

Ale-houses.—Forty years ago, there were 41 houses where spirits, &c. were retailed. In 1831, there were 22, and at present there are 16. The evils in connection with such houses have been incalculable.

February 1843.

PARISH OF SCONE.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. JAMES CRAIK, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE common name, for a long period, given to this parish is Scone, sometimes written and generally pronounced Scoon. Its vulgar pronunciation, Sein, or Skuyn, is frequently heard among the older inhabitants. It receives from Slezer, in his *Theatrum Scotiæ*, the names both of Scoon and Skuyn.

Scone, it is well known, became distinguished very early in Scottish history. It was probably a royal residence even before the subversion of the Pictish monarchy. Analogy would, therefore, lead us to look for its name in the old British language. The situation of the old castle, and the grounds adjoining it, to which alone, properly speaking, the name of Scone applies, tend to confirm this conjecture. It is a gentle ascent, which, gradually rising from the Tay, extends into the interior of the parish with little interruption for a mile or two, when it attains an elevation of some hundred feet. In strict accordance with this topographical fact, we find that, in the Welsh language, *ysgwn*, or *ysgyn*, (pronounced *iscoon*, or *iscin*,) signifies "a rising," "an ascending," "a rising or ascending ground." This seems the most probable etymology of the term Scone, or Scin, as vulgarly pronounced.

The common derivation of Scone, from the Gaelic *sgáin* or *skain*, "a rent or chasm," seems altogether inadmissible, as it would here be perfectly unmeaning. There is no chasm in the neighbourhood to which such a term could apply.

Extent, &c.—The superficial extent of the parish may be some-

what above 9 square miles. It is bounded on the west and south-west by the Tay, which separates it from Perth and Redgorton; on the north, by the parish of St Martins; on the east and south-east, by St Martins, Kilspindie, and Kinnoull. The ground rises gently from the Tay, towards the north and east. Much of the soil is light, and considerable portions consist of dry gravel, but by far the larger proportion is in a state of high cultivation. There is much good arable ground included within the extensive parks and large plantations of the Earl of Mansfield; and towards the river, there are patches of strong rich clay.

The parish is not intersected by any river. There are one or two rivulets or burns, of which the Annaty may be mentioned as one supplying several good waterfalls for the movement of machinery. From the quantity of ground through which drains have been cut, the supply of water is somewhat irregular. A remedy for this has been suggested by Professor Anderson of St Andrews, who surveyed the whole course of the stream; but it has not yet been carried into effect. The Tay, by means of an artificial canal, affords an abundant supply of water for the machinery connected with a bleachfield at Stormontfield, in the north-west district of the parish, and also for flour-mills in the same quarter.

Geology.—The southern part of the parish is occupied by thick reddish-gray sandstone, which dips from the Sidlaw hills towards the north-west; the same beds on the south of the range dipping towards the south-east. For several miles along the course of the Annaty Burn, the outcrop has been laid bare by the stream, and exhibits well-defined sections of the deposit. It is one of the lower members of the old red sandstone formation, which abounds in this part of the country. There is little variety in the aspect or structure of the rock, except that here and there a bed of a lighter and darker colour, more or less abounding in comminuted scales of mica, occasions slight apparent variations. Several dikes of whinstone or trap traverse the sandstone nearly in straight lines. Some of them are remarkably regular, and where worked out for road-metal, for which the stone is admirably adapted, leave a cut like an immense drain, the sides of which are scorched or semi-furred by fire. At Spoutwells, the sandstone may be observed partly lying above the trap vein in the form of an arch only a few inches thick, and partly as it has been mixed with the mass in a

state of fusion. The portions of the sandstone thus mixed with the vein, consist of thin laminæ, varying from a few inches to half an inch in thickness, and afford the student of geology an excellent opportunity of observing the manner in which the igneous mass has been injected into the stratified deposit.

The lower portions of the quarry at Lethendy, consisting of the common sandstone of the district, seem of indefinite thickness, and are very compact. The rock is chiefly composed of clay, sparingly mixed with silicious particles and mica. Above the hardest rock in the quarry, there is a bed of about three feet in thickness, remarkably well defined, chiefly composed of mica. It may be split up into a thousand of the thinnest laminæ, between which the shining scales may be observed, varying from the eighth of an inch to nearly a quarter of an inch in diameter. The bed is extremely friable, and feels very unctuous when compressed in the hand.

Minerals.—Further to the east, nodules of compact earthy carbonate of lime, such as are burned as limestone, appear in the softer beds of the sandstone, especially in the line of the turnpike Strathmore road. Small pieces of jasper, and several of the more common minerals that prevail in similar situations, are also found.

Botany.—The following account of the botany of this parish has been supplied by a reverend friend, partly from personal inspection, and partly from a list drawn up by another botanist. He states, that “the botany cannot fail to be interesting from the number of rare plants to be found in the parish,” and notices particularly “*Pyrola uniflora* which is so singularly rare and so much sought after by our Scottish botanists.” He has not himself seen the plants to which an asterisk is prefixed in the following list :

**Veronica scutellata*
Scirpus sylvaticus
Phalaris arundinacea
Aira aquatica
Briza media
 **Triodia decumbens*
Festuca ovina

Avena fatua
 **Radiola millegrana*
Echium vulgare†
 **Primula elatior*
Lonicera periclymenum
 **Polemonium cæruleum*
Symphytum suberosum

Solanum dulcamara
 **Myrrhis odorata*
Statice armeria
 **Convallaria majalis*
 ----- *multiflora*
 **Hyacinthus non-scriptus*
Juncus triglumis

† This plant is often found in the corn-fields, having been sown along with the grain in the same manner as *Agrostemma githago*, corn-cockle; *Cichorium Intybus*, wild succory; and *Centaurea cyanus*, corn blue-bottle; which are exotics introduced with foreign grain; but it here exists in such large beds as to show that it is indigenous.

Berberis vulgaris†	Stachys sylvatica	Tragopogon pratensis
Trientalis Europæa	Antirrhinum cymbalaria‡	Hieracium sylvaticum
*Epilobium angustifolium	*Linnæa borealis	Cnicus heterophyllus
Pyrola uniflora‡	Geranium sanguineum	Doronicum pardalianches
Saponaria officinalis	----- sylvaticum	Pyrethrum parthenium
Silene inflata	*----- pratense	Centaurea scabiola
----- maritima§	Genista anglica	Orchis mascula
*Viburnum opulus	Fumaria capreolata	----- latifolia
*Adoxa Moschatellina	Hesperis matronalis	----- conopsea
*Agrimonia Eupatoria	Vicia sylvatica	----- Bifolia
Rubus saxatilis	*Oroleus sylvaticus	*Equisetum hyemale
Rosa spinosissima	*Ornithopus perpusillus	*Botrychium lunaria
----- involuta	Astragalus glycyphyllos	Asplenium trichomanes
----- Sabini	Trifolium arvense	----- Adiantum ni-
*Chelidonium majus	Hypericum quadrangulum	----- grum
Thalictrum minus	----- humifusum	Aspidium dilatatum
*Ranunculus hirsutus	----- perforatum	----- Filix-mas
Malva moschata	----- hirsutum	----- foemina
*Clinopodium vulgare	----- pulchrum	Blechnum boreale

"*Agaricus campestris*, common mushroom," it is added, "grows in extraordinary abundance in Scone Park, interspersed copiously with *Bovista nigrescens*, snuff-box fungus, more sparingly with *Agaricus oreades*, small pale mushroom, interesting from its growing in fairy rings, occasionally with the highly poisonous *Agaricus semiglobatus*, grey-mottled mushroom; and *Agaricus Georgii*, large yellow mushroom, frequently mistaken for *Agaricus campestris*, but which, from its tough quality, is infinitely inferior for the table, if at all fit for it, and may easily be distinguished by its yellowish whitegills, and smooth thick yellow stalk." It is said that those kinds of mushrooms that are wholesome in one country are not so in another. In great Britain, the *Agaricus campestris*, the *A. pratensis*, or *oreades*, and the *A. Georgii*, are the only roots that it is safe to eat, while the *A. muscarius* and *A. virosus* are ex-

† This plant is said to be the frequent cause of black or smut in wheat.

‡ This abundant habitat of *Pyrola uniflora* is referred to in the Statistical Account of Redgorton; but a wrong description of it is given in consequence of the bridge of Isla road having been mistaken for that to Cupar Angus. The habitat here given has been verified by personal inspection.

§ Of this plant the writer remarks, "we regret that we cannot enter into Sir W. J. Hooker's arrangement of this plant, in his *Flora Scotica*, who makes it only the variety β of *inflata*. The two plants are dissimilar in every particular. The flower of the *maritima* is always crowned and cleft beyond the middle, that of the other is generally naked and not cleft so deep: the stalk of the former is simple, with not more than three terminal flowers, that of the latter forked and many flowered; the root of the former is creeping with long runners, that of the other fibrous; the capsule of the former is round, that of the latter ovate."

|| "The Scottish roses are yet in a very unsatisfactory state. It is not even definitely settled what should constitute a species in this genus; but this is the most decidedly marked of the whole, and is the original of all those uncultivated varieties known in the Gardens as Scottish roses. These all retain the characteristic of this, of creeping extensively with their roots, which is one of the greatest inconveniences in their cultivation. The brilliant colouring of *Rosa involuta* might perhaps reward the trouble of similar improvements in the cultivation of that species."

