

the domestic comfort and advantage that will immediately be produced by the mothers remaining at home in charge of their households, the females will no longer be subjected to the physical and moral evils attendant on their former condition, as beasts of burden among the most contaminating influences, but having to betake themselves to service among the other classes of society, will be the means of bringing back improved notions and habits.

February 1845.

## PARISH OF CRAMOND.

PRESBYTERY OF EDINBURGH, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND  
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. W. L. COLVIN, A. M. MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.\*

*Name.*—THE name Cramond, or Crawmond and Karramund, as it has, at different times, been written, and in the Celtic form *Car-aman*, is considered to be derived from *Car*, † or *Carraig*, a rock or fort, and *Aman* a river,—thus signifying the *River-Fort*. This etymology is sufficiently descriptive of the present position of the village at the mouth of the Almond, once the site of an important Roman station. The truth of this statement, indeed, has been fully established by the digging up of numerous imperial coins, medals, inscriptions, altars, sepulchral remains, pavement, and other relics of Roman residence. ‡ This station, with its adjoining harbour, seems to have had a direct communication on the west, with the forts along the rampart of Antoninus, which, with its fosse and parallel military way, terminated a little higher on the Forth at or near Carriden; and also with the southern parts,

\* For this part of the Statistical Account we are indebted to Dr Thomas Aitken, Edinburgh.

† The *Caer* of Wales is only a different dialect, and is there applied to both British and Roman fortifications, but chiefly to the site of the *Castra* or stations of the Romans.

‡ *Alaterra* is supposed, from a disinterred inscription, to have been the Roman name of Cramond. Others, with even less probability, have conceived it to be the *Alauna* of Ptolemy. This ancient Geographer, indeed, places both *Alauna* and *Alata Castra* in the same latitude; but the difference which he makes between their longitude might have as readily led to the supposition that *Alauna* stood on the Clyde as on the Forth. See Ptolem. *Geog.*, Lib. ii., cap. iii.

EDINBURGH.

P P

by a great military road running in the direction of Edinburgh, the east end of the Pentlands, and the Eildon hills. A part of this Roman road towards Edinburgh could be traced about a century ago, though even then much effaced by the plough,\* and small portions seem still to remain within the grounds of Cramond House, as lately ascertained on planting some trees. From the discovered inscriptions, this station appears at one time to have been occupied by both the second and twentieth legions—two of the legions employed under Lollius Urbicus in forming the rampart and military road of Antoninus, from the Clyde to the Forth, about the middle of the second century of the Christian era. †

*Boundaries.*—This parish is bounded on the north by the Frith of Forth; on the east by St Cuthbert's; on the south by the parish of Corstorphine; and on the west by the parishes of Kirkliston and Dalmeny. Six miles is the greatest length, and about two its greatest breadth.

Lying along the line of coast and the Almond, besides embracing a part of Dalmeny Park, it has in general a rich and interesting appearance, being diversified by swelling hill and finely wooded mansion, as well as highly cultivated and extended fields.

*Botany.*—The portion of the parish which stretches along the sea side from Wardie burn to the Cockle burn in Dalmeny Park, may be considered the locality in which those plants occur which particularly characterize it from the more inland districts. The more useful of these, with a few along the wooded banks of the Almond, may be given—distinguishing the apparently introduced, though British, by an asterisk prefixed.

Arundo arenaria ‡  
Carex arenaria  
Triticum junceum  
Juncus compressus

Plantago maritima  
———— coronopus  
Thalictrum minus  
Astragalus hypoglottis

\* Ribes alpinum  
\* Medicago sativa  
Daucus carota  
Cichoreum Intybus

\* See Gordon's *Itinerarium Septentrionale*, Lond. 1726, Fol. p. 117. Maitland also mentions distinct visible traces of this military way in his time, both on Echlin moor, south-west of Queensferry, and towards the burn at the east end of the Pentlands. A small part of the old Linton road at Bowbridge, overgrown with furze, still points out the line of this latter portion; but Echlin moor itself has now disappeared in cultivated fields.—See Maitland's *History and Antiquities of Scotland*.

† From two inscriptions, the one found at Castlecary, and the other at Cramond, the first cohort of the Tungrians, from the banks of the Maese, seem also to have been stationed at Cramond, and likewise to have executed a part of this great work, commonly called Graham's Dike, which is probably only a corrupted form of the Celtic *Grim-dige*, a war-fosse.—See Gordon's *Itiner. Sept.*, and Roy's *Military Antiquities of the Romans in Britain*.

‡ The sea-reed, independently of its use for binding sand banks, has been variously employed as a substitute for the mat-weed of Spain (*Lygeum spartum*), which was anciently in general use for making cordage both for naval and other purposes—"quanto est in usu omnibus terris navium armamentis, machinis ædificationum, aliisque desideris vitæ."—*Plin. N. Hist., Lib. xiv. cap. ii.*

*Cochlearia officinalis*  
*Beta maritima*  
*Crambe maritima*  
*Ligusticum Scoticum*  
 \* *Hippophae rhamnoides*

*Rosa rubiginosa*  
 — *spinosissima*  
*Daphne Laureola*  
*Spiraea salicifolia*  
 \* *Helleborus foetidus*

\* *Galanthus nivalis*  
 \* *Tulipa Sylvestris*  
 \* *Narcissus biflorus*  
 \* *Sedum album*  
*Cheiranthus Cheiri*

Of the *Algæ* on the rocks between high and low water, or left by the tide on the beach, the following may be mentioned—some of which are also useful in the arts, in medicine, and for culinary and domestic purposes.

