

PARISH OF LUNDIE AND FOWLIS.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNDEE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNS.

THE REV. THOMAS IRVINE, MINISTER.

LUNDIE and Fowlis have long been united into one parish. In the former Statistical report, the union is said to have been effected by decree of the High Commission in 1618. But as they are situated in different counties, as each maintains its church, its own school, and its own poor, and as they are in the hands of different proprietors, and differ much in their situation and aspect, it may be advisable, to a certain extent, to describe them separately.

LUNDIE—COUNTY OF FORFAR.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Boundaries.—Lundie lies at the head of the valley of the Dighty,

and is bounded on the north by the Sidlaw hills, which divide it from Kettins and Newtyle; on the east, by Auchterhouse; and on the south and west by Fowlis. It is about 3 miles in length, and 2 in breadth. On the west, north, and east, it is encompassed by hills, and the boundary line runs along the ridge, except the farm of Ledcrieff, the property of Lord D. G. Hallyburton, which lies to the north, and runs down to the valley of Strathmore. The centre of the parish, however, is not hilly, though it swells out into beautiful undulations; and it is diversified by several lakes. There is still a want of wood, and were this supplied, the natural features of the district, which are excellent, would appear to much more advantage. The cultivated part of the parish averages 550 feet above the sea, from which it is distant sixteen miles, and from the Frith of Tay seven miles. The Sidlaw hills rise about 300 feet higher, and at their base is a chain of four lakes, still of considerable extent, though much lessened by draining, from which the Dighty water takes its rise in two streams, which unite in the parish of Auchterhouse, three miles below. The whole of the parish is arable, except the sides of the Sidlaw hills, which are healthy pasture. The climate is still moist, though very much improved of late by draining. The quantity of rain is rather above the average from the proximity of the hills which attract the clouds, from the large valley that lies beyond. The heat is comparatively great in summer in reference to the elevation, in consequence of reflection from the higher ground, which also serves to defend the valley from the currents of air. The winter is necessarily cold, but the air is pure, and generally free from hoar frost, and the inhabitants are healthy, and several instances occur of their attaining great age.

The four lochs above-mentioned abound in perch, pike, and eels. Lundie loch formerly covered at least 100 acres, but it was to a great extent drained about thirty years ago, by a tunnel of 417 yards in length, and it now covers only eight acres. A considerable quantity of marl was found, and the land reclaimed is valuable. The Long Loch is about half-a-mile long, and a quarter of a mile broad. Pitlyal Loch and the Loch of Balshandie are of much smaller extent. The Balshandie and Lundie lochs give rise to the western, and the Long and Pitlyal lochs to the eastern branch of the Dighty water, already mentioned, which, of course, is here but a small streamlet.

The soil, from the variety of surface in the parish, is necessarily

various. For the most part, however, it is a deep, free, black soil, capable of raising all kinds of crop, though, from the elevation, wheat is sown but sparingly. On the higher grounds, it is thin and sharp, and in the low grounds large tracts of marshy land, formerly a nuisance, and now of great value, have lately been reclaimed by draining. This has had the double effect of adding considerably to the extent of cultivation, and of improving the surrounding district by its favourable influence on the climate, which is thus rendered earlier, and less liable to mildew. Few parishes have made more rapid progress than this during the last twenty years, and, in point of draining, enclosing, and farm-steadings,—these great essentials in agriculture,—it will compare advantageously with districts more favoured by nature. At least 100 acres more will ere long be put with profit under the plough.

Mineralogy.—The district affords nothing particularly attractive to the mineralogist. In the lower part, the common gray freestone prevails, and the surrounding hills are mostly trap, resting on freestone, confirming the idea generally adopted, that they have been thrown up from beneath by the action of fire.—The zoologist will find all the animals common to such a district, with one addition somewhat rare, namely, a beautiful and powerful game hawk that frequents the Crag of Lundie, and breeds there. This splendid bird, however, is not likely to be long a denizen, as he is sadly out of favour with the gamekeepers.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—The whole parish belongs to the ancient family of Duncan of Lundie, now the noble family of Camperdown, except one small farm—Ledcrieff, lying to the north of the Sidlaw hills, which belongs to Lord Douglas Gordon Hallyburton, M. P. for the county, and brother of the present Marquis of Huntly.*