¶ Not indigenous in this situation, though it has withstood the severest winters.

tremely poisonous. But in other countries of Europe it is different.
—Vid. Art. Agaricus, Vol. i. P. Cyclop.

There are extensive plantations on the same estate, belonging to the Earl of Mansfield, consisting chiefly of oak, larch, Scotch fir, and various sorts of useful and ornamental trees. And in other parts of the parish, there is a considerable quantity of larch, and also hard-wood of various kinds.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Scone is well known to have early obtained historical importance. It received, it would appear, the title of the "Royal city of Scone," so early as A. D. 906, or A. D. 909; by another calculation, the Pictish Chronicle informs us that Constantine, the son of Ed, and Kellach the bishop, together with the Scots, solemnly vowed to "observe the laws and discipline of faith, the rights of the churches and of the Gospel, on the Hill of Credulity near the Royal city of Scoan (Scone.)" "Here," it has been remarked, "we have an account, not only of a very early national council, but of one that may be reckoned a council of Culdees. The very language in which the result of their meeting is expressed, indicates a very different spirit from that which characterized the generality of subsequent councils. We hear nothing of the authority of the pope or of bishops. The laws and discipline of faith, the rights of the churches and of the Gospel, is a style of writing peculiar to an age comparatively unadulterated."

If the Stone of Destiny was transferred by Kenneth Mac Alpine from Dunstaffnage, in Argyleshire, to Scone in A. D. 838, we may see a reason for the title of "Royal city of Scone," which seems to have been acquired before the meeting of the ecclesiastical council. One of the most memorable of the combats with the Danes was fought at Collin near Scone, in the time of Donald IV., the son of Constantine II., for the possession of this stone. This must have been previous to A. D. 904, in which year Donald fell in battle at Forteviot. It is said that a religious house was established at Scone when the stone was transferred by Kenneth Macalpine. There seems no doubt that there was a foundation of Culdees at this place before the reign of Alexander I. We might indeed infer this from the circumstance, that the church of Scone at that early period was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the established mode of dedication with this religious body. We learn from the "Chronicle of Mailros," that in 1115 the church of Scone was delivered up to canons regular, who deprived the Cul-

dees of almost all their possessions. The abbey then founded was dedicated to the Trinity and Michael the Archangel. The residents were canons regular of St Augustine, under the direction of a prior, and had various privileges conferred on them. The abbey wall is supposed to have enclosed about twelve acres. During the reign of Alexander, Scone seems to have been occasionally a royal residence, and, like St Andrews and other places in which monasteries were established, it was a market for foreign nations. Alexander addressed a writ to the merchants of England, inviting them to trade at Scone, and promising them protection, on condition of their paying a custom to the monastery. This custom was an impost on all ships trading with Scone, from which it appears to have been anciently a port. About a mile from the river there was at a comparatively recent period, a bog called the *full sea mere*, which, according to tradition, had been covered by the tide, and in which, when digging for a pond, stones similar to those in the bed of the Tay were found. Whatever may be the value of the commonly received fact, as to the transference of the fatal stone to Scone, there can be no doubt that many of the Scottish kings were inaugurated here. Here, also, during the reign of Culen, there was a great assembly of the states convoked for the purpose of organizing the government of the nation.*

According to Buchanan, Culen was slain on his way to this assembly, near the village of Methven, by Rohard, or Radend the thane, whose daughter he had violated.† At this assembly the bold and energetic Kenneth III. was crowned, and several important statutes were enacted, which are said to be dated at the "Royal Palace of Scone." I have not, however, been able to verify this statement by any inspection of these statutes. It does not appear that any of the competitors for the throne, left vacant by the death of Kenneth, were crowned at Scone. Constantine IV., a son of Culen, is regarded as having been crowned first. He, within a year, was succeeded by a son of King Duff, who assumed the sovereignty under the name of Kenneth IV. and is known as Kenneth the Grim. But neither in their coronation, nor in that of Malcolm II., the son of Kenneth III., whose reign, during its earlier

* *Que seniores erant e nobilitate, duplici modo circumventi, ac, de summa rerum consultare coacti, conventum publicum Sconam indicunt.—Buch. Lib. vi.*

† *Ibi rex adesse jussus, ut una cum ceteris, in tam præcipiti rerum statu, saluti publici prospiceret * * * Igitur cum Sconam iret, satis magno comitatu, sed imbelli, ac jam ad Methuanum vicum propinquum provenisset, a Thano regionis, ob stuprum per vim filie illatum, est occisus.—Buch. Lib. vi.*

portion, was spent in almost constant conflicts with the Danes, does there seem to have been any ceremony of inauguration on the fatal stone; and the next notice of Scone is as the place at which Malcolm III., surnamed Canmore, was declared King on, according to the best authorities, the 25th of April 1057, the Festival of St Mark. Of the immediate successors of Malcolm, Edgar, his son, is said to have been crowned at Scone, A. D. 1098. As already noticed, the transference of the religious house at Scone, from the Culdees to the Canons regular of St Augustine, is said to have taken place during the reign of Alexander I. in 1115. According to Keith, "the Canons regular of St Augustine were first brought to Scotland by Atelwolphus, Prior of St Oswald of Nostel, in Yorkshire, and afterwards Bishop of Carlisle, who established them at Scone at the desire of Alexander I. A writer (the author of *Sconiana*, Edin. 1807), asserts, without quoting any authority, that "the Culdees led very profligate lives, and were dismissed by Alexander." Sir James Balfour, under the year 1114, has the following statement: "After the death of Edgar, his brother Alexander, surnamed Ferss, succidit him. Quhill he was a priut man, he had at his christening, by the donatione of hes vnckell, Donald Bane, Earle of Gowrey, the lands of Liffe and Innergowrey, quher, in the first zeire of his raing, he began then to buld a staitly palace and castle, bot was interrupted by the rebels of Meirnes and Murray, quho besett him in the night, and had doubtlesley killed him, had not Alexander Carrone firmly carried the King save away * * * and by a small boat saived themselves, to Fyffe and the south pairts of the kingdom, where he raised ane army, and marched against the forsaid rebels of Meirnes and Murray, quhome he totally overthrew and subdewed, for which great mercy and preservatione, in a thankful retribution to God, he fotndit the monastarey of Scone; and too it gave hes first lands of Liffe and Innergowrey, in A° 1114."

This foundation of the monastery, in 1114, may have paved the way for the dismissal of the Culdees in the following year. We have no means of ascertaining whether there was any connection between this step and the long contest in which Alexander was engaged with the English archbishops, on the subject of their assumed authority over the Scottish church; but after Eadmer had been compelled to resign the bishoprick of St Andrews, and his petition to be restored had been rejected by the King, we find

Robert Prior of Scone appointed to that Episcopal throne. Balfour informs us that David, the immediate successor of Alexander, was crowned at Scone; and we learn from several sources, that Matilda, or Maud, the wife of David, the daughter of the Earl of Northumberland, and widow of Simon de St Liz, Earl of Northampton, was interred here. At Scone, also, Malcolm IV., as yet only in his twelfth year, is said to have been crowned; and here, about A. D. 1163, the Bishop of St Andrews delivered an address to the King on the subject of the vow of chastity, by which it is alleged he had bound himself, at a great national council held for the especial purpose of taking this vow into consideration.

The coronation of Alexander III. took place "at Scone on the 13th" of July, the Bishop of St Andrews knighting the King, as well as placing the crown on his head. * * After the coronation oath had been administered to the King, both in Latin, and in French, the language of the nobility, he was placed upon the sacred Stone of Destiny, which stood before the cross in the eastern end of the church; and while he there sat with the crown on his head, and the sceptre in his hand, a gray-headed Highland bard stepping forth from the crowd, addressed to him a long genealogical recitation in the Gaelic tongue, in which, beginning, "Hail Alexander, King of Albion, son of Alexander, son of William, son of David, &c. he carried up the royal pedigree through all its generations to the legendary Gathelus, who married Scota, the daughter of Pharaoh, and was the contemporary of Moses. It may be doubted if Alexander understood a word of this savage pæan, but he is recorded to have expressed his gratification, by liberally rewarding the venerable rhapsodist." *Pict. Hist. of England*, Book iv. chap. i.

