

and the English coal, from the coal-fields in the neighbourhood of Newcastle.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The improvements that have been effected in this parish since the publication of the former Statistical Account are numerous and varied. The extensive pleasure grounds and gardens, both at Lynedoch House and Methven Castle, with their beautiful approaches and enlarged accommodation, deserve to be mentioned, and the sylvan scenery, which decorates not only these mansions, but extends all over the parish, forms a delightful contrast to the bleak and cheerless aspect which it formerly exhibited. In the year 1798, there were only three slated farm-houses in the parish, with as many enclosed farms. Now, every farm is enclosed, with the exception of a few pendicles on moor-land,—the farms are all subdivided, and have substantial slated houses, with corresponding offices. Agriculture is certainly in a high state of improvement in this parish. Much has been done by Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven, to aid the industry of his tenants, by blasting and removing stones, and by draining, all of which drains Mr Smythe opens at his own expense, and the tenants perform the rest of the labour. Subsoil ploughing has been introduced, and is likely soon to become general. The bridge now building over the Almond, at Dalcrue, near Lynedoch, will, when finished, be an object of general attraction, both for elegance of design and workmanship, and for its singularly romantic situation.

April 1837.

PARISH OF REDGORTON.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH, SYNOD OF PERTH AND STIRLING.

THE REV. WILLIAM LISTON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name of this parish has been variously written Redgorton, Regorton, and Rogorton. The two latter spellings are evidently corruptions of the first. But the most ancient orthography is Rochgorton, as appears by a charter by King David II. preserved in the chartulary of Scone, in which his Majesty conveys the church of Rochgorton to the abbacy of Scone. *Roch* or *Ruach* in Gaelic, signifies red, and *Gorton* or *Garton* signifies a

little field. The meaning, therefore, is the same, either in the ancient or modern orthography, and signifies the Red-field, *i. e.* the field of blood. The current opinion, therefore, which derives the name of the parish from the battle of Luncarty, seems to be well founded, although the popular derivation (*quasi* Red-gore-town) appears too bald for admission.

Origin, Boundaries, Topographical Appearances, &c.—The parish consists of three united parishes, Redgorton, Luncarty, and St Serffs. Redgorton belonged to the abbacy of Scone; St Serffs, a corruption from St Servanus, belonged to the diocese of Dunkeld; and Luncarty, as appears from Keith, was a parsonage, *i. e.* a church not appropriated to any religious house. The period of the union of these three parishes is not precisely known; but it is most probable that it took place at the time of the Reformation, as the presbytery records, which extend back to 1619, speak of them as having been already united.

The parish consists of two parts, a lower and an upper part, very unequal in point of magnitude, and very dissimilar in every respect. The lower, or principal part, though of an irregular figure, approaching nearly to two triangles, may be stated as six miles long by two miles broad, though its greatest breadth greatly exceeds, and its smallest falls as much short of it. This part, therefore, contains about 10.125 square miles. It lies at the confluence of the Tay and the Almond, and is bounded on the east by the former of these rivers, which separates it from the parishes of Scone and St Martins; and on the south-west by the latter river, which separates it from the parishes of Tibbermuir and Methven. It requires three lesser streams, the Coldrochie, the Shochie, and Ordie, to divide it from the parish of Moneydie, on the west and north-west. And it is separated on the north from the parishes of Auchtergaven and Kinclaven, partly by imaginary lines, and partly by smaller streams, whose magnitude has not been considered of such importance as to acquire for them a distinctive appellation.

The surface of this part is varied and undulating, presenting something diversified in its aspect at every step. The tide, in its highest floods, flows up to Scone, or within half a mile of the mouth of the Almond; so that the lowest fields of this part are little above the level of the sea, whilst the highest may be 100 feet above it. The soil is very diversified, changing, sometimes very suddenly, from the deepest loam to the coldest till, on the one hand, and to the most arid gravel, or even pure sand, on the other.

The whole lands in this part of the parish are cultivated and

improved, and, in general, subdivided by thorn hedges. The higher ridges and knolls are for the most part planted with wood, of which there is a great extent in the parish. No property in the country has been more improved, or had more attention paid to it, in this respect, than that of Lord Lynedoch, who possesses two-thirds of the whole parish. No expense has been spared in extending, or altering, in any way, the arrangement and boundaries of the woods, wherever it would contribute to the ornament of the estate, or the beauty of the outline. The grounds, accordingly, abound with beautiful prospects. Few panoramic scenes, perhaps, are finer than that which is seen from Redgorton ridge, which commands a view of Scone Park and Palace, of the bridge and city of Perth, and the fertile valley on which it stands, with the mighty Tay seen rolling through it, wherever the sweeping of the ground, or the opening of the woods, permits the eye to reach its channel; the whole bounded by a semicircle of hills, consisting of the Ochils on the one hand, and the Sidlaw Hills and the hills of Kinnoull and Moncrieff on the other, with the Fife Lowmond starting up to shut up the opening betwixt the one and the other.

The other part of the parish, which is quite detached from the rest, lies beyond the parish of Moneydie, at the foot of the Grampians, running up the shoulder of one of them to the top, and comprehends the barony of Mullion. The aspect of the barony is very different from that of the lower part of the parish. There are here no woods or lines of hedges, with which the lower part is so abundantly clothed and sheltered, but open moorland, field, and heathy mountain. The soil, however, wherever it has been cultivated,—and a great deal has been done in this way by a very industrious tenantry,—is a sharp, gravelly, or moorish loam; and in favourable seasons yields excellent crops, but liable, from the elevation of the district, to be nipt by the early frosts, before they have reached their full maturity. The barony of Mullion is about three miles long by three-quarters of a mile broad, and thus may be stated as containing 1.875 square miles, so that the whole parish comprehends twelve square miles, or 7680 acres. The Shochie here again bounds the parish, and separates it from the parish of Auchtergaven on the north; whilst another mountain stream called Crachie, which falls into the Shochie at the boundary of the barony, separates it from the parish of Monzie, annexed to the parish of Moneydie *quoad sacra*.

Hydrography.—There are no rivers that run through the parish, unless the united waters of the Shochie and the Ordie were to

be dignified by that appellation; and even they run only a very short distance before they fall into the Tay. They do not now, however, follow their natural course, but run in a cut that has been made by the Luncarty Company through a steep bank, in the nearest line to the Tay. The lower part of the parish is bounded, as already stated, for nearly six miles by the Tay and the Almond respectively, which are of the greatest importance to the parish, as will be fully noticed under the article Industry. The only lake in the parish worthy of notice is a very small one in the barony of Mullion, which never was of any great extent, and which had its scanty boundary circumscribed last year by the draining off of a considerable proportion of its water. It is, however, said to be of considerable depth.

Climate—Diseases.—The lower part of the parish lies at a considerable distance from the Grampians, which are on the north, and is still farther removed from the Ochil Hills on the south. This circumstance undoubtedly contributes to render the climate so dry and healthy as it is. We frequently see these hills enveloped in dense clouds, and know that they and the adjacent lands are drenched with torrents of rain, whilst we are breathing a comparatively dry atmosphere, or luxuriating in bright sunshine. The parish is accordingly healthy, and free from any local distemper. It is stated in the last Statistical Account, that the people are subject to ague. But whether it be from the complete drainage which the land has undergone, or from the quantity of wood that has been planted and reared, since that date, which of itself takes up a quantity of moisture, and through which surface drains are cut in all directions, which rapidly run off the water that would otherwise be stagnant; so at least it is, that the ague is now almost entirely unknown amongst us.

Game.—The common kinds of game are very abundant: hares, rabbits, pheasants, and partridges, with snipe, woodcock, and land-rail in their seasons. The pheasants, however, in proportion as they have increased, have diminished the number of partridges. For being much the stronger party, though only recent settlers in the country, they, in imitation perhaps of a nobler animal, drive back the weaker, though aboriginal inhabitants. Roe-deer are frequently met with in the woods, and now and then a few red-deer come down to us in winter, and remaining in the woods do great destruction to the crops in summer.

Geology.—The rocks in this parish belong to the transition and old sandstone formations, according to the Wernerian no-

menclature. Its extreme north-western position in the barony of Mullion is occupied by greywacke to a considerable extent. Through the southern edge of this passes that bed of clay slate, which extends nearly throughout the lower range of the Grampians from sea to sea. Its character, adjuncts, and position are similar to those of the slate deposit at the great quarries near Dunkeld, and in the Stormont. It dips at an angle of 45° towards the north. It is worked as a roofing slate at Ruchummon in this parish. To the south of this, chlorite slate is found, and farther south a coarse peculiar variety of conglomerate. In the lower part of the parish a gray sandstone in thick strata prevails. This is a continuation of the sandstone which is quarried to such an extent at Gelly Burn. It is a first-rate building stone; and in some places abounds with charry impressions of various land plants. The southermost rocks along the channel of the Almond consist of argillaceous red sandstone. This is thickly marked with pale bluish spots, sometimes supposed to be caused by organisms, and is in many parts intersected with very thin veins of satin spar. It contains about 16 per cent. of carbonate of lime, and in some parts of the country is used as a top-dressing for pasture, under the name of rock marl.

As this parish forms part of the angular territory, bounded on two sides by the rivers Tay and Almond towards their confluence, it is supposed to be traversed from side to side by the five or six trap veins which make their appearance in each of these rivers in the space of about two miles. But these are nowhere else visible in the parish, except where the surface has been intersected by ravines or water-courses.

