his sons, John Monteith of Rusky and four others, on one part, and Sir John Drummond of Drummond, aided by Sir Walter Murray of Tullibardine, a feud arose, from the slaughter in 1380 of Bryce Drummond, procurator, son of Gilbert Drummond of Balquhapple, a younger son of Sir John Drummond's family; and this led to a hostile rencontre at Tor or Tar of Rusky, as reported by tradition, when, as from an extant document certainly appears, three of Rusky's brothers, namely, Walter, Malcolm, and William were killed. Mutual outrages followed; nor was the difference adjusted till 17th May 1360, when Robert Erskin and Hew Eglinton, Justiciaries of Scotland, Sir Robert Graham, and others of the nobles of Scotland, at the command, as is said, of King David II. met on the banks of the Forth, near Stirling, as arbitrators, and, amongst other arrangements, awarded Rosneth, belonging to Sir John Drummond, to the only survivor of Rusky's brothers, Alexander, as a compensation for the slaughter of the others. It is a fact worth noticing, that Sir John was father of Anabella, Queen of Robert III.

North-west of the lake of Inchmahome, at the Moss of Talla, where the Earl of Lennox, at the head of an army levied to avenge the death of King James III., had, (after marching from Dunnbarton Castle, held by him against King James IV.,) pitched his camp,—a skirmish took place, and ended in a chase, in the night of the 11th or morning of the 12th of October 1489, when the Sovereign in person, with Lord Drummond as his Commander-in-Chief, attacked Lennox unexpectedly. This affair is known in popular history as the battle of Tullimoss, which Bishop Lesly, in ignorance, as would seem, of the topography of Monteith, speaks of as fought at a morass near the Castle of Touch. Buchanan,

\* The learned Stukeley supposes that Guidie might have been a wooden fort on Inchgarvey. It is quite necessary, indeed, both in this case, and in the hypothesis of its being in the vale of Monteith, to have recourse to a perishable material. A more celebrated writer, but an inferior antiquary, has fixed on Camelon as the site in question.—Buchanan's *Historia*, iv. 37. The Itinerary of Hardinge, who visited Scotland in the fifteenth century in the service of Henry VI. of England, is the basis of the theory of Sir Robert Sibbald, that the site of Guidie was the rock on which the castle of Edinburgh stands.



his earlier years resident in the lands of Cardross, in Menteith, affirms expressly that Lennox crossed the Forth, not far from the foot of the Grampians, and is seconded by Hawthornden.

One of the principal of the prisoners was Thomas Galbraith of Culcreuch, who was executed on or before the 18th instant, on which day James IV., at Stirling, granted to his household servant, Adam Hepburn, brother-german of Patrick Earl of Bothwell, and to his heirs, a charter of Culcreuch, &c. in Stirlingshire, of Millegs, &c. in Dumbartonshire, and of some lands in Renfrewshire, which had belonged to the deceased Thomas Galbraith, formerly of Culcreuch, and were in the King's hands by the death of the said Thomas, who, for his treasons, had been justly executed.

The village of Port was, by King James III., on 8th February 1466-7, erected into a burgh of barony, as appears from the record of the Great Seal of Scotland, which contains a charter by that sovereign at the above-mentioned date, to Malise, Earl of Monteith, and his successors, erecting this village, as above-stated, for the accommodation of the King and his lieges, in the bounds of Menteith.

The Priory of Inchmahome was, from before September 1547, to the end of February following, the seat of the Scottish Court. Soon after the disastrous battle of Pinky, the Regent Arran, by advice of the Queen mother, the Earls of Angus, Argyle, Rothes, Cassilis, and others at Stirling, suddenly conveyed the infant Queen Mary to Inchmahome, and committed her to the joint care of the Lords Erskine and Livingston.\* This measure was intended to secure, as far as possible, the safety of Queen Mary's person, which now ran great risk of falling into the hands of the victorious English. Of Mary's residence in this sequestered spot, the particulars have already been some years before the public in the elaborate biography of Queen Mary by the author of Caledonia, who, from record, has fixed the time, as above-stated, of her departure. Whilst here, she enjoyed the company of her mother as her more immediate guardian. Lady Fleming, natural sister of Queen Mary's father, acted as her preceptress, aided by John Erskine, Coun-

\* Bishop Lealy's Vernacular History of Scotland, first printed in 1690. He says that this was done whilst the English were at Leith, after the battle of Pinky, which, according to him, they were till the 18th.

lately Earl of Mar and Regent of Scotland, together with the parson of Balmaclellan. From Inchmahome, the Court moved to Dumbarton Castle, that Queen Mary might be in the way when a fleet should arrive from France, to transport her thither. The Queen-mother, indeed, had, during her residence in Inchmahome, gone to Stirling for the arrangement of the voyage, and of her daughter's marriage to the Dauphin.\*

About this time, a scuffle took place in the neighbourhood, between the Appin Stewarts and the Grahams of Monteith. The principals in the quarrel were the Earl of Monteith and Stewart of Invernaheil, Tutor of Appin, and, from his faculty of beating with a couple of forehammers at once on the smith's anvil, known popularly as Donald nan Ord, or *of the hammers*. An illustrious author, in his very curious history of Donald the Hammerer, has omitted what local tradition reports, that the Stewarts were returning from the defeat of Pinky. He was unaware, when he wrote, that the scene of the scuffle was close to Tobernareal, the *Clare Fontane* of the district, being a remarkable spring of water on the top of the ridge, as the traveller goes from Monteith to Strathgartny, and comes in sight of Benledi and Loch Venachar. The occasion of the broil, indeed, as reported by tradition, and stated by the author above alluded to, was unworthy of human nature. The mountain strangers, retreating from a hard-fought but disastrous field, had, under the pressure of hunger, helped themselves, unceremoniously, in a tavern at the Church of Port, to some poultry on the spit, which were intended for the dinner of a marriage party, of which the Earl of Monteith was one, and had set off, on their way home, without stopping till the arrival of those for whom the dinner was intended, and without leaving an apology. The Earl, conceiving that an affront had been deliberately offered him, pursued them, and came up with them at Tobernareal. To a taunt from one of his attendants, the reply by one of the Highlanders was a speech in the same taste, and an arrow through the heart. The Earl himself fell by the ponderous arm of Invernaheal, or Donald of the Hammers. Nearly all the Lowlanders were killed. One of the slain was Alexander Graham, paternal ancestor of John Graham of Duch-

\* Lesly's Vernacular History, p. 203-4.

of night, escaped with but a single attendant.\*

Under 6th September 1653, in the Government newspaper of the period, the following notice occurs, from a correspondent at Dalkeith: "Colonel Reid yet lies in a field near Port, by the Isle of Menteith, near which the engagement was." The conflict alluded to seems to have been at the Pass of Aberfoyle, of which a well known memoir of William, ninth Earl of Glencairn, gives an account.†

The largest of the islands in the principal of the lakes of this parish, seems to have very anciently been a seat of the Culdees. This, which in itself is highly presumeable, appears from what David Camerarius says of St Berchan, that he was renowned in Stirlingshire in the eighth century, and spent part of his youthful days in the Convent of St Columba, not far from Stirling; an assertion applicable to Inchmahome.

Whether the Culdees ceased to have a footing in Inchmahome, when the monks of St Augustine were planted here, is unknown. Middleton, in his List of the Religious Houses of Scotland, says that Augustinian monks were planted here by King Edgar, probably about 1107, the year of that sovereign's death.\* Conformably to this intimation, an authentic document, dated A. D. 1238, being a warrant to Walter Cumin, Earl of Menteith, for building a church in this island, states that the edifice is intended for the religious men residing there, meaning, obviously, that they had already been settled. Connecting this information with that given by Middleton, we are led to the inference that the monks of Inchmahome had no suitable place of public worship, according to the Romish ideas, during at least a hundred and thirty years from their settlement, and were confined to the hum-

\* See the History of Donald the Hammerer by Sir Walter Scott, Bart., inserted in the Fifth Edition of Captain Burt's Letters.

† A most illustrious author, in a foot-note to his edition of Duchray's Memoir, says that "Graham of Duchray's Castle, situate about a mile to the eastward of the Pass, was burnt by the English the morning before the action." This statement is probably meant for Duchray's Castle of Rednock, which, however, is seven miles east of the Pass of Aberfoyle. The Castle of Duchray stands above a mile west of the Pass, and was the point whence, as his head-quarter, Glencairn marched to encounter Read. (See Sir Walter Scott's Edition of Memoir of the Earl of Glencairn's Expedition in 1653, by John Graham of Duchray.)

\* Appendix to Archbishop Spottiswood's History of the Church of Scotland, 4th edition. None of the previous editions have it. This account of the Religious Houses of Scotland is also printed in a duodecimo pamphlet apart. It has no name prefixed, but is known to have been written by Professor Middleton of Aberdeen, who cites no authorities, but is believed to write from authorities.

Besides the parochial church of Lany (over the door of the mutilated remains of which may still be read, in Arabic numerals, "A. D. 1214,") are the parochial churches of Kilmadock, Port, and Lintreathan, which, in the Parliamentary Act 1606, already referred to, are, along with Lany, stated to have been granted by the sovereign to John, Earl of Mar, and his heirs and assignees hereditarily, as having "pertinet of auld" to the priory of Inchmahome. Four chapels were attached to it. 1. That of Inchy, about a furlong north of the exit of the stream of Guidie, on a gentle eminence close to the lake of Inchmahome, and now formed into a garden. Here, according to local tradition, the Earl of Monteith who fell by the hand of the tutor of Appin was with a wedding party, when he received the news of that petty depredation which led to the scuffle in which he lost his life. 2. The chapel of Archnluy, about a mile west of the lake, and whose name is by Gaelic scholars interpreted "*Portion of the cell or burying-ground.*" 3. Chapellaroch, in the parish of Drymen, barony of Drummond, and in that part of the modern Stirlingshire which was anciently part of the earldom or county of Lennox. 4. Balquhapple, or "Town of the Chapel," in that part of the quondam parish of Lany now annexed to Kincardine. Of the priory of Inchmahome, the buildings are still so entire, that the uses to which each of them respectively was applied may be guessed at. The nave and the choir measure together fifty paces by twelve. The former had in the north wall four arches, two of which fell about fifty years ago. One of the entire arches, being the western, is covered by a tower or belfry; a quadrangle corresponding to which on the south side, is erased, as are the cloisters on the same side, and of which the corbels are visible. The rest of the arches had an aisle outside, of which the ragling is discernible on the tower. The western entrance is entire; and some of the hewn stones of a window above are visible. The oriel window of the choir is filled up with rubble-work of modern date. The side walls of this part of the building are almost entire.

South of the church, at the distance of a few yards, are the ruins of an edifice, consisting, on the ground floor, of the refectory, nineteen paces by eleven; and to which was an entrance from the dormitory on the north, another from the kitchen on the south-east angle, and a third about the centre of the east wall, and de-

apartments above the kitchen. Of part of all these apartments the materials seem to have been used for the construction of the more modern of the edifices in the neighbouring island of Talla, and of a mausoleum in Inchmahome, which, consisting partly of a vault and an apartment above, and partly of an avenue, shut in by two walls, and at the west end by a gateway, and running obliquely from north-east to south-west, surmounts part of the foundations of the church and dormitory. For the awkward position of this more recent structure no reason can be assigned, but a total absence of design. It seems to have been hurriedly got up to receive the remains of Lord Kilpont, who was killed by James Stewart of Ardvorlich in Montrose's camp at Collace in 1644, and whose corpse was by Montrose dispatched to the deceased's father, William, eighth Earl of Monteith of the Grahams, then a state prisoner in Talla. The two walls and the gateway above-mentioned were built in consequence of the testament of Kilpont's son, William, the last of the Earls.

Towards the centre of the choir, and in a horizontal position, is a sepulchral monument, assignable to the end of the thirteenth century, being that of Walter Stewart, Earl of Monteith, and his Countess, in whose right he enjoyed the earldom. The church, of which the building was commenced in or soon after the year 1238, by Walter Cummin, Earl of Monteith, was probably finished by his immediate successor, viz. Walter Stewart, and received from either him or his Countess this appropriate decoration.

Near this beautiful sepulchral remain is another of inferior workmanship. This, as intimated by the legend, is that of Sir John de Drummond, son-in-law of the connubial pair commemorated as above-mentioned, and father of Sir Malcolm de Drummond, to whose bounty Inchmahome, the burial-place of his father and mother, and its principal messuage, the estate of Cardross, in its close vicinity.

The island on which this very ancient religious house stood, was formerly divided into two nearly equal parts, one on the east, containing the priory with its gardens, and the other on the west, and occupied by the gardens of the Earls of Monteith. These, indeed, are still distinguishable by a piece of neutral ground or common road, from north to south, and having a rude stone wall on either side. In the part occupied by the Earls of Mon-

though for what reason cannot be conjectured, for the name is the only symptom of a nunnery in the island.

Westward of this island, and distant about a stone's throw, is another, but much smaller, island, named Talla, signifying "hall" or "mansion," and containing the ruins of one of the seats of the Earls of Monteith.

At the north-west extremity of Moss Flanders is a Roman castellum, about fifty paces in diameter, and irregularly square. There seems to have been in this direction a Roman iter from the great Roman causeway which ran along Scotland from south to north, from the wall of Antonine at Camelon, by Stirling, Dunblane, &c. to Brechin. This iter is supposed to have crossed the river Forth at the ford of Drip, and next to have crossed the stream of Guidie, near where the Forth receives this minor and tributary body of water. Here, as is supposed, the iter branched off towards Garfarran, another Roman castellum, which is situate south of the Forth, which the iter recrossed, and south of the Kelty, a short way from the influx of the stream into the Forth. In the moss of Kincardine, a Roman way has been discovered, twelve feet broad, and formed by trees crossing each other in two distinct strata of beams; and in Moss Flanders, another from south-east to north-west. Several logs of wood lying across each other, in the form of a raft, and squared by the axe, as appeared from the marks of this implement, were, several years since, found in this moss. In the banks of the Guidie, several large oaks, about twenty feet under the surface, appear projecting; and, at the union of this stream with the Forth, one tree, nearly six feet in diameter, appears equally deep, and extending nearly twenty feet. Again, south of the Forth, and west of the places above mentioned, a road has been discovered about twelve feet broad, and formed of trees laid across each other. These notices connected with the Roman Castella at Garfarran, below Gartmore, and in the ancient Lennox and modern Stirlingshire, and at Flanders Hill, seem conclusive of the Roman footsteps in the vale of Monteith.

A house in the barony of Rusky, about a mile north-east of the castellum of Flanders Hill, is named Keirhead. It is situate on an eminence resembling some others in Monteith, which are called Keirs, and seems to have anciently been a military post overlooking the plain on the south, and to have been, partly at least, formed by the hands of man.

are, in the order of property, David Erskine, Esq. of Carcross, Patron; General Graham Stirling of Duchray and Auchyle; His Grace the Duke of Montrose; William Cunningham Cunningham Graham, Esq. of Gartmore; James Graham, Esq. of Leitchtown; G. B. Home, Esq. of Argaty; Mrs Eastmont of Drunkie; James Forrester, Esq. of Polder, &c. There are twelve other land-owners.

*Parochial Registers.*—Those of the parochial registers which are extant commence on the 14th September 1664; and contain, in the earlier part, some curious intimations of manners, some of which appeared in print some years ago.

*Mansion-Houses.*—The principal mansion-houses in the parish are Cardross, Rednock House, and Gartmore, all of them large and commodious. Of the other houses of this class, the most worthy of notice is Leitchtown, the property of James Graham, Esq., which is very favourably situated on a well-wooded bank, with a southern aspect. Mrs Eastmont is at present erecting a mansion on her property of Drunkie, in the northern part of the parish, which will command a fine view, including Loch Venachar, &c. The name of the property has lately been changed to Inner-Trosachs. Rednock House has received a great addition within these few years. The proprietor, General Graham Stirling, had previously formed an extensive and beautiful park from the lake of Inchmahome on the west, through the hills of Inchy, in which he has two artificial sheets of water, amid the plantations with which he has embellished those elegant though small rising grounds. These, however, are but a small part of the improvements which this spirited proprietor has made on his barony of Rednock.

### III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1801,	.	1569
1811,	.	1650
1821,	.	1614
1831,	.	1664
1841,	.	1446

The language generally spoken in the parish of Port in 1724 is, by one of the land-owners of those days, stated to be the Gaelic. When, accordingly, a minister came to be settled in 1726, the Earl of Buchan, then proprietor of the estate of Cardross and the patron of the parish of Port, listened to the application of the parishioners for a Gaelic minister. A native of Cowal, Mr John Fergusson, was appointed, although from 1694, the Presbyterian charge in

tongue. Nor is there the slightest reason to think that either of the Episcopalian clergymen, from the Restoration downward, namely, Mr James Donaldson and Mr Patrick Bell, ever officiated in the Gaelic tongue.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The example of the late Lord Kaims, and of his successors in the lands of Blair-Drummond, in the neighbouring parish of Kincardine, has been followed in the parish of Port by Mr Erskine of Cardross, in the establishing of a colony for clearing off the peat from the south-west extremity of Moss-Flanders by runs of water into the Forth, and acquiring, as in the case above-mentioned, a rich alluvial soil. Mr Erskine's operations on the Forth were commenced about ten years since.

The prevalent breed of cows in the parish is a cross of the Highland and the lowland; and of sheep, the black-faced.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The amount of the stipend is L. 269; the value of the glebe about L. 8 per annum. The number of Dissenting families in the parish is about 18. The manse was built upwards of half-a-century ago.

*Education.*—The number of schools in the parish is 4. The parochial teacher's salary is the maximum; and the amount of his school-fees yearly may be from L. 15 to L. 20.

*Poor.*—The average number of poor on the roll is 16; amount of funds for their relief, L. 45; whereof there are, from Church collections, L. 10, and marriage dues, L. 35.

Five public-houses in the parish.



# PARISH OF ALYTH.

PRESBYTERY OF MEIGLE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNS.

THE REV. WILLIAM RAMSAY, MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name of this parish and village has remained without material change from the earliest period to which it can be traced; and in the very oldest documents in which it occurs the spelling is exactly the same as at present. In the parochial records and other documents, it sometimes appears in the forms of Alicht, Elicht, Elith, &c.; but these variations are evidently accidental, and can only be regarded as instances of the loose orthography of ancient times. The name is probably derived from the Gaelic *aileadh*, a slope or ascent (*dh* in the Gaelic language being pronounced like the English *th*,) and seems to refer to the slope on which the old church and the more ancient part of the village are situated. At least, no more plausible etymology has been suggested. The same name, with precisely the same spelling, belonged to one of the suppressed bishoprics in Britany, where a Celtic dialect was spoken.

*Boundaries, &c.*—The parish is bounded on the north, by Glenisla; on the east, by Airlie and Ruthven; on the south, by Meigle; and on the west, by Bendochy, Blairgowrie, Rattray, and Kirkmichael. It is separated from the parishes of Airlie and Meigle by the river Isla, and from Kirkmichael and a detached part of Bendochy by the Ericht or Blackwater. It is of an irregular oblong form, narrowing from south-east to north-west, with a length of 15 miles, and a transverse breadth varying from less than 1 to above 6 miles. The whole extent of the parish is 53,375 square miles, or 34,160 statute acres, much the greater part of which is uncultivated. It is divided by the hills of Alyth, Loyall, and Barry, into two districts of unequal extent, differing completely in their character and features. The lower and more fertile district lies on the south of these hills in the valley of Strathmore, and forms an ir-

regular square of nearly four miles a-side. The northern district may be again subdivided into three parts; 1. a tract of cultivated ground immediately behind the hills; 2. the forest of Alyth, an extensive tract of moor and moss, separating the lowland from the Highland part of the parish; and, 3. the Blacklunans, a small fertile district lying along the side of the Blackwater. The district of Blacklunans belongs to the county of Forfar.

*Elevation and Climate.*—The elevation of the parish, from the banks of the Isla on the south to the summit of Mount Blair at the northern extremity, ranges from about 130 to about 1600 or 1700 feet. Mount Blair, the most considerable eminence in this neighbourhood, belongs partly to this parish and partly to Glenisla, the line of march running across the summit. The hill of Kingseat, 1178 feet above the level of the sea, is picturesquely situated on the side of the Ericht, about three miles south from Mount Blair. The elevation of Barryhill was calculated by the late Principal Playfair at 668 feet; and the hills of Alyth and Loyall are somewhat higher. The climate is bracing and salubrious; and there is no distemper to which the inhabitants are subject in a more than ordinary degree. Fevers and other infectious diseases are comparatively rare. The whole of this district is a good deal exposed to easterly winds, particularly in the spring months, but in this parish the north-west wind is, on the whole, the most prevalent; so much so, that trees in unsheltered situations frequently receive a permanent bend to the south-east.

*Rivers and Streams.*—This parish, as has been already stated, is bounded in part by the Isla and Ericht; and it is also traversed by several minor streams. The most considerable of these is the burn of Alyth, which rises in the mosses of the forest, and falls into the Isla at Inverquiech, about two miles east from the village.

*Geology.*—With regard to its geological formation, the parish is divided into three districts, which are chiefly occupied, respectively, by the crystalline slates, trap, and the old red sandstone. The first of these comprehends the Blacklunans and the forest of Alyth. Towards Mount Blair, the rocks exhibit the character of mica-slate, and, in the southern part of the forest, that of clay-slate, the intermediate space presenting the usual gradations, interspersed with quartz, hornblende slate, and other analogous species. Beds of limestone, although generally of rare occurrence in the Grampians, are frequent at Mount Blair, and farther down on the side of the Blackwater.

The ridge of high ground behind Bamff House consists of a band of trap rock, generally about a mile in breadth, with fronts stretching down into the hollow behind the hill of Alyth. On the north side of the ridge, the trap rocks are conglomerate in their structure, the pebbles being also trap; but towards the south they are more homogeneous, and of a felspathic texture. Within this series, some narrow beds of light-grey sandstone occur; and towards the north of the trap beds, there is a large nucleus of yellowish compact limestone, which is well adapted for building. A little to the south of Bamff House, the trap range is intersected by a dike or vein of well-defined serpentine, about a hundred yards in width, forming a prolongation of that which traverses the district to the eastward.

The southern part of the parish, with the range of hills behind the village, is occupied by the old red sandstone strata, intersected by narrow dikes of trap, two of which are laid open by the channel of the burn. These strata, at their commencement on the north, are generally conglomerate, the pebbles ranging from one to six inches in diameter, and consisting of quartz, porphyry, &c. As they descend towards the south, the strata become more homogeneous and of finer grain, and are occasionally of a soft marly texture. The synclinal line of Strathmore passes near the village, from north-east to south-west. On the south of the line, the dip is to the south-east; on the north, to the south-west. On the north side of the line, the amount of dip is very great, ranging in the conglomerate beds from seventy to ninety degrees. No fossil remains have been observed.

No ornamental stones are found in the parish. The beautiful agates, formerly well known under the name of Alyth jaspers, were found in the Burn of Kilry, in the adjacent parish of Glenisla, and derived their name from the circumstance, that they were generally searched for by persons from Alyth.

The flat grounds or haughs, on the side of the Isla, consist of a fine deep loam, with a subsoil of sandy alluvial silt, and are very productive. With the exception of these alluvial loams, the best soils are where the rocks are thinly covered by their own *detritus*, which forms a warm dry porous subsoil. When the cover is deeper, it is chiefly composed of *detritus* from the Grampians, forming an impervious mixture of clay and stones of all sizes. The subsoil is generally of this kind, in the hollows behind the hills of Alyth, &c., and in the Muir of Alyth, an extensive com-

mon lying on the south of the village. On the faces of the hills, the soil is a fine sharp gravel, producing good crops of oats, potatoes, &c. In the Blacklunans, the arable land is generally a light fertile black loam; but some parts are very moorish. There is an extensive peat-moss in the forest, called the Culpanach, and several smaller ones in other parts of the parish. A deposit of marl, being the only one known to exist in this immediate neighbourhood, was lately discovered in draining a small loch on the farm of Nether Balloch, near the village. A pair of antlers, considerably larger than any now seen on the living animal, were dug up some years ago in a peat-moss at Ballach.

*Botany and Zoology.*—From its situation, this parish exhibits both the vegetation characteristic of alluvial and highly cultivated districts, and also that which is peculiar to upland and subalpine regions. Its Flora has not been minutely examined, but the following plants, interesting from their beauty or rarity, have been gathered within its limits. In the lower part of the parish, the *Alisma ranunculoides*, the *Scrophularia vernalis*, the *Senecio sarracenicus*, (a doubtful native), the *Astragalus glycyphylus*, on the banks of the Isla, near Inverquiech, its only habitat, so far as is known, in the basin of the Isla. The banks of that river are also adorned with the *Trollius Europæus*, the *Campanula latifolia*, and the *Gallium boreale*, which last, though rare in many districts, is abundant on the Isla and its mountain tributaries. In the upland districts, the *Orobus sylvaticus*, the *Habenaria albida*, and *H. viridis*, (the latter sparingly), the *Trientalis Europæa*, the *Alchemilla alpina*, in rocky and elevated situations, and the *Saxifraga aizoides*, and *S. stellaris*, along the brooks. The white heath, (*Erica vulgaris alba*), is said to be of unusually frequent occurrence. The right bank of the Den of Airlie is in the parish of Alyth, but it is the left bank which is peculiarly interesting to the botanist. Both banks are clothed with a fine stool of natural wood of every species indigenous to this country. The native wood in the rest of this parish, of which there is not much, is chiefly birch, hazel, and alder.

The rivers and larger rivulets are well stored with trout, and, in some seasons, a considerable number of salmon ascend the Isla. There is also excellent pike-fishing in an old channel of the river, on the property of Mr Whitson of Bardmony. Roe-deer and the common kinds of game are plentiful. Pheasants have

been introduced, and thrive very well. Partridge is occasionally met with in the higher part of the parish, and white hares have been shot in severe winters.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The earliest document in which the name of this parish occurs, is a charter of the lands of Bamff, &c. granted by King Alexander II., in the year 1232, to Nessus de Ramsay, the lineal ancestor of the present proprietor, Sir James Ramsay, Bart. The rest of the property in the parish has repeatedly changed hands since that period. The Lyndesays, afterwards Earls of Crawford, became connected with it in 1303, when Alexander de Lyndesay received a grant from Thomas, Earl of Marr, confirmed by a charter from King David II. of the lands of Balwyndoloch, now Ballendoch. By successive charters from the Scottish Kings, to whom they were nearly related, the family came into the possession of the whole of the parish of Alyth, or at least of all the land in it worth occupying, with the exception of the estates of Bamff and Balhary, the latter of which was then much less extensive than at present. About the beginning of the fifteenth century, they fell into straitened circumstances, and sold or pledged their lands piecemeal, until, in 1630, they disposed of all their remaining property in this district to the family of Airlie, who were already the chief land-owners in this parish.

The village of Alyth is a place of considerable antiquity, and has enjoyed the privileges of a burgh of barony since the reign of James III. The family of Airlie, who have also the title of Barons of Alyth, are the superiors. At a much earlier period, it seems to have been a place of some importance. In the History of Dundee, published 1803-4, it is said that David Bruce, who reigned from 1341 to 1371, granted an edict in favour of that town, prohibiting Kirriemuir, Alyth, &c. from holding weekly markets, as being within the liberties of Dundee. The people of this village, with Thomas Greig, Prebendary of Alyth, took an active part in the tumultuous election of the celebrated Gavin Douglas to the Bishopric of Dunkeld, A. D. 1516, and are even said to have taken up arms in his favour (En. Brit. new edition, Art. Douglas). Stewart, the defeated candidate, obtained the livings of Alyth and Cargill, as a solatium for his disappointment.

This parish had a considerable share in the commotion and turmoil of the troublous period, from 1640 to 1660. Notwithstanding the prevalent malignity of the district, and the proximity of powerful royalist families, the people of Alyth seem to have

adhered rigidly to the cause of Presbytery. In the session records for the years 1645-6, there are several intermissions of public worship, "because of the common enemy." From February to August 1646, Montrose's army was stationed in the immediate neighbourhood, to the great consternation of the inhabitants, as appears from the following entries in the session book. "July 5 day 1646, first Sabbath. Given to Hendrie Cargill, x sh" for to go to the camp to trie and search some news from the malignants, and that he may be for warnisse of their cuming upon us. July the 2 Sab. This day no preaching, because of the commonemie. July the 3 Sab. and 4 Sab.: No preaching, because Montrose was so near us. August the first Sab. and 2 day: Ther was no preaching with us since the last Fast, (Feb. 1st.) because the enemie was quarterit in our bownds. This day our minister taught."

When Dundee was besieged by General Monk in 1651, the Committee of Estates and of the Kirk met at Alyth with other lords, gentlemen, and ministers, to concert measures for raising the siege; but the meeting was summarily dissolved by a detachment of the English army, who surprised them and took a number of prisoners. This occurrence is generally stated by Hume to have happened near Dundee; but in Gumble's *Life of General Monk*, it is expressly said to have taken place at Alyth, near the Highlands. The writer has not given his authority for the statement, but it is confirmed by several entries in the parish records. It appears from the following, that Mr John Rattray, who was minister of this parish from 1637 to 1678, was among the prisoners. "August the last day 1651: This day no preaching, because our minister was taken on Thursday last by the Englishes, being the 28 of August 1651." Mr Rattray was carried with the army into England, and was not restored to his parish till the month of June in the following year. Mention is also made in other places of persons taken or wounded in the "onfall of Alyth." The following entry seems curious enough to be quoted, as illustrative of the state of the country at that period. "March the 28, 1652: No preaching, except only ane Englishe trouper went up to ye pulpit, and made ane forme of ane preaching, who hade no warrant to preach, whose text was upon the 45 Psalm, 13, 14 vs." After the Restoration, the minister and parishioners of Alyth appear to have submitted quietly to the altered state of things. "March 15, 1663: This day, the clerk writter hereof, being ap-

pointed and ordained by the minister and session to read every Sab before the incoming of the minister to the pulpit, red this day," &c. In 1667, Mr Thomas Robertson was inducted as assistant and successor, with the usages and ceremonies of the Episcopal Church.

The Forest of Alyth was so called, as having been a hunting-ground of the Scottish Kings. In the Register of the Great Seal, published by Thomson, (p. 134, No. 40, Roll 5), there is a charter dated in the sixth year of the reign of Robert II., vesting John de Roos in the office of Justiciary of the King's Forests of Clunie and Alyth.

Before the Reformation, the benefice of Alyth was attached to one of the prebends in the Cathedral of Dunkeld, and the patronage seems to have been exercised by the bishop down to the Revolution. There was also a chapel dedicated to St Ninian, described as situated "infra coemeteriam ecclesie parochialis de Alyth." The chaplainry was likewise in the gift of the Bishop of Dunkeld. The vicarage of Alyth and the chaplainry of St Ninians were unquestionably distinct offices, although they might sometimes be held by the same person. It seems most probable that the chaplainry was a provision for the clergyman who discharged the duties of curate of the parish in the absence of the incumbent. The lands of Balwhyme, in the neighbourhood of Alyth, formed part of the provision of the chaplain. In a dispute with respect to the teinds of Balwhyme, which took place about thirty years ago, the Earl of Airlie produced a deed, executed in 1554, by Robert Fowler, Chaplain of St Ninians, with consent of the Dean and Chapter of Dunkeld, the see being then vacant, conveying the lands of Balwhyme, with the teinds, &c. to Ogilvy of Clova. A charter of confirmation was granted by the bishop in 1546. There is also extant a deed of cognition and infestment, dated 1670, vesting Mr Thomas Robertson, assistant minister of Alyth, in the chaplainry and altarage of St Ninians, to which he had been presented by the bishop, on the demission of that benefice by the incumbent of the parish. In this document, the chapel is said to have been situated "on the north side of the kirk-yard." The site is still pointed out. The feu-duties of Balwhyme were drawn for a long time by the minister of Alyth, as part of the stipend, but they are now merged in the Teinds.

*Remarkable Persons.*—Nessus de Ramsay, the founder of the family of Ramsay of Bamff, was a person of considerable note in the thirteenth century. He held the office of Physician to King

Alexander II., and received a grant of lands in this parish, which his descendants still hold, in reward for having saved the life of the King by a critical operation; according to popular tradition, by "cutting a hair-ball from the King's heart." One of his descendants, James Ramsay, attained to eminence in the same profession, and was Physician to James I. and Charles I. Mr Thomas Aiton, who was minister of this parish in the earlier part of last century, was a man of considerable learning, and the author of a Treatise on the Original Government of the Church. James Sandy, a bed-ridden cripple, who died here in 1821, attained great local celebrity by his extraordinary mechanical genius.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners in the parish, in respect of valued rent, are, the Earl of Airlie; John Smyth, Esq. of Balhary; Sir James Ramsay of Bamff, Bart.; George Knight, Esq. of Jordanstone; Captain Clayhills Henderson, of Hallyards; and the Honourable William Ogilvie of Loyall. In respect of real rent, Mr Smyth of Balhary is the principal heritor. The family of Airlie have a special grant from the Crown for the name of the lands of Loyall, in commemoration of their fidelity to Charles I. and II. during the great Rebellion.

*Antiquities.*—On Barry Hill (from the Gaelic *Bar-ra*, a hill fort,) there are the remains, still in very perfect preservation, of an ancient Pictish entrenchment of great strength. The summit has been levelled into an area of an oval form, about 150 yards in circumference, and surrounded with a rude rampart of unhewn and uncemented stones. It is protected on the east and south by a deep fosse about ten feet in width; the other sides of the hill being so steep as to render such a defence superfluous. The approach was from the north-east, along the verge of a precipice, and the entrance was protected by a bulwark of stone. There are some remains of a narrow bridge thrown over the fosse. In the different accounts of this fort which have been published, the stones of the bridge are said to have been cemented by the action of fire; but the slight marks of vitrification, which may probably be accidental, are not sufficient to warrant the statement. There is no vestige of a well; but, on the west side of the entrenchment, between the base of the mound and the precipice, there was a deep pond, apparently artificial, which was filled up about fifty or sixty years ago by the tenants in the neighbourhood. On the declivity, about a quarter of a mile to the eastward, there are some less perfect remains of a smaller entrenchment of the same kind. The fort on Barry Hill is considered by Chalmers as coeval with



the Roman invasion. Like other places of the same kind, it is the scene of innumerable legends, which agree in representing it as the residence or prison of the infamous Vanora or Guinevar, the wife of King Arthur, who appears in the local traditions under the more homely appellation of Queen Wander, and is generally described as a malignant giantess. This tradition perhaps arose from the vicinity of the celebrated sepulchral stones at Meigle, which are generally considered as remains of the monument of Vanora. Even with respect to these famous tombstones, the legendary account, which connects them with the Vanora of tradition, is certainly more than doubtful. A more satisfactory account of them has been suggested by Captain T. P. Mitchell, a gentleman distinguished by his research and sagacity in investigations of this nature. He considers them as neither more nor less than the monuments of the Knights Templars, who unquestionably had a burying-ground at Meigle. At the top of the south face of the largest stone, the armorial bearings of the kingdom of Jerusalem may be distinctly traced, and the group of figures, now almost obliterated, which has been supposed to represent Vanora torn in pieces by wild beasts, (and on which the popular tradition was very probably founded), may be considered, with great probability, as an allegorical representation of Judea rescued by the Crusaders.

In the barony of Alyth, on the south of Barry Hill, there are several rude obelisks, or "standing-stones," probably intended to commemorate some long-forgotten conflict. They are referred by tradition to the time of King Robert the Bruce; but there can be no doubt that they belong to a much more remote period. On the most remarkable, about three miles to the east of the village, there is the mark of a large horse-shoe, rudely cut out with indistinct traces of other figures. There is no vestige of sculpture on any of the others. Stone coffins, containing human bones, are said to have been occasionally turned up; and about fifty years ago, an artificial cavity, of considerable size, partly filled up with ashes, was discovered in a field on the farm of Loyall.

The ruins of the old Castle of Inverquiech are situated at the junction of the Burn of Alyth with the Isla. In a charter granted by Robert II. in 1394, to his nephew, James de Lyndesay, it is mentioned as "the King's Castle of Inucuyth," and appears to have been even then in ruins. At Corb, on the north-west of the forest, there are also the remains of a castle, probably a hunting-seat of the Scottish Kings, or of the Earls of Crawford.

The old church, which is now unroofed, and will soon be entirely demolished, is a building of considerable, though uncertain antiquity, having been in a ruinous state for upwards of two hundred years before it was disused. It was probably dedicated at its erection to St Molonoch, or Malachi, Bishop, as the original fair of the village is still called St Malogue's, apparently a corruption of the latter name, and coincides with the day consecrated to that saint in the old Scottish Calendar. St Molonoch was a disciple of St Brandon, and is mentioned in Keith's Catalogue of Bishops as having flourished or deceased, A. D. 629. The building had never any pretensions to architectural beauty. Some pillars and arches, in the Saxon style of architecture, are apparently much more ancient than the rest of the building. It was originally intended to preserve them when the church was pulled down; but this, it is feared, will be found to be impracticable. Near the pulpit is a plain stone monument, to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Lundin and his wife, who died in 1636, within a few days of each other, and were buried in the same grave. It was erected in 1748, by the Rev. J. Robertson, then minister of Alyth; and it is a singular coincidence that his own death took place under the same circumstances which had affected him so much in the case of his predecessor.

*Modern Buildings.*—The new church was completed in 1849, from a design of Mr Hamilton of Edinburgh, at a great expense. It is a remarkably handsome and commodious structure, in the Norman style of architecture, and bears ample testimony to the taste and skill of the distinguished architect. There are few rural parishes in Scotland, and not many even in towns, which enjoy the advantage of possessing such an appropriate and splendid edifice for the services of the sanctuary. Bamff House, the seat of Sir James Ramsay, Bart. about three miles to the north-west of the village, is a respectable mansion of considerable antiquity, and sufficiently improved in later times to render it the elegant and commodious residence of a country gentleman. The principal houses in the lower part of the parish are, Balhary, the seat of John Smyth, Esq.; and Jordanstone, George Knight, Esq. The former is a large and commodious mansion, erected about twenty-five years ago by the present proprietor. The church and most of the houses are built of a durable red sandstone, of which there are several quarries in the parish.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parish records are in general full and well kept. The register of births and marriages commences

in 1624, and the minutes of session in 1667. They are comprised in nine volumes of different sizes, some of which contain fine specimens of old-fashioned penmanship. Many of the earlier entries (some of which have been already quoted) are extremely curious, either as referring to passing events of historical importance, or as illustrative of the rigorous discipline and exorbitant pretensions of the Kirk. One of the most remarkable is the entry for the 9th of February 1651, which is as follows: "This day, my Lord Ogilvy; declared his repentance before the congregation, in the habit of sackcloth, in presens of Mr Georg Patillo, minister at Newtyle; and Mr Robert Crightoun, minister at Essai; and Mr David Patton, minister at Kettyns; who were appointed be the presb<sup>tie</sup> and, in sackcloth, confessed his sinful accession to General Major Middleton's rebellion, and for his sinfull miscarriages against the Covenant, and gave great evidence of his heartie grief for the samine, to the full satisfaction of the whole congregation." On the 18th of August, and 1st of September 1649, fifteen soldiers, who had taken arms in what is called "the unlawfull engagement," professed their repentance, and were admitted to the renewal of the covenant as a necessary preliminary to their participating in the communion. The page containing the entries for the Sabbaths immediately after the 29th of May 1660, the day of the Restoration, have been torn out, whether by accident, from prudential motives, or by some rancorous Covenanter, it is now impossible to conjecture. There are instances of persons being required to "sit the stool" for periods of more than twenty and even thirty Sabbaths. It is remarkable, that two cases of this unprofitable rigour took place during the temporary establishment of the Episcopal form of government after the Restoration. In addition to the classes of offences which usuall fall under the cognizance of a church court, the kirk-session seem to have been frequently occupied with cases of "fechting and flytting," slander, &c., with occasional investigations into charges of witchcraft. The cases of contumacy are numerous. In some respects, the ecclesiastical discipline of that period appears to have been less rigorous than is generally supposed. Under January 20th 1650, there is the following entry: "The minister did intimate ane ordinance of the presb<sup>tie</sup>, that in time coming, when people shall burie their deid upon the Lord's day, they doe it timouslie; in the winter season before sermon, and in the simmer time after the afternoon's service."\* On the whole, however, if we may judge from the eccle-

\* "October 5, Sab. last, 1675. This day the merchants in Ailgh being charged,

statistical records of this parish, the parochial police of that period, to which many are disposed to look back as a golden age of purity and piety, can hardly be regarded in any other view than as most injudiciously and unjustifiably rigid, and rather calculated to irritate and harden the offender than to win him to repentance.

### III.—POPULATION.

The only means of estimating the ancient state of the population, is by comparing the present average of births and marriages with the number of former periods, of which very accurate accounts have been preserved in the session books. If we may judge from these, the population seems to have continued nearly stationary down to the end of the last century, since which it has slightly increased. There is a marked diminution in the number of births and marriages from 1630 to the Restoration, and an equally marked increase for some years after that event; but this is easily accounted for without supposing any variation in the number of inhabitants. We have no exact account of the population before 1774, when it was found to be 2680. In the year 1792, the date of the former report, it amounted to 2734; in 1821, to 2387; in 1831, to 2888; and in 1841, to 2913.

The number of inhabitants within the limits of the baronial burgh of Alyth is 1738; in the country part of the parish, 1175. The population of the village has increased very much within the last sixty or seventy years. In 1774, it amounted to only 555; in 1792, to 1060. The great increase between these dates is explained by the circumstance, that, during the intervening period, several additional acres had been feued by the superior. The decrease in the rural population is owing to the abolition of the class of small farmers, and to the smaller number of hands now required in agricultural operations.

It is impossible to state the number of births with perfect accuracy, from the remissness of members of Dissenting congregations in registering their children. Taking the number of children not registered at one-tenth of the whole, the average annual number of births may be stated at 77; the average number of marriages at 16. Within the last seven years, there have been 36 illegiti-

were called and compeired, and promised not to sell any wares to any person upon the Sabth, between or after sermons, except it be upon necessitie, and that to any sick person; or that it be of necessitie to help to give our some necessaries for burying of the dead or such like needfull thing, and for performance of the promiss they held up their hands in presence of the session; nor to sell unnecessary things as they did formerlie upon the Sabth, except needfull, tobacco or bread."

The number of burials in 1842 was 56, which is probably rather above the average.

Four families of independent fortune reside in the parish. The number of proprietors of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards resident in the parish, is eight; not resident, six. There are 6 blind persons; and 5 insane or fatuous.

Until lately, the Gaelic language was generally used in the northern part of the parish. English, or rather the dialect of this part of the lowlands, is now universally spoken.

Smuggling and poaching were at one time prevalent; but the former is now entirely suppressed, and the latter has become comparatively rare.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The inhabitants of the country part of the parish are almost exclusively engaged in agriculture, those of the village in weaving and the retail trade. There are 53 farmers, and 109 males regularly engaged as farm servants. There are seven master manufacturers, and 404 weavers, besides a number of old men, women, and children employed in winding.

*Agriculture.*—It is impossible to give a strictly correct statement of the extent of land under cultivation, as no accurate measurement has been made of the principal estates, but as nearly as can be ascertained, the number of arable acres may be stated at 8,100; under wood, 1070; leaving 24,990 in waste, pasture, sites of houses, roads, &c. There are two undivided commons; the Muir of Mornity, extending to about 330 acres, and the hill of Alyth, 120 acres. Two extensive commons have been divided within the last fifty or sixty years; the forest of Alyth, and the lands of Bardmony and Aberbothrie. These lands, extending to about 600 acres Scots, were, till forty-five or fifty years ago, possessed by two proprietors in run-rig. By the division, their value has been more than tripled, and the whole of them, in place of less than half, is now under tillage. The moor of Alyth might still be added to the cultivated land with a reasonable expectation of profit. From the nature of the subsoil, furrow draining would in general be necessary to render the ground of much value. A considerable extent of uncultivated ground in the upland district might also be profitably brought under tillage. A considerable part of the moorlands in the forest is not inferior in natural capability to those parts which have already been brought

under cultivation, but it would be exposed to great disadvantages from the want of shelter, unless planting on an extensive scale were resorted to as a preliminary step.

Great improvements have been effected since the last Statistical Account in reclaiming waste land, fencing, and draining. On the property of Balhary, since the present proprietor succeeded to the estate, the extent of arable land has been increased by one-half, and the land formerly under cultivation has been very much improved in value by the liberal and judicious application of capital. The greatest liberality has been shown by the landowners in accommodating their tenants with commodious houses and steadings. Both the farm buildings and the cottars' houses have been greatly improved of late years. The old thatch roofs are daily giving place to slate, and a stone and turf cottage is now looked upon as a relic of bygone times. The lands near the Isla were formerly much exposed to inundation, and still are so to some extent, but the evil has been remedied in a great measure by straightening the channel of the river, and by the erection of embankments which have been raised by the proprietors at considerable expense.

Most of the land in the lower district, and some farms in other parts of the parish, are in a high state of cultivation under the most approved system of husbandry, and the whole of the arable land may be generally said to be under good management. The rotation preferred by the best farmers on good land is the common one of five years. The six years' rotation, embracing three years in grass, is not unfrequently followed. The practice of taking two successive grain crops after lea is still kept up on several farms, although reprehended by every good practical farmer, not less decidedly than by the scientific agriculturist. A considerable part of the cultivated land is at present thrown permanently into grass parks, and only occasionally ploughed up.

*Live-Stock.*—From 2000 to 3000 sheep, all of the black-faced breed, and 200 or 300 cattle of the Angus and West Highland breed are kept on the hill and moorland pastures. Sheep are seldom seen on the cultivated land, except those which are put upon bone-dust turnips. A considerable number of cattle are reared and grazed on the arable farms. In the upland district these are generally of the native Angus breed, but on the finer soils, a cross between that breed and the Teeswater is found to be more profitable.

*Plantations.*—The plantations consist chiefly of larch and other

lirs, sometimes without any other kind of trees, but more frequently interspersed with the different kinds of hardwood generally cultivated. A great part of the wood in the parish has been recently planted. The younger larch plantations have suffered severely by the prevalent blight, and threaten in many instances to disappoint the hopes of the proprietors, who naturally expected that they would become in a few years, a shelter and ornament to their estates, as well as a direct source of profit.

*Rental and Wages.*—The average rent of arable land is about L. 1, 3s. per acre, some of it near the village being let as high as from L. 3, 10s. to L. 4, 10s. The valued rental of the parish is L. 8233, 14s. 4d. Scots. The real rental, by a valuation made in 1837, amounted to little less than L. 12,000, including the value of the houses in the village. The land cannot be looked upon, in ordinary times, as excessively rented, although in the present depressed state of agricultural markets, several of the tenantry have some difficulty in fighting their way. The rate of wages has been lately reduced in consequence of the low prices of agricultural produce. The wages of a farm servant at present, range from L. 8 to L. 12 per annum, with lodging, meal, and milk. Ordinary day labourers make from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. per day; masons in full employment, 12s.; and carpenters, 10s. per week. The general duration of leases is nineteen years, except on the estates of the Earl of Airlie, who is prohibited by the terms of the entail, from granting leases for a longer term than fourteen years. The greater part of the cultivated land is now enclosed, but there is still room for improvement in this respect.

