

PARISH OF MONIFIETH.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNDEE, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNES.

THE REV. SAMUEL MILLER, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—Monifieth, anciently written *Monie-fuith, Monefuit, and Monefut*, is a word of Celtic origin, signifying “the moss of the stag.” This name must have been descriptive in former times; for though there is now no “moss,” the sandy links along the frith cover a deep stratum of it, in which deer’s horns have been dug up in considerable numbers: and here, according to tradition, David I. had a favourite hunting-seat.

The parish is of an irregular oblong shape, stretching from south to north—the length being about 5 miles, and the breadth varying from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$; and containing about 9 square miles. It is bounded on the south by the Frith of Tay; on the east, by the parishes of Barry and Monikie; on the north, by Monikie; and on the west, by Murroes and Dundee. The parish slopes gradually up from the Tay to its northern extremity, being intersected in the middle by a range of inconsiderable eminences, partly cultivated and partly planted. The highest eminence is at the northern extremity, 500 feet above the level of the sea. The extent of coast is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles; it is low and sandy, and the sea is, year by year, making inroads upon it, owing to the double effect of the winds blowing away the sand and raising the tide.

Climate, &c.—The climate towards the south is so mild and uniform as to be considered one of the most agreeable in Forfarshire; and the earliness of the crops is always conspicuous. This district is also peculiarly healthful. Epidemic diseases seldom rage in it, and many of the inhabitants attain to very advanced age. The climate of the northern district is much colder, owing to its greater elevation and the nature of the soil. The stream of the Dighty, after intersecting the parish towards the west, disembogues into the Tay. Although of no great size, it is valuable on account

of the mills and works on it. Salmon formerly frequented it; but the bleaching ley has effectually scared them away, as well as greatly thinned the numbers and deteriorated the quality of the excellent trout in which it previously abounded.

Soil.—Rising somewhat abruptly from the links on the south, and extending to the eminences in the middle of the parish, lies a tract of land of the richest description, and highly cultivated, producing heavy crops of every kind, and drawing rents equally heavy. The northern district labours under the disadvantage of a cold and tilly subsoil; but extensive draining is ameliorating both soil and climate, so that the crops produced yield a fair average return to the cultivator.

Mineralogy.—Towards the south, a whinstone rock prevails; but along the northern boundary, runs an excellent seam of pavement, obviously the same as that which appears at Auchterhouse, Carmyllie, Turin, Kinblethmont, &c. One quarry of it is wrought in this parish, with much advantage, on the estate of Well-bank, and two others might probably be opened,—one on the estate of Omachie, the other on the estate of Kingennie. The Well-bank or Legsland quarry must have been in operation for nearly 300 years, as appears from the following entry in the sessional record: “3d June 1574, Donald Robartson in Laigislande fand ye Lard of Unoquhy cation, yt, gif ye witnesses convicks hym, he sall pay ane thousande sklaittis.”

Zoology.—During particular seasons swans, eider-ducks, great northern divers, and other rare aquatic birds visit our coast. Several pairs of that beautiful bird, the stock-gannet, yearly build on the links. Quail also used formerly to be plentiful there, but have now totally disappeared. The starling in the south, and the goat-sucker in the woods towards the north, are not uncommon. It is worthy of remark, that, about ten years before the publication of the former Statistical Account, haddocks began to leave this coast, till at last they totally deserted it; but now all kinds of white fish are caught in abundance. Herrings used to be plentiful in the frith; but, for a series of years, they also have deserted it. They, however, seem to be returning, as great numbers have been caught upon the coast this season. During neap-tides, at the proper season, a small but excellent crab is gathered among some shelving rocks in the river, opposite the village of Monifieth; and, on a bank at the mouth of the estuary, called “Drumley sands,” a coarse shell-fish, named “Drumley buckies,”

is abundant. It is eaten by some, but chiefly used by fishermen as bait. Porpoises and seals are common.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Heritors.—The heritors of the parish are twelve in number, of whom the chief are Lord Panmure, Mr Erskine of Linlathen, Sir James Ramsay, &c.