Eminent Men.—*Admiral Lord Viscount Duncan.*—The name of this eminent individual is familiar to every reader of British History, and his connexion with the parish of Lundie is, that his parents generally resided at Lundie Castle, in the parish; that during his life he was almost sole proprietor, and that he is buried in the family burying place in this church-yard. He was born in Dundee on the 14th July 1731. His father was Alexander Duncan, Esq. of Lundie. His mother was the heiress of Glen-

* 1842. Now succeeded by his nephew, Lord John Frederick Gordon, third son of the Marquis of Huntly.

eagles, in Perthshire, lineally descended from Duncan Earl of Lennox, and in consequence of this connection, the valuable estates of the Gleneagles family now belong to the Earl of Camperdown. Admiral Duncan entered the naval service under Captain Robert Haldane, his relative, but was soon removed to the ship of Captain, afterwards Lord Keppel, under whom he rose from midshipman to post-captain, to which rank he was promoted in 1763. After signaling himself under Keppel, at the Havanah, where he was wounded, under Rodney at Cape St Vincent, and under Lord Howe in 1782, where in the *Blenheim* of ninety guns he led the larboard divisions of the fleet against the combined fleets of France and Spain, he was promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the Blue in 1787; and on the breaking out of the Revolutionary war in 1794, he was appointed by Earl Spencer to the command of the North Sea fleet.

At this period, a large Dutch fleet was collected in the Texel, for the purpose of co-operating with General Hoche, who was waiting the first opportunity of invading Ireland with 40,000 men. During the arduous and anxious service of watching the motions of this formidable armament, the mutiny of the *Nore* occurred, and gave rise to what will long be remembered as the most critical period of British naval history. Though surrounded with a general spirit of determined insubordination, which first commenced in the channel fleet at Spithead, Admiral Duncan, by his personal intrepidity, combined with the influence of his character among all classes, succeeded in quelling the mutiny in the *Venerable*, which bore his flag; and, deserted though he was by every ship in the fleet except the *Adamant*, adopted the daring but successful expedient of blockading the passage from the Texel with the two ships, practising, from time to time, the *ruse* of making signals, as if his fleet had been in sight, instead of lying ingloriously inactive in the power of mutineers. This stratagem could not have lasted long, but it served his purpose till some of his misguided fleet joined him; and it was his determined and declared resolution never to quit his post, nor permit the Dutch fleet to pass the narrow channel which he occupied, without the most determined resistance. On one occasion, information was brought to the Admiral by one of his officers, that the whole of the enemy's fleet was in motion to force the passage, thus intimating, no doubt, that his only safety was in flight. Instead of answering, he ordered the lead to be hove, and, on hearing the depth of water, calmly re-

plied, "Then when they have sunk us, my flag will still fly." It would be difficult to estimate sufficiently the effect of such steady and intrepid conduct on the part of the admiral of the fleet, or of the dignified composure with which he bore a misfortune such as had never befallen a British Admiral in the sight of an enemy. At length the deluded men returned to their duty, and not long after, an opportunity was afforded them of wiping off the memory of their defection, in the triumphant battle of Camperdown.

The Admiral's ship had been eighteen weeks at sea, and several others had suffered much from recent gales, and were also in need of provisions and repairs. Thus circumstanced, the Admiral put into Yarmouth roads on the 3d October 1797, to refit and revictual, leaving a squadron of observation on the Dutch coast. On the 9th, information reached him that the enemy's fleet, was at sea. On the 11th, at noon, he brought them to close action, off Camperdown, as they were seeking to regain the port, and of the sixteen sail of the line with which the Dutch Admiral began the fight, nine, including the Admiral and Vice-Admiral's ships, and two frigates, became the reward of a very gallant and hard-fought action on a lee shore and an enemy's coast, and with a fleet, every ship of which, except two, had lately been in open mutiny.

This important and seasonable victory was duly appreciated by the Sovereign and the nation. A patent of Baron of the United Kingdom had already been made out, though not signed, for his intrepid conduct, and eminent services during the mutiny at the Nore; but his title was now changed to that of Viscount, and he received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament, and presents and addresses from many places, amongst others the freedom of the city of London, and a sword of two hundred guineas value, and, with expressed reference to this victory, his son was raised to the rank of Earl, under the title of Camperdown, at the coronation of William IV., who was an intimate acquaintance and great admirer of Admiral Lord Duncan.

