

# PARISH OF BANCHORY-TERNAN.

PRESBYTERY OF KINCARDINE O'NEIL, SYNOD OF ABERDEEN.

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## I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Name.*—BANCHORY is supposed by some to signify a *fair hollow* or *valley*; but a different meaning is assigned by others. It is probably of the same origin as Bangor (Banchor) in Wales and in Ireland; and refers to some religious institution early established in the place. Ternan, or Tarnan, by which this parish is distinguished from one near it of the same name, is derived from St Terne or Ternanus, who, according to Fordun, the Breviary of Aberdeen, and other authorities, flourished about A. D. 440; and was regarded, after Ninian, as the apostle and archbishop of the southern Picts. Usher, however, places his era subsequent to A. D. 684, and supposes him to have been among the last of their native prelates. He is said to have been a native of the Mearns, and of noble parentage; to have been brought up among the Culdee fathers, and, having accompanied Palladius in his mission to the Irish Scots, to have been afterwards ordained and sent by him to extirpate the Pelagian heresy, and to establish the Catholic faith among his countrymen in Pictland. In this office he was so eminent for his exertions (some

say also for his writings), and so successful in begetting a regard for religion, that his name and remains were long after held in great veneration by the people. Many churches were dedicated to him throughout the country; and, among others, the original place of worship here. An annual fair and a fountain in this parish still retain his name.

In some charters and other writings immediately subsequent to the Reformation, the parish is denominated *Banchory-Trinity*; but this distinctive is not now in use. It is familiarly known by the name of Upper Banchory.

*Boundaries and Extent.*—It is bounded on the north by the parishes of Echt and Midmar; on the east, by Drumoak and Durris; on the south, by Durris and Strachan; and on the west, by Strachan and Kincardine o'Neil. Its figure is irregular; the extreme breadth, east to west, 9 miles, and the extreme length, north to south, about the same. Its area contains 21307 imperial acres; only 5090 of which are on the south side of the Dee, the rest lie on the north, and, with a small portion of Drumoak, form the only part of the county of Kincardine which passes that river.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The surface, as seen in a general view from any of the neighbouring heights, appears a portion of the valley of the Dee, lying between the long insulated Hill of Fare on the north (1793 feet), and Kerloack on the south (1890 feet), one of the Grampian range, which stretches from the west to the sea at Aberdeen. Between this latter hill and the river (which is here about 165 feet above the sea-level), a lower ridge intervenes, whose greatest height may be about 1000 feet. It has a steep northern aspect of a crescent form, and is parted in the middle so as to allow free communication with the nearly parallel valley of Strachan, and to permit its waters collected in the Feugh to discharge themselves over a rocky ledge into the Dee. Being planted with larch and pine, it presents the appearance of a semi-circular woody screen, through an opening in which the ridge of Kerloack and the singular summit of Cloch-na-ben are seen with considerable effect; while the river winding along the curvature of its base gives animation to a prospect beautiful and picturesque.

That part of the parish which lies on the south of the Dee is divided by the Feugh. The upper and smaller division consists of the sloping flank of Scolty, the western half of the woody crescent ridge already mentioned, and embraces a small part of the estate of Blackhall, with the properties of Anchattie and Iavery.

It is wooded and cultivated in nearly equal proportions. The lower or eastern division contains the estate of Tilwhilly, with part of the lands of Durris. The former is situated on the other half of the fore-mentioned ridge, with its appendages and cultivated slopes. It is bold, rocky, extensively wooded, and abounds in fine views of the neighbourhood. The latter comprehends the remaining low ground between Tilwhilly and Durris on the east, and Kerloack on the south. It consists of several farms among moorlands at the base of this latter hill, together with a marshy and mossy tract recently improved, and a cultivated portion of the sloping upper bank, and of the flat border of the Dee. A small rivulet flows into that river on the east of the Durris property, and another into the Feugh, on the west side of Tilwhilly, both of which convey the waters, and form the boundaries of this part of the parish.

The large tract on the north side, between the Dee and the hill of Fare, is comparatively low ground, nowhere rising above 500 feet. Its chief features are several ridges or heights, succeeding one another along the course of the river, and forming in some places a high upper bank, gently sloping, or agreeably broken and diversified, while the space between these and the hill, though interrupted in some parts by diverging or parallel ridges, may be described on the whole as a lengthened hollow, extending through the breadth of the parish, from the loch of Drum in Drumoak on the east, to the Bog-loch in Kincardine on the west, having the loch of Leys nearly in the middle, and affording beds for several permanent streamlets, which effect an imperfect drainage of the district: the Canny, rising at the west end of the hill of Fare, and flowing south-east into the Dee, with a winding course, in some parts the boundary of the parish: the burns of Cluny and Corrichie, from the southern face of the same hill, about a mile apart, uniting under the name of the Blackburn, and passing eastward through a flat called the Mirebird into the loch of Drum, from which the burn of Coie proceeds in a contrary direction into the Dee; while, from the loch of Leys, the burn of Bennie falls by a short and nearly direct course into the same river.

On the heights and levels which skirt the Dee on this north side, lies first at the western extremity, the property of Trustach, including Woodend, Cairnton, and Invercanny, belonging to the estate of Leys, but detached a short distance from the rest. It is a pine-wooded tract, having two villas in secluded spots on the river, and several farms near the mouth of the Canny, at its lower end. Next along the Dee is the estate of Inchmarlo, a

pleasant slope, having a finely situated and neat mansion-house in the middle, thickly sprinkled with small farms, and embraced by extensive woodlands. A little beyond, succeed the new village of Banchory, the properties of Arbeadie and Banchory Lodge, and the manse, church, and glebe lands; while still farther east, are the ridges of Crathes, Dowalty, and Coie, which, with most of the hollow already described as lying beyond these fore-mentioned heights, and all towards the north-east, to the top of the hill of Fare, constitute the estate of Leys within the parish; a surface of great variety, and of very considerable capability; one-third of which is cultivated, and one-fourth under wood. The estate of Raemoir occupies about three miles of the side of the hill of Fare, and a strip of the low land immediately under. It presents high upland pastures, with woods clothing the slope of the hill beneath them, and surrounding the mansion-house, while the remainder consists of well-cultivated and moderately sized farms, remarkable for their neatness and thriving condition. At the western end of Raemoir, towards the south, lies Glassel, a small but interesting property, containing, besides a dwelling-house and garden grounds, several small farms, encircled by woods which cover two-thirds of the whole.

A surface possessed of such a variety of outline, and such an extent of wood and water, abounds, as might be expected, in picturesque beauty. Upwards of twelve mansion-houses and villas, and a neatly built and prettily situated village, together with numerous farm cottages, tend greatly to embellish its scenery, while a large proportion of its trees being evergreen, enables it to retain much of its interest even at the dullest season of the year. The waters of the Feugh and Dee, with their bridges and back-grounds, as seen especially from Banchory Lodge, opposite to the point of their junction; the banks of the Dee and the distant Grampians from Hillhead of Tilwhilly; and Crathes Castle, Blackhall, and Inchmarlo from the high road, particularly attract the notice of strangers; but the lover of scenery will here find much besides to gratify him, both in single detached views, and in more combined extensive prospects. Some of them will interest him by their strikingly picturesque features, several by their soft and faultless loveliness, and a few by a rich, harmonious, and elevated beauty, approaching the sublime. But such scenery is confined chiefly to a mile or two on each side the river. Beyond this, many bare and uncultivated spots, and a broad margin of moorlands, contrast

strongly, especially in summer, with the green and shady banks, along which the Dee, bright as silver, is seen to glide.

*Meteorology.*—The greater part of this parish having a southern aspect, and being well protected on the north by the Hill of Fare, and in other directions by lesser ridges, as well as generally sheltered with abundance of wood, possesses a mild, and, on the whole, salubrious climate. The mean height of the barometer for 1832 was 29.521 inches, and the mean temperature by the thermometer 47.77°. The hottest day was the 30th of June, 79°, wind so uth. The coldest the 28th of December, 20°, wind north-west. The temperature of springs and deep wells in the district is 47°.

*Hydrography.*—In a few situations, springs are not abundant, and many fail during summer, but in general they are both numerous and sufficiently permanent. Good water may almost always be found on digging to the rock. Two or three springs are slightly chalybeate, but their temperature does not appear to differ from the rest, nor is there any thing remarkable in their composition so far as known.

*Lakes.*—The only loch in the parish is that already mentioned, the loch of Leys. In a charter granted 1324, it is denominated the loch of Banchory, and is described as having a ferry, an island, and fishings; but at present the public road from the church to Raemoir passes through the middle of the hollow in which it lies, and probably in the direction of the ancient ferry. On descending to its basin, the greater extent of its former banks becomes apparent. It must evidently have once formed a prominent,—and while the ancient forest surrounded it, an interesting—feature in the landscape. In winter and wet seasons, the water sometimes fills partially the whole bottom on both sides of the road; but in summer, a small spot at the eastern extremity, scarcely 400 yards square, and surrounded by a broad margin of tall aquatic plants—(*Phragmites communis*, *Scirpus lacustris*, *Equisetum limosum*, &c.)—is all that is visible. Its banks are low, and mostly barren. The soil occasionally covered by it is mossy, presenting tufts of bog-myrtle and stunted willows. There still exists a small island near its southern shore, which is said to be “artificial, founded on oak piles,” with the ruins of “ancient buildings and an oven” upon it, and to have “no traditions or notices which throw light on its history.” The artificial nature of this island seems questionable, but the foundations, and even the plan of the buildings may be

traced without much difficulty. They occupy nearly the whole surface, and appear to have been a fortified dwelling of no great solidity, probably the resort or the residence of the family of Leys, before their fortalice was built at Crathes. It is sometimes called the Gow or "Goo"-house, perhaps from the number of gulls which built their nests on the island. The water of the loch is of a dark colour. It contains pike, and is frequented occasionally by great numbers of sea-fowl, (some of which still breed there,) by several varieties of wild duck, snipe, &c., and in some winters by the wild swan. It is not fed by any constant stream, and appears to derive its origin solely from the moisture which percolates the soil on the neighbouring heights, and which, finding here its lowest level, collects and makes its appearance. Its decrease is partly owing to the clearing and cultivation of some of the surrounding land, and partly to an attempt made, about ninety years ago, to drain it by deepening its communication with the Dee.