Monifieth was originally a seat of the Culdees; and, when the old church was pulled down in 1812, and the foundations of the present house excavated, some remains of the Culdee edifice were discovered. Towards the end of the twelfth century, Gilbert, third Earl of Angus, gifted the church of Monifieth with those of Murroes, Kirrymuir, and Strathdichty, to the Abbey of Arbroath. The Culdees of Monifieth seem to have resisted this annexation for a time; for in the year 1225, we find Malcolm fifth Earl of Angus and his daughter Matilda repeating the grant. The Countess Matilda also added, apparently as an alms-gift of her own, the whole land on the south side of the church, which, during the lifetime of her father, was held by the Culdees. Thereafter Monifieth continued to be a dependent church of the abbey till the Reformation. Indeed, a large yearly revenue was drawn from it; for the rent-roll of the abbey's book of assumptions states the valuation of the church to have been in the year 1531 as follows: Money, 23 lib. 13s. 4d.; wheat, 5 chalders; bear, 11 chalders, 11 bolls; meal, 15 chalders, 11 bolls; salmon, 14 barrels. At the visitation of the monasteries, however, in 1501–2, by the commissioners of Privy-Council, the revenues from Monifieth are stated thus: wheat, 4 chalders, 12 bolls; bear, 12 chalders, 9 bolls; meal, 15 chalders, 10 bolls.

In the flourishing days of the Papacy, the parish consisted of four distinct chapelries; 1. Monifieth, where the present church is situated. 2. Broughty, where the remains of the chapel are still visible on the boundary between this parish and that of Dundee. Within the memory of man, a considerable part of the fabric remained; but the stones having been found useful for building gradually disappeared, so that little more is now left besides the foundation. The circumjacent cemetery, however, is still in use. 3. *Eglismonichty* (of which the etymology seems to be *eclesia montis Dichty*), situated on a crag above the river Dichty, nearly opposite the Mill of Balmossie. This chapel, long previously ruinous, was razed about eighty years ago—the mill just noticed built out of the materials, the cemetery ploughed up, the bones buried, and a circle of trees eradicated, with the exception

of one venerable plane, which still marks the site. It seems probable that this was the church of Strathdichty granted with Monifieth to Arbroath by Gilbert, Earl of Angus, as above-mentioned; and if so, it is doubtless the same as appears on the Abbey's roll of dependent churches under the designation of the parish of *Strathechtin*.—4. *Kingennie*, in the northern district of the present parish, is also mentioned in the same roll as one of the thirty-four churches belonging to the Abbey. The ruinous remains of it were removed about twelve years ago, during repairs made on the farm steading and stackyard now occupying its site. To these four might be added a fifth, once situated in a field at Ethiebeaton, known by the name of "Chapel Dockie." Perhaps, however, this may have been only a private place of worship attached to the castle which anciently stood here, and which tradition connects with the name of Cardinal Beaton. When these four religious houses were united into one parish, has not been ascertained, further than that it must have been before the Reformation in 1560.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers have, with some exceptions, been regularly kept for a period of 282 years;—in short, they commence at the date of the Reformation. They consist of twelve large volumes,—one containing the sessional records of about twenty years near the beginning of last century, having been lost, though referred to in another volume as extant in 1769. It is to be regretted that the oldest volume is considerably damaged in some places, and several leaves are wanting. The earliest separate register of births and marriages begins in July 1649. Before this period, baptisms and marriages are regularly engrossed in the weekly record of sessional proceedings.

This curious archive commences with a title which is much tattered; but the first entry is partly legible, as follows: "In Apryll ye vi day, 1560, The qlk day, it is appyntit yt our assemblie of ye kyrk of Monifut Sunday at twa efternun at ye kyrk, wt prayer unto God for his assistans to do qt may be fordrans to his gloir, and subpressing of Satan and" It will be observed, that the tenor of this entry is similar to that of the bond executed at Perth in the previous year by the reforming congregations of Perth, Fife, Angus, and Mearns,—among which, it will be remembered, that the congregations in and about Dundee are specially mentioned by historians. It would appear also, that the zeal of the people had been directed against the edi-