Woods.—There are from 760 to 800 acres of wood on Lord Lynedoch's property; about 60 on that of the Duke of Athole; and a few acres on that of Mr Smythe of Methven. The woods on Lord Lynedoch's property were originally planted with Scotch fir, and larch, except some places which were thought fitter for oak, which is now cut as coppice. As the Scotch fir and larch are cut down, their place is uniformly supplied with young plantations of which the principal part is oak. His Lordship has been at great pains in procuring acorns for rearing plants, and, so far as I have been able to ascertain, they prove to be the true *Quercus robur*. This, however, I may remark, is not the case with some other plantations in the vicinity, where I have observed the *Quercus sessiliflorus* to prevail. The latter is a tree of much softer wood, and greatly inferior value. The attention of landed proprietors, in making oak plantations, cannot be too strictly or earnestly direct-

ed to the choice of their plants, or acorns, that they may not obtain an indifferent, instead of a very valuable wood. The discrimination is easily made, especially in collecting acorns for seed. In the inferior kind the acorn sits close upon the branch, whereas it hangs upon a longish foot-stalk in the true *Quercus robur*.*

Botany.—This parish consisting of open fields of all kinds of soil sheltered with hedges; and of deep and shady woods, in some places dry, in others wet and marshy, running here and there into petty lakes or pools; having within its bounds the banks of two larger rivers, and two smaller streams; and consisting in the barony of Mullion of lake, and moor, and mountain,—offers an extensive and varied field of botany. Accordingly, almost all the more common, and a good many of the rarer plants are to be found within it. It would be more than useless to attempt to give an account of the former. But we give the following list of those that are more uncommon, giving the habitat of the rarer species, with what notes occur, at the foot of the page.

Hippuris vulgaris	Campanula glomerata (2)	Adoxa Moschatellina
Scirpus sylvaticus	Solanum dulcamara et var.	Polygonum fagopyrum (5)
Festuca elatior (1)	flore albo	Epilobium angustifolium
Phalaris arundinacea	Scilla verna	Pyrola media (6)
Galium boreale	Convallaria majalis (3)	Saxifraga aizoides (7)
aquaticum	multiflora	Rubus fruticosus (8)
Drosera rotundifolia	Peplis portula (4)	suberectus
Lithospermum arvense	Trientalis Europea	caesiis

* I do not think that it has yet been experimentally ascertained, whether the bark of *Seastiflorus* be as much inferior to that of *Robur* as its wood; but I think the presumption is that the bark of the hardest wood contains the greatest quantity of tannin.

(1) Wood on Redgorton hill. It is surprising that this plant has not come into cultivation, wherever lands are laid down in permanent pasture. Its creeping roots disqualify it, in some measure, from being sown where the lands are speedily to be broken up. But this is the reverse of an objection where they are to remain for a length of time in pasture; and its faculty of pushing its roots deep into the clay, would prevent its being thrown out in cold lands, while its fine soft herbage forms excellent food either for sheep or cattle: I observe that some curious cultivators in this neighbourhood give the name *elatior* to the true *gigantea*, which latter, though a much stronger, is a much coarser plant.

(2) Banks of the Tay.

(3) Lily of the valley.—Banks of the Almond. There is a quarter of an acre of ground, at the back of Methven wood, in the parish of Methven, literally covered with this fragrant favourite. There is a variety of multiflora of very diminutive size, found here, which has retained its proportions when cultivated in the garden for a long time.

(4) Gravel pit, in Pitcairn green.

(5) Woods.—Not indigenous, having been spread to feed pheasants.

(6) Our botanical friends will thank us for giving here for the first time, a very abundant habitat of *Pyrola uniflora*, the rarest and most popular of all our Scottish plants. In a wood belonging to Mr Mathew of Newmill, about 500 yards to the south-east of an old farm-house called Fairfield, there are two acres of ground covered with this beautiful plant.

(7) This truly Alpine plant is found on the banks of the Tay and the Almond, having, no doubt, been deposited in seed by the river.

(8) We mention this common plant not on account of its rarity, for it is more common with us than any of the others, but because Sir W. J. Hooker states, on the authority of Mr Anderson, that in Perthshire and Aberdeenshire, it gives place to *Rubus suberectus*.

<i>Tormentilla reptans</i>	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>
<i>Thymus acinos</i>	<i>robertianum</i>	<i>Erigeron uniflorum</i> (24)
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	<i>Genista Anglica</i> ,	<i>Senecio aquaticus</i> ,
<i>Nymphaea alba</i> (9)	<i>Ononis arvensis</i> , var. <i>flore</i>	<i>sylvaticus</i>
<i>Nuphar lutea</i>	<i>albo</i>	<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	<i>lanceolata</i> (25)
<i>Cistus helianthemum</i>	<i>Vicia sylvatica</i> (15)	<i>Pyrethrum parthenium</i>
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	<i>Astragalus glycyphyllos</i> (16)	<i>Trifolium arvense</i>
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i> (10)	<i>Hypericum humifusum</i> (17)	<i>Orchis mascula</i>
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	<i>quadrangulum</i> ,	<i>latifolia</i>
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i> , var.	<i>dubium</i>	<i>Habenaria viridis</i>
<i>flore albo</i> (11)	<i>hirsutum</i> (18)	<i>bifolia</i>
<i>Thlaspi arvensis</i>	<i>pulchrum</i> (19)	<i>Listera ovata</i>
<i>Camelina sativa</i> (12)	<i>Cichorium Intybus</i> (20)	<i>nidus-avis</i>
<i>Lepidium campestre</i> (13)	<i>Carduus Marianus</i> (21)	<i>Epipactis latifolia</i>
<i>Turritis glabra</i> (14)	<i>Cnicus heterophyllus</i>	<i>ensifolia</i> (26)
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	<i>eriophorum</i> (22)	<i>Sparganium ramosum</i>
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i> ,	<i>Bidens tripartita</i> (23)	<i>Salix repens</i> , var. <i>♂</i> (27)
<i>sylvaticum</i> ,	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	<i>cotinifolia</i>

(9) Lake of Mullion.

(10) Dry-bed of the Shoebie, below the Dunkeld road. Not thought indigenous.

(11) This white variety of *Digitalis purpurea*, originally found in the fields, has propagated itself in the garden for ten years, without once changing its colour.

(12) Upper fields of the mill-lands of Pitcairn, very rare.

(13) Dry bank at Stanley, and fields on Redgorton hill, rare.

(14) This singularly rare plant, of which Sir W. J. Hooker gives only one very sparing station in Scotland, and Sir J. Smith only two in England, grows by no means sparingly on the banks of the Almond, below the old bridge.

(15) The banks of the Tay are in some places quite clothed with this beautiful and graceful plant, decidedly the most splendid of British creepers.

(16) Banks of the Tay and Almond, by no means sparingly.

(17) Fields of Redgorton hill and Broxie.

(18) Banks of the Tay on Hatton farm, along with *perforatum*, distinguishable at first sight by its smaller flowers, and more rugose leaves.

(19) This very beautiful plant, though considered rare in Scotland, is common in all the woods in this parish.

(20) Fields of Pitmurthly and Redgorton hill.

(21) Vicinity of gardens; certainly not indigenous.

(22) Redgorton Den, sometimes six feet high.

(23) This curious and rare plant has been found near Luncarty mill.

(24) Sir J. Smith gives this as a distinct species, but Sir W. J. Hooker does not admit of its being distinct from *Alpinum*. Where such authorities differ, it would be presumption in us to decide; the more especially as there are some circumstances connected with the plant and its habitat, which seem to favour respectively both sides of the question. On the one hand, the *Alpinum* is not found in the vicinity of the habitat of *uniflorum*, and the plant has always a single terminal flower, with erect rays; which seem to favour Sir J. Smith's position. But, on the other hand, the plant is only found on the shelving rocks of the Almond, which are occasionally covered with water, which seems to favour the supposition that the seed may have been brought down by the river from the higher ground where *Alpinum* grows. But then again the plant is not found on rocks similarly situated on the Tay; and there seems reason to think that, if the one river should bring down the seed of *Alpinum*, so would the other, as is the case with *Saxifraga aizoides*, above referred to.

Sir W. J. Hooker mentions that *Alpinum* is often single flowered; and states also that it is sometimes found with rays erect. If it should turn out, on farther examination, that it is only the one-flowered specimens that have erect rays, it would certainly establish Sir J. Smith's specific distinction.

(25) This pretty plant, though found growing wild here, and though so common in Ayrshire, as, in some places, to be considered a troublesome weed, is not allowed to be a native, and has not been admitted into any British Flora.

(26) This uncommon plant, which has been rarely found in this parish, grows copiously on the opposite banks of the river Almond, in the wood of Methven. We may here mention that *Corallorhiza innata*, which is stated by Sir W. J. Hooker to be destroyed there, has been recently found, and carefully preserved by Mr Bishop.

(27) *Fulva* of Sir J. Smith. Redgorton wood.

We have six out of the twelve *Aspidia* which are natives of Scotland, viz. *Spinulosum* of Hooker, and his var. *a** the true *spinulosum* of Smith. *Oreopteris*, very common, but dwarfish in Mullion, rarer but more magnificent in the lower part of the parish, with a variety having the sori very sparingly placed upon the margin of the pinnae, far from confluent; *dilatatum*, and *Filix-mas*, and *femina*. We have all the three *Polypodia*; *Asplenium adiantum nigrum*, *Blechnum boreale*, and *Lycopodium clavatum*. We cannot but regret that we have no station for the very pretty *Adiantum capillus veneris*, and the no less curious *Hymenophyllum Tunbridgense*; and that the magnificent *Osmunda regalis* is not to be met with in all this country. It would be needless to enumerate all our fungi, of which we have a great variety, but we may mention that we but too frequently meet with *Phallus foetidus*, the most disgusting of all nature's productions.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Antiquities.—Chalmers has shewn, in his *Caledonia*, that the Roman station, *Orrea*, was situated at the confluence of the Tay and the Almond, in this parish,† and there are still circumstances existing that afford pregnant presumptions of the fact. The Roman road from Ardoch, of which the remains are so distinct and well known, on the ridge of Gask, leads upon this station; and is again discovered on the opposite side of the Tay, a little above the parallel of the Almond. The piers also which supported the bridge by which they crossed the Tay, are still to be seen in the bottom of the river at this place; and Roman urns have been found in the banks of the Almond, containing ashes and

* Neither of these two plants, the latter of which is the most beautiful of all the *Aspidia*, not even excepting the finely pinnatifid *Filix-femina*,—is mentioned in Hooker's *Flora Scotica*; and the first is not noticed in Sir J. Smith's *Flora Britannica*.

