

STIRLING SHIRE,

Ancient and Abodern.

1707.



1707.





SIBBALD's

History & Description

of

STIRLING-SHIRE,

Elncient and Modern.

1707.

TO THE

Right Honourable the Earl of LINLITHGOW and CALANDER, Heretable Sheriff of Stirling-shire,

This History and Description is Dedicated by His Lordships most Humble Servant,

ROBERT SIBBALD.

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SEAL OF STIRLING.

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Section 1.

The Ancient State of this Shire.

Chap. 1.

The Ancient People of this Shire.

N Ancient times this Shire made a part of the Silva Caledonia; for Pliny in his Natural History, Lib. 4. Cap: 16. where he treateth of Britain, tells us; Triginta prope jam annis notitiam ejus Romanis armis non ultra Vicinitatem Silvae Caledoniæ propagantibus: by which it appeareth, that till the time that Julius Agricola was Governour of Britain, they had discovered no more of Britain than what was in the Neighbourhood of the Caledonian Wood. It was he that first penetrated into it, in the third year of his Expeditions: and Tacitus saith, Tertius Expeditionum Annus novas Gentes apperuit, it discovered People they knew not before. These People were the Genunii of whom we have treated already; and the Gadeni we are to treat of now. They had the name Gadeni from Gadir, which the Learned Bocbartus in the last part of his

Sacred

Sacred Geographie, Book 2: Chap. 9. Saith is a Punick word which signifieth Septum, a place inclosed; for which he citeth this Verse of Dionysius Periegetes,

Pænus namque locum Gadir vocat undique Septum.

And Stephanus, Eustathius and Suidas interpret Γάδωρα to be Terræ collum, a neck of Land; which Name does well agree to this Shire, For in it is that Neck of Land, betwixt the two Firths, of which Tacitus saith, Glota et Bodotria diversi maris æstu, per immensum revecti, angusto spatio dirimuntur. It is but a small space of ground, that divides Clyde and Forth, whose Firths have advanced far up into the Land.

These *Gadeni* were *Picts*, a Branch of the *Mæata Scottedeni*, and they were the first invaded, because *Agricola* made his first Descents from his Fleet into this part of the Countrey, which lay upon the South side of the Firth of *Forth*.

Chap. 2d.

The Condition of the Countrey then.

The Countrey at that time was much covered with Wood, for it was here the Silva Caledonia began, and ran through this Shire and Perth-Shire, & the

Vestiges of it remain yet in the Woods of Callender, Comernauld and Tor-wood &c. The Woods made it long before Agricola could subdue it, for there were Militarie ways to be made through them and the Marishes, before he could march through it with his Army, and the Provincials were compelled to make these ways which Galgacus, in his Oration to his Souldiers before the fight, sheweth, for he saith corpora ipsa ac manus Silvis ac paludibus emuniendis verbera inter ac contumelias conterunt. And the Romans could not Pursue the Natives far, when they got any advantage in fighting with them, because, as Herodian says, Facilis erat ex fuga receptus Barbaris, quippe inter Silvas ac paludes et loca ipsis notissima delitescentibus; They had an easie retreat to the Woods and Fens and other places they knew: and Herodian sayes of this part of Britain, that pluraque loca frequentibus Oceani alluvionibus paludescunt. This was the condition of this Shire then, for where the Carss ground is now, was then Sea, which any may yet discern, who vieweth and considereth it, for upon the digging of the Soil, some few Foots deep, there appear Beds of Shells, and the Water in the Chanells, cut through that low ground is Brackish and Saltish. The Soil of the Carss is made up of the Earth and mud

brought down by the Speats of the Waters of *Carron* and *Avon* from the higher grounds, which in Process of time has stopt the flowing up of the Sea, and has raised the Ground in Banks, and straitned the Embouchers where the Sea did enter.

Thus it was very uneasy for *Agricola* to penetrate into this Countrey, and to put it in such a condition as that he might become Master of it, and in doing that it cost him much of two Summers.

Chap. 3d.

Concerning the Wars of the Romans in this Countrey.

Uch of the War of the *Romans* was in this Countrey, for tho' they made some attempts to penetrat further, as *Agricola* and *Severus* afterwards did, by crossing the Firth and passing further into the Countrey, they soon lost all the Ground they had acquired there.

They found the Countrey beyond the Firths could not be long kept by them. Agricola found the Neck of Land betwixt the two Firths was fit to be a Limit, and to bound their power, Inventus (says Tacitus) in ipsa Britannia Terminus, if the Ambition of some had not pushed them

on to prosecute their Victories further; yet upon the Resistance they met with in Caledonia, some were for retireing back to the other side of Forth, of their own accord, rather than that they should be compelled so to do, Regrediendumque citra Bodotriam, et excedendum potius, quam pellerentur, specie prudentium ignavi admonebant: and though Agricola carried it to march further into the Countrey, he went no further than Tay, which is the last Garison in Britain marked in the Peutingerian Tables: and upon Agricola's retireing, all he had conquer'd, was soon lost, as our Author Tacitus shewes. The next that carried War into Caledonia, was the Emperour Severus, who is said to have gone near to the end of the Island, yet he was so sensible of the Disadvantages of pushing his Conquests so far on (haveing lost one way and other in his Expedition in this Countrey 50000 Men, as Dio tells us) that he made Peace with the Caledonians and carried on the Wall betwixt the two Firths, a greater length Eastwards; and built stronger Forts upon it: and even that part within the Scots Wall, was soon lost, and the Romans retired with their Forces, within the Pictish Wall, betwixt New Castle and Carleol. And when long after this, Theodosius did recover all the Countrey betwixt the two Walls, and called it Valentia, the limit of the Roman power was the Fort at Stirling, and the Tract of the Wall through this Shire, and part of Lennox to Thus this Shire for severall Centuries of Dumbarton. years was the Field of Battel, betwixt our Ancestours and the Romans. We have no Histories left, which give us an account of the Battels; and the account Tacitus gives of Agricola's Expeditions, is rather an Eloge of his Father in Law, and as he calleth it himself, in the close of the third Chapter, Liber honori Agricolæ Soceri mei destinatus, done as he saith four years after his Death, than a just Historie, where the event of the War is rather hinted at, than clearly narrated; yet the many Cairns, and Sepulchral Monuments, and the Urns, and Arms, and Fibulæ found in severall places, (one Fibula I have, which was said to have been found near Stirling) are Arguments that both in Agricola's time and afterwards, there were, as Tacitus shewes in the account of his first years Expedition, crebra simul ac prospera prælia, as he favourably expresseth it for his Countrey-men. That the Natives made much resistance, the many Forts, and the Wall raised against them shewes, and make it evident that the Romans met, while they were here, with much Opposition, both from the Scoto-Brigantes in the Mountainous part of the Countrey to the South of the Wall, and from the *Caledonii* who dwelt to the North of it, and it holds true, that

Hic spe progressus posita, Carronis ad undam Terminus Ausonii, signat divortia regni.

Which I find thus translated.

a Limit there,

Which Terminus they call,
Near Carron Stream, now past all Hope
More British Ground to gain,
Markes out the Roman Empires end,
Whence they to turn were fain.

Chap. 4th.

Concerning the Roman Forts in this Shire.

A Lthough some are of the Opinion that Julius Agricola raised a Wall in this Shire, upon the narrow Neck of Land, which runs betwixt the Firths of Clyde and Forth; there is no Ground for that Opinion, as is shew'd in our inquiries concerning the Roman Monuments in North Britain. For Tacitus says of that narrow space of Ground interjected betwixt the two Firths, Quod tum Præsidiis firmabatur, atque omnis propior sinus tenebatur, summotis velut in aliam insulam hostibus.

It was so fortified with Garisons Agricola placed so conveniently, that all the Bayes adjacent were possessed by the Romans, and the Enemies were removed as it were into an other island. And it cannot be imagined that Agricola who was for carrying the War furder to the North, and did actually go to the length of the Firth of Tay, would make a Wall there, which excluded the Garisons placed at a great distance beyond it.

Agricola raised many Forts, the great alterations of the surface of the Ground in so long a time, as it is from that in which he raised them, has buried the Vestigies of severals of them; and considering that his Army acted here only in the Summer time, the Buildings probably were most of them only of Wood (with which the Countrey abounded then) and the Rampires were only of Earth cast up, with Stakes set about them, so they were easily razed by the Enemy in the Incursions they made, and others were consumed by time, and by the Injuries of the War, and some were demolished to make way for Agriculture in after times: So that only some few of them can be traced by the Vestigies of them which The most diligent Observer of these appear now. Buildings was Mr. Timothie Pont, who travelled over all this Countrey more than an hundred years ago, when

there were more Vestigies of Forts to be seen than are now, because many have been levelled by tillage, and the Stones of severals have been removed to the Buildings near them: he tells in his Papers that he observed the Forts were, most of them, placed on Hights, and in places well watered, and where there was a Hight near Water, there was ordinarly a Fort.

The Forts in this Shire whereof there are clear Vestigies, are 1st, That upon the March of the Shire, to the East, at Inneravon, a Tower and the Foundations of other Buildings yet visible. At Camelon (as 'tis called by the Vulgar) there are the traces of the Streets of a City to be seen; and some Roman Coins have been found there, as I was informed. At Stirling there was an Inscription upon a Rock; and no doubt the Town (as many others over all Britain) had its Rise from the Roman Forts there, for there was the Quarters of part of the Legio 11. At Kilsyth also were Stones with Inscriptions found, so no doubt there was a Fort there.

The Earl of *Perth* gave me the Draught of an Altar with the following Inscription upon it, which was found near to Castle *Cary*, (near to which an Urn, a Lamp, and some Medals were found) where there was a great Fort.

The Inscription upon the Altar, is

MATRIBUS
MILITES
LEG XXVI
BRITTON.
V. S. L. P. M.

It is like there have been Forts where *Bruce*-Castle was raised long after, and where the House of *Airth* stands, tho' no Vestigies remain, that have been noticed.

Chap. 5th.

Concerning the Roman Wall in this Shire.

Our learn'd Mr. George Buchanan hath so elegantly written of the Wall in this Shire, that I cannot omit his Verses about it; in Epithalamio Marix, &c.

Si volvere priscos

Non piget Annales, hic & Victoria fixit
Præcipitem Romana Gradum, quem non gravis Auster
Reppulit, incultis non squalens Parthia Campis,
Non æstu Meroe, non frigore Rhenus & Albis

Tardavit, Latium remorata est Scotia cursum:

Solaque gens mundi est, cum qua non culmine montis,
Non rapidi ripis amnis, non objice silvæ,
Non vasti spatiis campi Romana potestas,
Sed muris fossaque sui confinia regni
Munivit: Gentesque alias cum pelleret armis
Sedibus, aut victas vilem servaret in usum
Servitij, hic contenta suos defendere fines
Roma securigeris prætendit Mænia Scotis:
Hic spe progressus posita, Caronis ad undam
Terminus Aufonii signat divortia Regni.

I shall first give the Trace of the Wall so far as it ran through the Shire, as Mr. *Timothie Pont's* Papers have it; thus,

The Wall in this Shire ran from Inneravon to Langtoun, a Mile East of Falkirk, a Fort: at the Rown-tree-bourn-head, a Fort: at Wester-cowdoun, above Helenschapel, one: at the Croy-hill, one: and at Cailly-bee, or the Kirk Wood over against the Croy-hill, on the top of the Barhill, a great one: at Auchterminnie, at the Roch-hill over against the Wester-wood, at Bankir over against Castle-cairy, at Dunvass, Forts.

Others remark that there was alongst the Dilatyr a

long

long Mile to the Wester-wood, a great Fort: south of the Nether-wood, a quarter of a Mile, there was a small Fort: at the West-end of the Sea-beg-wood there was a Fort: and at the East end of the Sea-beg-wood there was a great Fort: the Mount from Sea-begs is called Caledonie-hill; an Argument that the Silva Caledonia began in this Countrey: at the Stonie-four-hill, a Castle bewest, upon the South side of the Wall, and another at the West side of the house of Calender. In the part of Calender, the Wall appeareth close by the high-way passing the Northside of the Park, it runs after some turns to Miln-hill, and not far from that up to the Hill so called and then down to the Water of Evan.