*Manufactures.*—There is no manufacturing establishment, but a great part of the inhabitants are employed in weaving coarse or brown linen for the Dundee trade. This branch of manufacture has been established here for more than a century. The quantity made annually is about 10,500 webs, of 150 yards each. The depression of the linen trade has been severely felt in this village. The present average weekly gain of a weaver is only from 2s. 6d. to 3s.; of a winder, 1s. 2d. Many families have, in consequence, great difficulty in providing themselves with a supply of the bare necessaries of existence; and a great number would be in a state of melancholy destitution, if they had not an opportunity of eking out their scanty means by assisting in the harvest work on the neighbouring farms. There is a fulling mill in the village, and one at Inverquiech.

Alyth is, or rather was, a market town, and there is still a kind of weekly market held on Tuesday. The nearest regular market-town is Blairgowrie, distant five miles. Dundee, the nearest seaport, and the principal mart for this district, is seventeen miles from the village, and fourteen from the southern boundary of the parish. The situation of the village is healthy, and the inhabitants are well supplied with excellent water. A system of police has been established, and a baronial court is held on the first Tuesday of every month.

There is no turnpike road in the parish, but the inhabitants enjoy tolerable facilities of communication by means of county roads, which have been much improved of late years, and are generally kept in good repair. There are three stone bridges in the village over the burn; the newest and best of which was built a few years ago by Sir James Ramsay, with the view of improving the approach to Bamff house. About twenty-four years ago a bridge was built over the Isla at Crathie, on the road from Alyth to Dundee, at an expense of L. 3500, raised by subscription. By means of this bridge, and of the Dundee and Newtyle Railway, the inhabitants are enabled to keep up a constant intercourse with Dundee, and have thus facilities for disposing of their produce, and for providing themselves with many of the comforts of life, which would otherwise be beyond their reach. There is a sub-office in the village of Alyth, in connection with the post office at Meigle, four miles distant.

*Fairs.*—There are six annual fairs held at Alyth, but two of these, St Malogue's, and another about Christmas, known by the unaccountable name of *Troit Fair*, have fallen into disuse, and are now merely nominal. The others, two of which continue for two days, are held in the Muir of Alyth, for the sale of sheep and cattle. They have been very much improved under the management of John Hill, Esq. of Cotton, the present baron bailie.

*Public Houses.*—There are eight public houses and four shops licensed for the sale of spirits, all in the village. They are in general decently conducted, but their effect on the morals of the people is decidedly prejudicial. The number is less than it was some years ago, but it might still be advantageously reduced by at least one-half.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church is situated in the village, one mile from the western, three from the southern and east-



ern extremity of the Blacklunans. It is seated for 1290. There is consequently no want of church accommodation. The inhabitants of Blacklunans and the northern part of the Forest, amounting to about 250, very seldom attend, even at communion seasons. Their ordinary place of worship is a chapel at Persie, in the parish of Bendochy, supported by the seat rents and voluntary contribution. It would be a great boon to the inhabitants, and a considerable relief to the neighbouring clergy, if the whole of that district were disjoined from the six parishes with which it is ecclesiastically connected, and placed under the superintendence of an ordained and legally recognized minister.

The manse was re-built in 1821, part of the old house being retained. The stipend is 18 chalders, half meal and half barley, with an allowance of L.10 for communion elements. The glebe is about four acres of good land, worth about L.2. 10s. or L.3 per acre. There is no grass glebe. The minister has a right of pasturage on the moor of Alyth, casting peats in the moss of the Culpanach, and to a small quantity of teind yarn.

There is a Dissenting meeting house in the village in connection with the United Associate Synod. The emoluments of the minister amount to L. 80 per annum, from seat rents, collections, and voluntary contributions, with a free house and garden. There was some years ago another place of worship belonging to the Original Seceders, but it is now disused. A meeting house is at present building for the accommodation of the adherents of the recent secession in this and the adjoining parishes. The Episcopal clergyman at Coupar Angus has a chapel in Alyth, in which he officiates once a fortnight. The number of sittings in the Dissenting meeting house, is 270 ; in the Episcopalian chapel, 92. The new meeting house is intended to accommodate between 700 and 800 sitters.

No exact account has been taken of the different religious denominations since 1835. Making allowance for the few changes which have since taken place, there are probably about 300 belonging to different bodies of seceders ; 50 Episcopalian, including the families of the two chief resident heritors ; 30 Roman Catholics from Ireland and the Highlands ; and 50 not known to belong to any religious denomination. The ordinary congregation in the parish church is at present about 800. Several are prevented from attending, and not a few from sending their children

by the want of proper clothing. The sacrament is administered twice a-year. On the last occasion about 800 communicated, but, as a considerable number attend only once a-year, the whole number of communicants may be stated at 1000. Both the attendance at the parish church and the number of communicants have been affected to some extent by the late disturbances in the Church of Scotland. Four out of eleven elders, and a considerable section of the people, probably equal in number to the other dissenters collectively, are understood to adhere to the seceding clergymen.

A parochial association for religious purposes was established in 1836. The annual contributions have varied from L. 23 to L. 30.

*Education.*—The salary of the parochial schoolmaster is the maximum of L. 34, 4s. 4½d., with a good house and an allowance for garden ground. A new school-room was erected in 1835, with accommodation for 150 pupils. The number attending this school at the last examination was 98. The fees of the parish school are, for reading alone, 2s. per quarter; reading and writing, 2s. 6d.; reading, writing, and arithmetic, 4s.; Latin, with the common branches of education, 7s. 6d.; mathematics, 10s. 6d. One of the General Assembly's schools is situated at Drumfork, in the Blacklunans. It is very efficiently taught, and was attended last spring by 101 children. There is also a school at Gauldsweil, supported by Sir James Ramsay, and nine unendowed schools, all, with one exception, in the village. The total number of children attending the different schools in February last was 547. The people are in general attentive to the instruction of their children, and few or none are allowed to grow up destitute of the benefit of education.

*Sabbath Schools*, conducted by the elders and others, have been in a flourishing state for many years. They are at present attended by about 350 children. A class for young men and women is taught by the minister during part of the year, and is generally attended by about 50.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The number of persons who received regular parochial aid during the last year was 107, and 79 (including 55 of those on the permanent roll) received occasional relief from the poor's box. The total amount raised for the relief of the poor was L. 511, 0s. 9½d., of which L. 445, 3s. 6d. was raised by assessment, and L. 65, 17s. 3½d. from collections and other sources, including about L. 14 from mortifications, mortcloth

dues, and penalties. The assessment is levied according to the valued rent of each heritor, the half being laid on the tenants according to the real rent. A commission of 5 per cent. is allowed to the collector. Of the sum collected, L. 412, 1s. 6d. was expended in the support of the regular paupers. There is a mortification of L. 30, subject to the annuity tax on the Ballinloch estate, administered by trustees, for clothing and educating five boys and five girls. The interest of various sums, amounting in all to L. 90, is placed at the disposal of the kirk-session for the education of poor children, and a considerably greater sum is annually applied to this object. The method of assessment was resorted to so early as 1776, and has since been continued without intermission. It is a curious fact, that it was then debated whether the poor were to be relieved in this way or by a system of licensed begging. Whatever may be thought of the latter alternative, it may be safely said that the former is a very bad one, and only to be justified on the plea of insurmountable necessity, which certainly did not exist here at the time when an assessment was first imposed. Pauperism, an evil which "grows by what it feeds on," has for many years been advancing rapidly and steadily in this parish. Many persons still make most praiseworthy exertions to keep themselves and their families from what they justly regard as a degradation, but the aversion to receive parochial aid is perceptibly diminishing. It is to be hoped that the Commission at present inquiring into this subject may be able to suggest some means for checking the progress of this alarming evil, which threatens, in this and many other parishes, to become a serious burden upon property, and which has already exercised a debasing influence on the character of the population.

*June 1843.*

## PARISH OF KINCLAVEN.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. HENRY HENDERSON, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE word Kinclaven seems to be derived from the three Celtic words, *Caen*, a head or headland ; *Cil* or *Kil*, a church or churchyard ; and *avon*, a flowing stream or river,—which is an etymology perfectly descriptive of the local circumstances on the north-east corner of the parish.

*Extent, Boundaries, &c.*—The parish is of an irregular oblong form, and may be nearly 5 miles in length, and may average 2 miles in breadth. The superficial extent may be estimated at 10 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Tay dividing it from Caputh ; on the east and south, by the same river dividing it from Cargill ; on the south-west and west, by the parishes of Auchtergaven and Little Dunkeld. A ridge of elevated ground stretches through the middle of the parish from the Castle of Kinclaven on the north-east to the village of Arntully, on the south-west ; and from this ridge, the fields lie in an easy descent towards the Tay on the north and south. Seen from the higher grounds on the Cargill side of river, this parish has a very agreeable appearance, from the intermixture of farm-houses and cottages with the thriving plantations and oak coppices that are scattered over its surface.

*Climate.*—Judging from the healthy state of the inhabitants, the climate must be considered highly salubrious. There are many instances of very aged persons, who have spent their lives in this parish in the enjoyment of a course of good health. This may, no doubt, be partly owing to their temperate habits and their out-door occupations ; but there can be no doubt that the situation of the parish, washed as it is by the rapid course of the Tay on its northern and southern boundaries, contributes also to the general health of its inhabitants. On the eastern corner of

the parish, the air is peculiarly mild and temperate, owing partly to the drier nature of the soil, and partly to the shelter afforded by the Meiklour woods, and the oak coppices on the neighbouring eminence called the Court Hill.

*Hydrography.*—At the eastern extremity of the parish, the Tay is joined by the Isla, which, descending from the lower range of the Grampians, flows to the westward through the fertile vale of Strathmore, until it runs into the Tay. In rainy weather, these rivers, after their junction, still retain, for a considerable space, their peculiar appearance; the Tay, on the one side, being clear, while the Isla, on the other side, is thick and muddy. There are several small lakes in the parish, in which pike, perch, and very large eels are found.

About eighty years ago, in consequence of an extensive flood from the Highland mountains, the Tay was swollen to a great height, and forced out to itself a new channel on the northern side of the parish; for instead of flowing in a circuitous course along the south side of the farm of Haugh of Meikleour, then a peninsula, it burst through the narrow isthmus in a straight form and course, and completely separated that farm from the parish of Caputh to which it belongs. The old course of the river was about three miles, whereas its new course does not exceed half a mile in extent. Although the old bed has now filled up to a considerable extent, and in some places affords excellent pasture, or has even been put under crop, yet in great floods it is also covered with water, which sometimes ascends so far up on the farm, as to assume the appearance of a large lake. In ordinary seasons, the pools in the old bed of the river are much frequented by wild ducks, and other water fowl. It may be mentioned that it is this farm of Haugh of Meiklour, which in large maps is designated the "Bloody Inches," but no satisfactory origin of the name can now be assigned.

*Botony.*—The plants peculiar to the different kinds of soil are also to be found here, in the spots where these soils prevail. On the low banks of the Tay, some alpine plants may be met with, supposed to have been brought down by the river. All kinds of forest trees seem to thrive remarkably well, where the soil is at all congenial. There are some splendid specimens of fine oaks, ashes, plane, beech, limes, and firs of various kinds, to be seen in the policy grounds of Meiklour, betwixt the church of Kinclaven, and the ruins of the old castle.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—At no very distant period, there were several resident proprietors in the parish. Their mansion houses have now disappeared; but the situation of these houses is still strongly marked out by the fine old yews, and other large trees, which then surrounded their dwellings. At present all the proprietors are non-resident, and taken in the order of their valued rent, they are as follows: viz. The Earl of Mansfield, L. 1296, 8s. 1d.; Major Richardson, L. 1100; Sir William D. Stewart, Bart., L. 840; Baroness Keith and Nairn, L. 466, 6s. 1d.; Duke of Athol, L. 299, 5s. 10d.; total, L. 4002 Scots.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers, consisting of six volumes, commence in 1725, and do not appear to have been kept with sufficient care,—several of the volumes being a good deal torn, and the writing defaced. It is to be regretted that parents are not sufficiently sensible of the importance of registering the births and baptisms of their children. Among the Dissenters, especially, great negligence in this respect still prevails; although, to induce them to do so, it has been the practice, during several years, to exact no fees for such registrations.

*Antiquities.*—The royal castle of Kinclaven, now in ruins, is the only object interesting to the antiquarian in this parish. It stands in a beautiful and picturesque situation, on an eminence above the Tay, and immediately opposite to the mouth of the Isla. It is said to have been built by Malcolm Canmore, and continued to be occasionally occupied by the royal family during several centuries, after it was erected. Various charters granted by the Scottish kings are still in existence, that are dated from this royal residence.

One of the chapters in the well-known metrical history of Sir William Wallace is partly devoted to a description of the manner in which “he won Kinclaven.” It is related by Holinshed that, during the wars arising out of the rival claims betwixt Bruce and Baliol for the Scottish throne, this castle was occupied by an English garrison, who, proving troublesome neighbours to the Highland barons, were surprised by them, while off their guard; and the castle having been taken, was dismantled so far as that it could no longer be occupied as a place of strength. The Duke of Athol possesses the title of keeper and constable of the royal castle of Kinclaven, and as such receives a small sum annually from Baro-

ness Keith, the noble proprietrix thereof, in name of constabulary duty.

### III.—POPULATION.

Like many other agricultural parishes, the population is on the decrease.

In 1755, by Dr Webster's account, the population was	998
In Sir John Sinclair's in 1790,	1150
In 1801, by census,	1035
In 1811,	1066
In 1821,	986
In 1831,	890
In 1841,	878

This decrease in the population, since the beginning of the present century, has been owing to emigration, to the enlargement of farms, and more recently to the removal of a number of families to the thriving village of Stanley, in the immediate neighbourhood, with the view of finding employment for their children at the extensive cotton factory established there.

The average number of births during the last seven years, may be	16
of deaths,	10
of marriages,	8
The number of males at last census,	408
of females,	470
The number of persons under 15,	327
betwixt 15 and 30,	225
30 and 50,	188
50 and 70,	105
upwards of 70,	38

The number of inhabited houses in the parish is 194; of uninhabited houses, 8.

There is one insane person, and one fatuous.

In regard to language and personal appearance, there is nothing peculiar in the inhabitants of this parish. The prevailing names are Duncan, Watson, Young, and Galletly. In some families there seems to be a very strong hereditary attachment to their native soil, several of the farms and pendicles having descended from father to son, from time immemorial. The natural consequence is, that they are closely connected by intermarriages, especially the Dissenters.

### IV. - INDUSTRY.

The state of industry in the parish may be estimated from the occupations of the male inhabitants, as ascertained at the last census: Farmers and pendiclors, 62; agricultural labourers, 72; weavers, 38; fishermen, 6; wrights, 10; tailors, 4; masons, 5; smiths, 4; shoemakers, 5; publicans, 2; grocers, 2; boatmen, 2;

millers, 1; wood forester, 1; gamekeeper, 1; schoolmasters, 2; sawyers, 2; thatcher, 1; ministers, 2.

*Agriculture and Rural Economy.*—The whole superficial extent of the parish may amount to 6400 imperial acres, of which 3900 are arable; 800 in moorland or improvable pasture; 1500 under wood, of different kinds, and the remainder in lakes or moss. The valued rent of the parish amounts to L.4002 Scots. The real rental is about L. 4800, including fishings and cuttings of wood.

*Rent of Land.*—The rent of land varies from 15s. to L.2, 10s. per acre, according to soil and situation. Two-thirds of the arable ground being upon an impervious subsoil of red till or mortar, a considerable extent has been furrow-drained to great advantage; the other third is on sand and gravel, with some rich haugh or alluvial soil on the banks of the Tay.

*Leases.*—The leases are for the period of fifteen or nineteen years; and on several of the farms the rent is calculated by the fiars of the county.

*Farm-Buildings.*—Several excellent and commodious steadings have been erected during the last twenty years, especially on the Arntully estate, where some of them are equally substantial and ornamental.

*Live-Stock.*—The cattle are of a mixed breed. Greater attention is now paid by all the farmers to their stock of cattle. On some farms, Ayrshire cows have been introduced, along with bulls of the Teeswater breed, so that several fine-looking herds of cattle may be seen in different parts of the parish. Till of late years, the horses were rather small in size; but, by holding out encouragement for Clydesdale stallions to travel in the district, the stock is now much improved in size and strength.

*Wages.*—The wages of common ploughmen vary from L.10 to L. 14, with the usual allowance of oatmeal and milk, viz. 6½ bolls of oatmeal, and a Scotch pint of sweet milk per day. The female servants receive from L. 4, 10s. to L. 6. Day-labourers are paid at the rate of from 7s. to 10s. per week. Women engaged in outdoor work get 8d. in summer, and 6d. in winter, without vic-tuals.

*Rotation of Crops.*—The rotation of crops on the different farms is adapted to the nature of the soil. The five-years course is that which is generally in practice on light soils, viz. 1. green crop, that is, potatoes or turnips, either with dung or bone-dust; 2. barley and grass seeds; 3. hay; 4. pasture; 5. oats. This



course is found to succeed remarkably well, especially if a little manure is given to the ground on sowing the barley or grass seed. The good effects of doing so are very visible on the succeeding crops of this rotation.

*Produce.*—On the clay soils, fine wheat is raised at about eight or nine bolls per imperial acre; and as the tenants of such farms depend chiefly thereupon, they regulate their rotation and management accordingly. On other farms, barley and oats are chiefly raised, producing from five to eight bolls per acre. Much less barley is now sown than formerly, oat-straw being greatly preferred for feeding cattle. A great extent of potatoes is annually planted for the London market. It seems to be upon these, and upon fat cattle, that the farmers now depend for their remunerating prices. Turnip husbandry is much cultivated; and, if raised from bone-dust, the one-half of the crop is consumed by the cattle in the byres or cattle sheds, and the other half is eaten on the ground by sheep. The rearing of horses for sale is now much less attended to, owing chiefly to the want of due encouragement from the increased travelling by railways.

*Improvements.*—Very extensive improvements have recently been made on the estate of Arntully, and are still going on. A sum of nearly L. 4000 has been spent by Sir W. D. Stewart in trenching and improving 284 imperial acres of moorland; and it is gratifying to remark that the crops of potatoes, wheat, &c. that have been raised, are such as promise to remunerate the proprietor for his great outlay. Embankments at different places along the Tay on the property of Baroness Keith are at present in progress; partly for the purpose of improving the scenery, and partly to protect the fields against the sudden and sometimes destructive inundations that take place, after extensive meltings of the snow on the Highland mountains.

*Plantations.*—Several plantations of common fir are found in different parts of the parish. One of these on the Kinclaven estate was lately cut down, and although growing on very inferior soil, brought upwards of L. 1 per acre per annum during its growth. It is to be regretted that the larch plantations that have been formed, during the last twenty or twenty-five years, have nearly all failed, from the effects of that inexplicable disease which has appeared so generally to attack the larches planted about that period. On the Taymount estate, twenty acres have recently been cut down in a state of entire decay. There are many thriving and

valuable oak coppices on the different properties, which are cut down every twenty or twenty-five years.

*Fisheries.*—The salmon fishings are highly valuable at several stations on the Tay, particularly at Ballathie, and below the celebrated Linn of Campsie. In the early part of the season, this latter station is one of the best on the upper part of this fine river. The angling on the Tay for several miles below the junction of the Isla has long been celebrated, and is noticed as such in the late Sir Humphry Davy's "Salmonia." The salmon are nearly all sent to Perth for the London market.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Markets.*—Perth may still be regarded as the market-town, to which the inhabitants of this parish chiefly resort, both for the disposal of their agricultural produce, and for the purchase of their clothes, merchandise, and other articles of domestic economy. It may be mentioned, however, that, since the neighbouring village of Stanley has so much increased in size and population, shops of an improved description have been opened there, and a considerable portion of that mercantile business is now transacted at Stanley, which used formerly to be done in Perth.

In one respect, the recent increase of the village of Stanley has been of great benefit to the farmers and pendiclers in its immediate neighbourhood, by affording them a ready and convenient market for the daily sale of their milk, which is by far the most advantageous way of disposing of the produce of the dairy.

*Villages.*—At a former period, there were several small villages in this parish, of which the sites are now known only by the trees by which they were adorned. The village of Arntully, however, still remains, of which rather a graphic and ludicrous description is given in the former Statistical Account. It is now greatly diminished in size and population, and, in a few years, will, in all probability, also disappear. Its inhabitants are all linen weavers, who occupy a small portion of ground sufficient to maintain a cow, and produce meal and potatoes for their families, and who receive their webs from agents employed by the manufacturers of Cupar-Angus, Blairgowrie, Newburgh, and other places.

*Means of Communication.*—There are three principal roads which traverse the parish, and meet in a triangular form. One, on the west side, leading from Perth to the boat of Caputh, and kept in an excellent state of repair; another, passing along the south-eastern side of the parish, from the boat of Kinclaven to the

road previously mentioned, and joining it near Stanley; and a third road, formed within these few years, and running through the northern side of the parish, from the ferry boat to the Perth and Caputh road, and intended to be carried straight forward until it joins the Dunkeld road, near Murthly Castle. If this third line of road were, by a branch, extended over to Bankfoot, in the parish of Auchtergaven, which might be done at no great expense, a direct and easy line of communication would then be opened up betwixt that populous part of the country and the towns of Blairgowrie, Coupar-Angus, and other places in the valley of Strathmore, by the boat of Kinclaven, as also to the fertile district of Stormont by the boat of Caputh. The first of these roads is turnpike; the other two are statute labour roads.

*Post-Town.*—Perth may be regarded as the post-town for the eastern part of the parish, by means of a runner three times a week from the Bridge of Isla. A sub-office to Perth and Dunkeld has recently been established at Stanley, which is more convenient for the inhabitants of the western part.

*Bridges.*—At Kinclaven Ferry, there is a passage boat, on the same construction as those used at Logierait and Caputh. The length of the chain here is 136 yards, and that the boat, although loaded, may effect the passage in five minutes, even when the river is not more than one foot in depth,—such is the buoyancy imparted to the boat or flying bridge, by the mode and principle of its construction.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church is most inconveniently situated for the bulk of the population, being at the eastern extremity of the parish, while the greater portion of the people reside at the distance of three or four miles towards the west, or south-west. It is also in a very indifferent state of repair, so that it is hoped the heritors will soon erect a new one in a more central situation. The present church contains accommodation for 320 sitters, and the sittings are all free. In the east end of the church, there is a large monument, erected to the memory of Alexander Campbell, Bishop of Brechin, who is stated on the monument to have been “the Laird of Kerco,” in this parish. He died in February 1608. The inscription, now scarcely legible, makes mention of the marriage of his two only daughters,—the “elder to Sir John Hubleton of Lerwick, and the younger to the Laird of Weem.” Keith, in his History of the Scottish Bishops, blames this prelate for having “alienated most part of the lands

and tithes of the bishopric to his chief and patron, the Earl of Argyle, retaining for his successors scarce so much as would be a moderate competency for a minister in Brechin." The church bell has long been celebrated in this neighbourhood for the loudness and mellowness of its tones. There are upon it the two following inscriptions, viz. "Joannes Bourkerhous me fecit;" and "John Young of Touchet-hillocks gifted me to the kirk of Kinclaven in September 1656;"—Touchet-hillocks is the name of a small hamlet, now forming part of the farm of Innernytie.

*Manse, Glebe, &c.*—The manse was built in 1802, and received repairs and additions in 1830, so that it now forms an ample and commodious dwelling-house. The offices are also in good order. The manse, church, and church-yard, are all very beautifully situated on a rising ground above the Tay, which is here a fine river of about 120 yards broad, flowing in a full and majestic stream through the richly adorned policy grounds and woods of Meikleour.

There are eleven acres of glebe, which may be worth L.16 or L.18 per annum. The stipend is as follows, viz. L.225, 14s. 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ d. Sterling, and 38 bolls 3 firlots 2 pecks 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  lippies of oatmeal, and 19 bolls 1 firлот 3 pecks 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  lippies of barley, amounting on an average to about L.275 annually. There is no allowance for communion elements, as the teinds are exhausted and surrendered.

The number of communicants at the sacrament generally amounts to 180. There are 86 families, including 413 individuals, belonging to the Established Church, and 96 families, including 465 individuals, who belong to the United Secession. It may also be mentioned, that, within these few months, three Roman Catholic families have been brought to the parish, as servants to the Rev. Mr Mackay, the clergyman of the Roman Catholic church in Perth, who has obtained in lease a farm of seventy acres on the Arntully estate, which he is improving at great expense.

*Ecclesiastical History.*—It appears, both from authentic ancient records, and from the old charters and title deeds of the present patron, that, at a very remote date, anno Domini 1260, the teinds of this parish were appropriated, with certain deductions, and under certain obligations, to the maintenance of the precentor in the cathedral church of Dunkeld; and also that this arrangement continued with incidental alterations until the period of the Reformation. One of these obligations was, that the precentor should find both a chaplain and a vicar to officiate in the parish church.

During several years subsequent to the Revolution, this and the other parishes of the presbytery of Dunkeld were annexed to the presbytery of Perth. It is only on the 29th October 1706, that the Dunkeld records state, that the ministers of said presbytery met for the first time after their disjunction from the presbytery of Perth, and "that Mr Alexander Glass, minister at Kinclaven, was, by a plurality of voices, chosen moderator." This Mr Alexander Glass was the father of Mr John Glass, the celebrated founder of the religious denomination called after his name, and whose history is familiar to every one acquainted with the ecclesiastical transactions of the period in which he lived. Mr Alexander Glass was succeeded in 1725 by Mr James Fisher, of whom we shall afterwards speak; and, on his deposition, he was succeeded in 1742 by Mr James Bishop, who, dying in 1774, was succeeded in 1775 by Mr John Scott. At his death, in 1800, Mr Robert Keay succeeded as minister of this parish, and was, in 1811, translated to the Canongate Chapel in Edinburgh, but, in a few years, returned to the West Church Parish in Perth, where he died in 1819. Mr Keay was succeeded at Kinclaven in 1812 by Mr Robert S. Walker, the present respectable minister of Longforgan, to which he was translated in 1822; and, in the following year, he was succeeded by the writer of the present article.

This parish is rather remarkable as being one of the original seats of the Secession. The Rev. James Fisher, minister of the parish, was the son-in-law of the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine, and warmly espoused his cause. In the session records, under date 8th October 1732, the following short notice occurs: "Service here this day by Mr Ebenezer Erskine, minister of the Gospel at Stirling;" and on the Tuesday following, Mr Erskine opened the Synod at Perth. On that occasion, he preached the sermon which was the cause of the proceedings against him in the ecclesiastical courts, which terminated in the Secession. The kirk-session of this parish seems to have taken a zealous interest in all these proceedings against him and his reverend coadjutors and brethren, many protestations and resolutions relative thereto being inserted in the records; and on the 25th October 1736, they formally resolved to adhere to the Associate Presbytery; "and upon a leet, they made choice of Thomas Watson, as their ruling elder, to attend the meetings of the Associate presbytery for the ensuing half-year." The minutes of session subsequent to July 1738 un-

til the period of his ejection in 1741, are all in the neat and distinct hand-writing of Mr Fisher. From all accounts, he seems to have been a man of talent, intelligence, and worth. His exposition of the Assembly's Catechism is still deservedly held in high repute. It is rather a remarkable circumstance, however, and well fitted to convey an instructive lesson of mildness and moderation in these days of ecclesiastical strife, that, in a few years, Mr Fisher was not in communion with his old flock, whom he had been instrumental in carrying off from the Established Church; for, while he attached himself to that party in the Secession who were denominated Burghers, they chose to connect themselves to the Anti-burgher party. Under the faithful ministry of his successors, Messrs Blythe and Pringle, the Secession Church in this parish continued to flourish, and has long been one of the most prosperous country congregations belonging to that body. In addition to those belonging to this parish, it is understood that they have always drawn a considerable portion of their members and hearers from the neighbouring parishes of Little Dunkeld, Auchtergaven, Redgorton, and Caputh. The Rev. David Young is their present pastor, having been elected two years ago on the demise of the late Rev. James Pringle, who had been minister of the congregation upwards of fifty years. He was, in all respects, a good man, and, emphatically, "a lover of peace."

*Education.*—There are two schools in the parish, one parochial and the other unendowed. The average number of scholars attending the parochial school may amount to 40. The salary is the maximum. The branches of education taught, and the school fees are as follows, viz. English reading, 2s. 6d.; writing, 3s.; arithmetic, geography, and preceding branches, 3s. 6d.; book-keeping and preceding, 4s.; for practical mathematics, Latin, and preceding, 5s. In 1833, the heritors expended L.200 in erecting a neat and commodious school-room, and in making a thorough repair on the schoolmaster's dwelling-house, which now contains much more than the legal accommodation. There is also a good garden attached to the school-house. The unendowed school is situated in the village of Arnully, in the west end of the parish. The average number attending the school may be estimated at 50. It is principally supported by the Dissenters, who are numerous in that part of the parish. Parents, in general, seem to be fully sensible of the benefit of giving their children all the schooling which they can afford.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of paupers on the roll is 6. At present, there are only 4, and all of them residing in other parishes, although their settlement happens to be in this. It may therefore be stated as a remarkable fact, that there is not a single pauper resident in this parish. If we cannot boast of much wealth, we are thus happily ignorant of the evils and miseries of pauperism. The usual monthly allowance to a pauper varies from 4s. to 10s. according to circumstances; and at Martinmas, each pauper receives 5s. additional for the purchase of their winter coals. There has never been any legal assessment for the poor; and during the last twenty years, it has been only once found necessary to solicit a small voluntary assessment of L.16, which was chiefly occasioned by the expense of a law-suit relative to the aliment of a pauper. Several of the heritors are, however, attentive to present donations from time to time, especially Baroness Keith, who gives L. 2, 2s. annually. The funds that are placed at the disposal of the kirk-session may average, from collections at church-doors, L. 18; from dues for mortcloth, proclamations, &c. about L.6; in all L.24 per annum, from which sum must also be paid the salaries of the precentor, church-officer, and various other claims. The above statement is highly creditable to the frugality, as well as to the provident and independent spirit of the parishioners. Even widows left with several helpless children have refused to accept of regular aid offered to them by the kirk-session, but have expressed great thankfulness in getting the fees paid for “the winter’s schooling to the bairns.” Miss Stewart of Newbigging in this parish, who died last year, bequeathed a legacy of L.20 to the poor’s fund; and instructed her executors, after paying several other legacies, to give the residue of her free estate, supposed to amount to L.900, to that excellent institution the Perth Infirmary.

*Inns. or Ale-houses.*—There are two inns or ale-houses; one near the Secession meeting-house, intended for the accommodation of the more remote attendants at that congregation; the other at the ferry boat, for the use of travellers in general; and which is also frequented by gentlemen from a distance, whom the excellent salmon angling in its immediate neighbourhood attracts to this part of the country, during the summer months.

*Fuel.*—Coals, both Scotch and English, are brought from Perth, or purchased at a trifling additional expense in Stanley, at a dépôt recently established there. Firewood may also be obtained

on reasonable terms at the sales of decayed timber, brushwood, &c. that frequently take place. The tenants on the property of the Duke of Athole are entitled to a certain quantity of peats from the moss of Craigleith, on the western boundary of the parish. It is understood that the parochial minister has also this privilege; but during many years, it has not been exercised, owing to the distance of the moss, and the trouble and expense of preparing the peats.

June 1843.

## PARISH OF COUPAR-ANGUS

PRESBYTERY OF MEIGLE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNS.

THE REV. PATRICK J. STEVENSON, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—THE parish of Coupar-Angus lies in the centre of Strathmore. By far the larger portion of it belongs to the county of Perth; but the original part of the town being in Forfarshire, the parish takes its distinctive name from that county. It is bounded on the north-west, by the parish of Bendochy, from which it is separated by the river Isla; on the north-east, by Meigle; on the south-east, by Kettins; and on the south-west, by Cargill. Its length is about 5 miles, stretching from north-east to south-west. Its breadth varies from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

The parish is divided, in the direction of north-east, by a ridge of some height; along which the road to Aberdeen runs; and which commands a splendid view of the Sidlaw, (or perhaps Sudlaw,) hills on the south; the lower range of the Grampians on the north, with the distant summits of Ben More, Schihallion, and Ben Voirlich.

The river Isla forms the north-west boundary of the parish. It is supposed to take its name from Yllif, a flood. In the twelfth century, Giraldus Cambrensis calls it Hylef. This supposition derives some corroboration from the whole of the haugh-land, which is of considerable extent on the south side of the river, having been formerly liable to be overflowed. After continued rain,



the river, swelled by the waters of the Dean and Ericht, rises to a great height. Embankments, however, have been erected within the last ten years, by the proprietors; and these, unless in very extraordinary seasons, are sufficient to prevent the mischief, which was occasioned every year to a greater or less degree. These embankments average in height about seven feet; in breadth, thirty-six feet at the base, and three at the top. Their base is at a considerable height above the ordinary bed of the rivers. The Isla abounds in trout; and in favourable seasons, a large number of salmon are taken in it. It rises in Canlochan-glen, on the confines of Aberdeenshire; and after a winding course of upwards of 40 miles, falls into the Tay, about 3 miles beyond the western boundary of the parish.

*Botany.*—The only plants rare in the district and found in the parish are the following: *Stratiotes aloides*, *Lysimachia thyrsiflora*, *Tragopogon major*, *Teucrium chamaedrys*, *Hyoscyamus niger*, *Sambucus ebulus*. The rarest of these, the *Stratiotes aloides*, was planted in the loch of Forfar, by George Don. It is found in this parish in a stagnant piece of water, which formerly formed part of the channel of the Isla; and in all probability found its way into its present locality from the former, in one of the many overflowings of the Isla, which communicates with the loch of Forfar by the Dean. The *Lysimachia thyrsiflora* grows in the same locality. The *Teucrium chamaedrys* is found on an old wall by the ruins of the Abbey. The *Tragopogon major* in the den of Keithick. The *Hyoscyamus niger* and *Sambucus ebulus* in the church-yard.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners in this parish are, W. E. Collinswood, Esq. of Keithick; F. Stewart, Esq. of Balmerino; George Kinloch, Esq. of Kinloch; Patrick Murray, Esq. of Simprim; — Cunninghame, Esq. of Cronan; Miss Geekie of Balbrogie.

*Parochial Registers.*—The date of the oldest of the parochial registers is 1682; and they appear to have been regularly and carefully kept.

*Antiquities.*—The remains of a Roman camp are still to be seen, immediately to the east of the churchyard. Maitland, in his History of Scotland, describes it as a square of 1200 feet, fortified with two strong ramparts and large ditches. The eastern rampart is the only one that has not been levelled. It is generally supposed to be one of the camps of Lollius Urbicus.

Coupar was once the seat of a rich and flourishing abbey of Cistercian monks. It was founded in 1164 by Malcolm IV., grandson and successor of David I., whose liberality to the church led King James to remark, "That Saint David must have been a sore saint to the Crown." Fordun (*Scotichronicon*, lib. viii. cap. 7,) says, "Anno MCLXIV. de consilio Waltheri, Abbatis de Melros, rex Malcolmus, fundavit nobile monasterium de Cupro-in-Angus;" and (lib. ix. cap. 48,) "hoc anno (1238) dedicatæ sunt ecclesiæ de Newbotil, Abirbrothoc, et Cupro."

Wynton, in "De Orygynale Cronykil of Scotland," tells us,

"A thowsand a hundyre and sixty yhere  
 And fowre \* \* \* \* \*  
 Malcolme, Kyng of Scotland,  
 And pesyibly in it regnand,  
 De elevynd yhere of his crowne,  
 Mad the fundatyowne  
 Of the Abbay of Culpyre-in-Angws,  
 And dowyt it wyth his almws,  
 In honoure of the may kles may  
 Relygyws munkis there dwellis ay,  
 All lyk to Cystwys in habyt,  
 We oys to call thame mwnkys qwhyte."—Book vii. Cap. vii.

The revenues of the abbey appear to have been great. Boece says, "Ea est abbacia divæ virginis sacra amplissimis dotata redditibus. Inhabitant eam viri religiosi ordinis Cistercii, multa pietate celebres; nec in hunc usque diem ullo notati manifesto flagitio."

There are two rentals of the abbey; one in the Book of Assumptions, where it is valued at L.1886, 8s. 6d.; and another by Keith, as follows: money, L. 1238, 14s. 9d.; wheat, 7 chalders, 12 bolls, 1 peck; bear, 75 chalders, 10 bolls, 3 pecks; meal, 73 chalders, 4 bolls, 3 pecks, 3½ lippies; oats, 25 chalders, 4 bolls, 2 pecks, 2 lippies.

It possessed, in the parish of Coupar, the estates of Keithick, Arthurstone, Denhead, Balgersho, Cronan; in the parish of Bendochy,—Coupar Grange, probably the home-farm of the abbey, where the abbot had a country seat, and to which the monks occasionally retired when sick, Drimmie, Persie, and Cally, commonly called Monks'-Cally, to distinguish it from another Cally in the same neighbourhood. The abbey appears to have possessed land in the parish of Fossaway also; as we find that, in the year 1572, "John Edmonstoun, minister of Tullibole, had his stipend, L.78, 15s., out of the third of the Abbey of Coupar, be the taxmen or parochiners of Fossaway." The Hays of Errol,

as we learn from Keith, were great benefactors to this abbey. "William de Haya grants thereto the lands of Liderpole or Ed-derpole," in the Carse of Gowrie. David de Haya, his son, grants also, "pro anima Wilhelmi patris sui et Elenæ sponse sue cum consensu Guilberti heredis sui unum rete super aquam de Thei; with three acres of arable ground,—“ Guilbert de Haya miles, dominus de Errol,” grants to the monks of this place, “liberum transitum sine impedimento cum bobus suis super terras suas per omnes vias et semitas.” And Guilbert Hay, Constable of Scotland, grants to this monastery, “in quo progenitores sui sepulti erant et ipse etiam elegerat sepeliri jus patronatus ecclesiæ de Errol et capellæ du Inchmartin cum earum juribus et pertinentiis.” This gift is confirmed by Pope Clement.

Donald Campbell, the last Abbot, had five sons, for whom he made handsome provision out of the estates belonging to the abbey, assigning to them the properties of Balgersho, Keithick, Denhead, Cronan, and Arthurstone. Two of them lie-buried in the churchyard of Bendochy. Leonard Leslie, commendator of the abbey, was also buried in the same church. His tomb is very entire. He died in 1605, aged 81.

The extent of the abbey buildings may be guessed at, but cannot be accurately defined. The only fragment now remaining is in the south-west corner of the churchyard, on the side of the turnpike road leading to Dundee. In 1780, a part of the abbey, consisting of an arch, of beautiful architecture, situate near the centre of the present churchyard, was demolished for the purpose of furnishing stones for building the present church! Till within these few years, the base of a pillar was to be seen to the eastward of the present church. The northern wall of the oldest part of the present church rests on part of the foundation of what appears to have been the northern part of the abbey.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of the parish in 1831 was 2615; in 1841, 2532; of whom 1173 are males, and 1359 females. The decrease during the last ten years may be ascribed principally to emigration. This statement in regard to the population does not include the estate of Kinloch, which, though in Coupar *quoad civilia*, has always been taken up with the census of the parish of Meigle.

The average number of births and deaths cannot be accurately ascertained, from the unwillingness of many to register their chil-

dren, and from there being no regular register of deaths. The average of marriages for the last seven years is 22.

The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards is 21.

There are 3 insane persons, 2 fatuous, 3 blind, 1 deaf and dumb, and 1 deaf.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The cultivated lands in the parish may be classed under the different varieties of soil in nearly the following proportions :

Under a low-lying clayey soil, too stiff for profitable cultivation of the different species of green crops,	Acres	100
Under a deep soil, chiefly of alluvial formation, rather stiff, but naturally fertile,		300
Under a free soil of moderate depth, and of every degree of fertility from the useful sands to a medium loam,		1300
Under a gravelly soil,		70
Under the inferior dry sands,		420
Under a soil of medium quality, resting upon a close subsoil,		290
Under poor sandy clays and low-lying wet sands,		230
Under peaty soil,		50

The unoccupied land consists of

Very inferior wet sands about		30
Poor gravelly soil,		5

There are, besides, several patches of useful pasturage along the old course of the Isla.

About 80 acres are under wood.

The average rent of land is about L.2, 3s.; and the general duration of leases nineteen years.

The general system of cropping is by a rotation of four years. This system is more generally adopted than is consistent either with the nature of the soil or the practice of good husbandry. A large proportion of the arable land consists, as has been stated, of a dry fine soil, and is peculiarly adapted to the cultivation of turnips and the artificial grasses. Such a soil would require a rotation, embracing in its course a period of rest in pasture suitable to the nature of the land, and to the state of its fertility. The number of small farms may, to a certain extent, account for the general adoption of the system usually followed. The amount of capital laid out in stock and implements of husbandry being greater, when the farms are small, than what is required for the cultivation of the same amount of land when divided into large farms, holds out an inducement to the proprietors to impose as little restraint on the mode of cultivation as is consistent with the ordinary rules of good husbandry. The rotation of four years,

therefore, as imposing the least restraint, and offering the greatest inducement to a wide competition, is readily agreed to. The farm-buildings are very various in point of design and accommodation. On most of the smaller farms, they are deficient, while on the larger they are excellent. Those on Keithick, Balgersho, and Denhead may be noticed as affording illustrations of the latter.

Grazing, as a system, can scarcely be said to belong to the husbandry of the parish,—the grass-parks of Keithick being the only land under permanent pasture. They let at about L.4 per acre.

*Wages.*—Farm-servants are engaged for twelve months; and the average wages of a ploughman, qualified to work a pair of horses, are about L.12 in money, 35 lbs. of oatmeal per week, and three chopins (old measure) of milk per day. Good day-labourers receive, on an average, 10s. per week during the period when they can work ten hours per day. After that period, the hours of work are counted, and the rate of wages per hour is slightly raised.

*Live-stock.*—There is no pure or distinct breed of cattle in the parish; but, since the institution of the Agricultural Association, the emulation excited by the exhibition of stock at its annual shows, and the introduction of the short-horn breed of cattle, a great improvement has been effected on the existing mixed breed; and now many useful animals, of considerable value, are to be met with among them.

An Agricultural Association was formed, upwards of twenty years ago, for the breeding and feeding of stock. Most of the principal proprietors in the district take an interest in it. Its meetings are held twice a year; and the stock exhibited, though not numerous, is generally of very excellent quality. The number of members at present is about 50.

*Improvements.*—The chief improvement in agriculture consists of draining, which is now carried on to a considerable extent. The embankment above-mentioned has also rendered the low-lying lands much more valuable.

An ingenious plan of the late Lord Douglas Gordon Hallyburton for effecting the drainage of a considerable extent of flat but valuable land, is also well worthy of notice. In heavy rains, the standing water could not find any vent, the only drain,—a small stream skirting the land,—serving to increase the evil. In these circumstances, his Lordship planned the following remedy: A well was brought up from a point in the bed of the stream, 1180

feet 8 inches below the farm subject to inundation. In dry weather the stream was confined to one side of its usual channel, and a conduit of 18 inches square, well-built, flagged, and puddled on the top, to prevent any water getting in, was constructed below the bed of the burn. Above that, a complete coating of broken metal was laid to render the conduit more secure, and the burn was then allowed to run in its former course. The rise is one inch in 42 feet 2 inches. The cost of the whole was L.220. It was constructed in 1831, and has been found, with occasional trifling repairs, completely to answer the purpose for which it was intended.

*Manufactures.*—The chief employment of the labouring classes is weaving, principally of the coarser articles of linen manufacture. In the present depressed state of trade, the remuneration is extremely small. Able-bodied men cannot earn, on an average, above 5s. or 6s. per week. The privations which this imposes are borne, with a most praiseworthy spirit.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There is a weekly market held here on Thursdays. The amount of business done is less than formerly, owing to similar markets having been, some years ago, originated in the neighbouring villages of Meigle and Blairgowrie.

There were formerly villages, containing a considerable population, at Keithick and Caddam. These are now entirely extinct. At Balbrogie there still is a population of about 70.

Coupar is a post-town. Letters are delivered daily.

The means of communication are abundant. The Defiance, one of the best conducted coaches in the country, passes daily betwixt Edinburgh and Aberdeen. There is also a railway to Dundee, on which coaches run four times a day.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church is situated very conveniently for the great mass of the people, being close to the end of the village. It was built in 1681. It was nearly rebuilt in 1780, and received a large addition in 1831. It affords accommodation for upwards of 800 persons.

The manse was built in 178, and has received two additions; rendering it now a comfortable and convenient residence. The glebe consists of about seven acres; part of it is, at present, let at L.4 per acre. The stipend is sixteen chalders; half meal, half barley; payable by the fiars prices, with L.10 for communion elements. There are four Dissenting places of worship, Episcopalian, United Seces-

sion, Relief, and Original Secession. Divine service in the Established Church is generally well attended. The number of communicants is between 600 and 700.

*Education.*—There is one parochial school and two unendowed schools. All the usual branches of education, with Latin, Greek, and French, are taught at the parochial school. The salary of the schoolmaster is the maximum, L. 34, 4s. 4½d., and the amount of school-fees is about L.70. He has the legal accommodation undoubtedly, viz. two rooms, including a kitchen, but little more. The school-room is also bad, in point of size, situation, ventilation, and repair. A majority of the heritors are at present desirous of building a new one.

*Charitable Institutions.*—There are two Friendly Societies, one of masons, the other of gardeners. Both have for their object, the granting assistance to members during sickness, and an annuity to their widows or children, when destitute. A small sum is given also to defray funeral expenses. There are about 50 members belonging to the one and 80 to the other. There is also a Ladies' Society for assisting Indigent Old Women. To these a small monthly allowance is given.

*Savings Bank.*—A Savings Bank, in terms of the Act of Parliament regulating these institutions, was opened in 1839. It promises to answer well the purpose for which it is intended. Since its commencement, the sums paid into it amount to L.2220; those taken out to L.1145,—leaving a balance in the bank of L.1075.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The number of persons receiving a stated allowance from the poor's funds, during the last year, was 48. These received, on an average, 5s. per month. Those who received occasional aid amounted to 19. About L. 20 was distributed among them. There are, besides, three lunatics in the Dundee Asylum. For these, about L. 54 is paid per annum. The sum required for the maintenance of the poor is provided for by a voluntary assessment among the heritors, and by the collections at church door, mortcloth dues, &c. The assessment for the last eight or nine years has been voluntary. Previously to that time, it was compulsory. But at the period mentioned, with the view of getting quit of an assessment altogether, it was proposed and unanimously agreed to by the heritors, that they should, by voluntary assessment, maintain the whole of the poor at that time on the roll; leaving the kirk-session to provide, from the collections and other funds, for those who subsequently to that

date might require parochial aid. It was hoped that the kirk-session would be able, from the increase of the contributions at the church doors, and the small number of poor, who, for some years at least, were likely to require assistance, to realize such a sum as would render an assessment unnecessary beyond the period, when those, for whom the heritors engaged to provide, should cease to require support. The scheme seemed to work well at first; but the funds which the kirk-session calculated on receiving have not equalled their anticipations, and the probability is, that ere long a legal assessment will be again resorted to. One thing, however, may be noticed as the result of this experiment, viz, that the poor are less disposed to refrain from asking parochial aid when there exists a legal assessment, than where the funds for their maintenance arise solely from voluntary contributions.

