



Sketch on the spot by Miss Compson

Plate 100

Ruins of the Chapel of Holy-word House.

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A
JOURNEY
FROM
EDINBURGH
THROUGH
PARTS OF NORTH BRITAIN:

CONTAINING
REMARKS ON SCOTISH LANDSCAPE;
AND OBSERVATIONS ON RURAL ECONOMY, NATURAL
HISTORY, MANUFACTURES, TRADE, AND COMMERCE;

Interspered with
ANECDOTES,
TRADITIONAL, LITERARY, AND HISTORICAL;

TOGETHER WITH
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES,
RELATING CHIEFLY TO CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS, FROM
THE TWELFTH CENTURY DOWN TO THE PRESENT TIME.

IN TWO VOLUMES,

Embellished with *FORTY-FOUR ENGRAVINGS,*
From Drawings made on the Spot, of the Lake, River, and Mountain Scenery of Scotland.

By ALEXANDER CAMPBELL.

VOL. I.

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1802.

GIFT OF
PROFESSOR C. A. KOFOLD

P R E F A C E .

THE title-page of a literary production ought, if possible, to convey to the mind of the reader a pretty accurate notion of its scope and general contents; an apology, therefore, for the seeming prolixity of the title-page prefixed to these volumes, will be found in the utility of this good old practice.

Although I have more than once appeared before the public as an author, I feel on this occasion, that diffidence and anxiety which are natural to one who gleans in a field wherein so many have reaped with reward and distinction; yet conscious of having bestowed due pains in order to render it worthy of acceptance, I await the time when the candid and judicious shall have awarded that share of approbation, to which this performance may be found justly entitled.

It appeared to me, notwithstanding the numerous writers that of late have directed their attention to the examination of the antiquities, natural history, peculiar customs and manners of the northern section of our island, that many things had

escaped their diligence of research, which a native intimately acquainted with the classic ground and historical incidents there-to belonging, as well as with many traditionary particulars about to sink into that oblivion from which they are now snatched, might have it in his power to examine more at leisure than any stranger, how accurate soever, traversing hastily the various districts described in the following journey: in collecting materials for which, I have spared neither time nor labour; and toward a proper selection and arrangement of what I deemed most interesting and valuable, I have done all in my power.

Aware of that kind of disgust which ceaseless egotism usually excites, I have chosen to appear as seldom as possible in the body of the work; by which means the reader is spared the unnecessary intrusion that too frequently occurs in similar productions. In truth, were I to relate but a small part of the casual incidents connected with the present itinerary, it would swell into many more volumes to very little purpose. But, besides three several excursions made on purpose to take the sketches of the scenery faithfully on the spot, as well as to ascertain from personal survey the present state of rural economy, manufactures, trade, and commerce, I have had, during twenty years of my life, frequent occasion to visit the extensive range through which the traveller is herein directed.

In treating of many particulars respecting recent occurrences, as well as striking events of more remote periods of Scottish history, it will manifestly appear, that I have delivered my sentiments with that manly freedom which is characteristic of one attached to no party, and independent in his mind,—tempered, however, with due moderation, keeping steadily in view a scrupulous regard to truth wherever it was to be found.

It will also be seen, that, besides placing many known facts and circumstances in new lights, much original information on a great variety of topics will afford satisfaction to those who find pleasure in somewhat more than mere superficial knowledge.

This, I trust, will more fully appear in the descriptions, and historical and traditional matter respecting many parts of the highlands, particularly Loch-Kaitrin, and the wilds adjacent; the bishoprick of Dunkeld; the towns of Linlithgow, Stirling, Perth, and Dundee; the ancient archiepiscopal see of St. Andrew's, together with its university; and the present capital of Scotland, Edinburgh; as also a sketch of its university, particularly its celebrated school of medicine from its first establishment to the present period; with an historical outline of the Scottish episcopal church, from the first dawn of the Reformation to the close of the eighteenth century. Beside these different articles, there will likewise be found interspersed throughout, many biographical notices of some importance to those who may be interested

terested in the literary fame of a few Scotsmen whose writings are held in high estimation in the republic of letters. To these notices are added two or three slight sketches respecting the fine arts north of the Tweed; together with the history of the Scottish stage from its origin down to the present time.

Having thus prepared the reader for what he is to expect in the following sheets, I shall only add a few remarks respecting some notices that have come to my knowledge since the present production was sent to the press.

In drawing a contrast of the character of the ancient Caledonians and the Highlanders of the present day, I have thrown out a few hints relative to the poetry common to Ireland and the Hebrides, in which the Fingalians of both nations are celebrated; as also, some particulars respecting the Scottish-Gaelic being a written language (contrary to the opinion of Johnson) long before the invention of printing. In addition to what I have said on these subjects in the course of the present work, and elsewhere, I have to state a communication made in a letter, dated "1st March 1801," from my friend Mr. J. Ritson, of Gray's Inn, of sufficient importance to justify its insertion in this place.

"I have made" (says Mr. Ritson) "two discoveries lately in the history of Fin-Mac-Coul. He is mentioned in Jocelin's life of St. Patrick, written about 1180, as contemporary with
that

that faint; but in a book of much greater authority, the Ulster Annals, of which there is a translation in the Museum, he is placed in the middle of the ninth century, or year 856, when it is said, “*Cubal-Fin*, with his *Engliſh-Iriſh* [*Hibernice, ut alibi Fingall*], (was) put to flight by Ivar.” This, if it mean” (continues Mr. Ritſon) “the ſame man, is an hiſtorical fact which cannot be diſputed: but” (he adds) “at all events, he was a native or inhabitant of *Ireland*.”

In my reply to the letter whence this extract is taken, I mentioned what discoveries had been lately made at Edinburgh with regard to ancient MSS. in the Gaëlic language; and likewise ſent him a literal translation of a paſſage from a book printed at Edinburgh A. D. 1567 in that tongue; and to be found in the preface of the abbot of *Icolomkill* and biſhop of the *Iſles* *John Carſwell*'s Book of Common Prayer (by the way, the firſt proteſtant Prayer-book in uſe north of the Tweed till an unſucceſſful attempt was made in the reign of Charles the Martyr). The paſſage alluded to is to the following purport. “But there is a great want” (ſays this pious prelate) “with us, “and it is a great weight upon us, the Gaël of Scotland and “Ireland *, above the reſt of mankind, that our Gaëlic language is not printed, as are the other languages and tongues “of the world: and there is a greater want ſtill, that of the “Holy Bible not being printed in the Gaëlic language, as it is

* “Gaidhil Alban agas Eirean.”

“ in the Latin and the English, and every other tongue: and
 “ also, it is a want, that we have never yet had any account
 “ printed of the antiquities of our country, or of our ancestors
 “ amongst us. But, although we have some accounts of the
 “ Gaël of Scotland and Ireland in the manuscript books of chief
 “ bards and historiographers *, and others; yet, the labour of
 “ writing them over with the hand is great; but the process of
 “ printing, be the work how voluminous soever, is speedy and
 “ easily accomplished. And great is the blindness, ignorance,
 “ and sinful darkness, and evil design of the teachers and writ-
 “ ers, and oral conservators †, of the Gaëlic, in as much as
 “ they are more desirous and accustomed to compose vain,
 “ tempting, lying histories, to gain the idle applause of the world,
 “ concerning Tuath de Danonds, and Milesians,—concerning
 “ champions, and Fin-mac-Cumhal and Fingalians, and a great
 “ many more that need not be mentioned in this place ‡.”
 Here then is a manifest proof, that the Gaëlic language was not
 only a written, but also a printed language, more than two hun-
 dred years ago,—a striking fact, in direct contradiction of
 Dr. Johnson’s hasty assertion, that “ the Earse” (he means
 Irish, or Gaëlic) “ never was a written language; and there

* “ Fileadh agus Ollamhan.”

† “ Lucht deachtaidh agus sgrìobhtha chumhdaigh.”

‡ “ Cumadh ar Thuath de dhanond agus mhacaibh milead agus arna curadhaighh
 “ agus fhind mac cumhail gona fhianoibh agus ar mhoran eile nach airbim agus nach
 “ iudisim andso do chumadhach.”

“ is not in the world an Earse manuscript a hundred years
“ old *.”

These additional notices respecting Gaëlic antiquities I have thought proper to give without any comment whatever ; and as it fell to my lot, after a silence of nearly eighteen years, to revive the celebrated controversy respecting the authenticity of Ossian, and having discovered and brought before the literary world, “ The Highlander,” a juvenile performance of the ingenious translator of our Celtic Homer, I trust, my apology is made, in thus having stated what will so materially contribute to the further investigation of this interesting subject.

In writing the various observations contained in these volumes, I had often occasion to notice persons then living, who are since dead, circumstances relative to whom will seem greatly altered in their application ;—this, however, in some instances, was not foreseen. The venerable father of General Abercromby, greatly advanced in years, paid the debt of nature while that hero was on his expedition in the Mediterranean ; he himself too is numbered among the illustrious dead, having nobly fallen in wresting Egypt from the hands of the French. The renowned conqueror of that distant region of the earth never appeared so truly great, as on that day when Learning beheld him, on his return, with dignified modesty, seated

* See Johnson’s Journey to the Western Islands.

among his fellow-citizens in the hall of *l'Institute Nationale de France*. Nor did Abercromby, in my opinion, shine more in the midst of his most splendid military achievements, than when seen by few save his own family and immediate neighbours, while in the noiseless tenor of serene retirement superintending his rural affairs, and encouraging by his presence the indigent young ones in the school which his private bounty had founded for their instruction. The fame of Abercromby it belongs to history to record; his domestic virtues, till latest ages, to mankind to imitate.

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* See also Additional Notes—Note (C) vol. ii. p. 373.

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* Vide Stewart's Life of Robertson, just published.

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THE Author's great distance from London prevented his revising and correcting the sheets as they were printed off: he trusts, therefore, that the reader will have the goodness to make with his pen the alterations which are pointed out in the following

TABLE OF ERRATA.

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Page	Line	Page	Line
4.	5. for more than all read moreover in the foreground	154.	6. for <i>Montvaud</i> read <i>Monivaird</i>
8.	23. for antiquarian read antiquary	157.	8. for <i>Stuichachroin</i> read <i>Stuichachroin</i>
9.	9. for Here he read Now he	—	12. for <i>Braidabin</i> read <i>Braidalbane</i>
9.	5. note, for study of medicine, agriculture, read studies of medicine and agriculture	165.	3. note, for <i>Gaelic-Albanisb</i> read <i>Gaelic-Albanich</i> ; for <i>Gaelic-Erenisb</i> read <i>Gaelic-Erenich</i>
23.	10. for intervened read supervened	—	14. for <i>Ebade</i> read <i>Ebude</i>
38.	23. for Arthur's Den read Arthur's Oon	169.	2. notes, for They see the read They see the
42.	17. Loch-garric read Loch-garric	177.	22. for Highlander read Highlanders.
—	19. for counties of Moray read county of Moray; for and read at	182.	8. notes, for Daumeriez's read Daumeriez's
—	20. for and others read and other parts	185.	6. notes, for 1799 read 1779
—	1. note, for author read authors	191.	2. notes, after the word contemplation add, The PICTS are called <i>Druinich</i> in the Gaelic language; hence, it is probable, <i>Tey-nin-Druinich</i> may signify <i>Pi&rs'-houses</i>
47.	21. for prepared read laid	203.	23. for M'Nabbs read M'Nab
58.	22. for James V. read James IV.	207.	27. for there read here
62.	14. for Guardians read Guardian	209.	18. for deranged intellect read deranged in intellect
63.	1. note, for Council read Court	225.	1. for tightly read lightly
78.	26. for the Priors of <i>Infuli Sti Colmoci</i> , read the Priors of <i>Infuli Sti Colmoci</i> , and <i>Rofneib</i>	—	11. notes, for Mill of Kintyre read Mull of Kintyre
80.	26. delete the words and woody mosses,	226.	6. for rams read ram
82.	3. note, for Camelow read Camelon	231.	3. for pharmigans read ptarmigans
106.	21. for streaks read stretches	233.	1. notes, for Thichallin read Sheechalain
109.	24. for slides read steep	234.	11. for Loch-aive read Loch-awe
110.	6. for bush read birch	237.	8. notes, for Achmas's read Achmar's
118.	18. for Ballachorlish read Ballachoilish	242.	24. for Appen a Dull read Apin a Dull
122.	18. for indentions read indentations	—	4. notes, for Gantully read Garntully
124.	4. note, for Here read There	246.	1. for Fascarly read Fascaily
126.	2. for Robert Orig read Robert Oig	247.	15. for loom read gloom
133.	6. for in 1688 read 1788	253.	19. for <i>Carn-mbic-Shini</i> read <i>Carn-mbic-chimi</i>
14.	1. note, for Achmor's read Achmar's		
147.	3. for <i>Craig-na-co-beily</i> read <i>Craig-na-co-beilg</i>		
149.	8. for wings read winds		
151.	19. for Edinship read Edinchip		
152.	22. for and the subsequent read and also the establishment		

Page	Line	Page	Line
254.	2. <i>for Port-au-elien, Faiskarly, read</i>	321.	14. notes, <i>for Balcherfly read</i> Bareans
	Port-an-elien, Fascaily	332.	20. <i>for suppositious read</i> supposititious
255.	4. notes, <i>for Birnglo read</i> Bengloe	341.	5. <i>for villeins read</i> villains
263.	9. <i>for fine read</i> few	350.	9. <i>for porpyhic read</i> porphyric
273.	18. <i>for Cairbad read</i> Carbair	—	18. notes, <i>for united kingdoms read</i>
274.	8. <i>for au read</i> an		united kingdom
278.	16. <i>for Meiklom read</i> Meiklour	351.	10. <i>for fruit-trees read</i> forest-trees
284.	12. <i>for I presumed read</i> I perfume	358.	7. <i>for sixteenth century read</i> seven-
290.	10. <i>after pile read</i> (the cathedral of		teenth century
	Dunkeld)	359.	16. <i>for the residence read</i> once the
296.	4. notes, <i>for Rieth read</i> Kietb		residence
304.	2. notes, <i>for Aberberlemny read</i>	360.	6. <i>for designed read</i> desired
	Aberlemny	380.	5. notes, <i>for Duntan read</i> Duntau
307.	24. <i>for render read</i> renders	392.	1. <i>for threshing read</i> the threshing
310.	6. <i>for John Barland read</i> John Bor-		machine
	land	400.	18. <i>for Geenlaw read</i> Greenlaw
313.	14. <i>for eight thousand read</i> eight hun-	408.	5. notes, <i>for rebuilt read</i> repaired
	dred		

A

JOURNEY, &c.

ON his departure from Edinburgh to Stirling, and the various districts through which the traveller passes in the journey described in the following sheets, let him proceed westward by Princes Street; on entering which, a far extended row of houses, pretty uniformly arranged, leads the eye in linear perspective; and, as a contrast on the left, the old town seems fantastically piled on the steep ascent that abruptly terminates in the rock on which Edinburgh castle appears. As we advance, the huge mass of this rock, from top to bottom, is seen impending in full grandeur over what once contained an unhealthy pool, called the North-loch; on the west bank of which stands St. Cuthbert's church surrounded by tomb-stones; the lengthening shadow, and deepening gloom of which, when seen at sun-set, is in fine harmony with the castle, reflecting

B

vividly

aspect of the College church ; the heights of Calton, Salisbury Craigs, and Arthur's Seat, together with the lofty masses of the old town, irregular, and but dimly discerned through smoke on the right ; and on the left, the clean, elegant, lengthening and spreading new town ; and, more than all, St. Cuthbert's church, over which impending, gloomy and wild, seated on its dark cliffy steep, the Castle frowns, adding solemn dignity to this uncommon scene.

As we proceed on our journey, we arrive at a spacious opening on the left, called the Lothian-road. This road had been the subject of much speculation long before it was made. At last, however, a gentleman undertook, for an inconsiderable wager, to make this piece of road, about a quarter of a mile in length, and in many parts twenty paces in breadth, so far passable with one day's labour, as that he might drive over it in safety with his carriage ; which, to the surprise of all who had heard of, or witnessed this whimsical undertaking, he accomplished ; and thus gained his bet. The difficulties to be surmounted in this arduous attempt, were various and intricate. The line of road was almost straight, and lay through fields, orchards, gardens, and a multiplicity of small houses. Lest any one, therefore, whose property in this direction might suffer injury when removing obstructions, should take the alarm, and make application for legal means, which would at least retard, if not prevent such unusual and summary procedure, it was necessary to be secret and expeditious. Accordingly, matters were concerted with address, and executed with promptitude. It happened to be winter, when the labouring poor, in general, are out of employ, and a day's work now and then is all they have to depend on for a precarious

carious and scanty subsistence ; of course, a sufficient number of hands were easily procured, and at no great expence. Many hundreds appeared on the ground at sun-rise on this eventful day—a day of much mirth to some ; while others had cause sufficient to lament the ravages of a very few hours. Parties filed off to various occupations : Some to demolish houses ; others to pull down dikes :—Some to root up hedges ; others to cut down trees : in short, this ruthless band continued their depredations with unwearied assiduity ; and before the fall of night, they had accomplished their business of destruction, as was then the opinion of some persons :—but it evidently appears now to have been productive of public utility.

Among the many scenes of temporary distress which this unexpected invasion occasioned, that experienced by a simple old woman is supposed to have been one of the most ludicrous incidents of the day. Long before day-light, the good, easy soul had milked her cows, (for, being a milk-woman, such was her usual occupation)—her pipe smoked, and tea taken—(the essence of this precious herb being the chief luxury of the poor)—all things were in readiness for her departure to serve her customers ; but, recollecting that a few friends were to eat some *sheep's-head-broth* with her at mid-day, she, with great composure, prepared the *kail-pot*, put in the accustomed ingredients, and left it on the fire, so that it might simmer undisturbed till she should, on her return, cook it leisurely to her satisfaction. Judge of her surprise and disappointment, however ; on her return, neither pot, nor fire, neither house, *byre*, nor cows, were in the places where she had left them ! for all had suffered a material
and

and radical change, having been swept away in the general wreck!

We turn now to the right, and, proceeding through the turnpike, take the road to the left, straight on, till we fall in with the great road that leads to Stirling, by Linlithgow and Falkirk.

The first object worthy of attention is a bridge thrown over the Water of Leith, called the *Colt-bridge*. On each side of this spot very pleasing views are already composed; and with slender additions, which are at hand, interesting subjects for the pencil might be sketched.

This river, the most considerable stream in the immediate vicinity of the metropolis, has its origin in the Pentland hills; which, as we proceed, are seen on the left, stretching far to the westward. The flour, barley, corn, paper, and other mills on the Water of Leith are very numerous; but, it is highly to be regretted, that this once pellucid stream is now so much contaminated by what runs into it from vile distilleries, and other loathsome matter from the tan-works, &c. that, though it formerly was the haunt of the finest trout in Scotland, it has almost become barren of fish, is unhealthful to drink, and nearly useless for culinary purposes.—This is a public grievance, and ought strictly to be inquired into; for, is there any thing so essential to our comforts and existence as water, pure as it issues from its uncontaminated sources?

Nearly opposite to the bridge, a little to the right, is Murrayfield. At the second mile stone, pleasantly situated on the shoulder (facing the south) of Corstorphin-hill, is the villa of Belle-mont. As we advance, two or three more such retreats
are

are seen judiciously situated, and appear to be in a chaster stile of architecture than those of Belle-mont*.

A little way beyond the second mile stone, as we ascend a gentle eminence, on looking towards Edinburgh, we command a striking prospect of that city and its environs. The town seems as emerging from a wood, to rise in mid-air, and make part of the craggy rudeness of Arthur's Seat and its cliffs. The hills to the right, the principal among which is Craig-Lockhart, form side-wings admirably adapted to the grandeur of the scene. The middle ground is filled up with modern villas, and a few old mansions, that catch with peculiar effect such floating-lights as occasionally illumine and add grandeur in a breadth of light and shade to this interesting prospect.

Among the ancient buildings which are discernible from this spot, White-house and Merchiston-house are the most conspicuous. The latter of these venerable relicks of former times is worthy of notice, as having been the chief residence of NAPIER, “ the famous inventor of the Logarithms, the person to whom “ the title of GREAT MAN is more justly due, (says Hume,) than “ any other whom his country ever produced †.” Napier, like the great NEWTON, was endowed with the brightest ornament of genius and learning,—modesty: and he knew, like him, how to appreciate the talents of others, with all the candour which a magnanimous mind is capable of feeling. This was exemplified

* In the year 1745, when the Duke of Cumberland, in his route northward to quell the commotions which existed at that period in Scotland, remarked, in passing, that Belle-mont was the handsomest villa he had met with north of the Tweed:—a proof, how low a degree of architectural taste prevailed at that period in Scotland.

† Hume's Hist. vol. vii. p. 35. 8vo edit. 1775.

About a quarter of a mile further on, the road takes a sudden turn to the right ; and again, nearly at right angles, to the left ; when it proceeds straight forward in the direction of N. W. The line from which the first turn is made, is the new line of road by Bathgate to Glasgow ; in all respects preferable to the old one, which leads by Livingston, Whiteburn, &c.

On gaining the height, a little beyond the fourth mile-stone, a neat box is seen to the right, very pleasantly situated, and commanding an extensive prospect, particularly to the north and north-west. The name of the farm on which this house stands is *Eastercraigs*.—Still ascending, the horizon becomes more ample and interesting at every step. As we approach the fifth mile-stone, the fertile plains of *West-Lothian* open to the left : they are bounded on the south by the Pentland hills, whose verdure appears deepened into ruffet and purple, softened by gradations into various tints of azure ; till, in the distance, remote objects vanish in aerial perspective, or melt into the sky, where clouds, ever-varying, enrich and harmonize the whole. Turning now to the right, the distant prospect is sublime. Here we first discern the Grampians. Ben-ledi, whose top seems to reach the heavens, is the chief object discoverable. It is, however, but an inconsiderable link in the grand chain of mountains, beyond which the Caledonians retired to their fastnesses ; where the Roman eagle, appalled, stopped short and paused, but ventured not in pursuit of its prey ; while, unsubdued and secure, and preferring liberty to splendid slavery, the hardy inhabitants embraced poverty and independence, far remote, amid the wilds and solitudes of desolated Albion.

The Ochil hills, which meet the Grampians beyond Stirling Castle, form a bold feature as they stretch along the north side of the Frith of Forth; a glimpse of which is caught as the eye surveys the more distant objects. The small islands of Inch-Garvey and Inch-Colm, with others still smaller, are seen to considerable advantage, when a stream of light happens to take the direction of the coast. While the distance is softened in ærial tints, and the fore-ground deepened into shade, even a prospect of this magnitude becomes interesting to the *lover of landscape*; but to one who sees not with the painter's enthusiasm, and practised eye, in vain does Nature display her enchanting hues and finest forms; he feels not the emotions which these are calculated to call forth; they neither allure nor afford satisfaction.

On *Inch-Colm* are to be distinctly seen, at this distance, the ruins of a monastery founded by Alexander I. about the middle of the twelfth century, in grateful remembrance of his having escaped the perils of shipwreck. Here, it is said, the Scottish monarch, while tempest-bound for *three days*, experienced the kind attention of a hermit who ministered in the chapel of this insulated solitude; but, as might be expected, the hermit's *bill of fare* was but indifferently suited to a royal palate, even in those rude times; a scanty supply of shell-fish, and the milk of *one cow*, being all that this holy man was able to procure for the entertainment of his guest*. If this story be credible, it will readily occur, that in case any of the king's suite had the good fortune to be saved on this island, the hermit must have been sadly put

* H. Boece (Boethius), lib. xii. p. 263.

to a nonplus how to supply their wants ; perhaps they gathered crabs, oysters, and other shell-fish, while he milked his cow, and dressed cockles. Be this as it might, the king, sensible of the special interference of Providence in his preservation, vowed to perpetuate the event, by founding the monastery of St. Augustine above mentioned, and dedicating it to *St. Colomba* * as a free-will offering for his supposed interposition on this critical occasion.

On the near ground, on either hand, and indeed in every direction, farm-houses and gentlemen's seats appear profusely scattered, many of which seem snugly sheltered amid inclosures and pleasure-grounds ; while others appear exposed to the inclemencies of the weather.

The agricultural improvements effected in this district within these few years are truly in a superior stile. Land, that not ten years ago was scarcely worth twenty shillings the acre, is now hardly to be got for fifty shillings. The high crooked ridges have vanished ; a plough with four horses is not to be met with ; quagmires are rarely to be seen ; whins have disappeared ; and the act of parliament is become obsolete wherein broom is enacted to be sown at stated periods †. The rural economy is entirely changed, and changed in all respects for the better. The tenant vies in the comforts, nay, in the luxuries of life, with the land-holder ; and, were the farmers less ambitious of

* “ Qui, servitio sancti Colombæ deditus, ad quamdam inibi capellulam tenui victu, utpote lacte unius vaccæ & conchis ac pisciculis marinis contentatus, sedulè se dedit : de quibus “ cibariis Rex, cum suis, tribus diebus vento compellente, reficitur.” Vide Hope's Min. Pract. p. 415.

† See Regiam Majestatem.

the mere exteriors of good-living, it is possible that the savings of a lease might go far towards purchasing the farm which their knowledge and industry have rendered valuable by improved modes of cultivation. Beside the want of due regard to economy in the articles of living, two very material obstacles present themselves to the farmer in the vicinity of a city such as Edinburgh; namely, the moor-land cultivator; and the city speculator. The latter, dreaming of the pleasures of a country life, longs to commence agriculturist, and applies his capital, or a great part of it, to stocking a farm, snug and commodious, whither he may retire, occasionally, from the bustle and noise of a town life. The former, that is, the moorland farmer, weary of a precarious, and at best an unprofitable toil in upland districts, (where the labours of the year frequently prove abortive, by means of the sudden and unfavourable changes of the seasons, the fodder being rendered almost unfit for any purpose but the dung-hill, and the corn not only defective, but also the scanty produce hardly eatable by man or beast) sees with an eye of envy and discontent, as he goes forth to his labour, (for the moorland farmer puts his hand to every kind of work,) the farmer of the lowland districts basking in the sun-shine of prosperity in all his undertakings. Feeling, in consequence, an irresistible desire to change his situation, for what he deems, and he is certainly right, a less toilsome and a more certain mode of securing the benefits of his talents and industry, he hesitates not, when the expiration of a lease approaches, to make *secret* offers for his more opulent neighbour's farm. Thus, the thriving tenant, who thought himself secure in the rewards of his care and attention in cultivating to the utmost what prejudice
and

and habit have no small share in rendering dear to him, finds, to his inexpressible anguish, his farm given to another! while the insidious smiles of a *factor*, whose rapacity is excessive, delude him into hope till the very last moment, and the first notice that awakens him from his security is a legal warning of removal. It happens too, not unfrequently, that this *precious factor* contrives, by means inscrutable to all but such accomplished speculators, to get farms into his own hand; and jobs on at a great rate; till, perhaps, at length, the property becomes his own!—In this there is surely something radically wrong, otherwise this evil could be checked in the bud.

In descending, we traverse the plain which appeared in front, and fall in with *Gogar-burn*, a small rivulet tributary to the *Almond*, over which we pass on a handsome bridge built of free stone, and enter the *shire of Linlithgow*. Being now on classic ground, an historical incident may be noticed, as we survey the level fields through which the river sweeps in ample windings.

When EDWARD I. in 1298 invaded Scotland, in advancing to Falkirk, where he had to encounter WALLACE in battle, it was near this spot that he commanded his troops to halt, and pitch their tents. A liberal portion of wine was immediately ordered to be distributed throughout the camp. This, however, had by no means the effect intended: on the contrary, no sooner had the fumes of the wine affected the brains of the hot-headed Welchmen, than a quarrel arose between them and the English. The Welch, only recently subdued by Edward, seemed but lukewarm in an expedition planned for the avowed purposes of subjugating a high-minded, independent people, like themselves.

Whether

Whether the English observed this disposition in their Welch auxiliaries, and loaded them, in consequence, with reproach, is not ascertained: but mutual hatred produced a bloody contest, in which many fell on both sides; and not a few of the English ecclesiastics, perhaps endeavouring to appease the wrath of the combatants, suffered in the combat.

Although this event was followed by the Welch troops withdrawing themselves from the main body of the army; yet, in the subsequent battle at Falkirk, the English were triumphant. But this blow, so severely felt by the Scottish patriots, subdued not that spirit of independence which finally prevailed; and which so nobly manifested itself on the day when BRUCE led on the heroes of Bannockburn, and snatched the palm of victory from the merciless invader. For his having thus asserted the rights of an imperial crown, a generous and free-born people bestowed it on him; and he justly merited the boon, as the reward of his sufferings, prudence, and courage.

As we approach *Kirkliston*, its appearance is but mean; on passing a small stream to the west, however, the scene improves. The ground on which it stands being elevated, it is seen to advantage; and on the whole, as it possesses the characteristics of an ancient Scottish village, it merits the attention of a traveller who delights in the picturesque.

The parish of Kirkliston is but small in its dimensions; being little more than five miles in length, by three in breadth. It contains about fifteen hundred inhabitants, whose pursuits are chiefly those depending on agriculture. The soil is remarkably suited to such purposes; yielding rich and abundant crops of
every

every kind hitherto tried ; more particularly green crops, such as turnip, cabbage, &c.*

A stone, called the *Catstane*, bearing an inscription †, measuring nearly three feet in diameter, by four and a half feet in height, of an irregular prismatic form, is to be met with here, and is supposed to be of considerable antiquity. ‡

As we proceed, the ruins of *Niddery-castle*, nearly opposite the tenth mile-stone, are to be seen on the left.

Gaining the eminence, we pass through the small village of *Winsburgh*, at one time noted for the propagation of bees ; a branch of rural economy which is shamefully neglected in this country of late. There is no mode of honest industry, wherein the poorest cottager, nay even the old and infirm, might more readily find agreeable recreation and means of subsistence, nor any which is better adapted to the habits and associations of a

* The celebrated warrior and statesman Field-Marshal John Earl of Stair lies buried in the church of Kirkliston:—there is no monument to record this; but should such ever be erected, let it not be forgotten that he was the first in Scotland who introduced turnips and cabbages in the open field for the use of cattle—an event more worthy of humanity and a true patriot, than the most brilliant victories, or the most splendid negotiations and treaties.—The church of Kirkliston belonged to the Johanites of Jerusalem, whose vows were 1. poverty, 2. charity, 3. obedience. “No man can be admitted (says Spottiswood) to this order, without making proof of his birth, and justifying by charters or other authentic documents his nobility for four generations, both on the father and the mother’s side. He must be born in lawful marriage, the bastards of Kings and Princes only being excepted.” Hopc’s Min. Pract. Appen. p. 481.

† Viz.

IN OCT
VMVLOIACI
VETTD
UICTA.

‡ In the year 995, according to our historians, a battle was fought near Kirkliston.

country



F. Jucker sculp

Zeichn. von der Spitze des Lindisgen Berges

Ruins of Lindisgen Palace from the East.

Printed and Published by R. & R. Colburn, Strand, London.

country life, than this pleasing branch of husbandry. A wise legislature, therefore, would do well to enact such regulations respecting the culture of bees, as might afford due encouragement to that innocent and truly useful employment.

From *Winsburgh*, we command an extensive prospect in every direction. The country is well cultivated, and improves at every step. The principal cause of this improvement is apparent when we discover *Linlithgow*; for, it is generally allowed, that cultivation of land is in proportion to the near neighbourhood of a town, and the number and industry of its inhabitants.

LINLITHGOW, or, as it is called in the Gaelic language, *Glen Euchu*, is supposed, by some of our antiquaries, to be the same as the *Lindum* of *Ptolemy*. It is an ancient burgh, and deemed the sixth in Scotland: but its decayed splendour, venerable in ruins, is still apparent, and shews that Linlithgow was a place of considerable importance, when Scotland was governed by its native princes. Yet a native prince was not the founder of the most striking remains of former magnificence to be seen at this place; as, according to Fordun, Edward I. during his campaign in Scotland anno 1301, built a castle on the site of a Roman camp, the remains of which are still visible. This castle, by order of Bruce, was demolished in part when surprized by the Scots in 1311. It was afterwards re-built, though by whom is unknown: but, it should seem, additions were made, from time to time, till the square, which still appears perfect, was completed. The front and the porch were erected by James V.; and the north side by his grandson James VI. The east side is by far the most interesting in point of elegant sculpture,

ture, and merits the attention of those who delight in this species of ornamental architecture. The west side is little better than a dead wall, gloomy, and inelegant in the extreme. What is chiefly to be admired, however, in contemplating this ruin, is its situation. The ground on which the palace of Linlithgow stands, rises in the form of an amphitheatre above the lake; a prospect of which, together with the grounds adjacent, is commanded from this spot. The church is hard by, where, it is said, James IV. was warned, by a personated apparition, not to proceed in his then meditated expedition into England; so fatal to himself and the flower of the Scottish nobility, in the memorable battle at the foot of the Flowden hills, fought September 9th, ann. 1513*.

During the greater part of his reign, James V., the son of this ill-fated prince, made Linlithgow, by his frequent residence in it, the Versailles of Scotland. The apartment is still shewn where his unfortunate daughter Mary was born; born, alas! to meet the storms of contending factions; and to experience the dire effects of the envy and jealousy of a sister queen, whose dissimulation, in meditating murder, was only exceeded by the gaiety that she displayed when signing the death-warrant of her nearest relation, Mary of Scotland.—“Go, (said she to Davidson, one of her obsequious minions,) and tell Walsingham what “I have done, though I am afraid he will die of grief when he “hears it †.” Thus did Queen Elizabeth, after detaining Mary Stuart almost nineteen years a prisoner, deliver her into the hands of the executioner.

* Pitfcottie, p. 215.

† See Robertson's Hist. of Scotland, p. 144, quarto edit. 1759.



Sketch on the spot by Alex. Toppin.

Medford road

Princ. of Lindisfarne Palace from the West

London, Deighton, Mansel & Co., for Alex. Toppin, 15, New, Abchurch Lane.

ligious establishment took place throughout Scotland as well as England*.

Linlithgow is said to be famous for wells. If the fantastic appearance of some be meant, the remark is applicable—one in particular, erected before the town-house in 1620, is sufficiently grotesque;—its construction, however, is curious.

Nearly opposite to this spot, the wooden-gallery where the assassin of the regent Murray took his stand, is pointed out. The circumstances relating to the murder of Murray, as recorded in history, are so interesting as to merit particular attention.

While Elizabeth was meditating how she should effect the ruin of Mary, an affair happened, which in no small degree disconcerted her measures. The Regent Murray, who was an avowed supporter of the Reformation, exposed himself to the rancour of the dignified clergy, and many of the most powerful of the nobility; among whom, the Hamiltons, who had warmly espoused the cause of the Scottish Queen, seemed the most implacable in their hatred to him. One of their number, James Hamilton, the nephew of John Hamilton, Archbishop of St. Andrews, (who, for imputed crimes, was condemned and executed at Stirling †) undertook to dispose of the Regent.

Murray, whose policy led him to improve every advantage which the affair at Langside had put in his power, by a well-timed moderation, not only spared the lives of many whom the fate of

* The historian Dr. Henry instituted a public library in Linlithgow, and bequeathed his valuable collection of books as a foundation for so truly liberal a design.

† 1st April 1571.

battle had thrown into his hands ; but also extended his clemency to several who had been condemned to death, and had had their lands confiscated. Among those who had experienced his favour, was James Hamilton* : Party rage, however, added to an injury sustained in the tenderest point, sunk deep into his heart, and made him lose sight of the benefit received. Part of Hamilton's lands had been given by the Regent to a favourite ; who, in the act of seizing them, turned the wife of Hamilton out of her chamber into the open fields, almost naked, and exposed to the horrors of the night. Driven to despair, before morning she became furiously mad. Hearing of the outrage, Hamilton vowed revenge : yet he deferred the execution of his purpose till the author of all this mischief should be completely in his power, so as to make sure of him ; and thus, at once, rid the world of a tyrant, his Queen of an unnatural brother, and himself of one whose death became essential to the comfort of his existence. The Regent was at Stirling, and in his way to Edinburgh had to pass through Linlithgow. Hamilton, who had watched his opportunity, seized on this favourable moment to perpetrate the horrid deed—murder ! proceeding with all the deliberation of an assassin, he took every precaution to escape observation.—And now we behold him skulking by the side of yon window which faces this way, with his piece loaded, and ready to aim the fatal blow. Meantime, Murray, who had been warned of his danger, with undaunted mien comes onward, amidst a vast croud of spectators, who view him and his attendants with admiration mingled with anxiety and dismay ; for they were not without apprehension of his danger. Arrived at the fatal

* Of Bothwellhaugh.

spot, a shot is heard: the Regent suddenly dismounts, and calls aloud, "I am wounded!"—at the same instant the horse next his own falls down in the agonies of death. One and the same bullet effected this mischief. All is consternation,—while some, roused from the sudden emotion of surprize, turn to the spot whence the report of the piece seemed to issue—Mad with rage, they attempt to burst open the door, but in vain; it is securely barricaded. The assassin, meantime, is effecting his escape. The frantic assailants, at last, find entrance:—they search everywhere; but in amazement behold with what precaution he had screened himself from the possibility of discovery during the fatal moment devoted to murder. Here lies the feather-bed on which he knelt in the very act; there hangs the sable tapestry before which he lurked in secret, calm and intent on the deed: the one to prevent the movement of his feet from being heard, the other to render his shadow imperceptible from without. These objects still more inflame the indignant spectators, who call aloud for summary and instant justice; but, secure in his flight, the assassin is off at full speed; a fleet horse bears him swiftly far out of the reach of those who seek after him. Of this they are satisfied, on discovering the breach that he had made in a garden wall at the back part of the house, to favour his escape. Their disappointment is extreme. Recollecting, however, the danger in which the Regent is plunged, they hasten to inquire whether any hope remains of saving his life: they are told, that as yet the issue is doubtful. The Regent feels the hand of death upon him, and knows that he has but a short time to live. He prepares to meet his fate, with that dignified composure which a great mind alone feels at approaching dissolution. The moment is at hand; that groan is his last.

Thus

Thus fell the Regent Murray; and in his fall the reformers sustained the loss of a zealous supporter of their cause; which Elizabeth, by her influence, soon supplied in the person of the Earl of Lenox; who, after some delay, was chosen Regent. Lenox, however, being not long after killed at an assault on Stirling, the Earl of Mar was elected in his stead. Mar, however, enjoyed this precarious and dangerous station but for a very short time. Little more than twelve months had elapsed before this patriotic and worthy Regent, disgusted with intrigue and cabal, became melancholy: disease intervened, which eventually proved fatal, and he died in October 1572. To Mar succeeded the rapacious Morton, whose odious administration became insupportable; till, in his turn, the gloomy Douglas was brought to the scaffold, and suffered the punishment usually inflicted on the worst of criminals. Such were the woeful events in this distracted corner of the island, toward the close of the sixteenth century.

Few occurrences worthy of historical notice, since the solemn League and Covenant was burnt in 1622, have taken place in Linlithgow. It is now a populous and thriving burgh. The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in the manufacture of leather shoes, in wool-combing and bleaching of linen, together with breweries and distilleries in and near the town. The number of inhabitants in the parish of Linlithgow is said to amount to 3220, the greater part of whom reside in the town. The land everywhere about this place is well cultivated. The soil, in general, is rather light; notwithstanding, by proper management, it is made to yield abundantly, particularly hay-crops. The pasturage is excellent, and rears and fattens black-cattle well.

The parish contains between seven and eight thousand acres, two thirds of which are arable. It is said, that the rental, on an average, is little more than twenty shillings per acre. The minerals about the hills in the neighbourhood of Linlithgow, beside lime-stone, are supposed to be valuable : it is remarkable, that, notwithstanding its near vicinity to Borrowstounness, a sea-port of considerable trade, no attempt has hitherto been made to explore the minerals of this district, so as to ascertain their true value.

In proceeding from Linlithgow, we pass over the Aven by a bridge, to which the town gives its name. About a mile up the river, Emanuel Priory, formerly mentioned, was situated. Still a small part of its ruins remains. On the opposite bank of this pleasant solitude, a battle was fought, during the minority of James V. between the adherents of Angus and Lenox, in which the followers of the latter were defeated with great slaughter, and their leader slain. In civil broils, such hostile meetings are usually attended with peculiar horrors ; and, in this rencounter, the carnage on both sides was truly dreadful.

ANGUS, the powerful chieftain of the Douglasses, was married to the Queen Dowager*, the mother of James V. and, through much intrigue, was appointed guardian to that young prince : but James, tired of restraint, sought occasion to rid himself of his guardian, and to get the reins of government into his own hands. Many unsuccessful attempts had been made for this purpose, which the vigilance of Angus had rendered abortive. Much blood had also flowed ; but still the young king was in

* Sister of Henry VIII. of England.

the hands of his tyrant guardian. The bold design of rescuing James, who was little better than a prisoner on parole in the castle of Edinburgh, was planned with due caution, and had nearly been carried into effect, when the fate of the battle above alluded to blasted the sanguine expectations of the royal party. The young king, who secretly hated the nobility, placed his chief confidence in his clergy; who, willing to maintain their power under the protection of regal authority, made it a principal object, by every means, to secure the influence of the crown in support of the church. Cardinal Beaton was the person in whom the young prince most confided; and to him was intrusted such means as could be devised for the ruin of Angus, and the consequent independence of the king. This subtle ecclesiastic, when informed of James's resolution, proposed putting John Stuart Earl of Lenox, the nearest of kin to the king himself, at the head of the most formidable enemies of Angus, and thus, by force of arms, obliging him to give James his freedom, and the reins of government into his own hands. With this intention, Lenox collected his strength at Stirling. Angus, hearing of his motions, made every possible effort to frustrate this plan in the very outset. Accordingly, he immediately sent directions to the Hamiltons in the west, and to the Homes and others of his friends in the south, (whom, together with his own clan and retainers, he deemed faithful to his interest,) to meet at a time appointed, in order to watch the motions of Lenox and his followers. Meanwhile the king was in the castle of Edinburgh, and affected profound ignorance of what was going forward. Secret intelligence was carried to Angus of the movements of Lenox's army, which was already on its way to Edinburgh

in three columns. The advanced guard of the Hamiltons, posted on the heights above Linlithgow on the left bank of the river Avon, descried the approach of the enemy. Lenox, with a numerous train of artillery, and infantry and cavalry composed of desperate and hardy men, many of whom were Highlanders, and not a few of the gentlemen of rank and condition of the shires of Fyfe, Angus, Stirling, Kyle, Carrick, and Cunningham, with many followers, pushed his van to the bridge above-mentioned; but, finding it already occupied by a strong detachment from the enemy, he gave orders to pass the river farther up, near to the Priory. This accomplished, they rushed boldly up the opposite bank, but were repulsed with loss. The Hamiltons, greatly inferior in point of numbers to the followers of Lenox, were elated by their success in the onset; and, every moment expecting Angus with a powerful reinforcement from Edinburgh, disputed the heights with great bravery. The battle now raged in all its fury. Angus appeared on the field with a desperate band of borderers, and came briskly to the charge. Meantime the king, who had been joined by the inhabitants of Edinburgh and Leith, came slowly on, in no wise anxious to frustrate the intentions of Lenox: but, on advancing as far as Corstorphine-hills, hearing the incessant roar of the artillery, and being sharply reprimanded by George Douglas (the brother of Angus) for his tardiness, he made all possible haste to the field of battle. A woeful spectacle now presented itself to the young monarch. The people lay mangled in promiscuous heaps. The followers of Lenox had given way, and himself lay dead on the field. The Earl of Arran stood over him weeping. His son had given the death-wound; the wretch had even
committed

committed this outrage after Lenox was made prisoner. Thus the uncle lamented the untimely fate of his nephew whom his son had butchered in cold blood. The king beheld this affecting scene with deep anguish. Such are the horrors in which civil commotions involve friends and relatives dear to each other by all the ties of humanity. O happy state of society when war shall be no more; when peace and good-will shall be established among humankind, and all our desires centre in benevolence, and a just regard to each other's comforts!

Turning our eyes from the valley where so many brave men formerly fell, we with pleasure observe, to the right, about a gun-shot or two below the bridge, that the enterprising manufacturer has reared a house of industry*; on every hand, the comfortable dwellings of the industrious are springing up. Instead of the gloomy castle and recluse nunnery, the gay villa and cheerful airy boxes (snug and sheltered from the blasts of winter, and smiling in all the loveliness of flowers and shrubbery in the milder seasons) are every where seen: and long may they be seen, and become more and more numerous, till the whole country is, as if by enchantment transformed into one extended city, intermingled with gardens, orchards, corn-fields, and commons, a land of abundance and peace.

On passing the Avon, we enter *Stirlingshire*. A little beyond the nineteenth mile-stone, to the left, is Almond-house. At the twenty-first mile-stone we fall in with the small village of Polmont: here several well-built houses are seen, and their situations are happily chosen. The village of Lauriston, pleasantly situated on a rising ground, is the next that we pass through.

* Belonging to Mr. Black's printfield.

An air of cleanliness and comfort is every where apparent about it, which greatly adds to the pleasure felt in observing the habitations of those "who toil in the lower employments of life," happy and contented in their stations, regardless of aught but how to gain sufficient to supply their immediate wants; for concerning much more they seldom seem solicitous.

A little way beyond the turnpike Callander-house appears. The house itself is not an object worthy of attention; but the decorations and improvements every where about it are in a first-rate style. Again we tread on ground celebrated in history. Near to this spot, a part of *Grime's dyke* is to be seen. This singular monument of Roman antiquity, can be distinctly traced across the country, from sea to sea*.

On looking over the map of our island, the slightest glance will discover, that this isthmus between the Friths of Forth and Clyde is the narrowest part of Britain. A range of hills, running nearly parallel to the course of the Grampian mountains, extends throughout the whole breadth of the island. "It is the westmost division of this range," says General Roy, "known by the name of the Kilsyth, or Campsey-hills, which extends beyond the north side of the isthmus between the Forth and the Clyde;" and pretty much in this direction did Agricola, in his too successful attempt to subdue the Britons, raise his second chain of forts, the vestiges of which may be distinctly traced at this day. In the reign of Antoninus Pius, Lollius Urbicus, commander of the Roman legions in Britain, following, as some suppose, the chain of forts which had been raised

* See General Roy's survey.

by his predecessor, as forming a check on the incursions of the Barbarians, constructed a rampart along this neck of land, which, he vainly supposed, was, when garrisoned by his chosen bands, impregnable. Tradition reports it, however, to have proved otherwise. GRIME, a powerful chief, with a band of desperate Britons, is said to have formed the design of surprising the Roman garrison, posted near to a place now known by the name of "Elf-hill." This he actually accomplished; and that valorous achievement is perpetuated by this stupendous piece of art, thenceforward called GRIME'S DYKE.

On entering *Falkirk*, we are apt, from its mean appearance, to form an unfavourable idea of its inhabitants; but this impression wears off when we come more narrowly to examine the bustle and industry observable as we pass on. Its vicinity to the great canal (with which, on leaving this town, we fall in, and pass under, through an aqueduct arch, constructed with much judgment, and substantially built) gives it an advantage that few towns in Scotland possess, excepting such as are situated on the principal rivers and sea-shores.

If Falkirk, on account of its inelegant appearance, be uninteresting to the traveller, the grounds adjacent will furnish him with objects sufficient to awaken his curiosity with regard to trade, commerce, and historical incident.

Before Falkirk was established as the principal mart of the north for horned-cattle, it was little better than an overgrown village, the inhabitants of which were almost without employ, and poor in the extreme. No sooner were the *tryfts* as they are called, which are held in the months of August, September, and October, resorted to by drovers from almost every part of Scotland,
and

and many parts of England, than this town became a flourishing and animated trading place.

About a mile and a half to the north-west, the Carron-company's iron-works are seen. This company established themselves in this part of the country about forty years ago, and have considerably added to the spirit of industry and speculation which, since that period, has become so prevalent throughout almost every part of Scotland. The iron-works merit the attention of the traveller, and may be viewed as objects of curious construction by day, and of picturesque appearance, or rather sublimity, by night. On beholding the dark-rolling smoke mingle, as it were, with the surrounding flashes that burst incessantly from the great forges, ideas of being in the neighbourhood of a volcano, are naturally suggested, and afford a pleasure analogous to what is felt in contemplating the sublime in nature.

The erection of the iron-works at Carron was soon succeeded by a piece of art no less complicated than the vast apparatus of the great forges. This was the *Canal*; a monument of lasting celebrity, which, in a striking manner, marks the commercial spirit of the times. This canal joins the Atlantic ocean with the German sea, and insulates South and North Britain. Of the many inventions and contrivances to facilitate the extension of commerce, none more interests the mind accustomed to reflection, than the constructing of navigable canals; more especially, when obstacles in their aspect formidable, and almost insuperable, are subdued and rendered useful. An eminent instance presents itself in the whole course of the great canal that joins the rivers Forth and Clyde, passing through a tract of nearly forty miles, great part of which is marshy, and in no small degree

degree mountainous ; where cargoes, the produce of remotest regions, are safely landed, amid the wilds through which it is conducted ;—where the Romans in vain constructed a barrier, that was to mark the bounds of their conquest on the North, and to exclude a people whom to reduce by force of arms was found too arduous for that power which had hurled empires into ruin, and subjugated millions to the rapacity of ruthless conquerors.

The circumjacent grounds present to the classic traveller the former theatre of those obstinate and bloody contests, which so often blur the page of Scottish history.

About a mile to the right, on the banks of the Carron, Wallace was vanquished ; and Scottish valour had nearly sunk in his overthrow. From nearly the spot where, towards the end of the thirteenth century, the English army triumphed over the devoted Scots, did the royal army of England, about the middle of the eighteenth century, attack a handful of Highlanders ; but with very different fortune ; for no sooner had these daring sons of the mountains charged the veteran troops of the Elector of Hanover, than a general rout ensued : the royal army, panick struck, fled as far as Linlithgow, where they set fire to the palace, and did other mischief in their precipitate retreat. The Highlanders, neglecting to reap the advantage which so decisive a stroke had put in their power, gave over the pursuit ; and, while loitering in the town of Falkirk, an unfortunate accident which took place at this critical juncture greatly conduced to throw a damp on the success of the arms of the unfortunate Charles Stuart. While a soldier of the rebel-army was cleaning his musquet, it went off, and its contents were lodged in the body
of

of a highland chieftain, who died in consequence. This accident proved no less fatal to the man in whose possession the piece was found ; for he was led forth, without ceremony, and shot dead on the spot by his own comrades ;—such being the sacrifice which they deemed indispensable to the manes of their unfortunate leader. Deeply affected at the irreparable loss they had sustained, the mountaineers retired in dismay to their fastness ; and thus the cause in which they had embarked was subjected to a temporary derangement, eventual miscarriage, and all the horrors attendant on a civil insurrection when unsuccessful.

Many families of condition suffered severely in the fruitless enterprize alluded to : but none more keenly felt the dire effects of civil war than the family of Monro of Foulis*. Three brothers fell : two were murdered in cold blood ; and the third was assassinated, his murderers mistaking him for a person whom they sought after in vain. An elegant inscription, in Latin, to the memory of Sir Robert Monro, is to be seen in the churchyard of Falkirk ; as is also another epitaph, sacred to the memory of John de Graham, emphatically called the right arm of Wallace, who fell combating the enemies of his country, at the memorable battle of Falkirk, fought on the 22d of July, 1298 †. The hero of this memorable battle, William Wallace, was an instance

* Chief of that name.

† *Mente manumque potens, et Vallæ fides Achates,
Conditur hic Gramus, bello interfectus Anglis.*

Vivit post funera virtus,—is the motto inscribed about his arms.

In Scots Saxon, the following :

Here lyes Sir John the Grame, baith wight and wife,
Ane of the worthies rescuit Scotland thrice ;

instance of those latent virtues and military talents which burst forth on some casual exigence, when public spirit and national independence seem prostrate, and almost extinct. That high degree of disinterested patriotism, magnanimity, and virtue, displayed in the conduct of Wallace, might be claimed with pride by any nation. His actions are worthy of remembrance; for he nobly fought for the liberties of his devoted country, and perished in the attempt to re-establish its independence.

When the independence of Scotland was first called in question, Edward I. at a time when the right to the crown was submitted to his decision*, made little scruple in annexing the regal dignities to those of England; thus enslaving the people, and gratifying his boundless ambition. Yet, strange as it may seem, it is no less certain, that, though neither of the competitors for the Scottish crown acknowledged his pretensions, they both tamely submitted; the one because he was unable to maintain his pretensions; the other being content to hold, under the degrading suffrage of a tyrant, the mock dignities of royalty, on the humiliating conditions of fealty and feudal tenure.

Ane better knight not to the world was lent,
Nor was gude Game of truth and hardiment.

When Cromwell, in his progress northward, had stationed his English troops at Falkirk, one of his officers wished to have the Latin epitaph translated, which accordingly was done by a schoolmaster, in the following words:

Of mind and courage strong, and Wallace' true Achates,
Here lies Sir John the Graham, kill'd by the English baties.

A little to the left, a stone unpolished, and without an inscription, marks the spot where another warrior was laid, namely John Stuart the brave ancestor of the present family of Bute, who commanded that day a division of the Scottish army, and fell in the battle, covered with wounds.

* By consent of the competitors, Bruce and Baliol, on the extinction of the royal line in the person of Alexander III.

F

Edward,

Edward, having accomplished his design, no sooner found himself master of the liberties and independence of Scotland, by having placed the timid Baliol on the throne, than he thought it time to reap the advantages of his newly-acquired power. There is a point, however, below which degraded humanity sinks not. Wallace, who from early infancy beheld the thralldom in which his countrymen were held by their oppressors, thirsted for revenge, and seized every occasion to indicate his intention of one day delivering his country from tyranny. Being in the private station of a country gentleman, narrow in his circumstances, and of course possessing little influence, his valour, joined to prudence and a high regard to truth and honour, were all that he had to recommend him to notice at his first entrance on the glorious task of chasing hence the rapacious minions of the ambitious Edward.

No sooner had Wallace erected the standard of freedom, than the bold spirit of independence revived; and Scottish warriors, fearless of the consequences, rushed boldly to the field, resolved to regain their lost liberties, or perish in the attempt. Much blood had already flowed in skirmishes, in which Wallace not unfrequently proved victorious; and his chosen few thus gaining skill in arms, and confidence in their own prowess, encouraged others to join them in what at first appeared a vain and fruitless enterprise. A spirit of independence, once aroused, spread rapidly through every denomination of patriots. That timidity and jealousy which weigh down the enthusiasm of infant enterprise decayed apace; and in their stead, confidence in each other, a cordial union of interest, together with a thorough

rough conviction of the importance and justice of their cause, powerfully stimulated the Scots to make one glorious effort to obtain the consummation of their wishes.

Wallace, who by this time found himself at the head of a powerful army, saw nothing before him but victory, and the consequent emancipation of his countrymen. At this critical period Edward was in France, and heard with concern that his power was not only rapidly on the decline in the north, but that the Scottish nobles, in defiance of their solemn engagements to him as their *Liege Lord*, had actually thrown off the mask, and spurned his attempts to subdue them. A feudal King is but the creature of conventional compact; and such the English monarch found himself, when the Scottish aristocracy, worthy the admiration of after-ages, made a bold effort to free themselves and their adherents from foreign slavery, hateful, as degrading in the extreme.

The Scottish army, led on by Wallace, now chosen Generalissimo, and guardian of the kingdom under Baliol, was triumphant every where. That of the English, headed by Edward in person (who had made peace with France, in order to re-establish his power in the north), was rapidly advancing to quell the insurrection; when, at Falkirk, Wallace awaited the issue of a hostile meeting, which was to restore independence to Scotland, or once more sink it under the uplifted arms of a ruthless invader. But Wallace was now to experience a reverse of fortune. Envy engendered jealousy and distrust among the Scottish leaders, and this eventually proved the ruin of their cause. Edward was not ignorant of these circumstances, on which he had more dependance than on the success of his

arms. Hence his eager desire to bring the event to a crisis, which as yet appeared doubtful, or at best hazardous. He well knew, that to oppose a bold and impetuous band of veterans, dauntless as invincible, accustomed to success and victory, determined to conquer or die, was an enterprize of no small magnitude; especially as he found himself far distant from whatever succours exigencies might require; and it must be allowed, that few, except Edward, notwithstanding his knowledge of the existing discontents in the Scottish camp, were to be found competent to so arduous an undertaking. He had, however, no alternative. Every thing most dear to him was at stake. His reputation as a soldier, his wisdom as a politician, his power as a sovereign prince, and his claims as a conqueror, were motives that imperiously urged him to hazard the eventful issue of a pitched battle. Accordingly, he determined to attack the arch-rebel Wallace; he, whom none could subdue, save Edward the conqueror of Wales.

Both armies were now in sight of each other. From the height on which Falkirk is situated, Edward beheld the Scottish army advantageously posted about a mile to the north west. Wallace, who had by this time been informed of Edward's intentions to attack him, drew out his troops in three divisions and prepared for the combat. A dispute now arose among the Scottish chieftains as to who should lead the van. Edward, apprized of this circumstance, seized the favourable moment, and charged with great fury. Cummin of Banenoch and his followers, the flower of the Scottish army, had marched off in disgust. The division commanded by Stuart of Bute, and that supported by Wallace, received the whole shock of Edward's onset. Each
army

army fought with unheard-of bravery: but, overpowered by numbers, Wallace was forced to give way, and the rout became general and bloody. BRUCE had mingled in the fray, and the battle raged in all its horrors wherever he directed. Wallace and Bruce met: the combat was terrible. They separated, but agreed to meet again; and they kept their appointment.

Meanwhile the Scottish army, retreating beyond the Carron in the greatest disorder, were scattered in every direction; for their leaders were either slain, or lay wounded on the field of battle. Edward, exulting in his good fortune, gave over the pursuit, and the same evening retired to Linlithgow, in order to refresh his troops.

When Wallace had collected together as many of the fugitives as he could find, and conducted them to a safe retreat, he went, according to appointment, to the river side, where Bruce awaited his coming on the opposite bank. Bruce demanded a conference; to which Wallace readily consented. They both proceeded to a convenient spot, at which the river is narrow, and its banks pretty steep; and Bruce began the conference nearly as follows: "Great as thou art esteemed, in wisdom as in valour, why tarnish so fair a reputation by persisting in the madness that seems to possess thee, in thus lengthening out a bloody contest, which this day's woeful experience should teach thee must eventually terminate in ruin and disgrace to us and our dearest interests? Or hath some dæmon whispered thee, that the crown shall be offered thee by a misguided populace, as the reward of thy"—Here Wallace interrupted him, and indignantly replied: "No, Bruce! my aim is far above so poor, so fordid an end, as to claim a kingdom to which I have no title either

ther by birth or fortune, as the reward of my services. Far different are the motives that stimulate me in the glorious career, in which most willingly I shall spill the last drop of my blood. Open thine eyes, Bruce, and see thy true interest involved in the cause that I have espoused. Shall I ask thee to whom the kingdom doth appertain rightfully? Is it not to thyself? Instead, then, of fighting under the banners of a usurper, the tyrant of many slaves, turn from him quickly; assert thine own right; gather together thine own people; under thee, they will, even yet, maintain their independence, and chase the tyrant Edward to his own dominions. If so glorious an end suit not thy mind, go, and follow the fortunes of Edward; be the minion of his ambition; hug thy chains in security: while I, the sport of uncertainty and the chance of war, will embrace honest poverty, and die free in defence of my country and its dearest rights*." So saying, they parted, each to his associates in arms; the one to feast at the celebration of the victory; the other, to bury the slain, and to mourn the fate of his best generals, his bosom friends, and valiant countrymen.

In traversing the field of battle, Wallace must have observed objects that recalled to his remembrance the fate of his devoted country when subjugated by the Romans. At a ford in the immediate neighbourhood of Arthur's Den, the mangled remains of the Scottish army had to pass the Carron, while their valiant leader, with a chosen band of warriors, covered their retreat. Here, as may easily be imagined, the greatest carnage took place: and here too, and about half way between the wall of Antoninus, was the other scene of action.

* Buchanan, Lib. viii.

Near to the Carron works the Lacellum, or little pantheon, called, by the vulgar, *Arthur's Oon**, formerly flood. This singular monument of Roman antiquity was nearly entire till the year 1742, when Sir Michael Bruce, the proprietor, caused it to be razed to the ground, in order to complete a mill-dam for which he was partly in want of materials.

The Carron, though now dwindled to an inconsiderable stream, has every appearance of having, at no very remote period, been a river of considerable magnitude; and there is reason to suppose that, so late as the time when the Romans were in possession of Britain, the sea flowed up as far as Camelon, a station then occupied by them, "where (it is said) some traces of their port are still visible †."

As we pass through a village, about a mile beyond Falkirk, that takes its name from the ancient Camelon, from the circumstance of some of the stones dug out from the ruins of that Roman station, forming part of the dwelling houses formerly built, we strike off to the right, being the road to Stirling, (that on our left leading to Glasgow,) and soon after cross over the Carron. On looking back toward the south, we perceive the site of the ancient *Camelon*, through which the military way passed, that ran through great part of England, and entered Scotland at the Solway Frith, passed through Annandale and Clydesdale to Glasgow, and so on across the isthmus in the direction of Agricola's chain of forts and the wall of Antoninus, through Camelon to the Carron; from thence it is seen a little to the west of the village of Larbert, in a direction toward Stirling.

* At Pennycuick, a model is erected of Arthur's Oon. † General Roy's survey.

as straight as the nature of the grounds through which it passes will admit. It is said, indeed, that the line of direction in which the Roman causeway was conducted, is the shortest by far from Falkirk to Stirling*.

The village of Larbert, through which we direct our course, is situated on an eminence, commanding an extensive view of the country around. Not many years since, a mount, somewhat resembling a watch tower in all probability, was extant, which was an advanced post of the Romans, while their camp was at Camelon, which lies on the opposite side of the Carron, as above-mentioned: but no part of it now remains, it having necessarily been removed when the road was made to pass directly through the village.

The parish of *Larbert* is now united to that of *Dunipace*; these united parishes extend from east to west eight, and from north to south two, miles; and contain between five and six thousand persons: the Carron iron-works employ a thousand of the number.

Dunipace is mentioned in our Scottish histories as the spot where national affairs were wont to be adjusted; and treaties of peace are said to have been finally agreed on and solemnly ratified at this place.

A little beyond the twenty-eighth mile stone, we enter the *Torwood*, once a considerable forest of oakwood; but now scarcely a vestige of its former grandeur remains. Here Wallace lurked in imminent danger, but was able to elude the search of his enemies. About a mile to the left, the spot is pointed

* This way must have been that over which Agricola led his forces beyond the Forth in his sixth campaign; it was afterwards used in the expedition of Severus and Caracalla.

out to the enquiring traveller, where that hero is said to have often reposed under a favourite oak; not a relic of it, however, is now to be seen; for, like Shakespear's mulberry-tree, it has been carried off piece-meal, as something sacred and invaluable*. The diameter of this tree is said to have been eleven or twelve feet; which, if true, was a greater size than any to be found at this period in Scotland, except in a wood the property of the Duke of Hamilton, in Lanarkshire, where there are still some oak trees of great size and age.

The decay of oak wood in Scotland is a matter of national regret. The *Sylva Caledonia*, mentioned by Pliny and the Scottish historian Boethius, can hardly be traced. It is not improbable, that the out-skirts of the *Sylva Caledonia* extended eastward as far as the Torwood; for it is generally allowed, that its commencement was a little beyond Stirling, and that it extended over mountains and vallies through the greater part of the highlands of Scotland. Even at this day it can be traced, though indistinctly, in almost every direction beyond Stirling; particularly to the north and west. In the mofs of Kincardine, fragments of oak wood of considerable size are to be met with everywhere beneath the surface of the mofs †. The theory of mofs

* The little knoll on which the tree stood, is surrounded by a marsh, through which something like a causeway leads to the knoll. These appearances have given rise to some fanciful conjectures; among others, that this spot might have been a place of sacrifice, in former times, when Druids offered human victims.

The present Earl of Buchan a few years ago presented General Washington with a snuff-box made of a fragment of Wallace's oak.

Since the above was written, the great Washington has paid the debt of nature. By his will he directed the snuff box to be returned to the original donor, to be disposed of as he may think proper.—See Washington's Will.

† The *Great Michael*, a ship of war built by James IV. is said to have exhausted the greater part of the oak wood in Fyfe.—See Pittscotie's history.

is now well understood, and proved to be formed by the gradual decay of wood *. This is manifest in all our northern districts. Huge piles of oak are found, trunks of enormous dimensions appear, and fragments of pines and other species of wood are to be met with throughout the mountains and vallies, and on the banks of our lakes and rivers, and sea-shores ; which are so many incontestable proofs in support of the opinion with regard to the extent of the Sylva Caledonia.

The remains of forests through the western parts of Perthshire and Argyleshire, and beyond the Forth northwards, are still evident ; the same appearances may frequently be seen in the northern parts of Perthshire and Inverness-shire, where considerable tracts of country were anciently forests of great extent ; the proprietors yet reaping the advantages which their remains are capable of yielding. From Kinloch-leven, the western extremity of Inverness-shire, along the shores of Loch-eil, Loch-arkaig, Loch-locha, Loch-oich, Loch-garric, Loch-ness, Strath-glas, Glen-morison, and Loch-loyn, forests were, till very lately, to be found. This was also the case in the counties of Moray † and Abernethy, and others on the banks of the Spey, where, so late as the year 1728, masts of 50 and 70 feet in length were procured for the navy ‡. Unless some speedy and effectual means, however, be fallen upon to lessen the demand for, and promote the growth of firs and oaks in this island, the period may arrive, and perhaps it is at no great distance, when, to the un-

* This opinion has been controverted by some late author.—See Anderson, &c.

† The counties of Ross and Sutherland also contain forests of considerable extent.

‡ The late ingenious Aaron Hill was superintendant of the forests of Abernethy at that time. See his life, Brit. Poet.

speaking detriment of its inhabitants, these most essential articles may no longer be found.

On leaving the Torwood, we proceed through a tract of country, which, though well enough cultivated, is but poor in point of soil, and bare in its general appearance: but towards the Forth the land is exceedingly fertile; and gentlemen's seats, delightfully situated on its banks, are sheltered amid inclosures of thriving plantations. Among others, that of the Abyssinian traveller, Bruce of Kinnaird, is most deserving of attention; with much expence, and no small degree of trouble, he, soon after returning to his native country, here fitted up a museum, in which are deposited the curiosities procured by him in his travels.

On passing over a piece of moor-land near the thirty-second mile-stone, we perceive, a few miles distant, the Castle and Town of Stirling. When at this distance, the traveller fancies a resemblance of Stirling to Edinburgh; but, on a nearer approach, the seeming resemblance vanishes, and he is satisfied that the similitude is very trifling indeed.

On our way to Stirling (at the thirty-third mile stone) we pass through the village of Bannockburn, now pretty much extended on the steep banks of the rivulet from which its name is derived. The spot that we here tread, is that on which the English forces under Edward II. met with an overthrow, the effects of which secured for a time the independence of the Scottish throne and the peace of the nation.

No event, in which human blood flowed in profusion, is recorded by the Scottish historians, with a greater degree of that national pride which is common to most people, than the me-

morable battle fought on the 24th July, 1314, between the English and Scottish armies, on the fields about Bannockburn.

The victories of Poitiers and Cressy have been celebrated with all that energy and glow of colouring with which the historians of England usually decorate their illumined page; but defeats are by them thrown into shade. This is pardonable on the score of national predilection. The same indulgence which their partiality claims on such occasions, is here expected, while a few of the leading circumstances relating to the victory obtained by the Scots, under the royal standard of Robert de Bruce, are narrated in this place.

Our poets and historians dwell with admiration on the heroism displayed in the eventful life of the valiant Bruce. At one time we view him a satellite of the English court; at another, asserting the rights of his country: unfortunate in his career of glory, we behold him a fugitive, wandering among the mountains, friendless, and unknown: but, ere long, his better fortune beckons him to the field, where victory awaited the valour of his arms.

National enthusiasm being excited, the indignant nobles crowded to the standard of the grandson of him who was the competitor of Baliol for the imperial diadem. Every man felt for the independence of his country; and all resolved to conquer or die in the common cause; the justice of which the sword alone was competent to decide.

Many combats were gallantly sustained by the Scots, though unattended with success, before the decisive battle, now about to be described, was fought, which effectually disappointed the hopes of Edward of Carnarvon, and totally defeated his purpose

to reduce Scotland by force of arms. Edward's forces had been led northward, as to certain victory. They were composed of men of all descriptions, collected from Flanders, Gascony, Ireland, Wales, England, and even Scotland; and were bent on mischief, blood, and rapine. Their numbers are said to have been more than it is easy to credit; while the army of Bruce did not exceed thirty thousand fighting men. The motives of an invading army differ widely from those which actuate the firm resolves of a band of patriots, determined to repel invasion, however formidable its aspect. When to motives founded in honour, and excited by a love of freedom, are added experience in war and courage in danger, these, if brought into action with due precaution and skilful dexterity, can scarcely fail of success, when life, fortune, and all that is dear to man, are at stake. Thus animated, the Scottish army, under Bruce, repelled and vanquished the army of Edward.

However exaggerated the reports might be of the number and strength of the English forces, yet one thing Bruce knew to be certain, that his cavalry were far inferior to theirs; he therefore had recourse to stratagem, in order to ensure their destruction, to secure his camp from the consequence of surprise, and prevent his being surrounded by an army so much more numerous than that which he had mustered to oppose it.

Having posted his troops on the left side of the Bannock, where, on one hand, a morass* of considerable extent, and on the other a range of pretty steep rocks† happened to be, Bruce taking advantage of these favourable circumstances, and having a rivulet, whose steep banks were of themselves a bulwark, in

* Miltown bog.

† Murray's craigs.

front,

front, directed deep ditches to be made along the whole extent of his line, on the left bank of the rivulet, and ordered them to be planted with sharp pointed stakes, covered with turf, so much resembling the natural appearance of the grounds adjacent, as to elude the possibility of detection.

Excepting the castles of Berwick, Edinburgh, and Stirling, Bruce had seized on the principal fortresses throughout the kingdom. Stirling held out to the last, having been defended with great bravery by Philip de Moubray against the valour and skill of Edward Bruce, the king's brother, who in vain made every possible effort to reduce a fortress of so much importance, being a key to all beyond the Forth, and, in the event of a defeat, a place of safety and retreat. Tired out, and impatient of so fruitless an enterprise, Edward Bruce offered terms of capitulation to the governor of Stirling castle, which were agreed to, on condition that, if no relief from England arrived by a certain day, Moubray should open the gates to the besiegers. The day appointed was approaching, and the looked-for succours not far distant; for already had Edward commenced his march from Edinburgh, whence the first day he proceeded to Falkirk, and there halted. Having refreshed his troops most part of the following day, he in the afternoon arrived on the field of battle, and pitched his tent nearly opposite to that of Bruce, who had unfurled the royal banner, and awaited his coming. Ere sunset, when camp was seen almost joined to camp, a bloody conflict ensued between a body of English cavalry which had been detached to the relief of Stirling castle, and one of Scottish cavalry: the latter proved victorious; and such of the English as escaped the slaughter fell back in dismay on the main body
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of their army. Stung with shame at this untoward repulse, the vanquished vowed vengeance, and terribly kept their word. Night closed on the combatants, and its shortness hardly allowed them necessary repose.

By day-break both armies were in motion; and each combatant waited in anxious expectation for the signal of battle. The English army advanced in three divisions to the brink of the rivulet Bannock; their infantry formed the centre, and was led on by the king in person; the wings consisted chiefly of cavalry, and were commanded by the earls of Gloucester and Hereford. The Scottish forces were also drawn up in three divisions; the right wing, which occupied the highest grounds, was commanded by Edward, brother of Bruce; and the left, which stretched far to the north on the low grounds, was given in charge to Randolph, an able and experienced general, on whom much depended; the main body was supported by Bruce himself. It is on level ground that cavalry can act most to advantage. The English, aware of this, vigorously charged the division commanded by Randolph; while he, anticipating the confusion into which the enemy must fall in their rapid approach, when brought into the snare prepared for them, was prepared to rush on and complete their overthrow. The stratagem completely succeeded; the English horses fell into the concealed ditches, and were thrown into the greatest disorder. At that instant the Scots charged, and made terrible havock. Excited by an irresistible curiosity, the Scottish line pressed forward to view what was going on in the plain below, when, as Bruce was riding in front, in order to make the soldiers keep their ranks, an English knight, armed at all points, rode full tilt with

with his lance couched against the breast of the Scottish king ; but, missing his aim, Bruce, with his battle ax, at one stroke brought him to the ground *. Encouraged by this favourable omen, the Scottish infantry came boldly to the charge ; but the English archers so galled them in the onset, that had not Bruce speedily dispatched a body of light horsemen to annoy the enemy, the fate of the day might have been soon decided. The battle now spread from wing to wing, and raged with the utmost fury. At this time it seemed doubtful to which side victory inclined ; when, to the amazement of the English, a fresh army, as it were, appeared on the heights to their left, which threatened to surround them, and cut off their retreat. The danger however was not real, as the imagined army consisted only of such attendants on the camp as chance had thrown together, and who having with remarkable address drawn up in order of battle, marched on leisurely to the heights. Here, with a general shout, they called on their countrymen to strike home, and waved their mock banner to the wind ; so that this motly band appeared no less formidable than if they had carried destruction in their ranks. Whether this stratagem, so ingeniously conducted, originated among the actors themselves, or had been preconcerted in a council of war among the Scottish commanders, is left to conjecture ; the effect, however, was the same ; for as soon as the English perceived them, fearing lest their retreat should be cut off, they fled in all directions. The carnage now became dreadful. The Scots shewed no mercy, and pursued the enemy everywhere. Many fell by the sword, and a vast number, in attempting to escape, were drowned in the Forth.

* Buchanan says, that it was with a truncheon.

So great and so general was the slaughter on both sides, that historians are at a loss how to estimate it. Eastward the ground was strewn with the slain for a great length of way. Sir James Douglas, who, with a body of light cavalry, led the pursuit, harassed the rear of the enemy; and had not Edward been received by the governor of Dunbar Castle, and thence sent round by water to Berwick upon Tweed, he certainly would have fallen into the hands of his pursuers. The flower of the English nobility lay on the field of battle; and many were taken prisoners, whose ransom enriched the victorious army. The booty also was immense. From that period Scotland has experienced the high advantages procured by the victory obtained over the English at Bannockburn: for thus the independence of the Scottish crown was established, and afterwards maintained, though not without much blood, by succeeding monarchs; till by mutual consent an union of the kingdoms was agitated, agreed to, and solemnly ratified, early in the eighteenth century.

A slight retrospect of the leading points which mark the progress of affairs, from the time when the English were finally obliged to abandon their favourite idea of bending Scotland under a foreign yoke, may not here be deemed out of place.

Where monarchy becomes the fountain of honour, emolument, and order in a state, one of the attendant evils is, that minors being often called, in the course of succession, to the high office of regal dignity, the power delegated to regents and others their dependants, during their nonage, becomes the engine of oppression, and the cause of civil contentions. If passive imbecility on the one hand, and ferocious resistance on the other, do not occasion the mischiefs arising from the ill regulated systems

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that too fatally obtain in a rude, unlettered age, we are unable to account either for that languid apathy, or those inordinate commotions, which shake to the centre the established order of society. In perusing the Scottish annals, this remark seems illustrated by the events that took place from the time when the successor of Bruce ascended the throne, to that of our sixth James; whence it appears, that of ten kings, seven were minors, and almost infants.

That haughty and mutinous spirit, so predominant in the feudal times, was not easily restrained among such a nobility as the Scottish were, who looked on their sovereign as a being created by themselves, and holding by their suffrage merely the title and immunities of the kingly office. A more unfortunate race of kings, perhaps, never existed than those of Scotland. Circumscribed in their authority, and limited in their fortune*, they were but ill qualified either to bend to their will an imperious aristocracy, or to bribe a needy commonalty to support their vain attempts at absolute sway: add to this, the power and authority of the church, which, in all things temporal as well as spiritual, impeded every movement of government; and little remains to account for the endless calamities that befel our race of monarchs.