The many Forts upon the Wall shew that the Romans met with much opposition in this Shire: Indeed the Countrey was so wasted, that the South part of it was turn'd to a Forest, & continued long so; for it was by hunting thereabouts, as Boethius tell's us, that King Robert Bruce escaped so narrowly of being killed by a wild White Bull, that attacked him, and was stopt by a Gentleman, who from that got the Name of Turnbull: Some of which kind in latter times were said to be kept at Cumbernauld. The Cutting down of the Woods, and the rotting of the timber, occasioned the great Mosses

yet to be seen in several parts of the Shire, as the Flanders Moss to the West of Stirling, of which the Monks spread ridiculous Stories, of its coming from Flanders: the Moss to the East of Stirling, in the Carss-ground, may possibly be that Wood mentioned in the Verses upon the Wood, which make a part of the Seal of the Town of Stirling. There was found in the Carss near to Sten-house, the flints of an Ox-Horns, very large, which were sent to Doctor Balfour, and are kept in the College Hall at Edinburgh amongst his other Curiosities; and this is an Argument that the Sea was formerly where the low ground of the Carss is now, and that the Soil there, was laid on by the Speates of Carron, above what was the Bottom of the Sea in former times.

Where ever the Mosses are now, there were Woods formerly; beside the many Woods and *Copices* yet to be seen in sundrie parts of the Shire: so it is clear, that the far greatest part of this Shire was Woods in ancient time, and this was indeed part of the *Silva Caledonia*.

As to the building, called by the Vulgar Arthur's Oven, the Reader is referred to the Historical Inquiries, where there is an account of it given at end of book.

Section II.

The Modern State of this Shire.

Chap. I.

Of the Shire in General.

THe Modern Name of the Shire, is from the Metropolis Stirling, which is so called from its Situation upon the descent of a Steep hill, at the foot of which the River of Forth runneth; for as David Buchanan observeth, Ster in the old Saxon Language signified a Mountain or Rock, and Lin a deep water; and he takes this to have been the Binobara of the Ancients, though missnam'd by Ptolemie, Vindovara; for in the old Celtick, Bin is a Mountain, and Vara is a River, thus the Modern name is the Interpretation of the Ancient Appellation. Some think that the Sterling Money was first coined here, when the North Saxons possessed this Countrey, and that it was named so from Stirling, this place; and the Money that was coined here, was current amongst the Scots, the Picts, and the Saxons, whose Territories centred here. I see no ground for this Conjecture.

The Romans had a Garison here, of part of the Legio 11: the Shire is at present of much larger extent, than it was formerly, when it comprehended only the Countrey which lay about the Town of Stirling. In ancienter times, much of it, both as to the Civil and the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, was contained under that of West-Lothian.

It hath now for Bounds towards the West, Dumbarton-shire, and for Marches there, Loch-Lomund, and the Waters of Blane and Ainrick: and it has to the South, part of Dumbarton-shire and Clydsdale: and to the East it hath Linlithgow-shire: and towards the North, it is limited by the River and Firth of Forth.

Where it is longest, that is at the Northwest point, where it joyneth with *Dundass*-Moor in *Lennox*, to the Nunnerie of *Emanuel* upon *Avon* water, which is to the East, the March betwixt it and *Linlithgow-shire*, it will be twenty Miles in length.

And where it is broadest, from the Town of *Kilsyth* to the Castle of *Elphingston*, it will be about twelve Miles in Breadth.

The Nature and Quality of its Soil differeth much, the West and South-west parts of it are Mountainous and Hillie: and the North part of it, from the Town of Stirling to the East March is Levell and plain; and the

South-East

South-East part is much of it a rising ground. The whole is well watered with the Waters, and the Bourns which run through it; and besides several Woods and Copices, the Seats of the Nobility and the Gentry are well planted: the South side is a mixed countrey, fitted for Pasture and Corns: the North side is most fitted for Grains and Fruit Trees.

Upon the South side are many Feuars which hold their Lands of Duke *Hamilton*, and the Duke of *Montrose*, of the Earl of *Wigton*, and of the Earl of *Calender*.

From South to North the Shire may be divided into three Partitions. That to the West, that in the middle, and that to the East, each taking up about six Miles in length. That to the West, contains the Countrey to the West of Kilsyth and Stirling: The middle, that betwixt Stirling and Falkirk: and that from Falkirk to the East March, makes up the last Division.

The Learn'd Mr. Andrew Melvin in his Topographie of Scotland, addressed to Prince Henry, has given an elegant Description of the Ornaments and rarities of this Shire in these Verses.

Inde die a medio quem diximus alterum Avennum A Lothiano arvo Sterlinia dividit arva

Solis ab ortu Æstus Forthæ, donec juga pontis Fert Pontus propter Sterlinum: ubi se minor ipse Fluminis in morem justi stricto amne coercet, Hic Henrice Puer celsa sublimis ab arce. Undique prospectu late petis æquora campi, Despicis hinc saltus virides, et amæna vireta Silvestresque boves, torvosque a fronte juvencos, Queis juba densa, leonino demissaque ritu Qui candore nives superant, qui cursibus auras; Illine et flexus varios, variosque reflexus, Erroresque vagos viridique in gramine rivos Amnis: ubi curvis veluti Mæander in undis Ludit Fortha suis: teneros et pascit ocellos Dive tuos, vitreaque unda campoque virenti; Hic ille est Sterlinus ager, qui surgit in altos Hinc montes, illinc valles descendit in imas, Fluminibusque rigat fruges glebasque feraces. Ad lævam tumuli ex terra pacis duo duni Arte manugue hominum exstructi Carrontis ad undam: Inferius paulo est structa sine calce rotunda Ædicula, ex saxis firma compage coactis Et lapide inserto lapidi, stat pondere ab imo, et Paulatim ad summum veluti se angustat apertum Sive Tropheum seu Templum, cui Terminus hæret.

A dextra Carrontis ager fert cætera planus
Prominet in collem medius qui se erigit inter
Ædiculam et pacis Dunos, in quo anguli ad ipsum
Flexum et adhuc urbis modicæ Vestigia parent,
Hic locus et Bedæ Gnidi Vallumque Severi
Ductum a Glottæ Æstu ad confluxum Forthæ et Avenni
Hic inscripti extant Lapides sint, sive sepulchra,
Romanum in morem ceu partæ clara Salutis
A Ducibus monumenta ac Centurionibus ipsi.

There are within the bounds of the Sheriffdome of Stirling, 20 compleat Parishes; besides four others, viz. Lecropt, Logie, Kippon, and Kilpatrick, of which more hereafter; part of them belonging to the Sheriffdom of Stirling and part of them belonging to other Sheriffdomes. All these 20 Parishes, except Alva and a part of the Parish of Stirling, are on the South side of the River The Names of these Parishes are, (1) Alva; of Forth. (where Sir John Arskin of Alva, a Cadet of the Family of Mar, has a stately dwelling House with Planting, Inclosures, being Proprietor of the and whole Parish) which although it lyes at the foot of the Ochil Hills, more than three Miles Northward of Forth, and about four Miles Eastward of Stirling, and being of

old, as I am informed, within the Sheriffdom of Clackmannan, yet it is now wholly within the Sheriffdom of Stirling. (2) Stirling; of which more hereafter. St. Ninians; the Kirk is a short & pleasant Mile to the South of Stirling: at this Kirk there is a fine Town lately built, whereof John Murray of Polmaise is Superior, it hath also a weekly Merket on Tuesday. (4) Airth; This lyes East of St. Ninians, and five or six Miles from the Town of Stirling. It is a Regality, Dundas of Airth is Superior. It hath whereof also a Weekly Market on Saturday. (5) Bothkennar; it lyes about two Miles to the South of Airth. (6) Lerbert; here is a fine little Town, it lyes two long Miles South-west from Airth: and a short Mile farther West is Dunipace, which is annext to the Parish of Lerbert. (7) Denny; this lyes two short Miles Westward from Lerbert. The Earl of Wigton, the Chief of the name of Fleming, is either Proprietor or Superior of the greatest part of this Parish of Denny. His Principal Seat being at Cummernauld in the Sheriffdome of Dumbarton; His Predecessors got Cummernauld from King Robert Bruce, for their valiant behaviour in the defence of their Countrey, and they thereby also attained unto the Hereditarie Honour, to be Chamberlains of Scotland,

I have seen the Copie of a Charter of Confirmation, by King David the 2d, to Malcolm Fleming Knight, for his good Services, of the Lands of Farryns and Rennys, and of the whole Burgh of Wigton, with its pertinents, and of all the Lands of the whole Shire of Wigton, from the head of the Water of Creth, all the Course of the Water to the Sea, where Creth run in, &c. And the said Malcolm is confirmed, he and his Heirs, to take the Name of the Earl and Earls of Wigton, and to possess the Earldom as a whole shire, in free Regality, &c. The Witnesses are, Robert Senescal of Scotland his Nephew; John Ranolph Earl of Moray and Lord of the Valley of Anandale and Man, his Cousin; Patrick Earl of March; Maurice de Moravia; Thomas de Carnow the Chancellor; and Philip de Meldrum Knights. Apud Villam de Air, 9 of November, and the 13th year of his Reign. King James the sixth did again honour this House with the Title of Earl of Wigton about the year 1606. (8) Gargunnock; This Parish lys about 4 Miles to the West of Stirling. These eight Parishes (except Alva which is above related, and belongs to the Diocess of Dunkeld,) ly all betwixt Forth and Carron, (except Denny, which was formerly a part of the Parsonage of Falkirk). They also belong to the Presbytery of Stir-

ling, and are all within the Diocess of Edinburgh, except Alva, as is above express'd. (9) Falkirk; a large Town having a Market every *Thursday*. It is also a Regality, whereof the Earl of Linlithgow and Calander is Superior. The whole Town and Parish lyes South of Carron. (10) St. Laurence Kirk, or the Parish of Slemanan; the Kirk lyes three Miles South from Falkirk. (11) Moranside; It lyes Eastward of Slemanan, and is bounded on the East with the Sheriffdom of Linlithgow and is divided from it by the water of Avon. These three last mentioned answer the Presbytery of Linlithgow and are also a part of the Diocess of Edinburgh. (12) Monieburgh or Kilsyth, both Town and Parish belong to the Viscount of Kilsyth in Property or Superiority. The Weekly Market day is Tuesday. It lyes 9 Miles distant from Falkirk, and as many from Glasgow, being midway betwixt them. It answers to the Presbyterie of Glasgow, and is also a part of the Diocess thereof. It is divided from the Parish of Denny, at a place called the Hollinbush, being about two Miles distant from the water of Bony, over which there is a Stone-bridge, on the high way at three Miles distance from Falkirk, and it emptieth itself into the water of Carron. (13) Campsey lyes to the North West of Kilsyth, this Church also answers the

Presbytery of Glasgow and is a part of the Diocess thereof, The Minister of Campsey being Chancellor of the Chapter of Glasgow. These two Parishes ly to the West of Falkirk and to the South West of the Town of Stirling. (14) Strablean (15) Baldernock (16) Baffrone (17) Fintrie (18) Kilearn (19) Drymen (20) Inchcallioch or Buchanan, These five Parishes last named, ly on the West part of the Sheriffdome of Stirling; But as to the Ecclesiastick Jurisdiction, they answer the Presbytery of Dumbarton and are a part of the Diocess of Glasgow.