*Rivers.*—The only streams requiring more particular notice are the Dee and the Feugh. The former enters the parish at Woodend, from west-north-west, and, after making a rather short but angular detour along the projecting hill of Trustach on its left bank, it takes a larger but similar reach, conformable in the general direction to the semicircular ridge already mentioned on its right, and extending to nearly the eastern boundary of the parish. About the middle of this course it is joined by the Feugh from the south-west, and receives, as formerly noticed, several rivulets on its northern and southern sides. Its channel is very generally overspread with large pebbles and stones; and in some places, the water flows on a rough bed of naked rock, and forms considerable rapids. A little way below the entrance of the Feugh two small islands divide its stream. The larger is a low flat, sometimes nearly covered by high floods, and about eight or nine acres in extent, two-thirds of which are covered with furze and coarse grass, and the rest is a beach of pebbles, of which, together with sand, nearly the whole is composed. The other islet immediately succeeds, and is not above one-eighth of the size of the former. It is rather more elevated above the stream, consists chiefly of sand, is covered with trees, apparently the product of casual seeds, and has an agreeable appearance. Both these islands seem to owe their origin chiefly to the substances brought down in the rapid and frequently swollen and powerful stream of the Feugh. They are in fact in a great measure its delta, which the superior force

of the Dee removes a little way beyond its mouth, and has accumulated according to the gravity of the materials in the place where the islands now appear. The larger has increased within the memory of several persons alive, and the consequence formerly was, that the stream, being thrown with greater force against the northern bank, so corroded it year after year as to destroy the site of several houses, and to approach the wall of the churchyard. But this work of destruction was delayed in 1811, by the formation of a stone embankment, which wards off the force of the stream. Above the junction of the Feugh, where the Dee is crossed by a bridge, its medium breadth, depth, and velocity within the parish may be considered as nearly represented. They are found in an average state of the flood to be nearly as follows:— Breadth, 175 feet; depth in the middle of the stream, 6 feet 9 inches; velocity, 1.8 foot per second. The average depth in winter above that in summer is 8 inches. During the latter season the volume of water not unfrequently decreases more than one-half. Strong winds from the south and west, by raising waves on the surface of several lakes from which the river is fed in the upper parts of its course, are found to affect the level of its waters here, often to the extent of one or two feet. During the great flood of August 1829, it rose 20 feet 7 inches above its ordinary height.

The Feugh flows for about a mile within the parish, and at first presents nothing remarkable in its appearance, besides the pools and shallows, with the wide margin of sand and gravel, which characterize most mountain streams; but when it enters the opening in the secondary ridge of hills that skirts the south side of the Dee, it runs between bold precipitous wooded banks, and dashes from pool to pool over naked opposing rocks, until within a few hundred yards of the river it falls in a divided stream down a ledge from fifteen to twenty feet high, and then reuniting in a deep basin below, finds its way to the Dee amidst similar rocks, and an accumulation of sand. The great height at which its sources lie in the neighbouring Grampians, and the comparative shortness of its course, subject its volume to so sudden and frequent changes, that an average estimate of its waters is not easily ascertained. Above the fall it is seventy feet broad, and one of the pools is about twenty-four feet deep; but two feet may be regarded as its general depth. Its velocity is conjectured to be more than double that of the Dee. A bridge of two principal

arches is thrown over its stream, just below the fall; and few spots in the parish exhibit a more striking view than the alpine scenery of this place, especially when the Feugh, swollen by rain, fills the whole channel, and with a thundering noise, and foaming waters, sweeps through the arches into the whirlpool below.

*Geology, &c.*—The hills of Fare and Kerloack consist of nearly the same variety of red compact granite. Sulphate of barytes occurs in a vein traversing the granite, not far from Corrichie. In approaching towards the Dee, on each side, the granite again makes its appearance on the intermediate heights; but it is of a lighter colour, and contains a bed or vein of limestone, which is seen first on the north side of the river at Glassel; and, after forming the heights of Inchmarlo and Arbeadie, may be traced south-eastward for several miles. It seems to run in a direction parallel to the vein of red porphyry at the bridge of Potarch. It is seen crossing the Dee in several places, and where it passes the Feugh, it appears to be about 500 yards broad. At its junction with the granite in this latter place, the appearance of both rocks is considerably changed. They become stratified, and put on a structure like gneiss or mica-slate, which rocks are not themselves distinctly observed in the district, though numerous fragments of them abound on all parts of the surface. The limestone, though in some parts coarse and impure, is generally compact, and highly crystallized. It contains tremolite, and is evidently primitive. At the quarries of Tilwhilly, it is manufactured for the purposes of agriculture. A ton of the stone yields six bolls of lime, which, owing chiefly to the great expense of fuel, costs 2s. 3d. per boll; while English shells, considered by the farmer of nearly double efficiency, can be had for 2s. 6d.; they, therefore, are generally preferred. There exists, also, on Tilwhilly, a limestone gravel, which is merely the decomposed surface, or withered portions of the above rock. It was formerly used in its native state as a top-dressing, but is now little heard of.

The alluvium is, for the most part, a light-coloured scanty clay, mixed, especially towards the river, with a large proportion of sand and gravel, and containing rolled pebbles and large boulders. In the neighbourhood of the Dee, but far above its present level, and in some parts of the hollow along the base of the hill of Fare, it has accumulated to a considerable depth; but the average thickness of the soil does not exceed sixteen inches. The pebbles, in various parts, are as smooth as those of the sea beach,

and, together with the sand, are sometimes, though rarely, deposited in layers. Upon the surface, generally a vast number of stones and boulders occur in all positions, and are especially remarkable on breaking up and trenching new soil. They then often appear covering the ground, as closely as if artificially packed upon it, and are of all sizes, from a few pounds to several tons. A large proportion of them, when examined, are found to consist of fragments of sienite, porphyry, and gneiss, which are here otherwise unknown; and of varieties of granite very different from the subjacent rocks. They have their angles generally worn, as if by attrition. It seems difficult to account for these and some other alluvial appearances of the district, as well as for the names given to some of the high grounds, (*Inch-marlo*, and *Brath-inch*, or *Brathens*), without supposing that water had for a time filled the greater part of the valley, and afterwards retired into the bed of the present river.

The soil having been formed chiefly by the decomposition of granite rocks, and no loamy deposits having been made by the streams of the district, is almost everywhere light, and not naturally fertile. In most places it is not sufficiently retentive of moisture; but in some a ferruginous indurated subsoil prevents both the deflux of water, and the roots of plants and trees from finding sufficient nourishment and depth. In some of the low grounds a spongy moss, mixed with gravel, and bearing a coarse grass, presents a surface of little value, and difficult to improve, while an inadequate drainage renders others swampy for a great part of the year, or subjects them to frequent injuries from floods. No plants, however, decidedly indicative of a very poor or very inferior soil are observed to prevail. The whin and broom grow freely and in nearly equal proportions on the uncultivated tracts; and the fern, the wild-rose, the holly, and the birch are among the most prominent indigenous productions. The remains of oak, pine, and hazel, which are dug up in great abundance in most of the hollows, attest, along with traditional history, that the surface was formerly covered very extensively with natural wood; and the facility with which these and other trees grow, together with the thriving condition of the present extensive plantations, show that the soil is remarkably adapted for rearing various kinds of valuable timber. Even for purposes strictly agricultural its capabilities are considerable, and hold out the prospect, that, when its resources shall be

more completely developed, the surface will not be more pleasant to the eye than profitable to the farmer.

*Botany.*—This parish contains several of the rarer British plants, and many which, either from their local distribution or other circumstances, are deserving of notice. The banks of the river are especially rich in vegetable productions,—the number of which is increased by the stream bringing down alpine plants and seeds from their natural situation, and establishing them upon its sides. The fields, woods, moors, and hills abound in such plants as generally characterize similar localities. The loch of Leys also contains several species of considerable interest. There cannot be a doubt that farther research would add several new species to the Flora of the parish, although it has been repeatedly subjected to botanical investigation. The first of the following lists contains those plants which are rare or very local in Britain; the second those which are otherwise interesting:—

<i>Calamintha Acinos</i>	<i>Melampyrum sylvaticum</i>	<i>Orchis Morio</i>
<i>Galium erectum</i>	<i>Nuphar pumila</i>	<i>Equisetum Mackaili.</i>
<i>Linnaea borealis</i>		

The last named plant was first found in the parish in 1841, and has not, it is believed, been discovered in any other part of Scotland.

<i>Alchemilla alpina</i>	<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	<i>Silene maritima</i>
<i>Bidens cernua</i>	<i>Lepidium Smithii</i>	<i>Solanum Dulcamara</i>
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	<i>Listera cordata</i>	<i>Spergula subulata</i>
<i>Calamintha Clinopodium</i>	<i>Lobelia Dortmanna</i>	<i>Teesdalia nudicaulis</i>
<i>Carduus heterophyllus</i>	<i>Lycopus Europæus</i>	<i>Trientalis Europæa</i>
<i>Carex lævigata</i>	<i>Meum athamanticum</i>	<i>Trollius Europæus</i>
——— <i>pauciflora</i>	<i>Oxyria reniformis</i>	<i>Viburnum Opulus</i>
——— <i>stricta</i>	<i>Parnassia palustris</i>	<i>Botrychium Lunaria</i>
<i>Centaurea Scabiosa</i>	<i>Phragmites communis</i>	<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>
<i>Cichorium Intybus</i>	<i>Potamogeton heterophyllus</i>	——— <i>variegatum</i>
<i>Corydalis claviculata</i>	<i>Primula veris</i>	<i>Lycopodium alpinum</i>
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	<i>Pyrola media</i>	——— <i>Selago</i>
<i>Eleocharis multicaulis</i>	——— <i>minor</i>	——— <i>selaginoides</i>
<i>Erysimum Allieria</i>	——— <i>secunda</i>	<i>Polypodium Dryopteris</i>
<i>Festuca elatior</i>	<i>Saxifraga aizoides</i>	——— <i>Phegopteria.</i>
——— <i>gigantea</i>	<i>Scirpus lacustris</i>	
——— <i>vivipara</i>	——— <i>sylvaticus</i>	

The existing plantations are very extensive, being equal to more than five-sixths of the arable, and to more than one-fourth of the whole surface. They consist chiefly of pine and larch, with patches of birch, and belts of oak, beech, ash, and some ornamental trees. The greater part was planted during the last seventy years, and only about one third of the whole is nearly ready for the market. The soil, especially on the heights near the river, is generally well adapted for oak and other hard woods. Larch is found, however, to give way after twenty or thirty years on certain dry and thin soils, and to become diseased in the heart. Pines grow most profitably in the hol-

lows and towards the base of the hills, while, at some intermediate places, birch is found readily to thrive. More attention is now given than formerly to adapt the trees to the locality in which they are planted, and, owing to the decreasing value of fir timber, and the quantity in this district about to be brought into the market at once, the proportion of hard-wood is greatly on the increase. More than 290,000 larches and 66,000 oaks have been planted on the estate of Leys alone, within the last three years.

