

NUMBER XVII.

PARISH OF BOTHWELL,

(COUNTY OF LANARK, SYNOD OF GLASGOW AND AYR,  
AND PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.)

By the Rev. Mr MICHAEL MACCULLOCH, Minister.

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*Name.*

THE origin of the name is uncertain. *Both*, in Celtic, Syriac, Chaldee, and Saxon, signifies "a habitation or dwelling." *Huil*, in Celtic, is "a flood or water;" and compounded with *Both*, Both-uil or Bothwell, is "a habitation beside or on the waters." This sense is confirmed by Lhuid's *Archæol. Brit. Bullet*, Baxter, and Verstigan\*.

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\* Ed. Lhuid's *Archæol. Brit. voce* "to dwell," *Bod* is Welsh-Celtic for "habitation."—Bullet's *Memoires sur la Langue Celtique*, tom. iii. p. 4. *Bod* signifies "habitation."—Baxter's *Glossary*, *Bodo* means "aquatus."—Verstigan's *Restitution of decayed Intelligence*, words ending in *well* denote places beside water.

It might mean the patron saint. Thus, pronounced *Botbval*, gives "St Bothan's town," and from thence extended to the parish.

Bullet \* renders *Bothwell*, "a castle upon an eminence;" from *Botb*, which he interprets "eminence," and *wall*, in composition *well*, "a castle."

The first sense seems to suit the situation of the castle, the town, and the parish: For the Clyde encircles a great part of the castle †, passes near to the town or village; in a flood, covers the low ground beside the hill on which it stands; while the two Calders almost surround the rest.

*Situation and Extent.*—Bothwell was a great, noble and ancient barony, extending from Clyde to West Lothian. It is situated in the nether ward of the county of Lanark, in the presbytery of Hamilton, and Synod of Glasgow and Ayr: bounded upon the S. by the Clyde, and part of South Calder; on the W. and N. by North Calder; on the E. by the Shotts. It is of an oval figure, extending from W. to E. broadest toward the middle, and contracted at both ends; about eight miles and a half in length, and four at the greatest breadth.

The great road from Glasgow to Edinburgh goes through the whole length of the parish, and divides it nearly into two equal halves; enters it at the west point, by a bridge over the Calder, about a quarter of a mile north from where it joins the Clyde, and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Glasgow. After a very steep ascent, which is soon to be levelled, it goes along upon a flat of 4 or 5 miles, and then ascends considerably towards the east, as it approaches the high lands of  
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\* Tom. i. p. 395.

† Bothal Castle, in Northumberland, is situated upon the river Wentbeck.

the Shotts. The ground to the south of the road gradually declines toward the river, which gives a fine prospect of the Clyde, Hamilton, and the adjacent country.

The great flat of the upper part of the parish is, at a medium, 300 feet above the level of the sea; that toward the Clyde is greatly lower.

The church and village of Bothwell is  $36\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Edinburgh, *per section* from the great road leading to the village; 8 from Glasgow; 27 from Stirling; 17 from Larnark.

The distance from neighbouring parishes, (bearing and distance from the church), are these: Hamilton, south-east, separated by the Clyde, 3 miles distance. Blantyre, upon the south, separated also by the Clyde; distance, 3 miles. North-west is Old Monkland, separated by North Calder; distance, 3 miles. Upon the north, New or East Monkland, distance 8 miles, separated by the North Calder. Upon the north-east, the Shotts, distance 8 miles. Cambusnethan E. N. E. separated by South Calder, distance 8 miles. Upon the east, Dalziel, at 3 miles distance, separated by the South Calder.

*Surface and Soil.*—The parish rises gradually from the Clyde to the north, and still more to the north-east. Upon the banks of the river, south from the church, a large flat succeeds; at the termination of which, an ascent takes place toward the middle, or the line of the turnpike, where it rests in another large level, extending almost the whole length of the parish, but rising in some places toward the north, and very considerably to the east.

There can scarcely be said to be either moss, moor or morafs in the parish. If there are some spots of the two last, they are so small as not to deserve consideration. In general, all is arable.

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The soil is chiefly clay, of various mixture, loam, sand and till, and some of a lighter mould. It is good toward the Clyde, where there is more warmth and shelter; and there is a great deal of excellent ground in the parish.

Placed in so fine an exposure to the south, occupying so large a space, and so commanding a view of one of the finest countries in Scotland, the situation is from these circumstances very beautiful, and peculiarly adapted to the purposes of cultivation.

*Air and Climate.*—The air is good, and the climate healthful. A ridge of high hills, about ten miles north, carry off the clouds and vapour, that may be raised from the Atlantic, or otherwise. A long stretch of high ground does the same service on the south; and the parish, on account of its separate state, happily remains unaffected, while the storm is driving along both. The chief inconvenience arises from the clay soil tenaciously keeping upon the surface the rain that falls in winter. But the declining position of the parish, the good roads and ditches, serve as drains, and prevent any sensible bad effects upon the health of the people. Their houses are placed upon a dry situation, and well covered. There is no disease peculiar to the parish. When the small pox enter a village, from their close connexion and mode of frequent visiting each other in distress, the infection becomes general, but seldom fatal. The air at the east end is sharper, the ground considerably higher, and the snow lies longer.

Many arrive at old age; yet the employment of the husbandman is not the most favourable for a very advanced life. Engaged in incessant toils, driven often from the extremity of heat to cold, exposed to all the inclemencies of the elements; these wear out the best constitutions; and extreme old age is to be ascribed more to the uncommon strength

strength of stamina, than to fine air or climate, else the effects of these would be more equally felt.

*Wood and Planting.*—The woods are chiefly beside the proprietors seats, and upon the banks of the waters, where there is a good deal of coppice, and several large plantations. Some of fir, planted many years since, had arrived to a considerable size, and were lately sold to a good account; but enough is left, both for ornament and shelter. Many plots and strips were made lately, and promise well. One of the finest places in the parish derives its name\* from the extensive woods and plantations about it.

The woody banks of the Clyde and Calders, are frequented by the usual tenants of the groves of Caledonia, particularly the thrush and blackbird. The village and manse, on account of the planting, are highly favoured with the music of these two melodious birds, especially the last.

*Population.*

Under 15 years of age,	-		1112
From 15 to 70,	--	-	1535
Above 70,	-	-	60
			2707 †
		In all,	2707 †
			Males,

\* Woodhall.

† *Local Divisions.*

Woodhall, Lauchoppe, Sideridge,	-		779
Stevenfon, Cleland, Garfin, Tirviston,	-	-	495
Orbifton, upper and lower,	-	-	526
Back of moor, Carnbioe,	-	-	195
Uedingfton, and out farms,	-	-	287
Bothwell, out farms, and Bothwell Castle,	-	-	425
			2707

This division may gratify posterity, as by it they will see the increase or decrease not only of the parish in general, but of these arrangements and estates in particular.

Males,	1337
Females,	1370
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	2707

There are about four gentlemens seats at present unoccupied ; when they are supplied with their respective families and servants, the number in whole may amount to 2800.

