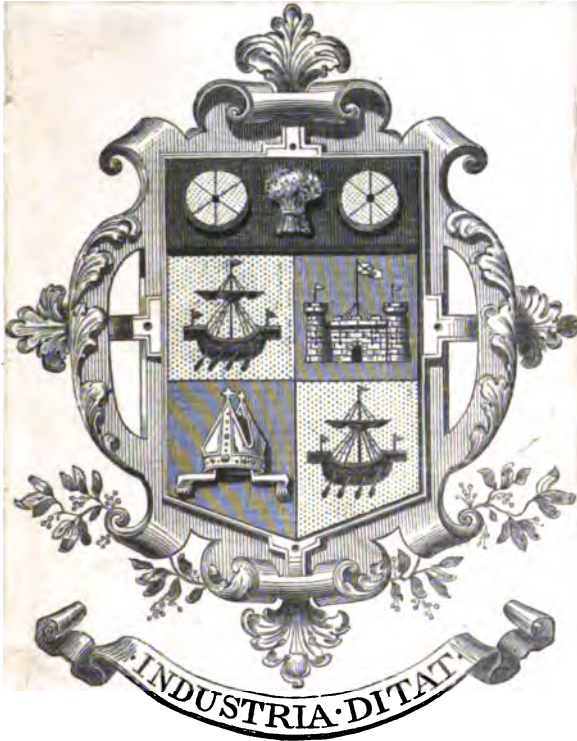




D. MacRaeley ink

GRANNY GIBB'S COTTAGE, DUNDAPTON ROAD.



ARMORIAL BEARINGS
of the
BURGH OF PARTICK.

THE accompanying Armorial Ensign, which has just been adopted by the Burgh of Partick, is introduced here because we could not well include it amongst notes and reminiscences relating to former times. For this Sketch and following blazon of the Armorial Bearings of Partick we are indebted to A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq., Artist.

Quarterly—1st and 4th, *Or*, A LYMPHAD OR GALLEY, with oars in action, *Sable*; 2nd, *Gules*, A CASTLE WITH TWO CIRCULAR TOWERS, *Argent*, Masoned, *Sable*; 3rd, *Gules*, A BISHOP'S MITRE, *proper*; and on a Chief of the *Second*, A GARB, or Wheat Sheaf, between Two MILLSTONES of the *First*. Motto on an escrol beneath the Shield—INDUSTRIA DITAT.



P R E F A C E .

AFTER an absence from Partick of nearly twenty years, but during which time I had heard report of its great increase, I was on my return much surprised to find that little change had taken place in the old village; the only important difference I noticed being that, for the most part, its inhabitants were strangers, with manners and customs very different from those of the villagers of my early days. To the north and west of the old village had arisen a new Partick, with flourishing manufactories and a large population; but many of those new town-folk I found had little or no interest in nor knowledge of the old village, except as a dwelling-place for the poorer class of workpeople. Indeed, I met with some who had resided for years in the new portion who had never even been in the old village, never seen the Old Bridge and Knowe, nor knew the *locale* of the Kilbrae and Castle Green, places of note to every inhabitant of Partick and the neighbourhood fifty years ago.

In my early youth I listened with deep interest to the current stories concerning places and persons connected with

the village. These tales made a strong impression on my mind at the time, but in the hurry and battle of middle life, the absorbing interest of passing events and personal pursuits and prospects, these things appeared trivial and comparatively uninteresting. As my age approached to the threescore years, passing events, though still interesting, leaked rapidly from the memory, except when they recalled, by resemblance or association, those earlier impressions which had lain as it were dormant for so many years, but now awoke to fresh life, causing me to feel as if I breathed the atmosphere of my early life again; and many of the social habits and simple faith in supernatural influences which regulated the conduct of my native villagers assumed an importance to my mind they had never possessed before.

Whilst musing upon the deep-rooted superstitions of the old villagers, and endeavouring to trace their probable origin, it soon became evident that these did not belong to Partick in any special manner, but were the common property of large districts, in some cases of mankind, being frequently the survivals of old religions, based upon false ideas of God. So, while detailing some of the superstitions and old customs prevalent in Partick sixty years ago, I have endeavoured to show their connection with other places, and with long past ages and beliefs.

While collecting information upon some of these ancient beliefs and customs, I was in the habit of noting down any ideas upon the subject that I found in books, without copying

the exact wording, or even mentioning the title of the book, for I had then no intention of publishing; hence there is much scattered throughout the following pages which has been culled from books whose authors I cannot now name. Some of the books more recently examined are noted. I have also been indebted to many kind friends for information respecting local history, to whom I heartily return thanks.

Some of the illustrations were taken thirty years ago, others were taken lately, in outline, as they now stand, and altered in detail from memory, so as to represent their appearance fifty years ago; such, for example, are the "Old School" and "First Baker's Shop." The view of the "Old Castle" is modified from the sketch in "Hutchesoniana," by the addition of the "Old Merkland Farm-house." This house was mostly built from the materials of the Castle, a stone from which, ornamented with a pointed arch moulding, bearing in the centre 1611, the date of the founding of the Castle, was built into the front wall of the farm-house.

The map of the Village is substantially from memory, and consequently subject to error in some particulars. The map of the Islands or Inches in the Clyde is taken from Crawford's "History of Renfrewshire."

Some of my acquaintances have asked, "Why not bring your notes up to the present date?" My reply is—There are hundreds now living who know the particulars connected with the new portion of Partick better than I do, consequently

I have confined my remarks to these matters, many of which, if not given now, would in a few years hence be lost, for there are few natives now living whose recollection extends beyond my own.

With these remarks, I send my little book among my friends and the public, and hope they will find some of that interest in reading it that I have had in the writing of it.





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