Among the most remarkable trees are numerous yews, all of natural growth, springing from the top of the rocks at Crathes. Some of them are 5½ feet girth at the base. Among several gigantic specimens of the common holly, one occurs on the side of the public road leading to Aberdeen, about a mile from the church, which springs from the sides and crevices of a rock, and has upwards of twenty stems proceeding apparently from the same root. It is 20 feet high, and shades an area of more than 36 feet square. It is supposed to be at least 200 years old. In the grounds of Crathes castle, there is also a magnificent beech, which was planted in 1706, and is 25 feet in girth, about 60 feet high, and contains 320 cubic feet of timber.

*Zoology.*—Twenty-four species of quadrupeds, and 111 of birds, are found either permanently or occasionally in this district. The following lists, it is believed, are nearly complete.

MAMMALIA.		
Plecotus auritus	Martes foina	Mus messorius?
Vespertilio murinus	Lutra vulgaris	Arvicola amphibius
Sorex araneus	Vulpes vulgaris	— agrestis
Talpa Europæa	Felis catus	Lepus timidus
Meles taxus	Mus rattus	— variabilis
Mustella putorius	— decumanus	— cuniculus
— erminea	— musculus	Cervus elaphus
— vulgaris	— sylvaticus	— capreolus

The roe is more common here than in most other districts of the country, but the red-deer is only occasionally seen in the woods. The *Cervus dama*, or fallow-deer, is now found wild in the neighbourhood of Blackhall; but it is understood to have been introduced by a late proprietor. Rabbits are said to have been almost unknown till a few from a distance were placed on the islands of the Dee, about thirty years ago. They passed over the ice in winter, and have now become everywhere so numerous as to render their destruction necessary.

AVES.	Falco Haliaetetus	Falco strigiosus
Falco albicollis	— Buteo	— tinnunculus

<i>Falco palumbarius</i>	<i>Fringilla montana</i>	<i>Tetrao tetrix</i>
— <i>Nisus</i>	— <i>Cœlebs</i>	— <i>Scoticus</i>
— <i>peregrinus</i>	— <i>Carduelis</i>	— <i>lagopus</i>
— <i>cyaneus</i>	— <i>Spinus</i>	— <i>perdix</i>
— <i>Tinnunculus</i>	— <i>cannabina</i>	<i>Rallus crex</i>
— <i>sub-buteo</i>	— <i>Linaria</i>	— <i>aquaticus</i>
— <i>Æsalon</i>	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	<i>Vanellus cristatus</i>
<i>Strix otus</i>	— <i>pratensis</i>	— <i>melanogaster</i>
— <i>flammeus</i>	— <i>arborea</i>	<i>Charadrius pluvialis</i>
— <i>stridula</i>	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	— <i>morinellus</i>
<i>Corvus Corax</i>	— <i>Boarula</i>	— <i>hiaticula</i>
— <i>Corone</i>	— <i>flava</i>	<i>Cinclus aquaticus</i>
— <i>frugilegus</i>	<i>Sylvia Rubecula</i>	<i>Alcedo ispida</i>
— <i>Monedula</i>	— <i>atricapilla</i>	<i>Ardea major</i>
— <i>Pica</i>	— <i>Regulus</i>	— <i>stellaris</i>
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	— <i>Troglodytes</i>	<i>Ibis falcinellus</i>
<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	— <i>cinerea</i>	<i>Scolopax arquata</i>
— <i>Merula</i>	— <i>Trochilus</i>	— <i>Rusticola</i>
— <i>viscivorus</i>	<i>Rutacilla phœnicurus</i>	— <i>Gallinago</i>
— <i>pilaris</i>	<i>Accentor modularis</i>	— <i>Gallinula</i>
— <i>musicus</i>	<i>Saxicola Cœnanthe</i>	— <i>callidris</i>
— <i>iliacus</i>	— <i>Rubetra</i>	<i>Tringa hypoleucous</i>
<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	— <i>Rubicola</i>	<i>Fulica chloropus</i>
<i>Picus viridis</i>	<i>Parus major</i>	— <i>atra</i>
— <i>major</i>	— <i>cæruleus</i>	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>
<i>Sitta Europæa</i>	— <i>ater</i>	<i>Larus canus</i>
<i>Upupa epops</i>	— <i>caudulus</i>	— <i>ridibundus</i>
<i>Certhia familiaris</i>	— <i>palustris</i>	— <i>rissa</i>
<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	<i>Anas cygnus ferus</i>
— <i>chloris</i>	— <i>riparia</i>	— <i>Anser</i>
— <i>pyrrhula</i>	— <i>urbica</i>	— <i>Boschas</i>
<i>Emberiza Miliaria</i>	— <i>apus</i>	— <i>Tadorna</i>
— <i>Citrinella</i>	<i>Caprimulgus Europæus</i>	— <i>penelope</i>
— <i>Schoeniculus</i>	<i>Columba livia</i>	— <i>Clangula</i>
— <i>navalis</i>	— <i>palumbus</i>	— <i>Crecca</i>
<i>Fringilla domestica</i>		

Eagles visit Kerloack only in early spring, when the lambs begin to appear. They are occasionally taken by the gamekeepers in traps, and when their legs are bound, they make no resistance with their beak, but are carried like a turkey under the arm. The ptarmigan was formerly seen on the hill of Fare, but has long since disappeared. The oyster-catcher breeds in the islands of the Dee, where it arrives with the greatest regularity about the first week of March, and leaves about the end of June. In very dry seasons, they may be observed returning to their nests with dew-worms at midnight, and their cry is heard often at all hours. A beautiful specimen of the glossy ibis, or Brazilian curlew, was shot at the loch of Leys, September 1842.

The fishes of the Dee and its tributary streams present in this district no remarkable variety. They are the *Gasterosteus pungitius*, the *Anguilla vulgaris*, the *Platessa flesus*, the *Esox lucius*, the *Salmo trutta*, and the *S. fario*.

About twenty years ago, the salmon was so common that a good angler could generally catch six to ten a day, but the utmost and

rare limit of his success is now two, or at most three. The salmon fry generally go down the river to the sea in April or May, and are supposed to return grilse in June.

Muscles (*Mytilus cygneus*?) are found in the Canny, which was formerly celebrated for its pearls.

Of reptiles, besides the common toad, and the common and edible frog, there are the *Triton aquaticus*, and the *T. palustris*,—the water and the warty eft, the *Lacerta agilis*—the nimble lizard, the *Anguis fragilis* or blind-worm, and the *Vipera communis*, or common adder. The bite of this species has here been found poisonous. The leg of a woman, bitten lately by it, became greatly swollen on the third day up to the top of the thigh, with a considerable discoloration (ecchymosis) in the ham. Specimens of a serpent upwards of four feet long have several times been found; but whether it be the adder at an advanced stage of its growth, or whether it be a distinct species, is unknown.

Nothing in the entomology of the parish, as hitherto observed, seems to require particular notice. Insects are numerous, and in considerable variety, especially moths.

## II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

At Cairnton, on the east end of the hill and ancient wood of Trustach, near a steep bank of the Dee, there is a slightly hollow place, overgrown with birch, about 150 yards square, which, on its north and only open side, has two ramparts of earth, each 300 yards long, from 10 to 15 yards high, and 16 broad. They converge from the bank on each side, and complete two sides of a square, the rest of which is formed by the nature of the ground. They do not, however, meet, but leave an entrance at the angle about 20 yards wide. A large body of men might lie within them without being easily observed. The position is moderately elevated, and commands a pass between the heights of Inchmarlo and the Dee, through which the present road lies. It overlooks almost every approach, and has the river immediately behind, and the Canny at a little distance in the haugh below. No traditions respecting it exist, and, as the spot is rather sequestered, it is very little known. But it has evidently been a strong and well-selected encampment. Its massive structure and general appearance, compared with their undoubted remains in other parts of the country, incline some to think that it owes its origin to the Romans. The name of the place would indicate, perhaps, the site of a battle, but there are no cairns or tumuli at present to be seen. On the

moorlands, at the bottom and sides of the hills, north and south, are many stone cairns, and others of a similar kind are said to have formerly existed in various central parts of the parish. One of these, lately opened, contained a small coffin about a yard long, formed of rude stones, with a little dust within. Another had various bones of a human skeleton without any coffin. In the neighbourhood of those near Kerloack, on the farms of Eslie and Garrol, are three stone circles, the largest about 25 yards diameter, and the others about 15. In each, the remains of an inner circle are visible, within which is a small cairn, and in all, the outer circles are tolerably complete, containing what is called the altar stone, placed due south, and of nearly the same dimensions in each, 8 feet long, and 4 high. The whole are composed of micaceous schist, with some limestone and granite, the common stones of the place. In the moors around, besides many small cairns, and some traces of former cultivation, there is a place called Knocking or Rocking-stone; and a small peat bog, in which, twenty years ago, a circular copper vessel, apparently very ancient, and of very rude workmanship, was found. "It had a rim at the mouth, which was turned outward, and perforated with three holes. It had also the appearance of having had a handle attached to it." Though few places can be more bare and sterile than this situation is at present, all the hollows contain, imbedded in peat moss overlying clay to the depth of 10 to 30 feet, abundant remains of trees, which have evidently undergone the action of fire.