*Trade and Manufactures.*

Bakers,	-	-	4	Blacksmiths,	-	-	19
Shopkeepers,	-	-	14	Tailors,	-	-	14
Stocking-weavers,	-	-	21	Shoemakers,	-	-	22
Colliers,	-	-	50	Millers,	-	-	6
Masons,	-	-	41	Coopers,	-	-	6
Weavers,	-	-	113	Innkeepers,	-	-	20
Joiners,	-	-	19				

The weavers are chiefly supplied with business from the manufactures in Glasgow.

There are six corn mills, two lint mills, and one bleach-field.

Four villages are in a thriving state.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The Duke of Hamilton is patron. The stipend received no alteration since 1650 till 1781, though the rental of the parish was much more than doubled in that time. It is now 6 chalders and 1 boll of meal, 1 chalders of bear, and L. 46, 18 s. in money.

The church was repaired about 16 years since ; the manse lately.

The glebe consists of above 4 acres arable ; but is deficient of the legal *quantum* for pasture.

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The incumbent has expended considerably upon the manse and garden, and has lately planted an orchard of a choice collection of fruit-trees, which he hopes will yield a benefit to his successors of L. 30 annually.

It is to be wished that some general plan was adopted, to put and keep manses and glebes in proper order. Intrants often find all in ruins. Composed of the most superficial materials, and given to the lowest undertaker, they need patching every 12 years; whereas, if manses were made good and substantial at first, they might last with little charge for 80 or 100 years, and would be a great saving to the landed interest.

A house of the Relief persuasion was built in the year 1703. The congregation is supplied from this, and five neighbouring parishes.

The school does not accord with the respectability of the parish, which has long suffered for want of a sufficient schoolmaster. It has checked the genius and improvements of the people. Complaints were numerous. The salary\* is 100 merks Scots, or L. 5 : 1 : 1 $\frac{4}{8}$ . No addition was asked, but that the best use should be made of it. When a vacancy lately took place, the principal heritors required, that an advertisement should be published; a comparative trial of candidates taken; and the best qualified preferred; that so the parish might be furnished with a man properly accomplished for that important trust. But this most equitable measure was defeated. A party of portioners, and other heritors, elected one, to whose qualifications strong objections were offered. The cause has undergone a tedious process, and is yet depending.

\* A small sum, besides, is appropriated to a school in a distant part of the parish.

*Poor.*—The poor are supplied from an assessment, fixed by a meeting of heritors and church-session, who meet once in the six months, examine the poors roll, and appoint such a sum to be levied for the ensuing half year, as the state of the poor requires. The landed property pay the one half, and the householders the other. As the parish is assessed, the Sunday collections are small; and are applied to keep the poor rates in moderation, to aid such as have a small allowance, and to keep others off it, by giving them incidental charity. At an average, there are about 25 upon the roll; and the sum allotted for the current year, is L. 73 : 18 : 8 Sterling.

By the mode of Sundays collections in Scotland, the poor are in general supported by the poorer part of society; but a legal assessment secures the contribution of all ranks in the parish, sectarists, and especially the *opulent proprietors*, whether resident or not. Its increase, however, ought to be jealously watched, and as much as possible prevented. The following regulations may be of use.

To prevent any from settling in the parish, whose circumstances may soon, or immediately, need supply; or to have an obligation from the parishes whence they come, that they shall support them.—Not to raise the stent upon every exigency, but to make a collection among the heritors, or at the church, for that purpose.—Never to slacken the hand of industry, by giving too early, or too much; for this would render it a nursery of sloth and idleness. A little exercise cheers even the languor of age, and sweetens both the cup and the rest of the labouring man. The real circumstances of every poor person should be precisely known, as representations may be biased by favour or influence; that when application is made, every proper object may have the necessary relief, and no part of the public charity shall be misapplied.—To admit no person upon

the roll, unless an intimation thereof is lodged with the church-session six weeks before the meeting, that the session may inquire into the state of the case, and report the same to the meeting.

By such provisions as these, the much dreaded evil of poor-rates in this country, may be prevented, and an effectual support for the poor secured; vagrant begging suppressed, and their children educated in knowledge and virtue.

*Rent and Inclosures.*—The old valuation of the parish is L. 7389 : 16 : 0<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Scots.

In 1650, the rental of the parish was L. 1950 : 18 : 5<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Sterling. In 1782, L. 4431 : 7 : 4 Sterling. But the real annual value cannot be well ascertained, as a good deal of the best is in the hands of proprietors and portioners. It may amount to between L. 5000 and L. 6000 Sterling.

The croft acres round the two principal villages, are estimated at L. 2 yearly. The outfield is from 10 s. to L. 1.

The land is not let by the acre, but at the *slump* of the farm, and the accumulated value estimated.

The farms are generally small, which is one great cause of the increase of population. In this respect, small farms are public benefits; but large farms, held by wealthy farmers, tend more effectually to advance the value of the ground.

They are commonly from L. 30 to L. 70. Seven about L. 100, and one or two between L. 100 and L. 200.

The rent of farms has been considerably increased within these 20 years, some more than doubled.

There are a great many inclosures in the parish, consisting chiefly of thorns. These around the gentlemens seats are

are generally in good order ; but such as are in the hands of tenants, are imperfect.

The slope hedge, instead of being planted upon the top, is very unfavourable ; excludes sun, rain and dew, from the root of the plant ; and the breaches of youth continue through age. The nursing a young hedge requires a good deal of attention ; a farmer of small extent grudges the charge. It would be for the interest of the proprietor to make some allowance, or to divide the expence of rearing the hedges for 7 or 8 years, till they are established ; the farmer being bound to maintain them during his lease.

*Roads and Bridges.*—The parish is well appointed in roads. The great road from Glasgow to Edinburgh, goes through the whole length of the parish, as has been already noticed. The road from Glasgow to Carlisle enters the parish on the west, a little to the south of the Edinburgh road, by a bridge over the Calder very near to Clyde, goes along the pleasant banks of the river, passeth through the village at the church, and crosses the Clyde at Bothwell bridge. The mail coach goes the same course twice a-day.

There are several sections from the Edinburgh road, crossing the parish in different places ; three leading to Hamilton, one to Lanark, and two to Airdrie, in good order. Besides these, there are many cross roads, made and repaired by the statute-work. It is converted at the rate of 15 s. *per* plough-gate ; the annual amount is £. 80 : 8 : 9½. The turnpike and statute roads put together, amount to about 50 miles ; 22 of which are good turnpike,—a provision rarely to be found in one parish, but which must facilitate the improvement, and enhance the value of the landed property.

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The principal bridges are, *Bothwell bridge*, over the Clyde, of four arches, which is old, upon a narrow scale, and is proposed to be rebuilt upon a larger plan, which will be a great improvement to this part of the country. There are two bridges over North Calder, on the west corner, where the Edinburgh and Carlisle roads enter the parish, and other two over the same water, on the roads to Airdrie. Three are upon the South Calder; one of them is upon the road to Lanark, lately built, and in good condition.