On the death of the hero of Bannockburn, his son David Bruce, while yet a child of nine years old, was, amidst the fond hopes of the people, called to the throne; and Randolph, by

* "1. King Malcolm gave and distributed all lands of the realm of Scotland amongst his men. 2. And reserved na' thing in propertie to himselve, bot the royall dignitie, and the *Mute-hill*, in the towne of *Scone*. 3. And all his Barons gave and granted to him the warde and relief of the heir of ilk Baron, quhen he fould happen to deceis, for the King's sustentation." Vide Regiam Majestatem, chap. 1.

universal consent, was chosen Regent. Scarcely, however, had these events taken place, when Edward, the son of John Baliol, King (by appointment of Edward Longshanks) of Scotland, came with a fleet from France; and on his landing was joined by the English who had been dispossessed of their lands, and by the disaffected Scottish; so that in a short time he was enabled to possess himself of the crown, while David Bruce retired an exile into France. Scotland was divided into two parties, the one espousing the cause of young Bruce, the other that of the usurper Baliol. The latter, being powerfully supported by Edward III. of England, was on the point of establishing his pretensions to the Scottish throne by a decisive battle, fought on St. Magdalene's day in the year 1333, at Halidon-hill near Berwick; but too fatal to the Scottish army, which, having imprudently engaged the English to disadvantage, once more afforded a favourable opportunity to England to lord it over this devoted country. The name of Bruce was heard of only in derision; the Scottish nobility were almost annihilated; and to so low a state had the nation fallen, that scarcely a body of men sufficient to face the enemy could be mustered, so as to keep alive that ancient spirit of independence which, even in the worst of times, characterized the inhabitants of the north. Time, however, brought about a more favourable train of circumstances, and the English were again driven hence. David Bruce was recalled; and, dying in the forty-seventh year of his age, he, in a full assembly of the states, appointed Robert Stuart, the first of that name, heir and successor to the Scottish crown.

Richard II. the cotemporary of Robert Stuart, having levied a vast armament, entered Scotland, ravaged the whole country

from the borders to the Forth, and returned triumphant to England. Robert in his turn retaliated, by making inroads through Cumberland, and at the same time laying waste Northumberland and the parts adjacent. When that division of the Scottish army which was led by Douglas was on its return, loaded with spoils, it was overtaken at Otterburn near Newcastle upon Tyne by Percy, and immediately a battle ensued, wherein the English were defeated with great slaughter; in short, the reign of Robert Stuart was as turbulent as it was inglorious; and that of his successor John, his eldest son, (known in history by the title of Robert III.) who succeeded his father in the year 1390, was not more tranquil.

To Robert III. succeeded James I. a prince to whom historians fondly ascribe an uncommon share of mental accomplishments; he was at once a poet, a musician, and possessed of high talents for government. During the eighteen years that this young prince had been detained a state prisoner in England, the affairs of his kingdom had been strangely mismanaged; inasmuch that his revenues were low in the extreme; robberies had increased to an enormous degree; the clergy were immoral in their lives; and the nobles, proud and imperious, as well as regardless of even the shadow of justice or of royal authority, scorned every effort made by their sovereign to abridge their power, establish salutary laws, and distribute throughout his dominions more equal and impartial justice. His laudable attempts to civilize a rude and barbarous people, and to check the power of a venal aristocracy, cost him his life; for he was treacherously murdered by his uncle, in the flower of manhood and career of glory, at Perth, A. D. 1437.

James

James II. was also a minor, being but seven years of age when he ascended the throne; and, as in his predecessor's minority and captivity, the realm was governed by Robert Duke of Albany and his son Murdo, who both aspired to regal authority; so in like manner, during the minority of our second James, none were deemed more worthy of the administration of affairs than Sir Alexander Livingston, who was appointed Regent, and Sir William Crichton, Chancellor, an office which he held under the late king. Soon after these statesmen had assumed the functions of government, it became but too apparent, that, instead of upright rulers, the nation had selected men who pursued measures diametrically opposite to each other, and as void of justice as of sound policy. The consequences were such as might have been expected: the effects of discord and mutual jealousy so wrought on all descriptions of people, that nothing was heard of but savage ferocity, rapine, and every excess of depraved humanity. In the midst of these disorders, the Earl of Douglas, a youth of high family pretensions and vast demesnes, regardless of royal authority, asserted his independence, and assumed the state and dignity of majesty, creating knights and senators with all the mock pageantry of a court. Such was the complexion of the manners which obtained in Scotland during the latter part of the fifteenth century.

Where monarchy is permanent, the exaltation of particular families often depends on the predilection of the reigning prince for certain favourites. Thus the family of Boyd, by means of the chief of that name having been chosen governor of the kingdom during the minority of James III. (who on the death
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of his father *, being but an infant of seven years old, ascended the throne); the future grandeur of the Boyds depended on the ascendancy to be gained over the affections of the young king; and his guardian, insinuating himself into his good graces, found it not difficult to manage the affairs of state in the manner best adapted to his ambitious projects.

The education of a prince is among the most arduous undertakings assigned to human ingenuity. In a rude age, void of principles consonant to reason, sound policy, and justice, no wonder if mistakes fatal to the people's happiness marked the feeble reign of our third James. An immoderate love of favourites, and those too not the most select, sunk him gradually into contempt, and he fell a victim to the evil consequences which his own imprudencies had induced. His reign terminated in an unnatural rebellion, headed by his eldest son the Duke of Rothsay, a youth of fifteen, who, partly by threats and partly by promises, had been drawn into it by the indignant nobles. The fatal spot where the weak and superstitious king was treacherously murdered, is still pointed out to the enquiring stranger †.

The circumstances that led to the untimely fate of James III. peculiarly mark the age in which he lived. The aristocracy disregarded the authority of kings, and deemed them of no farther use, than merely as convenient pivots on which the machine of government turned at pleasure. The king, on the other

* James II. was killed by the accidental bursting of a cannon at the siege of Roxburgh Castle, A. D. 1460.

† At a small village near Bannockburn, called the *Milton*. Part of the mill (known by the name of *Beaton's Mill*) is still extant, and is converted into a dwelling house; the under wall of which is the remnant of the old buildings.

hand, conceived "that noblemen were of his predecessors' making, as the coin; and why he might not put his stamp upon the same metal, or when those old medals were defaced, that he might not refund them, and give them a new print, he thought no sufficient reason could be given*." The Scottish nobility and their sovereign, therefore, differing in opinion with regard to a new creation of their order, together with other matters connected therewith, took the field against him, as hath already been stated; and by force of arms convinced his followers that he was in the wrong, in taking upon himself a degree of authority to which they had never given their suffrage. On nearly the same spot where their ancestors boldly encountered the English, did the indignant malcontents oppose their lawful sovereign, and gained their point with less bloodshed than when Bruce rode triumphant over the tented field, won by his skill and the valour of his combatants.

On the discomfiture of his followers, James, who had been provided with a swift charger, was among the first that fled. In the act of leaping a ditch, he fell from his horse, and was so stunned by the fall as to be carried insensible to a mill, where he was laid carelessly in a corner, and covered with a coarse garment, till, gradually recovering, he told his condition, and trusted to the care and fidelity of those on whose protection he was cast. In this situation, feeling himself so weakened by the hurt received as to be apprehensive of dissolution, he desired that if a priest were at hand he might receive the benefit of absolution. At that critical moment three of the king's most implacable enemies happened to pass by, one of whom was a

* Drummond of Hawthornden's History of the Reign of James III. p. 60.

priest, who gave him absolution, indeed, but at the same time stabbed him to the heart*.

If the reign of our third James was turbulent, that of his son and successor was little less so. At the age of sixteen James IV. began his reign. Graceful in his person, and prepossessing in his manners, he soon gained the confidence and esteem of his subjects, and eventually brought about such a reformation in the executive government of the kingdom, as laid the foundation of those essential and permanent benefits, which were more fully manifested in the grand events that took place in the reign of his immediate successor James V.

While Henry the seventh of England was improving the condition of the poorer classes of his subjects in the south, our northern boroughs were little more than the appendages of feudal greatness; yet a gradual change for the better, by secret and unheeded ways, was in its progress in Scotland. A radical and most material alteration took place in the hereditary demesnes of the nobility. Being enabled to dispose of their lands, the rich and industrious commoners (who having either accumulated the tokens of labour, or rapidly increased their wealth, in the improvement which commerce and the arts were daily making), became the purchasers of extensive tracts of country; and, bearing the burthen of the taxes imposed from time to time, they rose gradually into consequence, in the same proportion as the idle and voluptuous nobles squandered their inheritance and

* This tragical event happened in June 1488, when the battle which terminated his fruitless struggle with so powerful an aristocracy was fought, commonly called the battle of *Sawby burn*, so named from a small brook that runs through a tract of ground called "*Little Caglar*."

dissipated

diffipated their means*. The populace of the north imitating their southern neighbours, and wisely foreseeing the time when their industry and ingenuity were to confer on their posterity riches and honours, let no opportunity slip that might eventually turn to their future advantage. Hence the consequence attained by our villages; which, being erected into a state of municipal independence protected by royal authority, became the residence of the merchant, the artizan, and the labourer. Thus we trace the origin of our royal boroughs †.

As wealth in modern times strengthens and supports power, so, in more remote periods of our Scottish history, we are to ascribe to the same cause the influence which the lesser barons, or freeholders and burghers, obtained in our national councils. The king, by these means keeping in check the encroachments at which the greater barons were continually aiming, gained an ascendancy that seemed at times more than an equipoise in the administration of public affairs. Hence the origin of our Parliaments. But a Scottish differed from an English Parliament in one (perhaps) essential particular, namely, in having but one house of representatives, consisting of Great Barons, Prelates, and Freeholders, and delegates from boroughs ‡; and, strange as it may seem, the lesser Barons and Burghers §, little solicitous in an

* “The erection of Royal Boroughs in Scotland, is at least as early as David I;” See Arnot’s Hist. of Edin. p. 462.

† See this subject elegantly illustrated in the writings of Smith and Hume.

‡ See Lord Kaimes’ Essays on Brit. Antiq.

§ In a preamble to the laws of Robert III. Burghesses are mentioned for the first time. Ibid. See Robertson’s Hist. of Scotland, book I.

enemy's hands, and wandered somewhere in disguise,) some time elapsed before a person qualified for the important office of Regent (the young king being an infant of little more than two years of age *) could be selected. At length the Duke of Albany, a native of France, was invested with this high mark of national distinction. Twelve years did this bold and enterprising man exercise the functions of authority, ere the aristocracy, who during that period had in some measure recovered from the blow sustained in the battle of Flowden, rendered it necessary for him to resign the unlimited power that his high notions of prerogative led him to exercise. When the Regent retired to France, eight persons were named to assist occasionally the young monarch in his deliberations. One of these eight, namely the earl of Angus, by marrying the widowed queen, became eventually the sole governor of his son-in-law the young prince.

In Cardinal Beaton, Angus found his match in politics; and James, having assumed the government, discovered in this ambitious prelate a person admirably adapted to his grand design of humbling the nobility. At this period the clergy had arrived at the acmè of their prosperity. Riches had put within their reach the means of indulging their gross voluptuousness. The fairest portions of the land had become the inheritance of the church; and by this time churchmen had acquired an almost unconquerable ascendancy over the minds of the unthinking part of mankind. But extremes will meet: the reformation of religion, which had made so great a progress on the continent, had reached the southern parts of this island, and its influence spread even across the Tweed. An innovation so fatal to the

* Pittscotie's history.

church,

church, and not less so to the nobility, was by no means desirable to either party. James, seizing this favourable opportunity of opposing interest to interest, called the clergy into his secret councils; in which situation, feeling their own importance, they diligently applied themselves to intrenching the temporal immunities of their order within royal authority; trusting to the weakness of superstitious minds, as the chain by which they kept the surest hold of their peculiar privileges. Thus they thought to set at defiance any attempts which hot-headed reformers might make to undermine the interests of the *holy Catholic-church*. In this, however, the clergy were mistaken; for the reformation of religion was making slow but sure progress; while men of talents, sincere in the cause, and zealous to promote by every possible means its dearest interest, were working in secret to accomplish their grand design, the ultimate object of their wishes.

Henry VIII. the uncle of our young monarch, at one time persecuting the Catholics, at another the Protestants, sometimes defending the faith against the doctrine of heretics, and at others the champion of freedom in religious opinion, exhibited an example of licentiousness and inconsistency that was soon imitated by his royal nephew. The latter possessed no common degree of intellectual vigour, and wanted not the means by which to humble the pride of the nobility, render churchmen subservient to the plan he formed to establish his own power beyond the reach of controul, and make the royal prerogative paramount to law and established custom. The measures that followed were admirably calculated to ensure success. The clergy's temporalities depending on the pleasure of the king, he knew best how to secure their support, as involved in his independence.

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church,

church, and not less so to the nobility, was by no means desirable to either party. James, seizing this favourable opportunity of opposing interest to interest, called the clergy into his secret councils; in which situation, feeling their own importance, they diligently applied themselves to intrenching the temporal immunities of their order within royal authority; trusting to the weakness of superstitious minds, as the chain by which they kept the surest hold of their peculiar privileges. Thus they thought to set at defiance any attempts which hot-headed reformers might make to undermine the interests of the *holy Catholic-church*. In this, however, the clergy were mistaken; for the reformation of religion was making slow but sure progress; while men of talents, sincere in the cause, and zealous to promote by every possible means its dearest interest, were working in secret to accomplish their grand design, the ultimate object of their wishes.

Henry VIII. the uncle of our young monarch, at one time persecuting the Catholics, at another the Protestants, sometimes defending the faith against the doctrine of heretics, and at others the champion of freedom in religious opinion, exhibited an example of licentiousness and inconsistency that was soon imitated by his royal nephew. The latter possessed no common degree of intellectual vigour, and wanted not the means by which to humble the pride of the nobility, render churchmen subservient to the plan he formed to establish his own power beyond the reach of controul, and make the royal prerogative paramount to law and established custom. The measures that followed were admirably calculated to ensure success. The clergy's temporalities depending on the pleasure of the king, he knew best how to secure their support, as involved in his independence.

pendence and safety. Learning had by this time made considerable advances in Scotland; and while the nobility remained in their ancient ignorance, the clergy had not neglected altogether the cultivation of humanity and other branches of science, which gave them a degree of consequence far above their wonted share in government according to the ancient constitution of Scottish Parliaments*.

In order, perhaps, the more effectually to bind to his interest the dignified order of the ecclesiastics, James opposed the reformers with the utmost rigour; and such were the wanton cruelties exercised in the prosecution of what was then deemed *justice*, that Henry himself was outdone by his royal nephew of Scotland. James's resentment seemed particularly directed to the total destruction of his late guardians the Earl of Angus, and his accomplished sister Jane Douglas. The former was banished the country for ever; and the latter was burnt for witchcraft, and supposed treasonable practices against the life of the deluded, and by this time imbecile, monarch. But, ere James sunk beneath his mortifications and disappointments, he displayed talents that well became a patriotic prince who deserved the high regard and confidence of his subjects. His minority was long, and marked with every species of robbery and malversation. The more effectually to check these enormities, he administered

* "Under the feudal government, the church, being reckoned a third estate, had its representatives in Parliament; the number of these was considerable, and they possessed great influence in that assembly. The superstition of former kings, and the zeal of an ignorant age, had bestowed on ecclesiastics a great portion of the national wealth; and the authority which they had acquired by the reverence of the people was superior even to that which they derived from their riches." Robertson's History of Scotland, Book I.

justice in person, and instituted a court*, which none since hath surpassed in wisdom and the impartial administration of wholesome laws.

The time was now at hand when the glory of the Scottish crown was verging toward its departure. James, who outlived his reputation as a man and as a prince, foresaw the evils to which his race was destined. At the very juncture when Scotland, emerging into notice among nations, became a desirable object of alliance, another minor, and that too a female, succeeded to the Scottish throne; and no period of our history was more productive of striking events than the reign of Mary Queen of Scots.

Bowed down with cares that pressed hard on his ambition, and feeling himself unable any longer to counteract the secret influence of the English court in his councils; unsuccessful in the field †, and foiled in his attempts to subdue the turbulent spirit of the nobility; his enterprizes rendered abortive, his vanity mortified, and his resentment little more than the faint image of his former power, James, the high-minded, ambitious prince, became thoughtful, reserved, peevish and melancholy; till at length, his mind brooding over the vicissitudes of a turbulent reign, his disordered imagination represented every prospect as full of terror and disaster. In this deplorable depression of intellect, he was relieved by death, which happened at Falkland on the 14th December 1542; his infant daughter Mary, who succeeded him, being only a few days old.

* The Council of Session.

† The battle of the Solway Moss, so fatal to the Scottish army, led on by the king's favourite Oliver Sinclair, was fought 24th August 1542.

No period of the Scottish history is more deserving of particular attention and calm investigation, than the reign of the unfortunate Queen of Scots; but, instead of the historian's searching for the true causes of events, we too often find him perplexing himself with vain conjectures and ideal authority, that misguide the impartial inquirer after truth, and leave him in error or painful uncertainty.

From her earliest infancy Mary seems to have experienced a fate, varied as unfortunate, rarely the lot of those elevated to the highest rank. In her better days, with charms peculiarly interesting as to person, and a mind highly cultivated for the age in which she flourished, she enjoyed all the pleasures which such a splendid and voluptuous court as that of France afforded. At the tender age of six years she was conveyed in the fleet that brought over the French forces, under the command of Strozzi, to the Regent's assistance, out of her native dominions, to share the royal dignities of France. To the habits and associations acquired by her in her earlier years, are to be ascribed the indiscretions of her after-life; to which must be added the manners and morals of the times, as well as the progress that civilization had made amid the rage of contending factions, and that ungovernable spirit of innovation and intrigue which so generally obtained throughout Europe toward the middle of the sixteenth century.

On the death of her father James V. Mary ascended the throne, unconscious of the elevated station in which she was destined to move, while as yet her infant days glided by in all the extasy of innocence and unmingled joy. Her mother, Mary of Lorraine, the Queen Dowager, together with the crafty Beaton, favoured
the

the interest of the French in Scotland; and, for the purpose of preserving their power, the former projected the marriage of her infant daughter to the Dauphin of France; which event taking place, left the Queen Dowager and the Cardinal uncontrolled in the exercise of their government.

It is said, that Beatoun, while he attended the death-bed of the late king, forged a will, wherein he nominated himself to the Regency; but his pretensions soon fell to the ground, and his influence even in church affairs began to decline apace. Still, however, he had so much sway in the government, during the earlier part of the administration of his successor the Earl of Arran (next heir to the Queen), as to prevent any material advance in the reformation of religion: notwithstanding which, its progress was secret and stable. Popular execrations in deep murmurs were heard with fear and trembling, while many victims fell sacrifices to religious persecution; and the court, at a loss how to act consistently with its own safety, connived at the enormity of the measures pursued by the church.

Henry of England, desirous of uniting both kingdoms, had gained the promise of his niece the infant Queen in marriage for his son Edward. His rage, therefore, became excessive when he understood that his views were completely frustrated, and that France had gained the ascendancy in the Scottish court, by the marriage of the Dauphin to the Scottish Queen. He both threatened and executed vengeance. The battle of Pinkey* is memorable for the dreadful overthrow of the Scottish army. Yet, by this disaster, the English profited less than the French: for Scotland, which had so long resisted the English yoke,

* Fought 10th Sept. 1547.

tamely yielded its independence to France, and became little better than a province of that kingdom ; while both countries were lulled into the pleasing delusion that the union of the crowns was completed by the marriage of the Queen of Scots to the Dauphin of France.

Meanwhile, the reformation was rapidly advancing. Cardinal Beatoun had met the reward of his manifold cruelties and acts of oppression, though not in a legal way * ; and many converts of the first rank had warmly espoused the new doctrines, which gained ground daily, and were embraced with all the enthusiasm that novelty could inspire.

Every circumstance seemed to accelerate the cause of the Protestants. Become formidable to their enemies, they were courted even by the Queen-dowager, who, through a system of intrigue, obliged the Regent himself to resign his office in her favour ; and hence, though directly contrary to her views and intentions, the reformation gained the ascendancy of the political interests in Scotland. In England, Elizabeth, with no reluctant hand, aided the grand project of religious liberty which obtained so generally on the continent. Sanctioned by such high authority, popular errors were quickly dispelled ; and the English Protestants, still smarting with the cruelties of Mary, eagerly embraced every opportunity of improving the condition of their suffering brethren in Scotland. To these circumstances,

* The perpetrator of Beatoun's assassination was one NORMAN LESLIE, the eldest son of the Earl of Rothes, who with singular address, together with a few chosen associates, seized on the castle of St. Andrew's, turned out, without injuring, the domestics, and "delivered their country, though by a most unjustifiable action, from an ambitious man, whose pride was insupportable to the nobles, as his cruelty and cunning were the great checks to the reformation." Robertson's Hist. of Scotland.

then,

then, in no small degree, is the rapid progress of the reformation in the north to be attributed.

The riches of the church, which had accumulated through ages, were too tempting not to prompt the worldly-minded to grasp at them, under the specious pretence of zeal for religion*. The dissoluteness of the clergy, together with their ignorance, insolence, and cruelty, excited honest indignation in the breasts of sincere men devoted to what they deemed a glorious cause. Taking all these considerations into the account, it may be plainly perceived in what manner the minds of men came gradually to embrace doctrines less inconsistent with reason, in preference to the gross idolatry of the church of Rome.

THE LORDS OF THE CONGREGATION, as they called themselves, countenanced in their proceedings by Queen Elizabeth, were ever on the watch to counteract the measures of the Queen Regent, who made no secret of promoting the interests and ambitious views of France with regard to Scotland. To forward the Presbyterian cause, Elizabeth had sent supplies of money; and a formidable army was on its march to join the rebel Lords, when Mary of Lorraine thought it high time to exert herself in defence of the religion of her fathers, and the hereditary dignities of her only child, the Dauphiness of France and Queen of Scots. A French army, having arrived as auxiliaries, laid waste the country around Edinburgh, and, retiring into Leith, fortified the citadel and town, the Queen Regent being at their head with a determined resolution to defend her cause to the utmost. During the siege †, which lasted three

* Little less than one half of the property of the nation had fallen into the hands of a society which is always acquiring, and can never lose. Robertson.

† April 1560. Burrel's Diary. See Lesly, Lindfay, &c.

months, the Queen died* ; and soon after, terms of capitulation were proposed on the part of the French ; but these were rejected. At length, however, a peace was concluded : the French were suffered to retire, while the English auxiliaries returned homewards ; and the *Congregation* were convinced that their cause, which was now triumphant, was favoured by the MOST HIGH himself ; and seemed no longer rebellion, but holy insurrection, founded in necessity and justice.

While affairs were in this train in Scotland, the Queen of Scots' husband, Francis II. died. Meanwhile the reformed religion was established by the solemn sanction of the representatives of the nation in parliament assembled ; and the dignified clergy of the Romish church beheld with the utmost horror an act that was to annihilate their power ; while three of the Barons only were found bold enough to withhold their assent †.

On the death of her husband, all the gay prospects of future grandeur vanished from the sight of the widowed Mary. To return to her native country, in which jarring interests and contending factions had thrown every thing into the wildest disorder, seemed less alluring than to remain in the dignified though fallen station of a Queen Dowager, in a country where the innocent days of her tender years had imperceptibly glided amid the elegancies of the most polished court in Europe, in which she shone the morning star of youth and beauty. Yet her return was indispensable. Accordingly, preparations for her departure were made ; and, when all things were in readiness, she embarked with a suitable retinue for her paternal dominions.

* June 1560. Ibid.

† Bothwell, Athole, and Somerville. August 1560.

After

After an absence of near thirteen years, Mary, welcomed by the acclamations of an admiring multitude, touched in safety the shore of her native kingdom. Elegant and graceful in her person, with a countenance full of intelligence and vivacity, the lovely bloom of nineteen heightening the delicacy of her complexion, and possessing all the blandishments of refined manners, she could not fail to excite the most grateful prepossessions in the bosom of each beholder. Her deportment, though mild and unaffected, was dignified and impressive, and carried the appearance of one born to command. The rigid coldness of Presbyterian sanctity, however, was but ill suited to bend to even so captivating a beauty as Mary Stuart; and her high-minded Barons, though it was still the age of chivalry, were too proud to exceed in courtesy: a sad reverse, in point of gallantry, of what she had witnessed in France, must therefore have struck her at first sight. To this may be added, the general aspect of the country. What a contrast to the glories of Autumn on the delightful shores which she had quitted! But a few days had elapsed since all the delicacies of existence in full luxuriance were within her reach*; and now, nought but the sterile mountains of Scotland were before her: splendour and magnificence she had left behind, and she came accompanied by but few friends to whom she could unbosom those fears, doubts, and perplexities which arose in her mind, ere she had well recovered from the fatigues of her journey †.

The apprehensions of Mary were but too well founded. Young as she then was, and inexperienced in the business of state, it is not to be wondered at, if, in so critical a juncture, and

* August 1561.

† Brantome.

unaided by any on whose wisdom, talents, integrity, steadiness, courage, or attachment, to her person, she could rely, we frequently see her the dupe of her ignorance, and the sport of crafty cabal. Nothing seemed so much to contribute to the miseries of her short and unhappy reign, as the gaiety and splendour which her French attendants exhibited, to the gloomy reformers, and to the stern nobility who had joined the *Congregation*. The spirit of envy broke loose, and every thing which had even the appearance of decoration, either in the palace or in the church, was marked for destruction. Those who but lately had been persecuted became now the persecutors, and knew no bounds in the execution of their pious measures against "Papists and whoremongers." In short, Mary saw with concern, that to contend with fanaticism was but to add fuel to a flame already spread far and wide through the kingdom; and to divert the distraction of men's minds, until some more favourable opportunity presented of restoring tranquillity to the church, was the first object that demanded her attention. There had been no offspring by her late husband Francis. Many aspired to the honour of becoming the partner of her bed and throne; but none seemed so forcibly to strike her fancy, and captivate her heart, as Henry Stuart, Lord Darnley, a youth whose education and personal attractions, if history speak truth, by no means justified her choice. The sequel of this imprudent choice is but too well known; and, in contemplating the infamous transactions subsequent to this unfortunate step, Mary appears to sink beneath the common level of the meanest prostitute hackneyed in the ways of intrigue and dissimulation. Historians, from a romantic spirit of mistaken gallantry, have

attempted to throw the conduct of Queen Mary into new lights, arrayed in the spotless robe of innocence; but it were better to cast into shade what the steady hand of truth hath to record respecting the dire transactions of this period of our Scottish history. In extenuation, might be urged the spirit of the times, the force of example, the peculiar circumstances, unfavourable as ungovernable, and many other causes, in no small degree destructive of a just rectitude of conduct; yet it must be confessed, that no series of causes, however imperious, ought ever to be admitted in palliation of effects so totally subversive of the laws of nature and conventional sanction.

No sooner had Mary bestowed the matrimonial rights on her husband, and, with the consent of her Barons and Freeholders, conferred the title of King on him*, than rebellion and conspiracy began to shew their hideous forms. To the assassination of Rizzio, succeeded the murder of Darnley; and superadded to these enormities, the spirit of religious persecution raged throughout the kingdom with unabating fury. The Presbyterians had urged on the fall of Rizzio, while the murder of Darnley was planned and perpetrated by the Catholics; both parties seizing their opportunities, through the irregularities of passion, and the unguarded moments of unsuspecting security. It was at this time that Mary practised the arts of dissimulation with consummate address. No sooner had Darnley prostituted his honour and health in every species of debauchery, than, to complete his career, he must needs participate in the foul act of the assassination of a supposed rival. His turn, however, came next. Mary put on the shew of reconcilia-

* July 1565.

tion with her husband, while, if she was not accessory to, at least she was not altogether ignorant of, an intention to rid her and her party of one who was deemed unworthy of so high a station, at a period too so big with the great events that were about to be established. Darnley was murdered; and Bothwell in a short time after filled his place in the too susceptible bosom of Mary. These circumstances were but too fatally calculated to bring her into disgrace and contempt with her subjects. She was hunted down, and her personal liberty disposed of. Bereft of her kingdom, and immured in the solitude of a state prison for eighteen years, through the shameful intrigues of a relative, whose true interests should have induced her to make every exertion to reinstate the unfortunate victim to her former greatness, Mary, the once accomplished and loveliest of women, was suffered to languish, and expiate her indiscretions in all the anguish of disappointment, regret, and a tender recollection of the earlier part of her existence, during which she placidly glided down the stream of life, its banks being luxuriantly shaded from too intense heat, and sheltered from every casual blast. Such was the retrospect presented to the mind of Mary, and it must have cut to the soul an imagination and sensibility less lively than she must be supposed to have retained to the end of her life. Death, therefore, came a welcome guest to relieve a much-injured captive. But let execration blight the hand that signed the death-warrant of one who had suffered a thousand deaths, while eighteen years confinement was not sufficient to quiet the apprehensions of an ambitious and a too jealous rival Queen.

The conduct of the Scots with regard to their imprisoned Queen must ever continue an indelible stain on the national character.

character. An attempt to exculpate such conduct would be the grossest insult to honesty and truth. Let it remain a humiliating instance, that, amidst the fury of contending factions, even the majority of a people may persevere for a length of time in thoughtless errors fatal to humanity and justice.

While Mary was in the hands of the rebels, who had ruthlessly detained her, she was compelled to resign the regal dignities in favour of her son, an infant of a year old, who was crowned at Stirling 29th July 1567. It is worthy of remark, that, at this coronation, both Presbyterians and Papists laid aside their mutual jealousies, and assisted at the ceremony. After a sermon preached by that Arch-Reformer John Knox, the Bishop of Orkney anointed, put the crown on the head, the sword by the side, the sceptre in the hand of the infant King, "to the bringing to him (says Lindsay) of every one of which, prayers were made in the Scottish tongue, wherein the whole ceremony was said and done*." At the same time Murray, the Queen's natural brother, was declared Regent. The education of the royal infant was entrusted to George Buchanan; who, together with his pupil, resided chiefly in Stirling Castle.

About a mile from Bannockburn, we pass through the village of St. Ninian's. One thing remarkable will strike the traveller in his way through St. Ninian's, namely, the disjunction of the parish-church from its steeple. In the year 1746 the church belonging to this steeple, then occupied as a magazine by the rebel army of Charles Edward Stuart, was blown up; but the steeple was untouched, and still remains a monument of that event. The present church was built soon after the destruction

* History of James VI.

of the former, and it was deemed unsafe to attach the new to any fragment of the old buildings. Hence the singular appearance which the church and steeple of St. Ninian's exhibit to a stranger. One thing deserves particular notice with regard to the ecclesiastical establishment of this church. In the year 1788 the right of patronage was purchased by the parishioners; and, every head of a family having a right to vote in the election of the clergyman, a majority of voices is in all cases decisive. This, privilege, when not abused, is great indeed. Were individual presentations in right of hereditary patronage thus abolished, either by an equivalent from Government, or by voluntary contributions, as was the case in the instance just mentioned, much comfort might result, and petty schisms in church establishments cease.

At the parochial school of St. Ninian's the Greek and Roman classics are taught, together with English, arithmetic, and various branches of practical mathematics.

It has already been remarked, that the fields in the immediate vicinity of Stirling, particularly on the south side, were in former times the scenes of contending armies. Many of the adjacent grounds that lie round the village of St. Ninian's still retain names significant of the tragical events which occurred during the bloody times alluded to. Three battles were fought at distant periods on these fields. The first on record was fought on the 13th of September 1297, and the English defeated*; the second, on the 24th of June 1314, when again the English were

* The defeat of the English army, commanded by Hugh Cressingham and John Earl of Surrey, was effected at Corn-town on the north bank of the Forth; and Wallace, who commanded the Scottish patriots, pursuing the English as far as Torwood, completed their overthrow near St. Ninian's.



Viewed on the Spot by Mrs. Campbell

J. Macdonald sculp

Viewed from the South

totally routed *; and the third, a civil broil, on the 11th of June 1488, when the son led on the rebels against the father, as already noticed in a former page of this work †.

The approach to Stirling from the south, is said to bear some resemblance to Edinburgh; but, unless we consider the castle of both towns being situated on rocks as sufficient to raise in the imagination a resemblance, it can hold good in no other respect. Even in this particular there is a material difference; for the rock on which Edinburgh castle stands is entirely insulated, having no other in its neighbourhood; whereas, on the contrary, though the rock is insulated whereon Stirling castle is situated; yet the chasm which separates the rocks on which the fortifications are erected, is so narrow that it hardly interrupts the chain of rocks that stretches to the water's edge at the bridge over the Forth. Round this eminence, on the southern ridge of which the town is built, a road is conducted with great art and admirable contrivance, that commands prospects of which language cannot convey any idea that would not fall infinitely short of the grandeur which is every where presented to view ‡.

* The battle of Bannockburn, already detailed at some length. In a field not far from St. Ninian's, on Brock-brae, a stone, called the bore-stone, having a considerable perforation near its centre, in which the royal standard of Bruce was fixed, is still pointed out to the traveller. The circumstance mentioned by our historians, of Balton, a Carmelite friar, who accompanied the English invader in full confidence of conquest, which he was to have celebrated in the poetry of the times, is a singular reverse of the original intention. The poet was taken prisoner, and obtained his liberty on condition of composing a song of victory, justly ascribed to Scottish valour. See this poem preserved by Fordun, a copy of which is inserted in Vol. 18. Stat. Acc.

† Battle of Sauchie-burn, on returning from which, James III. was slain by a priest.

‡ A rude seat is erected, on the back part of which Mr. Edmonston's name appears, with the date when this path was constructed, anno 1723; and lengthened, greatly improved, and finished, under the direction of the magistrates in 1791.

Devoid of feeling must the mind be, that does not enjoy the sensations which the objects to be met with in *Edmonston's-walks* are calculated to raise. Let not any such ascend the craggy wilds round which this path is conducted: in vain, to him, doth nature spread forth her grandeur, in rude, sublime, and fantastic forms; he feels not their impressive force: they awaken not in his bosom the glow of sentiment and association of ideas whence the mental feast of pure delight is furnished.

To view with advantage the prospects commanded from Edmonston's-walks, we ought to enter them where they begin, and proceed as they ascend through the wooded precipice, till we gain the summit, and clear the umbrage; when, all at once, the Grampian mountains burst into view. An extensive plain, brown, and seemingly barren, spreading from beneath these mountains, wherein glimpses of the river Teith, in its approach to the Forth, are caught, forms a fine contrast to the solemn gloom of the distance; if haply streams of floating light skim along in movements slow, gradual, and almost imperceptible, the effect must be impressive in a high degree; and if at the same time, as is often the case, particularly in the morning early the mist ascend the bosom of the mountains, while the top cliffs catch vividly the sun's rays, and reflect them with so mild a lustre as to harmonize and enliven the whole, associations are raised in the mind, of beauty and sublimity blended in one vast whole, comprehending the true characteristics of Scottish scenery on the greatest possible scale. The stupendous heights that bound the horizon are screened by two lesser ridges which run nearly parallel in the direction of north-east towards Stirling, and inclose the extensive plain already noticed, called the Vale of



Sketch on the spot by Alex. Campbell

Vol. I. P. 76.

Stirling Castle & Hill of Montrose.

Printed and sold by

London: Published March 1, 1802, by W. & A. G. & Co. in Strand, near St. Dunstons Church.



Viewed on the spot by Alex. Campbell.

The Windings of the Forth.

London, Published March 1806, by Messrs. Agnew, & Sons, Paternoster Row.

Monteith. This vale, in many parts, is highly cultivated, and consists of soil various and fertile. In other parts, as may naturally be supposed, particularly towards the foot of the mountains, the soil becomes more and more sterile, till woods and rocks forbid the farther efforts of man's industry; but man's ingenuity scorns the admonition, and makes even rocks and woods contribute to the supply of his wants; for the minerals in these mountains are rich and abundant; and the woods yield to their wealthy proprietors liberal sums for bark and charcoal; particularly those on the estates belonging to Drummond of Perth, the Earl of Moray, and the Duke of Montrose, to whom the principal range of the mountains in view belongs.

On reaching a precipice on the right hand, and turning towards the northeast, we behold, spread under the eye, a plain of vast extent*, called the Carse, through which the windings of the Forth form the most interesting part of the prospect. The ample sweeps of the river, which is navigable as far as the bridge †, give the mind an idea of utility as well as grandeur. The searching eye can discern, in almost every creek and peninsula, decayed edifices, modern mansions, snug farm-houses, hamlets, villages, and towns, amid corn-fields, meadows, and inclosures, floating indistinctly on the view, till all seems lost in aerial tints, and is hardly to be perceived where the extreme verge of the horizon melts into the azure of the remotest distance. In the fore-ground of this elevated prospect, we have the church and church-yard immediately in front; and the

* Said to be upwards of sixty miles in length, and in many parts from ten to fifteen miles in breadth.

† Small vessels of eighty tons burthen work up, though not without difficulty, to the bridge.

greater.

greater part of the town, over the house-tops of which we survey the full extent of the prospect thus pointed out. The most striking object in the middle ground is the ruins of Cambuskenneth Abbey, the tower of which, the ruthless hand of fanaticism, during the first violent paroxysms of *religious reformation*, seems to have spared.

CAMBUS-KENNETH, now a venerable ruin, was in former times a house of considerable consequence. Its situation on the north bank of the Forth is, in truth, one of the happiest that could be chosen. According to Spottiswood *, this Abbey was founded 1147, by David I. of Scotland, for canons-regular of the order of St. Augustine, who were designed *Abbates de Strive-ling*, the first of whom were from *Artois*. By some of our historians it is stated, that James III. and his Queen were buried in the vaults of this cemetery; but this is uncertain. When Stirling was the residence of the Scottish court, the Abbots of Cambus-Kenneth were generally men entrusted with important transactions in affairs of state: for example, when, in the year 1532, the College of Justice was instituted by James V. the Abbot of this place, *Alexander Miln*, was the first president of the Court of Session; a proof of the power which the church then exercised in our civil establishments. Since church lands have been secularized, the revenues of this house have passed from *the Erskines of Alva*, to an hospital for decayed tradesmen, founded by one *Cowan*, who left to it the savings of his industry. The Priors of *Infuli sibi Colmoci* are said to have belonged to Cambus-Kenneth, the former in Monteith and the latter in Dumbartonshire; but, with regard to this point, authorities differ.

* See Spottiswood's Appendix to Hope's Minor Practice, p. 421.

To the left of the Abbey, a range of rocks, called the Abbey Craigs, rising abruptly from the water's edge beneath the brow of the highest hill, forms a bold feature of the prospect. Immediately behind this, the vale of Devon (sheltered from the north winds by the Ochil-hills, which extend in a north-easterly direction, till with little interruption they fall into the German ocean) is seen richly cultivated and adorned with woods and verdure. At the entrance of this valley, *Aloa*, a sea port of considerable trade, is situated*. From *Aloa* the eye is attracted to *Glackmannan Tower*, the place in which, with due veneration, a sword and helmet, said to have belonged to *Robert de Bruce*, are preserved, as relics of that celebrated hero. In times of peace, the trade on both sides of the Forth, is rather extensive. The great distilleries of Kilbagie and Kennet-pans, though viewed by the poor with a jealous eye, are productive in no small degree to the proprietors, and contribute a large sum to the revenue. The salt-works are more popular, as yielding one of the indispensable necessities of life; and formerly these were very advantageous to the owners. The coal and lime-works, too, are carried on with great spirit and success. In short, whatever establishment is fixed on the banks of this river, has many essential local circumstances in its favour; such as convenient outlets to every part of the globe, plenty of fuel, and, the country being populous and the people healthy, labour at a cheap rate.

Descending from this eminence, and resuming our walk round the base of the castle, at every step we meet with something to admire: the jutting rocks, that seem ready to precipitate themselves from their mouldering connection with each other: the rugged

* See Note [A] at the end of the volume.

appearance of the steep beneath us: the curious remains of artificial grandeur in the mount of earth, in form somewhat like a table, round which, as tradition records, royal carousals were held with the highest splendour and magnificence. This spot was the centre of the royal gardens; but nothing is now to be seen, save marshes, and a few stumps of fruit-trees. The extensive park behind the gardens, called the King's Park, where the deer for royal sport was first turned off, though now dismantled of its wood, exhibits a fine range for field exercises. *Craigforth* too, wooded to the top, on whose acclivity the mansion house of Mr. Callander is seen sheltered among rising plantations and aged trees: these objects, and many others which the curious eye will delight to dwell on in its range, are calculated to recall to remembrance past vicissitudes, and to awaken a train of pleasing ideas in the mind of one accustomed to reflection. As we proceed, we get directly under the walls of the fortress, which threatens to crush by its fall any assailants that may be bold enough to attempt a breach on this side. On turning round the base of the hanging precipice, we find the river directly under our eye; and here it is that the salmon-fishery is carried on, which is so lucrative to those concerned in it at Stirling. From this point also, the opening into the Highlands through Dunblane, formerly a Bishop's see, is to be discerned; and through this glen, the *Allan*, a stream tributary to the Forth, takes its course. In this opening, and on the adjacent eminences, groups of trees and woody mosses are judiciously planted in the pleasure grounds around the family seats on the greater branch of the *Forth*, the river *Teith*, whose conflux with it is within a short distance of *Craigforth*, already noticed.

noticed. Dunblane is a place of great antiquity*. So early as the twelfth century, in the reign of David II., from being a Convent of *Culdees*, it was erected into a bishoprick; but, the records and chartulary being either lost or neglected, *Keith*, in his catalogue, is unable to fix the precise time of its foundation, neither can he ascertain who was first consecrated Bishop of this See. The cathedral and palace, though in ruins, appear to have been of superior elegance in design and workmanship. The *Library*, founded in 1675, by the pious and learned prelate *Robert Leighton*, is a valuable acquisition to that part of the country. Since his time, several donations of books and money have been made, and its funds are so considerable as to allow a small salary to a Librarian, who acts under the management of trustees, the heirs and representatives of those nominated by the executors of the original founder †. That extensive heath which stretches away to the north, called the *Sheriff-moor*, was the scene of action in November 1715, between the royal forces under the Duke of *Argyle*, and the rebel army commanded by the Earl of *Mar*, in which both parties claimed the victory; but

“ Some say that we wan, and some say that they wan,

“ Some say that nane wan at a’ man;

“ But a’e thing I’m suie, that at *Sheriff Muir*

“ A battle there was, which I saw, man:

“ And we ran, and they ran —— awa’, man,” &c.

* Its distance from Stirling is about six miles. St. Blaas was superior of this Convent, in the reign of Kenneth III. A.D. 982. See Buchanan and Keith. The Priory of Monimusk was annexed to the Bishoprick of Dunblane, 1617. At a small distance from Dunblane, the ruins of Inchaffray Abbey (insula Missarum) in Strathern are to be seen. It was founded in 1200, and dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. The Priors belonging to Inchaffray were Strathfillan, Searinche, and Abernethy.

† See Sinclair’s Statistical Account, Parish Dunblane, vol. vii. p. 323.

On the evening before this battle, the rebel army occupied the same station, at *Ardoch*, which the Romans did in the third year of Agricola's expeditions; a position chosen with much judgment for a camp, the remains of which are more visible than any other Roman station in Scotland. The traveller will not find his time mis-spent in making an excursion, on purpose, to this classical spot. The road to Stirling passes through part of the *pretorium*, and nearly parallel to the ancient Roman military way, which runs across the island; but, at what particular spot the Romans passed the Forth, antiquaries seem not agreed; however, that a communication throughout the parts of the island which they had subjugated was kept up, cannot be doubted; but whether by means of a bridge of boats over the Forth, or otherwise, must remain in the obscurity into which seventeen centuries have thrown this part of history*.

The present bridge over the river at Stirling, which we now have in view, is in every respect inelegant, and far from being commodious: at what time it was built is uncertain †. In so fine a county, in which public spirit is so manifest on every occasion, it would do honour to those concerned in carrying on

* Whether the Roman military way, called the *Long causeway*, leading from the bridge of Stirling into Perthshire, be a continuation of that formerly traced through *Camelot*, is rather doubtful. There is strong reason to suspect that the river was anciently much larger than it is at present; and it is but natural to suppose that the ships of the Romans might have easily found safe mooring considerably farther up than where vessels now stop. Hence, the reasonableness of the conjecture, that Agricola's fleet advanced nearly to the confluence of the *Forth* and the *Allan*, where a communication with it and his camp was of consequence kept up.

† A bridge over the Forth near Stirling, by means of which there was a communication between the south and north of that river, is mentioned by our historians so early as the reign of Donald V. Vide Buchanan, lib. vi. ; Fordun, &c.

public works, to set about one of such utility as a bridge: the erection, and that speedily, of a bridge suitable to the taste and knowledge of the times, substantial, convenient, and in a style of architecture elegant and stately, is therefore most earnestly pressed on their notice.

In the time of the struggles made by *Wallace* for the independence of his country, he obtained considerable advantage by a stratagem planned for the enemy's destruction, by artfully undermining a wooden bridge, which is reported to have stood a little farther up the river than the present stone bridge. As soon as the English troops advanced, Wallace retreated: the English followed over the bridge, which instantly giving way, the Scottish warriors seized the favourable moment, and made dreadful carnage. Among the slain was Hugh de Cressingham, the Earl of Surrey's treasurer, by profession a priest, who had rendered himself detestable by his many cruelties and oppressions; and as if his death had not sufficiently expiated his crimes, the savage Scots, having flayed the dead body, cut the skin into thongs, and made furniture of them for their horses. The Earl of Surrey*, who beheld the defeat of the detachment which had thus fallen into ambush, retreated with the main body of his army, as far as the Torwood, where he fell in with the Earl of Lennox and a strong party under his command, and immediately an action commenced. Meanwhile, Wallace coming up, and falling on Surrey's rear, a total rout of the English ensued †; and few remained to carry the intelligence to the enraged Edward; who, however, soon obtained complete revenge at the battle of Falkirk.

* *Surrey (Warren)* commanded the expedition, Edward being then in France.

† This battle, the most decisive that Wallace had ever fought, took place in September 1297.

It is truly marvellous what rivers of human blood have flowed around the spot that we are now surveying. The last effusion (and it is hoped it will for ever remain so,) was when the grandson of James VII. made his fruitless effort to regain the British throne in the year 1745. Instead of Charles-Edward improving the advantage gained by him over the army of George II. at Falkirk, by some strange fatality he marched directly to Stirling, and laid siege to the castle. After much loss of men on the part of the rebels, they raised the siege; and, retiring northward, the remainder of their army was cut to pieces on the fatal field of Culloden. Thus ended the hopes of the Jacobite party in Scotland; which, till that unfortunate day, were sanguine in the extreme.

Having pointed out the leading objects that strike the eye in EDMONSTON'S WALKS, and a few historical events connected with them, it now remains to trace the most memorable occurrences that regard Stirling as a borough.

The precise era of the commencement of *Boroughs Royal* in Scotland is not with certainty known; but it is generally supposed, that Edinburgh had been some time previous to the reign of David I.* erected into a borough; and, from its having been from time immemorial a royal residence, it is natural to suppose that Stirling also enjoyed the same privilege †. It

* "In a charter granted by that prince to the canons regular of Holyrood house, Edinburgh is spoken of as a borough holding of the king, paying him certain revenues, and having the privilege of free markets." Arnot's Hist. of Edin. p. 462.

† The set, or constitution of Stirling as a borough royal, is extremely simple. The old magistrates elect the new; by which means all disputes about elections are prevented. By a late regulation, however, the provost, bailies, treasurer, and convener cannot be continued in their offices more than two years successively.

sends one Representative to Parliament, and one Commissioner to the *Convention of Royal Boroughs*, which court meets annually at Edinburgh*. The Lord Provost (who, *though not a member*, is perpetual president) and Magistrates keep open table, at the expense of the *gude Toun*, during the four days that the Convention is held.

Stirling, by statistical computation, is reckoned to contain about five thousand inhabitants. Its articles of manufacture are chiefly plaidings, shalloons, cotton stuffs, and carpeting †. The salmon fishery also is carried on with considerable advantage on the Forth at this place ‡. The more ancient buildings of this place are in the same inelegant and inconvenient style of architecture so commonly to be met with in every town throughout Scotland. But the modern mansions, built within these

* “ This court (says Arnot) was constituted in the reign of James III., and appointed to be held yearly at Inverkeithing. It does not appear, however, from the records of the Convention, that it met earlier than the year 1552.” See Hist. of Edin. p. 463.

The business chiefly submitted to the consideration of this Convention respects the trade and commerce of the community; and, as a sixth part of the land-tax is imposed on the boroughs, each borough is assessed according to its state of trade and revenues. It also gives sanction to the alienation of part of its real estate, and regulates matters respecting elections, &c. A Borough Reform has been frequently attempted, but hitherto without success in Scotland. The most spirited attempt ever made was in May 1784; since which time, little or nothing has been done, to effect so truly patriotic a purpose. On the subject of the plan of Borough Reform, the reader may consult “ A Letter from a Member of the general Convention of Delegates of the Royal Boroughs, &c.” printed at Edinburgh in the year 1784.—The author is a gentleman eminent at the Scottish bar.

† Formerly, the spinning of tobacco was a considerable branch of industry.

‡ The salmon fishery belongs to the town of Stirling. A few years ago it was let at 30l. per ann.: it now brings a revenue of 405 l. Formerly the inhabitants of Stirling had salmon at a low price; but latterly they have been deprived of this benefit, by reason of the great demand for the London and Edinburgh markets.

twenty years, are neat; many of them elegant, and all at least comfortable. Such is the happy effect of industry and honest gain!

With one exception, the streets and lanes of Stirling are narrow, and far from being clean, or in any manner comfortable*. The exception is the High Street; which, indeed, has every advantage of a free circulation of air, and breadth of area. This being the principal street, and that directly leading to the castle, in former times the nobility had their dwelling-houses in it †. The ruins of a palace begun by the Earl of Mar ‡ when regent, in the minority of our sixth James, run transversely at the head of this street. On turning to the right, as we proceed to the castle, an old palace, once the town residence of the *Argyle* family, appears not only habitable, but still preserves somewhat of its rude stateliness ||. Having gained the summit of the steep, we may halt, and, turning round, survey from a more elevated station, the surrounding country formerly described.

* Baker's Wynd, which leads from Quality Street, is the most populous of any of the lanes in Stirling. The other principal streets, viz. St. John Street, Mary's Wynd, and Friar's Wynd, are narrow and dirty, the habitations of idleness and poverty.

† Most of the more ancient buildings in the High Street have long since been taken down, to give place to modern houses and improvements. The house occupied by one of the favourites of our sixth James, the Earl of Lennox (Esme Stuart) was extant till very lately. An old building still remains, in which Darnley, the husband of Mary Queen of Scots, lodged; and to which, owing to the unhappy disunion of sentiment that existed between him and the Queen, he confined himself in sullen solitude, during the time his infant son (afterwards king) was baptized.

‡ It is called by the town's people, *the Earl of Mar's work*, and is said to have been built in 1570, partly from the materials of Cambus-Kenneth abbey, soon after its demolition at the Reformation.

|| *Argyle's Lodging*, as it is denominated, was begun by Alexander Viscount of Stirling, one of our most celebrated Scottish poets, in the year 1637.

After

After entering the castle, the first thing that strikes us is, the grotesque and uncouth appearance of the ancient buildings; and what greatly adds to this appearance is, the ruinous state every object presents; the mind associating chains and dungeons with the murderous artillery seen on the ramparts. But we are happily relieved from such impressions on gaining some commanding eminence, where the eye recognizes the objects that it had but lately dwelt on with delight, in full range and variety.

In the iron reign of the feudal system, many Barons had their gloomy castles situated within sight, or sound of bugle, of this fortress, then deemed a rallying point, and place of general safety: to the north-west, *Moray's* castle, at *Down*; to the north-east, *Mar's* Tower at *Aloa*; *Robert de Bruce's*, at Clackmannan; and *Castle Gloom*, (situated in the wild recesses on an almost inaccessible rock, insulated by two mountain streams, that precipitate themselves at the base of this craggy steep, of the Aichil hills,) once a residence of the *Argyle* family

On a more minute inspection of the buildings of this fortress, our attention is directed to the detail of their several compartments. And first, let us survey the square, (on three sides of which, pillars, whose pedestals are grotesque figures, are the chief ornaments,) built by James V. Among the statues, if such hideous things in imitation of the human form deserve the name, are the effigy of this monarch in the highland dress of the times, and that of his cup-bearer *Douglas*. The rest are scarcely worth mentioning. The stranger's notice is next attracted by the parliament-house, once a splendid room 120 feet by 36, round which was a gallery, the remains whereof are scarcely to be discerned. Here it was that our Scottish legislators
were

chapel-royal for secular priests; annexing to the latter the revenues of Coldingham *, a rich priory in Berwickshire, which gave great offence, and was the principal cause of the rebellion that terminated in the untimely death of that prince.

Our three latter Jameses also made Stirling their principal residence, and greatly added to the decorations of the town as well as the castle. James IV. in whose mind were blended the frailties of superstition, with the more exalted emotions that give grace and dignity to a prince, caused the collegiate church, or royal chapel, to be erected, in which public worship is now performed, and appended to its revenues large endowments †. The convent of *Strivelling* was also founded by this pious prince in the year 1494, for the order of *Observantines*, (*Gray Friars*) a mendicant tribe, with whom "he frequently assisted at mass in their Quire ‡; and in Lent, retiring from all

* See Hope's Minor Pract.

† Of all the collegiate churches in Scotland, none seems to have enjoyed greater riches than the chapel-royal of Stirling, besides peculiar distinction. Its Dean was the Queen's confessor, with episcopal jurisdiction. Besides a Dean, it had a Sub-dean, Sacristan, Chanter or Singer, Treasurer, Chancellor, Arch-dean, sixteen Chaplains at the King's collation, and six singing boys at his nomination, who had by his Majesty a master of music appointed them. "It was endowed with the abbeys of *Dundrinan* and *Inchmahome*, the lands of *Cesnock*, the priory of *Rosneth*, the parsonage of *Dunbar* with the arch-presbytery and prebendary of *Spot*, *Waltam*, *Duns*, *Pincarton*, the churches *Damclington*, *Aloa*, the two *Cultons*, *Dalrymple*, *Kelly*, *Kirkmore*, and other churches, chapels, and lands, valued in King James VIth's time to a very high rental." See Appendix to Hope's Minor Pract. These collegiate churches were erected for secular canons, "and were governed by a Dean or Provost, who had all jurisdiction over them. They were instituted for performing divine service, and singing masses for the souls of the founders and patrons, and their friends."—Ibid. The present place of worship was built by Cardinal Beaton.

‡ "Boethius (or Boece) says, that Richard II. King of England, (whom nevertheless most people take to have been a counterfeit) dying in the castle of *Strivelling*, was buried in this church, *ad cornu summi alteris*."—See Keith.

worldly

worldly affairs, he here gave himself up entirely to his devotions, and dined upon *Good Friday* on bread and water, upon his bare knees, with the community." In imitation of his royal master, *Robert Spittel* (taylor to James V.) founded an hospital for the relief of decayed tradesmen and merchants, near the port of St. Mary's Wynd, Stirling. There was another hospital dedicated to *St. James*, at the end of Stirling-bridge, which belonged to *Cambus-Kenneth* *. And so early as the year 1233, the *Black-friars*, or Dominicans, had a monastery near to the wall of this town, founded by *Alexander II* †. It appears then, from this slight sketch of its history, that Stirling has been looked on as a place of considerable consequence, not only in latter, but also in former periods of our Scottish annals ‡.

Before taking leave of Stirling, it were unfair not to mention the school established here for the instruction of youth in Latin-grammar, writing, accounts, and various other branches of useful knowledge. Than *David Doeg*, LL.D. the learned and ingenious master of the grammar-school, there are few whose merits as teachers, and value as amiable members of society, better deserve to be remembered §.

* The hospital of John Cowan is already mentioned. About the year 1725, John Allan, writer in Stirling, established another charitable foundation for maintaining, clothing, and educating fourteen boys. See Stat. Acc. vol. viii.

† "It is supposed that every twelfth person in Stirling receives charity," says the author of the Statistical Account of Stirling. The rich funds of which Stirling is in possession by means of the charitable foundations above noticed, attract strangers to it, particularly from the Highlands; as, after a residence of three years, they are entitled to the benefit of paupers. See Stat. Acc. vol. viii. par. Stirling.

‡ See Note [B] at the end of the volume.

§ Since writing the above, this venerable teacher has departed this world at Stirling, having spent upwards of forty years of his life in the education of youth.

The traveller has the choice of two roads in his departure from Stirling to *Callander*, which is the next stage in the north-west direction to the Highlands. The one is by the bridge; the other turns off at the bridge, to the left, winds at the foot of the crags, and passes right below the castle. In pursuing our excursion by this road, we soon fall in with the Forth, over which we pass by the bridge of *Dript* as it is called, and enter *Perthshire*. On turning round to take a retrospective view, we command, from this point, an interesting prospect of Stirling castle, and the adjacent grounds; Craig-forth on the right, with its wooded cliffs impending over the river, which here sweeps slowly along its base, coming in the fore-ground, together with the bridge, give much interest to the landscape. As we proceed, we pass, on the right, Auchtertyre, pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Teith, which here forms the most considerable branch of the Forth. The proprietor of this estate has greatly improved it; and has also, like *Sbenstone*, in a truly classical manner, led the muses to his dwelling by the languages in which they were formerly wooed by Greek and Roman bards; there being scarcely an avenue, grot, bower, or resting-place, in which some elegant inscription from one or other of the favourite authors of antiquity, is not to be met with in traversing the pleasure-grounds of Auchtertyre*. A little farther on, we enter the Blair-Drummond estate.

To the right, our attention is attracted by a piece of machinery at the *Mill of Tor*. This consists of a great wheel, so constructed as to raise water, which is conveyed in an opposite direction from that whence it proceeds, to a neighbouring moss, for

* The property of Mr. Ramsay.

the purpose of washing it away into the Forth, and by this means clearing a valuable and extensive tract of arable ground which it covers, to the depth of from three to twelve feet*.

The water-wheel at the Mill of Tor is the invention of Mr. Meikle of Aloo, an engineer of great ingenuity, to whom this country is indebted for many useful improvements in mechanics. The simple construction of this machine denotes at once its utility. It consists of one large wheel, twenty-eight feet in diameter, with two sets of arms, and two of buckets; a cistern, which delivers the water into pipes of eighteen inches diameter, that convey it for three hundred yards, and discharge it into an aqueduct, which reaches the mofs at the distance of eight hundred yards; thence it sweeps away the loosened parts into the channels made in different sections of the mofs; and thus it finds its way to the river, and is no more seen †.

The

* The depth of the mofs in what is called the *Spread-field*, is from 2 to 6 feet; in other parts, the depth is from 8 to 14 feet. Stat. Acc. vol. iv. p. 495.

† The following is the exact measurement of the great wheel for raising water to the mofs of Kincardine, at the Mill of Tor: ‡

	Feet.	Inches.
Diameter over all of the wheel	28	—
Width	10	—
Float-board	—	16
Buckets inside, each	—	31
Two sets of arms, ten in number.		
Two sets of buckets, eighty in number.		
Sixty float-boards.		

It is but fair to notice in this place the original inventor of the *threshing-machine*, who, according to the author of the Statistical Account of Kilmadock and Down, resided at Craighead in the parish of Dunblane. He was a farmer, of the name of Michael Stirling, who lived to the great age of eighty-nine, and died in the year 1796. This ingenious man, so far back as the year 1748, (a year remarkable for

the

The mosses of Kincardine and Flanders, as they are called, form an extensive flat of many thousand acres. They appear to have been formed, as all mosses are supposed to have been, of decayed wood. This theory of the growth of moss seems now universally admitted. A visit to the *Moss-lairds* (as they are denominated) of Kincardine is well worth the performing; the traveller having it thereby in his power to gratify his curiosity, with regard to the happy effects of well-bestowed labour and ingenuity.

The late Lord Kaimes, into whose possession the estate of Blairdrummond came in 1767, contemplating the advantages which might arise from clearing that part of the lands buried under the moss of Kincardine, lost no time in endeavouring to accomplish what was so desirable. Accordingly, he invited a number of poor families from the more remote parts of this district of Perthshire to come and settle in this waste; and marked out certain portions of it to each settler*, in order that,

by

the annihilation of the hereditary right of *Pit and Gallows* in Scotland) projected the first rude essay of a machine for threshing out corn, which consisted merely of threshing-boards, moved vertically by an inner wheel on the same axis, moved by an outer wheel which went by water. The men stood round the threshing-boards, each with a sheaf in his hand, and held them to the boards in their rotatory motion; and thus the work was performed, in a length of time as one is to sixteen; a thing then deemed almost incredible. Mr. Meikle, engineer at Aloo, a man eminent in his profession, saw Mr. Stirling's ingenious contrivance, and soon after constructed the threshing-machine now in general use, improvements on which have been frequently made by various hands.

* The colony of highlanders established in the moss of Kincardine consists of between seven and eight hundred persons; they are mostly from *Balquidder*, which lies about twenty miles to the westward, and are a remnant of the Maclarens, Macintyres, and Macgregors.—They retain their original language, manners, and customs, as if in the
 midst

by degrees, this hitherto unprofitable heath might become as good arable land as any other part of his valuable demesnes, for such truly is the estate of Blairdrummond.

The

midst of their native mountains; and it may be no great stretch of fancy to suppose, that on this spot their ancestors were wont to range the forest in the chace, and repose beneath the oaks, that, like themselves, lie buried under the depth of the moss.

The terms on which the poor tenants of this moss have their leases, cannot be commended.—For example, the quantity of land given to each tenant is from 6 to 8 acres moss, value 3*d.* per acre, on a lease of three times twelve years. After building his hut, for which he is allowed by the proprietor from 3*l.* to 4*l.* he commences his labours of clearing, &c.; but to this he cannot devote his whole attention, on account of having to provide for himself and family by cutting peats, and such other honest shifts as his ingenuity suggests: so that the tenant, at the end of the first twelve years, finds himself possessed of no more than three acres of arable land; the produce of which yields him on an average 7 bolls of barley, or the like number in oats per acre, from one of seed; therefore, when seed is deducted, 6 bolls per acre is the neat produce.—The value of each boll is 15 shillings on an average, which makes the whole three acres value in produce 13*l.* 10*s.* yearly per annum, at the end of the first twelve years.

Quere.—If three acres are gained in twelve years, how much is gained in one year? Answer one fourth of an acre. A labourer can earn nine shillings per week, a sum equal to 23*l.* 8*s.* per annum. Of course, a *moss-laird*, as he is in derision called, gives his labour the first year for one-fourth of an acre, the second for one-half of an acre, and so on, for the first twelve years; but this is not all:—“At the end of the lease, all buildings that have been erected on the possession belong to the proprietor; and the tenant is not entitled to any compensation for them or his improvements.” See Sinclair’s Statistical Account, vol. vi. p. 496. Moreover, the poor tenant actually pays rent for what he has cleared; rising gradually, as the term of the lease advances, from a mark Scottish, to twelve shillings per acre.

Now it is very obvious, that if the tenant, instead of paying rent for what arable land he has reclaimed from the moss, were to pay in an inverse ratio as his lease approaches the term of its conclusion, he would, in order to reap the full advantage of the lowest possible rent, double his diligence, so as to enjoy it as long as he could; and, as the ground thus gained to landholders is worth now so many years purchase, let the tenant, at the expiration of his lease, not only have a reasonable price for labour, and the interest of such money as he has bestowed in the necessary operations, but also be indemnified, at least to a certain amount, for whatever buildings have been erected by him on the possession. Premiums, as stimulants to labour and honest industry, should likewise be given to such as clear the most land, and in the best manner. “Some proprietors,

The attempts that had been made to regain the soil which the moss covers, were not attended with the success that was anticipated, prior to the accession of Lord Kaimes to the Blairdrummond estate. Draining, trenching, burning, and other methods had failed. The idea occurred of sweeping away the superincumbent stratum of moss by means of water; and then, by placing heaps of cut moss in such manner as brought them into action, when the collections of water were let down upon them, the soil was left clear for the plough; and thus the last proprietor had the satisfaction of seeing his plans of agriculture in some measure succeed, though not altogether to his wishes. His Lordship's son, the present proprietor, following the laudable example of his father, continued the mode of clearing away the moss by water. In order to do this the more effectually, he caused the machine already mentioned to be erected, and he has lately had it completely repaired: it is hoped, therefore, that he will be amply repaid every expence, as well as the purpose for which it was originally intended be fully answered*.

We are now considerably advanced into what formerly was the *Sylva Caledonia* or *Caledonian Forest*, the decay of which gave existence to the vast tract of moss we are surveying. Trees

prietors, (says the writer above quoted) of more liberal and enlarged views, pay to the tenant from 3l. to 12l. for each acre reclaimed, according to the depth of the moss, or bog-earth, removed from it. In some cases, this is paid when the work is executed; in others, it is paid at the end of the lease. In the first case, the tenant pays from 12s. to 16s. rent per acre; in the second case, he pays no rent.

* For farther information on the improvement of moss, &c. see Anderson's writings on the subject; also, "An account of the Improvement of Moss, &c. in a Letter to a Friend." Edin. printed, 3d edition, 1798.—And some judicious remarks in Jamieson's *Mineralogy of the Shetland Islands*, &c.

and roots of great size, oak principally, are continually to be met with in clearing off the mofs; and what appears more remarkable, where this vast forest, a vestige of which scarcely remains, grew into full vigour, there are evident marks of the sea having retired to give place to vegetation: thus, as it should seem, the alternate states of land and water, are admirably calculated to maintain a due equipoise in the general laws of the universe*.

The population of the parish of Kincardine is estimated at 2060 inhabitants. The number of proprietors exceeds twenty, one half of whom are non-resident. The condition of tenants in this district has greatly improved within the last thirty years. The value of lands is rapidly on the increase, and rents are rising in proportion. Extensive plantations appear in a thriving condition, and promise much emolument to the landlord. On the Blairdrummond estate alone the wood is estimated at five thousand pounds. The mode of agriculture is much better than heretofore; the late Lord Kaimes having, by his example, led the way to many essential improvements; and since his time, there seems a progressive advancement made here, that bids fair to rival the best exertions of the low-country farmer throughout the shire.

* What was formerly remarked, with respect to the sea having, at some remote period, advanced nearer the feet of mountains, is applicable to some parts of this parish, most of which lies in the angle formed by the two branches of the Forth that meet near Craighforth. Beds of shells, particularly oyster, are found at different depths of the soil, which appears to have been formed from the neighbouring heights at the bottom of the sea, agreeably to the Huttonian theory. The general appearance of the soil is sand, in which the marks of undulations are still visible; sleet, intermixed with marine productions; mofs, as already described, with clay to a great depth, of various colours. Near the bed of the river Teath, and towards the upper part of the parish, the soil is a light loam, and near the surface gravelly, but not unproductive.

The inhabitants of this parish are said to be sagacious, communicative, and sensible. Of the eminent men who were natives of this place, *Doctor Robert Wallace*, the learned author of "The Population of Ancient Nations," is first among the number. Though Lord Kaimes was not born here, yet, as his ashes repose in this parish, it claims him: he died in December 1782. Philosophy, Jurisprudence, Criticism, and Agriculture, found in *Henry Home* Lord Kaimes a zealous and able disciple*. As a patriot, he stood eminently distinguished; as a judge, he was upright; and as a farmer, he was respectable in a degree seldom equalled. Enlightened by extensive prospects of men and manners, he was liberal in his sentiments, and cheerful in his deportment, holding in contempt the narrow prejudices of little minds, while he made due allowance for any casual bias that might dim the lustre of public spirit or private virtue.

On quitting the pleasure-ground of Blairdrummond, we keep on to the right, leaving on the left the road to the fort of Innvernaid, by Thornhill, a village lately celebrated for making whisky, the distillation of which (before the late composition for excise duties took place) was carried on to a considerable extent, to the no small injury of the morals of the inhabitants. As we proceed, we see on the right a deep dell, which appears to have been the winding course of a stream, that has either become dry or changed its course. Over the eminence which forms the left bank of this dell, a glimpse of Down Castle is caught, and produces an agreeable effect. On our approach to

* His works are, *British Antiquities*, *Essays on Morality and Natural Religion*, *Historical Law*, *Principles of Equity*, *Sketches of the History of Man*, *Elements of Criticism*, *Gentleman Farmer*, *Loose Hints on Education*, &c.



After a copy

Sketched on the spot by Alastair Campbell

Donn Castle, Craigferth & Hirling in the Distance.

London: Published March 1. 1842. by Agas's Lithographic & Book Binding Works, Strand.

the Teith, we pass by snug cottages, the habitations of the spinners of the *Adelphi Cotton Works* *. Wherever manufactories are established, woe to the neighbouring farmers; for the wages of servants are out of all bounds, as almost every one employed about works that engage so many hands as cotton machinery must necessarily require, gets great wages; of consequence, those who are greedy of gain forsake the plough, and follow the more profitable employment of the two, that of the manufactory. With regard to the plough and the loom, little doubt remains which is the most profitable; but the question, which is most friendly to population and the morals of the people, would require a greater space for discussion than can in this place be allowed.

On passing the Teith, over an ancient bridge of two arches †, just as we ascend the rising ground of its left bank, we command an interesting prospect of *Down-castle*, now a ruin, situated on a gentle eminence, embosomed in a wood that hangs over the river, which here, sweeping round the level lawn below the castle, meets the Ardoch, a rapid stream, and both move slowly on till they are lost in one common reservoir the Forth, in their progress to the sea. On both sides of the river its banks are wooded, and rise in the most picturesque swells. In the distance, Craigforth, Stirling-castle, and the highest of the Ochil-hills, seem admirably placed for the composition of a picture; while the skilful painter cannot fail to add a fore-ground from the

* These works have suffered lately by fire.

† This bridge is said to have been built by Robert Spittal, taylor to James V. (the same who founded an hospital in Stirling) about the year 1530. Stat. Acc. vol xx. p. 50.

materials he sees at hand on the nearer banks of the Teith, which here passes beneath his eye with a free and noble volume of water. Since the year 1745, when a garrison of the rebel army occupied Down Castle, it has been suffered to fall into decay. It is the property of the Earl of Moray. At what time it was built is uncertain. Murdoch Duke of Albany is said to have been its founder; but this rests solely on tradition. In the reign of our fifth James, Sir James Stewart of Beath was by that monarch appointed Constable thereof; and in 1565 his son obtained a charter, under the great seal, of certain lands to be called the barony of Down. During the civil war in Queen Mary's reign, it was a place of retreat to the loyalists of that period*. The demesnes belonging to this castle being erected into a *barony* prior to the abolition of hereditary jurisdiction in the year 1748, courts of law were held in it; but, happily for the Scottish peasantry, ever since that period, *pit* and *gallows*, as hereditary and exclusive privileges, have been solemnly conveyed to the executive government of Britain; and trial by jury substituted in place of these vile tools of oppression and feudal tyranny.

On the left bank of the Teith, that stretches towards Stirling, the road is agreeably varied with wooded inclosures and gentlemen's seats pleasantly situated on eminences which command extensive prospects; or sheltered in some sweet solitude, whose level lawn forms the verdant margin of the river, reflecting, as it moves slowly along, all the sylvan charms of those sequestered retreats †. All about this part of the country, the management

* See Grose's Antiquities, and De Cardonell's Scottish Antiquities.

† Mr. Edmiston's house of Newton, close in upon the river, is embossed in wood and charmingly picturesque.

of bees is carried on with success; and the honey, owing in great measure to the vicinity of the apiaries to the Kincardine moss and the *Braes of Down*, where the bees have so vast and free a range, is remarkable for its flavour and quantity. In short, the rural economy of this district of Perthshire is highly creditable to every description of persons concerned in it.

The village of *Down*, which we pass on our right, is rising into consequence. Formerly, it consisted of a few straggling ill-built huts; but now a general appearance of neatness and comfort is manifest, particularly in the east part of the village. It derives considerable support from five fairs, held here, in the months of February, May, July, November, and December, when a fine shew of cattle, collected throughout the western isles, and other parts of our highland districts, is exhibited for sale.

We now bid adieu to the fertile plains of the *lowlands*. The *highlands* present their awful bulwarks, in solemn grandeur, and sterile gloom. The soil, as we proceed, seems hardly susceptible of vegetation; and were it not that here and there some verdure, and a few miserable huts, are met with as we pass along, one would feel half inclined to turn back, and proceed no farther. But by degrees we get familiarized with nakedness and sterility; and when curiosity prompts, and some hopes of gratification remain, we feel ourselves insensibly led on in the pursuit of our object.

A few solitary mansions, that form a contrast with the wretched hovels on the road-side, are to be met with in our way; these are Mr. Edmiston's house (on the right) of Cambus Wallace, Sir John Macgregor's



Beulah's

Published and printed by J. H. Johnson, 1857

Beside the *Roman camp*, as it is denominated, little that deserves the traveller's notice is to be met with in the immediate vicinity of Callander. The appearance which this serpentine bank, called the Roman camp, exhibits, is truly beautiful. It seems probable that it was left in nearly its present form by the river's having changed its course at some remote period, as on the opposite side a continuation of it is very perceptible. The present course of the Teith is more in a direct line, and four acres of fine meadow are cut off by its thus having taken a new sweep, from the opposite bank, in the windings of this curvilinear inclosure. The present possessor, *Captain Fairfoul*, has every thing about this charming retreat in the highest order; and it is but justice to add, that, though he is retired from the busy world, and reposing on the lap of ease and affluence, his neighbours speak in the highest terms of this gentleman's bounty, liberality, and social disposition.

On our return from the *Roman camp*, we have a grand prospect of *Benledi*, one of the highest mountains in Scotland*; part of the village, and the bridge over the Teith, behind which the rugged heights of the *Pass of Leney* appear; and on the right, an abrupt eminence, bristled with firs, rises immediately over the village, and protects it from the rude blasts of the north winds; the grey cliffs of which are seen through the deep hue of the plantation, natural wood and heath. In times of heavy and continued rains, a stream falls down, whose lengthened whiteness is in fine contrast with the surrounding scenery, and adds not a little to the grandeur and sublimity of the whole.

The lake, river, and mountain scenery of Scotland has been the subject of the warmest admiration. For picturesque beauty

* *Benledi* is more than three thousand feet above the level of the sea.



Picture No. 6

The artist is indebted to the Rev. Mr. [unclear]

Bentley's

London, 1841, March 1, 1842, No. 11, p. 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

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and sublimity, the Lochs Venuchar, Achray, and Kaitrin, which run in a line, with little interruption, for twenty miles in the direction from east to west, can hardly be exceeded anywhere. To one who has a relish for Nature retired amid her deepest solitudes, an excursion to these lakes will be amply rewarded.

From Callander, then, it will be requisite to provide two articles with which we cannot conveniently dispense, namely, provisions and a guide. We cross the Teith by the bridge at Callander, and pass through that part of the village situated on the south bank of the river,—turn to the right, and soon fall in with its left branch, which issues from *Loch-vana-choir*. This stream we trace onward, till the sheet of water from which it derives its origin opens to view. The margin of this lake, on the left, swells gently into the retiring eminences. On the right, a bold promontory, finely formed and beautifully wooded, advances into the middle of the water, and rises into a precipice which escapes the view, by means of a nearer ridge, that seems a portion of the southern limb of *Benledi*, coming forward as a side-wing, rugged, steep, and craggy. The fore-ground is the entrance into the wood that streaks along the northern shores of the lake, which softens off in the distance, and is hid by a remote head-land: *Benvenu*, a mountain from which this lake has its name, terminates the prospect. The glimpses caught in passing along the shores and promontories, which extend in length three miles, are always pleasing and often interesting.

No sooner do we reach the western extremity of *Loch-vana-choir*, than we discover *Lochachray*. This loch, though smaller than the former, is not the less picturesque of the two. As soon as we gain a gentle eminence that overlooks the lake, its



Walden in the Snow by J. C. Smith

Walden

PLATE 10

Walden in the Snow

London: Published March 1, 1902, by Messrs. Longmans & Co., Strand, Westminster, W.C.



Sketch of the Snowy Mountains

PLATE 106

After sketch

John Ubbury

London: Published about 1852 by J. & R. Colburn, & Ross & Beresford, Row

appearance is truly charming. It seems to rest calm and serene amid the mountains which surround it. Cultivated spots, among which hamlets are seen thickly scattered beneath the shelter of green knolls and wooded steeps, convey the idea of quiet and contentment, the blessings of frugal retirement, and honest industry: the inhabitants, though poor, being ignorant of wants, known only to those who depend on the labours of others, upon whom they look down with disdain.