In a wall opposite the manse is a hollow, which represents with the original stones the shape, size, and situation of a coffin, found when excavating the ground for the present road to Aberdeen. It contained an urn of tolerable workmanship, with some ashes. About a mile and a half farther west, in a belt of planting between the same road and the Dee, a stone is seen standing, 8 feet high above ground, and 13 feet in circumference, which is the only remains of a large Druidical circle, almost entire about fifty years ago.

At the period to which these antiquities must be referred, the surface formed a part of that great marshy forest, which, afterwards known under several divisions and names, extended from Mar to Aberdeen, along the course of the Dee. It was occupied by a people of Celtic origin, for all the more ancient names of places and objects are certainly Gaelic, and was necessarily traversed by those crossing the Grampians from the Mearns, through the pass called Cairn o' Month, to the more fertile districts of

Garioch and Buchan. Subsequently it became also the route of pilgrims from these districts to the shrine of Palladius at Fordoun; but the first recorded notice the writer has been able to obtain of the possession of property within the parish, although the chartulary of Arbroath must contain several previous, is A. D. 1233, when King Alexander II., by a charter dated at "Kyn-tor," confirmed a grant made by the celebrated Allan the Durward to the monks of the Abbey of Arbroath of the wood of "Trostach," lying between the waters of "De and Kanyu."

It is stated by Robertson, ("General View of Kincardineshire, App. IX.,") on the authority of the Rev. Dr Keith of Keith Hall, that this parish formed "anciently a part of the extensive domains of Fraser, Thane of Cowie, who, by marriage, was connected with the Royal family; and in consequence of his desire to have all his territories placed under his own jurisdiction, as lord-lieutenant or sheriff of the Mearns, it was attached to that county," though formerly belonging to Aberdeenshire. "It came afterwards under the rule of the Great Marischal, Sir Robert (William?) Keith, who married a (grand?)-daughter of that chief, and was continued afterwards to be conjoined to that county, although the territorial connection with its judges had ceased." This Thane of Cowie seems to have been Sir Alexander, nephew of the famous Sir Simon Fraser, "who was with his uncle at the battle of Methven, 1306, and who, adhering afterwards to the interest of King Robert Bruce, was honoured with the marriage of Lady Margaret, the King's sister."

In 1324, King Robert Bruce gave to Alexander de Burnard, (an ancestor of the present Sir Thomas Burnet of Leys,) "dilecto et fideli suo pro debitis in quibus sibi tenebatur" the lands of "Killienach Clerach," in Drumoak, together with lands in Banchory, "within his forest of 'Drom,' and without the park of the said forest." These latter seem to have comprehended about one-half of this parish north of the Dee; the other half was then in the possession of the convent of Arbroath, to which also the cure and tithes of the parish belonged.

In 1479, the lands of Tilwhilly were held by Walter Ogston of Ogston, (near Fettercairn,) under the abbot and convent of Arbroath as the superiors; but David Douglas, grandson of James the second Lord of Dalkeith, having married his daughter Janet, they passed into the possession of his descendants.

"At Banq'reterne, 12 Junii 1491. In p̄ns of ane Rycht no-

bille and my<sup>v</sup> lorde, Willm. Erell Marcheil and Lorde Ketht, and ane Ry<sup>c</sup> honorabil man, Alexander Irwyn of y<sup>c</sup> Drum, It is appointit and accordit betuix Schir Alex<sup>r</sup>. Symson, vicare of Banquhoriterne, and Johne Stalkar, man and servand to y<sup>c</sup> said Lord, Erle Marschele, and Alex<sup>r</sup>. Irwyn. That no<sup>v</sup>vy<sup>t</sup>standing y<sup>c</sup> said Jhone Stalkari's clame of intress and possession in and to y<sup>c</sup> bell of Sanct ternen, callit y<sup>c</sup> ———, be the reson of heritage, pertenning, and ———, to him be his vife, the said John has never-y<sup>c</sup>less, for him and his viffe, be consent of her, renuncit and frely gewyn over all ry<sup>t</sup> and clame of entress yat he or his viffe haid, has, or may hawe in tyme cuming, to y<sup>c</sup> said Schir Alex<sup>r</sup>. and his successouris, vicaris of Banqoriterne. And estyr y<sup>c</sup> deliverans and rasat of y<sup>c</sup> said bell, the said Schir Alex<sup>r</sup>., considering y<sup>c</sup> expensis and laboris sustenit be y<sup>c</sup> said Jhone, and y<sup>c</sup> povertie of hym," grants him the said bell, with the "profiteis and pertinentis of y<sup>e</sup> samyn, for y<sup>c</sup> soume of fourty schillingis Scottis monie," and makes the croft, "callit y<sup>c</sup> deray croft," (supposed to be a part of the present glebe,) "fre to be till hyme for all y<sup>c</sup> dais of his lyff." To this agreement "Alex<sup>r</sup>. Burnett of y<sup>c</sup> Leys, and Alex<sup>r</sup>. Frysser of y<sup>c</sup> Durris," are witnesses.—(Regist. Capell. eccl. Cathed. Aberdon. f. 103.)

In 1528, the present Castle of Crathes was built by a son of the above Alexander Burnett; and, in 1576, the castle of Tilwhilly, by John Douglas, great-grandson of David, the first laird. The old manse, it is believed, was erected about the same, or a somewhat earlier period, for the use of the "vicaris of Banquhoriterne." It still shows traces of the insecurity of the times, and of the comparative splendour which the church then maintained.

In 1562, was fought a battle between Queen Mary's forces, under the Earl of Moray, and the Earl of Huntly, in the "Howe of Corrichie," a glen in the hill of Fare. The place, at first view, seems but a small opening, giving vent to a torrent on the southern side of the hill; but turning rather abruptly to the left, it presents a spacious hollow about two miles in length, stretching into the very centre of the hill, with steep sides and a marshy bottom. "Vpoun the xxviij of October," says the "Diurnal of Occurrences," (p. 73. Ed. 1839), "my lord of Huntlie was lyand with ane army of his folkis at Lochskene, to the number of viijc men, to have cumin aganies my lord of Murray and vtheris quha was with the Queni's grace," (on her return from Inverness), "and coun-

salit hir hienes to put the said earle to the horne. The gentilmen of the cuntrey past the samyn day furth of Abirdene in thair best array: and efter thaj haid chaisit the erle Huntlie and his cumpany sex myles fra Lochskene, to *ane place callit Correchie*, and skarmischand with him," (the fire of the arquebusses drove him to the low marshy level of the 'Howe,' and nearly the half of his followers left him in the night previous to the battle. Most of the country people, however, favoured him; and many in the ranks of his enemies had been corrupted by his means): "thaj send word to my lord of Murray to come with the Louthiane men quha wer thair at that tyme; quha come, and at their cuming, the wangaird maid thame the battell; bot incontinent thairefter, thaj fled (back) vpoun the gentilmen of Louthiane, and, as sum sayis, purposing to have causit thame to flie and to be ourrun, to the effect the erle of Huntlie mycht have obtinit the victorie; bot the said gentilmen of Louthiane stuid ferme still, and the said erllis cumpany, cumand vpoun the said gentilmene, was put vpon thair bakkis with speiris, and thairefter fled, quhair followit greit slauchter." On Huntly's side, 120 were slain, and nearly as many taken prisoners. Among the latter was the Earl, "who being aged and corpulent, and by reason of the throng which pressed him, expired in the hands of his takers." "He was tane by Andro Reidpath, one of our soverane ladie's gaird." The Queen herself is reported to have been present, and to have beheld the battle from a rocky seat overlooking the whole field, still called Queen Mary's Chair. In the bottom of the glen, there are several heaps, which seem to mark an encampment, and various cairns, which are easily distinguished from others beside them of a more ancient date. But on the north side of the estate of Glassel, where it is said the chief carnage took place, are several larger tumuli, which are supposed to be the graves of the Gordons overtaken in their flight. An old ballad, sometimes heard among the peasantry of the district, mentions, among others present on the Queen's side, the Burnetts of Leys, the Irvines of Drum, and the Frasers of Durris. It is certain that John Douglas of Tilwhilly obtained a pardon, under the Great Seal, for himself and his followers, for assisting Huntly in the battle. He was much befriended by Morton while Regent, who, on one occasion, is said to have lived *incognito* at his house of Tilwhilly, and passed under the name of "James the Grieve."

In 1557, John, Commendator of Arbroath, and the whole cou-

vent, signed a charter of resignation of the lands of Pittenkerrie, Brathens, Invery, and the kirk lands of Banchory, in favour of Alexander Burnett and his heirs-male, &c. ; which lands were incorporated into the barony of Leys, by a charter of James VI. 1595, containing a *novodamus* of the whole. In this condition, that estate, with the exception of the parts known under the names of Raemoir, Glassel, and Invery, remains with the descendants of its original proprietors. All the other properties in the parish have changed hands. The fourth son of the said Alexander Burnett was Gilbert, educated at the University of Aberdeen, and afterwards a Professor of Philosophy, first at Basle, and then at Montauban. He was held in such esteem, that a national synod of the Protestants in France appointed his philosophical writings to be published at the expense of their clergy ; but, he dying before his manuscripts were arranged, his book of Ethics only was printed.