It remains that we give an account of some other Parishes, whereof only part of them belongs to the Sheriffdom of Stirling, viz. (1) Kilpatrick Easter, That part of it only which belongs to the Duke of Montrose, is within the Sheriffdome of Stirling; all the rest of it belongs to the Sheriffdom of Dumbarton. (2) Kippon; Although this whole Parish lyes on the South side of Forth, and answers to the Presbytery and Diocess of Dumblain, yet the place where the Church stands, and so much of it lyes to the South thereof, belongs to the Sheriffdome of Stirling; But that part which is adjacent to the Church on the North side, and the rest of the Parish Northward, lyes within the Sheriffdom of Perth. (3) Lecropt; Although the Church and the greater part of

this little Parish on the North side of the Firth, betwixt the Towns of Stirling and Dumblain, together with the Mansion House of Laird of Kier, ly within the bounds of the Presbytery and Diocess of Dumblain and Sheriffdom of Perth, yet the Lands of Innerallan, and some other Lands belonging to the Laird of Kier, are within the Sheriffdom of Stirling. (4) Logie; Although this Parish lys on the North side of Forth, and belongs to the Presbytery and Diocess of Dumblain, yet the Barony of Airthrie, belonging to the Earl of Hopeton, and the Lands of Cornetoun, belonging to Particular Feuars, are within the Sheriffdom of Stirling, while as the rest of the Parish belongs to the Sheriffdom of Perth and partly to the Sheriffdom of Clackmannan. (5) A little part of the Parish of Stirling lyes beyond the Bridge; as also the Abbay of Campus-keneth lying in the Peninsule on the other side of Forth, and Eastward of the Town of Stirling, lyes within the Parish of Stirling, and under the inspection of the Ministers there, but the Abbacy is within the Sheriffdome of Clackmannan, although a part of its Lands which ly on this side of Forth, are within the Sheriffdome of Stirling. This Abbacy was founded by King David the First for the Monks of the Order of St. Augustine, it now belongs to Cowan's Hospital in Stirling, lately purchas'd from the Laird of Alva. As As for other Religious Houses in this Shire. The Dominicans had a Convent in the Town of Stirling.

There is also in this Shire the Nunnerie of *Emanuel*, of the Nuns of the *Cistertian* Order, it is situat upon the brink of the water of *Avon*, in a pleasant Countrey, and founded by King *Malcolm* the Fourth. It lyes within the Parish of *Moranside*.

The most remarkable Hills within the sheriffdom of Stirling are these: The Meikle-Bin-Hill, and the Hill of Kilcruich, both of them in the Parish of Fintrie. The Hill of Garvil in the Parish of Kilsyth. The Hills of Cairnock and Dundaff, both of them being within the Parish of St. Ninians.

The water of Carron has its rise to the South West of Dundaff Castle, and runs through a good part of the Shire, till it discharge it self in the Firth of Forth near Bafouls and Grange: There are three Stone Bridges on this Water, the one is call'd the Bridge of Lerbert, on the high way betwixt Lerbert and Falkirk: the second is called the Bridge of Denny, near to the House of Halbertshire: the third is called the New Bridge of Carron, lying on the high Road betwixt Glasgow and Stirling, and divides the Parish of St. Ninians from the Parish of Kilsyth.

Chap. 2d.

Concerning the West part of the Shire.

The West part of this Shire (containing those Parishes above named, which Answer to the Presbytery of *Dumbarton*, together with a part of *Kippon*) is full of Mountains and Hills, with pleasant Vallies upon the Waters.

In this West part of the Shire, is the House of Buchanan, and now one of the Seats of the Duke of Montrose, as also Auchinnar; the Seat of a Gentleman of the Name of Buchanan. In the Parish of Drymen are, Carbeth, Drumnakill, Craigavairn, Spittle, belonging to Gentlemen of the Name of Buchanan: as also the Seats of John M'clauchlean of Auchintroig, Walter Buchan of Balfinning, Robert Grahame of Gartmore, Alexander Grahame of Dewcherie, Mr. Archibald Govan of Cartness, (which he purchased from the Heirs of the Lord Napier) Mr. James Craig of Dalnair, & Archibald Napier of Ballachrean. In this Parish of Drymen, John Halden of Gleneagls in Perth-shire & Mungo Halden his Sone, have Lands by which they are Freeholders, in the Sheriffdome of Stirling, and as such have an interest in

the Election of a Commissioner to the Parliament. the Parish of Killearn, are the Seats of John Grahame of Killearn, and Archibald Buntain of Balglass, Freeholders (the Land of Balglass being lately Purchas'd by Archibald Buntain from the Laird of Houston) as also in this Parish of Killearn is Ballakenrain, the Seat of William Napier. In the Parish of Fintrie, is the Seat of John Napier of Kalcreuch a Freeholder. Parish of Badernock is Baldowie, the Seat of a Gentleman of the Name of Hamilton. Here is also the Seat of John Campbell of Dowen. In this Parish of Badernock is the Baronie of Hayston belonging to John Stirling of Kier, by vertue whereof, as a Freeholder in this Shire, he has an interest in the Election of a Commissioner to the Parliament. In the Parish of Baffrone, are the Seats of Archbald Edmonston of Duntraith, Moses Buchanan of Glins, James Galbraith of Balgair, John Cuningham of Bandalloch, Writer to the Signet, and Mr. James Cuningham of Cremining; all Freeholders. In the Parish of Strablean; Is the Castle of Mugdock, one of the Seats of the Duke of Montrose; who has a Regality here, called the Regality of Mugdock: in this Parish also is the Seat of James Craig of Cullt. The Duke of Montrose has also another Regality in the Shire of Stirling, called the Regality of Lennox; part of which Regality lys within the Parishes of Drymen, Killearn, Fintrie, Baffrone, Strablean and Campsey.

In that part of the Parish of Kippon which belongs to the Shire of Stirling, are the Seats of Archbald Stirling of Garden, John Cuningham of Caddil, Sir James Livingston of Glentirring, Baronet; James Grahame of Buchlivie, David Forrester of Culmore, Mr. Alexander Leckie of Desher, Freeholders; as also in this part of Kippon, is Broich, the Seat of a Gentleman of the Name of Edmondston.

Chap. 3d.

Concerning the Middle part of the Shire.

The Middle part of the Shire may be comprehended within the seven Parishes which belong to the Presbytery of *Stirling*, and ly on the South side of the River of *Forth*: to which may be added the two Parishes of *Campsey* and *Kilsyth*, in regard they cannot conveniently be joyn'd to any other Division.

I begin this middle District with an account of the Town of *Stirling* and the Castle there. This Town in old Writes is call'd *Strivelin*, and that, as the Inhabitants

say, by reason of the *striving* of three Streams, *viz.* Forth, Teath, and Allan; all three joining in one a little above the Bridge of Stirling. It may be also call'd Striveling, upon another account, because it being the Pass betwixt North and South, the two Principal Divisions of the Kingdom, when any trouble happens, there uses to be a striving about this Town which of the two contending Parties shall get Possession of it.

This Town although it be but the fifth in order in the Rolls of the Royall Burghs, yet may be reckoned as the strongest Town within the Kingdom, by reason of its Situation and Fortifications added thereto. For it stands upon the descent of an Hill; and from the West end of the Town, to the Gate, called the Burroughs Gate on the East end, it hath a strong Wall built upon the edge of the declining Rockie hill; and from thence to the River of Forth it being a soft ground, there either is or was, or may be, a deep Fossa or ditch, which may secure the South, and South-east part of the Town. The East part is secured by the Windings and turnings of the Water of Forth, which is in no place thereabouts foordable, even when the Tyde is out, and the Water at the lowest Ebb. And this reaches to the Bridge, which is of hewen Stone, consisting of four Arches, and at the furthest end of it is a Port with an Iron Gate: From this Bridge up to the Castle is a Ridge of Hills, declining towards the Town, but in many places almost perpendicular, towards the North. These Hills are commonly call'd the Gowan Hills, or as some say the Gowling Hills, because the People made a great Gowling or Lamentation, when Duke Murdoch was beheaded there. But Hawthornden in his History of James the First, seems to say the Contrary, in regard the people, as he says, were very well pleased with the Execution.

The Town consists of several Streets; as, the High Street, the Back-Row, the Baxter's Wind, the head of the Baxter's Wind, St. Mary Wind, the Tolbooth Wind, &c. The Church stands at the upper part of the Town, towards the West, it is a stately Fabrick, and is divided in the Middle by a Stone wall, and may very well serve two Ministers Preaching at the same time, without the least disturbing of one by the other. It has an high Steeple; King James the 4th got it to be erected into a Collegiat Church by Pope Alexander the Sixth.

In this Church July 29th 1567, James the Sixth was crowned, and anointed King by the Bishop of Orkney, assisted by two of the Superintendents. The Sermon was made by John Knox. The Earl of Morton and the

Lord *Home* took the Oath for the King, that he should maintain the Religion received, and minister Justice equally to all the Subjects. This King being born in the Castle of *Edinburgh*, on the nineteenth of *June* 1566, was Crown'd, being only 13 Months and ten days old.

Within few paces of the Church-Porch is the entrie to Cowans Hospital, a Fine convenient Fabrick built upon the top of the Rock at the West end of the Town; it has a very fine Garden adjoining to it, which has on the South side of it, the Town Wall, from whence and from the House it self, there is a very pleasant Prospect to the Kings Park, as also to the Countrey East, South, and West. This Hospital was founded by a great Summ of Money, left by John Cowan (or Colhown) a rich Merchant in Stirling, for the supply and maintaining of decay'd Merchants there. The Affairs and Revenues thereof are managed by the Magistrats and Minister of Stirling, who have purchas'd several Lands, which now belong to it, and by vertue of some of these Lands, the Hospital is in the Roll of the Freeholders of the Shire, and as such, the Masters of the Hospital, pro tempore, have a Vote in the Election of a Commissioner to the Parliament.

There is also near the St. Mary-wind-Port, another

Hospital, call'd *Spittals* Hospital, founded by *Robert Spittal*, Taylour to King *James* the Fourth, for the relief of decay'd Merchants and Tradesmen. This is also managed by the Magistrats of *Stirling*. The same *Robert Spittal* also built the Stone Bridge at *Down*, over the Water of *Teath*.

The High Street of Stirling is very broad, especially at the East end where the Cross stands, where they have two weekly Markets for all sorts of provisions, brought thither from the Countrey, upon Wednesdays and Frydays. On the South side of the Street near the middle of it, is the Trone, and to the South of it, the Tolbooth, where the Town keeps their Courts; as also the Sheriff, Commissary and Justice of Peace Courts; and other publick Meetings of the whole Shire are kept: It hath a stately Steeple on the North end of it with a publick Clock fronting the Street. On the West end of this Street, the Earl of Mar has a stately House of hewen stone, of curious Architecture, the Front of it is like a Port entering to a City, and adds much to the beauty of the Town: the rooms are large, from several of which, the whole large Street may be seen, it standing on the Highest part thereof: from thence also may be seen, the windings of the River of Forth towards the

East, & a great part of the Countrey that way, affording a pleasant prospect. The Windings and Turnings of this River being so many, that from the Bridge of Stirling to the Town of Alloway, it is 24 miles by Water, and but 4 by Land, from whence arose the common Saying, that The Crucks of Forth are worth an Earldon in the North. This House was built by the Earl of Mar, in the Minority of King James the Sixth. On the second or third Stories of it are stones placed resembling great Guns, because at the time when the House was building, Lord Claud Hamilton having Intelligence of the security, wherein the Regent (Matthew Earl of Lennox and Grandfather to the King) with the Nobility, lived at Stirling, and how, as in a time of setled Peace, they did not so much as keep a Watch by night, took Resolution to invade them, and was therein greatly encouraged by Captain George Bell (a man born in Stirling and one that knew all the Passages and Streets) who made offer to put him and the Company he should bring with him, safely in the Town. This he communicated to the Earl of Huntly, Walter Scot of Bacleugh, and David Spence of Wormeston, who were all content to joyn in the Enterprise. The second of September, anno 1571, they went from Edinburgh a little before Sunsetting, accompanied with 200 Foot and 500 Horse, to ease the Footmen, they took all the Horses they could purchase, and came to the Town about the Dawning of the day, September 3, and finding all things quiet, they went to the Noblemens Lodgings, and finding little or no Resistance, save by the Earl of Morton, but fire being put to the House he rendered himself to the Laird of Bacleugh. The Regent was taken with less adoe, as were the Earls of Glencairn and Eglinton. The Earl of Mar hearing the noise, issued forth of the Castle with 16 Persons only, and entering the back of this new Lodging, which was not then finish'd, played with Muskets upon the street, so that he forc'd them to quit the same. The Towns-men and others upon this taking Courage, gathered together and put the Enemy to flight, pursuing them so hotly, as they were constrained to quit their Prisoners, and some to render themselves to those they were leading Captive. The Regent who was Wormeston's Prisoner (for to him he had rendered) being carried a little without the Port, when they saw the rescue coming, was shot by Captain Calder, and with the same bullet, Wormeston (who did what he could to save the Regent) was stricken dead. The Regent being laid in Bed and his Wound dressed, his Bowels being cut, died some hours after. There fell at this time on the Regents side some 24, amongst whom the most eminent were George Ruthven Brother to Lord Ruthven, and Alexander Stuart of Garlies: of the other side, as many were slain, and divers taken Prisoners, among whom were the two Captains Bell and Calder, who were executed as Traitors. The Lord Claud Hamilton with the Earl of Huntly and the rest escaped.