In order, however, to be more highly gratified with the industry and appearance of comfort of the peasantry of this district of the highlands, let us strike off to the right; and at about the distance of a mile, as we reach the opening into *Glen-fin-glas*, we have a prospect truly magnificent, and highly interesting. Here we are pleased with the general appearance of cultivation and comfort among the peaceable inhabitants of this glen, the lofty sides of which appear verdant from their base to the very top-cliffs, where formerly the roe and red-deer were wont to roam free and at large, in fear of no intrusion but that of the hunter. But the sound of the chase is heard no more: other quadrupeds occupy this forest, once set apart for royal sports. Sheep, now the staple commodity of our mountainous districts, have almost banished the breed of native quadrupeds, especially those of the chase; but as yet, in this glen, the inhabitants have not also been driven out of their possessions. Long may they enjoy the fields which their forefathers cultivated with a less skilful hand! May they never forget how to climb the craggy wilds which their ancestors were wont to climb in pursuit of the hart and roe-buck! May their honest labours be rewarded with independence to the

latest posterity*! The scenery of this glen is singularly wild, yet, at the same time, far from giving that idea of rude and barren nakedness but too often to be seen amid these mountains. The *Turk*, that winds gently through it, suddenly sinks into a deeper chasm, formed by some terrible convulsion, and is heard far below, brawling along the hidden fragments of rocks in its rapid course, which we now re-trace, and crossing over by the *bridge of Turk*, proceed along the margin of *Lochachray*. At every step the scenery gains on the attention. About mid-way, the farther extremity of this beautiful piece of water is seen. A small island, with a few trees and brush-wood on it, nearest the north-border of the lake, harmonizes with that solemnity which the surrounding objects occasion. At the base of this mountain, which terminates the prospect, huge piles of rock in fantastic fragments seem as if at some remote period they had been hurled down from the craggy wilds on the right, and fixed in the random order in which they now appear. Pathless and perplexed with all the wild luxuriance of briar, bramble, thorn, and a multiplicity of matted vegetation, (till lately, when a road, rude, it is confessed, but, on foot and on horseback, passable, was, with much difficulty constructed,) the entrance to *Loch-Kaitrin* was known to the natives only; and, indeed, to but very few of them. On turning a creek to the right, we enter this celebrated pass called the *Trosbacks* †. These rugged masses leave their hoary cliffs, and bend in all their fantastic wildness over us, as we proceed on to the extremity of the pass;

* See Note [C], at the end of the volume.

† *Trosach*, i. e. roughness. This is a modern name, *Brianchoil* is its proper name, expressive of its clifly and wooded appearance.

where

Walt. P. 229



Sketch on the spot by Alex. Campbell.

Alton engr.

Linnan - Torchin

London, Published March 1. 1827. by Messrs. Longman & Co. Stationers, Row

where some, more conical than the rest, seem to a lively imagination as if placed by nature as mute spectators of that thrilling amazement which the stranger feels at his entrance on the confines of the lake; the east end of which is the deep and dark pool on whose margin we now halt. Here let us pause.—Look up to the left; behold that gigantic precipice, wooded to the top, bending over the pool in fullen grandeur. Among these rocks, whose gloom rests eternal on the bosom of the lake, in former times a savage band, ruthless, intractable, and cruel, had fixed their lurking-place, and issued forth, naked as they were born, committing depredations on the peaceable inhabitants of these glens, ravishing the women, murdering those that resisted, setting fire to the habitations all around, and butchering without distinction the old and the young. Hence this precipice retains the name of *Cori-nan-Urischin*, the den of the wild-men, or savages*. Such is the tradition respecting this headlong steep, whose appearance is so striking on our first entrance to Loch-Kaitrin. Nearly opposite to this spot wicker huts are judiciously placed on a rock which rises perpendicularly from the water. Here the traveller may rest, and contemplate nature in her rude and sublime aspects.

In pursuing our survey, we have often to encounter pieces of the road that require attention and due caution in passing along these rocky slides. Sometimes we pass precipices, where the road has been cut out of the solid rock; and not unfrequently it approaches so near the water's edge as to threaten danger. But, after becoming familiarized to such perils, we lose every kind of fear.

* It is called, for what reason is unknown, by the author of the Statistical Account of the Parish of Callander, "The rock and den of the ghost."

As we proceed, the lake gradually opens on us, and displays, in finely-flowing sweeps, its wooded shores, and the mountainous distance that forms a back-ground at once elegant and lofty. There often appears in the fore-ground a bold mass of almost vertical rock, whose ledges and crevices bear trees pendant, and of most picturesque appearance, chiefly the weeping bush, the mountain ash, oak, and other indigenous forest-trees, whose roots, bare, and twisted in the fantastic direction which the scanty soil and pointed rocks may chance to give, add much to the rich variety of the scene.

Still, as we advance, the expanse of the water becomes more and more charming. The shores rise into the adjoining eminences with less declivity, and more ample in point of meadow and verdure. The mountains to the right assume a sublime air, and the more distant, softened in aerial tints, are finely contrasted by some wooded islands, which, as it were, push forward into the view, and compose an admirable fore-ground. Here, too, the distance is enlivened with the huts of the inhabitants of these wilds; for it is pleasing to reflect, that, even in the most inaccessible parts of our mountains, traces of human industry are to be discerned. Goats climbing the shaggy steeps in quest of herbs of higher flavour and rarely to be met with;—cattle roving at large for food; and sheep far in the back-ground, seen in scattered groups, brouzing on sides of mountains, while their bleating is heard mingling with the lowing of cattle, the melody of birds, the milk-maid's voice in some artless love-song, some sweetly wild or tender ditty; at the same time the woodman's stroke, multiplied by echo among the hidden cliffs, felling the stubborn oak, or weeping birch:—all, all, in admirable combination, awaken emotions of tender delight and pleasing reverie.

The

The diversity of views as we advance on the Lake seems endless. At every ten or twenty paces thick woods, where some green spots at intervals are seen on the opposite borders, attract notice. Here, a little rill, hardly visible among bent and brake, is heard tinkling by; there, a small brook rippling over its pebbled bed, passes with little noise. On this hand, a mountain stream rushing headlong down yon shaggy steep, bounding in white and various jets, and collecting its race into one body, where some chasm, narrow and deep-cloven receives it, foaming and furious in its fall, when soon it loses strength in the still waters to which incessantly it hurries onward: on that hand, the unknown depth of the lake, as we stand on the brink of some impending precipice, strikes us with awe; and, perchance, no sudden gust of wind agitate its pellucid bosom, the sun-beams playing on its smooth surface, and the reflections of the surrounding scenery, are finely contrasted in the dawning brightness; and the broad masses of hanging rocks, the grey hues of the lofty top-cliffs, the deep purple of the retiring tops, the aerial tints of mountains, faint, and far distant: these all these interesting materials for the pencil, as well as for the magic hand of description, are to be met with in our excursion, the craggy wilds of *Loch-Kaitrin*.

If the views on this lake, so far as we have hitherto proceeded, interest us not, it will be in vain to advance to the west end of it; but if aught in the rude and sublime scenes which here surround us hath afforded satisfaction or delight, let us go on.

From the heavy and frequent rains attracted by the neighbouring hills, the meadows that skirt the vale of *Strath-Cartney*,
through

place of his concealment, where they found him and the before-mentioned clergyman, Mr. Conachar, on whom they were about to seize, but, by the address of the lady of the house and her sister, were diverted for a moment from their purpose. Meantime the Doctor and his companion, leaving the chamber, as if to return immediately, made off with all possible haste. The soldiers, taking the alarm, started up, and rushed out; and, as mischance would have it, just as Cameron, who was somewhat unwieldy in his person, had reached a small brook a few paces from the house, they seized him, put him into a boat that was in waiting, and carried him prisoner to Innerfnaid; thence to Stirling, where he remained only a few days; after which he was conveyed to the Castle of Edinburgh, and from thence was sent, in custody of two of his Majesty's messengers, to London, and thrown into the Tower. His companion, Mr. Conachar, was a person of great agility, presence of mind, and bodily strength; and, by climbing the rocks, which seem almost inaccessible, he was out of sight in a few minutes, and eluded every search made after him.

The fate of Doctor Cameron was cruel in the extreme. Seven years had elapsed after he had gone into voluntary exile before he ventured to return; and that he ran any risk of being condemned to death, was what he had little reason to apprehend: in this, however, he found himself woefully mistaken; for, though at first he was advised against acknowledging himself to be the person mentioned in the act of attainder, yet, on the day of his trial*, with a becoming degree of fortitude, he admitted it. His behaviour in court was calm, collected, dignified,

* May 17, 1753.

yet respectful, and he replied, with precision and deference, to such questions as were put to him. After the usual forms of trial, he was condemned, and ordered for execution on that day three weeks; the court, of its tender mercy, being pleased to grant the indulgence of a week more than was at first intended, on account of his wife, who was at Lille in Flanders with her seven infants (all dependent on him for support), being permitted to take a last farewell of her unfortunate husband. She arrived, and lost not a moment in her application for royal mercy; but, in the act of presenting her petition, she was rudely pushed aside by an attendant, and, falling into a fainting-fit, was conveyed out of the royal presence. The day of the Doctor's execution was drawing near. He was denied the use of pen, ink, and paper, and watched with the utmost vigilance. His distracted wife flew a second time to the feet of royalty, but was unsuccessful in her prayers. Her third application was to the Princess-Dowager of Wales; but all her efforts proved fruitless: and, lest any of the royal family should be further disturbed by her tears and supplications, orders were given to shut her up with her husband. A short time previous to his execution they had been separated; and, when he expressed an earnest desire to take an eternal farewell, he was told that she had been sent away early in the morning.

On Thursday, June 7th, about ten o'clock, Doctor Cameron seated himself in the sledge prepared to convey him to Tyburn, attended by Sir Richard Glyn and a party of the guards. On his way thither he appeared perfectly at ease, often addressing the weeping multitude, who gazed compassionately on him as he passed along the streets, in a tone so firm and composed, as

shewed that he met death, conscious of having deserved well of mankind for his good intentions, as well as for the great humanity that he had displayed in sparing those whom the fate of battle threw into the hands of his associates in the cause he had espoused, and which he was about to seal with his blood*. With the utmost fortitude and composure he mounted the fatal scaffold, and, having spent a few minutes in devotion, was turned off. He was suspended scarcely twenty-four minutes, when he was taken down, his head cut off, his heart torn out, and burnt. His

* Doctor Cameron being denied the use of pen, ink, and paper, except in the presence of one or more officers of justice, wrote with a pencil, on such scraps of paper as chance threw in his way, some circumstances to shew his true character to posterity, and gave them to his wife. Of his having done so he informed the sheriff in attendance, while on the cart, immediately previous to his being executed. The following are some extracts from those scraps.—*On the second slip of paper*:—"While in the Prince's army, I saved the lives and effects of more than three hundred persons in Scotland, who were firmly attached to *the Government*.—In July 1745, before our small army had reached Coiry-erg, it was moved by some of the chiefs to apply to the prince for a strong detachment of clans to distress Campbell of Inveraw's house and tenants in the neighbourhood; which my brother Lochiel and I so successfully opposed, by representing to our generous leader (who was always an enemy to oppression,) that such proceedings could be nowise useful to his undertaking, that the motion was entirely laid aside, to the no small mortification of the proposers. My brother and I likewise prevented such another design against Breadalbane, to the great satisfaction of our dear prince."—*On a third slip of paper*: "My brother and I did service to the town of Glasgow, of which the principal gentry of the neighbourhood were then, and are to this day, very sensible." On our march to Stirling, I myself hindered the whole town of Kirkintulloch from being destroyed, and its inhabitants put to the sword.—Mr. Campbell of Shawfield owes me likewise some small favours done to himself and family, which at least deserved some return in my behalf. And Lady Duncan Campbell of Lochnell, now in London, can, if she pleases, vouch for the truth of some of the above facts."—See London Mag. vol. xv. and Scots Mag. for the year 1753.—Thus was this worthy and heroic man deserted in his utmost need, even by those who could by small exertion have saved his life; and those, too, who having benefited by his clemency, when many of their friends were in his power, ought ever to have been mindful of it. The above statement was partly furnished from the public records of the period; and partly by the daughter of Doctor Cameron, who communicated them to the author's nearest relative.

body,

body, thus mangled, was put into a hearse, and conveyed privately to an undertaker's*. Thus died one of those victims, who, following the firm conviction of their understanding in what they deemed their indispensable duty, fell sacrifices to the woeful expediency of the times.

Mr. John Conachar, the companion of this unfortunate gentleman, who for some time had eluded the vigilance of those employed to ensnare him, was at length apprehended, on information given by his own man-servant, on the 30th of January 1755, immediately after celebrating the service appointed by the church of England for the anniversary of King Charles the Martyr †, and lodged in Stirling jail, on a charge of sedition; but this charge was afterwards changed to one for the breach of Act 34. Sec. 1. Parl. I. anno 1661, *Against Clandestine and Unlawful Marriages* ‡.—Mr. Conachar having been tried in the western circuit at Inveraray, April 11th 1755, a jury consisting chiefly of those of the name of *Campbell* returned a verdict

* “ Dr. Cameron's remains were carried from Mr. Stephenfon's, undertaker in the Strand, on Saturday June 9th, at twelve at night, and interred in the large vault in the Savoy chapel. Several gentlemen attended the funeral, who seemed greatly to lament his unhappy fate.” Scots Mag. June 1753.

† At his town house in Gortlach, parish of Abeifail, shire of Perth, twelve miles N. W. of Stirling.

‡ The son of this gentleman, Mr. James Conachar, Civil Engineer, died lately in India, whither he had gone to erect machinery on an extensive forest near Calicut. In his profession he was second to none in this country; but, having failed in business, the situation to which he was invited in India presenting itself, he accepted of the offers made him. Soon after his arrival, he was seized with the usual symptoms of a *liver complaint*, and died before he had completed the thirty-third year of his age, sincerely lamented: for, a young man possessed of a more affectionate heart, of juster notions of integrity and honour, withal sensible, well-informed, and accomplished in every substantial branch of knowledge, seldom appears in any age or country.—In him, the writer of these pages has lost a friend whom he tenderly loved.

in

in these words: "All in one voice find the pannel (prisoner) guilty of celebrating three several marriages in an inorderly manner, in terms of the libel; but, in respect of several alleviating circumstances, they recommend him to mercy." It was signed by Messrs. Archibald Campbell of Melford, Chancellor, (foreman,) and Niel Campbell of Loch-head, Clerk*." He was sentenced to be transported forth of Scotland for life! At the time when the smoking ashes of the desolated habitations of the northern parts of this island lay scattered to the winds of heaven, and the wounds of those who had bled in support of the declining house of Stuart were yet fresh, a man of Mr. Conachar's activity and popularity, officiating in his clerical functions, was viewed by the friends of the government with a jealous eye; and as he was the clergyman who attended Mr. James Stuart, a supposed accessory to the murder of Mr. Colin Campbell of Glenure, in his last moments at the place of execution, on the spot where the murder was perpetrated, in a wood near to the ferry of Ballachorlish †, he was the more obnoxious to the ill-will of those who were of the jury that condemned Mr. Stuart: consequently, Mr. Conachar was a marked man, and eventually felt the keen tooth of party rage.

One of the great evils of civil commotions is forfeiture of lands; and the miseries that such *necessary* acts engender are distressing in the extreme. An instance of this kind was the cause of much contention, which terminated in the murder of the gentleman above alluded to.

Stuart of Ardsziel, for having been concerned in the rebellion of 1745, was attainted, and his lands confiscated. Campbell of

* Scots Mag. for June 1753, p. 315, 316.

† Mr. Campbell of Glenure was assassinated on the 14th of May 1752.

Glenure was appointed steward on the forfeited estate of Ardshiel, and under him the brother of the former possessor. The tenants were subject to the immediate governance of the latter gentleman, and looked up to him as their master and the representative of their late landlord.

Campbell of Glenure, who had hitherto behaved with delicacy and consideration, in order to accommodate some of his own friends with farms on the lands of Ardshiel, gave directions for such removals as he thought proper, and took some legal steps that were ill received by the tenants. A man, who was little better than an out-law, of the name of Stuart, commonly called *Donald Brech*, it should seem, way-laid Mr. Campbell in a wood near Ballachorlish and shot him dead on the spot. The wretch absconded, and it was alleged that he was instigated to this horrid deed by Mr. James Stuart already mentioned. This unfortunate gentleman was tried, condemned, and ordered to be hung in chains; which sentence was put in execution on the spot where the murder was committed. Thus we have a melancholy instance of the evils which arise from confiscation of property, when a new order of things disarranges the old established customs, and wherelocal prejudices obtain, and have such deep root as to bias every principle of rectitude in the rude minds of the weak and ignorant*. But to return:—

As

* An instance of that animosity so detestable among men of narrow views possessed of power, is, to the eternal disgrace of those concerned, held up to execration in the mode of conducting the trial of this unfortunate gentleman. At the same time that it exhibits strong traits of the feudal jurisdiction, it also shews, that, under the forms of legal justice, the most flagrant acts of oppression may be sanctioned by the law of the land, and by a jury influenced by authority, and overawed by the presence of judges who may presume to interpret the law, construe vague allegations into substantial evidence,

As we proceed from *Brianchoil*, the place which gave occasion to the preceding digression, we fall in with a brook that descends rapidly from the mountains, through a winding valley to the right,

evidence, and dictate the application of supposititious criminality in the case of the unfortunate person who may chance to be put on his trial before a court unduly appointed, venal, or corrupted.

It is confidently asserted, and believed by many still living, that James Stuart was condemned innocently, and suffered unjustly, for the murder of Campbell of Glenure; nay, some go the length of saying that he was previously deemed a sacrifice to the resentment of the Campbells; and it must be confessed that the strange mode of procedure on his trial justifies the assertion.—Let us examine: A man was shot dead on the spot, but by whom was not proved, though strong suspicions fell on Donald Brech Stuart, who had absconded: yet, as *an accessory*, this gentleman, who, it was proved, was in his own house when the deed was perpetrated, was imprisoned *without even a warrant*, no one suffered to visit him, so that he might have an opportunity of preparing for his defence;—was tried at *Inverary*, the *Duke of Argyle*, as Lord Justice-General, presiding in court; and of the jury *eleven were Campbells*, all of them holding their lands as subject superior of the Duke; so that here was an instance, even in modern times, of one sitting in the double capacity of *judge* and *chief* where the spirit of *Clanship* must have influenced no less than the spirit of *party*. The following extracts from this interesting trial will throw better light on the transaction than any comment whatever: “When Mr. Miller, one of the pannel’s (prisoner’s) lawyers, desired that the deponing witnesses (Mr. Campbell of Airds) might be interrogated as to the pannel’s moral character in the country, and particularly whether or not he was a God-fearing man, and generally employed in taking care of the affairs of *widows* and *orphans*?” the Lord Justice General was pleased to oppose the interrogatory, saying words to this purport: “Would you pretend, Sir, to prove the moral character of the pannel, after being guilty of *rebellion*, a crime that comprehends almost all other crimes? Here you will find *treasons*, *murders*, *rapines*, *oppressions*, *perjuries*,” &c.—To which the lawyer answered, that he abhorred *rebellion* as much as any person whatever; but, with great submission, he was entitled to plead for the pannel, that it was foreign to the present case, since the king had been pleased to grant an indemnity in which the pannel was comprehended; and therefore he could legally interrogate the witnesses as to the pannel’s moral character. “This was never refused,” added he: “to give an instance: the famous COLLINS was a rebel to his God and Saviour, as his writings testify, yet his most zealous enemies never denied his moral character



View of the spot by Mackay's Camp

J. Walker sculp

Loch-Raitin, West-end.

Engraved and Published March 1. 1852. by Alfred Leeman 6. Ross, Tharros, & Co.

right, which we pass, and ascend the shoulder of a hill that rises precipitous from the water's edge, then descend gradually into a wood overhung with huge fragments of rocks which threaten instant destruction in their fall. In passing through this wood, (*Coilichrab*,) the western extremity of the lake is seen at intervals through the glade, bounded by the dreary precipices of *Glengyle*. On emerging from the wood of Coilichrah, we may take our stations for views of the lake, which here sends forward an arm through Glengyle, at Mr. M'Pharlane's house, a neat though plain mansion, where we command two or three points of view to great advantage.

The first of these stations is from *Port-nan-ellan*, close to Mr. M'Pharlane's house. The scenery of the lake exhibits here the most picturesque flow of harmonizing lines, bold masses, and varied hues. When the woods put on the yellow tints of autumn, and the bosom of the lake is clear, reflective, and finely illumined in gradations of aerial softness, the effect of sun-set

ter to be extremely good.'—The clerk, however, was forbidden to mark any thing said by the witnesses relating to the goodness of the pannel's moral character; as is observed by Mr. Brown (554).—Remarkable was the reflection of the poor pannel himself on this occasion, who said to his agent, 'It is all over now; my lawyers need give themselves no further trouble about me: my doom is as certain as if it were pronounced. *I always dreaded this place, (Inverary,) and the influence that prevails in it; but this out-does all. God forgive them.*' p. 558. Mr. Brown (another of the prisoner's lawyers) was interrupted by Duncan Campbell of South-hall, one of the jury, who said aloud, '*Pray Sir, cut short; we have enough of it, and are quite tired, the trial having lasted long.*'—It is true, the trial had lasted long. But *nine* hours at least of the time spent were employed by the prosecutors for *one* hour by the pannel.—The jury had sat in court *fifty hours without sleep*; the last day of the trial no notes were taken by the jury-men; and in this state of the business, a verdict was brought, of Guilty art and part in the murder of Colin Campbell of Glenure.

Rob Roy, alias Campbell, alias M'Gregor, the person here alluded to, was brother to the Laird of M'Gregor, the representative of the Royal Clan *Alpine*, (a tribe at one period of no small consideration among our Celtic mountaineers,) and was, in the absence of his brother, appointed to the command of that clan *. At the battle of Sheriff-moor, (A. D. 1715,) Rob Roy, who

—“ Stood watch
On a hill, for to catch
The booty for ought that I saw, man ;
For he ne'er advanced
From the place he was stanced,
Till nae mare to do there at a' man,”

is said to have made this reply to one of the officers of King James's army, who had been dispatched to order him into action

* The chief of the M'Gregors, if still in being, is a very poor man, and lives in a miserable hut on the banks of Lochlomond. Sir John Murray, alias M'Gregor, has lately assumed the arms and name of that clan ; great part of whom consider him as having well-grounded pretensions too, as the chief of the Royal Clan *Alpine*. Here seems something peculiarly hard in the fate of this clan (M'Gregor). For several centuries back they have been viewed by the rest of the clans with detestation and horror ; though for what just reasons our Scottish writers seem greatly at variance in their conjectures. Some allege, but do not pretend to bring forward proofs sufficient, that the M'Gregors were a disgrace to the rest of our clans, by being more cruel, rapacious, and blood-thirsty than their neighbours, who found them too intractable ever to form an alliance with them ; of consequence, they became at last so obnoxious, as to render a total extirpation of the clan a matter of necessity ; and accordingly, the legislature consented to a proscription *en masse* of the M'Gregors, who were actually hunted with blood-hounds like wild beasts ! On the other hand, it is said, a more injured clan than the M'Gregors does not exist ; for they were ever found true to their king and country, though, unfortunately for themselves, they were often on the wrong side of the question : but, so terrible were they to their enemies, that unless they had been entirely extirpated, they would soon have become an over-match, and destroyed that *balance of power* among our mountaineers, so essential to belligerous jurisprudence. So that, by the intrigues of their enemies at court, their awful doom was fixed, and carried into horrid execution by royal authority. Act 1. Charles I. c. 30.

with

with his followers: "If they cannot do it (said Roy) without me, they cannot do it with me," and so left the field. It was alleged by some, that the Duke of Argyle, who commanded the forces against the rebels, had such influence with Rob Roy as to keep him at a distance; and it is even said that the fortune of the day turned, in great measure, on this manœuvre *. Till the day of his death, he ceased not to harass those whom he deemed oppressors of the poor; and particularly the families of Montrose, Murray, and Drummond, the three great proprietors of that district which is supposed to have been in the possession of the M'Gregors, and which Rob Roy asserted was his by right of heritage, and the sword his charter by which he maintained that right. "Roy had his good qualities," says Pennant, "and, strange to say," (adds he,) "was a true friend to the widow and orphan †." His son, it appears, followed his father's footsteps pretty closely ‡; for, in our public records for the year 1753, we find, that *Rob Roy*, alias M'Gregor, son of the famous Rob Roy, and brother to James, was apprehended at the fair in Gartmore, by a party of soldiers from Invernaid, committed to Stirling castle May 19th, and brought to Edinburgh tolbooth on the 26th. He was fugitated, first in 1736, for murder, and again in 1751, for the forcible abduction and marriage of Mrs. Jean Kay, heiress of Edinbelly §. On the 24th of January (1753) came on, before the Court of Justici-

* See Campbell's Life of John Duke of Argyle, and also Boyse's History of the Rebellion.

† Pennant's Voyage to the Hebrides, vol. 2. p. 204.

‡ See Note [D] at the end of the Volume.

§ Scots Mag. vol. xiv. p. 556. for 1752.

ary,

ary, the trial of Robert M'Gregor, alias Campbell, alias Drummond, alias Robert Orig, son of the deceased Robert M'Gregor, commonly called *Rob Roy*, indicted, at the instance of his Majesty's advocate, for the crimes of hamesucken, forcible abduction, forcible marriage, and rape. The fact founded on, and the libel, *mutatis mutandis*, were the same in this case as in that of the pannel's brother James*. On the 29th the jury gave in their verdict, "finding, all in one voice, that the pannel is guilty, art and part, of entering, with other lawless persons, armed, the house of Edinbelly, which belonged to the deceased Jean Kay, designed in the indictment, where she and family then dwelt, and, in a forcible and hostile manner, within the

* The Lord Advocate, in the pleadings on the trial of James Stuart for the murder of Colin Campbell of Glenure, before mentioned, in the following passages alludes to this James.—“ And you must have all heard of the late barbarous enterprize of Robert M'Gregor and his accomplices, in carrying off from her own house the unfortunate Jean Kay, a young widow, and an heiress, in the depth of winter, and middle of the night, into remote parts of the highlands, and causing her to be married to that Robert, a person of no fortune, and an outlaw for murder; for being a conductor in which attempt, James Drummond, alias M'Gregor, a brother of Robert, has been lately convicted. The excuse offered for James M'Gregor was the same mistaken principle that appears to have misled the unhappy prisoner at the bar. It was said, that James M'Gregor was actuated by one of the best affections; he was seeking no personal advantage to himself by that enterprize, but only to make the fortune of Robert his brother.” The fate of James was less melancholy than that of Robert his brother; for, while in prison, his daughter contrived his escape in the following manner: Being confined in the castle of Edinburgh, his daughter had liberty to visit him at stated times; and, being in the habit of doing so frequently, she was the less suspected of any design to favour his escape: this, however, she effected, with considerable address. Having disguised herself in the dress of a cobbler, she caused her father to exchange clothes with her; and, feigning to quarrel with the pretended cobbler for having brought a pair of shoes but ill mended, she scolded him heartily in the hearing of the centinels without; while he, muttering his discontent at such rough usage, passed the guards unsuspected, and thus got clear off. The gates of the city were shut as soon as his escape was discovered, yet every search after him proved fruitless.

said

faid house, did attack, invade, and lay violent hands upon the person of the said Jean Kay, and did carry her out and away from the said house." The lords sentenced the pannel to be hanged in the Grafs-market of Edinburgh on the 6th of February next (1754). The condemnation of this persecuted man was one of those acts at which the feeling mind recoils with horror. The circumstances attending the alleged criminality of the case were viewed differently at the very time when people's minds were agitated by the bold and barefaced measures which the culprit adopted in carrying off his wife; for such she always admitted herself to be, cohabited with him as such, and paid and received visits with him among their relations and neighbours. These circumstances were offered to be proved in open court, but rejected. It came out on the trial, that the whole affair had been preconcerted between the parties; so as to give it the appearance of a run-away-marriage, and thus save the lady, a widow of nineteen*, from the displeasure of her mother and other relatives, who were averse to the match. Yet, so malignantly was the prosecution carried on against this unfortunate outlaw, that a petition was presented to the Court of Session, February 12th, 1751, by the mother and uncle of Jean Kay, representing the affair of the marriage as a breach of the peace, although several attempts had been made, with the assistance of the military, to take her from her *pretended* husband; and praying, that a steward might be appointed on her estate, with power to apply the necessary sums for carrying on the prosecution against her husband, in order to bring him and his brothers, and their accomplices, to justice; the prayer of which petition was granted.

* She had been the wife of John Wight of Easter-Glins.

On hearing of this, 'Robert and his wife repaired to Edinburgh, and presented a counter-petition, which was rejected. A second was presented; but it shared the same fate. On the 18th of March his wife was examined by three of the criminal-court judges, viz. Lords Justice Clerk, Drummore, and Elchies; when she acknowledged that she had been married, and that she inclined to adhere to the marriage, and live in comfort with her husband. But her mother and friends persuading the judges that, by giving her over in charge to them, the false impressions under which she then laboured would be soon changed into very different sensations, and the real state of the case would be thus known, they ordered Jean Kay into the custody of a Mr. Wightman of Maulslie, residing in the Potter-row, near Edinburgh. Here she remained in close confinement, centinels being placed at the door of the house by order of the magistrates, from the 18th of March till the 4th of June, when a declaration, which in the mean time had been obtained, was adhered to before the Lord Justice Clerk and Lord Drummore, in which the unfortunate delinquent was libelled by his infatuated wife for the crimes above-mentioned. After emitting the declarations contained in this libel, she was set at liberty; and, without being permitted to have so much as one interview with her husband, was hurried away to Glasgow by her mother, where she was attacked by the small-pox, of which she died on the 4th of October 1751. Her unfortunate husband was seized, condemned, and hanged, as already mentioned*. Thus we

are

* In order to aggravate the case of this unfortunate man, every thing that could be brought against his moral character was heaped together, as a formidable body of evidence; among other things, that of murder, houghing of cattle; and the court sustained these

1671, P. 130.



Probert sculp.

Sketch on the Spot by Alex. Campbell.

Hill of Benin from the Lake

London, Published March 1 1802 by A. G. Johnson & R. B. Pateranger Row

are furnished with woeful examples of the rancorous spirit with which, even in latter times, the M'Gregors were hunted down. But, happily, the time is past; and this clan may once more become as respectable as it is formidable, and raise itself above the narrow prejudices of party spirit, so long the disgrace of this part of our island. But, to return:

On leaving this part of our excursion, we ought, if possible, to sail down the lake, on our return. The scenery, in this case, appears with every advantage; as, when the weather is favourable, we can more easily conduct our movements on the water, and take such stations, in the middle, or on the sides of it, as we may judge most suitable to our purpose.

On our approach to the eastern shores of the Lake, the entrance into it presents a wild magnificence, peculiar almost to the spot which we now survey. On the left, the hoary cliffs, hung with weeping birch, and variety of brush-wood matted and thick woven, are seen shelving in airy grandeur; while the bare pinnacle of *Binean* above the rest, and directly opposite to *Benvenu*, raises "fantastic forms unseen, save to the poet's eye."

High on the top-cliffs of yon conic steep
 Scotland's dread Genius stood, and gaz'd afar
 On Rome's proud legions. Hark! the sounding shield
 Twangs on his arm, while echo pours along,
 And rouses Albion's chieftains—Quick thro' wood,
 O'er wild, from winding valley, mountain, plain,

these as valid aggravations of his guilt, particularly that of habit and repute of theft;—but as to the murder of John M'Laren of Western-Inveraray with which he was, together with his brothers, accused, he stood acquitted; as also of the houghing and wounding of cattle; these things not having been proven.

Come pouring forth, fierce, and indignant, those
 To conquer, to repel the foe, resolv'd
 Gloriously to fall, fighting for freedom,
 Freedom's injured cause.—Behold them now,
 Marshall'd in lengthen'd line, a hardy race
 Of dauntless warriors, savage, fierce, relentless;
 Moving along to meet th' invading crew.—
 Sublime in ire, the Guardian Genius shakes
 His pond'rous javelin, stamps his steel-shod heel—
 The conscious mountain reels; shook to the centre,
 And now explosive, rocks head-long hurl down,
 Huge in chaotic wildness, rude emas'd;
 As bounding in acceleration dreadful!
 Shattering each oak, tearing the wooded steep,
 And crushing in their course each living form.—
 How vast the ruin!—

The Spirit of the Lake in depth profound,
 Starts 'mid the dire convulsion, — shrieks aloud,
 And flares in wild confusion. Now askance
 He darts a fearful look, where undismay'd
 The Guardian Genius stands, while round him flash
 Heaven's thunder-bolts; and awful thunder peals—
 'Tis past. — Nature now pauses.—
 Calm is the bosom of the deep, and still
 The darken'd air — The Spirit of the Lake
 Solemn and low mutters his vast amazement,
 To whom the Guardian Genius:

“ Ascend with me; yon coming blast
 See, down the Lake it scuds along,
 Lashing the wild waves—bind it fast;
 And on its speed, the clouds among,
 Swift dart we to yon darken'd strand,
 Where Roman legions dare profane
 The hallow'd temples of our land.
 Now, haste, away — in vain, in vain
 They tread exulting o'er our fields.—
 Sons of the mountains! meet the foe
 In conflict fierce.—He yields, he yields!
 Scatter'd in wild dismay, now lo
 Seeks shelter in his ships.”—

To whom the Spirit of the Lake
 — “ Tis done, 'tis done—
 The battle's fought, — the battle's won ;
 Our warriors crown'd with victory return,
 And find repose amid our mountains wild,
 Where sweet domestic joys most mild
 Await the truly brave, whose bosoms burn
 With love of country, love of human kind !” —

The pleasures of imagination, amid the scenes that here present themselves, can hardly be suppressed. “ As they are the inlets (as Akenfide elegantly expreffes it) of fome of the moft exquisite pleasures we are acquainted with, men of warm and fenfible tempers have fought means to recall the delightful perceptions they afford, independent of the objects which originally produced them. This gave rife to the imitative or designing arts; fome of which, like painting and fculture, directly copy the external appearances which were admired in nature; others, like mufic and poetry, bring them back to remembrance by figns univerfally eftablifhed and underftood.”

Here the painter, (whole practifed eye fees at a glance the fubject that fuits beft the pencil,) as he fails slowly along, will find ample fcope for felection and arrangement. Indeed, the artift poffeffed of that genuine enthufiafm neceffary in the mind of one keen in the purfuit of excellence, can never be at a lofs, where fuch a profufion of picturesque objects is to be met with; and while his fketeh-book and pencil are in his hands, he may catch, in a favourable point of view, fome bold feature, or happy effect, and render it fubfervient to the compofition of the fublime in landfcape. Thus *Salvator Rosa*, and the immortal *Claude Lorrain* made their ftudies after nature; it is unneceffary to fay with what fuccefs.

On taking leave of this region of sublimity and historical incident, we feel recalled to the mind the images which were excited as we rambled through the intricate defiles and mazes on the pleasant and truly admirable banks of *Loch-Kaitrin*.

We now return by the side of the Lochs Achray and Venachar; the scenery being reversed in point of prospect, keeps the attention ever on the stretch, and rewards it with variety and interest.

A craggy knoll, insulated by two branches of the stream that empties Loch-Kaitrin into Loch-Achray, is shewn to the traveller as neutral ground; to whom it belongs not having been properly ascertained, there being two claimants*, neither of whom has yet made good his pretensions to this barren spot: of course it remains an emblem of former times, when deadly feuds decided who should have the right.

Formerly the whole of this district belonged to the Earl of Mar, but was afterwards exchanged for the estate of *Aloa*. A more complete forest for deer can hardly be found any where; it being supplied with wood and water, and almost inaccessible in many parts: the range is extensive, mountainous, and abounding in springs and most excellent pasture; and, what animals of the deer kind love above every thing else, silence and repose seem to have fixed their residence here.

Amid these glens a *faithful few* adhere to the almost extinct family of Stuart. "Henry IX. (Cardinal York)" say they, "yet liveth; should he not marry and have issue †, the King of Sardinia is the heir apparent; and should he even fail in

* The Earl of Moray, and the Duke of Montrose.

† This man is past 70, and moreover a Cardinal!

heirs to the British throne, others may be found, whose title is preferable to the house of Hanover!" Even at this day, *a faithful few* meet in Edinburgh, and preserve the ancient establishment of *Church and King* as before the revolution. They scruple not to assert, that the qualification of the Scottish Episcopal clergy, in 1688, was a gross schism, and that their minds may yet be enlightened, in consequence whereof they may be enabled to trace their way back, and return into the bosom of the church, in all humility and godly sorrow.

Although this part of the highlands is best adapted for sheep, yet several patches on the sides of the lakes are cultivated with grain, and in the modern modes of agriculture too: not only the Scottish plough is changed for the English, but even threshing machines have lately been introduced. The former division of *run-rig* is laid aside, and the small farmers have their allotments better defined and more compact, which is a great improvement. In July early potatoes are ready; in August the flax is pulled; in September, the barley harvest commences; and the oats, and late pease and potatoes, are ready by the middle of October, and sometimes earlier, in good seasons*. There is a brisk market for every article of sustenance in this parish; and provisions are pretty reasonable. In short, its advantages are many, and its means of improvement within the reach of public spirit and industry, well regulated and properly applied.

Instead of pursuing, on our return, the course of that branch of the Teath which issues from Loch-Venachar, we keep to the left, along the base of *Benledi*, and pass the north branch of the Teath over the bridge at *Bo-castle*, formerly the residence of

* Statistical Accounts.

the *Balfours, of Burlie*, now the property of the Earl of Breadalbane. The tradition respecting the manner of obtaining this castle is not very honourable to the ancestors into whose possession it first came. But, if a strict scrutiny were to be made into the titles of the possessors of landed property, what might not the consequences be? This farm, in point of hill grazing and low pasture, is extensive and profitable. On the plain, the appearance of an artificial bank has given rise to the conjecture that formerly lines of approach were made to reduce the castle which somewhere (the precise spot not known) was in this place, as its name *Bo-castle* implies: but to indulge in conjectural etymology, and fanciful theory, may certainly mislead, and inculcate error: Hence the folly of seeking after vain derivatives, without import or meaning; nevertheless, remains of antiquities and names of places are frequently to be met with throughout Scotland, respecting which it may happen that a coincidence between words and local circumstances does exist: yet it must be confessed, *somewhat too much* of this kind is manifest in our Statistical Accounts, that might have been spared. Whatever is authenticated by history ought never to be omitted; but surely fiction ought not to be substituted for fact; neither ought ideal fancies to occupy the place of genuine data.

As we pass over the bridge of *Kilmachooch*, we see a cemetery on the right, in which formerly stood a chapel, dedicated to St. Chüg*, whose festival falls on the 26th November, on which a cattle market is held in the neighbourhood. There is an artificial mount called *Tomachessaig* at the bridge of Callander,

* Probably the same with St. Machute, Bishop and Confessor, A. D. 553. See Keith's Catalogue, p. 234.

where

where the church-yard is, dedicated, as some suppose, to “*St. Mackeffage* Bishop and Confessor in Scotland*,” A. D. 520. At *Little Leney*, the burying place of the *Buchanans*, a knoll, similar to that above-mentioned, but somewhat larger, is still extant. Tradition says, that these little mounts were used for butts on Sundays after evening-service, when the exercise of the bow and arrow was kept up. This practice was universal all over Scotland at so late a period as the accession of our Sixth James to the English throne †. In the time of James I. the best and most accomplished of our Scottish Princes, archery, as a military art, was held in high estimation. In his reign an act was passed ordaining “every person after twelve years of age, to busk (*i. e.* equip) himself as *an archer*: that bow be maid near every paroch kirk, wharin, on holydays, men may cum and schutte at least thrice about, and have usage of archerie; and whasa uses not the said archerie, the laird of the land, or the ferriff, shall raise (*i. e.* fine) him a wedder.” Parl. I. Act 18. By a subsequent act, *waipon scharwing* (*i. e.* a general muster) with bow and arrow was appointed four times in the year. Although the introduction of fire-arms has caused the total disuse of archery, yet, so fond are the Scots of this ancient armour, that, even at this

* Keith’s Catalogue, p. 232. Near Lufs on Lochlmond, a *cairn*, or heap of stones, is to be seen in memory of this Saint. See Pennant’s Tour in Scotland, p. 247.

† “Their weapons against their enemies are bows and arrows. The arrows, for the most part hooked, with a barb on either side, which once entered within the body cannot be drawn forth again, unless the wound be made wider. Some of them fight with swords and axes. In place of a drum they have a bagpipe. They delight much in music, but chiefly in harps and clairschoes of their own fashion. They sing verses prettily compounded, containing (for the most part) praises of valiant men. There is not almost any other argument whereof their rhymes entreat.” See Description of the Isles of Scotland.” London 1603.

day,

day, the royal company of Scottish archers keep up regular meetings, and shoot annually for a prize at Edinburgh, and likewise at Muffelburgh.

The traveller who may incline to visit the *Loch of Monteith*, and *Lochaird*, a distance, in all, from Callandar of about twelve miles, will be much gratified with scenery, if not sublime, yet little less interesting than that already visited. The Loch of Monteith is a sheet of water remarkable not only for picturesque beauty, but also for having, in former times, been chosen as a sweet retreat for a Priory, the ruins of which are still to be seen on the largest of two small islands, that constitute the chief ornaments of this Lake. This Monastery, namely, "*Insula Sti. Colmoci*," belonged to the Abbey of *Cambus-Kenneth*, already noticed. It is said to have been founded by *Murdoch* earl of Monteith, who was killed at the battle of *Duplin* in the year 1332; but Spottiswood seems to doubt this, as in *Prynne's Collections*, vol. 3. p. 653, mention is made that "*Adam Priour de l'Isle de Saint Colmoch* swore fealty to *Edward I.* in the year 1296, as also did *Alexander* Earl of *Monteith*, father to the above Earl *Murdoch**. The Loch of Monteith contains trout, perch, pike and eel. Salmon also were to be found in the Forth, but have nearly disappeared since the mofs of Kincardine began to be floated down the river.

Lochaird is about five miles south-west of the Loch of Monteith. The remains of a castellet, said to have been built by the Duke of Albany in the minority of James I. are still to be seen on a small island in the midst of the Lake.

* See Spottiswood's Account of Religious-houses.

To the botanist, as well as to the mineralogist, the grounds over which we travelled present a rich variety of objects for speculation.

Among the botanic plants which here abound, are to be found liver-wort (*lichen caninus* of Linnæus), the medicinal qualities of which are by DR. MEAD highly extolled in cases of *hydrophobia*:—*uva ursi arbutus*, Linn. (whortleberry), a low shrub, the leaves of which somewhat resemble the myrtle, and are deemed medicinal; it was much recommended by DR. DE HAEN OF VIENNA in nephritic complaints, and in cases of ulcerations in the urinary passage:—*club-moss* (*lycopodium*, Linn.) in variety; it was formerly used by the natives as a very drastic emetic:—*bottle-moss*, (*splachnum*) *bryums*, *hypnum*s, and other mosses in great variety, as described by LIGHTFOOT in his *Flora Scotica*; as also of the class *Cryptogamia*, the twenty-fourth in the order of Linnæus, in number four, viz. flags, ferns, mushrooms, mosses, with their genera and species; but this class of plants is but slightly noticed in the *Flora Scotica*.

The minerals of this district are numerous and valuable; particularly the fossils. A lead mine was formerly wrought in the N. W. side of Benledi, that yielded twenty shillings worth of silver in the hundred weight of ore; but since this tract of country was restored to the original proprietor, Mr. Drummond of Perth, little has been done in search of more valuable veins. This certainly is a neglect, and ought not to remain so. There are, no doubt, many veins of rich quality; as, on several parts of the Perth estate hereabouts, specimens of lead ore have been picked up lately, that sufficiently indicate an abundance of this valuable metal, so much used in the arts.

Of the fossil substances of stone, a great variety are to be met with in this district. Among others, the pudding stone (*wurmstein* gum*, under which *Werner* comprehends calcareous quartz, pebbles of various colours, siliceous schistus in argillaceous beds, or in cements of sand-stone) forms the greater part of the species of rock above Callander. It is remarkably durable; and several of the houses in the village are built of it: it has a beautiful appearance, having a deep red cement, through which are interspersed pebbles of various colours. The vein of this rock stretches in the direction S. W. and N. E. for several miles, through rivers, lakes, valleys and mountains; the strata lie in flags of vast dimensions, and of no determinate thickness, the cutters inclining variously. Two parallel veins to this pudding-stone rock, the one of lime stone, of a fine blue, and streaked with white, the other of slate, of a deep purple, run at the distance of a mile from each other, over a vast tract of country; as also a vein of sand-stone rock, in the same direction. Granite of various form and colour, but chiefly grey and blue, compose the greater part of the mountainous regions of this district, together with marble, that might be wrought with considerable profit and advantage. A great variety of argillaceous earth is to be met with in every direction; the blue, grey, and white clays are remarkably fine, and might be turned to good account in the manufacture of porcelain.

The formation of mountains is one of the sublimest subjects for speculation in the whole range of natural history. The various theories, splendid as hypothetical, that have served to

* See Kirwan's Elements of Mineralogy, Cronstedt's Sept. Min. and Schemisser's Syst. of Min.

amuse, while they failed to instruct, seem to have vanished one after the other, as the fleeting phantoms which bewilder the heated imagination of the speculative visionary in philosophy; without so much as suggesting to the mind that some time was lost in the pursuit. The prevailing notion among mineralogists of the highest repute is, that mountains "seem to be formed by precipitation or deposition*." The primitive mountains, or rocks, have their foundations as deep-seated in the earth as the labour of man has penetrated; and they also compose the most elevated parts of the known world. The granite rocks are more universal than any other throughout the various sections of the globe yet discovered. This granite is considered by mineralogists to be of two specific kinds, which they denominate *primary* and *secondary*; the former containing no petrifications of animals, vegetables, or metals; the latter containing occasionally these; as also, opal, topaz, shorl, garnets, amethysts, and adamantine spar. The secondary mountains are stratified; such as basalt, stratified argillaceous schistus (slaty clay), aluminous schistus, lime-stone, marl, sand-stone, whet-stone, mill-stone, pudding-stone †, coal, clay, marble, limestone, loadstone, chalk, flint, barytes, iron, lead, copper, rock-salt, gypsum: to which may be added, *alluvial* ‡ and volcanic mountains; the former consisting chiefly of bituminous wood, loam, sand, and potter's clay; while the products of the latter are, lava, pumice, and volcanic ashes. When to these are added organized vegetable and animal earth, the

* Schemisser's System of Min.

† This stone obtained its name from our *Englisch lapidaries*.

‡ The products of alluvial mountains are, marshy iron ore, aluminous earth and turf, such as pitch turf, moor turf, moss turf, heath turf, &c.

is field labour; but there are also weavers, taylors, carpenters, mafons, &c.; on the whole they are sober and industrious; and there are very few poor on the parish. There are two great fairs, and three leffer for country meetings, at Callander; and much bufinefs is tranfacted at the two former by English drovers.

Neither the horses nor the horned cattle in Callander are of the true highland breed; yet the former are hardy and fure-footed; and the latter feed up well, and are fit for the dairy. About five and twenty or thirty years ago, the fheep and farming bufinefs was firft introduced into the highlands; when this diftrict was among the earlieft to embrace the speculation*: and a profitable one it has proved indeed; at leaft to the land-owners and fubftantial taxmen.—It has already been noticed how prejudicial this mode of farming is to population; and yet, happily, it feems to have had little effect in this way in thefe parts; for, according to the returns made in 1755, the number of fouls in the parish of Callander amounted to 1750; and by the Statiftical Account in 1790, it was 2100; fo that it appears the number had increafed 350 fince the former period.

The fifh found in the lakes and rivers here, are falmon, trouts, greylings, pikes, jacks, eels; to thefe may be added that fpecies of mufcles in which pearls are found; but this latter fifh feems exhausted, from the great eagernes which the people on the banks of the Teath difcovered to become rich by means of the *pearl fifhery*.

Although this diftrict can hardly be deemed *highbland*, yet the language fpoken by the generality of the people is a bad dialect of the ancient Celtic or Gaelic, greatly corrupted, and vulgar in

* See Note [E], at the end of the volume.

point of pronunciation. The dialect of the Scoto-Saxon, or language of the lowlands, is spoken much in the same vulgar and drawling accent. The customs, however, of this part of the country are altogether highland. For example: on the first day of May (old style), which is *Beltin-day**, the boys of the neighbouring hamlets meet, and retire to some sequestered spot amid the hills, where they cut a circular trench out of the green turf, in the centre of which a table is formed, round which they sit and eat a repast dressed in the following manner for the occasion: Milk and eggs being made into the consistence of a custard, an oatmeal cake is kneaded very thick, and toasted by being set up against a stone at the embers: this is called a *bonnach-chloich*, or stone-cake. As to each person present a portion of this cake is to be distributed, it is cut into the requisite number of pieces. One bit of it is then bedaubed with charcoal, and the whole put into a bonnet. Each lad draws out a bit; and he to whose lot the black falls, is said to be devoted to *Beal-teine*, Beltin, or Baal's-fire, as a sacrifice. Instead of actual immolation, however, the victim is made to skip three times through the glowing embers, and here the ceremony ends. Another custom, also the relick of ancient superstition, is still observed, though, like the former, it is falling rapidly into neglect. On the 11th of November, *All-Saints even*, fires, usually made of ferns, are kindled on knolls within sight of each other, and the boys interested in each fire set stones on end amid the ashes, which

* The *Palilia*, or feast of *Pales*, goddess of shepherds, was observed by the Romans on the 11th of the Kalends of May, with great solemnity. Among other ceremonies they concluded with dancing over the fires they had made in the fields, of such stubble as they could gather for the purpose. This festival is called sometimes *Parilia a pariendo*, from orisons made for the fecundity of their flocks and herds. See Ovid. *Fast.* v. 721, &c.

are collected carefully into a circular form, one stone for each of the party concerned; and if it should happen that any stone is moved out of its place before next morning, the person represented by such stone, is supposed to be *fey*, i. e. unfortunate, devoted, and doomed to die within a year from that day. But through most other parts of the north and west of Scotland the festival of All-Saints, or *Hallow-e'en* is still kept with much fantastic ceremony and festivity; for a characteristic description of which, see Burns's admirable poem intitled *Halloween*, subjoined to which are notes that explain many of the strange customs not altogether exploded even to this day.

As we proceed on our journey from Callander westward, we see on the right the family mansion of the *Buchanans of Leney*; the present representative is Hamilton of Bardowie. The charter of this family is as old as the year 1247, having been obtained in the 23d year of Alexander II.'s reign*. It appears from the remains of an old castle † at the manse of Callander, (on which the date above the principal door is 1596) once the residence of the Livingstons of Linlithgow, now the property of the family of Perth, that near the foot of these mountains was considered a favourable retirement in former times, as on any sudden emergency the hills might be resorted to; and, amid the fastnesses of the Grampians the enemy be set at defiance. On approaching the *Pafs of Leney*, the traveller must be struck with the appearance of the vast wooded amphitheatre rising in solemn grandeur before him.

* See Buchanan of Achmor's History of the surname Buchanan, p. 96, 97.

† In 1737 this castle, then completely in ruins, was taken down to build a mill and a dam head dike. The present manse was also in part built of what remained about twenty years since. Stat. Acc. Parish *Callander*.

On passing through the small village of *Kilmaboog*, which is pleasantly situated along the river *Teath*, we soon enter *the wood of Lainy*, and reach the *Pass* to the north-west Highlands. At present, the wood being cut down, as we approach, the bending precipices are seen in full mass, gloomy and solemn. But, before the wood was stripped of its honours, the traveller, long ere he arrived at the *Pass*, heard, but saw not the whole volume of the river as it rushed through the huge fragments of rock that here form the bulwark of this narrow entrance into the Grampians; and on his arrival, he caught a glimpse of its foaming fury as it burst forth: while, turning to his right, he found himself immediately under a vast precipice, on the hanging cliffs of which trees hid from his sight the vast height to which it towered; and, before him, he perceived at its base, only a few feet cut out of the solid rock, impending over a roaring cataract, critical in the extreme, by which he was to gain access into the fastnesses, where, till towards the middle of the present century, a people remained, “untouched by the Roman or Saxon invasions on the south, and by those of the Danes on the east and west skirts of their country; the unmixed remains of that Celtic empire which once stretched from the pillars of Hercules to Archangel*.”

Having gained entrance, we soon reach the western extremity of the wood; on clearing which, to one who never has been before in the Highlands, a new scene of magnificence presents itself. A glen, wild, sterile, bleak, shut out from all but the inhabitants of the neighbouring mountains, which here appear almost inaccessible, strikes the stranger with awe; and he thanks

* Dalrymple's Memoirs of Great Britain.

Heaven that his lot was not cast on so cheerless a spot*. In this solitude, though in its aspect comfortless in the extreme, such is the grandeur which nature, in rude magnificence, displays, that the bold features of the surrounding mountains cannot fail to rivet the eye of the traveller, and raise in his mind corresponding emotions of the sublime. In the middle ground a wooded knoll, finely formed, round which, on the left hand, the *Teath*, near its source, takes its first sweep, and hurries through a small meadow, forms an interesting feature. The ruins of a mill are in the fore-ground. On the right, a slope, sudden in its ascent, but miserably destitute of every thing like verdure, stretches forward into the prospect, which is bounded by a mountain, not altogether inelegant in point of shape. On the left, the north-west shoulder of *Benledi*, rising in an almost perpendicular direction, huge, rugged, and steep, marked by the mountain streams of many ages, frowns over us in gloomy silence. The effect is impressive; and the more so, as it is sudden and unexpected. But, as we proceed, on gaining the knoll already noticed, the blue expanse of *Loch Lubnaig* is seen spread out before us. The hill of *Ardchulery*, which rises in dignified elevation, verdant to the top, and prettily wooded along its base, terminates the view. Beneath the brow of this hill a solitary and but small mansion, on a plat of rising ground, close on the margin of the Lake, formerly the hunting seat of our Abyssinian traveller BRUCE of KINNAIRD, is seen pleasantly sheltered amid trees, behind which a glen winds up the steeps, and is hid from the sight by the rising sweep of the ridge that stretches above on the left, with

* On this spot, however, it was the fate of the author of these pages first to draw breath; and a more barren waste is scarcely to be met with in the whole western district of Perthshire. The name of the farm is *Tomlea*, Birch-hill.

PLATE 147



Sketch on the spot by Alice Campbell

J. Walker sculp.

Lech-Lubwig, West-end.

London, published March 1. 1852. by Alfred Thompson 65 Ave. Martin's Lane.

an inclination gentle and elegant, from the water's edge. This forms a fine contrast to the opposite side-wing, a bold mass, called *Craig-na-co-beily*, whose deep shade throws darkness over the lake; and whose impending cliffs, hoary amid a thousand fragments of scattered remnants, hurled down from time to time by mountain torrents from the top-cliffs, are seen reflected in the opaque mirror of the lake below; and as the margin, close in upon the water, approaches nearer the eye, its verdure, and woods, and broken grounds, are beheld in beautiful variety, enriching the scene.

We now follow the winding course of the lake*. At the point which formerly bounded our prospect, near the house already noticed, and a small bridge thrown over a rapid stream that descends from the hills and rushes into the lake at our feet, the opening into the west end of *Strathbayre* strikes the eye, the lake and mountain perspective of which affords another pleasing gratification to the lover of Scottish landscape. From this point too, we command a fine retrospective view of the lake; where the craggy wilds of *Craig-na-co-beily* frown in full grandeur over the profound depth of the water, which, it is supposed, is here the greatest. Behind this, and on the same side, being a continuation of the rugged steep, a promontory rises as it were out of the lake, and retires in wooded masses into the bosom of the mountain. On the other side of the lake, its eastern extremity is marked by the projecting, wooded point of *Tombea*; opposite to which a rapid torrent rolls down the face of *Benledi* gravel stones and loose fragments of rocks in its course. These have choked up the outlet of the lake, and formed a

* Hence, as some allege, its name *Loch Lubnaig*, the *winding-lake*.

bar, which it is in contemplation to remove entirely, so that the water may get free passage; and by this means the adjoining banks will in great measure be gained to the proprietors, * one of whom is intrusted with the arduous undertaking.

As we proceed, the road taking a sweep close on the water's edge by the base of the hill of *Archbulery*, we are much delighted with the sweet retreats amid the knolls and wooded recesses along the green slopes rising gracefully on the margin of the lake; which, as we advance, become more and more narrow, till the feggy swamp at its western extremity indicates its origin, and hides the black, sluggish stream that enters it here, after winding its way for several miles through a valley in every respect pastoral from the flats of *Balquidder*. Every thing in *Strathayre* is in character with the surrounding scenery, which is truly Highland. The dress, air, and language of the industrious and happy inmates of these huts; their rude implements of husbandry; the dwarfish appearance of their cattle; their peat-stacks; in short, every article about their dwellings, is characteristic of a people as yet but in the unpolished state of infant society. But, amid all this rudeness, to our no small surprise, we fall in all at once with a newly erected village, the houses of which are built with stone and lime, and slated too! It is truly admirable to think that, within the short space of two or three years at most, this new establishment has been planned and executed with a spirit and perseverance highly honourable to those concerned in the undertaking. The inhabitants of this village are called *feuers*; i. e. tenants on an indefinite lease, paying a sum down, and a yearly fine, for which they have a certain portion of

* Mr. Buchanan of Achlaislie.

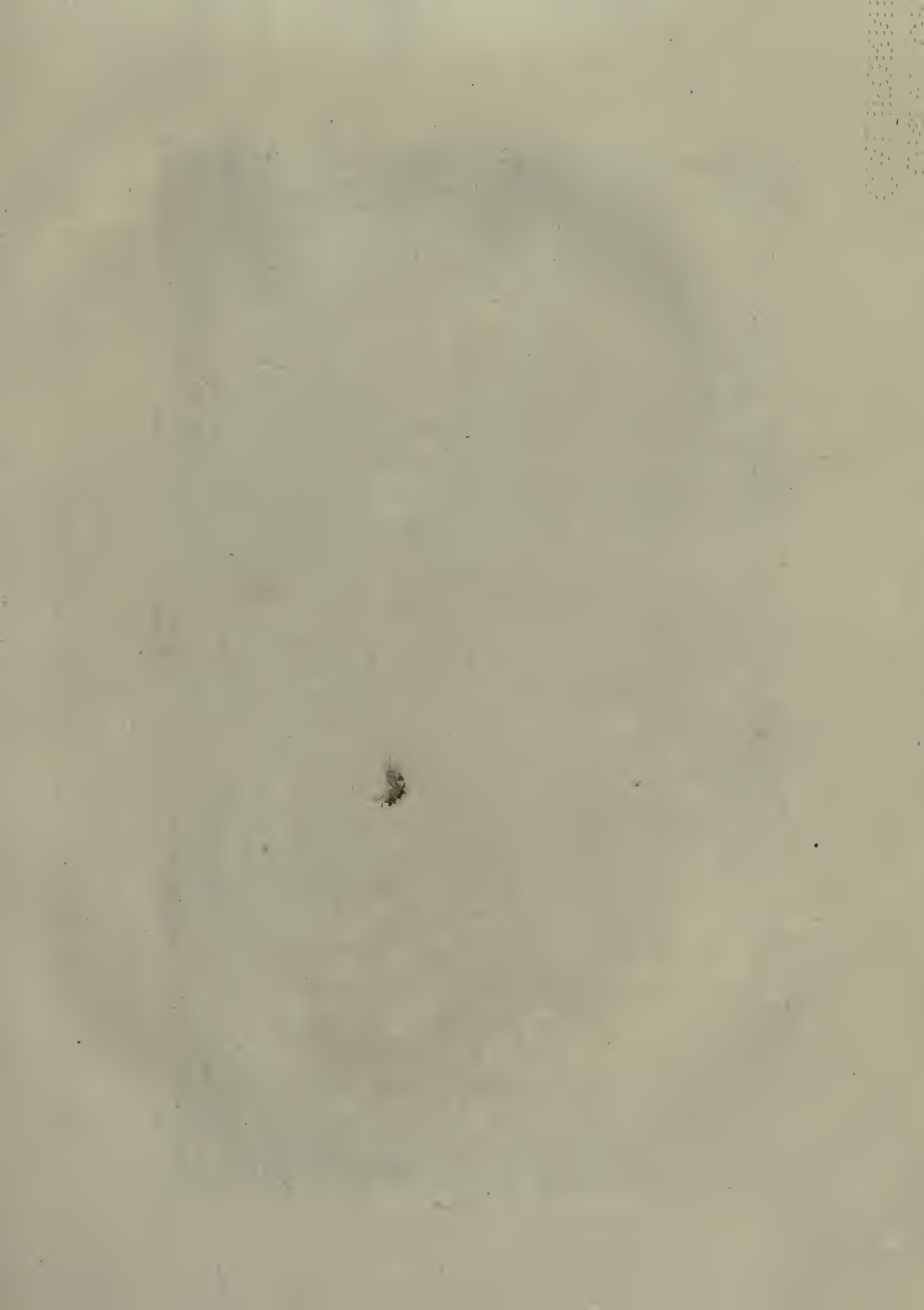
land for building on, for garden-ground, arable ground, meadow, and hill-grazing.

On our left, at the west end of the long valley through which we have pursued our journey, *the braes of Balquidder*, extending far to the southward, open upon us. Here we have a sublime scene of mountain perspective, contrasted with an extensive level, evidently the former bed of a lake, now a green swamp; through which the river *Balvaig* wings its course, and connects *Loch-lubnaig* which we have just left behind, *Lochdoine*, and *Lochvoil*. In time of great floods the intermediate grounds are laid under water, when the whole extent of the vallies *Balquidder* and *Strathayre* seem one continued sheet of water; and there is little doubt, that this is the ancient bed of the river *Forth*, the source of which is to be seen in the vale of Balquidder. The river *Balvaig*, and the lakes which it connects, abound in trout, char, bull-trout, and salmon. The whole extent of this glen, as seen from the road, seems well adapted for pasture. Although the hills on either hand appear almost naked, yet it is believed, (as was the case in most parts of Scotland,) that the higher and particularly the lower grounds were covered with wood; as in the mosses, there have been found trunks and fragments of oak, alder, and birch. But whatever wood is now met with is cut down for the sake of its bark; and the poor inhabitants can hardly obtain so much as will serve for roofing their huts, or for the rude utensils of husbandry. The last cutting of the oak-wood in this parish was sold for 1,400*l.* sterling*. The emigration to the mosses of Kincardin and Flanders was chiefly from this glen and other parts of *Balquidder*.

* See Statistical Accounts, vol. xvi. p. 90.

The population of consequence is greatly diminished. The stranger will naturally inquire why so many infatuated beings wandered from their home, which, in every respect, appears preferable to the dreary waste that they now labour to cultivate. He is answered, when informed that there are upwards of twenty thousand sheep, where half a century ago one tenth of that number were not to be found. Formerly the lands were occupied by fifty tenants; now eight tacksmen have the whole in their own hands, and have divided the hill and dale into sheep-walks. This parish is the property of fourteen different persons*, six of whom reside in it. The boundaries of each proprietor are marked; and every farm is divided according to the old Scottish fashion, of out-field and in-field, that is, hill pasture, and arable ground. Where *several small* farmers are stationed on a *small farm*, the practice of *fouming* is followed, which is to be understood thus: the *baddin* (keeping) of four sheep is allowed to one cow; and double that number to one horse: for the grafs for each sheep there is an allowance of from one to three shillings per annum, and consequently, from eight to twenty-four shillings for keeping a horse! but be it remembered, that the Highland horses are kept out summer and winter. The annual rent of the whole parish does not, at present, exceed three thousand pounds. The arable land rents at from five to fifteen shillings per acre (Scots), and, the returns, with the utmost care, are but inconsiderable; the poor tenants being often obliged to fetch from the low country oats and oat-meal; which, together with potatoes, milk, and bad mutton, (it being principally the carcases of diseased sheep,) constitute the chief

* See Statistical Accounts, vol. xvi. p. 90.





Loch-ein-head

London: Published by Messrs. W. & A. G. & Co., 25, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

Engraved on the spot by Mr. Campbell

part of their diet. Add to this, scarcity of fuel; and let any one think how difficult it must be to live in so poor a country: yet here the smile of contentment brightens the human countenance; and the frankness and inquisitive disposition characteristic of the Highlander, is in no small degree observable in the inhabitants of the braes of *Balquidder* *.

We now turn to the right, and about two miles further on of excellent-made road, we come to Lochearn-head. Celebrated as the Romans were for constructing their military ways, they certainly were far inferior to the moderns; as an instance, may be adduced, in support of this remark, the piece of road which here forms part of that line leading from *Stirling* to *Fort William*, and the northern districts of *Inverness* and *Argyleshires*. It was lately repaired, new modeled, and inspected by Colonel *Montgomery*, to whom the public are much indebted for his skill and attention to the highways through many parts of the west and Highlands of Scotland.

On an elevated plat on the left, before we come within sight of *Lochearn*, we observe *Edinship*, the residence of Mr. Campbell, whose property extends along the face of the hills that rise so barren to appearance behind the house.

The prospect of the lake from the inn of *Locherin-head* is by no means interesting at first sight; however, when properly thrown into a breadth of light and shade, by some casual stream of *floating-light* illuminating certain portions of the landscape, so as to produce a happy effect, even from this point *Locherin* becomes a fit subject for the pencil †.

The

* See Note [F], at the end of the volume.

† About two miles down the lake, *Edinample*, a residence belonging to the Earl of *Breadalbane*, is very pleasantly situated. The fall of the *Ample* is truly worthy of a visit.

Duplin between the Scottish and English forces; the latter claiming the victory with inconsiderable loss; while on the side of the Scots the carnage was shocking; three thousand, it is recorded, were left dead on the field of battle.

About the beginning of the sixteenth century, the church of *Monivaud* was a scene of horrid brutality, characteristic of the unhappy spirit of the times. The abbot of *INCHAFFRAY*, *Walter Murray*, finding that the tythes, to which his house had a claim, were but indifferently paid, resolved to collect them in person. The *Drummonds*, on whose estate this church was established, did not much relish the abbot's mode of collection, and opposed him with insult; on which the abbot and his party retired into the church, as a sanctuary not to be violated. The *Drummonds*, who by this time had acquired new strength by a party of Argyleshire highlanders, headed by *Campbell* of *Dunstaffnage*, joining them, surrounded the place of the abbot's retreat. In this critical posture of affairs, a random shot from one of the ecclesiastic's party killed one of the Campbells. Their chief took instant and dreadful vengeance: He set fire to the church, and all that had taken refuge in it perished in the flames! while the fiend, and his hellish crew, exulted in the deed! Are we then to look back with fond admiration on feudal times, when such horrid murders were perpetrated?

Not far from the scene of this shocking transaction, lies *Tipper-moor*, where the great *Montrose* gained a victory over the unfortunate *Covenanters*, who struggled so nobly for liberty of conscience, and eventually prevailed. Two thousand of these brave men perished on the field of battle, and two thousand were made prisoners.

Strathern

Strathern was once more visited with the calamities of war in the year 1715. In order to deprive the King's forces of a favourable station, the rebel army set fire to the villages of *Blackford*, *Dinnin*, *Mutbel*, and *Auchterairder*, turning out the devoted villagers to the wide world in the depth of winter, to shift for themselves*.

But the times have altered:—This valley is no longer the scene of deadly feuds and devastation. Agriculture smiles around, and gay plenty every where is seen; cheerfulness and harmony reign throughout this happy district; and the following beautiful lines, the composition of our countryman MALLET, are happily applicable to the surrounding scenery, particularly the spot which they celebrate:

The smiling morn, the breathing spring,
 Invite the tuneful birds to sing:
 And while they warble from each spray
 Love melts the universal lay.
 Let us, Amanda, timely wife,
 Like them improve the hour that flies,
 And in soft raptures waste the day,
 Among the birks of *Invermay*.

Invermay, the charming retreat alluded to, is pleasantly situated on the banks of the *May*, a stream tributary to the *Erin*. The *chalybeate* wells of *Pitcatbly* are not far distant. Family seats, farm-houses, and cottages, are seen in quick succession along the whole windings of the river, from its source to its confluence

* The order for this wanton cruelty was dated the fifteenth year of James VIII's reign, at *Scone* 15th January 1715-16. It is said in extenuation, by the historians of that period, that a large sum of money was left in the hands of General *Gordon* for the relief of the unfortunate sufferers.

How chilling is the idea of a winter spent in this inhospitable wilderness, where snows rest on the mountains till summer is far advanced, and where the influence of the sun is felt but for a short season ! Yet happiness and sweet contentment dwell amid these barren wastes ; and even the mountains afford the necessaries of rude existence ; where, in deep retirement, and remote from the busy haunts of men, the highlander, independent by his rustic industry, enjoys unmolested all that he deems necessary to domestic comfort. Happy is it, if no unforeseen calamity blights that moderate degree of the goods of fortune which he enjoys ; but sometimes, in the wasteful course of the river *Dochart*, when mountain torrents descend in all their fury, and swell it suddenly, every thing is swept away in its course, and the unfortunate sufferers are left without the means of support for man or beast through the approaching winter ! In winter too, calamities of a distressing nature often overtake the inhabitants of this glen. A woeful instance occurred a few years since, that gave very general cause for lamentation ; the circumstances of which, as related by the neighbours, in whose remembrance the fatal catastrophe is strongly impressed, were as follow :

It was in the depth of winter, and the season excessively severe and changeable. Sometimes the snow lay deep ; at other times rain fell in torrents : sometimes the frost set in with extreme intenseness ; then suddenly came a thaw, accompanied with heavy showers. During these rapid changes, it frequently happened that the snow was rent into vast fragments, which were carried down the hills with accelerated precipitation, sweeping whatever lay in their way into the bottom of the valley. In the course taken by one of these vast fragments of snow, lay the habitation
of



View of the Spout, West of Camp Hill.

View of Spout

Lich-tay, from Hillen.

London: Richard March, 1812, by Meissel, Longman & Rose, Lithographers, New.

of a poor industrious family. The night had hardly fallen, and young and old gathered round the evening fire, when in an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, the whole of this family, except the mother, were buried beneath a vast mass of snow. By what circumstance this poor woman escaped the fate of her devoted family, she was unable to explain; but she still wanders about the country, seemingly resigned to the will of Heaven.

Proceeding by the banks of the *Dochart* to *Killin*, the hill called *Stron-chlachan*, the craggy heights of *Finlairg*, and the lofty wilds of *Ben-lauris*, with *Loch-tay* stretching its ample breadth along the base of these mountains, are seen, as grand and simple parts of a magnificent whole.

The traveller cannot fail of being pleased with the scenery about *Killin*. As he enters the village from the west, he observes the river *Dochart* rushing through rocky fragments, and dividing its waters among insulated precipices, over which it foams, and sweeps round two islets covered with pines; then calmly seeks its way through green meadows and inclosures, till, meeting the slow-winding *Locha* in its course, both rivers fall silently into the bosom of the lake.

Advanced as we now are into the interior parts of the highlands of Scotland, it may not be uninteresting to bring under consideration the character of the modern, contrasted with the habits and pursuits of the ancient inhabitants of these mountains. The former, we have opportunities of observing as they pass by, or in our intercourse with them in the common concerns of life; at merry-meetings, or on more solemn occasions; but respecting the latter, tradition, and what is imperfectly recorded in history, must supply materials for the slight sketch about to be given.

It cannot but appear remarkable to a mind accustomed to reflection, that at the close of the eighteenth century, great portions of the islands of *Britain* and *Ireland* are inhabited by a race of people, in language and manners very dissimilar to those in other portions of these islands, that have experienced through many ages material and various changes with regard to invasions and their consequences. Driven to the mountainous regions of this island, the ancient inhabitants carried with them their language, their customs, and their manners; and it can hardly admit of doubt, that for a time these would be preserved with such fondness and sacred regard to the memory of those who first fixed their habitations amid the inaccessible fastnesses of the Grampians, as to insure them a degree of permanence, the effects of which have come down to nearly our own times. On this reasonable conjecture, for it is no more, we must raise our hypothesis, and draw our conclusions from what appears least removed from truth and probability. But, it is a lamentable consideration, that the truth of history is but too often violated, even by our best historians; and certain it is, that, unless events are preserved as they exactly happened, and are recorded by the unerring hand of chronology, we ought ever to be cautious how we admit them as part of the history of human transactions. Thus much premised, let it serve as a check on what follows.

History hath its fabulous, ancient, and modern periods. Of the two former, much is supplied by conjecture; but of the latter, known events speak for themselves. Of the fabulous and ancient history of the *Hebrides*, a considerable part is but imperfectly handed down to us; and, as to the modern history, strictly so called, much of it is but ill calculated to impress an

impartial inquirer with favourable ideas of that magnanimity, regard to justice, and the higher attributes of humanity, said to have obtained in a state of society so celebrated in our songs and traditional tales; in those particularly which are ascribed to *Offian*, the son of *Fingal*, the "king of woody Morven." Yet, from this remark, it is by no means to be inferred that due consideration is to be withheld from traditional history; on the contrary, where oral recitations convey moral instruction, as well as celebrate the actions of heroes, they ought ever to be regarded as the only mode of authentic information that a rude, unlettered people have of preserving an account of themselves to their posterity. This, then, is their history; and, as history is "philosophy teaching by example," so, in like manner, oral tradition is calculated to raise in the mind a generous ambition to imitate the heroic deeds, and imbibe the noble glow of sentiment thereby celebrated. So far we may admit, with safety, the traditional history of our ancestors; but, to connect this with general history, as established on chronological order, is to err in the extreme. It is a vain attempt to ascertain the precise era of *Offian*. All nations bear testimony to their own barbarity; and there is not any people, however rude, but have traditions of remote times, wherein their ancestors are celebrated either as heroes, or as deified beings, from whom they derive the lustre of an immortal name and divine origin. Examples of this are to be found in the histories of ancient nations, whose rude chain of probable incidents is all that the historian has to guide him in his researches into the origin of those tribes, the founders of the *Greek* and *Roman* republics. Nor does he hesitate in adopting the poetical histories of the earlier periods of their associ-

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ation; and thence traces the progress of their civilization, through the various mazes of their military, commercial, and political advancement; as also that of their knowledge in the arts and sciences, to that point, beyond which, hitherto, a retrograde series commences, and (lamentable reflection!) a rapid decline and eventual dissolution of empire takes place, till scarcely a vestige remains to prove that so great a nation flourished, so powerful a people existed.

The scattered remnants of the *Celtic* nations that are still existing in the western parts of Britain and Ireland, retain, even at this day, so much of their original peculiarity of manners, as manifestly to distinguish them from other classes of the inhabitants of these districts: and, till lately, love, friendship, and war, constituted the sole object of their pursuits. These are the distinguishing characteristics of a rude state of society. But we still live in an age wherein the arts of war and government are regarded as those best adapted to more advanced stages of civilization than even the present. For man is considered, constitutionally, as the butcher of his kind, or, at best, a fighting-animal, whose very nature partakes so much of the noble affections which he has in common with the tyger, lion, bull, or dunghill-cock. It follows as a consequence, founded in the immutable laws of nature, that, as long as the world lasts, war will be the chief employment of man; and as government is a science necessary to regulate the time and manner of fighting, as well as to provide for the means of protection and defence, there is no room to doubt that war and government will constitute the more honourable employments of a state dependant on such means for the maintenance of social order. Why then call an age
barbarous,

barbarous, which is characterized by feuds, and conflicts, and depredations, and domestic quarrels? If, for instance, one nation goes to war with another, does either scruple to use every means possible to destroy its adversary? Wherein lies the difference between one tribe, or, as it is called among highlanders, one *Clan* going to war with another, and adopting every means the one can devise for the extirpation of the other, so as to prevent farther molestation, and ensure the comforts which arise from temporary security, indemnification for the past, and safety for the future?—But we must desist, as there is no saying how far this argument might lead.—Let it suffice, that in all ages and countries it has appeared that war has found its advocates, and its practitioners, and supporters too. What wonder then, if among the savage wilds of Caledonia, a people, whose chief glory was war, and all its concomitant perils, and who till very lately were distinguished by few other of the attributes of humanity, are still in some measure attached to what seems so far inherent in human nature, fighting and plunder?—And, if such be necessary in a refined state of society, how much more so must it be in a rude state? But to apologize for times of barbarity is not to the present purpose.

The ancient *Celts* were divided into tribes, or classes, or clans, as their descendants are now called. Their business was war, and their religion druidism. To the *Druids* succeeded the *Culdees*; but the patriarchal state was materially altered when the feudal system obtained universally in Europe. These changes wrought many others, inimical to the ancient establishments among the *Celts*; and time and circumstances, continually operating on the living manners of a reduced people, hastened their downfall.

retaining their original language, and some of their ancient customs, their morals were corrupted, and they became ferocious freebooters, following their lords and masters blindly, either to the chase, or to the field of battle:—Thus we have to deplore the debased state of a fallen race, whom the power of Rome itself could only drive to the mountains, but never subdue. This frank acknowledgment is due to truth. It is in this humiliating state that we must compare the highlanders of former times with those of the present.