*Price of Labour and Provisions.*—The price of labour here, as in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, has been within these seven years considerably advanced. A principal ploughman, or man-servant, is from L. 10 to L. 12, with his board; a young man, next to him, who drives the plough, and works with him, is from L. 5 to L. 8; a maid-servant in the house, from L. 3 to L. 4 or L. 5; a common day labourer, formerly 10 d. or 1 s. is now 1 s. 4 d.; in hay-time, 1 s. 8 d. or 2 s.; the women 8 d.; a house-carpenter 1 s. 6 d. or 1 s. 8 d.; a mason 1 s. 8 d. and 1 s. 10 d.; a tailor 1 s. with board.

The advance of wages is severely felt by the small farmer. But his acting the principal part himself, till his children grow up to assist him, is a considerable saving.

Hamilton being so near is resorted to for butcher-meat. Glasgow regulates the price of grain. The produce of the dairy is generally carried there; and poultry is often dearer here than at that town, being carried thither in hopes of a higher price.

*Agriculture.*—The principal business of the parish is agriculture. It is pursued with great diligence, and according to the respective abilities of the farmer. It has  
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received a considerable improvement within these 20 years. The outfield was frequently ploughed, but the crop not worth the labour; now every pendicle is attended to, and exhibits, when the season is favourable, tolerable good culture. It is not long since they discovered the happy effects of lime on the strong clay. It is now very generally used; and when judiciously applied, produces very good crops. It is brought from the lime-works in burnt shells, and laid on at the proportion of from 50 to 100 bolls *per* acre. To do the field justice, it will take 100 bolls to each acre. The boll is 7 d. at the kiln, and consists of the wheat firloot, or Winchester bushel. They have strictly no regular rotation. The usual one is summer-fallow, with lime and dung; first year wheat; 2d pease; 3d oats, sown with grafs, cut one year or two, and pastured as many; or, instead of oats, the 3d year barley, prepared with frequent ploughing and dung, and laid down with grafs-seeds, which is a course more favourable to the ground.

As it is but a small part of the farm that a sufficient quantity of dung can be procured to prepare for wheat, other parts are limed on the pasture, two or three crops taken, and laid down in grafs; a green crop generally succeeding oats.

The introduction of wheat has been attended with one good circumstance, the cultivating, or *bringing in*, as it may well be termed, of that poor ejected alien, the *outfield*; for the summer-fallow is frequently applied there, and being furnished with lime and dung, a pretty good crop of wheat is produced, with one of pease, and another of oats. By repeated applications of this nature to the outfield, it has made very grateful returns, producing a crop of wheat from 7 to 10 bolls an acre, with two more proportionably fertile.

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By this attention to the *outfield*, it is observed, that the *croft* has failed for some years of the great crops it used to produce, owing to the farmer carrying all the dung and manure he can procure to his wheat-land, as he chiefly depends upon that crop for his rent.

Barley, for the same reason, is now less cultivated, as it interferes with the manure of the wheat; and, on account of the binding quality of the clay, it will not grow, unless it be cherished with refreshing showers soon after it is sown; for this cause, it is judged a precarious crop.

Beans, mixed with pease, used to be raised from the *croft* ground in great abundance. But in bad harvests, it is extremely difficult to get them timely dried and flacked, without which they are in a great measure lost. So that wheat, oats, and hay, are likely to be cultivated as the surest crops.

Potatoes are planted by every farmer, but chiefly for private use. Tradesmen depend much upon that valuable root. The hard soil is not so favourable as a tender and quick soil for that crop.

The clay is equally unfriendly to flax; and no more of it is sown than is necessary for the use of each family.

They sow in March, or as soon as the season will permit, and the soil is so dry as to admit them to go upon the fields.

Their harvest is earlier than some of their neighbours; especially that part of the parish which lies toward Clyde.

After all the manure that can be applied, the goodness of crops in this parish depends particularly upon the season. From its declining attitude to the south, but especially from the stiffness of the clay, it needs frequent showers, first in the spring, to bring the grain equally through the hard soil; and then a regular succession of showers to dissolve the clay, else it forms an impenetrable cement, excluding  
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all dew and moisture from the root of the plant. But when the ground is in pretty good order, and is favoured with frequent rains, it never fails to produce excellent crops. This is so remarkable, that the crop about the village of Bothwell is looked to by the inhabitants of the moorish part of the country as the index of the season; and when it is very luxuriant, they consider it as a certain signal that a greater quantity of rain has fallen, than suits their situation.

As a proof of what returns the best soil will yield, these are attested by credible authors, who both sowed and reaped the field. In some places the crop has amounted to 15 bolls of oats *per* acre; one acre of the glebe produced, 30 years since, 18 bolls of beans; and one in the holms yielded above 20 bolls of wheat, or 80 Winchester bushels. They were doubtless in high cultivation.

The grain is of a superior quality. The conversion at the mill is little short of meal for oats. It is purchased for feed by other parts of the country. The Scots plough, upon a lighter plan, with three horses, is generally used.

There is excellent butter and cheese made in the parish; but the dairy is not carried to any great extent, owing to the small farms, and the little portion allotted for pasture, they depending chiefly upon the arable crops for their profits.

The number of milk-cows are in proportion to the size of the farm, and will be from 6 to 12, or 14. They rear their black cattle and some horses, both of which are generally of a good breed.

It is expected, that here, and in other parts of the country, a more favourable rotation will take place. Instead of that ruinous practice of constant ploughing and scourging the soil, equally impoverishing the tenant and the farm, more will be allowed to graze, and less ploughed. The  
excessive

excessive rate of labour and wages, and the advanced price of hay and grafs, it is hoped will produce this most desirable improvement.

This parish poffeffes peculiar advantages for improvements, in the ftrong fertile nature of its foil; in the happy fituation of its farms and fields; in its vicinity to Glasgow, Hamilton and Airdrie; in the ftore of coal; in every eftate being watered by the Calders, or the Clyde, and adapted to the purpofes of machineries and manufactures; and in the high degree of cultivation it has already attained. Upon thefe accounts, landed property here is of a fuperior value; and when agriculture fhall be profecuted with greater vigour, this parish muft ftill hold the very firft place in the county.—*Vid. Means of Improvement.*

*Quarries and Minerals.*—The parish abounds in free-ftone. The quarries toward Clyde are of a red colour, fome of a fmooth furface, and very durable. In the upper part of the parish are feveral free quarries, of a beautiful white; and the houfes of the new villages are all neat, and well built.

There is an excellent going coal in Woodhall-lands. The price at the pit is 2 s. 9 d. Sterling *per* ton. The lands of Stevenfton, Orlano, and Jervifton, have alfo coal. The price was lately confiderably advanced, but is again fomewhat reduced. The chief confumption is in the parish and neighbourhood.