† The remains of the camp at this place are not yet quite obliterated. Although it has been levelled by the plough, the direction of the mound, which formed the defence on the north and west sides, are distinctly visible, by the remarkable elevation of the ground. The length of this mound on the north side is 860 feet. Nearly on the centre of this side there is a small space, which is not raised, like the line both to the east and west of it, and which it is not difficult to recognize as the gateway. Along the whole of this line, at a little distance from it, and parallel to it, there are the remains of a road, some parts of which, when the ground was ploughed some years ago, were found to be quite closely paved, corresponding exactly to other Roman roads, and the people themselves remarked that every one of the stones had a smooth face on the upper side. There can be no doubt that this is the remains of the *iter* which conducted to the bridge across the Tay, the piers of which are still in the river exactly opposite the camp. The remains of the fortification are not so distinct on the west side, though still visible. The length of this line is only 437 feet, nearly half the space, which must have been occupied by the camp, having been washed away by the encroachment of the Almond, which, as is well known, now empties itself into the Tay considerably to the north of its former embouchure. The whole camp, when complete, must have contained about twelve acres of ground.

burnt bones; particularly two large urns, mentioned in the notes to "The Muse's Threnodie," and conjectured there, and in the last Statistical Account, to have contained the ashes of Agricola's son, who died in the eighth year of his expedition into Britain, and of Aulus Atticus, who was killed in the celebrated battle with Galgacus, at the foot of the Grampian Mountains. It is stated by Tacitus, and noticed by Buchanan, that Agricola reached the Tay in the third year of his expedition; and it is expressly stated by Agricola himself, in his address to his soldiers before the battle with Galgacus, as given by Tacitus, that they were then in the eighth year of that expedition. The camp at Orrea, therefore, existed for five years previous to that battle. If it was fought, as has been supposed, at Battle-dikes, or to the east of Blairgowrie, then it must have been from Orrea that Agricola marched with his light-armed troops, previous to that battle; and probably to it, or to the station *in medio* (at Inchuthel) that he led his army after the battle, when, Tacitus tells us, he conducted them into the borders of the Horesti.* Orrea also continued to be an important station during the twenty-five years that Lollius Urbicus was Lieutenant in Britain, that is, down to the year 161. It was no doubt abandoned, along with all the other country to the north of Adrian's wall between the Tyne and the Solway, in the year 170. But there is as little doubt that it was again occupied by the Em-

* Chalmers has supposed that the battle with Galgacus was fought at Victoria, (or Dalgenross) near the Ruchel, at the top of Strathearn; and that Agricola approached the scene of action, from Fife, through Gleneagles. But in order to make good this idea, he is obliged to get rid of the direct testimony of Tacitus, who says expressly, that Agricola, in the third year of his expedition, subdued all the nations as far as the Tay. (*Nationibus usque ad Taum (æstuario nomen est) subactis.*) And for this purpose he has recourse to a supposition, which appears a very strange one. He says that by Taum is meant the *Solway Frith*. And why? because the British word *Taw* signifies "any thing spread out," which he thinks is an appropriate description of the Solway. But he forgets that Tacitus directly affirms that *Taus* is the name of the frith, and consequently that it cannot be taken as a description of it. For the same purpose, when Tacitus states that, after the battle, Agricola led his troops into the borders of the Horesti, as Victoria is in their territory, he is obliged to suppose that the author means that he led back his troops to the borders of the Horesti; which is an interpretation which the passage will not bear. Tacitus' expression is, "*in fines Horestorum exercitum deducit*," which clearly implies that he was without their bounds. Had it been the intention of the historian to say that he led back his army from Victoria to Carnock, which were both within the territories of the Horesti, as Chalmers makes him do, he must necessarily have said, "*ad fines Horestorum exercitum reducit*;" and could not have expressed himself as he has done. Lastly, the idea that the battle took place at the top of Strathearn is irreconcilable with the account of Tacitus, when he says that Agricola came to the *Mons Grampius* with his light troops, *having sent his fleet before him*, "*præmissa classe.*" How could he possibly be said to have sent his fleet before him, when it must necessarily have sailed in an easterly course, down the Frith of Forth, whilst he was himself to march from the camp at Carnock to the top of Strathearn, in a north westerly direction? But this would be quite properly said, if he sent his fleet from the Tay to the Esk, (the station *Æscica*) whilst he proceeded in a shorter direction from Orrea across the country, towards the same point.

peror Severus in 209, in his celebrated war with the Caledonians, in which he lost so many men. The treaty with Caracalla in 211, finally deprived the Romans of all the country to the north of the Clyde, if not of the Solway. From first to last, therefore, the Romans were in possession of Orrea for upwards of 125 years.

The bridge at the mouth of the Almond was the only one across the Tay which the Romans possessed; which rendered the station of Orrea at all times of great importance, as, from the line of their approach, it formed the key to the possession of the fertile valleys of Strathmore and Gowrie, and all the country to the east of the river.

About two miles above the station of Orrea, at Pitcairn, on the banks of the Almond, there are the distinct remains of a camp, which is called the Roman Camp, but which, from its being not square but round, was certainly not Roman. It may, not improbably, however, have been a camp of the natives, for the purpose of watching the motions of the Romans, who had so distinguished a station in the vicinity. If the occupation of Orrea was of importance to the Romans, it could be of no inferior importance to the natives, especially after the erection of the bridge across the Tay; because the possession of that one station would have cut off the retreat of the Roman troops, who had crossed the river, and have secured to the British the whole country to the east. It is natural, therefore, to think that efforts were not wanting to disturb the enemy in the possession of this station. It was probably, then, from this place that the attempt was made, in the absence of Agricola, by the united forces of the Picts and Scots, to surprise the ninth legion, which was almost successful, and which, but for the unexpected return of Agricola himself, would have been entirely so.* If the camp at Pitcairn was formed with the same intention, it was skilfully selected, and well adapted to the object in view. It is situated upon an eminence, commanding a view, not indeed of Orrea itself, but of the whole line of approach to that station for several miles; having the steep bank of the Almond as a defence to the south; and a deep ravine, descending to the very bed of the river, interposed betwixt it and Orrea, to the east, with room to draw up an army on the level ground betwixt the camp and the ravine.

* Sibbald has supposed that it was at Loch Ore that the attack was made upon the ninth legion. Is it possible that he has been misled by the similarity of the name of the loch to Orrea? At all events, it was certainly quite impossible that Agricola could hear of an attack made in the night-time at Loch Ore, in his camp in the parish of Carnock, and arrive with his troops at the scene of action, before morning, as Chalmers supposes.

It is natural to think that the ever-watchful Romans would not permit a camp, so situated, and so fitted to annoy them, to remain undisturbed in the vicinity of so important a station as Orrea. Accordingly, judging from the number of tumuli, or cairns, the vicinity of this camp would seem to have been the scene either of a succession of contests, or of one great and bloody battle. No account, or even tradition, indeed, concerning this camp, or these tumuli, has come down to us. But this is perhaps the most conclusive circumstance that removes their date to the time of the Romans. For, had such transactions as they unquestionably indicate taken place in more recent times, we may conclude that some tradition, at least, about them would have come down to us, as has been the case with the battle of Luncarty with the Danes.

That these tumuli or cairns were erected over *native* chiefs, and not over the leaders of the Romans, or other enemies, is established by one circumstance, besides the practice of our ancestors, which of itself, however, might appear conclusive on the subject, whilst the same circumstance, as well as the magnitude of the principal cairn, bespeak the quality of the person intended to be commemorated, and at the same time connects these cairns with the camp in question. The circumstance to which I refer, is the name which is given to the lands on which the camp stands. The names of places are one of the best evidences which we possess of ancient historical events, in the absence of historical records. The lands on which the camp stands are called Pitcairn, that is to say, the cairns of the graves; *pit*, in Gaelic, signifying a grave. This name then connects these cairns, which stand on the lands of Balmblair and Bridgeton, with the camp, which stands on the lands of Pitcairn; and therefore proves that the persons buried under these cairns perished in battle.

The same name, which is compounded entirely of Gaelic etymons, proves that these tumuli were the burial places of *native* chiefs. For had they been erected over Romans, the name would have given some indication of its Roman origin. And, the circumstance that these cairns have given the name to the adjacent lands, proves that the principal person intended to be commemorated was a great landed proprietor in the country. For if he had been any inferior personage, or even any person of equal importance from a distance, though he might have given his name to the place of his burial, it is not likely that lands, which had never belonged to him, or with which he had no connection, would have taken the name which is given them in tenures, from the circum-

stances of his death. Now in the time of the Romans the land was not parcelled out amongst a number of small proprietors as at present, but was held in great districts by a few nobles or petty princes. In this way, by putting together the different circumstances in our possession, and comparing them with the ancient state of society in our country, we arrive, almost with certainty, at the conclusion, that the principal cairn in this place, of which an admeasurement is given at the foot of the page,* is the burial-place of a great landed proprietor, or British Chief, who perished in battle, in defence of his country, most probably against the Romans.

Battle of Luncarty.—Not much inferior in interest to the site of the Roman station of Orrea, is the scene of the battle of Luncarty, so extraordinary and almost romantic in its circumstances, and so important in its results. The field on which this battle was fought lies on the banks of the Tay, about two miles above the mouth of the Almond, and within the period of the incumbency of the last minister, which extended to forty years, was covered with small tumuli; but there is now no other memorial of the contest but two upright stones, one of which, about four feet high, retains the name of Denmark. Although this battle is mentioned by all our historians, by Boetius, Fordun, and Buchanan, the precise year in which it was fought is not accurately known; but it took place under the reign of Kenneth III. about the year 990, or somewhat earlier, Kenneth having been assassinated by Fenella in 994.

The Danes had landed in great force at the mouth of the river Esk;† and having taken the town of Montrose, they levelled both the town and its castle with the ground, massacring all the inhabitants without distinction of age or sex. They then marched across the whole province of Angus, laying the country waste in their progress till they reached the Tay, where they encamped on one of the hills in the vicinity of Perth. The King was at Stirling when intelligence of these occurrences was brought him; from whence he immediately marched with all the strength he could muster, to watch the motions of the enemy; having written to those nobles who were not at hand, to follow him as soon as possible, with all their forces. He speedily arrived at Moncrieff Hill,

* This extraordinary cairn is situated on the top of a circular mound, the summit of which it entirely occupies. The cairn is raised to the height of 13 feet perpendicular above the mound, and has a diameter of 100 feet, thus occupying a space of 872 square yards.