It was at Scone that the General Convention of the States was held after the death of Alexander's daughter, the Queen of Norway, and of his son, Alexander, the Prince of Scotland, in his twentieth year. Margaret of Norway had left only an infant daughter. "On the 5th of February 1284, the Parliament was assembled at Scone, when the estates of the kingdom solemnly bound themselves, failing Alexander and any children he might have, to acknowledge for their Sovereign the Norwegian Princess, 'the Maiden of Norway,' as she is called by the old writers." Her marriage with her cousin, the son of Edward I. of England, was afterwards agreed to; but having set sail for Britain, she fell

sick on her passage, and, landing on one of the Orkney Islands, died there about the end of September 1290, in her eighth year. This event, as is well known, was most disastrous for Scotland, but it is not necessary to do more than refer to the competition for the Crown that then took place;—to the claims of Edward to be Lord Paramount of Scotland;—and to the final decision pronounced by him on the 17th November 1292, in the great hall of the Castle of Berwick, “that John Baliol should have seisine of the kingdom of Scotland.” On the 19th, “the Great Seal, that had been used by the Regency, was broken into four parts, and the pieces deposited in the Treasury of England, in testimony, as it was said, to future ages, of England’s right of superiority over Scotland. The next day, Baliol swore fealty to Edward at Norham. On the 30th (St Andrew’s day) he was solemnly crowned at Scone.” Two years afterwards, that is, towards the latter end of 1294, we find a Parliament assembled at Scone. Even the degraded Baliol had been now somewhat roused against the unrelenting tyranny of Edward, and the nobles also became convinced that it was necessary to make some effort to cast off the yoke. This Parliament directed, “that all Englishmen maintained at the Court should be dismissed, and then appointed a council of four bishops, four earls, and four barons, without whose advice the King was restricted from performing any public act.” The suspicions of Edward having been awakened by such proceedings, he made demands, that certain towns to the south of Scotland should be delivered up, and, advancing into the kingdom at the head of a powerful army, reduced Baliol to a state of the most abject submission. Edward penetrated to the north as far as Elgin. “It was on his return from this triumphal progress, that he ordered the famous stone, on which the Scottish Kings had been wont to be crowned, to be removed from the Abbey of Scone, and conveyed to Westminster, in testimony, says Hemingford, an English contemporary chronicler, of the conquest and surrender of the kingdom. He appears to have been at St Johnstone’s, or Perth, on Wednesday the 8th of August 1296.” A few years afterwards, A. D. 1300, in an account of the wardrobe of Edward, there is a particular account of the sum expended on this stone, in having it fixed in a new chair, &c. Although not mentioned in the Treaty of Northampton, (A. D. 1328), it was then, as we shall see, stipulated that the stone should be restored. This, however, like the other conditions of that treaty, were never

complied with, and, consequently, with the other articles pillaged by Edward, it still remains in England. "This fatal stone," says Sir Walter Scott, "was said to have been brought from Ireland by Fergus, the son of Eric, who led the Dalriads to the shores of Argyleshire. Its virtues are preserved in the celebrated leonine verse :

" Ni fallat fatum, Scoti quocunque locatum
Invenient lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem."

"There were Scots who hailed the accomplishment of the prophecy at the accession of James VI. to the crown of England, and exulted that, in removing their palladium, the policy of Edward resembled that which brought the Trojan horse in triumph within their walls, and which occasioned the destruction of their royal family. The stone is still preserved, and forms the support of King Edward the Confessor's chair, which the sovereign occupies at his coronation; and independent of the divination, so long in being accomplished, is in itself a very ancient remnant of extreme antiquity." In preparing this chair for the coronation of her present Majesty, some small fragments of this stone were broken off. I have been assured by a geological friend who contrived to obtain part of them, that stone, of exactly the same kind, is to be found in some of the quarries on the Scone property. Edward seems to have carried away, besides the stone, the regalia of Scotland. John Baliol is said to have been stripped of the regal ornaments when he surrendered his kingdom after the battle of Dunbar. When, therefore, Robert Bruce was crowned and inaugurated at Scone, 27th March A. D. 1306, neither the ancient crown nor the stone could have been used. A circlet or ring of gold, was hastily prepared for the occasion, and the Bishop of Glasgow furnished robes and a banner. The ceremony was performed on the 27th by the Bishop of St Andrews; and on the 29th, Isabella, sister of Duncan Earl of Fife (whose family had the privilege of crowning the Kings of Scotland,) and wife of the Earl of Buchan, having secretly repaired to Scone, placed the crown on the King's head, in assertion of the pretensions of her family. At this coronation there were present William of Lambyrton, Bishop of St Andrews; Robert Wisheart, Bishop of Glasgow; the four brothers of Bruce, Edward, Nigel, Thomas, and Alexander; his nephew, Thomas Randolph of Strathdon; his brother-in-law, Christopher Seaton of Seaton; Malcolm, fifth Earl of Lennox; John of Strathbogie, tenth Earl of Athole; Sir James Douglas; Gil-

bert de la Haye of Errol, and his brother Hugh de la Haye; David Barclay of Cairns in Fife; Alexander Fraser, brother of Simon Fraser of Oliver Castle; Walter de Somerville of Linton and Carnwath; David of Inchmartin; Robert Boyd; and Robert Fleming.—Lord Hailes' Annals.

During the reign of Robert Bruce, that Parliament was held at Scone, in December 1318, at which it was enacted that, in the event of the King dying without issue male, his successor should be Robert Stewart, son of the Princess Marjory and of Walter, the Lord High Steward of Scotland; and that, should Robert be a minor at the time of the King's death, Randolph, Earl of Moray, should be his tutor. In this Parliament many other laws were passed. All were required to assume military attire, which was minutely described. Churchmen were prohibited from purchasing Papal bulls, and absentees residing in England were required to draw no money out of Scotland. The enactment respecting the succession was, in some measure, rendered of no avail by the birth of a son to the King at Dunfermline 1323, who, after a long minority, became King of Scotland under the title of David II. In the various conferences that were carried on about this time between Scotland and England, the coronation stone that had been removed from Scone by Edward was demanded, but at that period the negotiations were broken off without any settlement of the disputes. The restoration of the stone, though omitted in the treaty of Northampton, of which the original duplicate is preserved among the archives in the general Register-House in Edinburgh, was stipulated by a separate instrument. The stone, as is well known, was never restored. This treaty was most unpopular in England; and so much opposition was felt to the restoration of the fatal stone, that the populace of London "arose in a riotous manner, and would not suffer that emblem of the conquest of Edward I. to be removed." In the treaty, it was agreed that all instruments and charters having relation to the independence of Scotland should be delivered up to Robert Bruce. Edward, when at Scone, had mutilated the ancient chartulary of that Abbey, and carried away some of its charters, his object being to destroy every monument connected with the antiquity and independence of the nation. The treaty, though ratified by Parliament, was never promulgated, nor does it appear among the ancient records.

The coronation of David II. took place at Scone with the usual solemnities, in 1329, when that prince was in his eighth year, on

which occasion he was knighted by the Regent Randolph, and then conferred this distinction on several of the nobility.

When the assistance of the English King had enabled Edward Baliol to invade Scotland, and his success in the battle of Dupplin emboldened him to take possession of Perth, where he was joined by many of the disaffected, he was crowned at Scone on the 24th September 1332. After the restoration of David II., who returned from France in his eighteenth year, and, with his wife, landed at Inverbervie on the 4th of May, Scone is mentioned as the place where the Parliament assembled. It was in a Parliament held at Scone in March 1363, that David Bruce, whose weakness contrasts so unfavourably with the gallantry of his illustrious father, and whose wife had died childless the year before, proposed that Lionel, Duke of Cambridge, Edward's third son, should be chosen to fill the Scottish throne in the event of his dying without issue. The proposal was rejected with indignation. After the death of David in February 1371, his nephew Robert, the Steward of Scotland, ascended the throne. During his reign, a Parliament was held at Scone, in which the succession of his children by his first wife, Euphemia, was set aside in favour of his former children by Elizabeth More. This king was succeeded by his son John, who was crowned at Scone under the name of Robert III., the name John having been unfortunate for kings, both of England and France; and here also, it is said, was the Parliament held at which David, the King's eldest son, afterwards starved to death in Falkland, was created Duke of Rothesay, and Robert, the King's brother, Duke of Albany. Buchanan, however, states, that this Parliament was held at Perth, and notices, that these were the two first Scottish dukes. "*Hic sane honoris titulus tum primum inter Scotos, magno ambitionis, nullo virtutis incremento, est celebratus: nec cuiquam postea feliciter cessit.*"—Buch. Lib. x.