*Chondrus crispus*\*  
 — *mamillosus*  
*Laminaria digitata*  
 — *saccharina*  
*Rhodomenia palmata*  
*Delesseria sanguinea*  
 — *alata*

*Odonthalia dentata*  
*Ptilota plumosa*  
*Desmarestia aculeata*  
*Fucus vesiculosus*  
 — *serratus*  
 — *nodosus*  
 — *canicoulatus*

*Halidrys siliquosa*  
*Furcellaria fastigiata*  
*Chordaria flagelliformis*  
*Ulva latissima*  
 — *lactuca*  
*Enteromorpha compressa*

The general mildness of the climate is evinced by old lofty elms, oaks, and beeches, unscathed by storm or sea-breeze, though close on the shore; and by the same trees still as vigorous in growth and stately in form, reaching a considerable ascent on Leny Hill. On the banks of the Almond are also tall luxuriant trees of the *Thuya occidentalis* and *Pinus strobus*: the cluster pine of the south of Europe (*Pinus pinaster*)† is growing well in Dalmeny Park and on the sea margin under Muir House. The Italian rye-grass (*Lolium Italicum*) is extensively and successfully cultivated near Wardie burn.

*Zoology*.—The zoology of this district naturally though indirectly points to the past, when the wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) of the Caledonian forests was an object of interest to the Roman;‡ and when, too, a portion of this part of the ancient royal chase was granted by King Robert the Bruce in the charter of Muir House§—a name itself, like those of “Kingis medow and mure of Cramond,” implying a very different state of things from the present.

In the course of last century, not a few instances are on re-

\* This species, when bleached and prepared, is sold under the name of *Irish moss*. The *Zostera marina*, also an object of interest in our manufactures, occurs among the Leith rocks.

† The *Pinus pinaster* grows well at Haining near Selkirk, some hundred feet higher. The *Botrychium lunaria* recently extirpated by Granton quarry and improvements, is plentiful on the green hills near Selkirk.

‡ The wild boar occurs in the sculptured remains, and “the tusks of boars” were found among the Roman ruins discovered at Castlacreary, in making the canal between the Clyde and the Forth.—*Roy's Milit. Antiq. of Scotland*, p. 200. The “*Solidus oper*,” indeed, at a Roman entertainment had become an object of ambition and also of daily occurrence, even before the conquest of Britain.—*See Plin. Nat. Hist. Lib. viii. cap. ii.*

§ See *M.S. Charters, Vol. i. Signet Library, and Acts of Scot. Parl. A. D. 1606.*

cord of a species of whale being stranded on the large tract of sand regularly exposed by the ebbing tide. In December 1769, a spermaceti whale (*Catodon macrocephalus*)\* 54 feet long, was left by the tide at Cramond Island, and another of the same species and size at Hunter's Craig† in the preceding spring.

The rocky islet called Inch Mickery is chiefly tenanted by sea-fowl. The common tern or *pictarnie* (*Sterna hirundo*) resorts hither in such numbers during the summer months, that, in the breeding season, they in some measure fully occupy the island.

The fishing of the Almond, once plentiful in salmon (*Salmo salar*), was at one time of much importance, and even gave rise to a long litigation; but, being now almost entirely destroyed, it is to no one of any interest.

Another object of Roman esteem, the oyster of Britain (*Ostrea edulis*),‡ is found in beds within the limits of the parish. The low sledgey rocks also are covered abundantly with muscles (*Mytilus edulis*), and the shells of the common cockle (*Cardium edule*) are thrown out in such profusion on the sandy shore at the mouth of the rivulet forming the western boundary that it has been descriptively called the *Cockle-Burn*.

*Geology.*—The chief geological interest of this parish, like that of its botany, is along the shore and bed of the Almond. The series of strata here exposed belong to the coal formation, and consists of the usual sandstone, limestone in small quantity, shale, clay ironstone, and coal. These strata, however, are traversed at intervals by trap. Their usual dip along the shore and bed of the Almond is from 25° to 30° to the east, but both dip and direction depart from this in particular localities. In the flattened or mantle-shaped strata at the influx of Wardie burn the coal crops out, and on lately forming the foundation of the embankment of the railway, both the coal-seam and traces of former working were fully brought

\* This whale is figured and described under the name of the blunt-headed cachalot or *Physeter Catodon*, in *Vol. ix. Phil. Trans. for the year 1770*.

† In a niche out in the face of this rock, the Roman eagle, in bold antique relief, can still be distinctly traced.

