

## NUMBER XV.

## PARISH OF KINNETTLES,

(COUNTY OF FORFAR, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNES,  
PRESBYTERY OF FORFAR.)

*By the Rev. Mr DAVID FERNEY.*

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*Name, Extent, Surface, Soil, Air, &c.*

THE name is of Gaelic derivation, and signifies "out from the bogg." This name applies with peculiar propriety to the old mansion-house of the estate of Kinnettles, which was built close to a piece of marshy ground, still called the Bogg \*. The church being built within the boundaries of this estate, that circumstance probably gave the name of Kinnettles to the parish. The form of the parish is nearly a square, having about 2 English miles for the length of each of its 4 sides. The south line or boundary seems, however, to be rather shorter than any of the other three. The parish is divided by a hill, one part of which is called Brighton, the other Kinnettles. The hill is arable, except a few acres of rocky land on that

\* The mansion-house is now removed about a furlong farther from the marsh.

that division of it which belongs to Kinnettles, which are planted. There are a few acres of woodland on the Brighton side. The hill continues to descend to the S. within a small distance from a rivulet which runs through the southern district of the parish. The western descent contains 4 inclosures, and then dies away into flat land. The northern continues the length of 3 inclosures; afterward the land is rather level, comprehending 3 inclosures also. There is a like number on the eastern descent, which is divided into two parts. South of the rivulet a range of sloping banks declines to the N. as far as the rivulet. The plantations and pleasure grounds of Brighton extend on both sides of the little river with a sweep about an English mile in length. The houses of Brighton, Kinnettles, Inverighty, with the pleasure ground, have a good effect.—Our soil is various, consisting some of it of brown clay, some of loam, of loam with a mixture of clay, of loam with a mixture of sand; some of it is in quality almost mere sand. Of this last kind there is but a small proportion. Our clay and black soil are deep and fertile; some of the strong land yields from 8 to 12 bolls an acre, particularly in oats after ley, when it is well laid down. Even the light soil has produced good crops with marl and kindly treatment.—The air is not so much infested with fogs as in some other districts in Scotland, being rather dry and healthful. We have no diseases that can be said to be local. Agues are scarcely known; fevers not epidemical; melancholy habits are equally rare here as in most other districts. The most epidemical fever in my remembrance, was about the beginning of spring 1789, after an uncommonly wet winter, in a village low and wet. Our air is sharp in winter, and frosty in proportion as the Grampians are covered with snow. We have several freestone quarries,

ries, which are made use of for building houses and fences; some of them yield stones well adapted for the purpose of hewing.

*Animals*.—Cattle and horses are in considerable numbers, 607 of the former, 130 of the latter. No sheep, but a few (about 40) kept principally for the use of gentlemen families\*. The farmers in the parish rarely follow the plan of rearing cattle on their best farms; they rather buy in and fatten. Were they, however, to adopt the plan of rearing, they have the means of so doing up to 36 and 80 stone weight, when the cattle have attained the age of 4 or 5 years; and such cattle would bring, if fat, from 5s. to 7s. the stone, according to the demand and the pitch to which they may happen to be fed.

*Population, &c.*—According to the return made to Dr Webster in 1755, the number of souls was then 616. The state of population cannot be traced far back with any degree of exactness. The taste for enlarging farms, and razing cottages, has contributed not a little to diminish the number of inhabitants in this and most country parishes in Angus. This diminution, however, is not so great as might be expected from the number of houses demolished. Farmers and others, keep more female servants than are necessary, solely for the business of husbandry, and the service of their families. When not engaged in domestic and farming business, they can find employment for them in spinning yarn for the green linen manufacturers. But  
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\* We have no migratory birds, except green plovers, swallows, and the cuckoo, which appear in the month of April; and the woodcock, in the beginning of winter. The swallow disappears about the month of September, the cuckoo about the month of July.