After the victory he survived nearly seven years, and died suddenly on the 4th August 1804, at Cornhill, on his way to Scotland. His remains are interred in this churchyard, in the family burying-place, and the spot is, at his own request, marked by a plain marble slab, bearing this inscription, written by himself, "Adam, first Viscount Duncan, Admiral of the White Squadron

of his Majesty King George the Third's fleet, born 14th July 1731, and died 4th August 1804." His Lordship married Henrietta, daughter of the Lord President Dundas, by whom he had a large family, and his estates and honours are inherited by his son, Robert, the present Earl of Camperdown, who, as already mentioned, is almost sole proprietor of the parish, under whose judicious management it is rapidly increasing in value and beauty.

In a handsome mausoleum adjoining the church are also interred Sir William Duncan, Bart., M. D., a cadet of the Lundie family, and Lady Mary Tufton, daughter of Sackville, Earl of Thanet, his wife. Sir William was bred a physician, and practised for some time in London, where he captivated the affections of the lady who afterwards became his wife. Soon after their marriage, they went to the East Indies, where Sir William realized a large fortune, with which he returned to London and lived in great splendour, and enjoyed the honorary distinction of Physician to the King. On his death, which occurred in 1789, Lady Mary caused the mausoleum to be built for him here, and left orders for her own remains being laid beside her husband, she survived him several years, but they left no family.

FOWLIS—COUNTY OF PERTH.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

The parish of Fowlis, sometimes called Fowlis Easter, to distinguish it from Fowlis Wester, in the neighbourhood of Crieff and in the same county, lies south from Lundie, commencing at the summit of the Braes of the Carse of Gowrie, and sloping gently downwards till it terminates at Benvie, in the level of the Carse. It is bounded on the north, by Lundie; on the east, by Liff; on the south, by Benvie united to Liff; and on the west, by Benvie and Longforgan. Its length may average 3 miles, and its breadth $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile. The land is generally of the best quality; the exposure, as mentioned, to the south, and the slope gentle. It commands a beautiful view of the Carse of Gowrie, near the eastern extremity of which it lies,—of the Frith of Tay, and of the opposite shores of Fife, and thus, in point of situation, of soil, of natural beauty, and of command of rich and varied scenery in every direction, few places can excel it. It was long the family residence of the noble family of Gray, afterwards of the Murrays of Fowlis, now of Ochtertyre. But it has been forsaken for the latter place,

and what remains of the Castle of Fowlis, their former residence, is now in a ruinous state, and inhabited by a few families of the poorest description.

The parish contains 2348 acres, of which 1493 are arable, 160 wood, 260 good pasture, 264 moorland, the rest gardens, roads, &c. It is better supplied with hedge-row trees than Lundie, there is still a want of wood, though the land is admirably adapted for the growth of it, in proof of which it may be mentioned, that, a few years ago, four ash trees that stood near the old castle, sold by public sale for more than L.80.

There is only one hill in the parish, the Blacklaw, and that scarcely worth mentioning for its elevation, though it commands a beautiful and very extensive prospect.

Formerly, there was a lake in the upper part of the parish, of considerable extent, called the Piper dam, from a traditionary story that a piper was drowned in it. But it was drained for the sake of marl more than sixty years ago, and nearly all that remains of it is now a reedy marsh, famous for the quantity of wild water fowl that frequent it at all seasons of the year, more especially in the winter. It still, however, serves as a reservoir for regulating the supply of water for a meal-mill, a wool-mill, and several thrashing-mills on the small stream that issues from it, and falls into the Frith of Tay at Invergowrie.

Since the prices of grain have so much declined, a considerable quantity of land formerly under the plough has been thrown into grass, and, under present circumstances, there is little prospect of its being taken up, as it affords profitable pasturage, being well watered and enclosed.

The climate of Fowlis is excellent. The quantity of rain is rather below the average, owing to the showers from the west being attracted from it by the Sidlaw hills on the north, and the Frith of Tay on the south. The district is very healthy, and presents many instances of persons attaining a great age. The whole parish abounds with gray freestone of the very best quality for every purpose, but affords few other mineralogical specimens. The den of Fowlis, a beautiful and romantic wooded ravine stretching southwards, a mile from the church, is a favourite resort of botanists, not that it is known to afford any specimens nowhere else to be found, but because it presents many that are rather rare, in great perfection; and affords a greater variety than is usually found in so limited a spot.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Previous to 1377 Fowlis was in possession of the Mortimer family. At that time this barony passed into the family of Gray, in consequence (as appears from a charter of this date) of the marriage of Sir Andrew Gray of Broxmouth with Janet, daughter of Sir Roger Mortimer. From the Grays it came by sale into the possession of the Murrays of Ochtertyre, where it remains, and the present Sir William Keith Murray is sole proprietor. The burial-place of the Noble family of Gray, however, is still in the east end of the church, and the part that is appropriated to this purpose has lately been fitted up in the most gorgeous style of Gothic architecture. The writer of this notice has no means of ascertaining the exact time of this being first used as the burial-place of the Grays, nor the individual members of this family that lie there.