† *Traducta classe ad Easke fluminis ostium—oppidum proximum diripiunt: in direptum ferro et igne sæviunt; arcem solo sequant: cives sine discrimine occidunt: nulli vel sexui, vel ætati parcunt.*—Buch. Lib. 6. §. 31.

—Buchanan says at the confluence of the Tay and the Earn,*— where he fixed his camp, which was soon filled by a multitude of his countrymen; the nobles having joined him with all their retainers. Whilst he was here organizing his forces, word was suddenly brought him that the enemy had crossed the Tay, and were laying siege to the town of Perth, then called Bertha. When the King heard that a place of such importance, and so near, was in danger, he immediately marched thither, and, passing by the enemy, took up his position at Luncarty, to the north of them.

The Scots were next day eager for the encounter, and drew out their forces in order of battle, on a level piece of ground; but the Danes, who were stationed on an opposite eminence, would not be drawn from their advantageous position, and the Scots could not attack them in it without great danger. The King therefore threw forward his archers and javeline throwers, (*sagitarii et jaculatores*) who so annoyed the enemy from a distance, that they were forced to advance to the contest on more equal terms. A terrible battle ensued on the level ground, which was fought for some time with doubtful success. At length, the centre of the Scottish army was exposed by the flight of both wings, which the Danes were pursuing with great vigour. It would have been a most disastrous day to the Scots, says Buchanan, had not assistance been providentially brought to them in their extremity by one man.† The battle was observed by a man of the name of Hay, who, with his two sons, all of them of great strength both of body and mind, ‡ were employed in a field, on the opposite side of the river. His love of his country, for which he was remarkable, was touched by the danger of his countrymen; when, seizing on the yoke of his plough, and his sons on whatever they could find, and crossing the Tay at the shallow part of the river, they reached the field of battle at the critical moment of the flight, which, first by entreaties, and then by threats, they endeavoured to stop, declaring that they would put to death those who persisted.§ Then throwing themselves with fury upon the foremost of the pursuing Danes, they gave the Scots a moment to rally on an eminence, which still retains the name of Turn-again hillock. The battle was now re-

* *Brevi ingens multitudo in castra Regis, quæ erant ad confluentem Tai et Iernæ fluminum accessit. Id. loc. cit.*

† *Fuisset profecto illa dies longe Scotis funestissima, nisi velut divinitus per unum hominem in præpe despera fuisset oblatum auxilium. Buch. Lib. 6, §. 32.*

‡ *Qui cum corporis, animique viribus magnis essent, nec minore in patriam caritate. Id. loc. cit.*

§ *Se quoque vociferantes adversus fugientes, Danos fuere. Id. loc. cit.*

newed on somewhat different ground, when Hay, leading some of the clans down a deep ravine, took the Danes in flank and rear, which threw them into confusion. At this critical moment again, another circumstance occurred which completed their disorder. A great shout was raised by a number of grooms, and a rustic crowd of peasants,* which appeared to the Danes to be a new army, and increased their panic. The fortune of the day was now, therefore, entirely changed, and the Danes were routed with such prodigious slaughter, that those who escaped the sword perished in the river. A despairing effort was, however, made to save their commander's life, by defending an eminence close to the banks of the river; but all their efforts were unavailing. For here the Danish General, according to Fordun, the King himself, was slain;† and the stone mentioned above, which yet retains the name of Denmark, still marks the spot of his fall.

Such was the celebrated battle of Luncarty, which, having been turned from defeat to victory, by the undaunted valour and successful conduct of one man and his sons, laid the foundation of the fortune of the family of Hay, which includes in it the three earldoms of Errol, Tweeddale, and Kinnoull.

After this complete victory, the King wishing to march in triumph into Perth, directed that splendid robes should be brought for the gallant Hay and his sons, that they might make a suitable appearance, but he refused to put them on; and, having only washed off the dust, and marching into the town, dressed in his every-day garments, and carrying the yoke with which he had done such service over his shoulder, he fixed the eyes of all men upon him, and received the whole credit of the fortune of the day.‡ An assembly of states having been held shortly after, at Scone, it was there decreed to give the valiant Hay his choice of the Greyhound's course or the Falcon's flight, as a suitable reward for having delivered his country from so formidable an enemy. Hay having chosen the Falcon's flight, the noble bird was unhooded on the top of a hill in the vicinity of the city, and stooped not in his flight till

* Ad hanc Danorum trepidationem agasones, et imbellis agrestium turba sublato clamore speciem novi exercitus præbuere. Id. loc. cit.

† In illo admirabili bello de Luncardy ubi Norica gens una cum suo rege totaliter perierunt. Ford. Scotichron. Lib. x. Cap. 16.

‡ Haius ad Regem productus—splendidas vestes sibi et filiis oblatas, ut inspectiores Bertham ingrederentur, renuit; ac tantum absterso pulvere, quotidiano amiculo indutus, jugumque quo erat in prælio usus, ferens—multis ad novi generis spectaculum accurrentibus urbem ingreditur: omniumque ora et oculos in se unum convertit: ac solus prope omnem illius diei celebritatem tulit. Buch. Lib. 6, §. 33.

he reached the confines of the parish of Errol, where he alighted on a large stone, which still bears the name of the "Hawk's stane." All the intervening ground was given in property to the family of "Hay of Errol," though it has since that period been either apportioned to different members of the family, or alienated to other parties. In memory of these events, the family of Hay still wear as their arms, argent, three scutcheons, Gules: with the yoke inscribed, *i. e.* three golden shields in a silver shield; an indication, as Buchanan thinks, that the public safety was defended by the singular valour of three men, in an important battle.*

* Of the existence of this battle there can be no doubt. And although some critics have pretended to find improbabilities or impossibilities in its principal circumstances, there is such unquestionable evidence of their truth, besides the direct testimony of all our historians, as no criticism can overcome. Lord Kames, in his "Sketches of the History of Man," has said, "This story has every mark of fiction. A man ploughing in sight of a battle, on which depended his wife and children, his goods, and perhaps his own life; three men, without rank or figure, with only a stick in the hand of each, stemming the tide of victory, and turning the fate of battle. I mention not that a plough was unknown in Scotland for a century or two after that battle; for that circumstance could not create a doubt in the historian, if he was ignorant of it." A little attention, however, to the circumstances narrated above, will, I think, remove this objection. If it be remembered, that the Scottish army did not arrive at the scene of action till the preceding day, and that the field in which Hay was at work was on the opposite side of the river from the field of battle, it will not appear so utterly incredible that he was at work as is pretended. Besides, the fair inference from this part of the criticism, only extends to the circumstance of his being actually engaged in agricultural labour. It does not follow that he could not be in the fields observing the action, nor imply the impossibility of his seizing the yoke; and his merit would be as great on the one supposition as the other. Again, the criticism of this able and respectable author is as full of self-contradictions as the story itself. In order to give point to his criticism, he is obliged to suppose (what is not stated by any historian) that Hay was "unconcernedly" following his ordinary occupation, and this at the very moment that his own narration represents him as roused into rage at the flight of his countrymen.

If the interest he should naturally have taken in the fate of the battle from "his wife and children, his goods, and perhaps his life" being dependent upon it, rendered it impossible for him to be an *unconcerned* spectator, as the criticism implies, would not these be excitements to strong and even desperate efforts in behalf of his countrymen? Add to this that the learned author, in order to make his case the stronger, has founded on Hay and his sons wanting "*rank and figure*," which yet, if they had possessed, would not have been of the slightest avail to them in the given circumstances. Not only in that age, but especially in the circumstances supposed, personal prowess was every thing, and "rank and figure" nothing in stemming the tide of victory. Lastly, the learned author concludes his remarks on this battle by saying, "that a plough was unknown in Scotland for a century or two after that battle." It is a pity that the author had not quoted the authority on which so confident an assertion is founded. It is certainly contrary to all that we have read of the ancient state of our country. A plough not known in Scotland till about the year 1100 or 1200!! One might have thought that the Romans would have introduced the knowledge of the plough into our country eight hundred or a thousand years before this, if it had not been previously known. But what do their historians say on the subject? *Cæsar De bello Gallico*, lib. v. says that those "*qui ex Belgis transierunt*" inhabited the coasts "*atque agros colere cæperunt*." *Tacitus, De Julii Agricolaæ Vita*, speaking of Caledonia, says, "*Solum—patiens frugum, secundum, tarde mitescunt, cito proveniunt*." Our own historian, Buchanan, says, "*Picti agris fertilioribus secundum mare Germanicum colendis assuescerent*." How, we may ask, could they cultivate the soil without some kind of plough? Surely, in making the above

Coins.—In 1789 there were found on the farm of Balmblair, at a place called the Dumbie's Know, by the side of a large stone, as many of David's groats and half groats and Edward's pennies, as amounted, at the price of bullion, to three pounds. Some of the groats were in beautiful preservation, and without a single flaw. Obverse, David: Dei. Gra. Rex Scotorum; reverse, Dus. Ptecorius Lib atorus, (and in an inner circle) Villa Edinburgh. One of these is now in the possession of the Antiquarian Society of Perth.

On the 4th of June 1834, there were found under a large stone, close beside the Thistle Bridge, which is a rock of trap that crosses the Tay *under* the water, about 1500 coins of different reigns and dates. Of these 540 were dispersed among different individuals, of which no account can be now obtained; and 872 are in the possession of Mr Greig, merchant in Perth, who holds them for sale, and of which the subjoined is a correct list.*

Obverse. Full face.	Reverse.	Remarks.
Edwr. angl. dels hyb.	R. dia ada leic.	R. de Hadalie was Master of
Edw. Rex Ang. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas London.	the Mint in the 1st 6 years
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	of Edward I. Only 2.
Edwar. r. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edwar. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edward R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Cantor.	
Edwa. R. Ang. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edw. R. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edward R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Dureme.	Particular mint mark.
Edwa. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Do. Do.	Do. Do.	With particular mint mark.
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	Ob. with mint mark, rev. with
Edwar. r. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	a cross.
Edward R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Villa Novi castrie.	
Do. Do.	Villa Novicastro.	
Do. Do.	Vill. Nov. castr.	
Edwar. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Vill. Novicastro.	Only one found.
Edw. R. D. R. Angl. Dus.	Vill. Novicastro.	
Hyb.		
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Vill. Suedmundie.	
Do. Do.	Vill. Suedmundi.	

asseveration, Lord Kames had either forgot the date of the battle of which he speaks, or had not remembered that Luncarty is in the very heart of the kingdom of the Picts, and in the vicinity of its capital. The battle of Luncarty was fought about the year nine hundred and ninety of our era. Agricola was settled in his camp at Orrea, almost on the same spot, about the year eighty, or nine hundred years before. Not a plough known during all this time!! *Credat Judeus!* Tacitus shows us, at great length, the care of Agricola to initiate the Scottish youth in the arts and luxury of the Romans; I wonder he never gave them any lessons in agriculture; the more especially as some knowledge of that art was absolutely necessary to enable them to pay the tribute, which, the author tells us, consisted of money and corn. And one cannot help wondering how the Scots could discharge these vectigalia before a plough was known among them. Abernethy and Brechin still testify to us, that the Picts were great artificers, but they could be no agriculturists, for a plough was not known in Scotland for three hundred years after the overthrow of their kingdom!!