In 1638, Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, who had been created a Baronet by Charles I., and who was the eldest brother of James Burnett of Craigmyle, from whom the Burnetts of Monboddo are descended, and of Lord Crimond, the father of Bishop Burnett of Salisbury, became one of the most conspicuous in the north against the measures of the Court ; and, with the lairds of Dun, Morphey, and Carnegie, proceeded through various districts as commissioner, and accompanied the Marquis of Montrose to Aberdeen, where they subscribed the Covenant with certain limitations, of which Dr William Guild, minister there, and Mr Robert Reid, minister of this parish, were the ostensible authors. He lived, however, on friendly terms with the heads of the opposite party, and finding, at length, that both sides were unreasonably determined on extremities, he retired from public life, and remained unmolested by either. He was a patron of learning, and mortified to the College of Old Aberdeen, "four crefts for three bursars of philosophy," the annual revenue of which has increased to L.318, 6s. 7d. He, besides, erected and endowed, conjunctly with Dr Alexander Reid, two schools in the village of Banchory, "a grammar-school for boys, and a sewing-school for girls." He also erected and endowed, with 6300 merks, an hospital or alms-house for six poor men or women, commuted afterwards into an annual allowance in money to the poor on the barony of Leys. Some of his manuscript papers and letters indicate a cultivated intellect, and a generous sympathy with the religion, liberty, and learning

of his country. His grandson, Thomas, the third Baronet, sat for Kincardineshire in the Scottish Parliament of 1708.

About 1647, Robert Douglas, brother of Sir Archibald Douglas, and son-in-law to Lord Audley, succeeded to the family estate of Tilwhilly, and, having accepted the honour of knighthood and a high command from the Royalists, had his house here garrisoned by the Covenanters, and was himself obliged ultimately to retire to the continent with the ruin of all his property. His only daughter was married in 1665 to George Crichton of Cluny, who erected, in 1666, Cluny Castle, now a small picturesque ruin on the estate of Raemoir, and whose name soon after ceases to be known in the parish. His grandson Gilbert, a companion of the Duke of Wharton's, left no issue, and the family estate passed to his brother, James Douglas of Inchmarlo, who, in 1650, had acquired that property from the Douglasses of Glenbervie, into whose hands it had fallen after the Reformation. The youngest son of this James Douglas was Archibald, a clergyman, who succeeded Bishop Burnet in the living of Saltoun, and who was the grandfather of Bishop Douglas of Salisbury.

On the 11th of September 1644, Montrose having crossed the Dee by the ford at Mills of Drum, and, having summoned the laird of Leys to surrender his house, which he immediately did, "supped with him the same night, together with his guard." Next day he marched down to Aberdeen, and defeated the Covenanters. Part of his soldiers' entrenchment is still visible in the castle grounds. The remains of his encampment on a subsequent occasion, probably when he ravaged the Barony of Echt in passing this way to Strathbogie, are to be seen not far from the entrance of the Howe of Corrichie, and are known by the name of "Montrose's dike." His reply to a poor widow, who, after his defeat in 1645, when he again visited the neighbourhood, reproached him with his former cruelty, is still repeated as a sort of proverbial saying by some old people here.

The register of the Barony Court of Leys between 1621 and 1709 is in existence, and contains much curious information of local interest. The majority of the suits refer to pecuniary transactions, but many are petty offences, and some public and private arrangements, such as, 1. "deforcing officiaris;" "stricking and dinging;" "hurting, wounding, and bluid-shedding;" "comitting ane ryatt;" "making ane struggle;" "flytting and bakbyting;" "being ane unlawfu' and infamous man;" "appealing from the

laird's court;" "pick-locking ane house;" "steiling of fruit;" "braking doun dykis of parkis and woodis;" "cuting grass in plantations and green wood," &c. 2. "Absence from the wapin-schaw;" "discerning the haill tennentis in the barrony to be at the place appointit for haddin out the hielandmen:" "obliging the haill tennentis to go to the service of the camp for the defens of the country." (1640). 3. "Ordaining tennentis to wark thair irne wark with James Smith, and to pay him thair smyddy bow zeirly." "Discerning brewsteris to furnisch the laird's steward with barm for makkin and bakin sufficient bread," &c.

The punishments are,—“the price of ane quart of ale; 20 sh.; 40 pundis Scotis; loss of moweables; escheiting of hail guidis to the laird; sitting 24 howris in the stokkis; banischment from the laird's landis, and pulling down the hous of the offender,” &c.

The court sat about four times a year, and the average number of cases was 27.

*Eminent Men.*—The first minister of this parish after the Reformation was Mr James Reid (cir. 1580), a younger son of Mr Reid of Pitfoddels, a gentleman of very ancient family in the county of Aberdeen. He was succeeded by his son Robert (1620); subsequently by Alexander Cant, a relation of the celebrated Andrew; and afterwards by his great-grandson Mr Robert Reid (1662). “James Reid,” says Gordon of Rothiemay, “was a man of a notable head-piece for witte, and the most part of his children were men of extraordinar qualifications.” His son, Thomas, studied under Lipsius, and, after travelling over Europe, he became Greek and Latin secretary to James I., and lived in habits of intimacy with some of the most distinguished characters of that period. He collected in a volume and published the theses which he had defended at foreign universities, (*De objecto Metaphysicæ*, London, 1616), and some of his Latin poems were inserted in the *Deliciae Poet. Scot.* Barclay gives his paraphrase of the 104th Psalm a high place among the efforts which were made by the eminent scholars of the time to clothe that beautiful hymn in a Latin dress; “et propter elegantiam carminis, et propter expressionem prophetæ mentis præ cæteris, et propter antiquitatis et doctrinæ non obscura argumenta.” Dempster also praises him as “a man of great eminence.” He bequeathed to the Marischal College of Aberdeen a collection of books and MSS., with a fund for establishing a salary to a librarian. His brother, Dr Alexander Reid, was

Physician to Charles I., and published several works on anatomy and surgery, (1634–1639.) “*Inter medicos Londinenses,*” says Professor Smith, “*sui temporis primus habitus splendide vixit, immensas congegit opes, et stupenda reliquit pietatis suae monumenta.*” Besides other valuable donations during his lifetime, he bequeathed to the College of Old Aberdeen “L.200 Sterling, the yearly profit of L.100 to come to the help of the grammarier’s stipend, and the other for the help of the regents’.” He left also his whole medicine books for the College library,” (Alb. Colleg. Abdn.) He mortified for the use of a grammar school in Banchory 4000 merks, and 1800 for the maintenance of a woman’s school. He also left the annual rent of L.100 to the poor, and of the same sum to the minister of the parish. A third son, John, translated into English Buchanan’s History of Scotland. It was never published, but exists in manuscript in the University of Glasgow. In a preface to the first volume of a manuscript Calderwood, this John is said to have been “servitur and writer to Master George Buchanan.” Besides other eminent individuals descended from this family, was the distinguished Dr Thomas Reid, Professor of Moral Philosophy in Glasgow. His father, minister of Strachan, was a son of the above Mr Robert Reid, minister of this parish in 1662. The burial-place of the family is in this churchyard, where several of them lie interred; and a monument erected over them is kept in repair by the kirk-session, in terms of the bequest of one of them to the poor.

The session registers begin the 10th of May 1670, those previous to that date having been destroyed, “first, in the burning of the schoole, 1664, and lately by the burning of the schoolmaster’s chamber.” There is a blank between October 1677 and November 1682. A separate register for baptisms and marriages commences 1682. Nothing in these records requires particular notice. There appears to have been, since the Reformation to 1830, eight incumbents in the parish, giving an average for each incumbency of 31.25 years.

It is a curious circumstance, that two ancient families, whose residences are in view of each other on opposite sides of the Dee, (Crathes Castle and Tilwhilly,) should each have given a prelate (Bishop Burnett and Bishop Douglas) to the same see (Salisbury) in the English church; both men eminent in their way as divines and as authors. It is also singular, that two of the ablest defences of Christianity against the scepticism of Hume should have

emanated from individuals connected with this parish (Dr Campbell's *Essay on Miracles*, and Bishop Douglas's *Criterion*.)

Dr Gilbert Burnett, Bishop of Salisbury, was the eldest son of Robert Burnett of Crimond, appointed one of the Lords of Session at the Restoration. He was born at Edinburgh, 18th September 1643, but was educated in the country under his father, until his tenth year, when he entered the college at Aberdeen. After the usual courses he took his degree, before he was fourteen years of age, along with James Gregory, the celebrated inventor of the reflecting telescope, (1657.) He then commenced the study of civil and feudal law; but, relinquishing it after a year, devoted himself wholly to divinity, with such diligence and success, that, before he was eighteen, he was licensed as a probationer or preacher of the Gospel, and was offered by his cousin-german, Sir Alexander Burnett, the living of this parish. He refused, however, to accept it on account of his youth, and, wisely bent on improving himself, spent several years in the study of the best authors on divinity, in intercourse with some of the greatest and most learned men of the age, and in foreign travel, before he at length accepted from Sir Robert Fletcher, his father's friend, the living of Saltoun, in the county of Haddington. There he continued for five years, and discharged the functions of a parochial minister in an exemplary manner. An account of his subsequent eventful and important career, both in this country, and in England, must be sought in the several biographies written of him. The "*History of his own Time*," published after his death, 1724, has an account of his life by his youngest son, who was one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas. He published in his lifetime 58 single sermons, 13 treatises or tracts in divinity, 17 on the Papist controversy, 26 political and miscellaneous, and 24 historical and biographical. He kept up occasional intercourse with his relations in this place till his death; but only one or two unimportant letters of his have been preserved. He sent his portrait, painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller, to be kept in Crathes Castle, where it still remains; and he appointed the Baronets of Leys patrons of the bursaries which he left to the Marischal College of Aberdeen. The original sum was 1000 merks; but, in 1835, the stock amounted to L.1389, 12s. 8d., nearly the whole interest of which is paid to four bursars in arts, and two in divinity.