Parochial Registers.—Respecting the parochial registers of Lundie and Fowlis, it may suffice to state, that they began at a very early period, 1667, and are kept together till 1701; but during this period many blanks occur, and for some of them apologies are inserted at the time. Since 1701, each district of the parish has had its own register, and they are pretty correct. About eight years ago a register of deaths was added to those previously in use; but a perfectly accurate set of registers will never be had till there be a compulsory enactment, as there are still many parents who are backward in intimating the births of the children.

We shall now notice the two districts of the parish jointly.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the united parish, though wholly agricultural, has fluctuated considerably, both in its amount, and in the relative proportions of the districts.

In 1755, the united parish contained				586 inhabitants.
1790,	Lundie, 394	Fowlis, 314	=	648
1821,	401	408	=	809
1831,	456	322	=	778
1837,	450	271	=	721*
1841,	448	286	=	734
No. of families,	86	54	=	140
Births from 1830 to 1835, inclusive,	78	57	=	135
Deaths same period,	28	21	=	49

It thus appears, that, during the last fifty years, Lundie has gained considerably in numbers, and that Fowlis, after gaining for

* This census was taken in the very middle of winter, when the population is below the average of the year. At that season many tradesmen and labourers retire to towns for better employment

a while, has fallen off. But both the one and the other can be satisfactorily accounted for. Both districts of the parish are wholly agricultural, and the fluctuation in the population depends on the greater or smaller number employed on the cultivation of the soil. Now Fowlis was one of those places where agricultural improvements took place at an early period, and it was long what is termed a grain district, requiring, of course, at all seasons of the year, many labourers. Of late the fall in the price of grain, and the comparative increase in the price of cattle, have caused a change in the mode of management, and a much greater proportion of grass, and thus considerably fewer hands work the farms, and the labourers, no longer employed, have removed elsewhere, and hence the decrease.

In Lundie, again, from the extensive existence of liferent leases, and other causes at an earlier period, improvement was late in commencing. Recently, it has gone on with much spirit;—a great demand has existed for manual labour, and hence the population has increased.

Like most districts of Scotland, where the population is wholly agricultural, the people are quiet, orderly, and religious, generally contented with their situation and circumstances, which are steadily improving, and happily free to a great extent from the spirit of discontent, and the habits of low debauchery which threaten to uproot society in most of our large towns and manufacturing villages. In many instances the inhabitants show a strong attachment to the place; and some families, both of farmers and cottars, can trace an unbroken connection with Lundie for more than two hundred years.

There are no resident proprietors, nor any prospect of their becoming such. Nor are we aware of any great change in the condition of the parish likely soon to arise, unless advantage shall be taken of some waterfalls in both districts to introduce manufactures. But to this all concerned seem at present to have a well-founded aversion.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Rent.—The valued rent of Lundie is L.1540, and of Fowlis, L.1640; total, L.3180. The real rent of the former, about L.2400, and of the latter, L.3100;* total L.5500. This is about the present average; but the exact sum fluctuates, owing to the rent being in part or wholly regulated by the price of grain.

* A few years ago the rental of Fowlis was L.4500. The decrease arises from grain rents.

The average rent of arable land in Lundie is from L.1 to L.1, 14s., and in Fowlis from L.1 to L.3. Lundie is divided into eighteen farms, from L.40 to L.300 of yearly rent; Fowlis into nine, besides several pendicles, varying from L.100 to L.800.

Live-Stock.—In this quarter the attention of the farmer is about equally divided between breeding and feeding black cattle, with a few sheep where they have hill pasture, and of late to a small extent on the low grounds. The breed is generally the native Angus, which is hardy, and feeds well. For some years back, a disposition has been shown to cross with the Teeswater or Ayrshire, and, to a smaller extent, to cultivate these breeds pure. The former gives a larger bone, and earlier maturity; the latter is meant to increase the quantity of milk. The number of cows in Lundie is about 120; in Fowlis, 93; and about 130 calves are reared every year in the former district of the parish, very few at present in the latter. About 113 work-horses in Lundie, and 56 in Fowlis, are employed daily; and saddle and young horses may amount to 20 more in each district. The number of sheep varies exceedingly, as several of the hills, (if such they are to be called,) are kept entirely for winter pasture, and let to the farmers among the Grampians, who remove their stock down during the winter storms. The others cultivate the black-faced generally. Of late the Cheviot is gaining ground; and on the arable land the Leicester breed is preferred. Swine are not kept to the extent they deserve,—scarcely in sufficient quantities for home consumption. One farmer in Lundie, and another in Fowlis, cultivate the dairy husbandry in preference to breeding and feeding, and carry their milk and butter to the Dundee market. At present it pays well; and the one keeps about 20 and the other about 40 milch cows.