Whoever examines the border history of England and Scotland, will find it similar to the history of the confines of the highlands and lowlands of Scotland. The *Corfiicans* of this day resemble our borderers and highlanders in many particulars. In short, in similar circumstances, human nature is found everywhere much the same, and the actions of one period correspond pretty nearly with those of a similar period, making allowance for such casualties as seem to govern the moment.

Two material changes have taken place since the Romans left this part of our island. These are, the total expulsion of the Picts; and since the days of MALCOLM *Can-more*, who flourished in the eleventh century, the gradual decay of the *Gaelic*, or language of the Celts in Scotland*. The inhabitants of the mountains

* That the Gaelic language was that spoken at court, can admit of no doubt whatever. The peevish scruples which some affect to entertain with regard to this circumstance, merits silent contempt; as to discuss the subject would be to no purpose, where ignorance and folly are to be combated. Whether the Picts and *Celts* spoke one and the same language is not easy to be ascertained; however, from the time when KENNETH II. overthrew the *Picts* on the banks of the *Tay* near *Scone*, our historians (for what reason it is difficult to guess, unless it be consistent with truth) mention the *Picts* as a people that *had been*, and that *ceased to be* from the period here alluded to.

mountains retained their original language, while the *Scoto-Saxon* prevailed among the inhabitants of the lowlands. The occupations of the inhabitants of both districts were pretty much on a par; for each, in their turn, plundered and murdered the other, till both were restrained by exemplary punishments. In the reigns of our Jameses, the thieves of the borders and of the highlands were greatly brought under subordination to the laws. This was accomplished by the strong hand alone*. In the minority of the sixth James, and during the latter part of his reign, they suffered severely. Yet even at that period the profession

The highlanders at this hour are accustomed to call the country they inhabit *Alabin*; and that inhabited by the Celtic Irish, *Erin*; and when they talk of their own language, they denominate it *Gaelic-Alabinish*, and that of the Celtic Irish *Gaelic-Erinish*. They call likewise the inhabitants of the lowlands *Gaul* and *Sassanach*, i. e. *Strangers* and *Saxons*; the former is applied to the lowland Scots, and the latter to the English Scots, or the English south of the Tweed, as England is also called *Sassan* or *Saxony*. With regard to these particulars there can be no dispute; and these fairly indicate that our historians are correct in their accounts of the earlier inhabitants of this island, and of the various revolutions that have taken place; which, in truth, constitute the great body of our national annals. By looking over a map of Scotland, we can trace pretty exactly the line beyond which the Gaelic is still the living language of the inhabitants: thus, from the banks of Loch-Lomond, in the west, by the foot of the Grampians down to the Murray Frith, and the upper parts of the shires of *Caitbness* on the north, and from *Nairne* on the east, and among the *Ebuade* as far as *St. Kilda*: comprehending a wide and extended region of this northern section of the island of Great Britain.

* The 10th of October, (1567,) ther was ane proclamatione to meit ye Regent (Murray) in Peibless, upone ye 8 of November nixt, for the repreffing of the thieves in Annandail and Eafdail; bot my Lord Regent, thinking they wald gett advertisment, he preventit the day, and came over the water secretly, and logit at Dalkieth; this upone the 19 day; and upone ye morrow he departed towards Hauich, quher he came both sedetly and suddenly, and ther tooke 34 thieves, quhom he partly caused hang, and partly droune, 5 he let frie upon cautione; and upon the 2d day of November he brought other 10 of them with him to Edinburghe, and ther put them in irons." See Birrel's Diary, p. 12. Constable's edit. Edin. 1798.

of

of *thief* was by no means deemed so reproachful as many may be disposed to imagine; for not only our highland gentry thought it not unworthy of their dignity, but also the inhabitants of the southern districts were no less renowned for their exploits in that perilous calling*. Nay, sometimes Majesty itself was thought by the seditious and disaffected to receive aid from our Scottish *banditti* at times, and in cases of extreme danger†. To take a retrospect of the feuds and conflicts among the highland clans, did our limits admit of it, might afford matter of reflection to the curious inquirer into the rude manners of a barbarous age, wherein the patriarchal and feudal systems were united, carrying along with an authority purely gratuitous, all the prejudices in favour of the rights of primogeniture and chieftainship, without so much as an idea that a different order of society could exist. The highland clans were unlike in some respects the tribes of the Greeks and Romans,

* “The—March (1603) 7 M’Gregors and Armstrongs wer hangit at the crosse.” Birrel’s Diary, p. 61. Constable’s Edit. 1798.

“The 10 of March (1603) twa notable thieves hangit at the crosse, ane Thomas Hardie, and ane Davidson. Ibid.

“The 15 Maii (1603) thrie brether of the Betesones hangit at the crosse, quha were notabell thieffes. Ibid.

“The 2 Junii (1603) ane notable thieff, callit Robert Fleming, quha dwelt at the hous of Muir, hangit for theft, oppression, and resett of thieffes.” Ibid.

Meantime the ferocity of the borderers, when restrained from discharging itself upon their ancient enemies of the opposite nation (England), ceased not to break forth into cruel outrages against their neighbours at home. To repress these acts of violence, it was found necessary, in the very last Parliaments of England and Scotland that were held under different sovereigns, to enforce the old, and frame new statutes. See Ridpath’s Border History of England and Scotland, 4to. p. 699.

† “Upone the morne of this time, (i. e. 31 December 1596.) and before this day, yair waes ane grate rumour and word among the townsmen that the King’s M. sould fend in (to Edinburgh) Will Kinmond the common thieff, and so many southland men, as sould spulzie the town of Edin. Ibid, p. 41.

and.

and even the Hebrews, Germans, Tartars, and others, particularly with regard to their leaders; for not only a chief was looked up to as a common father; but under him, in subordinate degrees, chieftains or heads of families were of high condition, and were as tenacious of their rights as the common patriarch, to whom all paid implicit obedience. Their hills and vallies were divided into deer forests, and pasture grounds. Every individual had his spot allotted him in the community. Every one claimed a share in the chace, and in the booty; and if every thing was not in common, it was merely because it was necessary to preserve that degree of order consequent on the subdivisions of each clan, and their possessions.

When it happened that any of the chiefs, by grants from the crown, by marriage, or any other means, acquired large demesnes, it demanded their utmost vigilance and prowess to preserve from the incursions of their more powerful neighbours their privileges and property. Hence the feuds and savage conflicts which disgraced the clans from the eleventh to the latter end of the last century*; from "*the conflict of Drumilia*," in the days of Malcolm II. to the *battle of Mulroy*, fought between *the Laird of Macintosh*, and *Macdonell of Keappoch* †.

The *Macdonells* of Keappoch, a brave and resolute race of warriors, and the *Campbells* of Braidalbane, a numerous and no less warlike people, were continually making inroads on one

* See the History of the Feuds and Conflicts among the Clans in the northern parts of Scotland, and in the western isles, from the year 1031 until 1619, now first published from a MS. wrote in the reign of James VI. Glasgow printed by Robert and Andrew Foulis, 1764.

† See Swift's Life of Captain J. Crichton.—See also Johnson's Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland.

another's lands. A desperate conflict took place on the hill rising immediately above the church of *Killin*, called *Stronchlachan*, between those clans, toward the latter end of the sixteenth century, in consequence of an expedition, called a *creach*, undertaken by the brother of Keappoch, and a number of his followers, against the inhabitants of *Bunrannoch* and *Strathtay*. The *Macdonells*, who had travelled from their fastnesses in *Brae-lochaber*, over the mountains, through *Rannoch*, and *Glenlion*, had carried off all the cattle in their way southward; and returning with their booty, by the heights of *Deiffer*, which run along the south side of *Loch-tay*, they had ascended *Stronchlachan*; when tidings of their progress reached a party of *Campbells* who were assembled in the Hall of *Finlarig* at a christening. Fired with indignation at so daring an insult, they instantly rushed forth, ascended the hill, and attacked the foe, but were repulsed with loss. The *Macdonells*, triumphant, pursued their route; but the *Campbells* receiving a reinforcement, as well they might on their own lands, followed the enemy, and came up with him on the braes of *Glenurcha*, where they overpowered him by numbers, recovered the booty, and returned in triumph, having accomplished their revenge. Let this serve as an instance of the former feuds of the clans.

In contrasting the former customs, occupations, and manners of the highlanders with the present, we are struck with a wide difference in most respects. We no longer behold them that high independent race of people which they were even a century ago:—much more, then, must the inhabitants of these mountains, two or more centuries since, have differed from the present race, their descendants. As the manners and customs of the

highlanders have obtained notice, in the general descriptions of the *Hebrides*, from the year 1549, when Mr. *Donald Monro*, high dean of the isles, travelled through most of them, and drew up a very accurate account, to the period of Doctor *Samuel Johnson's* journey to the western isles; the slight notices to be found in this place, when supported by the authorities referred to, and from which a few extracts are subjoined, may not prove less acceptable to an impartial inquirer, whose chief object is the discovery of truth, ungarnished by fiction.

As in the more remote parts of any country we are to expect the least alteration in the customs and manners of the people, the inhabitants of the western isles may reasonably be supposed to have preserved much of their primitive mode of life. Hence the propriety of considering what regards them as characteristic of more remote times; and thus are we furnished with some data to guide our opinions in the comparative view herein submitted.

The ancient highlanders, like all unpolished nations, delighted in the pleasures of the chase; and those living in islands, and on the sea-coasts, occupied themselves in fishing, and other maritime pursuits; of consequence, they subsisted entirely on animal food. Afterwards, animals became domesticated, and the produce of milk entered into the articles of diet*. To the domestication of certain animals, as the horse, cow, sheep, &c. succeeded

* So late as the year 1597, the highlanders are described in the following manner: " Their bankets are hunting and fishing. They see the their flesh in the tripe, or else in the skinne of the beast, filling the same full of water. Now and then in hunting they straine out the blood, and eat the flesh raw. Their drink is the broth of sodden flesh. They love well the drink made of whey, and kept certayne yeres, drinking the same at feasts :

succeeded the humble attempts at agriculture ; and, by the following quotations from Monro's Description of the Western Isles *, it appears, that even in the middle of the sixteenth century, the use of corn was not unknown among the inhabitants of the *Æbuda*. “ Colmkill. Narrest this be twa myles of sea, “ laves the ile Erische callit I-colm-kill, that is Sanct Colm's ile, “ ane faire mayne ile twa myle lang and maire, and ane myle “ braid, fertill and fruitful of corne and store and guid for fish- “ ing.”—“ Hefker Nagailon, it has a bundance of corne and “ elding for fire, it perteins to the Nuns of Columkill.”— “ Tarndfay an ile of five myles lange, and haff myle braid, ane “ rough ile, with certain tounis, weil inhabit and manurit ; bot

feasts : it is named by them *Blandium* †. The most part of them drink water. Their custom is, to make their bread of oats and barley (which are the only kinds of grayne that grow in these parts) : experience (with time) hath taught them to make it in such sort, that it is not unpleasent to eate. They take a little of it in the morning, and so, passing to the hunting, or any other businesse, content themselves therewith, without any other kind of meat till even.” See Description of the Isles of Scotland, “imprinted at London for John Flasket, 1603.” The same author mentions, in another part of his description, that “South east from Lewis, almost three score myles, there is a little island low and playne, well manured, named Rona, the inhabitants whereof are rude men, and almost without religion. The lord of the ground limits certain householdes to occupy it, appointing for every household, few, or many sheepe, according to his pleasure, whereon they may easly live and pay their rent ; whatsoever rests at the year's end, more than their necessary sustentation, they send the same yeerly to Lewis to their master. The rent for the most part which they pay is barley meale, sewed up in sheep skinnes, in great quantity ;—amongst them grow no store of any other kind of grayne.”

“ The great produce of barley (says Martin) draws many strangers to this island, (*Harris*) with a design to procure as much of this grain as they can, which they get from the inhabitants *gratis* only for asking, as they do horses, sheepe, wool, &c.” Martin's Description of the Western Isles.

† “ On the coasts (of Iceland) they generally drink *blanda*.” In the Elfdalln of Wermeland in Sweden, the common beverage of the country people is milk, mixed with water, and called by them *blanda*. See Letters on Iceland, p. 110. See also Buchanan, lib. i.

* The edition quoted is that printed by William Auld, Edin. 1774.

“ all this fertill is delved with spaides, excepting sa maikell as
 “ ane horse-pleugh will teil, and zet they have maist abundance
 “ of beir, mickell of corne, store, and fishing; it pertains to
 “ M‘Cloyd of Herrey.”—Thus we trace the gradual progress
 towards civilization, in regard to the necessary articles of
 subsistence, among the inhabitants of the more remote parts of
 the highlands and western isles. A writer of the latter end of
 the sixteenth century, when speaking of their drefs, &c. says,
 “ They delight in marled clothes, specially that have long stripes
 “ of fundry colours; they love chiefly purple and blew. Their
 “ predecessors used short mantles, or playds of divers colours,
 “ fundry ways divided; and among some, the same custome is
 “ observed to this day; but for the most part now they are
 “ browne, most neer to the colour of the hadder, to the effect,
 “ when they lye amongst the hadder, the bright colour of their
 “ playds shall not bewray them; with the which, rather coloured
 “ than clad, they suffer the most cruel tempests that blow in the
 “ open field, in such sort, that under a wrythe of snow they
 “ sleep sound. In their houses also, they lye upon the ground,
 “ laying betwixt them and it, brakens, or hadder*, the rootes
 “ thereof downe, and the tops up, so prettily layed together,
 “ that they are as soft as feather-beds, and much more whole-
 “ some; for the tops themselves are dry of nature, whereby it
 “ dries the weake humours, and restores againe the strength of
 “ the sinews troubled before; and that so evidently, that they
 “ who at evening go to rest fore and weary, rise in the morning

* That this was the custom universally in Scotland at the time when Kenneth II.
 overthrew the Piets, is evident, from the circumstance of the nobles, when lodged
 in the King’s name, lying on the floor in the great hall, with nothing under them but
 leaves and grafs. See Buchanan, lib. v.

“ whole and able. As none of these people care for their beds
 “ and bedding, so take they greatest pleasure in rudeness and
 “ hardness. If for their own commodity, or upon necessity,
 “ they travel into any other country, they reject the feather-bed
 “ and bedding of their hosts. They wrap themselves up in
 “ their plaids, so taking their rest; careful indeed, lest that bar-
 “ barous delicacy of the mainland (as they term it) corrupt
 “ their natural and country hardiness*.” Such were the ap-
 parel, &c. of the natives of the Western Isles, and such the
 scorn in which they held effemacy two centuries ago! To-
 wards the latter end of the last century, the same customs and
 manners, as appears from *Martin's* description, were hardly
 abolished, “ They lie for the most part (says he) on beds of
 “ straw, and some on beds of heath; which latter being made
 “ after their way, with the top uppermost, are almost as soft as a
 “ feather bed, and yielded a pleasant scent after lying on 'em
 “ once. The natives by experience have found it to be ef-
 “ fectual for drying superfluous humours, and strengthening the
 “ nerves. It is very refreshing after a fatigue of any kind. The
 “ *Picts* are said to have had an art of brewing curious ale with
 “ the tops of heath, but they refused to communicate it to the
 “ *Scots*, and so it is lost †.”

“ The first habit (says the same author) wore by persons of
 “ distinction in the islands, was the *Leni-croich* from the Irish

* Description of the Western Isles of Scotland in 1597; imprinted at London by
 John Flasket, in Paules Church-yard 1603.—see also Buchanan, lib. i. from whom
 this anonymous author seems to have borrowed great part of his description.

† *Martin's Description of the Western Isles*, 2d edit. p. 196. It is somewhat re-
 markable, that the vulgar in Scotland always considered the *Picts*, or *Peighs*, as
 ingenious rather than as a warlike people.

“ (Gaelic) word *leni*, which signifies a shirt, and *croick*, saffron,
 “ because their shirt was dyed with that herb* : the ordinary
 “ number of ells (yards) used to make this robe was twenty-four ;
 “ it was the upper garb reaching below the knees, and was tied
 “ with a belt round the middle ; but the islanders have laid it
 “ aside about a hundred years ago. They now generally use
 “ coat, waistcoat, and breeches, as elsewhere ; and on their heads
 “ wear bonnets made of thick cloth, some blue, some black,
 “ some grey. Many of the people wear *trowis* †.—The shoes
 “ anciently wore, were a piece of the hide of a deer, cow, or
 “ horse with the hair on, being held behind and before with a
 “ point of leather. They generally wear now shoes, having
 “ a thin sole only. But persons of distinction wear the garb
 “ in fashion in the south of Scotland. The plaid is worn only
 “ by the men, and is made of fine wool :—it consists of divers
 “ colours, and there is great ingenuity required in sorting the
 “ colours, so as to be agreeable to the nicest fancy. For this
 “ reason the women are at great pains, first to give an exact
 “ pattern of the *plaid* on a piece of wood, having the number
 “ of threads of the stripe on it. The length of the plaid is seven
 “ double ells. When they travel on foot, the *plaid* is tied on
 “ the breast with a bodkin of bone or wood (just as the *spina*
 “ worn by the *Germans*, according to the description of *C. Tacit-*

* Camden mentions the appearance of Neil and his followers at the court of Elizabeth I. D. 1562, with their saffron-stained shirts, &c. Hist. Eliz. p. 69.

† According to Camden, the *trowis* was worn by the Irish in the
 17th century. In the 18th century their jackets, breeches, and stockings were of one piece,
 and a mantle covering the shoulders, and coming down to the knees, with
 stripes and flours.—Vide Cambrenf. Ever. p. 738.
 The *trowis* was worn by the Belgic Gauls, as Strabo relates.—Strab. lib. iv.

“ *tus*) :

“*tus*): the plaid is tied round the middle with a leather belt; it
 “is pleated from the belt to the knee very nicely: this dress
 “for footmen is found much easier and lighter than *breeches* or
 “*trousers*.”

“The ancient dress wore by the women, and which is yet
 “wore by some of the vulgar, called *arisad*, is a white *plaid*,
 “having a few small stripes of black, blue, and red; it reached
 “from the neck to the heels, and was tied before on the breast
 “with a buckle of silver, or brass, according to the quality of
 “the person. I have seen some of the former of a hundred
 “marks value: it was broad as any ordinary pewter plate, the
 “whole curiously engraved with various animals, &c. There
 “was a lesser buckle, which was wore in the middle of the
 “larger, and above two ounces weight: it had in the centre a
 “large piece of crystal, or some finer stone, and this was set
 “all round with several stones of a lesser size.”

“The *plaid*, being pleated all round, was tied with a belt
 “below the breast; the belt was of leather, and several pieces of
 “silver intermixed with the leather like a chain. The lower
 “end of the belt has a piece of plate about eight inches long,
 “and three in breadth curiously engraved: the end of which
 “was adorned with fine stones, or pieces of red coral. They
 “wore sleeves of scarlet cloth closed at the end as men’s vests,
 “with gold lace round ’em, having plate buttons set with fine
 “stones. The head-dress was a fine *kerchief* of linen straight
 “about the head, hanging down the back taper-wise; a large
 “lock of hair hangs down their cheeks above their breast, the
 “lower end tied with a knot of ribbands*.”

* Martin’s Description, p. 207, 208, 209.

Such, according to the two last quoted writers, was the dress of the ancient Highlanders; and their accounts agree pretty well with tradition, and what is still retained of the habit of former times. But the dress of the present day is by no means uniform; the intercourse with the low country being such, as to make the introduction of more showy apparel a matter of course; and the lowland dress is fantastically combined with the highland, so as to exhibit a ludicrous effect.

Of the poetry and music of the Highlanders much has been said; though the subject has not obtained that degree of attention which its interesting nature demands. With persons devoid of a musical ear, and with those who do not understand the Gaelic language, the assertions of a modern, and a native too, will have but little weight; hence it may be necessary to add the testimony of a writer already quoted; but, to such as are possessed of an ear for music, and who may be content with the specimens of the poetry of the Highlanders, preserved in translations already in the hands of the public, the additional information herein communicated, from real knowledge, may not be deemed unworthy of acceptance.

—“ They (meaning the Highlanders) delight much in
 “ musicke, but chiefly in *harps* and *clairshoes* of their own
 “ fashion. The strings of the clairschoes are made of brasse-
 “ wire, and the strings of the harps of sinews; which strings
 “ they strike either with their nayles, growing long, or else with
 “ an instrument appoynted for that use. They take great plea-
 “ sure to decke their harps and clairschoes with silver and
 “ precious stones; the poore ones that cannot attayne hercunto,
 “ decke them with christall. They sing verses prettely com-
 “ pound,

“ pound, contayning (for the most part) prayses of valiant men. “ There is not almost any other argument, whereof their rymes “ intreat. They speak the ancient French language, altered a “ little*.” The *harp* and *clairfchoes* are now heard of in ancient song only in the highlands. At what period these instruments ceased to be used, is not on record; and tradition is silent on this head. But as Irish harpers occasionally visited the highlands and western isles till lately†, the harp might have been extant so late as the middle of the present century. Thus far we know, that from remote times down to the present, harpers were received as welcome guests, particularly in the highlands of Scotland; and so late as the latter end of the sixteenth century, as appears by the above quotation, the harp was in common use among the natives of the western isles. How it happened that the noisy and inharmonious bag-pipe banished the soft and expressive harp, we cannot say; but certain it is that the bag-pipe is now the only instrument that obtains universally in the highland districts. That it is an instrument of great antiquity, cannot be denied; as it appeared in various forms among the Greeks and Romans of the earlier ages; and at the present day,

* Vide “ Certayne matters concerning the Realme of Scotland, &c. as they were anno Domini 1597; imprinted at London for John Flasket 1603.” See also Buchanan.

† It appears that it was a custom among the Scotch nobles to be lulled to sleep by the sound of the harp. It is said, that an Irish harper, who slept in the bed chamber of King *Ethodius*, murdered him while asleep.—Vide Buchanan, lib. iv. Our first James is said to have been a skilful performer on the harp. Strolling harpers from Ireland are mentioned by different authors. The last three of any note were blind, viz. *Tuslane*, mentioned in Dr. Alexander Pennycuick’s poems, prefixed to his Description of Tweeddale, Edin. 1715; *Rory* or *Roderick Dall* (i. e. blind Roderick) mentioned by *Tytler* (see his Dissertation on Scottish Music); and *M. Donald* (see his Essay prefixed to his Collection of Highland Airs). *O’Kean*, who also was blind, was in the habit of visiting this country till within these sixteen years.

there

there is scarcely a corner in Europe, in which it is not to be met with, in some shape or other*.

“The prayfes of valiant men,” alludes to the traditional history of the highlanders, as preserved in their poetical rhapsodies, some of which represent a Fingalian race of giants; and others, less extravagant in description, represent the Fingalians as a race of heroes, terrible in battle; but, “as the gale that moves the grass to those who asked their aid.” True it is, that the poets and historians of the lowlands of Scotland make but slight mention of the traditions in the highlands; and from this circumstance, some have peevishly rejected as spurious the translations which have appeared of our poetical remains. But nothing can be more unreasonable; for, although our *traditional history* should be received with great caution, yet many allusions to obscure periods of our legitimate history, by no means incompatible with admitted points, are to be met with in the compositions ascribed to Ossian.

Fin-mac-cumhal, or, as M'Pherson has translated it, *Fingal*, is well known as the celebrated hero of antiquity among the native Irish, and the Scottish highlanders. Both lay claim to him, and to the poetical rhapsodies respecting him and his heroes; and, as the Scottish highlander and the Irish aborigines are undoubtedly one and the same people, whose language, in great measure, even at this day, whose customs and manners are the same, it seems a matter of small importance on which side of the water Fingal and his heroes were born and flourished. Let antiquaries puzzle themselves about this point; it shall be our

* The harp seems to have been pretty universal among the northern nations.—See Voyage en Sibere, par Mon. Gmelin, tom. i. p. 30. See also, Ledgwick's *Irish Antiquities*, Walker's *History of the Irish Bards*, &c.

business to trace to our own times whatever mention is made of these celebrated heroes in our Scottish annals, either poetical or historical.

The first author of any note who mentions *Fingal* is, the celebrated author of the BRUCE, *Barbour*, Arch-deacon of Aberdeen, who wrote towards the latter end of the fourteenth century*. Hector Boethius, Buchanan and Leslie, mention *Fin-mac-cuil* †; as doth also Nicolson in his Scottish Historical Library ‡, but in such a way as to class what relates to him with the fictions of romance. To whatever period of our traditional history the *Fians* are referable, their existence at some time is undoubted. The whole highlands and isles, with respect to traditional remains, bear witness. Names of places to this hour clearly evince the age of Ossian. “There are (says

* ——— “Methynke Marthocke’s son,
 “Right as GOWMAKMORN * wes won
 “Tyl haif fra FYNGAL his menyie
 “Richt sa fra us all hys hes hee.” — *Barbour’s BRUCE.*

† Buchanan (lib. ii.) makes mention of the ancient Bards — Hist. Boet. lib. viii. Leslie, lib. iv. mentions the heroes of Fingal — See also J. Johnston, Refat. ad Her. Scoti.

‡ “There’s an old romance (says Nicolson) of the famous acts of *Fyn-Mac-Coul*, “a giant of prodigious stature, in the days of K. *Ewain* (or *Egenius*) the second; “wherein some particulars of that reign, are pretended to be recorded: but my author “justly ranks this with some of the like stamp concerning K. *Arthur*, and others “of our ancient *Englysh* worthies.” — Scottish Hist. p. 141. But *Barbour* calls his “poetical life of *Bruce* a *Romance*. The word (romance) was then (says Nicolson) “of better reputation than of later times; and the *Romant* of *Romants* has been inno- “cen ly applied to true history as well as the *Ballad of Ballads* to a sacred song.” — The historian or poet (call him what you will, they were anciently the same profession) lived, &c. *ibid.* p. 146.

* *Gaul-mac-morn*, *Fin-mac-cumbal*, i. e. Gaul the son of Morni, and the FINGAL of Ossian, as translated by M’Pherson.

Martin

Martin, in his Description of the isle of Skie) three [such] stones
 “ on the sea coast opposite to *Skernefs*, each of them three foot
 “ high: the natives have a tradition that upon these stones a
 “ big caldron was set, for boiling *Fin-mac-coul*’s meat. This
 “ gigantic man is reported to have been general of a militia that
 “ came from *Spain* to *Ireland*, and from thence to those isles:
 “ all his soldiers called *Fienty* from *Fiun*: he is believed to have
 “ arrived in the isles in the reign of king *Evan**: the na-
 “ tives have many stories of this general and his army, with
 “ which I will not trouble the reader. He is mentioned in
 “ *Bishop Lesly*’s history †.” This passage evidently alludes to
 the

* A. D. 420.

† J. Less. lib. iv p. 131. Martin says, in p. 219, when speaking of the isle of *Aaran*,
 “ there are several caves on the coast of this isle; those on the west are pretty large,
 “ particularly in *Drum-crucy*, a hundred men may sit or lie in it; it is contracted
 “ gradually from the floor upwards to the roof. In the upper end there is a large
 “ piece of rock formed like a pillar; there is graven on it a deer, and underneath it a
 “ two-handed sword; there is a void space on each side of the pillar. The south side
 “ of the cave has a horse shoe engraven on it. On each side of the door, there is a
 “ hole cut out, and that they say was for holding big trees, on which the caldrons hung
 “ for boiling beef and venison. The natives say that this was the cave in which *Fin-*
 “ *mac-cuil* lodged during the time of his residence in this isle, and that his guards lay in
 “ the lesser caves, which are near this big one.” Mr. Pennant mentions *Fingal*’s cave
 on the western shore of *Aaran*. “The most remarkable,” says he, “are those of *Fin-*
 “ *mac cuil* or *Fingal*, the son of *Cumhal*, the father of *Ossian*, who, tradition says, re-
 “ sided in this island for the sake of hunting. One of these caverns is a hundred and
 “ twelve feet long, and thirty high, narrowing to the top like a gothic arch.”—Pen-
 nant’s Voyage to the Hebrides, p. 206. In truth, there is hardly a district in the
 highlands and western islands, but in some corner or other of it rude remains of the
 Fingalian times are pointed out:—For example, about *Killin*, *Glenroy*, and *Glenfpean*
 in *Lochaber*, *Fingal*’s cave in *Staffa*, &c. Hence the vain supposition, which some
 have embraced, that as “The palace of *Fin-mac Cumhal* in *Leinster* is seated on the
 “ summit of the hill of *Allen*, or rather, as the natives of that country pronounce it,
 “ *Allowin*, the village and bog of *Allen* have thence derived their name: There are

the tradition of the Spanish origin of the earlier inhabitants of Ireland and North Britain: hence we may account for both nations having their popular traditions in many respects similar, as to what regards the traditional history of the Fingalian heroes. Doctor Barnard (Bishop of Killaloe) labours with much ingenuity to reconcile the opinions of the Scottish and Irish antiquaries on the subject of the Milesian Dynasty in Ireland, and the favourite idea that the northern parts of Ireland were peopled by the ancient Caledonians. By a similar mode of reasoning, it might be shewn that what regards the poems ascribed to Ossian, to be met with on both sides of the water, but confirms their authenticity; and, notwithstanding the strange admixture of the marvellous and the religious, to be found in the various editions of these wandering rhapsodies in Scotland and Ireland, sufficient of the genuine remains of Ossian is still to be discerned, to satisfy any reasonable person "that Fingal lived "and Ossian sang," as the eloquent though sceptical historian* expresses himself.

Respecting the moral sentiments of the more ancient Highlanders, if we credit their own testimony, as delineated in their

"still remains of some trenches on the top of the hill, where Fin-mac-Cumhal and his Fians were wont to celebrate their feasts. The country thereabouts abounds "in wonderful tales of the exploits of these ancient heroes." (Vide "The Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, 1787, vol. i.") Hence the unfounded opinion that Fingal and his heroes were peculiar to Ireland. It appears, on the contrary, that these heroes of antiquity were common to both islands, and relate to times so remote, that their descendants attributed to them matchless prowess, supereminent excellence, and such as hath not appeared in any age, or country, since the time when they were supposed to have lived. The heroes of the Greeks live in the songs of Homer in the same way.

* Gibbon.

poetical and traditional tales, we must further acknowledge them to be worthy of the veneration in which they are held. But, from the time that the feudal scheme obtained, the morals of the highlanders became inordinately vitiated, and base in the extreme. Savage fierceness, fervility, and a thirst of plunder, usurped the nobler sentiments of the dignified independence of the patriarchal system. Feuds, and conflicts, and proscriptions, were the fruits of this ever-to-be-lamented change; and, not until the last attempt to restore the Stuart family to the royal dignity of these realms, did the patriarchal, conjoined with the feudal system, receive a complete overthrow, from which, it is more than probable, it can never, in any formidable degree, recover.

Morals and politics being closely united in bonds of amity, we may expect to find the politics of the highlanders consonant to their notions of moral rectitude; and, as their morals became depraved through a change of system, so also their politics became weak and wavering as the occasion varied. Thus it happened, that when led into the field they were ignorant of the cause of quarrel; and, bent on plunder, they fought with incredible fury to obtain it; but, that point gained, they discovered little anxiety as to which side claimed the victory; who was in the right, or who in the wrong*.

“ Their armour (says an author already quoted †,) wherewith
 “ they cover their bodies in time of warre, is an iron bonnet
 “ and an habbergion side, almost even to their heeles. Their

* Buchanan. Cunningham's Hist. of Great Brit. Dalrymple's Memoirs of Great Britain.

† Vide Description of the Isles of Scotland, A. D. 1597; printed by J. Flasket, 1603, London. See also Buchanan, lib. i.

“ weapons against their enemies are bowes and arrowes. The
 “ arrowes, for the most part hooked, cannot be drawn forth
 “ againe, unless the wound be made wider. Some of them
 “ fight with broad-fwords and axes. In place of a drum, they
 “ use a bag-pipe*.”

“ The ancient way of fighting (says Martin) was by set bat-
 “ tle; and for arms some had broad two-handed fwords and
 “ head-pieces, and others bowes and arrows. When all their
 “ arrows were spent, they attacked one another with sword in
 “ hand. Since the invention of guns, they are very early ac-
 “ customed to use them, and carry their pieces with them where-
 “ ever they go †. They learn to handle the broad-fword and
 “ target. The chief of each tribe advances with his followers
 “ within shot of the enemy, having first laid aside their upper
 “ garments; and, after one general discharge, they attack with
 “ sword in hand, (as they did at *Killicranky*,) which soon brings
 “ the matter to an issue, and verifies the observation made of
 “ ’em by historians :

“ *Aut mors cito, aut victoria leta.*”

“ Their arms (says the author of *The Memoirs of Great*
 “ *Britain and Ireland*) were a broad-fword, a dagger called a
 “ *durk*, a target, a musket, and two pistols; so they carried the

* It appears, that in the reign of Henry VII. of England, and James IV. of Scot-
 land, (A. D. 1485.) the dress of the highlanders was nearly the same as it was a
 century after. “ *Hi fago, et interiore tunica amiciuntur; nudisque genu tenus tibiis*
 “ *incidunt. Arma sunt arcus et sagittæ cum ense admodum lato, et pugione una tantum*
 “ *ex parte aeuto.*” Polydor. Virg. lib. i. p. 11.

† This is precisely the custom with the Indians; as also with the Corsicans, who are
 in general the best marksmen in the world. The Corsicans resemble the highlanders in
 many respects; as do also the Portuguese peasantry in the Provinces. See Daumeriez’s
 Account of Portugal

“ long.

“ long sword of the Celtes, the pugio of the Romans, the shield
“ of the ancients, and both kinds of modern fire-arms all together.
“ In battle they threw away the plaid and under garment, and
“ fought in their jackets, making thus their movements quicker
“ and their strokes more forcible. Their advance to battle was
“ rapid, like the charge of dragoons; when near the enemy,
“ they stopped a little to draw breath, and discharged their
“ muskets, which they then dropped on the ground: advancing,
“ they fired their pistols, which they threw, almost at the same
“ instant, against the heads of their opponents; and then rushed
“ into their ranks with the broad-sword, threatening and shaking
“ the sword as they ran on, so as to conquer the enemy’s eye,
“ while his body was yet unhurt. They fought, not in long
“ and regular lines, but in separate bands, like the wedges con-
“ densed and firm; their army being ranged according to the
“ clans which composed it, and each clan, according to its
“ families; so that there arose a competition in valour of clan
“ with clan, of family with family, of brother with brother.
“ To make an opening in regular troops, and to conquer, they
“ reckoned the same thing; because in close engagements, and
“ in broken ranks, no regular troops could withstand them.
“ they received the bayonet in the target, which they carried on
“ the left arm; then turning it aside, or twisting it in the target,
“ they attacked with the broad-sword the enemy encumbered and
“ defenceless; and, where they could not wield the broad-sword,
“ they stabbed with the durk. The only foes they dreaded
“ were cavalry, to which many causes contributed: the novelty
“ of the enemy, the want of the bayonet to receive the shock of
“ horse; the attack made on them with their own weapon, the
“ broad-

“ broad-sword ; the size of the dragoon horses appearing larger to them, from a comparison with those of their country ; but above all, a belief entertained universally, among the lower class of highlanders, that a war-horse is used to fight with his feet and teeth.” But since our highlanders have been trained to arms according to the approved modern tactics, this notion has entirely vanished. When formed into regular corps, their discipline is highly exemplary ; and their conduct in the field is worthy the celebrity that it has acquired in all ages. Plunder is no longer their object ; and, sober and attentive, they gain esteem and respect wherever they are quartered. Although they do not now look up to their chieftains for the smile of approbation ; yet, such is their sense of propriety, that strict honour marks their actions ; and they are scrupulously honest in their dealings, as well as careful to preserve their moral character. Such then, is the change for the better in highlanders under military discipline.

Formerly, the chieftain of a clan was an officer of the first importance. Before he entered on his patriarchal government, and ere his followers owned him as fit for enterprize, proofs of his valour were required, to satisfy them of his prowess in the field ; and, as he likewise was sole umpire in all domestic disputes, it seldom happened that an opportunity was wanting for the display of his judicial talents. The first specimen of manhood expected in the young chieftain was dexterity in hunting ; the next was to make an incursion, attended with extreme hazard, on some neighbour with whom he was at open variance, and to carry off, by force of arms, whatever cattle he and his followers fell in with. In this manner conflicts and feuds were nourished,

ed, and kept constantly in existence among our Scottish highlanders. But these conflicts ceased almost entirely about the middle of the seventeenth century; and hereditary jurisdiction was abolished in 1748, by an act of the British legislature, when highland emancipation was, in part, accomplished. The solemnities in the inauguration of a chief are no more. The voice of the bard is silent in the hall. The deeds of other times are no longer recounted as incentives to emulate their forefathers*. The system is altogether changed; and the manners of civilized Europe are rapidly prevailing in the remotest corners of the Highlands and Western Islands.

Next to the abolition of hereditary jurisdiction, what chiefly accelerated the change observable in our highland districts in point of civilization was, a law prohibiting the national distinction of dress and the use of arms: "To have seen the Senate of a great people (says an author) sitting maturely and wisely deliberating on what shape and colour the garb of the highlander was to consist of, must have been an object rather fatal to gravity, if the absence of gravity could ever be permitted, where the happiness of mankind was at stake†." But such a procedure was not without precedent. The profound politician is well aware how much dress plays about the imagination, and how easily it associates with the prejudices of national distinction. "While the Irish preserved their native language

* The love of poetry is still prevalent among the Arabs of the desert and the Yemen. Like the northern bards, one of them recites the heroic deeds of ancient heroes, which are listened to with enthusiasm by the warriors as they repose in their tents. See Memoirs relative to Egypt, written during the campaigns of Bonaparte.

† "A Letter to the Right Hon. Charles Jenkinson, Esq. Edin. printed for Charles Elliot, 1799."

“ and dress, (says the author of the Antiquities of Ireland *,) “ there was no hope of civilizing them, or bringing them to an “ acquiescence in English dominion or English laws. Aware “ of this, the British princes endeavoured early to reduce, by “ very penal laws, the Irish to a conformity with their other “ subjects; and for this purpose were enacted the celebrated “ statute of Kilkenny, A. D. 1365, the 25 Henry VI., 5 Ed- “ ward IV. and 28 Henry VIII. †” How far this mode of procedure was founded in justice and sound policy, is a subject of enquiry not to be entered on in this place. Although the native language of the highlanders was not proscribed by any formal act of the legislature ‡, yet all means were used to hasten its decline and eventual annihilation. The *Irish*, or (as it was termed among the native highlanders) *Gaelic*, has been greatly depreciated by many, but by those chiefly who are ignorant of it, and prejudiced against every thing that relates to the antiquities of Scotland, and have, besides, a rooted aversion to the descendants of the Celtic tribes, who are supposed to have retired to the mountains; so that many, equally ignorant and prejudiced, taking their opinion with regard to these points on trust, seem satisfied that the Gaelic “ is the rude speech of a “ barbarous people, who had few thoughts to express, and were

* Ledgwick's Antiquities of Ireland, p. 346.

† Vide Camden's Remains, p. 200, and Leland's Hist. of Ireland, vol. i. p. 320.

‡ It appears from an act of council of Scotland, anent the settlement of schools, December 18, 1616—“ For as meikle that the English tounge may be univerfally planted, and the Irishe language, which is one of the chief and principale causes of the continuance of barbaritie and incivillitie among the inhabitants of the Isles and Heylandis, may be abolished, and removit,” &c. that so early as the beginning of the seventeenth century the annihilation of our Scottish Gaelic was aimed at, even under the sanction of that sage monarch our sixth James of sacred memory.

“ content,

“ content as they conceived grossly, to be grossly understood.”—
 “ Many will startle, (continues this author,) when they are told
 “ that the *Earfe* [he means *Irish*, or, as it is in Scotland called,
 “ *Gaelic*] never was a written language; that there is not in the
 “ world an *Earfe* manuscript a hundred years old*.” That this
 assertion is manifestly erroneous, now remains to be proved.
 Mistakes of this kind often originate in ignorance, or miscon-
 ception. Thus, for example, many who suppose the *Gaelic* and
Irish to be radically different, imagine that the *Earfe*, as they
 term it, was never written; and, therefore, that no ancient
 manuscript can exist; whereas, on the contrary, the *Gaelic Al-*
banach, and the *Gaelic Erinich* are radically the same, and by
 some authors are called without distinction *Irish*. For instance,
 Martin, who was a native of the Isle of Skie, invariably deno-
 minates the language of the Western Isles, *Irish*. “ Mr. *Lbwyd*
 “ tells me, (says *Nicolson*,) that in his last travels in Ireland
 “ he met with one *Beatoun*, a poor sojourning clergyman, who
 “ had picked up several fragments of old *Irish* manuscripts in
 “ the Highlands and Western Isles of Scotland †.” This *Bea-*
toun is doubtless the same person mentioned by Martin in
 the words following: “ *Fergus Beaton* hath the following ancient
 “ manuscripts in the Irish characters: to-wit, *Avicenna*, *Averroes*,
 “ *Joannes de Vigo*, *Bernardus Gordonus*, and several volumes of
 “ *Hypocrates* ‡.” It thus appears, that translations were no un-
 common things in former times in the Hebrides. Among the
 MSS. mentioned by Bishop *Nicolson*, said by *Lbwyd* to have

* Vide Johnson's Journey to the Western Islands.

† Nicolson's Scot. Hist. Lib. p. 67.

‡ Martin's Description of the Western Isles, p. 89.

been in *Beaton's* possession, are "three large leaves of the works
 " of *Gabri le fachair M'Gormac M'Arteonfhaor*, who was a hea-
 " then, and lived about the year 200." *St. Columbus* is said to
 have written in Irish verse*. It is well known that a *duan*
 (i. e. a poem) is extant, the composition of a bard, enumerating
 the ancestors of the reigning monarch Malcolm (III.) Ceanmore †.
 " The late Irish antiquaries (says Nicolson) have found an old
 " poem in their language, composed about the time of *Malcolm*
 " *Canmore* (A. D. 1057), wherein are registered the names of the
 " kings of Scotland, with the number of years they severally
 " reigned; a great many genealogies (adds this author) and
 " pedigrees of the *Scottish* kings have been drawn up; among
 " which the most famous (and most common in the libraries of
 " great men) is that which was composed by a highlander
 " of quality, and repeated to Alexander III. at his corona-
 " tion ‡ (A. D. 1249)." Having produced sufficient authority
 that the *Irish* or *Gaelic* was written at very remote periods, it is
 hoped that, in future, the ignorance and silly prejudice of those
 who merely skim the surface of research will meet with the con-
 tempt it deserves from the true critic and the judicious antiquary.

It is a matter of infinite regret, that so few manuscripts of
 the Gaelic language have been preserved; and it is a lamentable
 truth, that it is hastening fast to a total extinction. This, even
 by the highlanders themselves, is looked on with a degree of
 seeming indifference, not easy to be accounted for. By those

* See Nicolson's *Scottish Historical Library*, p. 233, 234.

† See Pinkerton's *Enquiry*, vol. ii. 321, in which are inserted the originals and
 translations.

‡ Nicolson's *Scot. Hist. Lib.* p. 139.

ignorant of the Gaelic tongue, it is believed incapable of perspicuity and copiousness: nothing is more unfounded. About seven years ago, (i. e. 1792,) a society consisting of young gentlemen, natives of the highlands, then students at the university of Edinburgh, was established, and met weekly in Divinity Hall, for the express purpose of exercising themselves in the Gaelic language; and their orations and debates were carried on with much elegance and perspicuity, even on the most abstract subjects of science; nay, so critically nice were they, that rules, with penalties annexed, were established for enforcing a rigid observance of the language in its idiomatic purity. Even at this late period, translations of the works of our best English and French authors, were due encouragement given, might be made in Gaelic, to say nothing of original performances, which might add ornament to ancient literature, and pour instruction over the mind of a people that by nature are most apt for acquiring all manner of useful and elegant knowledge.

Of the superstition of the ancient Celts, many have given an account. Of late, superstition has evidently declined in the Highlands and Western Islands of Scotland. This can be accounted for in many ways, but chiefly by reason of the propagation of the reformed religion, and the constant communication of the low-country with the highland districts. Formerly (and remains are yet observable) the superstitious rites of our highlanders consisted of a strange heterogeneous mixture of pagan, popish, protestant, and even fabulous observances, ludicrous in the extreme. To illustrate this remark by a few examples.

It is maintained by all moralists and divines, that religion is natural to the human race. The politician, availing himself of

this universally received maxim, holds it up as a self-evident proposition, and connects religion with civil establishments,—hence the union of church and state. Anxiety about the future, and a dread of a somewhat inexplicable as incomprehensible, seem the foundation of gloomy superstition. In rude stages of society, doubt and impenetrable obscurity, with respect to events placed beyond the power of human prudence to controul or command, lead the mind involuntarily captive, by the chain of gross superstition, and debilitating fears which render the votary susceptible of the wildest delusions of supernatural mystery, and the dupe of the most extravagant pretensions of priestcraft. In almost every section of the globe, set forms, resembling more or less the ceremonies of what is handed down to us as ancient Druidism, are mentioned as having been universally prevalent in the more remote periods of society. It seems (as if inherent in the human mind) that man delights in being deceived. Hence the magic of the Druids gave place to the no less diabolical mysticisms of popish superstition. That the one was grafted on the other, most philosophers agree. To the Druids succeeded the earlier missionaries of the gospel; and one set of errors, through the imbecility of the credulous, obtained in the place of others but little less palpable.

“The magic of the Druids, (says an author*,) or part of it, seems to have remained among the Britons, even after their conversion to Christianity; and is called *Taish* in Scotland; which is a way of predicting which they call *second-sight*: and I take it to be a relic of *Druidism* †.” Martin, in his “Account
“ count

* Vide Rowland's *Mona Antiqua Restanrata*, p. 140.

† “There are several little stone houses built above ground (says Martin in his Description of the Isle of Skie), capable only of holding one person, and round in form;
one

“ count of the *Second-sight*, called in Irish *Taisb*,” says, “ the
 “ *second-sight* is a singular faculty of seeing an otherwise invisible
 “ object, without any previous means used by the person that
 “ sees it for that end ; the vision makes such a lively impression
 “ upon the seers, that they neither see nor think of any thing
 “ else except the vision, as long as it continues ; and they appear
 “ pensive, or jovial, according to the object which was represented
 “ to them. At the sight of a vision, the eye-lids of the person
 “ are erected, and the eyes continue standing till the object va-
 “ nish. This is obvious to others who are by when the persons
 “ happen to see a vision, and occurred more than once to my
 “ own observation, and to others that were with me*.”—“ The
 “ *second-sight* (says Dr. Johnson) is an impression made either
 “ on the mind by the eye, or by the eye upon the mind, [this

one of 'em is to be seen in *Fortry*, another at *Lincro*, and at *Culuknock* ; they are called *Tey-nin-druineib*, i. e. *Druid's house*. *Druidich* signifies a retired person, much devoted to contemplation.”

It is a point not yet decided, whether the Druids had any known letters. The *ogum*, so much talked of, does not seem sufficiently authenticated, notwithstanding what O'Mulloy (see his *Irish Grammar*, 1669) O'Flaherty, Mac Firbis, Ware, and other Irish antiquaries (See Vol. I. *Royal Irish Academy's Trans.*), have asserted in favour of it. The Druids inhabited caves, consecrated trees, and worshipped in groves. They instructed their pupils in the mysteries of the function with all the form of gloomy superstition. The Culdees, the immediate successors of the Druids, living in similar retirement, the veneration of the multitude for this sacred order was easily transferred from their pagan predecessors ; and thus we find one system of pious fraud substituted for the other, which, gradually accumulating through ages, was not finally abolished till the reformed religion obtained in the more enlightened parts of Europe. It is said, that the *Druids* chose the island of *Anglesey* (the ancient *Mona*) for the seat of their establishment. But, respecting their boasted improvements in science, philosophy, discipline, and jurisprudence, much, it is feared, rests on mere conjecture.

* Martin's Description of the Western Isles, p. 300.

“ is a loose and unphilosophic mode of expressing his meaning
 “ surely] by which things distant or future are perceived, and
 “ seen as if they were present.”—By the term *second-sight*, seems
 “ to be meant a mode of seeing superadded to that which na-
 “ ture generally bestows. In the Earle it is called *Taisch*, which
 “ signifies likewise a spectre, or vision. I know not, nor is it
 “ likely that the Highlanders ever examined, whether by *Taisch*,
 “ used for second-sight, they mean the power of seeing, or the
 “ thing seen.” The Islanders (continues the Doctor) of all de-
 “ grees, whether of rank or understanding, universally admit it ;
 “ except the ministers, who universally deny it, and are suspect-
 “ ed to deny it, in consequence of a system, against conviction.
 “ One of them honestly told me, that he came to Sky with a
 “ resolution not to believe it ;” and the Doctor as honestly con-
 “ fesses, “ I never could advance my curiosity to conviction ; but
 “ came away at last only willing to believe*.” So much for
 the ridiculous notions with regard to the *second-sight*.

Notwithstanding the diffusion of the gospel, to which cause
 its ministers attribute the fall of heathenish, and, in great mea-
 sure, popish superstition, a belief in spectres, witches, fairies,
 brounies, and hobgoblins, is not altogether extinguished in many
 parts of the Highlands and Western Isles. The old people seem
 greatly puzzled, and even shocked, at the infidelity of the young,
 and see with the utmost concern their favourite doctrines vanish,
 as the dawn of reason advances. They lift up their eyes to
 heaven, and sigh, deeply concerned for their degenerate offspring.

Religious persecution was never heard of in the Highlands ;
 and abstract speculations can hardly get footing where super-

* Vide Johnson's Journey to the Western Islands.

stitution is so strangely mingled with positive institutions and established observances;—the poor are more solicitous about the present than the future; and the richer sort of persons are too indolent, and too much devoted to pleasure, to trouble themselves farther than to secure the momentary joy, and the repose which a rude voluptuous race delight in.

The vast change which within the last fifty years the inhabitants of the districts north of the Grampians have undergone, is hardly to be paralleled in the history of the human race. Averse from sedentary habits, wherein cool application and patient industry lead to reputation and reward, the quick, clear apprehension of the highlander found little relish for the refinements of civilized society and abstract speculations, and as little for the plodding drudgery of commercial employments, or any of the liberal professions, in which he is to be chained down for life. Personal activity was his delight.—To face danger, regardless of hazard the most formidable, was to him mere pastime; and to acquire fame in arms, constituted the chief object of his devotion at the shrine of honour. The profound policy of the late Lord Chatham, in availing himself of this propensity, is among the chief characteristics of that illustrious statesman's administration. But the system which he adopted gave a new and unexpected bias to the mind of the highlander. He no sooner went abroad into the world, than he found of what consequence he was to the state. The desire of riches awakened in his soul ambition and a thirst of power. The meanest peasant's son saw, with a heart palpitating with joy, that rank and fortune were, by a happy train of circumstances, placed within his reach; and that, one day, he might have it in his power to return home,

and vie with the proud chieftain himself, in all the pomp and splendour of foreign climes, in ease and affluence. Hence we may observe the dawn of that change so remarkable in the highlands of Scotland. Freed from hereditary jurisdiction, protected by the laws, and sensible of that portion of freedom which has even reached thus far northward, the poorest highlander is now impressed with an idea of his individual consequence to the community, and seeks emolument and honour beyond his native boundary, where he had been secluded from the great world, which he so much longed to see and take an active part in. If he be driven from his native valley by others somewhat more opulent, and greedy of possessing a greater portion of land than himself, he is cheered with the fond hope of returning with riches sufficient to purchase what formerly he was, on account of his poverty, obliged to relinquish; and thus he may, in his turn, dispose of the fate of those who were the means of making it necessary for him to become the architect of his own fortune.

Whether, on the whole, emigration may not contribute to the advancement of human happiness, to the extension of commercial intercourse, and to the diffusion of knowledge and the useful arts, is a consideration left to those whose province it is to regulate the grand interests of civilized life; but, to be driven from home by oppression, under whatever denomination it be felt, is an evil from which it is natural to hope for relief by a change of situation, at a distance where the prospect of bettering our condition allures, and the hope of success invites to a new and less precarious establishment.

Within the last half century, the staple commodity of the Highlands and Western Islands was black cattle; but now sheep

have banished cattle ; and would to heaven men had not shared the same fate ! The Hebrew shepherds were not holden in greater detestation among those nations whom they drove out from their paternal inheritance, than, till lately, the low-country shepherds were among the highlanders ; and every thing that belonged to a shepherd's life was held in utter abhorrence, and considered as beneath the dignity of a man to interfere in : quite opposite ideas, however, now generally prevail ; even the gentleman of family and condition deigns to act the part of a shepherd ; and the pastoral life, at one time the occupation of the lowest of the people, is likely to become as respectable as when David the son of Jesse followed his father's sheep, ere he had ascended the throne of Saul the son of Kish, who, while in quest of his father's asses, was anointed king over Israel, being thus raised from the meanest of the people, to be ruler over them. Such are the changes in human affairs ; and such, in all likelihood, though not precisely to the same extent, eventually may take place in the wilds of North Britain !

The spirit of speculation has spread rapidly from valley to valley. An epidemic madness for sheep-grazing seems to rage with unabating fury. Rents within the last ten years have advanced beyond all former calculation ; most parts of the highlands are under sheep ; and the country has become desolate, and almost drained of its native inhabitants. If this alarms not the state, there is little hope of a stop being put to emigrations from the Highlands and Western Islands. Whence will our armies be recruited ; where shall we find mariners to man our navy, the bulwark of our island, the neglect of which would endanger our existence, as a free, independent nation ?

If our fisheries perish through depopulation, and our mountains and vallies be peopled with shepherds, instead of the hardy race of our Scottish highlanders, what will be the consequence?

Both sides of Loch-tay have experienced more than once the emigration of their inhabitants; and it is much to be feared, that another, more numerous than any hitherto known, is, from circumstances too delicate to be touched on, about to take place, unless prompt and conciliatory measures be adopted to mitigate the grievances (real or supposed it matters not) of which the Braidalbane people loudly complain.

A set of more contented and thriving tenantry than were to be found on the vast demesnes of the Braidalbane family hardly existed any where, till a change of system (which commenced in the life-time of the late Earl, who all acknowledge was a good landlord,) reduced the poorer tenants, the offspring of former vassals, either to emigrate, or toil year after year, on the sterile faces of these stupendous mountains, in order to make up a rent exacted with the utmost rigour, whatever became of their live stock, their wives, and their children. Is this oppression?

The disturbances that lately took place in Ross-shire were occasioned by converting a number of small farms into a few extensive sheep-walks. Upwards of thirty poor families, each of whom had inherited the small *Duchas* from father to son, without interruption for many generations, were turned adrift on the world, and their possessions let to shepherds who had come from a distant part of the kingdom. Was it any wonder then, that, in the first paroxysms of disappointment and despair, these wretched wanderers, ere they took their departure from
the

the scene of their nativity and earlier part of life, committed unwarrantable excesses, which indignation prompted, and which reason, appalled, knew not how to expiate? The law of the land violated, established order broken, what was to be done? Shall it be recorded, that these deluded wretches suffered the punishment due to their crimes! What strange infatuation is it that binds the highlander to the heath-clad wilds through which he so fondly delights to wander? Early associations, habit, and above all, ignorance of a more fruitful soil and more genial climate, may, in part, account for so irresistible an inclination to remain on the spot on which he first drew breath. Of this propensity, why should such cruel advantage be taken, as to raise the price to so enormous a pitch, for permission to toil for a miserable subsistence? It is asserted, that the more the highlander's rent is advanced, the more diligently will he strive to realize it; and that thus the full value of these barren wastes is secured to the owners, while the riches of the community are augmented: It may be so; but, surely this is buying one's comforts at a dear rate, to say no worse of it.

Several judicious hints have been thrown out, with regard to putting a stop to the evil consequences of *rack-rent*, as it is called, in the Highlands and Western Islands. These hints, however, have shared the fate of such effusions as philanthropy suggests, and rapacity smiles at, while secure in its exactions, sanctioned by authority, and supported by the laws. It appears, then, that it rests with the legislature to redress the grievances here pointed out; and let the hope be indulged, that the day is not far distant, when a British senate will deliberate on the best means of preventing emigrations from the highlands of Scotland.

Few

Few villages are more delightfully situated than *Killin*. It is irregularly scattered on the west end of Loch-tay, and commands a fine prospect of that lake. To the lover of picturesque scenery, the environs of Killin will be found peculiarly interesting. All the assemblage of wood and water, hill and valley, that constitutes landscape, is to be met with here in endless variety. To be minute, therefore, in description, were needless, and a general enumeration would fall greatly short of what, on actual survey, can hardly fail to interest and please. Most of the inhabitants of this village are tradesmen*, who find sufficient employment from their neighbours in the glens and in the borders of the lake. Even amid these wilds the useful occupations of life are to be found; and there are some appearances, which indicate that the elegancies of civilization are at no great distance; for what will not ingenuity and honest industry achieve? What a contrast to times by no means remote! About the beginning of the eighteenth century the spirit of clanship seemed the highlander's sole spring of action. Restless and savage in their dispositions, the arts of peace were almost entirely neglected. The man who could best handle the sword, or hit the mark, was esteemed the most useful; of consequence, while such rude notions prevailed, industry was held in contempt: wretchedness and want were the usual attendants on idleness and misguided exertion; and, though rents were exacted, they were either ill paid, or could not be collected without much trouble, and even hazard. Turbulence and knavery required

* In this parish, which is extensive, there are at present 2360 inhabitants. Among these are 36 weavers, 22 taylors, 19 shoe-makers, 14 wrights, 9 flax-dressers, 7 shop-keepers, 6 smiths, and 2 bakers, besides millers, carriers, &c. See Sinclair's Stat. Acc. vol. xvii. p. 380.

coercive means to check them, and wise regulations, administered with promptitude and energy, to destroy whatever remained of the old system among the highlanders of this district. Happily for the present generation, the measures which were adopted, and the advancement of civilization, have brought about that change, so much for the better, which has so generally obtained not only through the highlands, but in every corner of our northern section of the kingdom, within these thirty years. Now, the tokens of labour circulate abundantly*; industry is thus stimulated; agriculture, the true strength of a nation, is improving daily; rents are paid punctually; all live in the utmost harmony; they conduct the labours of the field with the mutual assistance of each other; their cattle feed in common; and, were their rents but moderate, a happier race of people, (who, though not affluent, are far from a state of poverty) hardly could be found, than the inhabitants of this district of the Braidalbane estate.

The progress of literature in the highlands is among the remarkable changes which have taken place within this century. For instance, not fifty years ago, there were but one or two schools of any note in the whole extent of Perthshire; now, there are two or three in every parish, including Sunday-schools, and those established by the society for propagating Christian knowledge †. From these humble seminaries, the future luminaries

of

* The price of labour is, in truth, far from being low. For instance:—Domestic men-servants get from 7l. to 10l.; women-servants from 2l. to 3l. per ann.; 1 shilling per diem is paid to labourers; and to carpenters and masons, from 1s. 6d. to 2s. See Sinclair's Stat. Acc. vol. xvii. p. 376.

† It appears (see Chamberlayne's State of Great Britain, p. 28.) that the whole number of charity schools throughout the Highlands and Western Isles, in May 1724,

did

of the literary world may emerge; and perhaps the day is not far distant, when the poets and orators of Greece and Rome, whose works are already understood among the inhabitants of these sterile regions, may find rivals in the descendants of the ancient Caledonians. Already, not a few have distinguished themselves in the republic of letters; the pulpit and the bar also witness many of their brightest ornaments, that have of late appeared, sufficient to justify a presage of future celebrity. At the parish school of Killin, the elements of the Greek, Latin, and French languages are taught, besides the Gaelic; as also writing, arithmetic, and book-keeping, in the most approved manner. Three additional schools for instruction in the reading of English and Gaelic, and in writing and arithmetic, have also been established in the parish; and school-mistresses have been appointed to teach sewing, knitting of stockings, and other branches of female industry. But the smallness of the pecuniary emoluments of all these ingenious teachers is to be lamented; the highest salary to any individual not exceeding twenty pounds sterling *per annum*. This is a public scandal, and calls aloud for redress.

The population of this parish, notwithstanding emigrations, the introduction of sheep, and the consequent conversion of

did not amount to more than sixty; and the number of scholars of both sexes, to more than two thousand three hundred and forty-four; many of whom were grown up persons; nay, it was not uncommon to see parents and their children go hand in hand to school, and submit patiently to the drudgery of acquiring the rudiments of such learning as at that period was taught. With such eagerness did the highlanders embrace the first attempts at civilization.

small

small farms into larger, for greater range of pasture grounds, it appears, on the whole, has neither remarkably increased nor diminished within the last sixty years, if we are to judge by the registers of baptisms, which, it is said, have been kept with tolerable accuracy; the total number of births from 1731 to 1790, being 6916,—average annually $115\frac{1}{3}$. The extensive grazings in this parish are well stocked with black cattle and sheep; the former is of the highland breed, the latter of the Linton. There is also a hardy breed of horses, fit for the labour of the country, and kept at small expence, being seldom or never taken into a stable, till compelled by the excessive inclemency of the weather. There has lately been introduced a small breed of swine, whose flesh is remarkably delicate, and rich in point of flavour. The highlanders, who formerly had a strong aversion to pork, can now relish it highly. The proportion of arable ground to that of pasture is but small, and the returns seldom exceed four-fold. The harvests are late, and often precarious. The seeds sown are oats, barley, pease, and potatoes; and a good deal of flax is raised. Turnips, rye-grass, and clover begin to be cultivated, and promise sufficient encouragement to proceed in these lucrative branches of husbandry. The prices of provisions are moderate*, and, except in years of general scarcity, they are to be had in abundance. The Earl of Braidalbane is the principal proprietor of this parish; but, besides him, there are four more proprietors, some of whom reside on their estates, agreeably to the good old custom. The valued

* The price of beef, mutton, veal, and pork, is at an average 3d. per lb. of $17\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; butter 9d. per lb. of 22 oz., and cheese from 5s. to 7s. per stone of 22 lb. See Statistical Account.

rent of the whole parish is 3115l. 6s. 8d. Scots, which, supposing it valued a century and a half back, is equal to 4667l. 2s. 6d. sterling. The real rent in 1790 amounted to about 3000l. but since that period it has risen considerably. How far the poor tenants may be able to bear this rise is another question.

Before these mountains and vallies were converted into extensive sheep-walks, forests for deer were set apart, and kept with the utmost care. A great variety of game was then to be found; but now, deer and roes are scarcely to be met with; and in a short time heath-game will be so rare as to make fruitless the attempt to find any.

The various species of fish caught in the lake, and the rivers which run into it, are salmon and trout, char, perch, pike, and eel. The pearl fishery was, some years ago, a favourite speculation, but lately it has been prosecuted less; owing, perhaps, to a scarcity of that species of muscle which contains pearl; or, to other pursuits, more lucrative, engaging the attention of those who followed it. SAINT FOND, a member of the National Institute of France, who made a tour to the Hebrides in 1784*, is very particular in his description of the pearl fishery in these rivers. This author considers the pearl-muscle as belonging to the *ma pictorum* of Linnæus. He thinks that he has discovered an invariable rule by which the shells containing pearl may be known on the first glance; and this discovery, he says, was by him communicated to *Buffon*, as noticed in his *Natural History of Minerals* (vol. iv. p. 125). St. Fond imagines, that the disease occasioning the formation of pearl depends on the shell

* St. Fond's Travels through England and Scotland are newly translated into English. 1799.

being perforated by a certain species of auger-worm, and other worms not hitherto described. He also hints, that by means of artificial perforations pearls may be produced; as he supposes that the Chinese are acquainted with this art, and practise it to much account. Other methods are mentioned, such as opening carefully the shell, and depositing a small bit of mother of pearl, as a nucleus for the pearly matter to form on, a method adopted in Finland, and other parts. St. Fond's theory, with regard to the formation of pearl, may, perhaps, be found to be a just one.

On leaving Killin, it is recommended to the traveller to proceed down the lake along its right border, as being, in point of variety, and for commanding the greater number of fine prospects, by far preferable to the left; besides, the road is less hilly, and, on the whole, superior to that on the north border of the lake. We proceed then on our journey; pass, once more, the bridges over the impetuous Dochart, and turn to the left. As we ascend above the orchards and mansion-house of *Achmore*, we observe on the opposite side of the lake, sheltering its mouldering walls amid aged trees, *Castle-Finlarig*, the ancient seat of the knights of *Glenurcha*, said to have been built A. D. 1523. We observe also, situated on a plain at the west end of the lake, a neat but small mansion (Kinmel), belonging to Mr. M'Nabbs, the chieftain of that name. The family burying-ground, *Inish-mbui*, close by the house, is pointed out to the stranger, as a spot of singular beauty. It undoubtedly is such, and is highly calculated to raise ideas of tenderness and sorrow; as an insulated grove of tall pines, whose solemn aspect and deep silence are in fine

harmony with the roaring waters around it, the blue expanse
 of the lake, calm and unruffled, and the sublime heights of the
 mountains that rise from its margin, are objects well suited to
 correspond with the belief that Fingal sleeps here in the
 dust. To add to this fond idea, six gray stones, equi-distant,
 are seen on the plain beneath the eye. Carried back to former
 times, the imagination easily pictures to itself the mournful,
 yet sublime ceremony of entombing "The king of woody
 "Morven."—"The beams of the west linger on the top-cliffs
 "of the mountains. Grey mist rests on the mid-way heights.
 "A dead stillness reigns. Not a leaf is seen to move. The
 "gloom of autumn spreads around. Its many tints are seen
 "along the borders of the lake. The lake kisses the margin in
 "silence, and seems as if bound in icy chains. At intervals, the
 "voice of grief is heard. It is the soft song of mourning: bards
 "and heroes mingle their voices with the harps of Salma. Fingal
 "is no more: the chief of men sleeps in death. Behold, in
 "solemn movement winding slowly down the rugged brow of
 "Finlarig, the lifeless form of the hero, borne by those whose
 "fame is the song of bards. Nearer and nearer the mournful
 "band approaches. And now the mourners rest on the plain.
 "Ossian, son of the fallen, is mute. He muses on times that
 "are past.—He is the last of his race. Oscar, the hope of his
 "earlier days, sleeps with his fathers: and Fingal descends to
 "the narrow house, where Trenmor and Trathil repose. Six
 "gray stones mark the green mound where sleep the heroes in
 "dust. Soft, mournful, and slow, the song of woe ascends in
 "strains that thrill and melt the soul. It is wafted on the mild
 "breeze

" breeze of the evening. And now the deeds of Fingal, match-
 " less in might, swell on the rising gale. Friend of the feeble,
 " foe of the oppressor, whose arm in kindness was stretched forth
 " to the injured. The lightning of his steel gleamed in the
 " cause of his people. But, alas! he lies low in the dust. To
 " mourn his fall, heroes of former days, who witnessed his
 " mighty deeds, bend from their airy cliffs. Darkness descends
 " on the plain. Hollow murmurs at intervals are heard. The
 " storm howls in the mountains. The lonely blast comes on
 " its wings of speed. The light of heaven flashes on the distant
 " heath. Thunder peals along the vallies. The rivers rush in
 " foaming streams along their narrow plains. The lake tosses
 " its waves to the tempest. The storm rages in its strength."
 On the opposite side of the lake, at the foot of mount *Laur*s,
 some Druidical remains, less complete than those mentioned
 before, are still observable.

Strange ideas have been lately propagated, and with no com-
 mon assiduity, respecting the Druidical antiquities of this country,
 and of Ireland. An affectation of northern antiquities has
 wrought up the wild ideas of a few superficial thinkers to a pitch
 of folly truly ridiculous. " Scandinavia, as has already been ob-
 " served, (says one of these silly pedants) was always mountainous
 " and ill peopled: nevertheless it hath sent forth colonies to Scot-
 " land, Denmark, Ireland, the Hebrides, and Orkneys*:" there-
 fore, the inhabitants of Scotland, the Hebrides, and even Ireland,
 are not descendants of the Celts, as some have supposed, but of
 Scandinavians. This dreaming antiquary pretends also to give
 an historical account of the Celts; but in this he fails, no less

* *Vide* Pinkerton's Enquiry into the Hist. of Scotland,

than he does in his attempt to deduce inferences from his vain suppositions respecting the northern migrations. “The Celts (says he) were the most ancient inhabitants of Europe. Before the time of Cæsar, they were reduced to a third part of Gaul, and the western part of Britain and Ireland;”—“these in Scotland are very often called the Welsh, or *Cumraig*.” The Dalriads, or present highlanders, were only a paltry Irish colony, never extending beyond Argyle, till a late period.” Our author speaks of the Celts in the following manner:—“The *Celts* [are] mere savages, and worse than the savages of America, and remarkable, even to our own time, for a total neglect of agriculture themselves, and for plundering their neighbours.” In describing the characteristic distinctions of the inhabitants of the highlands, and those of the lowlands, he adds:—In mind and manners the distinction is marked. The lowlanders are acute, active, industrious, free; the highlanders, stupid, indolent, slavish, foolish, fawning: the former, in short, have every attribute of a civilized people; the latter are absolute savages, and will continue so till the race be lost by mixture.—Had all the Celtic cattle (continues this author) emigrated some centuries ago, how happy had it been for that country! All we can do is to plant colonies among them, and by encouraging emigration, try to get quit of the breed. The *Celts* are mere savages, most tenacious of their speech and manners*.” Reader! thou art amid the wilds which these *Celtic cattle* inhabit. Judge for thyself. Look around, and be not deceived by the words of a weak and prejudiced man.

As we proceed down the side of Loch Tay, we pass through considerable tracts of natural wood; and here and there fall in

* *Vide* Pinkerton’s Enquiry.

with small patches of tolerably cultivated ground, but chiefly laid out for meadow hay, an article of the first consequence to the poor industrious tenant, whose sole dependence, probably, is on the sale of a few cattle, but scantily supplied by what little fodder can be stored up for the winter, the produce of these small fields and meadows. On the opposite side of the lake, we observe the corn-fields extending from the water's edge to a considerable height on the face of the highest mountains; a proof that industry is not wanting on the part of the poor inhabitants of these inhospitable regions. Pity it is, that their rents should be so intolerable as to render their toil irksome, and the hope of bettering their fortune languid in the extreme! It may not yet be too late to meliorate the condition of these people, depressed in circumstances, perhaps, by reason of expences incurred in the rearing and educating (for the poorest peasant sends his children to school) a numerous offspring. For, be it ever remembered, that a numerous and industrious family, healthy in body, and virtuously disposed, contributes to the real support of a state, and the substantial wealth of a free and independent nation. Hence the good policy of availing ourselves of that principle which seems to rivet the highlander to the very hillocks and tufts of heath over which he struts in all the pride of conscious vigour and supposed independence,—by every generous and noble means in the power of those destined to dispose of the fate of the industrious and labouring classes of the community.

Of all the districts of the highlands, that through which Loch Tay runs is by far the most populous. The tract there pointed out, is bounded on the west by *Cairn-drom*, and on the east by *Dunkeld*. This district being the most populous, accounts in great measure

measure for its being in a higher state of agricultural improvement than any other of equal extent in the highlands, particularly the western districts; for it is believed, that, in many parts of the northern districts, particularly in Ross-shire, Caithness-shire, and Sutherland-shire, agriculture is carried on with surprising success.

There is something pleasing in tracing considerable streams to their origin; hence, the religious veneration in which, in remote ages, the source of the *Nile* was held. The Tay, to compare small things with great, though it has not its origin beyond the mountains of the moon, collects its waters amid mountains rugged and of vast altitude; and, assuredly, not less sterile than the most inhospitable regions of Nubia itself. About half a mile beyond *Tyndrum*, or, as it was formerly denominated, *Cairn-drom*, two inconsiderable rills, for the most part dry, originating in one point, on the face of a hill*, form an angle, the right-hand side of which continues its direction to the *Atlantic*, and that on the left to the *German ocean*: the latter, after passing through the dreary wilds of *Strath-Fillan* and *Glendochart*, the pastoral scenery of *Strath-tay*, and the fruitful plains of the *Carse of Gowry*, a course of between sixty and seventy miles, yields its many tributary waters to the German ocean a little to the N. E. of Dundee. Near the source of the Tay is the celebrated pool, said to have derived its virtues in the cure of lunacy from the circumstance of its having been consecrated by *Saint Fillan* †.

To

* Although the above streamlet is said to be the source of the Tay, yet many considerable rivers tributary to it, such as the Tummel, Gary, &c. have their origin in very remote parts;—perhaps more so than that pointed out above.

† There was anciently a Cell, or Priory, belonging to the *Abbey of Inchaffray* in *Strathern*, near the holy pool of St. Fillan, “founded by King *Robert the Bruce*, and consecrated

To what cause the cure is to be ascribed that frequently takes place after submerſion in this holy pool, is ſurely a matter deſerving of inquiry. The cold-bath, in many diſeaſes, is of great benefit. Doctör Currie's (of Liverpool) late work on its uſe in caſes of fever, has thrown conſiderable light on many particulars reſpecting this branch of the *Materia Medica*. A ſeries of obſervations on the effects of the cold-bath in caſes of derangement of intellect, is moſt earneſtly recommended; and it is not unlikely, that much benefit may be derived from ſo ſalutary and ſimple a practice, founded on more judicious experience than at firſt ſight is ſeen in the ſuperſtitious obſervances at the holy pool of *St. Fillan*. It muſt not eſcape us, that many things which appear trivial in the extreme, and even ridiculous, may be wiſely enough employed in giving aid to the means uſed, among a rude and ignorant people, in the cure of diſeaſes; hence the many ſuperſtitious rites which were wont to accompany every attempt to reſtore health to the diſeaſed, and sanity to the deranged intellect.

The great variety of ſoils and ſituations in *Straths Fillan*, *Dochart*, and *Tay*, ſhews to what advantage botany might be ſtudied in theſe parts, in proper ſeaſons, and when vegetation is moſt vigorous. The minerals, too, that are to be met with in

“ conſecrated to *St. Fillan*, in conſideration of the aſſiſtance he had from that ſaint at the “ battle of *Bannockburn* in the year 1314. At the diſſolution of the religious houſes, “ this Prioſy, with all its revenues and ſuperiorities, was given by the king to *Campbell* “ of *Glenorchy*, anceſtor of the Earl of *Braidalbane*, in whoſe poſſeſſion it ſtill remains.” Vide *Spotiſwood's Appendix to Hope's Minor Practicks*, p. 424; and *Keith*, p. 241. The arm of *Fillan* is ſaid to have wrought marvellouſly that day, notwithstanding its withered condition, at the battle above-mentioned; for to it was aſcribed the victory. Vide *Hector Boece's Hiſt. Scot.* p. 302.

this subdivision of Perthshire, afford ample matter for speculation to the intelligent naturalist. At Carn-drom a lead mine has been wrought, but with so little success, that the miners ceased their labours several years back: perhaps the distance from fuel and charcoal was one great reason for discontinuing the smelting of the lead-ore at this place: the ore itself is abundant. The galleries, which are now in a ruinous state, are cut through rocks of micaceous schistus. The ore is found intermixed with white quartz, and pyrites. The process observed in separating the metal from its ore, is easy and simple. The ore is pulverized and washed, charcoal, peat, and pit-coal are added; then this mixture is submitted to the action of heat in a furnace: and thus the operation is completed, and the metal formed into bars for transportation wherever it may be required. Limestone abounds throughout the parts here pointed out; but there are no mineral springs; at least none of any remarkable properties. The mountains on both sides of Loch Tay are composed of a micaceous rock intermixed with a schistus and quartz ore matter that give it a brilliant appearance: garnets also of an inferior quality are to be met with.

The prospects, as we proceed down the lake, are not much diversified; neither do we meet with many which the painter would stop to delineate; a few, however, deserve particular notice. Near to the twelfth mile-stone, on looking back, a charming view presents itself, containing all the characteristic grandeur of lake and mountain scenery. Wooded promontories on either side of the lake rise gracefully from the margin, and swell boldly into finely-formed masses. On the left, particularly, a wooded precipice rises abruptly from the water's edge,
the



Viewed from the West by Albert Kneller

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Woodcut engraving

Peak Top looking toward St. John

London, Published by Messrs. G. & C. Hanway

the base of which pushes forward, and forms a double bay, adorned with objects that give a pleasing variety, such as cottages and trees fantastically grouped, aged and picturesque; and loose rocks piled together in huge masses, irregular and wild. Strips of meadow and corn-grounds are seen sheltered among the trees; and the idea of comfort and humble contentment is associated with these appearances. Killin is beheld in the off-skip behind which the chain of hills that separates Glens *Dochart* and *Locha* towers in lofty grandeur. The opening into these glens is also seen; and the imagination is carried up the course of the rivers, where many a highland hamlet, whose inhabitants, though poor in the comforts of life, are yet contented with their condition amid rocks, precipices, and mountains, lie scattered here and there on the narrow plains of these vallies.

