

NUMBER XVII.

PARISHES OF FOSSAWAY & TULLIEBOLE.

(COUNTIES OF PERTH AND KINROSS.)

*By the Rev. Mr GRAHAM.**Origin of the Names of Fossaway and Tulliebole.*

THE Scots were anciently a nation of warriors; and when not engaged against the common enemy, the chieftains often turned their arms against one another. When at peace, their time was employed in hunting, and they naturally distinguished their hunting grounds, by the various sorts of game with which they abounded. Hence the name of Fossaway, or in the original Gaelic, Fasach Fheidh, pronounced Fasach-hay, is literally "the desert of deer," to distinguish it from the range of mountains to the westward, called in the original, Mueard, or "the height where the bears resort-
"ed." In the Duke of Atholl's charter, it is written Fossowhey, which is very near the original orthography. The desert of deer, corresponds with the description of Ossian. He makes Fingal say to Swaran, "The desert is enough for me with all
" its deer and woods."

Tulliebole literally signifies the Poet's hill: For it is well understood, that every chief had his own bard. By him the
poems

poems concerning the ancestors of the family, were handed down to posterity, and were repeated to the whole clan on solemn occasions. Tulliebole, therefore, seems to have been the residence, at a very early period, of some independent chief, in the same manner that Tullibardine, or the hill of the bards, was the seat of the chieftain of the Murrays.

Formerly Fossaway and Tulliebole were two separate parishes, and each had its own pastor and church. The annexation, it is said, took place sometime about the year 1614. In the Advocates Library, there is an ancient manuscript, which is entitled, "Register of Assignations for the Ministers' Stipends, for the year 1574." In this manuscript, the stipends of the readers of the two parishes, are separately stated thus. "John Henderson, reader at Tulliebole, his stipend, L. 16, with the kirk land, to be paid out of the third of the abbacy of Culrofs," &c. And, "Mr Adam Marshall, reader at Fossoquhy, his stipend, L. 26: 14: 4, paid thereof, out of the third of the abbacy of Cowpar, by the tacksmen or parishioners of Fossoquhy, as the reader shall choose."

Fossaway lies in the county of Perth, Tulliebole in Kinrossshire, and both are within the bounds of the presbytery of Auchterarder, and the Synod of Perth and Stirling. In Keith's Catalogue of the Scots Bishops, there is an Alphabetical Table of all the Parishes in Scotland, with the names of the Shire, Diocese, Presbytery, and Commissariat, in which each of them is situated; in which Fossaway is thus stated, 1688.

<i>Parishes.</i>	<i>Shires.</i>	<i>Diocese.</i>	<i>Presbytery.</i>	<i>Commissariat.</i>
Fossaway, whereto Tulliebole annexed. }	Perth.	Dumblane.	Auchterarder.	Dumblane.

This is evidence, that both parishes were at an early period in the Diocese of Dumblane. After the annexation down to the year 1729, the two places of worship, the one at Fossaway,

way, and the other at Tulliebole, were still retained, and the minister who served the cure, preached two sabbaths at Foffaway, and the third at Tulliebole, regularly, and his house was at Foffaway. In that year, both the old churches were thrown down, the manse and globe at Foffaway were sold; the present glebe and church-yard, which are situated in the parish of Tulliebole, were purchased; and a new church and manse were built, in a situation more central to both parishes, and more convenient for the incumbent.

Ministers Names on Record.—The first found on the Session Register (1609), is Mr Laurence Mercer. It appears that he was alive in the year 1634. From that period, there is a deficiency in the register. The next mentioned is Mr Alexander Ireland, in the year 1661. He was alive, in 1687. Then the register is again deficient. It cannot therefore be ascertained, in what years these clergymen were ordained, or when they died. It is evident, however, that they were both of the Episcopal church, belonged to the Diocese of Dumblane, were strict observers of church discipline, and were exceedingly attentive to every part of their Parochial duty. Sessional business is recorded at considerable length; public worship is mentioned as regularly performed, and the collections for the poor, which were made every sabbath-day, are distinctly marked. During their incumbencies, the parish was seldom without divine service on the Lord's day; almost never without having a reason assigned in the record; such as, that the minister was assisting his brethren, or was unable to officiate. With regard to Mr Ireland, besides such reasons as these, there are other four mentioned somewhat singular. It is said in the register,

“No sermon; because the minister was at the consecration
“in Edinburgh.”

“No

“ No sermon; because the minister was called to Dumblane to wait upon the bishop.”

“ No sermon; because the minister was under the necessity of attending Lord Rollo’s burial at Dunning.”

“ No sermon; because the minister was in the Stormont seeing his aged father, who was labouring under great distress.”

These avocations happened at different times, betwixt the year 1661, and the year 1687. There is a deficiency in the register, from 1687, to 1691; but from that period, down to the present day, the records are compleat, containing every parochial transaction, relative to church affairs. Five clergymen are mentioned as succeeding one another, whose names follow.

Mr William Spence, admitted 21st September 1691; died 23d March 1715. Mr Alexander Barton, ordained 23d April 1712; died 14th June 1716. Mr Barton, was ordained assistant and successor to Mr Spence, 3 years before his death, and did not survive him 15 months. Mr Andrew Ure, admitted 25th of April 1717; died 7th April 1742. To him succeeded Mr John Storer, ordained 25th August 1743; died 8th June 1778. All those ministers are remembered by some of the parishioners, who are still alive; and their memory is still held in great respect.

Patron.—In the settlements of all the incumbents which have been mentioned, no patron appeared. They were elected by the heritors, elders, and heads of families. At the last vacancy, it was doubtful to whom the right of patronage belonged. It was claimed by the crown, and by George Graham, Esq. of Kinross. There were of consequence two presentees. The right of patronage was afterwards determined by the Court of Session; and was found to be vested
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in Mr Graham; by a special grant from the crown. The present incumbent was ordained on Mr Graham's presentation, 11th of May 1780.

Church, Manse, Glebe and Stipend.—The church and manse, as formerly mentioned, were built in their present situation, in 1729. The church is neither commodious, nor in good repair, although it has received frequent reparations since it was built. The manse and office-houses were rebuilt in the year 1781, and are neat and convenient enough; but not so sufficiently executed, as might have been expected from the sum of money expended on them. Heritors, when they are building churches or manses, ought to endeavour to have them, at least, substantially finished. This would in the end, save them a good deal of expence. One would imagine, that a manse, which costs L. 300, might be so built, as to stand at least a century. This, however, was not the case with the former one at Fossaway, which was thrown down in its 51th year, by consent of the heritors, who were wearied out in repairing it. Owing to the peculiar situation of this country, the greater part of the houses stand nearly east and west; and as the most violent weather, and greatest hurricanes come from the west, it is found to be a very hard task to make the west gabel proof against the rain. Particular attention should be given to this circumstance, in every house built in this part of the country.