The next interesting incident at Scone was the coronation of James I. and his queen. He had married, on the 24th of February 1424, the Lady Joanna Beaufort, the daughter of the Duchess of Clarence by her first husband, the Duke of Somerset, and the descendant of Edward III., to whom he is said to have become attached some years before. The treaty for his liberation from his long imprisonment in England had been concluded in September 1423, but he is said to have seen and admired his future queen from his prison in the Round Tower in Windsor Castle, and that this suggested his poem of "The King's Quhair." "He

arrived in Scotland on the 5th of April 1424, and on the 21st of May was solemnly crowned with his queen in the usual venerated sanctuary, the Abbey Church of Scone." From this time the importance of Scone greatly diminished. It was neither the place at which the immediate successors of James were crowned, nor where the legislative assemblies were held during their reigns. The abbey must have given it some importance in an ecclesiastical point of view, but Edinburgh had now become the seat of civil government, as it was the metropolis of Scotland. Passing over more than sixty-four years, the next coronation which took place at Scone was that of James IV. After the funeral of his father in the Abbey of Cambuskenneth, James was overwhelmed with remorse for his undutiful conduct. He immediately proceeded to Perth, and thence to Scone Abbey, where he was crowned with the usual rejoicings on the 26th of June 1488, in his sixteenth year. Both James V. and Mary were crowned at Stirling, so that the next notice of Scone occurs after the lapse of more than seventy years. On the 11th of May 1559, John Knox preached a sermon at Perth against the mass, idolatrous worship, and the adoration of saints and images. From the zeal of the people in the Protestant cause, and the daring opposition of the Roman Catholics to the doctrines delivered by Knox, the altar, images, and other ornaments of the church were torn down and destroyed. In their subsequent destruction of the monasteries, the people acted in conformity with the wisdom said to have been inculcated by Knox, "that the best way to keep the *rooks* from returning, was to pull down their *nests*." On the 14th of June, the church at St Andrews was stripped of its images and pictures, and the monasteries overthrown; and on the 27th of the same month, it would appear, the abbey and other religious houses at Scone were burned to the ground by a furious mob, who had come from Dundee on this work of destruction. This has been described as having been done "under the auspices of Knox;" but it is right to quote his own words from his "Historie." Having mentioned the provocation given to the populace by the Bishop of Murray and his friends, who were living there, and noticed what seems to have been the Bishop's palace, he adds, "So was that abay and plaice (palace?) appointed to sackage; in doing whereof, they tuk no lang deliberation, but committed the holle (whole) to the merciment of fyre, wherent no small number of us

were offendit." About this period, all the rights and possessions of the Abbey of Scone passed into the hands of the family of Gowrie. Such was the state of affairs until 1600, when the whole was forfeited to the Crown, in consequence of the mysterious conspiracy, as it is called, of John Earl of Gowrie and his brother Alexander, the sons of William, Earl of Gowrie, who had been beheaded in 1584, for his share in the Raid of Ruthven.

This affair occurred in August 1600, and soon after an act of annexation was passed by the legislature, by which the lands, lordships, baronies, &c. which pertained to the abbacy and monastery of Scone, were annexed and incorporated to the Crown. In 1605 or 1606, a considerable portion of the Gowrie estates was taken from the Crown's patrimony, and erected into a temporal lordship in favour of David Lord Scone. He had been Sir David Murray of Gospertie, a descendant of Sir William Murray of Tullibardine, also ancestor of the Dukes of Athol. Previous to this, he had received various marks of distinction, having enjoyed, besides his other honours, the office of Ranger of the Lowlands and Forester of the Woods. He was Master of the Horse, Captain of the Guards, and cup-bearer to James VI., and was created Lord Scone in 1604 or 1605, and Viscount Stormont 1621. In a charter, of date 1616, he is styled David Lord Scone. The representative of the family is William David Murray, Earl of Mansfield, lineal descendant of Sir David Murray, and through him, enjoying all the Scottish titles and property, to which large additions have been made, together with the English honours of his great-grand-uncle, the Chief-Justice. There seems to be no authority, by charter or otherwise, for the title of Hereditary Keeper of the Palace of Scone, commonly assigned to the representative of the family. The property was erected into a temporal lordship in favour of Sir David Murray, but neither in this, nor in any subsequent charter, is there any reference to this office, the whole property, with all rights and privileges appertaining, having been entirely severed from the Crown, with the following reservation in the statute of 1606: "Reservand and exceptand allways furth of this present act and erection all regalities, and all privileges thereof, possessed by the abbots and titulars of Scone of before, to remain with our Sovereign Lord and his Highness' successors, and their Crown, inseparable in all time hereafter."

Subsequently to this period, Scone was not marked by the oc-

currence of many public events. The ecclesiastical palace and abbey having been destroyed, the rest of the town may have also suffered. It is probable, however, that, as soon as the rights and possessions of the ancient abbey passed into the hands of the Gowrie family, a residence would be built. It seems to have been erected between the abbey and the river, and perhaps was called a palace, as being nearly on the site of the palace occupied by the Bishop of Murray, and burned to the ground. At all events, the Gowrie family appears to have had a residence at Scone in 1593. The lands erected into a temporal lordship in favour of David Lord Scone, ancestor of the Stormont family, have ever since continued in their possession. They consequently belonged to Viscount Stormont in 1651, when the coronation of Charles II. took place at Scone. The circumstances of this coronation are minutely detailed in a small quarto printed at Aberdeen, entitled "The Form and Order of the Coronation of Charles the Second, King of Scotland, England, and France and Ireland, as it was acted and done at Scone, the first day of January 1651." From this account, it appears that the house partially built, probably by the Gowrie family, and subsequently by Lord Scone or his descendants, was regarded in some respects as a palace. We read of the King being conducted from his bed-chamber to his "chamber of presence," and that he was there placed in a chair, under

* From a List of the Magistrates of Perth, with such occurrences as happened under their magistracy, printed in the second volume of "The Muses Threnodie, Perth, 1774," we learn that John Earl of Gowrie was provost of Perth from 1592 to 1600, although during part of that time he was abroad. Sir David Murray of Gospetric is entered under that title as provost in 1601, 1602, and 1603, but, in 1604, he appears as David Lord Scone, and, in 1621, for the first time, as David Viscount Stormont. The last year in which he filled that office was 1627. He was elected provost on 6th October 1628, but by a decree of the Lords of the Secret Council of the 21st February, the election was declared illegal. The Viscount was laid aside, and Peblis of Chapelhill elected in his room. There were laws which prohibited noblemen or gentlemen not resident, nor bearing burden as citizens, to be elected into the magistracy.—Vid. *Muses Thren.* Vol. ii. p. 118.

Lord Scone, together with Lord Binning and Lord Carnegie, were his Majesty's Commissioners to the General Assembly, that met in the Old or St John's Kirk, on the 25th August 1618. "The Assembly met in the Little Kirk; Mr Spotswood, Archbishop of St Andrews, placed himself in the moderator's chair without election, which was objected to. The Archbishop answered, that the Assembly was convened within his diocese, and he hoped no one would take his place." The King's letter to this Assembly was somewhat stern: He says, "Do not think we will be satisfied with refusals, or delays, or mitigations, and we know not what other shifts have been proposed, for we will content ourselves with nothing but with a simple and direct acceptance of these articles in the form by us sent unto you." On the 27th, the five articles received the suffrages of all the members except one nobleman, one doctor, and forty-five ministers. They were ratified in Parliament at Edinburgh, eighty-one voting for, and fifty-nine against, the ratification on Saturday 4th August 1621, "called by the people," says Calderwood, "the Black Saturday. It began with fire from earth in the morning, and ended with fire from heaven in the evening." There had been a severe storm in the course of the afternoon of hail and lightning.

a cloth of state, by the Lord of Angus, "Chamberlaine appointed by the King for that day." He was afterwards conducted to the Kirk of Scone. Of this "kirk" there remains now only an aisle, which was probably erected by the first Lord Scone. On the north side is his monument, finely executed in marble and alabaster, and on which there is a long inscription. Here, also, is a statue of his Lordship in armour. He is represented kneeling on a cushion at an altar, with a book lying open before him. On either side of the large statue is a man in armour; the one said to be the Marquis of Tullibardine, and the other the Earl Marischal.

This kirk, we are told, was prepared for the coronation, with a table, whereupon the honours* were laid. "A chair was also set in a fitting place for his Majesty's hearing sermon, over against the minister, and another chair on the other side, where he sat when he received the Crown, beyond which there was a bench decently covered. Besides these, there was a stage for the throne. All being quickly composed into attention," the sermon was preached by Master David Douglas, Moderator of the Commission of the General Assembly. His text was 2d Kings xi. 12, 17. After the King had been solemnly sworn, he signed the National Covenant, the League and Covenant, and a copy of his oath. Having taken the coronation oath, and having been invested with the royal robes instead of the prince's robe with which he entered, the King was brought to the chair on the north side of the kirk, and then Archibald Marquis of Argyle, having taken the crown in his hands, and the minister having prayed, the said Marquis put the crown on the King's head: "It was remarkable," says Sir Walter Scott, "that upon this occasion the crown was borne by the unhappy Marquis of Argyle, who was put to death in no very legal manner, immediately after the Restoration, using upon the scaffold these remarkable words, 'I placed the crown on the King's head, and in reward, he brings mine to the block.'" It is supposed that the seat of the Scone family, now removed to the parish church in New Scone, was used at this time, and that

* These honours, consisting of the crown, sceptre, and sword of state, &c. were soon after this carried to Dunnottar Castle. After being preserved in a remarkable manner by the dexterity of Mrs Granger, wife of the minister of Kinneff, they continued to be produced in public, during the sittings of the Scottish Parliament, down to the Union, when it was stipulated that they should be kept in Scotland in all time coming. It was, however, supposed by many, that they had been removed to London, until on February 4, 1818, they were found in the Crown-Room of Edinburgh Castle, deposited in a chest, in the very state in which they had been placed there in 1707. Vide "Description of the Regalia of Scotland" by Sir Walter Scott.

the chair on which Charles sat, either when hearing sermon, or when the crown was placed on his head, stood behind the bench in front of this seat. It is made of elegantly carved oak, having towards one end of the front of the canopy, the arms of Lord Scone, with the motto "*Meliora spero*," and beneath, the words "DAVID LORD SKONE." Towards the other end, in the corresponding place, carved also in the oak, is a different coat of arms, with what seems to have been intended for the motto, "*nec temere, nec timide*," and beneath, "ELIZABETH LADY SKONE," with the date 1616. The star and crescent had formed part of the ornaments, and seem to have been highly gilded. Lord Scone, as appears from the inscription, married Elizabeth Beaton, said to have been an ancient baron's daughter of Crich, *i. e.* Criech, in Fifeshire.