John Douglas, D. D., also Bishop of Salisbury, was born at Pittenweem, Fifeshire, 1721. His father, a respectable merchant,

was, as formerly intimated, the son of the youngest brother of John Douglas, Esq. of Tilwhilly. He commenced his education at Dunbar, but was soon removed to Oxford, where he was first entered as a commoner, and afterwards elected an exhibitor on Bishop Werner's foundation in Baliol College. Becoming a curate in 1747, he was recommended by a friend to the Earl of Bath as a travelling tutor to his son; and the history of his subsequent life is little else than a chronicle of the honours and preferments which were heaped upon him, chiefly through the patronage of that family. He received several livings in the church, and became, successively, Canon of Windsor and of St Paul's, President of Zion College, a Trustee of the British Museum, Bishop of Carlisle, and was ultimately removed to the See of Salisbury. He was a favourite in the Royal Palace, and an esteemed member of Dr Johnson's Club. Nothing is perhaps more remarkable in his long career, than his uniform good fortune. He died, May 1807, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. Before his preferment in England, he kept up intercourse with his relations at Tilwhilly, and visited them occasionally. His first literary work was the *Vindication of Milton from the Charges of Lauder*, 1750. The *Criterion of Miracles* was published four years afterwards. Besides these, he wrote two controversial treatises in theology, four in history, eight political pamphlets, five prefaces, or introductions with notes, &c. to books, two sermons, and one volume of travels, left in manuscript. His select works, consisting chiefly of the "*Vindication*," "*Criterion*," and an *Account of his Continental Tour*, were printed in 1 volume, 4to, with a life by his son.

Dr George Campbell, born 25th December 1719, was the son of the Rev. Colin Campbell, one of the ministers of Aberdeen. His father was a descendant of Campbell of Moy, who was a cadet of the family of Argyll; but of this parent he was deprived at nine years of age, and had the energy of his character early stimulated by difficulties into exertion and self-reliance. He studied at Marischal College, under the celebrated Blackwell; and having originally intended to follow the profession of the law, he subsequently became an apprentice to a Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh. Before, however, the term of his apprenticeship expired, he renounced that intention, and devoted himself to divinity. He began his theological studies in Edinburgh, and finished them in Aberdeen, where he was licensed as a preacher, 11th June

1746. After being two years a probationer, the reputation of his learning and ability attracted the notice of Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, who, though personally unacquainted with him, and unsolicited by any of Mr Campbell's friends, generously presented him with the living of Banchory. The date of his settlement is 25th November 1747. "It was while he held this charge," says his friend and biographer, Dr Keith, "that the powers of his mind began more fully to unfold themselves, and his character to rise in the opinion of men of learning. In a short time he was considered the best lecturer, or expounder of Holy Scripture in this part of the country. It was while explaining the New Testament to his parishioners, that he first formed a plan of translating the four Gospels, which he afterwards published; and it was in this country parish, long before any attention was paid in the north of Scotland to the niceties of grammar, that he composed a part of his *Philosophy of Rhetoric*." It appears that his celebrated *Dissertation on Miracles*, first drawn up in the form of a sermon preached before the synod, October 1769, was begun also in this place, and that the scenery and circumstances then existing around him afforded several of its illustrations. Only a few memorials of his incumbency exist, and but a few faint recollections of him remain among some of the oldest parishioners. An apartment, with a turreted window, in the old manse, is shown to strangers as his study; and the old oak pulpit, in which he preached, is still preserved. The session records show that, under his ministry, the former severity of kirk censures was somewhat relaxed; and a few trivial incidents mentioned, indicate, as might be expected, a firm and judicious management. The weak state of his health seems to have required his occasional absence, and, along with his studious habits, prevented those laborious exertions among his parishioners which distinguished some of his predecessors. It is still reported, and of this there are some traces in the register, that certain parties in the parish endeavoured to render his situation unpleasant, and that this, with his literary and philosophical tastes, made him desirous of a removal to town. After he had been here nine years, he became one of the ministers of Aberdeen, 23d June 1757. Subsequently he was made Principal, and afterwards Professor of Divinity in Marischal College. On the Sunday previous to his settlement in Aberdeen, he preached a farewell discourse to his congregation, from 2d Corinthians xiii. 11, which seems to have produced a

deep impression. An old man who died lately, used to refer to it as his earliest remembrance, and called it "the great greeting in the Kirk o' Banchory." The subsequent events of Dr C.'s life, and an account of his various writings, will be found detailed in the account of him prefixed to his "Lectures on Ecclesiastical History." The incidents we have noticed, minute and trivial as they may be, are yet, perhaps, not entirely without interest in considering the character of a man [whom Scotland justly boasts as one of her greatest philosophers, and the church regards as one of her ablest champions and brightest ornaments. "Reid," said Robert Hall of Leicester, "had a more vigorous and original mind than Stewart, but Campbell, I suspect, was superior to both. He could have done all that Reid or Stewart has accomplished, and neither of them could have written his 'Preliminary Dissertations' to his work on the Gospels." A sagacious acuteness was a prominent feature in his intellect. It is exhibited remarkably in some published specimens of his correspondence with Dean Tucker. A love of truth and fairness was a strong characteristic of his moral nature. "Purity, seriousness, and candour," said he, "are the only sure guides to the temple of religious truth." He had a high, but not a proud sense of the dignity belonging to personal worth, and there are evidences, not generally recognized, that at least at the close of his life, his inward practical sense of religion was deep and sincere. He died 6th April 1796, in the 77th year of his age.

*Land-owners.*—The principal land-owners are, Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, Bart.; William Innes, Esq. of Raemoir; Henry Lumsden, Esq. of Tilwhilly; Lieutenant W. B. Ramsay of Banchory Lodge; Anthony Mactier, Esq. of Durris; Duncan Davidson, Esq. of Inchmarlo; John Mitchell, Esq. of Forcett Hall and Glassel; and Colonel John Campbell of Blackhall. All these, except Mr Lumsden, Mr Mactier, and Colonel Campbell, have mansion-houses within the parish.

*Modern Buildings.*—Crathes Castle, the seat of the family of Leys, situated on a green bank, at the end of a ridge of wooded rocks, and embosomed among fine trees, is an imposing baronial structure, consisting of a tall square tower having ornamented turrets, in the Scotch castellated style, and of some modern additions. The walls are massive, and it was formerly considered capable of defence. The ancient hall or dining-room is in good preservation, and contains some family portraits painted by Jamieson.

The castle of Tilwhilly, built on the slope of a hill on the other side of the Dee, commands an extensive prospect towards Aberdeen. It is formed of several plain massive buildings, communicating with each other, and apparently erected at different periods without much plan. It ceased to be the residence of that branch of the Douglas family upwards of 100 years ago, and is now occupied by the tenant of the surrounding farm. It contains numerous apartments, and has a dark vault, formerly used, it is said, as a prison. The entrance of the whole is still furnished with the ancient grille and bar.

The other mansions are elegant and commodious modern buildings, remarkable chiefly for their interesting situations, and the beauty of their grounds. The villas, which are all situated along the Dee, display very considerable taste. The church, which existed at the Reformation, was placed in the burying-ground, near the brink of the river. The only remains of this ancient building are a fragment of the font, bearing the arms of the Abbey of Arbroath, and one or two other unimportant relics. It was rebuilt in 1775, and being found too small and inconvenient in 1824, it was removed a few hundred yards to a higher situation, on the opposite side of the public road. It is a plain substantial building, in the Gothic style, sufficiently neat and commodious within, but defective in having the tower in front too low, and in having neither a vestry nor porches behind.

The Bridge of Dee was first erected by public subscription in 1798. It consisted of a central wooden arch, 175 feet wide, having a smaller stone arch of half that width on each side, and a small supplemental one of 19 feet on the south bank. After the flood of 1829, it had fallen into such disrepair, that an iron truss arch was substituted for the wooden, at the expense of the trustees of the Stonehaven road. It is a singular but not a very commodious structure, and harmonizes but indifferently with its fine situation. The bridge of Feugh is a strong plain erection, agreeing tolerably well with its position. The material employed in these and other buildings within the parish is chiefly granite.

### III.—POPULATION.

The average number of annual births from 1700 to 1712 was 53, and of marriages, 14; while the average of births from 1830 to 1840 was 50, and of marriages, 16. The population must therefore have been, in 1700, about 2077.

In 1755, (according to Dr Webster,) it was	1736
In 1766, (Garden's Map,)	1990
In 1791, (Old Statistical,)	1340
In 1801,	1322
In 1811,	1559
In 1821,	1729
In 1831,	1972
In 1841,	2240

Making due allowance for some inaccuracy in the first three of these statements, the population would still appear to have been remarkably great here at the beginning of the last century, especially when it is considered that not more than one-third of the present arable land was then in cultivation, and its productive powers perhaps scarcely one-half. Almost all the grain raised was consumed at home. Even in 1758 there were but two carts in the whole parish. From 1650 to 1709, meal cost L.4 to L.10 Scots per boll; an ox, 12 merks; a sheep, 5 merks. Retainers, subtenants, and the occupiers of small patches of land are known to have been very numerous. The salmon of the Dee was plentiful, and constituted a considerable part of the sustenance of the labouring classes, who were, however, in some instances, in a wretchedly poor condition as respects the comforts and conveniences of life. The decrease between 1766 and 1791 is said to "have been owing to the emigration of the work people to the manufactories at Aberdeen; to some of the heritors taking large farms under their own management; to some of the farmers not choosing to have subtenants; and to a very uncommon mortality which prevailed in the winter of 1789." (Old Stat.) During this period a whole hamlet disappeared, in the northern part of the parish alone. The number of oxen employed in tillage fell to one-half; and the greatest part of about 150 acres, still bearing the marks of former cultivation, then became waste. The subsequent increase since 1801 beyond the common rate of augmentation, arises chiefly from the greater number of labourers drawn together by the spirited and constant improvements of the landlords; from the greater extent of surface brought into cultivation, affording many possessions entirely new; from the greater number of farm-servants thereby rendered necessary; from an increase of resident capitalists; and from the formation of a flourishing village.

The average number of births, for the last ten years, as already stated, was 50; of these, 5 were illegitimate. The average number of marriages, from 1831 to 1836, was 16, and of funerals, 43 nearly. In 1833, there were 5 still-born. In 1841, 380 persons

under sixteen, were attending school, and 62 persons in the parish were above 70 years of age. The whole population consisted of 1073 males, and 1167 females, inhabiting 501 houses, and constituting 535 families. Of these families, 26 are those of proprietors, capitalists, and professional men. About 125 are employed in trade and handicraft; 246 belong to occupiers of land, 12 of whom pay L.100 and upwards of rent; 46 pay L.50 and above; 17 between L.50 and L.20; 171 below L.20; nearly one-half of the whole of these occupiers of land are also labourers, and earn wages through a part of the year; 49 families are those of paupers, and the rest labourers and servants. The population, though mixed, is Celtic in its general character, spirit, and appearance; but there is no historical or traditional account of the Gaelic language having been spoken in the parish. No particular names seem at any time to have prevailed among the inhabitants; nor, with some exceptions, do the descendants of the same families appear to have remained within the parish since 1688.