The glebe now occupied by the incumbent, is about 10 Scotch acres. It was formerly a muir, and is a very poor soil. In the year 1729, it was purchased for L. 29 : 8s ster. Its soil is a mixture of moss and gravel, few inches deep in many places; and lies partly on a bed of moss, but mostly on a bed of very fine sand.

The stipend of the parish consisted of 40 bolls; two thirds meal, and one third bear; and L. 56 : 13 : 4d ster. in money.

On a process, at the instance of the present minister, the Court has lately granted an augmentation, consisting of 43 bolls, 3 pecks, 1 lippie, 2 thirds in meal, and 1 third in bear, making the present stipend to consist of 83 bolls, 3 pecks, and 1 lippie, 2 thirds in meal, and 1 third in barley, and L. 56: 13: 4d in money.

Situation and Extent.—Fossaway consists of two branches, entirely separated from each other by Tulliebole, which intervenes, having one of those branches on the northern, and the other on the southern side of it. As the church of Fossaway stood on the northern branch, those families, who dwelt on the southern, were under the necessity of passing either through Tulliebole, or the parish of Muckart, before they could come to the place of worship. This circumstance seems first to have led to the junction of the two parishes, and then to the removal of the church and manse, from their former situation, to the place where they now stand, which is much more convenient and central. The northern branch of Fossaway, extends along the Ochil hills, from east to west, and is about 6 miles in length, and 3 in breadth. Tulliebole lies on the lower ground, extending from the bottom of the Ochil hills on the north, towards the Cliesh hills on the south; and from the Crook of Dovan on the west, to about half way to Kinross on the east. Its southern side juts out both to the east and west, nearly an English mile farther than its northern side. Cutting off these two corners, the remaining space will be about 3 miles square. To the southern side of the parish of Tulliebole, is joined the southern branch of Fossaway, running in a south-west direction, for nearly 8 miles in length, and at an average, 2 and a half in breadth. The two parishes taken together, do not form a regular figure; but they are bounded in the following manner;

ner; on the east, by the parishes of Orwell and Kinross; on the south, by Cliesh and Saline; on the west, by Clackmannan, Dollar, Muckart, and Glendovan; and on the north, by the parish of Dunning.

A map of the parish of Fossaway, as forming a part of the county of Perth, has been drawn by Mr Stobie, factor to the Duke of Atholl; and a map of Tulliebole, in conjunction with the county of Kinross, by Mr John Bell, land-surveyor at Edinburgh. Both these maps are executed with accuracy, in as far as they regard the two parishes; but it is not known to the writer of this account, if they have ascertained the number of acres contained in them. Though both the maps are executed with precision, they differ from the description which is given here. The reason is this, above a century ago, the barony of Carnboe, in the northern part of the parish of Fossaway, was, by an Act of Parliament, disjoined from the county of Perth, and annexed to the county of Kinross. It is still considered, as belonging to the parish of Fossaway; but is of course, omitted in the map of the county of Perth, and comprehended in Mr Bell's map of Kinross-shire.

By the Act of Parliament lately passed for raising men for his Majesty's Navy out of every county, the whole of the parish of Fossaway is joined with the county of Kinross. This naturally leads to the following observation; that it would be more convenient for Fossaway, if it were for ever annexed to Kinross. The distance from Kinross, is only 6 miles of fine road; the distance from Perth, is 21 miles over the Ochil hills. To be obliged to go to Perth for all the business which must be transacted there, is attended with a very considerable degree both of trouble and expence. There is not a residing Justice of the Peace in the whole parish of Fossaway. If it were united to Kinross-shire, it would be

equally in the vicinity of the county courts, and of the Justices of the Peace.

Climate, Surface, Soil and Air.—The lands in both parishes are in a high situation; the frost begins sooner, the snow falls earlier, and both continue a longer time than in most of the neighbouring parishes. Except on the banks of the river Doan, or at the bottom of the hills, where the effect of the sun is considerable, the northern branch of Foffaway is the coldest district. It is one continued range of hills. The hills are of various heights, from 600, perhaps to 1100 feet perpendicular above the level of the sea; yet they afford excellent pasture, both for sheep and black-cattle. Some of the hills have moss and heath; but the greatest part of them is covered with grass, to the very summit. Tulliebole, and the southern branch of Foffaway, lying lower, are warmer. On these parts, there are some moss, some marshy ground, and some little hills; but by far the greatest part is arable land. The soil is various; some gravelly; some clay; some tilly; some loam; and all these soils are capable of considerable improvement. Tulliebole, although in appearance it resembles a plain country, when compared with the hills on the north and south; yet contains the highest grounds of any parish in the plain, between Stirling and Kinross. Here the springs of water divide themselves, some running west towards Stirling, others east towards Kinross. In a dry summer, there are more frequently flying showers here, than any where around. These showers are sometimes seen coming from the south-west, along the Ochil-hills, and the Cleish hills at the same time; and when they come opposite to Tulliebole, a part of them has been observed to separate on both sides, from the main body of the clouds, and meet on a rising ground, adjoining to the Crook of Doan. From
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the attraction of the hills on either side, there is more cloudy and rainy weather, and later seasons here, than in many other districts; yet the situation is abundantly healthful; the high winds carry off the vapours; and the streams of water having great declivities on every hand, little stagnating water remains; and when the sky is clear, the air is uncommonly pure and dry.

Diseases.—There are no peculiar diseases which prevail in the parish. An ague, or a bloody-flux, are seldom heard of; fevers are perhaps more common than any other disease. A fever, which at its first appearance, seemed to be of the nervous kind, but which in the end became putrid, carried off many about 2 years ago. Few families escaped; and it extended to many of the parishes around. The medicine which proved most successful, was the jesuits bark given with port-wine. This remedy when applied in time, under the direction of a professional man, was commonly successful. We sometimes hear of a consumption; of a cancer; and of a dropsy. A few years ago, a woman died, who had been tapped for a dropsy 16 times, and after all recovered. The quantity of water taken from her at these different times, was calculated to be 34 Scotch pints. She died, when far advanced in life, not of a dropsy, but of complaints arising from old age. Rheumatic complaints are not uncommon. Children frequently die of the small-pox. Against inoculation, there is amongst the lower classes of the people, an almost universal prejudice, of a religious nature, which neither example, nor precept, nor the reasonable terms upon which inoculation can be obtained, have yet overcome.

Though the two parishes taken together, form a large and populous district, there is not a physician, nor a surgeon, nor a midwife in either. Women in child-bed have, however,

ever, good assistance at no great distance; and they are, in general, very fortunate. Good medical aid is also to be had from all the neighbouring towns. It is also reasonable to acknowledge with gratitude, that the united parishes lie under peculiar obligations to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. Several persons, of late, labouring under various complaints, have been received into the Infirmary, recommended to the physicians by heritors, or by the minister, all of whom received great benefit from their residence there; and most of whom were fully restored to health. If the finances of that house should at any time be deficient, the managers are well entitled to the public aid.

Population.