*Markets, &c.*—There are yearly markets for horses and cattle, besides those which are held weekly. These are now much less frequented, than they formerly were.

*Alehouses.*—The number of houses at present licensed to sell spirits, &c. is 24,—a number most unnecessarily large for the size of the parish.

*Fuel.*—The chief fuel employed is English coal, which is brought by the railway from Dundee. It costs from L.1, 1s. to L.1, 2s. per ton.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Almost all the houses and the streets are now lighted with gas, a gas company having been established a few years ago.

The steeple, which marks the town at a distance, is unconnected with the church. It was built in 1767, by a subscription among the inhabitants. It stands on the site of the old prison, when Coupar was a burgh of regality. The lower part of it is still employed as a temporary place of confinement.

There is a reading-room, provided with a daily London, and several provincial newspapers.

*July 1843.*



## PARISH OF ABERFOYLE.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. ROBERT C. GRAHAM, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—It appears from the public records of Scotland, that in 1485, the name of this parish was Abirfull; and in 1505, Abirfule. It is mentioned in the books of the Lord High Treasurer, that on the 22d August of that year, (1505,) “Maister William Ogilvy gaif, by the King’s command, to the priestis of Aberfule, xiiij. s.” The modern name of the parish is Aberfoyle—sometimes written Aberfoil. It is suggested by the confluence of a stream of water with the Forth, about a quarter of a mile to the east of the church; which stream is called in Gaelic the Poll.

*Extent, Boundaries.*—The utmost length of this parish is 13 miles; its utmost breadth, 6. It is bounded on the north, by Callander parish; on the west, by part of Buchanan parish; on the south, by the parishes of Drymen and Gartmore; and on the east, by Port of Menteith.

*Topographical Appearances, &c.*—Aberfoyle is situated in the Stewartry of Menteith, and on the southern verge of Perthshire. The general aspect of the country is marked by features very different from those which characterize the district to the east and south. Here, the extensive plain and grassy eminence cease, and the rugged precipice and lofty mountain commence. There are, however, only two mountains in this parish worthy of particular notice, viz. Benvenue and Ben-chochan. The former rises to the height of 2800, and the latter to 2000 feet above the level of the sea. Both of these mountains command extensive views to the north, west, and east. The celebrated scenery of the Trossachs lies immediately beneath them; and from their summits can be distinctly traced “the windings of the Chase,” so beautifully described by the late Sir Walter Scott in his *Lady of the Lake*. The views in the vicinity of these mountains are of small extent, none

of them exceeding a mile in length and a quarter of a mile in breadth. They are, in fact, mere strips of land recovered from heath, and which, if allowed to remain for a few years uncultivated, would be covered with heath again.

*Climate, &c.*—The climate of Aberfoyle, though rainy, on account of the vicinity of the mountains, is upon the whole healthy. That part of Aberfoyle where the manse and church are situated, is only about forty-five feet above the Frith of Forth at Stirling; and being completely sheltered by hills on every side, the climate is mild and warm. In summer, the thermometer is frequently known to rise to 80° in the shade, and has been seen even as high as 84.

*Hydrography.*—There are five lakes in Aberfoyle, of considerable extent,—Loch Katrine, Loch-ard, Loch Con, Loch Auchray, and Loch Drunky. The first of these, which runs into Buchanan parish, at its western extremity, and extends to Callander parish on the north, is about nine miles in length, and one in breadth. It was stated some years ago, in an Edinburgh newspaper, that a party of scientific men had visited three of the Scottish lakes,—Loch Lomond, Loch Tay, and Loch Katrine, for the purposes of sounding and ascertaining the temperature of the water at different depths. According to this statement, the deepest part of Loch Katrine is about the middle, nearly opposite to the farm of Letter. The lead is here said to have struck the ground at seventy-eight fathoms from the surface, the thermometer showing forty-one degrees by the register, the surface being sixty-three. Only small portions of this lake have ever been known to freeze.

Loch-ard is next in extent, being four miles in length, and one in breadth. No measurement of its depth has been taken, but that it does not reach to that of the former, appears from the circumstance, that in severe winters it is so completely frozen, that not only is it frequently crossed over, but heavy loads of fuel are carried on the ice from south to north. Loch-con, which lies farther to the west, is two miles and a half in length, and three-quarters of a mile in breadth. It lies immediately under high and precipitous hills, and appears to be of considerable depth. It is seldom known to freeze completely over. Loch-Auchray and Loch Drunky, which are each about two miles in length and half a mile in breadth, are of inconsiderable depth, and consequently soon affected by frost.

The river Forth has its rise at the western extremity of this parish,—at a place called in the Gaelic language *Skid-n'uir*, or the

ridge of Yewtrees, where it is probable a wood of yews formerly grew, though no vestige of it now remains. Here there arises a pretty copious spring, which divides itself into two branches, the most considerable running eastward through Lochcon and Lochard, and communicating with the German Ocean; the other running westward into Lochlomond, and communicating by the Clyde with the Atlantic. About half a mile to the east of Lochard, the Forth receives an important accession to its streams by the water of Duchray, which has its rise near the summit of Benlomond, and which may seem to have an equal claim to the source of the Forth. It may be observed, however, that the branch which issues from Skid-n'uir, by passing through the above-mentioned lakes, and receiving the streams poured down by a much larger tract of country, sends forth a body of water, which, upon an average of the whole year, may be estimated larger than the other nearly by one-third. For the first four miles after the junction of these branches, the Forth is a shallow and narrow river. After passing Gartmore, however, it increases in depth; but the fall from that to Stirling, during a course of twenty miles, is not more than eighteen feet, as found by a measurement taken under the direction of the late Lord Cathcart, when it was proposed to carry the great canal up by the bed of the Forth, and to join it to the Clyde by Lochlomond and the Leven. That scheme, however, was abandoned on many accounts, and it is not likely that any great benefit will ever be derived to this neighbourhood, from the navigation of which the Forth may be rendered capable, above Stirling.

At the farm of Ledard, near the western extremity of Lochard, there is a very beautiful cascade, formed by a mountain stream of considerable size, passing first over a height of twelve feet into a magnificent basin formed of the solid rock, and so transparent, that, at the depth of ten feet, the smallest pebble may be seen. From this basin, dashing over a ledge of rock, it precipitates itself again over an irregular slope of more than fifty feet. The sides of this stream are closely covered with oak copse, birch, and mountain-ash, so that in approaching the fall, you enter, perhaps, one of the finest scenes of the grand and beautiful to be met with in Highland scenery. This cascade is rendered peculiarly interesting from its having been made the subject of description in two of the celebrated works of Sir Walter Scott,—Waverley and Rob Roy. There is another cascade about a quarter of a mile to the north of the inn; but as it is supplied by a much smaller mountain stream,

it makes little appearance, except after a heavy fall of rain. When a flood occurs, however, which is frequently the case during autumn and winter, there is a splendid fall of at least ninety feet. The sides of this cascade are also covered with natural wood, oak, birch, and hazel.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The valley of Aberfoyle is inclosed on the south, south-east, and east, by that celebrated range of mountains called the Grampians, which traverse the whole breadth of Scotland from south-west to north-east.

In the line of these mountains, and uniformly on the west side, limestone of a superior quality is found. It is traced from Leny, in Callander parish, through Aberfoyle to Auchmar, and some of the islands on Lochlomond in Buchanan parish, a course of near thirty miles; and it is probable that the same rock formation may be traced much farther in the same direction. The limestone in Aberfoyle is blue, with veins of white, is hard, and admits of a fine polish. It is wrought near the eastern extremity of the parish, and is considered equal to the best Irish limestone for the purposes of building and plastering. As a manure, the use of it is principally confined to the tenants of the proprietor, the Duke of Montrose.

To the west of this range, there is an extensive mountain, consisting almost entirely of slate. It lies in regular strata, is of excellent quality, and regularly wrought, giving employment to about twenty men. The want of water carriage, however, and the distance of a market, are serious drawbacks. Conglomerate, and trap, or whinstone, are the prevailing rocks in this neighbourhood.

*Zoology.*—It cannot be said that any of the rare species of animals now exist in this parish. Several names of places indicate, that at one period, the wolf and wild boar were not unfrequent in the district; but the native quadrupeds are now of a less ferocious and destructive kind, viz. roe-deer, hares, foxes, badgers, martins, polecats, wild cats, otters, weasels, hedgehogs, &c. It is stated in the former report of the parish, that the black eagle built in some of the more inaccessible rocks. It is now, however, unknown in this quarter. The osprey or water eagle has also departed. Kites, hawks, and ravens, are at all times seen hovering around the cliffs. The falcon, too, is occasionally seen; and during winter, some of the rarer species of *Colymbi* or divers; and flocks of swans have been observed. The ptarmigan (*Tetrao lagopus*, Linn.) is now rarely to be found, even on our highest mountains; but the moors still

abound with black and red game. Partridges and snipe are common on the low grounds; and pheasants, unknown in this parish till about twenty years ago, are now plentiful.

The fishes in the lakes and rivers are, trout, pike, perch, and eel. In Loch Katrine alone, the *Salmo Alpinus* or charr is to be found. The trout of Loch-ard and Loch-con, which weigh from one to three pounds, are of the same quality with those of Lochleven in Kinross-shire; the flesh is red and of a high flavour. They run up the streams connected with the lakes about the end of September. Pike are often caught, weighing from fifteen to twenty pounds. The spawning season of this fish is in the month of March, and it is not in good condition again till the beginning of June.

*Plants.*—A great variety of plants, some of which may be considered rare, are to be found in this parish and neighbourhood, such as the following :

<i>Ciræa lutianna</i>	<i>Parnassia palustris</i>	<i>Adoxa moschatellina</i>
<i>Schoenus albus</i>	<i>Allium ursinum</i>	<i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i>
<i>Montia fontana</i>	<i>Triglochin palustre</i>	<i>Saxifraga</i>
<i>Alchemilla Alpina</i>	<i>Trientalis Europæa</i>	<i>Comarum palustre</i>
<i>Sanicula Europæa</i>	<i>Paris quadrifolia</i>	<i>Orchis</i>
<i>Athamanta meum</i>	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	<i>Rubus chamæmorus, &amp;c.</i>
<i>Sison inundatum</i>	<i>Vaccinium</i>	

The native woods consist of oak, ash, birch, alder, hazel, mountain-ash, holly, the birds'-cherry, willow, wild apple, &c. Larch has been lately introduced, but to no great extent, although it thrives remarkably well. The native shrubs are numerous. The juniper, broom, furze (*Ulex Europæus*,) honeysuckle, ivy, gale, &c. everywhere abound.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Aberfoyle appears to have depended in former times, *quoad sacra*, on the monastery of Inchmahome, some beautiful remains of which are to be seen in the Isle of Menteith, in the neighbouring parish of Port. In the genealogical tree of the Earls of Menteith, we find a Patrick Graham, a descendant of the family, entitled "Vicar of Aberfoyle." About the period of the Revolution a Mr Robert Kirk was minister of the parish. He was a man of learning, and had a principal share in the translation of the Psalms into Gaelic verse. His grave-stone, which may be seen near the east end of the church of Aberfoyle, bears this inscription, "Robertus Kirk, A. M., Linguæ Hiberniæ Lumen." He died in 1692. To him succeeded Mr William Fisher, who, during the establishment of Episcopacy, had been minister of Eastwood, near Glasgow.

During his incumbency there, he had saved the life of Maxwell of Pollock, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, by affording him shelter when under proscription for his adherence to Presbytery. On the ejection of the Episcopal clergy, under King William, Lord Pollock procured from the Montrose family the office of domestic chaplain for Mr Fisher. Under cover of that title he officiated unmolested at Aberfoyle for thirty years, and was, beyond question, the last Episcopal clergyman who enjoyed a benefice in Scotland. He died in 1732. To him, in the same year, succeeded Mr James Richardson, a man whose learning rendered him respectable in the church. He died in 1770, leaving an only son, who, at an early period of life, was appointed Professor of Humanity in the University of Glasgow, and who, in that situation, highly distinguished himself as an accomplished scholar and successful teacher. Mr James Dymock was ordained minister of Aberfoyle in May 1773, and resigned his charge in April 1786. He was succeeded in April 1787 by Mr Patrick Graham (afterwards Dr Patrick Graham,) who died in September 1835, in the forty-eighth year of his ministry. He was eminent for the variety and extent of his literary acquirements,—a profound scholar, an able divine, and elegant writer, and published several works of well-known merit. He was, besides, long engaged, as a member of the committee of the General Assembly, in revising the new edition of the Gaelic Scriptures.

*Land-owner.*—His Grace the Duke of Montrose is the sole land-owner in the parish of Aberfoyle, being, at the same time, patron, proprietor, and superior.

*Parochial Registers.*—One of the parochial registers is dated as far back as 1698, but it is now nearly illegible. The other registers, which are not voluminous, appear to have been kept with tolerable regularity since 1753.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population of Aberfoyle was	695
1792,	790
1821,	730
1831, males, 381; females, 329;	660
1841,	549

The census taken in 1821 is believed to be incorrect, but how far cannot now be stated. When the last census was taken, some families were absent from the parish at wood-cutting and other employments; but these, had they been present, would not have added above 20 to the population.

This decrease may be attributed in a great measure to the sys-

tem, now so general over the Highlands, of throwing several small farms into one. The families thus dispossessed of the land on which they had found employment, emigrate to the manufacturing towns and villages in order to procure a livelihood.

The yearly average of births for the last seven years may be stated at	13
deaths,	10
marriages,	4
The average number of persons under 15 years of age,	180
betwixt 15 and 30,	155
30 and 50,	128
50 and 70,	67
upwards of 70,	24
Number of unmarried men, &c. upwards of 50 years of age,	30
women upwards of 45,	20
families,	148
Average number of children,	5
Number of inhabited houses,	130
uninhabited,	6
insane, 2; blind, 1.	

In former times, Gaelic was the language generally spoken in this parish. At present, the inhabitants all understand and speak English.

Number of males employed in agriculture as farmers, &c.	140
retail trade or in handicraft as masters or workmen,	26
male servants upwards of twenty years old,	19
under twenty years old,	18
females,	13

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The upper part of the parish, which occupies by far the greatest superficial extent, consists of sheep-farms, and the lower part of cultivated grounds. The occupiers of the sheep-farms seldom raise so much grain as is sufficient for themselves and for their shepherds. The farmers in the lower district are generally able to send a small quantity to the market.

The cultivation of sown grasses is now much more attended to than formerly; and good crops of rye-grass and clover are generally raised in the lower parts of the parish. It appears, that, when the former report was drawn up, the culture of field turnip was almost unknown. Of late years, however, this crop has been extensively introduced into the parish, much to the benefit of the farms.

The average rent of grazing is at the rate of L.3 for a cow, and 4s. for a ewe or full-grown sheep per annum; but the business done in this way is trifling.

The rate for farm labour, if you engage a man by the year, is from L.12 to L.15. For day-labourers, 1s. in winter, and 1s. 6d. in summer, besides maintenance. The rate of carpenter-work is 2s.; and of mason work, 2s. 6d. when the day admits of working from six o'clock in the morning till six o'clock in the evening.

*Breeds of Sheep and Cattle.*—The breed of sheep reared in this parish is the black-faced, and great attention is paid to the improvement of the stock. On most of the farms, the sheep are of a very superior quality, and bring high prices in the market. Highland black cattle are chiefly reared in the upper part of the parish, and the Ayrshire breed in the valley.

*Leases.*—The leases on the grain-farms are given for twelve years, those on the sheep-farms for nine years, and are considered, upon the whole, as favourable to the occupier.

*Farm-Buildings and Enclosures.*—With one or two exceptions, the farm-buildings in the parish are new and commodious, and very superior to those generally found on Highland estates. The enclosures, so far as they extend, (and they are now extending rapidly,) are strong and sufficient. If applied for by the tenant, and if built of stone, six per cent. of interest is charged on the outlay. The principal improvements which have recently been introduced into the parish are, the proper rotation of crops, fencing, draining, and liming, and rearing better breeds of sheep and of cattle.

*Produce.*—The grain raised is, as formerly noticed, consumed chiefly in the parish, but no accurate calculation has been made as to the gross amount. A considerable profit is sometimes made by the wintering of black-cattle, for which many of the farms are peculiarly adapted by the shelter which the woods afford against the inclemencies of the weather. Wool, too, is a considerable article of commerce; and a few of the farmers are assisted in making up their rents by the sale of butter and cheese.

*Woods.*—The whole woods, consisting principally of oak, from the head of Loch-con to the lake of Menteith, in the parish of Port, all the property of the Duke of Montrose, are divided into twenty-four portions, one of which is cut down annually, and carefully defended by enclosures, till it has grown beyond the reach of cattle. It is, in the meantime, properly thinned; and, at the end of twenty-four years, when the whole woods are cut down, the same rotation is ready to commence. Before a lot of wood is cut, the wood-forester marks out a certain number of trees which are to be left as standards, viz. in a lot of ordinary size, 400 trees of 24 years' growth, 8 of 48 years, and 8 of 72 years.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town, &c.*—The nearest market-town to Aberfoyle is Stirling, which is twenty miles distant. To Glasgow, which is



twenty-eight miles distant, there are regular weekly carriers, which proves a great convenience. There is also a post-office now established in the parish, by which letters are received on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and transmitted on the other days of the week.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The situation of the parish church is by no means convenient to the greater part of the population, being placed within a mile and a-half of the eastern extremity of the parish, and consequently more than eleven miles from the western extremity. It was built in 1744, and was for many years in a very uncomfortable state. It was thoroughly repaired, however, in 1839, and is now a neat and comfortable place of worship, having a session-house at one end, and a porch at the other. It affords accommodation for about 250 persons. The sittings are all free.

The manse was built in 1732, and has undergone several repairs. A considerable sum was last year laid out by the heritor in building a new front, and in altering and greatly improving the principal rooms.

The glebe consists of fifteen Scotch acres of ground of good quality, partly arable and partly meadow. The stipend amounts to L.147 in money, together with a chalder of barley and a chalder of oatmeal.

The parish church is the only place of worship, except a school house, where the clergyman generally officiates once in two months. Although the population is very scattered, the roads, in some directions, of the worst description, and the distance great to which several families are removed from church, it is generally well attended.

*Education.*—There are two schools in the parish, one parochial school, and one on the foundation of the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge. The common branches of instruction only are taught in these schools, viz. reading, writing, arithmetic, and the knowledge of the Scriptures.

The salary of the parochial schoolmaster is L.28 per annum, and the amount of school fees from L.5 to L.6. He is provided with a house and garden. The salary of the teacher of the Society school is L.15 per annum; the school fees seldom amount to more than L.1, 10s. He is allowed by the heritor a house, garden, and cow's grass.

It is not believed that there are any persons in the parish, be-

tween six and fifteen years of age, who cannot read; and if there are any in this unhappy state of ignorance above fifteen years of age, they are not natives of Aberfoyle, but must have lately come into it from some other parish.

*Charitable Institutions.*—The kirk-session can, in terms of deeds of settlement by the late Professor Richardson of Glasgow, and Mr John Stewart, merchant, Fintry, recommend two patients annually for admission to the Royal Infirmary of Glasgow.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is from 12 to 16. The average amount of contributions for their relief, from L.30 to L.35, arising from the collections in church, an annual donation from his Grace the Duke of Montrose, proclamation fees, and tax for the use of the mortcloth.

Until lately it was considered degrading to receive assistance from the parish fund, and consequently this was the last resource of the infirm and indigent. At present, however, there is seldom to be found a disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief.

*Fairs.*—There are three fairs held in this parish in the course of the year: one in April, for the sale of cattle; one in August, for the sale of lambs; and one in October, for hiring servants.

*Inns, &c.*—There is only one inn in the parish, kept by a most respectable family from England, and which is found quite sufficient to supply the wants both of travellers and of the inhabitants.

*Fuel.*—Peat is the common fuel, and is found in abundance in every quarter of the parish. Of wood, also, there is a considerable supply; but coals of good quality are not to be had nearer than Greenyards, beyond Bannockburn, at the distance of twenty-four miles, and consequently are procured at a great expense.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the time when the former Statistical Account of the parish was drawn up, various changes have taken place in the state of the country, the mode of cultivation, the value of land and farm produce, and in the circumstances of the people. In regard to the state of the country and mode of cultivation, a change to the better may everywhere be observed. A spirit of improvement has been lately excited among the tenants in general, which, if suitably encouraged, must add greatly to their comfort and respectability.

It is stated in the former report, that some of the sheep farm

rented as high as L.70, L.80, and even L.150, and that the medium rent of the grain farms was from L.20 to L.30. With one exception, none of the sheep farms are at present under L.150, while some of them rent at L.300, L.400, and even L.500. The rents of the grain farms have risen in proportion, being now considerably more than double what they were in 1792.

The real rental of the parish is as follows :—

Rental of lands, including slate quarry,	L.2900	0	0
Average produce of woods for three years past, less expense of work, &c.	430	0	0
Game,	100	0	0
Gross amount,	L.3430	0	0

In regard to the circumstances and character of the people, it may be observed, that a very great improvement has taken place within the last twenty years; and one great cause of the improvement certainly is, the complete suppression of smuggling, which, at one period, was carried on to a great extent in the parish, and which was attended by its usual ruinous effects on the morals and comfort of the inhabitants.

*May 1843.*

## PARISH OF LECROPT.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. PETER M'LAREN, MINISTER.

### L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Situation, Extent, Surface, &c.*—ABOUT two-thirds of this parish are situated within the county of Perth, and one-third in the county of Stirling. The river Teath bounds it on the south-west, where it meets the Forth and the Allan on the east. The southern point is where the Allan falls into the united streams of the other two. From east to west it extends about 3 miles, and nearly about as much from north to south. It contains about 2000 acres, one-half of which is a rich clay, the other half upland, or what is generally called dry-field. The clay soil on the south is divided from the upland by a beautiful bank, which crosses the parish almost parallel to the north side, and nearly at one-third of the distance between it and the southern extremity.

From the bank at Lecropt, there is one of the finest prospects in this part of the island. The Forth, the Teath, and the Allan unite their streams, and form the largest river in North Britain, in the champaign country, on the southern borders of the parish. Their banks clad with the richest crops, the snug steadings of farms, the hedges neatly trimmed, and the lofty trees, through which the smoke ascends from dwellings, beautify and enrich the scene. On the opposite side of this fertile valley, the castle of Stirling rears its head in rude magnificence on the summit of a rock. The huge rock of Craigforth on the one side of the castle, and the Abbey Craig on the other, form, with the castle itself, three vast and detached piles, about the distance of a mile from each other; and look down on an extensive tract of flat country. The tower of the abbey of Cambuskenneth, where the ashes of the weak and unfortunate James III. rest in peace; the stately bridge of Stirling, through which the Forth holds his majestic course to the ocean; his long circuitous links, through innumerable farms and thriving villages; and the sloops sailing along these links in all directions, amidst trees and houses, gratify the eye, and delight the mind with the appearances of industry and wealth.

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Antiquities.*—An artificial eminence, on the east side of this parish, seems to have been a post of the Romans, near their great road to Ardoch. Kier is one of a chain of rude forts that run along the north face of the Strath or valley of Monteath. These forts are at present in ruins, and are discernible only by knolls of a green surface, covering a great heap of loose stones. There are also Kiers at Achinsalt, at Borland, at Balinackader, at Tar, and in many other places in that direction, all similar to one another, in respect of situation, construction, prospect, and materials; which is a strong presumption at least, if not a clear proof, that their use was the same. There is, in the neighbourhood of the church of Lecropt, a hill, where the baron used to hold his court, during the prevalence of the feudal system. The Gallow Hill is near the Court Hill.

*Land-owners.*—The principal land-owners and their valuations are as follows:

Archibald Stirling, Esq. of Keir,	-	-	L.1200	6	8
Earl of Moray,	-	-	200	0	0
David Foggo, of Rowspeirs,	-	-	67	0	0
Total,	-	-	L.1596	6	8

## III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1801	-	508
1811,	-	508
1821,	-	513
1831,	-	443
1841,	-	471

## IV.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Stipend, L.150. Annual value of the glebe, L.16.

*Education.*—There is one parochial school, the teacher of which has the maximum salary. The accommodations are complete. French and Italian, as well as Latin and Greek, are taught in addition to the elementary branches. There is no other public school in the parish.

*Poor.*—Average number on the roll, 6; average number receiving occasional relief, 4; average amount of church collections for their behoof, L.35 per annum; mortifications, L.7 per annum.

1842.

## PARISH OF KILSPINDIE.\*

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. DAVID BLACK, MINISTER.

## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THERE were originally two parishes, Kilspindie and Rait; but at what period their union took place, has not been ascertained: it must have been prior to 1634. The walls of the church of Rait are still standing.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—The form of the parish is oblong; its length, from south-east to north-west, being about 5 miles; and its greatest breadth, from south-west to north-east, about 3½ miles. It is bounded on the south and south-east, by the parish of Errol; on the south-west and west, by Kinfauns; on the north-west and north, by St Martins and Collace; and on the east, by Kinnaid. The parish lies, partly in the Carse of Gowrie, and partly among the Sidlaw hills, about half-way between Perth and Dun-

\* Drawn up by Mr James M'Kercher, Parochial Schoolmaster of Kilspindie.

dee. The general appearance of the ground is pleasing, and presents to the eye an agreeable variety of moor and cultivated land. Towards the southern extremity, the ground is flat; at about a quarter of a mile farther north, it rises with a slope, for two miles, till it reaches an elevation of more than 600 feet; intersected in three different places, by the burns of Rait, Kilspindie, and Pitrodie. The remaining part has a northern aspect. The hills are generally barren; in many places, the surface is covered with a short heath, wet, and full of those whitish or grey whinstones which indicate a poor unkindly bleak soil. The bottom is a bad sort of clay, commonly termed mortar or till. But though, in general, the summits of the hills are barren and heathy, there are many pleasant spots, in hollows and glens, where the soil is good and fruitful in a high degree. All those parts of the hills which slope towards the Carse are well cultivated, producing crops of every kind that is to be found in the low country, and of equal quality,—potatoes and turnips in much greater quantity. That part of the parish which lies in the bottom of the Carse is generally very wet, but of a deep rich soil—a mixture of clay and moss—producing in good seasons very luxuriant crops. The Hill of Evelick, the highest in the parish, and not far from its centre, has been calculated, from barometrical observations, to be 832 feet above the level of the sea. Viewed from the south, it has a conical appearance, and is covered with a fine green. This hill commands from its top a most extensive and delightful prospect in every direction, embracing within the range some of the richest, most magnificent, and beautiful landscapes in Scotland. In looking towards the north, east, and west, a splendid scene everywhere meets the eye. In the foreground lies the extensive vale of Strathmore, seen almost from end to end, behind which tower the Grampian mountains, with the loftier Benglo, Shehallion, and Benvorlic, rearing their snow-clad tops in the far distance. On the south-east, south, and south-west, the Carse of Gowrie, with its spacious fields and fine orchards, clothed with the richest gifts of Ceres and Pomona, lies directly below; and, beyond that, the Tay, the coast of Fife, the Lomond hills, and the hills near Stirling.

*Geology.*—Nearly the whole of the parish, and especially the hills, is composed of amygdaloid trap and sandstone. The trap is found at different depths, and varies in its degree of hardness, being softer and more brittle where it comes near the surface, and becomes exposed to the influence of the weather. The sand-

stone is coarse in the grit, of a greyish colour; dip north-west, at an angle of about three degrees. Beautiful pieces of agate are frequently found among the hills, and, in the hands of the lapidary, these become valuable articles in the shape of brooches and watch-seals. There is a whinstone quarry wrought in the Den of Pit-rodie, the stones of which are used in building, in metalling roads, and in filling drains.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Antiquities.*—On the summit of the Hill of Evelick are the remains of an ancient fortification. It appears to have been formed of two concentric circles or walls of stone, enclosing an area of about half an acre. The vestiges of a fosse are still visible. A little to the south-east of the hill stands the Castle of Evelick, now in ruins, the ancient seat of the Lindsays, Knights of Evelick. It was evidently originally built as a place of strength, and must have commanded the pass through that place from Strathmore to the Carse. In digging near this place, some tumuli were lately discovered, which contained human bones.

*Mansion-Houses.*—The only gentleman's seat in the parish is Fingask Castle, the residence of Sir P. Murray Threipland, Bart. beautifully situated on the braes of the Carse, and commanding an extensive prospect over the rich and fertile vale below, which here opens in one vast amphitheatre, with the river Tay rolling through it for upwards of fourteen miles, till it is lost in the German Ocean a few miles below Dundee. The grounds around it are tastefully laid out in flower-gardens, shrubberies, and extensive walks. The Castle, which is built on the brink of a deep glen, amidst wooded eminences, bears in one part the venerable date of 1194. It is now, however, greatly enlarged and modernized by additional buildings, but the castellated form is still preserved in its external appearance. This ancient mansion was formerly used as a place of strength, and, in 1642, stood a siege during the civil war in Oliver Cromwell's time. Here the Chevalier St George, son of James II., slept, January 7th 1716, on his way from Glamis to Scone, where he was proclaimed king. In 1746, the castle was completely ransacked by the Government troops, the fortalices demolished, and a great part of the building razed to the ground, in consequence of the attachment of the Threipland family to the cause of the unfortunate House of Stuart.

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners are,—

Sir P. Murray Threipland of Fingask, Bart.	L.1250	0	0
Mrs Moodie Stuart of Annat,	1890	19	3
General John Ramsay of Kinkell,	1211	10	9
Colonel Thomas Steele of Evelick,	1127	9	3
Robert Henry Robertson of Tullybelton,	1050	0	0
Principal Dewar of Over Durdie,	167	0	0
Henry Black Stewart of Balnakeilly,	100	0	0
	<hr/>		
	L.6305	19	8

Sir P. M. Threipland, Bart. is the only resident heritor in the parish.

*Parochial Registers.*—The registers of this parish consist of several volumes, in which are also included the minutes of the kirk-session. The earliest entry is dated July 27, 1656. They are in pretty good order, and appear to have been regularly kept down to the present time.

### III.—POPULATION.

From the returns made to Dr Webster in 1755, the population was 828  
in 1791, 718

Since 1801, it has continued nearly stationary, with the exception of a small decrease since 1831, owing chiefly to emigration.

Amount of population in 1801,	762
1811,	762
1821,	722
1831,	760
1841,	709
Number of families in the parish,	155
chiefly employed in agriculture,	133
trade, manufacture, or handicraft,	22

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—It is impossible to state, with any degree of accuracy, the number of imperial acres in the parish; they may probably amount to about 6500. Of these, about 3500 are arable, and in a state of high cultivation, producing excellent crops of all the ordinary kinds. Potatoes are cultivated to a considerable extent, chiefly of the red variety, and great quantities are yearly shipped for the London market. Much attention is also paid to the feeding of cattle, and a considerable breadth is annually laid out in turnip, for that purpose. More than 200 acres of ground are under plantation, consisting mostly of larch, Scotch fir, and ash. These plantations are in a thriving state. About 200 acres are in a state of undivided common. The remaining part of the parish, with the exception of small portions, partially cultivated, is in a state of permanent pasture.

*Husbandry.*—Agriculture is in a flourishing state, and the system of husbandry that has been pursued, for many years, is very superior. The farms are kept under excellent management, and all



provided with thrashing-mills. Furrow-draining, both by tiles and small stones, is successfully carried on, and bone-dust is occasionally used in raising turnips. Farm-buildings are, in general, both substantial and commodious. The usual duration of leases is nineteen years.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Towns.*—Perth and Dundee are the nearest market-towns, distant about eight and thirteen miles respectively from the church. The turnpike-road from Perth to Dundee is distant about half-a-mile from the southern boundary of the parish. The nearest post-town is Errol.

*Villages.*—There are three small villages: Rait, containing 47 families; Kilspindie, 18; and Pitrodie, 16. In each of these a few hands are employed in the manufacture of linen fabrics for the Dundee market.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church, with its surrounding burying-ground, encompassed by spreading elm and ash trees, stands in the village of Kilspindie, on a rising piece of ground, formed by the junction of two small rivulets. The situation is delightful and well-chosen for the convenience of the majority of the population. It is a plain modern building, comfortably seated for about 350, and in a good state of repair. The manse, which is old, is situated within a hundred yards of the church. The stipend consists of 15 chalders, half meal half barley, payable according to the fiars' prices. There are two glebes, and the rent of both may amount to L. 13.

*Education.*—The parochial schoolmaster has the maximum salary, a free house, and an allowance in lieu of garden ground. He is also session clerk. The school-fees are—reading, 2s.; writing, 2s. 6d.; arithmetic, 3s.;—the higher branches in proportion. There is a private school in the village of Rait, the teacher of which is supported by the fees, and by voluntary subscription. The people are in general alive to the benefits of education, and manifest a laudable desire to have their children instructed in the useful branches.

*Library.*—A library, consisting of more than 300 volumes, has been in the parish for upwards of thirty years. It is chiefly composed of biographical, historical, and religious works.

*Poor.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial relief is about 8. The average weekly allowance to each varies from 1s. 6d. to 3s. besides a yearly supply of coals of 2½ bolls.

The collections at church, including mortcloth and marriage dues, amount yearly to L.25. Any deficiency is made up by contributions from the heritors.

*Inns.*—There are two public-houses in the parish.

*Fuel.*—The only fuel used, except small quantities of brushwood, is sea-borne coal.

*November 1843.*

## PARISH OF CARGILL.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNKELD, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. WILLIAM C. ROSE, MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—CARGILL takes its name from *Caër*, signifying in the Celtic language a village, and *Cill*, a place of worship, or burial. It was formerly called the *West Parish*, and is said to have been part of the parish of Cupar of Angus, but has long since been disjoined from that, and erected into a distinct parochial district. Bishop Spottiswood mentions, that, as far back as the year 1514, Andrew Stuart, brother to John Earl of Athole, got the benefices of Cargill and Alyth.

*Situation, &c.*—This parish is situated in the large vale of Strathmore, and is bounded on the north, by the river Isla; on the north-east, by the parish of Coupar-Angus; on the east, by Kettins; on the south-east, by Collace; on the south, by St Martins; and on the west and north-west, by the river Tay.

*Extent, &c.*—It extends from west to east about 6 miles, and from north to south about 4,—on an average, forming nearly an oblong square. This parish exhibits a surface diversified by wood and water, and variegated by ascents and declivities. Rising gradually in the form of a ridge for about a mile from the river Tay, it reaches a plain of near four miles in breadth, which, with some unevennesses, it preserves till it comes to the Sidla hills, which form part of its eastern boundary. Excepting the woodlands, it is mostly all arable. The soil is extremely various and different. In the lower part of the parish,

along the banks of the river, it is a wet mortarly clay, which produces strong crops; inclining as you rise in elevation to a rock marl, which is cold and unproductive. The level grounds on the top of the ridge are partly loamy and partly moorish. Towards the foot of the hills, the soil is a light dry gravel.

*Rivers, Woods, Hills.*—The river Tay forms the west and north-west boundary of this parish, and abounds with salmon, trout, and pike. Near the west end of the parish, this river forms what is called the Linn of Campsey, by falling over a rugged basaltic dike, which crosses the water at this place, and is found to extend in a right line many miles to the east and west of the Tay. At the distance of twenty miles westward, Drummond castle stands on a similar rock, which is supposed to be a continuation of the same range. The most romantic and magnificent views on the Tay are in this parish.\* About half a mile above the village of Cargill, the river Isla runs into the Tay. The fisheries of this parish are of considerable value, those on the Tay especially, being considered second to none in the kingdom for rod-fishing.

*Minerals.*—Several quarries of freestone of an excellent quality, and good colour, have been wrought to a considerable extent. Limestone also is to be found, and might, it is said, be wrought to great advantage. Rock marl of a reddish colour is found here in great abundance. Little use has hitherto been made of it as a manure; but it is thought that it would be of service to the light moorish grounds in the upper part of the parish.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Land-owners.*—These, with their respective valuations, are as follows:

Mungo Murray, Esq. of Lintrose,	L. 166 13 4
James Wight of Lawton,	315 0 0
Lady Willoughby D'Eresby	4432 0 0
William Edmund Collins Wood, Esq. of Keithick,	150 0 0
James M. D. Nairne, Esq. of Dunsinane,	576 14 0
	<hr/>
	L. 5640 7 4

*Antiquities.*—There are several tumuli in this parish, in some of which, when opened, human bones have been found, and near them the remains of some military weapons. Druidical temples also have been discovered in different places. Near the confluence of the Tay and Isla, and exactly opposite to the ancient castle of Kinclaven on the other side of the river, are discovered plain vestiges

\* About fifty years ago an attempt was made to find coal; but after much labour, and not a little expense, the project was abandoned from want of the necessary funds.

of a Roman station, now called the Castlehill; on one side, this encampment is defended by the steep banks of the Tay; on another, by a deep ravine; a high breast-work and strong entrenchments guard it on all other sides where it was accessible. The fossæ are perfectly discernible, and the aqueduct by which they were filled from a neighbouring rivulet, is still in high preservation; but the site of this encampment is now converted into a corn-field—*Et seges est ubi Troja fuit*. In this camp, according to Bœthius, the Romans took up their winter-quarters under Tribellius, after Agricola left him, and preserved their communication with other detachments of their troops who had advanced farther into the country, towards the foot of the Grampians. Upon the top of a high rock which rises perpendicular above the Linn of Campsey, in a most romantic situation, stand the ruins of an old religious house, dependent on the Abbey of Cupar. Next to our Kings, the Hays of Errol were the principal benefactors of this monastery, and some stones picked up from the ruins still bear the arms of that family. Stobhall, a seat of the family of Perth, is situated on the banks of the Tay in this parish. It is an old fabric, most fancifully situated on a narrow tongue of high land, and seems to have been built at different times and on different plans. It has been in the possession of the family of Perth since the year 1360, when Sir John Drummond, by marrying Lady Mary, the eldest daughter and coheiress of Sir William de Montifex, Justiciar of Scotland, and head of a most ancient family, with her obtained the lands of Cargill and Stobhall, which then became the designation of the family. A Roman road or paved way runs along the high grounds in this parish, which deserves particular notice. This road, which is about twenty feet broad, and composed of rough round stones rudely laid together, can be plainly traced from Innerpeffry, through the parish of Gask, (where there is a camp,) to Duplin: from thence to Bertha, few vestiges of it can be discovered. About a quarter of a mile above Bertha, (which seems to have been a Roman station from the number of urns that have been discovered there), a ridge of stones, which extend far into the river, and a great number of large oak trees, which have been dug up there, and many of which still remain in the water, give strong appearances of a military Roman bridge over the Tay there. From thence the road is to be traced to Rome, (which probably got its name at that time), passed Sheriffstown and Innerbuist, where there is a

large camp and several tumuli, through the parish of St Martin's to Byres, keeping the ridge of the hill through the estate of Stobhall; and passing near Gallowhill, where it is very discernible, it bends its course to the Isla at Windyedge, where the remains of another military bridge are distinctly to be traced, and the houses adjacent to which are still known to the old residents by the name of Bridgend. This bridge seems to have communicated with different Roman stations which are to be seen on different places on the extensive plain on the other side of the river towards Blairgowrie, where the Romans fought a bloody battle with the united armies of the Caledonians and Picts. When this military road was made is uncertain; probably by the army at Ardoch, to preserve a communication between their different camps, and as convenient for their after marches, had they conquered the country.\* (Old Statistical Account.)

*Eminent Persons.*—The family of Drummond, which has always been ranked among the most ancient and illustrious of the Scottish nation, and who had for a long time their chief residence here, gave birth to many characters, not more distinguished by their high stations than by their personal merit; among a variety of these which might be specified, the brevity of this sketch permits only one to be mentioned. Annabella Drummond, daughter of Sir John Drummond and Lady Mary Montefix. She was a lady of the most exquisite beauty and distinguished accomplishments, and had the honour of being married to Robert III. King of Scotland, and crowned at Scone with him in the month of September 1390. She was the ornament of the Court of which she was the Queen; and her death about the year 1401, was considered and lamented as a public loss. Queen Annabella was mother to James I. King of Scotland, and from her are lineally descended all the royal race of the Stuarts.

\* Near the village of Cargill were, until lately, to be seen some erect stones of considerable magnitude, having the figure of the moon and stars cut out on them, and probably the rude remains of Pagan superstition. The corn-field where these stones stood is called the Moonshade to this day, or Moonstane Butta.

There are several round artificial little hills or conical mounds, in this parish called Laws, particularly one at Lawton, the property of James Wright, Esq. which, as it is situated in the near neighbourhood of Macbeth's Castle, on Dunsinnan hill, is said to have been the place where Macbeth dispensed laws and settled differences among his subjects.

Near the village of Gallowhill is a field called the Gallowshade, which was a place of execution under the feudal system, and in a field about a hundred yards north from the school house is a well said to have been used by the executioner for washing his hands after being engaged in his bloody work, and which still goes by the name of "Hangie's Wall."

## III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1801,	.	1585
1811,	.	1521
1821,	.	1617
1831,	.	1628
1841,	.	1641

## IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—Most of the recent agricultural improvements have been introduced into this parish. Much, however, still remains to be done. The land being generally of a cold damp bottom, thorough draining must be resorted to before thorough productiveness can be expected.

Surface contents of Stobhall estate, Scots measure: arable, 4386.02 acres; pasture, 161.16; moor, 147.17; wood, 703.02; total, 5397.37 acres.

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Villages.*—There are three large villages in the parish, viz. Burrelton, Woodside, and Wolfhill, which, according to the last census, contain the following population respectively, 485, 169, and 122, which, added together, amount to nearly half the population of the entire parish.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church of Cargill, which was erected in 1831, is a neat substantial fabric, without ornament, stands on the banks of the Tay, at the base of a sloping bank, and is unseen until close upon it. The manse stands adjacent, and is one of the most delightful parsonages in the country. The amount of the stipend is L. 224, 9s.; value of the glebe per annum, L. 14. There is a chapel at Burrelton.

*Education.*—The parochial teacher's salary is the maximum. Besides, he has L. 10 per annum from Lady Willoughby d'Eresby for teaching the poor gratis; and in addition to all, has a glebe of about three acres Scots. There are two private schools, —one at Burrelton, the other at Woodside.

*Poor.*—The average number of poor of all classes is 37. The average annual amount of church door collections for their behoof is L. 14. Besides, there is a legal assessment for their support which has been in force for three years. Total expenditure for poor last year, L. 158, 13s. 4d.

October 1843.

## PARISH OF FORTEVIOT.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. R. J. ROBERTSON, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THIS parish is composed of three widely detached portions. The middle part, in which is the village of Forteviot, in the valley of the Earn, situated on both banks of that river, is bounded on the north by Tibbermoor: on the east, by Aberdalgie on the north side of the Earn, and by Forgandenny on the south side; by Forgandenny on the south; by Gask on the west, north of the river, and by Dunning south of it. This division is the largest. A smaller portion, lying in the Ochils, is bounded on the east by Arngask; south, by Orwell; north and west, by Forgandenny. A still smaller part lies on the east of Aberdalgie, bounded by it on the west; by Dumbarrie on the east; by the Earn on the south; and by the East Parish of Perth on the north. The first and last portions are fertile, highly cultivated, and richly wooded; the other, in the Ochils, comprehends some of the distinguished summits belonging to the northern division of that well-known ridge of mountains, and is chiefly in the hands of the proprietors, small *lairds*, each farming and improving his own land.

*Rivers.*—The river Earn or Earne flows across the breadth of the parish, from west to east. It frequently overflows its banks, and is thereby the occasion of great damage to the low grounds through which it runs. The May is a rivulet that takes its origin among the Ochil-hills, at the distance of about eight miles from the Earn, into which, after a greatly variegated course, it is lost. The water and banks of the May exhibit some natural curiosities, that deservedly attract the attention of strangers. The Humble Bumble, in particular, is extremely remarkable. This name is given to a narrow course which the water has cut for itself a considerable way through a rock, the sides of which meet almost together, especially near the top. This passage is both deep and dark. A rumbling noise,

which the water makes in its passage through it, is believed to have given rise to the name by which this remarkable place is known. A little above the Humble Bumble is the Linn of Muckarsey, about thirty feet perpendicular, which, when the water is high, and comes foaming from the hills, exhibits a beautiful cascade. The banks of the May, and several other places in the parish, abound with plants not frequently to be met with, as the *Lithospermum officinale*, *Astragalus uralensis*, &c. a great many of which have been discovered by Lieutenant-Colonel Murray Belshes, brother of the proprietor of Invermay, and an eminent florist.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Antiquities.*—This parish affords not a little matter for the inquiries of the antiquary. Here, it is said, was the residence of some of the kings of the Picts in remote periods; and here King Kenneth, after the Pictish kingdom was annihilated, departed this life, as narrated in the MSS. of Melross, and Andreas Vintonius, who wrote in the time of Robert Duke of Albany.

Halyhill, near the present church, was the summer residence of Malcolm Canmore, and others of the Scottish kings, who granted many charters from this place. At certain distances from the palace were erected large stones, by way of pillars; as the *Standing-stane of Bankhead and Cross of Dronochy*. Several urns and stone-coffins, with fragments of human bones, were found some years ago in different parts of the parish. The mill of Forteviot, and the Coblehaugh, mentioned by Andrew Wyntoun, yet remain. At Coblehaugh was the boat for ferrying over the Earn. The miller's daughter was mother to Malcolm Canmore.

The Halyhill, as it is commonly called, a small eminence at the west end of Forteviot, was once the site of a royal residence, first, it would appear, of the Pictish, and afterwards of some of the Scottish kings. Here Kenneth II., having reigned in peace sixteen years, after revenging the death of his father Alpin, whom the Picts beheaded, by exterminating that people, and entirely subjugating their territory, died of a fistula. This place seems to have been a favourite residence of King Malcolm Canmore, and many charters are said to bear date from it. Near to this place, Edward Baliol encamped his army, 31st July 1332, on the Miller's Acre, immediately before the bloody battle of Duplin. There is a stone cross, quite entire, a good way up the rising ground (Bankhead) on the opposite bank of the Earn, almost straight



north from the ford by which Baliol's army crossed the river; and another on the south of Forteviot, upon a rising ground, called Dronachy, lying broken over at the pedestal, on which are many emblematical figures. About half-a-mile north from the first of these, a large tumulus or cairn was opened about thirty years ago, by the people repairing a road in the neighbourhood, and in it were found some coffins formed of rough flat stones, containing many fragments of bones, and some trinkets in various figures, of a vitrified substance and blackish colour; and, a few years ago, some urns were dug up at the west boundary of the parish, when the road was repairing between Invermay and Dunning.