‡ The partiality of the Romans for such shell-fish and others common to our shores is well known. So extravagant, indeed, was their fondness for pearls, that even the first invasion of Britain is said by Suetonius to have been undertaken by Cæsar with this object—"Britanniam petisse spe margaritarum." The British pearls, however, from the *Mya margaritifera*, seem eventually not to have been very highly valued. Pliny refers to their defects in Cæsar's votive shield of these pearls to Venus: and Tacitus, while stating the British mines as the real rewards of conquest, quaintly says of the pearls—"ego facilius crediderim, naturam margaritis decesse, quam nobis avaritiam." *Tacit. Agric. cap. xii.*—*Sueton. C. Jul. Cæs. cap. xlviii.*—*Plin. Nat. Hist. Lib. ix., cap. xxxv.*

to view. The clay ironstone occurs here in thin seams or bands, and was once employed by the Carron Company. The clay ironstone balls, in the shale a little to the east, when split up, are found to contain *coprolites* and iron pyrites; and sometimes also galena and calcareous spar.

In the same flattened strata are interesting specimens of the *Lepidodendron dichotomum* and *Variolaria Ficoides\** of Sternberg, and some portions of the shale seem almost an entire mass of vegetable remains, consisting chiefly of *Monocotyledonous* plants. In the sandstone of Granton quarry two fossil trees have been exposed similar to those of Craighleith. Both are slightly compressed, and incline in the same direction in the attitude of trees sanded up, with the root in the lower or growing position. These are seen at once to be *Dicotyledonous*; and, by microscopical examination, those of Craighleith have been satisfactorily shown to belong to the *Coniferae*, but to that section of this great natural family which is found at present only in the southern hemisphere. An interesting fossil fruit or *Carpolite*, from the same place, not yet described, may be referred to the *Cucurbitaceæ* of an Indian climate.†

The trap-ridge of Corstorphine Hill, rising 474 feet above the sea-level, declines gently towards the shore in the direction of Cramond island, where the same greenstone again appears forming the island. The less elevated trap-ridge of Leny Hill, to the west, traverses the sandstone strata in a similar manner, and crosses the Almond at the private bridge of Craigiehall. Different varieties of trap appear in succession along the shore, and these are often conformably interposed among the strata of sandstone. It may at least be a probable conjecture, that the greenstone of Cramond island may have once been connected with that which rises towards Corstorphine Hill. The relation, indeed, which such traps bear to volcanic rocks, whether common or submarine, has lately become a subject of interest, and has been particularly investigated by geologists of the continent,‡ as well as of our own country.

\* In regard to this and such analogous forms, as in some of the *Cacti* and *Euphorbiaceæ*, found in connection with those of a widely different character, Martius, distinguished by his elegant work on Palms, who carefully examined the botany of South America, thus writes to Sternberg,—“Mais ce qui me paraît surtout remarquable, c'est que dans le district des diamants, au Brésil, j'ai retrouvé presque toutes les formes a moi connues de Flore du Monde primitif, reproduites et représentées par des végétaux vivans.”—*Essai d'un Exposé Géognestico-Botanique de Flore du Monde primitif*. Par Le Comte G. Sternberg.

† Palm fruits, (*Palmacites Nöggerrathii*, Stern.) are also in the writer's possession, from similar strata in the vicinity of Manchester.

‡ The trap of Corstorphine Hill is by Boué called *Dolerite*, and the resemblance

Large blocks of greenstone, as the ruins of once existing rocks, lie in confusion along the shore, and such are likewise found imbedded in the alluvial deposit of boulder clay, gravel, sand, and shells which skirts the beach. Fine blue clay, fit for the purposes of a brick-work, is found near Granton Pier, beneath a four feet stratum of ferruginous sand and gravel. A bed of shells, or shells mixed with sand and gravel, has also been exposed in the superficial covering of Granton quarry. Many of these shells are fresh and identical with those now on the shore, such as the *Turbo littoreus* and *Neritoides*, *Buccinum Lapillus*, and *Patella vulgata*; while the position of this bed is several feet higher above the present highest tide than that of the whale skeleton found some time ago imbedded in the clay at Airthrey, on the opposite shores of the Forth.

*Hydrography.*—The springs, found by digging in the alluvial deposit, are, from their mineral character, not always suited for every domestic purpose. From the sandstone strata of Craigleith quarry on the boundary, small sulphureous springs issue, which smell of sulphuretted hydrogen, and, by exposure to the air as they flow, leave a whitish deposit of sulphur on the rock. The *Marchfield Spa*, once of some medicinal celebrity, being now inclosed within the grounds of Barnton, has disappeared.

The Almond, conveying the drainage of a district, stretching thirty miles to the west, has a varied bed and marked action even in the few miles of its course connected with this parish. At first it flows through the flat alluvial; then over trap, forming a fall and rapid; and afterwards through shale, alluvial, and sandstone, with greenstone boulders strewed along its channel and margin, and with insular formations, the result of such agency.

The mouth of this river, at the junction of the greenstone and sandstone, with a full spring tide of 15 or 16 feet in the middle of the channel, affords a haven or natural creek-harbour, convenient enough for smaller vessels; and if, as formerly existing Roman remains seemed to indicate, a mole once stood on the east bank, a much superior harbour must have been obtained. The harbour, however, at present is, by the changing action of the tide, entirely reduced to that of nature unaided by art—

which such rock bears to those of the extinct volcanoes of the south of France—“*les dolérites volcaniques des environs de Saint Flours dans le Cantal*”—he mentions as particularly striking every geologist.—*Sée Essai Géologique sur l'Écosse. Par A. Bossé.* The same trap formation also appears on the opposite shore of Fife, in Inchcolm, and the rocky islets stretching towards Cramond island.