Annual Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, at an average of ten years.

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The number of inhabitants at present, is 1505. Of these, 1065 belong to the Established Church; there are 388 Anti-burgher seceders; 48 Burghers; 2 Episcopalians; 1 Cameronian; and 1 Roman Catholic.

Under 10 years of age,	Males 138	Females -	138
Betwixt 10 and 20	- 176	-----	- 152
----- 20 and 50	- 272	-----	- 339
----- 50 and 70	- 112	-----	- 125
----- 70 and 80	- 23	-----	- 19
----- 80 and 90	- 6	-----	- 5
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	Total Males 727	Total Females	778

The females exceed the males in number 51. The oldest person in the parish, is a woman, who completes her 90th year in December next. She is still able to walk, and to spin,

spin, and sees more distinctly, than when at the age of 70. The number of married persons is 456, and the number of children from each marriage, between 5 and 6. The number of families is 340, and the number of persons in each family, between 4 and 5. The number of inhabitants has been decreasing for several years. In the year 1755, by the return made to Dr Webster, the number was 1765. In the year 1771, it was 1828; in the year 1780, 1716; in the year 1785, 1610; and it has been stated as at present only 1505. Many reasons can be given for this diminution of numbers. A few years ago, several weavers, masons, and house-carpenters, with their families, went into towns, where they found more ready employment, and higher wages. Several gentlemen having inclosed their lands, they have let them in grass, and have no fixed tenants; others, having taken the possession of them into their own hands, and going on with their improvements, have dismissed several of their cottagers; the new mode of ploughing without a driver, which now very much prevails, has lessened the number of farm-servants; and the union of different farms has also had its influence. When agriculture is carried on by employing cottagers, they not only remain longer than other servants on the same farms, but by having families, and a settled residence, they add greatly to the number of the inhabitants. Hired servants frequently change their situations every half-year, and having nothing to attach them to one spot, seldom continue long with any one master. To give encouragement to cottagers, and villages, on proper regulations, would be of service both to proprietors, and to the community at large.

Stature, and general Character of the Inhabitants.—The stature of the inhabitants is not above the middle size. The height of the tallest man in the parish, is about 6 feet 4 inches.

ches. It hath been observed, that those of the middle size, are in general more robust, have fewer complaints, and live longer, than those who are above the ordinary stature. Although few of the original inhabitants of the parish have been much distinguished by their talents, they are not destitute of natural abilities. Their natural dispositions are friendly, generous, and humane. They are contented with their situations, and are not disposed to leave the place of their nativity. Their religious principles are various, as appears from what is already stated. Few, except the gentlemen, conversed much about political affairs, till the works of Thomas Paine appeared. Since that time, the people converse more frequently on those topics. It is, however, but doing them justice to say, that they are firmly attached to the Constitution of this country, as established at the Accession of King William, and to the person and government of his present Majesty. They are in general active, and industrious. Besides the business of agriculture, they apply to the common trades practised in the country. There are taylor, shoemakers, blacksmiths, masons, carpenters, and weavers; all of them well employed, and able to provide for their families. The day-wages of a taylor, is 8d, and 9d, besides his victuals; of a mason and carpenter, from 1s 6d, to 2s. Weavers are employed partly in the manufacture of the cloth used in the parish; and partly by the manufacturers of the neighbouring towns. There is only one baker in the parish. The inhabitants for whom his labour is not sufficient, receive a supply from the towns in the vicinity.

Parochial Improvements.—1. Houses. Within the last 12 years, 24 new houses have been built; though from the removal of tenants and cottagers, a greater number have either fallen into ruins within that period, or have been demolished.

demolished. The greater part of the houses lately built, are intended for the accommodation of the proprietors of land; and are built with stone and lime, in a very convenient and substantial manner, suited to the property and revenues of their owners. There are two ancient houses in the parishes, commonly distinguished by the name of castles, or towers; that of Tulliebole, and that of Aldie. They are both places of strength, or fortalices, with gun-holes and turrets, suitable to the times in which they were built. The castle of Tulliebole was built in the year 1608; the castle of Aldie, in the century preceding. The one is the family seat of Moncreiff-Wellwood of Tulliebole, the other of Mercer of Aldie. As the proprietors, however, do not reside in them, they are fast going into dis-repair; yet it is hoped, and indeed it is pleasing to the country to think, that those monuments of antiquity may still be kept up. At no great expence, they may be made to stand for centuries. In different parts of the parishes, there are houses built adjoining to each other, to the number of 10 or 12; possessed partly by feuars and tenants, and partly by cottagers; yet these are not known by the name of villages. There are only two villages in the parishes; one at the Crook of Dovan, and the other at Blairingone. They are both burghs of barony. The former holds of the family of Tulliebole, the latter belongs to the family of Atholl; both of them have the privilege of holding markets. At the Crook of Dovan, there are two markets annually, the one in May, the other in October. At Blairingone, there is one held in the month of June. Little business is transacted at the Blairingone markets; but the Crook markets, which are for black-cattle, being pretty well attended, may with attention and care, be brought to considerable perfection, and prove very serviceable to the country at large. The only public houses in the parishes, are in those villages;

two at the Crook of Dovan, and two at Blairingone. They may perhaps be all necessary, as, independant of the markets, both villages are on the high road, and Blairingone adjoining the Duke of Atholl's coal-work; but it is univerfally found, that too many houfes, where ardent fpirits are fold, do hurt both to the morals and circumftances of the people.

2. Inclofures. Since the year 1782, above 2000 acres of land have been inclofed. The fences are partly made with ftone, partly with ditch and hedge. The inclofures are of various dimensions, fuch as beft futed the fituation, defign, and extent of the farms; they are of all fizes, from 5 to 40 acres. Where they are intended only for pafture, they extend to nearly an 100 acres. A ftone dyke is the moft immediate, and moft fecure fence. A hedge in this climate, is flow in growing, but when reared, ferves both to beautify and fhelter the grounds; and this country, lying high, being much expofed, and having hitherto little advantage from trees, ftands much in need of fhelter. Proprietors, however, are providing on their lands, a remedy for thefe inconveniences, by planting.

3. Planting. Planting till of late was not much attended to; there is indeed fome natural wood, and fome fmall plantations, in various parts of the parifhes, which have been advancing for a confiderable time. They are fufficient to fhew, that trees will flourish in the foil. This is indeed demonftrated by the trees, which according to an old cuftom, obferved in moft parts of Scotland, have been planted around the barn-yards. Thefe, which confift chiefly of afh, plane, and Scotch fir, have grown, even in the higheft grounds, to a very confiderable fize, confidering the time when they were planted. Planting is, however, now become fashionable, and is proceeding with rapidity. Within the laft 8 years, about 800,000 trees have been planted. Some of them on
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the lands of Tulliebole; some of them on the northern, but the greatest number on the southern branch of Foffaway. They are partly in larger plantations, partly in smaller stripes; and where they are sufficiently fenced, are, in general, in a thriving state. The trees are of various kinds; Scotch fir, plane, larch, oak, elm, beech, ash, spruce fir, and laburnum. The Scotch fir are in the greatest number; and the larch grows quickest. The last will soon add greatly to the beauty of the country, and afford excellent shelter.