The ruinous buildings on the Halyhill were visited as an object of curiosity, so late as the reign of Charles I.; but nothing now remains of these buildings, and only a part of the eminence whereon they stood, as the water of May, by undermining below, is continually washing away less or more of the rubbish. The King's Haugh, a little east from the place, still retains the name. Tradition informs us, that some houses in the neighbourhood have been built, or rebuilt, of the stones of the palace at Halyhill; and some of these are easily distinguished by the antiquated figures cut thereon, in the possession of Lord Ruthven.

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners, with their valuations, are as follows:

Lord Ruthven,	L.1233	17	0
Alexander H. M. Belshes of Invermay,	1237	9	8
Robert Niven of Whitehill of Struie,	72	19	6
Mr Robert Mitchell,	27	0	0
The Earl of Kinnoull,	2252	0	0
Sir Thomas Moncrieff of that Ilk, Bart.,	243	10	0
Thomas Condie of Pitwhanatrie's Heirs,	146	17	1
John Reid of Mains of Struie,	96	8	9
James Condie of Whitehill of Struie,	129	12	11
Laurence Oliphant of Condie,	42	6	9
William Hood of Pitwhanatrie's Heirs,	50	8	4
Alexander Stoddart of Dunkirk,	50	8	4
Robert Niven of Pitwhanatrie,	50	8	4

L.5638 6 8

*Mansion-House.*—Invermay House, the residence of the old family of Belshes, is the only mansion in the parish. It is a modern structure, plain and neat, beautifully situated on a rising ground overhanging the May (a rivulet that takes its rise among the Ochils, flows through the length of the grounds, and intersects them in its course) and commanding an extensive view of the romantic and picturesque scenery around, and of the rich vale of the winding Earn. The walls of the ivy-clad tower, all that re-

mains of the ancient residence, now bearing all the marks of a complete ruin, although a few of the apartments are still entire, contrast strikingly with the light and handsome appearance of the modern building very near it. About a mile above the house, near the banks of the May, is the burying-place of the family, called the "Chapel of Muckersey." In former times, it was used as the church of Muckersey before the union of that parish with the parish of Forteviot. The approach to it is tastefully formed, lined on each side with fine trees, and well kept. The whole policy of Invermay, in addition to the beauties of nature, is laid out with such exquisite taste, and kept in such excellent order, that it is a great attraction to all strangers, and especially to those at Pitcaithly Wells, who are once a-week permitted to visit this delightful spot.

*Parochial Registers.*—There is a register of births, commencing in 1710; and, excepting a blank from 1713 to 1720, it has been regularly kept from that time to the present.

### III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1801,	.	786
1811,	.	835
1821,	.	797
1831,	.	624
1841,	.	638

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—Draining is now carried on to a very considerable extent, and is evidently producing great improvement in agriculture. The whole of the lands in the lower parts of the parish are well farmed. The farms are large, and the farmers are men of capital. Among the farm-servants, the bothy system universally prevails, and is attended here, as everywhere, with a demoralizing effect.

### IV.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The stipend amounts to L.244, 9s. 9d., and the annual value of the glebe is L. 6, 15s. The manse was built about twenty years ago, and is in excellent condition.

*Education.*—The salary of the parochial teacher is L.34, 4s. 4d., and in lieu of a garden he has L. 2, 2s. 9d. He has also L.3 as session-clerk, and L.2, 2s. as heritors' clerk.

*Poor.*—Average number of poor of all classes, 18. Average yearly amount of church collections for their behoof, L.20; of other voluntary contributions, L. 27; of mortifications, L.4, 10s.

# PARISH OF BENDOCHEY.

PRESBYTERY OF MEIGLE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNS.

THE REV. J. S. BARTY, MINISTER.

## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name of this parish has been written variously. In the parochial registers the following different spellings occur: In 1642, Bendochie; in 1692, the same; in 1704, Bennathie; in 1731, Bendochie; in 1760, Bendochy. On the communion cups the inscription is Bendothy, A. D. 1786. This last spelling is clearly unwarrantable, and without authority, as far as can be discovered, and apparently has been adopted from a mistaken reading of Bendochy, which is so written in the parish records sometimes as to resemble Bendothy. Bennethy or Benathy best “expresses the vulgar pronunciation at the place, and also the etymology Nether-Hill,” (Old Statistical Account.) In this latter remark I cannot agree with my predecessor. I do not believe that there can be any good precedent for such a *hybrid*, such a compound of Gaelic and Saxon, as the conjecture of the former statist supposes; while the existence of two hills implied in the etymology seems in a great measure imaginary. Bendochie appears the most ancient and correct spelling; but it has been found very difficult to ascertain the true import of the name, arising from the great uncertainty of Gaelic etymology. The curious in such matters are referred to a note below.\*

\* An ingenious and learned friend writes me as follows: “I suppose the name to be a compound of three Gaelic syllables, Ben, a *hill*, do, a verbal particle prefixed to the preterite or future, and chi, the future of the verb *to see*. Ben-do-chi, *the hill of the good prospect*.” The rising ground on the southern base of which the church and manse stand is midway betwixt the Sidlaw (Southlaw) and Grampian ranges, and equidistant from Forfar and Perth, the limits of Strathmore proper. The view from it is extensive, varied, and beautiful. “It would with the same meaning,” adds my correspondent, “admit of being written Ben-a-chi, or Ben-a-thi.” This is fortunate, giving authority for the supposed vulgar pronunciation of the natives, and meeting to some extent the predilections of my predecessor for “Benathie.” But what is to be done with “Bendothy,” the spelling on the communion cups, and retained by the writer of the former account? Here is the solution—“*Ta* is old Gaelic for water, *The Toy* is water *par excellence*. Ben-do or da-tha would be *the hill of two waters*.” “*Do* or *da* means two, and *tha* would be the objective case of *Ta*.” The rising ground

*Extent, Divisions, &c.*—This parish lies towards the eastern boundary of Perthshire, and the church stands in north latitude  $56^{\circ} 33'$ , and longitude  $5'$  from Edinburgh, being two miles from Coupar-Angus, nearly fifteen miles from Perth, and seventeen from Dundee. As an approximation to the truth it may be stated, that the whole extent of the parish is in imperial acres 10,000, in square miles 16. The length of that part of the parish which is contiguous is about 7 miles, and its greatest breadth about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles. The parish consists of two great divisions, the highland and lowland, and each of these again admits of a very natural subdivision.

The lowland part of the parish is divided into two nearly equal parts by the river Ericht. That portion lying west of the Ericht, (in which the church, manse, and school-house are situated,) is separated from the parish of Coupar-Angus on the south by the river Isla, with the exception of a small slip of land belonging to the estates of Bendochy and Mudhall, which is on the south of the Isla; while on the north and west it is bounded by the parish of Blairgowrie. It consists chiefly of a ridge sloping gradually upon the one side towards the Isla, and on the other towards the Monk Mire. Its greatest height may be 90 feet above the level of the Isla, and 190 above the level of the sea. The summit and sides of this rising ground are varied by gentle undulations, and there is a good deal of perfectly level ground along the banks of the Isla, and towards the confluence of the Ericht and Isla. The other part of the lowland division of the parish lying eastward of the Ericht, after stretching out into a level haugh from the banks of the Ericht and Isla, rises with a gradual ascent, and finally forms a part of the frontier of the Grampians. The highest part of this ridge may be 800 feet above the level of the sea. It is bounded on the east and north, by the parish of Alyth; on the west, by Rattray; and on the south the Isla flows betwixt it and the parish of Coupar-Angus.

Betwixt the Highland and lowland divisions of the parish, the two parishes of Rattray and Blairgowrie intervene; and that part of the Highland division which is nearest to the parish church is about eight miles distant, while its remotest point is upwards of thirteen miles off. The Highland division is bisected by a small portion of the parish of Blairgowrie. It is thus not only widely

(why called a hill I know not) is bounded on the north by the Monk Mire, and on the south by the Isla; or the church is on the base of the eminence, bounded on two sides by the Isla and Ericht. Select for yourself, reader, and acknowledge with thankfulness the plastic powers of Gaelic etymology!

separated from the lowland division, but consists itself of two distinct parts. The western portion of this part of the parish lies in the angle of confluence between the Ardle and Blackwater. The Ardle separates it on the south from the parishes of Blairgowrie and Kinloch; and the Blackwater, on the east and north, from the parishes of Blairgowrie and Alyth. On the west, it is bounded by the parish of Kirkmichael; and on the north-west, by a small dissevered portion of Caputh parish. It consists of an elevated ridge, ascending more or less abruptly from the banks of the two rivers, and having its northern terminus in the hill of Persie, the highest locality in the parish, being probably 1400 feet above the level of the sea. On the banks of the Ardle at Cally, there is some arable soil. The arable portion on the Blackwater is chiefly the elevated flat at Persie, which is considerably higher than that on the Ardle; and, from this cause, and the character of the sub-soil, the crops are considerably later there than at Cally. The valley of the Ardle (Strathardle) runs nearly due east, while that of the Blackwater, with its parallel ridge, comprising this portion of the parish, runs nearly due south. The other portion of the Highland division of the parish, *and which is not marked in the map of Perthshire in this work*, being the estate of Drimmie, is a large shoulder of hilly ground, composed of two parallel wavy ridges. It lies on the left bank of the Ericht, being the united waters of the Ardle and Blackwater, and about half a mile below their junction; and it is embraced on the south and west, by the parish of Blairgowrie; and on the east and north, by the parishes of Rattray and Alyth.

*Meteorology.*—I regret that I have taken no observations with the barometer or thermometer with such care and regularity as to be worth recording. It may be mentioned, that in the severe winter of 1837–8, the mercury in the thermometer stood as low here, perhaps, as in any district in Scotland. On the 3d of February, at 8 o'clock A. M., it stood at zero. On Thursday the 15th, a memorably cold day, it ranged from from 8° to 5° below zero betwixt six and eight o'clock A. M. On the morning of that day, water spilt in a bed-room, in which there had been constant fire night and day for ten days previously, almost instantly congealed. The effects of the long-continued intensity of the cold were remarkable. Partridges became so enfeebled as scarcely to be able to fly; and wood-pigeons, which had become very numerous and very troublesome to the farmer, were all but exterminated. I saw

them shot at, as they were feeding upon the tops of the turnips, and though some of them fell dead, others beside them kept their position unscared, so completely had the rigors of the season altered the nature of this shy and chary bird. On the vegetable world, the effects of the cold were even more remarkable. Laurels and bays, of twenty years' standing, were cut to the ground. The *Laurus nobilis*, *arbutus*, and *Laurestinus* were killed. The native holly and common whin, in very many cases, were destroyed. There have been as severe winters which were followed by no such effects; nor is it to the intensity of the cold alone that the whole destruction is to be ascribed. Up to the beginning of January, the weather had been unusually genial and warm. On the 8th of January, a sudden and decisive change took place. At that time, the trees were perhaps as far advanced as they generally are in March. The sudden transition was fatal. The violent expansion caused by the intense frost burst the tender vesicles containing the sap, and vegetable life was destroyed. Plants in warm and sheltered situations, being more forward, were injured most; and in more elevated and exposed localities, evergreens suffered less, not probably because the season there was less severe, but because, being later, they were better prepared for enduring it. As a counterpart to the severe winter of 1838, and as by far the most remarkable season that has occurred since the last Statistical Account was written, the extremely hot and dry season of 1826 may be mentioned. That year, the harvest commenced on the 14th of July, and finished with the month.

The antagonist winds are the west and east, and the lie of the trees seems to indicate that the former prevails. The east wind is generally accompanied with rain, except in the spring months. In the months of March and October, we have generally two or three days of a strong dry gale from the north. In a wet harvest, a breeze off Loch Brandy, (due north), goes through stack and stook, and cheers the farmer's heart.

From the difference of elevation and geographical position, the climate, as might be expected, is various. The climate of the lower part of the parish where the manse is situated, is probably as good as any in Scotland. The incessant rains which deluge the western shores of the island are unknown here, while, on the other hand, the cold eastern winds are broken and modified by the intervening barrier of the Sidlaw hills. The eastern *haars*, so annoying to the invalid, seldom penetrate into our comparatively

inland position. We observe them filling the opposite valleys in the Sidlaw range, and pausing there as if their commission went no farther. Nature, however, confers her boons with no indiscriminate hand, and it must be mentioned, what might be expected, that the hoar frosts are at once more frequent and copious here than in the more elevated parts of the parish. This, however, is the only meteorological advantage enjoyed by the Highland part of the parish, and forms a poor compensation for a longer winter, a colder spring, and a later harvest. Indeed, the northern parts of the parish are only a little removed from that truly Highland region, where scattered patches of potatoes and bear in the midst of surrounding barrenness, too plainly mark that man is struggling with a sterile soil, and a deteriorated climate.

There are no diseases peculiar to the climate.

*Hydrography.*—The Isla bounding the lower part of the parish on the south, runs with an insensible fall, and the stranger who sees it meandering gently and harmlessly “at its own sweet will,” through the vale in summer weather.

— — — In many a winding bout,  
Of linked sweetness long drawn out,

can scarcely imagine the altered form it assumes when autumnal rains or the melting snows of winter have roused the genius of the stream. At high floods, it rises thirteen or fourteen feet above its summer level. In 1774, it rose to within six inches of the top of the lowest arch at the bridge of Coultie, and on one occasion I saw it oozing over the top of the church-yard dike into the burying ground. Below the church it is seventy-five yards broad, and at the ford there (by which there is a right of road to Coupar-Angus,) is, in summer, three feet in depth. The Isla takes its rise in the Grampians, and runs south-east with a rapid current, until it is joined by the Dean from the Loch of Forfar, about seven miles to the east of this, after which its direction is south-west to the Tay, into which it falls at Kinclaven. The river Ericht, bisecting the lowland part of the parish, debouches fiercely from the Grampians, and runs in a rapid and straight forward course until it reaches the middle of the great strath, where it falls into the Isla about one and a-half mile east of the church. It well merits its old name, “ireful Ericht,” and although it loses its name the instant it joins the Isla, it nevertheless communicates to that river something of its own character, turning the torpid Isla into a brisk stream, and imbedding its channel for some way with gravel, of

which, above their junction, the Isla for miles is altogether destitute. After rains, the Ericht rises and subsides much more rapidly than the Isla. The Ericht is composed of the united streams of the Blackwater and Ardle, which, as has been mentioned, bound on two sides one division of the Highland district of the parish. The Monk Mire may be about a mile in circumference. Its size was diminished by a drain taken from it to the Ericht, for the purpose of facilitating the removal of the marl which it contained. The marl is supposed now to be exhausted. There are several chalybeate springs in the parish, particularly a very fine one in Persie hill, the healing virtue of whose waters it is said drew at one time pilgrims to it from afar.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—This parish includes in its geology rocks of the primitive, transition, and secondary series. In the lower part of the parish, we have the sandstone of that gray colour which is supposed to be of an earlier formation than the red sandstone. It is wrought at the hill of Couttie and Coupar-Grange, and in the quarries there no vegetable or animal impressions have been noticed. At Pictfield the sandstone is red, and a little farther up, at the hill of St Phink, it passes into conglomerate. Below the house of St Phink, a dike of trap appears in juxtaposition with red sandstone. At Drimmie, the bed of transition clay-slate which crosses the island makes its appearance, and was at one time partially wrought. In the same neighbourhood, a seam of Fuller's earth is to be found, and has been used for cleansing purposes. The rocks at Persie belong to the primitive class. Erratic blocks of gneiss, mica-slate, granite, &c. are found throughout the parish, and are gradually undergoing a second transportation to dikes and cottage walls. Limestone is not found in the parish, but in its vicinity near Persie and Tullyfergus.

The low haughs on the estates of Bendochy, Coupar-Grange, and the Grange are evidently transported soils, being the alluvial deposit of a former era. In many places, they are of a clayey nature, but in them all at a certain depth, there is a substratum of sand keeping them dry, and rendering them capable of imbibing with impunity more moisture than much shallower soils. The ascending fields rest on a basis of red clay (mortar), keeping them wet, when not thoroughly drained,—and in some parts on gravel, and in the latter case, when there is sufficient depth of soil, the ground is extremely early and fertile. The lands of the Grange



are of a tenacious whitish clay, generally incumbent on sand, and retain marks of old tracts of the Ericht.

*Zoology.*—There is nothing very peculiar or interesting in the zoology of this parish. Among the rarer species of birds may be mentioned the *Muscicapa grisola*, the fly-catcher. A pair of these built, for many successive seasons, in the cleft of a weeping birch, immediately before the manse. A felonious squirrel plundered their nest three years ago, when they shifted their quarters to a jargonelle pear tree on the end of the manse. This bird has increased very much within these last fifteen years, and perhaps twenty pairs of them now may be found scattered throughout the warmer localities in Strathmore. It is the latest of all our summer migrants, and is singularly punctual to its time, having arrived for many years on the 31st of May. On the morning of that day, I now infallibly expect to be greeted by the appearance of this gentle mannered bird. The *Haematopus ostralegus*, the oyster-catcher, builds regularly on the gravelly banks of the Ericht, and yet ornithologists\* say, that “this bird is never found inland.” I observe that Dr Fleming, in his *British Animals*, notices the error. We have flocks of *Sturnus vulgaris*, the starling, in autumn and winter, but a pair or two of these birds have for two or three seasons built in the cavities of some elm trees at Coupar-Grange. The *Parus caudatus*, the long-tailed titmouse, builds near the Strone of Cally, and the parents, with their brood, generally a numerous one, keeping together until next spring, may be seen during autumn and winter flitting from tree to tree,—a happy family party. The *Fringilla spinus*, the siskin, is a frequent winter visitant, and I have noticed a distinctly marked variety of this bird. The *Loxia curvirostra*, the cross-bill, has of late years been frequent in our pine woods, and I have reason to suppose that they breed sometimes with us. The *Regulus cristatus*, the golden-crested wren, abounds in our woods, although at one time apparently rare. The *Alcedo ispida*, the kingfisher, is seen occasionally on the banks of our rivers, dazzling the patient angler with the brilliancy of its plumage. The *Fringilla montifringilla*, common. *Emberiza nivalis*, rare. *Mergus merganser*, frequent, and as stragglers may be mentioned, the *Podiceps cristatus*, and *rubricollis*, *Anaer ferus*, *Cygnus ferus*, and *Alca Torda*. Partridge and pheasant are found, the former abundantly, and in the Highland part

\* See Bewick, and Wilson's *American Ornithology*, edited by Professor Jameson.

of the parish, grouse and blackcock. In the hill of Persie, the *Turdus torquatus*, the mountain ouzel, builds. The mountain ouzel, and the spotted flycatcher, I consider our ornithological extremes, and the fact of their being found in the parish may indicate its variety of climate and altitude above the level of the sea, to the attentive student of ornithology.

The fox, badger, otter, weasel, ermine, foomart, and squirrel are found in the parish, and rarely the *Felis sylvestris*, or wild cat. The mole is nearly extirpated, but in its place another "miner of the soil," the rabbit, has made its appearance, and is multiplying rapidly. The common hare abounds, and sometimes the *Lepus variabilis*, alpine hare, is to be met with in the Highland part of the parish. The roe (*Cervus capreolus*) is frequent in the plantations on Persie hill where it breeds, and in the same neighbourhood occasionally in the winter season, a red deer, (*Cervus Elaphus*), that has wandered from the herds of Caenlochan.

In the Isla and Ericht the *Salmo Salar*, the common salmon, is found in considerable abundance; the *Salmo Trutta* and *Eriox* more sparingly. New light has been lately shed on the natural history of the Salmonidæ by the discoveries of Shaw and Young, and the ichthyologists will require to alter their terminology to meet the new facts that have been elicited. The par, long of doubtful extraction, seems now, as the precursor of the samlet, to merit the protection of an act of Parliament. The *Salmo Trutta* and the *S. Eriox* frequent our streams, but not in great numbers. The common trout, pike, perch, and eel are found in our rivers, and very rarely the *Petromyzon fluviatilis*, the river lamprey, and *Platessa flesus*, or flounder.

*Botany.*—I have examined with much care the phænogamous botany of this parish, and believe that the following catalogue contains almost every plant found in it, of interest to the botanical collector. From its geological features, from its variety of climate and altitude above the level of the sea, the botanist will infer that its flora must necessarily be various and extensive. If he will add to it the adjoining parish of Coupar Angus, (in which five or six plants occur not found in this parish,) he will have the botany of a section of country extending from the base of the Sidlaws, across the valley of Strathmore, and over the first tier of the Grampian range. It may be considered important, as embracing the vegetation of a large central district in Strathmore, the botanical treasures of which have, as far as I know, never been recorded. In

drawing up his catalogue of Angus-shire plants, Don's researches do not seem to have extended so far westward. To the east of this his practised eye has left little to be discovered by future observers. I give the plants not in Linnean order, but as the botanist would find them, were he to perambulate this parish, beginning at its western extremity. At Hill of Couttie, near the boundary of the parish, the *Hieracium sylvaticum*, a rare plant in Strathmore; and in the fields on the same farm, the *Dianthus deltoides*. On the arable gravelly soil at Mayriggs, *Teesdalia nudicaulis* and *Cerastium arvense*; and on the moorish pastures the *Vicia angustifolia* and *Astragalus hypoglottis*. Along the margin of the Monk Mire, the *Radiola millegrana*, *Bidens cernua*, and *Saxifraga aizoides*. Botanists seem to have supposed that this latter plant was to be found exclusively in subalpine regions. The Monk Mire is not probably above 150 feet above the level of the sea. No Alpine stream runs into it, and yet this saxifrage grows in great abundance on its western shore, flowering a month earlier than in the Highland part of the parish. The *Epilobium hirsutum* grows in the drain leading from the Monk Mire, and is by no means common in this quarter. In the dry fields about the mause the *Ornithopus perpusillus* is very abundant, and very fine. In the churchyard the *Hyoscyamus niger* occasionally appears. In ditches on the farm of Knowhead, *Lythrum Salicuria*; and in the fields on that farm, *Lepidium campestre* and *Smithii*. Along the banks of the Isla I have gathered the *Aira cæspitosa* in a viviparous state. In the Isla the predominant pond-weed is the *Potamogeton perfoliatum*, and on its banks the *Scirpus sylvaticus* grows. About Coupar-Grange, the *Barbarea vulgaris*; at Ryehill, the *Chelidonium majus*. On the banks of the Ericht, the *Trollius Euro-pæus*, *Silene maritima*, and *Chrysosplenium alternifolium*. Likewise the *Galium boreale*. I have found this plant, however, in the neighbourhood not near any river, and in other similar localities, and am convinced that it does not possess that exclusively alpine character which the books give it. In the island below the Boat pool, the *Veronica montana*, *Adoxa moschatellina*, *Stellaria nemorum*, and *Campanula latifolia* grow. On the road sides, above Cotyards, there is a patch of the *Galium erectum*; at Greymount, *Smyrniolum Olusatrum*; and at Hill of St Phink, *Pyrola minor*, and *Trientalis Europæa*, very large and fine. In the Highland part of the parish the vegetation is of a subalpine type, the *Alchemilla alpina*, *Viola lutea*, *Meum athamanticum*, *Sesleria cærulea*, *Poly-*

*gonum viviparum*, and several of the upland carices appearing in the pastures. The *Hippuris vulgaris* is found in a small pool on the left hand of the road leading to Kirkmichael. The marsh has been drained, and the plant is rapidly disappearing. The *Habenaria viridis* grows sparingly on the pastures east of the Strone, and *H. albida* plentifully there and elsewhere. In the same locality the *H. bifolia* is abundant, and the variety *H. chlorantha* (see Transactions of Botanical Society, Edinburgh.) Entering on the left bank of the river at Bridge of Cally, the *Primula elatior* and *veris* will be found in great plenty: and on the bank of the Blackwater, that very rare and elegant plant the *Convallaria-verticillata*,\* which I discovered seven years ago. It is to be found, I believe, in only three other stations in Britain. Some straggling plants of it may also be seen above the bridge of Strone, where the collector may likewise gather the *Vicia sylvatica*, the *Circea lutetiana*, and *alpina*, the *Melampyrum pratense* and *sylvaticum*, the *Melica nutans* and *uniflora*, and the *Listera ovata*. On knolls, at the base of Persie Hill, the *Listera cordata* may be seen along with the *Pyrola media*; and near the top of the hill I once gathered some plants, of what I convinced myself at the time was the *Pyrola rotundifolia*. On dry rocks at Drimmie, *Myosotis collina*; and on the banks of the Ericht there are the *Epilobium angustifolium* and *Festuca elatior*. I have gathered in the parish also the *Festuca bromoides*, *Bromus secalinus*, and the *Lolium temulentum*, and the *Prunella vulgaris*, *Veronica serpyllifolia*, and *Pedicularis palustris*, with white flowers. It is important to add, that some plants having a very general distribution are not to be found in the parish or district, such as the *Lamium album* and *Bromus sterilis*, while others, of which some localities seem all but destitute, abound, such as the *Sedum Telephium*. On the banks of our rivers (as is always the case) plants occasionally may be picked up not indigenous to the soil,—such as on the Ericht, the *Oxyria reniformis*, evidently a migrant from a more elevated region, and

\* It is with some hesitation that we have mentioned the habitat of this interesting plant; and we hope that the young gentlemen who issue every autumn from our seats of learning will use their botanical trowels tenderly, when they visit the banks of the Blackwater. At the original station in the Den of Rechip this plant is all but extirpated. The reason of its disappearance is no mystery. The country is annually overrun with hordes of herborizers from the south and west, who, instead of contenting themselves with a specimen, root up, without remorse, the rarest treasures, leaving, locust like, nothing for those who succeed them. We implore our learned friend, the Professor of Botany at Glasgow, to restrain the herbivorous appetites of the rising generation. If matters proceed at the rate they have been doing for some time past, nothing but docks and nettles will be left in the land.

transported from its alpine home by the torrents of winter. I have made some progress in ascertaining the Cryptogamic plants of the parish, but will content myself with stating that, of sixteen Filices identified, the *Botrychium lunaria* grows in the moorish pastures around the Monk Mire, and that the *Cryptogramma crista* occurs in three several stations, viz. among loose rocks on Persie Hill, out of the dike on the road side, a mile south of Persie church, and in a similar locality at Hill of St Phink. Of the Fungi, it may be mentioned that an exceedingly minute one appeared on the corns in 1835 when ripe, completely blackening them, alarming the farmer, but, as it turned out, quite unnecessarily. It seemed to be the *Cladosporium herbarum*. As a contrast to the above, it may be added that, in 1836, I found below the manse a specimen of the *Bovista gigantea*, measuring 4 feet 8 inches in circumference, and 1 foot 8 inches in diameter. This enormous specimen equals those mentioned by the French botanist, Bulliard.—(See his *Herbier de la France*.)

#### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

I know of no ancient or modern account of the history of this parish, saving that in the Old Statistical Account, which is a valuable and interesting paper. The notices of the parish in gazetteers, &c. are very inaccurate.

*Eminent Characters.*—The Right Honourable Lord Wharnccliffe, Lord President of the Privy Council, the proprietor of Bendochy, deserves to be noticed here, although his seat, Belmont Castle, is in the parish of Meigle. He is as much beloved by his tenantry for his liberality and kindness, as he is respected by the nation for his patriotic labours in the Senate.

The late Principal Playfair of St Andrews, author of the *Chronology*, &c., was a native of the parish; and likewise the Rev. J. Playfair, the writer of the former *Statistical Account*, who was an ingenious man. He had a large apiary, and had studied with great care the natural history of the bee. He drew up some account of his discoveries, and remitted it to London for publication. It fell into the hands of a piratical bookseller, who, it is understood, turned it to some account for his own behoof. Mr Playfair's successor, the Rev. J. Honey, was remarkable for his gigantic stature and immense strength, and for his daring and heroic feat at St Andrews, when a very young man, in rescuing from a watery grave five shipwrecked mariners, at the imminent hazard of his own life.

*Chief Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, Patriek Murray, Esq. of Simprim; Lord Wharnclyffe; George Kinloch, Esq. of Kinloch; Sir James Ramsay, Bart. of Bamff; and Colonel W. Macdonald of Powderhall.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers are contained in seven volumes. The earliest date of the baptism register is 23d January 1642. It has been regularly kept, with the exception of a blank from 12th May 1695, to 29th December 1700. The proceedings of session commence with 11th September 1692, and are continued regularly to this date, with the exception of some omissions in the end of last century, and beginning of this. The marriage register begins in 1700, and the record of proclamation of banns has been regularly kept. There is no register of deaths. The minutes of session in the end of the seventeenth, and more especially during the beginning of the eighteenth century, give curious proof of the rigid discipline, and somewhat inquisitorial surveillance exercised by the ecclesiastical guardians of the people in those days. The following selections throw light on the history of the period. Regarding one offender, “the session thouyat fitt to bring him in sackcloth, and cause him acknowledge his guilt on his knees.” And regarding another, she appears for the twentieth time before the congregation on the stool of repentance. Again, T. B. “being examined anent what was alleged anent his striking Thomas Craigie (a boy) on the Sabbath day, answered that the said Thomas threw in a stone among the children, and that he went out and only shot him over, he being removed, the members after discoursing of it, thought fitt to dismiss him with the session rebook.” Again, the laird of —— having been cited, appeared, and being asked whether he did “scandalously go out on the fast day with his gun,” answered, “that he went out only to fleg the tod from his sheep.” He was dismissed with the session rebuke. It would seem that some of the elders were appointed occasionally to perambulate the parish during the time of divine service, for the purpose of discovering who were absent from public worship, and how they were occupied. Notwithstanding such vigilance, the records contain melancholy proof, that, in this parish at least, these were not “the purest times” of the church. The limits of civil and ecclesiastical jurisdiction seem, at this period, not to have been much better understood than now. Thus, “received from G. B. 2 lib. 9sh., with other 2 lib. paid by him before to the session, is accepted as sa-

tisfaction for his daughter's resiling from purpose of marriage with one A. B., after the publication of the banns." An assault, in 1721, of a very extraordinary nature, having been committed on the person of a servant by his master, the case was taken up by the civil magistrate. The master, however, was cited before the session. He appeared and gave in a paper, which he called "a declinator," having in company with him Mr Charles Hay, writer in Cupar. The declining their jurisdiction seems greatly to have provoked the session, and, "having considered the whole matter, the insolent carriage of the said W. R., in presuming to decline this judicatory, his bringing in a public notar on the Lord's day," &c., "they did and hereby do refer the samen to the reverend presbytery of Miggle to determine therein, in such a way as may either make the said W. R. obsequious to discipline, or bring him under ecclesiastical censure," &c. It is not recorded whether the presbytery rendered the said W. R. "obsequious." "There is nothing new," saith the wise man, "under the sun."

*Antiquities.*—Very nearly the whole of this parish was abbey lands, and the property of the ecclesiastics belonging to the abbacy at Coupar-Angus. The fact is well known, and the names of many places indicate to this day, the connection betwixt this parish and the religious house at Coupar-Angus. Thus we have Monk Mire, Monk Callie, the Abbey Mill of Blacklaw, to which the adjacent lands were thirled, after a most grinding fashion, and to be relieved from which bondage the proprietors have lately paid large sums. There was anciently a chapel at St Phink, dedicated to that saint, a small part of the foundation of which still remains. It had been surrounded with a burying-ground, out of which the present proprietor's father dug some human skulls, inclosed between four square stones. Below a cairn he found human bones partially burned, and below these again two rudely sculptured urns inverted, with human bones in a state of perfect preservation. Very lately, near the chapel, there were discovered some singular looking bottles, nearly globular, likewise inverted. On the neighbouring property of Blacklaw, at Pictfield, there were also cairns; and not far off, a bronzed battle-axe and spear-head were found. At Monk Callie, it is understood that there was a small religious establishment attached to the abbey at Coupar-Angus. There is a small burying-ground there, and it is still used as such. Tradition says that the soil of this burying-ground had been at one time sifted, and freed from stones. There is no trace of the sub-

terranean buildings at Mudhall, described in the former Account as Pictish buildings, and which, it is remarked, answered to Tacitus' description of the buildings of the Germans. "They dig caves in the earth, where they lay up their grain, and live in winter." (De Mer. Germ. c. 16.) My predecessor adds with characteristic *naïveté*: "If people were obliged again to creep into a hole, they would know the value of good government by the want of it." There are two of those eminences, partly artificial, which are generally denominated *Laws*,—one at Blacklaw, and another near the Bridge of Couttie. Some suppose, that, in the olden time, these were the seats of justice, whence law, rude and simple as themselves, was dispensed to the lieges. Others incline to the opinion, that they were used as telegraphs; and derive the name not from the Anglo-Saxon *hlawe*, (*agger*,) but from the Swedish *loa* or *lue* (hence our *low*), a flame. The walls of the church are understood to be very old. The pulpit is curious, being carved of oak, resembling John Knox's pulpit at St Andrews, and evidently of the same era. There is a monumental stone in the back wall of the church to the memory of Nicol Campbell of Keithock, (son of Donald, Abbot of Coupar, and grandson of the Earl of Argyle), who died 1587, aged seventy. Another, in the west passage, (the inscription on which will soon be obliterated), to David Campbell of Denhead, the brother of Nicol Campbell. There are two other stones on the wall of the church,—one to the memory of Leonard Leslie, entitled *Dominus de Cupro*, commendator of Coupar, who died 1605, aged eighty-one; and another representing a John Cummin of Couttie in this parish, dressed in a coat of mail, and standing on a dog; the date 1606.

### III.—POPULATION.

The return to Dr Webster was	.	1293
In Old Statistical Account 1796,	.	878
Census,		
	1801,	860
	1811,	748
	1821,	760
	1831,	780
	1841,	783

In 1841, there were of males, 376; and of females, 407; and of distinct families, 142; inhabited houses, 136; the average number of births for the last seven years has been 13; and of marriages rather more than seven. There is one insane person; one blind; none deaf or dumb.

There are 21 proprietors of land of the yearly value of L.50 or upwards.



The enlargement of the farms has caused the decrease of the population. The lands of Coupar-Grange, for instance, were at one time in the hands of twelve proprietors. At a subsequent period, they were farmed by as many or more tenants, and around each farm-house were clustered the retainers and servants. At this time there were fifty families in Coupar Grange; and I understand it then had its carrier, its brewer, and its seller of small wares. The land now, with a small exception, belongs to one proprietor. It is farmed by four tenants, and two bothies and eight cot-houses contain the population. At Blacklaw and hills of Bendochy, there was, at one time, a considerable population, which has disappeared from the same cause. The slight increase that took place after 1811 was probably owing to the division of the common at Hill of St Phink, and the consequent building of cottages that took place in that quarter.

*Character, &c. of the People.*—There are no popular customs or amusements peculiar to the parish. There is a small curling club in the parish instituted not only “for the purpose (as its laws bear) of joining in an innocent and interesting amusement, but also for cherishing feelings of kindness and of friendship towards one another.”

There has undoubtedly been a vast addition made to the comforts and advantages of the people since the former Statistical Account was written. Their houses are far more comfortable, and their habits more cleanly. Their food is more varied, and their clothing cheaper and more tasteful. “The common people live on oatmeal pottage twice a-day. It is the most wholesome and palatable of all their food, being purely vegetable, notwithstanding the reflection in Johnson’s Dictionary, that ‘Oats are eaten by horses in England, and in Scotland by men.’ Such food makes men strong like horses, and purges the brain of pedantry.” (Old Statistical Account.) This is better than the remark of (I think) Lord Lyttleton, “Yes, and where will you find such men and such horses.” There are now more potatoes, more wheaten bread, and more animal food used by the peasantry. Each cottar feeds one pig, many two, in the year; and the majority of them have a cow.

The illicit distillation of whisky has totally ceased, although, at one time, in the district of Galahill, there flourished a daring set of contrabandists, who lived in wild freedom, and laughed at the restraints of the law. The morality and comfort of the people in that quarter have alike improved since the practice of smuggling

was put down. The establishment of a water police has stopped the midnight amusement of black-fishing, although some of the older inhabitants continue to believe in the medicinal virtues of fowl fish. They are a sovereign cure for rheumatism and sundry other ailments.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

With a fractional exception, the whole of the people are more or less engaged in the occupations of husbandry, the parish being purely an agricultural one. Those who are engaged weaving in the winter months, relinquish their looms during summer and autumn. There may be twenty families, however, who, during the greater part of the year, are employed in weaving linen yarn sent from Dundee, the great mart of our linen manufactures. The two following tables contain a great mass of statistical information, not only regarding the present agricultural state of the parish, but regarding its agricultural condition fifty years ago.

##### Wages, &c. 1843.

Ploughman's average wages per annum, 6½ bolls oatmeal, 1 Scotch pint sweet milk, and L. 12.  
 Woman's wages with board per annum, L. 6.  
 Day-labourer with food in summer, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. In winter, 1s. to 1s. 3d.  
 Day-labourer without food in summer, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.  
 Wright, smith, or mason per day, 2s. 2d.  
 Rent of labourer's cottage and garden per annum, L. 2  
 Price of new cart, L. 10.  
     harness for do. L. 3, 10s.  
     new plough, wood, L. 3.  
 Iron plough, (almost invariably used) L. 3 to L. 4.  
 Harrow, 10s.  
 Fat ox 50 stones imperial, L. 17.

Load of manure from Coupar-Angus, 6s.

From the note on the other side, it would seem that on the average there is not much difference betwixt the weight and price of grain (see Perth fairs of last year) now, and at the period referred to in the former Statistical Account. On the farm of Coupar Grange Mr Archer last year had oats, 46 lbs.; barley, 59½ lbs.; and wheat, 65 lbs. per imperial bushel. But these are reckoned great weights. On the other hand, it appears that there is a greater average number of bolls per acre grown now than formerly—the best proof of an improved system of husbandry.

##### Wages, &c. 1796, from Old Statistical Account.

Ploughman's wages with board per annum, L. 10.  
 Woman's wages with board per annum, L. 4.  
 Day labourer with food, 8d. to 10d.  
 Wright, smith, or mason per day, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d.  
 Price of new cart, L. 6.  
     harness for do. L. 2, 10s.  
     new plough, L. 2.

New harrow, 7s.

Fat ox 40 stone meal weight, equal to 50 stone imperial, L. 10.

Load of manure from Coupar-Angus, 2s.

N. B. The average produce per acre is given in former Statistical Account thus, wheat, 8 bolls; oats or bear, 5 bolls. The weight of grain thus, oats, 12 or 13 stone;\* the latter, equal to 39 lbs. imperial per bushel; barley, 18 stone equal to 54 lbs. imperial bushels; wheat, 14 stone equal to 60 lbs. imperial bushel. The average price of wheat, L. 1 per boll; oatmeal, 13s. 4d. per boll; bear, 14s. to 15s. per boll. The price of cheese and butter much the same as now.

\* A stone equal to 17 lbs. 6 ounces English Avoirdupois.

Proprietors' Names.	Name of Property.	Acres wood.	Acres arable land.	Pa- ture.	Total No. of acres.	Total real rent of arable land.	Average per acre.	Valued rent.	Real rent in old Stat. Act. that is, in 1786.
Pat. Murray, Esq. of Simprim	Coupar Grange	70.071	967.064	—	1067.185	L.1849 14 8	L.1 7 0 <sup>†</sup>	L.1411 12 6	1.651 0 0 <sup>‡</sup>
Lord Wharnclyffe	Bendochy.	48.106	774.989	—	823.097	985 14 8	1 4 2 <sup>†</sup>	958 0 0	358 0 0
James Whitson, Esq.	Mudhall & Draffin,	—	109	21	130	221 0 0	2 0 6 <sup>†</sup>	125 6 8	71 0 0
W. F. Macdonald, Esq. of St. Martins	Grange,	50	211	—	261	390 0 0	1 17 0	355 18 8	105 0 0
Mrs Morrison of Naughton	Bogles,	—	114	—	114	225 0 0	1 19 5 <sup>†</sup>	172 7 2	50 0 0
Heirs of Mrs Geekie	West Grange,	—	126.011	—	126.011	200 0 0	1 11 8 <sup>†</sup>	183 13 7	74 14 0
Adam Gruar, Esq.	Lochbank,	—	86.276.45	—	86.276.45	180 0 0	2 1 8	116 17 5	55 0 0
Heirs of late J. Chalmers, Esq.	Grangemount,	—	75	—	75	200 0 0	2 13 4	123 8 0	60 0 0
Heirs of late A. Whitson, Esq.	Burnhead,	—	107	—	107	200 0 0	1 17 4 <sup>†</sup>	122 0 0	49 0 0
Geo. Kinloch, Esq. of Kin- loch	Blacklaw and Col- yards	—	535	—	535	743 1 4	1 7 9	643 1 4	224 0 0
Miss Whitson	Folcalk,	—	126	—	126	170 0 0	1 7 0	101 11 8	50 0 0
David Creighton, Esq.	Grey Mount,	—	52	—	52	104 0 0	2 0 0	—	Not ascertainable.
John Scott, Esq.	Burnside,	12	279	—	291	250 0 0	0 18 0	138 6 8	125 0 0
Robt. Clerk Ratray, Esq. of Craighall	Thorn and Chapel- town	30	120	—	150	120 0 0	1 0 0	179 13 4	39 0 0
David Anderson, Esq.	St Phink,	25	234	—	259	230 0 0	0 19 8	187 0 0	88 0 0
Patrick Millar, Esq.	West Tullyfergus,	69	164	34	267	116 12 0	0 14 2 <sup>†</sup>	111 13 4	35 0 0
David Millar, Esq.	East Do.	50	220	30	300	150 0 0	0 14 0	111 13 4	37 0 0
Sir J. Ramsay, Bart. of Banff	Drimmie,	95	288	571	954	376 18 0	—	504 13 4	160 0 0
Colonel W. Macdonald of Powder Hall	Callie,	125	240	1135	1500	512 0 0	1 10 0	228 17 0	91 0 0
Captain John Stewart	South Petrie,	42	158	699	899	217 0 0	1 8 0	160 0 0	80 0 0
Charles Farquharson, Esq.*	North Do.	870	129	473	972	196 0 0	—	156 0 0	56 0 0
		Totals.		986.179	5144.740.45	2963.9083.919.45	L.7087 0 8 <sup>†</sup>	L.6045 14 0	L.2460 14 0

\* John Smith, Esq. of Balharry has a portion of what was the common at Hill of St Phink in this parish, but has never been reckoned an heritor, and part of Rosemount, belonging to Robert Geekie, Esq. is supposed to be in the parish and liable to pay stipend; but this matter at present is in dispute.

† The rents on the Bendochy property are paid by the fiars, and hence at present the average rent per acre is low. The best soil in the parish is on the Bendochy and Coupar Grange estates.

‡ In this is not included the common at Hill of St Phink, divided about thirty years ago, and which may contain about 200 acres; nor is the rent of this (probably about L.100) included in the total real rent of parish.

§ By an account, charge and discharge, of David Crichton, writer, Barmiony, factor on Dr Thomas Young's estate of Coupar Grange and Millhorn, of date 1760, the total rent of these estates then was L.115, 0s. 8<sup>qd</sup>.

From these tables, it is very evident that the farmer, fifty years ago, ought to have been much more favourably situated than the farmer of the present day. The expense of labour was less; the price of the implements of husbandry much less; the value of agricultural produce, with the exception of the important item of cattle, little inferior to what it is now; while the rent seems to have been about a third of what it is at present. There are, however, probably ten times as many cattle fed for the butcher now as formerly. It is in his byre that the farmer looks for his rent. He would need now to do so. But unless grain rises in value, or some latent productive power in the soil be discovered, or the farmer's outlay be diminished, it is not easy to see how he can continue long to pay his present rent, when that rent is a fixed money one. The breed of cattle that is preferred is a cross betwixt the Teeswater bull and the Angus-shire cow. Attention is paid to both of these varieties in the lowland part of the parish, while in the higher districts, the Highland breeds prevail. The cattle for feeding are tied up (chiefly two-year-olds) in October. The queys are sold out in January, and the oxen in April and May. They are fed in the early part of the season mostly on yellow turnips, and, after that, chiefly on potatoes. There are no stocks of sheep kept in the parish; but one-half of the turnips are consumed on the ground by sheep which are bought in October, or the turnips are let for this purpose. The farming on the banks of the Isla and Ericht is probably as good as in any district of Scotland. While the soil is well suited for the culture of wheat, it possesses the property (an invaluable one in these times) of being equally adapted for the cultivation of green crops. Bone-dust was early introduced, and with it the turnips are almost exclusively grown. More lately, some experiments have been made with guano, which seem to show that it will prove a valuable addition to our manures. Furrow-draining has been carried on to some considerable extent with the best results, the happiest of which is probably the growing conviction, that much remains to be done in this department of agricultural improvement. Of recent local improvements, however, by far the most important has been the embanking of the Ericht and Isla, whereby 500 acres of the most fertile and valuable soil, not in the parish only, but in Strathmore, have been rescued from the ravages of the watery element. These embankments were erected at a great expense under the direction of Mr Blackadder, civil-engineer, Glamis, and they have hitherto answered the purpose

for which they were intended. We hope never more to witness the dreadful devastations which an autumnal flood was wont to cause, and the consequent anxiety and consternation with which the farmer contemplated the rising of the waters. We have more than once seen the most fertile part of the parish completely swept of its crops; the corns irrecoverably lost, or, if recovered, rendered so worthless as not to repay, in many cases, the labour of carrying them home, being scarcely fit even for manure, while the potatoes were left in the soil, not to enrich it with their decaying tubers, but to poison and render it sterile. Doubtless there was a fine vegetable deposit left on our haughs by those inundations, but any fertility thereby communicated to the soil was a poor compensation for the destruction caused by the floods. There has been as yet scarcely time to discover the effects of these embankments on the channels of the rivers, and on the floods with which they are visited. It would seem that the channel of the Isla is deepening, and that the water hemmed in by the embankments is hurried on with an increased impetus to the sea, rendering the flood of shorter duration, while, from the same cause, it is kept from rising higher than it formerly did, which was scarcely anticipated. One thing is plain, that a vast mass of silt, formerly left on the valley, is now carried down to the estuary of the Tay, to increase the work of the dredging-machine, or to add to the delta of that river.

The general duration of leases is nineteen years.

The farm-buildings are generally in an excellent condition, and after the most improved fashion. There is a want of enclosures on the properties forming the Grange of Aberbothrie. The hedge-rows on the Bendochy estate are not attended to, and those on the Coupar-Grange property are mismanaged. The Coupar-Grange oats, once famous, are the common late oat of the country, but presenting a finer, whiter, and weightier sample than usual, from being grown, I suppose, in deep and cherishing soil. The potato oat, the Hopetoun and other new varieties, are now chiefly cultivated; but the Coupar-Grange oat has many valuable properties, and in certain soils, and under certain kinds of husbandry, may be grown with the greatest advantage.