Illicit distillation formerly prevailed to a great extent, and produced its baneful effects on the morals of the people; but it has been suppressed for many years. The floating of wood is an occupation which seems to have an unfavourable effect on the character and habits of those who engage in it; but, happily, very few here undertake this employment. Poaching is not remarkably common. There has been one criminal case from this place before the High Court of Justiciary, and fourteen before the Sheriff's Court during the last ten years. Nine of these were thefts committed by strangers in the parish; five were cases of assault by inhabitants.

#### IV.—INDUSTRY.

The number of imperial acres cultivated is 6069. About 665, now lying waste, might be brought into cultivation, and 9339 do not seem susceptible of improvement; 5234 are under wood, about 1000 acres of which might be profitably cultivated. The average rent of arable land is L.1, 0s. 6d. per acre. The valued rent of the whole is L.3664 Scots, and the actual rent, L.6273 Sterling. Grass for an ox or cow, during the season, on infield pasture, is L.2; for a sheep, 5s.; on outfield pasture, 17s. and 2s. respectively.

*Labour.*—The average wages of full-grown male farm-servants, hired by the year, are L.12, and of full-grown female, L.5, 10s., besides their maintenance, which, for the former, is valued at L.8, 10s., and for the latter, at L.6, 10s. The hire of boys and girls in agricultural families is L.6 and L.3, and their board is reckoned

at L.6. Of all these kinds of agricultural labourers and assistants, there are at present 156 men, 115 women, 100 boys, and 66 girls; the hire and maintenance of whom, together with those of 240 occupiers of the soil (about ~~one-half~~ of whom are permanently, and the other occasionally, employed in tilling their own ground,) will represent the annual average value of labour employed in agricultural production; when there are added to this L.402 for additional work in harvest, and also the expense of the keep and labour of 252 agricultural horses.

Day labourers have in summer, men, 1s. 8d., and in winter, 1s. 4d.; women, 8d. to 10d. Of these, 82 men, at a yearly average, are permanently employed by the land-holders alone, and the amount of wages paid them is about L.1918. Artisans receive 2s. 6d. per day in summer, and 2s. 2d. in winter. More than 125 persons are employed in trade and handicraft.

*Cattle.*—The number of oxen, or dry cattle kept at present in the parish, is 793; of cows, 735; and of calves or yearlings, 714. The oxen and cows are generally of the Aberdeenshire breed; some of the Teeswater, lately introduced, are not found to answer so well. The number of farm-horses is 252, and of others, 23. There are 2108 sheep, mostly of the Highland black-faced breed, and 266 pigs.

Much has been done for the improvement of cattle in this district by the Dee-side Agricultural Association,—a society composed of the proprietors and tenantry of this and eight surrounding parishes, to the number of eighty individuals, who hold cattle shows at least once a-year in this place, and distribute prizes to the amount of L.70 annually. The disease called red-water or moor-ill, proves here very injurious to the farmer's stock in some seasons, and apparently in some localities more than in others. It occurs most frequently in the winter months, but is not unknown in summer. It attacks various kinds of cattle; but cows, towards the end of pregnancy, or after calving, are more liable to it than others. Cattle from the Highland districts are seldom seized with it, probably from their hardy nature, and are therefore said to be *darn bred*. The discoloration of the urine and extreme constipation are its most prominent symptoms. Various causes are assigned for its occurrence. Some old people believe in the existence of a mysterious plant, called the *darn*, which gives rise to it, but which few of them yet profess to have seen. Most, however, agree in thinking that acid, or otherwise unwholesome food, is the prin-

cipal cause. An intelligent veterinary surgeon of the place ascribes it chiefly to too close confinement of the cattle in winter, to the use of frosty water, and to some irregularities and mismanagement in the supply of food. The treatment chiefly recommended is purgation.

The production and management of dairy produce is becoming a matter of some attention and importance; but the inferior quality of the cows, the pooriness of many of the pastures, and the want of a ready market, tend greatly to keep down its quantity and value. Bees do not thrive in the neighbourhood of the river, but in other parts they are successfully kept in considerable numbers.

Farm-houses and offices are here generally commodious and substantial, and daily becoming more so. They have 48 thrashing-machines belonging to them. There are 4 grain-mills in the parish, 4 saw-mills, 1 for turning the bobbins used in cotton manufactories, and 1 for carding wool and for the manufacture of a few coarse stuffs.

*Mode of Agriculture, &c.*—The seven years' shift was, some years ago, the rotation of cropping generally in use. Now, however, a great proportion of the farmers practise the five years' shift, and some are introducing the sixth. The scythe is almost universally used in reaping, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  returns for seed may be regarded as the general average. This average is greater than it was twenty years ago, before the adoption of recent improvements, but it is still kept low by the yearly increasing cultivation of new soils. The return varies from three to twelve fold throughout the parish. Towards the banks of the river, where gravel forms a large proportion of the soil, crops, though early, are generally light, and suffer greatly from drought. But towards the hills, where there is a stronger loam, they are often good, and sometimes tolerably heavy. Hay is frequently a deficient crop, but turnips and potatoes thrive well. When rain does not fall plentifully in June and July, the pastures present a miserable appearance, and generally the crop fails. A moist summer is, here especially, the farmers' delight. The proverbial saying on this part of Dee-side is, that "the land requires a shower every day, and two on Sunday." The expense of trenching and clearing an acre of new land averages £.17, 10s. Some proprietors undertake the whole of such improvements for their tenants, charging them with a rent of about £.1 per Scotch acre. Others trench

the ground, fill the drains, and put up the fences, without any additional charge of rent, and leave the tenant to do the rest. The leases are for nineteen years, and buildings and fences are now erected mostly at the landlord's expense, and upheld by the tenant. The practice of subletting, once prevalent, is almost unknown.

*Produce.*—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, according to the mean of two separate sets of returns, is

Grain and fodder, . . . . .	L.11,186	0	0
Green crops, . . . . .	5,730	0	0
Hay, . . . . .	4,107	0	0
Pasture land, outfield and infield, . . . . .	1687	0	0
Gardens, . . . . .	252	0	0
Woods, . . . . .	985	0	0
Fishings, . . . . .	65	0	0
Wool, . . . . .	192	0	0
Dairy produce, . . . . .	3122	0	0
Total, . . . . .	L.27,216	0	0

To this ought still to be added the produce of the cattle, or the value, at birth, of calves, lambs, and pigs, &c.

*Remarks.*—Since 1793, the date of the former Statistical Account, the agricultural improvements in this parish have been very rapid and considerable. Its rental has increased threefold, and the extent of its cultivated surface has been more than doubled, (even in 1806 it was but 2378 Scotch acres,) and the mode of conducting farming operations, which was then generally of the most slovenly and antiquated description, has come to embrace almost all the modern improvements. During the last twenty years especially, the landlords have expended a large capital in effecting important ameliorations, and done much, by their example and encouragement, to diffuse a spirit of improvement among their tenantry. But not a little still remains to be done. Besides the arable land which might yet be redeemed, from at least 1665 acres of waste pasture and wood of little value, and besides the planting of some parts of 9339 acres unfit for cultivation, a system of proper drainage is in many places greatly required. It is believed that, were the large low marshy tract extending through the north of the parish, bordering on the loch of Drum, and comprehending the loch of Leys, the course of the Canny and some other rivulets, thoroughly and properly drained by the co-operation of the proprietors interested, it would not only redeem a number of acres capable of profitable cultivation, but greatly benefit much of the neighbouring soil already cultivated, and

improve generally the climate. Out of 246 occupiers of land, 171, who pay only L.20 and under of rent, and more than 100 of whom look to other means besides the cultivation of their possessions for their support, seem a large proportion of that class of tenants who have neither capital nor labour to bestow on the soil, and who cannot be expected to develope or augment its productive powers. Besides other evils, it subjects the landlord to a heavy expense for unnecessary buildings, and proves in a great many instances a profitless and detrimental concern to the tenants themselves. The machinery of agricultural production might in several cases here do more work, and do it better at less cost; but a change in the size and number of farms, and consequently in the class of occupiers, obviously involves many considerable difficulties, and much time. It is admitted on all hands, that a rotation of cropping which breaks up the land frequently, is unsuitable to the soil here, of itself too friable and easily exhausted. It is thought, therefore, that the general adoption of the six year shift would be a desirable improvement; that by this system greater returns might be expected with less labour and expense, and that the soil would be kept "in better heart." As the rearing of cattle must always form a prominent feature in the agriculture of the district, it seems also desirable that their breeding and management, together with a systematic care of dairy produce, should receive still farther attention and improvement, of which, it is believed, they are greatly susceptible. The annual average value of a cow's produce here, exclusive of the calf, is scarcely L.4, while in some other districts it is L.8 or L.10, and in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen, L.13.

The economy and neatness of cottages are beginning to attract attention. It is the opinion of some practical gardeners, that orchards would form a profitable addition to them on this part of Dee-side. Several situations in the parish are admirably adapted for villas, and will, no doubt, be thus occupied in the course of a few years. The increasing accommodation required for strangers who come from a distance to lodge a few weeks in summer, and the diminishing number of cottars in the surrounding parts of the country, will probably very soon increase greatly the size of the village; but it is questionable whether this will prove a permanent benefit. A great improvement, which would tend to stimulate most others, would be a cheap and speedy mode of conveyance to and from Aberdeen. At present, the carriage of coals or lime costs from 2s. to 3s. per boll, and the greater part of two days are consumed in going and returning this distance of eighteen miles. A

railroad has lately been talked of; but it is evident that, if ever executed, it must be only as a part of a more distant and profitable transit.