the number gained in this manner is not equal to the number lost by the razing of houses. The amount of the present population is 621, comprehending all ages; males 325; females 296. There is no town in the parish, only 1 village, containing 78. The number of births for 10 years preceding April 1790, was 165, making  $16\frac{1}{2}$  yearly. There is no register of deaths kept here. Since 1783, on account of the tax, there has been a register of burials, which contains all that have been buried here, whether parishioners or strangers. This would have given certain information of the deaths in the parish, had it not been customary here not to confine the burying of their dead to the churchyard of the parish. From October 1783 to October 1790, there have been 28 marriages. But this article may readily occasion a mistake, and a return of many more marriages may possibly be given than have actually taken place in it. When the bridegroom resides in one parish, and the bride in another, there may be a report of the same marriage from both these parishes.

Males.		Females.	
Under 10,	68	Under 10,	49
From 10 to 20,	91	From 10 to 20,	81
—— 20 to 50,	116	—— 20 to 50,	118
—— 50 to 70,	42	—— 50 to 70,	43
—— 70 to 100,	8	—— 70 to 100,	5
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The oldest inhabitant at present is a woman in her 90th year, and 2 men going 85. I recollect no tradition of remarkable old age here. Exclusive of pendicle tacksmen, who depend not on farming alone for their subsistence, we have 16 farmers, besides 2 gentlemen who farm part of their own estates. Their families in all contain 167 persons. There are 3 farms, on which the possessors do not reside:

reside; and 1 of these yields the highest rent. The circumstance of non-residence on these farms diminishes considerably the number of this class. The number of heritors is 5, and 2 of them reside. The number of manufacturers is 58; of handicraftsmen, 20; apprentices, 6. Household servants are 5 male, 16 female. There are 76 labouring servants, 51 male, 25 female; here I have marked only hired servants. With most of our farmers, the sons and daughters of the family supply, in a considerable degree, the place of servants. There is 1 artist employed in conducting a flax-yarn mill. Labouring servants often go from one parish to another. We have 2 residing heritors, Mr Douglas of Brighton, and Mr Bower of Kinnettles, 1 of Kincaldrum. Their families consist of 25 persons, exclusive of domestic servants. Lord Strathmore is one of the heritors, but has no mansion-house here; also Mr Simson of Inverighty, who has a mansion-house here, but resides in Edinburgh. There is 1 clergyman, 26 Episcopalians, 5 Roman Catholics, 1 Seceder, 589 of the Established Church, 93 married men, 45 bachelors at the age of 21, widowers, 12; marriages, upon an average, may produce  $5\frac{1}{2}$ . There is no account of any having died of want. No recollection of murders or suicides, except one suicide committed by a woman about 20 years since\*. Very few have emigrated.

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\* We have bands of sturdy beggars, male and female or, as they are usually called, tinkers; whose insolence, idleness, and dishonesty, are an affront to the police of our country. These persons are ready for prey of all kinds. Every thing that can supply them with provisions, or bring them money, is their spoil, if it can be obtained with any appearance of safety. They file off in small parties, and have their places of rendezvous, where they choose to billet themselves at least for one day; nor do they fail generally to make good their quarters, as the farmer is afraid to refuse to answer their demands, or to complain of the oppression under which he labours.

grated. None have been banished, or obliged to leave the parish for want of employment. No uninhabited houses. The number of the inhabited is 126; the proportion of houses to the number of inhabitants is as 1 : 4  $\frac{1}{8}$ . On account of the increased size of farms, and the practice of inclosing, population does not seem to be so great now as it was 25 years ago. Farmers were then accustomed to have 1 or 2 houses on their farms, with a small quantity of land, which were intended for the accommodation of one or two married servants. Since the inclosing and labouring of ground with attention have taken place, that accommodation for married servants is withdrawn, and other servants are thereby discouraged from marrying. The servant finds, too, that when married, he cannot so easily find a place with a farmer, whom, perhaps, he would be most willing to serve; nor are masters, in general, fond of retaining married servants. In fact, there is no class among whom marriages are so infrequent, as farmers servants.