There is no rotation of cropping generally adhered to. A rotation of seven years is often adopted; thus, two years grass, then oats, potatoes, wheat; turnip with bone dust, half of them eat off with sheep; finally, barley sown down with grass, or a rotation of

five years; the fourth crop being potatoes or turnip, and the fifth wheat or barley. All this applies to the lowland part of the parish; the mode of farming being very different in the Highland district. Its altitude above the level of the sea forbids the cultivation of wheat, and the climate is only sufficient to ripen the earlier varieties of oats and barley.

The rent of grazing a cow in the lowland part of the parish is L.4, in the highland, L.2, 10s.

Three years ago, Mr Archer erected at Coupar-Grange, a mill for extracting the farina from the potato. Nothing can be finer or more beautiful than the flour here manufactured; but I understand that this is by no means so profitable a trade as it was five or six years ago.

*Quarries.*—The lowland part of the parish is well supplied with freestone, there being four quarries opened at convenient points, and now that the road from Blairgowrie to the bridge of Cally is being converted into turnpike, it seems probable that the bed of clay slate which crosses the Highland part of the parish might be profitably wrought.

*Fishings.*—The salmon-fishing on the Isla and Ericht is not worth altogether above L.20 per annum. From the care that has been taken for some years to preserve the fish during the spawning season, and from the increased numbers that appeared in our rivers during the past season, there is a hope that the fishing may become more valuable, although the extreme vigilance of the fishers on the Tay forbid the expectation that our rivers ever can be so stocked with fish as they were fifty years ago.

*Produce.*—I have found it impossible to make any calculation of the value of the different items of raw produce raised in the parish, so accurate as would warrant any general statistical deductions to be drawn from it. As a near approximation to the truth, the average annual value of raw produce raised in the parish may be stated at L.28,000. But the table on a preceding page will enable the reader to form his own opinion on this branch of the inquiry.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There is no market-town in the parish. There is not even any village in the parish. Assuredly my predecessor had no parochial exemplification of the evils of centralization, (a subject to which political writers have had their attention of late so much directed), and yet these evils seem to have made a deep im-

pression on the mind, as the following sentences show. "Beware of making cities too great. They are capable of making sudden tumults. It was not France but Paris that overturned the Government, and left every man to do that which was right in his own eyes. To prevent the exorbitant growth of cities may be done by individuals, but is not to be attempted by statesmen. The most despotic and cruel of all governors were the mobs of Athens and Rome. From such inhuman masters, good Lord deliver us!" (Old Statistical Account.) The remarkable addition that has been made of late years to the means of communication, and the extraordinary facilities of transit now enjoyed, have increased the danger pointed out in the above extract, and should teach us that it is to be warded off in some other way than that indicated. There is another class of evils resulting from the system of centralism, which it may be more relevant to notice here. The allowing the cot-houses to fall into ruins, and the consequent emigration of the peasantry into towns, has been injurious to the parish. On the fine estates forming the Grange of Aberbothrie, there is but one cot-house, and generally throughout the parish, from the same cause, there is a lack of agricultural labourers. Nor is this all. There cannot be a doubt, that in rural districts the industrious poor, when in difficulty or sickness, receive much greater aid and attention from their wealthier neighbours, than in densely populated towns. Supposing them equally inclined and able, a farmer can do much more for the two or three poor families connected with his farm, than a merchant or manufacturer can do for the two or three hundred workmen dependent on him. In the country, moreover, the labouring poor enjoy much greater advantages in the education of their children, while the guardians of their religious interests have it much more in their power to see that these advantages are actually made use of. The nation has reached that stage in its social condition, which seems to render it necessary that the benefits attending the cottage system, in a moral, political, and commercial point of view, should receive the immediate and grave consideration of the proprietors of the soil.

The market and post town for that part of the parish lying west of the Ericht, is Coupar Angus, which is two miles from the church. The post-town for the rest of the parish is Blairgowrie, with the exception of the estates of Polcalk, Greymount, East and West Tullyfergus, which are nearer Alyth.

In the lower part of the parish most of the grain is sold at

Coupar Angus. Corn-merchants from Dundee, and the millers of the adjoining district, attend the weekly market there. The fat cattle (if not sold in the byre) are disposed of at the fortnightly markets held in Blairgowrie, which are frequented by the Glasgow dealers, and at these markets the farmers from the Highland district sell their oats,—the distillers in the neighbouring glens relieving them generally of their spare bear.

In 1835, the road from Coupar Angus to Blairgowrie was converted into turnpike. About a mile of it traverses the parish. An omnibus from Blairgowrie passes along the road once a day in winter, and twice or thrice a day in summer, to the terminus of the railway at Coupar Angus. Passenger trains start three or four times a day from Coupar to Dundee, and the parish enjoys its own share of the advantages conferred on Strathmore by the opening of this line of railway.

The bridge over the Isla at Couttie was built by Government in 1766. It is inconveniently narrow. The *riding stone* and the *wading stone*, immediately below the bridge, mark the course of the ford used before the erection of the bridge; “and, as works of nature outlive those of art, they may show the place where it stood after it is gone.” (Old Statistical Account.) There is another bridge over the Ardle at Cally, and a third over the Blackwater at Strone, each of those of one arch. There is a great improvement on the parish roads of late years. About twenty years ago, the road struck off immediately at the bridge of Couttie, straggled deviously through the low haughs within flood-mark, and passed within six yards of the manse. In these days travelling in wet weather was not unattended with danger, and the carting away of the grain, saving in the time of frost, next to impossible. Within the last four years, our roads have got into a much better state of repair, apparently from the circumstance of the outlay of the road money being entrusted to two or three of the farmers. The carriages are mostly driven gratuitously, and, if the present system is adhered to, the principal lines of road in the lower part of the parish ought soon to be in an excellent state.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—It may already be inferred that the situation of the parish church is about as inconvenient as can well be imagined. It is within 300 yards of the southern extremity of the parish, while it is distant from the northern extremity about thirteen miles. There is scarcely a third of the people that can conveniently attend the parish church; and such is the territorial



character of the parish, that it is not easy to see how this evil could be remedied. If a bridge were thrown over the Erich, and the church removed to the bank opposite the present boat-house, every thing perhaps would be accomplished for the accommodation of the people that the circumstances of the parish permitted. This, however, would be but a partial cure of the evils to which both minister and people are exposed. A new territorial arrangement would alone remove the evil. Nothing can be more discouraging to the minister than the scattered and distracted nature of the locality in which it is his duty to labour; and, from the same cause, the usefulness of the parish schoolmaster is much interfered with. The boat at Coupar-Grange was long the property of the kirk-session, and under its exclusive management, as the session records abundantly prove. Many years ago it seems, from some unknown cause, to have fallen into the hands of the proprietors of Coupar-Grange. The late proprietors of Coupar-Grange, upon the petition of the minister, allowed the people to be ferried over to church gratuitously; and the present proprietor (Mr Murray of Simprim) has kindly continued the boon.

Before the abolition of Popery, the church here was the parish church of Coupar Angus, and so lately as fifty years ago, the seats of Keithock, in the parish of Coupar Angus, stood in the church of Bendochy. The situation of the parish church was then sufficiently central, and when it is remembered that in these days, there were chapels at St Phink and Callie, it would seem that, as far at least as the plantation of religious edifices was concerned, our Popish predecessors had provided most judiciously for the convenience of the people. It is not known when the walls of the church were built. It is in a tolerable state of repair at present,—the old grey slates having been removed and replaced with blue ones during last summer, while the roof was strengthened by additional wood being put into it, and the seating partially repaired. It continues damp and cold. It would accommodate about 400 people, and there are none of the sittings let.\*

The manse, with the exception of two apartments of an older

\* *Ministers of Bendochy.*—Previous to 1692, Mr Thomas Blair; 1692, Mr David Rankine; 1700, Mr James Ramsay, the first Presbyterian minister after the Revolution, the people having retained Mr Rankine twelve years after the Revolution, and having adhered to him for some time even after his successor was settled; 1748, Mr Alexander Dun; 1785, Mr James Playfair; 1812, Mr John Honey; 1815, Mr Thomas Barty; and in 1829 the present incumbent was ordained assistant and successor to his father.

date, was built in 1815, and since that time, no repairs on it have been asked from the heritors. It is sufficiently commodious and comfortable. It is sweetly situated on the banks of the Isla, snugly embosomed in its own little grove of wood,—and oh! ye, my successors, lift not up the axe against the trees. Touch not the old ash that has stood for a century the centinel of the manse, guarding it from the eastern blasts, and protecting from the storm the graceful birches that weep and wave their branches below.

The glebe, exclusive of garden, &c. consists of 7 Scotch acres of excellent soil, and would let at L.2 per acre.

The stipend consists of 164 bolls, 2 firlots, 3 pecks, 3½ lippies oatmeal; of barley, 22 bolls, 2 firlots, 1 peck, 1½ lippies; of bear, 74 bolls, 1 firlot, 1 peck, 0 $\frac{9}{10}$  lippies; and of money, L. 29, 14s. 11 $\frac{9}{10}$ d. It is understood that the teinds are exhausted. The Crown is patron.

*The Chapel of Persie.*—This preaching station is at North Persie, about thirteen miles from the parish church. The chapel was erected about the year 1785, at an expense of L.150 Sterling, raised by contributions throughout the district, and amongst the proprietors and ministers connected with it. It contains about 400 people, and accommodates not only the people of this parish in that quarter, but the inhabitants of a large adjoining district, comprising portions of the parishes of Blairgowrie, Alyth, Kirk-michael, Rattray, and Caputh. It is most conveniently located, and has proved a great blessing to an extensive district of country, containing a population of 1000 souls, which otherwise would have been very destitute of the means of religious instruction and pastoral superintendence. For some years past the average amount of the seat rents and collections has been about L.70. These form the salary of the preacher. (In the old Statistical Account they are stated at L.30.) The proprietor of North Persie granted the site (half an acre) for the chapel, upon the express condition that it should continue inalienably in connection with the Established Church; and the deed provides, that, in the event of any successful attempt being made to sever the chapel from the Established Church, that in that case the fabric and the site should revert to him or his heirs. He nominated certain proprietors and ministers connected with the district as trustees on the chapel; but for many years past, a committee of the hearers have managed the whole affairs of the chapel. In 1835, a manse for the accommodation of the preacher was erected, at a cost of L.150,

(exclusive of carriages,) raised in the same way as the money for the erection of the chapel, and more lately a small court of offices, —the proprietor of North Persie again granting half an acre of ground for a site and garden, and the managers of the chapel renting from him a bit of ground for the convenience of the preacher.

There are no Dissenting or Seceding chapels in the parish. The parish church never has and never can be well attended. The members of the Established Church who are within convenient reach of the parish church, are exemplary in their attendance on Divine service, and those who are not, stately worship at the parish churches of Rattray and Alyth. The chapel at Persie is well attended. The average number of communicants at the parish church is 260, and about 40 others communicate in neighbouring parishes. The number of the parishioners not members of the Established Church, and belonging to other religious denominations, is as follows:—

1843.		1796. (Old Stat. Account.)	
United Associate Synod,*	86	Seceders.	143
Original Seceders,	4	Relievers,	33
Relief body,	13	Episcopalians.	3
Papists,	1	Papists,	2

It having been found that collections at the church were not the best way of giving the people an opportunity of contributing to the educational and missionary schemes supported by the church, a parish association for religious purposes was established in 1823. Its collections are limited to the lower part of the parish, and for some years past they have averaged annually about L.18.

*Education.*—There is one parochial school. The salary is L.34, 4s. 4½d.; the average amount of fees, L.9, 9s. 6½d. The schoolmaster is session-clerk, to which a salary of L.2 is attached, and the customary dues. He acts likewise as clerk to the heritors, and as collector of the assessment, for which he receives L.3 per annum. The usual branches of education are taught, and the school fees, per quarter, are as follows: English reading, 2s.; with writing, 2s. 6d.; with arithmetic, grammar, and geography, 3s.; with practical mathematics, 3s. 6d.; with Latin and Greek, 5s. Many years ago, Colonel Macdonald erected, at his own expense, a school-house at Strone of Cally for behoof of the Highland district of the parish. The school-room is given free of rent, but the teacher has no other means of subsistence than the school

\* In the above table it will be observed, that no notice is taken of the new secession.

fees. A school-house was built four years ago at Mayriggs by subscription, and its affairs are very well managed by a small body of Dissenters in that neighbourhood. There seems, however, to have been no necessity for this erection, as it is within little more than a mile of the parish school, and about two miles from Blairgowrie, where there are schools of every denomination. The kirk-session have a right to nominate ten scholars to the parish school of Blairgowrie on the "Barty mortification." The pupils enjoying the benefits of this bequest are entitled not only to their education free, but to school books and writing materials gratuitously, and, if wished, to have their education carried on until they are fit to go to a university. There is a Sabbath school taught by the parish minister and schoolmaster; and the religious instruction of the young at Persie is faithfully attended to by my friend and fellow-labourer, the Rev. Mr Mitchell. The people in general are alive to the benefits of education, and seem especially to appreciate the advantages of Sabbath school instruction.

*Hospital.*—In 1841, the parish remitted L. 21 to the Dundee Infirmary, in virtue whereof the minister of this parish is ex-officio a governor of that institution, and the parish has acquired a perpetual right to send to it patients. Lord Wharncliffe authorizes the kirk-session to procure, at his expense, medical attendance and medicine for the industrious poor on his estate when sick. This is a most judicious charity.

*Savings Banks.*—There are no saving banks in the parish, but those at Coupar-Angus and Blairgowrie are sufficiently convenient for the parishioners.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid for the last five years is seven; and the average annual sum allotted to each has been L.3, 12s. 7d. The average amount of church collections for the poor for the last five years, L. 12, 9s. 5d.; do. of interest of money (viz. L. 58,) L. 1, 14s. 9d.; do. from mortcloth, &c. L. 1, 10s. 9½d.; do from assessment, L. 23, 19s. 5d. The assessment was first laid on in 1775. For the first half of that year it amounted to L.8, 2s. 6d. The origin of the assessment in such a parish must have been the same cause that alone renders its continuance necessary, the impossibility, viz. of the great body of the people attending the parish church. In the old Statistical Account, the assessment is stated at L.6, and the monthly collections at 8s. When the difference in the value of money, and the larger alimnt now allowed to the

poor, are taken into consideration, it might seem that the assessment has not increased since the time when it was first levied. The late Patrick Playfair, Esq. of Dalmarnock, Glasgow, a native of the parish, left L. 30, minus the legacy duty, for the poor of the parish. It was committed to the care of the kirk-session. The interest of this sum is appropriated in adding to the comforts of the more necessitous poor during the winter months. Occasional aid is administered from the poor's funds to persons not on the pauper list; and, while the rich are liberal and attentive to the wants of their poorer neighbours, it must be added, that the poor are very kind to one another.

In general there is a disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief; but when once the rubicon is crossed, and their names added to the regular list of poor (which is never done but at the half-yearly meetings of the heritors and kirk-session,) I cannot say that they consider their dependent situation as degrading.

*Markets.*—There are three cattle markets held at Persie, viz. on the first Wednesday of June, on the first Wednesday of September, and on the last Friday of October, O. S. The September market is the most important. It is preparatory to Falkirk tryst, and generally exhibits an extensive show of excellent Highland cattle.

*Inns.*—There is only one inn in the parish, viz. at Persie. It is conveniently situated; nor am I aware that the morals of the people are thereby deteriorated.

*Fuel.*—In the lower part of the parish, coals from the railway depôts are almost exclusively used as fuel. Those of the best quality cost L.1 per ton. In the Highland districts of the parish, peats form the principal part of the fuel, although coals are now driven from Coupar-Angus in considerable quantities, and are employed chiefly in the burning of lime.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

With the aid of the former Statistical Account, three agricultural eras in the history of this parish are distinctly discernible. The *first*, about 1756, when the farms lay in runrig,—when there was no winter turnip, or wheat, or sown grass, or potatoes, and, indeed, could be none, as, immediately after the corns were removed off the fields, they were pastured promiscuously by the bestial of the village, the farmers in those days living together in hamlets, apparently from the ancient policy of mutual protection.

The plough, a truly primitive implement, was dragged by a yoke of eight oxen, or of four oxen led on by two horses. By means of this motley and formidable cavalcade, the surface of the soil was only scratched, although apparently it might have preceded the great Deanston trench-plough. Sledges, having the wheels and axle of one piece, were used instead of carts. The farming was strangely partial in its character. All the manure was laid on the infield. The outfield was treated as the common foe. At irregular intervals it was cropped, and then consigned again to the unassisted powers of nature, the crop being private property, but the grass, such as it was, common pasturage. As a specimen of the rental of the parish at this time, it may be added that the rental of the Couparr-Grange property was only L.115 Sterling. The *second* era is that described in the former Statistical Account, 1796. Forty years had effected a great change to the better. The farms are now divided, hedge-rows are planted, wheat is grown, and, to a considerable extent, turnips and potatoes (bad varieties, however, of these invaluable esculents,) are cultivated. Flax was now grown in large quantities; the parish had two lint-mills; and the women, rich and poor, were much employed in spinning the lint into yarn. The Isla flowed amain, and, wanting the protection of embankments, the timorous husbandman removed to higher ground his corns immediately when cut. There were then only three thrashing-mills in the parish, and the means of transport and communication were miserably deficient. The whole rental of the parish was L.2467. The *third* period, that of the present day, may be described as the era of green crop husbandry, of cattle-feeding, of bone-dust, of embankments, of furrow-draining, of improved roads and railway communication. The spinning-wheel is mute, and the clatter of the loom is heard in its stead. Twenty-five thrashing-mills have frightened the flail, and that venerable weapon is well nigh obsolete. The rental has risen to L.7087.

At this moment, it would seem that we are on the eve of great agricultural changes, and if farmers wish their employments to be profitable, the sooner they direct their attention to the advantages of furrow-draining, of trench-ploughing, and to the application of new manures, the better will it be for themselves. In the matter of draining they ought to be directed, encouraged, and aided by the proprietors of the soil. There can be no doubt that the productive powers of the parish may be greatly increased. Thus, for

instance, the proprietors of the Highland part of the parish, or their factors report to me, that there are 700 acres in that district which might be profitably added to the arable soil, and if it were allowed, which may very fairly be done, that there are 1000 acres of the arable soil, the fertility of which might at least be doubled by being subjected to a proper system of drainage, it must be evident that a vast increase may be made to the agricultural produce of the parish; and although the existing rental with the present prices might not be raised, yet it could be easily maintained, without impoverishing the cultivators of the soil.

It is not so easy to say what means ought to be adopted to increase the moral and religious advantages of the people. Our hearts, alas! are more cold, ungrateful, and intractable than our soil. A bridge over the Ericht would make the parish church more accessible to a considerable portion of the parishioners. Above all, would it be advantageous to a large district of the parish, were the chapel at Persie endowed, its preacher ordained, and some salary attached to the school at Strone of Cally? Attempts have been made to attain each of these objects, but they have hitherto failed, and in these uneasy times there is little hope of their speedy accomplishment. The people attending the chapel of Persie have the election of the preacher; they have the exclusive management of the affairs of the chapel; but this is not freedom enough for them, and some of them, deserting the ministry of a most faithful and assiduous servant in the Lord's Vineyard, have joined themselves to the "Free Church."

*October 1843.*

## PARISH OF KINFAUNS. \*

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. LACHLAN M'LEAN, MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—It does not appear that this parish has ever been known by any other name than that which it at present bears. It is said to be of Celtic origin, and is resolved, by persons acquainted with that language, into *ceann*, signifying head, and *fauns*, signifying an opening; and is thus made by them to mean the *head of the opening*. What the opening here referred to was, however, it is not so easy to determine; and it must be confessed, that much room is left for fanciful conjecture. But as the western part of this parish consists of a narrow belt of flat land, confined on both sides by hills, and gradually expanding, or opening eastward into the vale of the Carse of Gowrie; one of the most probable conjectures is, that this constituted the opening in question. And if this was the case, the western extremity, or upper end of this belt, might very appropriately be called *ceann fauns*, or the head of the opening; and the name being thus applied, at first, to a single spot, might, naturally enough, afterwards be extended to a wider district, and ultimately become the name of the parish, of which that formed a part. As a sort of confirmation of this opinion, it may be remarked, that though Kinfauns has been the name given to the whole parish from time immemorial; yet, to this very day, it is to the west end of the parish, consisting of the property of the Right Honourable Lord Gray, that this name is applied in the strictest sense.

*Extent and Boundaries.*—The length of the parish from Barnhill toll-bar, at the western extremity of the hill of Kinnoull, to the east end of the wood of Glendoick, is fully five miles. The breadth is very various, but may be estimated, on an average, at one mile and a-half. These dimensions give a superficial area of seven and a-half square miles, or 4800 imperial acres, for the whole parish.

\* Drawn up by Mr Robert Stewart, Parochial Schoolmaster of Kinfauns.



It is bounded on the west, and north-west, by the parish of Kinnoull; on the north, by a detached portion of that parish, called Balthayock, and by the parish of Kilspindie; on the north-east, by Kilspindie; on the east and south-east, by the parish of Errol; and on the south, by the parish of St Madoes, by another detached portion of Kinnoull, and by the river Tay. Its figure is very irregular, and it is difficult to convey an idea of it in words. For the first three-quarters of a mile from the western extremity, its breadth is scarcely more than half a mile; farther east than this, it extends to upwards of a mile and a half; then about the middle, it is reduced again to half a mile; farther east still than this, it extends to about two miles and a quarter, but becomes gradually narrower towards the east end. Its general outline may be said, in short, to bear some faint resemblance to that of a violin.

*Topographical Appearances, &c.*—The surface is considerably diversified by level and rising grounds, by wood and water. The lands on the banks of the Tay are flat. From this they arise by a gradual and easy ascent to the base of the hills which traverse the parish lengthwise from east to west. Of these hills, Kinnoull, the most westerly, is also the most remarkable. It lies partly in the parish of that name, and partly in the parish of Kinfauns; and presents to the south a large abrupt front of rock, of a striking appearance, especially from the old post road, which went close to its base. On this side, the ascent is exceedingly steep, and clothed with a profusion of young and thriving trees, whose matted roots prevent the soil, in some degree, from falling down, which it sometimes, notwithstanding, does, bringing numbers of the trees along with it. This ascent extends upwards to fully three-fourths of the whole height of the hill, which is 632 feet above the level of the Tay. The remaining one-fourth, or nearly so, next the summit, consists of almost perpendicular rock. The summit projects, however, here and there, in rugged cliffs of a seamy texture, which, being gradually loosened by the frost and rain, have sometimes fallen in large masses, with prodigious force, into the plain below. On the east of this hill, the ground slopes gradually downwards; and here, in a hollow, stands Kinfauns Castle, yet at a considerable height above the Tay. A little to the east of the castle, the ground begins to rise again, by a rather steep but smooth ascent, forming the west side of another beautiful hill, clothed all around with wood. This hill is sometimes called Binn hill, from its somewhat conical shape, and sometimes the Tower hill, from its having on its top a tower, upwards of 80 feet high,

built, about thirty years ago, by the late Lord Gray, for an observatory, from the top of which may be obtained almost a bird's-eye view of Kinfauns Castle and gardens, and the pleasure grounds around, with an extensive prospect of the surrounding country. To the east of this last-mentioned hill, the land is arable, sloping gradually downwards, till it ends in a deep ravine, on the opposite side of which there is another hill, remarkable only as consisting of the largest continuous mass of conglomerate rock to be found in this part of the country. Farther east still, is another hill, which bears a strong resemblance to that of Kinnoull, only the rock immediately below the brow is not so nearly perpendicular. The top of this hill commands a view of the whole of the Carse of Gowrie, of the tower of Dundee, and of Broughty Castle, and also of the whole of the river Tay, from a mile below Perth to the German Ocean, a portion of which likewise is seen. To the south may be obtained a view of the whole east end of Strathearn, and to the south-west, a considerable portion of the middle of the same strath may be seen, the view being bounded in this direction by Auchterarder moor.

These hills already described, with another still farther to the east, which are almost all wooded on the top, and also up the southern acclivity, as far as the soil will permit, form what may be called the screen of the lowlands. But from these run northward other hilly ranges, forming various ramifications, rising, sinking, and rising again, by gentle undulations, till they pass beyond the bounds of this parish, and sink down at last into the valley of Strathmore, of which, to a certain extent, they form the southern boundary.

As we do not intend to enter on the geological department, it may be mentioned here, that all these hills consist of trap, with here and there patches of conglomerate; that in the sloping grounds, near their bases, on the south side, are found onyxes, jaspers, agates, and cornelians, of various sizes and colours; and that, also, in various places are found large boulders of whinstone, which is of a lighter colour than that of which the hills are composed,—with others which seem to consist of a sort of coarse granite.

The only cave in the parish, as far as is known to the writer, is one in the face of Kinnoull hill, rather difficult of access, called the Dragon-hole, and noticeable only on account of its being reported, by tradition, to have been the occasional hiding place of

Sir William Wallace, and for its being, in former times, the scene of certain superstitious observances.

“The soil is various. The banks of the river are covered with a strong clay, capable, with proper culture, of carrying the heaviest crops. The grounds rising towards the hills consist of an easy black mould, in many places deep and rich, even at a considerable height. In the level part of the parish, on the east side, the same kind of soil is in some places, mixed with clay; in others, with sand. The lands under cultivation are, in general, good and fertile: the uncultivated parts are mostly covered with plantations; so that there is scarcely an acre of waste ground within the parish.” (Old Statistical Account.)

*Meteorology.*—With regard to aqueous and luminous meteors, it may be said that a full description and history of these, in as far as regards this parish, have already been published in the Statistical Account of Perth, from which city this parish is not distant quite a mile in a direct line. We shall therefore only sub-join the following meteorological tables, extracted from the register kept at Kinfauns Castle. The first is for 1841, which is the latest that could be procured.

1841.	Morn. $\frac{3}{4}$ past 8,		Evening 8,		Mean Temp. by Six's Ther.	Depth of Rain in Garden.	No. of Days.	
	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.	Ther.			Rain or Snow.	Fair.
January,	29.648	29.258	29.611	30.516	31.064	2.30	10	21
February,	29.713	36.928	29.705	37.000	37.964	1.85	13	15
March,	29.584	43.580	29.590	42.677	45.774	1.55	16	15
April,	29.642	43.133	29.664	41.266	44.233	1.38	9	21
May,	29.306	51.741	29.674	49.838	51.451	1.56	9	22
June,	29.713	53.900	29.787	51.800	53.400	1.91	7	23
July,	29.621	56.032	29.625	53.935	56.580	3.96	15	16
August,	29.627	57.225	29.656	54.000	56.935	4.76	16	15
September,	29.597	52.066	29.595	50.933	54.566	2.65	16	14
October,	29.430	42.832	29.425	40.742	43.709	4.66	23	8
November,	29.504	35.933	29.501	36.700	37.433	2.12	12	18
December,	29.377	36.806	29.410	36.253	37.543	2.40	15	16
Average of the Year.	29.563	44.953	29.595	43.805	45.888	31.10	161	204

## Annual Results.

Barometer.		Morning.		Thermometer.	
Observations.	Wind.			Wind.	
Highest, 1st Feb.	East	30.56	26th May,	South-east	66°
Lowest, 30th Nov.	South-west	28.43	9th January,	North-west	6
					.
		Evening.			
Highest, 1st Feb.	East	30.55	20th August,	East	65
Lowest, 29th Nov.	do.	28.60	8th January,	North-west	5

Weather.	Days.	Wind.	Times.
Fair,	204	North and north-east,	38
Rain or snow,	161	East and south-east,	95
		South and south-west,	108
	365	West and north-west,	124
			<hr/> 365

Extreme cold and heat by Six's Thermometer.

Coldest, 9th January, wind north-west,	3°
Hottest, 20th August, wind south-east,	72°
Mean temperature for the year 1841,	45°888

Results of two Rain-Gauges.

	Inches.
1. Centre of Kinfauns garden, about 20 feet above the level of the sea,	31.10
2. Square tower, Kinfauns Castle, 180 feet,	30.89

The following tables are also extracted from the above-mentioned register. The first contains the average mean heights of the barometer and thermometer, the depth of rain, &c. for each of the eight years preceding 1842. The second refers to the various directions of the wind for those years.

Years.	Morn. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8,		Evening 8,		Mean Temp. by Six's Ther.	Depth of Rain in Garden.	No. of Days.	
	Mean height of Barom.	Ther.	Mean height of Barom.	Ther.			Rain or Snow.	Fair.
1834,	29.744	49.653	29.740	47.162	48.587	23.10	159	206
1835,	29.636	48.003	29.643	45.427	46.840	25.60	164	201
1836,	29.486	47.076	29.486	44.636	45.425	33.88	179	187
1837,	29.707	47.434	29.711	44.458	45.507	27.80	140	225
1838,	29.682	45.302	29.690	42.348	44.106	30.60	141	224
1839,	29.688	46.429	29.689	43.246	45.333	32.23	172	193
1840,	29.732	45.717	29.741	44.238	46.220	25.17	142	224
1841,	29.563	44.953	29.595	43.805	45.888	31.10	161	204

Years.	Wind.			
	N. and N. E.	E. and S. E.	S and S. W.	W. and N. W.
1834,	29 times.	87 times.	138 times.	111 times.
1835,	37	84	119	125
1836,	42	64	142	118
1837,	30	86	124	125
1838,	33	115	103	114
1839,	39	108	117	101
1840,	44	98	92	132
1841,	38	95	108	124
8 years,	292 times.	737 times.	943 times.	950 times.

From the above tables it will be seen, that the prevailing winds are from the west. These are sometimes very boisterous, blowing violently, as through a funnel, between the hills of Kinnoull and Mordun; at times, stripping the roofs of houses, and overturning stacks of corn. Our most uncongenial weather, however, is from the east. Cold piercing winds frequently blow from that direc-

tion in spring; and sometimes, for many continuous days, even in the early summer months. The climate is, upon the whole, however, mild and salubrious; and the people are remarkable for health and longevity. There are no diseases, or distempers, peculiar to the district; and epidemical infections are neither common, nor remarkably fatal.\*

*Hydrography.*—The Tay is the only river connected with the parish, and forms its southern boundary for upwards of three and a half miles. Three small streamlets intersect the parish from north to south, and drain off the humidities of the soil to the Tay. These take their rise from a variety of springs in the upper or hilly parts of the parish. For, both in these parts, and also in the rising grounds that slope towards the hills, there are a great number of such springs, of the most pure and limpid water, all perennial, and very little, if at all, affected by the severest summer droughts.

*Zoology.*—All the common kinds of game are found in the parish,—some in very great, some in less abundance; such as roe-deer, hares, black-cocks, pheasants, and, in their season, land-rails, snipes, and wood-cocks. Partridges have been rather scarce since the severe winter of 1837–8; during which, it is supposed, most of them perished. But they are now beginning again to be more numerous. Rabbits are, at present, by far too abundant. The other wild animals are, foxes, badgers, hedgehogs, squirrels, polecats, stoats, and weasels, &c. Badgers and polecats are now rarely to be met with; but they are not quite extirpated. We have also different species of hawks; two species, at least of owls; and the shrike is sometimes seen. Rooks are more numerous than is desirable, and great numbers of daws nestle in our rocks. Hooded-crows and magpies are extremely rare, considering the number and extent of our woods. Wood-pigeons have not been abundant since the severe winter above-mentioned, when vast numbers of them were frozen to death, or perished with hunger. Of all the common singing birds, we seem to have more than our own share. Goldfinches used to be very numerous in the neighbourhood of Kinfauns Castle; but few have been seen or heard, for the last five or six years. Flocks of those little migratory songsters, the siskins, pay frequent visits, to the alder trees on the margin of the Tay, during the winter months; but seldom remain more than two or three days at a time. We are likewise visited,

\* In 1832, this parish was visited by the Asiatic cholera. The number of persons attacked by it was 14, of whom 5, all old persons, died.

at the approach of winter, by large flocks of fieldfares, and cross-bills are then, too, sometimes found in the woods. The Tay is frequented by different sorts of wild ducks, particularly the teal and the widgeon; and also by gulls, and birds of the awk kind.

The Tay, besides abounding in excellent salmon, affords also fine trout of different kinds, particularly two species of sea-trout, the white and red, weighing from 2 to 6 lbs. The large bull-trout is sometimes found from 16 to 30 lbs. and upwards. Sturgeon of large size are sometimes, though but rarely, caught in the salmon fishers' nets. Pike, too, are very numerous; and seals and porpoises are occasionally taken.

One species of animals deserves here to be noticed, which has of late given more annoyance to the inhabitants of this parish, than all the other wild animals put together. It is of no consequence, indeed, whether we term this wild or domestic, as it seems determined, at all events, to make itself the latter. We mean that detestable and mischievous little animal, the brown or Norway rat, which has intruded itself into every dwelling-house and out-house in the parish; and has multiplied to such a degree, notwithstanding all the means that have been used to destroy it, as to become a perfect pest.

*Plantations.*—In this parish, all the common kinds of trees are found. Some of the plantations consist chiefly of hardwood trees; such as oak, ash, elm, beech, &c.; while others consist mostly of Scotch fir, with larches and spruces intermixed. But some consist of a mixture of all these. Birches and mountain-ashes are not very common, and are, for the most part, comparatively young trees. The young plantations consist, for the most part, of larch and oak. The oaks planted in woods, whether old or young, are almost all of the variety called *Quercus robur*, or true British oak. But many of those planted in hedge-rows, and along road-sides, are of the variety *Quercus sessiliflorus*, or Turkey oak, with narrow leaves and mossy acorn-cups,—a variety which is said to be inferior to the former, both in the quality of its wood, and also in that of its bark for the purposes of the tanner.

In the vicinity of the mansion-houses, there grow sycamores, limes, poplars, Spanish chestnuts, horse-chestnuts, silver-firs, &c.

There are no trees in this parish very remarkable for age or size. Near Kinfauns Castle, grows a Spanish chestnut, 14 feet in circumference; an elm, 11 feet 7 inches; an ash, 12 feet; a sycamore, 12 feet 9 inches. Near the east gate of Seggieden there

is an oak, 11½ feet. The boll of this tree is also very long; and being altogether of a very handsome appearance, and standing near the highway, it frequently attracts the attention of travellers. On the north side of the road here is a beech 11 feet; a poplar, nearly in front of the house, is 11 feet; and a horse-chestnut, a little to the west, is 11 feet 4 inches. Close to the west end of Glencarse House there is a sycamore, 12 feet 2 inches, and containing nearly 250 feet of wood, exclusive of bark. Right in front of Glendoick House, there is a gean tree, 9 feet 8 inches; and another beside it is nearly of the same size;—being the largest trees of that kind in this parish. At a little distance from these is an ash, 11 feet 4 inches.

These girths were taken at 3½ feet from the ground, except where there were large protuberances near the root, in which case they were taken a little higher.

A little to the west of Kinfauns Castle, are a few trees of the *Pinus sylvestris*, or true Scotch fir. They are not remarkable for size, the largest being but 8 feet 2 inches in circumference; but they may be mentioned, as being the only trees of that kind in the parish, at least so far as is known.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Antiquities.*—In the Castle of Kinfauns is kept a large old sword, probably made near 500 years ago, and to be used by both hands. It is shaped like a broad sword, and is five feet nine inches long, 2½ inches broad at the hilt, and of a proportionable thickness, with a round knob at the upper end, near 8 inches in circumference. This terrible weapon bears the name of *Charteris's sword*; and probably belonged to Sir Thomas Charteris, commonly called Thomas de Longueville, once proprietor of the estate of Kinfauns. Sir Thomas Charteris, *alias* Longueville, was a native of France, and of an ancient family in that country. If credit can be given to accounts of such remote date, when he was at the court of Philip le Bel, in the end of the thirteenth century, he had a dispute with, and killed a French nobleman in the king's presence. He escaped, but was refused pardon.

Having, for several years, infested the seas as a pirate, known by the name of the Red Reaver, from the colour of the flags he carried on his ships, in May 1301 or 1302, (by Adamson's Chronology), Sir William Wallace in his way to France, encountered and took him prisoner. At Wallace's intercession the French King conferred on him a pardon and the honour of knight-hood. He accompanied Wallace on his return to Scotland,

and was ever after his faithful friend, and aiding in his exploits. Upon that hero's being betrayed, and carried to England, Sir Thomas Charteris retired to Lochmaben, where he remained till Robert Bruce began to assert his right to the crown of Scotland. He joined Bruce; and was, if we may believe Adamson, who refers to Barbour, the first who followed that king into the water, at the taking of Perth, January 8, 1313.

Bruce rewarded his bravery, by giving him lands in the neighbourhood of Perth, which appear to have been those of Kinfauns, and which continued in the family of Charteris for many years.

About ninety years ago, upon opening the burying vault under the aisle of the church of Kinfauns, erected by this family, there was found a head piece, or kind of helmet, made of several folds of linen, or some strong stuff, painted over with broad strips of blue and white; which seems to have been part of the fictitious armour, wherein the body of Thomas Longueville, or Charteris, had been deposited.

The estate of Kinfauns afterwards belonged to a gentleman of the name of Carnegie, of the Northesk family; from whom it passed to that of Blair, whose heiress was married to John Lord Gray, grandfather of the present Lord.

There is also in the house of Kinfauns, which stands on an elevated situation, overlooking the Tay, an iron flag or vane, 2 feet long and 1 foot broad, turning upon a staff of the same metal, 8 feet high. It has the date, 1688, cut in the middle, and was wont to be placed on the top of the castle. This was a mark, or badge, of an heritable office, or power of admiralty over the river, annexed to the estate of Kinfauns, for preserving the fishing, and punishing all trespasses committed in destroying the salmon. In a charter under the great seal, in the year 1671, the old jurisdiction is explained and confirmed; and, according to the tradition of the country, it was acknowledged by all vessels passing in the Tay, by a salute, or lowering of their colours to the castle. This power extends from Drumlie Sands below Dundee to the heart of the river, and entitles the family of Kinfauns to a salmon, annually, out of every fishing boat on the Tay.

There is an old house, still standing, on the estate of Glendoick, near the east end of the parish, in which the Pretender, Prince Charles Edward Stuart, is said to have passed a night after his defeat at Culloden. This house was at that time in the occupancy of Lord George Murray; but how his Lordship came to reside



here is not well known, as he does not appear to have had any property in the neighbourhood.

*Eminent Characters.*—Besides Thomas Charteris, the founder of the Kinfauns family, another eminent individual connected with this parish deserves to be noticed, viz. the Right Honourable Robert Craigie, Lord President of the Court of Session, the grandfather of the present proprietor of the estate of Glendoick. It was he who purchased the lands belonging to said estate, and built the mansion-house, in which he afterwards occasionally resided, when his professional duties permitted.

*Parochial Registers.*—The registers of this parish, regularly kept, are only two in number; viz. a register of births and baptisms, and a register of marriages. Both these commence in 1646, and are continued to the present time, except that in the former there is a blank from 1691 to 1700, and in the latter, from 1692 to 1700. Since the year 1825, what was before only a register of baptisms, has been a register of both births and baptisms. Previous to that year, only the child's name and the date of its baptism, together with the name, designation, and residence of the father, were set down; the date of its birth and name of the mother being seldom, if ever, mentioned. The average annual number of births or baptisms registered is 16; but, as many parents are very neglectful in getting their children's births and baptisms entered, this probably falls somewhat short of the total number of births in the parish. The average annual number of marriages, for the last ten years, is  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , and there can be no doubt but that this is correct.

There has never been any thing that could be called a regular register of deaths kept in this parish. In the year 1783, a register of burials was commenced, which was discontinued again in 1793. The total number of burials, as shown by that register for those ten years, is only 53, averaging about five annually, which must have been greatly below the real number. From 1793, indeed, to 1816, the dates of both the deaths and burials of a few distinguished persons, amounting to only nine in all, are set down; but, since the last-mentioned year, no register whatever of this kind has been kept.

Besides the above, there are also the minutes of the kirk-session, composing a record of church discipline, which is occasionally examined and attested by the presbytery. A strict account is likewise kept of the management of the poor's funds, and this

last is usually audited and docqueted, once a-year, by a joint meeting of the heritors and kirk-session.

*Land-owners.*—The whole of the land-owners of the parish, at present, with their respective valued rents, are as follow, viz.—

The Right Honourable Lord Gray of Kinfauns, valued rent, L.	2038	6	8
Laurence Craigie, Esq. of Glendoick,	1427	17	6
Charles Hunter, Esq. of Glencarse,	1244	2	11
James Richardson Hay, Esq. of Seggieden,	897	13	4
Neil Fergusson Blair, Esq. of Balthayock,	260	12	11
Robert Cristall, Esq. of Inehyra,	70	0	0

*Mansion-Houses.*—These are, Kinfauns Castle, Seggieden House, Glencarse House, Glendoick House,—all modern buildings.

### III.—POPULATION.

There is good reason to believe that this parish is not now so populous as formerly. Within the remembrance of very old persons yet living, it had three public-houses, two meal-mills, one brewer, and one baker. It has none of this now except one public-house. It also contained at a former period one village, if not more. This village was called Clien, and must have been of considerable size, as there is a saying among old people, that “it had a reeking lum in it for every house in the parish of Semmiedores,” (St Madoes.) The parish of St Madoes is, indeed, a small one, and probably contains fewer houses now than it did then; but if these could be all brought together, they would form a pretty large village. So the one in question could not have been very small.

The following is the state of the population at the different periods mentioned :

Number of souls by return made to Dr Webster in 1755,	639
Population in 1772,	710
By old Statistical Account in 1793,	628
Government census in 1801,	646
1811,	621
1821,	802
1831,	732
1841,	720

What may have been the causes of the increase or decrease of population at distant periods, is not now well known; but the great increase in 1821 was owing to the building of Kinfauns Castle, which was then going on, and which drew a great number of artisans and labourers from other parishes, and, of course, as many of these as lodged within this parish were included in the population return thereof for that year.

There is at present neither town nor village in this parish, the largest hamlet containing only 14 families.

The number of families of independent fortune residing in it is only three ; but there are usually more.

The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, is 6—being the whole number of land-owners of the parish.

The number of families in 1831 was	145
in 1841,	144
inhabited houses in 1831,	140
in 1841,	139
houses uninhabited or building in 1831,	9
in 1841, forgotten.	

It was stated in the last Statistical Account, that the people of this parish were rather above the middle size. This, however, does not appear to be the case now ; for though there are some persons to be found considerably above the ordinary stature, yet it would be easy to find as many others as far below it.

There are, at present, two insane persons belonging to the parish, both confined in the lunatic asylum. There is no person belonging to it, who can properly be called an idiot ; but there are three of rather weak intellect. One old woman has lately become blind. There are none deaf and dumb.

Smuggling is not at present known here, nor has it been so for a long time past. Poaching is still practised within the parish to a considerable extent—not, however, by its own inhabitants, but by fellows who come from Perth, or places in its neighbourhood, very often on the Lord's day, in bands of from three to six, or upwards, accompanied by as many dogs, and scour our woods and hills in search of game.

The number of illegitimate births within the last three years has been two.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—It has already been stated, that this parish contains altogether 4800 imperial acres. Of these, 2380 are arable, 240 consist of pasture, and the remaining 2180 are occupied by wood, roads, ditches, &c.

The various kinds of trees commonly planted have already been described. There is little or no natural wood in the parish, so far as is known to the writer ; or, if there was any in former times, the interstices have been so closely filled up with planted wood, as to give the whole the appearance of plantation. Within the last twenty or twenty-five years, several old plantations of large extent have been cut down, and the ground which they occupied has been replanted with various kinds of trees, among

which the oak and larch predominate. A considerable extent of ground, too, which was formerly allowed to lie waste, or which afforded very poor pasture, has, within the same period, been planted with those same sorts of trees. Some of the young plantations, however, consist chiefly of Scotch fir. The whole of these plantations, whether old or young, with very slight exceptions, are all in a thriving condition, and are, generally speaking, under the very best management.

*Extent of Farms, Rent, &c.*—Eleven farms, which lie wholly in the parish, contain respectively as follows, viz. 126, 126, 127, 134, 145, 164, 170, 214, 216, 252, 287 imperial acres. Besides these, there are a number of pendicles and small farms, varying from two to thirty-eight imperial acres. And, lastly, there are six farms, some of them rather large, which lie partly in this, and partly in other parishes. The best land in the parish lets at about L.2, 16s. per imperial acre, while there is some not above L.1. The average rent per acre of arable land, for the whole parish, is about L.2, 2s. 9d.; that is to say, this was the rent for the last year (1842); but, as some of the land is let at a money rent, and some partly at a money and partly at a grain rent, the rate above-mentioned is liable to some degree of fluctuation. There is no pasture land let by itself, except a few grass parks. These are commonly let, by public roup, to the highest bidder; not at so much per acre, but at so much for the whole park, and for one season only at a time. The rent varies considerably from year to year; bidders being determined in their offers, partly by the appearance of the grass, and partly by the prospective state of the cattle markets.\*

The average wages and allowances of farm-servants, for the present year (1843) are as follows: Unmarried men, who usually lodge in a bothy, have about L.12 wages, with 6½ Scotch bolls of oatmeal per year, and threepence worth of milk per day. Married men have about L.9 wages, with milk and meal as above, together with 5 bolls of potatoes, and a house and small garden, worth about L.2, 5s. Foremen have generally about L.2, 10s. or L.3 more than common ploughmen; but their wages vary according to the extent of their charge. Female servants have about L.5

\* The real rental of the parish, for the year 1842, was about L.8940, including L.5574 for land, cottages, &c., and L.3366 for fishings. As the prices of grain for that year, however, were all but unprecedentedly low, the real rental for land must on former years, have been considerably more.

of yearly wages, with bed and board. Agricultural day-labourers, and those employed in other out-of-door work, have about 1s. 6d per day; but some less during the short days of winter. Women, when employed in agricultural labour, such as in planting potatoes, hoeing potatoes and turnips, hay-making, and the like, have 8d. per day, without victuals. At lifting potatoes, women earn 1s. per day, without victuals; and children of eleven or twelve years of age, when employed in this sort of work, are paid at the same rate as women. During harvest, reapers of all sexes and ages are paid according to the quantity of work done, viz. at the rate of 3d. per threave for oats and barley, and 4½d. for wheat. Journeymen masons, wrights, and blacksmiths, have 13s. a-week. But most artisans here are masters and apprentices, the former being generally paid according to agreement with employers.

There are at present 26 artisans in the parish, including apprentices. The number of male agricultural labourers hired by the year (excluding farmers' sons, and also the small farmers who are usually labourers themselves,) is 45, of whom 26 are married. There is evidently a preference shown by the farmers here to married over unmarried ploughmen; as there are always more of the former than of the latter; and, taking all their allowances into account, they are paid at a somewhat higher rate. Perhaps they would have more of the married than they have, if they had houses to accommodate them; for though there is abundance of houses on certain farms, yet there is a scarcity on others.

*Live-Stock.*—The horses at present used for agricultural purposes are not of so large size as they are in some other parts of the country, nor as they were in this parish at a former period: but they are, for the most part, well-proportioned, vigorous, and spirited, and remarkably free from diseases. The statement in the former Statistical Account that, in this parish, "horses are bought, few being reared," does not now, in general, hold true; though it may be still so on certain farms.