Cultivation and Produce of the Parishes.—Some of the original inhabitants still retain the old method of ploughing, using the old Scotch plough, and joining oxen with horses. Those who are attached to the old modes of farming, are so far from troubling themselves with improvements, that they are not fond of changes of any kind. If a large stone lies in the field, or, if the furrows are drawn crooked, they are unwilling to remove the one, or alter the other; observing that they were so in their fathers days, and that the crops were as good then as they are now. The greatest part of the farmers have happily different views. The new method of ploughing with two horses, and Small's plough, is very generally adopted. In the improvement of their lands, a considerable number of the farmers spare neither pains nor expence. They bring ploughmen from every quarter, and have brought the art of ploughing to a very high degree of perfection. The number of ploughs cannot be ascertained; because on the same quantity of land, the number varies according to the culture in use. The ploughs in the parish of Foffaway, according to the statute work, are upwards of 50; those of the parish of Tulliebole, about 24; more ploughs, however, are occasionally used. Besides, several of the proprietors

and farmers, keep young horses for the harrow. Because the frost continues long in the spring, they sow, in general, later than the people on the coast, and consequently reap later. Wheat has been tried in Tulliebole, and in the southern part of Fossaway; but the climate and soil are perhaps against it. The surest crops are oats, barley, and pease. The greatest part of Tulliebole, and the low lying parts of the northern branch of Fossaway, are of a sharp gravelly soil, and seldom fail in producing good crops. The southern branch of Fossaway, being a mixture of loam and clay, will also bring forward beans, and in good seasons wheat. These are not, however, so sure a crop as oats, barley, and pease. Both parishes taken together, not only serve themselves with grain, but send a considerable quantity to market. Lint is every where sown for family use, and when properly managed makes a good return. All green crops, if the season is not very unfavourable, succeed well. Potatoes, turnips, clover, and rye-grass, when the ground is properly prepared, seldom fail. On the estate of Fossaway, from which the parish derives its name, which lies high, being situated partly on the Ochil hills, very considerable improvements are at present carrying on, by the proprietor, who possesses part of the lands himself. Last season, there was raised a rich crop of turnips, to a large extent; and nearly 300 bolls of potatoes, which were exceedingly fine. This season (1795), not only grass, but almost every other crop promises well; not only there, but in several other parts of both parishes.

Proprietors, Farmers, Farms and Rent.—Those who possess lands, either as proprietors, or tenants, are above 120; besides a few tradesmen and cottagers, who possess as much ground as will maintain one or two cows. These small portions of land, are here called pendicles, as depending
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upon, either the proprietors land, or the larger tenants, from whom they are set off, for services or labour performed by the persons who occupy them. None of the most considerable heritors reside in the parish; but almost the whole of the small proprietors and feuars do. The junction of farms does not happen so often as it otherwise might, because the chief part of the smaller heritors possess their own lands, which have neither increased nor diminished for many years. There are farms of all dimensions, from L. 10 to L. 100 per annum. There are none above L. 100, possessed by tenants, except 3; and one of these is rented at L. 300 per annum. Several heritors, however, possess their own lands, which would let at above L. 100 a-year. The value of sheep farms, may be nearly 3s per acre; the arable, from 5s to 10s; and the inclosed lands, from 15s to above L. 1. This is a great encouragement to improvement; for which, notwithstanding all that is done, there is still great room. The valued rent of the 2 parishes, is L. 4106:16s Scots. The real rent cannot be so well ascertained; because many of the heritors having possessed their own lands from time immemorial, they have not been let on lease. The whole rent, however, may be safely calculated above L. 4000 sterling per annum. That this is the case will be evident, when it is considered, that there is, including both parishes, nearly 30,000 English acres of land. Allowing 6000 for moss, water, woods, and rocks, there will still remain 24,000 acres; which, if rented only at 3s 4d per acre, will amount to L. 4000.

The size or extent of farms, has never been fixed here; and it would, indeed, be difficult to fix it; as men, no doubt, would be divided in their opinions. It would, however, be for the advantage both of the proprietors, and the country, that cultivated farms should neither be too large, nor too small.

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There is one circumstance, which deserves the attention both of proprietors and tenants. A sufficient distinction is not always made betwixt the qualifications which fit a tenant for managing an arable, and those which are adapted to a sheep-farm. The same talents do not render him equally capable of managing both. Tenants are very careful, not to discover their want of knowledge in either, when they are anxious to obtain a farm; and persons often obtain sheep-farms, of which they have no knowledge, who would have managed a cultivated farm well; while others obtain a cultivated farm which they cannot manage, who delighted in, and succeeded in rearing sheep. Indeed it seldom happens, that one who has been long accustomed to manage sheep, has ever much success in cultivating the ground; especially, if he is advanced in life. But besides this, the master, when letting his lands, is always too ready to prefer the highest offer. On the other hand, the opulent tenant generally offers least; while he, who has little to lose, offers more, obtains the farm, and in a few years, a sequestration ensues. It would be more profitable to a proprietor, to receive regularly L. 90 a-year, from an opulent and respectable tenant, esteemed, and serviceable in the country, than to be promised from another L. 100, which he only receives in partial payments, and for which he is often obliged to use legal diligence.

Price of Labour, &c.—The wages of an able day-labourer throughout the year, is 1s per day; the wages of a woman for the harvest, 8d; for men, between 10d and 1s per day; with breakfast and dinner for both. Some farmers hire their reapers during the whole harvest, and pay to men, between 25s and 30s; to women, between 21s and 25s. The wages, however, depend in a great measure on the demand there is for reapers, and the number that is to be hired. The average wages

wages of men-servants, throughout the year, when they eat in the house, is L. 7; for women, not fully L. 3. Farmers have a ready sale for every article to be disposed of, and there is a constant demand; The prices are, in general, regulated by the markets of Alloa and Kincardine on the coast, and are commonly a little below the Haddington prices. In the parishes, there are common rock, and freestone for building, moss, lime, and coal. Peats may be got in almost every corner of both parishes, but are not used in great quantities; because coal is at a reasonable price, and near at hand. There are lime rocks in different places; but they are only wrought at present upon the lands of Gartwhinzian. There are two rocks there, which are wrought by the proprietors. The one is on the plain, the other on the banks of the Dovan. The strata of the first are regular, and the stone solid. The lime when slacked, falls at first into large particles, and then gradually dissolves into a small powder of a cream colour. The strata of the other, are confused and unequal; but when slacked, fall immediately into a fine white powder. That upon the banks of the Dovan, is esteemed the whitest; but the other is equally strong. The lime of both rocks, is at present sold at 1s per boll, wheat measure. The sale being wholly inland, is not extensive; yet it is of great service, not only to this parish, but to a considerable part of the adjoining country. The coal which is wrought at present, is at Blairingone, and belongs to the Duke of Atholl. It is found, however, in several other parts of Fossaway, although not wrought. None of this coal is shipped; because it is at a distance from the sea, and besides, the quantity thrown out, is not sufficient to answer, throughout the year, the present demand. The price of the small coal, is 6d, for 3 burdens; for the great coal, 10d, for 24 stones, Iron weight. The driving of lime and coal, is attended with the material disadvantage