After mentioning several additional ceremonies, the account concludes in these words, "Then did the King's Majesty descend from the stage with the crown upon his head, and receiving again the sceptre in his hand, returned with the whole train in solemn manner to his palace, the sword being carried before him." It does not appear in what sense the house or castle was called "his palace." He may, perhaps, have appointed it to be so, like the chamberlain, "for that day;" but the whole seems to have been in the possession of Viscount Stormont, who is not mentioned among the nobility then present. In these troubled times, the authority of the Assembly and of those noblemen who adhered to the Church was triumphant. There is no reason to suppose that there was any other house in Scone in which the King could have had a bed-chamber and presence-chamber except that castle or palace begun to be built by the Gowrie family, afterwards enlarged, though never entirely completed, by their successors, and almost wholly removed when the present splendid house was built, about the beginning of this century.

It was probably in the same palace that the Pretender fixed his residence, when, after embarking at Dunkirk, he arrived at Peterhead on 22d December 1715. Having reached Dundee, he hastened to Scone, and there held a council on the 16th January 1716. When he received intelligence that the royal army had reached Auchterarder, a council of war was held on the 30th of January, when the question was proposed, whether to fight or fly? The council came to no decision; but a few hours afterward it was determined by a select committee to fly, when the Pretender hastened to Perth, supped and rested, and next morning fled with his

rebel army over the Tay on the ice towards Dundee. Prince Charles also visited Scone in 1745.

The residence of Lord Stormont had been chiefly built by Lord Gowrie and the first Lord Scone, but considerable additions were made by David, seventh Lord Stormont, and Earl of Mansfield, as heir to his uncle William, Lord Chief-Justice. The arms of the first Lord Scone were painted on the ceilings and walls, with the date 1627. The gallery, which was about 167 feet in length, with a wooden ceiling painted in water-colours, and representing the hunting and hawking of James VI., is said to have been erected by this nobleman. But the house was never finished, nor entirely furnished. There was no communication between some of the adjoining buildings, which made it necessary to pass through the outer court to reach several of the apartments.

Palace.—The present “Palace of Scone,” as it is now generally called, was built about the beginning of the present century, having been begun in 1803 and finished 1808. The design was by the late William Atkinson of Grove-end, London, and the erection might cost about L.60,000 or L.70,000. The ground on which the former house stood is occupied by this splendid mansion; but in its imposing Gothic style of architecture, and magnificent halls and spacious apartments, the modern palace is incomparably superior. The late Earl of Mansfield, the grand-nephew of the Chief-Justice, spared no expense on this edifice. In most instances, the walls of the former house were entirely taken down and rebuilt. A new front, facing the river, 240 feet in length, was an entire addition. The apartments were greatly enlarged, with the exception of the gallery, which is now 150 feet long, part of it having been taken off for an entrance by a porch. It is a very elegant room. The floor is of tessellated oak, the dark having been found in the beds of the Tay and the Earn. On the windows, partly of stained glass, are represented the various coats of arms of the family. The roof still retains somewhat of an antique form. It is splendidly furnished, having at the upper end a large and richly-toned organ, and in different parts of the room several very valuable cabinets, lately purchased, of the age of Louis XIV. Among the ornaments are marble busts and vases of great beauty, both as to material and workmanship. Almost the only portions of the old walls not taken down but merely incased, are in that part of the house immediately under the dining-room and the drawing-room. The dining-room, music-room, and Library, are elegant and spacious apartments, containing, in the midst of many

modern ornaments, some antique cabinets that had been in the former-house. In these rooms there are several valuable paintings by Vandyke, Titian, Guido, Paul Veronese, Teniers, &c. There is a "Dutch Burgomaster" by Rembrandt, and a portrait of Bassano by himself; a "Denial of St Peter," and a "Judith and Holofernes," by two old masters. There are some excellent portraits by Sir Peter Lely, exhibiting all the softness, beauty, and delicacy of his style. Among the family portraits are those of the first Earl of Mansfield, the second Earl, the late Earl, the Countess Dowager, &c. As a modern room, the drawing-room is the finest. It commands one of the most magnificent views that can be found, from any point, of the richest parts of Perthshire, and its interior is fitted up with great elegance.

There seems to have been an intention to combine with the splendour and comfort of the present age, some remembrance of the simplicity of the past. The entrance, for example, has an air of antiquity, having an ancient *knocker* with the initials D. V. S. The door-way is surmounted with the arms of Lord Mansfield in stone, and the motto, "*uni æquus virtuti.*" The house is partially surrounded by terrace walls, and bastions, one of which commands a very extensive view. There are several large trees at a short distance, one of them an ash, said to have been planted by James VI., and many ash and sycamore trees about 300 years of age. One is commonly known as Queen Mary's tree. The ground slopes gradually to the Tay, which flows within about 600 yards of the palace. The house may be approached either through an ancient gateway on the east, or by the modern terrace gate on the south, to which there is a drive entering the park at the distance of about a mile from Perth. This new drive passes over a bridge which crosses a ravine at no great distance from the terrace gate. The gardens lie to the south-east of the palace. At the recent visit of the Queen to Scone Palace, the royal cortege entered by the terrace gate, and were received at the grand entrance by the Earl of Mansfield, the Countess Dowager, and the Ladies Murray. Apartments were fitted up with great elegance for her Majesty and Prince Albert. The Queen reached Scone Palace about seven o'clock P. M. on Tuesday, September 6, 1842, and left early next day for Dunkeld and Taymouth. Among the various costly preparations made for her Majesty's reception may be mentioned two magnificent chairs, quite unique, procured from London, on which the Queen and Prince Albert sat at dinner. The carving and other rich ornaments of the royal bed, with the furniture

and decorations of the private rooms prepared for her Majesty and the Prince, are of a beautiful and magnificent description. Before the Queen's departure, the magistrates of Perth sent a deputation to the palace to solicit the honour of her Majesty's signature in the guildry books of Perth, where James VI. and Charles II. had written their names; the former thus: "1601, *Parcere subjectis, et debellare superbos.*—James R." And the latter as follows: "Nemo me impune lacesset, July 24, 1650.—Charles R." Sir Robert Peel carried the book to the Queen, when her Majesty and Prince Albert recorded their names.

Among the remnants of antiquity within the palace may be mentioned an old bed of dark brown Genoa velvet embroidered, which is said to have been worked by Queen Mary. The Queen, when at Falkland, is supposed to have given the bed to one of the ancestors of the family, to whom she showed great favour. It was probably conveyed to Scone at the time when the Balvaird branch succeeded to the title of Viscount Stormont. The bed and furniture of a room are preserved, which was called the King's room, and in which there is a tradition that James VI. slept, but it was more probably the "bed-chamber" of Charles II., of which notice is taken in the account of his coronation. The bed and furniture are handsome, and more conformable to his age than to an earlier period. The bed on which the celebrated William, first Earl of Mansfield died, was put up in the room in which he is said to have been born.

Village.—The village, or "royal city," of Scone was built in the immediate neighbourhood, and partly during the era of the monastery. One street was named the *chanter gate*. Near this street there were some trees that are said to have stood in the garden of the monastery. Among them were some remains of a wall. At the end of the *chanter gate* was the *gallows knowe*, and in another direction the *prison-house*, which would suggest that extensive rights were attached to the place. Some of the houses of the village, which had belonged to the abbey, were appropriated to the courtiers who accompanied James VI., who is said to have been wont to come to Scone for the purpose of hunting. One house was called, at a comparatively recent period, the Earl of Errol's stables. He probably attended on the king as hereditary grand constable of Scotland. Part of a wall which stood between the palace and the village still remains, together with an ancient gateway. A little to the east of this is the cross, the only vestige now of the village. It consists of an upright pillar, 13 feet high, slightly ornamented at the top, standing

on a pedestal, surrounded by steps, and gradually diminishing to a small flat octagonal stage from which the pillar rises.