PERTH.

M

Edw R. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Vill. Suedmundi.	
Edw R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Eboraci.	Cross with open dots, only 2.
Do. Do.	Do. Do.	Cross and pallets without dots.
Edw. R. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Dunelm.	
Edwa. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	With crook.
Edwa. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Villa Berwici.	The W divided by limb of
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Do. Do.	cross v↓v.
Edwa. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Villa Bristolie.	
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Oxoniæ.	Only one.
Do. Do.	Civitas Cestrie.	Only one.
Do. Do.	Civitas Lincoln.	
Edw. R. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Vill. Kingeston.	
Henrici Dei Gra.	Romanorum Rex.	Ob. with mint mark and eagle.
Henrici Terçi.	Nicoli in London.	Rev. with cross and pellets
Face in a triangle.		in quarters.
Edw. R. Angl. Dus. Hyb.	Civitas Waterford.	
Do. Do.	Civitas Dublinie.	
	<i>Scottish Coins.</i>	
Alexander Dei Gra.	Rex Scotorum.	Fresh and entire.
Johannes Dei Gra.	Rex Scotorum.	Scarce.
Johannes Dei Gra.	Civitas S. Andre.	Only one.
Johannes Dei Gra.	Civitas St Andree.	

Ancient Manners.—For a long time after the Reformation, society was in a state of disorder, the contemplation of which is apt to fill us with profound astonishment. The corruption of manners, which the depravity of the Popish clergy had introduced, and countenanced, was not so speedily reformed as the errors of their faith; and for more than a hundred years after the introduction of Presbytery, not only the immoralities of drunkenness and debauchery, but the grosser and more enormous crimes of adultery, incest, assault, and murder, prevailed to an almost incredible extent. The criminal law against these crimes seems neither to have been regularly nor vigorously enforced, and the correction or punishment of them seems to have been left, in a great measure, to the church. The records of our Presbytery, which extend back to 1619, teem with such enormities, and present us with strong pictures of the corruption of manners,—the defective administration of the law,—and the ancient power of the clergy. There are two instances of this kind, connected with this parish, which are so extraordinary in their nature as to deserve to be recorded. In 1620, Harry Shaw of Pitmurthly, made an assault upon Mr Young, his minister, an aged and infirm man, because he had executed a summons against him, by direction of the Presbytery, “*pursuit him,*” as the record says, “*invadit him to the danger of his life, having in his hands ane rung, with ane long dirk or else ane dalger;* and, although the poor old man repeatedly called for mercy, *made him swear that he would never speak of him before the Presbytery, or by the blood of Jesus he should instantly die.*” Yet the only punishment inflicted for this dastardly and cruel assault was, that he should appear in

the kirk of Redgorton "*ane Sabbath in lynen clothes,*" "*and confess that he did the minister wrang in the manner foresaid.*" *

The other case referred to is more extraordinary still. On the 23d November 1619, Colin Pitscottie, eldest son of John Pitscottie, of Luncarty, which was then a barony, was charged before the Presbytery with having murdered Alexander Lamb, in Benchill, under cloud of night, in the house of Walter Whytock, smith, within the parish of Redgorton. No notice was taken of this murder by the civil authorities. But, after various procedure, Colin Pitscottie appeared before the Presbytery, and confessed himself guilty of the murder. Yet the only punishment inflicted on him for this crime, was, that he was ordained "*to make his public repentance for the murther of umquhil Alexr Lamb, in the kirk of Redgorton, in lyning clothes ane Sunday afoirnoon.*" The details of these very singular proceedings will be seen in the extracts from the presbytery records given at the foot of the page.*

* *Extract from the Records of the Presbytery of Perth.*—The presby of Perth baiden in the revistry, 12th Sepr 1620. Quhilk day William Young, minister of Redgorton, complains to the brethren upon Harry Shaw of Pitmurthly, of the quhilk complaint the tenour follows, beairand in effect, that the said Wm upon Thursday the 7 of Sepr instant, he being among the stooks upon his own gleib, in ane solitar and quyet place, callit the How of the Park, at his meditations in quyet and sober manner, thinking of na evil to have been said or done to him of person or persons, but to have lived under God's pace and our sovirane Lord's. In the meantime, the said Harry Shaw of Pitmurthlie haveing conceivit ane dedly haterit against the said Wm Young, for citing him before the Presbytery of Perth, upon an sclander of adultery committed by him wt Janet Mar, the spouse of John Patone, sometime in Pitmurthlie, of set purpos, provision and forethought felonie wt crueltie invadit and pursuit him of his lyfe, haveing in his hands ane rung with ane long durk, or else ane dalger, and the said Wm Young seeing him in ane rage, and threatning him of his lyfe, ran away, the said Harry followed him ane great spacie, and cryed theif thy 'feit shall not beir the from me,' the said Wm Young being ane eagit man, and feiring he sould have fellit him wt the rung, cryed many tymes God's mercy, the said Harry overtaking him that was fleeing callit him traitor, and askit quhat he said of him to the presby, and quhen the said Wm answerit he might speir at Mr Johne Straquhan, his good friend, the said Harry Shaw commandit him to sweir that he sould neevir speek of him again to the presby, or be the blood of Jesus he sould presently die. And wt greit difficultie was steyed from farder troubling him, be some pur men that cam from sheiring of the corne, and immediately thereafter the said Harry made vant of his doing to his ain scheiriris, and expressly declared that he had causit the minister swair, and cry many tymes God's mercy. The presby ordains information hereof to be sent to my Lord Archbishop of St Andrews, to rais ane summons to summond the said Harry Shaw before the hie commission for the said violent and barbarous fact.

At Perth, 8th day of October 1620.—Quhilk day compeirit Harry Shaw of Pitmurthlie, and being accusit of the wrangis done be him to Wm Young, his minister, and being demandit in special gif he boistit the said Wm Young, and chaisit him and cryit 'theif thy feit sall not beir the from me.' And when the minister cryit God's mercie, gif he said then to the minister, theif quhat said thou yesterday of me to the presby, and bade the minister sweir that he sould never speek of him any moir to presby. The said Harry Shaw with great humilitie confessit the samyne and every poynt thereof.

The presby ordains him to mak his public repentance in the kirk of Redgorton ane day in lyning clothes, and thair exprimlie confess he did the minister wrang in manner foresaid.

* The Presby of Perth hauldin in the Revistry of the paroch. kirk thereof, the first

Modern History.—St Serffs, which, as has been stated, was one of the three parishes which were united together at the Re-

day of December, 1619, Alexr. B. of Dunkeld Modr.—The quhilk day Mr Young, minister at Regorton, informs the Presby that Colin Pitscottie appeirand of Luncardie, recentlie in the month of Novr. last, by past, the 23 day thereof, cruellie murtherit umquhill Alexr. Lambe in Benchill, under silence and cloud of night, commitit be him in the dwelling-house of Walter Quhytock, smith, within the parochin of Regorton, diocese of Dunkeld, sheriffdome of Perth. The presby ordains the said Colin Pitscottie be summonsd literatorie to compeir befor the Presby the 8 day of Decer. instant, at the tyme of meitting, to heir and see him ordeinit to satisfy the discipline of the kirk, for the removing of the sc'ander arysing of the said murther, wt certification quhither he compeir or not the Presby will proceed agains him. wt the censure of the kirk.

The Presby of Perth (ut supra) 22 day of Decr. 1619.

Quhile day is producit ane summons duely execute and indorsit, bearing that Coline Pitscottie appeirand of Luncardy is lawfullie summonit at his dwelling-house in Myretown of Luncardy, to compeir this day befor the Presby, to answer to the discipline of the kirk, for removing of the sc'ander arising from the foirnamit murther, wt certification, an he compeir not, the presby would proceed to the sentence of excommunication againse him, as the said summons and execution thereof in themselves at length bearis. Quho being oft and diverse tymes callit exprimly at the said revistrie door, lawful tyme of day, and nocht compeirand, be himself nor na utheris in his name, the modr. and brethren finding him to continue in his disobedience, ordains the censures of the kirk to proceed against him, and to that effect public admonitiones to be given him in the kirk of Rædgorton, that he pretend na excuse, and with the admonitiones, public prayeris to be joined, that God may bring him to the knowledge of his sinne, and repentance therfor, that he incur not the fearful sentence of excommunication. The first admonition to be given him next Sabbath.

The Presby. of Perth (ut supra) 16 day of Feb. 1620.

Quhilk day Wm Young reports that he gave the first public admonition on Sunday last to Colin Pitscottie, foirsaid, wt prayeris joyned therewt, ordains him to proceed.

The Presby of Perth (ut supra) 1st March 1620.

Quhilk day Wm Young declares that he admonishit not Colin Pitscottie on Sunday last, in respect that the said Colin's fathir promisit to send his letter subscrivit with his awin hand. The Presby finds fault wt the said Wm Young, that he procedit not againse him, without that he had received his letter befor Sunday last. Therefore ordains him to proceed on Sunday nixt, and gif him the second admonition.

The Presby of Perth, (ut supra) 19 day of Julii 1620.