“vivoque sedilia saxo.” At the iron works, indeed, about a quarter of a mile higher, art has been called in with crane and wharf to render it more suitable for their own imports and exports.

The advance of the tide in some parts of the shore is rather remarkable, particularly in the neighbourhood of Granton pier. In building this pier the vestiges of an old sea-wall\* were discovered within low water mark; and not much more than half a century ago the margin of green turf extended a considerable way towards this boundary. When the softer strata have been thus stripped of their alluvial covering, the effect of ebb and flow, by constant attrition, is to lower even the rock itself, so that a foundation sunk a few feet in the shale becomes, in the course of not many years, level with the surface on the side exposed to the action of the tide.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—The date of the most ancient parochial registers is 1636. It is alleged that the books of the parish, which existed previously to that period, were carried off by Cromwell. The records of baptisms, marriages, and kirk-session business, appear to have been kept with great regularity since 1652, and, with the exception of the oldest of them, are in excellent preservation. There are several very curious things recorded in the session books, illustrative of the severity of discipline exercised in former times.

*Land-owners.*—The principal land owners in the parish are, William R. Ramsay, Esq., M. P.; His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch; Lady Aberdour; Lady Torphichen; the Earl of Rosebery; Mr Hope Vere; Andrew Rutherford, Esq., Advocate, M. P.; Thomas Davidson, Esq.; and W. H. Crawford, Esq.

*Mansion-Houses.*—Few parishes in Scotland can boast of a greater variety of beautiful mansion-houses than Cramond. Of these we shall briefly notice the principal. About a mile south from the church, stands Barnton House, the principal seat of William R. Ramsay, Esq., M. P. It is situated in a magnificent park of nearly 400 acres, beautifully wooded, and most tastefully

\* If this sea-wall was constructed by the Duke of Argyle, as is supposed, when Caroline Park was in his possession, it must have been the boundary of the shore about a hundred years ago. About the beginning of last century, on repairing the pier of Leith, a portion of a coast line of Roman road was discovered below the foundation crossing the water of Leith in the direction of Cramond.—See *Maitland's Hist. and Antiq. of Scotland, Lond. 1757, Vol. i. p. 203.* Cramond Island, though above three-quarters of a mile distant from the land, is at low water connected with it by a flat tract of sand, over which those residing on the island pass and repass.

laid out. The name formerly given to this lordly mansion was *Cramond Regis*, and in ancient times it was one of the hunting seats of the Kings of Scotland. The present edifice was greatly enlarged and improved by the former proprietor, Mr Ramsay's father, and is now by far the most splendid residence in the parish.

*Lauriston Castle*, the residence of Andrew Rutherford, Esq., M. P., is beautifully situated on an eminence not far from the sea, a little north from the village of Davidson's Mains, and appears to have been built toward the end of the sixteenth century by Sir Archibald Napier, brother of John Napier of Merchiston, the far-famed inventor of Logarithms. Many alterations have been made on Lauriston Castle of late years, and at present the house is being enlarged, and the grounds are being extended and improved. This castle at one time belonged to the famous John Law, who raised himself to the high dignity of Comptroller-General of the Finances of France, and whose extraordinary history, as detailed in Mr Wood's Account of Cramond, will be read with all the interest of a romance.

*Cramond House*, the residence of the Right Honourable Dowager Lady Torphichen, is situated close by the junction of the Almond with the Forth, and is a handsome and commodious mansion. The trees which surround the house are remarkable for their size and beauty, more particularly, considering their vicinity to the sea. Immediately adjoining Cramond House, stands an old tower of square dimensions, three storeys in height, and of massive architecture, which, tradition informs us, is the remains of what once was a mansion of the bishops of Dunkeld.

Near the north-east extremity of the parish is Caroline Park, the property of His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch. It is a very ancient and extensive edifice. From a stone tablet in the centre of the north front, we learn that this mansion was built, in 1685, by George, Viscount of Tarbat, at which time he was prime minister of Scotland. It appears that this mansion was first of all named Kingstown, then Roystown, and that it received its present name from John, Duke of Argyle, in memory of the consort of George II., to whom, while Princess of Wales, his Duchess had been maid of honour.

A little westward from Caroline Park, along the sea shore, in the midst of well-wooded and beautiful grounds, stands Muir House, a modern edifice of elegant ornate architecture. It was

built a few years ago by Mr Davidson, the proprietor. The old mansion of Muir House, said to have been built about the year 1690, with the exception of two staircases, is entirely destroyed.

About half a mile to the south-west of Cramond Bridge is New Saughton, a commodious mansion, the property of Lady Aberdour. The ancient name of this mansion was Cammo. It was built in the year 1693, by John Menzies of Cammo. It is embosomed amid fine old wood, and the grounds adjoining possess much picturesque beauty.