The Earl of *Mar* is said to have kept a very great Port in this House, which occasioned one of the *Stirling* Merchants, who had been merchandizing on the *Baltick*, to say when he came home, that the Earl of *Mar* kept a greater House there, than the King of *Denmark* either did, or could keep. Sure I am, on that part of the House, which looks to the back Court, there is this Inscription,

ESSPY. SPEIK. FVRTH. AND. SPAIR. NOTHT. CONSIDDER. VEIL. I. CAIR. NOTHT.

A little further in the *High-School* or *Castle-wind*, there is an other fine House, of a newer Architecture and Contrivance, with several Apartments and Gardens; (it was at first built by Sir *William Alexander* Principal-secretary of State to King *Charles* the First, and by him

created Earl of Stirling, anno 1633) it now belongs to the Duke of Argyle.

A little from this towards the Castle, is the High-school, in which there is a principal Master, and under him two Doctors or Ushers, the first for teaching the Rudiments, Vocables, &c. and the other for teaching English and Writing. Hard by the School there is a large space of Ground called the Valley, in which the Scholars recreate themselves; in it there is a great Fair yearly, September 8th, wherein are sold many Horses, as also many young Fillies brought from the Highlands. This Fair is call'd also the Riding-fair, because frequently at it, the Town ride in a great Parade to the end of their Jurisdiction beyond the Bridge: They have also another great Fair, on the 22d of October for Cows, as also some other Fairs which I need not particularly mention.

There are many other fine Houses in this Town, which I shall not notice, save one which furnishes me with Particulars worthy the noticeing. viz. the Ministers Manse. It stands near the East end of the Church, and looks Eastward to the Street called the Back-row, wherein the Fleshers keep their Market. It is three Stories high, in the lowest whereof, is a Stable, & Coal House; together with a Bake-House, and Brew-house, furnished

with necessaries, at the expences of the Reparation Box, for in this Town they have a Laudable Custome, not used in other places, viz. At the Church door on the Lords days, they have two severall Persons appointed to collect Peoples Charity, the one is allotted for the *Poor*, the other is called the *Reparation*; and out of this Money so Collected, the Church, Manse and Belfrey are repaired: as also the Servants belonging to the Church and Belfrey, with severall other things relating thereto, are satisfied and payed. Upon the East end of this Manse, several years since, but whether it be defac'd by continuance of time I know not, were plac'd the Baxters Arms, viz. three piels, and I was told that the House was either built or enlarg'd by one Colonel Edmonds, who was a Baxters Son in this Town, and being a young Boy, upon some occasion or other, which I cannot particularly remember, he run away and went over to the Low Countries, and there took on to be a Soldier, where he behav'd himself so Gallantly, that at length he was advanc'd to be a Colonel; after this being in Company with some fellow Officers, a Man came to him, and speaking Scots, the Colonel asked him, what News from Scotland, the Scots-Man expecting to get some large Reward from him, reply'd your Cousin, my Lord —— is very well, your Cousin Sir John ———

&c. are all well, with several such Answers. The Colonel then told his fellow Officers, that he knew this Man was a Scots Man by his Language, but he was but a base Sycophant, and therefore pack'd him out of his presence, telling his Comerads that he was noways related to those Lords and Gentlemen, he himself being the Son of an honest Baxter in Stirling. I have seen a pair of Colours which the Town made use of in their publick Rendevouzes, which they said was given or sent to them by this honest Colonel. I was also told then, that once when he came back to Stirling, the Magistrats and others went out to meet and Conduct him to his Lodging, he wou'd not go to any House, but that where his old Father and Mother dwelt in, as also that when the Earl of Mar invited him either to Dinner, or Supper he refus'd unless his Father and Mother came with him, and were plac'd at Table above him.

The Town is govern'd by a Provost, and four Bailies, Merchants. Their Town Council consists of one and twentie Persons, viz. The Provost and four Bailies, the Dean of Guild, the Thesaurer, seven other Merchants; Seven Deacons of Trades, viz. the Hammermen, Baxters, Fleshers, Skinners, Shoe-makers, Weavers and Taylors: out of which seven Deacons of Trades, one is chosen

Deacon Conveener by the rest. All these one and twentie Members of Council are chosen yearly at *Michaelmas*, and the Dean of Guild is always *Præses* of the Town Council; which is contrary to the Custom of other Towns, wherein the Provost is always President.

The Seal of the Town carries on the one side, the Bridge with a Cross in the middle of it, and Armed men on each side of it, with this Inscription.

Hic Armis Bruti, Scoti stant hic cruce tuti.

And on the other side a large strong Castle in a Wood, with this Motto.

Continet hoc in se Nemus et Castrum Strivlingense. That is,

The Britains stand by force of Arms
The Scots are by this Cross preserv'd from Harms
The Castle and the Wood of Stirling Town,
Are in the compass of this Seal set down.

The mention made here of a Wood, argues the great Antiquity of the Seal, for now there are small, if any remains of the Wood.

The famous Poets, *John Johnston* and *Arthur Johnston*, have written *Elogies* of the Towns.

That of John Johnston's on Stirling is thus,

Regia sublimis celsa despectat ab arce,
Pendula sub biferis mænia structa jugis.
Regum angusta parens, Regum nutricula natis
Hinc sibi Regifico nomine tota placet.
Hospita sed cuivis, quovis sub nomine, amicus
Sive es, seu non es, hospes an hostis item,
Pro lucro cedit damnum; Discordia tristis
Heu quoties procerum sanguine tinxit humum
Hoc uno infelix, at felix cætera, nusquam
Letior aut cæli frons, geniusve soli.

ARTHUR JOHNSTON'S is thus,

Sterlino quis digna canat? cunabula Reges

Hic sua securis imposuere jugis,

Aura salutifera est, facit hoc vicinia Cæli,

Nec datur a sævo tutior hoste Locus.

Adspicis hic geminas structas in rupibus Arces;

Tectaque Tarpeii turribus æqua Jovis,

Fortha triumphales hic, dum fugit, excipit arcus,

Cogitur & curvo subdere colla jugo.

Haud aliter Phrygiis ludit Mæander in oris,

Sæpe fluit, trepidans sæpe recursat aqua.

Orbe pererrato levis huc vestigia flectens
Advena, miratur Ruris & Urbis opes.

Admiranda quidem sunt hac, & carmine digna,
Plus tamen hic virtus Martia laudis habet:

Non semel Ausonios Sterlinum reppulit Enses,
Limes & Imperii quem bibit, amnis erat.

The *Romans* had a Station here, where some of the *Legio* 11 abode, and this, 'tis like might have given rise to the Town; as *Roman* Stations have done to many in this Island.

It is thought that *Julius Agricola* first laid a Bridge over the River here, it was for a long time only of Timber, but in later times it was built of Stone.

The Town is well fitted for Trade and Commerce, and is the best pass from the North parts to the South. There are many Salmon taken in the River of Forth. The Town of Stirling is Heritable Bayly of this River, from the Drip-Coble above the Bridge, to the Abbacy of Cambuskeneth, Eastward from the Town, neer to which there is an Haven belonging to the Town, whereto Ships of small burden come up.

The Town of *Stirling* kept the Standart for the Jugg, or Pint, Chopin &c. for all wet Measures within the

Kingdome; as the Town of *Linlithgow* kept the Standart for dry Measures, *viz.* the Boll, Furlet, Peck &c.

This Town had always one Commissioner to Represent them in the Parliament or Convention of Estates; but since the *Union* the Burghs of *Innerkeithing*, *Dumfermling*, *Queensferry*, *Culross* and *Stirling*, being in conjunction, send only one Member to represent them in the British Parliament.

Mr. Sletzer in his Theater has prospects both of the Town and the Castle.

The Castle stands at the head of the Town towards the North-west; It hath stately buildings in it, raised by King James the Fifth. In it there is a spacious and stately Hall, which may serve for the receiveing, and entertainment of Foreign Ambassadors, and other Royal Solemnities. King James the Sixth built a fine Commodious Chapel, wherein his eldest Son Prince Henry was solemnly and in great State Baptised, August 1594, by Mr. David Cuninghame, Bishop of Aberdeen, The Ambassadors from the Queen of England, the King of Denmark, the Duke of Brunswick, Megelburgh, with the Estates of the United Provinces, being present. vid. Spotswood, Page 406.

The Earl of Mar is Hereditarie Governour of the

Castle, which is furnished with Cannon, and other Warlick Provisions, being one of the chief Magazines of the Kingdom, standing upon a considerable part, near the Center thereof. The South part of it stands upon a high Rock almost Perpendicular, and beneath it is the Royall Park, being very large, and surrounded with a good Stone Wall, on the North East part of which Park, there is an Orchard, and the Vestiges of a large and spacious Garden.

Having thus given a large account of the Town of *Stirling* and Castle there, I proceed to give a more full account of this part of the shire than what was only given in the General Description, *Pages* 22 to 26.

This Countrey is well watered with the waters of *Kelvin*, *Bony* and *Carron*. And in it are very many Seats of the Nobility and Gentry. I shall only mention some of the most remarkable.

The Town of Kilsyth increaseth in Buildings; severall Inscriptions were found in the Neighbourhood of it. [An example from Sibbald's Inquiries about the Roman Walls is given at end of this book.] The Viscount of Kilsyth, a Cadet of the Family of the Livingstons Earls of Linlithgow, hath two or three Seats here, one above the Town and another East from it call'd Collyam Castle. The

Great Marquess of *Montrose*, in the time of the Civil War, on the sixteenth day of *August* 1645, obtained a signal Victory, neer to the Town of *Kilsyth*, where about six thousand of the Covenanters were said to be slain.

In the Parish of Campsey are the Seats of Sir Mungo Stirling of Glorat, Baronet, John Lennox of Wood-head; Hugh M'kfarland of Kirkton, Mungo Stirling of Craigbarnet. Kincaid of that Ilk Kincaid of Auchinrae. Lindsay of Balquhorage. As also of Mr. Patrick Bell of Anterminne, a Freeholder.

In the Parish of Lerbert is Torwood-head the Seat of the Lord Forresters: in it also is Woodsyde the Seat of Sir Henry Rollock, a Freeholder. As also the Seat of Robert Elphinston of Quarrel, a Freeholder, in whose ground is plenty of good Coal. As also the Seat of Alexander Bruce of Kinnard a Freeholder, who hath also plenty of good Coal in his ground. Sir William Bruce of Stainis Baronet, has also his Seat in this Parish. In the Parish of Dunipace now annext to the Parish of Lerbert, are the Seats of Sir Archibald Primrose of Dunipace, and of William Stirling of Halbertshire, both Freeholders.

In the Parish of Bothkennar, are the Seats of William Hunter of Kirkton and Gabriel Ranken of Orchard-head,

Freeholders.

Freeholders. As also of William Bruce of Newton, John Calander of Weston; John Symson of Stone-house with a fine Orchard of very good Fruit Trees belonging to it. In this Parish also Mr. James Dallas of St. Martin has his dwelling house called North-Newton.