*Productions, Agriculture, &c.*—Almost all the vegetables, plants and trees in Scotland are to be found here, and thrive in our soil and climate; and we have such animals as are common to the low countries of Scotland. Rent of best arable land is from 18 s. to L. 1, 5s. the acre. Size of farms is from 42 to 200 acres, and upwards. Farms, at an average, about L. 88 yearly. There is at least 4-5ths of the parish inclosed. The number of acres under the different crops, at present, is nearly as follows:—583 in oats, 335 in barley, 26 in wheat, 33 in pease, 28 in lint, 84 in turnips, 22 in potatoes, 174 in cutting grass, and 777 in pasture; amounting in all to nearly 2065  $\frac{1}{2}$  acres. There are 31 ploughs, drawn by 3 or 4 horses; 56 carts; 1 coach; 1 two-wheeled chaise. Exclusive of what some heritors retain in their  
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own hands, the land-rent of the parish may be about L. 1600 Sterling. The parish supplies itself with provisions. Besides what is sufficient for that purpose, a considerable quantity of oat-meal is sent to the neighbouring towns; and perhaps  $\frac{2}{3}$  of our barley is conveyed partly to the towns in the county, and partly to others at a greater distance, to be manufactured there. The attention of our farmers has never been turned to the raising of hemp. We know not what it is in this country to turn land into grafs, without sowing it with grafs-seeds. All our hay-grafs, and pasture on land fit for tillage, are artificial grasses. We have some pasture (about 120 acres) on mire and mofs ground, which is natural grafs; such lands having not, as yet, been brought under culture. There are about 20 acres of moor, and 12 or 16 of plantations. The grafs-seeds sown here are red and white clover, about 19 or 20 lb. to the acre, 2-3ds red, and 1-3d white. We add 6 or 8 pecks of rye-grafs seed, which has frequently a mixture of rib-grafs or plantane. Commonly this artificial grafs is cut the two first years for hay, and house-feeding for cows and horses in summer. I attempted once to introduce the tall yellow clover, and commissioned a quantity of the seed of that grafs, as being of a less dangerous quality than the red clover. I was disappointed, having got only a dwarf, groveling, unprofitable kind, instead of that which I commissioned. I never attempted to introduce it again, nor has it as yet found its way into the parish\*.

*Stipend,*

\* Our wheat, in general, is sown from the end of September to the 20th of October. We sow oats as soon as the ground is sufficiently dry for receiving it. Sometimes land is fit for seed in February, as in 1779; at other times, not till the middle of April. The desirable time for our soil, in general, is to begin about the 10th or 15th of March. On dry land, in good condition, with a good season, there will be a luxuriant crop, though

*Stipend, School, Poor, &c.*—The stipend, in money, is L. 44 : 3 : 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  Sterling; in victual, 2 chalders of meal, and 1 chalders of barley, each kind valued at 13 s. 4 d. which, with the old glebe, about 6 acres, and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres of moor, obtained in lieu of a servitude, at L. 1, 10 s. the acre, the whole may be rated at L. 88 : 18 : 3. In point of benefit, I am much at a loss how to estimate a glebe. A minister labouring it at the expense of L. 14 for a man-servant's wages