Almost immediately adjoining the old Cramond bridge, stands Braehead, the property of William H. Crawford, Esq. of Crawfordland. The Howisons of Braehead are of old standing in the parish, and, from tradition, we are informed that part of the property of Braehead was obtained from one of the Kings of Scotland as a reward for service rendered by one of their ancestors, who came to the rescue of his Majesty when attacked by a gang of gipsies or robbers, and who, with a flail for his weapon, and *fortiter pugnant*, delivered the *Laird of Ballengeich* from his assailants.

The tenure by which this royal gift of land is held is the presenting of a basin of water and a napkin to the King of Scotland, to wash his hands if so inclined, which was accordingly done by Mr Crawford at the banquet given to George IV. in Edinburgh in 1822. The rose water then used has ever since been hermetically sealed up, and the towel which dried the hands of Majesty on that occasion has never since been used for any other purpose.

On the south-east boundary of the parish, at the foot of Corstorphine Hill, stands Craig-Crook, the residence of the Right Honourable Lord Jeffrey. Viewed from the Queensferry road, this ancient-looking mansion, with the wood-covered hill behind, has a very striking appearance.

The revenue arising from the estate of Craig-Crook and North Clermiston in this parish, is devoted to charitable purposes, in conformity to a deed of mortification executed by John Strachan, W. S., who died in 1719. The proceeds arising from this property are ordained to be distributed amongst "poor old men, women, and orphans." The trustees upon the Craig-Crook Mortification, as appointed by the will of the said John Strachan, consist of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, two advocates, and two writers to the Signet.

*Eminent Men.*—Of the distinguished individuals who have been

connected by birth or otherwise with this parish, we may particularize the following:—

Sir James Elphinston of Barnton was a distinguished man in the reign of James VI. He was successively a member of the Bar, a Senator of the College of Justice, one of the Commissioners of the Treasury, Secretary of State, and was raised to the peerage in 1604, under the title of Lord Balmerinloch.

His son John, second Lord Balmerinloch, signalised himself by a strenuous resistance to the attempts of Charles I. to uproot Presbyterianism in Scotland, and at the hazard of his life this nobleman was the steadfast patron and friend of the Covenanters. He was chosen one of the assessors to the moderator of the General Assembly of 1643.

Sir Thomas Hope of Granton, one of the ancestors of the noble family of Hopetoun, was called to the bar at an early age, and became first distinguished in 1606, by his defence of the ministers of the Church of Scotland, who were tried for high treason, for acting in opposition to the arbitrary measures of King James in his attempts to introduce Episcopacy into Scotland. By this he obtained the first professional practice, and in a few years acquired one of the largest fortunes ever made at the Scottish bar. He was appointed his Majesty's Advocate, created a baronet, and subsequently nominated Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly, which met at Edinburgh, 2d August 1643.\* Two years after, he was made one of the Commissioners for managing the Exchequer, and died in the following year, 1646.† Two of his sons, Sir Alexander Hope of Granton, cup-bearer to Charles I., and Sir James Hope of Hopetoun, Governor of the Mint, and a Lord of Session, are both buried in the church-yard of Cramond.‡

\* See Douglas' *Peerage by Wood*. The Commissioners from the Westminster Assembly of Divines sent to this Assembly to consult about religion and church government arrived at Edinburgh on 7th August 1643.—*Cruikshanks' History of Church of Scotland*, Vol. i. Along with these were also Commissioners from the English Parliament.—See *Acts of General Assembly for 1643*.

† His character is thus drawn by Arthur Johnson in his Epigram *Ad Thomam Hopsum Advocatum regium*.

“Lyncea mens, lingua est tibi nectare dulcior omni,  
Labe carens pectus, candidiusque nive,  
In vultu Charites, Spes est in nomine, dotes  
Quas alii sparsas, tu simul unus habes.”

He is author of, (1.) *Carmen Seculare in Serenissimu. Carolum I. Britanniarum Monarcham*. Edin. 1626. (2.) *Psalmi Davidis. et Canticum Solomonis Latino-carmine redditum*. (3.) *Major Practicks*. (4.) *Minor Practicks*. (5.) *Paratitillo ex Universo Juris Corpore*. (6.) *A Genealogie of the Earls of Marr*.

‡ A well-executed bust of Sir James is still on the wall of the church, with this inscription: *Sperando superavi—Vera effigies Dni. Jac. Hopsei Hopetonie militis celeberrimi, etat. suæ 47. An. MDCLXI.*

John Law of Lauriston was born at Edinburgh in 1671. His early studies were devoted to the exact sciences, and their application to the subject of finance. Having gone to London, and there having fought a duel, arising out of an affair of gallantry, and killing his antagonist, he fled to escape the penalty of the law, first to Holland and then to Italy. Under the protection of the Duke of Argyle, he returned to this country; but his plans of finance being rejected by both the Scottish and English Parliaments, he visited Paris, Geneva, Venice, and Genoa, and, on the death of Louis XIV., gained the confidence of the Regent of France. At Paris, he established a bank in 1716, which became the general bank of the kingdom, uniting with it also the interests of the Mississippi Company. While France considered herself thus rising into opulence, and Law, as comptroller and financier, was purchasing large possessions, the real prosperity of the country, from the spirit of speculation, was gradually diminishing. The Parliament opposing the Regent, and the public indignation being roused, the bank became embarrassed, and Law obliged to retire to Brussels; but instead of being recalled, as he expected, he received an official appointment in Bavaria, where he remained till the Regent's death. He afterwards travelled over different parts of Europe, visited England, was presented to George I., and returned to the Continent, where he died in poverty at Venice in 1729.\* His daughter was married to Lord Wallingford in England, and his brother's family remained in France.†

Besides those eminent persons thus mentioned, we cannot forbear alluding to the fact that the estate of Barnton was once the property of Viscountess Glenorchy, a lady pre-eminently distinguished for her piety and good works.