In the Parish of *Airth* is the House of *Elphinston*, the Seat of the Lord Elphinston. This House is well situated, having a large Firr Park as also Coal and Salt Pans belonging to it. In this Parish are the Seats of William Dundas now called William Elphinston of Airth, in right of his Ladie Elizabeth Elphinston Heiress to Richard Elphinston of Calder-hall, who also Married the Heiress: The Ancient Surname of this Familie was Bruce. In this Parish also are the Seats of James Bruce of Powfoules, John Wright of Carsy; Freeholders: as also the House of Letham belonging to the Lord Forrester; but Hugh Wallace of Ingleston hath as much of the Estate as Entitles him to be a Freeholder within this Shire. Here is also the Seat of Alexander Miln of New-milns hard by Heggins nook, where over against Kincardin, the Firth is so very narrow that a Cry may be heard on each side; and near to it is the Haugh of Airth

The Parish of St. Ninians being very large and

Populous, has in it a great Number of considerable Gentlemens Houses. The Principal are, the Seats of John Murray of Polmais, a very ancient Family of the Name of Murray. Archibald Seton of Touch a very Ancient Family descended of the Earls of Winton: one of this Gentlemans Predecessors, being Married with the Gordons of Huntley, pretends thereby to have a Title to the Ancient Estate thereof. Sir Hugh Paterson of Bonnock-burn, Grand-child to Sir Hugh Paterson Writter to the Signet, and keeper of the Signet under the Earl of Moray, Secretary of State for the Kingdom of Scotland. The Estate of Bonnockburn was many years since belonging to the Name of Drummond, and upon that account the House was call'd Drummond's Hall, from them it came to a Gentleman of the Name of Rollock, and at last was purchas'd by Sir Hugh Paterson; it hath great plenty of good Coal and other Conveniencies lying little more than two Miles from the Town of Stirling. Mr. Charles Bennet of Livielands Sheriff Depute, Robert Rollock of Powhouse, John Glass of Sauchie, Archbald Monroe of Achinbowie: There is a Coal-Heugh within a Stones cast of the Gate of this House. John Nairn of Green-yards, Sir Thomas Nicolson of Balcaskie, Sir James Dunbar of Mochrum, and Sir John

Schaw of Grennock Coheirs of the Lands of Carnock and Plean in this Parish of St. Ninians. John Calander of Craig-forth, lying betwixt the Castle of Stirling and the water of Forth. All these forenamed are Freeholders. As also John Erskine of Balgownie in Perth-shire, for his Lands called the Throsk, in this Parish, towards the Firth of Forth; Here is a Potterie, where Earthen Pots, and severall other Leam Vessels are made; John Wordie of Campus-baron, in this Parish, is also a Freeholder as Laird of Taylzerton, in this Parish, purchas'd by him from Hugh Forsyth of Garvel in the Parish of Denny.

Forrester of Cookspow in this Parish, is also a Free-holder, for his Lands of Carsebennie in this Parish. Also in this Parish are the Seats of Mr. Francis Napier of Craigannet, William Livingston of Wester Green-yards, Mr. John Wingate of Charteris-hall, Mr. Robert Murray of Wester-livilands, John Dick of Kirk of the Muir.

In the Parish of Gargonnock, are the Seats of Henry Cuningham of Boquhan; and George Moir of Leckie, both of them Freeholders. In this Parish also is a fine Stone house called from the Name of the Parish or else the Parish from it. It belongs to Sir James Campbell of Ardkinlass. In this Parish also is Meiklewood, belonging to David Grahame, and Red-hall belonging to one of the Name of Stirling.

Chap. 4th.

Concerning the East part of the Shire.

The East part of the Shire comprehends all the Countrey from South to North, that lyes in a Line East from Falkirk, which is sited betwixt the water of Carron and the water of Avon to its mouth.

I shall begin with the Town of Falkirk, a Burgh of Baronie, much embellished with severall Buildings by the first Earl of Calander, who founded an Hospital there, and built the Town-house: his Nephew who succeeded, added to them a Fountain curiously built: there is a Seat of the Earl in the Town, and a fine Church, in the yard whereof lies the Noble and valiant Sir John Grahame, who was killed in a Battel by the English near to the Town: he has a Monument with this Inscription,

Mente manuque potens, et Vallæ fidus Achates

Conditur hic Gramius, bello interfectus ab Anglis.

Vivit post funera Virtus.

And round about it are these following Verses,

Here lyes Sir John the Grahame, both Wight, and Wise

One of the Chiefs, rescued Scotland thrice;

Ane better Knight ne're to the world was lent,
Than was good Grahame, of Truth and Hardiment.

He died July XXII 1298.

Here is also a Tome Stone upon Mr. Richard Calender, who first was Minister of Cockburns path, and thereafter transported to Falkirk, where he dy'd. It hath on it thus,

TUMULUS Magistri Richardi Calender qui obiit 29 January 1686.

Stirpe Sacerdotum prognatus utrinque, Sacerdos
Hic jacet innocuus, Vir sine fraude sagax;
Quotque dies Mensis Bissextus continet, annos
Tot fuit huic divi credita cura gregis;
Sex alibi, hic annos bis denos tresque peregit,
Dum casto usque suas corde fovebat oves.
Solis rite cyclo, quoad ævum, bis repetito,
Nunquam sat flendus, seu reverendus, obit.

In this Parish is *Seabegs*, the Seat of a Gentleman of the Name of *Brown*. As also *Castle-cary*, the Seat of *Alexander Baillie*, a learned Gentleman well seen in the Antiquities, and the Genealogies of the Heritors of the Shire, he has several *Roman* Monuments in his Neighbourhood, and can give a good account of them.

To the South of the Town is *Pantaskin*, the Seat of a Gentleman of the Name of *Livingston*, of which there are several others in this Shire.

The Seat of the Livingstons was in Ancient time, at the Peal of Livingston, till one of that House was Married to a Daughter of Calander of that Ilk, to him King Robert the Bruce gave the Lands and the Barony of Calander. His Successor Sir Alexander Livingston of Calander, was great Counsellor to King James the First, and was by him appointed Governour to King James the Second, in whose Minority he was Governour of Scotland. He or his Heir was first created Lord Livingston, and about the year 1603, Alexander Lord Livingston was by King James the Sixth created Earl of Linlithgow, and was one of the Commissioners for the Union, 1604.

The House of Calander is a Noble Seat, with fine Buildings added to the Castle of Calander, the Seat of the Calanders, the last of which was forfaulted for adhering to Baliol. James Livingston second son to Alexander the first Earl of Linlithgow, was a Gallant Gentleman, famous for his Atchivements in the Wars of the Low-countries, where he was a Colonel, and afterwards was a Lieutenant General in the Civil Wars, he purchased from his Brother, the Estate of Calander, and

was first created Lord Almond, and then Earl of Calander in the year 1641; he lived in great Reputation, till he was above eighty years of age, and was renowned for his Hospitality. The Earldoms of Linlithgow and Calander are now both in the Person of the present Earl, who besides the lands and Commands and Offices he has in the Shire of Linlithgow; as Earl of Calander, is Heretable Sheriff of Stirling-shire, and either in propertie or Superiority has most of the Parishes of Falkirk, Slamanan, and Moranside; he has a Dwelling House at Falkirk, his chief Seat is at Calander, East of the Town of Falkirk: he has another at Almond, formerly called Hayning in Moranside Parish.

The Calander has a large Wood adjacent to it, with Walks cut through it, and Fish Ponds near the House, and Gardens, and large Inclosures to the East and West: a Cadet of the Family has Westquarter, a pleasant Seat with much Planting, a little to the east of Calander. Near to this are the seats of Kilblayn, Glen Halgen, Sheilhill, Langtoun. The Countrey which lyeth to the south though it be much Moore and part of it Moss, yet it enjoyeth by its rising situation, a wholesome Air, and very lately died a fewer there, call'd George Waddel, lived to a great age, of whom more particularly in the

next Chapter. There is much Coal in the rising ground, and tho it be more fit for Pasture, yet it wants not good Corn fields. The South side slopes gently towards the Water of Avon; there are severall Gentlemens Seats there, as Alridge, Dalquharne, and the Jaa's, and to the East is Park hill, the Seat of a Gentleman of the Name of Livingston, where there is a Copice Wood. There are also the Seats of Balmitchel, Bankhead, Bogo, Rashihill, Bochastle, Langrig and Glentorie, Balmiller, Somerhouse, Mildridge, and there are in this Tract, Elach-Loch, Loch of Finlech, and the Blackloch, the Meikle and the less; Blackloch Seat, Aryloss, and Dykehead.

In Moranside, is Gilston, Whytesyde, Roch haugh, and the Castle of Haining, now Almond House, a neat House with a Wood and fine Gardens about it; then Madistoun, and Cumistoun, and Gillanderstant and Cronersland and Gillanderstant, Woodside Cammoor, and Bambryich and close upon the water of Avon is the Nunnery of Emanuel, of which before: and a little to the West of it is the House and Bank of Nuik the plesant Seat of a Gentleman of the Name of Dalziel.

Upon the North side of the Highway, is the Baronie of *Pomont*, which belongs to the Duke of *Hamilton*, where there are severall Heretors and Feuars holding of

his Grace, And upon the Water of Avon is Walkmilton, a Village, Clerkstoun, and Windyedge and Whitside the Hill and Miln-hil and Pomont Miln.

Upon the North-east of this part of the Shire betwixt the Water of Carron & Avon are several Seats of the Gentrie, as Daldaris, Donator the Seat of Calander, Cadet of the Ancient Family of that Name; & Carse Castle the Seat of Sir Alexander Hope, where besides the Tower are fine low Buildings with Gardens and Inclosures; in former times the Seat of Monteith of Cars an ancient Family of Note, of which there were several Cadets, as Randefurde and Milnhill. Abbots Grange the Seat of Goodhell Esquire, Carsy-Bank the Seat of Mr. George Shaw Advocat Bercrosts a fine House with Gardens and Inclosurs, the Seat of a Gentleman of the Name of Hamilton.

This part of the Countrey also, much of it in ancient times, hath been covered with the Sea, and oweth its Fertility to the Slime and Earth brought down by the Spates of *Carron* Water, which some times carries off large Parcels of Ground, and lays it sometimes on the one side, sometimes on the other, upon which account the Inhabitants are obliged to make large Dykes, which in few years must be altered and placed elsewhere. The

Countrey is moist, and the Water in the Chanels is saltish, and therfore it is not so healthful as the higher Ground.

Chap. 5th.

Concerning some further Observables in this Shire.

NEAR to the House of Stannis stands the Roman Monument, which by the Vulgar is called Arthur's-Oven. It is thought it got that name by King Edwards order, when he was about the demolishing of it. Beside the Portal with the Inscription which he took down, I perceived some Letters within it delete, and upon the North side of it within, there is a St. George's Cross of later Sculpture than the other, in a Shield, as Armes are done. I have given Reasons to make it appear that it was a Temple, built by the Emperour Severus when he made that the Limit of the Roman Empire, and beside the resemblance it hath to the Roman Temple, the Pantheon, my Friend the Reverend Mr. Woodraw, hath a Piece of a Patera, such as was used in Sacrifices, that was found near to it. There is in the Common Hall of the College of Edinburgh, amongst the Curiosities collected by Sir Andrew Balfour, the Interior part of the Horns of a Bull of a great Bulk, which was digged out of the ground near to this Monument, called *Ædes Termini*; so it seems there have been sacrifices there. More anent this Monument may be seen in the Inquiries concerning the *Roman* Monuments in this part of *Brittain* at end of Book.

I take the Town, the Vulgar calls *Camelon*, over against this Temple, on the South side thereof, to have been built by the order of the Emperour *Severus* also. *Herodian* tells that he was *cupidus nominis Britannici*, which in the old Inscriptions of him, 'tis one of his Titles, and so it's like he ordered these Monuments to be erected to the Honour of his Name.

At *Dunnipace* are the two Artificial Monuments, called *Dunipacis*, said to have been rais'd upon the *Romans* bounding their Empire thereabout: and North-east from that is the Village of *Lerbert*, where there is a large Stone Bridge over *Carron* water, and in the Village is a Church said to be built by Mr. *Robert Bruce* of *Kinaird*, an Eminent Minister, in King *James* the Sixths time.

There were two Battels in this Shire, betwixt the Scots and English; the first in Falkirk Moor, where the Scots were defeated, and the valiant Sir John Graham was killed, July XXII. 1298. Anno 23, Edw. 1. The other, that famous one, at Bonnock-burn, where King Robert

Bruce did obtain the great Victory over the English, on St. John Baptist's Day, June 24. 1314. Anno 8. Edw. 2.