Antiquities.—The greater part of the ground in the immediate neighbourhood of the palace seems to have been disturbed at a former period, probably about sixty years ago. In making some alterations on the terraces in 1841, and up to the present date, various fragments of grave and other stones have been found. In 1841, the workmen came upon what may have been the foundations of the monastery. One apartment, which seemed to be a sort of cell, was found in pretty good repair. It was surrounded by stone seats, about 15 inches broad, and might be from 10 feet to 12 feet in dimension. Near the same place was two stone-coffins in good preservation, but from the appearance of the skeletons, they appeared to have been previously disturbed. They were of different shapes and covered with flat stones, but with no inscription. Between the present palace and the church-yard, there were a great many stone-coffins, some rough, and others in some degree hewn, in which the skeletons were very entire. In one of these were found a piece of gold lace, a piece of a leathern belt, and some buckles. Above these were large stones, rising like a ridge in the middle, and bearing inscriptions, but so much defaced as to be illegible. At no great distance were many skeletons without any coffin, and apparently committed to the dust in the most confused manner. Very recently a coffin was found composed of various stones, and covered with a large flat stone, on one end of which there is apparently part of an inscription. There is no date, but the form of the letters strongly resembles that used about the year 1216, as given, for example, on the great seal of Henry III. The first line is "Alexander Mar"—the second seems to contain the following letters: "Abbassex de m;" the letters beyond the *d*, and the *m* are unknown. It is probably the grave of an early abbot of the monastery. One of the oldest grave-stones bearing date, lately found, is that of "ane honest voman, Bessy Ferry, spouse of Gilbert Couper, quha depertit this 1607." The ancient gateway on the east is supported on either side by a round tower. Walls at one time seem to have run from each of these towers towards the house. The royal arms are cut in stone immediately above the gateway, and in the towers there are the same arms and mottos as those represented on the seat in the church. The only additional pieces of antiquity dug up are parts of a rude leaden water-pipe, in the neighbourhood of what seems to have been the site of the monastery; and an old bell found about a hundred years ago.

The old churchyard, still used by those who claim the right in consequence of their relations having been interred there, lies at some distance from that part of the grounds in which these stone-coffins were placed.

It is stated in the old Statistical Account, that "the Roman military road leading from the camp at Ardoch to the bottom of the Grampians, enters this parish on the west, a little above a farmhouse on the Tay, and passes through till it leaves it on the north-east quarter. On the other side of the river opposite to the place where the road enters the parish, stood the ancient town of Bertha, now a hamlet bearing that name; and it is said that, in former times, there was a bridge over the river, and that several large beams of oak yet to be seen under the water formed a part of it."

"About a quarter of a mile up the river from this place are the vestiges, it is supposed, of an encampment. It is a spot of ground inclosed on the west by the Tay, and on the other sides by a fosse. Its figure is nearly an oblong, and its circumference about 535 yards. A small brook runs through it; and on the south side of this brook, about 30 yards up from the river, are the vestiges of a fortification called the Silver castle; probably from a vulgar idea that money was hid in it. This place is situated nearly about half-way between the Roman military road, and a place on the opposite side of the river, where the battle of Luncarty was fought between the Danes and the Scots. But time, and the recent operations of the plough, have now almost obliterated those monuments of ancient times." This last remark, made about fifty years ago, is still more applicable now.

What was vulgarly called the "*boothill*," or "*omnis terra*," every man's land, remains to be noticed. It is evidently a corruption of *Motehill* or *Moothill*. "The term," says the late Dr Jamieson, "is evidently Gothic, denoting a place of meeting. Skene calls it "the *Mute-hill* of *Scone*;" verb. signifying *vo. Môte*, vide *Etymol. Dictionary of the Scottish language vo. Mote*." In the history of the House of Douglas and Angus, written by Master David Hume of Godscroft, Ed. 1644, it is said, "Robert Bruce was crowned at Scone in the year 1306 in Ap. at which Sir James Douglas assisted, casting into a heape, as others did, a quantity of earth of his lands of Douglas, which making a little hill, is called yet *omnis terra*. This was the custom of those times, by which homage they that held the King of Scotland supreme under God were distinguished from others." This story Dr Jamieson characterizes as "a palpable and very silly fable." According to the

old Statistical Account, this hill was between 60 and 70 yards north from the old Abbey church. Of this church there were scarcely any vestiges when that Statistical Account was written. "Such changes," it is there said, "does time introduce, that on that spot where our ancient kings were crowned, there now grows a clump of trees." The church, of which the aisle remains, seems to have been built on the Mote-hill by the first Viscount Stormont about the year 1624. "The people in the Highlands," it is said, "call the Boothill at this day Tom-a-mhoid, *i. e.* the hill where justice is administered." Is the "*gallows knowe*" connected with this? or the fact that Macbeth, the earliest sheriff in the shire of Perth, was styled Sheriff of Scone?

On the farm of Bonhard, which lies on the eastern side of the parish, are two circles of large stones. Each circle is about 7 yards in diameter, and contains nine stones, placed at unequal distances. They are said to be Druidical temples. There are also the remains of an old castle in Lower Springfield, the greater part of which is now in ruins. It has been twice burned to the ground.

Eminent Characters connected with the Parish.—Of the eminent characters connected with the parish by birth, residence, or burial, may be mentioned the gallant Hay, so distinguished at the battle of Luncarty, who is said to have been born here. At no very remote period, the inhabitants were wont to point out the remains of his humble habitation. They are now entirely obliterated. According to tradition his name was originally *Deluce*, for the change of which to *Hay*, a ludicrous and silly reason is assigned, in connection with his fatigue after the battle. The families of Errol and Kinnoull are generally said to have had their descent from this individual. According to the common story, this "husbandman, who chanced to be busy at work in a neighbouring field, having, accompanied by his two sons, armed only with their plough-beams, opposed a chief division of their countrymen, when flying from the fight in a moment of panic, and "drove them back to victory." In this, it is said, originated the nobility of the Hays of Errol. "The armorial bearing of this family, which exhibited three escutcheons, supported by two peasants, carrying each the beam of a plough on his shoulder, is appealed to in proof of the story; but it is just as likely that the story may have been invented to explain the arms. At all events, the arms are of much less antiquity than the battle of Luncarty, at the date of which event armorial ensigns were unknown. It is well established that the Hays are a branch of the Norman de Hayas, whose ancestor came over to England

with the Conqueror; that they did not come to Scotland till more than a hundred years after the battle of Luncarty; and that they only obtained the lands of Errol from King William the Lion of Scotland about the middle of the twelfth century. It was not till the middle of the fourteenth century that they were ennobled.*

The celebrated William, first Earl of Mansfield, was born at Scone, according to common report, on the 2d of March 1704, O. S. By some authorities, however, he is said to have been born at Perth. He was the fourth son of Andrew, one account says, but, according to Debrett, of David, fifth Viscount Stormont, and Margery, daughter of David Scott of Scotstarvet, in Fife. He was removed in his infancy to London; admitted a King's scholar at Westminster school in 1719; entered at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1723; and called to the bar in 1731. He soon rose to great eminence, and after conducting the defence in a cause in which his leader was prevented by sudden illness from appearing in Court, so great an amount of business flowed on him that his income rose at once from a few hundreds to thousands a-year. In 1743, he was appointed Solicitor-General, and obtained a seat in the House of Commons, where his brilliant eloquence and legal knowledge raised him to the greatest eminence. He was made Attorney-General in 1754, and two years afterwards he was appointed Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and raised to the peerage by the title of Baron Mansfield of Mansfield, in the county of Nottingham, becoming at the same time a member of the Cabinet. Strong inducements were held out to lead him to devote his talents entirely to politics, but he firmly refused to abandon his position as Chief Justice. For a short time he held the seals of office as Chancellor of the Exchequer on the resignation of Legge, and was then entrusted by the King with full power to negotiate respecting a new administration. He incurred much popular odium on the trial of the publishers of Junius's letter to the King, but he did not court popularity.

Lord Mansfield's house in Bloomsbury Square was attacked and set fire to during the riots of 1780. The superb furniture, flung into the streets, was destroyed by fire, together with some thousand volumes, many capital manuscripts, mortgages, papers, and other deeds, besides the rich wardrobe and some very valuable paintings. On this occasion, Lord and Lady Mansfield made their escape through a back-door only a few minutes before the rioters entered and took possession of the house.

* Pictorial History of England, Vol. i. p. 220.

Having sat at the head of the King's Bench for upwards of thirty-two years, his Lordship retired in 1788. On September 20th 1738, he had married Elizabeth Finch, sixth daughter of Daniel Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham. He left no issue.

On October 31st 1776, he had been created Earl of Mansfield with remainder to Louisa Viscountess Stormont, wife of David Viscount Stormont, his nephew, it being then held that a Scots peer was disqualified from taking a peerage of Great Britain even in remainder. Her ladyship still survives, having become Countess of Mansfield on his death. A different opinion, however, was afterwards established respecting the descent of a British peerage, and in August 1792, the Earl was created Earl of Mansfield of Caenwood, in the county of Middlesex, with remainder to his nephew David, seventh Viscount Stormont, K. T., who consequently became Earl of Mansfield at his uncle's death, in the eighty-ninth year of his age, on the 20th of March 1793.* This second Earl of Mansfield dying September 1st 1796, was succeeded in his Scotch and English honours by his son William, born March 7th 1777. At his death in February 1840, the present Earl succeeded. He was born in 1806; married in 1829 Louisa, daughter of Cuthbert Ellison, Esq. who died November 24th 1837, leaving a daughter, Lady Louisa Nina, born 1830, and a son, Viscount Stormont, born 1835.