Limeftone is not found in the parish; it is brought from Hamilton and Kilbride, at the diftance of fix miles.

*Language, Drefs, Manners.*—The language fpoken here is Englifh, with the Scotch dialect.

Like their neighbours, within thefe 20 years, they are much improv'd in their drefs. The women wear a black

filk cloak and hat; the men appear in English cloth and a hat. Their appearance in public and at church is decent and elegant; but this taste for shew and finery, is at once the cause of their demand of high wages, and why so little more of their earning is allowed to accumulate than formerly, when they had scarcely more than the half of their present allowance

In general, the farmers are an industrious, sober, and virtuous people; regular in their attendance upon public worship; just, charitable, and humane; constantly engaged in the culture of their fields, they are happily removed from the arts of circumvention to acquire wealth; or those of dissipation to obtain licentious pleasure.

The first day of the new year is their only holiday, which they spend in friendly visits and mutual congratulations. Curling is their chief amusement in winter. Their weddings are celebrated with a decent cheerfulness. After partaking of a plentiful entertainment, the evening is spent in festive mirth and the social dance.

*Rivers.*—The only river is the Clyde, which waters the parish along the south side, in a gentle declivity, with beautiful windings, and here and there shallows, for the space of three or four miles. It is stored with trout and salmon, which are taken with the rod or net. At the end of harvest, and sometimes in winter, it overflows the hollows or low grounds; but the experience they have had warns them timely to remove the crop out of danger.

The water of *North Calder* rises from the **Black Loch** in the parish of East Monkland, and continues its course westward for about 15 miles, till it falls into Clyde, at the bridge above mentioned; and for 7 or 8 miles separates the parish from the East and West Monklands.

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The water of South Calder rises from several marshes and fens in the parishes of Shotts and Cambusnethan, and having continued its course for 15 miles, falls into the Clyde a little below Orbiefton.

They are generally shallow in summer; but in winter and rainy seasons, they pour a great quantity of water into Clyde.

The stream of the North Calder is considerably lessened by the water being taken into the Monkland Canal at Woodhall.

These two waters are chiefly distinguished for the romantic scenery of their banks; upon which account, all the gentlemen who live in that part of the country, have placed their seats upon the banks of the one or other of these two Calders.

There are no lakes in the parish.

*Eminent Men.*—Notwithstanding the adverse plan of education in the parish, the following may be named under this class, who owed their rise to more favourable seminaries:

Two sons of the Rev. Mr William Hamilton, Messrs Robert and Thomas, succeeded each other as Professors of Anatomy in the College of Glasgow.

The last was succeeded by his only son, Mr William Hamilton; a young gentleman, who, by his distinguished abilities, and indefatigable application, soon acquired a very high degree of fame in his profession. He died in early life; his loss was deeply felt, and universally regretted. His feeling heart, and gentleness of manners; his endearing sympathy with the distressed, almost soothing away pain; his rare and amiable virtues, will long live in the memory of his friends, and in a very extensive circle of society.

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In this list must be included the late Daniel Campbell, Esq; of Shawfield, brother to the present proprietor.

He was one of the most accomplished gentlemen his country has produced. Nature was liberal to him of her choicest gifts : Taste and elegance seemed natural to him : He possessed the graces in perfection : The fine arts were his favourite amusements. He sat in two Parliaments, and gave such proofs as declared him qualified to have made an eminent figure in the British Senate. Above all, the ineffable sweetness, the flowing sensibilities of his heart, enhanced every accomplishment, gave a charming lustre to the whole man, and rendered him at once admired and beloved by all who knew him.

To these may well be added Mr William Aiton, author of *Hortus Kewensis*, 3 vols. He was a native of this parish, educated under the friendly shade of the last gentleman's family. He went to England in 1754. In 1759 he was pointed out to the Princess Dowager of Wales and his present Majesty, as a man best qualified to form a botanical garden at Kew. Under their encouragement, he studied and laboured for 34 years, collecting from every corner of Britain, and the remotest climes, every rare and valuable production of the vegetable creation.

How far he succeeded in a task so arduous and laudable, the present highly finished state of that place, the unanimous approbation of the best judges of the botanical science, and the accurate description given by himself, are, and it is hoped shall continue to be the most ample testimonies for ages.

In him the gentleman and the Christian were happily united. By his patronage, multitudes with their families are now comfortably settled in the world. Placed in the highest sphere of his employment, he acquired the approbation of all ranks. He was honoured with very particular

lar marks of the bounty and favour of our most *amiable Sovereign*. His name and fame extended to every quarter of the globe; proved passports to distant kingdoms; and his recommendations were sufficient introductions to men of science in foreign Courts.

He might be called the *Scotch Linnæus*, from whom the *younger Linnæus* received no small improvement. What an honour to his country, and what praise is due to such eminent virtue! He died at Kew, Feb. 19. 1793. His son succeeded to his charge \*.

*Antiquities.*—The castle of Bothwell † is a very ancient and noble structure. In its decayed state it exhibits some striking remains of its former splendor, and is, perhaps, the most magnificent ruin in Scotland. The work is all done with polished stone, of a red colour; the apartments very lofty. What of it remains occupies a space in length 234 feet, and in breadth 99 feet over the walls. The lodgings are confined to the east and west ends, and many of them sufficiently distinguished. The chapel is marked with a number of small windows, and like a chamber of state off it, with two large windows to the south. The old well in the corner of one of the towers, penetrating through the  
rock

\* Funeral Sermon by Smith, Camberwell. Monthly Review of said Sermon, May 1793. “*We who knew the man* have good reason to believe, that the testimony here borne to his worth, his genuine piety, his exemplary morality, and his extensive benevolence, is no more than his just due. Real merit is sometimes exaggerated in funeral panegyrics; but this is not the case in the present instance.”

† The Castle of Bothwell and the Provostry once made a conspicuous figure in the parish, and in the history of Scotland. The first is still visited by the curious, and admired in its ruins. As there is nothing published respecting them, these few hints have been procured with some pains.

rock to a good spring, was discovered a few years since. The stair of one of the highest towers is almost entire to the top, which presents an immense height above the river. The court in the middle was probably designed to contain their cattle and provisions in case of an assault, an arrangement peculiar to many ancient castles. The entry is on the north, about the middle of the wall. Vestiges of the fosse are yet visible. It appears to have been built and enlarged at different times, and by the several proprietors who occupied it.

The following is a concise statement of the various lords or masters it had received in the vicissitudes of fortune :

“ It was anciently possessed by the Murrays \*. But in the time of King Edward I. it was given to Aymer de Valance † Earl of Pembroke, Governor for him of the south part of Scotland. Upon his forfeiture, it was given by King Robert Bruce to Andrew Murray, Lord Bothwell, who married Christian, sister to that King. With his grand-daughter it came to Archibald the Grim, Earl of Douglas, by marriage, and continued in their family till their forfeiture by King James II. 1455. After the forfeiture

\* M. S. Mr Hamilton of Wishaw, Advocates Library.