Quhilk day compearit Coline Pitscottie appeirand of Luncardy. and confessit the murther of umquhill Alexr. Lambe, in Benchill, committed by him in the month of November last, he begane his repentence publicly befor the brithrin, and promises for removing of the sc'ander to declair his repentence publictliè as sall be injoyned to him. He meined himself to the brithrin, that he has sutche urgent affairs with friends, that he may nocht be in this countrie for the space of six weeks, and therefore desyrit that his public repentance myght be delayed to his return. The modr. and brithrin grantis him the space of ane month, and ordaines him to compeir again befor the presby the 16 day of August nixt to com, quhilk he promisit to do.

The Presby of Perth (ut supra) the 18th day of October 1620.

Quhilk day compeirit Johne Pitscottie of Luncardie, and declarit that Coline Pitscottie, his sone, was nocht in this countrie, nor will not be afor Mertimes next, and most humblie besought the modr. and breithrine, to continue the proceeding of the proces and censures of the kirk agains him. And faithfully promises that at Mertimes next he sall compeir, and sall obey their wisdoms in declaring his repentence, for removing of the sc'ander of that unhappy fact of the murther of umquhill Alexr. Lambe commitit be him.

The Presby after advysment upon the said John Pitscottie his promis continues all proceeding againes him until the said terme of Mertimes nixt.

The Presby. of Perth (ut supra) the 21 day of Novr. 1620.

Quhilk day comperit Coline Pitscottie appeirand of Luncardie, and confessit his offence in committing of the murther of umquhill Alexr. Lambe, and promises for removing of the sc'ander to mak his public repentence as sall be ordeinit to him. The

formation,—was formerly the parish to which the barony of Huntingtower belonged. Abbot Milne, in his History of the Bishops of Dunkeld, gives a curious account of the reason why that church was abandoned as the place of worship of the ancient family of Ruthven, to whom the barony of Huntingtower belonged, and who had their residence at that ancient castle, on the opposite side of the River Almond. He tells us, “that a son of Lord Ruthven, having come to this church to be baptized, was drowned in the River Almond in returning home, and that from that time the church of St Mary’s, at Tippermuir, became the parish church of the whole lands on that side of the river.”

But the lands whose history is most interesting are the lands of Benchill. These lands were long the property of the Gowrie family, who were generally provosts of Perth. After the Gowrie conspiracy, they were forfeited to the Crown, along with the rest of the family property. They subsequently came into the possession of the Arnots of Benchill, who also, for a long time, were provosts of Perth. They next came into the possession of the family of Nairne, and after the Rebellion 1745, were a second time forfeited to the Crown, with the exception of Nether Benchill, which a few years before had been disposed to Graham of Balgowan, and concerning which a curious historical notice is given below.

The Chief Land-Owners.—The principal landed proprietors are, Lord Lynedoch, who possesses two-thirds of the whole parish; the Duke of Athole; Mr Smythe of Methven; and Sir J. Stewart of Murthly.

Modern Buildings.—Almost the only modern building worthy of notice in the parish is the Chapel of Ease, now formed into the Ecclesiastical Church of Stanley. It is a very handsome structure, with a tower 85 feet high on the northern end. It is capable of containing 1000 hearers, and was erected at the expense of L. 3000, laid out solely by Denniston, Buchanan, and Company, for the benefit of their work people employed at their extensive cotton-mills at Stanley. Being situated on the top of a bank, of considerable elevation above the river, it forms an object of interest and ornament for a great district of country round it.

There are also at present building, and nearly finished, a mill

Presby. ordains him to mak his public repentance ane day in the kirk of Ragortoun, on ane Sondag afoirnune, conformie to the ordinance set down in the buik of discipline anent murtheris, quhilk he promises to do.

the parish, may introduce a dissoluteness of manners, and a disregard of religion, which is as yet foreign to the character of our people; and of which we have only had a slight specimen in the few strangers that have been attracted to the flax spinning-mill that is already in operation.

Poaching salmon formerly prevailed in some degree, but is now entirely suppressed. Poaching in game also was formerly more prevalent than it is now. There are still some characters, however, that are suspected to be addicted to it; but these are always looked down upon by the rest of the people. Smuggling and pawnbroking were never known among them.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—

There are in the parish	7680 acres.
Of these there are under wood,	860
uncultivated, including roads, fences, &c.	440
in grass about	600
under culture,	5780

Rent of Land.—The average rent of land in the parish may be stated to be from L. 1, 10s. to L. 2 per acre. The grazing of a full-grown ox may cost from L. 2, 10s. to L. 3; of a two-year old do. L. 2 to L. 2, 5s.; of a yearling do. L. 1, 10s. to L. 1, 15s.; of a Highland sheep 8s. to 9s.; of a Leicester do. 12s. to 16s.

Live-Stock.—The breed of black-cattle in this parish was not, till within these twenty years, distinguished by any peculiar character, but consisted of a mixture of all different forms and sizes. About that time, however, an importation was made of the Teeswater, or short-horned blood; and the prevailing stock on the best farms is now a cross, in various proportions, of that breed with the Ayrshire, or some other breed.

Most of the farmers are also getting into the way of keeping a few Leicester sheep; and Lord Lynedoch has in the parish a small flock of Southdowns. With these exceptions, there is no regular breeding-stock of sheep kept in the parish, but most of the farmers are in the way of having a flying stock, which is bought in autumn, and sold at different periods. If the stock purchased be three year old wedders, they are flaked through the winter on turnips, and sold early in spring. If they be two-year old wedders, they are kept on turnips through the winter, and grazed the following summer; or if, as is the more common case, they be Highland ewes, they are crossed with Leicester rams, and after feeding their lambs, are generally got fat by autumn, when they

are disposed of to make way for a new stock. This system requires the land to be retained for three years in grass, which makes what is called the six course shift, and is followed with great advantage by the best farmers. There are some, however, that still pursue the older practice of keeping their land only one year in grass, and thus taking a white crop every alternate year; which brings the rotation of crops so quickly round, and thereby so tires the land, that speaking in general, there is not more grain raised on a farm by the four than by the six course shift.

Potatoe Crop.—The principal dependence of the farmer in this parish, as in the rest of this county, is on their crop of potatoes. The Perthshire reds have for a number of years held a high character in the London market. The price, however, has been very fluctuating, having varied from 7s. to 15s. per boll of eighteen stones. An average crop on tolerably good ground may vary from 30 to 40 bolls per acre. So that a crop of potatoes is more valuable than any crop the farmers can raise; and it is only from this circumstance that they have been enabled for a number of years past to pay their rent. But unfortunately a great failure has taken place, very generally, in this crop, for several years, from a defect of vegetation in the sets planted. In some cases this failure has extended to half the crop; and in some, it has been so complete, that the whole has been ploughed up. Wherever agriculture is treated of, a short statement of the causes and remedies of a failure, which is of such vast importance to the community at large, and of such transcendent interest in the rural economy of this great county, cannot be misplaced. Having paid some attention to this subject, I may state very shortly some considerations, which could be easily established by referring to what has occurred in the practice of various agriculturists.

There are two classes of causes which must be taken into view, to account for this failure, and for all the phenomena which have occurred with respect to it. The first of these may be denominated the remote cause; the second the proximate causes.

The remote or primary cause appears to be a failure in the vegetative power of the potatoe, arising from its age; or the length of time that it has been planted since it was raised from seed.

The potatoe cultivated in Perthshire has been in existence for perhaps sixty years. It is not certainly so long since it came into general use. But its age is to be determined by the number of years that it has been planted, and not in any measure by the ex-

tent of its propagation. The potatoe then seems to be in that stage of its existence in which, under favourable circumstances, it will grow as luxuriantly, and produce nearly as good crops as ever it did ; but in which its vegetative vigour is so far diminished that its growth is obstructed by causes, which, in the earlier stage of its existence, it would have overcome.

These causes I have denominated the proximate causes of the failure ; and, so far as they have come under attentive observation, they may be reduced to four.

The first, and perhaps the most general of these is permitting the potatoes to spring in the pits. The farmer will tell you, if you state this as a cause of the failure of his crop, that this cannot be the case. For he has repeatedly planted potatoes, when they were much farther sprung, without having a blank in his field. He forgets that a plant will push out its shoots much more frequently in one stage of its existence than in another.

The second proximate cause of this failure is the practice, which has been generally resorted to, of planting the potatoe crop at too late a period of the season, by which means the plant has not time to ripen, or come to full maturity. Betwixt the new and old terms of Whitsunday is the period generally adopted for this operation, whereas it ought to be performed in the middle of April.

The third cause is keeping the potatoes too long above ground after they have been cut. This I know to have been remarked in the practice of several farmers, and was very strikingly exhibited in my own immediate vicinity ; where two sacks of old cut potatoes were placed at one end of a field, and two sacks newly cut, placed at the other, and two women set to plant them. They filled their baskets alternately from the one and the other as they reached the ends of the field, and the result was, that every two alternate drills was a complete failure, whilst in the other alternate two, there was scarcely a blank.

The fourth cause is the practice of planting the potatoe sets upon the dung, especially if it be hot from the yard. The soil is the natural place for a plant to grow in ; and it will often grow there, when it will grow nowhere else. But my observation of this cause is not founded on this reasoning, but upon what occurred in the practice of a clergyman in the north. Having a portion of a field on which the dung was spread in the drills, but which he could not get planted over night, he directed the harrows to be drawn longitudinally over the drills, in order to throw a little earth over

the dung, that it might not be dried before the morning. The result was, that the potatoes planted upon the hot dung were a great failure, while those planted in the soil were a full crop.

The statement of these causes will in a great measure suggest their proper remedy; and therefore a few words upon the subject will suffice. It is obvious that the first or remote cause can only be remedied by having recourse to plants recently raised from seed, which is the method provided by nature for renewing or preserving the vigour of every one of her productions. Upon this point I cannot but refer to the experiment made by Mr Bishop at Methven Castle, who has been successful in raising a very excellent potatoe from seed, which he has now cultivated to some extent.