vantage of bad roads. The noblemen and gentlemen, are, however, exerting themselves to remedy this evil; but it never will be effectually done, until turnpikes are established. The local advantages which have been mentioned, ought to encourage inclosing and improvements; and should induce proprietors and tenants, to exert themselves, to carry them farther than they have yet been carried; especially as it has been found, that land which before being improved, produced no more than between 5 and 6 bolls, from one boll of feed, have after being improved, been brought to yield upwards of 11. In the parishes, there is also iron-stone; but at present, it is not wrought.

Sheep, Horses, and Black Cattle.—The number of sheep, does not exceed 3000; and they are all, what are here called the Tweed's Muir kind, and pasture only on the Ochil hills. The farmers have not begun to try the English sheep; although they are more attentive to obtain a good breed, than they formerly were. They have a ready sale for their wool, mutton, and lamb; and the mutton and lamb are esteemed good. More sheep might be kept, if they did not breed horses and black cattle: Of these, some are bred for private use, others for sale. As their number is constantly varying according to the sales, it is impossible to ascertain it exactly. Black-cattle are peculiarly attended to, of which great numbers are reared. None of them are of the greatest size; but they are exceedingly hardy, and in general, bring good prices. The tenants pay their rents, not only by the sale of grain; but by the profits arising from their sheep, horses, and black-cattle.

Milns.—In the two parishes, there are 9 milns. One lint miln, one waulk miln, one for manufacturing pot barley, and

6 for meal. The one for lint, is on the Dovan near the Crook. It is well employed, and of general utility. The corn-milns have all a thirlage, that is, so many proprietors bound by charter, and so many tenants by leases, to bring their grain to those milns. There is also one barony thirled to a miln which is not in the parish; which, from its distance, it is at all times very inconvenient to use; and in the winter season, almost impossible. Thirlage operates in every instance as a tax on industry, and is in a high degree unfavourable to the improvement of the country. It would perhaps be better for the proprietors of the milns, as well as for the general advantage of the country, to sell the thirlage; which the heritors are not only willing to purchase, but for which they would give a good price; though in most cases, the convenience of the situations would lead them to bring their grain to the same milns which they use at present.

Schools.—There are two schools in the parishes; one situated at the Crook of Dovan, and the other at Blairingone. The one at the Crook is the parochial school; and the school at Blairingone, is for the benefit of the children belonging to the work people of the colliery. The teacher at Blairingone has very small encouragement; nothing but what arises from the wages paid him by the scholars, and a small subscription, which does not exceed L. 9 annually. If nothing more can be procured, it is probable, that in a short time this school will be given up, to the great detriment of the village. The salary of the parochial schoolmaster, is L. 5 : 11 : 1½d sterling, per annum, in money, with a piece of land, worth about the same sum; and the emoluments arising from the offices of precentor and session-clerk. Parochial schoolmasters commonly receive a good education, are a body of men of great importance to this country, and certainly deserve much better

encouragement from the landed proprietors, than they at present receive.

State of the Poor.—There are 24 persons at present on the list of the parish poor; and the funds to support them do not much exceed L. 30 per annum. This sum arises from the interest of money, from parochial collections, and from some casualties. There have never been any legal assessments in the parishes. The sum for the support of such a number of poor, is certainly small. There are none among them, however, who cannot work a little; and some of them only receive a small occasional allowance, when the prices of grain are high. There are 2 blind women on the list; and it is surprising how much they can spin. The severest season which has happened here for a long time, was in 1782. At that time, every description of men exerted themselves to assist the poor. A meeting of the heritors, called for the purpose, thought it better to assess themselves, than to encroach on the parish money lent at interest. Different quantities of meal were bought, and sold to the people at the common prices in a year of plenty; and this mode of relief was continued till the scarcity was no longer felt.

The parish received some advantages besides, from the assistance given by Government in that year, to some of the northern counties of Scotland. Perth-shire was included; and Foffaway being in Perth-shire, received its proportion, which was extremely useful; and was faithfully applied.

Birds and Quadrupeds.—Birds, such as are common in hilly countries, are found here. Moorfowl, partridges, plover, field-fare, dotterel, wild ducks, ravens, a small species of the eagle, the kite; and in winter, wild geese. Of quadrupeds, there are foxes, badgers, otters, pole-cats, hares, and rabbits. Those

Those who delight to amuse themselves with the hounds, or with the gun, will always find enough to gratify them here. There are no where greater numbers of partridges and hares. The carnivorous raven is particularly destructive to the young lambs. His method of attack is singular and savage; when he darts on the lamb, he first attacks the eyes, and when the animal cries, he seizes on the tongue. The destruction of the fox, and of this kind of raven, is an object of importance in this country.

Etymology of Names of Places.—Dovan, Dobh-an, “swelling or raging water,” very properly applied to the river Dovan; because it frequently swells to a very great height, considering its size; and runs with great rapidity and violence, until it arrives at the banks of Dollar. Gairney-Garana, “The underwoods” There are two small rivers, which have both the name of Gairney, which rise in the parishes; the one called the East, and the other the West Gairney; because the one runs east, and the other west; and the banks of both in some places, are shaded with copse wood. Solgirth, has had different etymologies assigned to it; but among others, it has been supposed to be a Saxon name; which may signify a Girth, “or sanctuary for the soles of one’s feet.” It is situated in a corner of the county, where Fife and Clackmannan-shires join with it; so that persons flying from justice, from either of those counties, would here find an asylum. Near this place, where two rivulets meet, one may place the right foot on Perth-shire, the left on Fife-shire; stooping down, one may place both his hands in the county of Clackmannan; and while in that posture, is partly in 3 counties. Blairingone, Blairingoithne; “the field of spears;” So called perhaps from making weapon-shawings there, and exercising people in the use of the spear, near the seat of the chief. For the chieftain

of the Murrays had a family feat at this place. The Scottish spear was an instrument of war much used in the lowlands; and was always found to be more than a match for the highland broad sword. A proof of this, appears in that rencounter which took place between Huntly and Murray, at Corrichie, October 28th, 1562. Dr Robertson, when mentioning this affair, saith, "The highland broad sword is not a weapon fit to encounter the Scottish spear. In every civil commotion, the superiority of the latter has been evident; and has always decided the contest." By statute, 1481, chap. 81, it is enacted, that spears shall not be made, or sold, that are shorter than 5 ells and a half. Gartwhinzian, from Gart, an head, and Coinnean, a meeting or rendezvous. Every chieftain had a known place of rendezvous, to which the whole clan were obliged to repair, on a signal given. The Rocky Pinnacle, now vulgarly called Gibson's Craig, is said to be the real Gartwhinzian, where the whole clan of the Murrays assembled to attend their chief.