Husbandry.—It is not necessary to enter into a minute detail of the state of husbandry, or the amount of annual produce, for so small a district, the more especially as it differs little in these respects from the neighbouring parishes. It may suffice to state, in general terms, that the most approved modes of husbandry are in general use; that both districts of the parish are, for the most part, thoroughly drained, generally enclosed with excellent stone walls, and well accommodated with farm-steadings; and that one farmer* has introduced the subsoil plough invented by Mr Smith of Deanston, an example which others will no doubt soon follow. In Fowlis all kinds of grain are grown in great perfection, and in the usual proportions. In Lundie wheat is sparingly sown, on account

* Mr Alexander Smith, Wester Keith.

of the elevation. Oats and barley thrive well; and both districts yield the most abundant green crops, which are largely cultivated, to the entire exclusion of summer fallow, which is now scarcely seen. There is, however, on account of the elevation of Lundie, a difference of about six days in the time of commencing harvest. Formerly it was much more; but drainage, improved general farming, and better seed have done much to lessen it.

The usual rotation of cropping is what is called fives, that is, oats, green crop, wheat, barley, or oats, according to circumstances, and two years grass, the first year partly cut for hay.

It has been already stated, that the parish is wholly agricultural, and of course it includes only the tradesmen necessary for the service of the inhabitants. Of these it has a fair supply. Nor is it necessary to make an exception of the very few who act as labourers during the summer, and employ the winter in weaving for the Dundee manufacturers; or of the females, who have a loom in their cottage, to which they betake themselves when out-door labour is scarce. This is on so limited a scale, that it is not worthy of farther notice.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There is no market-town, and not even a village in the parish. The nearest is Cupar-Angus, distant six miles. But Dundee, though distant from Lundie nine miles, and from Fowlis six miles, is the market-town, both for buying and selling; and for either purpose it is one of the best in the kingdom. The Dundee and Cupar-Angus turnpike intersects the parish, and affords an excellent communication with both towns; and Fowlis is approached on the south by the Carse of Gowrie turnpike, from which it is a little more than a mile distant. The parish roads are deserving of no commendation. They are by far too numerous, especially in Lundie, and the lines not well chosen; but Lord Camperdown and his tenants have for some years subscribed liberally for their improvement, and they will soon be in a better condition. Nothing, however, has yet been done to supply the want of a post-office. Dundee is the post-town, and a distance of nine miles is a great inconvenience.

Ecclesiastical State.—Contrary to the custom in lowland, and, more especially, in small parishes, there are two churches in this, each very conveniently situated for the district of the parish where it stands, and from which it takes its name, but neither of them convenient for serving the whole parish. They are distant from one another four miles, and in them the incumbent preaches on

alternate Sabbaths, and the parishioners of Lundie generally go to Fowlis; but, having the church of Liff within the fourth part of the distance, few of the inhabitants of Fowlis frequent the church of Lundie. Lundie church is plain but comfortable, of considerable antiquity, but well repaired about forty years ago, and capable of containing about 330 sitters.

The church of Fowlis, however, is a structure of extraordinary antiquity. The tradition of the neighbourhood is, that it was built, under a vow, by a lady of the Mortimer family, during the crusades in 1142, "in case her husband should return in safety from the holy wars;" and this date is stated in the former Statistical Report to be there legible on a beam that had apparently supported the organ gallery. In that work, however, the erection is ascribed to the Grays, though the estate, as already noticed, did not come into the power of that family for more than 200 years after. The church is of the purest Saxon-Gothic architecture, 88 feet 6 inches in length, and 28 feet in breadth, built of polished ashler, and so excellent in the quality of the material, that on almost every stone you can plainly see the private marks of the hewer. In the east, is a beautiful oriel window; and in the west, a large pointed Gothic one. The doors have the round arch without any ornament, except the west door, which has carving over it, and is highly ornamented. Within the doors are the founts for holy water, quite entire; but a large baptismal font, of beautiful workmanship, with many emblematical figures, is sadly dilapidated. The whole of the upper part of the screen, that separates the church from Lord Gray's burial-place, is covered with paintings on oak, evidently of great antiquity, though of no great merit as works of art. They represent the crucifixion, the flight into Egypt, the Apostles, and the Holy Family in various circumstances. It is extremely to be regretted that so little is known of a building that has stood so long, and that is still as entire as ever; at least I have not found anything satisfactory stated respecting it in any book to which I have had access.