though sown so early. In wetish land and not into such order, there will be little straw, and altogether a deficient crop, if it be not sown considerably later. English barley, which demands our best soil, and in the lightest condition, requires to be sown from the 20th of April to the 5th of May, in order to produce good and sufficiently early grain; Scotch barley, from the beginning to the 15th of May; common Scotch beat, from the 10th to the 25th of May. Our pease are of the hastings kind, and do not require to be sown before the middle or 20th of April. Lent-feed, from the 20th to the end of April. It was earlier with some last season, by 14 or 20 days; but where this was the case, the feed lay uncommonly long in the ground without shooting; some of it was sickly during a good part of summer; nor could it be said to be sooner ready for pulling, than that which had been sown about the usual time. Smart nights and mornings are frequent about the end of April, rendering the lint crop very uncertain, if it get above ground before the 1st of May. They plant potatoes from the 20th of April to the beginning of May; and sow turneps from the 10th to the 20th or 22d of June. The reaping time must vary according to the nature of the summer. Hay, which is not intended for feed, is cut from the 1st to the 10th of July; what is intended for horse-grass seed, 8 or 10 days later. Lint harvest is from the 12th to the 25th of August, sometimes a few days later. The earliest and latest commencement of barley harvest, which I remember, was the 15th of August, and the last day of September. In the years 1775, 1779, and 1783, the barley harvest began from the 15th to the 18th of August; in the year 1782, it began the last day of September. The barley harvest usually begins about the 1st or 5th of September. Wheat is cut down about the same time with barley. Our barley, for the most part, begins to be cut down about 10 or 14 days before the beginning of oat harvest. In 1779, the corns on dry farms were all got in by the 10th or 12th of September. In 1782, they were not got in with some till the 22d of November; with others, some days later.

wages and board, with two horses kept for the purpose, must be a considerable loser. It was an unlucky circumstance, in assigning land to ministers, that the Legislature did not think of allotting more. 20 or 25 acres might have been managed with very little additional expense. The Crown is patron. The manse was built in 1737, and was repaired in 1785. The time at which the church was built is not known; it got a repair a good many years ago.—The schoolmaster's salary is L. 5. Number of scholars, from 20 to 30, at 1 s. 3 d. the quarter, for 3 quarters of the year. The fees are L. 4 : 13 : 9; fees for registration of baptisms and marriages, and salary as session-clerk, L. 2 · 8 : 4. The amount of the whole is L. 12 : 2 : 1; a sum less by L. 2 Sterling than the income of a common labourer.—The number of poor is 7. The annual contributions are about L. 13, 16 s. There are some seats in the church belonging to the poor, which yield L. 2, 12 s. yearly. Interest of money, about L. 2, 8 s. In all, L. 18, 16 s. \*.

#### *Miscellaneous*

\* The price of meat, 40 years ago, may be rated at 1 d. the pound. Now all kinds of butcher meat, of the best quality, fetch from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  d. to 4 d. the pound. Hens were then 4 d. and now about 1 s. and other poultry in the same proportion. Butter, 40 years ago, was 4 d. the pound; now it fetches from  $7\frac{1}{2}$  d. to 10 d. Cheese, I presume, was not sold by weight at the distance of 40 years but was then proportionably low; now it sells from 5 s. to 6 s. the stone, the stone consisting of 24 English pounds. Wheat is now from 18 s. to L. 1, 7 s.; bear, from 10 s. to L. 1. These highest prices of wheat and barley have not been paid for many years, except in 1782. The usual price of barley and oat-meal is from 12 s. to 16 s. Forty years ago, grain was in general from 3 s. to 5 s. cheaper.—Wages, without board, for a day-labourer, are 1 s. or 1 s. 1 d.; a carpenter, 1 s. 4 d.; tailor, 1 s. 1 d.; bricklayer and mason, 1 s. 6 d. or 1 s. 8 d.—The fuel generally made use of is peat. Gentlemen use coal in their families; it is also part of the fuel in some farm-houses. Many burn nothing but peat, broom, and furze. We are under the necessity of resorting for peat to a neighbouring parish at the distance of about 2 English miles from a great part of this district. Any moss we have in  
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*Miscellaneous Observations.*—We labour under no disadvantages, but such as are common to us with almost all the county of Angus; the want of salt, lime and coal. We have all the advantages which are enjoyed by other inland districts; and are supplied with marl from pits near the boundaries of the parish. Houses unconnected with land, dont yield, I think, L. 12 Sterling. Farm houses are in *cumulo* with the farms. Such houses being now an article of considerable expense, the landlords begin to specify a rent, according to a certain rate of interest on the money laid out in building, *viz.* about 7 *per cent.*—The writer

the parish, is not dug. Our coals are from the Forth, by sea carriage to Dundee. Mofs-dues to the proprietor, are 9 d. in one mof, 6 d. in another, the cart-load. The usual price of coal is 4 s. the boll, the boll weighing 56 stone—The rate of common labourers wages is the same as that of farmers servants.