fice of the Popish church here, and that it had undergone a dismantling similar to that which overthrew more stately fabrics; for the second entry is to this effect: "Ye quhylk day it is thoicht necesser be us yat he hous of prayer be mendit in haist, yat God may be glorafeit yair,—ye expensis to be tain uquolie of ye assemble." Two circumstances seem to account for the people of this parish embracing the Reformation so heartily and so early; 1st, The proximity of Monifieth to Dundee, in and around which George Wishart preached much and successfully; 2d, Durham of Grange, the most influential individual in the district, and living on the spot, was a zealous Protestant, and a near relation of the celebrated superintendent of Angus,—John Erskine of Dun. Erskine, indeed, lived frequently at Grange; and, according to tradition, had, at one time, a narrow escape there from Government emissaries sent to capture him. We may infer, therefore, that, during these visits, this zealous reformer organized the congregation of Monifieth, and that Durham was his hearty assistant in the work. And we know farther, that John Knox lived much with Erskine at this period, visiting and confirming with him those who were favourably inclined to Protestantism; so that it is not unreasonable to suppose, that Papacy was overthrown in Monifieth by the master hand of the Reformer himself.

Though some leaves are wanting near the beginning of the record, we find that a Protestant minister officiated stately here before the end of the year 1562; nor was the parish vacant for any length of time (as many others were) from that date to this. The present incumbent is the fifteenth in regular succession from the Reformation. It is recorded, that, on the 13th of November 1715, "Mr Jo. Ballantyne, minr. here, was violently thrust from his charge by the persecution of the rebels." An Episcopalian was intruded: but Mr Ballantyne was restored in February of the following year. In 1701, also, the presbytery and synod suspended Mr John Dempster for nonconformity; but, in 1702, he was reponed by the commission of the General Assembly.

Many curious extracts might be made from the old record. The following are esteemed important, as showing the ancient discipline of the church: February 1563, a culprit convicted of "ye presumful abus and vyc of drukinness," was sentenced by the session to be "brankit, stockit, dukit, and banisit ye heile paris."—"15th Octr. 1564, Andro Fyndlay and Elspit Hardy ratefeit ye cōtract of mariag, and ye sayd Andro prōisit to hail ye belseive befor ye

FORFAR.

solēnizatiō of his mariag, under ye pane of v mark, and ye cōandements before ye minystratiō of ye Lord's Supper, under ye pane of uthir v mark." A similar qualification was always required of sponsors before baptism; and the Lord's prayer was sometimes added to the task! "8 Apryll 1598, the qlk day, it was statit and ordynit and also derectit before ye sessione, yat all disobedyents yat obeyis not the fryst warning suld be put in ye stypyll, and thair remaine the space ane day at the decryt of ye assemblie." From 1570, down through at least a century, such entries as the following are rather common: "Robt Leis compeirit and wes accusit for not communicating—wes ordeanit to mak his repentans, and pay fourtie sh. of penaltie." The minute of 22d January 1615 ordains the elders and deacons "day about, twa of yem toggedder," to visit the alehouses in time of public worship, and to report those who sold liquor. This custom was observed for more than a century; many of the old entries beginning "elders fand non drinking in change-houses;" while sometimes the following is recorded: "ye haille browsters quha sellit aill are summonit to compeir, &c." About 1680, several women were excommunicated and banished the parish for "charmynge and witchcrafte." The soldiers of the Covenant seem to have been compelled to their duty by the judicatories of the church, *e. g.* "2d June 1689, Alexander Davidstone being come home fro ye border fro ye Scottis armie, under ye regiment of Sir Wm. Blair of Balgillo, hes promissit to returne himself thair again, under ye pane of banishment of himself and his wyf out of ye parois, and to tyne his aiker land yt is sawen, becaus he purchasit not Balgillo his testimoniall to our sessione to testifye yat he is contented of his returning to him again." The next is rather mysterious:—"17th Sepr. 1648, Robt. Scott, ye beddell, ressavit v sh. to buy ane pynt of tarr, to put upon the weomen that holds the playds about thair head in the church."* But the next is plain enough, whatever may have been the propriety of a weekly calling of the parochial muster roll, *viz.* "28th Sepr. 1646, Ester sermone, ye minr. maid intimatione to ye congrega-

* This extraordinary discipline may have been intended as a correction of somnolency. The following passage from an old poem will perhaps elucidate the subject:—

" But, as for me,
Sick unco sights I never see;
For, soon as out the text I read,
I draw my roquelay round my head,
And, fast asleep, I soon fa' ower;
It's better than thro' the kirk to glower."