### III.—POPULATION.

In 1811,	1645
1821,	1804
1831,	1984
1841,	1986

### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The real rental of the parish is L. 17,529, 17s. 9d. Sterling.

\* The following epitaph was written soon after the death of this distinguished financier.

Ci git cet *Écossais* célèbre  
Ce calculateur sans égale,  
Que par les règles de l'Algebre  
A mis France à l'hôpital.

† See *Biographie Universelle*. His works are published in one volume 8vo, 1790. The French writers on his system are *Forbonnais* Dans ses recherches et considérations sur les finances de France; and *Monthyon*, in his work entitled *Particularités et observations sur les Ministres des Finances de France depuis 1660, jusqu'en 1799*.

The farmers here are well known to be a very industrious and intelligent class of men. Within these few years there has been a very extensive drainage of land. Whatever improvements in agriculture have been discovered are readily adopted by the enterprising tenantry of Cramond.

The following is the rotation of cropping as practised in the parish :—

I. Six course shift, for light soils.—1. Oats ; 2. potatoes, well manured ; 3. wheat ; 4. turnips, manured ; 5. barley ; 6. hay or pasture.

II. Five course shift, for strong or clay lands.—1. Oats ; 2. potatoes, beans, or fallow, well manured ; 3. wheat ; 4. barley, manured ; 5. hay or pasture.

III. Four course shift, for land of middling texture.—1. Oats ; 2. potatoes, well manured ; 3. wheat ; 4. hay or pasture.

IV. Five course shift, on light soils.—1. Oats ; 2. turnips, well manured ; 3. barley ; 4. pasture ; 5. pasture.

V. Eight course shift.—1. Oats ; 2. beans, manured ; 3. wheat ; 4. fallow ; 5. wheat ; 6. beans, manured ; 7. barley ; 8. hay or pasture.

VI. Six course shift, when land has been long pastured.—1. Oats ; 2. fallow, limed ; 3. wheat ; 4. beans, manured heavily ; 5. barley ; 6. hay or pasture.

*Rents.*—These are variable. One and a half quarter of wheat per Scotch acre (the Scotch acre being one-fifth more than the imperial acre), is very common. This quantity is converted and paid by the highest fiars prices of the county of Mid-Lothian. In many cases, a five or seven years' average of the fiars price is taken as the data for ascertaining the rent.

*Wood.*—There are no extensive woods in this parish ; 400 acres, Scotch measure, may be stated as the quantity of land under plantation.

*Manufactures.*—Along the banks of the river Almond, and not far from the village of Cramond, are the iron works, the property of Messrs W. Cadell and Co. These works were established in 1771, and at present are carried on with much spirit. They consist of a rolling mill, two forge hammers, steel furnaces, &c. The principal articles manufactured are bar iron, steel, spades and shovels, nails, chains, &c. There is also in the same locality a paper work of considerable extent under the same proprietorship, which was established about thirty years ago. The only descrip-

tion of paper made is cartridge paper, which is used entirely by the manufacturers of hosiery. The number of hands employed in connection with the iron and paper works above mentioned is about 100.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Villages.*—There are two villages in the parish, one called Cramond, containing forty-three families; and the other, called Davidson's Mains, containing ninety-three families, better known by the name of *Mutton Hole*—a name, by the way, whose derivation has not a little puzzled etymologists. Of late years, Granton has become a very populous district in the parish, and there is every probability that, in a short time, the population there will be greater than in any other part of Cramond.

*Bridges.*—The old bridge over the Almond was in a ruinous and unpassable condition in 1607, as appears from an act of the Scottish Parliament. It bears three successive dates of repair, 1619, 1687, and 1776. The oldest arch is groined, and of a structure similar to the old arches of Bothwell Bridge over the Clyde, or to that of the Maiden Bridge over the South Esk. The new bridge consists of eight arches, and was erected in 1823. The road which passes along it from Edinburgh to Queensferry is one of the most splendid in Scotland. It was constructed by Mr Rennie, Engineer, London, and is sixty feet in breadth. There is a private bridge a little further up the river, on the Craigie Hall property. It consists of one arch, and is of rough rock architecture.