Husbands wages,	-	-	-	L. 8 0 0
Meal, in place of maintenance, 2 pecks a-week, with milk,				5 17 0
Industry of the wife, besides the care of the family,	-			2 12 0
				<hr/>
Amount of their funds for one year,	-			L. 16 9 0

This a-week is 6 s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  d. I make no doubt but it may suffice for the plain diet and clothing which such families use. Let us suppose the family to be numerous, I allow only the husband and wife, and 5 children, to depend on this weekly allowance, *viz.* one child of 8 years, one of 6, one of 4, one of 2, and an infant. When the youngest of these 5 is born, a boy or girl of the family, who had reached the age of 10 years, goes to service, and the burden of that child is taken away. A boy or girl at 8 years of age becomes useful in the family, and enables the mother to use her industry for increasing their funds. When a few of the children get above 10 years, they increase the living of the family very considerably. If the labourer be a farmer's servant, the farmer generally allows him a day for digging peats, and some draughts of carts for bringing home his fuel.—The wages of male servants, in husbandry, are in general about L. 5 Sterling, with maintenance in the family, or 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  bolls of oat-meal yearly, with a sufficient quantity of milk. A maid-servant has L. 3 Sterling, with maintenance.

writer of the Roman department of the Universal History, is said to have been a native of this parish.—The people in general are of an equal degree of strength, compared with the inhabitants of other counties in Scotland. We have some who may be accounted strong. One man, in particular, might stand high in the list of strong men in any county of Britain. The tallest man, within our bounds, wants, I think, about half an inch of 6 feet high. They are of different sizes, from about 6 feet down to 5 feet 4 or 5 inches, perhaps a very few below that height. The ordinary stature is about 5 feet 7 inches. Women, in general, are about 5 feet high. Exclusive of shoes, we have ladies, whose height is from 5 feet 4 to 5 feet 7 inches. The complexions of the people, are some ruddy, some pale. They have all, however, a healthy appearance; and are pretty remarkable for an acuteness of genius, which enables them to attain to dexterity in the different occupations in which they employ their talents.—The people are very much disposed to industry. The only manufacture is green linen, or osnaburgh. There are 58 hands employed in that branch of weaving. We have a spinning mill for flax yarn. It is on a small scale, intended to contain 120 pirns. A corn mill is converted to that purpose. It is in contemplation of the Company to extend their plan, if the experiment now making shall answer their expectations. In the mean time, they are busy adjusting their apparatus, of which they have made trial; and the yarn which it throws, looks well, and is thought to be of a very good quality. This work is carrying on by virtue of a lease of patent privilege from a Company in England.—We have but very few instances of fondness for a seafaring life. Nor are the people much addicted to a military one: the army not having, at any period, in the memory of man, obtained any considerable supply here.

here. The inhabitants in general are economical, and augment, rather than diminish their stock. They are well clothed and fed. Superior industry affords them a plentiful supply of the necessaries and comforts of life. Among one class, however, economy does not seem to have been much regarded.—The whole landed property has been transferred by sale since the year 1743. Prices of land have been, I presume, about 25 years purchase, or perhaps a little more.—We have few calls for extraordinary exertions of humanity : in clamant cases of distress, I can easily believe our people capable of extraordinary beneficence. They enjoy, in a considerable degree, the advantages and comforts of society : contented with their accommodation, few remove to distant parts of the country, or emigrate to foreign countries.—The circumstances most extensively distressing, are those which affect the manufacturers of green linen. They depend on two countries, Russia for their raw materials, and the West Indies and part of America for the sale of their manufacture. A bad crop of flax in Russia, or the jobbing spirit of the merchants there, or extraordinary profits to the importers of the flax, often reduce the profits of these manufacturers to a mere trifle. This evil, I think, might be removed, if flax raising could be brought to a system, which would render a flax crop equally certain with any other crop. Our soil is pretty much adapted to the raising of flax, and the plan of farming here is such, that the farmer could easily employ a few acres in cultivating it. In this case, there would be only the chance of the sale market against the manufacturers. But although grievances were redressed as much as possible, it is still a question, whether that is not the most desirable manufacture which is supplied with materials from the country itself, and has the benefit of a home market, founded on the natural demand of the inhabitants