Another station for a prospect will be found at the sixth mile-stone, and a third, at the fourth mile-stone.

At the latter of these stations a prospect of great magnificence is commanded. Ben-more, one of the highest mountains in Britain, rears its double peak in the clouds. The neighbouring hills, though of considerable altitude, seem diminutive when compared to it. The whole breadth of Loch Tay, and eleven miles of its length, together with its lofty shores, are seen at a glance; and on the whole, for extent and grandeur, the view here pointed out may bear comparison with any that is to be seen on the lake. We now direct our attention to the east shores of Loch Tay.

In our way to *Kenmore*, we pass through the hamlets of *Cloch-eran* and *Ardoenaig*; remarkable for nothing but their pleasant situations, and that peculiarity which in former times gave

character to the habitations of small communities of highlanders, who lived in nearly the rude manner of their forefathers.

As we travel along, and approach the eastern extremity of the lake, we observe, on its opposite side, a valley opening into another that terminates the first at right angles: the latter of these vallies is Glenlion. At this opening the vast ridge of *Ben-lours* concludes; and the hill called Drummond rises abruptly, and stretches for the length of three miles to *Taymouth*, and two beyond it, where it terminates, and the opening into Glenlion commences. The road here hangs over the water at a considerable height; and the point of observation is rather too elevated for a picturesque view of the grounds on the east end of the lake. The face of the country now takes a different character. It no longer wears that lofty aspect to which our eye has become familiar on the western shores of the lake; but rather, the great outlines that here characterize the landscape, are ample and flowing; assuming grandeur in easy inclinations, and heights, though extensive, yet neither bleak nor rugged; evidently indicating that the lowlands commence at no great distance.

In our approach to *Taymouth* (or *Ballach**, as it is called in the Gaelic), the family residence of the Earl of Braidalbane, we are much pleased with the situation of the small neat village of *Kenmore* †. The promontory on which it is built pushes boldly into the lake, by which an ample sweep of a bay is formed; but so shallow, that, at a considerable distance from the shore, the bottom can easily be discerned. Every thing about Kenmore

* From the Gaelic, *bealach*, a gap, or mouth, or opening into a valley or glen: hence *Taymouth*.

† From the Gaelic, *Cean-mor*, great head, or head-land.

has an air of cleanliness and comfort. The church, manse, inn, and bridge, are modern, and were built by the late Earl *. The church is plain and decent; the manse neat and commodious; the inn convenient, comfortable, and well supplied with the necessary articles of living; and the bridge, thrown over the Tay a little below where it issues from the lake, is truly in an elegant stile of architecture. It consists of three large and two lesser arches, the whole being substantially built of hewn stone; and its appearance is light, free, and justly proportioned. It was constructed under the direction of the late Sir *Archibald Campbell*, and designed by the late ingenious *Baxter*, an architect whose talents were an ornament to his country.

The number of elegant bridges which have been erected in the various parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland within the last thirty years, is highly honourable to the age we live in. The theory of arches is now well understood; and, notwithstanding the difference between this theory and the rules observed in building bridges, it is truly admirable to what perfection engineers and architects have carried this noble art. May the talents adequate to such useful and elegant undertakings be ever patronized by a nation that knows its own interests, and has magnanimity sufficient to reward the possessors of them with emolument and distinction! Then we may again behold a Leonardo Da Vinci, a Michael Angelo, an Inigo Jones, a Wren, a Chambers, an Adam, with all their experience displayed in their masterly productions superadded to their own creative genius: and thus the advancement of so liberal an art as architecture may once

* The church, manse, and inn, were built about thirty-eight and the bridge about twenty-two years ago.

more be revived ; as when Vitruvius flourished, and gave laws to the science which he at once established and adorned.

On entering the lawn on which Earl Braidalbane's mansion is situated, the contrast between the rugged wilderness that we have just traversed, and the smooth enamelled verdure on which we now tread, is so striking, as to excite in the mind pleasing ideas, such as are usually called forth in contemplating the various exertions of rural economy ; more especially when we meet with such sylvan scenes (decorated by the hand of taste, scrupulously nice in preserving the genuine character of their original features) as are to be seen in our ramble through the demesnes of Taymouth. As a guide generally attends strangers in their survey, every spot worth visiting is pointed out with address and civility ; and it rarely happens, that those visitants who can relish a judicious display of rude nature and art combined return dissatisfied. One prospect, to which the attention of the traveller is directed, deserves particular notice : it is that which an elegant temple, dedicated to Venus, commands. In the near ground are the village of Kenmore, and the bridge over the Tay where it issues from the lake. Behind the bridge, a small distance from the shore, is an islet, on which the mouldering remains of a Priory, almost completely hid by the trees that shelter this once sacred spot, are still visible*. Immediately above this isle, on the left, the

* This monastery was inhabited by Canons-Regular of St. Augustine, who at one time had 28 monasteries in Scotland. LOCH TAY's Cell or Priory, "belonging to *Scone* (says Spottiswood) was founded by *Alexander* in the year 1122. Here *Sibylla* his Queen, daughter of *Henry Beauclerk* King of England, died, and is buried. The most part of the buildings of this monastery are still extant (i. e. 1715)". See Spottiswood's Appendix to Hope's Minor Practicks, p. 414. and Keith's Catalogue, p. 236. In order to supply the cell of this islet with fish at all times, the monks had the privilege of fishing on the lake



Viewed on the Spot by Mr. Campbell

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Allen sculp.

Saymouth.

London: Published March 1, 1839, by Messrs. Longman & Co. Stationers Row.

the road is seen winding on the steep eminence that rises abruptly from the water's edge : on the right, the corresponding promontory is more mild in its character, and rises gracefully in all its varied tints, from the lively green of its narrow stripes of meadow seen amid the darker hues of the wood, to the deep purple that shades its heathy summit as it takes its place among the retiring uplands. Beyond the head-land on the left, the first great bending of the lake is seen. Its wooded border is in its aspect more marked, and rises, though not abruptly, with a noble air of magnificence. Behind this eminence, on the same side of the prospect, the towering heights of *Ben-lours* command attention. Its ample bosom, stretching many a mile in solemn grandeur along the winding shores of the lake, which here is hid from the sight, seems a vast country elevated in mid-air. In the extreme distance, forming a fine termination to this grand scene of lake and mountain perspective, the double cone of *Ben-more* is seen in its aerial veil, mingling with the kindred hues of the remotest region of the visible horizon. Under whatever circumstances the prospect commanded from this station is beheld—whether in the cool freshness of the morning, or in the glowing radiance of the evening—in the repose of mid-day, or when the fragrant breeze ruffles the surface of the lake, and gives motion to every shrub and tree among the deep recesses of the mountains, whose dark grey cliffs, tufted with rough brown heath, the growth of ages, are seen, and their rugged brows, furrowed with the torrents that suddenly rush

lake and the Tay without regard to seasons ; and this privilege the present proprietor enjoys in right of his charter, without being subject to restriction by statute.

down

down and sweep every thing in their course:—whether, while the lake, still, calm, and clear as the highly-polished surface of the truest reflector, gives just but inverted images of each surrounding object, not a breath abroad, not a leaf moving, every thing around hushed into deep silence and repose;—or, when the storm scowls on high, the mountains enveloped in dark rolling mists, lightning gleaming in vivid flashes, thunder in peals of rapid succession running along the upper regions of the atmosphere, as if the Eternal in his wrath spoke from the clouds; the wild waves of the troubled lake lashing the huge precipices that hang over its profoundest depths:—whether the smiling landscape, cheerful and gay, be lit up in the mild radiance of mid-summer, or clothed in the depth of winter with snow, and the sun scarcely seen above the mountainous horizon, renders every thing around a cheerless waste, shut up from communication with the world; or, till spring again advancing, with benign influence, restores all to the genial warmth of summer:—whatever the vicissitudes of seasons may bring, under whatever light and shade the grand features of the prospect here pointed out are viewed, still the scene is sublime, and highly characteristic of what of late has been denominated *Scottish landscape*, in its happiest assemblage of picturesque beauty.

In our range through the parks of Taymouth, we are charmed with the variety of path-ways, conducted through woods, and by the banks of the Tay, which here runs in a free and rapid volume as it sweeps along its tributary streams that descend from the neighbouring hills and retired vallies. Of the family mansion little can be said in praise of its external appearance. It is partly new, and partly old; and it must be confessed, that a

more awkward pile of building is hardly to be met with. Within, some of the apartments are spacious, elegantly furnished, and ornamented with a few capital paintings. There are some portraits by *Vandyke*, and *Jamison* (the Scottish Vandyke), a part of which are painted in their best manner, and are chiefly valuable on that account. There are likewise a few historical subjects in a capital stile; the painters of which were *Guercino*, *Annibal Caracci*, *Bleak*, and *Gavin Hamilton*. There is also a landscape by *Boderwyns* and *Bout*, touched in a free, masterly manner. In the library are some literary curiosities: among others, what is called the Black-book, a chronicle of the times*; and *Duncan Laidier*, a poem; both written in the Scoto-Saxon dialect †. It is extremely probable that, if careful search were made through this library, several other valuable articles of literature might be rescued from oblivion; and it is most likely that if some one, possessed of sufficient patience, industry, and bibliothecal knowledge, were carefully and diligently to examine the public and private libraries in Scotland, much curious matter might be found, relative to antiquities, secret history, and polite literature, which would greatly add to the slender store that we yet have to boast of, particularly north of the Tweed, in the present state of advancement in the several branches of learning to which these belong.

In our books of heraldry, the ancestors of the *Braidalbane* family meet with distinguished notice; but if from some marginal notes in manuscript, prefixed to the several accounts given in these books of this ancient and numerous name, *Campbell*, one were to

* The sixteenth century.

† Vide Warton's History of English Poetry. See also Campbell's Introduction to the History of Poetry in Scotland; and Pennant's Tour in Scotland, in which this poem was first noticed.

judge by what means so many have risen to high titles, honours, and the possession of extensive demesnes; it is to be apprehended, that a severe scrutiny into the conduct of several individuals would lead to a scepticism rather fatal to the high notions that some entertain of ancestry. But the consideration of these topics would be here entirely out of place. To return, then, to what is more immediately connected with our main subject; namely, the pointing out such things as are most worthy of attention about *Kenmore* and *Taymouth*, we shall further notice some few particulars relating to statistical matters, and the natural history of these parts.

The parish of Kenmore is bounded on the east by the parishes of Dull and Weem; on the west by Killin; on the south by Comrie and Monivaird; and on the north and north-east by Fortingale, and a part of Weem. Its greatest breadth is seven miles; and its length is about eight miles, extending on either side of Loch Tay, in the direction of north-west. According to an arrangement in former times, part of Glenlochry belonged to Kenmore and Weem: this was perhaps owing to Glenlochry being excellent for pasture, which induced the inhabitants of this end of the lake to send their cattle thither during the summer months*. The population of this parish appears to have increased considerably since 1755, when a survey was taken, and the return made to Doctor Webster. At that period there were 3067 persons resident in the late parish; and in 1794-5, there were 3463; being an increase of 396. The mechanics here are 9 masons, 10 smiths, 36 wrights, 8 coopers, 20 flax-dressers, 63 weavers, 38 taylors, 4 hosiers, 1 dyer, and 26 shoe-makers, making all

* A small part of this parish lies in a deep retirement in Glengnaish over a hill to the south. *Vide* Sinclair's Stat. Account, vol. xvii.

together 215 that are employed in handicrafts ; a striking proof how rapidly the highlands are advancing in every means of improvement. The cultivation of lands in this parish is now carried on with great spirit and success. The soil, though loamy, yields very tolerable returns ; and it is to be hoped, that in a short time, turnip and sown grass crops, so profitable in the rearing of cattle, will be properly attended to, so as to enable the small farmers to increase their live stock, and keep them in good condition through the winter and spring. But, as sheep are gaining the ascendancy here as well as elsewhere, there is little likelihood of agriculture being followed with that avidity which otherwise it might. The number of black-cattle already bears but a small proportion to that of the sheep ; there being of the former 3028, and of the latter, 11,480. Say there were but half the number of sheep, *i. e.* 5740 ; in that case, allowing the usual number of sheep to one cow, which is four, there would be 1435 head of cattle reared in this parish more than there are at present. It remains then to be considered, whether the costs and profits, situation and soil, and other casualties, being favourable, it would not be more to the advantage of the farmer, the landlord, and the country at large, (taking into the account the consequences of depopulation, which most assuredly takes place when small farms are converted into extensive sheep-walks) to promote rearing of black-cattle in preference to pasturing of sheep. But the discussion of this interesting topic would lead beyond the limits prescribed to the few hints thrown out in this place.

Since the management of sheep has become so prevalent throughout our highland districts, instead of encouraging ingrossers of land, who frequently do not breed cattle or sheep themselves,

themselves, but rather employ too much time in purchasing in distant parts live stock for the market, to the great detriment of their neighbours, who exert their industry in breeding; it ought to be a primary object with proprietors, to encourage the preservation of a due balance between population, and the breeding of cattle and sheep; and to be watchful lest the extreme of over-stocking or under-stocking be prejudicial to the real interests of all concerned.

Let us suppose a farm that can pasture 2000 sheep, and a proportional number of black-cattle, to be divided among four farmers, each paying a rent of 50l. per ann.; and that these four farmers form a common stock, out of which the salaries paid to the shepherds employed in the management, and all other expences, are to be defrayed. Let a *wintering* be reserved, in case of a long and severe winter, so as to insure sufficient range and provender, which are the sure preservatives against the accidents and diseases that assail live stock. The following may give some idea of the management of a sheep-farm laid out in this manner:

DR.	£. s. d.	CR.	£. s. d.
Rent at 2s. a head for 2000 sheep, is	200 0 0	By cash for the said stock's wool	80 0 0
A shepherd and two assistants, allowing handfomely	40 0 0	By do. for 300 lambs, 5s. 6d. each	82 10 0
Wool bags, tar and butter, shepherd's meal, extra wages for smearing, &c.	30 0 0	By do. for 150 do. shot, 4s. each	30 0 0
Fox-hunters, and incidental expences, say	5 0 0	300 Aged widders * and slack ewes 16s. 6d.	247 10 0
	275 0 0	Crocks 150, 8s.	60 0 0
			500 0 0
		Deduct costs	275 0 0
		And there remains a clear profit of	225 0 0

* Under the denomination of aged widders are comprehended (merely for brevity's sake) milk ewes, gett ewes, dimmonds, three year olds, rams, &c.

which, when divided among four is, 56l. 5s. a piece. Add to this the produce of whatever cattle happen to be reared on the lower parts of the farm; likewise corn, barley, potatoes, &c. and the situation of small farms of this description is far from being despicable. It is manifest, then, that the land-owner has a rent equal to any that monopolizers can possibly afford; he has, besides, the pleasure of knowing that four families can thus be reared instead of one; and that the more numerous they are the better, as thereby the division of labour will greatly add to the facility of improvement of whatever description. Now, with regard to improvements in the breed and management of sheep, the following questions may afford matter for speculation.

Question 1. Whether it might not be more profitable, on the whole, to pay greater attention to the quality of the wool, than to the bone and bulk of sheep?

Question 2. Whether if what is called the true highland breed of sheep were pastured on the same range as the *Linton* breed, the advantage derived from the former might not be greater than that arising from the latter; particularly as the former are more delicate in point of flesh, the wool is much finer, and sells dearer; and the same pasture that maintains 10 sheep of the foreign breed will maintain 20 of the small native breed; besides, that the native breed are less liable to diseases than the foreign, are more hardy, and require less trouble in the management? Now, as the native sheep are superior in quality, with regard to fineness of wool and delicacy of flesh, to the foreign breed, and are less liable to maladies, less troublesome in the management, and double the number can be pastured on an equal extent of range to that of any other breed, would

would it not be adviseable to make fair trial how far the small highland breed of sheep would answer in preference to any foreign breed hitherto introduced on sheep-farms*?

Question 3. Whether establishments for the manufacturing of wool in the highland districts ought not to be promoted and encouraged; and for this purpose, might not young men, sons of gentlemen and respectable store-masters, instead of being bred to business as cotton-manufacturers, as is the custom at present, be bred to the woollen trade on its various branches; and thus, even under the sheep-breeding system, our raw materials be brought to market under such favourable circumstances as would insure every due advantage? Thus might the industrious poor earn a comfortable subsistence, and emigration be prevented †.

* On a sheep-walk that would pasture 2000 sheep of the Linton breed, double the number, i. e. 4000 of the native highland kind could be pastured.—The following calculation will afford some idea of the advantage of the one mode over the other: For the sake of keeping the calculation within a narrow compass, let a small number suffice.

	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
Twenty widders, each weighing		Forty widders, native sheep,	
40lb., at 6d. per lb. - - -	20 0 0	each weighing 24 lb. at 6d.	
Wool of do. 2½ stone, at 8s.		per lb. - - -	24 0 0
per stone - - -	1 0 0	Wool of do. 3 stones, 10s. 6d.	
	21 0 0	per stone - - -	1 11 6
Balance or profit - - -	4 11 6		25 11 6
	25 11 6		

If this calculation be correct, and coincide with a fair trial, the advantage on the side of the small breed, even of the Galloway species, is sufficiently evident, and turns out nearly twenty-three per cent. more than the coarse wool kind. The wool of the small breed of sheep has been known to sell at 16s. per stone, while only 7s. or 8s. was got for the other kind. See Smith's Agr. Survey.

† See Dr. Smith's Agricultural Survey of Argyleshire, where this subject is considered at great length, and with truly enlightened views and patriotic sentiments. See also Campbell's Account of the Parish of North Knabdale, Sinclair's Stat. Acc. vol. v. p. 259.

Question

Question 4. Whether *goats* ought not to constitute a principal part of the live stock on our highland store-farms; as they feed where sheep can hardly venture; require little attention, comparatively; are excellent and nutritive food, especially when their hind-quarters are made into hams; have much tallow, and their milk is medicinal, and, when converted into cheese, is excellent and sells high; beside which, their skins might fetch a good price, and might be made into excellent leather for either boots or breeches; in short, if due attention were paid to a proper breed of goats, might not the profits be truly considerable?

Question 5. Might not much profit arise from a strict attention to the breed of *horses*, of *black cattle*, and of *swine* in the highlands; and ought not the propagation of *bees* to be encouraged by every means possible, where so much heath and such vast variety of herbs abound as in our mountainous districts?

Before leaving this subject, it may not be deemed uninteresting to mention a few particulars respecting the management of store-farms in general.

The highlands of Scotland seem peculiarly adapted for the breeding of black-cattle, sheep, and goats. The native breeds of each of these ought to be preferred to any foreign kinds, except those nearest the native, as, without doubt, more likely to thrive on the soil, more hardy, less liable to disease, and requiring less trouble and expence in the management, than any breed hitherto introduced into the country by our store-farmers.

The main points to be kept in view in the management of black cattle are, to be careful not to mix the breed; to be attentive

tentive to procure good bulls * ; to keep cattle cool, clean, and dry ; not to rear more than there is an abundance of pasture and provender for ; otherwise, cattle are liable to disease, and become stunted in their growth. As shape, a choice pile, short legs, deep ribs, a straight back, a high crest, and a longish snout, are the recommendatory marks of a good highland cow, the English buyers expect such to be hardy and strong-boned, to feed true, and fat quickly. A real highland cow of this description may, when full fed and fit for slaughter, weigh from 360 to 560lb. avoirdupois, which at the rate of sixpence *per* pound, including hide and tallow, amounts to from 9l. to 14l. ; and such beasts as are brought to weigh thus much are usually bought up at from 5l. to 8l. by the English drovers.

In the management of sheep-farms, the following considerations are chiefly to be attended to. Next to the native breed of highland sheep, the small Cheviot and ancient Galloway breeds are to be preferred, principally on account of the delicacy of their flesh and the fineness of their fleeces † ; to stock tightly,

* The idea of degeneracy being the consequence of a bull bulling his own offspring, is now exploded ; as, on investigation, the fact proved otherwise. It was a prevailing opinion, that it is proper to change the bull every three years ; though they usually retain their vigour till ten years old. To let cows have the bull so as to calve in the beginning of April, is of great advantage. Calves ought to be allowed to suck their dams.

† “ Of these sheep, the most distinguishing marks are orange-coloured faces and legs, short thick wool, and very small size. When full grown, and tolerably fat, the wether would not exceed 30, nor the ewe 27lb. ; and it would require 18 to 20 of their fleeces to make a stone of 26½ lb.” It is in general sold from 12 to 14 shillings a stone. See Sinclair’s Stat. Accounts, vol. xvii. p. 569. Par. Mochrum. “ Very few, however, of this truly primitive breed, it is supposed, now remain. A few years ago, Lord Daer and Admiral Stewart purchased here some of the native ewes, in order to try a breed

tightly ; and to change to pasture suited to the health and condition of the flock, so as to guard against the inclemency of weather, and the diseases incident to sheep*. Where the sheep-walk is high and exposed, the wedder system is recommended ; and where there are good low-lying pastures, with adequate resources for a cold and lengthened spring, the breeding system is, in general, found to be most profitable ; but where there is a sufficient range in low and high pasture, both systems, con-

breed between them and Spanish, Shetland, and other rams ; but both these public-spirited personages were unfortunately cut off by death, while engaged in this and many other patriotic experiments for the improvement of their country."—*Ibid.* p. 569. The Cheviot breed are far preferable to the Linton ; for, beside their fleeces being finer and closer, of course warmer, they are long in body, long-legged, well-boned, and every way fitted for enduring the severest weather, and climbing the highest mountains ; and are said to be less liable to disease than the black-faced or Linton kind. Several gentlemen have introduced them into Argyleshire : among others, Mr. Campbell at Auch, and the Duke of Argyle ; as also Earl Braidalbane on some farms in Perthshire and in Argyleshire ; and these several trials have been successful beyond their most sanguine hopes. About twenty years ago (*i.e.* 1778), on the Mill of Kintyre, some parcels of the old highland breed were crossed with the Linton kind. The result of this experiment proved favourable, and the wool in this district of Argyleshire still continues of a quality much superior to any other in that part of the country. *Vide* Smith's Agric. Survey, p. 242.

* To raise artificial grasses ; to sow the seeds of whins, broom, juniper, parsley, and other salutary plants ; to raise crops of turnips, potatoes, and carrot, nay cabbages of various species ; to drain some parts, and water others, — ought all to enter into the rural economy of the store-farmer, and would, in the end, be much to his advantage, as well as to that of the country at large. Some advise the making of hay-heather, the heather to be cut in August, when the heath is in its full bloom. Dry provender is much recommended by store-farmers in England. See Young's *Annals*, vol. xiii. *passim*. *Museum Rust.*, &c. *A Treatise on Pasturage*, printed for E. Balfour, Edin. 1790. *Report of the Committee of the Highland Society* : particularly the Appendix, Edin. printed for the use of the Society, 1790. *The Complete Grazier*, London printed 1767.

joined, may answer very well. With respect to ram-breeding, it is believed that too little attention has heretofore been paid to this most essential part of sheep-stocking. Instead of turning rams loose indiscriminately among the flocks at the proper season, as has universally been the custom hitherto, small inclosures ought to be formed, and the ewes admitted to the rams one at a time only, the rams to serve each ewe once and no more. “By this judicious and accurate regulation (says Mr. Marshall*), a ram is enabled to serve nearly twice the number of ewes that he would do if turned loose among them, especially a young ram †.” The usual practice is, to buy rams of three years old, to ride one year, and then sell off, and to change frequently, the oftener the better; but this will not apply to the breeding and rearing of the native highland sheep, the small Galloway, or Cheviot kind; nor of the Shetland breed. Rams may be efficient and vigorous till six or seven years old; and a good breed ought never to be changed, unless for another of a superior quality ‡. A ram-park should always form part of the store-master’s establishment; as without it much prejudice may and often does arise, besides inconvenience, in the management of the flock.

The diseases to which sheep are liable are so formidable, and so little within the compass of any treatment yet thoroughly understood, that it were to little purpose to lay down any rules

* *Vide* Marshall’s Midland Counties, vol. i.

† By the present practice one ram is allowed to four-score sheep; but by that here recommended six-score sheep might be served by a healthful vigorous ram.

‡ Some experiments have been tried with success in crossing Spanish and native highland sheep.

respecting

respecting the method of cure: suffice it to say, that a state of health in beast, as well as in man, depends on a due observance as to proper food and clothing; as, on the one hand, too great an indulgence induces diseases connected with generous diet, and leads to an over-delicacy in regard to defence against the changes of the seasons; and on the other, a lack of the common necessaries of life, together with a scanty supply of what protects animal existence against wind, rain, frost, and snow, pre-disposes to debility, and diseases connected with wretchedness and want. Both these extremes should be avoided; and a discreet use of the one, with a prudent attention to the means best calculated to guard against the evil consequences of the other, will effectually insure success in the art of preserving the health of man and domestic animals*.

* The diseases to which sheep are most liable are, the *braxy*, or, as it is called in different parts of England, the *midden-ill*, the *red-water*, the *black-water*, and the *rot*, or what is by some called *poked*; both the *braxy* and the *rot* are fatal in the extreme to sheep, carrying off nearly one third, and in some instances the one half of a flock at a time. If these diseases are curable, a change of pasture is the only remedy; and the suspected part of a flock should be sold off immediately, without reserve, to buy in new stock. The native breed, as less liable to disease, ought without hesitation to be preserved. To prevent the ravages of the *braxy*, to support the hogs (year olds) in Autumn on artificial crops, such as sown grasses, turnips, rape, &c. is found to answer in most cases. See Robson's Report. Stat. Acc. of Selkirk, vol. ii. p. 440. Stat. Acc. Linton, vol. i. p. 133. "I will be bound for it (says Robson) the better keeping will prevent the *braxy*, or *sickness* as they call it." "It was common in every part of England (continues he), until it was prevented by better food." In large flocks, (he adds) a cart load, for many mornings in succession in the latter end of October and beginning of November, was not uncommon to be brought home dead." The advantage of light stocking, and green artificial crops, is obvious, to say no more. There are other maladies to which sheep are liable, such as the *gripping*, or *louping-ill* as some call it, a paralytic affection. The *sturdy*, or water in the head, the *scab*, *fags*, or *kades*, *ficks*, *foot-rot*, and other local diseases incident to sheep, are treated variously, but with very little success. Cleanliness and comfortable keeping are the sure preventives.

With respect to the management of a herd of goats, little can here be communicated, for want of sufficient knowledge or experience in this branch of stock-farming; but, without doubt, much profit might accrue, as hath already been remarked, from goats forming part of a store-farm.

The breeding of swine is another branch of rural economy, but too little attended to in our highland districts. When it is considered how easily, and under what unfavourable circumstances, swine can be reared and fattened, it seems perfectly within the reach of the poorest cottager to have a breeding sow, the produce of which is returned within the year and half; and most assuredly no kind of industry whatever is attended with less trouble and expence; nor can a more profitable one, provided the management be judicious, be readily pointed out. What no other domestic animal will make use of, a hog will feed on; and will seek his food on the sea-shore, as well as in the woods, or on the almost barren moor. The refuse of the dairy, of the mill, and of culinary operations, are to him dainties; how much more must he relish regular and more generous feeding, such as potatoes, carrots, and, occasionally, pease, beans, and corn! When fattened to a reasonable degree, and fit for the use of man, hams of the finest quality and most delicate flavour might be made; and as the smoke of peat or wood is found to give a peculiar odour, that is very grateful to many, highland hams might be as much sought after, as, at present, Westphalia hams are, and might prove no inconsiderable source of national wealth: nay, were proper means taken to encourage the breeding of swine in the highlands of Scotland, the sheep system itself would yield in emolument to the rearing of hogs, curing
of

of pork, and smoking of hams *. Then, population would increase, as the comforts of life would be more easily procured; instead of emigrations, the industrious would find employment; and thus there would exist no cause of murmur, no shadow of oppression. Let agriculture be promoted in our lowlands; the rearing of such animals as have been mentioned on our mountains and in our vallies; the establishment of woollen manufactories in the districts best calculated for them; and cotton works in favourable situations; let our fisheries be placed on an eligible footing; our trade be made free, and our ports be opened to the whole world; then Scotland would have to boast of her ancient independence, and be blessed with a plenitude of every necessary comfort within the reach of human industry.

With respect to the natural history of the immediate vicinity of *Taymouth*, having in a former page said somewhat on this subject, the less will be requisite in this place: therefore, a few general hints must suffice, and these stated as briefly as possible.

Loch Tay is in length about 15 statute miles, and at its greatest breadth two miles nearly. By some, it is reckoned a hundred

* The parish of Lochmaben in Dumfriesshire is famous for breeding of swine. "There are (says the writer of a Statistical Account of that parish) people who make a trade of salting and curing (swine). There may be 1000l. worth sold in the parish annually, besides what is consumed by the inhabitants."—"It is affirmed (continues this author) by some who are conversant in that business, that from Nith to Sark and Esk, an extent of country about 30 miles the longest way, and about 16 the shortest, there is above 20,000l. brought in annually for swine." Stat. Acc. vol. vii. p. 243. It is to be remarked, that the soil in this parish is of a fine quality, and yields abundant crops of every kind hitherto tried. It may be objected by some, that the highlands are on the whole unfavourable to the rearing of hogs, more especially to the fattening of them?—To this it may be answered, that, if salted cabbage, corn, and carrots fatten well, as all allow to be the case, surely an abundance of such food can, without much difficulty, be procured in the highlands, as well as any where else.

fathoms deep; but considerably short of this may be its real depth. It abounds in salmon, pike, perch, eel, charr, and mofstrout. These various kinds of fish are of excellent quality, and the salmon is found clean and fit for the table at all seasons: hence the privilege granted to the *Braidalbane* family of fishing in the lake without restriction. Loch Tay is seldom known to freeze in the severest winters; and lately, it has been remarked by the inhabitants of the lower end of the lake, that unusual and violent agitations take place in it, when every thing around is calm and in profound silence*. The cause of this has not hitherto been sufficiently investigated, so as to afford any satisfaction with regard to the phenomena that have been observed while the lake was thus agitated. The first remarkable flux and reflux of Loch Tay known to have happened, was on Sunday the 12th of September 1784; and the same appearance took place several successive days, though with less violence than the first †. A similar flux and reflux occurred on the 13th July 1794, since which time no farther agitation during a deep calm has been observed.

The quadrupeds of this district are those found commonly among the Grampians; such as deer, roes, mountain-hares, and hares of the downs, wild-cats, foxes, martins, weasels, badgers, and others.

* In the year 1755, at the time when the great earthquake happened at Lisbon, Loch Lomond was observed to be in a state of uncommon agitation, without any apparent cause. That similar phenomena take place in great bodies of fresh water lakes, is sufficiently known; but from what cause naturalists have not yet discovered.

† The waters suddenly retired to a distance of between 90 and 100 yards from the shore, and rose in the middle of the lake in the form of a vast wave, with a rushing noise; then gradually subsided, and continued to ebb and flow in this manner for the space of two hours. *Vide* Sinclair's Stat. Acc. vol. xvii.; and the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, vol. i.

Of the various kinds of birds, may be reckoned the game of the lower regions, such as partridges, grouse, woodcocks, black cocks; and in the higher parts of the mountain, pharmigans, dotterels, and plovers. The birds of prey, are eagles, hawks of various kinds, ravens, crows, and magpies. The birds that frequent the lake and river are ducks of various kinds, wild-geese, herons, sea-gulls, and sea-eagles. There are also scaup-ducks, water-rails, ring-ouzel, wood-peckers, nut-hatches, lesser red-polls, and other birds accounted rather rare in these parts.

The minerals on the borders of the lake and in the adjacent mountains were mentioned in a preceding page; these consist of rocks composed chiefly of a micaceous schistus, intermixed with felt, spar and quartz.

The different species of wood to be found on the borders of the lake, and for a considerable way up the face of the mountains, are oak, pine, birch, mountain ash, and hazel. On the south side of the lake many oak trees, of remarkably fine appearance, are left standing, and promise to be of considerable value a few years hence. The hill of Drummond* at Taymouth, which begins below Kenmore, is planted and stretches five miles westward, with pine, larch, oak, &c. and in a short time this hill will become a specimen of what the ancient forests of this country were.

Among the alpine plants, many of which are rare, may be numbered the *phleum alpinum*, *chereliria sedoides*, *veronica saxatilis*, *gentiana nivalis*, *arenaria saxatilis*, *astragalus uralensis*, *acrosticum ilvense*, *juncus*, *jaquini*, *egrigeron alpinum*, *cerastium alpinum*; and some other rare plants have been discovered by Mr.

* Or Drummin.

skirted with woods of birch, and the remains of that vast natural pine forest, which extended over this mountainous region to the shores of the Atlantic. In this immense forest are scattered a great many small lakes, some of which contain charr, and others excellent trout. On examining an accurate map of Scotland on a large scale, such as Stobie's or Ainslie's, the number of fresh-water lakes will be found considerable, and several of them extensive. From the Frith of Clyde to the Murray Frith, are no less than twelve greater, besides an indefinite number of lesser lakes. Among the more extensive are, Loch-Lomond, Loch-Tay, Loch-Aive, and Loch-Nefs*. The great supply of water in every direction that might be converted to the useful purposes of inland navigation from lakes and rivers, and springs innumerable, points out the vast advantage of intersecting the country with canals; than which no speculation whatever would be more beneficial to adventurers in it, as well as to the community at large. The remains of a yew tree measuring 52 feet in circumference are still extant in the church-yard of Fortingal. Before this extraordinary tree fell into decay, its dimensions must have been truly grand. An old act of parliament ordering broom-seeds and whin-seeds to be sown †, is to be seen among our obsolete Scottish statutes; as also another, ordering yews to be planted in church-yards, for the purpose, no doubt, of having a sufficient supply for bow-wood near at hand, as church-yards were the usual places for the exercise of the bow and arrow.

* Some of these lakes are near thirty miles in length, and have no communication with the sea. See an ingenious paper in the Manchester Phil. Transf. by Mr. Gough, the celebrated blind philosopher, on the subject of fresh-water lakes.

† With an intention, most likely, of providing food for cattle in spring, before the grafs sprung up.

The name of this parish, Fortingal, or *Feart-nin-gal*, as it is called in Gaelic, signifies, as some suppose, “the works or exploits of strangers* ;” and, from what appears at the west end of this district of the remains of a Roman encampment, it is imagined that some of the legions had penetrated beyond the barriers of the Grampians: hence there is reason to conclude, that the etymology of the name of this parish is more than fanciful.

The area within the Prætorium is tolerably perfect, and measures about 80 Scotch acres. Three urns and some Roman coins have been dug up, as also a copper vessel, a Drawing of which is preserved in Pennant’s Scotch Tour. A number of circular forts in various parts of this parish excite much speculation respecting their original intention. They are mostly from 30 to 40 feet in diameter, and about 5 feet high; and the stones of which they are built are of vast size, and rudely put together. It is supposed, that these forts may have been used as watch-towers, for the purpose of giving alarm on any sudden appearance of an invasion. They extend a great length of way, and traces of them are to be met with from Dunkeld to Glenorchy, a stretch of country of at least 70 miles. Tradition mentions this district to have been the scene of King Robert Bruce’s exploits, as several names of places signify †.

The manners of the people inhabiting the higher parts of the parish of Fortingal have, within the last fifty years, undergone

* Sinclair’s Statist. Acc. vol. ii. p. 449. *Feart* signifies also strength, virtue; *fear-tail* signifies power of mind and body, energetic, miraculous.

† As Glen Saffan, “the Saxon’s glen;” Dailchofnie, “the field of victory,” &c.

a material change*. Prior to this period, they lived in uncomfortable huts, with scarcely a bed to lie on, and had little else to support life, save what chance threw in their way, of game, or what they could procure by plunder. The happy establishment of peace and order, after the last fruitless attempt to restore the Stuart family to the throne, brought about every means of comfort, and such rational enjoyment as is compatible with honest industry. A few examples were sufficient to demonstrate to the highlanders, that depredations were no longer to be suffered, and that liberty and the produce of labour were to be regarded as the high privileges of the peaceable and industrious. Hence arose a different system; and its effects are now so manifest as to require no further comment; for, to be convinced of this happy change, we need only look around, when we shall be satisfied that peace and good order are the blessings which procure the wealth and independence of a free state.

Formerly, the greater part of the united districts belonging to Fortingal, as well as most of the western districts of Perthshire, were in the hands of the Clan Gregor. The M'Gregors were once a potent and numerous race †. How they came to be dispossessed of their lands, hunted down like wild beasts, and almost exterminated, is left merely to tradition and fanciful accounts, such as have found a place in our books of heraldry, and his-

* This is not only the case with the parishioners of Fortingal; but, in truth, the whole highland districts of Scotland have undergone a radical reformation, as lasting, it is to be hoped, as effectual.

† A terrible battle is said to have been fought between the M'Gregors and the Mackays on the banks of the river Lion.

tories of clans *. *Ruorbub* in Ranoch was a feat of the Macgregors in ancient times, as appears from traditional history, and a pathetic lament on the chief of that house, beginning

Tha mulad, tha mulad,
Tha mulad gam lionadh, &c.

At the nineteenth mile-stone, Bulfraik, the residence of Mr. Menzies, is seen as we pass; and a mile farther down, on the north side of the Tay, Castle Menzies, the family residence of the chief of Clan Menzies, appears, overhung by wooded precipices, whose hoary cliffs add dignity to the scene, and harmonize with the milder aspect of the lawn on which the castle is situated. Tradition reports, that some centuries back a chief of the Clan Menzies, having resigned his titles and estates to a younger brother, retired into the mountains; and, fixing his residence in a cell which he caused to be built in the cleft of a rock, a considerable way up the heights that rise behind Castle Menzies, relinquished all secular concerns, and embraced the still life of an insulated recluse.

The village of Aberfeldie is the next object we meet with, worthy of notice principally on account of the picturesque scenery in its immediate vicinity. In a deep wooded glen along the course of a mountain streamlet, which bounds in fantastic wildness among chafms and impending rocks overhung

* It is here proper to remark, that many fundamental errors have crept into the account given of the M'Gregors in Douglas's Baronage. A manuscript, consisting of historical strictures on that account, (together with a *very different* genealogy of the chief of the M'Gregors from that given in Douglas's Baronage,) was lately put into the present writer's hands, which, at a future period, he means to bring forward; as, however uninteresting the subject of clanship may appear to some, particularly at this advanced period of civilization, truth ought ever to obtain, and completely triumph over error. See Buchanan of Achmas's Hist. and Gen. Essay.

with

with brush-wood and birch trees, drooping elegantly over innumerable cascades that rush headlong down, and are collected into a water fall of considerable magnitude, the stranger is directed to advance. He here meets with all that is so happily described by our favourite Burns in the following Scotch song* :

THE BIRKS OF ABERFELDIE.

TUNE—“ *Birks of Aberfeldie.*”

Burthen—*Bonny lassie will ye go, will ye go, will ye go,
Bonny lassie will ye go, to the Birks of Aberfeldie?*

Now Simmer blinks on flowery braes,
An o'er the crystal streamlet plays
Come let us spend the lightfome days
'Mong birks o' Aberfeldie.

Bonny lassie will ye go, &c.

The little birdies blythly sing,
While o'er their heads the hazels sing
Or lightly flit on wanton wing
'Mong birks o' Aberfeldie.

Bonny lassie, &c.

The braes ascend like lofty wa's,
The foamy stream deep-roaring fa's
O'erhung wi' fragrant spreading shaws,
The birks o' Aberfeldie.

Bonny lassie, &c.

The hoary cliffs are crown'd wi' flowers,
White o'er the linns the burnie pours,
An' rising weets wi' misty showers
The birks o' Aberfeldie.

Bonny lassie, &c.

Let fortune's gifts at random flee,
They ne'er shall draw a wish frae me!
Supremely blest wi' love and thee
'Mong birks o' Aberfeldie.

Bonny lassie, &c.

* It should seem, from some of the lyric compositions of Burns, that he had made a poetical tour through the highlands of Scotland.

Pennant notices the wild beauties of this pleasing solitude with peculiar delight*. The village of Aberfeldy is daily increasing in dimensions; and the decent appearance of the newly-built houses gives every thing about the place an air of business, and even of consequence. On the opposite side of the Tay, is the thriving village of Weem; in which the parish church is situated. About the time when the Scottish militia act was about to be carried into effect, a commotion among the people in various parts of Scotland wore at one period a very unfavourable aspect. In the village last mentioned, a deeply-planned insurrection had actually commenced, the consequences of which might have proved fatal in the extreme, if, by prompt and coercive means, the threatening evil had not been checked in its outset; and, fortunately, nothing farther ensued, but the seizure and trial of a few individuals who had been more active than the rest. On the day appointed for the trial of the culprits, it appeared that one of them, the most daring and active, had absconded; he, of course, was out-lawed; and another, who chose to stand trial at the circuit in Perth, was sentenced to transportation; an award deemed by some rather severe; and it was hoped that a remission of his punishment would take place, when all the circumstances of the case were fully investigated.

Tay Bridge, built by General Wade when conducting the military road leading from Edinburgh to Inverness by Stirling, though far inferior in point of elegance to the bridge at Taymouth, is notwithstanding a substantial building. Prior to the period when a free communication was opened by means of

* *Monefs*, the property of Mr. Fleming, which lies on the rivulet of Aberfeldie, is chiefly noticed by Pennant. *Vide* vol. iii. p. 37.

military ways to the most remote parts of Scotland, it is inconceivable how truly wretched our public roads were kept. Although Wade blundered egregiously in many instances, yet, when we consider what difficulties he had to encounter in conducting his extensive lines of roads over such vast tracts of barren wastes and mountains, sufficient almost to have damped his ardour, however great, our admiration is raised by contemplating how much he accomplished.

The parish of Weem lies strangely scattered among the hills and remote glens of this part of the country. For instance, Achmore, near Killin, on the south west border of Loch Tay, constitutes a part of the parish of Weem, though distant from it 22 miles. In Glenlochay too, a distance of 30 miles from Weem, are some farms belonging to this parish. In short, the parishes of Weem, Logierait, Fortingal, Kenmore, Killin, and Dull, seem so intermixed with each other, as to render any conjecture as to the origin of the arrangement of these several parts, so distant from each other, almost nugatory*. What regards the climate, soil, produce, &c. of this parish is so similar to what respectively belongs to Kenmore and Fortingal, as to render any farther remarks unnecessary.

Two great disadvantages, occasioned by the extension of agriculture in the districts of Weem, are, a scarcity of fuel, and short leases. A greater evil can hardly exist, than a scarcity of fuel; not only because it constitutes one of the indispensable articles of life, but as, without it, lime-stone cannot be calcined for the

* The writer of the Statistical Account of Weem, with great reason, supposes, "that when parishes were first established, every proprietor endowed the parish church most contiguous to his place of residence with the tythes of his own lands, at whatever distance they happened to be situated." Stat. Acc. vol. xii.

purposes of manure. The time necessarily spent, too, in casting of peats, is a great hindrance to every species of agricultural improvement*. To waste as small a quantity of fuel as possible, is certainly an object of the greatest consequence, where so useful an article is with difficulty procured. Hence, with much propriety, the Scottish Highland Society have taken this subject into consideration; and have invited the attention of the public to it, by the offer of a reward for the invention of a stove requiring in the dressing of victuals, and other purposes, the least possible quantity of fuel †. On the topic of short leases being prejudicial to improvements in agriculture, it is not easy, in a narrow compass, to lay down even the outlines of the radical disadvantages to individuals as well as to the landed interest, nay to the community at large. One thing, however, is so palpable as to be obvious to every one; namely, that where we expect to reap, we labour and sow with a liberal hand; but where we expect not to reap, the labour is bestowed with a careless hand, as we know not who may enjoy the produce of our industry. Hence it is manifest, that if improvements in the breeds of sheep and black-cattle, together with the raising of grasses and green crops, be objects of the first importance in the grand scheme of improvements in agriculture, a wise legislature (if a legislature can with propriety interfere in matters of private property) ought, with due promptitude, to attend to this most essential branch of a nation's industry; so that landlords and

* Statist. Acc. vol. xii. parish of Weem.

† Since the above was written, it appears, that Mr. William Howe, iron monger, of Princes Street, Edinburgh, has invented a stove, for which he has received some acknowledgement from the Society.

tenants may mutually reap all the benefits that might arise from a proper attention to rural economy. In that case, such a code of sumptuary laws might be formed, as would guard against the evil consequences of bad seasons, and the no less fatal effects of a fictitious scarcity in grain and live stock.

As we leave Aberfeldie, we observe on the left a stone of considerable magnitude set up on end; perhaps for the purpose of marking the spot where the ashes of some hero repose*. Many such are to be seen as we pass along; some of which are supposed to be of Danish origin, and others to be Druidical remains.

Both sides of the Tay seem pretty well peopled. Although the hamlets are mean, yet it can scarcely be said that there appears any degree of poverty about them; and the dwellings of the more opulent inhabitants seem comfortable enough, particularly those on the left bank of the river †.

If, instead of pursuing our journey directly to Dunkeld, we would rather visit Blair in Athol, it is necessary to pass the Tay by Wade's bridge, and proceed along the windings of the river, till we come to its confluence with the Tummel, over which we pass by boat, and follow its course the length of Blair. But another route, more circuitous indeed, though not less interesting, is to cross the Tay by the bridge at Aberfeldie, and ascend through Apen a Dull to the bridge of Tummel; thence to make an excursion along the south side of Lochrannoch, and return by the north border of the lake to the bridge of Tum-

* This stone is ten feet high by four feet in diameter.

† Among these are the family mansions of several gentlemen of the name of Stuart, and on the opposite bank are also the seats of several of the same name; among others Gantully, the residence of Sir — Stuart, bart.

mel ; thence to crofs over the hills to Blair in Athol, and proceed to Dunkeld.

The diftance from Wade's bridge to Logierait is about nine miles ; the road is very pleafing, and keeps nearly parallel with the bendings and fweep of the Tay, on the banks of which are delightfully fituated feveral family manfions amid fweet retirements, fuch as hill and vale, wood and water, render charming even in the folitudes of the north.

Logierait is a village of fmall extent, and is nowife remarkable in its appearance ; except that it lies clofe in upon the river, and on that account feems pleafantly enough fituated. The remains of the Caftle of Logierait, now fcarcely vifible, are fituated on an eminence near the ferry of Tummel, about half a mile from the village. It is faid to have been the refidence of Robert II. foon after he made, with confent of an afsembly of the ftates, Robert Earl of Fife viceroy of Scotland, A. D. 1406*.

The Regality court of Athol in feudal times was held at Logierait †. The power and jurifdiction of Lords of Regalities were, by the feudal law that obtained in Scotland, very confiderable ‡. In the traditional reports ftill current among the inhabitants of Strath-Tay, this court is particularly noticed as a ftriking trait of the deep policy of favage times ; when this fort of delegated royal rights to a fubject was intrufted to perfons who

* Vide Buchanan, lib. ix. Pennant (on what authority is not known) fays, that this fortrefs was a hunting feat of Alexander III. See his Tour to Scotland, vol. III. p. 39.

† Hence, as fome fuppofe, its name, *Lagan acite* : *Lagan*, a hollow place ; *Acite*, the ending of differences. See Statistical Account, vol. iv. p. 87.

‡ Vide Craig de Feud. fee alfo Hope's Minor Practicks, Title ix. p. 304, &c.

performed such arbitrary measures as put the lives and fortunes of their vassals, and even unfavoured neighbours, in their power. Thus it happened, that one of the Earls of Braidalbane, being on citation obliged to appear and answer to certain alledged crimes in the Regality Court before the Earl of Athol, as Lord of Regality, at Logierait, had very nearly fallen into the snare so artfully laid for his destruction; but a scheme which was no less artfully planned succeeded, and by this means he escaped the crafty wiles of his too powerful neighbour.

Not long after the affair already noticed, which took place on Stronchlachan, above Killin, between the M'Donells of Keappoch and the Campbells of Braidalbane, the Earl of Athol, taking advantage of this circumstance, applied to M'Donell of Keappoch in order to bring him forward to bear false witness against the Earl of Braidalbane on the day appointed for his trial at Logierait. Keappoch seemed to listen attentively to the suggestions of Athol, while he resolved to act a different part. Keappoch had stipulated as a reward for so important a service, a very considerable sum, which Athol, having agreed to, ratified by bond. On the day of Braidalbane's citation at the Regality court of Logierait, Keappoch failed not to be present; and when the arch-offender appeared before the tribunal of the inexorable Athol, Keappoch, as agreed on, was called forth to bear witness of certain alledged crimes and misdemeanors. Braidalbane, who eyed Keappoch askance, in gloomy silence, was astonished at the favourable and sudden change in the aspect of the business before the court; when Keappoch, as if struck with horror at the awful crime of perjury which he was about to perpetrate, started back, and at the same time pulling out of his pocket the

bond granted by Athol, threw it from him with disdain, saying, " Although I be not so rich as either of you, and have a numerous offspring to provide for, yet I will not bargain for my eternal damnation by wilfully perjuring myself. There, take back your bribe, Athol : let me be just."—The court, at these words, rose up in amazement ; Athol himself, covered with confusion, retired in haste ; and the hostile chieftains from that instant became reconciled, embraced one another as friends, continued so during their lives, and their descendants to this day remain linked in the strictest bonds of amity*.

The scenery about Logierait is highly picturesque ; the whole way from the ferry of Tummel to Blair being one continued series of delightful prospects, diversified by endless variety. The vale through which the Tummel winds its course is adorned with meadows, corn-fields, and woodlands, that slant gently to the water's edge. The bare cliffs that rise in hoary grandeur above the hanging groves, and ruffet heath, on the left, lead the eye to the distant mountains which terminate the far extended scene. On the right, the character of the banks is less lofty, and they have an air of pastoral elegance in their slopes and risings. In short, so charming an assemblage of picturesque beauty as is displayed in the stretch of country here pointed out, is rarely to be met with. In passing onward along the winding of the Tummel, we meet with several retirements pleasantly situated ; among

* The imperfection of our criminal law in Scotland has been long a subject of national regret. Indeed, prior to the year 1748, when hereditary jurisdiction was abolished, and the right of *pit* and *gallows* bought up by the executive power, to whom properly it ought ever to belong, our criminal code was in great measure undefined and arbitrary. But since that period some regulations have been adopted, that are said to answer in most cases.

which

which, that of Fascarly, near the confluence of the rivers Garry and Tummel, is the most favoured in this respect. The Pass of Killicrankie is about a mile beyond Fascarly, and is one of those scenes which are calculated to inspire feelings of the sublime in nature, which, when associated with historical incident, becomes interesting in the highest degree.

Although James had resigned the regal dignities of the English throne, and William Prince of Orange had, by consent of Parliament, assumed the rights and privileges of a British monarch; yet many, in the three kingdoms, were firmly attached, from principle as well as interest, to the opposite cause, —the divine origin of kingly government, and chose, rather than submit to the will of the majority, to fly to arms in support of the pretensions of their lawful sovereign and native prince. Hence the first war, which was termed rebellion, in order to restore the Stuart family to the throne of their ancestors. Beyond the pass of Killicrankie, on the 17th July 1689, a combat took place between a party of the Prince of Orange's army, commanded by General Mackay, and a body of raw Irish recruits combined with a handful of fierce highlanders headed by the undaunted Clavers, Lord Viscount Dundee, which terminated fatally to the cause of James, though victory remained on the side of the Irish and the Scottish highlanders.

On the morning of the 17th July, Mackay put his troops in motion, and, setting forward with his vanguard from Dunkeld for the opening into the pass of Killicrankie, arrived on the spot about mid-day, where he gave orders to halt. Here he rested two hours, after which he commenced his march through the pass. Having entered the confines of this awful solitude,
where



Viewed on the Sea by Mr. Campbell

Highland Scenery

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where impending precipices seem to threaten instant ruin, the soldiers advanced with soft and cautious steps, lest the sound of their feet should give notice of their approach to the enemy, who, apprized of the progress of Mackay's forces, lay on his arms on the side of a mountain within view of the north end of the pass. While thus recumbent, the rebels, undismayed, beheld the royal army form in order of battle on the plain beneath them. Impressed with the solemnity of the surrounding objects that compose the sublimity of this scene, where mountains tower aloft, on whose ample bosoms huge fragments of rock cross each other in every direction, and where all is hushed into silence, save when birds of prey on high scream the death-notes, which, wildly mingling with the hollow murmurs of the foaming Garry as it hurries through fragments that have tumbled from the impending precipices, which seem to close in wooded loom, and bury it from the view, strike terror on the soul;—while, impatient of their fate, the royal forces, led on by their skilful leader, paused as they looked around them;—in this awful suspense both armies remained in sight of each other till toward sun-set; when it was resolved, in a council of war among the rebel chiefs, to give battle at night-fall: for, the highlanders, trusting to their valour and the success of their mode of attack, never doubted on whose side victory would remain. The event justified their hopes: Dundee detached his clans in order, and formed them into compact wedges, so as to break the enemy's line, and hand to hand decide the fate of the combat. With this bold determination, the rebel general rushed down, at the head of a brave handful of his followers, on the firm battalions of his opponent. The onset was impetuous, and bloody. The line

line was in an instant broken, and a terrible carnage ensued. The rout was complete ; and the rebels were victorious. Dundee, perceiving a detachment of the enemy making, with all possible speed and good order, their retreat through the pass, leaped on horseback, and spurred on vigorously for the mouth of the defile ; and deeming victory incomplete unless all chance of escape was rendered hopeless, he was in the act of accomplishing his bold purpose, when a musket-shot entered beneath his arm-pit. Finding himself mortally wounded, he turned aside to meet with heroic firmness his fate ; and his dying request was, to conceal his mischance from his comrades : then raising his languid eyes, he fixed them on the field of battle ; and being told that “ all was well,” he said, “ I am well then—I die contented,” and expired without a groan*. Two thousand of king William’s army were

* The following elegant Epitaph is from the classical pen of the ingenious and accomplished PITCAIRNE, DUNDEE’S friend. To it is subjoined an imitation, in English verse :

Ultimæ Scotorum, potuit, quo sospite folor,	Of Scottish heroes last and best, O GRAME †!
Libertas patriæ falva fuisse tuæ.	Whose bosom glow’d with freedom’s holy flame,
Te moriente novos accepit SCOTIA cives :	Indignant thou a foreign yoke didst spurn,
Accepitque novos te moriente Deos.	And greatly fell.—Now Scotia o’er thy urn Mourns in sad silence thy untimely fate,
Illa tibi superesse negat, tu non potes illi,	And sees with wringing grief what ills await Thy alter’d country !—E’en a faithful few
Ergo CALEDONIÆ nomen inane vale.	Remain not.—Gods and people— all seem new.
	O valiant chief ! thy country’s name is gone !
	How fall’n ! and e’en an alien fills the throne !

Tuque

† JAMES GRAME, (Graham,) of Clavers, Lord Viscount Dundee by creation.—*Vide* M^rKay’s MSS.
as quoted in Dalrymple’s Memoirs of Great Britain and Ireland ; Granger’s Biograph, History, Smollet,
Guthrie,

were left dead on the spot, and five hundred taken prisoners. The loss on the side of James was but inconsiderable; yet in the fall of so undaunted a hero as Dundee, the cause of that exiled monarch received its death-wound. The Athol men, whom Dundee had ordered into the south entrance of the pass, fell on the fugitives, and made terrible havock among them: only two hundred with their General arrived in one body at Stirling, after encountering incredible difficulties in their secret march over the mountains of Rannoch and Braidalbane. Mackay, who was himself a highlander, while in the retreat, resting on an eminence within sight of the field of battle, turned round to see who followed him in his route; and, perceiving no one attempting to harass the last of his followers, said, "Surely the highlanders have lost their leader; else they would not have suffered us to escape thus unmolested." Having taken ample vengeance on their enemies, the inexorable rebels, regarding neither order nor decency, fell on the English baggage, plundered the dead, and made off with whatever booty they could lay their hands on. Some of the less rapacious carried the dead

Tuque vale gentis prisæ fortissime ductor,	Out-live thou couldst not this!—clos'd are thine eyes.
Optime <i>Scotorum</i> atque ultime, Græme, vale.	Farewell!—A patriot's boon is thine—the martyr's prize.

Guthrie, and others. It appears from history, that three several attempts were made to restore the royal family of Stuart to the British throne, all of which proved unsuccessful: viz. that above-noticed, in 1689; a second in 1715; and the third and last in 1745.—Thus we see, in little more than half a century, every means to restore our ancient race of monarchs fail; and, since the death of the Young Adventurer, as he was called, *Charles-Edward Stuart*, every hope has vanished; and the Brunswick line has no competitor to disturb the quiet of regular succession to latest posterity.

K k

body

body of their gallant General to Blair, where he was interred, and raised a stone to his memory on the spot where he fell, which is to be seen to this day.

The parish of Moulin, in which the scene of this battle lies, though not extensive for a highland district, is pretty populous. Yet its population seems to have somewhat decreased within the last forty years; for, according to Statistical Accounts, in 1755 the number of inhabitants was 2109, and in 1790, it was only 1749; being a decrease of 360. The people are remarkably attentive to their various occupations; of course, few of them are a burthen to the parish. Of the 1749, only 32 were paupers; a small proportion indeed, when it is considered how hard they have to work for their bread! But nothing is deemed by a highlander more disgraceful than poverty in the extreme: hence the laudable desire of a decent competency, which he seldom fails to acquire by every honest and lawful means within the compass of his industry. The women, universally throughout Perthshire, and particularly in this district, are excellent spinsters. According to the writer of the Statistical Account, the quantity of linen yarn spun during the spinning season, is 2310 spindles, which at 2s. 4d. per spindle, for 2300 spindles, will fetch at market the sum of 2683l. 6s. 8d. the produce of the labour, from the middle of November, when labour in the field ceases, till March, when it again commences—say a period of twenty-one weeks; thus, on an average 686 females from 8 to 60 years of age gain each, in the above space of time, 3l. 16s. 9d.; a sum equal to the supply of whatever articles of dress they may require, in which, of late, they shew a degree of neatness and cleanliness highly to be commended. To this
desire

desire of comfort and elegance, is joined an industrious and frugal turn; together with an affectionate and obliging urbanity of manners truly characteristic of the advancement of civilization in the highlands of Scotland. But, notwithstanding all the means of industry which a highlander employs, it is a sorrowful consideration, that the more he toils, the more the resources of his industry are drained into channels which turn not to his comfort; and, after having reared, and even educated, a numerous family, he is frequently, in his old age, forced to abandon his native village, to give place to a system, the effects of which are already but too apparent. Would to heaven the following lines were inapplicable to this melancholy statement:

Ill fares the land, to hast'ning ills a prey,
 Where wealth accumulates, and men decay;
 Princes and Lords may flourish, or may fade;
 A breath can make them, as a breath has made:
 But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
 When once destroyed—can never be supply'd. *Deserted Village.*

The value of live stock and total value of produce in the parish of Moulin, is about 22,373*l.* sterling, and the real rent about 3000*l.* sterling. The mode of agriculture in this parish is still on the rude old plan; but it is hoped, that the modern improvements, which very generally obtain throughout our highland districts, will speedily be introduced here.

Oak and birch woods abound in this district, and prove very profitable to their owners. Each cutting of oak is said to be worth 4500*l.* sterling*, that of birch about 500*l.* Several extensive plantations of larch and Scotch firs have been made on upland situations favourable to their growth. The great and growing evil

* Oak is cut once in twenty years. Stat. Acc. vol. v. p. 68.

of a scarcity of fuel is much to be lamented. Wood for fuel ought to be cultivated with all possible care and expedition, as in a very few years the difficulty of procuring peat will be almost insurmountable. "One cause," says the writer of the Statistical Account of Moulin, "which accelerates a scarcity of fuel, is the distilling of whisky; for one still consumes as much peat as would serve five families."

Near to the village of Moulin stands the ruins of a castellet, measuring 76 by 80 feet, being nearly square, and having a round turret at each end. It is supposed to have been a strong hold of the Cummins, once a powerful race, and to whom belonged in the fourteenth century the Lordships of Atholl and Badenoch. The remains of small circular buildings, supposed by some to be of Pictish origin, are still pointed out in several parts of this parish; as also two or three Druidical circles. In a marl-pit near Moulin, the skull, as is supposed, of one of those horned cattle called *uri*, found in the forests of Gaul, and noticed by Cæsar*, was dug up some years ago, and is still to be seen at the Castle of Blair. The skull is shaped like that of an ox; the piths of the horns are pretty entire, and measure in circumference thirteen inches each; the rest of the skull is in proportion.

When the Scottish colony at Darien capitulated, Captain —— Campbell of Finnab, a native of this parish, was the officer who made so gallant a stand amid dangers that might have appalled the greatest hero, and procured for his worn-out comrades such honourable terms as reflected the highest lustre on his talents. If this parish can boast of having given birth to this gallant foldier, the neighbouring district (Logierait), formerly noticed,

* Bell. Gall. lib. vi. cap. 26.

may be proud to number among its natives a philosopher truly respectable for learning, literary eminence, and, above all, the genuine characteristics that distinguish the man: and when Dr. Adam Ferguson, late Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, is mentioned, his name will not be received without producing a lively sentiment of becoming pride, that poets, philosophers, soldiers, and statesmen, have been furnished to the world from our native mountains of Scotland*.

Immediately adjoining the parish of Moulin, are the united parishes of Blair-Atholl and Strowan, or Struan. The latter parish also has to boast of a native eminent as an accomplished gentleman, and a poet of considerable merit, namely Robertson of Struan †. A little way above the church of Struan, on the south-west bank of the river Garry, a square mound, partly natural and partly artificial, having a ditch or foss parallel with its sides, said to have been constructed by Allan M'Donnell, (of the family of Keppoch,) nick-named Dirip, is still to be seen. Another rude monument, called *Carn-mhic-shimi*, or Frazer of Lovat's cairn, is to be found on the Minigcog road above Blair. Indeed there are a great many such rude monuments of savage times; as also, several Druidical remains, and others it is supposed of Danish origin, which are pointed out to the curious enquirer ‡.

The Clan Donnachie, or Robertsons, a branch of the Macdonalds, were, till within the last fifty years, the most consider-

* As an historian, Ferguson is too well known to need any farther notice in this place. Mallet and Macpherson among our poets, and John Duke of Argyll as a soldier and statesman, may be mentioned with respect.

† See Campbell's History of Poetry in Scotland.

‡ See Stat. Acc. vol. ii. p. 477.

able inhabitants of this district. Their chief places of residence were at Struan, Lude, Port-au-celien, Faiskarly, &c.* According to tradition, Duncan Raver M'Donald was the most renowned warrior of the Clan Donnachie, or Robertsons; and flourished in the time of our Bruces. From him was descended our poet of that name; who seems to have inherited the warlike spirit of that chieftain, as he twice stepped forward as a loyal supporter of the Stuart cause; once in 1715, and again in 1745, when he lost his estate, and was left without a home, or the means of subsistence; yet, so strong was his attachment to his paternal inheritance, that he found means to procure an asylum on his former property; and sought to forget his misfortunes in the joys of the cup, till he died in an advanced life; leaving behind him the reputation of a steady adherent to the good old cause of Church and King, an accomplished gentleman, a social companion, and an honest man.

For several hundred years back, the Atholl family have had considerable possessions in this district of Perth-shire. Their place of residence has been, and still is, Atholl-house, or Blair-castle. The approach to Blair promises but little gratification to the traveller; but, on ranging through the ornamented grounds, he is agreeably disappointed; for, here he meets with a vast variety of well disposed path-ways conducting him along the Tilt, a rapid mountain stream; and he cannot fail to be pleased, if the charms of rural elegance, combined with the wild luxuriance of simple nature, can excite in his mind the pleasurable

* During the minority of James V., the Clan Donnachie, headed by their chief the Laird of Struan, (Robertson,) committed outrages over the district of Atholl and counties adjacent; till Struan himself was way-laid, while on a visit at his uncle's, and basely assassinated. Vide Buchanan, lib. xiii.

feelings that such scenery is calculated to inspire. The family mansion is little more than a plain dwelling house ; but some of the rooms are spacious, and well furnished. Before Blair-castle was transformed into the humble appearance that it at present exhibits, its dimensions were lofty, turreted, and had an air of grandeur characteristic of feudal times. Here the gloomy assassin of our first James meditated his bloody purpose ; and it was here also, about a century afterwards, that an Earl of Atholl, as if it were to expiate the guilt of his cruel predecessor, entertained in the most sumptuous manner, although above thirty miles distant from any town but Dunkeld, King James V. who had passed thither in order to hunt the deer of the Grampians, with a suite, in which were Margaret the Queen-mother, the Pope's Ambassador, and a numerous train of followers. If our historian Lindsay *, be in any degree correct in his account of this splendid banquet furnished by Atholl to the Scottish monarch, we have no reason to suppose there was want of any manner of “ meates, drinkes, and delicacies that were to be gotten at
 “ that time in Scotland, either in brugh or land. So that he
 “ (the King) wanted none of his orders mare than he had
 “ been at home in his own palace. The king remained in
 “ this wilderness (*i. e.* Atholl) at the hunting the space of three
 “ days and three nights as I have shewn. I heard men say
 “ (continues Lindsay) it cost the Earl of Atholl every day in

* Hist. James V., A. D. 1529.—Robert Lindsay of Pitfcottie, and not Sir David Lindsay of the Mount, as Pennant would have it ; and Pennant's Tour, vol. i. p. 121. Pitfcottie, p. 225. The spot where the banqueting house was prepared for the reception of James is on the north side of Birn glo. See Stat. Account, vol. ii. p. 475.

“ expences

“ expences a thousand pounds*.” No sooner did the royal visitant take his departure, than Atholl caused his highlandmen to set fire to the temporary palace and huts which had been reared for the occasion, “ that the king and the ambaffador might see them on fire. Then the ambaffador said to the king, “ I marvel fir, that you should thole your fair palace to be burnt, that your grace has been fo well lodged in ;”—then the king answered the ambaffador and said, “ It is the use of our highlandmen, though they be never fo well lodged, to burn their lodging when they depart †.”

The

* A sum equal to 1500l. sterling. So that the three days' entertainment cost mine host of Atholl 4500l.,—a pretty snug sum for a royal visit, to be sure !

† “ This being done (continues Pitfcottie), the king returned to Dunkeld that night (in summer, A. D. 1529.); and on the morn, to St. Johnston (Perth). I heard say, the king, at that time, in the bounds of Atholl and Strathern, killed thirty score of hart and hynd, with other small beafts, as roes, and roe-buck, wolf, fox, and wild cats. Then the king, within a day or two came to Dundee, where he was honourably received, and well entertained by the constable, and the honest burgefles thereof, and remained there three days; and syne passed to St. Andrews, and his mother with him, and the ambaffador; and there remained till Michaelmas, and was well entertained by Bishop JAMES BEATON and Prior PATRICK HEPBURN. Syne passed to Stirling, and remained there the most part of the winter. Syne the next spring of the year he came to Edinburgh, and founded a fair palace in the abbey of Holyrood-house, and a great tower to himself to rest into, when he pleased to come. Further, he sent to Flanders and brought home artillery and harnes, with powder and bullets, with picks and all other kind of munition, and garnished his castles therewith, viz. Edinburgh, Stirling, Dunbar, Dumbarton, and Blacknes. Further, he translated the palace of Linlithgow, and bigged a pretty palace in the castle of Stirling.” *Vide Pitfcottie's History of the Jameses*, p. 228, 229.

It should seem, the next visit the king paid to his highlandmen was not marked with fo much merriment and banqueting as the former; for, when “ the king passed into the isles, and there held justice courts, and punished both thief and traitor according to their demerits, syne brought many of the great men of the isles captive with
“ him ;

The united parishes of Blair-Atholl and Strowan extend 30 miles in length, and above 18 in breadth; the greater part of which consists of mountains, and almost barren wilds; yet, notwithstanding, these sterile regions contain 3120 persons; and it appears, that since 1755 the population has not greatly decreased, although many changes have taken place within that period, much to the prejudice of the patriarchal plan among the highlanders*. The sheep system is gaining ground here very fast; in consequence of which, rents are advancing in proportion. The character of the people is good: they are sober, industrious, courteous to strangers, and charitable to the poor, whether belonging to the parish or roaming at large, as beggars frequently do through most of the highlands; and what is not a little remarkable, by far the greater number of them are from the lowlands. The reason given by themselves is, that they seldom go away from the meanest hut without receiving alms of some kind or other. Thus, the warm benevolent disposition of honest poverty expands at the misery to which, by some strange presentiment, it feels itself allied; and readily imparts that aid which, in the course of an untoward train of circumstances, it may demand in its turn. The hospitality of our highlanders has, at all times, been the subject of

“him; such as Mudyart, Macconnel, Macloyd of the Lewis, Macneil, Maclane, Macintosh, John Mudyart, Mackay, Mackenzie, with many others that I cannot rehearse at this time. Some of them he put in ward, and some bade in court, and some he took pledges for good rule in time coming. So he brought the isles, both north and south, in good rule and peace.” Ibid. p. 279.

* The return to Dr. Webster in 1755, was 3257; and that in 1791, was 3120:—difference 137 only.

panegyric among our southern neighbours the lowland Scottish, and English ; but they probably have no greater claim to this virtue, than any other race of people, in any age or country, similarly situated, and governed by circumstances that give a similar cast to the active powers of the human mind. The nearer a people are to that state of society wherein the purest maxims of patriarchal innocence obtain, the more will the finer feelings of humanity display the amiable blandishments of hospitality and rural enjoyment. This will happen in the woods of America, Africa, and Asia, as well as among our mountains of Wales, or of the highlands of Scotland. The more remote from the busy world, and the more ignorant of the comforts of civil society as established in great cities, and other parts that have imbibed the spirit of trade or commerce, the more do the affections which indicate innocent hilarity, equanimity, and all the amiable qualities of uncontaminated respect for sincerity, truth, strict honour, and a due observance of whatever is fit, just, and right, diffuse their influence over every the most trivial occurrence of domestic intercourse. Hence, the hospitality we so much admire among a rude and simple people, such as the Welsh peasantry, or those of the highlands of Scotland*. The manners of those highlanders who have had the advantage of a liberal education, and such as have lived any time in great cities, or have entered into the army, and seen the world on its grand scale, may reasonably be expected to resemble much the urbanity of polished life : yet the peculiarities of original habit and early association are distinctly marked from the highest to

* See the writings of Pennant, Sprat, Morgan, Anne Radcliffe, Coxe, Twiss, Moore, &c. Weld, La Hontan, Charlevoix, Colden, &c.

the lowest. A natural warmth of temper, a strong tincture of family pride, a love of shew and of pleasure, and a thirst almost insatiable for distinction, seem in a particular manner to characterize the highlander. Inflexible, and ever in extremes, his soul glows fervently in friendship, or rages in unextinguishable hatred. A perfect savage in his desires and aversions, he knows no bounds to his resentment, no limits to his love; and he rarely turns his back either on a friend or a foe.

Blended with the good qualities of the heart and the understanding, many weaknesses are found among a people but limited in their range of acquired knowledge in either art or science. Superstition, the offspring of ignorance and credulity, whether in polished or in rude society, seems, even at this day, not altogether extinguished in our highland districts. Although many observances that were, till of late, strictly attended to by the natives of these mountains, have fallen into disuse; or, if heeded at all, rather form part of their sports than their devotion; yet a few may be noted in this place, as rather characteristic of past times than of the present. Some of the superstitions in the highlands are such as are common among the vulgar of most European nations*: for example, *Brounie* (or Robin good-fellow), fairies, sprights, hob-goblins, spectres, and the like, were till lately believed in, as also witches, and those possessed of the faculty of second sight. These, together with the remains of Druidism, and Christianity corrupted by Romish idolatry, made up the superstition of our highlands of Scotland.

* An inquiry into the rise and progress of Superstition is earnestly recommended to the attention of philosophers. This subject is full of interest, and would form a chief department of the history of moral sciences.

Martin, Pennant, and several of the writers of Sinclair's Collection of Statistical Accounts, having already noticed, at considerable length, most of the superstitious practices that till lately prevailed in many parts of our mountainous districts, the reader is referred to the works of those ingenious authors, as containing, so far as consists with the knowledge of the present writer, very faithful and circumstantial accounts relative to the subject in question. It is, therefore, unnecessary to dwell, in this place, on any particular custom, or relick of the absurdities that may have arisen from the hopes and fears to which human nature is prone in a state of rudeness and simplicity. But, as a few instances may suffice to exhibit the nature and general scope of the whole system, these shall be placed in the order following, that is, from the birth of the highlander to the time of his death and funeral.

The cold-bath was so much esteemed by the ancient race of highlanders, that as soon as an infant was born he was plunged into a running stream, and wrapped carefully in a blanket*; and soon after he was made to swallow a small quantity of fresh butter, to accelerate the discharge of the meconium †. When an infant was christened, in order to counteract the power of evil spirits, witches, &c., he was put on a basket with bread and cheese wrapped up in a linen cloth; and thus the basket and its contents were handed across the fire, or suspended on the pot-crook that hung from the joist over the fire-place. Immediately after this ceremony, a dish of *crowdie* (a mixture of

* This custom was continued up to manhood. The same practice prevailed among the Indians of North America. See Rush's Oration, 1774, p. 11.

† Castor oil is used for the same purpose; but sensible midwives forbid any such artificial means, trusting to nature and the influence of the mother's milk.

oat-meal and water) was presented, and each of the company took three horn-spoonfulls. The mother of the infant, as soon as *kirked*, could go about her ordinary concerns; but till this religious rite was performed, every thing that she happened to touch was deemed unclean, and avoided. Charms were in great estimation among the highlanders; such as necklaces, pieces of mountain ash sewed up in their garments, &c. If a highlander heard a sudden gust of wind, he was sure to search it with his broad-sword; and it frequently happened, that a corpse dropped from the passing blast, the ill fated wife of some of his relations, who had died in child-bed. At times, to protect himself from the men-of-peace (for such, by way of courtesy, the highlander calls fairies), he would draw a circle with a sapling oak, and bid defiance to their power*. Lucky and unlucky days were attended to among the highlanders no less scrupulously than among the Romans and other ancient tribes: the 14th of May in particular is marked as an untoward day †. When a journey commenced, particular attention was paid to the objects that presented, whether animate or inanimate; and in this also the highlanders resembled the Romans in their superstition. The 11th of May, N.S. or *Beltan-day*, was set apart for festivity; as was the 31st October O. S. being *Halloween*. Just as the ceremony of marriage is about to begin, every thing that was tied about the young couple is unbound; in token perhaps of the liberty which they mutually exchange in the bonds of matrimonial

* Martin, p. 117. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 145. Stat. Acc. vol. v. p. 83.

† The day of the week on which the 14th of May fell was deemed unlucky during the whole of that year, and nothing of consequence was undertaken on that day:—none were wont to marry in May or January. The age of the moon also was strictly attended to. Pilgrimages were made to certain holy waters, &c. See Martin, *Western Isles*, p. 105.

union: and, as soon as the ceremony is over, the bride with her women, and the bridegroom with his male-friends, retire in separate parties and different directions, to bind all fast as before. The revelry next begins. Music and the dance, and whisky in abundance, crowns the festival. The presents of relations are made the next and succeeding days, the young folks being left to enjoy the endearments of conjugal happiness. When diseases, which are chiefly of the acute kind, make their attack on the highlander, he endeavours to procure evacuation by vomit or stool, or profuse perspiration. If these fail, he takes no food, and trusts to nature for a cure. But, if he remains for any length of time in pain, or severe illness, superstitious practices are resorted to; and, as in the case of *Glacach*, known by the name of *M^cDonald's disease* (as certain individuals of that clan are said, by handling the patient, and in the act repeating some words, to promote a cure), charms, amulets, and other means are employed to restore health to the system*. On the death of a highlander, the *late-wake* was followed by the *Coranich*: for some time back the *Coranich* has fallen into disuse; and the bag-pipe, which succeeded, has also ceased to be played before the corpse of the deceased as it is borne to the place of its interment†. In short, the customs and manners of the highlanders, since their intercourse with the inhabitants of the lowlands, are becoming daily less peculiar; and it may soon be difficult for

* Martin and Pennant have been very full on the diseases and remedies of the highlanders.—See also Rush's Oration 1774, "An Inquiry into the Natural History of Medicine among the Indians of North America."