† 1307. Earl Pembroke having the command of the English army, challenged Bruce to fight him at the bottom of London Hill. He accepted, and defeated him. The Earl retreated to *Bothwell Castle*. GUTH.

1336. Edward III. published writs, dated from the *Castle of Bothwell*, ordering his Parliament to assemble, and concert the proper means of defending his kingdom against the Scots, and commanding his admirals to oppose the French fleet; putting them in mind that his progenitors were always masters at sea. These papers, written at Bothwell are copied in Rymer's *Fœd.* vol. 4 p. 722

1337. 6th March Scots besiege *Bothwell Castle*, took it by storm from the English, and level it to the ground. GUTH.

feiture of the family of Douglas, the bulk of the lordship of Bothwell was given to Lord Crichton, son to Chancellor Crichton; and Bothwell forest, or Bothwell moor, was given to Lord Hamilton, in exchange of the lands of Kingwell.

Crichton was forfeited in 1485, for joining with Alexander Duke of Albany against King James III. It was then given by King James III. to the Lord Monipenny, from whom it was soon retaken, as having been given by the King in his minority; and was thereafter given by him to John Ramsay his favourite, who enjoyed it till the 1488, when he was forfeited for counterfeiting a commission under the great seal to the Earl of Northumberland; then the lordship of Crichton was gifted by King James IV. to Adam Hepburn Lord Hailles, whom he created Earl of Bothwell. It continued in his line till November 1567, when James Earl of Bothwell was forfeited for the murder of Henry, father to King James VI. Thereafter it was given by that King to Francis Stewart, son of John Abbot of Kelso, who was natural son to King James V.; and he being forfeited for crimes committed against James VI. his estate was gifted to the Lairds of Buccleugh and Roxburgh, from whom the Marquis of Hamilton acquired all the superiority and patronage of that lordship.

The property, which was less than the 3d of the lordship, with the Castle of Bothwell, having been disposed by Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, to the Earl of Angus, in exchange of the lordship of Liddisdale.

The said William Earl of Angus, and Archibald his son, in 1630, or thereby, did feu the 3d part of the lordship to the particular tenants and possessors thereof, without diminution of the old rent, and reserving the Castle and Mains of Bothwell. It was given off as a patrimonial portion with the Earl of Forfar, but is again returned to the

the family of Douglas by the death of Archibald Earl of Forfar, who died at Stirling of his wounds received at Sherriimuir, in the year 1715."

The above account is confirmed by this circumstance, that the different parts of the edifice retained each the name of the builder; such as *Valence* tower, *Douglas* tower \*, *Hamilton* tower, and the *Cuming* tower; and some are still known by them. The Douglas family had exceedingly enlarged and improved it; their arms were found in different places of the wall. It is impossible to form a just idea of its former greatness, as it is said that a great deal of it was taken down by the Earl of Forfar, out of which he built a modern house.

There is this peculiar to that superb structure, that all the neighbouring objects are in a great style. The Clyde makes a fine circle round the Castle; the breadth of the river is considerable; the streams spread over a plain rocky bottom; the banks, on both sides, are very high, and adorned with natural wood. The Craig of Blantyre, with the ruins of the old house of the Priors upon the top of it, immediately opposite, has a striking effect; while this noble monument of ancient grandeur extends along the summit of the north bank, with a bold aspect to the south, at both ends rears its lofty towers, and dignifies the whole scene †.

*Bothwell*

\* James, Lord Hamilton, married Eupham Graham, daughter of the Earl of Strathern, and second wife and widow of Archibald the 5th Earl of Douglas; and, in her right, was in possession of a considerable part of the lordship and barony of Bothwell. Crawford.

† See Buildings. Bothwell House.

*Bothwell Church.*—Bothwell church, or quire, is an old structure, in the Gothic style, of excellent workmanship, 70 feet in length over the walls, and 39 in breadth. It is still entire, and used for public worship; only the portico, at the west end, was taken down 1719, to admit of a modern addition, to accommodate the congregation. The roof is arched and lofty, and from within makes a very fine appearance. It is lighted with a tire of large windows on each side, and a great window in the east end; in the upper part of which the Douglas arms are cut, and at the south corner of the window, within and without, quartered in stone with the Royal arms, probably pointing to the Earl of Douglas's marriage with King Robert's granddaughter. The Hamilton arms are engraved in the centre of the arch, which supports what is called the organ loft. The arched roof is covered with large polished flags of stone, somewhat in the form of pan-tiles. The whole edifice is composed of stone, strengthened by pilasters, to support the weight of the roof. There are no ornaments or inscriptions; but near the outer base of the spire, the name of the master-mason is written in Saxon characters,

*Magister Thomas Tron.*

A cell is placed upon the back wall, which enters from within, where the font basin, of stone, built in the wall, and the stone pitcher, standing in the middle of the paved vault, are yet complete.

In the two east corners of the church, are two sepulchral monuments of the Earl of Forfar and son.

*Provostry, or Collegiate Church of Bothwell.*—The collegiate church of Bothwell \* was founded 10th of October  
VOL. XVI. S f 1398,

\* It was before a cloister of nuns. Spotswood's Appendix.

1398, by Archibald the grim Earl of Douglas, for a Provost and eight prebendaries; to which he grants the lands or Osberington, or Orbiston, in his barony of Bothwell, and the lands of Netherurd, and mill thereof, in the sheriffdom of Peebles, *in perpetuum elemosinam*.

The endowment of the church was very great; for besides these lands, there was given them a right to all the tithes of Bothwell and Bartrom, Shotts, Avendale, and Stonehouse parishes, and several superiorities. Most of these superiorities, with part of the property, and whole tithes, belong now to the Duke of Hamilton, who is both patron and titular.

The Noble founder died in the 1400; and, as tradition has it, is buried with his Lady, under a large marble stone in the east end of the said quire. In the year 1400, David Prince of Scotland was married to Marjory Douglas, daughter to Archibald, the grim Earl of Douglas, in the church of Bothwell.

The prebendaries had each a house and yard, round the church. The houses are demolished, but the yards retain the names of Vicar yard, Prebend yards. The Provost of Bothwell had a vicar at St Catherine's Chapel, for serving the upper part of the parish, now called the Shotts. But after the Reformation, it was divided into two parishes.

*Provosts and Ministers of Bothwell.*—The first Provost was Thomas Varoye or Barry. He was born in the reign of King David II and probably died toward the beginning of the reign of Robert III. He wrote a poem on the battle of Otterburn, fought 5th of August 1388.