#### V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Villages.*—In the immediate vicinity of the churchyard and the manse a few houses, generally styled “Townhead,” show the remains of the old village of Banchory, formerly, it is believed, of much greater extent. It is mentioned as existing in 1324, and it probably originated in the habitations required by the vicar or his curate and other assistants, who served the chapel of St Ternan in early Catholic times. It was the Kirktown. A broken stone cross, or small pillar, is seen in an area near the middle of it, and it appears from the register already mentioned, that the Barony Court of Leys was most frequently held in the place. The only road from Aberdeen on the north side of the Dee, forty years ago, passed through it, and it had then a flourishing inn. It now contains but the old manse, the two endowed schools, a farm-house and offices, and seven or eight labourers’ cottages.

The new or Arbeadie village was begun by three individuals in 1805, 1807, and 1809, who took in feu successively from one of the proprietors in all about twenty Scotch acres, which cost them 2s. 6d., 3s., and L.1 per acre, and for which they continue to pay in whole L.11, 4s. 6d. The ground is now sub-feued at the rate of L.12 to L.120 per acre. It has at present 50 houses, inhabited by 72 families, and contains a Dissenting chapel, a post-office, a prison, two schools, three inns, and in the immediate vicinity, a branch of the Bank of Scotland. It is the residence of a Dissenting clergyman, of a surgeon, of a feu-proprietor, of a constable, of a watchmaker, of a dancing master, of a coachman, of a carrier, of a letter-carrier, of a road-contractor, of a baker, of 2 plasterers, 2 gardeners, 2 schoolmistresses, 3 innkeepers, 3 shopkeepers, 3 floaters, 3 weavers, 4 shoemakers, 4 tailors, 4 carpenters, 4 sawyers, 13 labourers, and 20 servants.

*Societies.*—There are six associations for various purposes in the parish,—the “Dee-side Agricultural Association,” already mentioned, with 80 members; the “Banchory Horticultural Society,” with 51; a lodge of “Odd Fellows,” with 30; a “Rechabite Tent,” with 25; an “Abstinence Society,” with 200; a “Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge,” with about the same number; an “Association for the Distribution of Religious Tracts,” with seven distributors.

*Fairs.*—Six annual fairs are held here, one in each of the following months,—February, March, June, July, August, December. That in June, St Ternan's, the most ancient, is attended by about 500 to 600 venders, who pay custom; the one in March, by 300 to 400; the rest by only 100 to 200. The numbers frequenting them are falling off, from other fairs having been established in all parts of the neighbourhood.

*Roads.*—The village is distant from Aberdeen exactly eighteen miles, with which it communicates by a direct central road passing through it, and extending to Braemar. Parallel to this, and communicating with it near the church by a cross road from Raemoir, is a turnpike running along the base of the Hill of Fare for five miles, and connecting the northern parts of this and the neighbouring parish of Kincardine with Aberdeen through Skene, &c. Another turnpike leaves the village on the south, and passing the Dee immediately below, and shortly afterwards the Feugh, by the bridges already noticed, it occupies the south bank of the river for about a mile, and then diverges across the Grampians to the county town, Stonehaven, sixteen miles distant, while from the point of divergence a new turnpike continues along the Dee to Aberdeen. From the Bridge of Feugh a county road passes up the side of that stream for two miles, and, crossing the Grampians at the pass of Cairn o' Month, reaches Fettercairn, seventeen miles distant. A considerable transit takes place on this route during summer, in driving cattle from the fairs in Garioch and Buchan to the southern markets. A mail-coach passes through the village daily; and a stage-coach during one-half of the year leaves it for Aberdeen every morning, and returns at night. There are also eight carriers who leave the parish weekly for that place, most of whom generally take with them a load of timber, and bring back coal, lime, and other goods in return. Wood, both in rafts and in single pieces, are transmitted hence by the Dee in every favourable state of the flood; and large quantities are seen passing this from the upper districts.

*The Church* is conveniently situated for the majority of the parishioners. A few families, however, at the extreme limits, are nearly five miles distant from it. It affords accommodation for about 1300 persons. It has no free unappropriated sittings. Several of the heritors have more of the area allotted to them than is required for their own tenantry; but it is fully occupied by the

surplus tenantry of others, and by the inhabitants of the village, for whose accommodation it has hitherto been *let*. The present *manse* was built in 1798. It received a small addition about 1803, and twelve years ago still farther additions and repairs. The *glebe* wants more than a fourth of an acre of its legal size, and is of the ordinary value of the fields in its neighbourhood,—L.2 per acre. In 1835, the Court of Teinds modified the *stipend* at 136 bolls of meal, and the same number of barley; but the teinds of the parish were found to be exhausted by 126 bolls of each.

There is here a chapel of Independents, or Congregational Dissenters, attended by about nine families within, and five without the parish, and having in all fifteen to twenty communicants, who on ordinary occasions constitute nearly the whole congregation. Five families belong to the Episcopalian, one to the Roman Catholic, and one to the United Secession Church. Divine service in the parish church is remarkably well attended in the forenoon. The number of communicants averages 1000. The annual amount of collections for missionary and educational purposes is about L.12, and nearly as much is collected for the Aberdeen Infirmary and other charities. A strong movement took place in this parish about three years ago in favour of temperance, which led to the formation of two associations, the Total Abstinence Society, and the Rechabite Tent. There can be little doubt that these societies have, on the whole, exerted here a beneficial effect on formerly existing opinions and practices respecting the use of liquors, and have spread their salutary influence into some of the surrounding districts. The association for the distribution of religious tracts circulates 400 monthly.

*Education.*—The total number of permanent schools is 10. Of these 3 are parochial, 2 are endowed, 1 supported partly by subscriptions, and the others depend entirely on their teachers' own exertions. The three parochial schoolmasters, besides their fees, have the maximum salary of L.51, 6s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. divided among them, with houses, and gardens, &c. rent-free. One of them, who is also teacher of the boys' school endowed by Sir Thomas Burnett and Dr Reid, receives thereby in addition L.16. The fund mortgaged by the same individuals for the maintenance of a girls' school yields the schoolmistress about L.4, 10s. a-year. Another girls' school, lately established in the new village, has hitherto been supported by subscriptions to the extent of L.18 a-year; but it is understood that, after two years, all support additional to the

school-fees is to cease. The whole amount of fees paid within the parish is about L.175; and the total expense of education L.310. In all these schools, instructions are given in reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and history. In one of the girls' schools, French and music; and in the three parochial, Latin, geometry, and land-surveying, are also occasionally taught. A careful and regular system of teaching is practised in nearly all of them; and the method of mutual instruction, by question and answer among the pupils themselves, has been very extensively and very successfully applied to almost every subject of their education. The number of schools ten years ago was four, and of scholars attending them about 150. At the presbyterial examinations on 1st March 1842, 395, or more than one-sixth of the population, were present in all the day-schools, while upwards of 400 children were, at the same period, attending six Sunday schools, constantly taught in the parish throughout the year. These numbers, however, decrease during summer to nearly one-half. Parents here are very generally alive to the benefits of education for their children, and a decided change for the better has taken place, especially among the young, since the facilities of education were increased, and its quality improved. In truth, a very considerable desire for general information exists even among adults, to satisfy which an association was formed two years ago for the dissemination of useful knowledge, and lectures on scientific subjects were delivered here and in other places, which met with great success, and were listened to with deep interest. An attempt has also been lately made to cultivate a more general taste for music by the formation of an instrumental band. This promises to be useful, both in raising the pleasures of some, and in rendering others capable of still higher pursuits. A parochial library has existed for many years, and consists of upwards of 400 volumes, chiefly on religious and historical subjects.

The *Poor's Funds* consist, 1st, of the collections made in the parish church (the average annual amount of which, exclusive of those allotted for other purposes, has been for the last three years L.100;) 2d, of the Leys mortification, yielding annually L.15, 15s.; 3d, of the interest of L.100 mortified by Dr Alexander Reid, physician to Charles I.; of L.100 by Mr Alexander Shanks of Castlerigg, a son of one of the ministers; of L.50 by Dr George Reid of London; and of L.50 by Mrs Aberdeen of Glassel; and, 4th, of occasional donations, mortcloth dues, and some accumu-

lated savings. The whole produces an annual average revenue of L.201, 18s.

The average number of poor from 1700 to 1709 inclusive was 68. The average sum given to each yearly was L.2, 10s. Scots, or 4s. 2d. Sterling. The population, as already noticed, was then about 2077. In 1793, the poor were 80 in number, while the whole population was but 1340, and the whole annual amount of collections L.19, 10s., and the interest of mortifications L.32, 10s., affording an average allowance to each pauper of 13s. The number of poor now on the roll has averaged, since 1838, 65, and the total number relieved annually has been 85. The allowance to each in 1840, exclusive of lunatics, was L.1, 13s.

The disposition to refrain from seeking parochial relief in reduced circumstances among persons here, who have belonged to the class of day-labourers or small farmers, is by no means great, although occasional instances of it do occur. The tendency among those just able to support themselves, to leave their poor relations to the assistance of the parish, is rather on the increase. But much charity is given in private, not only by the rich, but by the middle and even the poorer classes themselves. Were it otherwise, paupers could not subsist on the pittance which they now receive from the parochial funds. Their diet generally consists of oatmeal and a little tea and sugar, which costs them nearly 1s. 8d. per week, to which they have to add 1d. for soap. In order to raise this sum of 3d. per day, female paupers, in ordinary health, besides their allowance of 1d. from the kirk funds, have recourse to knitting, which is distributed to them monthly by an agent of one of the woollen manufacturers in Aberdeen. But the utmost that they can make at such work is only another 1d. per day. Private charity, therefore, must either make up to them the value of the remainder, or they must renounce their tea and sugar, and live chiefly on oatmeal, which many of them actually do. They are, besides, entirely indebted, in a great many instances, to private benevolence, for clothing, winter fuel, and house rent, and for attendance and medicine when sick. Many praiseworthy acts of disinterested kindness are performed for them on such occasions, by their almost equally poor neighbours, and that often at the sacrifice of not a little personal comfort and ease. Male paupers, unable for field labour, have here no resources in in-door work; but they form only one-fifth of the whole number, and are all members of families who contribute to their support.

*October 1842.*