tion, be reassone ye people keipt not the kirk on the Lord's day, yt thair names suld be read out everie Sabbath day, that whosom- ever was absent qn they war callit upon, suld pay twa shillings." In 1668, the session exercised a civil power, by taking a precognition on a case of child murder, and prosecuted the woman "befor the bailzie of Kerrimure, the parioch of Monifuith being wtin that regalitie, and did put a guard upon her till she was fitte to be transported there." In 1705, a similar authority was exercised; but, in this latter case, the culprit was sent to Edinburgh. Such entries as the ensuing are very common: "12th July 1640, Helen Scott ordeanit and actit for her offence of sclander, to keip ye preiching dayly; to sitt dayly in ane visible pairt, qr ye minr may sie her; and if sho obeyis not ye samyn under ye pane that sho sall stand in ye jowgs, and yrefter to be banissit out of ye paroche, if ever she beis fund to sclander any of her neighbours heirefter, or to flytt with thame." The following appears more salutary than practicable: "5th Apryll 1646, It is actit, that whosoevir heirefter sall be fund to drink in aill-houses, bying or selling, to remaine longer nor a pynt aill or chapin aill the hand* sall pay twa dolors." In 1649, we find Thomas Crawford, quarter-master to the General's Life-Guard, after much contumacy, obliged to undergo a severe discipline, for challenging the Laird of Omachie to single combat. In December 1649, an individual was subjected to double discipline, for coming "to ye place of repentance wt his sword about, and putting on his bonnett."

Perhaps the most interesting entry of all (unfortunately much torn) is a long account of the "subscribing" of the Solema League and Covenant in 1648. Indeed, the whole record, and the oldest volume in especial, is full of amusing and curious information, besides throwing much valuable light on the history of the district, the manners of the people, the state of wealth, the value of labour, &c. &c.

Antiquities.—Upon the hill of Laws, near the middle of the parish, are the remains of an ancient vitrified fort. A low wall † seems to have encircled the whole top of the hill, which is flat, 180 yards in length, by 66 in breath. The hill itself is a green cone, terminating a long ridge. At the bottom of this cone, spear-heads of iron, with bones of men and horses, have lately

* l. c. Per man.
† People still alive remember of old residents telling them, that they knew it was the high. It was demolished so all distins.

been dug up. About fifty years ago, two workmen came upon the foundation of a building, at the bottom of the cone, and found a considerable treasure of gold coin. They concealed their prize, went to London, and sold it as bullion. The circumstance afterwards came to light by the jealousy of one of the finders, who accused his comrade of cheating him, as he had received only L.50 as his share of the booty, whereas he had, on inquiry, discovered that the moiety was far more valuable. Of course it is not known that any of the coins were preserved. A mile to the west of Laws is the Gallowhill of Ethiebeaton, where it is said that feudal justice was executed in former times. Tumuli, rude stone-coffins, and human bones, have been found around it. A little north from Linlathen is a large heap of stones called "Cairn Greg." A local chieftain, famous in ancient Scottish story, is said to have fallen in battle here. His name was Greg or Gregory; and the place of his residence, near Colliston, in the parish of St Vigeans, is still known by the name of "Castle Gory." Numerous other cairns within the circuit of a mile around the principal one, mark the burial-place of the other slain. On the top of a small knoll near Kingennie, is an interesting relic of antiquity called "St Bride's ring." It consists of a circle of stones (large blocks forming the outer rim, and smaller boulders the inner), about 60 feet in diameter. On the eastern side is an entrance several feet in width, having somewhat the appearance of regular masonry; but the blocks are wholly unchiselled. It seems to have been a place of worship; but who St Bride was is not known; only it is thought that the neighbouring parish of Panbride received its name from the same saint. A few yards north of the glebe, lies a huge block of stone, (supposed four tons weight), having a square excavation in the middle, in which formerly stood a kind of obelisk. This shaft was broken at a remote period. Afterwards, it was brought down to the church, to replace the lintel of the "queer" door, and, by this means, was mutilated still more to bring it into shape. It is now built into the front wall of the new church. No trace of its origin or object can be discovered. The side now exposed to view is covered with human figures, rudely carved in low relief, of which the most entire is David playing on the harp. Attached to the old "queer" above-mentioned, was an elegant mausoleum of Durham of Pitkerro, "argentarius" to James VI. All the stones of it, on which there was any inscription, are built into the present church. Besides

this, a great part of the present church is built of the materials of the old abbey of Balmerino. That edifice was dismantled, and the stones shipped down the Tay, by the second Lord Balmerino, for the purpose of repairing the old church of Monifieth; his object being to save expense, as he was the chief heritor in the parish.