The next Provost was William Foulis, designed, *Custos privati sigilli, et Præpositus de Bothwell*, by King James I. 23d year of his reign.—His successor was *William Pont*. He was keeper of the privy seal, and is a witness with  
John

John Bishop of Glasgow, and others, to a charter of King James I. at Edinburgh 24th May, 24th year of King James's reign.—He was succeeded by *Dr John Ralston*, a younger son of the family of Ralston in Renfrewshire, in the reign of King James I. From being parson of Cambuslang, he was promoted to the provostship of Bothwell, both being in the gift of Archibald Earl of Douglas; so designed in a charter October 24. 1426. Was afterwards *Dean of Dunkeld*; *Secretary* to King James II.; *Bishop of Dunkeld*, in 1448; Lord High Treasurer in 1449; died in 1452.—*Gavin Hamilton* occurs next, a son of the first Lord Hamilton. He accompanied his father to Rome, where he went to get his foundation of the collegiate church of Hamilton ratified by the Pope's bull. He took orders when advanced in life, became Provost of the collegiate church of Bothwell, of the Earl of Douglas's patronage, and is in that office 1450.

George Hepburn, a son of Adam second Lord Hailes, was made Provost of the collegiate church of Bothwell 1493. He was afterwards Lord High Treasurer of Scotland, Bishop of the Isles, and slain, with King James IV. at the battle of Flowden, 1513.

James Bethune was Provost of Bothwell 1503, afterwards Archbishop of St Andrew's.

Alexander Hepburn was Provost of Bothwell 1527, obtained a charter of the lands of Kettlestown, in the parish and county of Linlithgow, under that designation.

*Ministers since the Reformation 1560.*

Mr John Hamilton, minister of Bothwell 1574; his stipend the hail provostry of Bothwell, lately disposed\*.

Mr

\* Register of assignments of the minister's stipend, M. S. Advocates Library.

Mr Gavin Hamilton, minister, 1604.

Mr Robert Boyd, minister, 1618 and 1635.

Mr Matthew Mackell, minister, 1650, ousted at the Restoration of Charles II.

*Episcopal Ministers after the Restoration.*

Mr John Carstairs, 1660.

Dr Robert Douglas, afterwards Bishop of Dumblane, deprived at the Revolution.

Mr Alexander Kinneir, 1681.

Mr Thomas Hamilton.

Mr Robert Douglas, son to the former, and minister here at the Revolution.

*After the Revolution:*

Mr John Orr, translated to Edinburgh.

Mr William Hamilton, ordained 1709.

Mr James Hamilton, his son, ordained 1746.

Dr James Baillie, 1762; afterwards Professor of Divinity, Glasgow.

The incumbent.

*Battle of Bothwell Bridge.*—The south side of this bridge was the scene of an engagement in the reign of Charles II. 1679, between the whigs or covenanters, and the King's army, commanded by the Duke of Monmouth. The King's army advanced by the north, or Bothwell side. The covenanters, divided among themselves, were soon thrown into confusion; 400 were killed, chiefly in the pursuit, and 1200 taken prisoners. It is said that they did not expect to fight, being misinformed that the Duke was ordered to observe pacific measures. It is told by the historians of those times.

*Bothwell*

*Bothwell Haugh*—lies about a mile above the bridge, was formerly the property of James Hamilton of Bothwell-haugh, who (23d January 1570) shot the Earl of Murray, regent, at Linlithgow. He escaped to Hamilton, and from thence to France\*.

About a quarter of a mile east from this, there is a bridge over the South Calder, judged to be of Roman construction; of one arch, high, very narrow, and without ledges. The Roman road called *Watling-street*, one of the four † famous ways that the Romans anciently made in Britain, was a few years ago in entire preservation, leading to it from the east, through Dalziel parish; but it is now scarce discernible, being removed by the course of the plough.

A mile above this, upon the banks of the same water, there is a quarry of the finest millstones in the west of Scotland. They are sent for from Carron, and other distant parts of the country.

Three miles higher, upon the north bank of the Calder, in the middle of the steep rock upon which the house of Cleland stands, is a large *natural cove*, which had been partly improv'd by art, capable of holding 40 or 50 men, of difficult access. The entry was secured by a door and an iron gate, fixed in the solid rock; the fire-place, and part of the chimney and floor, still remain. The tradition is, that it had been used as a place of concealment in the  
troublesome

\* De Thou writes, that he was sollicit'd to assassinate the great Admiral Coligini, but refused.

† Ikenild Street, Fofs, Ermin Street, and *Watling Street*; so call'd from one Vitellianus, supposed to have superintended the direction of it; the Britons calling Vitellianus, in their language, Guetalin.

troublesome times of the country, as far back as the gallant patriot Sir William Wallace; perhaps by the hero himself, and his trusty band: Also during the violent feuds between the house of Cleland and Lauchope; and especially in the convulsions of this country under the Charles's.

It is an instructive monument of the happy difference between the state of our ancestors and our present situation, where tranquillity and security are inscribed upon all our habitations, from the princely dome to the humblest cottage.

About 70 years ago, a little after the accession of the present Royal Family, when their mild and gentle spirit began to be universally felt, the iron gate was taken down, the hinges torn from the rock, and, it is hoped, will never need to be repaired again.

Passing to the North Calder, the next object which attracts notice is the house of *Lauchope*. It was the seat of a very ancient family, the mother-family and chief of the *Muirheads*. It is an old tower-house, the walls of a prodigious thickness; part of it fell lately, and part is still inhabited. It has gone through several hands.

*Chapel*,—north-east from Lauchope, was formerly a religious house, of what order is not known.

*Temple Lands*.—The lands of Greenfide and Shirrel, were of this description.

#### *Seats, — Buildings.*

The principal are,——

The house of *Bothwell*, lately built, and the residence of Lord Douglas. It is a handsome edifice, stands a little east  
from

from the old castle, and at once commands the charming group of beauties, arising from the banks, the river, the ruins, and the adjacent country. The apartments, like the great objects that surround them, are marked with a dignified simplicity. The banks are broad and extensive; exhibit a very picturesque scene; have been much improved of late, with pleasure walks, huts and shrubbery. The walk from the house, along the summit of the bank, and round the ruins, is most delightful. Nature is truly Great; her steps are carefully followed, and a good taste discovered. A grove of oaks occupies one part of the banks, already considerably advanced, and will make a venerable figure in future times. The park is inclosed with a remarkably good wall. There are few places more favoured from situation, or capable of greater embellishment.

The first who had the merit to discern the beauties of these banks, even in their rude state, covered with natural wood, and to plan and commence improvements, was the late Lady Lucy Douglas\*.

With the finest moral feelings of the heart, she possessed a well-cultivated mind, and a correct taste. By arranging these natural beauties, with the aid of her husband, she produced a paradise. Here she spent her leisure hours, forgot the world, conversed with Nature, and its great Author; and participated in those pleasures which were pure, serene, and congenial to her own mind.

“ Qui fait aimer les Champs, fait aimer la Vertu.”

DELILLE.

*Woodball,*

\* First Lady of Lord Douglas, and sister to the present Duke of Montrose.