Antiquities.—The antiquities of the parishes, are the following. The Palace-Brae, Car-Leith, Hall-Yard, Monks-Grave, Gallow-Know, Trooper's Dubb, and the Reformation-Clogg. The Murrays of Tullibardine, the progenitors of his Grace the Duke of Atholl, were the ancient chieftains of this parish; and proprietors of a great many other lands in the neighbourhood. At this day, the whole of both parishes still holds of the Duke of Atholl; excepting the barony of Aldie, the barony of Tulliebole, the barony of Coldrain, the lands of Pitvar, and one farm belonging to Sir John Stewart of Grandtully. This last farm, although it lies in the centre of the barony of Carnbo, commonly called Carnbo-Stewart, which was disjoined, as before mentioned, from Perth-shire, and added to Kinross, still belongs to the county of Perth.

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The reason of this was probably the common one; that the whole property of the family of Grandtully, might be kept in the county where the chief part of their estate was situated. The old Earls of Tullibardine had a family seat at Blairingone, on the north west side of the southern branch of Fossaway. The site of this old building is still visible, and goes by the name of the Palace-Brae.

On the lands of Aldie, there is a rising ground called Carleith. On the middle of this ground, are the ruins of an old building, perfectly circular, and nearly 24 feet diameter. Not long ago, the proprietor ordered this ground to be planted, and the stones were dug up to make the fence. When the work people were going on, they found two stone coffins near the centre. They were 4 feet long, and 3 broad, and contained to all appearance some human bones and teeth, and something resembling tallow, which went to ashes, as soon as exposed to the air. One of the coffins was destroyed, before the work men attended to it. The other was preserved entire; and consists of 5 stones pretty exactly joined together, and a very large one for the cover. Various conjectures are formed concerning these ruins. Some imagine, that it has been a place of worship; others, that it was a burying place; and that some persons of distinction have been buried there. Although a satisfactory account of it cannot be given, it is accounted one of the antiquities of the parish. Aldie, which originally belonged to the Earl of Tullibardine, was given away as a portion, with the beautiful lady Aldia Murray, who was married to William Mercer, laird of Meikleour; who was brave and generous, and in the times of feudal aristocracy, strongly supported the chieftain of the Murrays. The barony of Aldie received its name from the lady; and the Mercers upon that occasion assumed the mullet of the Murrays, as a part of their arms; and
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there has been a very close friendship between the two families ever since.

On the barony of Coldrain, or Collin's Drains, as it is originally styled, there is a place called Hall-Yard, adjoining to the present tenant's house. Its form is an oblong square, with the corners a little rounded. It contains 3 roods and 36 falls Scottish measure of land, considerably raised above the surface of the ground, on the north, east, and south. It is surrounded with a ditch, which at present is in most places pretty entire. It is from 15 to 20 feet wide, and although much grown up at the bottom, is about 5 feet deep below the level of the yard; and as there are two or 3 springs of water in the ditch, it is probable that it was originally filled with water. Within this area stood a building, which seems to have been of some note and strength; and from the foundation of which, not many years ago, large stones were dug up. The country tradition is, that it was a hunting place, belonging to the Earls of Atholl. It belongs at present, to James Stedman of Whinfield near Kinross, and is considered as an antiquity, for the same reason as the Palace Brae.

The whole of the barony of Coldrain, originally belonged to the Earls of Atholl. This appears from the copy of a charter of apprising, in possession of the above mentioned gentleman. This charter is dated at Edinburgh the 26th December 1609. It appears that Umquhille, John Earl of Atholl, father to James Earl of Atholl, Lord Innermay and Balvany, owed a debt of 17,348 merks Scots, to Sir David Hermy of Lethindy; for which, the whole barony was adjudged. The lands were adjudged by a special jury, to be worth no more than 10,000 merks; and 500 merks to the Sheriff appointed on the business. As no person appeared for the family of Atholl, to satisfy Sir David in payment,
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the lands were exposed to sale, and the tenants, who either held their lands by lease, or wadsett, appeared, and were the purchasers. The greatest part of these lands, belong in property to the descendants of the original purchasers at this very day; but the superiority is vested in the family of Kintros. The price of those lands at the sale in 1609, was about 7s 6d per acre, and as they would now rent at nearly that sum, this shews the great increase of the value of land.

The lands of Pitvar in like manner, belonged originally to the family of Tullibardine; and were given away on another occasion. A clan then at variance with the Murrays, had made a spreith, or open theft of their cattle, and burnt some houses. The clan Murray, under their chieftain, was immediately raised. They pursued the aggressors, and found them in a church, feasting on the cattle. They shut the gates, and setting fire to the church, not a person escaped. This piece of revenge, though cruel, was perfectly characteristic of the feudal times. “To forgive an injury, says Dr Robertson, was mean; to forbear revenge, infamous or cowardly. Hence quarrels were transmitted from father to son, and under the name of deadly feuds, subsisted for many generations, with unmitigated rancour.” This action which appeared cruel, and being committed in the church, which was reduced to ashes, was highly offensive to the clergy. They represented it in terms so highly aggravated, that the Murrays were excommunicated by the Pope. In those days, says the above author, “A sentence of excommunication was no less formidable than a sentence of outlawry. Besides excluding those, upon whom it fell, from Christian privileges, it deprived them of all their rights as men, or as citizens.” Hence, as an atonement, and to make up peace with the church, the chieftain of the Murrays made over the lands of Pitvar to the abbots of Culros. These
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lands now hold of the crown, as having come in the place of that abbacy; and the first minister of Culrofs, at present, receives the duties payable out of these lands, as part of his stipend. The name of Pitvar, is still enumerated among the other lands in the Duke of Atholl's charters. As it was the most southern part of the lands belonging to the Murrays, and on the extremity of the county, it is highly probable, that it obtained the original name of Pitvar, by way of distinction; Pit, signifying a hollow, and Varar, an old name of Murray. For it is well known, that *Vararis Æstuarium* was the Latin name for the Murray's Firth. Sometime after this, a dispute arose between the Tullibardine family, and the Abbots of Culrofs, as to the limits of Pitvar; when a monk from Culrofs, standing upon the common between the lands of Gartwhinzian and Pitvar, made oath that he was then standing on the property lands of Culrofs. One of the Tullibardine party, enraged at his uttering such a falsehood, immediately run him through the body. Upon examining his boots, they were found to contain earth which he had brought with him from Culrofs. He was buried on the spot, and the place still retains the name of the Monk's Grave, and is ranked among the antiquities of the parishes.