*Granton Pier.*—This noble erection, situated at the eastern extremity of the parish, was begun in 1835, and finished in 1845. It is 1700 feet in length, and 180 in breadth, and is capable of accommodating a large amount of tonnage. Upon the pier there are ten jetties, two low water slips, eleven warehouses, and sixteen cranes. This splendid work was built at the earnest request of steam-boat proprietors, by His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, who employed as the engineer, James Walker, Esq. The contractors were Messrs Orrell and Co. The stone was supplied from an extensive quarry, the property of His Grace, situated a mile west of the pier; and the timber for the jetties, warehouses, &c. was imported direct from Memel. The gas, which extends to the end of the pier, was brought by His Grace from Leith; and the water for supplying houses in the vicinity of, and vessels frequenting the pier, flows from the Corstorphine Hills.

It is collected in a reservoir at some distance from the pier, and then passes through a filter, after which it is received into the pipes, and distributed. The road leading from the pier to Inverleith Row is one of the finest in Scotland, both in regard to its breadth and construction. A branch of railway from the pier is intended to join the terminus of the Edinburgh and Glasgow line under the North Bridge, and will be opened in the month of August next. His Grace is supposed to have spent on this very spirited undertaking, including the splendid hotel and houses for the officers, &c. &c. a sum of L.140,000. The pier is under the able management of Sir William Bain.

The following is an ABSTRACT of the EXPORTS and IMPORTS at the PIER, from 1st January 1844 to 1st January 1845.

Name of Companies.	Ships emp.	Voyages.	Total tonnage in and out.	Total tonnage paying dues.	No. of B. B. outwards.	No. of B. B. inwards.	No. of Horses.	No. of Carriages.	No. of Cattle.	No. of Sheep.	No. of Dogs.	No. tons Coal.	No. of Tiles.	No. boxes Fish.	Qrs. of Grain.	Tons of Water.	No. Visitors.	No. of Passengers.
Gen. Steam Navigation Co.,	3	79	81278	40852	54324	40087	136	55	62	332	189	..	..	..	..	..	..	6097
Lond. L. and G. Shipp. Co.,	3	70	56311	32194	49225	30369	64	21	13	240	56	2850	..	..	..	..	..	4331
Aberdeen L. & G. Shipp. Co.,	3	162	76760	39102	39484	16036	201	27	2342	13626	613	..	..	6170	781	..	..	18686
Dundee Passage,	2	325	74841	21720	20981	24275	107	29	2894	6476	207	..	..	..	..	..	..	34575
Stirling Passage,	2	540	78295	4800	32	..	..	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	59276
Montrose Passage,	1	65	9770	4788	1939	1176	41	8	1412	1188	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	2965
Fife Ferries,*	3	62	5247	4484	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	Transferred to island on the 15th September.	Granton & Burynt-ber.	..	..	..	..	1146
Newcastle Passage,	2	58	12146	5976	956	496	29	7	..	11	46	..	..	..	..	..	..	2960
Hull Passage,	2	9	724	528	174	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	197
Berwick Passage,	1	20	2145	1080	81	24	2	..	..	34	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	594
Coal,	65	294	10873	10873	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14676	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tiles,	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2000	..	..	..	..	..
Grain,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5189	..	..	..	..
Fish,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Water,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1024	..	..
Visitors,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27561	..
Total, 1844,	87	1624	416390	166403	167197	112463	583	149	6723	21997	1138	17526	2000	11359	781	1024	27561	130826
Total, 1843,	89	1767	411242	141200	187144	166979	551	210	4161	180780	877	16060	6000	4388	2597	608	22276	124343

\* The Fife and Mithlathen Ferries, formerly between Kinghorn and Newhaven, conducted by Ferry Trustees, are now established between Granton Pier and Burntisland, where a low water pier was built, for the express purpose of facilitating public accommodation, by His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and John Gladstone, Esq., which, with new iron steam boats better adapted for the passage, probably cost L.40,000. This passage was opened on the 15th September 1844. A bill, now before Parliament, is in progress for a railroad from Burntisland pier to Dundee.  
+ 8 B. B. one Ton.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—Before the Reformation there was a men-  
sal church here under the bishoprick of Dunkeld, with two altars;  
the one dedicated to St Columba, the patron saint of that see,  
and the other to the Virgin Mary. Both that church, indeed,  
and half of the manor of Cramond, had by David I. been granted  
to Robert Avenel, and subsequently transferred by him to the  
Bishops of Dunkeld. In 1210 Richard de Prebenda died while  
residing here, and was buried in the monastery of Inchcolm.\*

The present church was built in the year 1656.† In form it  
resembles a cross. It was greatly enlarged in 1811, and is now  
capable of containing 958 sitters.

The manse was built in 1745. In consequence of the alte-  
rations and improvements which have been made upon it from time  
to time since then, it is now a very comfortable and commodious  
dwelling. The situation of the church and manse has been much  
and justly admired. Viewed from the road leading down to the  
village, at the distance of a few hundred yards, they present a  
landscape remarkably beautiful and attractive;—the manse stand-  
ing on the foreground,—the church, with its antique tower, peep-  
ing from an inclosure of lofty planes, while trees of magnificent  
beauty fill the eye on every side, and complete the picture.

The stipend, *communibus annis*, amounts to L.271, 2s. 8d. The  
unexhausted teind is L.237, 13s. 10d. The patron of the cure  
is William R. Ramsay, Esq. of Barnton, M. P.