† Still in Lochaber, and some other parts of the highlands, the bag-pipe is sounded before the funeral procession, and whisky quaffed in abundance over the grave of the deceased. The ceremony rarely fails of ending in bloody noses.

the curious inquirer to trace any dissimilitude in the customs or manners of either description of the inhabitants of the northern parts of our island.

As the traveller returns through the pass of Killicrankie, he perceives the Garry to fall over a precipice of considerable height; yet, in time of great rains, the swelling of this torrent enables salmon to push up almost to its source. The fall of the Tummel (*eas-teivil*) is a still grander object than that of its neighbouring stream, the Garry. Fine salmon find their way beyond this cataract. Formerly they were caught in wicker baskets, which were planted in the crevices of the rock over which the Tummel falls. The natives, unmindful of the danger to which they exposed their persons, with one hand grasped some slender twig that projected from the face of the slimy precipice; while with a harpoon (a gaff) they stood on the brink of the foaming pool, and darted it into the fish in their attempt to mount beyond the fury of the stream. Amid the deep recesses of the Tummel, in the face of a vast rock, a forlorn band of *M'Gregors*, when under the dreadful apprehensions of outlawry, hid themselves in a cave; but, being there found, were all inhumanly butchered*: such was the cruel policy of the feudal system!

Should the traveller have sufficient leisure to make an excursion into the district called *Rannoch*, he will find reason to be much pleased, and be amply rewarded for his trouble.

We turn off, then, to the right by the bridge over the Garry, under which the water, deep and dark, steals silently along, and we

* After part of them were killed the rest climbed into a tree that grew out of the face of the rock; upon which their pursuers cut their arms, and precipitated them to the bottom. *Vide Stat. Acc. vol. ii. p. 478. par. Blair-Atholl, and Struan.* See also Pennant's Tour, vol. iii. p. 118.

ascend the winding pass into *Fincafle* *. Still ascending, we pass over a bleak and elevated tract of moor, till we come within sight of *Shee-chailon* one of the highest mountains in the north †. As we descend, Loch-Tummel spreads beneath the eye; and its margin seems cultivated, and finely indented with bays and projecting points, well wooded and verdant. The mountain scenery is bold and lofty; and as we proceed, beyond the bridge of Tummel the river displays a rapid and ample volume; but the face of the country is gloomy and mountainous, till we come to *Dun Alister*, the mount Alexander, once the residence of Robertson of Struan, already mentioned. Here he found a safe retreat, when his mistaken loyalty to his exiled prince made it dangerous for him to appear abroad; and here, it appears, he composed several of his poetical pieces ‡. The present proprietor, and successor of our poet, has built an elegant mansion, somewhat in the stile of our ancient castles; and it seems well adapted to the grandeur of the surrounding scenery. The *mons Alexander* is an inconsiderable wooded eminence; at the foot of which, the *Argentine* ||, a small mineral spring, cele-

* It is said, that no less than fifteen ruins of castles are to be seen in this glen: hence, it is called *Fonncbaisteal*, the land of castles. *Vide* Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 135.

† *Shee-chailon* is 3564 feet above the level of the sea. Dr. Maskelyne, the celebrated astronomer, made some astronomical observations here a few years ago; and the country people's curiosity was greatly excited to know his reasons for coming so far to view the heavens.

‡ With this diversity of view
Oft have I wav'd my anxious pain,
When from this summit I pursue
The rock, the river, wood, or plain.

Vide Struan's Poems, p. 241. *Struan's farewell to the hermitage sitting on the top of mount Alexander.*

|| Or silver well, from the bright appearance of the sand at its bottom.

brated by Struan, is situated. As we proceed westward, Loch-Rannoch soon comes within view; nor is it easy to conceive a more beautiful sheet of water, with all the grandeur of mountain-perspective, bays, and promontories; leading the eye, till lost in the extreme distance; where the mountains of Braidalbane and Argyle hide their aerial summits in the clouds that rise from the western ocean.

At *Kinloch-rannoch*, there is a handsome bridge of four arches, over which the traveller may pursue his excursion along the south shore of the lake, through the fir-wood already mentioned, and return, after crossing the western extremity of Loch-Rannoch, by its northern skirts, through a birch-wood of nearly the same extent as that on the opposite side. This deviation, too, from the usual route, will be highly gratifying to such as delight in observation and picturesque scenery. The advance which agriculture has made through the vale of Rannoch is highly deserving of commendation. The inhabitants are courteous and hospitable, and seem bent on industry, and the bettering of their condition; which, greatly to their honour, is every where manifest in their mode of management, and their improvements. *Colonel Robertson of Struan**, and the *Honourable Mr. Baron Norton*, who have hunting seats in the district, have not failed in setting an example in agricultural speculations, worthy of imitation. The country gentleman is truly a respectable character, as being, directly, an useful member of the state. Far different, indeed, is the conduct of such as collect their revenues and set off to town, in order to squander away the accumulated gains of a year's industry and produce.

* Nearly the whole district of Rannoch is the property of Sir John Menzie and Col. Robertson of Struan.

From the east end of Loch-Rannoch, we command two fine prospects. The one, in looking westward, presents the lake with its wooded slopes, behind which the mountain eminences are seen retiring on either hand, in forms truly grand and picturesque. The deep shades of the pine forest on the southern shore, is finely contrasted with the lively and variegated tints of the birch wood on the opposite sides of the lake. Looking eastward, the village of Kinloch forms the fore-ground; in the rear, on the left hand, a bold precipice, down which rushes an impetuous torrent, in two streams, which join at the base, commands, impressively, the attention*. *Shee-chailon* towers to the right; and opposite to it Mount Alexander is seen in the distance. The scene altogether is magnificent.

We may return to the place whence we departed at the pass of Killicrankie over the river Garry, or cross the Tummel at the bridge of Tummel, and hence proceed over the mountains to Strath-tay. The latter, in regard to road, is preferable; and after passing a dreary waste, chiefly up-hill, we descend into the plain of *Apin-of-Dull*, a district comparatively rich, and fertile in no small degree †. The ruins of *Castle-garbh*, or Garth, are seen on the right. Proceeding through *Cosbiville*, and by the *Kirk of Dull*, three miles farther on we pass on the left the *Castle Menzie*, arrive at *Weem*, and cross the Tay by Wade's bridge to *Aberfeldie*, already described.

* The lake by some is said to be fifteen statute miles in length. It contains char and bull trout, both of excellent quality. The growth of the trees is usually from one to three feet in diameter. They are cut at the saw mill of Kinloch, and sold to the country people, who come far and near to purchase so rare and valuable a commodity.

† In this district the grain is of an excellent quality; and, in general, the harvest is here as early as it is in Mid-Lothian. Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 150.

From

Sketches on the spot by Miss Campbell.



Madison's camp.

Western Pinnacles

From *Aberfeldie* we proceed down the right bank of the *Tay*: but scarcely any thing worthy of particular notice is to be met with till we come within sight of its confluence with the *Tummel*, a small distance before *Logierait*. The plain through which the rivers *Tay* and *Tummel*, now seen united, sweep their collected waters, is truly charming.

In looking toward *Dunkeld*, within the compass of little more than eight miles, the scene before us is highly picturesque. Although there is not much of the sublime, yet there is no want of sufficient grandeur, to raise it in our estimation as a fit subject for the canvas. The middle of the picture is occupied by the windings of the *Tay* through meadows and wooded slopes: the left wing, which swells gradually into the uplands, is finely contrasted with the bold, impending precipices of *Kinnaird* on the right; at the base of which, the road takes a sudden turn into the wood that stretches for a considerable way along the course of the river. In the distance, a chain of the *Grampians*, that bounds *Strathmore* on the north, terminates the prospect; the most conspicuous point of which is the *King's seat*, as it is called, a conical hill at the base of which *Dunkeld* is situated.

On the opposite bank of the river, about the seventh milestone, on looking up toward *Blair*, the prospect is indeed delightful. From nearly the same spot, a view into *Strath-tay* is also highly interesting. A little nearer to *Dunkeld*, several stations may be taken; particularly one about the sixth milestone, which commands an extensive peep into both vallies, viz. *Strath Tay* and *Strath Tummel*. A vast variety of fore ground and intermediate distances are at hand to afford every assistance

to composition. So that the picturesque traveller, as well as the skilful artist, will find ample scope for the exercise of taste and judgment in the selection of subjects for the pencil.

As we proceed along the south bank of the Tay to *Inver*, we are pleased with the snug and comfortable appearance of the hamlets, and habitations of the farmers and the proprietors of lands. Several of the latter, whose predecessors purchased church lands in the *Bishoprick*, live on their own property in ease and independence; and, having no vast stretch of country to farm out to others, find it the more necessary to attend immediately to their own limited demesnes*.

On the north bank of the Tay, as on the south, the road keeps pretty parallel and close in with the river; in consequence, at every turn, new and beautiful prospects present in rapid succession, but not so as to distract the attention; on the contrary, each scene forms a part of the series, which seems connected by the charms of variety, novelty, richness, and grandeur in landscape.

Within five miles of Dunkeld, on the north bank of the Tay, we pass through Dowally, where the church † of that parish is seen surrounded by a wretched group of huts, worse than which are no where to be met with, even in the remotest districts of our mountains. It should seem, from ancient records,

* The properties alluded to are Glenalbert, Kinnaird, and Dalguife.

† "Upon information that the Irish is spoken in the highland parts of the parish of Caputh, the Bishop built and endowed a church in honour of the blessed mother St. Anne (A. D. 1500.), among the woods of the church lands of Dowally." *Vide* Dr. Bisset's MS. Translation of Abbot Mill's History, as quoted in Stat. Acc. vol. xx. p. 465.

that

that formerly Dowally constituted only a part of the parish of Caputh ; but it is now considered as united to Dunkeld.

The land set apart for agriculture from the pass of Killiecrankie, but particularly from *Mulenearn* ten miles below Blair, on both sides of the river, is of a quality by no means ill adapted for raising crops of grain, potatoes, and turnip. The soil is, in general, of a light sandy appearance, and the crops raised on it ripen early and yield liberal returns. It appears from the Statistical Accounts, that in the contiguous parishes, Logierait, Dowally and Dunkeld, Caputh *, and Clunie, the same mode of agriculture was pursued, and is not yet altogether abolished, to the great hindrance of improvement. The old system of outfield and infield, commonies, runrigs, and ridges crooked and raised in the middle, which led to error, mismanagement, and eventual poverty, ought entirely to be abolished. The good effects of a change are even now sufficiently manifest, to warrant a perseverance in a better and more rational system, in which the true interests of the landlord and tenant are involved, as well as those of the community.

The writer of the Statistical Account of the "City of Dunkeld, and Parish of Dowally," very judiciously points out in his "Hints for Improvements in Agriculture," specific and evident advantages resulting from system in the management of farms in these districts. To summer-fallow and lime; and to crop, 1. oats; 2. pease or potatoes or turnip, ruta бага, or Swedish turnip by far preferable; 3. barley and grass seeds; 4. hay; 5. and 6. pasture, is a mode of husbandry strongly recommended; and cannot fail of success, provided seasons answer,

* Called by some Keapoch.

and

and sufficient pains be bestowed. The watering of pasture and heath grounds is also advised*.

The live-stock of these districts consists of horses, black cattle, sheep, and swine. Overstocking, and a deficiency of winter and spring provender, militate greatly against the improvement of breed, to which the Highland Society has of late years paid so much attention. The sheep are of the small white-faced sort peculiar to the highlands; the mutton is delicate, and the muscular fibre small, and rich in its flavour. The wool fells from 16s. to 1l. per stone. The usual price is 7l. per score. The swine are of a small breed, the value of each from 1l. 10s. to 2l.; and the pork is of excellent quality.

The other quadrupeds which frequent the districts under review, are red deer, roe deer, rabbits, hares, foxes, badgers, pine martins, polecats, weazels, otters, rats, mice, moles, and urchans. It is said, that good red deer feed in the forests of Atholl belonging to the Duke. Roes have greatly increased in number of late years, and inhabit the woods about Dunkeld. Two miles to the westward of Dunkeld, at the entrance of the wood on the north side of the Tay, there is a rabbit warren, which produces a rent to the Duke of 25l. per annum.

From the wooded shelter afforded on the banks of the Tay, most of the birds either indigenous or migratory in the districts of our highlands are to be found about Dunkeld. Among the native birds may be enumerated the grouse, black-cock †, part-

* See Dr. Smith's Agricultural Survey of Argyleshire, which contains much useful information on this subject.

† Of the native birds now extinct, the *capercallie* appears to have frequented the braes of Atholl, and the banks of the Tay. See Stat. Acc. vol. xx. p. 473, letter inserted from James VI. to the Marquis of Tullibardine, March 14, 1617.

ridge, plover, snipe, ptarmigan, raven, rook, eagle, kite, buzzard, grey-hawk, hen-hawk, and sparrow-hawk ;—of the singing tribe there is a vast variety : among others, the linnet, lark, bullfinch, thrush, blackbird, starling ; and the lengthened note of the stock-dove is often heard in the melody of the woods. Of the migratory tribe there are the wood-cock, goat-sucker, pied oyster-catcher, northern diver, land rail, golden crested wren, lap-wing, cuckoo, tit-lark, swallow, martin, stone-chatterer, field-fare, snow-flight, &c. The aquatic fowls of the country are in abundance, such as wild ducks, wild geese, swans, larger teals, water rails, sandy larks, sea mews, piktarnies ; and gulls come up from the mouth of the Tay in spring. The heron, scart, or cormorant, and osprey, sometimes appear.

The range about Dunkeld for the botanist is extensive and rich in indigenous plants. Besides natural wood, such as oak, alder, ash, birch, fir, willow, &c. an indefinite number of exotics are every where planted in the woods and shrubberies of his Grace of Atholl for many miles round.

Quartz, whinstone, grey granite, and moor stone compose, chiefly, the rocks about Dunkeld. Pyrites, slate, and lime-stone, are found in the neighbourhood, but in such small quantity as to be of little use ;—free-stone, of which, it is said, the cathedral was built, is also to be met with.

A description of Dunkeld and its environs is no easy undertaking ; and to present to the conception, by means of words, the beauties of its picturesque charms, and rural ornament, is a task not meant to be attempted in the slight sketch exhibited in these pages. But, in order to point out to the traveller some of the beauties most deserving his attention, the following hints may serve to
lead

lead him to stations, from which he may behold the prospects that are by many deemed the finest in the whole range through which he is usually conducted*.

From *Inver* we proceed along the banks of the *Braban*, which, as we advance, becomes more and more rapid, impetuous, and noisy, till turning a little to the left, where an arch is thrown over a chasm through which the river hurries onward, we command a view of its fall, while the ear is stunned by the mighty roar of so vast a volume of water in its precipitation over huge and dark coloured rocks, that seem in vain to arrest it in its course. The effect that so grand an object is calculated to raise in the mind, it is sincerely to be regretted, is much injured by the appearance on the right, immediately opposite to the cataract, of a pavilion of modern taste, placed on a hanging precipice called, by way of eminence, *Ossian's hall* †. The stranger is ushered into this mansion with ridiculous ceremony. Suffice it to say, that, elegant as by some it may be deemed, a lover of the chaste simplicity of nature views this pavilion as not consistent with the grandeur of the scenery around it. It ought to be removed.

We proceed in our ramble along the *Braban*, through paths conducted with much taste and fancy, to what is called *The Rumbling*

* It frequently proves a source of disappointment and disgust to be teased with the unmeaning chit-chat of a professed guide; therefore, it were, perhaps, on the whole, better to dismiss the person who acts as guide, and pass on.

† From its name, one would naturally expect to find this hall in a style of rude magnificence suitable to our idea of the era of Ossian. Nothing can be conceived more diametrically opposite. It is elegant, and finished to a degree of finical nicety rarely to be met with. On the inner door of this hall, or hermitage, as it is sometimes called, is painted a figure representing Ossian. It is, in fact, a copy of the *Belisarius* of Rubens or Vandyke, by a young artist of the name of Stuart, an élève of the late Duke of Athol.



Sketch'd on the Spot by Alex^r Campbell.

T. Medland, Sculp^r

Fall of the Brahan.

Brig. On our way thither, we frequently meet with huge fragments of rocks, grouped so fantastically, as to lead the imagination to conceive them the labour of the giants of old, or of the heroes celebrated in the poems of Ossian. The artist who conducted the pathways along the banks of the Brahan, availing himself of these accidental appearances, formed with appropriate skill and taste, a rude and dark apartment in which the following lines, the composition of a lady*, are inscribed:

Ah! see the form that faintly gleams;
 'Tis Oscar, come to cheer my dreams:
 On wreathes of mist it glides away:
 Oh! stay, my lovely Oscar, stay.
 Awake the harp to doleful lays,
 And soothe my soul with Oscar's praise.
 Wake, Ossian, last of Fingal's line,
 And mix thy sighs and tears with mine.
 The shell is ceas'd in Oscar's hall,
 Since gloomy Cairbac saw thee fall.
 The roe o'er Morven playful bounds,
 Nor hears the cry of Oscar's hounds,
 Thy four grey stoncs the hunter spies:
 "Peace to the hero's ghost!" he cries.

Several inscriptions are to be seen in our ramble along the rugged banks of the Brahan, characteristic of the scenery around.

When by heavy falls of rain the Brahan rises to its greatest possible swell, the rapidity and force that it displays is truly amazing.

Wide o'er the brim, with many a torrent swell'd,
 And the mix'd ruin of its banks o'erspread,
 At last the rous'd-up river pours along;
 Resistless, roaring, dreadful, down it comes
 From the rude mountain and the mossy wild,
 Tumbling through rocks abrupt, and sounding far;
 Then o'er the sandy valley floating spreads,
 Calm, sluggish, silent; till again, constrain'd

* Mrs. D. Fordyce.

Between two meeting hills, it bursts away,
 Where rocks and woods o'erhang the turbid stream ;
 There gathering triple force, rapid and deep,
 It boils, and wheels, and foams, and thunders through.

THOMSON.—*Winter.*

A rude arch joins the chasm through which the Brahan "boils, and wheels, and foams, and thunders." It has been called by the country people of the lowland districts "*The Rumbling Brig*," and by those of the higher "*au Drochid chloich*," the Bridge of the Stone ; perhaps from the appearance the chasm exhibits ; having a huge fragment of rock wedged mid-way down the yawning steep, under which the fury of the fall is hid for a moment, but is again caught by the eye in the dark pool a little beyond the bending brows of the rocks, over which the arch is thrown, fullen, silent, and deep.

As we return to *Inver*, it is preferable to keep the highway ; by doing so, we not only vary our ramble, but also command peeps of the circumjacent country, and particularly of the sweetly sequestered situation of Dunkeld itself.

But if the traveller be disposed to go a few miles farther up the country, into *Strathbrahan*, there are to be seen the ruins of *Trochrie castle*, once the residence of the GOWRIE family. When the Earl of Gowrie was attainted for being the principal agent in the mysterious conspiracy against James VI., the demesnes of Trochrie were given to Sir William Bailie, Nov. 16th, 1600, at which time he was appointed keeper of the forests of Strathbrahan*. Cairns, and what are called Druidical circles, are also to be seen on the banks of the Brahan †.

Tradition mentions too, that a small field, a short distance above Dunkeld, was once occupied by the intrepid ancestor of

* Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 376.

† Ibid.

the Errol and Kinnoul families. This field is called *Yoke haugh* (*Dalmacoig*). It is said, and history sanctions the tradition, that on the day of the memorable battle of Luncarty*, near Perth, the victorious Danes had continued their pursuit within a few miles of the Pass of Dunkeld, when the Caledonian Cincinnatus, who was following the labours of the field with his two sons, hearing of the terrible defeat of his countrymen, flew to the pass, his sons following, rallied the fugitives, fell furiously on the Danes, and put them to the rout with great slaughter; thus turning the fate of the day: which fortunate circumstance led to a speedy, honourable, and lasting peace †.

On his return to Inver, if the traveller be desirous of hearing a specimen of genuine highland reels and Strathspeys, let him inquire for NIEL GOW: and, on signifying a desire to hear him perform, the musical amateur cannot fail of being highly gratified ‡.

The left bank of the Tay is no less interesting to the lover of Scottish scenery, than the grounds over which we have rambled on the right bank, and along the rugged and woody steepes of

* In the reign of Kenneth III. A.D. 976.

† Buchanan, lib. vi. See also Stat. Acc. vol. vi. parish Little Dunkeld.

‡ Niel Gow is a native of Inver. This ingenious man was originally bred a weaver; but his propensity to play the violin led him to adopt it as a means of gaining a livelihood; and, it must be confessed, few, if any, have a better claim to the patronage of a generous public than this celebrated self-taught performer. His manner of playing his native airs is faithful, correct, and spirited. He flurs none, but plays distinctly, with accuracy, precision, and peculiar accentation: hence the excellency of his touch and intonation, so essential to true taste and just expression, the very soul of reels and Strathspeys.

The cotemporaries and countrymen of Niel Gow, were Daniel Dow, and Alexander Macglashan, both deceased. But Dow and Macglashan had some pretensions to the title of musicians, each having practised it as a scientific art.

the rapid Brahan. We cross the Tay at the ferry of Inver, and, as the boat proceeds, are struck with the grandeur of the scene, in which much of the beautiful is blended with the sublime.

We enter the pathways on the right; and by one of the communicating arches flung across the public road, we turn to the left, and ascend by easy and gentle inclinations through the wood, till we come to an opening, where a prospect presents, at once beautiful and sublime in an admirable degree. In the extreme distance, the mountains of Atholl (among which Benigloe appears pre-eminent), swelling in graceful magnificence with their summits in the clouds, softened in the liquid tints of the ethereal hues which float along their mid-way heights, keeping them blended in the azure brightness of the sky, form the most charming feature of the prospect. The mountain perspective is formed by the extensive valley through which the Tay sweeps along, for more than twenty miles. The fore-ground presents rich and varied objects; of which, the nearer windings of the river, with wooded risings on either hand, together with corn fields, meadows, hamlets, and farmhouses, constitute the chief, and add to the grandeur of the scene the charms of cultivated nature. When, as the setting sun descends behind the distant mountains, bathing their top-cliffs in its golden radiance, a parting gleam, obliquely darted, touches with vivid brightness as it glances along the craggy brows of the nearer hills; while the deepening vale is beheld, through which the clear, soft, and full volume of the Tay is seen flowing in its ample sweeps; an effect is produced, beyond the powers of language to describe, or of the pencil to imitate.

We

Artist on the spot by Allan's camp 22.



T. Mitchell sculp.

Wendings of the Trail, looking toward the Mountains of Utah.

We may now return through the pathways* that lead to a station commanding a prospect to the eastward. Among others which might be mentioned, that called *The King's Seat* affords some of the finest views in the whole range. We pass by a small lake, which contains excellent fish; and by the way it may be remarked, that, besides the salmon of the Tay, the lochs all around this district contain abundance of excellent trout, char, pike, perch, and eel, which afford to the angler a variety of amusement. The present Duke, who is himself a keen sportsman, has it is said, been particularly select in the choice of the fish in the small loch above noticed. Proceeding then, in our ascent through the wood, to this station, we pass a mountain streamlet pattering through its rocky bed, heard, but scarcely visible, and soon come within sight of the hanging rock, beneath which the King's Seat is rudely formed †.

From this station extensive prospects open to the right and to the left, and immediately in the front. First then let us attend to that on our right.

The whole valley of Strathbrahan, an extent of nine miles westward from Inver to Amulree, is seen at a glance. The Brahan, which runs through it, and to which it gives its name, is scarcely visible, till within a few miles of its approach to its

* It is said, that the pathways through the ornamented grounds round Dunkeld are conducted to a length, when taken collectively, of eighteen miles.

† In the midst of a small field near the summit of these rocky heights, in a hollow of the hills through which the stream hurries along, a cottage is seen, the occupier of which has resided in it for forty years. His name is David M'Craw. He is said to have enjoyed uninterrupted health, and has attained the great age of 82. In the neighbouring parishes, several persons have attained a remarkable length of years. In the course of twenty-three years, one of 91, one of 95, two of 103, and one of 105, are adduced as instances of longevity. See Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 368.

confluence



Ed. R. J. 1847

Printed by J. G. & Co. Edinburgh

View from the heights of Dunbehold

Engraved by J. G. & Co. Edinburgh 1847

is seen, with the hills that bound it on the east; among which *Dunstaffnage*, whereon the remains of Macbeth's castle appear, terminates the view on the left. But the prospect which merits most attention is that immediately presenting in front. We look down from this craggy eminence, on the once Caledonian city Dunkeld; of which there remains nothing of its ancient splendour, save part of the cathedral; this, on nearer inspection, appears a venerable ruin, situated on the bank of the Tay, a spot adapted by the hand of nature for retirement and holy office. The mansion, office-houses, and gardens of the Duke of Atholl, and the town of Dunkeld, adjoin the cathedral: behind which the Tay is seen emerging from the woods, and sweeping along in a full, clear, and ample stream through the narrow vale overhung by the craggy heights on either hand, that form this pass into the Grampians. In the middle distance, on the right bank of the Tay, the heights of *Birnam-wood* appear, beyond which Strathmore stretches from right to left; the town of *Perth* appearing in the plain, amid innumerable corn-fields and wooded inclosures,

for he was treacherously murdered in the flower of manhood, can hardly be contemplated without wonder bordering on enthusiasm. He seems to have possessed the genius of a Leonardo Da Vinci, and the erudition of a Buchanan. A specimen of his talents as a poet may be seen in the *Delicia Poetarum Scotorum*: but his other works have either perished, or have not reached us. After making large allowance for exaggeration in the accounts which the historians of the admirable Crichton have given of his vast acquirements and excellence in almost every department of elegant and useful knowledge, he must still be contemplated with admiration, mingled with the tenderest emotions of regret for the untimely fate of so rare a sample of human perfection.—He was born in the year 1551, and died in 1581, aged 30. The curious reader may obtain ample information respecting this extraordinary man by consulting M'Kenzie's *Scottish Lives*; the *Adventurer*, No. 81, Pennant, vol. i. Appendix; the *Edinburgh Mag. and Review* for 1744 p 464; and the *Encyclop. Britan.*: besides Dempster, M. Bayle, and others.

thickly-

thickly-planted hamlets, farmsteads, and family mansions. In the distance, a great extent of the Ochill hills, together with the Lomond hills, one of the conical summits of which rises immediately behind Falkland in Fifeshire, terminate the range of this truly magnificent and picturesque prospect;—the last to which the traveller's attention is called in those selected for his contemplation among the Grampian mountains, whence he is now about to depart. But, before taking a final leave of the highlands of Scotland, some slight remarks on the ancient and modern state of Dunkeld, once the capital of Caledonia, may not, to the traveller of more than mere superficial observation, be deemed uninteresting, as exhibiting a comparative view of former with latter times, in regard to this remote corner of our island.

DUNCHALION*, or, as it is now generally denominated, *Dunkeld*, according to Boethius, Buchanan, and other Scottish historians, was at a remote period a place of strength, and afterwards erected into a bishoprick; hence it is called the city of Dunkeld. So early as the eighth century (729), according to ABBOT ALEXANDER MILL, a Convent of *Culdees*, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, in honour of ST. COLUMBA, the patron saint of the *Pictish nation*, by CONSTANTINE III. *King of the Picts*, at the request of *Adamnus*, a disciple of Columba †, was instituted here. But some authors, who trace the establishment of this order of monks at Dunkeld to a more distant period, affirm,

* The highlanders always call it by this name. Etymology in general is so vague and unsatisfactory, that to pursue the names of places is but too often fruitless, or, at best, conjectural.

† Abbot Mill's MS. History of the Bishops. Keith's Catalogue of the Bishops, p. 46.

that

that St. Columba himself founded a church here, so early as the sixth century*. Be this as it may, it appears from authentic records, that, in the year 1127, ST. DAVID I. *King of the Scots*, having expelled the *Culdees*, appointed *Gregory* their abbot to be bishop, who obtained apostolical confirmation and protection from Pope ALEXANDER III. After having exercised his ecclesiastical functions forty-two years, he died Anno Dom. 1169, and was succeeded by RICHARD DE PREBENDA, and afterwards by a regular succession of Prelates to the final abolition of Episcopacy in Scotland, A. D. 1688.

Among the churchmen, bishops of Dunkeld, eminently distinguished as statesmen or literary characters, may be mentioned, WILLIAM SINCLAIR †, and GAVIN DOUGLASS. The former of these, *William Sinclair*, was at once an ecclesiastic; a statesman, and a warrior. “He was (says Bishop Keith) ‡ a “great fautor of King *Robert Bruce*, upon account of which, “and of his very noble and heroick dispositions, that King was “pleased to call him his own Bishop.” In this heroic ecclesiastic, the following instance of bravery is noticed by our poets and historians. A small army of English had landed near Inverkeithing, and were ravaging the coast of Fife, when Sinclair, who at that time was residing in his palace at Ochertool, hearing of the fruitless attempt which the sheriff of the county had made to repel the invaders ||, flew to arms, rallied the fugitives, led

* Hailes' Annals of Scotland, vol. i. p. 107. Dalrymple's Collections, p. 247. Smith's Life of St. Columba, p. 162.

† Brother of Sir Henry Sinclair of Roslin.

‡ Catalogue of Bishops, p. 51.

|| It should seem that the sheriff, with the small body that he had hastily collected to oppose the English, fought rather shy on the occasion. The pious patriot, however,

led them to the charge, and repulsed the enemy with considerable loss. Sinclair, having filled the see of Dunkeld upwards of twenty-eight years, died on the 27th June 1337, and was buried in the choir of the cathedral*.

Of the celebrated men of letters, the ornaments of Scottish literature, GAVIN DOUGLASS, the thirty-sixth Bishop of Dunkeld, stands eminently distinguished. He ranks high as a scholar, as an antiquarian, and as a poet. His well known translation of the *Eneid* of Virgil † is a lasting monument of

as rehearsed by Barbour in the following verses, by his spirited exertions saved his countrymen from disgrace, and secured victory :

Quhen thai away this ridand wer,
 And na deferis begouth to scape,
 Of *Dunkeldyn* the gude Byfchap,
 That men callyt WILYAM SAINTCLER,
 Come with a rout in gud maner ;
 I trow on horse ther war sexty,
 Hymselff was armyt jolyly ;
 And raid upon a stalwart sted ;—*Pinkerton's BRUCE*, Buke xvi.

.
 The Byfchap that was rycht hardy
 And mekill, and stark raid forouth ay.
 Than in a frusche assemblet thai,
 And thai that at the fyrst meting,
 Feld off the spers sa far sowing,
 Wandyst, and wald haiff bene away :
 Towart the schippys in hy held thai,
 And thai them chassyt felonly ;
 And slew thaim sa dispitously,
 That all the felds strowyt war,
 Of *Inglis men* that slayne war thar.—*Ibid.* line 624.

* Anderson's *Independency*, App. No. 14.

† “The Bukes of the *Encados* of the famous poet Virgeill, translated out of Latyne verses into Scottish Meter, by the Reverend Father in God Mayster Gavin Douglass, Bishop of Dunkel, and Unkil to the Earl of Angus: Every Buke having its particular Prologe. Imprinted at London 1553.” 4to.

his poetical talents. Considering the age in which it was produced it is a work, of uncommon merit. A vigorous display of imagination, together with a degree of taste and refinement not even surpassed at this day, characterize this masterly performance*. Other two pieces, viz. *King Hart* †, and the *Palace of Honour* ‡, both allegorical poems, have also descended to our times. But these, in the estimation of our best critics, are inferior to his Prologues to the books of the *Eneid* §.

Douglafs was not more distinguished for his genius and learning, than for the higher characteristics of humanity. Prudence, moderation, generosity, constancy, magnanimity, and integrity, were ever present when required to be brought into action: whether in the kindly intercourse of private friendship, or in the more important duties of public employment, his wisdom and benevolence beamed forth in full splendour, yet mild and serene. Our accomplished poet, on the death of *George Brown* ||,

was

* He also translated Ovid's *Remedio Amora* while he was young. See the Epilogue to his translation of Virgil's *Eneid*.

† This poem is now reprinted in Pinkerton's "Ancient Scottish Poems," 1786.

‡ This piece also is among the same compiler's "Scottish Poems, reprinted from scarce editions." 1792.

§ Douglafs wrote also *Aurea Narrationes, Comediæ aliquot sacræ, et de Rebus Scotticis*; these works, however, are either lost or laid aside. *Vide* Hist. of Scot. Dempster, and Nicolson's Scotch Hist. Library, p. 99.

|| *George Brown*, of the family of Mydmar, a native of Dundee, where he received the earlier part of his education, studied some time at the University of *St. Andrews*, and afterwards at *Paris*, at which place he obtained a Master of Arts' degree. On his return he was appointed one of the four Regents of *St. Salvator's College, St. Andrews*. Being sent by James III. to Rome, he was there consecrated Bishop of Dunkeld by Pope Pius IV. Anno 1484. He died 12th January 1514-5, and was succeeded by Gavin Douglafs as above noticed. Brown seems to have had a taste for

was raised to the diocese of Dunkeld; and, after some opposition, was left in quiet possession of that appointment. Amid the sequestered retirements which Dunkeld afforded, it is said, he dedicated his leisure to the muses. His translation of the *Eneid*, as he himself informs us, was the labour of eighteen months.

Fra tyme I thareto set my pen to wryte
 (Thocht God wate gif thir boundis wer ful wyde
 To me, that had sic befines befyde,
 Apoun this wyfe, as God list len me grace,
It was compilyt in auchtene monethis space :—p. 484.

A proof of what genius can achieve when in full vigour, and called into action. “I presumed,” says Bishop Nicolson, “it may not be ungrateful to the reader to let him know that this version is amongst those printed books whereon the late *Fr. Junius Fr. F.* has left his most excellent marginal notes* . Douglass had been Rector of Herriot, and Provost of St. Giles, in Edinburgh, till nominated by the Queen Regent, in the minority of James V., to the Archbishopric of St. Andrews, anno 1514, the year after he had finished his translation of the *Eneid*; “but a stronger party” (says Bishop Keith) “opposed him, and “he was put by.” The year following (anno 1515), or rather

splendour, and public utility. He built a castle on the island of Clunie near *Dunkeld*, to which he could ride four different ways from Dunkeld on his own ground: in this castle, the remains of which are still pretty entire, he died. Here also, it is said, the admirable Crichton was born. Besides the castle of Clunie, Bishop Brown built and endowed the parish church of Dowally, anno 1500. He likewise began a stone bridge over the Tay at Dunkeld, anno 1513; but it was never finished. Brown was a strict observer of church-discipline, as well spiritual as temporal. See Keith's Catalogue, p. 56. Stat. Acc. vol. ix. par. Clunie.

* See Nicolson's Scot. Hist. Library, p. 99.

1516, the Queen-Dowager*, in whose interest Douglass was, presented him to the see of Dunkeld, and he was preferred to it by *Pope Leo X.* There he remained, till called on by the states of Scotland to attend *the Duke of Albany* into France, where it was intended he should assist at the renewal of the ancient league between the two nations. Unluckily for the repose of our poet, however, the Emperor *Charles V. and Henry VII.* of England had entered into a counter-alliance, which gave rise to a persecution against Douglass, and obliged him to seek shelter at the English court, where he was favourably received; and connecting himself with the learned men of that age, among whom *Polydore Vergil* the historian became his friend, he devoted the remainder of his life to literary pursuits; till, in the 48th year of his age, he died at London in April 1522, and was buried by the side of *Thomas Halsey*, Bishop of Langlin in Ireland, in the hospital church of the Savoy. Their epitaphs appear on one stone.

Venerable in ruins, the Cathedral of Dunkeld exhibits a striking trait of the ruthless zeal of the Reformers. The choir is still occupied as a place of worship. It was built from the foundation, on the site of the Convent of the Culdees, (part of which is to be seen in the middle of the eastern gable) by Bishop *Sinclair*, and finished by him in the year 1330. The aisle of the cathedral was begun by *Robert de Cairney* the eighteenth Bishop of Dunkeld †, and finished by Bishop *John Raulston*, who was raised to the see in 1448. So zealous, it is said, was Bishop Raulston in

* Mother of James V.

† According to Keith, the twenty-fourth Bishop. — *Vide Catal.* p. 53. He was one of the hostages for the redemption of James I.

carrying

carrying on his labours, that he attended constantly himself, interesting even his occasional guests in his undertaking*. The Chapter-house was erected by Bishop *Thomas Lauder* in 1469; as was also the steeple, which was finished by Bishop *Brown* in 1501: it contains four bells, remarkably well toned. The steeple has a rent from the bottom of the highest window, which runs down the middle of the wall. At what period this rent took place is not known. The body of the Cathedral is unroofed. Its extent within is forty paces in length by twenty in breadth. It is supported by round pillars with rectangular capitals. Its arches, seven in number on either side, and above them an equal number of windows, are in the style usually called *Gothic*. At the west end of the nave, the ruins of the great window appear. But, alas! where are now to be seen the

— Storied windows richly dight,
Casting a dim religious light?

And no one hears

—— The pealing organ blow,
To the full-voic'd choir below,
In service high†. ——— MILTON'S *Il Penseroso*.

The body of the church is now converted into a place of interment: on the north side of the door which leads from the choir into the nave, a monument, which formerly stood in the middle of the choir, is seen, and attracts notice. It is still in tolerable preservation, and bears the following inscription: “Hic jacet Dominus Alexander Senescallus Comes de Buchan,

* “Cum uno vel alio procerum secum habitantium, solebat certa lapidum onera extra lapidinarum ferre quotidie.” Vide Abbot Mill's History, as quoted. Stat. Acc. vol. xx.

† The music for the Church of Dunkeld, 5 vols. 4to. is among the MSS. of the Library of the University of Edinburgh marked A. C. b. 11. See Campbell's Hist. of Poetry in Scotland, p. 359.

“ et Dominus de Badenach, *bene memoriæ*, qui obiit 20 die mensis
 “ Februarii, anno Dom. 1394.” The effigies of this *great man* is
 in armour, recumbent, on a tablet supported by pillars ornament-
 ed and intermixed with figures. He was a prince of the blood-
 royal, the third son of Robert II. (High Steward of Scotland,
 and the first of the family of Stuart who sat on the throne,)
 by Elizabeth Mure his favourite, and, as some say, his first wife*.
 He was called *The wolf of Badenach* †: a name given him as
 characteristic of his ferocious disposition. Between the church
 and the street, a piece of ground is inclosed, which is occupied
 as a burying-place; but there appears scarcely an inscription on
 any of the tablets or tomb-stones worthy of notice ‡. It should
 have

* The title of John' Stuart, afterwards Robert III., the eldest of Eliz. Mure's
 sons, by Robert II. has been keenly contested by Sir Lewis Stuart, advocate to
 Charles I. his successor Sir George M'Kenzie, Lewis Innes, Mabillon, Ruddiman,
 Logan, Lord Kaimes, and David Hume. In the person of Cardinal York (now a
 pensioner of the British monarch!) the Stuart line will become extinct.

† *Lupus de Badenach*. Vide Fordun's *Scotichron.* p. 416.

‡ An Epitaph “ on the grave-stone of Margery Scot of Dunkeld,” as given by
 Pennant, and the author of the *Statistical Account of Dunkeld*, from those composed
 by Alexander Pennycuik (the younger), was never inscribed on her grave-stone.
 As Mr. Pennant has omitted some lines, and the author of the *Statistical Account of*
Dunkeld has thought proper to alter others, the true reading is restored in the copy
 subjoined, taken from the author's works, Drummond's edition.

Stop passenger, until my life you read,
 The living may get knowledge from the dead;
 Five times five years I liv'd a virgin life;
 Five times five years I was a virtuous wife;
 Ten times five years a widow grave and chaste;
 Tired of the elements *I'm now at rest*.
 Betwixt my cradle and my grave were seen
 Eight mighty Kings of Scotland and a Queen;

Three

have been mentioned, that immediately before the pulpit on the floor is to be seen a tablet of blue marble which lay on the grave of *Bishop Sinclair*; and also, in the south wall, on the left of the pulpit, appear the arms of Bishop *Alexander Lindsay*, who in "1638 renounced his office, abjured Episcopacy, submitted "to Presbyterian parity, and accepted from the then rulers his "former church of St. Mado's. He also acquired the Barony of "Evelick in the Carse of Gowrie*." In a niche on the south side of the nave of the Cathedral, is placed the figure in full canonicals of *Robert de Cairney*, formerly noticed. "Till his "time" (says the writer of the Statistical Account of Dunkeld) "the Bishop's palace consisted of several long houses, of two "floors only, and covered with thatch in the highland form. "He built in their place a spacious edifice, fit for defence as well "as accommodation. It contained" (Mill particularly informs his reader) "*granaries and a larder.*" Although no vestige of it

Three Common wealths, successively, I saw;
 Ten times the subjects rise against the law;
 And, which is worse than any civil war,
 A KING arraigned before the subjects' bar;
 Swarms of *sectarians*, hot with hellish rage,
 Cut off his royal head on *open stage*.
 Twice did I see old *prelacy* pull'd down,
 And twice the *cloak* did sink beneath the *gown*.
 I saw the Stuart race thrust out; nay more,
 I saw our country sold for *English* ore;
 Our numerous nobles, who have famous been,
 Sunk to the lowly number of *sixteen*
 Such *desolations* in my days have been,
 I have an end of all *perfection* seen.

Vide Pennycuick's *Flowers of Parnassus*, p. 3.

* *Vide* Keith's *Catalogue of Bishops*, p. 180.

remains,

remains, its site is still called "the *Castle clofe**." *Robert de Cairney* died on the 16th January 1436, having been in possession of this bishoprick forty-years †. From the Bishop's palace a bridge over the Tay, partly of wood and partly of stone, was erected by Bishop *Thomas Lauder* in 1469. "The foundation of a second bridge was laid by Bishop Brown in 1513, which was completed by *Gavin Douglas*:" when the river is low, the piles on which the piers stood are still visible. No account can be obtained when this bridge disappeared. Whether it was swept away by a flood, or demolished when the cathedral was despoiled of its ornaments and altered at the Reformation ‡, or when Episcopacy was finally abolished at the Revolution, and the Cathedral laid in ruins by the soldiery that were placed at this pass into the highlands, is left to conjecture. Be this as it

* In SLEZER's *Theatrum Scotiæ* (published 1693), in one of the views of Dunkeld, part of the Bishop's palace is seen.

† *Vide Keith's Catal.* p. 53.

‡ A copy of the original letter containing the order issued at the Reformation, as given in the Stat. Acc. of Dunkeld, p. 422. is hereto subjoined:

" To our Traift friendis the Lairds of Arntilly and Kinvaid.

" Traift friendis, after maist hartly commendacion, we pray you fail not to pass in-
 " continent to the kirk of Dunkeld, and tak down the hail images thereof, and bring
 " forth to the kirk-zayrd, and burn thaym openly. And sicklyk cast down the alteris,
 " and purge the kirk of all kynd of monuments of idolatyre. And this ze fail not
 " to do, as ze will do us singular empleseur; and so commitis you to the protection of
 " God.

" From Edinburgh the xii. of August 1560.

" Signed

AR. ARGYLL.

" JAMES STEWART.

" RUTHVEN."

" Fail not, bot ze tak guid heyd that neither the dasks, windocks, nor durris, be
 " ony ways hurt or broken,—eyther glassin wark or iron wark."

P p

may,

may, the want of a bridge at Dunkeld is severely felt *. “An estimate (says the author of the Statistical Account of Dunkeld) by an Engineer of talents and experience calculates the cost of a bridge of three arches, to be built opposite to the church of *Little Dunkeld*, at 12,000*l.* sterling,” a sum, though it were doubled, by no means beyond the yearly income of the noble Duke who possesses the vast demesnes through which the Tay winds its course for more than twenty miles. On contemplating the effects of time, and of the ruthless hands which in mistaken zeal dilapidated this once magnificent pile, its ruins excite in the beholder a tender sentiment of regret, that awakens kindred ideas, most aptly associated with those called forth in viewing the scenery around, and which carries the mind of the pensive spectator to former times, when the God of nature was worshipped in the sacred temple here dedicated to his name, with all the pomp and splendour of idolatrous ceremony. But the scene is changed; the reign of the church has ceased; the age of chivalry is no more; and commerce has assumed the place of splendid piety and elevated distinction in the northern section of our island.

In its secularized, modern state, Dunkeld exhibits a thriving appearance. The family residence of the *Duke of Atholl*, though neither spacious nor elegant, is comfortable and commodious;

* “To the casual traveller a new bridge would be obviously a desirable accommodation, and to Dunkeld, and the large district connected with it, a most important acquisition. The river (which has been known to rise seventeen feet at the ferry [of *Inver*] above its usual level) is often so swelled, as to render the passage by a boat either impracticable, or highly perilous; and the general waste of time, and danger to carriages, which is experienced (however skilfully or alertly the boats are managed), often prompt those who would have otherwise preferred Dunkeld as a market-place, to proceed to Perth.” See Stat. Acc. vol. xx. p. 442.

and,

and, when the out-houses, gardens, and nurseries* are surveyed, all appear in such excellent order and condition, as to indicate a genuine spirit of rural economy.

Charles II. it is said, offered Dunkeld a charter of erection into a borough-royal; but this offer was rejected; and by this means it was "free from corporation restrictions, and from election canvassing; a canvassing (says the author last quoted) which, by holding out the prospect of pleasure without expence, and gain without labour, seduces the dissolute and the lazy, and is followed, too often, by general intemperance; corruption, and ruin."—The remark is just, when boroughs are bought and sold: but, when corruption no longer prevails, the suffrage of a free people will be guided by motives of general good. Hence, it is reasonable to conclude, that the real pleasure arising from a thorough conviction that a unity of interests constitutes the true basis of public and private happiness, will never degenerate into "intemperance, corruption, and ruin." But, although Dunkeld is not a Royal Borough, yet its internal police is well regulated. Its magistrate is the Bailie of the Barony, and is appointed by the Duke of Atholl.

There are six fairs held in this town yearly, besides a market on every Saturday. The customs for the various articles bought and sold at these fairs and markets are payable to the Duke of Atholl, who provides an armed guard to preserve the peace, and apprehend disorderly persons. The staple commodity is yarn †.

* The Duke of Atholl causes to be reared in his nurseries by far the greater part of the trees planted in his woods and pleasure-grounds.

† Not less than two hundred thousand spindles are bought annually, the produce of this district of the highlands. Stat. Acc. vol. xx. p. 430.

The manufacture of linen is also carried on with considerable spirit; as also tanning of leather, and dressing of sheep skins. The situation of Dunkeld is peculiarly favourable for these branches of manufacture. A bleach-field, a thread manufactory, and perhaps a woollen manufactory, would be eligible.

There exist several societies in Dunkeld, each of which is governed by its own laws, agreeably to the object of its institution.

The first, and most ancient, is *The Society of Chapmen*. Their original charter was granted by James V., and was renewed by James Duke of Atholl in 1730, when he was high sheriff of Perthshire*.

The Society of Cordiners (or shoe-makers) was new modelled in 1774. Its principal object is, to provide for decayed or indigent members.

* His Grace was an assiduous and zealous improver of his estates. Four thousand Scotch acres are said to have been planted by the present Duke, consisting chiefly of larch, Scotch fir, spruce, New England fir, ash, beech, Canada birch, lime, oak, alder, Scotch elm, Spanish chestnut, holly, thorn, &c. These extensive plantations around Dunkeld are as profitable to the proprietor as ornamental to the scenery, to which they add the charms of picturesque roughness.

In the garden of the Duke at Dunkeld, as well as at Blair, considerable attention has been paid to the culture of RHUBARB (*rhabarbarum*, Pharm. Lond. *rheum*, Pharm. Edin.); for which much praise is due. In 1770, Dr. Mounsey of Peterburgh sent to the late Duke some seeds of the true *Rheum Palmatum*: with what care these were reared, transplanted, and cultivated, may be judged when the reader is informed, that to the value of 160l. sterling of the produce was sold to a London druggist in one season at the low rate of 8s. per pound. Notwithstanding the medicinal virtues of this root, it is well known that the late celebrated Cullen had a remarkable dislike to it, and certainly had but little faith in its efficacy either as a cathartic or as a stomachic. So says Dr. Gregory.

The Society of Weavers was instituted in 1785. It is numerous and consequently wealthy; and its object is nearly the same with that of the Cordiners' society.

Besides these friendly associations, there are two Masons' Lodges in Dunkeld; and the greater part of their funds also is applied to charitable purposes.

"A female friendly society should be established on the same principle of the Cordiners' and Weavers' societies*." This suggestion is worthy of an enlightened mind and benevolent heart. Would to God female friendly societies, under right management, were as universal as undoubtedly they would be in every respect beneficial!

Having given a comparative view of the ancient and modern state of Dunkeld, we shall take our leave of this interesting spot; and, from Inver, proceed on our journey southward, pursuing the course of the Tay till we clear the pass, and enter the heights of Birnam wood, on our way to the lowlands, where every thing presents us with an aspect characteristically different from what we have been contemplating in our progress through the deep recesses of the Grampian mountains; to which we now bid adieu.

Soon after leaving *Inver*, we pass the parish church of *Little Dunkeld*, which is situated in a pleasant field of considerable dimensions. The stipend of the clergyman here, as well as that of the clergyman on the opposite side of the river, is low indeed. The yearly stipend of the former, including what is allowed for communion elements, hardly exceeds 75*l.*: while that of the latter (*Dunkeld*) does not exceed 95*l.* sterling. The times have

* *Vide Stat. Acc. vol. xx. p. 432.*

altered. The bishoprick got into the hands of laymen long ago; and it is well known, that in Scotland the church government is, at least, *cheap* enough! The most useful branches of education too, viz. reading, writing, and accounts, are to be acquired at a far cheaper rate than among our southern neighbours. To the poor, this is an invaluable blessing*. In the parish of Little Dunkeld there are two charity schools, and one parish school †: But the encouragment to teachers is poor in the extreme. Dunkeld boasts of a grammar-school; but the whole amount of its master's salary does not exceed (including fees for eighty scholars, at half a crown each) 78l. sterling per annum. There is likewise a Sunday-school, and a female day-school for various branches of needle-work, and reading lessons in English.

Keeping the heights of Birnam wood on the left, and the Tay on the right, we pass through the hamlet of *Inch Eoen*, which may be considered as the last group of highland huts that the traveller meets with on coming out of the defiles of the Grampians. The road is newly made, and excellent. It sweeps through the

* "The good effects of charity schools (says the author of the Statistical Account of Little Dunkeld) are manifest and important. By means of them the youth in the highlands are early instructed in the principles of religion and morality, as well as taught reading, writing, arithmetic, and a tolerable knowledge of the English tongue. Thus successive generations arise of enlightened and useful citizens. Some have entertained the mistaken maxim, "That it is impolitic to give the common people so much instruction:" a maxim bad enough for Russia, or for the church of Rome during the periods of its foulest corruption." See Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 372. Little Dunkeld.

† See Dr. Curries' (of Liverpool) "Observations on the Character and Condition of the Scottish Peasantry," prefixed to his Account of the Life and Criticism on the Works of Robert Burns, 4 vols. 8vo. 1800.

narrow vale formed by the heights of Birnam, and the opposite craggy steeps of Stormont, till rising to a level plain, where a small lake appears to the right, we clear the pass, and leave behind that part of our island from which no hostile foe ever returned without having had proofs of the independent spirit and determined valour of its inhabitants; and from which no friend ever departed without having experienced acts of kindness and hospitality.

In ascending the heights of Birnam, about two miles below Dunkeld, a building, now almost a ruin, is seen on the left. It was erected about sixty years ago*, for the reception of twelve poor men of the *Scottish Episcopal Communion*, on the estate of *Stuart of Grantully*, who, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, endowed it with the sum of twenty thousand merks Scottish money.

Murthly Castle †, one of the seats of the Grantully family, about half a mile farther to the left, charmingly situated on a sloping embankment, amid verdant meadows and spacious inclosures, around which the Tay sweeps smoothly its clear and ample stream, is seen to great advantage. On either side of the river, the higher grounds are steep, craggy, and well wooded. In the back ground, the plain of Stormont, a part of Strathmore, appears; behind which, Dunfinnan, one of the Sidla hills, made classic ground by the magic pen of Shakespeare, towers in the distance, and terminates the prospect.

* 1740.

† A little below Murthly is the free-stone quarry from which the stone work of Dunkeld Cathedral was built. The hill of Birnam yields abundance of slate of a colour bordering on violet, remarkably beautiful. Lead ore mixed with quartz is also to be found but not of a very rich quality.

Bounded on the south and east by the Ochil and Sidla hills, and on the west and north by the great and continued chain of the Grampians, STRATHMORE extends from Stirling to Stonehive, a length of, at least, sixty miles; thirty of which by six in breadth are highly cultivated, and richly adorned by nature and art. This extensive valley (through which the rivers Isla and Erocht, after having rolled their tributary streams from the mountains, and burst their rocky bounds, in foaming fury* unite in the plain, and glide smoothly along until the Tay receives them in dignified silence as he moves onward in his strength toward the German Ocean) is, by far, the most extensive level ground in North Britain.

Strathmore is a scene connected with many particulars respecting the history and antiquities of Scotland. It may not therefore be deemed uninteresting, to notice a few of the leading incidents, with the spots connected, most of which are within view from the station here mentioned, as we pass on; for, as little is to be met with in our way through the dreary tract of moor once the wood of Birnam, in order to fill up the void, a page or two shall be dedicated to the purpose alluded to, before we proceed further in our description.

The traveller whose curiosity leads him to enquire after the monuments of antiquity dispersed throughout Strathmore, in his

* The river Erocht, two miles above Blair-gowrie, is confined within a deep and narrow channel, where meeting in its course huge rocks of an amazing altitude, it rushes amid resounding caverns, far above which is seen on a vast impending precipice *Craig-ball*, similar in all respects to Hawthornden near Edinburgh. The *Rieth*, a considerable cataract, is often visited by the curious; and is an object worthy of attention, particularly when viewed with the surrounding scene near Blair-gowrie, which is at no great distance from Dunkeld.

visit along the course of the Isla, will fall in with the remains of Castle Forter and Castle Newton. Both these castellets belonged to the Ogilvies of Airly; but in the civil war during the reign of Charles I., and in the time of Cromwell's Commonwealth, they were burnt to the ground. The Marquis of Argyle performed this *duty*, which was soon afterwards returned by the family of Airly. Thus civil broils desolate a land; while the deluded victims take terrible vengeance on each other!

Three miles beyond these ruins, the Isla, below the *Mill of Craig*, precipitates itself over a perpendicular height of 70 or 80 feet. This water-fall is called the *Reeky linn*. The rocks on each side are of stupendous altitude; and the water appears, as it moves among the huge and impending masses to the plain through which it seeks its level, deep, fullen, and dark.

As we proceed along the course of the Isla to its conflux with the Tay, near the village of Alyth, the Castle of Barry-hill, the remains of which are still visible, once stood*. This stronghold is said to have been the place of confinement of the celebrated British Helen, VANORA, by some writers called *Wanor*, and *Guinevar*, the wife of *King Arthur* of fabulous record.

A sepulchral monument, supposed to have been that of Vanora, is to be seen in the church-yard of Meigle; drawings of which are given with great accuracy in Mr. Pennant's Scottish Tour, vol. iii. p. 166. At Glames and Dunoon are also some rude remains of antiquity.

About two miles northward of *Couper of Angus*, at a small village called *Couper Grange*, there is a repository, supposed to

* Near Barry-hill, in a ploughed field, an artificial cavity in form of a ditch, about six feet deep by four feet broad, faced up with stones, and covered with large broad flags, was discovered; and when part of it was laid open, ashes were found. Stat. Acc. vol. vi. p. 406.

contain the ashes of sacrifices offered by the ancient Caledonians, the remains of which are still visible, and are worthy the inspection of the antiquary. In the parish of *Kettins*, in the immediate vicinity of *Coupar of Angus*, some tumuli have lately been discovered. In the centre of a *cairn* an urn was found full of bones. Not far from this the castle of *Dores*, said to have been one of the strong-holds of *Macbeth*, is seen on a hill south of the small village of *Pitcur*; and great quantities of ashes were found near the spot. An excavation in the solid rock of this hill, in which also bones were found, was lately discovered by workmen quarrying stones. Near the parish-church of *Kettins*, the outlines of a camp can be distinctly traced. At *Coupar of Angus* the vestiges of this camp are also to be seen, nearly 24 Scotch acres square*. At *Camp Muir*, a village about two miles south-west of this place, the Roman army that *AGRICOLA* led to the foot of the *Grampians*, it is supposed, was divided; part of which remained on the spot, while the other subdivisions were encamped in the various stations above pointed out. About seven miles west-north-west of *Coupar of Angus*, at *Meiklour*, near the confluence of the rivers *Yla* and *Tay*, a Roman station is also discoverable; not far from which, in the parish of *Kinloch*, in a moor at the east end of the hill of *Gourdie*, a curious piece of antiquity, consisting of eight mounds, with an equal number of corresponding trenches, is still to be seen: the mounds and trenches are alternate and

* Near to the centre of the prætorium, in the year 1164, an abbey of Cistercian Monks was founded, and endowed with ample revenues by Malcolm IV. Next to the Kings, the Hays of Errol were the principal donors to this religious house. The first Abbot of this monastery was *ASCELINUS* of Melros Abbey, who died in 1174; and the last Abbot was Donald Campbell of the family of Argyle, who, it is said, at the Reformation divided among five natural sons the lands belonging to this monastery. See Hope's Min. Prac. p. 459; and Stat. Acc. vol. xvii. p. 10.

parallel.

parallel. This spot is said to have been that at which an advanced guard of the Caledonians was stationed to watch the motions of the Roman army that encamped at *Inch-tuthil*, about two miles to the southward in the great plain of the *Stormont*; and from the many vestiges of camps, numbers of tumuli, &c.* dispersed throughout this part of the country, there is great reason for supposing that the battle of *Mons Grampius*, so fatal to the *Caledonians* under *Galgacus* their general, and so celebrated by *Tacitus* as honourable to the Romans, led on to victory by his friend and father-in-law *Agricola*, was fought on or near the ground where these vestiges of antiquity are found. The last-mentioned Roman station, viz. *Inchtuthil*, is particularly noticed by our Scottish historian *Hector Boece*, who calls it *Tulina*, or *Tuline*; and says, that the *Picts* had an *oppidum*, which, on the approach of *Agricola*, they abandoned to the Romans †. The insulated appearance of *Inchtuthill* ‡ exhibits every mark of the *Tay*, at some remote period, having entirely surrounded this singular spot. It is an elevated level of a hundred and sixty Scottish acres in circumference, raised above the plain in which it stands about sixty feet. The Roman camp was formed on the north-east margin, in a commanding station, having a view of great part of *Strathmore* in every direction. Time and circumstances have greatly altered the appearance of *Inchtuthil*. On the spot which the *Picts*, and soon after them the *Romans*, once

* Especially at *Haer-Cairns*, or *Heer-Cairns*—See *Stat. Acc.* vols. ix. xvii. xix. parishes of *Clunie*, *Kinloch*, and *Bendothy*: particularly the latter (*Bendochy*) where valuable information may be found.

† *Boet. Hist. Scotiæ*, lib. iv. p. 64. *Holinshed's Hist. of Scotland* (translation of *Boece*) p. 52, 53.

‡ *Inchtuthel*, or *Innis-tuil*, is of Gaelic derivation: *Innis*, island; *tuil*, flood.

occupied, are the inclosures of the 'modern *Delvin*, the seat of — *Mackenzie* Esquire, to whose spirited and patriotic exertions, it is said, the surrounding country is much indebted for a fine display of rural elegance, and agricultural improvement. But to proceed in the direct route toward Perth :

The road, as now conducted through the dreary waste once the wood of Birnam, (where a few trees are seen thinly scattered at distant intervals, so as to render its nakedness more visible,) is made with great judgment, conveniency, and comfort to the traveller. Even in this inhospitable moor, the hand of culture begins to shew its magical power. It is truly surprizing how much has been accomplished within these very few years, in bringing into heart this hitherto almost barren desert. Farmsteads*, inclosures, hedges, ditches, and plantations of wood, appear on either hand as we pass along ; and every thing promises a reasonable return for the labour and expence bestowed in the agricultural speculations of the spirited cultivator of this newly-created tract of country. The rapid extension of agriculture, and improvement in roads, have been accompanied by a no less surprizing advancement in manufactures. In the year 1784, several public-spirited gentlemen connected with mercantile houses in Perth, among others, Mr. Dempster, late Member of Parliament, built a mill (in which Sir Richard Arkwright interested himself) for the spinning of cotton, at Stanley, situated on the right bank of the Tay ; where a village containing near a hundred families has lately been erected. Most of this moor is in the parish of *Aughtergaven* ; the proprietors of which are the Duke of Athol, Lord Mansfield, George Stewart of

* *Vide* Stat. Acc. vol. xvii. p. 555.

Grandtully, and Robert Robertson of Tullybelton, Esquires*. As we descend, by almost imperceptible degrees, from the heights of Birnam, we come within sight of the Tay, where it sweeps along in silent dignity its ample stream amid highly cultivated fields, rich meadows, and extensive inclosures, till meeting the last obstruction to its conflux with the sea at the Linn of Campsie, it falls in thunder, and darts rapidly on, till it regains once more its smooth, clear, deep, and silent temperament, and glides thus onward in its course through the *Lees o' Luncarty*, celebrated as the field of battle where the Danes were overthrown; but what is still more pleasing to philosophical contemplation, the field of blood is changed into a scene in which the busy hand of art is employed in adding to the true glory and wealth of a nation, the produce of its ingenuity and industry, far remote from the din of war, or the fruitless struggle of contending nations. Tradition still fondly points out the remains of the encampments of the Danish and Scottish armies; and on the opposite side of the river, on the farm called *Gullan*, the field where the brave ancestors of the families of Errol and Kinnoul, the peasant John Hay and his two sons, were ploughing, when they so gallantly struck in, and turned the fate of the battle, is also pointed out †. About two miles further
down

* The Duke of Athol, in order to encourage the farmers of this moor to raise wheat crops, caused a mill to be built; which, in a very short time after its erection, was so infested with rats, that it became impossible to guard against the mischief they were continually doing. It happened, however, that the mill and the whole grounds about it were laid under water; and a sudden frost ensuing, which lasted with great intenseness for a length of time, from that period the rats disappeared, to the no small comfort of all the neighbourhood.

† It will be recollected, that a field in the neighbourhood of Dunkeld is elsewhere mentioned as that on which Hay and his two sons were ploughing on the day of the
battle

down the Tay, on the opposite side to Luncarty Bleach-field, the palace of *Scone* * is seen. It is delightfully situated on a wood lawn, which slopes with an easy inclination to the brink of the river. *Scone-house* is a seat of the Earl of Mansfield. Whether it be built on the site of the ancient palace of Scone, the residence, in former times, of several of our Scottish kings, and where usually their coronation took place, is a matter of some doubt. At the Reformation, the abbey and palace of Scone were spoiled and burnt to the ground †. But, as all such proceedings, tending ultimately to the establishment of the true religion, were the mere preludes to the downfall of antichrist, it becomes not a Protestant to make any comments on the actions of his forefathers, who, in the first paroxysms of their zeal, committed those seeming irregularities, the effects of which are so manifest to this day in every corner of North Britain.

“SCONE, in *Stormont*, a subdivision of the shire of Perth, situated a mile above Perth, upon the river Tay (says Spottifwood), was an Abbey, founded by King Alexander I., in the year 1114, and was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and St. Michael the archangel. It was the place where our Kings were accustomed to be crowned, and where the fatal marble

battle of Luncarty. It is not the business of the present writer to reconcile these apparent contradictions.

* *Scain*, as pronounced by the highlanders.—“In digging near where the ancient palace of Scone stands, the workmen lately discovered upwards of twenty stone coffins, near eight feet below the surface; in which were deposited entire skeletons, one of which was larger than any of the rest, and supposed to measure eight feet in length, Near the above, and not far from the foundation of the old monastery, were also found, in digging, upwards of twenty silver, copper, and brass Scots coins.” *Edinburgh Mag.* for December 1795, p. 450.

† See *Stat. Acc.* vol. xviii. p. 82.

“ chair,

“ chair, now at Westminster, was usually kept. It formerly
 “ belonged to the *Culdees*, if we trust George Buchanan, and
 “ some other writers. The *Extracta ex Chronicis Scotiæ*, in the
 “ Advocates’ Library, says, that the Prior of this place was *Ro-*
 “ *bertus Canonicus Sancti Oswaldi de Nostellis in Anglia*. It
 “ was erected into a temporal Lordship by King James VI. in
 “ favour of Sir David Murray, a Cadet of the family of Tulli-
 “ bardine, in the year 1604* :” of whom, it may be added, the
 late illustrious statesman Earl Mansfield was descended, and
 whose birth-place *Scone* certainly is to be considered †. The
 present mansion-house of Scone is in all respects inelegant,
 and unworthy of notice ‡. Some rude paintings, called hunting
 pieces, and some portraits, (among others, those of the present
 King and his Queen, as large as life, in their robes of state) con-
 stitute the chief ornaments of this once celebrated place. And,
 if we except the parks and pleasure grounds, little taste is dis-
 played in ornament or rural economy, where nature in her
 mildest aspect might be rendered truly charming by a judicious
 and well regulated plan of improvement ; so as to raise in the
 estimation of every one possessed of a just relish for rural orna-
 ment, gardening, and building, as forming parts of a beautiful
 whole, this favoured spot, and render it a model of that excel-
 lence pointed out in the works of Price and Knight, who have
 laboured, and not in vain, to fix determinate, precise, and practi-
 cal rules in the art of English gardening, rural ornament, land-
 scape, and the picturesque : but to return.

* Spottiswood, Hope’s Minor Pract. Appendix, 414.

† Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 80.

‡ “ About a hundred yards due east from the south-east corner of the house are the vestiges of the old abbey church. On the spot where our kings were crowned there grows a clump of trees.” Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 85.

Although

Although the plough has nearly obliterated every vestige of antiquity on either side of the Tay, and the skilful engineer and manufacturer, in making room for their machinery, and bleach-fields, have swept away the mouldering fragments of former ingenuity and splendour, still enough remains to gratify reasonable curiosity, and to shew that the scenes under review form part of the classic ground of Scottish history. Among other relics of antiquity that might be mentioned, the continuation of the Roman military road leading along the foot of the Grampians, from *Ardoch*, already noticed, to near *Blair-gowrie*, which crosses the *Tay* at its junction with the *Almond*, is worthy of particular notice. Here, also, the remains of a Roman station, though gradually obliterated by the overflowing of the *Almond*, are to be seen. Near this spot, too, Roman urns have been found; and there is reason for supposing, that these urns contained the ashes of distinguished Romans who fell at the battle of *Mons Grampius*. Where the Roman military road stops on the south bank of the *Tay*, oak planks, the remains of a wooden bridge, were dug up, at the request of the late Dr. Hope, when the fibre of the timber appeared fresh, and very little altered in its texture*. Till very recently, a number of burrows, or tumuli, were to be seen where the battle of *Luncarty* was fought †. Pieces of broken armour, weapons, bits of bridles, &c. have been found in clearing the ground, which till of late was covered with heath, furze, and brushwood. The ancient *Bertha*, by some

* Stat. Acc. vol. xv. parish Rodgerton.

† A pillar raised to commemorate the victory over the Danes at *Luncarty* is to be seen in the church-yard of *Aberberleny*; for a description of which (by Mr. Adam de Cardonell,) see *Edinburgh Mag.* vol. ii. p. 396, 397.

writers supposed to be that where the town of Perth formerly stood, which, however, is doubtful, was situated near the conflux of the Tay and Almond. Hard by is a field called *Cromwell Park*, on which, it is said, the Protector had an advanced post stationed. On this spot, about the year 1782, Mr. William M'Alpine, a young man of genius and enterprize, erected a print-field, and cotton-mill; and likewise, on the opposite side of the Tay, near Scone, on what is now called Stormont-field, he caused to be laid down very extensive works for calicoe printing, the spinning of cotton, and the bleaching of cotton and linen cloths; but this spirited young speculator, happening to be deeply involved in commercial concerns with some houses in Manchester which failed, he fell of course. Such, too often, is the fate of projectors; while others reap the advantage of their talents and industry! A company of Perth merchants now carry on the works established by M'Alpine, and their profits are said to be ample indeed. Adjoining to Cromwell Park is *Pitcairn Green*, according to Mrs. Cowley the future rival of Manchester:

Proud Manchester will here her fame divide,
 Her varied works, her fashion, and her taste;
 This, bind in snowy veil Horatio's side,
 That, flow in graceful folds from Chloe's waist.
 The stripe so well disposed, the glowing bloom
 Which overspreads the whole, shall here be seen:
 Go, MANCHESTER, and weep thy slighted loom—
 Its arts are cherished now on *Pitcairn Green!*

COWLEY'S *Scottish Village*, p. 10.

The next village to Pitcairn Green is *Battleby*, consisting chiefly of the houses of the weavers of Luncarty.

R 5

To

To go into the detail respecting canals, the extent and variety of the machinery, &c. of the print-fields, bleach-fields, cotton-mills, flax-mills, flour-mills, &c. would swell into volumes: suffice it, therefore, to say, that nowhere have local advantages been seized on with greater spirit, alacrity, and effect, than in the neighbourhood of PERTH, which now, as we cross the river Almond, presents itself at the distance of about two miles.

The river Almond, too, which a little to the left forms its junction with the Tay, runs through a considerable part of the classic ground of Scotland. The scenery of Glenalmond, for sublimity and picturesque beauty, is celebrated by every traveller of taste and feeling. Its streams, cascades and caverns, craggy wilds and mountains, are viewed by strangers with admiration and delight. Above all, the antiquary, and the warm admirers of the poems of Ossian, must find objects to contemplate with veneration and regard: for many remains of Roman stations are still visible; and the grave of Ossian, which was discovered by *General Wade's* workmen, will continue to be visited with fond enthusiasm, by the lovers of those admirable compositions ascribed to the first of our Celtic bards*.

PERTH is situated on the south bank of the Tay, on a fertile plain, bounded by an amphitheatre formed of the hills of Kin-noul and Moncrief, rising on the opposite banks of the river; which, taking an ample sweep through the low grounds, seems suddenly to disappear among the craggy steepes that overhang its outlet from the mountainous regions, amid which we have traced its course, to where it washes the walls of this ancient

* See "One Day's Journey to the Highlands of Scotland, March 12, 1784," and likewise Stat. Acc. vol. xv. parish Menzie.

city, the most considerable one north of the Forth, long before Edinburgh was deemed the capital of Scotland.

Labour and industry are everywhere discernible around Perth. Agriculture and manufactures seem here transplanted into a soil every way suited to their respective departments. Rural ornament, taste, and elegance, are rapidly on the advance; and these are indicative of substantial wealth, security, and the prospect of peace and abundance. The hill, the vale, the wood, the lawn, the cultivated field, the fruitful garden, the snug box, the elegant villa, the wide and extending street, the spacious square, and daily augmenting buildings; all, all exhibit a growing splendour, not to be exceeded perhaps by Glasgow, or by Edinburgh itself. Such are the rewards of industry and speculation, when guided by prudence, foresight, and economy. Such will be the enjoyments of posterity while they pursue the same course, and while civil and political freedom is guaranteed by a wise and stable government, which shall watch with due vigilance over the rights and privileges of a peaceably-disposed and contented people.

To trace by what means Perth has experienced the vicissitudes of decay and prosperity, belongs not to a work of so general a nature as that to which these sheets are devoted. Besides, a want of proper materials for producing any thing like a satisfactory sketch render the task ungracious: that brevity and condensation, too, of subject, so essential to topographical description, forbid any attempt to detail, at considerable length, what respects the rise and progress of trade and commerce, as contrasted in a general view of the ancient and modern state of Perth. These considerations, therefore, must be kept in mind, in perusing what follows.

What, at first view, must be observed by a stranger on taking a cursory survey of Perth and its environs, is, the rapid improvements carrying on in every direction, characteristic of public spirit, opulence, and industry. To trace the causes to which this stage of general prosperity is owing, may convey to the speculative traveller some idea of the local advantages, as well as favourable circumstances, which have opportunely been seized on with regard to the trade and commerce of Perth, in conjunction with the improvements in agriculture and manufactures, as constituting the basis of national wealth and power.

In order, then, that all the departments of industry, as conducted in the city of Perth and its immediate vicinity, may be distinctly kept in view, we shall notice the origin, several branches, and ramifications of each, as depending on the trunk and roots of this fair and fruitful tree. The roots are the local advantages; the trunk is the machinery for the abridgement and division of labour; and the branches may not inaptly be considered the importation and raising of raw materials, the weaving, bleaching, and exportation of staple-wares, and so on; taking notice as we proceed of the relation which these bear to each other in the grand scheme of national prosperity.

The local advantages in the neighbourhood of Perth are highly favourable to the establishment of machinery for the purposes of manufacture: a perfect command of water-forces, and every material (timber excepted) requisite in the erection of mills, &c. near at hand: moreover, the price of labour reasonable; and workmen intelligent, expert, diligent, and sober. So that circumstances are extremely favourable for extensive speculations in manufacture in the vicinity of Perth. To this may be added, the singular advantage of a free communication by water

to the whole world by means of the Tay, which is navigable to the very walls of the town.

Whatever diversity of opinion may exist with regard to the moral good or evil occasioned by the abridgement and division of labour by means of machinery, it is an unquestionable fact, that to the manufacturer the more extensive the establishments in machinery, the more lucrative and lasting (provided he conducts his affairs with foresight and prudence) are the returns from the capital employed.

The various branches of industry, connected with the local advantages and establishment of mechanic powers for the purposes of manufacture, namely, the importation and raising of raw materials, weaving, bleaching, &c. of such fabrics as are made in Perth and its neighbourhood, are in the most flourishing condition. The importation of flax, cotton, &c. is pretty considerable, and daily on the advance. Upwards of fifteen thousand looms are constantly employed in the manufacture of linen and cotton in Perth, and as many more in the country around it. The fabrics thus manufactured consist chiefly of Silefias, Britannias, Kentings, Holland sheetings and shirtings; long lawns, brown Hollands, Hessians, pack-sheetings and Osna-burgs, cloths for window-blinds and umbrellas, cotton stuffs, such as shawl-cloths, calicoes and muslins, pulicate handkerchiefs, &c. According to a report made in June 1794, the total annual amount of the linen and cotton trade, even under-rated, was one hundred and twenty thousand pounds sterling; from which must be deducted the amount of imports, and incidental expences, such as ground-rent, wear and tear of machinery, price of labour, interest of capital, &c.

There

There are four bleach-fields in the neighbourhood of Perth; viz. one at Huntingtower, one at Tulloch, one at Luncarty, and one at Stormont. The bleach-fields of Luncarty and Tulloch are at present carried on by Sandeman, Turnbull, and Co.; that of Ruthven, or Huntingtower, by Richardson and Co.; and that of Stormont, by Thomas and John Barland*. It frequently happens, that from sixty to seventy Scottish acres are covered with linens collected from various parts of Scotland, and many parts of England.

There are cotton-works at Stanley †, Cromwell Park, and Luncarty, as already noticed. Beside these, there is cotton spun in the town of Perth.

There are three printing-works in the neighbourhood of Perth, viz. Ruthven printfield, Tulloch printfield, and Cromwell Park printfield. The goods manufactured at these works find a ready market at London.

Besides the various branches of manufacture already mentioned, there are mills for manufacturing of paper; for the bruising of lintseed into oil; and corn, wheat, and barley mills.

* The Duke of Atholl is the proprietor of the land on which Ruthven or Huntingtower bleachfield is situated; the Earl of Kinnoul of that of Tulloch bleachfield; Graham of Balgowan of that of Luncarty bleachfield; and the Earl of Mansfield of that of Stormont bleachfield.

† Flax-mills were lately erected at Stanley, but were burnt almost to the ground in Sept. 1799. The command of water to these mills is unrivalled, and uninterrupted during the most intense frost; owing principally to the supply of water being conducted by three different channels, cut at a vast expense through a hill, one of which is twelve feet wide, and is arched with stone. The whole deliver their contents to the great canal, which is twenty feet wide by four deep. This force falls on the great wheels of the mills from a height of upwards of twenty feet. The whole of the machinery, &c. at Stanley is now in the market.

The

The mill of Pitcairn, the property of Lord Methven (— Smith, Esq.) manufactures annually upwards of five thousand bolls of wheat into flour.

The manufacture of tanned leather, boots, and shoes at Perth, has for many years back been considerable. The dressing of sheeps', lambs', and kids' skins, constitutes another very advantageous branch of manufacture. With this branch is connected the making of gloves, which is here carried on with much spirit.