for the manufactured articles\*.—As to the manners of the people, they are distinguished from those of a period 30 or 40 years ago, as there is more industry, attention, enterprise and sobriety. Their customs are much the same

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\* The public road from Peith, through Strathmore, which passes thro' this parish, is repairing on a new plan, and will soon be finished within our bounds, unless it shall be deemed necessary to widen it. It was begun to be repaired in autumn 1789. Owing to the spirited plan of subscriptions from the gentlemen in the county, the road from Forfar to Dundee, part of which passes through this parish, is proceeding on the same plan. All the county roads in Angus are to be repaired from the subscription-fund. We are much indebted to the exertions of Mr Douglas of Brighton, who transacts and superintends the business of the road from Forfar to Dundee, and for several miles on the Strathmore road. To render the road convenient, steep banks are avoided, and on Mr Douglas's ground in this parish, the road takes a new direction for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles through inclosures of land of very excellent quality. The rule is not to admit, if possible, above 1 foot of rise in 20. These roads have turnpikes, and all the county roads either have or are to have them. Our farmers are much reconciled to turnpikes, and imagine that the accommodation obtained in this way, is cheap. Statute-labour is not exacted in kind. Since the plan by subscription took place, the commutation-money is to be applied to the repairing of the private roads. We have two bridges in the parish; one on the road from Forfar to Glammis, was built by subscription, at least in part, about 21 years since, and is in good condition; the other, on the road from Forfar to Dundee, is intended to be taken down, and another built at some small distance.—In the year 1782, our direct lands were not fit for receiving seed till the 16th or 17th of April. There was not a blade of oats to be seen till about the 12th of May, in this neighbourhood, which is rather an early district. The barley-seed time was very backward. About the 29th of May, we had rain for 50 hours, without intermission. The summer was cold and wet; and on the 16th of August, we had an uncommon flood, which chilled the ground so as to deprive it of the warmth necessary for silling and ripening the corns. On the morning of the 12th of September, we had hoarfrost as thick as at Christmas. About 7 o'clock that morning, the sun was bright, and had influence sufficient to melt the frost; and, in a few minutes, pease and potatoes had the look of having been dipped in boiling water. The effect of this frost made the farmer imagine that harvest was nigh. The corns assumed a whitish appearance, and the first rain threw it in appearance several stages back.