The Nobility that are Heritors in this Shire, are the Dukes of Hamilton, Argile, Montrose, & Roxburgh (Heritor of the Barony of Abbotsgrainge, of old belonging to the Abbot of Holy-rood-house.) The Earls of Mar, Buchan, Linlithgow or Calander, Wigton, Hopton. Viscount of Kilsith. The Lords Elphinston, Napier, & Forrester. The principal Gentle-men are already mentioned in their respective Parishes; the most ancient Names being Bruce, Murray, Livingston, and Elphinston.

Not long since, there was an Earth-quake which did affect the Lands lying on both the sides of the Firth, and left several Chinks visible in the Ground.

About a quarter of a Mile beneath the Bridge of Carron, dividing St. Ninians from Kilsyth, is Auchinlillie Lin, where there is a large Cave, over which the water runs, it may contain an hundred men, and only one can enter in at the Mouth thereof at once, & that hardly without creeping, and one Man may defend the entrie against 500.

There happened an od accident in the ground lying betwixt *Kinaird* and *Carnock*, about the year 1636, a Man digging the Moss there for Peets, went so deep

that the Water got in betwixt the Natural Soil below and the Crust of Moss above it, and in Process of time swelled to a Prodigious hight, and thereafter it burst, and moved eastward, and did cover a Gentlemans whole Estate, and part of the Lands belonging to *Bruce* of *Kinaird*, *Letham* and some other Heritors in the Neighbourhood; since, much of that upon the sides has been recovered, by burning the Moss in dry Summers, and is made good Arable ground.

George Waddel of Balwhetston, in the Parish of St. Laurence or Slemanan, a Vassal of the Earl of Calander's, liv'd to the age of about 107 or 109 years, a very sensible and understanding Man, who died about 5 or six years since, and a little time before his death, he came on his foot to the Town of Falkirk, and return'd, kept his Senses, and understanding till his dying day. This information was got from his Grandchild Andrew Waddel, whose Father was the said George's eldest Son.

Chap. 6th.

Concerning the Natural Products of the Shire.

I N Ancient times there was a kind of White Bulls which haunted much the Woods of this Shire, they were

very fierce, and could not be tamed, but it seems few or none of them are found now. Our Historians fancie they were *Jubati*, vide Episc. Lesleum.

The Moors abound with all sort of wild-fowl; such as Moor-fowl, Black-cock, Plovers and Lapwings. The Waters, both fresh and salt, affoord many sorts of Fish. Many of the Gentry get *Salmonds* in their powes; and *Spirlings* are taken in great quantities, near *Stirling*.

There is much good free-stone for Building in the higher grounds.

And Coal is found plenty all over the Countrey: there are also Salt-Pans, in which Salt is made.

There are many curious Plants growing in the Woods and in the Moors *Osmunda regalis* is found in *Hayning*-Wood, and the *Pyrola* in the Moors. Upon the Coast, several Curious Plants grow.

Near to Emanuel some curious Capillaries are found.

The Carse grounds, for the best Grains, are equal to the fertilest land any where else.

FINIS.

Account

of the Roman Temple benorth Carron Water.

(From Sibbald's Roman Monuments and Antiquities.)

A Lthough some doubt that the round edifice near Carron Water, was a Temple, yet none say that it was built by the Britains before the Romans came here, for their Temples were only Stones set in Circles, many of which may yet be seen in several places. Boeth saith there was an Altar placed in it, and that it was Roman, the Eagles, he says which were Graven on the Stones, show. His Description of it is thus, "Haud procul a Carona "amne, lapidea domus, quadratis politisque exs axis ingenti "mole substructa, quatuor supra viginti prope cubitos alta, "lata amplius cubitis duodecim: est ea, uti nostra hac "ætate videre licet, forma rotunda, nullas nisi superne per "impluvium senestras habens, veterum delubrorum instar, "quæ Romæ visuntur, lapideis subselliis intus, uti vestigia "ostendunt, in coronam ductis, pavimenta ejus tessulata "olim sectiliaque, id lecta fragmenta demonstrant, aquilæ "quibusdam insculptæ lapidibus, nunc vetustate pene "attritæ, ingens in ea saxum ad meridiem fuit, eo pro ara "Ethnici usi putantur." And below he says it is reported

"Titulum lapidi supra sores inscriptum Edwardi primi "Anglorum Regis jussu, dum Scotorum regnum sæde "popularetur, ut monumenti aboleretur fama, effractum. "Extat locus (uti est videre) unde lapidem extractum "asseverant." In a MSS. translation of Hector Boeth's History, 3rd. Book, Chapter 4., it is thus described, "Not far from Carron, a round House of squair Stoones "20 Ells of hight, and 12 Ells of Breid, it is round (as we "may sie zit) haisand na Windos, but above in manner "of the Antient Tempills, quhilk ar zit sene in Rome, with "Benkis of Stane gang and round about within, the "Flure of it has bene of squair Stanes, and the Erne "(quhilk is the Romane anseneye craftelie ingravit "in the samyne) but now be roust of zeris is worne "away. In it was an huge Stane standard to the "South, on quhilk the Gentilis made yare Sacrifice." The same Author, Book 14. Chap. 7. says "King " Edward, he destroyit all the Antiquities of Scotland, he "commandit the round Tempil beside Camelon to be "cassin down; and below he says the Inhabitants saiffit "the same fra utter Eversioun putting the Roman Signes "and subscriptions out of the Walls thereof, als they put "away the Arms, and ingravit the Arms of King Arthure, "commanding it to be callit Arthurs Hoisse." Buchanan

describeth

describeth only the outward form of it thus (having treated of Duni Pacis) Inferius autem ad eundem amnem ad duo ferme millia passuum est Ædificium rotundum sine calce, sed saxis asperis it a conformatis, ut superioris lapidis pars in inferiorem se inferat, it a ut totum opus mutuo complexum, & faxorum pondere se sustineat paulatim ab imo ad summum in arctum se colligens, summa pars aperta est. Camden's Account is a Translation of this, "Hard by this Wall of Turf, where the River Carron "cuts Stirling Shire asunder, towards the left hand are "to be seen two Mounts cast up, which they call Duni "Pacis, and almost two Miles lower an Ancient round "piece of Building twenty four Cubits high (the measure "Lesly Bishop of Ross gives of it in his History) and 13 "broad, open in the Top, framed of rough Stones with-"out Lime, having the upper part of every Stone so "tenanted into the Nether, as that the whole work still rising narrow, supports it self by mutual interlacing." The most accurate account of this Temple was given in the year 1569 by Mr. Henry Sinclair (who was very well Versed in our Antiquities and Ancient Writers) in some loose Notes put in the MSS. extracta de Cronicis Scotiæ kept in the Lawyers Library. "Julius's Huis (saith "he) on the Water of Carron is made round like a "Doucote, the Door of it is Seven quarters breid, three "Ells of hight. It is straight over within fra the ta side "to the uther 21 Foot. There is a Circle above the "Door, an hand broad of Bried, with certain Letters" written above the Door, and another Circle an bonny "space above that, and a Window fournukit, towards the "East, on the head of the Tower, the Wall of it is Eight "Ells of hight, it is twenty two Ells round about, the "space of six quarters above the Circle, the Wall is two "Stone thick, it was all laid over with Pavement Stone, "and a Bink round about within it three quarters hight."

The Stone used for the Altar, it seemeth was removed then when he saw it, by the People there, because of the use had been made of it, the Vulgur call it *Arthur's-Oven* to this Day.

I had occasion to see this *Roman* Monument several times, the last time I was in that Countrey, I viewed it narrowly with a lighted Link, and I found there were some Mistakes in the fore mentioned Relations, and some things remarkable were not related. They are mistaken in that they call *Subselliæ* and *Binks*, for they are not Benches or Seats, and are not flat above as Seats are, but slop like the fore part of a Desk, they name them in the plural Number, but tell not how many there were of them.

Some

Some report them to be three, I observe two, possibly one of them may be sunk in the Ground: The first Circle I took notice of, is not above two Foot from the Payement, and the other is a little above that; I remarked with the Light some strocks Graven, which look like the razing and deleting of some Letters, this is to the Northeast of the Door high up within a Yard and a half of the top of the Building, upon the South of the Door, high up I discerned the Figure of an Eagles Head, somewhat worn out by time, and upon the same side I saw a Figure much worn out, or partly deleted, which resembled Wings, and seems to have been the Figure of Victory; near to it was a Figure like to the head of a Spear or Javeline, with a piece of the Handle of it, below it was these Letters, I. A. M. P. M. P. T. these I cannot understand; and by the last account mentioned that there were Letters above the Door, and no more, it is like they could not be understood at that time, towards the North upon the In-side, there was Graven the Figure of a Cross, resembling that of St. George, which appeared to have been done long after the first building of the Monument, and this is within a Shield as Arms are done. This seemeth to have been done by King Edward's Order. For Boeth saith, lib. 14. fol. 298 of him, Quum perlustrans exercitu omnem

Scotiam pervagaretur, e regione Camuloduni quæ olim regia fuerat Pictorum, conspecto Claudii Cæsaris victoriæque pervetusto templo, quod ad Caronam amnem a Vespasiano olim ædificatum, ad huc staret, vetustate conspicuum, vel hoc boni Scotis invidens, delere præcepit. Sed incolis Antiquitates suas adamantibus, neque extemplo præceptum perficientibus, mutato statim consilio, parietibus & tecto templi vitam dedit. Caterum monumenta Casaris omnia deleri voluit, & ablato lapide, ubi Claudii victoriæque insculptum nomen erat, Arturi olim Anglorum regis supponi jubet, atque illius vocari regiam, quod & in hanc usque nostram memoriam tenet vernacula Scotorum lingua Arturi Hof appellantium. Formo vera rotunda est veteri Romanorum more, quandoquidem eam credebant perfectissimam formam numerisque omnibus absolutam. It doth not appear that Boeth viewed this Monument, his Account is made up of the Tradition of the Ignorant Monks about But it is clear enough that it was defaced, and the Door appeareth to have been taken away, where probably the Inscription was that declared whose Work it was. and upon what Account it was raised, but the Artful Fabrick and the Duration of it, besides the Figures yet remaining, prove that it was a Roman Work. I shall now enquire whether it was a Temple or not, and by whom it was built, and when. In doing which, I must intreat Pardon for my Conjectures, if they appear to be Bold, and not so well founded as may be wished. The distance of time, and the injury of the Weather, beside the manifest razing, and the deleting the Letters pleading for some allowance in this Case.

That it was a *Roman* Work cannot be denyed by any who viewed it, for it is built of squared Stones without Lime, in such a manner, that it hath resisted both Storms and Time. The Stones are artificially placed, one to the length, and the other overthwart all along, which giveth the Fabrick Strength and Firmness. This is far beyond the Art of the *Britains* in these times, who built only then Timber Shields and Cotages, and needed no other, while they stayed but short time in one place, and removed where the conveniency of Pasture invited.

There appeareth likewise a little to the Northward of this Building the vestige of a broad Ditch, and probably there was a Wall about the Building where some outguard was lodged to defend it. Beside the Figures within the Monument Graven upon the Wall of it, I have a Medalion of the bigness of a large Shilling Sterling, of hardned Brass, which was given me by a Gentleman living in the Neighbourhood; it is much worn out, yet

upon the face of it a Shield is discernable, and above the Shield a small Figure resembling the Image of Victory appeareth, and upon the other the figure of the Head of an *Eagle*. There is a Figure within the Shield under these, but it is so worn out with time, I know not what to make of it.

Upon the Reverse, there are the Vestiges of Figures, but so worn out with lying in the Ground, they are not understood.

That it was a Temple, many Arguments perswade me, but not built by the *Britains*; for their Ancient Temples were only rough Stones like Obelisks set on end, and the Buildings *Buchanan* mentioneth in some parts of this Countrey, they seem to have been done in after times, in Imitation of this, either for Temples or Monuments of Famous Men, and their Actions.