When the rights of the Scottish proprietors came to assume a regular form, historians inform us, that, "The lands of some were erected into baronies, those of others into regalities. The jurisdiction of the former was extensive, that of the latter, as the name implies, royal, and almost unbounded. All causes, whether civil or criminal, were tried by judges, whom the Lord of the Regality appointed." Such power was never granted, but to families of distinction. The proprietor of Tulliebole had this jurisdiction. During the last century, a quarrel took place between two of his vassals, at a market in the Crook of Dovan. In
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the heat of passion, the one drew his knife, and stabbed the other to the heart. When his anger was abated, and he had recollected what he had done, he immediately fled. A party however, was immediately sent after him, who overtaking him before he had reached a mile from the place, brought him back. He was kept in close confinement all that night. Next day he was tried for the murder; a jury was summoned; the Lord of the Regality presided. Witnesses were examined; the fact was clearly proven. The prisoner being found guilty, was condemned to be hanged the same evening. The place appointed for the execution, was a small rising ground, at the east end of the village of the Crook of Doan. As this was the only person who ever suffered in the parish, his death has been handed by tradition, from one generation to another; and the small piece of ground where the gallows was erected, still goes by the name of the Gallow-know, and serves not only to keep up the remembrance of this murder, trial, and execution, but of the jurisdiction formerly exercised by the Scottish Barons. Though no injustice appears to have been done in this case, it is one of the subjects for which this country ought to be grateful to providence, that the execution of the criminal law is now happily placed in better hands.

In ancient times, the Kings of Scotland had frequent occasion to pass from their palace at Stirling, to their palace at Falkland; and sometimes took their route by the way of Tulliebole. One of the King Jameses, tradition does not say which of them, being to pass that way, was asked by the family of Tulliebole to dine. The invitation was accepted. His Majesty's retinue being numerous, and the castle of Tulliebole not being sufficiently commodious for the whole company, a tent was erected on a piece of plain ground, near a small rivulet. The entertainment was so very agreeable to

the King, that he conferred the honour of Knighthood on his host that very day. Amongst the King's attendants, was a trooper much celebrated for his ability in drinking intoxicating liquors. Among the laird of Tulliebole's vassals, there was one named Keltie, (a name still common in the barony,) equally renowned for the same kind of dangerous pre-eminence. The trooper and he had heard of each other; and each was desirous to try the strength of the other. They had no opportunity while the King was there; but they agreed to meet early on a Monday morning, soon after, on the same spot where the King had dined. It is not said what kind of liquor they made use of; but they drank it from what are here called quaffs, a small wooden vessel, which holds about half an English pint. They continued to drink, till the Wednesday evening, when the trooper fell from his seat, seemingly asleep. Keltie, took another quaff, after the fall of his friend, to show that he was the conqueror; and this gave rise to a proverb, well known over all this country, *Keltie's Mends*; and nothing is more common, at this very day, when one refuses to take his glass, than to be threatened with, *Keltie's Mends*. Keltie dropped from his seat afterwards, and fell asleep. But when he awakened, he found his companion dead. He was buried in the same place, and as it is near a small pool of water, it still retains the name of "the Trooper's Dubb." The anecdote should serve as a warning against the criminal and preposterous folly which occasioned it. Some of the people are still credulous enough to imagine, that the trooper is still seen sometimes sitting on the spot; and in the night, would rather go a mile out of their way, than pass by the Trooper's Dubb. The road leading by this place, still retains the name of the *Court Gate*, or *Court Way*.

Among the antiquities of the parishes, may also be enumerated an anvil stock, that was the property of a blacksmith

smith in the Crook of Dovan before the Reformation. At that time, a Roman Catholic priest officiated in the parish; who was a great declaimer against the marriage of the clergy. The blacksmith, had notwithstanding reason to suspect that he was too familiar with his wife; and pretending to go on a journey, he returned unexpectedly, and found the priest and his wife together. This son of Vulcan, however, did not, like his predecessor in the case of Mars and Venus, prepare a net to link them together; but he hammered out a most substantial staple, and indignantly dragging the priest to the anvil stock, he nailed him to it by means of the staple, and by that part of his body which had done the mischief. He then laid down a knife, and setting fire to the smith's shop, gave the priest his choice, either "to cut or to burn." The priest hesitated, till the flames approached him; but was at last obliged to have recourse to the knife. He never afterwards made his appearance in the parish; and no other Roman Catholic priest was permitted to succeed him; the anvil stock, has therefore the name of "the Reformation Clogg;" and the story is known by the title of "cut or burn." The original clogg itself has been in the possession of the last 5 ministers of the parish; and is now in the possession of the writer of this account. This affair is said to have happened during the time that Mary Queen of Scots was confined a prisoner in the castle of Lochleven, under the care of William Douglas, to whom it belonged.

Natural Curiosities.—In working the lime rock, the workmen sometimes meet with pieces of it resembling the shells of sea-fish. Lately, there was a piece found, exactly similar to a common octavo bible bound in white vellum. Both from the appearance of leaves, uncut, and from its cover, every person who has seen it, takes it for a book.

The most striking curiosities, however, are the Devil's Miln, the Rumbling Bridge, and the Caldron Linn on the river Doon.

1. The Devil's Miln. The Devil's miln lies highest up the river, and about an English mile below the present church of Fossaway. It is formed by the water falling over a small cascade, into a cavity made in the rock below. Here is heard all that noise, peculiar to a great body of water falling upon a miln-wheel, and driving it round with great velocity and force. In the cavity below, the water is continually tossed round with great violence, and constantly beating on the sides of the rock. From this it happens that a noise, similar to the sound made by a going miln, is distinctly heard, when the water has force enough, by its quantity, to beat the rock violently; and when it is not so high, as to cover the cavity altogether. As this miln, according to the country phrase, goes Sunday and Saturday, it is from this circumstance, called the Devil's miln. Near this, and on the Muckart side of the river, is something resembling a coal level, running into the rock; which is called the Pigeons cave. This, as the access to it is difficult, has not been examined with so much accuracy, as to ascertain whether it has been formed by nature, or by art.

2. The Rumbling Bridge. About 350 yards below the Devil's miln, stands the Rumbling bridge. It is so called, from the rumbling noise which the water makes; pushing along from cascade to cascade, on the channel below. The span of the arch of this bridge, is 22 feet; its breadth 11, and its height 86. Its height, however, from the surface of the water, varies according to the swelling of the river, when the measurement is taken. When one sees the bridge itself, the high rocks all in view, the natural wood with which in some places they are covered, the water running along from one fall to another below, in
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some places by the jutting out of the rocks, concealed from the eye, and in others, appearing again; when he sees it here calm and smooth, there all covered with foam, and in other places broken, boiling, and tumultuous, and remarks the multitude of fowls which are constantly flying about, he will readily acknowledge, that the whole forms a very diversified, beautiful, and romantic scene; which well deserves to be described, and to attract the attention of travellers.