as at that period. Their dress is more gay, and expensive; their living more plentiful. Though it is not the case in this parish, to any considerable degree, in show, expense, manner of living, and dress, there is an imitation of superiors creeping into the country. Perhaps 30 years ago, the boundaries between the ranks were more distinctly marked, and more attentively observed. Inferior ranks begin not to scruple to invade the boundaries of those above them. The genius of the people leads them to industry and enterprise; besides, they are very communicative. This disposition suffers no experiment to lie concealed, either as to the man-  
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back. The corns were changed from green to whitish, and from whitish to green, according as frost or rain happened to prevail. Our lower, ablest, and best lands, which will produce 8, 10, or 12 bolls of oats an acre in good years, yielding from 15 to 16, or perhaps 17 pecks of meal the boll, that year yielded 4 or 5 bolls an acre, and these yielding not above 8, 10, or 11 pecks of meal the boll. I heard of some oats in the county, which yielded only mill dust, instead of meal. Barley of that crop, which was much used for meal, fell greatly short, both of its usual quantity and quality. The higher grounds, raised above the region of the noxious hoar-frosts, had a more equal progress towards ripening. And these high, weak, light grounds, not reaped till the month of November, produced oats, yielding about 15 pecks of meal the boll. These grounds were less hurt by the frost and rain. Of that crop, farmers paying considerable rents, could scarcely procure as much oat-meal from their farms, as was sufficient for their own families, and oats for sowing their ground. People, both in towns and the country, traversed the country and particularly this parish, where we had several mills and thought themselves lucky if they could obtain a peck or two of meal, to supply the immediate and urgent demands of their families. They would gladly have given more than the high current price, to have been assured of finding it at any particular place. The scarcity continued through summer 1783; and had it not been for a supply of English oats from Leith, I doubt not but some must have perished for want. Some farmers, foreseeing the distressed condition of the country, sowed some barley early. Great quantities of potatoes were planted, and the harvest of 1783 was early. By these means, the country obtained a speedy and pretty plentiful supply. Amidst the scarcity of provisions, there was one comforting circumstance. The people, in general, were not distressed for want of money.

ner of conducting it, or as to its success. Their spirit of enterprise makes them easily adopt a new plan, when fairly recommended by its success; and their industry secures their doing justice to any plan which they may adopt. Free from the fetters of prejudice, they follow, let the leader be whom he will, if they are warranted by fair, well tried, successful experiments. That spirit has brought this country to be able to support double or triple the number of inhabitants, which it could have done 30 or 40 years ago. A great deal of waste ground has been brought under culture; and lands which then would have yielded 3 or 4 bolls an acre, now produce 8 or 10, and sometimes more. This is the case, more or less, with the country of Strathmore, and in the county of Angus: I know no part of the country where farming is carried on to greater perfection than in this very parish—Besides a great increase in the quantity of corn, there is a considerable addition of profit by the rearing and fattening of cattle. Instead of the stunted and famished breed, of which the farmer's store consisted 40 years ago, cattle can now be reared to a considerable size, and fetch a decent price, to compensate the trouble and expense; fatted cattle generally sell well. Our farmers fatten through the winter, some 10, some 16, some 20, some 30 cattle. Some of these are partly fed with turnips, straw and hay; some with turnips and hay. Such as are fed wholly on turnips and hay, can be brought to a degree of fatness, not exceeded in any part of Scotland. The greatest part of our pasture and hay foggage is employed for the purpose of fattening. Turnip crops keep the land clean, and the great proportion of pasture gives them vigour to produce good corn crops when broken up.—There is a grievance, which, though in one view, it affects but a single individual in a parish, yet is very extensive in  
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its influence; I mean the pitiful living of schoolmasters. In fact, there is no occupation among us, or in the country in general, from which greater profits may not be obtained. What extent of learning and qualifications is to be demanded or expected from a person, whose office yields him hardly the bare necessaries of life? I think we are just on the verge of having schools remaining vacant; the office being stripped of every thing that can induce a man of any capacity to accept of it.—Allow me to make another observation. In respect to the poor, matters seem to be very improperly conducted. We are importuned by people from almost every county in Scotland; whose stories may be true or false; and whose circumstances may therefore entitle them to charity, or may not. Much good would accrue to the public, if such vagrants were confined to their respective parishes. Their circumstances might then be exactly known; temptations to falsehood would be taken away; idleness would be prevented; persons able to contribute in any respect to their subsistence, would be obliged to exert their industry, or would suffer the reward due to their neglect. Here, however, an objection occurs, namely, That some parishes, from the scantiness of their funds, and the great number of their poor, are unable to supply, in any comfortable manner, all the poor within their bounds. Where collections, dedicated to the support of the poor, are not sufficient for necessary supplies, let there be assessments. This would oblige landed gentlemen, and others, on whom such assessments might be chiefly laid, to exert themselves, by introducing manufactures, or other means of subsistence. The number of poor would thereby be diminished; those who might still need parochial supply, would be less indigent, and others become able to bear a part of the burden of the unavoidably poor.