Philander in his Notes upon the 7th Chap. of Vitruvius's fourth Book, furnishes us with a convincing Argument that it was a Temple thus, Templorum quanquam alia sexangula, alia multorum angulorum, cæli naturam imitati veteres, imprimis rotundis sunt delectati. The round Figure is the most perfect, which commendeth this: and the Elegancy and Magnificence of this Work, appeareth in the agreeable Pulchritude of it, that the

Stones were polished, and so artificially placed, that by being set in other, they upheld the Structure, each of them keeping the other fast and firm; so that they have now lasted above Fifteen Hundred Years. The opening in the top, likewise proveth it to be a Temple; for as Vitruvius sheweth, the Decor est emendatus operis aspectus, probatis rebus compositi cum auctoritate, and the first part of this perficitur statione, quæ Græce θεματίσμος dicitur cum Jovi, Falguri, & Cælo & Soli & Luna, ædificia sub divo, hypæthraque constituuntur, horam enim deorum, & species & effectus in aperto mundo atque lucenti præsentes vidimus. It is very like that this Temple was dedicated to Galus a Deity of the Romans, for it is situated in a Plain, and is open to the Air, and uncovered, is of a Circular Figure; the nearness also to the Roman Colony Guidi, or Camelon, confirmeth us in the Opinion that it was a Temple; it was Templum Hypæthrum exposed to the free Air by the open in the top. I was informed some Horns of great Cows were found in the Ground near to it, which it seemeth had been Sacrificed I come in the next place to inquire who built it, the Name some of the Vulgar give to it of Julius his Hoff, inclineth Camden to think that it was built by Julius Agricola, or else by Carausius from the Authority of Nennius: But passing the Monkish Legends about it, which are not worthy the rehearsing, I incline to think that it was done by the Emperour Septimius Severus, upon several Accounts: He Stayed four years in this Island. and died at York. I think it is clear, that he built the Stone Wall betwixt Cairpentalloch, that is Kirkintillo and Caredin, and he built the City Guidi or Camelon, over against which it stands. Dio showeth he went to the outmost part of the Isle, and was at vast Pains in making ways, and building Bridges, and lost an incredible number of his Men in passing through Caledonia, nor did he return to York, till as the same Dio saith, he had compelled the Enemies to quit a considerable part of their Countrey, and he did this, as Herodian telleth lib. 3. in Severo, Cupidus victoriæ, cognominisque Britannici, out of the Ambition he had to have the Title of Britannicus Maximus, which both he and his Son Antonius Caracalla assumed, as appeareth from Inscriptions and Medals designing them so; we meet with many Medals in Vaillant, upon this his Expedition: Upon which Account I think it very probable, that for a lasting Monument of his reducing so much of this Countrey under the Roman Empire again, which had been lost in Commodus's and other Emperours time, he built this Temple after this Fashion, as a Model, imitating the Pantheon at Rome. That was built indeed at first by M. Agrippa, Son in Law to Augustus Casar in Honour of all the Gods. It had been afterwards, as Spartian saith, much spoiled by Fire, and was first repaired by Adrian, and after that by Septimius Severus, and his Son Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, which the Inscription upon it beareth thus,

IMP. CAESAR. L. SEPTIMIVS SEVERVS. PIVS. PERTINAX.

ARABICVS. ADIABENICVS. PARTHICVS. PONTIFEX.

MAX. TRIB. POT. XI. COS. III. PROCOS. ET IMP.

CAESAR. M. AVRELIVS ANTONINVS PIVS FELIX AVG.

TRIB. POTEST. V. COS. PROCOS. PANTHEVM VETV
STATE CORRVPTVM CVM OMNI CVLTV RESTITVERVNT.

It is very like, that building a Temple for a Monument of his great Exploits in this Countrey, he would make it like the most Magnificent at *Rome*, which he had repaired not long before, that the Fame of repairing that Temple might continue with the Praise of his great Actions in the most remote Corner of the World. It agrees with the *Pantheum* in this, that the Roof, even of this here, hath no Pillar to support it, and that tho it be a Vault, it hath no Key-Stone, or Navil Stone to bind it in the middle,

but in place of that, a round Hole in the middle, being open as the *Pantheum* in the Top. These Arguments induce me to think that it was the Work of the Emperour *Septimius Severus*, and there are none convincing that it was done by any other *Roman* Emperour or Governour.

Concerning the Inscriptions

found in this Countrey.

George Buchanan Rer. Scot. lib. 1. saith of the Inscriptions found in his time near the Wall, Multi lapides inscripti eruuntur, quibus aut testimonia salutis per Tribunos & Centuriones acceptæ, aut sepulchorum Inscriptiones continentur. Most of the first kind seem to have been removed by private Men, or worn out by time, for few of them are seen. I shall set down some of the last, but since Buchanan's time severals of other kinds have been discovered, and yet some are now and then discovered.

There

There is an Altar yet to be seen near to *Comernauld*, the Residence of the Earl of *Wigton*, with this Inscription upon it,

MATRIBVS
MILITES
VEXILL. 10.
LEG. XX. VI
BRITTON.
V. S. L. P. M.

That is Votum Solvunt Lubentes pro Merito.

There are several Sepulchral Inscriptions, that which Scaliger mentioneth, Animadv. in Chronolog. Eusebii, p. 190, in pago Miniabruch, the Ancient Name of Kilsyth is thus,

D. M.
C. IVLI MARCELLINI PRAEF, COH. I.
HAMIOR.

Another was found in the Roman Camp at Airdoch, and is thus,

DIS MANIBVS
AMONIVS DAMIONIS
COH. I. HISPANORVM
STIPENDIORVM XXVII
HEREDES. F. C.

Account of the River Forth.

(from Sibbald's History of Fife and Kinross, 1710.)

The Firths of Forth and Tay, which wash the South and North Sides of Fife, and, at their Emboucheurs or Mouths by which they run into the German Ocean, are parted from one another only by a small and narrow Point of Land, make the Country a Peninsula.

The Firth of Forth, which lyeth betwixt the Three Lothians and Fife, and washeth Fife upon its North-side, is by far the greater of the Two, and the more Pleasant and Commodious for Trade, if you view this Firth upon Both its Sides, viz. That towards the Lothians, and That towards Fife; these Verses may be applied to it.

Tot campos, sylvas, tot Regia tecta, tot hortos Artifici dextrâ excultos, tot vidimus arces, Ut nunc Ausonio Fortha cum Tybride certet.

Such Fields, such Woods, such stately Piles appear, Such Gardens grace the Earth, such Tow'rs the Air; That *Forth* with *Roman Tiber* may compare.

Tacitus

Tacitus in Agricola cap. 23. calleth it Bodotria, and Foreigners call it Edinburgh Firth. The River of Forth, which emptieth it self into it, riseth from a Spring at the Bottom of the Lomundian Mountain, and runneth from the West to the East, receiving upon either side several Waters, by the way. The first Bridge it hath upon it, is at Cardross; from thence it runs to the City of Stirling, where it hath a stately Bridge, of hewen Stone, consisting of Four large Arches, with an Iron Gate upon it, laid over it from the South to the North; the Passage from the South to the North Parts of Scotland, guarded by the strong Castle of Stirling, near adjacent to it. To this Bridge the Tide flows up, and it is Navigable by Ships of less Burden to the Harbour below it, and there it begins to turn it self with many Crooks, which are called the Crooks of Forth. There are so many of these Crooks and Turnings, that tho' it be but Four Miles distance by Land from Stirling to the Town of Alloa, it is reckoned Twenty Four Miles by Water. The Aspect of these Crooks is very Beautiful to the Eyes, the Silver-coloured Streams being much set out by the pleasant Greenness of the Banks: The Turns of the River, Serpent-like, and the various Colours of the Ground it circleth, are most delightful.

Renown'd *Mæander* of the much Fam'd Troy, So full of Windings, thus doth sport and toy; Whose Water oft, in haste, down bends its course, Oft turneth back, as seeking its first Source.

From its Source to St. Ebba's Head, where it mixeth it self with the German Ocean, its Course will amount to some Seventy Miles. 'Tis Navigable (as was said) from the Sea up to Stirling Bridge: It may be divided in Three Parts; The First from Stirling to Alloa, called the Crooks of Forth, where it is bounded upon the North side by Clackmannan-Shire, and upon the South by the Coast of Stirling-Shire, which lies alongst it. Second Part runs from Alloa to the Queen's-Ferrie, some Twelve Miles, having towards the North, part of Clackmannan-Shire, part of Perth-Shire, and part of Fife-Shire running upon that side by the Towns of Alloa, Clackmannan, Kincardin, Culross, Torriburn, Lime-Kills and the North-Ferry: Towards the South, it runs alongst the Coast of Stirling-Shire and Linlithgow-Shire, by the Towns of Elphingstoun, Airth, Borrowstounness, Grangepanns, Cussabout, Blackness-Castle, Abercorn and the South-Ferry. The Third part is that from the Ferries to the Isles of May and Bass, which is that properly

called Bodotria and Edinburgh-Firth; and what was to the East of this, was called by the Writers of the Middle Age, the Scots Sea: It runs by Inverkeithing, Aberdour, Bruntisland, Kinghorn, Kirkaldy, Dysert, Weems, Ely, and other Coast Towns in Fife; and Leith, Musleburgh, Prestounpanns, and Seton, Aberlady and Dumbar upon the South-side.

At the *Queen's*-Ferry, where the Land runs into the Sea upon either side, it is but two Miles broad; from thence it enlargeth more and more; betwixt the *Fife* Ness and *Dumbar*, it will be some Twenty Miles broad.

Beside a vast Number of Rivulets and Burns, which run into it upon each side, several considerable Waters run into it; upon the South-side Carron, Evon, Almond, Leith, Esk, Tyne; and upon the North-side Teith, Devan, Leven. There are many Promontories on either side, with many large Bays and convenient Stations and Roads for Ships; and there are several Isles scattered up and down it. In Forth there are, besides the regular Ebbs and Flows, several irregular Motions, which the Commons betwixt Alloa and Culross (who have most diligently observed them) call the Lakies of Forth; by which Name they express these odd Motions of the River, when it Ebbs and Flows: For when it Floweth

sometime before it be Full Sea, it Intermitteth and Ebbs for some considerable time, and after Filleth till it be Full Sea; and on the contrary, when the Sea is Ebbing, before the Low Water, it Intermits and Fills for some considerable time, and after Ebbs till it be Low Water: And this is called a *Lakie*.

The Reverend Mr. Alexander Wright, late Minister of the Gospel at Alloway, who made a diligent Inquiry about these Motions, in his letter to me, sent me the following Account of them.

"There are Lakies in the River of Forth, which are "in no other River in Scotland. This Lakie at low "Water, in a Niepe Tide, beginneth at Queen's-Ferry, "and goeth up in a Stream Tide, as far as the Sea filleth, "which is to the Croves of Craig-Forth, and at Niepe "Tides it goeth no farther than the House of Maner at "low Water; at Niepe Tide, at high Water, it goeth as "far as the Sea goeth, and at the Niepest Tide at the "high Water, it will be two Foot higher than the Tide at "full Water. At the beginning of the Stream, the Lakie "riseth not so high as the main Tide by a Foot; at the "dying of the Stream, when it is full Water, it will be "two Foot higher than the main Tide; at a Niepe Tide

"and low Water, it will ebb two Hours, and fill two "Hours; and at full Water, ebb an Hour and fill an "Hour. It is observable, that at the Full Moon there "are no Lakies, neither at Full Sea nor Low Water, in "the Stream which is at that time; but at the Niepe "Tides which follow this Stream, there are Lakies "according as it is set down before: But at the Stream, "which is at the Change of the Moon, which is called "here the Overloup, there are Lakies both at low Water "and at high Water, as is said before, and also at the "Niepe Tides which follow it, both at high and low "Water. It is very remarkable at the Change of the "Moon, when it is low Water, the Lakie will be two Hours, "which is the beginning of the Tide for that space, and "then the Tide stands, and will not ebb till the Flood "come, and at full Water it will ebb and flow a large 'Hour. All this is to be understood, when the weather "is seasonable; for in a Storm there can be no particular "Account given as to the Lakies: at Queen's-Ferry, at "Niep Tide and Stream Tides at high Water, there are "no Lakies, nor in a Stream at low Water: Neither can "I learn, either from Seamen or Fishermen where they "begin; but it's probable they begin betwixt Borrowstoun-"ness and the Mouth of the Water of Carron.

"Sir, This Account which I give you of the Lakies, I "have some of it from my own Observation, and the rest "from Seamen and Fishermen which live upon the River "of *Forth*, and by their long Experience affirm what I "have written is of a Truth, and is attested by,

ALEXANDER WRIGHT Minister at Alloa.