Before the introduction of cotton-works on the grand scale as they exist at present, the trade and commerce of Perth was comparatively limited and languid.

Soon after the commencement of the present war, in 1793; when bankruptcies became frequent, individual credit stagnant, and the public mind was directed to different objects, the market for cotton goods in particular was low in the extreme; and the manufacturers of Perth and its vicinity suffered in the general evil. But, since Britain became the carrier of the whole trading world, and mistress of the seas, our manufactures have found a ready market in every direction. Hence the prosperity, comfort, elegance, and splendour, so visible around our manufacturing towns; and, among the rest, Perth seems not to be outdone in what is indicative of substantial wealth and grandeur. Long may this ancient city vie with her sister towns; and may she ever preserve her respect and regard in every thing honourable, commendable, good, and just!

Among the first years of the late American war, it was, that an extensive meadow called *Huntingtower-haugh*, through which a canal, branched off from the river Almond, is conducted,

ducted, was deemed a fit spot for erecting buildings and machinery for a bleachfield. Since that period the several departments of manufacture mentioned above have been gradually established.

One of the first branches of untried manufactures was that of paper: which was attempted by two very spirited citizens, namely Morison and Lindsay. The Morisons of Perth are well known as printers and publishers. From twenty to thirty thousand volumes are printed annually at Perth; the greater part of which comes from the presses of the Morisons; to whose exertions the republic of letters is not a little indebted for an example so worthy of imitation.

Prior to the year 1745, Scotland had been so often disturbed by reason of civil commotions, religious jealousies, and political disputes, that little encouragement was afforded to a free spirit of speculation in any considerable enterprise. But, since that period, a more liberal circulation of money, and especially since the peace of 1783, a greater degree of credit, supported by paper currency, having obtained pretty generally in Scotland, and particularly in Perthshire, it can easily be accounted for, in what manner the chief town of the shire hath attained such consequence.

So far back as the year 1735, the first public bleachfield was established in the neighbourhood of Perth, by Alexander Christie, a linen-draper of Glasgow, of the sect called Quakers, a man of strict honesty, possessing the abilities not only of a manufacturer, but of a skilful husbandman. This gentleman having purchased a lease from the Earl of Kinnoul of a farm at Tulloch, formerly mentioned, and having likewise entered into a contract with the town-council of Perth for a sufficient
supply

supply of water from the mill-lead belonging to the town, began his operations in manufactures and agriculture with such steadiness and address, as soon manifested no common degree of well directed experience and enterprize. The example was speedily followed, and the result is known.

In the year 1715, the Earl of Mar, at the head of the party formed for the restoration of the exiled house of Stuart, entered Perth, and proclaimed James at the market-cross. But this change of regal government to the citizens of Perth was of short duration; for the Duke of Argyle, general in chief of the royal army destined to strike down rebellion in the north, advancing to give battle to the Earl of Mar and his followers, was met by the rebels, who opposed, to three thousand five hundred regular troops, a force of hardly eight thousand men, chiefly highlanders, and but indifferently armed and disciplined. The result of this combat is well known. The battle was fierce and bloody; yet, victory declaring for neither side, each party withdrew from the field; the discontented highlanders, whose object, like that of all rude combatants, was plunder, retired to their fastness with what they had violently seized; and the Pretender's cause suffered severely by so untoward a stroke at the very outset of his enterprize. While this army, become discontented and mutinous, was dispersing in every direction, the royal army under Argyle was receiving reinforcements from England and Holland daily. Meanwhile the Pretender himself landed with a faithful few at Peterhead*, and was soon after joined by the chiefs of his party: thence passing to Scone, he assembled his nobles, with an intention that they should assist at his coronation;

* December 1715.

but the ceremony was put off. Argyle with the main body of his army rapidly advancing toward Perth, a retreat was resolved on; and the ill-fated James, forced to abandon his enterprise, stole off with a few attendants, embarked with the greatest precipitation, and set sail for France. His grandson Charles-Edward, thirty years after this event, experienced very nearly the same fate. And thus ended the civil commotions in North Britain.

It has been asserted, that Perth benefited much by the circulation of money in the rebellions of 1715 and 1745, owing to its central situation as a military post; and, that many invalids of Cromwell's army, in 1654, remaining by choice in and near Perth, set an example of activity and industry of the utmost importance to the natives*. Hence arose the spirit for speculation and enterprise so manifest at this day.

In our retrospective view of the rise and progress of the trade and commerce of Perth, we find that, towards the middle of the seventeenth century, it was a place of considerable importance.

When our first Charles made his triumphal entry into Edinburgh (15th June 1633), he passed thence to his native place Dunfermline; and, among other of his royal burghs, he made

* "Provost Austin died 4th August (1723), greatly respected and lamented: a "good man, the friend of the poor, an encourager of industry, a promoter of trade and "the linen manufactures. His father, Thomas Austin, who came from England with "Cromwell's army, and settled at Perth after the Restoration, was the father of the "trade and navigation at this place. His numerous descendants from his three sons "and daughter have made a respectable figure, some in promoting trade and manufac- "tures, others in the army and navy." See Cant's Notes on Adamson's Metrical Hist. of Perth, vol. ii. p. 160.

his public entry into Perth the eighth day of July, where he was received with splendour and great rejoicings*.

It appears by the Charter of Confirmation granted by James VI. to the burgh of Perth (dated at Holyroodhouse, 15th Nov. 1600) in the thirty-third year of his reign, that so low and degraded were weavers (now dignified by the name of manufacturers) held, that in the said charter, they, as also waukers, were prohibited from being guild brothers †. But, mark the difference of the times!—the weavers of Great Britain, as well as the merchants, are now the great supporters of our national wealth.—Hence arise their importance and dignity in the state. This is the age of trade and commerce: industry is respected, property secure, and liberty guaranteed by wise and salutary laws. Such princes as the feeble successor of the illustrious Elizabeth can no longer sway the sceptre of an imperial throne: yet, in his long reign, peace was maintained, arts and sciences made rapid advances, and the foundation of our present greatness was enlarged, on which the superstructure was reared, so magnificent, so splendid, and so seemingly lasting.

* “The morrow thaireafter came to our church, and in his royal feat heard ane reverend sermone; immediately thaireafter came to his lodging, (Gowrie’s palace,) and went down to the gardine thaireof; his majestie being thayre set upon the wall next the watter of Tay, quhair upone was ane fleetinge staige of tumber cled about with birks, uppone the quhilke, for his majestie’s welcome and entrie, thretteine of our bretherine of our calling of glovers, with green cappis, silver strings, red ribbons, quhyte shoes, and bells about their leggis, shewing raperies in their handis, and all uther abulzements, dauncit our sword dance, with mony discile knottis, fyve being under, and fyve above upone thair shouleris, three of them dauncing through thair feet, and about them, drinking wine, and breking glasses. Quhilke (God be praisit) wes acitit and done without hurt or skaith till any.” Balfour’s MSS. Annals apud Guthrie, A. D. 1633, as quoted by Cant in Adamson’s Muses Threnodie, vol. ii. p. 118.

† “Granting also to his burgeses of Perth that all of them shall be guild brethren, except webblers, and waukers.” See Cant’s Hist. of Perth, vol. ii. p. 7.

During the reigns of the five Jameses, and Mary Queen of Scots, Perth experienced various vicissitudes in regard to its trade and commercial concerns. When it was the seat of Government, much of the wealth of the kingdom, it is reasonable to suppose, must have centered in this once celebrated capital.

It seems probable, from a list of the magistrates of Perth carried so far back as the year 1365, that its internal police was kept up with due regularity and effect. Previous to this period, King William the Lion, his grandfather David I.*, and others, conferred grants and privileges by royal charter on this ancient burgh. And if we trace back the trade of Perth to more remote times, we find that enterprising merchants from Germany, and other parts, were wont to visit and establish themselves at this emporium; so that it appears by our earlier historians, that a pretty extensive commerce was carried on between Perth and the Netherlands in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries †. “ In early times (says the author of the Stat. Acc.) “ Perth was a place of great trade. Alexander Necham, an “ English writer, who read lectures at Paris in 1180, was made “ Abbot of Exeter in 1215, and died 1227, takes notice of “ Perth in the following distich, quoted in Camden’s Britannia :

‘ Transis ample Tai, per rura, per oppida, per Perth :

‘ Regnum sustentant illius urbis opes.’

“ Thus Englished in Bishop Gibson’s translation of Camden’s “ book:

* Commonly called St. David, from his works of piety. He erected many religious houses both in England and Scotland, and likewise four Bishoprics, viz. Ross, Brechen, Dunblane, and Dunkeld.

† *Vide* Fardun, Scotichron, vol. ii. p. 130.

‘ Great

‘ Great Tay through Perth, through towns, through country flies.

‘ Perth the whole kingdom with her wealth supplies.

“The literal version is, Go on, great Tay, through fields, through towns, through Perth. The wealth of that city supports the “kingdom*.” How far this eulogium might have applied then, it is not, at this distance of time, easy to judge; but, with how much propriety it might be applied to the present prosperous state of this charming spot, it is hoped, has in some small degree been made to appear.

In the early periods of the Scottish annals, it is sufficient to observe, that Perth is particularly noticed as the scene of action of many interesting incidents respecting military achievements, as well as jurisprudence, and ecclesiastical affairs. It is a generally received opinion, that this city, soon after being visited by the Romans, was regularly built and fortified at the command of Agricola: at least, this is agreeable to common tradition: and from some circumstances related by Tacitus and Fordun, and by others of our earlier historians †, there is reason to believe that Perth, in remote times, was a place the most likely of any to be preferred by Agricola, being central, convenient, and desirable as a secure and pleasant residence in peace, and a strong fortress in time of war.

In after times, when the Picts had established their dominion over the east of Scotland, and been converted to the Christian

* Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 511.

† See “Muses Threnodie,” Muse 3. vol. i. p. 85. — And in confirmation of what Adamson here recites, the author of the Stat. Acc. of Perth (vol. xviii. p. 494.) says, “One of the remaining parts of the north wall of the town having been taken down a few years ago, a pretty large brass coin of *Cæsar Augustus Pontifex Maximus*, was found in it, which has ever since been in the possession of Mr. James Ramsay, present Provost of Perth” (*i. e.* in the year 1795).

faith,

faith, Perth was named Saint Johnston ; and a church was dedicated to St. John the Baptist, whom the Picts seem to have chosen for the tutelary saint of that town. Hence it is by some called St. Johnstown ; but, according to others, its Roman name was Victoria, a name continued by the Horestii, or Picts* ; whose capital, Abernethy, was not far distant ; and whose territory lay chiefly south of the Tay †. When the Picts were expelled by the native Scots, and their territory torn from them, their churches and church-lands were occupied by the successors of their clergy. Thus, to the reign of conquest succeeded the dominion of the church ; till, in process of time, its power began to decline, and the reformation of religion changed the face of the country so completely, that where the temples of the Most High beamed in full splendour, (and no where more so than in Perth and its immediate neighbourhood,) hardly a vestige is to be seen, a sad relic of former magnificence, of the golden age of religion, when temporal blessings were blended with holy office ;—when monk and nun, abbot and abbess, wallowed in luxury, delight, and voluptuousness ; when the meadow and the mill, devoted to their comforts, yielded but half their gifts to the meek, lowly, and patient laity ; when, in short, the church reigned supreme, and prince and people, fearful of future retribution, submitted quietly to the dogmas of superstition, not daring to call in question the sacred ordinances handed down to them from the “ *ancientest of days* :” —all, all have vanished, save a solitary monument here and there, scattered over the country,

* See Richard of Cirencester’s Itinerary, lib. i. c. 6.—See also Whitaker’s History of Manchester.

† See Sibbald’s History of Fife.

as it were to point out the spot on which the wrath of heaven fell in judgment for deviations into error, and misapplication of the blessings of Providence.—In confirmation of the above remark, the city of Perth, (for it still bears this distinguishing title,) though prior to the Reformation it had to boast its ample share of religious establishments*, contains now but one parish

* If one may judge by the number of religious houses that existed in former times in Perth, its inhabitants seem to have had as reasonable a share of piety as the present race, who enjoy the privileges of the reformed religion in the beauty of holiness. Adamson, in his Metrical History of Perth, enumerates the several monasteries, churches, chapels, &c. that were extant prior to the general ruin caused by the Reformation. The poet, on addressing his companions, as they survey Perth from *Tay-law*, an eminence on the west summit of the hill of Kinnoull, says : ———

Then 'gan I to declare
Where our old *monasteries* and churches fair
Sometime did stand, placed at every corner
Was one, which with great beauty did adorn her.
The *Charter-house*¹ toward the south-west stood,
And at the south-east the *Friars* who wear *gray hood*².

Toward

¹ The *Charter-house*, or *Carthusian Monastery*, (*Monasterium vallis virtutis*), was founded by James I. of Scotland, on his return after his long captivity in England in the year 1429. The monks of this order professed great austerity, and followed the rules of St. Bennet. Their founder was *Bruno* of Paris, who instituted the order in 1086. They came into England in 1180, and into Scotland in 1429, where they had only one establishment, viz. that above mentioned in Perth. The founder and his queen were interred in the church of the monastery.

² The house belonging to the *Observantines*, or *Gray Friars*, was founded by Lord Oliphant in the year 1460. It was destroyed on the memorable 11th of May 1559. (Vide Buchan. lib. xvi.) The order of "*Friars Grey*" had nine convents in Scotland, viz. at Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Air, Stirling, Elgin in Murray, Jedburgh, and Perth. "These friars (says Spottiswood) possessed nothing, the places on which their houses stood excepted. They were allowed to go constantly about with walters on their shoulders, to beg their subsistence from well-disposed people; from whence they were called "*Mendicants*, and from their wearing clothes *Gray-friars*, their habits being a gray gown, with a caul, and a rope about the middle. They went barefooted". (See Appendix to Hope's *Minor Practick*, p. 503, 504.) Notwithstanding this seeming poverty, and consequent austerity, it was found at the Reformation, when the enthusiastic rabble broke into the convent of the *Gray-friars* at Perth on the 11th May 1559, that they had sheets, blankets, napery, and fine linnen equal to any to be found in the houses

rish church! the same that was dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

Toward the north the *Black-friars*³ church did stand;
 And *Carmelites*⁴ upon the western hand,
 With many *chappels* standing here and there,
 And steeples fairly mounted in the air,
 Our *Ladie's Church*, *Saint Catherine's* and *Saint Paul's*,
 Where many a masse was sung for defunct faules.
 The Chappell of the Rood and sweet *Saint Anne*,
 And *Loret's* chappel, from *Rome's Vaticane*
 Transported hither ———
Saint Leonard cloister, mourning *Magdalane*
 Whose cristall fountain flowes like *Hippocrane*.
Saint Johne's fair church, as yet in mids did stand;
 A braver fight was not in all this land
 Than was this town when thus it stood decor'd,
 As not a few yet living can record.

Muses Threnodie.—Muse vi. p. 153—155.

houses of any nobility of that period. Nay, so well were their cellars and larders provided with good things, that though there were but eight persons in all belonging to the monastery, they had eight puncheons of salt beef, wine, beer, ale, besides store of other victuals. "Within two days (adds Spottifwood) so busy were they in abolishing idolatry, the wall only did remain of this edifice." p. 502. See also John Knox's *Hift*, book ii. and likewise Buchanan, book xvi. Buchanan, in his *Fratres Fratrum* is very severe on the Franciscans.

³ The Convent of the Dominicans, or *Black Friars*, was founded by Alexander I. in the year 1231. *St. Dominick*, the founder of this order of friars, is said to have been the inventor of the inquisition. He died 1221. This order of preaching mendicants were sent forth into forty five provinces, of which Scotland was the eighteenth. There were no less than fifteen monasteries founded in this poor country, viz. one at Edinburgh, Berwick, Air, Montrose, Aberdeen, Elgin of Moray, Stirling, Inverness, Wigton, Dundee, Coupar in Fife, St. Monan's in Fife, St. Andrew's, Glasgow, and Perth. Bishop Spottifwood enumerates twenty-three houses belonging to the Dominicans in Scotland. "Notwithstanding they professed poverty, yet when their nests were pulled down, they were found too rich for mendicants." (See Appendix to Keith's Catalogue of Bishops, p. 269.) *Pull down their nests, and the rooks will fly away*, was a favourite maxim of our reformer Knox. It was in the Convent of the Black-friars that James I. was murdered.

⁴ The Convent belonging to the order of mendicants called *Carmelites*, or *White Friars*, was founded by Alexander III., and stood on the land of *Fullilum*, or what is now called the *dove-cot land*, on the road

Baptist*. An almost total annihilation of religious houses took place when the emancipation from popish idolatry was proclaimed. "It was at Perth (says the author of the Stat. Acc. of that town) that the reformed religion was first publicly avowed. Mr. John Knox, attended by many of the chief nobility

* It is not easy to ascertain what part remaining of St. John's church is the most ancient. It is now occupied as three distinct places of worship, viz. the east, middle, and west. The east is the choir, and is said to have been built in the year 1400, after the old choir had been removed. This church was liberally endowed by Malcolm III. or *Canmore*, his sons Alexander I. surnamed the *Fierce*, and David I. the faint, about the beginning of the twelfth century; but at the Reformation, most of the property of religious houses reverted to the crown, and was disposed of to temporal uses: of course, the parish church of St. John was stripped of the most valuable part of its revenue. At this time, the three ministers that belong to it, and their assistants, have not more than about four hundred and twenty pounds sterling of salary yearly! (See Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 532). But besides this parish church, there are dissenters of various descriptions in and about Perth: no less than nine different kinds have meeting-houses in the town, viz. Glassites, or Sandemonians, a congregation of Relief, Burghers, Anti-burghers, a society of Balchrifty, Anabaptists, Cameronians, (or old Presbyterians,) English Episcopalians, and a small congregation of the Scottish Episcopal communion, or a remnant of the Scottish *Jacobites*.

road to Huntingtower. It is now converted into a garden. "Richard Inverkeithing, Bishop of Dunkeld, built (says Spottiswood) for them (the White Friars) a chapel and large house in the year 1262." Bishop *Thomas Lauder* founded here a mass for the dead, and Bishop *George Brown* repaired the church and monastery in a handsome manner; Lauder died on the 4th November 1481; and Brown died 12th January 1514-5.—Keith's Catalogue. Besides the four Convents and their churches, there were several chapels, hospitals, and small nunneries annexed to them, such as are mentioned in the above extract. "*Saint Leonard's Cloister*, near Perth (says Spottiswood), was an ancient priory, founded in the year 1296. It was afterwards suppressed by King James I., and annexed to the charity-house of Perth, which he founded near that city, together with the Magdalen's lands." The nuns of St. Leonard followed the rules of St. Bennet. Lady Elizabeth Dunbar, the wife of David duke of Rothfay, was Prioress of this cloister; but, the rules of St. Bennet not admitting a married woman to be Prioress in so strict an order, the prince was obliged to abandon her whom the god of love had consecrated to his arms. This happened in 1411.

“ of the kingdom, preached a sermon in the parish church of
 “ Perth, against idolatry, Thursday 11th May 1559. After
 “ the sermon, one of the priests having given a trifling provo-
 “ cation, a number of the people broke down all the altars
 “ and images in the parish church, and then proceeded to de-
 “ molish all the monasteries. No vestiges of the monasteries
 “ and chapels are now to be seen. Ever since that remarkable
 “ æra, a weekly sermon has been preached at Perth, on the
 “ Thursday afternoon*.” Thus the auspicious dawn of the
 reformation of religion is commemorated, with a pious regard
 to the memory of the first reformers, who dared boldly, in the
 open face of day, and in defiance of the usurped authority of
 churchmen, to overturn the emblems of Deity and the sacred
 altars of the living God. But, if aught that favours of the
 ruthless rage of licentiousness is to be attributed to the zealous
 citizens of Perth, it must be confessed that they were, for a con-
 siderable length of time, in a singular manner sufferers in the
 cause which they so eagerly abetted: for we find, that during
 the coercive measures pursued for nipping in the bud the
 germ of religious liberty, by the Queen Regent, her active
 minister Cardinal Beaton, and the Earl of Arran, then Regent,
 the citizens of Perth were among the first to feel the effects.
 In the year 1544, the Regent, accompanied by the Cardinal,
 came to Perth, and condemned to death several persons, among
 whom was a woman of uncommon courage, whose child was
 taken from her breast as she was led to execution. This un-
 happy victim was drowned in a pool of water hard by, and

* Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 537.

died.

died exulting in her martyrdom *. Some years after, the Cardinal feasted his eyes on the burning of that Arch-reformer George Wishart. For this gratification he forfeited his life: it is needless to add, that the celebrated Norman Leslie, son to the Earl of Rothes, with his own hand slew the Cardinal; and thus the cause of the reformed religion was somewhat accelerated in its slow though sure progress.

The citizens of Perth seem to have been destined to bear witness to the cause of religion. When James VI. made his tour at the request of his sacred counsellors the Bishops, in order to reconcile the people to Episcopal government, on coming to Perth, he found the ministers, to the number of fifty, protesting against the measures that he endeavoured to enforce by personal influence; and thus was manifested their firm adherence to the doctrines of the *Conventicle*; afterwards displayed in the *solemn League and Covenant*, which the politic Charles II. swore to, and solemnly subscribed, when crowned by the Covenanters at Scone. In testimony of their zeal in the cause of religion, as well as of their loyalty to their newly-covenanted King, the citizens of Perth, on the 6th of July 1651, marched to the south Inch, and one hundred of their number volunteered to fight for their king and holy religion against the usurper Cromwell, who had landed his army on the coast of Fife, and soon after put the royalists completely to the rout, leaving sixteen hundred royalists dead on the field of battle, besides taking

* See Fox's Martyrology. — Among others that suffered at Perth, were James Finlayson, William Anderfon, and James Ronald, accused of nailing two rams horns to St. Francis's head, putting a cow's rump to his tail, and eating a goose on All-hallow even. Helen Stack, the woman above-mentioned, was condemned because she refused to call the Virgin Mary to her aid when in child-bed. See Buchanan, book xv.

twelve hundred prisoners. Cromwell, following up his success with his usual alacrity, marched directly to Perth, laid siege to the town, and, honourable terms of capitulation being offered and accepted, entered it triumphantly, while the fugitive Charles withdrew from Stirling to England, where in the memorable battle of Worcester he narrowly escaped being slain. In the mean while, the Covenanters of Perth enjoyed, during the Commonwealth, liberty of conscience, and some share of civil liberty before unknown to the greater number. But, on the glorious event of the Restoration, the Royalists triumphed, and the pious Covenanters of Perth once more suffered persecution. Sir George Mackenzie, king's advocate, went through the painful duty required by his office with that humanity peculiar to those intrusted with so important and trying a station. The history of the times exhibits striking traits of his *moderation*.

In the short but turbulent reign of James VII. the magistracy of Perth was formed by the privy council; the consequence was, that all suspected persons, and such as would not conform to the *Test*, were hunted down, and punished by the civil magistrate for recusancy; among whom "the honourable women (of Perth) were not a few*." Matters remained in this posture till the eventful æra when William Prince of Orange guaranteed the Presbyterian establishment north of the Tweed; since which period, Perth has enjoyed all the benefits of civil and religious liberty. But to return to the leading features of the civil transactions in which this town makes a distinguished figure.

* See the Kirk Session Register of Perth for 16th October 1684.

Among

Among such records as still exist, Perth is not unfrequently mentioned as the seat of national councils. So early as the year 906, according to Innes *, in the sixth year of Constantine III., son of Ethus, a national council was held at Scone; at which Constantine, who afterwards became a monk, and Kellechus Bishop of the Scots, entered into solemn engagements to observe the discipline and dogmas of the Christian church. Thirteen national councils are recorded to have been holden in Perth besides that already noticed: so that manifest proofs remain of what importance that city was held with regard to matters of the highest consideration †.

Perth, too, was always deemed a central situation for the distribution of justice; "being (says James VI. in his charter of Confirmation) in the midst of our native country and kingdom, conjoining the one half thereof to the other, and keeping them in obedience and subjection, and following of their kings and their commands. And also considering our said burgh of Perth to be the most apt and commodious, and capable both in time of peace and war for keeping and holding of public meetings of our estates, subjects, and people; and in which town our most illustrious predecessors, nobles, famous counsellors, and other people have lived; and also the court and counsellors of our kingdom for determining the affairs thereof, have most often convened of most long time since, and found the same most commodious for them; as also in the time of war, both citizens and soldiers might convene there."

* Innes's Appendix, apud Guthrie, vol. x. p. 416, and Lord Hailes' Papers.

† See Cant's Introduction to his historical notes to Adamson's Metrical Hist. of Perth, where he quotes his authorities.

Thus, we see illustrated the antiquity and importance of Perth as the seat of Government and Jurisprudence. Still it retains some small degree of its former consequence. The Lords of Justiciary hold courts here in the spring and autumn in the course of their northern circuits. By the original constitution of Perth, the Lord Provosts (mayors) were sheriffs within the liberties of the town; and also were coroners; which last office is now difused in Scotland.

With regard to the military transactions in which Perth makes a distinguished figure, it may not be deemed uninteresting to enumerate a few of the most remarkable; that some notion may be formed, how far in former, as well as in latter periods, this station was considered as important in a warlike point of view.

The battle of Luncarty, fought in the reign of our third Kenneth, towards the latter end of the tenth century, has already been noticed. Perth and its immediate neighbourhood was the scene of action of many of the exploits of Wallace and his heroic compatriots*.

Soon after the victory obtained by *Edward Longshanks* over *Wallace* at Falkirk (A.D. 1298,) the former rebuilt the walls of Perth, and put it in a proper state of defence, making it his head-quarters. In the year 1312 *Robert de Bruce* laid siege to this town, took it, and levelled its walls with the ground. Thus laid open, it fell an easy prey to *Baliol* and his party after the battle of Dupline, fought 3d August 1332, about four miles west of the town, so fatal for a time to the Scottish nobility and the independence of the Scottish crown. The treacherous *Baliol* remained not long the tool of Edward † to enslave Scotland; as,

* See *Blind Harry's Metrical Life of Wallace*.

† *Edward of Windsor*.

on Edward's hearing of the alarming seditions that arose in the north, he hastened down with a powerful army, laid waste the country, and led Baliol captive to England* ; leaving the burthen of re-building the walls and fortifications around Perth to the Abbies of " Couper, Landores, Balmerinoch, Dunfermling, " Saint Andrew's, and Aberbrothick †," among the richest of the religious houses of that period, the superiors of which complied with the mandate, but cursed the ruthless invader in their hearts. In the year 1339, on the death of the Regent Murray, the Lord High Steward, afterwards *Robert*, (surnamed *Blear-eye*,) the first of the *royal house of Stuart*, was appointed to the Regency, and soon after laid siege to Perth. The reduction of this city, which had but lately been put in the best possible state of defence, was garrisoned, by an English soldiery, and commanded by governor *Sir Thomas Ochtrede*, a man of known abilities and tried courage, was not of so easy a nature as at first expected. After an obstinate and able defence, opposed to the united force of the Scottish and French assailants, the English governor found it expedient to capitulate ; and obtained such honourable and liberal terms as secured the lives and estates of his brave garrison, as well as a safe retreat ‡.

Thenceforward, the town of Perth, whose citizens were foldiers, maintained its independence ; and it not unfrequently happened, that the citizens sallied forth and took vengeance on those proud Barons whose castles lay in the neighbourhood, and whose caprice or malice led them to commit depre-

* A. D. 1333.

† See the *Muses Threnodie*, Muse fourth, p. 104.

‡ See Buchanan, Home of Godscroft, and others.

dations and murders characteristic of the barbarity of the times*.

The next scene of blood exhibited in Perth, that appears on record, was about sixteen years previous to the dawn of the Reformation. The family of *Ruthven* had for many years supplied the town with its chief magistrate; and *Cardinal Beaton*, who had caused several of its citizens to be banished, and others to be hanged, for heresy and sedition, dreading the influence and resentment of Lord Ruthven, pointed out to the *Earl of Arran*, then Regent, the propriety of appointing *Charteris of Kinfaunes* to the magistracy, instead of Ruthven, lest an insurrection headed by so popular and powerful a chief should involve in its consequences the ruin of the church, as well as convulse to the centre the foundations of the state. Ruthven was superseded, but Charteris was rejected by the citizens, who flew to arms in defence of their constitution and privileges; and they were assailed by the opposite party, who, in attempting to take possession of the town, suffered severely. Thus the citizens of Perth resisted with spirit and effect the bold attempt made to bend them under the yoke of power and oppression. This skirmish happened on the 22d of June 1544. The consequences of this bloody fray, and of the barbarous transaction that led to it, afterwards made their appearance, in a rooted aversion to priests and creatures of state, as well as to civil and religious tyranny.

In the year 1559, when the inhabitants of Perth, in their zeal against idolatry, demolished the religious houses of that

* The castles of Aberdalgie, Dupplin, Craigie, Fingask, Gasconhall, Ruthven, now Huntingtower, Elcho, and others, are all in the neighbourhood of Perth.

city, they once more beheld their streets stained with human gore. The *Queen Regent*, whose sanguinary measures, in a vain endeavour to roll back the tide of reformation, had given just cause of revolt to the Lords of the Congregation, felt herself strangely beset with difficulties that increased daily. At a loss whether to pursue coercion with promptitude and effect, or to yield many points of importance to those for whom justice loudly claimed redress of grievances, she was induced by evil counsellors to adopt a course which eventually led to the utter ruin of the cause which she purposed to support, and firmly re-establish. Hearing of the excesses committed at Perth, the Queen hastened in her wrath from Stirling, at the head of her combined French and Scottish soldiery, to take sudden and ample vengeance on the insurgents; but the chiefs of the Congregation apprized of her movements, had collected a formidable force, principally from the west, and by secret marches had eluded the utmost vigilance of the Queen, till she perceived her revolted subjects encamped on the heights of Auchterardour*, resolved to rest their cause on the issue of a battle. On this occasion, prudence presided in the councils of both parties. A treaty was eagerly entered on, and speedily concluded; the chief stipulation of which was, that each army should be disbanded, and the gates of Perth be set open to receive the Queen, who entered that city on the 29th of May 1559, accompanied by the French General *D'Oysel*, the *Duke of Hamilton*, and other powerful leaders of the party. Among the inhabitants who crowded to their balconies and windows to behold the Queen's entry with her French troops into Perth, was the family of *Pa-*

* Within ten miles of Perth, in Strathern.

trick Murray, a noted reformer; and, being particularly pointed out, several of the soldiers levelled their musquets, and killed a boy of twelve years old by the side of this devoted citizen, whose imprudent conduct had marked him the victim of opinion, malice, and hatred. A motly swarm of monks, and French and Scottish rabble, buzzed about Perth for many days; and the Queen, little mindful of the treaty, retiring to Stirling, left behind her a garrison of six hundred men, with orders to keep the citizens in subjection, and to allow no exercise of religious worship, but that of the *Holy Catholic Church*. Thus princes maintain covenant with rebel subjects, as Catholics keep faith with heretics! In a short time after, the Protestant cause gaining converts daily, and consequent stability and power, the Lords of the Congregation threw off all restraint, and, no longer overawed, asserted their rights in the field. The Queen had once more recourse to negotiation, but in vain. Weakened in her resources, assailed on all sides, deserted by many of her leaders, who had combined against her; she saw, in the bitterness of disappointed ambition, the whole region between the Forth and the Tay, Perth alone excepted, fall into the hands of the rebels. But Perth was a place of too much importance to be overlooked in this train of conquest: Accordingly, *Argyle*, Lord *Ruthven*, and the *Prior of St. Andrew's* laid siege to that city; which capitulated to the Lords of the Congregation on the 26th of June 1559.

In the year 1644, after the battle of *Tibbermuir**, gained by the gallant *Montrose* over the *Covenanters*, Perth, of consequence, fell into the hands of the victorious highlanders: But

* A few miles to the west of Perth.

in the summer of the year 1651, Cromwell laid siege to this city, reduced it, and caused his army to raise a citadel on the South Inch. Shortly after the Restoration this citadel was demolished; and very soon, in all probability, its remains will totally disappear*.

In the year 1715, Perth and its environs were the head-quarters of the Pretender's army under the command of *Erskine of Mar*; and again, in the year 1745, after the success of the young Adventurer *Charles Edward Stuart*, the last but one of that ill-fated family, our native race of princes, this town fell into the hands of the rebels. *William Duke of Cumberland*, having returned after his sanguinary operations north of the Spey, to Perth, where he fixed for a time his head-quarters; the magistrates of the city, in testimony of gratitude and high consideration, gave to the conqueror the Earl of Gowrie's house, which he soon afterwards sold to Government for the purpose of converting it into barracks for a company of artillery. In addition to this station, an elegant suite of barracks, on the plan lately adopted by ministry, is erected about a quarter of a mile to the westward of Perth,

* Cromwell's citadel (the site of which still retains the name of Cromwell's Mount) cost the town of Perth much trouble and expence. One hundred and forty families, it is said, were turned out of the houses which occupied the ground on which the fortification was erected. The surface of the beautiful meadow called the South and North Inches, was laid bare for turf to cover the glacis. The remaining walls of the convent of Gray Friars; tomb-stones; the stones of the dwelling-houses, and garden-walls of the distressed families; the stone pillars and abutments of the bridge, then in ruins; the school-house, which contained apartments for the rector, doctors, and music master, besides 360 scholars; the town cross, and Mary Magdalen's chapel; in short, every thing that could be laid hands on, were seized for the purpose of building the citadel: which consisted of a square with bastions at each angle; the whole strongly built, and surrounded by a deep ditch full of water. See Cant's History of Perth, vol. ii. p. 129.

which contain a regular force, fit for the purposes intended. Such, then, are the memorable transactions respecting Perth as a military station, from the earliest accounts to the present times.

Among the very few relics of antiquity in Perth, is the Earl of Gowrie's mansion before noticed. It was built in the year 1520, by the *Countess of Huntley**. This edifice is the same in which our sixth James is said to have felt the fearful apprehensions of sudden dissolution, when he supposed the laws of hospitality violated, and the hand of the assassin raised against the sacred life of "the Lord's anointed." Much mystery seems still to remain on this passage of our history.

In the reign of our sixth James there existed three adverse factions, viz. the *Catholics*, the *Episcopal Reformers*, and the *Puritans of the Reformed religion*. The two former, with views dissimilar, yet alike favourers of monarchical government, saw nothing in the conspiracy of the house of *Ruthven* against the house of *Stuart*, but foul treason and premeditated murder: while the latter, on principle leaning to the side of antimonarchical measures, beheld matters in a different point of view; and whispering their doubts in secret, and sneering at the suppositious facts and circumstances as feebly drawn up by the King and his ministers, threw out hints tending to exonerate those on whom suspicions had fallen, and to fix odium on the King and his friends, to whom, it was alleged, the plot of this mysterious tragedy was imputable. Hence the contradictory accounts of "the Gowrye Conspiracie," as it is generally called by Scottish historians †.

* See Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 529.

† See Robertson's History of Scotland, Arnot's Criminal Cases, and others.

If, in tracing the outlines of this famous story, a judgment can be formed by an impartial inquirer at the distance of two centuries from the memorable event*, the following imperfect sketch may serve to direct his further investigations.

It is unnecessary to dwell long on the person, manners, and habits of the imbecile heir presumptive and successor of the accomplished Elizabeth. A contemporary author draws his portrait thus: "He was of a middle stature, more corpulent thro' his clothes than in his body, yet fat enough, his clothes ever being made large and easie, ye doublets quilted for stelletts proove, his breeches in grate pleits and full stuffed. He was naturalie of a timorous dispositione, wich was ye gratest reason of his quilted doublets. His eyes large, and ever roulling after any stranger cam in his presence: in so much as many, for shame, have left the roome as being out of countenance. His beard was very thin; his tounge too large for his mouthe, wich ever made him drinke very uncomlie, as if eating his drinke, wich cam out into ye cup in each syde of his mouthe. His skin was als soft as tafta sarsnet, wich felt so, because he never wassht his hands, onlie rubb'd his fingers ends slightly with the vett end of a napkin. His legs wer verey weake, having had (as was thoght) some foul play in his youthe, or rather befor he was borne †, yet he was not able to stand at feuen zeires of age: that weaknes made him euir leaning one other

* The Earl of Gowrie and his brother were killed in presence of the King on the 5th of August 1600.

† Alluding to the terror his mother, Mary Queen of Scots, experienced when David Rizzio was murdered in her presence. The King mentions this in his *Basilicon Doron*: "I that was persecuted by the Puritans there, not from my birth only, but even since four months before my birth." King James's Works, folio, p. 160. 305.

"men's

“men’s shoulders.”—“He was werey witty, and had als maney
 “redey vitty jests as aney man liuinge, at vich he wold not
 “smyle himselffe, bot deliuer them in a grave and ferious man-
 “ner.”—“He was werey crafty and cunning, in pettey thinges,
 “as the circumveninge any grate man, the change of a favourite,
 “&c. in so much as a werey wise man was wount to say, he
 “beleued him ye wisest foole in Christendome, meaning him
 “wise in small things, bot a foole in weighty affaires—He was
 “infinitely inclined to peace, bot more out of feare than con-
 “science;”—“In a word, he was, take him altogether, and not
 “in pieces, fuche a King, I wishe this kingdome have neuer
 “any worffe, one ye conditione not aney better: for he liued
 “in peace, dyed in peace, and leste all his kingdome in a peac-
 “able conditione, with hes awen motto “*BEATI PACIFICI* *.”

To this may be added, that James was a believer in astrology, magic, and witchcraft: on the latter subject he wrote a book; and not unfrequently was present on the trial of witches †. But when the accomplished Earl of Gowrie is brought on the same canvas with the King thus pourtrayed, the contrast is striking indeed.

John Ruthven Earl of Gowrie, the personage alluded to, succeeded his father, who was beheaded at Stirling on the 4th of May 1584, in his estates and dignities, and was soon after (A. D. 1589) elected Provost of Perth, an office long heredi-

* Dalzell’s “Fragments of Scottish History,” Appendix, No. xiv. p. 84.

† See Arnot’s Criminal Trials.—The annals of Scotland were not disgraced with the prosecutions against unfortunate and destitute old women till the year 1479, when, it is said, the first capital punishment for witchcraft took place (See Pinkerton’s Hist. of Scot. vol. i. p. 295.); and the last on record (See Arnot’s Criminal Trials) happened so late as the year 1722. This is truly a humiliating consideration.—The laws against witchcraft are still unrepealed!

tary in the family of Gowrie: but, being a youth possessed of an ardent desire of knowledge, he told the council that he had determined to pursue his studies abroad, and obtained leave for that purpose. Accordingly, on the 6th of August 1594, he took his departure, and, travelling through France, arrived at PADUA; where he so much distinguished himself that he was honoured by the University of that place with the Rector's chair, which, it is said, he filled with singular approbation. It was not to be wondered at, that so enlightened a mind eagerly embraced the new spread doctrines of the Reformation. From Padua, he removed to the hot-bed of heresy, GENEVA, where the celebrated Theodore Beza received him with open arms. With *Beza* our young theologian remained, and was hospitably entertained for three months. Leaving Geneva, he set out for *Paris*, on his return to his native country. At Paris he was introduced to the English Ambassador, from whom he obtained letters of recommendation to Queen Elizabeth, who, sensible of his enlightened understanding and elegance of manners, honoured him with marks of high consideration. These circumstances, together with the zeal which the house of Ruthven openly manifested, from the earliest dawn of the Reformation, in accelerating its advancement and eventual success, rendered the young Earl an object of suspicion in the eyes of the King and his ministry. Such then was the posture of affairs on the return of Gowrie, after a seven years absence, on the 20th of May 1600. On the 5th of August following, early in the morning, while the King was about to hunt the stag in the forest of *Faukland**, where

* Within a short distance of Perth.

he chiefly resided, he was accosted by *Alexander Ruthven* *, the Earl of Gowrie's second brother, and earnestly requested by Alexander to accompany him to Perth without delay, on pretence, as it is said, of disclosing some interesting circumstances respecting hidden treasure. After the death of the stag, the King, attended by a few of his suite, set out for Perth, and arrived there, at an early hour, to dinner. Immediately after dinner, the King wishing to retire, Alexander Ruthven, who, it was alleged, at times, was not perfectly in his senses, went with him to a small apartment in the round tower occupied as a study, among the upper chambers of the house. According to the King's own account, there appeared to him a man in armour, that had been placed in the study with an intention to assassinate him †. The affrighted monarch, with the rapidity of thought, marshalled in his mind the danger to which he was thus exposed. The *Raid of Ruthven*, as it is called, was an event so recent, and the fatal consequences of that affair so fresh in his memory, that he justly apprehended his liberty, if not his life, to be in the power of the noble personage in whose house he found himself; and whose father had been brought to the block but sixteen years before, for an offence somewhat similar

* Since this article respecting the Gowrie conspiracy was written, a *new theory* has been proposed by John Pinkerton, Esq., in a Dissertation on this subject prefixed to the first volume of Laing's History of Scotland; wherein Mr. P. insinuates, that Anne of Denmark, James the sixth's Queen, was (in plain English) a wh-re, and Alexander Ruthven a favourite, as well as the sole author of a design to seize the King's person, and force him to abdicate the throne in favour of his son Prince Henry, during whose minority the Queen herself was to be Regent: Mr. Pinkerton asserts his "firm aversion to the Scandalous Chronicle," notwithstanding!

† See the Account published by Authority, Sept. 1600. See also Moyes's Memoirs, inserted from p. 263. Ruddiman's edition, 1755.

to the present*. Seized with this but too natural idea, in the first paroxysm of his agonizing fears, the King called aloud from the window of the study, "Treason, treason! Fy! Help, help! they're murdering me;" which so alarmed all who heard him, and ran to his assistance, that, in the uproar and confusion, many wounds were given by each party, and the Earl of Gowrie and his brother Alexander were both slain in the presence of the King. The news of this sad disaster instantly spread through Perth: the tumult was prodigious; the citizens were clamorous, and it was with the utmost difficulty that the King, favoured by the darkness of the night, made his escape, amid the imprecations of an enraged multitude, who threatened vengeance for the loss of the chief magistrate of their city, and the untimely fall of his brother. James, desirous that no blame should attach on him in this unfortunate affair, insisted strenuously that an attempt had been made by the Earl and his brother on his life: and it served as a subject for public declamation and private conversation during the remainder of his reign, as a singular instance of the immediate interposition of divine power, to reserve the "Lord's anointed" for some glorious end; which event really was justified on his ascending the imperial throne of Great Britain and Ireland, when he bore the high-sounding title of DEFENDER OF THE FAITH †. In
order

* William Earl of Gowrie was beheaded at Stirling, on the 4th of May 1584, for having detained the King's person as he returned from Athol on the 23d of August 1582. This outrage is called "The Raid of Ruthven." To seize the person of the King was no unusual expedient in the rude policy of the Scottish nobility: besides the instance just mentioned, similar attempts had been made on James by Francis Stewart, Earl of Bothwell, at Falkland and Holyroodhouse.

† Bishop Williams, in his funeral sermon on the death of King James, p. 43, makes the following observation: "Not a particular of his life but what was a mystery of the

order to strike clamour dumb, and prevent enquiry respecting this mysterious business, an account of it was drawn up under the eye of his Majesty, and published by authority*; wherein it is made to appear, that the unfortunate Earl and his brother had intentions on the King's liberty, and even his life. Nay, to leave not the shadow of doubt, that seemed for a time to hover respecting this foul conspiracy in the minds of some Puritan sceptics, James caused the pulpit to thunder forth its anathemas on those who questioned the singular interposition of the King of Kings in delivering his Scottish Majesty from foul treason, "murder, and sudden death;" and, to enforce conviction, he appeared to his loving subjects in person, seated amidst his nobles, on the market-cross of Edinburgh; while his chaplain, with that eloquence which the awful occasion inspired, developed the whole facts and circumstances to the gazing multitude; and which his Majesty from his own mouth confirmed, so that none might pretend ignorance, or doubt in the truth thus solemnly delivered in the presence of Almighty God and the sacred personage who, himself, had been the chief actor in this tragedy †. Still farther,
the

Divine Providence, to keep and preserve those admirable parts for the settling and uniting of some great empire." See note on "A Discourse of the unnatural and vile Conspiracy, &c." p. 22.

* See "A Discourse of the unnatural and vile Conspiracie attempted by John Earl of Gowrie and his Brother against his Majesty's Person, at St. Johnstoun, upon the 5th of August 1600." This tract is also published, with some additional notes, in Cant's History of Perth.

† "The 11 of Auguste, being Monday, the King came over the water. The towne (Edin.) with the hail suburbis, met him upone the sandis of Liethe in armes, wt. grate joy and schutting of muskettis and shaking of pikes. He went to the kirk of Liethe to Mr. David Lindefaye's orifone. Yt. after the tounce of Edin: having
conveneit

the King caused the dead bodies of the Earl and his brother to be hung on a gibbet, drawn and quartered, and their heads set up on the walls of the prison * ; moreover, their lands to be distributed to his favourites, their titles to be suppressed, and the very name of *Ruthven* to be expunged from the books of arms and nobility, public deeds and records, and extinguished forever. Even such of the name of Ruthven as were totally unconnected with the house of Gowrie, were ordered to take other names ; and thus suffered a similar fate to the proscribed clan of the Macgregors ; a proscription worthy the worst of times, and a blur, among others, in the annals of Scottish history, characteristic of weakness, folly, and flagrant injustice ; at a time too, when the advancement of knowledge should have

convenit up to Edin : and standing at the hei gaitt, his M. past to the crosse, the crosse being hung wt. tapetrie, and went up yr. on wt. his nobillis. Mr. Patrick Gallaway being yair, made ane fermone upon the 124 Psalm ; he declairit the hail circumstances of the treason propofit by the Earle of Gowrie and his brother, qlk the King testifiet be hes awen mouth, sitting upon the crosse all the tyme of the fermone." See the "Diary of Robert Birrell," Constable's edition, edited by Dalzell, Edin. printed 1798, p. 50, 51.

* "The 28 August, the hail friendes, tutors, and curators, and bairnis, pretending any right to the Earldòm of Gowrie, summoned to compeir to the Parliament the first day of November."—"The nynth of October, ane proclamation charging all thame of the name of Ruthven to pass out of the countrie, in speiell Alex: father's brother to the said Earle, and the said Earle and his twa brethers."—"The 15 November, being the ryding day of the Parliament, the Earle of Gowrie and his brether and his father's brether, with twa uthers, and he——of thair dependers, all forfaulted (outlawed)."—"The 19th November, the Earle of Gowrie and his brother harlet to the gibbet, and hangit and quarterit ; bot yr. after, yair twa heidis set upone the heid of the prison house, yair to stand quhyll the wind blaw them away." See Birrel's Diary, p. 51, 52.

checked so wanton a stretch of power in support of arbitrary measures*.

A horrible transaction, similar to the preceding, took place in the Convent of Blackfriars in Perth, November 1437. Here, indeed, was cause of public lamentation. James I. of Scotland, all agree, was a wise, accomplished, magnanimous prince. "Happy had he reigned in a kingdom more civilized! His love of peace, of justice, and of elegance, would have rendered his schemes successful; and, instead of perishing because he had attempted too much, a grateful people would have applauded and seconded his efforts to reform and to improve them †." But, alas! he was cut off in this high career, in the flower of manhood, and in the pride of establishing his claim to that endearing title, "FATHER OF HIS PEOPLE."

* Notwithstanding the prompt and coercive measures adopted to impress the nation with a sense of the danger to which the King had been exposed, many of the Presbyterian clergy remained for some time lukewarm in support of a vindication on the part of his Majesty and his ministers. An exception deserving of record was Robert Bruce. Neither hope of reward nor fear of punishment could move him. He did not believe in the conspiracy, and he declined propagating what he did not credit. He was, in consequence, suspended from the duties of his office, and driven into banishment. His brethren acted more prudently, and were suffered to remain. To put the matter respecting this conspiracy beyond all doubt, and to hand down to posterity an idea of the happy deliverance of the 5th of August, the King commanded that day to be thenceforth annually observed as a day of solemn thanksgiving, "with preaching and prayer." On the 5th of August 1614, Bishop Andrews, in addressing himself to King James, observes, "And so you are *found*; and they (meaning the late Earl of Gowrie and his brother), as the children of perdition should be, are *lost*. Here are you, and where are they? Gone to their *own place*, to *Judas* their brother; and, as is most kindly, the *sonnes* to the *father of wickedness*, there to be plagued for ever. The same way may they all goe, and to the same place may they all come, that shall ever after offer to do the like." Is this charity?

† See Robertson's History of Scotland.

The Scottish history exhibits little else than one continued struggle for power between the king, his nobles, and the clergy. The military tenure by which our Barons held their demesnes, threw into their hands, by means of having at their command a numerous train of villeins, vassals, and retainers, a degree of independence but ill suited to regal dignity*. The clergy, ever mindful of their own interests, threw themselves into that scale which weighed most to their advantage, whether cast on this side or on that, as the King or the nobles preponderated in the doubtful balance. James equally regarded the welfare of his subjects, whether laity or clergy, and dealt impartial justice with a steady hand. He was at particular pains to make himself acquainted with the lives and characters of the clergy, and the learned men of his kingdom; and failed not to remove those whom he deemed dissolute or ignorant †. During his captivity in England, anarchy prevailed in his native dominions; the powerful, lording it over the feeble, seized their goods by force or fraud, and held them in defiance of the laws of nature and established order ‡. His attempting to call to account transactions like these, cost the ill-fated James his life. The circumstances attending his murder, as related by historians, are shortly these. Hearing rumours of a conspiracy against his life, while he lay encamped on the right bank of the Tweed at Roxburgh, he suddenly disbanded his army, and retired to his capital,

* When the Scottish Barons were desired by King Robert de Bruce to shew the charters by which they held their lands, they looked at each other for a moment, and then, as if by a sudden impulse, drew their swords, and sternly replied, "These are our rights and charters."

† See Guthrie's History.

‡ See Buchanan, Drummond, Robertson, and others.

Perth, where he lodged in the monastery of Blackfriars, with his Queen and a few attendants, in the most private manner. A few desperate traitors, among whom was the King's uncle *Walter Earl of Athol*, embracing so favourable an opportunity, concerted measures, and with too fatal success, for compassing their infernal purpose. At midnight, the assassins found means to enter the gallery, and to place themselves in secret and silence at the King's bed-chamber door, the bolt of which somehow or other had been removed. It happened, that while the King's cup-bearer was passing through the gallery, he heard the whispers of the assassins, and gave the alarm. The Queen, in the first emotions of terror, clung round her consort for protection. While the ruffians were attempting to force their way into the chamber, a maid of honour, with a presence of mind truly great, missing the bar that should have secured the door, thrust her arm into the aperture, which snapped in twain as the blood-thirsty monsters rushed in to perpetrate the deed. In dispatching the King, who fell covered with wounds, his wife received several stabs from the poniards of the assassins. Having completed their sanguinary purpose, they hastened away; but vengeance soon overtook them; and the punishment due to their crimes was inflicted in a manner too horrible to relate*. The murder of this most worthy prince happened in the 44th year of his age, A. D. 1437 †. Authors, his cotemporaries,

* See Drummond, Buchanan, Robertson, and others.

† His mangled remains were interred in the Carthusian monastery where he often resided, and which he had founded in the year 1429, immediately on his return from his captivity in England. This was the only religious house that the Carthusians had in Scotland. See Spottiswood's Appendix, and Keith's Catalogue, as formerly quoted.

delineate the person of James as fair and comely, under the middle size, yet well made, athletic, and manly*. He was admirably skilled in music, and was no mean poet, as his "Works" testify, which are now in every one's hands. But his depth of knowledge as a politician was what distinguishes him above the whole race of our Scottish monarchs. "It was the misfortune of James (says an elegant author), that his maxims and manners were too refined for the age in which he lived."

It remains now to mention some particulars respecting an error into which, according to the learned and ingenious founder of the Perth Antiquarian Society †, our historians have fallen with regard to a remarkable inundation that is said to have happened in the year 1210, which desolated Perth and the parts adjacent, by means of its extent and destructive course, as mentioned by Fordun, Boece, and Buchanan; and of late by the accurate author of "the Annals of Scotland," Lord Hailes. It should seem, by what the author above alluded to has produced in support of his opinion ‡, that Perth is built on the site of the ancient town of that name. Of course, what Buchanan and Boethius relate, concerning the ancient city of *Bertba* being deserted at the time of the remarkable inundation in 1210, seems altogether groundless.

* See Fordun's Scotchchron., as continued by Walter Bowmaker, Abbot of Inchcolm, who was himself in Perth the night of the king's murder.

† Instituted in the year 1784, it is said on a plan of the Rev. James Scott, senior minister of St. John's Church.

‡ See his account of Perth, vol. xviii. p. 499, of Sinclair's Stat. Acc.

Perth has more than once experienced the terrible effects of inundation. In the year 1573*, the bridge over the Tay at Perth had three of its arches swept away by a great rise of that river. By a similar rise of the Tay on the 14th of January 1581, five of the remaining arches fell down: and again, on the 29th of December 1589, the piers were entirely swept away. Thus the ancient bridge of Perth was demolished by these overflowings of the river Tay †. By an order of secret council, dated the 7th of February 1599, still preserved among the records of the house of *Pitthevilis*, it appears, that the magistrates of Perth were allowed, on payment of fifty merks Scots yearly, to dig stones out of *Pitthevilis* quarry for rebuilding the bridge, which was pretty far advanced in 1603, and but newly finished when, in October 1621, an inundation, which threatened the total destruction of the town, entirely demolished the bridge, and did other damage to the shipping, &c. ‡. The last inundation

* 20th December. See Cant's History of Perth, vol. i. p. 81.

† Ibid.

‡ It is said that Agricola caused a wooden bridge to be thrown across the Tay at the place where he pitched his tent, the spot where Perth now stands. After the great inundation in 1210, King William is said to have given orders for erecting a stone bridge. There is extant among the records of the abbey of Scone, an order granted by King Robert Bruce, dated 4th July in the year 1329, for digging stones out of the quarries of Kincarrochie and Balcormac, for building the bridge of Tay and Ern, and the church of Perth. See a copy of the original in Cant's notes on Adamson's Metrical History of Perth, vol. i. p. 81. This bridge was destroyed, as above mentioned, in the years 1573, 82, and 89, and rebuilt by an order of council in 1599, by John Mylne, master mason to James VI. For want of money, it seems to have been for a considerable time stopped, as it was but newly finished at the time of the great inundation in 1621. The family of the Mylnes have preserved a succession of architects in it from the days of James III. to the present time. Mr. Robert Mylne, the ingenious architect of Black-friars bridge, London, is lineally descended from the famous builder of Perth bridge. This gentleman was educated at Rome, and obtained the highest prize

tion at Perth was in February 1773, after a severe frost, which lasted from the end of December till the middle of February; when, a thaw coming on, huge shoals of ice from the mountains accumulating in their course so swelled the Tay as to cause the greatest alarm and consternation among the inhabitants. The present bridge, the stability of which was put fully to the test, withstood the force of the stream, only an inconsiderable portion of the parapet being carried away by the ice. The strength and stability of this elegant edifice, the masterly design of the architect of *Edystone light-house*, the immortal *Smeaton*, remain, therefore, no longer doubtful.

From the year 1621 till 1774, an interval of above a hundred and fifty years, there was no passage but by boat over the Tay at Perth*. The spiritless poverty into which Scotland fell on the removal of the seat of government, together with the subsequent troubles of revolutions and rebellions, and consequent decline of trade, manufactures, and commerce, are sufficient to account for the apparent neglect in rebuilding the bridge which now constitutes the chief ornament of this ancient emporium, the town of Perth †. When internal tranquillity was restored, and
civil

prize in the class of architecture, in the year 1757; an honour the more valued, as he was the first Briton that ever gained the prize. See Scots Magazine for January, 1758, vol. xxi.

* No less than thirty ferry boats were employed on the ferry over the Tay at Perth, prior to the rebuilding of the bridge. "Some of these boats were employed occasionally as lighters for vessels in the river." See Statistical Account, vol. xviii. p. 547. par. *Kinnoul*.

† Several feeble efforts, which proved but the poverty or inability of those who made them, to accomplish this great public benefit, had been made since the period of

civil commotions were no longer dreaded, industry and ingenuity, exerting their powers, created wealth and abundance; hence it happened, that in the year 1756 a subscription, which was opened under the patronage of the late *Earl of Kinnoul* for building a bridge at Perth over the Tay, was soon filled; the funds, which amounted to 11,298l. 17s. 6d. sterling, were placed in the hands of trustees; and the foundation stone was laid on the 13th September 1766. The bridge was finished, and the workmen paid off on the 13th November 1771: since which period this noble edifice has stood firm and unimpaired. Long may it remain, as a lasting monument of genius, experience, wealth, and patriotic exertion! Thus the bridge of Perth exhibits an admirable specimen of art highly honourable to the talents of the ingenious Smeaton, and his able assistants Gwyn, Morton, and Jamison. Simple and unadorned, it commands the attention of the beholder. It consists of ten arches, through nine of which the Tay sweeps its ample tide, in its passage from the Grampians to the German Ocean*. The whole expence of

the great inundation 1621. Soon after that disaster, a subscription was opened for rebuilding the bridge, to which the king (James VI.) set his name for 100,000, and the Prince of Wales (afterwards Charles I.) for 10 000, merks Scots! which examples were followed by a long list of the nobility and gentry of the country. This laudable purpose, however, was thwarted by the troubles which soon afterward ensued, and was not, with sufficient spirit, resumed till the time above-mentioned, after a lapse of a century and a half. See Cant's Notes, Hist. of Perth, vol. ii. p. 123.

* The total length of the bridge is 906 feet 9 inches. Its breadth is considered by some persons as rather too narrow. It is paved on one side only, for foot passengers; and one row of lamps has been thought sufficient to light it during the night. "These latter circumstances (says an ingenious author) have a one-eared sort of effect, little to the credit of the bridge, and such as its general character has by no means deserved." See Lettice's Tour, p. 454.

building

building this bridge was 26,446l. 12s. 3d. sterling, gratuities to architects and assistants not included. Of this sum, the deficiency of the private subscription was supplied from the funds of the annexed estates, the community of the burgh of Perth, the convention of royal burghs, casual sums received on various accounts, and tax duties on tolls levied by act of Parliament. The duties on the tolls were directed by the said act to cease when the sum of 1500l. sterling as a free capital should be obtained. The duties collected were on carriages, carts, cattle of all kinds, and a small exaction of one farthing on foot passengers, which latter no longer exists*.

The salmon fishery, as constituting a valuable branch of trade on the river Tay, and particularly at Perth, deserves to be noticed. The fishing commences on the 11th of December, and ends on the 26th of August. This fishery is very extensive, and yields between seven and eight thousand pounds per annum, one thousand of which the town of Perth draws for its own share †. Since the method of preserving salmon in ice was communicated to the fisheries of the Tay, the fish caught in the summer months have been packed thus and sent to London; and to the Mediterranean, &c., and what cannot be disposed of in this way are pickled for the market. The communication with London is direct, and the passage is often performed in sixty hours. Seven snacks are constantly employed in the trade; and they usually return with liquors, groceries, and other goods. The tonnage is from 90 to 100, and sometimes more ‡.

* "The tax duties of the tolls gradually increased from 700l. to 863l. per annum."
See Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 548, par. *Kinnoul*.

† Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 517, par. *Perth*.

‡ *Ibid*.

The improvement in agriculture along the whole course of the Tay, but especially around Perth, is in a stile of almost unrivalled excellence. Within the last ten years, the value of land has risen to a degree hitherto unparalleled; and this rapid advance is plainly indicative of vigorous exertion and well-directed knowledge with regard to soil, mode of culture, and management. In a word, all around Perth seems one rich and highly cultivated garden, consisting of the various departments of nursery, orchard, kitchen-garden, corn-field, and meadow; every thing meet for rural ornament, as well as for comfort, and convenience*. So that it may with truth be asserted that improvements in agriculture are as high on the banks of the Tay, as they are on the rich and cultivated banks of the Tweed. The Carse of Gowrie, from Perth to Dundee, on both sides of the Tay, is, by way of eminence, called the *golden granary of Scotland*: for the best crops of corn, barley, wheat, pease, beans, turnips, and potatoes, in respect to quantity and quality, are raised in this delightful district of the north; and though rents are high, and, by some unaccountable fatality, still on the rise, yet the farmer pays his rent, lays somewhat by, and lives comfortably.

Did the limits prescribed to a work of so general a nature as the present, admit of detail, the natural history of the country round Perth would furnish an ample range for observation; but, as entering at large on the subjects comprehended in this department of science is inadmissible; a few remarks, and but very few, must suffice: referring the reader for more par-

* The soil is partly loam and partly clay. Where such a command of dung and lime is easily obtained, as is the case of Perth, the crops must be abundant and early.

ticular descriptions of the minerals in the immediate vicinity of Perth, to an ingenious work, lately published, and now translated into English, namely, the "Travels of B. Faujus Saint Fond, Member of the National Institute of France;" in which much valuable information respecting the mineralogy of Scotland is to be found.

The hills in the neighbourhood of Perth are rich in officinal herbs and minerals; more especially the heights of Kinnoul and Kinfaun's. On the right bank of the Tay, nearly opposite to these, the hills of Moncrief and Mordun possess many rare plants mentioned by Sir Robert Sibbald*, and by Whitefoot in his *Flora Scotica*. Kinnoul heights are remarkable for mineralogical productions; but there are to be found on the summits of the hills, and among the craggy crevices, creeping in wild luxuriance, several botanical plants, some of which are rare, such as cat-mint, vine-garlick, silver cinquefoil, rock-speedwell, &c.; others less rare, such as spleen-wort, lady's-thistle, agrimony, hore-hound, fox-glove, lesser-centaury, mountain-flax, wild-thyme, wild-carrot, &c. On the Mordun and Moncrief hills are dwarf elder, lesser-celandine, and a vast variety of other herbs and wild flowers, sufficient to allure and gratify the taste of the botanist to his utmost wishes.

There are few quadrupeds on the hills of Kinnoul worthy of particular notice. Foxes and weazels, which are in abundance, and pole-cats, still continue to commit depredations on the sheep and poultry of the neighbouring farms. Kites, and hawks of various kinds, ravens, and hooded crows, build their nests in the rugged face of the rocks; and their airy flights along the gloomy

* *Vide* "Prodromi Naturalis Historiæ Scotiæ." Edinburgi 1710.

precipices give an aspect of peculiar wildness, while their harsh notes, mingling in discordant cadence, impress the imagination with correspondent feelings, of sublimity and awe.

But what chiefly claims the attention of the naturalist in the elevated region of Kinnoul, is its volcanic appearance. St. Fond, who made a survey of Kinnoul, collected twenty specimens of the volcanic productions of this place, the descriptions of which are distinct and accurate. They consist chiefly of basaltic and porphyric lava of various form and colour; and of beautiful specimens of calcareous spar and agates, intermixed with steatites infinitely varied in rich and delicate hues, and studded with sparkling crystals in prismatic and rhomboidal laminæ*. The lapidary may find among the hills of Kinnoul a rich and inexhaustible fund of agate, onyx, and cornelian pebbles fit for ornament and art, as well as for the cabinet of the curious †.

*. One observation which St. Fond makes, when mentioning that beds of porphyric lava moulder into gravel, deserves particular attention. "If (says he) this gravelly lava were pounded in the same way as lava or *tras*, by means of stamping-mills like those used in Holland in the neighbourhood of Andernach, it would afford an excellent cement for building under water.

† "A very extraordinary agate (says Cant) I saw digged out in 1746, for which a lapidary and seal cutter offered ten guineas when it was polished. It represented an old man's head with a Roman nose, two small eyes, and a grizzled beard. I had in my custody another (continues he), which represented the lively effigies of a sow, which was presented to an officer of the army." See Cant's Notes on the Muses Threnodie, vol. i. p. 150.

A lapidary resident in Kelfo (banks of the Tweed) is in the habit of visiting the neighbourhood of Kinnoul hill, for the purpose of procuring pebbles, cornelians, &c. from those employed in picking them up after heavy rains, and intense frosts. It frequently happens, that one person, in the course of a few months, will accumulate from eight to ten guineas worth of pebbles for the lapidary, who works them up for orders sent from London, Edinburgh, and other great towns through the united kingdoms.

An extensive forest of oak-timber, stretching toward the north at the back of the Kinnoul and Kinfaun's hills, is said to have yielded abundantly for the purposes of building to the inhabitants of Perth. The great beams of St. John's Church (which was erected about four hundred years ago) were taken from this forest*. This tract is likely once more to become a thriving plantation. The spirit and industry of its owners, Sir Stewart Threipland, Lord Grey, and the Earl of Kinnoul, have converted this dreary waste, by nature predisposed to the vegetation of fruit-trees, from a state of sterility into its present vigorous and promising aspect.

There are certain proofs that woods extended round Perth in every direction, in which deer and roes were abundant. The natural woods of Methven, Lethendy, and other parts on the Tay and the Almond, still afford their periodical cuttings. The town's muir was planted with firs, birches, &c. in the year 1713, and it now exhibits a thriving appearance. An order of Council is extant for employing men to discover coal in the common muir; and another, dated the 14th of May 1688, ordering the town's treasurer, Patrick Robertson, "to bestow upon Alexander Steel a thousand merks Scots, to defray expences in finding out coal in the town's muir †."

Having thus touched lightly on the natural history of the country round Perth, we are next led to contemplate with the eye of a painter the sublime, the beautiful, and the picturesque, from the various stations which best command the objects. But, before leaving the craggy steeps of Kinnoul, we may take a

* See Cant's Notes, &c.

† See Cant's Notes; Adamson's Met. Hist. of Perth, vol. ii. p. 150.

survey of a few local objects that are usually pointed out to strangers. *Dragon-hole** is a cave in the rugged face of the deepest part of Kinnoul craigs, almost inaccessible, mentioned by tradition as the place of resort for celebrating the fantastic rites of *Beltin*, or May-day; which, it should appear, from the record of the kirk-session of Perth, gave such offence to the pious reformers, as to induce them to pass an act prohibiting, under severe penalty and church censure, any more meetings in this cave. Tradition mentions it also as having been a hiding-place of Wallace: but there is hardly a cave in Scotland that this illustrious hero did not occupy in his wanderings, if we believe the fables of old women. In truth, the enthusiastic language in which the Scottish poets and historians have uniformly thought it necessary to relate the achievements of this extraordinary man, has so mingled the marvellous with the real transactions of his life, that an air of the ludicrous hangs over the whole of that portion of our national history in which he makes a distinguished figure.

The *Windy-gowl* † is also pointed out to the stranger. This is a cleft, or steep hollow, in the face of the rocks, which sepa-

* *Dragon-hole*, where, it is recorded, *Jamie Keddie* found "A stone enchanted like "to Gyges' ring, which made him disappear; a wondrous thing." This vulgar tradition is noted by RICHARD FRANK, in his "*Northern Memoirs calculated for the Meridian of Scotland*," (London printed 1694) in his curious Dialogues of the "*Con-templative and practical Angler*," p. 123. "*Kennule* (says he), a mountainous place, that tantalized the taylor with an invisible stone; it is a pleasant story (continues he), but I am unwilling to tell it, lest fearing to draw the malefice of the natives "on me."

† *Ghoul*, in the dialect of the Gaelic language spoken in Perthshire, a cleft in a rock; *Cean* (C like K) head: hence the name *Cean-ghoul*, or *Kinnoul*; *head cleft*, or *top-cleft*.

rates the hill of Kinnoul into a double top. When the north wind is up, it pours down this gowle, or cleft, in furious blasts, and howls fiercely in repeated echoes along the face of the mountain.

The heights of Kinnoul, Kenfauns, and hill of Murray's-hall are a continuation of the same ridge, stretching eastward (and bounding the *Carse of Gowrie* on the north,) its whole length to Dundee, behind which they rise in graceful swells verdant and lovely. These heights are highly cultivated, even to their summits; and in many parts, their very ridges are fruitful in corn and pasture. The culture of these hills forms a pleasing contrast to the rich luxuriance of the extensive plain below; the whole extent of which stretching eastward from the west summit of the hill of Kinnoul called *Law-Tay**, to the heights behind Dundee, seems an immense garden. *Law-Tay* commands a fine *bird's-eye* view of Perth and the surrounding country for many miles.

Thence to the top of *Law-Tay* did we hie,
 From whence the countrie round about we spy,
 And from the arie mountain looking down,
 Beheld the stance, and figure of our town †,
 Quadrat with longer sides, from east to west,
 Whose streets, wals, fowfis in our eyes did cast
 A *prettie* shew. ——— Muses' Threnodie, vol. i. p. 152:

But, to see Perth to advantage, it is necessary to survey the prospects that present on sailing down the *Tay*.

* The height of this point is said to be six hundred and thirty-two feet above the level of the *Tay*. There is a road up the north side of the hill that winds in a serpentine direction, by which a carriage may ascend to the very summit. This is called *Montague's walk*.
 † Perth.

Then merrilie we leanche into the deep,
 Phœbus meanwhile awaken'd rose from sleep,
 At his appointed houre, the pleasant morning
 With gilded beames the cristall streams adorning:
 The pearled dew on tender grafs did hing,
 And heavenly quires of birds did sweetly sing:
 Down by the sweet *South Inche* we sliding go,
 Ten thousand dangling diamonds did shew
 The radiant repercussion of Sol's rayes,
 And spreading flowers did look like Argus' eyes.

Thus Adamson * describes a similar excursion †.

As we glide gently down the Tay, we pass between the South Inch, a fine level lawn, planted with trees that form a shaded walk, and an island that divides the river into two branches, called the *Willow-gate* and the *Fair-way*: the latter channel is that through which ships of burthen pass to and from Perth; the former is for boats and small craft only. As we move along the effect is truly charming. The scenery and objects connected with it seem, as it were, to approach and retire in succession. The scenes open and close as if by enchantment. On either hand, the hills tower aloft, but chiefly, supereminent, Kinnoul, with his dark lowering front, hangs over our heads with threatening aspect. When we have cleared the promontory formed by the south-east shoulder of Kinnoul hill, the country opens in a wide expanse, through which the river makes a noble appearance. We may prolong our voyage, and visit the ruins of the

* See mention made of this young poet in Campbell's Introduction to the History of Poetry in Scotland.

† See Muses' Threnodie, vol. i. p. 148.

castles of Kinnoul*, Kinfaun's †, Balthayock ‡, Elcho §, and the Nunnery of Elcho ||. These remains of antiquity may afford

* *Kinnoul*, so famous in the days of old,
Where stood a castle and a stately hold
Of great antiquity by brink of Tay.

Muses' Threnodie, vol. i. p. 151.

Scarcely a vestige of this ancient castle remains. Here, Boethius says, James I. paid a visit to a Lady upwards of an hundred years old, with whom he entered into conversation on the transactions of Wallace and Bruce and five of the king's predecessors. See Cant's Notes, *ibid.*

† ——— to boat again we go,
And down the river smoothly do we row,
Near by *Kinfaun's*, which famous Longevill
Sometime did hold. Ibid.

Kinfaun's castle "was the residence of Thomas à Longueville, who came from France with Wallace. The descendants of this celebrated Frenchman appear frequently "as chief magistrates of Perth." See Cant's List in his notes (vol. ii. *passim*) on *Muses' Thren.*

‡ On th' other side we look into *Balthayock*,
Where many peacock call upon his maycock. Ibid.

By what remains of the castle of Balthayock it appears to have been a place of considerable strength. It is supposed to have belonged to the order of Knights-Templars.

§ ——— on the other hand
Elcho and *Elcho* park, where *Wallace* haunted,
A sure refuge, where Englishmen he daunted. Ibid.

The ruins of Elcho castle have a noble appearance when seen from the river, on the south side of which they are situated. The hills on the north side of the Tay, and a small island called *Steeplest Isle*, combine charmingly in this prospect, which is terminated by a bold and lofty distance softened in aerial perspective.

|| And *Elcho nunnery*, where the holy sisters
Supplied were by the *Pratres* in their misters. Ibid.

"*ELENOW*, or *ELYNOW* (says Spotswood) in *Strathern*, upon the water of Tay (a convent of Cistercian Nuns), was founded upon a spot of ground which belonged "to Dunfermling, by David Lindsay of Glenerk and his mother. Madoch Earl of Strathern gave the lands of Kinnaird in Fyfe to this nunnery, which were afterwards "sued out to Alexander Lesly, by Magdalen, prioress of this place. At present it "gives the title of Lord to the eldest son of the earl of Wemyss." See Appendix to *Kelth's Catal.* p. 283.

contemplation to the philosopher, speculation to the antiquary, and interesting subjects for the pencil to the painter.

But in order to enjoy the prospect, varied and extensive, in the neighbourhood of Perth, one of the finest stations, undoubtedly, is the summit of *Moredun-hill*, which the traveller ought to ascend when the horizon is unclouded, and the weather is serene and calm. Here, then, let us take our station. Looking toward the east, the whole *Carse of Gowrie* is within eye-range. The conflux of the rivers *Erin* and *Tay* forms a grand object; and thus united, as they approach the German ocean spread into a grand estuary, on either side of which, when properly illuminated with a correspondent breadth of shade, hamlets, farm-houses, family seats, and villages; together with the town of Dundee in the extreme distance—an immense whole—cannot fail to strike the beholder with wonder and delight. Looking toward the west, the extensive valley of *Strathern* opens to the view: the Ochil hills, and behind them the Grampian mountains towering in fullen grandeur bound the prospect. Looking toward the north, *Strathmore*, stretching as far as the eye can discern, presents an expanse truly magnificent. Thirty miles of this vast plain is seen at one glance; on either side of which the Sidlaw hills and the Grampians run parallel, and bound it on the east and on the west. Among the Sidlaw hills, *Dunfinnan*, the proud eminence on which MACBETH bade defiance to fate, is distinctly seen on the right*. In whatever direction we turn, to vary the prospect, all is so rich, vast, and magni-

* — where proud Macbeth,
Who to the furies did his soul bequeath,
His castle mounted on Dunfinnan hill,
Causing the mightiest peer obey his will.

Muses' Threnodie, vol. i. p. 181.

magnificent, as to impress the mind with ideas of sublimity and beauty, truly such, in the fullest sense of those words, as applied to scenery on its grandest scale.

The parishes of St. Martin's and Collace, in the near neighbourhood of Perth, contain the classic ground on which this celebrated tyrant acted part of the real drama which the magic pen of our immortal bard, Shakspeare, has rendered so interesting. The traditional history respecting Macbeth is still current in this part of the country, and was pretty accurately taken down by Sir John Sinclair, when he visited Perthshire, in 1772. (See Stat. Acc. vol. xx. p. 242.) The purport of the tradition is, that Macbeth, after he had made his way to the Scottish throne, lived for many years at a place in the parish of St. Martin's, a few miles to the north of Perth, called *Carnbeth*, or *Carnbeddie*, where the vestiges of his residence are yet to be seen. Not far from this place lived two women in high reputation as witches, the one in the parish of Collace, and the other near Dunfinnan-house, at a place called the Cape; to whom Macbeth applied for knowledge respecting his conduct and future fortune. The moor (which is now planted by Mr. M'Donald, the proprietor,) is pointed out to the enquiring stranger, where the witches, meeting the tyrant, exclaimed, "All hail, Macbeth! Hail, Thane of Glamis," &c.; and a stone called *The witches stone* is also shewn. Macbeth, it is said, built a fortress on the summit of a neighbouring hill, now known by the name *Dunfinnan*, (or, as in the Gaelic language, *Dun-seangan*, i. e. *Dun*, fort, *seangan*, ant, or emmet; literally, *Fort Emmet*,) to which he betook himself, secure, as he thought, from all danger. The situation of Dunfinnan is strong by nature, and he is said to have rendered it impregnable by art. The hill is insulated, deep on all sides, and difficult of access.

"Up to Dunfinnan's top then did we climb,
"With panting heart, weak loins, and wearied limbe."

Muses' Threnodie, vol. i. p. 182.

The area † on which Macbeth's castle stood on this eminence is one hundred and sixty-eight yards in length by one hundred in breadth near the eastern, and fifty-five near the western extremity. Its foundations, so far as can be discerned, exhibit two concentric circles, somewhat elliptical. There seems to have been a fosse facing the north-east, joined to the rampart, and an esplanade, facing the south-east, encompassed with an outer wall, joined to the rampart likewise. See Stat. Acc. vol. xx. p. 246. par. *Collace*.

The preceding account of Macbeth and the Weird Sisters the classical reader will find at variance with Buchanan and Boethius, and others who have followed them.