poor. So long as mankind are supported by strolling, the industry and ingenuity of thousands must be lost to the community, and vice cherished to a considerable degree. —The decrease of population in country parishes, and the great resort of people to towns, is an evil much to be regretted. Though this mode should continue, it is not improbable that there may be still a gradual increase of inhabitants over Scotland. But the question is, by which of these two plans may population be supposed to increase most; whether, by a well peopled state of country parishes, or by extending and crowding the towns. In all infectious distempers, such as fevers, small-pox, measles, whooping cough, the danger to children is greatest in towns. As to inoculated small pox, the distemper may be introduced in towns at a favourable season, and, when introduced, it takes its range of infection, and before its course is finished, the hot unfavourable season arrives, and the distemper generally becomes malignant and fatal. In the country, infection from this distemper may be more easily avoided, and I hope to see whole parishes taking such rational views of inoculation, as to agree to have all their children, who have not had the distemper, put under inoculation, at the same time, during the favourable season; a victory over prejudice, not to be expected universally in large towns. But dropping this consideration, the sickly looks of many children, in large, crowded, ill situated, or ill constructed towns, show that the country is the preferable place for children. Inhabitants of large towns are sensible of this, who rejoice in the opportunity of having them settled in the country, especially after they have been ailing, as the only means of restoring their health and vigour. But how is the prevailing resort to towns to be prevented, when the present taste is, to raze or suffer almost every house.

house to go to decay, which is not conducive to the benefit of a farm? Might not the building one or two neat villages in every country parish, be the means of preventing this great concourse of inhabitants to the towns. They might be erected in a dry situation, and calculated for convenience as well as health. Supposing these villages to be inhabited by mechanics, manufacturers, day-labourers, farmers servants and widows, there might be one or two small farmers connected with the village, who might have leisure, and be induced to perform carriages to the villagers for hire\*.

\* Personal services are still performed here. They are specified and limited. Occupiers of a house and garden, or of a house, garden, and one or two acres of land, perform some days work occasionally, as the proprietor may happen to require them in the course of the year. Such tenants as possess ground sufficient to enable them to keep a horse, besides the above services, are bound to perform two horseback carriages in the course of the year, as far as Dundee, which is about 12 miles, or to a similar distance. Greater tenants are bound to bring a certain number of bolls of coals from Dundee to the proprietors house, which require 2 or 3 days work of their carts. Besides, they must give a day's work of all their reapers, for cutting down the proprietors corns. These go by the general name of services, in place of the old arrhage and carriage, which were very comprehensive. *Arrhage*, I take to be from the Latin, *arvo*, to till; and implied the driving out of the manure for the proprietor's farms, ploughing and harrowing his ground, reaping in harvest, and bringing home his hay and corns. The old service of carriage was very unlimited, and very tyrannically exacted — From 16 to 30 years back, from the present time, about 37 cottages were razed, or became ruinous. From 10 to 17 years back, 10 or 11 new cottages have been erected; an increase of small houses has begun to take place; a mill, for spinning flax-yarn, is building; and a village is begun, for accommodating the hands to be employed, which will require a considerable number of houses. The employing of cottagers in agriculture, increases population. A house for accommodating a family, is a considerable inducement for a servant to marry; and, from having a house and an acre or two of land, a servant is more inclined to remain in his master's service. Hired servants are apt to be touchy and petulant, by being less dependent, as having it more easily  
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in their power to remove from one place to another. A hired servant, however, has the chance of obtaining more extensive knowledge, by sometimes changing his place.—There is no post-town nearer than Forfar, about 3 miles distant from the centre of this parish. We have one ale-house; no inn. Ale-houses are not so much resorted to, as 20 or 40 years ago.

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