Great attention has not been paid to the breeding of neat cattle. They are, generally speaking, of cross breeds; and often rather inferior beasts. Cows kept for dairy purposes by some of the proprietors, and also by a few of the farmers, are of the Ayrshire breed—though, in most cases, perhaps, not quite pure. Some of the proprietors choose, however, to keep cows of a larger size than these, though they may be deficient as milkers. A few oxen of the

pure West Highland breed are likewise usually kept by certain of the proprietors for the use of their own tables. But most of the cattle of this parish are crosses, as just stated; and are generally deficient either in size or symmetry—not unfrequently in both. As there is but little land allowed to lie in pasture, young cattle are kept at home, only in the winter months, to consume the straw; and sent to a distance to graze at the commencement of summer.

There is only one farmer in the parish who keeps sheep. These are of the pure Leicester breed, and usually number about 300. Two of the proprietors also keep a considerable number of the same breed; but those kept by the proprietors, in general, are of the Highland or black-faced breed, as affording the most delicate mutton for the table.

*Character of the Husbandry.*—The general character of the husbandry pursued may be termed judicious. In the low flat clay land near the Tay, the usual rotation of crops is the following: 1st, fallow; 2d, wheat; 3d, beans and pease, 4th, wheat; 5th, barley; 6th, grass; 7th, oats. In the higher grounds, between this flat land and the hills, a five years rotation is most common, viz. 1st, oats; 2d, green crop; 3d, wheat; 4th, barley; 5th, grass.

The general duration of leases is nineteen years, which is regarded, both by the proprietors and tenants, as a favourable period.

*Farm-Buildings.*—The state of the farm-buildings is very good. The farmers' dwelling-houses are almost all large and commodious, as are also the courts of offices. Most of them are quite new, and all may be said to be comparatively new.

The more recent agricultural improvements have been, in particular, furrow-draining the strong land with tiles, and the introduction, to a considerable extent, of chemical manures of light carriage, such as crushed bones, rape dust, guano, &c. These tiles are manufactured, to a large extent, by a neighbouring proprietor, Sir John Stewart Richardson, Bart. of Pitfour, on the patent principle of the Marquis of Tweeddale. The machinery for making these is wrought by a steam-engine, the clay being put in at one end of the machine, and the tiles coming out at the other, shaped to great nicety, and ready for being put into the kiln. The tenants in this parish, and indeed throughout the Carse of Gowrie in general, have used these drain-tiles to a great extent, and have thereby improved their crops amazingly, both in quantity and quality. And it is generally allowed, that, had

it not been for the improvement hereby effected, they could not have continued to pay their rents, although these are now lower than they were once.

An embankment has lately been made on the estate of Kinfauns, by which an island in the Tay is connected with the mainland. This embankment is composed of the gravel taken from the bottom of the river, in the process of deepening it, is of great width, and is considered of sufficient strength to confine the river, in time coming, within narrower bounds; and by means of it, a considerable extent of arable land may be expected to be ultimately reclaimed from what was formerly part of the bed of the river.

*Quarries.*—Throughout the whole hilly part of the parish, quarries of whinstone may be got, of excellent quality, either for building, or for road metal. Three are at present wrought.

*Fisheries.*—The salmon fishings of the Tay are the only kind of fishings carried on in this parish. These belong partly to the Right Hon. Lord Gray,—partly to the city of Perth, partly to Sir John S. Richardson, Bart. of Pitfour,—and partly to Mr Hay of Seggieden. Lord Gray is the principal proprietor of these in this parish, and, indeed, in the whole river. His fishings are at present let *in cumulo* at a rent of L.3027, 16s. a-year, although, some time ago, they were as high as L. 4000. His Lordship's fishings within this parish are worth about L.2200 a-year, and give employment to 60 men; those belonging to the city of Perth and to Sir John S. Richardson, are let at rents amounting together to L.766, 13s. 4d., and employ 32 men; those belonging to Mr Hay of Seggieden are let at a rent of L.400, and, at present, employ only 12 men. Adding all these together, therefore, it appears that the whole salmon fishings of this parish are at present let at a yearly rent of L.3366, 13s. 4d., and give employment to 104 men. These are all fished by net and coble; and, besides the 104 men already mentioned, a considerable number of women and boys derive employment from them in working nets, &c.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

It has been already stated that there is neither town nor village in this parish. The nearest market-town is Perth, which is only about one mile and two-thirds distant from its western extremity.

*Means of Communication.*—The nearest post-office is that of Perth, but there is now a receiving house within the parish. The

turnpike road from Perth to Dundee, which is kept in excellent repair, traverses the parish throughout its whole length; and three coaches, including the Royal Mail, pass and repass along it daily, between the towns just mentioned. Several carriers also pass and repass every week. There are several cross roads, too, which are likewise kept in good condition. Two steam-boats, moreover, ply daily, in the river, between Perth and Dundee, during the summer months; and one constantly plies in winter, when the state of the river will permit; and there is a small boat kept at Inchyra, a little below this parish, which conveys passengers to and from the steam-boats. There are, besides, two piers, on the side of the Tay, within this parish, at which vessels deliver coals, lime, &c. and take in potatoes and grain. One of these piers, however, is now rendered nearly useless by the late improvements that have been made in the river; but the pier of Inchyra is not far off, and is more conveniently situated for the eastern part of the parish than either of the former.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church, which is the only place of meeting for public worship within the parish, is nearly as conveniently situated, for the majority of the population, as it could be. It is about two and one-fourth miles from the western, and two and three-fourth miles from the eastern extremity of the parish. It has been built at three different times. The oldest part, which forms the body of the church, has no date upon it, but it is certainly of very great age. This is a long narrow quadrangular building, with very low walls,—so low, indeed, that it has evidently never been intended to have galleries in it. A gallery, however, has been erected in each end; but these are so near the ceiling, that in some parts a middle-sized man cannot stand upright. On the south side, there has been built an aisle, apparently at a later date, and which has belonged to the Kinfauns family from time immemorial. A very few years ago, as the church was too small to accommodate the parishioners and others who attended, another aisle was built, close to the west side of the former one. The church is now altogether very comfortable, and notwithstanding the great age of part of it, is considered to be throughout quite substantial. It contains 416 sittings, all free.

The manse was built in 1799, and received a large addition in 1840. It is now one of the largest and most commodious in this part of the country,—is throughout in excellent condition, and valued at L.23, 12s.



The glebe contains about five imperial acres, and is valued at L.20.

The stipend consists of 16 chalders, partly of grain and partly of oatmeal, together with L.10 of money; out of which, however, the minister is bound to provide the communion elements. These 16 chalders comprehend 4 bolls Scots of wheat, 126 of barley, and 126 of oatmeal, all converted into money by the highest fiars of the county. It will be seen from this, that the amount of stipend must vary from year to year along with the prices of grain; but the average annual amount, for the last seven years, was L.257, 1*l*s. 10½*d*.

Before the great secession from the Establishment, in May last, the number of families belonging to the Established Church was 130; the number of Dissenting or Seceding families, was 12; and the number of Episcopalian families, 2. But, at the present time, it is impossible to say, with precision, how many families or individuals belong to the Establishment; as the people are, in this respect, in a very unsettled state. Divine service in the Established Church has generally been very well attended. The average number of communicants for the last ten years has been in summer 345, and in winter 320.

*Education.*—There are two schools in the parish exclusive of Sabbath schools, viz. the parish school, situated close beside the church; and another, situated in a barren moor, on the north border of the parish, which derives most of its scholars from Balthayock, a detached portion of the parish of Kinnoull.

The branches of education commonly taught in the parish school are, English reading and grammar, writing, arithmetic, and geography. Practical mathematics and Latin are occasionally taught. There have been sometimes also pupils learning Greek or French, but these were usually persons not belonging to the parish. The branches taught in the other school are the same as those commonly taught in the parish school.

The parochial schoolmaster's salary is L. 34, 4*s*. 4½*d*. As the school-fees are very low, they do not amount, on an average, to more than L. 25 yearly; but of this sum more than L. 17 is seldom paid; often considerably less. His other emoluments amount to about L. 7, 10*s*. at present; but the amount varies in different years; and these emoluments are not inseparably connected with the office of schoolmaster.

The rates of fees at the parish school are 2*s*. per quarter for

reading; 2s. 6d. for writing; and 3s. for arithmetic; it being understood that those who pay the higher rate, get the lower branches for nothing. Thus, for instance, children paying for writing, get reading for nothing; and those paying for arithmetic, get both reading and writing for nothing. English grammar and geography are always taught gratis, as it is not the parents, but the teacher, who wishes the children to learn these branches. At the other school, the fees are a little higher. At both schools, the principles of the Christian religion are daily taught.

The people in general are fully alive to the benefits of education; and there are scarcely any children above six years who are not taught to read, and very few above nine who cannot write.

*Poor.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid for the last seven years was 12; that is to say, the average number of names on the permanent roll, for these years, was 12; but as some of those persons had others depending on them, the total number relieved was considerably more. Those persons had each an allowance in money advanced to them every twenty-eight days, varying from 3s. to L. 1, according to their necessities; about half the number received each 12 cwt. of English coals annually; and a still smaller number had their house-rents paid. So that the average sum allotted to each person on the permanent roll for those years, including money, coal, and house-rents, was L. 5, 0s. 7½d. annually.

Besides the paupers on the permanent roll, there are always a number, more or fewer, receiving occasional relief; and the average annual sum distributed among these for the period above-mentioned was L. 4, 16s. 3d. It may be mentioned also that, within the same period, the kirk-session expended considerably upwards of L. 100 on the board, medical treatment, &c. of paupers in the Lunatic Asylum.

The average annual amount of funds which have passed through the hands of the kirk-session for the purpose of relief to the poor, during the last seven years, has been L. 90, 19s. 2¼d. This has been made up of church collections, averaging annually L. 31, 8s. 1½d.; and of mortcloth and proclamation dues, averaging annually L. 4, 4s. 6½d.; together with an additional sum, amounting, on an average, to L. 52, 6s. 6½d. annually, consisting of the interest of capital, and of part of capital itself lifted. It ought to be observed, however, that, out of these L. 90, &c., there are paid the salaries of the synod, presbytery, and session clerks,—synod, presbytery,

and church, officers, &c., amounting to a little upwards of L.10 a-year.

No assessment, either legal or voluntary, for the support of the poor, has hitherto been necessary in this parish; but, as the church collections and other casualties are now not half sufficient for the purpose, it is but too evident that some such mode of support must very soon be had recourse to.

*Inns.*—There is only one inn in the parish, in which very good order is kept, and it has had no bad effects on the morals of the people. Whatever may be the faults of our people here, intemperance is a vice scarcely heard of among them.

*Fuel.*—The fuel commonly used consists of English coal, at from 15s. to 17s. 6d. a-ton; or of Scotch coal, commonly called great coal, from the south of Fife, or the other collieries in the vicinity of the river Forth, at from 16s. to 18s. 6d. a-ton, according to the quality. This is delivered at the piers in the parish or its neighbourhood, and costs little for carriage. A good deal of wood is also used for fuel, consisting of the thinnings or prunings of plantations.

October 1843.

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## PARISH OF KILMADOCK.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. GORDON MITCHELL, A. M., MINISTER.

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### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE name is believed to signify the *Chapel of St Madock, Madocus, or Modocus*, one of the Culdees.

*Extent.*—This extensive parish is about 12 miles in length, and 9 in breadth, containing at least 64 square miles.

*Boundaries, &c.*—It is situated in the ancient stewardry of Monteith, and is bounded on the north, by Muthill and Comrie; on the south, by Kincardine and Kippen; on the east, by Dunblane and Lecropt; and on the west, by Callander and Port-Monteith.

*Topographical Appearances.*—Its figure, though somewhat irregular, approaches to a parallelogram. Situated betwixt the Grampians and the Ochill hills, with a variety of hill and valley, it con-

tains one considerable hill, the *Uamvar* of the "Lady of the Lake."\* The view from this hill is splendid and extensive.

That "magnificent mountain," as Sir W. Scott calls it, *Benedi*, which signifies the *mountain of God*, appears to great advantage from

" the mountain's southern brow,  
Where broad extended far beneath,  
The varied realms of fair *Menteith*."

*Climate, &c.*—"This parish is an extremely healthful situation. While the Grampian mountains protect it from the nipping frosts of the north, it is finely exposed to the Atlantic breeze and heat of the sun. The rapidity of the river *Teith* and the smaller rivers have likewise a strong tendency to sweep away those noxious vapours that haunt the low countries. Being situated in the centre of the kingdom, the climate is mild and free of those rains that drench the western coast, and the piercing winds that blow incessantly on the inhabitants of the eastern borders. Hence in this parish there are very few diseases. The inhabitants enjoy a clear healthful atmosphere, and live to a good old age."

"This parish abounds with fine water springs, from its peculiar situation on the side of the Grampian mountains. From the sides of *Uaigh-mor* a great number of springs issue, and at one place, near the burn of *Garwall*, there is a very large spring rushing out of the solid rock in the form of a spout, the water of which is (said to be) mineral. The town of *Doune* is plentifully supplied with springs of soft water that never dry in the warmest summer, and the banks of *Teith* abound with similar natural springs."—(Old Account.)

*Lakes or Lochs.*—There are two lakes or lochs in the parish ;

\* The word *Uamvar* (*Uaigh-mor*) signifies the great cave. The hill is remarkable for a cavern in the south or the *Kilmaddock* side, as it is for a chasm on the north. "*Ua-var*," says Sir W. Scott, (appendix to *Lady of the Lake*, note A), "as the name is pronounced, or more properly, *Uaigh-mor*, is a mountain to the north-east of the village of *Callender* in *Menteith*, deriving its name, which signifies the great den or cavern, from a sort of retreat among the rocks on the south side, said by tradition to have been the abode of a giant. In latter times it was the refuge of robbers and banditti, who have been only extirpated within these forty or fifty years." The last Account, written in 1794, says, "they were only extirpated about forty or fifty years ago." In one part of the south brow, large towering rocks are piled sublimely together. At a little distance is the "great cave," so called,—a rocky cavern of great extent, in the form of a parallelogram, connected with which are two small caves, one of them forming a very commodious place of shelter or concealment, and the other producing very fine echoes when stones are pitched into it. Such are the "heights" and "wild beaths of *Uamvar*,"

With " the cavern where 'tis told  
A giant made his den of old."

the Loch of Watston, on the estate of Gartincaber, and Loch Maghaig, in the braes of Doune. The latter is formed chiefly from the springs above referred to. It forms nearly a circle, and is about a mile in diameter, while its depth is considerable.

*Rivers.*—Besides the smaller streams, Keltie, Annat, and Ardoch, the river Teith flows through the parish, and the Forth is its south boundary. The Teith rises partly at the head of Glengyle, flowing through Loch Venachar from Loch Achray and Loch Katrine, and partly in the Braes of Balquidder, flowing through Loch Voil and Loch Lubnaig, the two streams uniting above Callander and joining the Forth two miles from Stirling.

*Cascades.*—Though we cannot claim the neighbouring scenes of Bracklin Bridge and Pass of Leney, the “braes of Doune” can boast a number of beautiful cascades, formed by the Annat,—one or two at least rather considerable; while, not to mention the numerous torrents of Teith’s rocky channel, splendid though artificial cascades are formed by the Deanston embankments. There is also a beautiful fall of water from the canal connected with the works.

*Zoology, &c.*—The fishes in the rivers are salmon, trout, &c. : and pike and perch in the lakes. The salmon are said to come up the rivers for spawning in December, and to return in the end of January. Pearls have long been found in the Teith, in a certain shell-fish. The sea gull frequents the lochs, and the new dam of Deanston. A pure white magpie has sometimes been seen. Excellent horses are bred in the parish. The stag from Glenartney is a frequent visitor.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There is in the possession of James Macfarlane, Esq. Woodside cottage, a “bond of maurent granted by the Edmonstones of Duntreath for the manslaughter of James Stewart of Beith, umquihle father to Sir James Stewart of that Ilk and Doune.”

*Eminent Characters.*—Connected with this parish by residence were, Napier of Merchiston, the immortal Inventor of Logarithms,—“the person,” as Hume says, “to whom the title of great man is more justly due than to any other whom his country ever produced;”<sup>\*</sup> and Robert Spittel, the benevolent and philanthropic founder of the bridge of Teith, and also of the Stirling Hospital which bears his name.

<sup>\*</sup> Ballinton, in this parish, was the seat of the Lords Napier till the middle of last century. A copy of the Confession is subscribed in the session records by Lord Napier, with other ruling elders and the minister.

Connected with the parish by birth are, the Rev. John Row of Row, and the Rev. Alexander Fletcher of London.

*Land-owners.*—The chief land-owners are, the Earl of Moray, who has one-third of the valued rent and upwards; Henry Home Drummond, Esq., M. P. of Blair-Drummond; John Burn Murdoch, Esq. of Gartincaber; Andrew Jardine, Esq. of Lanrick, nephew to the late W. Jardine, Esq., M. P.; Major Buchanan of Cambusmore; Captain Graham of Coldoch; Archibald Stirling, Esq. of Keir; and George Home Binning, Esq. of Argaty, &c.

The estate of Lanrick, formerly the property of Sir Evan Murray Macgregor, passed in 1840 into the hands of William Jardine, Esq., M. P., partner at Canton of James Matheson, Esq. of Achany, M. P. The suggestions of Mr Jardine on the subject of the late war in China are said to have met with due consideration from the British Government. He died in London in February 1843.

*Parochial Registers.*—The parochial registers commence in 1623. They are not voluminous. One volume was destroyed by fire in the school-house.

*Antiquities.*—The principal antiquities are, Doune Castle and the Bridge of Teith. This castle is thus noticed by Sir Walter Scott in Waverley: "On the opposite bank of the river, and partly surrounded by a winding of its stream, stood a large and massive castle, the half-ruined turrets of which were already glittering in the first rays of the sun. It was in form an oblong square of size sufficient to contain a large court in the centre. The towers at each angle of the square rose higher than the walls of the building, and were in their turn surmounted by turrets differing in height and irregular in shape. This noble ruin," adds Sir Walter in the note, "is dear to my recollection, from associations which have been long and painfully broken. It holds a commanding station on the banks of the river Teith, and has been one of the largest castles in Scotland. Murdock, Duke of Albany, the founder of this stately pile, was beheaded on the castle-hill of Stirling, from which he might see the towers of Doune, the monument of his fallen greatness. In 1745-16, as stated in the text, a garrison on the part of the chevalier was put into the castle, then less ruinous than at present. It was commanded by Mr Stewart of Balloch, as governor for

Prince Charles. He was a man of property near Callander. This castle became at that time the actual scene of a romantic escape made by John Home, the author of *Douglas*, and some other prisoners, who, having been taken at the battle of Falkirk, were confined there by the insurgents. The poet, who had in his own mind a large stock of that romantic and enthusiastic spirit of adventure which he has described as animating the youthful hero of his drama, devised and undertook the perilous enterprise of escaping from his prison. He inspired his companions with his sentiments, and when every attempt at open force was deemed hopeless, they resolved to twist their bedclothes into ropes, and thus to descend. Four persons, with Home himself, reached the ground in safety; but the rope broke with the fifth, who was a tall lusty man. The sixth was Thomas Barrow, a brave young Englishman, a particular friend of Home's. Determined to take the risk, even in such unfavourable circumstances, Barrow committed himself to the broken rope, slid down on it as far as it could assist him, and then let himself drop. His friends beneath succeeded in breaking his fall; nevertheless, he dislocated his ankle, and had several of his ribs broken. His companions, however, were able to bear him off in safety. The Highlanders next morning sought for their prisoners with great activity. An old gentleman told the author he remembered seeing the commander, Stewart,

“Bloody with spurring, fiery red with haste,

riding furiously through the country in quest of the fugitives.”

Doone Castle stands on a round hill or mound. It is a massive edifice with a spacious square tower 80 feet in height, at one end of the front, and another, but smaller, behind the opposite extremity, nearly 40 feet in height, forming the whole into an ample quadrangle. It is uncertain when it was erected, though the tradition is, that part of it was built by Murdock, one of the Dukes of Albany, two of whom occupied it successively as an occasional residence. It was frequently occupied, in the sixteenth century, by Margaret, daughter of Henry VII. and widow of James IV. Macgregor of Glengyle held it in 1745, when John Home was confined in it. It has long been the property of the Earl of Moray, and gives the title to his eldest son. This extensive building overhangs a steep and narrow green bank, being romantically situated on a peninsula at the conflux of Teith and Ardoch, its lofty towers rising far above the surrounding trees, and

producing a fine effect. The great gate stands in the north, and the iron gate with its bars still remains entire. The north-west corner is said to have been the family residence. There are several cellars and prisons on the ground-floor, on each side of the entry, and after being introduced to the great area, the ascent to the tower and family mansion is by two inside stairs, standing over against each other. The western stair leads up to a spacious lobby that divides the kitchen from the great hall, which is 63 feet by 25. The fire-place in the kitchen occupies an entire side of the room, and is supported by a strong arch, which is still entire. The eastern stair leads up to the apartments in the tower. One is a spacious room with an arched roof and a large fire-place, containing a circular pillar. From its south-east corner, a narrow stone stair descends by a subterraneous passage into a cell or dungeon.

The writer of the former account doubts the truth of the common tradition as to the founder of this castle; but there is every reason to think that Murdock must have built part of it, as the difference between the more and less ancient parts of it may still be traced.

Murdock was son of Robert, who was son of Robert II. King of Scotland. He was taken prisoner by the English at the battle of Homelden in 1401, and succeeded his father in the Government on the 3d of September 1420, but resigned it four years afterwards. His resignation was followed by an accusation of high treason against him as well as his two sons and his father-in-law, who were seized and carried prisoners to Stirling. Murdock was taken betwixt Doune and Dunblane, at a small rivulet, which was therefore called Murdock's ford, a name which it retains to this day. Though the castle is roofless, the walls are still entire, having the appearance of great solidity and strength. Doune castle is mentioned in the beautiful traditional ballad which relates the death of the "Bonnie Earl of Moray."

Interesting as it is on account of its other associations, "it is rendered still more interesting," says Dr Graham (Sketches of Perthshire), "by its having been for some time the residence of Mary Queen of Scots. And though Sir W. Scott, in the observance of the Horatian rule—

— ad eventum festinat et in medias res  
Non secus ac notas auditorem rapit.

it seems to be unquestionable that the knight of Snowdon and his



retinue had slept at Doune Castle on the night previous to the chase; else

“The deep mouthed blood hounds heavy bay,”

had not

“Resounded up the rocky way,  
When the sun his beacon red  
Had kindled on Benvoirlich's head.”

*Bridge of Teith.*—The Bridge of Teith is a strong building of two arches, situated half-way between the castle and Deanston. It was erected in 1535\* by Robert Spittel, tailor to King James IV. or rather to Queen Margaret. Tradition assigns to it a somewhat singular origin. Once on coming to the ferry, Mr Spittel found he had left his money behind—excepting, as it is sometimes added, a small coin, which he cut in two with his scissors, offering one-half as his fare. The boatman refused to ferry him over, and the generous tailor built the bridge! Be this as it may, Mr Spittel must have been a man of noble mind and benevolent heart, and the hospital which he founded in Stirling for the relief of decayed tradesmen is another and an appropriate monument of his patriotic virtue. Inside the western parapet of the bridge, are the armorial bearings of England and of Scotland, in separate shields surmounted by crowns.†

At some distance from these is the following inscription, in the centre of which is a shield with a device resembling a spread eagle, and in the base a pair of large scissors formed *en saltier*:—“IN . GOD . IS . AL . MY . TRUST . QUOD . — TEL . THE . X . DA . OF . SEPTEMBER . IN . THE . ZEIR . OF . GOD . M.VCXXXV . ZEIRS . FUNDIT . WES THIS . BRIG . BE . ROBERT . SPITELL . TAILZER . TO . THE . MAIST . NOBLE . PRECES . MARGARET . — NG . JAMES . THE . FEIRD.—OF . ALMIS.”

The first of the Spittels was a younger son of Sir Maurice Buchanan of Buchanan, in the line of Alexander III. He had entered the order of the Knights Hospitalers, and hence in the

\* The former Account has it “about the year 1530.”

† The tricentenary was celebrated under the auspices of Mr Smith of Deanston in 1835. A fac-simile of the inscription was engraved on that occasion, copies of which are frequently to be met with in the parish. The following is added in the engraving as a translation: In God is all my trust quoth Spittel the 10th day of September in the year of God 1535 years, founded was this bridge by Robert Spittel, tailor to the Most Noble Princess Margaret, Queen to James the Fourth.—Of alms. The engraver has omitted the word “King” though the last two letters of it are still legible on the bridge. The version in Stirling's edition of Nimmo's Stirlingshire, substitutes honourable for noble. That authority says, “The line on the shield is perhaps a falcon, as the Spittels are a branch of the Buchanans whose supporters are falcons.”

Scottish language was called Spittel. It is a singular coincidence that the people at first were, it is said, as jealous and suspicious of the bridge of Teith, as they were of the Deanston mill 250 years after. "Though this goodly edifice was a work of charity, and intended exclusively for their convenience," (as indeed the words "of alms" express), the common people could not help regarding it with all the suspicion and dislike which the lower classes of Scotland too often entertain respecting attempts at improvement, comfort, or decoration. While they took advantage of the expensive public work erected for their service, they could not help thinking upon the good old Bridge of Callander with feelings of tenderness, and this sentiment seems to have extended itself into a comparison between the old and the new bridge, much to the disadvantage of the latter. The rhyme in which this sentiment was embodied has been preserved by tradition, though the object of its flattery is supposed not to have been in existence since the time of the Reformation—

The new brig of Doune, and the auld brig of Callander,  
Four-and-twenty bows in the auld brig of Callander."

This, we suppose, alludes to the circumstance of there being no fewer than the extraordinary number of twenty-four arches in the ancient bridge! \*

Of the former church at Kilmadock, there is still standing a small part, chiefly the east gable. The ruin is highly picturesque, and the effect of the beautiful ivy-mantled window is in fine keeping with the romantic scenery of this sequestered spot. Out of six chapels which are said once to have existed in the parish, four have entirely disappeared,—those of Annat, Lanrick, Torry, and Walton. There is still to be seen at the bridge of Teith, a wall said to have been part of an old chapel there. Of the chapel at Newton there remain the west gable and part of the side walls.

A cave is said to have been discovered at Coldoch, and there is the appearance of a camp close to Doune Lodge, with a large stone at some distance called the "camp stone," said to have given the property its former name *Cambuswallace quasi Wallace camp*,—while one or two standing stones are to be seen, which are supposed to be Druidical monuments. Before the date of last Account, several graves were discovered below Rosehall, enclosed with four stones each, in the form of the ancient tombs of Caledonia, but no bones remained; from which it is evident that

\* Chambers's Popular Rhymes, &c. &c. of Scotland.

they are of great antiquity. It is very remarkable that before they were discovered, there was a local tradition that a battle was once fought near this spot, and that several were killed in the fray. The tombs discovered may have been the graves of these ancient chieftains.

*Modern Buildings.*—The principal modern buildings are the parish church at Doune, Lanrick Castle and Suspension bridge, Deanston House manufactory and village, the new Secession chapel at Bridge of Teith.

### III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish in 1755 was only	2790
By the last census (1841) it had increased to	4050
In 1831 it was	3752
1821,	3150
1792, at the date of last Statistical Account, it was	3209

One cause of the great increase during the decade between 1821 and 1831 is said to have been the extension of the Deanston Works.

*Language.*—The language generally spoken is provincial English, with Gaelic by a few families. The common language, in last Account, is said to have been “a mixture of Scotch and English.” “In the quarter towards Callander,” says Mr M<sup>c</sup>Gibbon, “the generality of the inhabitants speak Gaelic,” as some of them do to this day.

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

*Agriculture.*—The parish contains about 51,200 acres, a part of which remains constantly waste or in pasture. A great deal might, with a profitable application of capital, be added to the cultivated land of the parish.

*Rent of Land.*—The average rent of arable land is said to be about L.1 per acre.

Great improvements have been recently made in the parish. Besides those on Lanrick and at Argaty, we cannot omit to notice the system carried on by Mr Smith at Deanston, who has not only completely changed the face of the country, but turned the wilderness into a garden. It is only necessary to refer to Mr Smith's published “Remarks on Thorough Draining and Deep Ploughing.” These are the two great principles of the well known “Deanston system.”\* Mr Smith holds furrow draining to be the foundation of subsoil ploughing.

\* This system is thus spoken of in the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture (June

*Manufactures.*—In this parish are the celebrated Deanston Cotton-works. The following correct description of them is taken from the Inverness Courier.

“Deanston Cotton-Works employ above 1100 persons, young and old, and contain the most perfect machinery in the kingdom. The first erection took place in the year 1785, by the Messrs Buchanan of Carston, four brothers, the eldest of whom was an intimate acquaintance of Sir Richard Arkwright, and was his first agent in Glasgow for the sale of cotton twist. The English had annoyed Sir Richard so much by invading his invention, that he resolved to instruct young Scotsmen in the art, in preference to his own countrymen; and among others, Mr Archibald Buchanan (now manager of the Catrine works, Ayrshire,) went apprentice to Sir Richard, and was the only one who had the privilege of living

1839). “The thorough or Deanston mode of draining, of so great benefit, not for Scotland only, but for the whole kingdom, is as yet in its infancy. Already, the fame and the utility of it are spreading all over the island, and we have not a doubt, in a short time, there will not be found a spot, where improvements are carried on, that has not been ‘made anew’ by means of this simple, yet powerful and efficient system of draining.” “The principle of the system,” as explained by Mr Smith himself, “is the providing of frequent opportunities for the water rising from below, or falling on the surface, to pass freely and completely off.” Mr Smith adds, that the most appropriate appellation for it, therefore, seems to be “the frequent drain system,” or “thorough drainage system.” In deference to Mr Smith, but in justice to his claims as the inventor, it seems not inappropriately called the Deanston system. “In proceeding to apply this system of drainage to a farm, the first object,” says Mr Smith, “is to allow a sufficient fall or level, as it is commonly termed, for a main drain to receive the water flowing from the ordinary or parallel drains.” We do not here describe the system, referring to Mr Smith’s own description. Suffice it to remark the necessity of “closely covering the upper surface of the stones with a thin thatch or flautcher, divot or turf, as many drains are ruined at once by the running in of the loose earth.”

With regard to deep ploughing, Mr Smith remarks, “All who have ever studied or experienced the most common gardening must be aware of the important advantages of deep working, and, when it can be attained in the broad field of farming, at so small a cost as 9s. per acre, they may easily believe that the whole will be more than doubly repaid in every succeeding grain crop, and abundantly even in pasture. When this subject was treated of in the Second Report of Drummond’s Agricultural Museum, published in March 1833, the system was beginning to be adopted in a few places, in a very few districts of Scotland, England, and Ireland, and, in most instances, on a very limited scale. Since then, the intrinsic merits and evident results of the system have raised its character even with many of its former opponents, and one cannot now travel almost anywhere in the country without seeing, either on a large or a small scale, the operation of thorough draining going on. The deep ploughing is not yet so general, but it will undoubtedly follow; and, it is to be regretted, that, in the meantime, some zealous and good farmers, not aware of its advantages, are filling their drains so near the surface, as to mar the future thorough application of the system of deep working.” “I have been often asked,” says Mr Smith in a note, “if I would recommend subsoil ploughing of land which had not been drained. To this I answer, certainly not. \* \* \* So soon as wet lands are thoroughly drained, deep ploughing may follow with the greatest advantage, but not sooner.”

“Thorough draining,” adds Mr Smith, “is the foundation of all good husbandry, and when combined with deep ploughing, ensures a general and uniform fertility, assisted, no doubt, by the essentials, thorough working and cleaning, ample manuring, and a proper rotation of cropping.”

in the house with him. Sir Richard was an old bachelor, and was so intent on his schemes and calculations, that young Buchanan and he often sat for weeks together, on opposite sides of the fire, without exchanging a syllable. The old man, however, was in his other moods extremely kind and familiar, and recollected his pupil in after life.

“ The powerful fall and supply of water in the Teith having suggested to the elder of the Buchanans the idea of placing a cotton-spinning establishment at this spot, where it now stands, the scheme was soon ripened into action. There was a lint mill with a dam upon the property, and the owner disposed of the mill to him, and gave him a feu of six acres along the margin of the stream. Carding and roving for jenny-spinning were then the only processes which were driven by power (as it is termed), and for this purpose the old lint mill was appropriated, a building being erected close by for the reception of the jennies. At first, the Highlanders were shy of entering this tower of Babel, with its unknown sounds and sights : they considered it a sort of prison. From the respectable manner in which the works were conducted, they were gradually reconciled to the employment, and were quite willing that both themselves and children should be engaged. Archibald Buchanan was then a fine athletic young man of eighteen or nineteen, of a social generous disposition ; he mingled with the people ; and thus a number of active young men of the district, of the better classes, were led to work at Deanston ; and so expert did they become, that as fine yarn was then spun at Deanston as has subsequently been made by the best spinners in Manchester. Some of these young men afterwards made fortunes in business, and the firm of the Macphails in Glasgow (extensive spinners and power weavers) had its origin in one of the family repairing from Ross-shire to work at Deanston.

“ In the year 1793, the works at Deanston passed into the hands of a Yorkshire Quaker, a benevolent old gentleman named Flounders ; and in 1808 they became the property of James Finlay and Co. from Glasgow, with whom Mr Archibald Buchanan had become connected. The establishment was at this time remodelled under the charge of the present manager, Mr Smith (a nephew of Mr Buchanan), who is well known for his mechanical as well as his agricultural inventions and improvements. In 1822, the company made arrangements with the neighbouring proprietors for

additional water-power, by which they acquired a fall of 20 feet, making the whole fall 33 feet.

“ An extensive plan of enlargement and improvement was now adopted; the works were thriving, and machinery was daily becoming more and more perfect. In this plan, it was proposed to erect eight water wheels in one square building, each to be 36 feet in diameter, and 11 feet wide inside, being overshot, and having the shrouding and buckets 24 inches deep. At present four of those wheels are in operation, and pedestals have been erected for two more. They are the most gigantic-looking things we ever saw, and distribute, by innumerable shafts, the whole of the vast concentrated power over the different apartments. Each wheel has a power equal to eighty horses!

“ The whole of the works are lighted with gas, and they possessed this advantage so early as 1813, before any of our towns could boast the same brilliant light. Tunnels are made all under ground, by which communication can be had with the different departments without going out of doors, and every other facility has been adopted for carrying on the operations. Carts proceed daily to Glasgow with the produce. The construction of the various works must have cost an enormous outlay of money, and a considerable charge annually will be brought against it in the shape of interest; but we were informed that the power being once acquired, the annual expenditure for management and repairs is small indeed—not exceeding, on the average, L.400 per annum. The steadiness of the stream of the Teith, which flows from Loch Katrine and five of her lakes, renders the command of water extremely uniform, and the loss of a few hours' work per day for a week or fortnight in the driest period of summer is all the stoppage the works ever experience.

“ The process of manufacture may be described as follows:—The bags of cotton, containing each about 300 pounds weight, are laid upon the floor in rows, taken out and thrown into a machine called a *Willow*. This willow is a revolving cylinder with iron teeth, which divides and breaks down the masses. The *materiel* is then conveyed to another machine—the *Angel*. The cotton is then weighed in small portions, spread out, and put into a machine which determines and regulates the grist of the thread. Passing through pairs of rollers, the cotton is struck by iron beaters (as in a thrashing-mill) at the rate of six thousand feet per minute! The lighter dust is drawn through a revolving wire sieve by the

action of a fanner, and is thus blown to the open air, ridding all the processes of that annoyance which used to be so hurtful to health. The cotton is now in the form of a web—is next wound on rollers—and put to the carding-machines, whereby the fibres of the cotton are completely separated, and any remaining lumps or refuse are taken out.

“The machines used here are of a peculiar construction, in which a process formerly done by hand is now performed by mechanism, and for which Mr Smith holds a patent. By the variously improved construction of this machine, the saving of labour in this process will amount to about thirty per cent. Some peculiar and beautiful movements are introduced, but it is impossible to describe them. The next process to which the material passes, is the drawing machine, wherein the fibres are drawn into a parallel and longitudinal position, by means of successive pairs of rollers, the first pair holding the material, and allowing it to pass with a slow progress, whilst the second pair lay hold of it and pull it in the same way as a man draws straw for thatching. When the fibres have been sufficiently brought to parallel (which is done by repeating this process three or four times in the same machine), the material is carried to what is called a *roving frame*, where it is drawn to a much smaller grist, and then twisted into a thready form, and is wound upon bobbins. These bobbins are carried to spinning machines, when the grist is still more reduced, until the thread reaches its desired size, when it is twisted sufficiently firm to become thread fit for weaving. The thread intended for warp is spun upon a machine called a *throstle*, which is a modification of Sir Richard Arkwright's original machine, and at this work a recent American invention has been adopted; it admits of great velocity in the twisting process, and, consequently, produces a much greater quantity of work in the same time. The bobbins, by the movements of which the twist is thrown into thread, go at the amazing velocity of 8000 revolutions per minute! The effect is magical. These machines are attended by children, chiefly little girls, who are singularly dexterous, and they are superintended in divisions by grown-up women—one male superintendant having the general charge of a department. The work is light and easy, but requires constant attention and great cleanliness and order, and thus it may be said to form an excellent school for training the young to habits of attention and industry. These little girls follow the employment with spirit and cheerfulness, from

eight to twelve hours a-day. The yarn intended for woof or weft is upon the *mule jenny*, a machine invented by a Mr Crompton, near Bolton, Lancashire. It is an adaptation of the twisting process of the old jenny, or meickle wheel of this country, to the drawing process of Sir Richard Arkwright. Hitherto such machines have generally been worked by men of great strength and skill, who acquired high wages, and were the chief movers in all the combinations of the cotton trade. To obviate the inconvenience of these strikes, the attention of mechanical men has been for many years directed. The machines employed here were invented by Mr Smith some years ago, for which he holds patents for the United Kingdom, most of the countries on the continent of Europe, and for America. The machine is now being extensively introduced in the trade generally. Mr Smith has just completed an adaptation of this principle to mules for spinning wool, and which is likely to be of vast importance in the present rising state of the woollen manufactures of our country.

“The invention of this machine removes the only laborious and slavish employment that remained in the cotton manufacture, and effects a saving of about 50 per cent., besides producing an article of superior quality, and insuring regularity. It has created a demand for young females’ labour, who are better paid than when they worked under the spinners—the money being thus more equally distributed. It gives, besides, to this country an important advantage over the cheap labour of other countries.

“In preparing the warp for the weaving process, from 500 to 1000 bobbins are arranged in regular rows in a wooden frame, and from these the threads proceed towards a beam, or roller, on which they are wound, having a peculiarly beautiful appearance, the threads converging towards the mass, like the rays of the sun from behind a cloud. Being collected, the threads are passed through a machine whereby the threads are stiffened, by being immersed in a paste formed of flour and glue boiled together with water. Brushes attached to mechanism sweep along the surfaces of threads, laying all the fibres, and rendering them smooth and uniform. Fanners are put in rapid motion, and blow heated air upon the mass of threads, so as to render it perfectly dry before being placed on the weavers’ beam. From this it is carried to the power-loom, where the whole operations are performed by mechanism; the young women, who attend two looms each, having merely to supply the woof from time to time, and mend such



threads of the warp as may break in the process. The wool is supplied in little pirns or cops, formed on the self-acting mules; each loom will, on cloth of ordinary thickness, such as a common calico, produce about thirty yards per day, making 60 the work of each girl. These looms, to the number of about 300, are arranged in rows, with alleys between, in a most spacious apartment, which, when lighted with gas, has a most magnificent effect.

“ In going over the vast establishment, it seemed to us like entering an illuminated village, and we shall not soon forget the effect of 300 gas lights in one apartment. This building is quite novel in its structure, the roof being composed of groined arches, supported on cast-iron columns, 12 feet high, and the rise of the arches being 6 feet; the greatest height of the ceiling is 18 feet. The groins are in squares of 33 feet 6 inches, and in the centre of each groin there is a circular opening 8 feet in diameter, surmounted by a handsome glass cupola light, affording a most uniform and perfect light for the operations carried on below. The arches are rendered water-tight in the most simple manner by a coating of pitched coal tar, about a quarter of an inch in thickness, and the whole is covered with three or four feet of soil, intended to form a garden for flowers and other plants. It is remarkable, that during the intense frost of the winter 1837-8, the hardening did not penetrate more than one and a-half inches into this soil—owing, doubtless, to the heat from below. This building covers altogether upwards of half an acre, and every individual in the apartment can be seen from any point. The whole is fire-proof. The general order of management at the Deanston Works is very much on the principle of Arkwright—a proof of the talents of that eminent person. There is a head or superintendant to each department—every one has his own allotted part—and in most cases they are paid by the piece, not in weekly wages. They receive the amount of their earnings every Thursday morning (that being the market day); and the youngest individual about the works is paid his or her wages into their own hand, which seems to give them an idea of personal consequence. They have all the privilege of leaving any moment they choose, without previous warning; and we were informed that this is found to insure a more steady, agreeable, and lengthened service than could be obtained by the firmest indenture. There is no fine or punishment, excepting for damage to the works through evident carelessness. The order of the establishment is preserved by the dismissal of offending individuals,

or their banishment for a limited period. By 'stopping the supplies,' every member of the family is interested in the good conduct of the whole, and a banished child, man, or friend, finds no rest at home. The morals of the people are in general very correct; no drunkard is permitted about the establishment. We inquired of an intelligent medical gentleman at Doune (Dr M'Ansh) whether the spinners were as healthy as the other villagers. His answer was, 'They are not so robust (owing to their confinement), but their health is as steady and uniform.'

"Immediately adjoining the works is a handsome little village, built and founded by the company, which contains about 1200 inhabitants. The houses are neat, built in one long street parallel to the water course, and are two stories high, with attics. They are most exemplary patterns of cleanliness, and to each house is attached a small piece of garden ground, and a range of grass plot for bleaching. A school-room is united to the establishment, capable of containing 200 children, and a teacher is paid by the company. The young children generally go to school when about five years of age; and as none are admitted into the works until they are nine, they are mostly good readers, and able to write and cypher before they enter the works. The children employed in the works from nine to thirteen years of age, must, according to the Factory Act, work only eight hours per day, and about three hours are devoted to the school-room. The number at this age amounts to 100, and they are divided into relays of 33 each; so that while two relays are at work, one is attending school. The youth above thirteen years of age and under sixteen are expected to attend an evening school four nights in the week; and a Sabbath school in the village contains about 150 pupils. Thus the works at Deanston seem to possess every facility and recommendation; they have changed the aspect of the country—beautiful and romantic as it is—by introducing into it habits of industry, order, and the highest mechanical genius and dexterity; they cause a circulation of money to the extent of about £20,000 per annum; they furnish employment for the people of all ages; they have called forth the spirit and activity of the agriculturists to meet the ever-recurring demands of the place; and in all respects they are a splendid monument of British enterprise, skill, and perseverance."\*

\* To this account it may now be added, that Mr Smith has ceased to be a partner, and has retired from the management, while the machine making department is

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Market-Town.*—Stirling is the principal market for grain. It is eight miles distant from Doune.

*Villages.*—The only two considerable villages in the parish are Doune and Deanston. Doune is a pleasant village, with three principal streets. It contains a market cross, a handsome church, and several good houses. It was formerly celebrated for three manufactures,—viz. skinning, Highland purses, and Highland pistols. The houses are well built, mostly slated, and of rather recent erection. Deanston, the other considerable village, is mentioned in the *Lady of the Lake*, where it is spelt Deanstone.

Torry and Lanrick now we past,  
And Deanstone lies behind them cast.

It is a very neat and clean-looking village, consisting of two rows of houses, which form one wide street, with a lane behind. The one row, which is small, is several feet below the level of the street; the other consists of four detached divisions of equal extent. The houses are uniform (two stories high with attics) and white-washed, giving the village a very neat appearance.

There are four hamlets or small villages besides, viz. Buchany, or Burn of Cambus, Drumvaich, Delvorich, and Bridge of Teith, sometimes called the Cotton Row, and formerly the new town of Doune,—a name which is now more applicable to Deanston. Buchany and Burn of Cambus were formerly distinct villages, but three houses of the latter only remain.

*Means of Communication.*—Doune is a post-town. We have a mail-gig daily between Stirling and Callander, and two carriers twice a-week betwixt Doune and Stirling. Though there is no great length of turnpike roads in the parish, a stage-coach runs between Callander and Stirling daily in summer, and twice a-week (Mondays and Fridays) in winter. Last two summers, there were two coaches daily connecting with the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway.

The former Account said, “There is no bridge over Teith below Callander, except one near Doune, called Bridge of Teith.” This complaint continued to be well founded up till 1842, when a suspension bridge was erected at Lanrick on plans by Mr Smith of Deanston.

now given up, with the exception of what is required for the wants of the establishment, which has long been celebrated for the manufacture of the patent self-acting mule invented by Mr Smith. This gentleman is well known as an eminent agriculturist and engineer,—ranking with not only the Wattses and Arkwrights for his mechanical skill, but also with the Howards and Clarksons for his benevolence.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Formerly the parish church stood at Kilmadock, the site of the “ancient monastery of St Madocus;” but it was taken down in 1744. The last church was built at Doune, in 1746. The former Account says that it was built about the year 1756, the first incumbent of the new church being Mr James Smith. The fact is, Mr Smith’s predecessor preached ten years in Doune. Mr Smith succeeded Mr Archibald Napier in 1755, his other predecessors being, Messrs George Campbell (1705–1711), John Logan, David Drummond, John Edmonstone, William Edmonstone, (who is mentioned in the kirk-session records from 1623), and Alexander Fergy (1576), with Robert Fogo and Thomas Redoch (reidars) readers (in 1576 and 1569 respectively.)

The church is situated towards the east end of the parish, and is convenient for the greater part of the population. It is a very handsome if not elegant church: and on the whole, very commodious. The style is chiefly Gothic.

The only interesting benefactions on record are a set of eight Bibles and Psalm Books, besides pulpit ones, presented to the kirk-session by the Earl of Moray on the opening of the new church; and the only important ones four silver communion cups, with the other necessary utensils, presented by William Mitchell, Esq. of Bushy Park, Jamaica, a native of Doune.

The church is seated for 1121, but is capable of accommodating 1400 persons. The age of the manse is unknown. It was repaired thirty years ago.

The glebe is stated in last Account at six acres in extent. It contains upwards of seven acres, including the garden. The stipend is 18 chalders, half meal and half barley, with L. 10 for communion elements. According to the Report of the Commission for Religious Instruction, the glebe is L.7 in value, with a right to cut peats; and the stipend, L.288, 7s. 1d., the unappropriated teind being L.625, 2s. 9d.