The seventh Lord Stormont and second Earl of Mansfield was much engaged in the political transactions of his time, and filled the offices of ambassador at the courts of Vienna and Versailles. The canopy of state which his Lordship then used has been converted into a bed, which is still preserved. He was appointed ambassador in the room of Lord Harcourt, who succeeded Lord Townsend as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland in 1772. In October 1779, Lord Stormont was appointed one of the Secretaries of State, in room of Lord Suffolk. Lord Stormont went out with his party, when the Marquess of Rockingham was appointed first Lord of the Treasury; but was President of the Council during the Duke of Portland's administration, when the Earl of Mansfield was made Speaker of the House of Lords, and the great seal was put in commission. This coalition ministry was formed April 2, 1783. Before his appointment as an ambassador at Paris, Viscount Stormont had spent much of his life in a diplomatic capacity. He married first, Henrietta Frederica, daughter of Henry Count Bunau, who

* The first Earl of Mansfield survived his elder brother David, sixth Viscount Stormont, for the long period of forty-five years.

died March 16, 1766. He married second in 1776, Louisa, daughter of Charles ninth Lord Cathcart, and sister to William, the present venerable Earl of Cathcart. She still survives, Countess of Mansfield in her own right, as already mentioned.

Among the individuals deserving remembrance connected with the parish, may be mentioned the Rev. John Honey of Blairhall, and at his death minister of Bendochy, in the presbytery of Meigle. He is well remembered by many of the parishioners of Scone, not merely for his piety and professional attainments, but also for his active exertions in the cause of humanity. His name in St Andrews continues to be associated with the dangers and the preservations experienced on that coast, in several instances of which his intrepid humanity was displayed. He married, on September 20, 1809, a daughter of the Rev. D. Adamson, one of the ministers of St Andrews, and Professor of Civil History in the University. He was ordained minister of Bendochy in 1812, but was cut off by fever in the prime of life on the 14th October 1814, being then only in his thirty-sixth year.

The celebrated bonanist and traveller, Mr David Douglas, was a native of Scone. He was born in this parish in 1798. His father, John Douglas, was a working mason. David was chiefly educated at the parochial school of Kinnoul, and at an early period became apprenticed as gardener in the garden of the Earl of Mansfield, where his activity and obliging disposition were soon perceived. He was afterwards employed in the garden of Sir Robert Preston of Valleyfield, whence, in about eighteen months, he removed to the botanic garden of Glasgow. Having here attracted the notice of Dr (now Sir W. J.) Hooker, Professor of Botany, and accompanied him in his excursions through the Western Highlands, assisting in collecting materials for the *Flora Scotica*, Douglas was recommended, through Dr Hooker, to Joseph Sabine, Esq. the late Secretary of the Horticultural Society, as a botanical collector. In consequence of this, he was despatched to the United States in 1823, where he procured many fine plants, and greatly increased the Society's collection of fruit-trees. He returned in the autumn of that year, and again, in July 1824, he sailed for the purpose of exploring the botanical riches of the country adjoining the Columbia River, and southwards towards California. He collected many rare orchideous plants, when the vessel touched at Rio de Janeiro; shot many curious birds in his voyage round Cape Horn; visited and sowed a collection of gar-

den seeds in the Island of Juan Fernandez, and arrived at Fort Vancouver on the Columbia, on the 7th of April 1825. The vast collections of seeds which he transmitted home from this locality, amply proved his talents and assiduity. He traversed the country across the Rocky Mountains to Hudson's Bay in 1827, and returned to England in the autumn of that year. Having been then introduced, through Mr Sabine, to the Literary and Scientific Society in London, he was elected, free of expense, a member of the Linnæan, Geological, and Zoological Societies, and contributed some valuable papers. After remaining two years in London, he again sailed for Columbia in the autumn of 1829. Here he continued his favourite pursuit. Afterwards he visited the Sandwich Islands; and when his return was expected, intelligence was received of his death in very shocking circumstances. He had fallen into a pit made by the natives of the Sandwich Islands, for the purpose of catching wild bulls, and a bull being in the pit at the time, this celebrated botanist was killed in the most horrible manner. This event took place on July 12, 1834, in the thirty-sixth year of his age.*

The Chief Land-owners.—The land-owners of the parish are as follows: The Right Honourable the Earl of Mansfield; Andrew Murray, Esq. of Murrayshall (Murrayshall is in the parish of Kinnoull, but part of Mr Murray's property is in the parish of Scone); Alexander Macduff, Esq. of Bonhard; Jelf Sharpe, Esq. of Kincarrochy; Rev. John A. Honey of Blairhall; Patrick Matthew, Esq. of Barclayhills; George Grant, Esq. of Limepotts; and the Trustees of Scone's Lethendy.—Vid. New Stat. Account, Perth, p. 128. There are many feuars, who hold chiefly of Lord Mansfield and Mr Murray.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers are very defective. The earliest entry is dated 17th February 1622, and goes on to 7th November 1647. There is no register of any kind for the next twenty-seven years. From 1673 to 1688, there are some memoranda of births, &c.; but from 1688 to 1716, nothing whatever. From 1716 to 1740, there is a book containing some brief notices, and again, after a gap from 1740 to 1762, there are registers from 1762 to 1772. Minutes of session seem to have been kept from 1773 to 1787. Subsequently to that date they

* For a more detailed account of the life of Douglas, the Companion to the Botanical Magazine may be consulted, and also the Gardeners' Magazine, Vol. xii. p. 602. A particular account of a monument erected to his memory in the churchyard of Scone, may be found in the MS. of this article.

are very rare, the only registers, then, being those of births and marriages. Regular session records have been kept since 1832 to the present date (February 1848) together with registers of births and marriages, when parties apply to have the birth of their children registered and pay the fee. Since 1838, a register of deaths has also been kept, stating the age and the disease that proved fatal when known.*

The only apology for the loss of any part of the session records appears in the following entry: "Feb. 5, 1716, After sermon, session met and was constituted with prayer, and were present the Rev. Mr Tho. Schaw, minister, and the elders. This being the first Sabbath after dispersing the rebels, they having banished many ministers of this corner from their flocks, and that confusion and disturbance occasioned the loss of the session minutes from November 25, 1713, to February 5, 1716."

On the north-west of the parish, there is the large bleachfield of Stormontfield, together with the requisite buildings. There is an abundant supply of water, as it is on the banks of the Tay, and suitable fields for carrying on the operations. This field has long maintained a high reputation under the present tenant, John Maxton, Esq., who makes every provision for the comfort of those workmen and their families who conduct themselves with propriety. There is accommodation for between twenty and thirty families, all the members of which, able to work, are generally employed. The late Earl of Mansfield erected a neat and commodious school for the children in the neighbourhood. Stormontfield, with the land for a great extent on the east side of the Tay, belongs to the Earl of Mansfield.

III.—POPULATION.

Formerly the population was more scattered over the parish; but as the land has been divided into larger farms, the village has increased. Several valuable farms are now in grass, forming the extensive parks around and beyond the palace. The population has increased progressively. The village of New Scone has been almost entirely built within the century. Much of it is occupied

* The session seems to have exercised complete control over education within the parish. "Oct. 25, 1676,—This day it is enacted, that no person nor persons whatsoever, to wit, neither men nor women, shall have libertie, nor be permitted within Scone nor the paroch thereof, to teach nor instruct children, that is to say, neither male nor female to syllabicat nor reade directly nor indirectly, to the hurt and prejudice of the publick school and schoolmaster." And over the seats in the church, "Sep. 18, 1675, This day it is enacted that every seat or chair standing in the kirk floore that is found emptie two Sabbaths together, shall be thrown to the church door by the kirk officer, except upon reasonable excuse made to the minister."

by feuars. The late Earl of Mansfield, partly by purchase and partly by giving an equivalent in land, obtained possession of the feus at Old Scone. The village of New Scone has been greatly extended, containing between 1200 and 1300 inhabitants. Many of the feuars have sub-feued their properties; and other proprietors have increased the village by encouraging feuing on their ground. A large part of the village stands on the property belonging to Andrew Murray, Esq, of Murrayshall, and some on that of the proprietor of Kincarrochie.

The only nobleman connected with the parish is the Earl of Mansfield.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The average number of acres, either cultivated or occasionally under cultivation, may be as follows:

Wheat, about	200 Scotch acres.
Barley, . . .	400
Oats, . . .	700
Potatoes, . .	880
Turnips, . . .	300
Hay, . . .	600

The average rent of the cultivated land may be about L.2, 10s. per Scotch acre. The average rate of a cow's grazing may be about L.3, 15s. Ordinary ploughmen, engaged for the year, have from L. 11 to L. 14 wages, besides board and lodging; foremen have from L. 15 to L. 20. Day-labourers earn from 1s. 4d. to 2s. in summer, and from 1s. to 1s. 8d. in winter, per day; artisans from 2s. to 3s. in summer, and from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d. in winter.

