JEDBURGH

J EDBURGH seems to have obtained its first charter from King David I., but this is uncertain, as all its ancient documents were destroyed during the fierce border forays.

The Seal of the Burgh was originally "*Azure* a unicorn tripping, ringled, maned and horned," but this was discarded, and a new one was adopted to commemorate the border riders mentioned below, and which was recorded in the Lyon Office about 1680 as "Gules—on a horse salient argent, furnished azure, a chevalier armed at all points, grasping in his right hand a kind of lance called the Jedburgh staff." Above is the motto "*Strenue et prospere*," meaning "Strenuously and successfully."

The "Old Statistical Account" says that the name of the town was probably derived from the Gadeni, a tribe who anciently inhabited the country between Northumberland and the river Teviot, and that perhaps it was their capital city, and hence obtained the name of Gadburgh or Jedburgh. Chalmers in his "Caledonia" tells us that a village and a church on the Jed was founded by Eccred or Ecgrid, Bishop of Lindisfarne, before the middle of the ninth century. After that the castle was erected, and the town rose under its shelter. The castle was one of the favourite abodes of King Malcolm IV., where he died in 1165. In 1291 Jedburgh Castle was given over to the charge of Brian, the son of Alan, by King Edward I. of England, and thereafter for many years warfare was waged between the Scotch and English which involved Jedburgh in bloodshed and devastation. But long previous to this, in fact since the dawn of authentic Scottish history, this neighbourhood had been the scene of both national and civil warfare.

It was during the above period that the border riders, armed with the Jedburgh staff, as on the Seal, became famous. The Jedburgh, or Jethart staff, or "iron-knobbed staves of Jedburgh," consisted of a piece of tempered iron four feet long fastened to the end of a stout staff, and were manufactured at Jedburgh. John

Major, in his " Greater Britain," while describing the battle of Bannockburn alludes
to the fierce onslaught made by the border riders upon the English.

The last of the border skirmishes took place in this vicinity on 7th July 1575 at
a place called the Redswair, a mountainous ridge of the Carter Hill. It was the
custom for the wardens on each side of the border to meet on certain days and
deliver up offenders against either country. On the above date, Carmichael, the
Scottish warden, met Sir John Foster, the English one, who was attended by the
men of Tynedale, and they were more numerous than the Scottish Borderers. A
dispute arose between the wardens, during which Sir John Foster told Carmichael he
should match himself with his equals. On this, the English, raising their war-cry of
" To it, Tynedale," assailed the Scots, who would have been repulsed had not a band
of the citizens of Jedburgh arrived in time, and drove the English off the field,
capturing Sir John Foster and many others. This skirmish is known as the " Raid
of the Redswair, and, as regards the part the Jedburgh men played in it, is com-
memorated in Border Minstrelsy thus :—

> " Then raise the Slogan with ane shout,—
>   Fy Tyndale to it ! Jeddart's here !
>
>   .   .   .   .   .
>
>   And surely then the game gaed right,
> Frae time the foremost of them fell ;
>   Then ower the knowe without good night
> They ran with many a shout and yell."

JOHNSTONE

JOHNSTONE adopted the various Police Acts in 1857, and in 1893, under the Burgh Police Act of 1892, devised a Common Seal. This consists of a shield with a Scotch Thistle on each side, and, above, the Scottish Lion rampant, with the motto "*Gang Forward.*" The shield is divided by a cross into quarters. In the first is a spinning wheel ; in the second a pair of scales ; in the third a beam engine ; and in the fourth a bee-hive, the whole symbolical of industry. At one time hand-loom weaving was extensively practised, but has been given up for some time, the principal industries now being foundries, machine works, boiler making, paper making, linen thread works, and cotton mills. Before 1781 only ten persons resided on the site of what is now the Burgh, but in that year the first cotton mill was built, which gave an impetus to the building of other factories, and also of dwelling houses, and since then it has "gone forward" rapidly in the march of progress.