This very imperfect notice of it, however, may direct towards it the attention of some antiquary capable of rescuing it from unmerited obscurity. It is regarded by professional men as a gem in architecture; and its history as a religious fabric may also be well worthy of attention, if the means existed for clearing it up.

At present it is internally in a sadly ruinous condition; but were it new-seated, and the pulpit placed in the west end, it would be a

very comfortable church, capable of being made to accommodate between 300 and 400.*

The manse, which is at Lundie, was built in 1797, and is small and inconvenient. An excellent set of offices was built in 1830. The glebe contains six acres of good land. The teinds are valued and exhausted; and the stipend, L.200, is all paid in money. The Earl of Camperdown is sole patron. There are very few Dissenters in the parish,—not more than 30 when the census was taken last winter; and the attendance at church is very good, especially when the distance to be travelled once a fortnight by a considerable proportion is taken into account. The average number of communicants, 280; and in all extraordinary collections, whether for the Dundee Infirmary or for the schemes of Christian philanthropy now conducted by the General Assembly, the parish is noted for its liberality. These annual collections seldom fall under L.9, and often exceed it.

Education.—There are two public schools in the parish, one at Lundie and another at Fowlis, at which all the ordinary branches of education are taught, each having a good dwelling-house and school-house, and a rood of land, with L.30. of salary, and the school-fees may average L.25 a-year more. The schools are duly prized and well attended; and, except one adult, who cannot read, and will not learn, it is not known that any are uneducated; nor are there any so situated that they cannot profit by the means of education. There are also two Sabbath-schools in the parish, which are very well attended, not only by mere children, but by young persons, even years after they have become communicants. The means of education are at present as complete as there is reason to expect in a parish of this description, and the heritors show every disposition to encourage it. Prizes are given at both schools at the annual examination; and in addition to the usual ones, a splendid quarto Bible is given to the best male and the best female scholar at the school of Lundie.

Library.—There is a subscription library in Fowlis, of which the schoolmaster has the charge, containing 600 volumes, tolerably well chosen. The subscribers are not restricted to the parish. Perhaps nearly the half of them belong to the neighbouring parishes. It is making considerable progress, though the subscrip-

* 1842. Since the above was written, this church has been beautifully fitted up within, and is now a very commodious and handsome place of worship. Excellent accommodations have also been erected for the minister when officiating there.

tion is so low as 2s. a-year. The present number of subscribers is 50.

Poor.—There is no assessment for the poor, the collections in the church and mortcloth dues, with a voluntary contribution from the heritors, sufficing. The church collections average about L. 36, pretty equally divided between the two districts of the parish; and the number of poor receiving constant aliment fluctuates between three and four in each. Besides these, however, several receive occasional relief. The pittance that is given is thankfully received; and, happily, the good old Scottish feeling of independence still lingers here, as in most agricultural districts at a distance from towns or manufacturing villages.

Fairs.—There are two fairs in Lundie for the sale of stock, one in June, the other in August. They are not numerously attended, and do not seem to be on the increase. There is one ale-house in the parish at Lundie; and the toll-keeper at Lundie toll generally has a license. The toll-house is sometimes a nuisance. Fortunately, the other is not much frequented.

Fuel.—Coal is the sole fuel, generally brought from Dundee. About a fourth part of the quantity consumed is Scotch coal, imported from the south coast of Fife, the rest from Newcastle or Sunderland. The expense is of course considerable. The farmers drive their own and their cottars, and thus to the poor the expense of carriage is saved.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

It is stated in the former statistical notice, as well as in the present, that Fowlis was one of the earliest places to adopt agricultural improvements, and therefore the change is not so great there as in Lundie, where they were late in being introduced. The produce of the latter, however, has at least been tripled within the last forty years. The tenantry are active, intelligent, industrious, and thriving; sober, church-going, and warmly attached to the National Church. The comforts enjoyed by the lower classes are steadily increasing; and of the parish generally, it may be said that it is in a highly prosperous condition.

*Written in 1838,
Revised September 1842.*