It must be a long while, however, before plants raised in this way can be diffused over the whole country, and therefore it is of importance to attend to the remedy of the secondary causes; and of these the first is the only one which does not itself suggest its own cure. Upon the first cause also, it is necessary to say the less, that the farmer has practically fallen on a partial cure by bringing his seed potatoes from the hill country. Plants raised in a cold climate are slower in springing than those raised in a warmer latitude; and if they be not only raised, but kept till about the season of planting, in the upland districts, they are often found not to have put forth a single shoot, whilst in the low country they have grown together like a mat, and perhaps are pushing through their covering. Where this remedy is not attainable, its want may be in a great measure supplied by burying them deep in the pits, or putting a great thickness of earth over them, to prevent if possible the warmth of spring from reaching them before the season of planting.

Draining, &c.—Draining has been carried on to a good extent in the parish; and almost all the waste land has been improved, except in the barony of Mullion. There is only one water-meadow in the parish, which has been irrigated within these few years, by Lord Lynedoch. But it is upon a very poor gravelly soil, and although it be certainly an improvement, it has not been found to answer expectation.

Produce. *—It has been seen above that there are 5780 acres in the parish under culture; and about 600 in grass. If from the latter be deducted what is occupied by manufactories, &c. it will leave 500 available for pasture.

* For woods, see page 166.

The raw produce from the whole, taking the rotation of cropping to be five years, may be as follows :

1156	acres of oats, at 5 bolls per acre, at 15s. per boll,	L. 4336
578	} do. potatoes, at L. 11 per acre,	6358
578	} do. turnips, at L. 7 per do.	4046
1156	do. barley, at 5 bolls per acre, at L. 1 per boll,	5780
1156	do. hay, at L. 4 per acre,	4624
1156	do. second year's grass, at L. 2 per acre,	2312
500	do. permanent pasture, at L. 2 per acre,	1000

L. 28,455

Fisheries.—The Tay has long been famous both for the quantity and quality of its salmon. But a great diminution has taken place of late years in the value of the fisheries. This defalcation has taken place over the whole course of the river, and is to be ascribed partly to a decrease in the number of the fish taken, and partly to a fall of the price in the London market. This defalcation has taken place to such an extent, that the rental of the river is not now above one-eighth of what it formerly was. Lord Lynedoch's fishing, for instance, in this parish, which used to bring L. 550, now lets for L. 65 per annum.

Manufactures.—Although the village of Stanley, which is connected with the extensive cotton-mills at that place, now the sole property of James Buchanan, Esq. of Duanhill, and his sons, be partly situated in this parish, yet, as the works themselves are in the parish of Auchtergaven, they will fall to be described in the account of that parish.

It has been already stated that bleaching may be regarded as the staple of the manufactures of the parish. But, besides the three bleachfields at Luncarty, Pitcairnfield, and Cromwell Park, there are also in the parish two power-loom establishments, a flax spinning-mill in operation, and a cotton spinning-mill, ready to be put in motion, all at Cromwell Park, where there are three falls of the Almond: and a flax spinning-mill at Pitcairnfield, also on the Almond, where there are two falls.

Luncarty has long been considered the most extensive linen cloth bleachfield in Scotland. The ground belonging to the company extends to 130 acres and upwards, held in feu from Lord Lynedoch, for the payment of a feu-duty of L. 150. The power required for driving the machinery is obtained by water brought from the Tay, by a dam dike, carried nearly across the river, and conveyed in a lead about two miles long, and which takes in the united waters of the Shochie and the Ordie, by the bed of these rivers being raised to the level of the lead by a powerful dike car-

ried across them. The waters of the Shochie and Ordie are, however, previously brought into the works, by a separate dam-dike, which gives a fall of twelve feet, on these waters by themselves. They are then conducted into the same channel with the water from the Tay, along with the superfluous water which had escaped over the upper dam-dike; and the whole form a very powerful stream, on which three several falls are obtained.

The power thus obtained, gives motion to twenty-four sets of beetles, which are in full operation, along with the corresponding number of calenders, and also to the necessary bleaching machinery, such as washing-stocks, rubbing-boards, &c. &c.; besides a fall reserved for giving motion to four other sets of beetles, in a separate building, which can be set agoing, should a press of business or other emergent, at any time require their operation.

The first part of the operation of drying in some descriptions of goods, and the whole operation in others, which is often a very tedious process, is here accomplished in a very beautiful and expeditious manner, by the cloth being carried over fourteen cylinders, which are heated by being filled with steam. The cylinders are placed in two rows, every one being placed opposite the interstice of two in the other row. The cloth being wove round the cylinders in the two rows alternately, is thus drawn over three-fourths of every one of them, and is taken out in the state of dryness required.

It is stated in last Statistical Account, that there were then 500,000 yards of cloth annually bleached here. There is now at least four times that amount of business done.

There are therefore annually bleached here, of linen cloth, of which a considerable proportion is damask, 2,000,000 yards. In these different operations there are regularly employed from 120 to 130 hands, all of whom are resident on the company's grounds, and the greater part of whom have been born and brought up on the place.

Cromwell Park is situated on the Almond, the water of which is collected and raised by a very beautiful dam-dike, in the form of an arch, having its convex side of course up the stream, and abutting on each side, upon one of those dikes, or veins of trap, which cross the river. Before this mode of arching the dam-dike was adopted, it was repeatedly carried away by the violence of the river when in flood, and from its waters being here confined by the trap dike already mentioned. But from the form

now adopted, it promises to stand as long as the abutment shall endure. By this means, three falls are obtained, which give motion to as many different works.

The uppermost of these is that which belongs to Alexander Reid, Esq., and consists of a flax spinning-mill, power-looms, and a bleach-field; so that the whole operations requisite to work up the flax into a finished article, ready for the market, are conducted on the premises.

In the spinning-mill, there are 430 spindles, which spin flax from 2 to 3 lb. per spindles, and of tow from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 lb. per do., 11,000 spindles, per week, amounting to, per annum, 57,200 spindles. This is worked up by 40 power-looms capable of working, per week, of cloth each 150 yards, making per annum, after allowing for stoppages, &c. a total production of about 300,000 yards.

The whole is afterwards bleached upon the premises, and finally finished by four single sets of beetles, for the markets.

The whole of these operations employ 120 hands.

The two next falls are possessed by Hector Sandeman, Esq. who has upon the upper of them a cotton spinning-mill, and power-looms. The spinning-mill is just finished and ready to be started, and will be in full operation before this account passes through the press.

It contains of self-acting mules 1728 spindles; throstles 1152 do.; capable of spinning of No. 40 for warps per week 1000 lbs.; of No. 36 for wefts per do. 1000 do.; making a total per annum of about 100,000 lbs. The whole is intended to be worked by power-looms, of which there are for five-fourths 42 looms; for eight-fourths 20 do.; of which there are in operation 34 do. The water-wheel for weaving is 10 horse power; do. for spinning 20 do. The third fall is employed in driving beetles for dressing cloth, which is bleached at Tulloch-field, and carried back there to be printed. The water-wheel is 17 horse power, and drives four single sets and two double sets of beetles. There are at present employed 45 hands; will be required in spinning 30 do; the whole employing 75 hands. All these different works are on the property of Lord Lynedoch.

Upon the same river there are, at Pitcairn-mill, two falls; to the upper of which the river is taken in by a dam-dike run obliquely across the river, and abutting upon the rock, upon which the old bridge of Almond is founded; a mine being driven through the rock, behind the foundation, for the passage of the water.

This fall, which has been for some time employed in driving a

flour-mill, is intended to drive a flax spinning-mill by day, which is now erecting, and the flour-mill by night. It is held by a company of bakers in Perth, on a subset from R. Sutherland Esq. of which there are only seven years to run, who have again subset it for driving a flax-mill to Messrs M'Dougal and Langlands. The flour-mill, which was formerly capable of grinding 200 quarters per week, will by this restriction not be capable of grinding above 50 quarters, or per annum, 21600 quarters.

The spinning-mill will contain 800 spindles; capable of spinning per week of 3 pound yarn, 2400 spindles; giving a fabrication per annum of 124,800 do. *

The bleachfield at Pitcairnfield is in the possession of Robert Sutherland, Esq., who holds it and the preceding fall on a long lease from Robert Smythe, Esq. of Methven. The power here is obtained from the old mill-dam of Pitcairn, where there has been a mill as far back as our records go. This fall, besides the other requisite machinery, gives motion to eleven sets of beetles, which, besides finishing the goods bleached at the field, are employed in dressing a considerable quantity of umbrella cloths; an article, the fabrication of which is much attended to by the manufacturers of Perth. There are employed at this work 50 hands.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—The nearest market-town, there being none in the parish, is Perth, which is upwards of two miles from the most adjacent part of the parish; and upwards of eight miles from the remotest part; except the barony of Mullion, which is from ten to twelve miles distant. Perth is also the post-town.

Roads.—The only turnpike road in the parish is the road from Perth to Dunkeld, which runs through it for four miles, and a branch from it passing Stanley. On this road, the Dunkeld coach passes and repasses every day, as is the case also with the Inverness mail.

There are four statute labour roads in the parish. One crosses it from east to west; one from north to south; one branching off from the Dunkeld road crosses a part of it from south-east to north-west; and one crosses from south-west to north-east.

Bridges.—In a parish situated as this is, at the confluence of two rivers, the one of which is seldom fordable, and the other extremely dangerous when in flood, and which cannot be approach-

* The completion of this work has been stopped since this account went to press, in consequence of the pressure on business in Dundee.

ed, except from the north-west, through the middle of the Grampians, without crossing one or other of these rivers,—bridges must always be an object of great importance.

There is no bridge across the Tay betwixt Perth and Dunkeld, the former about two miles and a-half from the southern boundary of the parish; the latter about eight from its northern limits. The only communication which we have across the Tay, therefore, is by a boat impelled by oars; and which can carry four or five horses, half a score of cattle, or a couple of scores of sheep at a time. This mode of conveyance, however, is not applicable to the River Almond, over which all our communication with the south and west takes place. The Almond is a very rapid river, and often comes down in a flood of four feet in a perpendicular breast, in which no kind of boat could live. Accordingly we have three bridges across that river. Of these, the middle one, called the Old Bridge of Almond, has now stood for more than two hundred years. It consists of one arch, founded on two rocks, and was built in 1619, by a number of gentlemen, the chief of whom was John Graham, Esq. of Balgowan, the ancestor of Lord Lynedoch, as appears from the following very curious entry in the presbytery record.