THE END.

Page 14/15 Si volvere priscos Non piget Annales, hic & Victoria fixit Praecipitem Romana Gradum, quem non gravis Auster Reppulit, incultis non squalens Parthia Campis. Non aestu Meroe, non frigore Rhenus & Albis Tardavit, Latium remorata est Scotia cursum: Solaque gens mundi est, cum qua non culmine montis, Non rapidi ripis amnis, non objice silvae, Non vasti spatiis campi Romana potestas, Sed muris fossaque sui confinia regni Munivit: Gentesque alias cum pelleret armis Sedibus, aut victas vilem servaret in usum Servitii, hic contenta suos defendere fines Roma securigeris praetendit Moenia Scotis: Hic spe progressus posita, Caronis ad undam Terminus Aufonii signat divortia Regni.

I am not reluctant to turn over the famous Annals, this and Roman Victoria formed a headlong stop, which the strong South wind did not drive back, nor the dried up Parthia with its uncultivated plains, nor did Meroe delay with heat, at the Rhine and Tibis with cold. Scotland has delayed the course of Latium: This is the only rule/role of the world, where Roman power has provided a wall, not with the summit of a mountain ??? the banks of a fast river, nor the wood, nor the square of the vast plain but with walls and a ditch it has made boundaries of its kingdom; when it destroyed other ??? from their armed roots, and turned the defeated into slaves, had Rome wanted to defend her boundaries presented walls to the axe-bearing Scots: having progressed their ??? this hope. Terminus (the end) signified the separation of ??? kingdom of Cars at the sea.

Page 20/22

Inde die a medio quem diximus alterum Avennum A Lothiano arvo Sterlinia dividit arva Solisb ab ortu Aestus Forthae, donec juga pontis Fert Pontus propter Sterlinum: ubi se minor ipse Fluminus in morem justi stricto amne coercet, Hic Henrice Puer celsa sublimis ab arce, Undique prospectu late petis aequora campi, Despicis hinc saltus virides, et amaena vireta Silvestresque boves, torvosque a fronte juvencos, Queis juba densa, leonino demissaque ritu Qui candore nives superant, qui cursibus auras; Illinc et flexus varios, variosque reflexus, Erroresque vagos viridique in gramine rivos

*

Amnis: ubi curvis veluti Maeander in undis Ludit Fortha suis: teneros et pascit ocellos Dive tuos, vitraque unda campoque virenti; Hic ille est Sterlinus ager, qui surgit in altos Hinc montes, illinc valles descendit in imas, Fluminibusque rigat fruges glebasque feraces. Ad laevam tumuli ex terra pacis duo duni Arte manuque hominum exstructi Carrontis ad undam: Inferius paulo est structa sine calce rotunda Aedicula, ex saxis firma compage coactis Et lapide inserto lapidi, stat pondere ab imo, et Paulatim ad summum veluti se angustat apertum Sive tropheum seu Templum, cui Terminus haeret. A dextra Carrontis ager fert caetera planus Prominet in collem medius qui se erigit inter Aediculam et pacis Dunos, in quo anguli ad ipsum Flexum et adhuc urbis modicae Vestigia parent. Hic locus et Bedae Gnidi Vallumque Severi Ductum a Glottae Aestu ad confluxum Forthae et Avenni Hic inscripti extant Lapides sint, sive sepulchra, Romanum in morem ceu partae clara Salutis A Ducibus monumenta ac Centurionibus ipsi.

From there there's another road from Lothian Dividing the fields at Stirling from the Forth estuary, until the edges of Stirling Bridge; where the smaller river forces the flow to be narrower. Here a sublime boy Henry looks from the high castle, on all sides you look for the waters of the plains, from here you see green grasses ??? lovely green areas, woods to cattle, young, fine forest, with dense manes, like lion's which outshine the snows in brightness, the wind is running; from there the river meanders ??? buds wandering in green grass: where like Maeander the Forth plays in its own best waves, it feeds your eyes with glassy/glossy waters to green plains; here is that Stirling valley, which rises from there into high mountains, from there descends into deep valleys, wets with its river the earth to orange. To the left of the mound from the ground two man-made hills stretch to the sea: The ??? ??? is done without a round shrine, from rocks and stones with stones inserted, starts/stands from a great weight ??? and gradually narrows to the open top whether a memorial or temple, at the boundary. On the night after full ??? in the middle of a hill overlooks the rest which rises up between the temple



and the/two peace hills bearing teams of a modest city.

This plain and the rampart are lead by the hide/tide from the start to the confines/conflux of the ??? and the ? here are stones, witteness ??? tombs, in the Roman way or famous monuments of safety by generals or centurions.

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Regia sublimis celsa despectat ab arce, Pendula sub biferis maenia structa jugis. Regum angusta parens, Regum nutricula natis Hinc sibi Regifico nomine tota placet. Hospita sed cuivis, quovis sub nomine, amicus Sive es, seu non es, hospes an sostis item, Pro lucro cedit damnum; Discordia tristis Heu quoties procerum sanquine tinxit humum Hoc uno infelix, at felix caetera, nusquam Letior aut caeli frons, geniusve soli.

The high palace looks down from the citadel, hanging walls under twin-bearing yokes. The narrow partet of kings, to the sons of kings it pleases in his whole royal name. But hospitality to anyone, under a name, whether a friend or not, you would ??? a guest, all gives way to profit; sat down as often as blood touched the ground, unlucky or lucky, nowhere is more death at/or half ??? the sky, or types of soil.

Page 43/44

Sterlino quis digna canat? cunabula Reges
Hic sua securis imposuere jugis,
Aura salutifera est, facit hoc vicinia Caeli,
Nec datur a saevo tutior hoste Locus.
Adspicis hic geminas structas in rupibus Arces;
Tectaque Tarpeii turribus aeqa Jovis,
Fortha triumphales hic, dum fugit, excipit arcus,
Cogitur & curvo subdere colla jugo.
Haud aliter Phrygiis ludit Maeander in orbis,
Saepe fluit, trepidans saepe recursat aqua.
Orbe pererrato levis huc vestigia flectens
Advena, miratur Ruris & Urbis opes.
Admiranda quidem sunt hoec, & carmine digna,
Plus tamen hic virtus Martia laudis habet:
Non semel Ausonios Sterlinum reppulit Enses,

Limes & Imperii quem bibit, amnis erat.

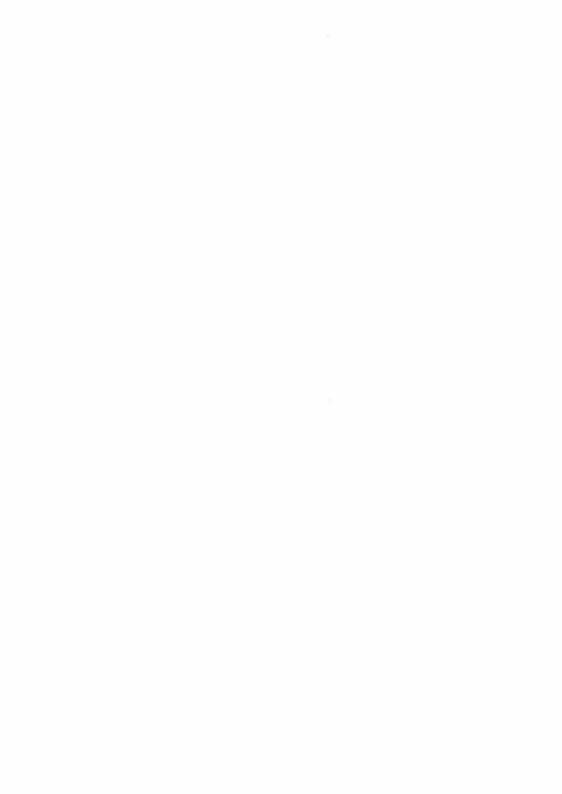
Who sings worthily of Stirling? Kings have impaired their cradles to serve y... here, no place is safer from savage enemies. You see here twin defences on the crags Roofs of Tarpeia, equal to the towers of Jove, the Forth is triumphant here, and While it flees, it skirts the citadel And is found to curve round the hills Here it meanders in circles, often flows after the water flows back. In wandering circles it leaves its tracks, aiding the city and country. It's amaz... to worthy songs, praise its courage. Not once did it drive back Stirling What it drinks. was the river.

Page 52
TUMULUS Magistri Richardi Calender qui obiit 29 January 1686.
Stirpe Sacerdotum prognatus utrinque, Sacerdos
Hic jacet innocuus, Vir sine fraude sagax;
Quotque dies Mensis Bissextus continet, annos
Tot fuit huic divi credita cura gregis;
Sex alibi, hic annos bis denos tresque peregit,
Dum casto usque suas corde fovebat oves.
Solis cyclo, quoad aevum, bis repetito.
Nunquam sat flendus, seu reverendus, obit.

The tomb of teacher Richard Calendar who died 29 January 1686. Born of churchmen, himself a churchman, here he lies innocent a nice man without fault: all year round, his flock looks after him all those years; he spent ??? elsewhere 2 or 3 times/thing while he looked after his flocks. He died, he must not be wept over, but revered.

Page 66/67

Quum perlustrans exercitu omnem Scotiam pervagaretur, e regione Camuloduni quae olim regia fuerat Pictorum, conspecto Claudii Caesaris victoriaeque pervetutso templo, quod ad Caronam amnem a Vespasiano olim aedficatum, ad huc staret, vetustate conspicuum, vel hoc boni Scotis invidens, delere praecepit. Sed incolis Antiquitates suas adamantibus, neque extemplo praeceptum perficientibus, mutato



statim consilio, parietibus & tecto templi vitam dedit. Caeterum monumenta Caesaris omnia deleri voluit, & ablato lapide, ubi Claudii victoriaeque insculptum nomen erat, Arturi olim Anglorum regis supponi jubet, atque illius vocari regiam, quod & in hanc usque nostram memoriam tenet vernacula Scotorum linqua Arturi Hof appellantium. Formo vera rotunda est veteri Romanum more quandoquidem eam credebant perfectissiam formam numerisque omnibus absolutam.

The army wandered all through Scotland when they saw the ???? temple of the Emperor Claudius which was built at the River Carron by Vespasiano, it still stands here, looking ??? the Scots have begun to destroy it. There he changes his mind to give life to this sea and its waters. They wanted to destroy Caesar's monument and took away some stones, when Claudius' name was written, he ordered the king's name to be added and the region called after him, which in our memory is still called Scots. They believe ??? is the perfect form and free of all numbers.

Page 70

Décor est emendatus operis aspectus, probatis rebus compositi cum auctoritate, and the first part of this perficitur statione, quae Graecedicitur cum Jovi, Falguri, & Caelo & Soli & Lunae, aedificia sub divo, hypaethraque constituuntur, horam enim deorum, & species & effectus in aperto mundo atque lucenti praesentes vidimus.

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IMP. CAESAR. L. SEPTIMIVS SEVERVS. PIVS. PERTINAX. ARABICVS. ADIABENICVS. PARTHICVS. PONTIFEX. MAX. TRIB. POT. XI. COS. III. PROCOS. ET IMP. CAESAR. M AVRELIVS ANTONINVS PIVS FELIX AVG. TRIB. POTEST. V. COS. PROCOS. PANTHEVM VETVSTATE CORRVPTVM CVM OMNI CVLTV RESTITVERVNT.

Lucius Septimus Severius, Pious St...??? and Marcus Aurelius Antonius tribune

Page 73

Multi lapides inscripti eruuntur, quibus aut testimonia salutis per Tribunos & Centuriones acceptae, aut sepulchorum Inscriptiones continentur.

Many stones are erected, a testimony to their position, or writings on ??? me/we contents.

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MATRIBUS MILITES VEXILL. 10. LEG. XX. VI BRITTON. Votum Solvunt Lubentes pro Merito.

C. IVLI MARCELLINI PRAEF. COH. I. HAMIOR.

DIS MANIBVS AMONIVS DAMIONIS COH. I. HISPANORVM STIPENDIORVM XXVII HEREDES. F. C.

To the mothers of the soldiers of the 10th Legion 26 in Britain