*Woodball*,—the seat of Walter Campbell, Esq; of Shawfield. It is situated on the banks of the water of North Calder, about five miles north-east from the church. The house is large, with some noble apartments, and a good library. The inclosures and plantations are numerous and extensive. Two avenues from the great road to Edinburgh, from the east and west, each about a mile and a half in length, passing through belvideres and sunk fences, form a fine approach. It has lately received a complete melioration from the present proprietor. A beautiful piece of water has been formed, upon the banks of which modern gardens, peach-house, vineries, and orangery, are built to a great extent. Pleasure-walks are made along the banks of the Calder, and both sides ornamented with planting. The Monkland canal adds to the scenery, and will advance the value of the coal in the estate. The fields have been laid down in great order; plantations thinned; fine vistas opened; and a more elegant and cheerful aspect given to the whole. Few places in the west of Scotland are upon a more liberal scale; few gentlemen understand the improvements and interests of their country better than the proprietor, or have done more than he upon his several seats.

*Miscellaneous Remarks.*—*Beauty of Clydesdale, or Fine Prospects.*—There are many of these in the parish. One is, the view from the west point of the village of Uddingston, down the river. It terminates upon *Daldowie*, where nature, aided by an excellent taste, has formed one of the most beautiful places upon Clyde.

But there is another prospect which merits particular notice. It is the east brow of the hill, upon which the village of Bothwell stands. This seems to be the great promontory which nature has erected to contemplate the beauties

ties of the *Vale of Clyde*. There are none in the central line of the river above this; and after it quits this parish, it loses its noble woody banks, and generally falls into a flatness on both sides.

This eminence commands the most rich and pleasant prospect of an inland kind in Scotland. It would require the pen of a Thomson to do it justice.

On the right hand, and south side of the river, the residence of the Duke of Hamilton, called the Palace, Chateherault, and the town, appear just under the eye, amidst extensive pleasure-grounds, which may vie with many of the finest places in England. A little above this, the vale is contracted, the banks are wide and deep, with a gradual declivity on both sides, which are occupied by gentlemen's seats, highly cultivated and embellished. Woods and plantations stretch along the banks. Numerous orchards are interspersed through the groves. These, in the spring, give a great part of the vale an Italian aspect, or rather,

— “The bloom of blowing Eden fair.”

In autumn they are richly loaded with fruits, and may be called the Garden of Scotland. Beautiful meadows covered with flocks, and rich fields of corn, adorn the holms and plains. Nature dispenses her pleasures with a liberal hand. Hill and dale, wood and water, are finely blended together. So great a collection of rural charms, variety of scenery, exquisite arrangement, and vast extent, render the whole most enchanting. The river, with its purling streams and meanders, diffuses fertility and beauty through all the vale, while villa succeeds villa, with their respective improvements, as far as the eye can reach, till the prospect, or stretch of 24 miles, terminates upon Tintoc. Twice every day the scene is highly adorned; in the morning, when the sun ascends above the noble mountain of Tintoc, and

gilds the whole vale, and when he revisits it from the opposite point in the evening.

It is a proof of a most gracious Providence, that the noblest pleasures are laid open to all. It is usual for the villager, in summer, on his great day of rest, Sunday, morning or evening, to walk out with his Bible, and repose himself on this great sofa of nature.

With luxuriant crops at his feet, under the covert of orchards behind, and this transporting entertainment before him, he forgets his weekly toils, reads the beatitudes, claims an interest in the very first;

— “ And feels an inward bliss  
 “ Spring o’er his mind, beyond the power of Kings  
 “ To purchase.”

The beauties of Bothwell banks were celebrated in *ancient song*, of which the following *incident* is a striking proof:

“ So fell it out of late years \*, that an English gentleman, travelling in Palestine, not far from Jerusalem, as he passed through a country town, he heard by chance a woman sitting at the door, dandling her child, to sing,

“ Bothwell Bank, thou bloomest fair.”

“ The gentleman hereat exceedingly wondered, and forthwith in English saluted the woman, who joyfully answered him, and said, She was right glad there to see a gentlemen of our isle; and told him, that she was a Scotch woman, and came first from Scotland to Venice, and from Venice thither; where her fortune was to be the wife of an officer under the Turk, who being at that instant absent, and  
very

\* Verstigan, in his *Restitution of Decayed Intelligence*, Antwerp, 1605. chap. of the Surnames of our Ancient Families.

very soon to return, she intreated the gentleman to stay there until his return; the which he did; and she, for country sake, to shew herself more kind and bountiful unto him, told her husband at his home-coming, that the gentleman was her kinsman; whereupon her husband entertained him very kindly, and at his departure gave him divers things of good value."

In confirmation of this account of the view, a good part of these banks is now occupied by two gentlemens seats, Sweethope and Bothwell Park. They are both elegant, set down on account of the prospect, and both enjoy it in perfection.

A new line of road is formed from Hamilton to Lanark, along the south banks of the Clyde, and through the whole length of the vale; it is just finished, and makes one of the most pleasant rides in Scotland.

*Means of Improvement.*—One principal object is the communication of a greater measure of useful knowledge to the great body of the community. Parochial schools in general are not supplied with such able teachers as they were 50 years ago, owing probably to this, that they who have got a good education, find a more generous encouragement from the manufacturing or commercial departments, which formerly were upon a small scale in this country.

Parochial and public schools should be especially directed, *1<sup>st</sup>*, To the instilling of *virtuous principles*; teaching the youth an abridgment of the Christian religion; its incontestible evidence; its incomparable excellence, as securing the quiet, order, and dignity both of the individual and the community.

The great design of education is, to form the mind to the love and practice of virtue. How mournful is it to observe, that this important object seems forgotten, if not expelled

expelled from the modern plan of education. A system of religion and virtue, or any book relating to the Scriptures, is not taught in the higher or lower seminaries of learning; a few questions of a Catechism are got by rote, after the alphabet, and seldom repeated, as if it were an insult to an advanced understanding. This may justly be considered as the great cause of the *immorality of the age*. When a youth is sent abroad into the world, without a rational persuasion of the importance of religion; of his obligations to virtue; destitute of one argument to defend himself against the attacks of its adversaries, what can be expected, but that he will fall an easy prey to the allurements of vice. Hence, in high life, infidelity and impiety; in lower ranks, mistaken views of religion, bigotry and superstition, instead of the weightier matters of the law.

What a reproach to this age, with all its boasted improvements in arts, in philosophy, and under the last dispensation of Heaven, to be outdone by ancient heathens in their plan of education. They taught their youth deeds, and not words: they enforced justice, generosity, magnanimity, all the virtues. Hence the illustrious characters they reared in all stations and capacities, hitherto, alas! unequalled in any succeeding age.

Quid musæ sine moribus vanæ proficiant?

If ever a *reformation* takes place, it must be by a *virtuous education* of youth. Laws may secure external order, but can never *amend the heart* \*.

Since writing the above, the last General Assembly (1794) have enjoined, that a more particular attention shall be paid in parochial schools to teaching the youth the principles

\* See Dr Hardy's excellent Sermon at the opening of the General Assembly 1794.

principles of religion. But the evil is of great magnitude, and requires an adequate remedy.