“The presby of Perth hauldin in the revestrie of the paroch kirk thereof the 26th day of Maii 1619, Mr Johnne Guthrie moder. Quhilk day comperit Johnne Graham of Balgowan, and exponit to the presby that the water of Almond being ane gryt river, quhairn be the violence thereof many ar yeirlie perishit (as is mair nor notorious,) for remeid quharof he and certaine uthir gentillmen has concertit with certaine measones to sett ane stone brige over the same, quhilk is ane wark very deir and costlie, and cannot be gottin performit without that godlie and well affectat gentillmen, and utheris, contribute to the building of the same. And in respect that it is ane necessarie wark for ane common well and wary costlie, he desiris that the brithiring of the ministry every ane will deal with-their awn parochineris for helpe to the samin with als greit diligence as possibly they can, that the wark may be endit befor winter come. Quhilk desyre, as godly and reasonabill, the brithrin promises to obey, every ane for their awn pairt.”

The lower bridge is on the line of the Dunkeld road, from two to three miles below the former. It consists of three arches, each of them forming the segment of an ellipse, and was built in 1827.

It is a very neat structure, but the settling has sunk the parapet over the central arch about an inch below the level of the rest of the wall.

The third bridge is that on which we are most disposed to pride ourselves. It is situated at Dalcruive, about as far from the old bridge to the west, or up the river, as the second is below it. As a modern structure, it is remarkable for its elegance and simplicity, for the grandeur of its elevation, and the beauty of its workmanship:—as a benefit, as well as an ornament to the district, it is worthy of the splendid scenery amidst which it is placed:—as an example of munificence and public spirit in an individual, it stands by an unmeasurable distance at the head of all the public, or recorded transactions of this great county. This bridge, like the Old Bridge of Almond, is founded on two rocks, or rather upon a dike, which here crosses the river, and affords a firm foundation for the superstructure on either side. It consists of one semicircular arch of 80 feet span; the abutment of which is upwards of 10 feet high, so that the height of the top of the bridge above the bed of the river is fully 50 feet. The foundation stone was laid 25th August 1832. The arch was keyed 20th August 1836, and the centre struck the 1st of September following; and such is the accuracy of the workmanship, that no perceptible settling has taken place. The approach to this bridge has required the cutting down of two hills, and the filling up of the valley betwixt them; the whole of which, as well as the building of the bridge, has been accomplished, we may say, at the sole expense of Lord Lynedoch, the county having as yet contributed only L. 150 from the road-money towards the expense. One of these cuts too, having been carried through the ridge, along which the ride from Lynedoch to the bridge of Bertha runs, has been crossed by a beautiful little bridge of a semicircular arch, a miniature as it were of the former, at the cost of L. 500. The whole of this public improvement, the building of the bridges, the filling up of the valley over which the road is carried, with the cutting of the hills, and erecting the corresponding retaining walls, has cost his Lordship about L. 4000, a sum rarely expended by an individual in one undertaking for the public benefit.

The erection of the Old Bridge of Almond has transmitted the name of his ancestor, as a benefactor of the public, for two hundred years. The erection of this bridge promises to transmit his Lordship's fame in the same character, to a still more remote posteri-

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ty;—and forms, indeed, a monument to his memory, more perishable only than that deathless name which he has carved out with his sword on the field of Barossa, and at the sieges of St Sebastian and Bergen-op-zoom.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated about the centre of the lower part of the parish; and though not in the immediate vicinity of any village, is as convenient as it could be for the general population, being at an equal distance from the village of Luncarty on the east, and Pitcairn-green on the west. It is therefore from three to four miles from the extremities of the lower part of the parish; but it is upwards of eight miles from the extremity of the barony of Mullion. Though conveniently situated for the lower part of the parish, it is impossible that it can be so, for a district located from six to eight miles from it, as Mullion is. It was built in 1776, and the only repair it has since received is, that it was ceiled at the commencement of the present incumbency in 1812. It is accordingly both defective in comfort for those whom it contains, and inadequate to the population of the parish. Its discomfort consists in its not being floored or paved below; and in the narrowness of the pews, which do not admit of persons sitting in them without being cramped, unless they sit obliquely, which the state of the occupancy does not admit of. It is seated for 414, and there are upwards of 500 communicants; so that it cannot contain the whole communicants at one time. And if it be admitted that every young communicant should have seen the solemn ordinance of the Lord's supper only *twice* administered before he comes to be a partaker of it; then there must, on a communion Sabbath, be 160 communicants who cannot find accommodation in the church. Accordingly it happens that on such occasions, not only is the church overcrowded, but, from the church door to the church-yard door, there is a mass of human beings who cannot get entrance into the church to keep with decency the memorial of their Redeemer.

The manse was built at rather a later date than the church, and was repaired in 1829. The glebe consists in all of about 8 acres of land; and there is a rent of 4 bolls of meal, and 10s. Scots paid by Mr Smythe of Methven, for the possession of another. The stipend has been recently modified to 17 chalders, half meal, half barley. But it is as yet uncertain whether this will be made good.

There is a Chapel of Ease, now erected into an ecclesiastical

parish, at Stanley. The minister has a stipend of L. 150 for the payment of which he holds a bond by Denniston, Buchanan, and Co., and that company has also very handsomely given him a house, for which there is no compact in the deed of erection.

There are two Dissenting meeting-houses in the parish; one of which belongs to the United Secession, and is attended by 61 individuals, young and old, belonging to this parish, according to a list taken in 1835-36;—the other of which belongs to the Original Seceders, which is attended by 63 within the parish, according to the same list. But part of both congregations come from the adjacent parishes. The ministers of both chapels are paid, I believe, entirely from the seat rents, and may be stated to have a stipend of L. 70 or L. 80 each.

There are at present belonging to the Establishment 1617; to other denominations 280; not known to belong to any denomination, 15. This, however, would not give a just view of the state of dissent in the lower part of the parish; for it gives nearly a sixth of the population as Dissenters. But it is worthy of observation, that there is a remarkable difference in the proportion of dissent in the two districts of the parish; a difference which shews that dissent is greatly increased by removal from the means of instruction and superintendence in the Establishment. In the barony of Mullion, which contains a population of 100, there are 56 Dissenters, which gives a proportion of more than one-half of the inhabitants; whilst in the lower part of the parish, in the midst of which the church is situated, there are only 224 Dissenters out of a population of 1812, which gives only a proportion of one-eighth of the inhabitants.

There are of families that attend the Established Church,	324
Families of whom part attend the Established Church, and part belong to some denomination of Dissenters,	9
Families attending Dissenting Houses of any kind,	61
Individuals belonging to the Establishment,	1617
Individuals of all denominations of Dissenters,	280
The average number of communicants in the Established Church,	500
In the church of Stanley belonging to this parish,	183
	683

The Established Church is at all times well attended, in summer by as many as the house can contain. And were there better accommodation, or more of the kind that we possess, there would be a still more numerous attendance; as many are withheld from going to church by not knowing where they are to sit, or whether they may obtain a seat at all.

The average amount of church collections for religious and charitable purposes is L. 27, 5s. 11d.

Education.—If there be any thing like a reflection upon the heritors of the parish, implied in the statement which has been given of the state of our church accommodation, it is gratifying to turn to the encouragement which they have uniformly given to the interests of education in the parish. In the year 1828, when the parish school became vacant,—in order to invite a person of respectability to the office, they doubled his house accommodation, and added an additional piece of ground to his possession. And this year, when they found that the number of scholars, whom the character of the person they had selected for teacher had drawn together, could not be accommodated in the school-room, they have added fifteen feet to its length. The number of schools in the parish is three; of parochial schools one. The salary is the maximum, and the school fees may amount to upwards of L. 30, if the whole are paid up.

There are no children betwixt six and fifteen years of age who cannot read or write; and only one above fifteen destitute of these qualifications, which is regarded as a phenomenon by those who are aware of the deficiency.

The whole of the barony of Mullion is beyond the distance which children can possibly travel to school; and, together with some portions of the parishes Auchtergaven and Moneydie, *quoad sacra*, would be greatly benefited by an additional school.

Poor.—The average number of poor on the stated roll who are provided for by assessment is 25; average amount of monthly payments L. 4, 12s. 3d.; of yearly do. L. 55, 7s. Besides these, there are a number of poor who are left to the management of the session, who receive L. 47, 2s. 2d.; making the whole expenditure for the poor per annum, L. 102, 9s. 2d.; of which the average amount of church collections, dues of morthcloths, &c. is L. 27, 5s. 11d.

Alehouses.—There are no less than eleven houses in the parish licensed to sell ale and spirits. But of these, there are five, which being placed on the public roads, and not in villages, may be regarded as supplying the demands of the public *beyond the bounds of the parish*. Still six remaining houses should be more than adequate to supply the necessary demands of the parish, though the others should sell no spirits to the parishioners. And it would be desirable if the means of doing so could be devised, that some of them should be suppressed. Any attempts that have been made

by the kirk-session for the accomplishment of this object have been counteracted from other quarters.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

There are few parishes in Scotland that have undergone greater improvement, since the date of last Statistical Account, than this, whether we look merely at its external aspect, or regard it in an agricultural, or in a mercantile point of view. The woods which were then but recently planted have grown up, both for ornament and for utility. The marshes have been drained, and the waste land improved; and a new and better system of agriculture introduced. It begins to be generally understood that the land cannot stand a constant system of cropping, without intervals of rest. The sheep husbandry is, therefore, daily gaining ground; and the breed of cattle has been improved both in size and earliness of maturity. In manufactures those anticipations of future prosperity which were then indulged have been in a great measure realized, though not exactly in the anticipated lines. There were then five hundred thousand yards of cloth bleached annually in the parish, there are now from three to four millions. There were then about two hundred thousand yards of cloth printed, there is now nearly double that quantity made. The cotton-works now about to be put in motion may be nearly equal to those which were then in contemplation; besides which there are or will be from twelve to thirteen hundred spindles, for spinning flax, and the introduction of power looms has opened up an extensive branch of manufacture, which was then altogether unknown.

In the midst of such extensive operations, it would be useless to speculate upon the capabilities of the parish for future improvement. It is only to be wished that the agricultural and commercial interests of the country may continue, or be increased; of which its local advantages, and the spirit of its people will always make this parish a proportional participator.

April 1837.