There is a chapel at Bridge of Teith in communion with the United Associate Synod. The minister is supported by seat-rents and collections, his stipend being stated at L.100.

A congregation has lately been formed in connection with the Congregational Union of Scotland.

A small Wesleyan Methodist chapel is in progress.\*

There is a general Bible and Missionary Association in Doune,

\* To this it falls now to be added, that there are in Doune (which contains five churches or congregations in all) two churches in connection with the “Free Protestant Church of Scotland.”

which, up till this year, has collected L.30 annually and upwards ; besides one connected with the congregation at Bridge of Teith, the income of which varies from L.20 to L.30.

The probable average annual amount of collections yearly in the parish church for religious and charitable objects may be stated at from L.80 to L.100.

*Education.*—There are seven schools in the parish. Of these, one is the parochial school, three are endowed, at least partially, the rest supported by individual subscription. The parochial teacher has the maximum salary, and the legal accommodation.

*Literature.*—There is a circulating library in connection with Deanston Works, besides religious ones attached to each of the three oldest churches in the place.

*Savings' Bank.*—There is a savings' bank in Doune, viz. the "Kilmadock Parish Savings' Bank," besides one at Deanston for the cotton workers exclusively.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is about 55 (though it has suddenly risen, by the pressure of the times, to 62,) and the average sum allotted to each is about 1s. 6d. per week, or L.3, 18s. per annum.

The annual amount of contributions for their relief is upwards of L.200, about L.60 having hitherto been collected at the church door, and the rest contributed by the heritors, who voluntarily assess themselves.

*Fairs.*—The Doune fairs are well known. Of these there are six annually. The great fair, called the Latter Fair, is held on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of November ; the sheep fair on Tuesday, and the black-cattle on Wednesday. The next largest is held on the fourth Wednesday of the same month. The others, which are smaller, or mostly nominal, are, Candlemas Fair, 11th February, for grain and general business ; May Fair, second Wednesday of May, for milch cows and cattle for grazing ; July Fair, 26th July, for hiring shearers and general business ; and Yuill Fair, last Wednesday of December, for fat cattle, grain, and general business.

*Inns, &c.*—There are 14 public-houses in the parish ; besides two at Deanston, in which no spirits are sold.

*Fuel.*—The fuel used, besides wood, is peat and coal. The former is procured at the hill (Uamvar) and at Moss Flanders ; the latter either at Bannockburn or near Alloa. The one costs about 5s. and the other, exclusive of 5s. for carting, from 7s. to 8s. per cart load.

*Revised January 1844.*

# KINCARDINE IN MONTEITH.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBLANE, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. ALEXANDER GRAY, D. D., MINISTER.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name and Boundaries.*—IN the county of Perth there are the castle of Kincardine in Strathearn, the town of Kincardine in the parish of Tulliallan, and the parish of Kincardine in Monteith. This name is of Gaelic origin, and is said by the author of the former Statistical Account of this parish, to mean *the head of the shore*. This countenances the opinion generally entertained, that the carse in the vicinity of the church and manse, and which forms a very important part of the parish, was, at a remote period, a continuation of the Frith of Forth. But some who are skilled in Celtic lore say, that Kincardine being a Scoto-Celtic word, and occurring in the north, where the Britanno-Celtic or Welsh does not appear to have ever been spoken, must be derived from Cinn-chairdin; and that, as the first part of this word means literally heads, it may be rendered heads of friends: or applied metaphorically, it may mean the rallying place of friends, referring either to the chief who ruled, or to his stronghold where his retainers found friendship and protection in times of danger.

This locality favours this interpretation, because, adjoining the old church and manse, and where the minister lately had his garden, there was a foss or moat, and what were vulgarly called the Auld Wa's, being the remains of an old castle. There is besides, at a short distance westward, a commanding point called the Ward, and a tumulus about an equal distance eastward, of considerable elevation, both of which are supposed to have been watch-towers. The author of the Account of the parish of Kincardine in Ross-shire adopts this latter etymology, and says that the chief of

the clan Ross, and his most powerful and confidential friends, dwelt there, and gave the name Kincardine to the place where they resided.

This parish is of a triangular form, and is divided on the south and east from the parishes of St Ninians, Gargunnoch, and Kippen, by the Forth; and by the Teith, on the north, from Lecroft and Kilmadock. From the confluence of these streams to the south-west extremity of the parish along the Forth, the extent is about ten miles; and from the same point to the north-west extremity on the Teith, twelve miles. The western boundary measures about seven miles from north to south. A part of the parish of Kilmadock, about 3 miles in breadth, and extending from the Teith to the Forth, intersects this parish; but there is a *quoad sacra* church at Norriestoun, in the western part of Kincardine, which accommodates such of the people of Kincardine, Port, and Kilmadock, as live at an inconvenient distance from their parish churches.

*Extent.*—The eastern part of Kincardine is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Stirling. The parish contains about 6000 Scotch, or about 7500 imperial acres; about 5000 acres of which, extending along the Forth, are carse, and 2500 along the Teith, are dryfield land.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The only elevated part of this parish is a gradually sloping ridge, which commences at the mansion-house of Blair-Drummond, and ascends westward by gentle undulations, from about 40 to 300 feet above the level of the sea, at the highest part of the road, from Thornhill to Callander. The soil along this ridge is, with few exceptions, of good quality, and slopes laterally to the Teith on the north, and to the carse on the south. There is nothing very remarkable along this line, except the varied and interesting scenery which the higher points command. The view to the west and north comprehends a portion of the Grampian mountains, such as the cloud-capped Benlomond, Benvenue, and Benledi; and also Benvoirlich, Stuckachrone, and Uamvar. On the east, the range of the Ochils, including Dumyat, the Sheriffmuir, the Abbey Craig, the Castle of Stirling, the Gillies Hill, the field of Bannockburn, and the rock of Craigforth, all crowd in rich variety upon the sight, and recal many historical recollections. But, even beyond all these, the line of the Frith of Forth is seen extending eastward as far as the eye can reach. On the south, the view is bounded by the

Lennox hills, which run with little interruption from the Castle of Stirling, on the Forth, to the Castle of Dumbarton, on the Clyde, the principal portion of these hills being seen from this parish.

The intermediate district of Monteith, to which the description refers, is from this point very interesting. Here are the extremes of cultivation and sterility. To the west lies Moss Flanders, with its thousands of uncultivated acres; in the centre and eastern portions of the Strath are seen the fruits of agricultural intelligence, enterprise, and success; and the more elevated situations in the west, north, south, and east, are adorned with the mansion-houses and ornamented parks of the different proprietors, and the comfortable houses of their tenantry. This grand and beautiful variety of objects is seen from this parish, because it forms, as it were, a centre, of which they are the circumference.

*Soil and Climate.*—The carse portion of this parish is completely flat, and includes the moss of Kincardine, and a part of Moss Flanders. The soil of the small carse, where it has been cleared of moss, is generally of a rich blue clay, of great depth, and very productive, capable of bearing all kinds of grain and green crops.

The dryfield rises from the carse into a gently swelling ridge, which generally slopes to the south, except at the north-western extremity of the parish, where the slope is to the north and south. This ridge joins the picturesque hills in the parishes of Port and Callander. The soil is a light loam, and produces excellent oats, barley, potatoes, turnips, and grass. The subsoil is generally tilly or rocky.

*Meteorology.*—There is a considerable difference in the temperature of the atmosphere in the higher and lower divisions of this parish. The south-eastern division is about 20, and the north-western about 300 feet above the level of the sea. In the latter, the air is comparatively cold, and the vegetation later and more uncertain; while in the former, the atmosphere is mild, the heat greater, and the land also being better, the crops are earlier, more abundant, and of better quality. But in consequence of the length and breadth of the carse, in which the currents of air meet with no interruption for many miles, the high winds, especially when the mountains are covered with snow, are



peculiarly cold and penetrating. The following abridged table, from an account of the state of the atmosphere, regularly kept at Deanston Works in this neighbourhood, gives a correct view of the monthly state of the thermometer, barometer, and hygrometer in this parish :

1839.	Barometer.			Thermometer.			Rain in Inches.
	Lowest.	Highest.	Mean.	Lowest.	Highest.	Mean.	
January,	27.90	30.60	29.73	17	48	35.00	5.35
February,	29.17	30.25	28.74	24	47	37.00	4.50
March,	29.30	30.28	28.92	31	48	38.25	3.40
April,	29.24	30.75	30.17	34	54	44.50	1.20
May,	29.47	30.38	30.07	43	60	51.60	1.40
June,	29.32	30.28	29.95	50	68	56.02	1.95
July,	29.35	30.49	29.86	54	68	68.55	0.50
August,	29.38	30.39	29.05	52	65	58.45	3.40
September,	29.00	30.09	29.54	44	59	54.07	5.60
October,	29.77	30.99	30.24	35	55	45.22	3.35
November,	29.17	30.22	29.72	22	51	42.58	2.15
December,	28.85	30.60	28.95	18	47	36.51	2.40
	29.15	30.44	29.58	35	55	47.47	35.20

1840.	Barometer.			Thermometer.			Rain in Inches.
	Lowest.	Highest.	Mean.	Lowest.	Highest.	Mean.	
January,	28.50	30.43	29.61	18	46	37.42	6.00
February,	28.70	30.75	29.93	26	47	37.48	1.85
March,	29.81	30.80	30.46	33	49	40.83	0.00
April,	29.12	30.50	30.46	40	59	49.16	0.00
May,	29.40	30.50	30.01	40	60	50.40	1.40
June,	29.40	30.22	29.96	68	50	58.17	3.30
July,	29.55	30.25	29.89	51	64	56.93	0.90
August,	29.12	30.42	30.00	48	66	59.57	1.60
September,	29.10	30.16	29.74	45	60	51.80	4.60
October,	29.12	30.65	30.04	30	54	45.10	2.00
November,	28.86	30.56	29.63	32	50	40.73	3.00
December,	29.15	30.69	29.31	24	46	35.10	1.30
	29.14	30.51	29.92	38	54	46.92	26.

The polar lights and luminous meteors are often seen here in beautiful variety and grandeur.

At stated seasons this parish is visited by easterly haars, which, towards the evenings in the months of spring and autumn, come up the Forth. These haars consist of a cold, dense, moist vapour, which fills the valley of the Forth, extending to the elevated lands on each side of it. Their chilling effects are injurious to the field labourer, whose constitution may have been much excited by the heat and hard labour of the earlier parts of the day, and in delicate constitutions produce colds, and affect the lungs.

The summits of our mountains, by the vapours, and the clouds resting upon them, give indications at all seasons of a change in the atmosphere; and in the evenings of spring and autumn the vapour rising for miles along the line of the Forth gives sure proofs of frost. The reflexion from the clouds also, of the great furnaces at the Devon, the Carron, and other great works, indicate the moist state of the atmosphere for a considerable time before the rain visits us. The prevailing winds are from the west and south-west, but the coldest are from the north and east. The two ranges of hills which enclose this level country meet in the Grampians, to the west, where their elevation is so great as powerfully to attract the clouds which come sweeping along, sometimes on the north side, and sometimes on the south side of the valley.

The climate here is of a mild and medium character, and promotes the health of the inhabitants, and renders the soil productive. The reason is, that the carse division is wide, open, well cultivated, and fertile, and but slightly raised above the level of the sea, and the dryfield is also in a good state of cultivation, and slopes generally to the south.

*Hydrography.*—There are no lakes or friths in this parish, but there is, especially in the dryfield, plenty of water produced by numerous springs, which are pure and copious. Some of them contain a portion of iron, and some of lime which appears in very hard incrustations in the process of boiling. For this reason the water is hard, and less profitable for washing and bleaching. Throughout the parish, but especially near the line which divides the carse from the dryfield, these springs appear in great numbers. They gave an abundant supply, with a few exceptions, even during the long continued droughts of 1826 and 1842. But where there are no surface springs, abundance of water is to be found by sinking wells to a moderate depth, especially on reaching or cutting through the sandstone.

The proprietor of Blair Drummond estate has, for the benefit of his tenants, sunk some wells in the carse, from which the moss has been removed, and has found abundance of water. There is, in the western division of the carse, a copious supply from two natural streams, which flow through it from the higher grounds into the Forth. But as there are no springs along the banks of the Forth, some of the farmers there have, by force-pumps, raised water from that river, and filtered it for the use of their families

and cattle. Mr Home Drummond has lately, and at his own expense, brought a supply of excellent spring water by pipes into Thornhill, which has been a valuable boon to the inhabitants of that village.

The principal small streams or burns which flow through this parish are the Mill of Muck, and the Burnbank burns, which have been employed in driving mills and floating moss into the Forth. There are also the burns of Cessintully and Little Mill, in the western division of the parish, which have been employed for the same purposes.

The principal rivers which water this parish are the Forth, the Teith, and the Goodie.

The Forth, the Boderia of Ptolemy, and Bodotria of Tacitus, is the southern boundary of this parish. Near its source it has two branches, the one in Stirlingshire, which comes from a spring on the north side, and near the summit of Benlomond, and is considered to be the proper source of the river; the other, which issues from Lochard and Lochcon in Perthshire, has its source westward of Lochcon. These two branches meet at Aberfoyle in Perthshire, where they are called the Avendhu, or Black River; and at Gartmore House, five miles below this junction, they receive and retain the name of the Forth.

The course of this river from Benlomond to Stirling may be about 35 miles. The upper part of the Forth is narrow and shallow; but in its progress it deepens from three to seven feet, and when it passes from the dryfield into the carse, its breadth and depth are greatly increased, by receiving the contents of many tributary streams. In its progress, for fifteen miles, the channel is sometimes rocky, and sometimes gravelly, and its water is clear and pleasant to the taste; but, on entering the flat, mossy, and clayey district, it is discoloured, not merely by the nature of the soil, but also, during a great part of the year, by the moss which is floated into it, and by other agricultural improvements.

This appearance of the river is increased by the influx of the Goodie, which joins the Forth about nine miles above Stirling, after running through part of this parish. It issues from the lake of Monteith, in the parish of Port; and at a short distance from the lake it enters Moss Flanders, and, like the Forth, flows slowly in a channel so deep as to be seen only by those who approach its banks.

At a remote period, and before the vale of Monteith was so much improved as it is now, by draining, and the receding of the waters, this river, with its beautiful source, was called the Lake of the Guidi, or Guddie, because, by its level course, and many windings and interruptions, it formed, especially in the rainy seasons, a complete morass.

The Teith is of a different character from the Forth and Goodie. The name Teith is supposed to be derived from Teth or Te, signifying *hot*, and is said to have received its name from its rapid progress, in the higher parts of the river, over a channel consisting of innumerable round stones and pebbles, which, from the beautiful clearness of its waters reflecting the sun's rays, give it a sparkling prismatic appearance. Flowing eastward from Lochs Katrine, Achray, and Vennachar, on the south side, and from Loch Lubnag, on the north side of Benledi, (its two branches meeting above Callander,) it may well be called "Daughter" not "of three," but of "four mighty lakes." It bounds Kincardine parish on the north, (a portion of Kilmadock intervening,) from about four miles below Callander, to its junction with the Forth at the extremity of this parish, about two and a-half miles west of Stirling. Its gravelly channel, and the lakes at its sources, operating as so many filters, give a beautiful clearness and freshness to its waters. Although it loses its name by its junction with the impure and sluggish Forth, yet it sends one-half more water into the Frith of Forth than that river does. Its length from Callander to this junction is about thirteen miles; and, except where pools occur, some of which are very deep, it is shallow; and its breadth is generally contracted by its firm and rocky banks. After much rain, or the melting of deep snow, when the mountain streams pour their contents into it, its rise is sudden, and, overflowing its banks in various places, it sweeps irresistibly before it every moveable object within its reach. Its velocity is increased by a uniform fall from Callander to its junction with the Forth of about 200 feet. Were it not out of place here, we might dwell on the natural grandeur and beauties of this river, with its adjacent scenery, such as the elegant mansion-houses, tastefully ornamented parks, thriving plantations, and agricultural improvements which adorn the course of the Teith; but this would be superfluous, because the immortal Sir Walter Scott, in his *Lady of the Lake*, has celebrated in song this part of Perthshire.

*Geology and Mineralogy.*—The north division of this parish is composed of various soils, resting on sandstone of the transition series. The south side consists of clay, resting on the same rock and stretching along the north bank of the Forth. The greater part of this division was, till lately, covered by moss. The clay is rich and deep, and good for agricultural purposes.

In the banks of the Forth and Goodie numerous beds of oyster, muscle, cockle, and other marine shells appear at various depths between the surface of the clay and the channels of the rivers.

The discovery of these marine remains and others which have been found in the neighbouring parishes, furnishes an increasing proof, that the sea extended over the level part of this parish at the period of the deposition of the clay.

The transition from the Carse to the dryfield is abrupt, and frequently as well defined as are the banks of a river. The dryfield has an increasing elevation northward. In the vicinity of Blair-Drummond, the soil in the first part of the rising ground is a light loam, having in general a gentle slope, but in some places an abrupt face to the south, and extending about a mile in breadth. It is well adapted to the growth of trees and shrubs, and is beautifully wooded and tastefully adorned by walks and shrubberies,—forming part of the pleasure-grounds of Blair-Drummond.

The sandstone which has been formerly mentioned, and vulgarly called gray freestone, has been considered as the old red sandstone of the transition series. It has been used for various purposes, the best kind being a good stone for building. In the moor of Ballochneck, and for several miles to the west of it, the colour is of a light gray or smoke colour, and of a hard consistency, and valuable for flags and buildings. There is a remarkable instance of the first kind at Ochertyre, where it rises above the clay in a detached circular eminence, which is covered with trees and brushwood. The prevailing dip of the strata, as appears from the various quarries which have been wrought, is towards the north-west, and in general at a slight inclination. Veins of calcareous spar are often met with in quarrying, and occasionally barytes.

No organic remains of any kind occur in the sandstone, except a few vegetable impressions.

In the soil of many of the higher parts of the parish, boulders

of various species of rocks have been found in great abundance, and removed for draining the fields, making roads, and building fences. In the latter, many specimens have been preserved of granite, gneiss, mica and common slate, conglomerate, sandstone, and grit, and of various kinds of trap rock. The mica slate is frequently studded with garnets of a coarse quality.

*Zoology.*—Roe deer are frequently found, and, occasionally, red deer in the young plantations in the higher parts of the parish; and the former frequently visit the woods of the level country. Foxes, polecats, stoats, weasels, and hedgehogs, are numerous, but less so of late years, in consequence of the constant and successful exertions of the gamekeepers in the district. Otters frequent the banks of the Teith, Forth, and Goodie. They have been traced by their foot-prints in the snow to their hiding-places; and on one occasion, four were killed at one place by terriers of sufficient strength and courage. They are very destructive to the salmon and other kinds of fish.

The badger used to be seen, but has now disappeared. The black rat of Scotland, which till lately abounded in this parish, has also disappeared, but has been succeeded by great numbers of the brown rat, which are very destructive to the farm-houses, barn-yards, and hen-roosts of the farmers. Although the common squirrel was unknown in this parish till about twenty years ago, yet it now abounds in almost all our plantations. Hares, rabbits, common and ring-necked pheasants, and partridges, are very numerous. Pheasants were not seen here till about twenty-five years ago, but since that time the common kinds have multiplied greatly, and the white kind occasionally appear in the plantations. The curlew was formerly plentiful, and is still to be seen; and the woodcock is an annual visitor. Snipes are now scarce, in consequence of draining and other improvements. Black and red grouse used to be numerous, but are now seldom seen, and in small numbers, since the moss of Blair-Drummond has been improved. For the same reason, adders are more seldom seen.

Various birds of prey belong to this district, or frequently resort to it, such as the kestrel (*Falco tinunculus*), the sparrow-hawk (*Accipiter fringillarius*), and the merlin (*Falco aesalon*.) These are the most common, but there are also frequently seen here the peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), the common buzzard (*Buteo vulgaris*), and the hen-harrier (*Circus cyaneus*),

The kite (*Milvus Ictinus*) is rarely seen so far from the lakes and mountains to the north and west; but the long-eared owl (*Otis auritus*), the common ivy or brown owl (*Strix Aluco*), and the barn owl (*Strix flammea*), are common. Rooks are very numerous, in consequence of there being large rookeries on the estates in the neighbourhood, especially at Ochertyre and Blair-Drummond. The hooded-crow (*Corvus cornix*), the jay (*C. glaudarius*), and also the jackdaw and magpie, are natives. A white crow was lately shot in this neighbourhood; and a magpie, almost white, was entrapped by the gamekeeper at Blair-Drummond. Both have been preserved.

This parish is periodically visited by the landrail (*Crex strepera*), by the bat, the goatsucker (*Caprimulgus Europæus*), by starlings, and a few golden plovers. We have also the fieldfare, redwing, and missel-thrush, the two former of these remaining till the middle of March or beginning of April (the missel-thrush remaining permanently,) when they migrate to Norway or Sweden, and are succeeded by the common thrush, after it has been some months absent.

As the following list of smaller birds contains generally the different species of those which visit this parish periodically or are permanent, it may perhaps with propriety be admitted into this Account, especially as many of the more common kinds are purposely omitted :

<i>Certhia familiaris</i>	<i>Silvia salicaria</i>	<i>Parus ater</i>
<i>Muscicapa grisola</i>	<i>Regulus cristatus</i>	— caudatus
<i>Silvia phœnicurus</i>	<i>Saxicola œnanthe</i>	<i>Pyrrhula vulgaris</i>
— cinerea	— rubicola	<i>Fringilla montium</i>
— trochilus	— rubetra	— linaria
— hypoleis	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	— spinus
— sibilatrix	— arboreus	— carduelis
— atricapilla	<i>Parus palustris</i>	

The crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) is rarely seen here, but a great number appeared during the winter of 1838, especially at Lanrick Castle, and after continuing some months in the plantations of spruce firs, on the seeds of which they feed, they disappeared in the spring. During their stay, however, specimens of the male and female were shot and are carefully preserved.

The common sandpiper (*Tringa hypoleucus*), and the water ouzel and dipper, (*Cinclus aquaticus*) frequent our rivers; and the king-fisher (*Alcedo ispida*) also is occasionally seen, displaying his brilliant plumage as he skims swiftly along the streams, or perches watchfully on the twigs which overhang his favourite fishing pools. The varieties of water-fowl are very limited. Seagulls of differ-

ent kinds and in considerable numbers come up the Forth into the interior, fifteen or twenty miles above the flow of the tide, at different seasons of the year, but chiefly in spring, when they cover in great numbers the newly ploughed fields, and devour worms, &c. They come also to escape from the storms which sweep the Frith; and to nestle in the islands, and on the shores of the lakes to the westward.

The wild swan does not remain here; but is often seen in winter, passing from one favourite haunt to another among the surrounding hills and lakes.

Wild ducks are very numerous along the streams of the Teith and Forth, but especially on an ornamental piece of water in Blair-Drummond park. Here they are allowed to hatch and rear their young in safety; and so securely do they occupy this peaceful retreat, that one may pass within a short distance of a great number of them, especially in the months of October and November, without disturbing them. There is an island in the middle of this sheet of water, bearing trees of various kinds about fifty years old. Among the reeds and rushes which skirt this island, and on the island itself, coots and water-rails build their nests, and rear their young; and here the majestic swan, in imperial dignity, is lord of the isle and the waters.

The trees are the abode in spring, summer, and harvest of the sombre heron, whose ponderous nests, containing a noisy and voracious brood, weigh down the more elevated branches of the trees. The cry of the heron and her brood is very peculiar, and has been alleged to have led to a superstitious belief in Scotland, in the existence of a being called the Water Kelpie. The jackdaw and the heron nestle in the same trees, and the wily little daw not unfrequently usurps the heron's nest, and seems even to watch for some of the young heron's food. The breeding season appears to reconcile some kinds of the feathered tribe to each other; and in this retired and peaceful spot, where the rays of the mid-day sun are powerful, but where no storm can enter, there live together in apparent harmony, the heron and the daw, the coot, the rail, the wild duck and the swan; with hares, pheasants, partridges, and pea-fowl, rejoicing in undisturbed peace on the margin of the water; while the venerable grove of mighty oaks which overlooks the scene, sends forth the varied music of a thousand happy inhabitants.

Salmon have always been found in the river Teith; and although



formerly they were more abundant, yet the floods in spring, summer, and autumn, still encourage considerable numbers of excellent salmon, weighing from 6 to 25 lbs., and grilises from 5 to 7 or 8 lbs., to frequent the river. A considerable improvement has recently taken place by the protection given to the smoults during the months of May and June, when they descend in shoals to the sea.

Common and sea-trout are plentiful, and a few perch and pike are occasionally to be found. There are two species of eels, the lamprey and common eel, and parr, minnow, loach, and stickle-back are numerous.

Very few salmon resort to the Forth on account of the impure and mossy nature of its waters; but pike, perch, and large eels are abundant. Common trout are rarely seen in the lower parts of the Forth, but higher up they are numerous and excellent, and in the Goodie, one of its tributaries, which issues from the loch of Monteith, the fine red trout which inhabits that loch is to be found.

The muscle that produces pearls (*Mya Margaritifera*) is common in the Teith, and the size and value of the pearls have occasionally been considerable; but they are not found in such numbers as to remunerate the search.

The families of insects in this parish are numerous, varied, and beautiful, but do not in general differ from those that are to be found in all the district. It would, however, be an omission, not to mention a beautiful specimen of the death's-head moth, which was found on one of the south windows of the church of Kincardine in 1834, and is preserved, the body measuring  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, 2 inches in circumference at the insertion of the wings, and  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch at the middle; the wings being  $\frac{5}{8}$ ths of an inch broad, and 4 inches from tip to tip when moderately extended. The figure of the death's-head, which gives the name to the insect, is half an inch long, and very distinctly marked. The down of the insect is perfectly beautiful. It emitted, when caught, a shrill sound resembling that of a mouse or bat. It did not verify the common superstition, by preceding the cholera in this district.

It may also be proper to mention the glow-worm here, which the writer has found in a warm sheltered locality near the manse. This beautiful visitant, however, is but seldom seen here.

*Botany.*—The woods and plantations of this parish are com-

posed chiefly of oak, ash, beech, elm, birch, and fir. The soil is well adapted to the growth of all of these; but oak, beech, and fir predominate.

In the park at Blair-Drummond there are many fine trees, chiefly beech and oak, which are probably not surpassed by any others of the same age. Great attention has been paid to thinning and preserving them from injury, and on this account no animal but sheep is admitted to the pasture, so that each kind of tree is allowed to display the peculiar beauty of its form and mode of growth, and to extend its branches near the ground.

One beech, in January 1835, measured in circumference at the smallest part of the bole, between the swell of the roots and the swell of the branches, 15 feet 1 inch. Another measured in the same way was 14 feet. Another, at 4 feet 8 inches from the ground, is 13 feet, and many others at 3 feet or  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the ground from 13 feet 6 inches to 11 feet. An oak at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the ground is 12 feet 8 inches, and many others at the same height from 9 to 11 feet.

It will be observed, that these measurements refer to the perpendicular height above the ground, and are taken somewhat higher than is usual, at what is considered the fairest point of comparison for the dimensions of trees.

The trees above-mentioned were not, in 1835, more than 120 years old, and probably some years younger.

In December 1839, a larch, which grows in sand in the south bank of what is called the Sand Hill, measured at 2 feet perpendicular from the ground, quite free of the swell of the roots, 9 feet 10 inches. Another larch, cut at the same date, measured at above a foot from the ground, free of the swell of the roots, 9 feet 2 inches, having 49 rings of wood, of which 36 were red wood. There are also five larches above 100 years old, which have risen to a great height by being planted among the other trees, one of which measures, at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the ground, 8 feet 11 inches. From former measurements, these last-mentioned larches do not seem to have gained above four or five inches in the last ten years, while some of the beeches and oaks have added above a foot to their circumference.

There are several birches of a much later date from  $9\frac{1}{2}$  to  $10\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and also some old Scotch firs measuring from 8 feet 5 inches to 10 feet. The seed from which a plantation of Scotch firs, along the side of the turnpike road near Blair-Drummond,

was raised was procured by Lord Kames from old trees at Auchenbowie in Stirlingshire. A great number of them have sprung up in the moss on the opposite side of the road, and formed a new plantation, being self-sown from the cones, which crows have been observed carrying to the open moss for the purpose of feeding on the seed. "The timber of this species is much superior to that of the other two kinds which are frequently cultivated, one of which has a short and thin foliage, and produces but little timber, and the other, although it is of rapid growth, produces timber of an inferior quality." (Journal of Agriculture, October 1843.)

The ash and plane (sycamore) trees at Burnbank are much older than the trees at Blair-Drummond. Some of them exceed 11 feet in circumference, and there is a walnut tree there 11 feet 7 inches at 3 feet from the ground.

Walnuts usually ripen, chestnuts not so often, though not long ago they ripened three years consecutively, and as many plants as were wanted were raised from seed.

On the estate of Ochtertyre, belonging to David Dundas, Esq. M.P., there are some trees remarkable for their age and size, and of which the following deserve particular notice.

An ash near the house, called the jug-tree, from the jugs having been fixed in it, was measured in 1800 by the late Mr Ramsay, and, at about two feet from the ground, was 11 feet in circumference, the branches extending 38 feet from side to side. The circumference of the same tree in 1838, at two feet from the ground, was 13 feet 8 inches.

In 1838, the following measurements of other trees of various kinds were taken at the height of two feet from the ground: Several oaks, seventy years old, were from 8 feet 8 inches to 8 feet 11 inches in circumference. One large lime, ninety-eight years old, 10 feet 5 inches; a beech, 10 feet 7 inches; a poplar, 12 feet; another, 10 feet 7 inches; a larch, seventy years old in 1838, growing near the river, measured 7 feet 7 inches, and others growing near it from 7 feet 7 inches to 9 feet 5 inches. Two others, on the bank of the river, 10 feet; one elm, 10 feet; and several Scotch firs from 6 feet 8 inches to 6 feet 10 inches. These trees grow chiefly in a gravelly or sandy soil.

In the neighbourhood of the manse and other situations in this parish, some of the commoner plants, as they appear in succession, are remarkable for their profusion and elegance. The woods are literally clothed in April with the white flowers of the anemone

(*Anemone nemorosa*), and in May with the graceful clusters of the blue hyacinth (*Hyacinthus non-scriptus*), to which the white earthnut (*Bunium flexuosum*), and a profusion of other plants succeed. The red campion (*Lychnis dioica*), and the blue geranium (*Geranium pratense*), grow in similar abundance on a part of the bank of the Teith, which has been nearly insulated by a lead cut from the river. And in this situation, and in the mosses, some of the rarer plants are found, which are mentioned in the subjoined catalogue, kindly furnished by Mr James Drummond, the intelligent gardener at Blair-Drummond.

*Growing in the Mosses.*

Pedicularis palustris	Drosera longifolia	Narthecium ossifragum
Andromeda polifolia	Hydrocotyle vulgaris	Erica tetralix, v. alba
Myrica gale	Triglochin palustre	Calluna vulgaris, v. alba
Vaccinium oxycoccus	Lycopodium Selago	Alisma plantago
———— myrtilus	Polygala vulgaris, 3 var.	Comarum palustre
Drosera rotundifolia	Empetrum nigrum	

*Gramineous plants in the Mosses.*

Eriophorum vaginatum	Alopecurus geniculatus	Holcus mollis
———— polystachion	Agrostis vulgaris	Carex vulpina, &c.
Scirpus palustris	———— canina	Juncus effusus, &c.
Nardus stricta	———— stolonifera	
Poa fluitans	Holcus lanatus	

*Growing by the river Teith.*

Linum catharticum	Hypericum humifusum	Trollius Europæus
Adoxa moschatellina	———— perforatum	Circæa lutetiana
Allium ursinum	———— pulchrum	Melampyrum sylvaticum
Anthyllis vulneraria	Alchemilla vulgaris	Saxifraga granulata
Meum athamanticum	Campanula latifolia	Stellaria nemorum
Chrysosplenium oppositifolium	———— rotundifolia v. alba	———— holostea

*Gramineous plants by the river Teith.*

Aira flexuosa	Phalaris arundinacea	Melica uniflora
———— caryophyllæa	Triticum repens	Luzula maxima
Poa aquatica	Briza media	

*Growing in the Woods.*

Convallaria majalis	Habenaria bifolia	Orchis Morio
Pyrola rotundifolia	Listera ovata	———— maculata
———— minor	Epipactis latifolia	Hyacinthus non-scriptus

*Growing in the Marshes, Lochs, and Ponds.*

Parnassia palustris	Potamogeton natans	Typha latifolia
Pinguicula vulgaris	Nuphar lutea	Lobelia dortmanna
Menyanthes trifoliata	Nymphaea alba	

*Growing in Hedges.*

Solanum Dulcamara.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There are no accounts, ancient or modern, of this parish, except the last Statistical Account by Mr Tait; but the following short notices may be worthy of a place here, on account of their ancient dates and connection with this parish.

From the chartulary of Cambuskenneth, at the time that Hugo was chancellor betwixt 1190 and 1200, and by whom the follow-

ing deed was signed, it appears that William the Lion granted to the Abbey of Cambuskenneth the church of Kincardine, as under, "Ecclesiam de Kincardin cum capellis decimis et oblationibus omnimodis et tredecem acris terrae arabilis, et unum toftum brasiatoris cum uno orto, et unum toftum ad campanam sancti Lolani cum uno orto, et unum toftum ad baculum sancti Lolani cum uno orto."

It also appears that "the lands of Guddie were, by James II., on the 1st of June 1452, given to Robert Norrie for bringing the tidings of the birth of Prince James, afterwards James III." Scots-tarvet's Calendars in the Harleian Library.

*Eminent Characters, &c.*—The Muschets long held high rank in this parish and district. They were descended from the Earls of Montfort, who were the Dukes of Bretagne.

The Duchess of John de Montfort was daughter to the Earl of Flanders, and her daughter Ann, was married first to Charles VIII. and thereafter to Lewis XII., kings of France.

The Muschets, originally called Montefitchett or Montfichet, and De Montefixo, are said to have come from France into England with King William the Conqueror, and in King Edgar's reign, to have come from England into Scotland with that king's sister, who was married to Malcolm III.

The above particulars are taken from a manuscript in the possession of Dr Muschet of Birkhill, near Stirling, who is the lineal descendant of the Muschets, and, it is said, their only representative in this district.

For the following statements in reference to this ancient family, the writer is indebted to H. Home Drummond, Esq.

"In the churchyard, over the door of a burial-place at the east end of the ground where the old church stood, there is a shield of arms, consisting of two cheverons, Gules, on a field ermine, with a pigeon for crest, and the motto, "I thank my God." Above the shield is the date 1686, and below it this inscription: "Sepultura antiquissimae Mushetorum familiae a Gulielmo de Montefixo, qui hic floruit circa annum m.c.c.c. progenitae." Sir David Lindsay in his "Register of Armes," gives the same shield as the bearings of "Muschet of Kincarne," with the difference of an additional cheveron charged with a star. There were various branches of this ancient family, who were proprietors of many estates in this part of the country, and in this parish in particular, there were Muschets of Burnbank, Culgarth, Miln of

Torr, Miln of Goodie, Cuthil, &c. A few years ago, in repairing the mill of Torr, a stone, on which there had been a coat of arms, was found, which had probably been placed in the wall of the proprietor's house, when the Muschets had a residence there. The shield is unfortunately defaced, but the motto "I thank my God," and the date "1598," are distinct.

There is a tombstone of this family in the orchard of Burnbank, and near where the house of the Muschets once stood. It bears the following inscription :

"Here lyes the corpes of Margaret Drummond, third daughter to the Laird [of Invermay,] and [Spouse to] Sir George Muschet of Burnbanke : Her age 26 : Departed this life in the visitation, with her three children at Burnbanke, the 10 of August 1647."

In confirmation of the English origin of the family, the coincidence of the arms of the ancient name of Montfichet in English heraldry may be noticed. "Montfichet, Lord of Stansted, Montfitch Essex, Gules three chevrons or, with a label of three points azure," v. Arms of the Barons of England added to the supplement to Heylin's History.

The author of remarks on Ragman Roll, p. 42, (v. Appendix to Nisbet's Heraldry,) after mentioning "Richard Muschet" as one of those who swore fealty to Edward I., adds, "This is a very ancient family, designed in Latin De Montefixo, and were Barons of Cargil in Perthshire. Sir William de Montefixo was Justiciarius Scotiae in 1332. By his daughter and heiress the estates of Cargil and Stobhall came to Sir John Drummond, one of the ancestors of the noble family of Perth. Muschet of Burnbank was the heir-male, but lately decayed, though severals in Monteith are of them, as the Mushets of Craighead, Cailziehat, Mill of Torr, and Mill of Goody."

An exemplified copy is preserved in the Perth charter-chest of a very old charter, by which William the Lion grants "Richardo Mountfecht" the lands of "Kergill et praeterea Kincardin, juxta Strivelyn, cum socca et sacca, cum furca et fossa, cum thal et them, et infanganthef," to be held in free barony for the service of one knight.

An eminence about a quarter of a mile from the house of Blair Drummond, known by the name of the Gallow Hill, was probably the place of execution under this jurisdiction.

The residence of the "Muschetts of Kincarne," according to

tradition, was a castle in the immediate vicinity of the churchyard, the old walls of which were mentioned above, and were visible in some places not many years ago.

George Drummond of Blair, in 1684, acquired by purchase from the Earl of Perth the lands of Drip, Cambusdrennie, and others in this parish, being part of the ancient "Barronie of Kincardin in Monteith, which came to the house of Drummond by the Lady Mary Montefix."\* These lands were, at the same time, erected, in favour of the said George Drummond, into a free barony, to be called the barony of Blair-Drummond, from his own name, and that of his paternal estate of Blair, in the Stormont.† But it was not till 1714 that he obtained from the Earl of Perth the conveyance of the other parts of the barony of Kincardine on which the house of Blair-Drummond is built. The building was commenced soon afterwards; and before that time there was no family residence in the vicinity, nor a tree planted, except the few that were usually raised, according to the custom of the times, in the turf dikes that surrounded the small cornyards of the tenants."

There is an inscription in elegant Latin on a shield in the church of Kincardine, in memory of this George Drummond; and there are also other separate inscriptions to the memory of several of his descendants. His grand-daughter, Agatha Drummond, the Lady of Lord Kames, succeeded to the estate of Blair-Drummond. Lord Kames died in December 1782, and his lady in June 1795. There is a monument over their tomb in this churchyard, bearing an inscription, which is also in the church, and which was composed by Dr Hugh Blair, and is particularly noticed by Lord Woodhouselee in the second edition of the *Life of Lord Kames*.

In the church there is also a very appropriate inscription to the memory of George Home Drummond, Esq., (the only son of Lord Kames,) whose lady was the sister of Sir Henry Jardine. The estate has descended to Henry Home Drummond, Esq., their eldest son, who lately represented the county of Stirling in the British Parliament, and who is at present the Member and the Vice-Lieutenant of the county of Perth.

\* *Genealogie of the House of Drummond*, 4to, Edin. 1831, p. 111.

† The first of the name who was designed "of Blair" was George Drummond, who, with his youngest son, William, was waylaid and slain by the Lairds of Gormock, Drumlochie, Ardblair, and others, in 1554. (V. Appendix to the "Genealogie.") He was son to John of Ledcreefe, and grandson to Walter of Ledcreefe, who was uncle to John, first Lord Drummond.

In referring to eminent characters who belonged to this parish, the late Lord Kames deserves to be particularly mentioned. As a philosopher, an author on various subjects, a lawyer, and a judge, and a zealous supporter of every patriotic undertaking and useful improvement, his name is above all praise. There is a painting of his Lordship in his robes of office as a judge in the drawing-room at Blair-Drummond. There are also several original portraits there by Sir Godfrey Kneller, particularly one of the Lord Chancellor Perth, and one of his brother, the Earl of Melfort.

In the church there is an inscription in Latin to the memory of the late John Ramsay, Esq. of Ochtertyre, which was composed by himself some time before his death. He was related to the family of Dundas of Manor, near Stirling, and studied as a lawyer at the University of Edinburgh, but did not follow the law as a profession. He was very indulgent to his tenants, was a kind friend, an intelligent country gentleman, and was highly esteemed by all classes of the community. He composed several epitaphs in Latin, of which the one in the church is a good specimen. He died in March 1814. His name appears in Dr Currie's edition of our poet Burns's works, as one of the correspondents of the poet, who was a visitor at Ochtertyre.

*Land-owners.*—The following is a list of the heritors of this parish, being twenty-one in number, showing their respective valuations :

	Valued rent, Scots.
H. Home Drummond, M. P.,	L.3218 0 10½
David Dundas, M. P.,	448 13 4
Colonel Graham,	322 16 8
C. A. Moir,	225 17 0
Andrew Jardine,	133 6 8
J. M'Queen,	64 0 0
Dunblane Presbytery,	54 10 11
A. Watson,	50 0 6½
Earl of Moray,	39 13 4
J. Kinross,	37 0 0
W. Mackisson,	34 6 8
J. Paterson,	30 0 0
T. Sommers,	25 13 4
J. Doig,	21 0 0
A. Sym,	20 13 4
J. M'Laren,	19 10 0
P. Doig,	17 3 4
R. Downie,	9 0 0
W. Reid and J. Morison,	4 10 0
Mrs Sommers,	6 5 0
J. Duncanson,	1 16 0
Total,	L.4783 17 0

The heritors have, at much expense and with great success, cultivated their estates, by adopting the most recent improvements in



agriculture and the rearing of stock. They have made this parish, compared with what it was formerly, very productive.

*Parochial Registers.*—The books of discipline in this parish, which are not voluminous, dated from 1695 to 1734, in the handwriting of Mr Matthew Wallace, who was the minister of the parish, contain a minute account of the parochial collections and disbursements. These old manuscripts are at present in the possession of Mr Home Drummond. The book of discipline has been regularly kept to the present time.

There is also a register of births regularly kept by the session-clerk. The registry of baptisms commenced in 1691, and that of marriages in 1692, and have been distinctly kept.

*Antiquities.*—Some interesting vestiges of antiquity belong to this parish.

When the Doune approach to Blair-Drummond was made, several stone coffins, containing urns and bones of the human body, were found, which are noticed in the "Transactions of the Antiquarian Society of Edinburgh," Vol. iii. p. 42. Each coffin consisted of a box of stone rudely formed, and half the length of the human body.

A portion of the skeleton of a whale was found some years ago about a quarter of a mile from the manse, imbedded in the clay, which had formerly been covered with moss, and lying on another stratum of moss below the clay. An account of it is to be found in the Transactions of the Wernerian Society. It is very remarkable that a small piece of deer's horn, with a hole bored in it, was found along with this skeleton, of exactly the same description as a piece of horn which Mr Bald mentions as found with the skeleton of the Airthrey whale, now in the Edinburgh College Museum. The skeleton of the whale found here is also deposited in the same museum.

There is a very well-defined tumulus within the garden of Blair-Drummond, of a conical shape, and of considerable dimensions, which has never been opened, measuring 92 yards in circumference, and about 15 feet in height; and there is one of larger dimensions within the pleasure-grounds, on a bank overlooking the carse, which was probably a watch-tower or signal-point, as there is no intervening object between it and Borrowstownness. It is 150 yards in circumference, 15 yards in height, and 40 yards from the bottom of the bank. There is a tumulus near Blair-Drummond east Lodge, in which, on being opened, some fragments of urns

and human bones were found. It is surrounded by a circular foss, from which it has been formed, and is vulgarly called Wallace's Trench. It is 63 yards in circumference, and 5 feet in height from the bottom of the fosse. The history of Sir William Wallace brings him, after having burned the Peel (a stronghold) of Gargunnoch, across the Forth to this very point, by a road which led across the moss of Kincardine to a ford in the Teith, where, in the ordinary state of the river, it is fordable.

In addition to these antiquities, we may take notice of a large stone which stands on the summit of the Borland Hill, at a short distance and in a north direction from the first-mentioned tumuli. It is 5 feet in height above the ground, and 12 in circumference, but more flat than round, and of a conical form near the top. It is apparently in a natural state, bearing no marks of the hammer or the chisel, and is a very large boulder of slate. A very vague tradition represents it as having been a place of religious worship in superstitious times. There are no other remains near it to confirm this opinion; but whether it be correct or not, it is evident that its site is a very important one, and may have been useful as a signal station, as it commands a view, not only of the road across the moss of Kincardine already referred to, but also of the line of the Roman stations along the Forth and Teith in the direction of the camp at Ardoch.

In the operation of removing the moss, several specimens of antiquities were found between 1770 and 1840. One of the most remarkable of these is a large brass camp kettle, of a circular form, of the shape of a common boiler, which was found upon the estate of John Ramsay, Esq. of Ochertyre in 1768, and presented by him to the Antiquarian Society of Edinburgh. For an account of it, see the *Farmers' Magazine*, 4th August 1817.

A similar vessel was found at a much later date in a similar situation, which is preserved at Blair-Drummond. Antiquarians are of opinion that they are Roman camp kettles. Several spear-heads of brass have also been found from time to time in the mosses of Blair-Drummond and Meiklewood, which are in the possession of the proprietors.

A considerable number of a remarkable kind of stone has been found upon the clay, under a thick bed of moss, some of them composed of slate, and others of a compact stone of a greenish colour. They are from four to six inches long, of a flat shape, well polished, some being wedge-shaped at one end, and some at

both, and others having a hole through the thick end. They are by some supposed to have been used for skinning animals, and are apparently too short for the purpose of removing bark from the trees, for the purpose of tanning leather.

Some of the moss tenants found small heaps of embers or charred timber on the surface of the clay below the moss.

The late John Ramsay, Esq. of Ochtertyre, who was a zealous antiquarian, had a pair of jugs which were fixed in a large and very old ash tree near his house, at about five feet from the ground. The jugs consisted of a piece of iron to be fastened in a wall or tree with an iron collar which enclosed the neck, and which was secured by a padlock, for the punishment of culprits. There was a ring or hook on the outside of the old church, to which, it is understood, jugs had been formerly fastened.

When the walls of the old manse here were taken down, the die of the communion tokens was found in a recess above the front door, bearing the impression "K. P. 1699," within a square on the die, bounded by double waving lines.

There are no ancient roads in this parish, except the one found by the moss improvers, which is universally ascribed to the Romans. Seventy yards of it in length were discovered on the surface of the clay, at the bottom of the moss, after the peat, to the depth of eight feet, had been removed. It was formed of trees about twelve inches in diameter, having other trees of half this size crossing them, and brushwood covering the whole. This road crossed the moss of Kincardine northward from a narrow part of the Forth, towards the Roman road, passing between the moss and the river Teith. This last-mentioned road has been traced from a ford in the Teith, about four miles north-west of the Drip, in a south-east direction, by Torwood and Larbert, to Camelon, on the Roman wall. It is supposed to have been made by the Romans for checking the incursions of the Caledonians by the Pass of Leny, and also for opening a communication by Dunblane with the well known station at Ardoch. A part of this road, near the mansion-house of Ochtertyre, is still called Staniegates, from the stones of which it was formed, there having been no moss there to require a foundation of trees.