When the virtuous Pilot has brought the vessel of State through the perilous storms that assault it, safe into the haven of peace, would it not be a task worthy of his head and heart, to invigorate the salutary rules respecting schools and colleges; to add new ones, if judged expedient; pointing the whole to the effectual establishment of a system of national virtue. What so likely to secure the noble purpose of the Royal proclamation? What more desirable to the most virtuous Sovereign in the world, who, by a thousand daily proofs, shows, that the virtue, felicity, and glory of his people, is the supreme and constant wish of his heart!

The present alarming effects of a long *unprincipled*, though *fashionable education*, in a neighbouring country, holds forth an *awful admonition to the nations*.

2. The Latin language ought ever to be held as an indispensable qualification, else youths of genius may lose the only opportunity of rising in the world; persons indifferently qualified will be put into the office of schoolmasters; and literature at last will be banished from the country. Besides this, the youth should be taught the principles of reading and writing the English language with propriety; the principles of history; principles of geography; principles of mechanics; the practical parts of mathematics; and,

3. The principles of *agriculture*: The rudiments of which may be reduced to as simple a scale, and be as easily taught, as book-keeping. It is now taught in the university of Edinburgh. A small compend may be made, and illustrations procured on the most material parts, and communicated to the youth, when his understanding is sufficiently opened, and he is about to leave the school, and betake himself to the employment of agriculture.

**This**

This method would create a taste for agriculture among the youth of our country; an emulation would take place from the school. The young farmer would rejoice to enter upon, and excel in the profession of his fathers; he would acquaint his father with the principles of the science he had learned; the father, in return, would confirm them, with the sage observations he had made in the course of a long experience; prejudices would be removed, important knowledge respecting the art would be circulated; a noble enthusiasm for agricultural improvements would be diffused through every parish. Premiums from the Board of Agriculture to the more ingenious and industrious, would give the design additional efficacy and success.

This country is employed in agriculture, manufactures, and commerce. The education should be adapted to these objects. Academies, upon a similar plan, established in towns, and endowed with proper salaries, would be much for the benefit of the public. The bulk of mankind have neither time nor money to procure a liberal education; a scheme of this kind brings instruction within their reach, and tends to reconcile them to it; would produce genius and improvements in mechanics, manufactures, in all professions; and communicate to the generality of the people various branches of knowledge, of which they are at present destitute.

The foundation being thus established upon a well conducted education, it may be proper to add some of these means which might improve the present state of agriculture in the parish. Let it suffice to name the most obvious.

*Hedge rows and Inclosures.*—Though these abound in the parish, it is to be wished they were reared with attention, and made more perfect. Hedge-rows, of so long use  
in

in England, have had a considerable influence to bring that soil to its high state of improvement. This country, from its bleak situation, and thin air, requires warmth to nourish its plants.

*A Belt of Wood round the Farm-house* would be an improvement.

These circular clumps, rising here and there amidst inclosed fields and lawns, would not only shelter, but give the whole country the look of a most extensive pleasure-ground.

*To moderate the high Price of Wages* is a most important object of good policy. The seat of manufactures being in the neighbourhood is not a sufficient plea; the wages have been high before the manufactures were so flourishing; and there is still a great number who, from early habits, prefer the labours of the field. Gentlemen in other counties have established proper regulations for this article, and it is certainly the interest of gentlemen and landholders to confine this charge within due bounds.

*The Two-horse Plough* would save the one half both of men and horses, and especially the consumpt of oats. The oats consumed by three or four horses upon a small farm must be very great. Lord Kames has calculated, that the quantity of oats consumed yearly by the work-horses in Scotland, amounts in value to L. 261,940, 16 s.

*The Leases for two 19 Years* are most preferable. They give encouragement to the farmer to expend liberally in improvements, because he considers it as a patrimony to his family. He trusts, that what he throws away his son will recover with increase. Short leases and poor farmers  
are

are the great bars to improvements. If it is objected, that an advance of rent is expected at the end of the first 19 years, that may be agreed upon at certain periods of the lease; and if judiciously managed for 38 years, it would be worth a third or a half more than it was at the beginning.

*A more favourable Rotation* would be highly advantageous; a great deal more in grass, and less in tillage. This would be the easiest method to put farms into good order, and to keep them in it. The half of seed, labour, and manure might be spared; the work done in proper season, and at the half of the expence.

*A generous Indulgence upon the part of the Proprietor* to the tenant may sometimes be very expedient; remitting him some part, or allowing some deduction, in proportion to his liberal improvements. It is not requisite, where farms are in good order; but considering the general condition of tenants, it is impossible farms can be improved otherwise. Whereas, if such a measure was adopted for 8 or 9 years, at the beginning of the lease, the farmer would be enabled to apply a double quantity of manure, and thereby greatly advance the value of the ground\*.

But

\* A gentleman of property in the neighbourhood, since these remarks, has favoured the writer with a few lines, representing, in strong terms, the injury done by hunters to the farmers in this parish. He observes, that the exercise should be confined to an open country, and dry fields; for, if pursued in a deep loamy soil, as here, the damage may soon be very great, involving wheat, sown grass, hedges, and all vegetation in ruin. In a word, he does not know a greater grievance than a poor farmer labours under. The hint deserves notice; it comes from a gentleman who is dressing his farm with a degree of taste equal to any in the county. To this, perhaps, it will be said, that gentlemen must have their sport. Yet, with all deference to that noble and ancient profession, may it not be asked.

But for these, and more essential improvements, we look to the Board of Agriculture, where, from the distinguished abilities, zeal, and application of the Honourable President and his coadjutors, and the countenance of our most gracious Sovereign, there is good reason to expect, that the greatest benefit will accrue to the country.

Farmers here, and in the neighbourhood, have been for some time subject to inconveniencies. The advantages arising from their nearness to Glasgow are of late impaired, granaries being established there, and supplied with English and foreign grain, the brewer and baker are furnished in larger quantities, and upon a certain credit. The small portion of the farmer meets not with so hearty a reception as formerly. The price of wheat, it has been observed, is suppressed till after Candlemas, when most of the small farmers are obliged to dispose of it. The value of their crops have not increased in proportion to the manufactures about them; servants wages high; manure scarce, and the price advanced; a supply of horses not to be had, but at a very considerable charge.

“ Pater ipse colendi

“ Haud facilem esse viam voluit.”

VIRG.

He, therefore, who disseminates the principles of sound knowledge among his fellow-citizens, and from thence produces the most liberal crops of industry and virtue, this is the *true Patriot*, who confers the noblest blessings upon his country, and merits immortal praise.

VOL. XVI.

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asked, must the virtuous industry of a poor family be forfeited for mere amusement, the fruits of the earth destroyed, and a bar put to those improvements which are justly become the object of national concern? There is no gentleman but will reply, that nothing can be more distant from their sentiments. What pity then, but some regulations were made by these gentlemen themselves, to prevent such ravages, and to secure souls of a certain description, which nature meant not to be sported with. The measure is much wanted, and would be highly conducive to the police of the country.