3. Caldron, Linn. A mile farther down the river, is found the Caldron Linn. There are here two falls of water. The uppermost fall is 34 feet in height; but is not perpendicular. The other is 44 feet in height, and is almost completely perpendicular. The two falls are distant from each other, 28 yards. The distance between the rocks, on each side of the river, is not every where the same; but increases from 12 to 22 feet, and is least at the highest fall. Here too are intervening rocks; and there is one like a pillar in the midst of the water, horizontal on the top, by which many persons have passed from the one side to the other. In the space between the two falls, are 3 round cavities which the water has formed in the rock, which have the appearance of large caldrons, or boiling vessels, from which the name is derived. In the first, there is the perpetual agitation of boiling water, the second is always covered with foam, and the third is constantly calm and placid. The caldrons are of different dimensions; and the third which is the largest, may be perhaps 22 feet in diameter. When the river is low, they communicate with each other, not by the water running over their mouths; but by apertures made, by the force of the waters in the course of time through the rocks which separate them, at perhaps the middle depth of the caldron. In consequence of this, the third caldron, which communicates with the great fall, has formed an opening for itself,
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out of which the whole water, when the river is not swelled, rushes out to the great fall, with great violence, and with a very striking effect. As this caldron, which indeed has not been measured, still appears to be very deep, the aperture cannot reach to the bottom. The aperture resembles a door, or a large window, having a piece of the rock like a lintel still remaining on the top. When the whole water makes its way through this opening, the height of the fall is lessened perhaps 7 or 8 feet. To a person looking up from the side of the pool below, as no part of the river above is to be seen, it has the appearance of a great body of water, from some prodigious spring, gushing out of the rock. When the river is large, the water runs over the lintel, as it formerly did at all times, and then the height of the fall is as great as it ever was. Some months ago, a part of the rock on the south side of the river, adjoining the fall, was broken off, and fell into the pool below. Yet this has made little alteration on the fall; but the force of the water, will no doubt, in process of time, make a great change on it. The caldrons may be equally well seen on both sides of the river; but the great fall is seen to most advantage, from the south. There is an access to the side of the pool below, where the view of the fall is most complete. Between 1 and 2 o'clock in the afternoon, is the most proper time to view it. The sun then shines directly in front of the fall; and as there is a gentle vapour continually arising from the pool, into which the water falls, it exhibits to the eye, all the different colours of the rainbow which, by the perpetual agitation of the wind, appear and disappear, so as to form the most striking and picturesque scene.

Rivers.—There are various streams of water running through both parishes; but the only river connected with
either,

either, is the Dovan. It rises in the parish of Alva, and directing its course eastward, separates the parish of Tillicoultry from Blackford; runs through the middle of Glendovan; is the line of march between Muckart and the northern branch of Fossaway; touches at the village of the Crook of Dovan, (so called, because there it turns,) and taking its course in a south-west direction, again separates Muckart from the southern branch of Fossaway; passes by Dollar, Tillicoultry, and Alva; and empties itself into the river Forth, nearly opposite to its source, and only about 6 English miles distant from it. Taking from its source to the Crook of Dovan, a straight line, and another straight line to where it falls into the Forth, they form an angle of about 224 degrees. It runs a course, including its windings, of about 40 miles.

The Dovan affords excellent trout, and the trouts are all of what are called the burn, or moss kind. No salmon, or salmon trout, can pass the Caldron-linn. There are, however, some Lochleven trout caught in the Dovan, which are easily distinguished from the burn trout, being of a quite different kind. This to a stranger would appear inexplicable, yet it is easy to account for it. A little above the Crook, there is a small stream of water which falls into the Dovan. Part of this stream is carried off to supply the village with water. What is taken off runs towards Kinross; and when it is flooded, the trouts, in the spawning season come up, get into the larger stream, and from thence into the Dovan, from whence it is supposed few return. When the river is greatly flooded, the trouts are found to fly from the current of the stream, to the calm and still water at the sides. Then it is that many people, with small hand nets, drag the calm pools, and catch them in prodigious numbers. This greatly hurts the fishing with the rod.

Bridges.—

Bridges.—The bridges on the Doan, connected with Fossaway, are 5. The Vicars bridge, leading from the north, to the coal at Blairingone, said to be built by a Vicar, who once lived at Dollar, but in what year, is uncertain. It was widened 6 feet, about 30 years ago. Higher up the river stands the Rumbling bridge, built about the year 1723. The next is the bridge at the present church of Fossaway, on the high road from Stirling to Kinross. It was built in the year 1767. At a considerable distance farther up the river, stand other two bridges, distant from each other, about an English mile. The first, is called Old Fossaway bridge, because it is built near where Old Fossaway church stood. The other is called St Serfs bridge, and it forms a communication between the parish of Dunning, and the coal at Blairingone. Both these bridges were built as they presently stand, within the last 60 years.

A Flood on the Doan.—The greatest flood which has been observed on the Doan for many years, was in the month of Sept. 1785. The rain began about 4 o'clock in the morning. About 9, the river was increasing with great rapidity. At 10, it had covered the marks taken notice of in a large flood. This led to a closer observation. The river swelled to at least 18 inches perpendicular, above the height to which it had been known to rise for many years. Though the rain, where these observations were made, continued as violent as ever, the river began to decrease, nearly in the same proportion, in which it had been increasing a little before. At first, this appeared quite inexplicable; but the cause was soon known. The rain had abated on the hills, from whence the streams descend, which supply the river; and all the water that fell on the low ground, had no influence to keep up the river at its former height. At the Rumbling bridge, the river was running

ning with prodigious rapidity and force, and had covered all the cascades, which are observable when at its ordinary size. It carried along with it great quantities of grain from the fields, many trees, and several sheep. The river, from a little above the Devil's mill to the Rumbling bridge, is hemmed in by rocks on each side, not distant, where farthest from each other, more than 16 feet; and in some places so near, that it may be stepped over. The Caldron Linn appeared in its highest dignity. As the water filled almost the whole space between the two falls, up to the summit of the rocks, the uppermost fall was scarcely discernible; but the other appeared in all its majesty. The immense body of water, the height which the fall then had, and the agitation which it produced in the pool below, formed a most striking and even an awful scene; and seemed to make the rock quake at the distance of 30 yards. When looking up from the side of the pool below, to the immense body of water rushing over the fall, it is impossible to describe its dignity, and the amazing whirling and boiling of the pool. It was observed about 2 o'clock; the sun shone bright, and there was a fresh gale of wind. The gentle vapour which appears at all times, had at this time increased like a thin cloud; and ascended fully 200 feet above the tops of the rocks. The rainbow was seen in full perfection; and the cloud being continually tossed by the wind, resembled the Aurora Borealis.

The Dovan, in comparison with other rivers, is exceedingly small; but at this time, it was a considerable river indeed. By an observation made near the present manse of Fossaway, where it is confined by rocks almost perpendicular, to a channel of 50 feet wide, and running on a declivity of 6 feet in 150, it was found to exceed its usual size about 12 feet in perpendicular height.