The stone coffins already mentioned were found on this line in Blair-Drummond Park. By pursuing this line along the Forth and Teith, the Romans had not only the advantage of the more open country, but also of having their right protected by these rivers.

*Modern Buildings.*—The mansion-house of Blair-Drummond



The yearly average of births for the last seven years preceeding 1831	56
marriages for do.	23
No register of deaths is kept.	
The average number of persons under 15 years of age included in the census of 1821 was	877
The average from 15 to 30 years of age,	658
30 to 50,	449
50 to 70,	316
upwards of 70	88

There is only one resident proprietor of independent fortune.

The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L.50 and upwards is	17
The number of families in 1831 was	510
Average number of children in each family in 1831, was	4.48
The number of uninhabited houses in 1831 was	470
uninhabited houses,	14
houses building,	2

There are two insane females in this parish, two females deaf and dumb, and one blind man.

*Language, &c. of the People.*—A mixture of the Scotch and English language is spoken by the original inhabitants of this parish, and Gaelic and English by the moss population who settled here from the commencement of the moss improvement. The Gaelic language has fallen so much into disuse during that time that few or none can profit by a sermon from the pulpit in that language.

The habits, dress, and food of the parishioners are similar to those of the agricultural population of Scotland in general. It may be observed, however, that there has been a marked improvement generally since the last Statistical Account, in their habits of cleanliness, style of dress, and mode of living, arising from their being more independent in their circumstances. They are a sober, industrious, contented, enterprising, and successful people, and generally unexceptionable in their moral and religious character.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The number of farmers, cottars, and farm-servants, exclusive of the moss, is 110, and the number of such labourers in the moss, 110.

There are 20 artisans, by whom about 30 subordinates are employed. There are six superannuated male labourers in this parish, two of them diseased both in mind and body. There are also two females of the latter description.

Although the able-bodied portion of the population are employed in field labour, yet such as are confined to their houses, during the winter season, are employed in thrashing grain, feed-

ing cattle, and keeping in order every thing connected with their farming establishments. The females in particular are occupied in needle work, knitting stockings, spinning flax and wool, making coarse kinds of dresses for themselves and their families; in carrying eggs, fowls, butter, and cheese to the market; and in bringing in return things necessary for domestic use. The system of small wheel spinning and hand-loom weaving, which used to prevail in this parish, as well as in the other parts of Scotland, has been superseded by machinery in the cotton and woollen manufactories.

Much time is spent during a great portion of the year in carting peats and produce to various places. The sale of peats was formerly carried on by all the moss people, and engaged much of their time and attention, and was found to be so profitable that in some years individuals have been known to realize from it as much as L.40 Sterling.

*Agriculture.*—There are about 6560 acres in this parish which are cultivated. There are 142 acres of moor which are unfit for agricultural purposes, but would be profitable if they were planted; and there are 470 acres of moss, a great part of which will soon be removed by floating, or by making it into peats, and the subsoil, consisting of a superior quality of clay, brought into cultivation. There is no common remaining but about 10 or 12 acres in the vicinity of Thornhill, open and unenclosed, as liable to certain servitudes. There are on the estate of Blair Drummond, about 500 acres in permanent pasture, and ornamented with trees, and about 300 acres of woods.

In the pleasure grounds at Ochtertyre there are about 24 acres of fine old trees. And on a part of the moss there are about 24 acres of a young plantation.

The trees which appear to be indigenous to this parish are, the oak, common and mountain ash, Scotch fir, elm, alder, birch, plane, beech, and various kinds of willow. The spruce, larch, and silver fir, and others of the fir kind, as also the walnut, and Spanish and horse chestnut have been at different periods successfully introduced. The Spanish chestnut grows rapidly and to a great size, and its timber when matured is considered as next to the oak in value.

The management of the woods in this parish with regard to regular thinning, periodical felling, pruning, and the like, has been very judicious.

*Rent of Land.*—The average rent of carse land per acre has been about L. 2, 7s., and of the dryfield, about L. 1, 7s. The average rent for grazing an ox or a cow is from L. 3 to L. 4 per annum. This is not a sheep grazing parish.

*Rate of Wages.*—The rate of labour during summer and winter, for the different kinds of farm-labourers and country artisans, is from 2s. to 3s. per day; of masons, carpenters, and other country mechanics, from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per day. The yearly wages of ploughmen are from L. 14 to L. 18, and of women employed as farm-servants from L. 5 to L. 8.

*Live-Stock.*—The horses in this parish are of a medium size, altogether fitted for agricultural purposes; but as the labour of the carse farms requires a more powerful horse than that of the dryfield, a larger size is reared for this purpose by a cross between the hardy race of the western district of Perthshire, and the Clydesdale horse. Of late years, much taste and skill have been shown by the farmers in selecting at the neighbouring markets horses of strength and symmetry, by which means the breed has been much improved.

The cow common to the Highlands of Perthshire till of late years prevailed; but for dairy purposes the Ayrshire breed has been generally reared, and has been found profitable to the farmer for milk, butter, and the market. A cross of one remove between the Ayrshire cow and the short-horned bull, has by some farmers been lately introduced for the purpose of increasing the size of the stock, as well as for dairy purposes, but the practice has been too limited to warrant any general conclusion.

A five years' system of rotation is generally followed by the farmers in the dryfield, and a six years' rotation by those in the carse, and during this rotation marked attention is paid to the draining, cleaning, liming, and manuring of the land, which has greatly increased the return of every kind of produce, both in quantity and quality.

*Kincardine Moss.*—It may be proper to take some notice here of the history of the moss of Kincardine. In showing the recent improvements of the parish, this becomes in some degree unavoidable, and the utility is obvious, because these interesting topics are more satisfactory and useful when condensed in a Statistical Account, than when in detached statements in various publications. The reader may see a good account of this moss and its improvements in the Farmer's Magazine for August 1817, containing a plan

of the moss and a drawing of the large wheel, and also in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Vol xii. and in the appendix to the former *Statistical Account*.

The man who renders waste land productive increases the resources and prosperity of his country. This remark applies to some of the enterprising proprietors of this parish, and in particular to the proprietor of the Blair Drummond estate.

In the moss of Kincardine there were above 1800 acres of moss, including nearly 1500 on the estate of Blair Drummond. This moss was very deep, resting on a subsoil of rich clay, which consists of strata of a gray, reddish, and blue colour, of the same quality as those of the level country along the Forth from Stirling to Falkirk, and which are called carses. The sea at one time must have covered the country where the moss of Kincardine was, and must have been the cause of this accumulation of clay. On the receding of the sea and the subsiding of the waters of the Forth, the Teith and the Goodie, by the formation of deeper channels, this rich flat district was soon covered with oak, birch, alder, and hazel, and even with a few firs, some of the oaks being of a very great size, indicating a great age. These trees have been found as numerous under the moss as they can be supposed to have grown in their natural state, and the roots and heath have been found fixed in the clay. The trees and roots thus found correspond in dimensions.

In "an Account of the Peat Mosses of Kincardine and Flanders in Perthshire," by the Rev. Christopher Tait, formerly minister of this parish, read before the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1793, and printed in the 3d volume of the *Transactions*, it is stated, that "Forty large oak trees were lately found lying by their roots, and as close to one another as they can be supposed to have grown,—one of these oaks measures 50 feet in length, and more than 3 feet in diameter, and 314 circles or years' growths were counted in one of the roots. In another part of the moss, an oak was found that measured 4 feet in diameter, and I am assured that some years ago, a root was discovered at Ross, on the south side of the moss, that was 15 feet in diameter at the surface of the clay; and the tree, which was 22 feet in length, was 4 feet 8 inches in diameter at the lower end, where it had been cut over, at the height of a yard from the ground."

In 1823, an oak of the following dimensions was found in Blair Drummond moss: Length of bole 41 feet, circumference at the surface of the ground 16 feet, and at the top 9 feet. One branch



18 feet in length, measured 5 feet 4 inches in circumference. The solid contents of this tree were 361 feet 1 inch. As there was only a part of the trunk found, the height of the original stem must have been about 60 feet. In Blair Drummond House, there are some beautiful pieces of furniture, which were made of an oak of great size, which was dug out of the bank and bed of the Forth in 1826.

These trees cannot have died naturally, otherwise the roots could not have retained their strength and consistency so long. Nor can they have fallen before a hurricane, otherwise they would have broken at various heights from the ground, or been torn up by the roots, which has not been the case, as they are cut about two and a-half feet from the ground, being the part where the tree is easiest cut, and where the greatest strength of the person cutting can be applied. The general opinion is, that they were cut down by the Romans, as the marks of the size of a Roman axe have been seen on some of them. As the roots and trunks are found together they must have been cut, not for the value of the timber, but for clearing the plains and dislodging the natives. This is confirmed by history, because from the time of Agricola, the Roman soldiers and the provinciated Britons were employed to cut down the woods or make openings in them, and to make roads through the marshes for the passage of their armies. In proof of this, various Roman antiquities have been found upon the clay under the moss, to which reference has been formerly made. Thus we find that they attempted to secure the northern frontier of the province, by cutting down part of the extensive forests which covered the level country along the banks of the Forth and Teith, and by establishing a regular chain of posts in the direction of Kincardine moss, the pass of Leny, and the station at Ardoch, where the forests formerly stood.

Tacitus mentions the chain of posts between the Forth and Clyde as the work of Agricola in his fourth campaign, which coincides with the year 81 of our era. About fifty years thereafter the wall of Antoninus was built nearly in the same line. From these references, therefore, the age of the moss of Kincardine must be about 1760 years.

In 1766, Lord Kames having become connected with the estate of Blair-Drummond, by the succession of his lady, applied his intelligent and comprehensive mind to the improvement of this moss, and, during his lifetime, was pretty successful, but still the

want of sufficient water-power made the process very slow. He was successful, however, in showing the practicability of the plan of floating which he had adopted.

In the year 1783, his son, George Home Drummond, Esq., succeeded him. At this time, by the genius and perseverance of Mr George Meikle of Alloa, the son of the inventor of the thrashing machine, a water-wheel was invented for raising a large supply of water for floating the moss. It was lined with buckets round the whole inner circumference, made about four revolutions in a minute, and in that time raised from forty to sixty hogsheads of water. This it discharged into a cistern connected with it, seventeen feet above the surface of the stream which supplied the wheel with water and turned the whole. From the cistern, the water flowed partly in pipes and partly in an open canal about 1754 yards in length into the reservoirs in the moss.

The water-power being thus procured, the floating by means of spade labour became comparatively easy, and the Forth served as a recipient for carrying the moss into the Frith. By the end of October 1787, the wheel, pipes, and aqueduct were all finished, and the result realized the most sanguine expectations of all parties. The total expense exceeded L.1000. The tenants voluntarily engaged to pay the interest of the money so expended, but the proprietor generously relieved them from this engagement.

During the time of the great wheel, occasional and expensive repairs were necessary. Its labours commenced in 1787, and ended in 1839. At the time of the erection of the wheel from 1200 to 1300 acres were still to be cleared of Mr Drummond's moss, and a great number of settlers were required for this purpose. These were procured chiefly from the parishes of Callander, Balquhadder, and Killin. The population in this moss soon increased to from 800 to 1000, and the colony increased in prosperity, until they became in many instances so independent in their circumstances, as to become farmers on a larger scale. When a new line of turnpike road was made along the north side of the moss, giving them easier access to and from the mills and markets, so grateful were they to the proprietor, who had at great expense encouraged this road, that they made him a voluntary offer of one hundred guineas for its advantages to themselves, which offer he generously declined.

By the system of improvement which was then adopted, and which has been in operation since that time, nearly the whole of

the Kincardine moss on the estate of Blair-Drummond has been reclaimed.

The subsoil on which the moss rested, consists of very productive clay, and carries good crops of wheat, oats, barley, hay, turnips, potatoes, and pasture. It is well known, however, that, for some years after the moss is removed, the new land does not produce profitable crops of wheat, beans, and barley, nor even of green crops. To prepare it for these crops, the roots and stocks of the trees must be removed, the ridges made straight and level, the water from the clouds skilfully disposed of by draining, the soil exposed by the plough to the action of light, air, and moisture, and enriched by lime and manure.

By following this system these crops in the carse are even more abundant now than in the dryfield, and in all respects equally good in quality.

The moss improvement on this estate has in all respects been completely successful, in reference to the return to the landlord and tenant, and in its advantages to the community.

In thus adding to his estate, the proprietor has certainly been at great expense, in cutting canals, erecting the great wheel, making roads and sinking wells, dividing the water among his different tenants, and in keeping the whole in repair; but the success which has attended his operations in this and his other agricultural improvements on his estate, for the mutual benefit of himself, his tenants, and the public, must have afforded him very great pleasure. He has now the satisfaction of seeing, instead of the stagnant waters and the deceitful quagmires of the moss, the presence, prosperity, and happiness of hundreds of his fellow-creatures. Mr Drummond's predecessors were considered as romantic when this plan of improvement by floating was devised, and measures adopted for its execution; and the very people whom they employed were regarded with more than indifference by many, as a dangerous class, and as likely to become a burden to the parish and the district. But who does not now admire the foresight of Lord Kames, and the bold enterprise and liberal expenditure of his son and his grandson in this great improvement? The result of this wisdom is seen in the many happy families on the estate, in the many thousand additional bolls of produce which these tenants carry annually to the market, and in the great amount of wholesome food which they thus provide for the public.

In addition to the moss of Kincardine, Mr Drummond acquired

by purchase, some years ago, 280 acres of moss below Thornhill. There is no stream here, the level of the Goodie being too low, nor a water-wheel to carry away the moss from the spades of the workmen; but reservoirs are made in the higher moss, called Moss Flanders, for receiving rain water, and from these, by sluices, the operation of floating is carried on. Although the moss here is very deep, and the labour and expense great, yet, of the 280 acres, 170 have been cleared; and the remainder diminishes daily.

On a part of this moss, and higher up the Goodie, about 75 acres have been cleared by the same system, by Messrs Sim, Doig, Paterson, and their predecessors, who are still very industrious and successful in thus adding to the extent of their farms.

The trees found below this moss are of the same character as those found in Kincardine, consisting chiefly of large oak, and lying on the clay with their tops towards the east. It is the general opinion, that no moss nor forest existed between this moss and that of Kincardine; and, on the supposition that the trees were cut down by human labour, this is the position in which they would naturally be laid, because the space to the east of the original forest being open, the first cut trees would be made to fall in that direction.

In addition to these improvements in this parish, it is gratifying to refer to a most important one by Colonel Graham of Meiklewood, for an account of which see the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, and the Prize Essays of the Highland Society of Scotland for March 1832, from which the substance of the two following paragraphs is taken.

Colonel, then Major, Graham had 130 acres of good clay land in this parish covered by moss to the depth of ten feet. He had no water power of sufficient elevation near this moss; but, as it was near the Forth, and running parallel to it, he adopted the plan not hitherto employed of raising water from the Forth by a steam-engine, for carrying the moss into that river by means of spade labour. He erected an engine of ten horse power, which, by means of pipes, forced as much water into a cistern at the engine-house, and from that into a large reservoir in the moss, as kept 25 men constantly employed. This was allowed to flow as usual by a sluice from one side of the reservoir, in the direction of the portion of land which was to be cleared, and the 25 men, with their spades, were skilfully and actively employed in loading the

stream with moss as it returned to the Forth, near the point whence it had been raised.

The engine raised the water at the rate of five tons per minute to the height of 38 feet from the surface of the river to the reservoir at the top of the moss, conveying it in long wooden pipes to the distance of 400 yards. The operation began in May 1828, and the ground was all bearing a crop in 1832. There was paid to the contractor for clearing 100 acres, averaging ten feet deep, L. 2095; for coals, L. 816; wages of engine and furnace man, L. 223, 4s.; tallow, oil, leather, &c., L. 156. In all for clearing 100 acres, L. 3290, 4s.

The ardour, liberality, and perseverance of Colonel Graham in this operation excited the attention and the unqualified praise of the whole proprietors and farmers of this district. But, as will appear hereafter, he is also entitled to the highest praise for other improvements.

Another system of moss improvement has been resorted to on the estate of David Dundas, Esq. of Ochertyre, M. P. for Sutherlandshire.

When, at the death of Mr Ramsay, the family of the late James Dundas, Esq., succeeded to this estate, there were about 243 acres of it under moss, exactly similar to the moss of Blair-Drummond, to which it is united. Of these, 38 acres have been reclaimed and bear crops, and 20, being low moss, are under a thriving plantation. These 38 acres were improved by the late William Dundas, Esq., who had recently returned from India, and, during a short residence here, was most deservedly and universally esteemed. He died in the prime of life while visiting the Falls of Niagara.

As he had not a sufficient command of water at Ochertyre, for conveniently reclaiming his deep moss, he improved that which is commonly called *spreadfield*, by trenching. This operation was performed by burying the moss under about sixteen inches of clay, which, by spade-labour, was thrown upon the surface, drains being at the same time made in it at proper distances.

The land thus treated bears abundance of some kinds of crops to repay the expense of improving. The spreadfield moss is that from which the peat from generation to generation has been dug, and is generally about two or two-and-a-half feet deep above the clay. The twenty acres of fine thriving young plantation are up-

on this kind of moss, which is kept dry by open ditches at regular distances.

*Draining.*—The proprietors and farmers of this parish have been peculiarly successful in adopting the most improved system of draining; but, as so much has been published of late respecting the construction of drains, in reference to their depth, distance, and the mode of filling them, it is deemed unnecessary to enter particularly into the subject here. It may be stated, however, that the utility of the frequent draining system was shown by Mr Ord, factor at Blair-Drummond, so early as 1826, in the north side of the cow park there, in which parallel drains were cut from top to bottom, at distances of fifteen feet, and filled with stones broken to a small size.

Partial draining was practised at a much earlier period, in the dryfield part of this parish than in the carse; but the system of deep ploughing and thorough draining, which Mr Smith of Deanston has done so much to introduce into general use, now prevails in both, and has been productive of the most beneficial results. That gentleman is so universally celebrated for his inventions in machinery, and improvements in agriculture, as to require no encomium here.

Mr M'Ewan of Black-dub, in this parish, who is a very intelligent and enterprising farmer, invented his well known drain-plough, the utility of which is particularly described in the Third Report of Drummond's Agricultural Museum. As a proof of its efficiency, it may be added, that he has opened drains by this plough in this parish to the extent of 448 acres, and about 100 acres in the neighbourhood.

It is highly creditable to the tenants of this parish in general, that they have been most skilful, persevering, and successful, not only in draining, but also in adopting all other modern agricultural improvements.

In 1831, a tile work was erected on the estate of Blair-Drummond, from which tiles are supplied gratis to the tenants of the carse lands, to the yearly value of about £400, and the tenants are allowed to divide them among themselves, according to the size of their farms, the landlord reserving to himself the power of refusing them where the drains do not appear to be properly executed.

So sensible are the tenants of this advantage, that they vie with one another to meet the wishes of the landlord, by making their

drains properly, and by skilfully improving their farms. The dryfield farmers are accustomed to use broken stones for filling their drains, of which they have abundance on their farms, and which, by competent judges, are in light soils preferred to tiles.

Many of the most improved implements of husbandry are in general use here, not only in the cultivation of the soil, but also in the reaping of the crops, and in preparing the grain for the mill and the market.

Some years ago, Mr Drummond secured a beautiful part of his park, on which were some fine old trees, against the encroachments of the Teith. This was accomplished at an expense of about L. 100 per month, during two summers, by a strong wall of large stones projected into the bed of the river, and well sloped backward to the edge of the bank. In some places large piles were driven by a machine to secure the foundation, and at one place in water of considerable depth. This work has stood firm and uninjured by flood or ice ever since its construction.

The progress of agricultural improvement in this parish gives the best proof of the comfortable relations that subsist between proprietors and tenants. The terms on which the land is let to the tenants, are by leases at so much per acre for nineteen years, in which they become bound to follow an improving system of rotation of crops by draining, liming, manuring, and judiciously ploughing their farms, the proprietors binding themselves at the same time to assist, according to the state of the farms, in bearing a part of these expenses. Hence a strong mutual interest in improving the soil.

The lease includes the obligations of the contracting parties in reference to fences and farm-buildings, &c. and the general practice in regard to houses is, that the proprietors pay for the building and furnish all the materials, and the tenants bear the expense of driving them. These houses in this parish, but especially in the eastern division of it, are very creditable to the proprietors and comfortable to the farmers, and have improved with the advancement of our country in civilization. On the farms of Colonel Graham and Mr Dundas, excellent new farm houses have lately been built, and also on the estate of Blair Drummond.

There were formerly five corn-mills in this parish, but now there are only two. One of these, called Little-mill, is at the western boundary, for the benefit of the farmers there, and the

other, called the Mill of Torr, is in the eastern division. This mill is convenient for the farmers, and is under good management. The buildings are good and suitable, the whole process of grinding and sifting is done by machinery, and the wheel is driven by water power. The miller dries and grinds the oats at 9d. per boll. The roads to this mill are so good and level that a horse can with ease carry an extra load. The mill is the property of Mr Drummond, who keeps it in repair.

Three mills, which were called the Mill of Burnbank, Mill of Muck, and Mill of Cambusdrennie, no longer exist. The last was either built or rebuilt about 1690, as a stone bearing that date was lately found where it stood. Either then or some years afterwards, George Drummond, or his son James, accomplished what was at that time a great undertaking, by forming a water lead along the whole length of the north side of the moss, to the extent of three miles, for conveying the water of the mill of Muck to the mill of Cambusdrennie.

A modern mill certainly executes more work than two did formerly, and the diminished consumption of oatmeal, and the improvement in machinery, may, in a great measure, explain why there are fewer mills now.

Some years ago, Mr Drummond erected a saw-mill near the church of Kincardine, which cuts timber by circular saws; and is of great convenience and utility to the proprietor and to the people in the neighbourhood, who get their timber cut for farm and other purposes at a trifling expense.

In addition to these improvements it may be proper here to refer to an elegant range of cottages which some years ago were built on the estate and near the house of Blair Drummond, for the accommodation of the people who are, from father to son, employed on this estate. These cottagers have houses and large gardens free of rent; receive assistance in planting their potato crops, and have from 10s. to 12s. of weekly wages, during the year. When the plantations are thinned, they have the use of the crops, &c. for firewood. Their condition is one of comparative ease and comfort, enhanced by the old having the happiness of seeing a portion of their offspring rising up to fill their places, and also by the hope of spending their own last hour in the place and house of their birth. The system is generous on the part of the proprietor as well as comfortable to his people,



and it is so carried on as not to relax diligence nor encourage vice on their part, but the contrary. The same kind system, descriptive of the good old country gentleman, has long existed at Ochertyre, not only in the time of the late Mr Ramsay, but also under his enlightened and accomplished successors.

The facts which have already been stated in reference to the estate of Blair Drummond (which is strictly entailed,) refute the objections, in as far as it is concerned, which are occasionally made against entails, and this remark may be more completely confirmed by referring to the general system of management. Through several generations, part of it has been emerging from the condition of a wilderness into a state of high cultivation and abundance. On its improvement, above L.2000 are annually expended, and it may be noticed that on another entailed estate, at no great distance, where the improvements are very great, a larger sum was expended for several years. But in both these instances, the proprietors are zealous land improvers, and the intelligence, integrity, and success of their factors are so well established, that any sum for improvements may with advantage be put into their hands.

The landed proprietors, in general, have it in their power to encourage agricultural enterprise, and to increase the comfort and independence of the farmers, by placing objects of ambition within their reach. This can be done not only by setting the example of skilful improvements in general, but also in so regulating the size of their farms, as to give employment to men of small as well as of large capital. It is very encouraging to the skilful and industrious farm-servant, for example, to labour and economize, when he knows that he may in due time invest his hard-earned savings in a farm, where he becomes the master, and where he may rear his family in industry and comfort. It is a national benefit to give all the population as great a stake in the great interests of our country as possible; and as our peasantry, in peace and in war, are the main-springs of our wealth and strength, let them by all means be encouraged, so as to secure their patriotism and independence.

This principle is in operation in this parish: in proof of which it may be remarked, that the great number of small proprietors who farm their own estates have risen to this distinction by the very principle here recommended. Nor has it been overlooked by the more wealthy heritors. It became the more necessary, how-

ever, on the estate of Blair-Drummond, because, in consequence of the moss population being suddenly superadded to the usual numbers of the parish, arrangements became necessary for giving them employment. Their rural labours did not occupy them during the whole year; but they have always had sufficient employment beside the moss operations, in draining, making and repairing roads and fences, and other improvements. It is part of the system of management on the estate of Blair-Drummond, to give, as much as possible, constant employment to the same number of persons, that industry and good conduct may have their due reward. It is considered of importance for the best interests of this class of the community to encourage them to maintain a good character, by securing to them a steady demand for their labour, and to avoid the evils of vicissitude in their condition, inseparable from any sudden increase or diminution of expenditure. And perhaps in no other place will persons of this class be found more industrious, more skilful, and more respectable in their station than here, or in more comfortable circumstances. On the same principle the farms here are so varied in their extent, as to meet the capabilities of men both of large and small capital.

But to apply these remarks to the moss population and their possessions, it may be stated, that the moss-field was originally let to the tenants in farms of about eight acres to each, for fifty-seven years, and at a nominal rent per acre during a great portion of that time. From the length of the lease the tenants were usually called moss lairds, and, with their families, at one time amounted to about 1000 souls. On the expiry of the lease, however, the land must, to reimburse the proprietor, bring a much higher rent than formerly; but, as the tenement of each was too small to enable him, after the moss was removed, to pay even an ordinary rent, and at the same time maintain a profitable farming establishment, such as were not prepared to occupy larger farms contracted with their neighbours, for the disposal of their leases, which, with the consent of the proprietor, they were at liberty to sell. So early as 1792, there were sales of this description to the amount of £849 Sterling, and since that time, the reversion of their leases has tripled in value, and many sales have taken place. In the progress of the moss improvement, the practice has prevailed of one tenant purchasing the possessions of two or more of his neigh-

hours, and thus, when the moss was removed, the same people, with the exception of those who had sold, remained in possession of the lands, and the extraordinary influx of that class of population diminished so gradually, as to prevent the evil of a number being suddenly thrown upon other resources. The farms where the moss used to be, are, by the wise system of the proprietor, made as small as the benefit of all parties would admit, and thus provision is made for continuing on these lands as many as possible of the original cultivators.

*Quarries.*—The sandstone of this parish is used for the purpose of building houses and dikes, and making roads. In some places it is too soft for such purposes, but in others it is hard and durable.

*Fisheries.*—There is a cruive dike extending across the Teith at Doune Castle, containing boxes for catching salmon. The right of fishing, which is of little value, belongs to the Earl of Moray, who pays yearly to the proprietor of Blair Drummond, in terms of an old decree-arbitral, 24½ merks Scots, being L.1, 7s. 9d. Sterling, for resting the dike on the south bank of the river. From this dike to the commencement of the town of Stirling's fishing near the junction of the Teith and Forth, the exclusive right of salmon-fishing is attached to the estate of Blair Drummond, but it is now much reduced in value, the only portion let producing a rent of no more than L.6 Sterling a year.

*Produce.*—The valued rent of this parish is L.4784 Scotch. It is difficult to give accurately the amount in money of the aggregate value of its raw produce; but the real rental has for many years greatly increased. In the last Statistical Account this rental was stated to be L.3500 Sterling, but it is now more than double this sum, not only in consequence of the great agricultural improvements here, but especially by the addition of about 1700 acres of good clay land, which have by the proprietors been reclaimed from moss since the last Statistical Account was written.

*Associations.*—A horticultural society has existed for some years in this parish, which has excited much competition in the cultivation of shrubs, flowers, and plants, and of all kinds of vegetables which are necessary for domestic use. It has been productive of much improvement in the appearance of the cottages and of their flower plots and gardens. Many of the cottages here are models of neatness and cleanliness.

## V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Villages.*—There are no market-towns in this parish; the market-towns being Stirling, six miles, and Doune two miles distant from the manse. The only village in the parish is Thornhill, which includes Norriestoun, and in which there is a post-office subordinate to Stirling.

*Police.*—One of the recent improvements, which have proved beneficial to this parish, is the establishment of a county police. Previous to their appointment, vagrants, tinkers, and gipsies from various quarters were numerous; but, by the vigilance of the police, they have been suppressed.

*Means of Communication.*—From the Bridge of Drip, six miles of the turnpike road from Stirling to the Port of Monteith pass through this parish, and about two miles from the manse towards Doune parish. There is a cross road turnpike as far as Thornhill, entirely new made, and about five miles long, which runs from near the Bridge of Frew, past the west end of Thornhill to the top of the ridge in this parish, which overlooks Callander. The Nethertoun Bridge, across the Goodie, on this road, was built, and the new part of the road in the carse, and in the moss, was made at the expense of Mr Drummond; and if the proprietors in the neighbourhood of Callander were to extend the road on their side, there would be a very short line to Kippen, Fintry, and Glasgow. One public coach runs from Stirling to Callander twice a-week during winter and spring, and there are coaches daily on the same road during summer.

There is now a direct communication between the north and south sides of this strath by a suspension bridge, which was designed by James Smith, Esq. of Deanston, and erected at the expense of Colonel Graham of Meiklewood in 1831. An account of this bridge may be seen in the Third Report of Drummond's Agricultural Museum, and in the leading journals of that date.

From the nature of the soil, and the state of the banks of the Forth, much difficulty occurred in finding good foundations for the pedestals at each end, but these were surmounted by the genius of Mr Smith. The north end of the bridge rests on Colonel Graham's land in this parish, and the south end on a portion of land which he procured for the purpose from the proprietor of the estate of Gargunnoch. This bridge cost at least L.800, and

entitles the Colonel to the gratitude of the whole district, because, previously, the only means of crossing the Forth, from the Bridge of Drip to the Bridge of Frew (a distance of about ten miles,) was by insecure boats, and what was called a temporary peat bridge. A pontage is here levied from foot passengers, and all kinds of conveyances, and the Colonel, with the assistance of the Statute Labour Fund, keeps in good order the road from this point to the public road between Stirling and Doune. About a mile and a-half farther down the Forth, and shortly after the date of this bridge, he built another of smaller dimensions for £350. The genius of Mr Smith appears in the simplicity, economy, and utility of this structure. It leads directly from Colonel Graham's new and elegant mansion-house, across the Forth to a part of his estate in this parish, part of which was, till lately, covered with moss, but is now, by moss-floating, levelling, draiuing, fencing, and planting, in a very profitable state of cultivation.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The parish church, which is near the site of the old one, is too far north-west for a small proportion of the population; but the situation was central before a chapel was built at Norriestoun. With a few exceptions, however, the most remote population are only from two-and-a-half to three-and-a-half miles distant. The church, which accommodates 770 sitters, was built in 1814, and was opened for public worship in 1816.

The manse and offices were built in 1821, and are highly creditable to the taste and liberality of the heritors of the parish.

The glebe extends to seven acres, exclusive of the garden, road, and site of the manse and offices. The amount of stipend is 17 chalders, the one-half meal and the other barley, and payable according to the fiars of the county of Perth. There is also 1 boll and 1 firlof of oatmeal payable to the minister, by the proprietor of the Blair-Drummond estate, in lieu of a servitude of peat, according to a decision of the Court of Session, in the time of the late Rev. Christopher Tait. £10 Sterling are also paid annually to the incumbent for defraying the expenses at the communion, by the award of the Court of Teinds, the sacrament being dispensed twice a-year.

The number of families belonging to the chapel at Norriestoun and the church of Kincardine in 1831, was about 530, and the number of persons 2383. The number of Dissenters was from 60 to 70, who belonged to the old and new light congregations

in Doune and Stirling. The attendance of the people in general on divine service in the Established Church is regular and devout, and they are attentive to the duties of family devotion. The number of communicants in the church of Kincardine is about 300 in winter, and about 400 in summer.

The Chapel of Ease at Norriestoun stands in this parish, and is four miles distant from the parish church. Gabriel Norrie of Norriestoun, a descendant of the ancient family of the Norries in this parish, gave the church-yard and the site of the church there, upwards of 170 years ago, for a burying ground and a place of worship, in connection with the Established Church of Scotland. The minister of this chapel receives his stipend from the rent of lands which were purchased by public and private collections, which were made by the authority of the General Assembly. The Presbytery of Dunblane are appointed by the Assembly to manage this fund called the Norriestoun fund, with authority to let the lands, keep in repair the farm buildings, pay the public burdens, and the stipend of the minister at Norriestoun. The stipend varies from L.80 to L.95 per annum according to the state of the buildings and the amount of rent the land produces. He has, in addition to this sum, six acres of glebe, a garden, and also a good house, but the house, like the farm buildings, is built and kept in repair out of the rent of the land.

There is a Bible Society in this parish for Bible and missionary purposes, whose annual contributions to the General Assembly's Schemes have been about L.15.

*Education.*—There are five schools in the parish; one parochial school, one General Assembly's school in Thornhill, one in Kincardine moss, one unendowed in Thornhill, and another near the bridge of Drip. In these schools the branches taught are, English reading, writing, arithmetic, practical mathematics, book-keeping, geography, and English grammar; and in the Assembly's school, in addition to these, the Greek, Latin, and French languages, and mathematics are taught. There is also a well attended Sabbath evening school.

The parochial schoolmaster's salary is the maximum, and in all respects he enjoys the legal accommodations. His school fees amount to about L.14 per annum, and in addition, he receives as session and heritors' clerk, and from a mortification, about L.12

annually. This mortification is recorded in the minute of the kirk-session as follows :

“ At Kincardine, Tuesday 30th April 1695, the Earl of Perth, after the Revolution, and with consent of the United Presbyteries of Stirling and Dunblane,\* mortified, out of the vacant stipend of Kincardine, for the encouragement of a schoolmaster in this place, 2000 merks Scots money,” being L.111, 2s. 2½d. Sterling.

The school-fees, including all the classes, are from 1s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per quarter for each pupil. The teacher of the Assembly's school receives from the Assembly's Committee, and some of the heritors of the Norriestoun district, an annual salary of L.22. The other emoluments of the teacher arise from the school-fees, which are from 2s. to 3s. per quarter, the number of scholars being 50. He has besides an excellent school-house, dwelling-house, and garden, free of rent, from the proprietor of the Blair-Drummond estate, who lately repaired the buildings at a great expense.

The teacher of the school in Kincardine moss has a free school-house and dwelling-house, and an acre of good land from Mr Drummond, and also a small gratuity for teaching a Sabbath evening school. His school-fees are from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per quarter, the number of scholars being about 100 during the greater part of the year. The other two schools, which are unendowed, are supported entirely by the school-fees, with the exception of school-houses and dwelling-houses free of rent. In the one there are 100 scholars, who pay individually, per quarter, from 1s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. In the other, which is near the Bridge of Drip, the number of scholars is 38, and the school-fees are from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per quarter for each pupil. The teacher receives in addition a small sum annually from the parents of his scholars, and an allowance for a garden from the proprietor.

The education in this parish is good, and the people are generally attentive in sending their children to the schools, which are at a convenient distance, so that no additional school is required. The ample provision which is made for education has had a salutary influence upon the moral character of the people.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—As the greater part of this parish is landward, the poor are generally few in number, and the system

\* The presbyteries of Dunblane and Stirling are now disjoined.

of management such as has always prevailed in the rural parishes of Scotland. The paupers have, either by long residence or relationship, a claim upon the sympathy and benevolence of their friends or neighbours, who are always willing to assist in supporting them. On this principle, the kindly and unostentatious flow of private charity circulates from hand to hand and from heart to heart, and the aid from the poor's fund of the parish is administered as the circumstances of each individual may require. The minister and kirk-session select the most deserving objects of public charity, and adapt the monthly allowance to such as equitably as they can. There is no regular parochial assessment; but when extraordinary cases occur, the heritors frankly come forward with a voluntary contribution according to their valued rent to meet such cases. They have of late contributed in this way to a considerable amount for the support of two lunatics, a foundling child, and other extraordinary cases of pauperism. A legal assessment should, if possible, be avoided, especially in landward parishes, as tending to the increase of pauperism, and to the destruction of a feeling of independence among the poor; but still the legal assessment is the most equitable system of parochial support, especially in towns and boroughs, and where there are many Dissenters from the Establishment. The average number of paupers on the permanent roll during three consecutive years previous to 1838 was about 16, each of whom received on an average yearly £2, 11s. 3d.\* The average annual contributions for their relief during these years was, from collections at the church door, £24, 18s.; and from mortcloth, proclamation, and other dues, £16, 2s. The latter sum includes £5, 17s., being the interest of money mortgaged for the benefit of the poor. Although the poor in some instances show a delicacy in seeking parochial relief, yet in general they do not think it degrading to receive it, and are content with what they receive.

*Fairs.*—There are no fairs held in this parish, except one for cattle at Thornhill on a small scale, being in the month of January annually.

*Inns, &c.*—In all this landward part of the parish, containing a population of about 1400, there is only one house licensed to sell ale or spirits, and only two in the village of Thornhill and its vi-

\* This sum is less than the usual amount given to the poor, because the list of paupers for these years includes a greater number than usual from Thornhill district, from which the fund receives no aid.



cinity, containing a population of about 820. Public-houses were at one time more numerous than at present; and the diminution of their number has had a beneficial effect upon the morals and the pecuniary circumstances of the people. There being now less temptation to drink, instances of extravagance, idleness, and dissipation are fewer, the class of publicans is more select, and their houses are more orderly and their example better than formerly. The community are deeply indebted to the justices of the peace for their judicious attention to this and other subjects of police.

*Fuel.*—Coal and peat are both used in this parish for fuel. The coals at Greenyards and Bannockburn are generally preferred, and the price is about 14s. per ton, including tolls, carriage, and custom at Stirling. There are three tolls between Kincardine and Bannockburn. The road is in two counties, and the distance is nine miles.

The population of the Moss have generally used peat for fuel, of which, from their situation, they have had great abundance, and of excellent quality. At the commencement of reclaiming the moss, the peat was very cheap to themselves and to the surrounding district; but latterly, the steady demand for it at Stirling and the neighbouring villages, and especially at the distilleries, has raised the price to from 4s. to 7s. per cart-load, according to the quality of the peat, and the distance to which it is carried.

#### MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

By attending to the preceding Account, it will appear that the variations betwixt the state of the parish at present and at the date of the last Statistical Account are of importance.

Thus from 1600 to 1700 acres of excellent land have been reclaimed from moss, capable of producing from seven to eight bolls per acre of all kinds of grain. A new system of draining and improving land has been extensively adopted. Several miles of new turnpike roads have been made, and are well kept for the benefit of the whole district. Three new bridges have been built, which add greatly to the advantage of the public. There have been erected a new church and manse, and new offices; and also a great number of new farm-buildings and elegant cottages. Above a hundred acres have been planted on the estate of Blair-Drummond. Several acres have also been planted on the estate of Ochertyre. The population, which, for some time, had greatly

increased by the settlement of the moss, has, for some years, decreased by emigration to Canada ; by the removal of some to other places when they sold their moss possessions, or no longer found occupation there ; and also by the villagers of Thornhill and Norriestoun removing to places of greater trade, for the more profitable employment of their families. The people being more independent in their circumstances give their children a better education than formerly, and hence a marked improvement in their general character.

*January 1844.*



## COUNTY OF PERTH.

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THE extreme length of this county from east to west is 77 miles ; the extreme breadth from north to south, 68 miles. Its area is about 2588 square miles, or 1,656,320 acres. Upwards of 500,000 acres are in a state of cultivation.

The county is bounded on the east, by the counties of Forfar, Fife, and Kinross ; on the west, by Argyle and Dumbarton ; on the north, by Inverness and Aberdeen ; on the south, by Stirling and Clackmannan. It was anciently divided into the districts of Monteith, Athole, Strathearn, Breadalbane, Rannoch, Stormont, Perth and Gowrie, Balquidder, and Glenorchy.

The valued rent of the county in 1672 was L. 339,892 Scots ; the annual value of real property, as assessed in 1815, L.555,532. The Parliamentary constituency in 1843 amounted to 3944.

TABLE.—Showing the Ecclesiastical State, &c. of Parishes in the County of Perth.

Parishes.	Population in 1841.		Ecclesiastical State.						Parochial Schoolmasters' Emoluments.				Annual amount of Contributions to the Poor.		
	Families belonging to Estab. Ch.	Individuals	Do. Do.	Fam. Dis. Episcop.	Individuals	Do. Do.	Amount of Parochial Ministers' stipend.	Schools in Par.	Salary.	Fees.	Total.	From assessment or voluntary contrib. by Heritors.	From Church collections.	From Aims, Legacies, &c.	Total.
Perth.	19225	11683	...	...	7101	See text.	...	See text.	...	...	...	L. 2128 0	L. 723 0	...	L. 2851 0
Methven.	22510	...	...	255	...	18 chalders.	...	L. 34 4	...	L. 61 4	...	100 0	85 0	...	185 0
Redgorton.	3355	1617	324	61	280	17 chalders.	...	34 4	...	64 4	...	55 7	27 5	...	102 9
Moneydie.	1917	724	...	...	327	L. 103, &c.	...	34 4	...	44 4	...	...	17 0	Int. of 70L.	...
Collace.	702	...	130	12	...	150.	...	34 4	...	64 4	...	...	12 10	...	40 0
Abernyte.	288	...	44	4	...	150.	...	34 4	...	59 4	...	20 0	...	...	...
Kinnaird.	458	457	...	...	1	See text.	...	34 4	...	58 4	...	...	12 10	Int. of 300L.	...
Meikle.	941	880	...	...	61	14 chalders.	...	34 4	...	49 4	...	...	36 10	...	...
Rattray.	1919	...	253	65	...	L. 150.	...	34 4	...	49 4	...	...	...	...	...
Fowls, wester.	1609	800	325	...	...	16 15 chalders.	...	34 4	...	59 4	...	...	...	...	70 0
Monzie.	1284	...	...	11	...	L. 150.	...	34 4	...	64 4	...	21 17	...	L. 12.	...
Gask.	436	...	46	43	1	150.	...	34 4	...	...	...	...	...	Int. of 280L.	...
Auchterarder.	3434	2196	...	...	1070	10 chald., &c.	...	34 4	...	74 4	...	50 0	59 11	L. 23.	131 16
Blackford.	1780	1780	...	...	...	14 chald., &c.	...	34 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	90 0
Muekhart.	706	438	89	...	226	L. 150.	...	25 6	...	42 6	...	12 16	15 5	Int. of 240L.	37 9
Muthill.	2828	2800	...	...	33	16 chalders.	...	34 4	...	50 14	...	...	52 0	...	160 0
Glendovan.	157	...	30	4	...	L. 150.	...	34 4	...	61 4	...	...	7 0	...	...
Trinity Gask.	620	...	50	...	...	85 bolls, &c.	...	35 9	...	48 0	...	50 0	18 0	Int. of 80L.	...
Balgaddie.	874	874	...	...	...	...	...	34 4	...	44 10	...	...	...	...	...
Callendar.	1665	1640	...	...	28	97 bolls.	...	34 4	...	71 4	...	...	...	Int. of 200L.	75 0
Rhynd.	402	...	54	20	...	15 chalders.	...	34 4	...	59 4	...	35 0	5 0	Int. of 150L.	...
Erry.	2835	2025	467	218	906	18 chalders.	...	34 4	...	79 4	...	280 0	54 0	Int. of 20, 15s.	369 0
Longforgan.	1660	...	310	16	...	18 chalders.	...	34 4	...	64 4	...	30 0	49 10	L. 9, 4s. &c.	98 9
Auchtergraven.	1939	...	...	150	...	L. 73, &c.	...	34 4	...	49 4	...	40 0	35 0	L. 28, &c.	115 0

TABLE.—Showing the Ecclesiastical State, &c. of Parishes in the County of Perth.

Parishes.	Population in 1841.		Ecclesiastical State.				Parochial Schoolmasters' Emoluments			Annual amount of Contributions to the Poor.				
	Families belonging to	Individuals	Do.	Fam. Dis.	Episcop.	Individuals	Amount of Parochial Ministers' stipend.	Schools in Par.	Salary.	Fees.	Total.	From assessment or voluntary contrib. by Heritors.	From Church collections.	From Alms, Legacies, &c.
Kenmore	2549	80	17 chalders.	9	L.94 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	...	L.64 11 0	L.79.	L.137 0 0
Crief, Fortingall,	4926	861	L.175.	15	84 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	...	88 0 0	text.	...
Blair Athole,	2926	20	6 chalders, &c.	12	84 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	...	50 0 0	...	...
Comrie,	3062	20	16 chalders.	7	84 4 0	0	L.64 4 0	...	...	...	...	32 8 0	Int. of 1982.	44 0 0
Culross,	2941	317	L.150.	7	84 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	...	90 0 0	...	180 0 0
St Maddoes,	1441	17	L.200.	4	84 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	L.35 0 0	40 0 0	...	...
Caputh,	327	4	L.150.	1	34 4 0	0	10 0 0	44 4 0	...	...	...	30 0 0	L.23.	53 0 0
Moulin,	1754	58	L.150.	7	34 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	13 0 0	56 0 0	L.16.	85 0 0
Caputh,	2318	40	255 bolls, &c.	5	34 4 0	0	18 0 0	52 4 0	...	...	...	80 0 0	...	...
Logierait,	2958	92	16 chalders.	10	34 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Weem,	890	10	6 chalders, &c.	5	34 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dunning,	2125	5	16 chalders.	5	34 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	40 0 0	29 0 0	L.13.	...
Monivard,	483	1	16 chalders.	1	34 4 0	0	15 0 0	49 4 0	...	...	...	20 0 0	L.9.	...
Madderty,	634	2	15 chalders.	2	34 4 0	0	11 0 0	45 4 0	...	...	...	48 0 0	L.25.	...
Dull,	3810	9	16 chalders.	9	34 4 0	0	18 0 0	52 4 0	...	...	...	10 0 0	L.3.	43 0 0
Kirkmichael,	1411	...	L.150.	...	34 4 0	0	15 0 0	49 4 0	...	...	...	56 0 0	L.24.	80 0 0
Dunbarney,	1105	...	See text.	...	15 0 0	0	10 0 0	25 0 0	...	...	...	42 0 0	text.	88 0 0
Inchture,	797	...	L.250.	...	34 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	...	63 0 0	Int. of 2000.	80 0 0
Abernethy,	1918	...	17 chalders.	4	34 4 0	0	25 0 0	59 4 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dron,	441	...	L.175.	...	34 4 0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85 0 0
Tulliallan,	4152	...	L.259.	...	34 4 0	0	21 0 0	55 4 0	...	...	53 0 0	6 0 0	...	60 0 0
St. Martins,	1071	21	L.190.	23	34 4 0	0	24 0 0	58 4 0	...	...	20 0 0	51 0 0	---	200 0 0

\* Logierait, 50 Episcopalian here included.



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## ERRATA.

Page 733, lines 20 and 21, for Thomas Graham Stirling, read Thomas Stirling Graham.

Page 1211, line 32, for *Quercus sessiliflorus*, read *Quercus sessiliflora*.











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