The general duration of leases is for a period of nineteen years. The farm-buildings are generally good; but the cottages, in several places, very uncomfortable. Some part of the parish is well enclosed, but there are considerable portions where enclosures are but little attended to. A great improvement has taken place in the whole economy during the last thirty or thirty-five years. The produce of oats, at an average per acre, may be rated at 46 bushels; of barley, 38; of wheat, 34; of potatoes, $8\frac{1}{2}$ tons per Scotch acre. Neither beet nor cabbage are cultivated in the field. The average value of an acre of turnips may be about L.9; of hay, about L.6; and land for pasture may bring from L.1, 15s. to L.2 per Scotch acre.

The above was furnished in 1837. There has been since then a diminution in the value of all kind of farm-produce, and, in some degree, of wages, both for farm-servants and labourers. The difficulty of obtaining employment as hand-loom weavers has increased

the number of out-door labourers, and consequently brought down their wages.*

Fisheries.—The fisheries in the parish belonging to Lord Mansfield extend from opposite the palace to Cambusmichael, and were let last year for about L.100. Lord Kinnoull has a fishing in the lower park above Quarry Mill-dam, let for about L. 20, making about L. 120 of rent. About eighteen years ago, the rent was about L.1100. The reason for the extraordinary diminution is to be sought for in two causes,—the greater keenness with which the lower fishings are worked, and the reduction of the value of the fishings above the tide-way, occasioned by the alteration of the close-time. The close-time, formerly from 26th August to 12th December, is now from 14th September to 1st February. I am assured by the intelligent gentleman (R. Buist, Esq., Perth,) to whom I am indebted for this information, that “our ancestors were right in their close-time, and that the sooner we return to it the better for the fishings on the Tay.”

The fish got in the Tay opposite Scone are, salmon, grilse, sea-trout, yellow-trout, pike, perch, eels, and, occasionally, trouts that frequent burns and streams running into the Tay. The fish are seen going down the river after spawning, the males very early in the season, in December and January, and the females and fry in the latter end of March, April, and beginning of May.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The market-town is Perth. There is no village of any extent except New Scone, which is within two miles of Perth, thus rendering any market-town within the parish unnecessary. There is in the village a sub-post-office to Perth, and a delivery of letters, free of expense, on the arrival of the south mail. The turnpike road from Perth to Coupar-Angus passes through the parish for more than four miles, on which the Defiance coach travels north and south daily.

Ecclesiastical State.—Before the village was transferred to New Scone, the parish church was situated in the old village. It had been built in 1784, but in 1804 it was removed to New Scone, the same materials being as much as possible made use of. The present situation is not very central, but being near the village, it is much more conveniently situated than it would have been at Old Scone, now that the bulk of the population are in New Scone. The whole seating of the church, exclusive of Lord Mansfield's seat is said, in a minute of a meeting of date 1786, to be 677 feet,

* The information as to agriculture was supplied by a very intelligent farmer, and may be relied on so far as it goes.

4 inches. Of this, the communion seats, which are free, take up 106 feet, 8 inches. In the year 1834, it was found that the parish church, though in good repair, was too small to accommodate the members of the congregation, whereupon some of the heritors and a number of the feuars agreed to build an additional aisle by subscription. This was done at an expense of above L.280, and furnished about 180 additional sittings, besides greatly improving the appearance of the church. The manse was built at the time at which the church was removed. Considerable repairs were made on it in 1832-3, but it is deficient in accommodation. The stipend is as follows: barley, 105 bolls, 1 firloft, 1 lippie, one-half peck; meal, 113 bolls, 1 firloft, 2 lippies, one-quarter peck. Money, L.61, 3s. 4d.; for communion elements, L.10. The glebe is about 27 Scotch acres. Nearly twenty-four of these are let at a money rent.

There is a Dissenting congregation in connection with the United Associate Synod. The parish church is, in general, very well attended, as also the Dissenting chapel. The average number of communicants at the Established Church is about 600. In 1833, there was a society established in connection with the parish church, for the purpose of raising contributions in aid of the schemes under the direction of the General Assembly, and for procuring Bibles for gratis distribution, and at a cheap price. The collections for the poor at the church-door amount to between the sum of L.50 and L.60 a year; the collections for the schemes to somewhat above L.20. For some years, there was a collection for the Infirmary at Perth, but the scheme of parochial subscription was adopted last year, realizing about L.35. There are also from time to time collections for the Sabbath school.

The late Earl of Mansfield and his ancestors exercised the right of patronage up to a recent period.

On the 12th November 1828, a summons of declarator, at the instance of his Majesty's Advocate against the Earl of Mansfield, was raised for the purpose of having it declared, "that the right of patronage of the churches and parishes of Redgorton, Kinfauns, and Scone," belongs to, and is invested exclusively in, the Crown. The Lord Ordinary, in 1830, decided in favour of the pursuer. This decision was acquiesced in without appeal to the House of Lords. So far as can be ascertained, the following were ministers of Scone: Before 1673, Mr John Liddell. He seems to have died end of June 1686. In 1687, Mr John Murray was minister. In 1716, the

105
113

218/14
15
58
64

244
16

84
14

224
61
10
54
30

379

minister was Mr Thomas Schaw. On August 15, 1754, Mr James Knox,* probationer, whose predecessor had been admitted on a call, was admitted minister of this parish on a presentation by the Viscount of Stormont's commissioner. On 27th October 1777, Mr Charles Wilson,† Mr Knox's successor, was admitted minister on a presentation by the Viscount of Stormont. On 15th August 1782, Mr James Hunter, Mr Wilson's successor, was admitted minister on a presentation by the Viscount of Stormont. On 25th September 1793, Mr John Wright, Mr Hunter's successor, was admitted minister on a presentation by the late Earl of Mansfield. On November 19, 1795, Mr William Aitken, who succeeded Mr Wright, was admitted minister on a presentation by the late Earl of Mansfield. The present incumbent, who succeeded Mr Aitken, was presented by the Crown, and ordained September 20, 1832.

Education.—There is a parochial school exceedingly well attended, and admirably taught by the present teacher, Mr William Keay. His salary is the maximum. The fees are not high. The branches required, according to minute of election, are English reading, writing, arithmetic, and Latin; but mathematics, French, &c. are also taught. There are other schools for girls in the village, but the attendance is very small. The teacher at Stormontfield has always had an allowance of L.4 from Lord Mansfield, and L.2 from Mr Maxton; but this is purely gratuitous, and may be withdrawn at any time. By a sermon preached at Stormontfield annually, a small addition is made to his salary, and his fees are rather higher than at the parish school. He has in winter about fifty scholars. There are at the parish school in winter from 130 to 150. The Sabbath school is numerously attended.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of poor receiving parochial aid may be about 28 or 30. The allowance varies from L.2, 8s. per annum to L.4, 16s. or L.5. The funds

* Mr Knox was descended from William Knox, minister of Cockpen, brother of John Knox the Reformer. William had three sons, who were all ministers of Cockpen, Kelso, and Malrose respectively. William, the eldest, succeeded his father as minister of Cockpen. Simon Knox, minister of Girton, was his third son by the second marriage. Simon's son was William Knox, minister of Dairsie, and his third son was James Knox, minister of Scone. His grand-daughter married the late Rev. John Johnston, first of the Relief, and, at his death, of the Established Church, in Edinburgh.

† Mr, afterwards Dr Wilson, had been minister of Auchtermuchty before he came to Scone. From Scone he went to St Andrews as Professor of Hebrew, and is well known as the author of the "Elements of Hebrew Grammar."

are derived from church door collections, nearly L.60 ; interest of money, above L.45 ; fees on mortcloth, and for the last two years, a voluntary assessment, on the part of the heritors, amounting, in 1841, to L.80, and in 1842, to L.60. The sum of L.40 is paid by the trustees of the Cupar Angus turnpike road, as interest on L.1000 lent them. This sum of L.1000 was the price paid by Lord Mansfield for some ground belonging to the poor at Old Scone, and which was sold to his Lordship at the time of the removal. Continued privation seems to prevent the poor from feeling that it is degrading to accept relief. With a few exceptions, those who once begin to receive parochial aid, continue to take it without much hesitation. A number of individuals, not on the list of ordinary poor, have been in the habit of receiving from the family at Scone Palace, for many years, assistance in the way of coals and flannel, besides other benefits. This is continued in all its fulness up to the present date. The Earl of Mansfield has given much employment to those inhabitants of the parish able to undertake out-of-door labour,—a method of doing good still better than merely giving charity.

Inns, &c.— There are within the parish nine taverns in which ardent spirits may be procured. There can be no doubt that they have an injurious effect on the morals of the people.

Fuel.— The fuel generally consumed is sea-coal, procured from Perth, at the rate of from 15s. to L.1 per ton, besides the cartage and toll. Scotch coal is also used, being brought for sale, during the summer and autumn months, from the collieries in Fife. A considerable quantity of oak, from which the bark has been removed for the use of the tanner, is also consumed, together with brushwood from the plantations.

March 1843.