† "Several years ago (says the author of the Stat. Acc.) some gentlemen, in digging a pit near the middle of the area, discovered pieces of the bones of animals, brick, and burnt corn. At a remote period this was, no doubt, one of the stations whence signals, on any alarm, were made by fire."

Should

Should the traveller remain a few days at Perth for the purpose of making excursions, to examine the surrounding scenery, and the relics of antiquity in its immediate neighbourhood, let him not neglect visiting the pleasant banks of the Almond; on which, at a small distance from the ancient seat of the Grays of Lednoch, are the graves of *Bessie Bell* and *Mary Gray**, two celebrated beauties of the sixteenth century, whose charms live in the well known Scottish song beginning

“ O Bessy Bell and Mary Gray,
They war twa bonny lasses;
They bigget a bower on yon Burn-brag,
And thicket it o'er wi' rashes;” &c.

The common tradition respecting these celebrated beauties is the following: In the year 1666, when the plague raged universally, the ladies above mentioned, retiring into solitude to avoid infection, built, on a small streamlet tributary to the Almond, in a sequestered corner called *Burn-brag*, a bower, and lived in it together; till a young man whom they both tenderly loved communicated to them the fatal contagion of which they soon after died. The ancient family of Lednoch has been long extinct, and the family estate lay for a considerable time neglected; till Major George Augustus Barry, of the 50th regiment of foot, made a purchase of it, and greatly improved it both in point of agriculture and rural ornament. “ Mr. Barry
“ (says Cant) has demonstrated what improvements may be made
“ on pure nature; he has exhibited to view many beautiful and
“ picturesque scenes, which were never thought to be there.
“ Instead of an impenetrable forest of brush-wood on the bank

* Bessy Bell was daughter of Bell of Kinnaird, and Mary Gray was daughter of the Laird of Lednoch.—See Cant's Hist. of Perth, p. 19.

“ of the river, in view of *Lednoch-house*, we see with pleasure
 “ that wilderness adorned with plantations of useful and beau-
 “ tiful trees. Instead of uncultivated fields covered with heath,
 “ broom, noxious weeds, and stones, we behold extensive
 “ lawns, rich corn fields, and large parks of grass. Instead of
 “ a despicable country *kail-yard*, we are presented with the sight
 “ of an elegant garden and orchard laid out in true taste, stocked
 “ with variety of useful plants and excellent fruit-trees*.” This
 sweet spot, however, unless the present owner, Mr. Graham of
 Balgowan, with that spirited exertion in agriculture and rural
 economy which distinguished him ere the ploughshare and
 pruning-knife were converted into the carabine and sabre, re-
 store its wonted charms, must once more become a wilderness
 of unprofitable luxuriance and rude nature.

The next place deserving of a visit is *Ruthven castle*, or, as it
 is now called, *Huntingtower*, the residence of the unfortunate
 family of *Gowrie*. All around this ancient edifice has an air of
 solemn grandeur, somewhat formal and gloomy. The avenues
 leading to it are in straight lines formed of tall and aged trees,
 agreeably to the taste of the times in which they were planted.
 Two passages of history are connected with Ruthven castle, the
 one traditional, and the other well known by a transaction
 which took place in the year 1582, denominated by our
 Scottish historians “ *The Raid of Ruthven*. The former piece
 of history carries with it an air of the marvellous; and is shortly
 as follows: Ruthven house consists of two square towers, joined
 now by less elevated buildings. The interval between the towers
 is called “ *The Maiden’s leap*, from, as it is said, a daughter of
 the first Earl of Gowrie having, in the fear of discovery, leaped

* Cant’s Notes on Adamson’s Met. Hist. of Perth, vol. i. p. 19.

from the top of the one tower to the top of the other, a space of more than three yards, over a chasm sixty feet in depth. This young lady, according to report, was tenderly beloved by a youth, her inferior in rank and fortune: yet love, that knows no distinction but the charms it pants after, and is covetous of nothing save the designed object, induced her to contrive means for entertaining her lover in the full enjoyment of mutual affection. It happened, however, that our lovers were suspected, and eventually betrayed. Little dreading the embarrassment of an unpropitious discovery, one night, as they lay secure, as they thought, in each other's arms, the blushing maid, hearing her mother's footsteps as she ascended the stair, with a presence of mind and resolution scarcely credible, sprang from her lover's arms, flew with the swiftness of a dove across the leads of the tower, darted from the battlements of the one tower to those of the other, and stole softly and unperceived into her own apartment. The surprise, shame, and agreeable disappointment of the mother when she perceived the error into which she had been led, can be easier conceived than described. Hastening to her daughter's bed-chamber, she found her, to appearance, locked fast in the arms of sleep! An experiment of the kind just related was not to be repeated by the enamoured fair one, nor could the lovers live separate. They eloped, and were married: and next night passed, free from apprehension, in the full consummation of their mutual desires.

“*The Raid of Ruthven,*” so called from the circumstance of James VI. (on his return from Athol,) being invited by William Earl of Gowrie to enjoy his favourite amusement hunting, makes a distinguished era in the history of the reign of that monarch. James, finding himself encompassed in a manner he

least expected, and alarmed at the number of strangers that he observed around him, having in his own train a force inadequate to any sudden emergency, had recourse to prudence; and, concealing his apprehension, with an easy air of cheerfulness and gaiety he talked of nothing but hunting and subjects connected with the pleasures of the field; thinking, by these means, to elude any design of seizing his person, and to embrace the first favourable moment for making his escape. The business of the next day being agreed on, the King, early in the morning, as he was about to rise, to his amazement found his bed-chamber filled with the nobles who were in the secret of his detention at Ruthven castle. The astonished monarch demanded the reason of this intrusion; when the nobles in a body presented a memorial, wherein were contained remonstrances against certain alleged illegal and oppressive actions of the Duke of Lennox and the Earl of Arran, two of the King's intimate friends and known advisers*. The mask thus thrown off by the conspirators, did not induce his majesty to act equally open: on the contrary, he seemed to ponder these weighty affairs in his mind, and, with well-feigned condescension, expressed a desire to proceed immediately to Edinburgh; but, on being rudely stopped by the "*Maister of Glamis*," the timid James burst into tears. "*Better children weep †, than bearded men*," said Glamis, with a fierce look and audacious tone; which words thrilled through the heart of the trembling monarch, who felt himself humbled in the dust. Without regard to his weakness, and intent on their purpose, the rebel lords dismissed, without further ceremony, such of his train as entered not into their views, and by all the

* See Melvill's Memoirs, p. 240, 241.

† The King at this time was only a lad of fifteen.

winning arts peculiar to courtiers they strove to reconcile the King to his splendid captivity ; in this they succeeded, so far as to procure pardon for themselves, and James's sanction to the measures which they vigorously adopted in pursuit of the great object of their enterprize,—the establishment of the Reformed Religion*.

But the King's captivity was not of long continuance. On his arrival in Edinburgh, "the solemnity of his reception was characteristic of the manners of the times. He was met by the ministers of Edinburgh. The whole procession walked up the streets singing a psalm expressive of their critical escape from danger, and the great deliverance they had obtained by the captivity and subjection of the King. The news of James's confinement spread all over Europe ; they even pierced the walls of her prison, and reached the ears of the unfortunate Mary, whose maternal feelings they extremely agitated †." Meantime, Lennox, a Frenchman by birth, was banished, and soon after retired to his native country, where he died. Arran was forbidden to appear at court. However, after being in this state of bondage, about ten months, James found means to escape, and threw himself into the hands of his former friends, with whom he acted in concert ; and Gowrie, by the intrigues of Arran, was soon after led to the scaffold. The latter, in his turn, after a series of crimes, fell a sacrifice to the resentment of James Douglass of Parkhead, who slew the degraded Arran in revenge of his uncle the Earl of Morton's death. Thus we have exhibited the rude manners of the times, when faction ruined faction, and a constant struggle subsisted between the Popish

* Spottiswood's Hist. p. 320. Robertson's Hist. vol. ii. p. 95.

† Arnot's Hist. of Edin. p. 37, 38.

lords and the Protestant nobility, between the Clergy of the Reformed Church and the Protestant King: the crown claiming the supremacy in all cases spiritual as well as temporal; and the clergy strenuously asserting, that King *Jefus*, and not King *James*, (nor any other earthly prince, consistently with the word of God,) was head of the church in all things spiritual*, if not temporal.

The hall is still shewn where James and his nobles were entertained during his stay at Ruthven castle; but, “such is the change in the circumstances of the place, concurring with the genius of the times, that the same castle, in which the proud and powerful baron once confined his King as a prisoner, is now quietly occupied by a colony of calico-printers †.” This colony was established here in the year 1792, under the firm of *Young, Ross, Richardson, and Carw*. The annual expenditure in workmen’s wages is about three thousand six hundred pounds. Thirty hands are usually employed about each table and press, the printers being allowed from fifteen shillings to one guinea per week. The staple manufacture of the country around Perth is well adapted for the purpose of printing; and the London market being always open, and the conveyance thither direct, regular, speedy, and convenient, every encouragement is held out to spirited exertion, ingenuity, industry, and enterprize.

A canal, or mill lead, which intersects Huntingtower-haugh, a pretty extensive meadow, was at a remote period branched off

* Still so much of the ancient spirit of independence is kept up in the General Assembly of the kirk of Scotland, that, as soon as his Majesty’s Commissioner dissolves the meeting in the King’s name, the Moderator rises and dismisses the assembly in the name of the Lord *Jefus* Christ, supreme head of the Church.

† Stat. Account, vol. xvii. p. 647.

from the river Almond, and exhibits a proof of the industry and art of the ancient inhabitants of Perth. This aqueduct, which washed the walls of Perth, and in time of sieges filled the ditches with water, is formed of wrought stone. It is six yards in breadth and three feet in depth. It runs a course of four miles and a half, from its source to the town of Perth, the mills of which it serves, and likewise supplies the inhabitants with fresh water. This canal is called in ancient charters *Lowis Vairk* or *Low's work* *. On the east bank of *Lowis Vairk*, a hole encircled by an iron ring nearly a foot in diameter, called the Boot, or *Boult of Balhousie*, serves to supply the mill of Balhousie with water †.

* It is conjectured by some, that this aqueduct is a *Roman work*. In a charter of confirmation granted by David I., A. D. 1140, to the abbey of Dunfermling, it appears, that the church and its appendages were given by the King to that abbey. In this church the Mercers of Addie had a place of interment, which was granted them by the King for their having resigned in his favour the right which they possessed of the corn-mills, and, consequently, of this canal, which supplied them with water. From the nature and extent of this work, however, it is not to be supposed that a private family could have been at the expence of erecting it; and, as there is evidence shown that it existed before 1140, a strong presumption arises of its being a work of a much more remote period, namely, that in which the Romans erected and fortified the ancient Bertha, on the site of which the modern Perth is built. See some ingenious conjectures on this subject in the Stat. Acc. vol. xvii. p. 643, 644.

† The descent of the water (says Cant) into the Canal of Balhousie, through the ring, forms a strong cascade, where people afflicted with rheumatism and colds, by bathing, are relieved of their complaints. "An indenture (adds this author) maid at Perth the 19 Junc 1464, betwixt alderman, baillies, councill, and commontie of Perth, and a Richard Eviott of Balhousie," directs, that "the bowt shall be taen up and new-lie maid of threttie twa in the wydnefs within at baith the endis, bandit with iron baith within and without at baith endis." This *bout*, or *jet d'eau*, was repaired in the year 1773, and the rings scrupulously adjusted in the presence of commissioners appointed by the contracting parties, viz. the Earl of Kinnoul and the magistrates of Perth. See Cant's Notes, Mus. Thren. vol. i. p. 29.

Perth

Perth is not only a commercial city, but is likewise celebrated as a nursery of learning. A school for the elements of grammar and the Latin language; an academy for several branches of the mathematics, elementary and practical, geography, astronomy, &c.; also a literary antiquarian society, and a general library, together with several circulating libraries, sufficiently prove that it is by no means deficient in the means of acquiring useful and ornamental knowledge.

The Latin-school of Perth is of the first eminence. How long it existed prior to the Reformation, does not appear. Since that period, however, it has been regularly supplied with a succession of able teachers; and in it many pupils have been initiated in the elements of classical learning, who have made a figure in the great world. The *admirable Crichton*, and the *eloquent Mansfield*, besides a numerous list of persons who have shone in the senate, at the bar, in the pulpit, in the various departments of medicine, and in other branches of science, are proofs that the Latin-school of Perth* is among the most eminent of the seminaries of this description in Scotland.

The *Academy of Perth* is a late institution. When men began to discern the folly of polemical wrangling, and mere philological learning, they soon perceived the utility and beauty of a more enlarged sphere of knowledge. Hence metaphysical speculations and abstract philosophy gave way to the more grateful pursuits of making science the fountain of truth, whence should flow all that might contribute more immediately to the progress of

* This school is under the government of a rector and two ushers; and originally had a music-master, for teaching *church music*. The magistrates and town council of Perth are the patrons and managers, and pay the teachers their salaries. Cant's Hist. of Perth, vol. ii. p. 195.

subjects of natural history, and other materials suitable to its original design, it has not yet been deemed necessary to publish any of its transactions*.

The principal taverns, hotels, and coffee-houses in Perth are regularly supplied with the London and provincial news-papers and literary journals. The fine arts advance apace. Print-shops, music-shops, and booksellers shops, appear in almost every street. Of the latter, many carry on trade to a considerable extent; and not a few keep circulating libraries.

These improvements are highly characteristic of the times; and the inhabitants of Perth are rapidly on the advance in refinement of manners and the elegant blandishments of fashionable society. It may afford matter of curious information to exhibit a trait of the inhabitants of this city two hundred years ago, in contrast with the manners of those of the present day. Soon after the Reformation, when profane dramas were publicly represented, it appears from a record, dated June 3d, 1589, that there were a company of comedians then at Perth, who found it necessary to apply to the consistory for a licence to perform plays; as an act of Assembly had passed in the year 1574-5, prohibiting the people, under pain of church censure, from resorting to such profane exhibitions†. The words of the record are as follow: “Perth, June 3d, 1589. The ministers and
 “elders give licence to plai the plai, with conditions that no
 “swearing, banning, nor onie scurility fall be spoken, which
 “would be a scandal to our religion which we profess, and for
 “an evil example unto others. Alswa that nothing fall be

* Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 538.

† Campbell's Introduction to the History of Poetry in Scotland, p. 353.

“ added

“ added to what is in the register of the plai itself. If any one
 “ who plais sal do in the contrarie, he sal be *wardit* and make
 “ his public repentance (*i.e.* be imprisoned, and afterwards
 “ appear in church, to be rebuked in the public place of repent-
 “ ance) * . The clergy of the present day, who still view the
 stage through optics that greatly magnify the danger arising
 from its immoral tendency, are less rigid in their conduct to-
 wards it; and players occasionally, in their peregrinations
 through the north, remain in Perth for a considerable length
 of time; a proof of their being kindly entertained, encouraged,
 and rewarded.

It is said, “ that the manners of the people, till long after the
 reformation of religion, were exceedingly licentious † ” in Perth.
 Church-discipline, however, seems to have checked that degree
 of unrestrained indulgence, imbibed, no doubt, by the laity
 from the evil example which the clergy of the religious houses,
 formerly so numerous in that city, exhibited in their dissolute
 and hypocritical lives. “ Now I see that God’s judgments are
 “ just,” said an aged matron when beholding the palace and
 abbey of Scone on fire, (27th June 1599,) “ and that no man is
 “ able to save, where he will punish. This place, since I re-
 “ member, hath been nothing but a den of whoremongers: it
 “ is incredible how many wives have been adulterated, and

* James VI. on the 8th of November 1599, annulled the act of assembly 1574-5; and he desired Elizabeth to lend him a company of comedians, to whom he gave licence to act: thus the drama was suffered to proceed, north of the Tweed. See Guthrie’s Hist. of Scot. vol. viii. p. 358.

† Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 524.—“ From Oct. 7th, 1577, to October 15th, 1578, there were sixty-seven persons punished for having children otherwise than by lawful marriage.”

“ virgins deflowered, by the filthy beasts who have been fostered in this den; but especially by that wicked man called the *Bishop*. If all men knew as much as I, they would praise God, and no one would be offended*!” But the maxim inculcated on the minds of our Scottish reformers, “ *Pull down the nest, and the rooks will forsake it,*” seemed supreme in all their undertakings, which were as effectual as they were summary, and which characterized their abhorrence of a system in itself degrading to human nature, and from its immoral tendency threatening to sap the finer feelings of the soul. Hence, in the first paroxysms of intemperate zeal, the blind enthusiasm which led to the overthrow of idolatrous worship, was unable to distinguish between the real objects of vengeance, and those which were slightly connected with the system itself; and, as an extreme generally produces its opposite, so it soon happened that the laity, giving themselves up to their spiritual guides in the reformed religion, sunk from that bold and daring temperament, to that moroseness and puritanical air which, till lately, characterized the inhabitants of North Britain, and in no small degree those of Perth. A manifest alteration, however, and, to their honour be it mentioned, has taken place among the citizens of that town. Within these few years, a degree of cleanliness and neatness in dress, and an engaging sprightliness and vivacity of mien, have been displayed among the more wealthy, and are rapidly extending to the industrious classes of the inhabitants of this ancient seat of trade and commerce.

There are no gaming-houses in Perth, and houses of bad fame were unknown till barracks were erected in its neighbourhood;

* Knox's Hist. as quoted in Cant's Notes. *Muses Threnodie*, vol. i. p. 125.

since which period, the change that this necessary system has caused over the whole united kingdoms, is but too manifest in this town and its vicinity.

In order to form a just idea of the population of Perth, it may be necessary to observe, that in the year 1562 the number of its inhabitants was estimated at between five and six thousand: in the year 1755, the number was reckoned to be nine thousand and nineteen: and in the year 1796, the number in the town and parish was computed to be nineteen thousand eight hundred and seventy-one*.

Though Perth lies low, it is remarkably healthy, the air having a free circulation through every street and lane in all directions. Intermittents are hardly known, and the diseases incident to people in similar situations make their appearance but seldom in this quarter.

Perth has more than once discovered a tenacious spirit of political as well as religious reformation. When, in the year 1784, a borough reform was keenly agitated, the citizens of this town seemed zealous in the cause †. Again, in the year

* See Stat. Acc. vol. xviii. p. 524—527.

† “The borough of Perth (says an author) is governed by a town-council consisting of fourteen guildry men or merchants; and twelve craftsmen. The fourteen guild or merchant counsellors are *self-elected*; each puts a guildry man of his own naming in the lect with himself; and the council elect one of the two. That being the case, it is no difficult matter to say who will be elected. The counsellor has it in his power, even in the case of party work or dislike, to insure his re-election. He names perhaps a street-raker, or some low character, between whom and himself there is no alternative. Or if at any time a man in better station is put on the lect, it is within that person's knowledge; and is done, because, perhaps, it is known that he would not accept. In no instance is a council-man, wishing to keep his seat, disappointed.” See Historical Account of the internal Government of the Borough of Perth, submitted to the Committee of Convention. See also Edin. Mag. vol. ii. p. 382.

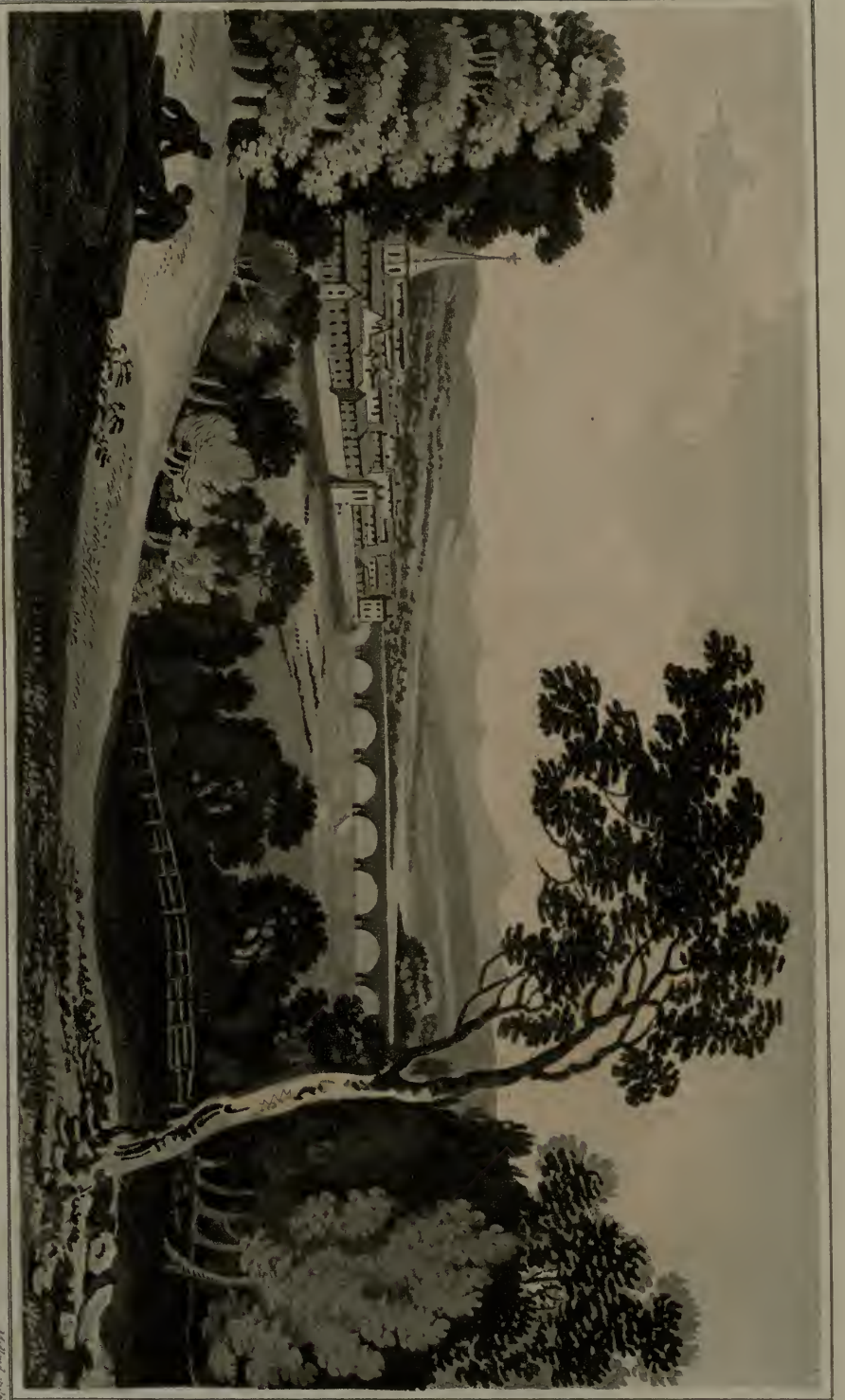
1792, the same spirit, that for a time seemed asleep, awoke, and shook off its drowsiness: but rushing heedlessly into measures but ill arranged, and without any determinate object in view, miscarriage and disgrace were the vexatious fruits of this vain attempt at political reformation.

The departure from Perth to Edinburgh may be taken by two different routes. The one, leading directly thither, is by Kinross and the Queen's Ferry; the other, which is more circuitous, is by Dundee, St. Andrew's, and along the east coast of Fife to Kinghorn; thence across the Frith of Forth to Leith and Edinburgh.

Should the traveller incline to prolong his excursion along the left bank of the Tay, to Dundee, St. Andrew's, &c. he proceeds, after crossing the river, by turning to the left, through the village of Bridge-end. This village, which may now be considered as part of Perth, extending its dimensions on the opposite bank of the river, has, since the present bridge was erected, risen to a degree of opulence and substantial elegance correspondent to the improved state of the agriculture, trade, and commerce of the town and country adjacent. The turnpike roads leading from the districts of the Stormont, Strathmore, and the Carfe of Gowrie, meet in this village; of course, a considerable trade is carried on here, independent of its connection with the town opposite. Hence its rapid advancement in comfortable and elegant buildings, extending in the direction of the roads leading to those districts, whence, in great measure, its affluence is derived.

About a quarter of a mile down the Tay from Bridge-end, on an eminence close in upon the river, to the right, we command

Viewed from the West, by Robert Campbell



Edinburgh 1807

Perth, and distant view of the Grampians.

London: Published by Messrs. G. & J. Debrett, 1789.

mand a fine view of Perth, its bridge, the country beyond, through which the Tay is seen full, clear, smooth, and ample, sweeping its tide along the pass into the highlands at Dunkeld, and the mountains of Athol, among which Bengloe appears pre-eminent, and closes the extreme distance. This prospect is finely connected, and forms a charming subject for composition on canvas. The town, bridge, river, and extent of its banks, and the grand appearance of the Grampians in the distance, form a whole that is pleasing to the eye as a picture; at the same time, it strikes the mind with objects which awaken reflection, and excite emotions correspondent to the sublime and beautiful in nature.

Passing directly under the frowning precipices of Kinnoul, we lose sight of Perth, and a new scene opens on us, which, though of a different character, is not less interesting than that just described. The fertile plains of Gowrie, through which the Tay spreads wider and wider, till, expanding into a grand estuary, it mingles its tributary waters with the ocean, are seen extending on either hand. This district may, with strict propriety, be denominated "*The Lowlands of Scotland*," as, by way of eminence, it is called "*The granary of the north*." No traveller, in passing through this extensive and beautiful tract of country, will feel inclined to question the justness of this appellation. The level line and ample sweeps of the road; the snug cottages, clay-built and thatch-roofed farm-houses, gentlemen's seats, villages, ruins of castles, and convents; corn-fields, plantations, and inclosures; must remind the continental tourists of the banks of the Lower Rhine.

As the traveller proceeds, one or two views worthy of attention will attract notice. About two miles below Perth, the

ruins of Elcho castle come in view, and appear to much advantage when seen, as forming a leading feature in the prospect which here presents. On the left, nearly opposite to these ruins, a hill of a conical form rises gracefully from the water's edge, and is in fine contrast with the low-lying grounds on the river's banks, a noble sweep of which encircles a small island that occupies the middle ground; and on the right bank, on a beautiful level lawn, finely wooded, and swelling into an elevated plat, the ancient remains of *Elcho castle* are seen. The termination of the Ochil hills forms a bold feature in the distance; and when softened in aerial tints, that abruptness, otherwise harsh and inelegant, produces in the general effect a degree of elevation and harmony that adds charms to the scene.

Somewhat more than a mile farther down the river on our turning round and taking a retrospective view, a prospect, the principal features of which appeared in the former, but in a reversed order, presents a specimen of picturesque beauty rarely to be seen. The middle ground consists of an ample sheet of the Tay, clear, full, and refluxent. On the left the ruins of Elcho castle form an interesting repose. The finely flowing lines that play on the eye, and which compose the swelling slopes behind the ruins on the left, are in happy contrast with the heights of Kinnoul and Kinfauns on the right. The small island* in the centre, and a fisher's hut nearer the eye on the brink of the water, produce a pleasing diversity, and harmonize sweetly with the bays and promontories, wooded and level, protruding and retiring in alternate variety, as far as the river is visible, which is seen, as it were, issuing from the hills, and sweeping

* Sleepless Island, in which the town of Perth has a fishing station.

Engraved on Steel by H. Combs



Printed in N.Y.

Vol. 1, p. 376

View in the Case of Geneva

London: Published March 1, 1832, by J. G. & Co., Stationers' Row.

along their bases, to the spot which we have thus selected for commanding the scene.

A few miles farther on, we lose sight of the Tay, and pass on the left the seats of *Balbhayock*, *Glendoeg*, *Fingask*, and *Rossie*; and on the right, a number of comfortable farm-houses and a few family residences; among others, *Inchmartin*. The road, till we come within view of *Castle Lyon*, about the fifteenth mile stone, keeps pretty close in to the hilly district, that runs parallel to the Tay, called the *Braes of Gowrie*, and we get a peep into several *dens*, or valleys among the hills, as we proceed; which greatly adds to the pleasing variety to be met with in our excursion through the Carse.

Between the twelfth and thirteenth mile stones are the ruins of *Kinnaird Castle* on the left: and on the right, two miles farther on, are the remains of *Moncur Castle*. But what will most arrest the traveller's attention, is *Castle Lion*, formerly a seat of the Earls of Strathmore. Behind this ancient seat the Frith of Tay, and all the opposite coast, forms a noble and extensive prospect. On both sides of the Frith, the land is uncommonly fertile, especially on the north bank in the parish of Errol, where the soil is of a strong clayey consistence, and of a rich black mould. This parish is, for its extent, remarkably populous*; a proof that population is always in proportion to the fertility of the soil, and the improvements made in agriculture.

The south bank of the Tay seems to have been in former times the chosen seat of religious establishments. The *Convent*

* It stretches along the north bank of the Tay to the right of the twelfth mile stone, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, over almost the whole breadth of the Carse. The number of the inhabitants is 2,680. See Stat. Acc. vol. iv. p. 480.

of *Elcho*, and the *Abbies of Lindores* and *Balmerino* sufficiently demonstrate the propriety of this remark. The convent of the Cistercian nuns of *Elcho* has already been noticed. The abbey of *Lindores*, "situated in the forest of *Ernsfide* on the " river *Tay* (says *Spottiswood*) below the town of *Newburgh*, " in the *Shire of Fife*, was a rich abbey, founded by *David* " *Earl of Huntington*, brother to *William*, upon his return " from the *Holy Land*, about the year 1178." This monastery was inhabited by *Syronenses* from the abbey of *Kelfo*, who followed the rules of *St. Bennet*. This order of monks had six monasteries in *Scotland*; all of which were splendid edifices, and largely endowed. *Hector Boece* commends the monks of *Lindores* as being "*Morum innocentia clari.*" Perhaps this compliment was ironical; as the holy brothers "*had twenty-two parish churches belonging to them, and were very rich.*" The daughter of *Earl David*, the founder of *Lindores*, was mother of *Robert Bruce*, competitor with *Baliol* for the *Scottish crown*. The unfortunate *Duke of Rothfay*, eldest son of *Robert III.*; who was cruelly suffered to starve in his dungeon at *Falkland*, by the intrigues of his merciless uncle, was, according to report, buried in the abbey church of *Lindores* *, which was dedicated to the *Virgin Mary* and *St. Andrew the apostle*. In the year 1600, this abbey was erected into a temporal Lordship, "in favour of *Patrick Lesley*, son to *Andrew Earl of Rothes.*" There hardly remains a vestige of the ancient forest of *Ernsfide*, on which the abbey of *Lindores* was situated. It extended along the river *Earn*, four miles in length by three in breadth †. The

* See *Stat. Acc.* vol. viii. p. 176.

† *Vide Sibbald's Decalodones & Vecturiones*, p. 158.

Earn falls into the Tay, between three and four miles to the west of Earnside-wood; at the mouth of which, tradition reports, Wallace caused a ship to be sunk, in order to prevent the English from sailing into the interior of Strathern, which would greatly have annoyed him in his operations. The forest of Erinside, Elcho parks, and Birnham wood, were the fastnesses which Wallace and his followers chose, whenever they were in danger of being overpowered by superior numbers. This mode of fighting the late patriot Washington seemed to have understood, and practised with no less success than our illustrious Wallace. Macduff's Cross, and the Cross of Mugdrum, two monuments of ancient erection, are still to be seen not far from the ruins of the abbey of Lindores*.

The ruins of the once beautiful abbey of Balmerino, or Balmerinach †, are still extant. Its situation is truly delightful. This edifice, once inhabited by monks of the Cistercian order from Melros, hardly yielded in elegance of structure to the parent monastery, the ruins of which sufficiently indicate to what a pitch architecture had arrived in Scotland during the twelfth century. As Melros abbey, in its sweet retirement, is situated on the Tweed, so the monastery of Balmerino is seen on the shelving and verdant banks of the Tay, close in upon the shore. Well did churchmen know how to make a proper

* A stone coffin, said to have contained the bones of some distinguished personage, was formerly shewn to those who visited the venerable ruins of Lindores: it is now covered with rubbish. The mouldering fragments still visible of this ancient monastery, mantled in ivy impending gracefully at top, and their deep-sunk bases, thick matted in thorn, briar, and wild rose-bushes, give an air of tenderness and decay, congenial to a pensive cast of disposition and habit of thought.

† Called by Lesly *Balmuraum*, and by Fordun, *Habitaculum ad Mare*.

choice in point of situation, abundance, and comfort. The abbey of Balmerino was founded in 1215 by Emergarda, daughter of the Earl of Beaumont, and mother of King Alexander II., who, it is said, assisted his mother in building this once beautiful structure, A. D. 1229*. This pious princess, who died in February 1233, was buried in the abbey-church, before the great altar. The families of *Lindsay*, *Kinnear*, and *Abernetbie* made donations to this monastery, which arose from the mill of Kirkbuet, Little, or Wester Kinnear, and Corbie (Corbeck), or Birkhill. The preceptory of Gadvan in the parish of *Dinbug*, or Dunbog, in Fife, also belonged to the revenues of Balmerino; which altogether amounted to little more than seven hundred pounds Scots *per annum*; a sum incredibly small, when it is considered that twelve pounds in Scots money are only equal to one pound Sterling †. “ At the
 “ Reformation (says Spottiswood) King James VI. erected Bal-
 “ merenach into a temporal lordship, in favour of Sir James
 “ Elphinston of Barnton, then principal secretary of state, the
 “ 20th April 1604 ‡.”

From the conflux of the Earn and the Tay to the sea, the shores are beautifully spread with towns, villages, hamlets, farm-houses, and family-seats, which, when illuminated with fine floating streams of light, have a charming and picturesque appearance.

* See Spottiswood's Appendix to Hope's Min. Prac. and Sibbald's Hist. of Fife.

† See Pennant's Scottish Tour, vol. iii. p. 122. He does not mention on what authority the revenues of Balmerino are stated.

‡ Spottiswood's Appendix, p. 465.

Soon after passing through the village of *Rossie*, the ground becomes more elevated, is of a fine red mould, highly cultivated, and fertile. Proceeding through the village of *Longforgan*, we pass the seat of *Mylnfield* on the right, and that of Lord Gray on the left; and soon after, as we approach the village of *Invergowrie*, near the twentieth mile-stone, we enter the county of *Angus*, or *Forfar*, which is bounded by the Frith of Tay on the south; by the counties of Aberdeen and Kincardine on the north and east; and by Perthshire on the west. From *Invergowrie* to *Dundee*, a distance of three miles nearly, the road keeps close in upon the shore. As we approach Dundee several villas pleasantly situated are seen on the left; among others, *Balgay*, *Blacknefs*, *Logie*, and *Diddup* *.

DUNDEE is the most considerable town in the county of Angus; and ranks after Perth, as third of the royal burghs. It is pleasantly situated on the north shore of the Frith of Tay; extends in irregular order along the beach, and backwards on the slopes immediately rising from the water's edge, the highest of which is called *The Law of Dundee*, whose summit is upwards of five hundred feet above the level of the Frith, and serves as a land-mark to vessels coming up the estuary of the Tay †. There is little of the picturesque that can interest
in

* The castle of Diddup belonged formerly to the Scrimgeors, constables of Dundee; afterwards to Viscount Dundee, the hero of Killcrankie; now to Douglas of Douglas.

† It was long a subject of dispute between the burghs of Dundee and Perth, which was best entitled to preference in point of priority: but the matter was finally adjusted by decret arbitral obtained by Perth against Dundee, concerning the liberties and pri-

in the appearance of Dundee : and but few objects in its immediate neighbourhood that merit the employment of the pencil*.

But this town is of sufficient importance in almost every thing which regards trade, manufactures, and commerce, to deserve the attention of the traveller.

There is a considerable home and foreign trade carried on by the inhabitants of Dundee. The pier is extensive ; the docks are spacious and convenient † ; and the warehouses on the quay are well arranged, and commodious for the reception of the merchants' wares. Although the shore close to the town is rather rocky, yet near *Broughty castle* it falls low and almost flat, and here vessels of four or five hundred tons burden may safely approach the beach. The harbour is capable of receiving vessels of three hundred tons. The rocks which lie off the harbour have buoys or beacons annexed ; and the sand banks

vileges of the river Tay, and priority of place : and, as a proof of this, Perth, in the course of trade, is exempted from paying "the shore silver at Dundee." See the copy of the decret, dated December 1602, and granted by James VI. in Cant's History of Perth, vol. ii. p. 38.

* The ancient castle of Dundee, or *Duntan*, the Tædunum of Buchanan, and the Alectum of Boethius, was situated on a rock west from the mouth of a small stream that issues from the south side of the ridge on which the greater part of the present town is built. The ancient site of Dundee was on a low flat a little to the east. The valley through which this stream meanders, particularly about the former seat of the Scrymgeors, Dudhope castle, the house of Logie, Balgay house, and Blacknefs, is sweetly verdant and finely wooded, especially about the castle of Dudhope. It is in the detail, notwithstanding, that these situations are so truly delightful.

† Ship building is carried on at Dundee with great spirit and advantage. Ropes, cordage, blocks, &c. are all manufactured there.

are

are marked to prevent hazard*. But the channel is deepest on the Fife shore opposite, and is that by which ships of any considerable burden ascend the river. When storms arise from the east, great danger is to be apprehended to shipping on the coast without the bar, about eight miles below Dundee; but there are lighthouses kept in excellent order, and pilots of experience faithful in the important duties of their trust. In 1792 there were thirty-four ships belonging to Dundee employed in foreign trade, seventy-eight as coasters, and four as Greenlandmen. Since that period, however, the number has greatly increased: the exports to foreign parts consist of Osnaburghs, failcloths, coarse linens, leather, thread, &c.; the imports consist chiefly of flax, hemp, lintseed, fir timber, deals, balks, Swedish iron, &c. The exports coastwise are, thread of all sorts, failcloths, Osnaburghs, cotton bagging, barley, wheat, &c. the imports are tea, sugar, porter, coals, &c. †. At the period above alluded to, the whole gross tonnage was averaged at 8550 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons.

Dundee is celebrated for its manufacture of threads. Its exports and imports consist chiefly, as above, of Osnaburghs, Silesias, brown linens, &c.; but, beside the goods manufactured in the town of Dundee and its vicinity, great quantities of

* As far as Newburgh vessels of five hundred tons may ascend; but beyond this seaport town on the south shore of the Frith, vessels of two hundred tons proceed with difficulty. "If you would enter Dundee, (says D'Anville,) keep the north side of the church, upon the bar, and on the north-west straight over against Broughty, because there is a dangerous sand called *Boumlaw*." See navigation of James V. round Scotland, p. 80.

† The staple manufacture of Dundee, formerly, was coarse woollens, called *plaidings*, which were exported to Holland and other parts of the continent, for which the usual exports of those countries were exchanged and brought home.

sequence as to trade, manufactures, and commerce. Parliament, in allowing drawbacks on manufactured linens, has undoubtedly been favourable to the spirit of enterprize so manifest among the inhabitants of this ancient burgh. By some hypothetical reasoners, it is much doubted, however, whether this industry, if directed to other pursuits of traffic than hitherto have been followed here, might not, even without the aid of Parliament, or the blessings which are said to have originated in the Revolution, and the subsequent union of the two kingdoms, have been more successful than those which have been the means of enriching many individuals, and exciting in all a desire of acquiring independence, ease, honour, and enjoyment. But, how much soever might be urged on each side of this question, it belongs not to the writer of these pages to enter on the subject in this place.

The population of Dundee, considered as a parish, is estimated by the learned author of its Statistical Account at 23,500, a number exceeding the population of Perth by 3,629*; but of these 23,500 inhabitants of the town of Dundee, few, indeed, enjoy the rights of citizenship in the political sense of that word. What is called "*The Set of the Borough*," or constitution of Dundee as a free royal burgh, is any thing but a Republican form of government. If it resemble any specific form, it is that of an oligarchy †. The old magistrates very quietly elect the new, and every thing goes on with the utmost regularity without controul or appeal: the great body of the people have

* See Stat. Acc. vol. viii. and vol. xviii, par. *Dundee and Perth*.

† Vide Stat. Acc. vol. viii. p. 226.

nothing to do in the business in any manner whatever. It often happens, that these self-elected magistrates and counsellors remain in office during the greater part of their lives *. “The people of Dundee (says the author of its Statistical Account) have been for a long time entitled to the reputation of industry, regularity, and economy; and, notwithstanding the increase of their wealth and numbers, a just claim to this reputation still continues.” They are of a social, communicative, and cheerful disposition; liberal and considerate; humane and compassionate; and possess an enthusiastic attachment to mercantile pursuits. They are also attached to civil and religious freedom; yet rigid in neither: and their clergy complain, not altogether without reason, that the marriages on record keep not pace with the population of the parish. As to politics, it is observable, that though the weavers, overnight, while stimulated by copious libations, breathe an ardent flame of liberty; in the morning, at their looms, it is found to have evaporated with the fumes that escaped during their hours of slumber; nor do they, till again inspired by the same generous liquor, resume the like elevated glow of sentiment. It must not, however, be understood, that this mode of sentiment is that which obtains most generally in Dundee. On the contrary, the greater number of the more respectable citizens of this spirited and in-

* Dundee is not singular in this respect. Dunbarton, and other royal burghs that send members to Parliament, enjoy the same happy privilege, nay, it so happened, in 1783, that Nairne, a royal burgh, had at one and the same time a provost (mayor) in India, a baillie in a different county (viz. Inverness,) and a treasurer and dean of guild, neither of whom reside within many miles of the burgh. See “A Letter from a Member of the General Convention of Delegates of the Royal burghs. Edin. printed in the year 1784.”

telligent burgh see the propriety of a wise, well-timed, and rational reform, and wait, with becoming solicitude, till more favourable circumstances shall warrant the necessary steps for producing this consummation so devoutly to be wished.

Dundee has furnished, in its day, warriors, statesmen, and men eminently distinguished in the literary world. Among the warriors, natives of this town, may be reckoned, *Alexander Scrymzeour*, from whom sprung the hereditary constables of its castle; *James Halyburton*, a zealous reformer in the minority of James V.; and the hero of Camperdown, *Lord Duncan*. Of the statesmen, Wedderburn *Lord Loughborough*, and *George Dempster* Esq. of Dunichen, late M. P. may be classed among the chief. In the days of Scotland's independence, the patriotic *Fletcher* of Salton, too, though not a native, yet was descended from among the families who have had their origin in Dundee."

But, although Dundee possessed not any seminary of consequence, save a school for acquiring the elements of the Latin tongue, or, as it is called, a grammar-school*, yet, in former as well as in latter times, men of distinguished abilities in the republic of letters, natives of this town, might be mentioned to its honour. *Hector Boece*† the historian, *John Mar*

* It is said, that it was at Dundee that Wallace, his chaplain Blair, and Campbell of Lochow, were educated; and here, too, began their exploits. In the year 1610, Mr. James Gleg left his professorship in St. Salvador's college, St. Andrews, in order to be chosen rector of the grammar-school of Dundee, with a yearly salary of not more than 16l. 13s. 4d., and the addition of 6½d. as quarterly payment from each scholar! In most parts of Scotland, even at this day, 1s. 6d. per quarter is all that is allowed for each pupil!

† Hector Boece, or Boethius, as he is usually denominated, the friend of Erasmus, flourished in the beginning of the sixteenth century. He was principal of King's college,

*Mar** the friend of the ingenious *Napier*, inventor of Logarithms, in former times; and among the moderns *Charles Webster* †, and *Thomas Christie* ‡, deserve to be spoken of in terms of the highest regard. Of natives in the immediate vicinity of Dundee, distinguished in the literary world, *Henry Scrymgeour* § claims particular notice. To a profound knowledge of languages, he added an admirable taste for the belles lettres, together with such a degree of skill in jurisprudence as rendered him eminently qualified to profess the civil law, which he did with the highest reputation at Geneva. Many of the learned of his time, though his rivals in fame, bore testimony to his merit as a scholar, a critic, and a civilian; among others, were the president *Thuanus*, *Cujacius*, *Casaubon*, and *Henry Stephens*. *Cujacius*, it is said, was wont to say respecting him, "I never went from the company " of *Scrymgeour*, without having learned something ||."

college, Aberdeen, with a salary of forty merks Scots, equal to 2l. 4s. 5d. sterling! Thus in all ages do we see men eminent in learning poorly rewarded. The indefatigable *Walter Ruddiman*, the eloquent moralist *Samuel Johnson*, and the accomplished *James Beattie* of Aberdeen, were each of them in their earlier days instructors of youth. Had they to boast of the emoluments arising from their labours?

* "To *James Mar*, another citizen of Dundee, probably the grandson of the above, we owe a Chart of the soundings of the whole North Sea, so accurate, that, though laid down about the beginning of the (eighteenth) century, it has received no improvements of importance." Stat. Acc. vol. viii. p. 240.

† The late *Charles Webster*, M. D. well known as a divine, a physician, and a chemist.

‡ Known in the literary world as one of *Burke's* most successful opponents.

§ Of the family of *Dudhope*, already noticed.

|| See *Anecdotes of Scottish Literature*. Edin. Mag. vol. i. p. 115.

It has already been observed, that the harbour, quay, docks, and warehouses of Dundee are well constructed, spacious, and convenient: to this may be added, that improvements are now making which must render them more so. To the honour of the magistrates and town council, and several of the more wealthy and public spirited citizens, their zeal and success in removing a vast rock, opening a new passage to the shore, building new piers, paving and lighting the streets, and erecting a handsome town-house and an elegant church, will remain lasting monuments for posterity to emulate in carrying on the same system of public benefit and improvement.

But few vestiges can be traced of the former grandeur of Dundee. The great tower, which is still pretty entire, is deservedly noted by every traveller. It is the venerable remains of the magnificent structure built by David earl of Huntington, brother of King William, surnamed the Lion, A. D. 1178*, on his return from the Holy Land. Time has not been the only destroyer of this ancient edifice. According to tradition, it was laid in ruins during the wars of Edward I. and Edward VI. †; since which periods, it has received partial repairs, and still preserves an appearance of durability rarely to be seen at this day north of the Tweed. Besides the great church built by the Earl of Huntington, the remains of which have been occupied for public worship ever since the Reformation, there were several other religious establishments in Dundee, though hardly a vestige can now be traced, owing to the writings respecting them being mislaid or lost, and the buildings themselves having

* Pennant says 1189.

† Boetius, lib. xiii. ; and Buchanan, lib. vii.

been long since either demolished or converted into private property*.

Dundee has frequently experienced the miseries of war, and more than once the horrors, cruelties, and carnage of a siege. Besides the devastations committed during the reign of Edward I., when WALLACE drove the English from its neighbourhood, and put *Alexander Scrymgeour*, his brave compatriot, in possession of the town and castle, in whose right the Scrymgeours of Dudhope afterwards enjoyed the hereditary dignity of constable, Dundee was taken and reduced to ashes by the troops of Richard II. ; and again by the English in the reign of Edward VI. ; who were finally driven from it, Broughty castle, and its neighbourhood. When *Adam Gordon* (brother of the earl of Huntley) carried fire and sword through the shire of Angus, in the minority of James VI., the inhabitants of Dundee were greatly alarmed lest he should visit them in his progress, and called in from the opposite coast of Fife such troops as they

* There were three convents and a nunnery in Dundee. The first was founded in the second year of Robert III.'s reign, A. D. 1392, by James Lindfay, vicar-general of Scotland, for monks of the order of Red Friars, or Muskerines; whose houses were named hospitals, and a third part of whose revenues was devoted to the redemption of Christian slaves. The second was founded by a citizen of Dundee named Andrew Abercromby, for Dominicans, a begging order, whose "nests (says Spottiswood), when pulled down, were found too rich for an order of mendicants." The third was founded by Darvorigilla, "daughter of Alan Lord Galloway, and mother of John Baliol, king of Scotland," for the order of the Franciscans, or Gray Friars. This convent had no revenues, but was supported by alms. "Lady Beatrix Douglas, relict of William earl of Errol, for whose soul the friars were to celebrate a mass daily at the high altar, '*submissa voce, vel nota,*' bestowed a donation of a hundred pounds Scots (equal to 5l. 11s. 0½d. Sterling!) for supporting them in their extremities, and for the reparations of the monastery." The fourth religious house was a nunnery, the nuns of which followed the rules of St. Francis. See Spottiswood and Keith.

could

could collect, in order to protect them from the rage of this ferocious hero, who gave no quarter, being in a particular manner (says Buchanan) true to the cause of the king*. The *Great Montrose*, another celebrated avenger of the cause of his king, took Dundee by assault, and gave it up to the pillage of his soldiers. But the last and most awful scene of carnage in this devoted city, was in the year 1651, by Monk, then general of the English troops under the usurpation of Cromwell. When the soldiers of the Commonwealth advanced as far as Dundee, the governor, major-general Lumsden, made dispositions for a vigorous defence. General Monk resolved, however, on taking the town by storm; and soon put in execution his sanguinary purpose. The carnage was dreadful. A sixth part of the inhabitants were buried in its ruins. The governor, it is said, and a few desperate followers, took refuge in the great tower, determined to perish rather than yield to the enraged republicans, reeking with the blood of the fallen citizens. At last, however, he was induced to come down; and surrender at discretion; when, contrary to the laws of war, this brave soldier and his devoted attendants were treacherously murdered on the spot. It is also reported, that around the church, two battalions of Lord Duffus's regiment suffered the same fate; nay, farther, that another body of the besieged were cut to pieces on the same ground, now occupied as a fish-market. Tradition says, that the carnage ceased not till the third day; when, among the heaps of the slain, a child was discovered endeavouring to press nourishment from the breast of its murdered mother. Such are the horrors of war!—In the sacking of Dundee, sixty

* Buchanan, lib. xx.

ships belonging to the merchants, and found in the harbour, were loaded with the booty, consisting chiefly of plate and money, but were wrecked in sight of the town, in attempting to get over the bar at the entrance into the Frith of Tay: and thus the much wished-for booty, the main object of blood and rapine, for once eluded the grasp of the greedy plunderer.

Dundee, as well as Perth, has been long remarkable for the number of its religious sectaries. Besides the established church, there is one *Scottish* congregation of the Episcopal form, and one of the English Episcopal persuasion. Of Burghers and Antiburghers, Independants, Anabaptists, Bereans, Methodists, Roman Catholics, and Unitarians, each has a select number, amounting in the whole to a sixth part of the inhabitants of the parish. But of the dissenters from the established form of religion, those distinguished by the name of *Glassites* (so denominated from *John Glass*, who about the year 1732 founded this sect) seem to carry along with them a proper regard to population, as the sure guide, if not to heaven, at least to industry, and its consequence, wealth and independence. For *early marriage* is an indispensable law of their community, to take place, in general, as soon after the age of puberty as possible: and it has been found most favourable to population, industry, and morals.

The soil about Dundee is by no means so rich as that of the Carse of Gowrie: but the manure from the town*, and the culture observed in raising of all kinds of crops, necessarily renders the soil very prolific. There is nothing peculiar in the

* Great part of the lime used as manure is brought from Sunderland.

mode of management. Threshing has not yet been introduced. The plough in general use is the improved Scottish one; though several farmers use Small's plough, and the chain-plough of other inventors.

The fossils in the neighbourhood of this town consist chiefly of whin-stone, porphyry, and sand-stone of various colours; but no metallic substances nor calcareous rocks have hitherto been discovered.

The Frith of Tay at Dundee is from two to three miles broad. The coast on either side is precipitous and rocky; and the current of the river, especially after spring-floods, is powerful and rapid. Untoward accidents, however, occur but seldom:

Seals and porpoises are numerous, and destructive to the salmon fishery in the Tay. Hitherto no method has been adopted for converting this evil into a benefit, by catching them, and procuring their oil, which might prove a source of considerable emolument. The salmon fishing, and indeed every other fishery within the bar, turns to very little account on the shores in the immediate vicinity of Dundee: but along the sea-coast without the bar, on both sides of the Frith, shell-fish, haddocks, whittings, cod, ling, flounders, soles, turbot, halibut, skate, mackarel, and herrings, are to be had in abundance. Fishing in deep water is seldom practised. This is an immense loss. Were Scottish fishers as patient and indefatigable as the Dutch, incalculable wealth might be directed into every corner of our island. The patriotic Dempster, late member of parliament for Dundee, who first suggested the idea of packing salmon in ice, has rendered essential service to his country by his exertions for establishing the fisheries along the Scottish shores and western

isles on a permanent and eligible footing. May his plans succeed; and may future generations preserve his remembrance embalmed in the public good, to which in many ways he has contributed! and may every honest individual imitate his example in promoting the interests of the community at large; at the same time, learn to appreciate the natural advantages in length of coast, abundance and variety of fish, and sure, ready, and profitable markets in every part of Europe; so that no nation whatsoever shall carry away from us what nature seems so bountifully to have thrown into our possession, as a means of acquiring wealth as well as subsistence.

When wind and tide are answerable, the passage from Dundee to the opposite side of the water on the Fife shore is usually performed in little more than half an hour. Thence the traveller proceeds, and turning to the left he may, if he so incline, visit St. Andrews, the ancient seat of learning, and the archiepiscopal see of Scotland.

From Woodhaven, the south side of the ferry of Dundee, we pass over a stretch of about three miles of as bleak country as can be met with on the east coast between the Friths of Forth and Tay: but, notwithstanding the natural quality of the soil, which appears at first sight sterile and unpromising, the hand of culture, which has already manifested its power amid these wastes, will in a few years render them fertile and profitable in no small degree; for every exertion seems making to withdraw the chilling moisture, kill the weeds and latent germs, and meliorate the ground by summer fallowing, liming, and due rotation of such crops as are best calculated to pulverize it, and bring it speedily into heart.

About three miles from Dundee waterside we pass by the old castle of *Leuchars*, formerly in the possession of the earls of Southesk, but forfeited in 1715; afterwards purchased by the York-buildings Company; and now the property of the Honourable Robert Lindsay. We soon enter the village of Leuchars. The neat and comfortable appearance that many of the houses exhibit is truly pleasing, and is a proof of the rising industry and civilization of its inhabitants. A little farther on we cross the river *Eden* over a bridge of considerable antiquity, consisting of six arches*. Here the river is seen to swell into a bay, which joins the bay of St. Andrews a little to the east. About a mile beyond this, the ancient city of St. Andrews comes into the range of the wide extended prospect; as we approach which, the mind is impressed with an assemblage of sorrowful ideas, in contemplating the silence and gloom that seem to reign amid the ruins, still venerable and vast, as seen extending along the sea shore. "The city of St. Andrews, when it had lost its archiepiscopal pre-eminence, gradually decayed: one of its streets is now lost: in those that remain, there is the silence and solitude of inactive indigence and gloomy depopulation †."

St. Andrews, in former ages, was no less distinguished as the great emporium of the east coast of Scotland, than for its consequence in religious establishments, and its university. Before the reformation of religion, it was deemed the principal resort of merchants and traders from every part of the commercial

* Built by Henry Wardlaw, bishop of St. Andrews. He died in 1440. See Keith's Catalogue, and Martin's State of the See of St. Andrews.

† Johnson's Journey to the Western Isles.

world with which Scotland had the least intercourse. Two or three hundred vessels, it is said, were wont to frequent the harbour: and there was an annual fair held here (similar to those which still exist in Germany, Holland, and other parts of the continent), which lasted for weeks: but so great is the falling off in this respect since the Reformation, as appears by the tax-roll of the royal boroughs, that though in the year 1556 the taxes paid by the city of St. Andrews amounted to 410*l.*, those in the year 1695 did not exceed 70*l.* From ancient records it appears also, that there were a hundred and fifty-three brewers and fifty-three bakers at one time constantly employed here: at present, however, not a third of the number of brewers, nor one fifth part of the bakers are to be found in the town and its neighbourhood*.

Much of the wealth and consequence of St. Andrews was owing to the religious establishments which in remote periods were founded and gradually enlarged, multiplied, and endowed in this corner of our island. All our historians agree †, that soon after the Scots and Picts were converted to the Christian faith, *Mucrofs*, afterwards named *Kilrymont*, or *Kilreule* ‡, now ST. ANDREWS, became a place of considerable resort, from the fame of its sanctity, and peculiar felicity in being possessed of

* See Stat. Acc. vol. xiii. p. 191. Douglas's Descrip. of the East Coast of Scotl. p. 19.

† Hect. Boeth. lib. vi. fol. 108. Leslie, lib. iii. Usher, Camden, Spottiswood, Sibbald, &c.

‡ "The place then was a forest of wild boars (says Martine), and was called in the "country language *Mucrofs*, *i. e.* a Land of Boars; from *muc*, a sow, and *rofs*, a "land or island." *Vide* Martine's Reliquiæ Divi Andrez. Morison's St. Andrews, 1747. p. 17.

certain relics, said to have consisted of “the arm-bone, three fingers of the right hand, a tooth, and one of the lids of the apostle’s (St. Andrew’s) knee.” Hence the apostle St. Andrew became the tutelar saint of the Scots and Picts; the legend respecting which circumstance is much to the following purport. About the year 370, St. Regulus, a monk of Patræ, a city of Achaia, was warned in a vision to emigrate to “a region towards the west, situate in the utmost parts of the world,” and to carry along with him as co-partners in his perilous journey a priest, two deacons*, eight hermits, and three devout virgins, together with the relics which he had stolen from the shrine in which they were kept. And after a voyage of much “toyle
 “and hazard they fell into the Germane ocean, where they were
 “long tost with grievous tempests, till, at last, by force of a
 “storme the ship was driven into the bay, near the place
 “where St. Andrews now stands, and there split asunder on
 “the rocks; but Regulus and his companie were all brought
 “safe to shoare, having nothing left them but the relicks, which
 “they were careful above all things to preserve.” Soon after the arrival of this holy man and his companions, Hergustus, king of the Picts, heard of the fame and sanctity of their lives, and, “when he beheld the gravitie and pietie of the
 “men, and the forme of their service, was so taken therewith
 “that he settled a constant abode for them on the same place,

* Bishop Keith says, “DAMIANUS a *presbyter*, GELASIUS and *Cubaculus* two deacons.” Martine calls one of these deacons Jubaculus. Perhaps it is an error of transcription. Indeed it is said the MS. copies of Martine’s *Reliq. Divi Andr.* differ very considerably. This may account for some seeming inaccuracies in Keith’s quotations, p. 1. *Introduc.* The copy which he used is that in the Advocates’ Library, Edinburgh.

“and

“ and took order for their entertainment.” The pious king of the Picts having thus granted an establishment to this colony of Christians, a cell and a chapel in honour of their leader were built, and on this occasion the name of this port was changed from Mucrofs to Kilrule or Kilrymont. But after the expulsion of the Picts by *Kenneth III.* the metropolitan church formerly established at *Abernethie*, the capital of the Pictish dominions, was thence translated to Kilrymont, at which time the church thus translated was called St. Andrews; and the city, which on this occasion was newly peopled by a colony of Scots under the protection of *Fiffus Duffus*, a distinguished leader, to whom Kenneth assigned the province of *Pichlandia*, now called Fife, taking its name from the metropolitan church *St. Andrews*, retains it to this day*. Hence, from the relicks of St. Andrew the apostle being brought by St. Regulus to this ancient city, the former became the tutelar Saint of the Scots, who still celebrate his festival on the 30th November wherever they are dispersed over the habitable globe.

Among the dignitaries who founded and endowed the religious houses belonging to the See of St. Andrews, several of our Scottish writers, particularly Fordun, Wintoun, Balfour, Innis, Spottiswood, Sibbald, Martine, Ruddiman, and Keith, mention some archbishops and other churchmen who make a considerable figure in the civil as well as ecclesiastical history of Scotland.

In the earlier ages of the Scottish church, the Culdees were the electors of the bishops; but after the order of Culdees was

* Martine's Reliq. Divi Andr. Sibbald's Hist. of Fife; Keith's Catalogue; and Stat. Acc. vol. xiii.

suppressed, A. D. 1298, the chapters consisted of priors, monks, and canons, and the privilege of electing belonged to them *de usu et jure*. It continued thus till the suppression of religious houses at the Reformation, after which the archbishop of St. Andrews was elected by eight bishops of his province (as by Act of Parl. A. D. 1617.); and the election continued in this way till the abolition of episcopacy in Scotland, A. D. 1689*. The bishops of St. Andrews, prior to the erection of the see into an archiepiscopal diocese, were dignified by the title *Episcopi Scotorum maximi*, but were afterwards created *Archiepiscopi, et Archipatres, &c.* The archbishop of York, however, claimed a precedency over the Scottish church, which, in the year 1471, Pope Sixtus IV. set aside, when the archbishop of St. Andrews was created Primate and Metropolitan of all Scotland; and this was farther confirmed by Pope Innocent VIII. in his bull of erection †. But soon after the erection of St. Andrews into an archbishopric, the see of Glasgow obtained a bull from Pope Alexander VI. in order to be erected into an archiepiscopal diocese; and the king and the estates of parliament consenting and confirming this measure (A. D. 1488.), a keen contest arose between the archbishops and the clergy of each diocese, which terminated in favour of St. Andrew; so far at least, that while *Glasgow* was allowed all the honours of metropolitanical dignity, *St. Andrews* should have the actual and full provincial authority, in a manner similar to the ancient bishops of *Nicodemia* and *Nice*, *York* and *Canterbury*. The bishops of St. Andrews were early invested with legatine powers; and the archbishops were designed *legati nati*, and sometimes *legati a latere*. All abbies and priories

* See Martine, Keith, and others.

† Ibid.

within the diocese had their grants and privileges confirmed by the archbishop, which right was recognized by Act of Parliament, A. D. 1469. The arch-bishops of St. Andrews were *Counts Palatine*, and could by their own authority constitute courts of jurisdiction, called *Weapon-sharwings*, and had likewise the power and privilege to *coin money*. Among the vassals of the archbishop were twenty-seven Scottish nobles of the highest condition, who held lands of the diocese in different parts of Scotland. The bishop of St. Andrews crowned the kings of Scotland, and sat in parliament as the first peer of the realm: besides all which, in the year 1538, David Beatoun, archbishop of this see, while he was ambassador in France, was created Cardinal by Pope Paul III. Such then have been the dignities and immunities annexed to St. Andrews as a bishopric from its first erection to the acme of its grandeur and power.

Of the archbishops of St. Andrews who make a distinguished figure in Scottish history, a few may be slightly noticed, as deserving farther inquiry from those inclined to pursue this subject to a greater length. Of the fifty-two usually enumerated in the catalogue of the bishops of this see, fifteen are variously arranged by different authors; but according to *Ruddiman*, whom *Keith* follows, KELLACH*, who went to Rome for confirmation some time towards the end of the ninth century, was the first bishop of St. Andrews, and ARTHUR ROSS, who died on the 13th June 1704, was the last, when the total suppression of prelacy in Scotland took place at the Revolution, *anno* 1688-9: comprehending a period of between seven and eight hundred

* Kenlaucht, or Cellach. *Vide Martine's Reliq. Divi Andr.* p. 222.

years, during which the dignified orders of the church not unfrequently occupied the highest offices of the state.

In the year 1178, WILLIAM King of Scotland appointed his cousin Rogge, son of Robert III. of Leicester, to be high chancellor of the kingdom. The bishopric of St. Andrews falling vacant, the high chancellor was consecrated and raised to the see *anno* 1198*. The castle of St. Andrews was first built by this bishop, about the year 1200 †. Among the archbishops of St. Andrews may be enumerated the following: William Malvoisine, the founder of the hospitals of Lochleven and Scotland-well, who brought from France Dominicans, Franciscans, and Jacobins, “who by their pretensions to an austere life (says Martine) supplanted the credit of the priests, and were upheld by the Pope, whose designs they upheld;” —Gamelin;—William Wisheart;—William Frazer;—William Lamberton, who was the strenuous opposer of Edward I. and the patriotic assertor of the constitutional liberties and independence of Scotland;—Gilbert Geenlaw;—James Kennedy, the remains of whose monument are pretty entire (he was founder of St. Salvator’s college, a great patron of learning and religion, and was named among the chief of the regency during the minority of James III.);—James Stuart, Duke of Ross, second son of James III.;—Alexander Stuart, natural son of James IV., the pupil of Erasmus, who fell with his father and the flower of the Scottish nobility at the battle of Flouden-field, A. D. 1513, at the premature age of twenty-one;—James Beaton, or Bethune, founder of the Divinity college of St. Andrews. The

* Crawford’s Officers of State, and Keith’s Catalogue.

† See Martine’s Reliq. Divi Andr. and Sibbald’s Hist. of Fife, p. 132.

fate of this arch-prelate seems somewhat singular. In the turbulent minority of James V., on the Duke of Albany's going over to France, *anno* 1517, Beaton and five others, *viz.* the earls of Arran, Angus, Argyle, and Huntly, and the archbishop of Glasgow, were left to manage the affairs of the state. The earl of Angus, a powerful chief, was marked by the other five nobles for destruction. The earls of Huntly and Argyle throwing their share of power into the hands of Arran and the archbishop of St. Andrews, the latter was made the instrument to accomplish this treacherous business. A convention of the states was summoned to meet at Edinburgh on the 29th of April 1520. But previously, a private meeting, to which Angus was invited, was held in Beaton's apartments at the foot of Blackfriar's-wynd. Angus, who suspected the design against him, prevailed with his uncle *Gavin Douglas*, bishop of Dunkeld (the celebrated Scottish poet formerly noticed), to wait on the archbishop, and learn the purport of the meeting; while he himself, with a few faithful attendants, would be in readiness and at hand should any untoward occasion require prompt assistance. The two dignitaries entering warmly on the subject, in which it was alleged that danger was to be apprehended to the nephew of our accomplished poet, the archbishop, who had taken the precaution of putting on armour under his sacred vestments, in the heat of argument, in attempting to excuse himself, and lay the sole blame on the earl of Arran, exclaimed, "There is no remedy, upon my conscience I cannot help it;" and, striking his hand on his breast, the iron plates of his armour answered to the stroke. On which the bishop of Dunkeld shrewdly replied, "How now, my Lord? Methinks your conscience clatters.

“ We are priests; and to put on armour, or to bear arms, is “ not consistent with our character.” Soon after this the conversation ended; and next day Arran’s party, among whom the archbishop of St. Andrews appeared in armour, made a strong effort to seize Angus, and sacrifice him to their resentment: but the latter had disposed of his force, consisting of about *four-score* chosen men, to such advantage, that no sooner did Arran’s party sally forth from their lurking place, than they were repulsed with great slaughter. Meanwhile, the bishop of Dunkeld retired secretly to his chamber, and besought the Lord in prayer. The archbishop of St. Andrews, who had mingled in the combat, finding his adherents beaten, fled to the Grayfriars church, and hid himself behind the great altar, from which he was torn by his enraged enemies, and must inevitably have perished, had not the meek-spirited bishop of Dunkeld interposed, and saved his life *. The earl of Angus’s party, carrying their revenge still farther, entered the city of St. Andrews, and pillaged the palace;—while the archbishop, narrowly escaping the sword of the assassins, fled westward, and took shelter among the hills of Balgrumo; where, it is said, he exchanged the robes and pastoral crook of his high office, for the humble weeds, scrip, and staff of a Scottish shepherd †.

Three other archbishops of St. Andrews experienced a no less remarkable reverse of fortune than the last mentioned; two perished by the hands of murderers, and one suffered an ignominious death. *David Beatoun* (afterwards Cardinal), the nephew

* See Drummond’s Hist. p. 88. Buchanan, lib. xiv. Keith’s Cat. p. 151. Life of Gavin Douglas prefixed to his Virgil, p. 8 – 10. and Arnot’s Hist. of Edinburgh.

† See Pitscottie’s Hist. of James V. and Martine’s Reliq. Divi Andr,

and

and successor of James, Archbishop of St. Andrews, conspicuous for ambition and a thirst of power, joined to a malignant spirit of persecution, having obtained the highest dignities in the church and state, and having rendered himself hateful by unheard of cruelties to the reformers, when the ordinary course of justice could no longer be pursued, fell a prey to their resentment, and perished by the hands of merciless assassins. The horrid scene of this tragedy was laid in his own palace at St. Andrews, where, but a short time before, one of the first victims to the new opinions, as they were then called, suffered the punishment due to his *crimes!* This was *George Wishart*, the great apostle of the reformed religion. Cardinal Beatoun, it is said, from his palace windows*, beheld the martyr perish in the flames. "The flame that thus consumes my body," said the dying man, casting a look around on the gazing multitude, "pains not my broken spirit. But ere long (pointing to the Cardinal) he who looks down so disdainfully upon my miserable condition, lolling at his ease, shall be ignominiously cast forth from the place whence he now gluts his eyes †." This prophecy was but too fatally verified. A private quarrel between *Cardinal Beatoun*, and *Norman Lesly*, eldest son of the *Earl of Rothes*, led to the untimely death of the former. Norman, having gained sufficient means to compass his sanguinary purpose, came to St. Andrews and lodged in the inn which he usually frequented, watching in secret the moment favourable to success. The Cardinal, intent on fortifying his castle, and little suspecting danger

* The window, of which but a small portion now remains, is still pointed out to the enquiring stranger.

† Buchanan, lib. xv. Pittscottie.

so near at hand, had a great number of workmen employed in that business. Early in the morning, May 7th 1546, Norman seized the porter at the palace-gate, rushed into the inner courts with his followers, called out the workmen and servants, dismissed them with horrid imprecations if they dared to open their mouths or make resistance, entered the Cardinal's chamber, and transfixed him with their swords.—“Fie! I am a priest,” exclaimed the Cardinal, writhing in agonizing convulsions; “Fie! fie! all is gone!” and then expired*. Some authors add, that the dignified prelate, the high-minded Cardinal, was cast out from the window whence he beheld the magnanimous Wishart consume in the flames, and thus the prediction of the dying martyr was fulfilled. The friends and dependants of the murdered Cardinal laid instant siege to the castle, in which the assassins were sheltered; but it happened, that the Regent's son, who had been detained by the deceased as an hostage, was in their hands: availing themselves, therefore, of this favourable circumstance, they made it serve as a check to any attempt to seize the castle by surprize; and remaining in possession, in open defiance of law and order, they sallied forth occasionally, and committed depredations on the country around, till the French Admiral *Strozzy* laid siege to the castle, and carried off the assassins with him to France, after they had held it for fifteen months.

The successor of Cardinal Beatoun was *John Hamilton*, brother of the *Regent Arran*. This archbishop, at one time a favourer of the reformed religion, had, like his exalted predecessor †, a concubine

* Buchanan, Robertson.

† Whom Pennant calls “An ambitious, cruel, licentious priest; so superior to decency, that he publicly married one of his six natural children to the Master of *Crawford*,

concubine in keeping, by whom he had many children, and lived in open defiance of the strict rules enjoined by the holy Catholic church; yet, mindful of its interests, he judged it necessary to make another example of a venerable heretic, namely, *Walter Mylne*, priest of Lunan, near Montrose, who was brought to St. Andrews, condemned, and burnt in April 1558. The death of this innocent man, in extreme old age, for he was above eighty, sunk deep into the minds of the reformers; and by examples like these the *new opinions* gained ground with an acceleration proportioned to the number of victims and the rage of persecution. When the Lords of the Congregation, favoured by the success of their cause, and legal authority, were triumphant, the mal-contents, among whom Archbishop Hamilton was now placed, suffered in their turn. After Mary's flight into England, the arch-bishop, taking refuge in Dunbarton castle (soon after the surprize of that fortress), was conveyed thence, and publicly hanged at Stirling, in April 1571*.

The fate of *Archbishop Skarp*, whose untimely death was so much deplored by the Scottish episcopalians, is well known. From the first dawn of the reformation to the final establishment of the Presbyterian church government in Scotland, (a period of somewhat more than a century and a half,) the contending parties, kept constantly in a state of civil and religious animosity, lost

Crawford, owned her for his daughter, and gave with her (in those days) the vast fortune of four thousand merks Scots."—*Scottish Tour*, vol. iii. p. 245.

* "I have seen (says Martine) copies of charters granted by this Archbishop to William, John, and James Hamiltons, his three natural sons, born of Grizzell Sempill, (daughter of Robert Lord Sempill) they are designed her natural sons, but they were defaulted." *Reliq. Divi Andr.* p. 244.

all fight of the finer feelings of humanity and the duties of social order, the more delicate traces of civilized manners, the graceful elegance of refined urbanity, the bewitching blandishments of natural simplicity, unaffected sincerity, candour, mildness of disposition, and a scrupulous regard to the comforts of one another ;—while Presbyterianism was sunk in a blind regard to what the gloomy, morose, and abstract puritans called *the duties of religion*, Episcopacy seemed better adapted, in the eyes of its votaries, to the progress of civilization and pious decorum : besides, it was deemed susceptible of more readily amalgamating with innocent hilarity, splendid elegance, and refinement of manners. Such was the state of opinions among the Scottish reformers in the days of our second Charles, when the *Resolutioners* and *Remonstrators** carried their animosities to the extreme of party rage and lawless intrigue. *James Sharp*, formerly a zealous supporter of the cause of rigid Presbyterianism, was consecrated within the Abbey church of Westminster on the 15th December 1661 †, and soon after raised to the Archiepiscopal see of St. Andrews, in the university of which city he formerly sat in the chair of Philosophy. The unexpected exaltation of Sharp, and his cruel and inhuman treatment of the party whose interests he had betrayed, drew on him the hatred of the pious and persecuted of the suffering *Kirk*, whose cause rested on the firm basis of resistance and unshaken constancy. On the 3d of May 1679, this prelate fell a sacrifice to the resentment of the *most holy* of the conventicle. Nothing could exceed the piety with which his barbarous murder was perpetrated. *Hackston of Rathillet in Fife*, and eight

* A remarkable division of the Presbyterians at the time of the Restoration.

† Keith, p. 26.

more of the condition of farmers his associates, had by earnest prayer enquired of the Lord *anent* (concerning) the expediency of executing righteous judgment on the Archbishop*. The answer was, 'Go and prosper †.' On the fatal day, he, unheeding danger, (while these nine assassins were lying in wait,) was paying a visit to the clergyman of a neighbouring parish (Ceres), and carelessly smoking a pipe with him, when a boy, who had knowledge of this circumstance, gave notice to Hackston, and the rest of the assassins, who sallied forth to way-lay the devoted victim ‡. Seizing the moment favourable to their hellish purpose, they exclaimed in maddening rapture, "*He is delivered into our hands,*" and drew their swords in gloomy satisfaction; and whilst charging their carabines and pistols they muttered thanks to the Supreme Disposer of all Events, in full assurance of the uprightness and innocence of their intentions! Meanwhile the Archbishop's coach came in sight, in which sat himself and his daughter in easy conversation, without the smallest suspicion of their impending fate; till, accidentally looking out of the coach window, Sharp descryed armed men well mounted in pursuit of him. He instantly gave order to his coachman to drive full speed to the palace of St. Andrews; but his murderers rode furiously after, and discharged their pieces at the coach without effect. One, who happened to be better mounted than the rest, came boldly up to it, cut the traces, and struck the postilion to the ground with his sword. This was the signal of death. The

* On *Magus A'fuir*, as he was to pass homeward.

† *The execution of righteous judgment by private men, was assassination organized.* See Hind let Loofe, p. 24. 639.

‡ Lord Hailes' Remarks on the Hist. of Scot. p. 263.

rest of the ruffians by this time having furrounded the carriage, tore the Archbishop from it, then, dragging him to a small distance, they poured their shot into him, and pierced him with many wounds, leaving him to expire in the arms of his distracted daughter. He was conveyed to his own palace, and buried with all the pomp due to his exalted station*. His merciless assassins skulked about the country, the chief of whom was afterwards taken in battle, and, being tried as a traitor and murderer, suffered the death due to his crimes; for, notwithstanding his expressly denying the authority of the King, the court, the judges, and the jury, he was tried, found guilty, condemned, and executed on the same day; and his quarters were sent to the chief towns as monuments of divine vengeance †. On the death of Sharp, Episcopacy declined apace, and Arthur Ross, who died on the 13th of January 1704, was the last dignitary of the ancient see of St. Andrews ‡.

* See the order of his Grace's funeral, in the Appendix to Arnot's History of Edinburgh, p. 608.

The monument of Archbishop Sharp, in the church of St. Nicholas, is of white marble, executed in a poor style, it is confessed, yet for the time at which it was erected not altogether devoid of merit. The church was lately rebuilt, at an expence of about three thousand pounds sterling, besides one thousand thrown away in a law-suit between the town of St. Andrews and the proprietors of the parish of St. Nicholas.

† See Swift's Crichton's Mem.; Woodrow's Hist. vol. ii. p. 142. and Hind let Loofe, p. 197.

‡ The Revolution of 1688 deprived him and the rest of the Scottish Bishops of their revenues. See Keith, p. 27.



END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.