The gross amount of teinds is as follows:—

	R.	S.	D.	L.	
Wheat,	59	0	1	1	Valued at L. 71 14 5
Meal,	112	3	3	3	89 8 11
Bear,	254	0	0	1	257 19 1
Oats,	98	3	3	1	76 8 7
Money,					13 5 6
					Total value, L.508 16 6½

The glebe consists of five acres, and lets at L.5 per acre.

Since 1843 there has been a very considerable addition to the  
communion roll of members of the church, as compared with pre-

\* It may be viewed, says Dr Jamieson, as a farther proof of the great attachment  
still retained to Columba at Dunkeld, that so many bishops, most probably at their own  
desire, were interred in that island which bore his name, as having been consecrated  
to him. This is the island called Inchcolm, or St Columba's Inch."—*Jamieson's*  
*Hist. of Culdees*, p. 144.

† The bell of the tower, inscribed with "Michael Burghersdyk fecit me 1619,  
—Soli Deo Gloria,"—was restored, from the body of civil war, by Monk in 1656.

‡ From Report of the Commissioners of Religious Instruction for Scotland.

vious years; and it may be safely affirmed that the church is now more numerously attended than formerly.

*List of Incumbents since the Reformation.*—1573, Mr William Cornwell, reader.—1590, Mr Michael Cranston, minister.—1631, Mr William King.—1632, Mr William Colvill, resigned his charge in 1639 to convey a request from the chiefs of the Covenanters to the French King for assistance,—a measure originating with Lord Balmerino.—1639, Mr William Dalgleish, deposed in 1662 for non-conformity.—1662, Mr Alexander Young, removed to the Arch-deaconry of St Andrews in 1666.—1666, Mr David Falconer, appointed Professor of Divinity in St Andrews in 1675. 1675, Mr John Somerville, deprived of his benefice in 1689 for refusing to pray for William and Mary.—1689, Mr John Hamilton, translated to Edinburgh in 1693.—1694, Mr William Hamilton, appointed Professor of Divinity in Edinburgh in 1709.—1712, Mr James Smith, appointed one of the ministers of Edinburgh in 1730.—1730, Mr Robert Hamilton, translated to Edinburgh in 1786.—1737, Mr Gilbert Hamilton, brother of the above.—1772, Mr Charles Stuart of Dunnairn, in Fife, resigned in 1775.—1775, Mr Robert Walker, translated to Edinburgh in 1784.—1785, Mr Archibald Bonar.—1816, Dr George Muirhead, resigned in 1843.—1843, Mr Walter L. Colvin.

There is a place of worship and a school at Davidson's Mains in connection with the Free Seceders.

*Education.*—There are six schools in the parish in connection with the Establishment. Two of these are under the management of female teachers, where, besides the ordinary branches of education, needlework, &c. are taught. The salary of the parochial teacher is the maximum, and the amount of fees realised by him is about L.20 per annum. It is worthy of notice that a considerable sum was bequeathed by Mrs Baillie of Drylaw, and is placed at the disposal of the kirk-session for the education of poor children. By means of this legacy gratuitous education is bestowed annually to a very considerable extent.

*Poor and Parochial Funds.*—There is a legal assessment for the poor in this parish. The estimate for the current year is L.382. The number of paupers on the roll averages 60. Besides these, there are about 20 who receive occasional relief. In addition to the funds arising from the legal assessment, there are several charitable bequests, from which the poor are annually supplied with meal, coals, and clothing. Annual donations are also

given for behoof of the poor by benevolent persons connected with Cramond, so that we may safely assert that there is no parish in Scotland where the poor are more liberally provided for. There are four lunatic paupers, all of whom are inmates in the asylum at Morningside.

May 1845.

---

## PARISH OF COCKPEN.

PRESBYTERY OF DALKEITH, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. WILLIAM DAVIDSON, A. M. MINISTER.

---

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—THE present has been the name of the parish as far back as can be ascertained. It is probably of Gaelic origin.

*Extent.*—The parish is somewhat of an oval form, 3 miles long from north to south, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile broad from east to west. It contains about 4 square miles.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The general appearance of the surface is flat. It is varied, however, by gradual rises and falls, and is all of a cultivated rich clay soil, except a small portion on the north end at Hillhead, which is a soil of very fine rich loam. The stiff clay soil is in general about two feet thick, and rests upon a stiff clay subsoil; and the loamy soil at Hillhead lies upon a sandy or gravelly subsoil. The parish is composed of what naturalists call the secondary or floetz class, and of that part of this class called the independent coal formation. We have coarse coal, foliated coal, and slate coal, in beds from about 2 feet to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick. The rocks between which the coals are deposited, in slightly inclined strata, are clay-sandstone, slate-clay, bituminous shale, and limestone. In some places, patches or nodules of greenstone are to be found. There is a bed of clay sandstone at Skeltimuir, on the west side of the parish, about 300 feet above the level of the sea, wherein are found petrifications of sea shells.

There is now only one coal mine in the parish, on the estate of Mr Dundas of Arniston. This coal-work is near the south side of the parish, at Stobhill. It has been wrought to the depth of 84 fathoms 3 feet, through 15 beds of coal, of from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 feet