Broughty Castle, situated on a point of rock projecting into the Tay, near the western boundary of the parish,* is an ancient place of strength, well adapted for commanding the river, which is here only a mile broad, but stretches out to a much greater width both above and below it. The ruins spread over a considerable extent; but the only part of the building now remaining is a large square keep, at present used as a signal tower by the coast-guard. Boece mentions the existence of this stronghold in 1492; but the date of its erection is not known. After the victory at Musselburgh, 10th September 1547, the English garrisoned this castle, as the key of the Tay. In a short time, the Regent Arran besieged it; but, after much loss, during three months' ineffectual effort, abandoned the attempt, leaving James Haliburton, the youthful and brave provost of Dundee, to keep watch, and prevent provisions being carried to the garrison. Next year the Earl of Argyle made a desperate but fruitless assault on the place. Thereafter, Monsieur D'Essy, who commanded the Scottish army, made a third attempt at its reduction, with similar ill success; and it was not till the beginning of 1550, that it was stormed and carried by De Thermes, commander of the allied army of Scotch, French, and Germans. The fortification was immediately dismantled; but we find that, towards the end of the

* A vulgar prejudice still prevails, that this castle is in the parish of Caputh, near Dunkeld. The sessional record shows this to be without foundation. The case stands thus:—A man, in 1678, who had been fishing for salmon at the castle on a Sunday, refused to submit to parochial discipline, on the plea that the offence was committed in the "pariuch of Kebbott." The proprietor was applied to, who stated that he had some idea of its belonging to Kirriemuir, but that with Caputh it had nothing to do. Thereupon the matter was referred to the presbytery, who led evidence upon it. After much patient inquiry, no ground could be discovered for supposing the castle to belong to any other parish: but every ground for its belonging to Monifieth was produced. These are mentioned at large. The sessional record of 12th December 1658, moreover, bears witness, that the castle paid its quota to the reparation of the church. The presbytery found accordingly, and the synod confirmed the finding in March 1681, after the matter had been before the courts for nearly three years. All parties were satisfied; and thereafter the proprietor is mentioned as appearing for his interest at a meeting of heritors in 1701. The popular error seems to have arisen from the circumstance of Caputh not being an original parish, and, when erected into one, receiving stipend from a multitude of parishes around; and Broughty may have been assessed for a trifle. In the same way, Drunkilbo, in the parish of Meigle, was once thought to be in Caputh.

century, the Master of Gray inhabited the castle as a dwelling-house. After the death of Lady Gray, who lived in it for a considerable period, it was altogether abandoned. On *Fort-hill*, about half a mile north-west from Broughty Castle, was a fort erected by the English after Arran's siege in 1548, as a flanking post of their principal garrison, which it was well calculated to be, on account of its commanding situation. The works of this fortification were also demolished in 1550. Not more than sixty years ago, according to the testimony of old residents, the wall remained in some places twelve feet high; but, within these twenty years, the ploughshare has passed over the site. More lately, a deep draw-well was discovered on the top of the hill, and several bullets, pieces of cannon, &c. were found at the bottom. The *camp*, on the same ridge as *Fort-hill*, and rather more than a quarter of a mile east from it, seems either to have been an outpost of the castle, or an encampment of the besiegers. Few traces of its intrenchments now remain. In the oldest part of the sessional record, it is called the *Brachan*, (*i. e.* the whin-covered knoll), showing that its name of the *Camp* was then new and little in use, and, therefore, connecting that name with the siege of Broughty, and not with the wars of an earlier period as some have supposed.

Modern Buildings.—*Grange*, the ancient seat of the Durhams, (now of *Largo*), is pleasantly situated half a mile from the shore at *Monifieth*. A comfortable new house has replaced the old one, which was famous for the escape of *Erskine of Dun*, already mentioned, and for the meditated and nearly accomplished escape of the *Marquis of Montrose*, when he was being carried to *Edinburgh* after his capture at *Assynt*. *Linlathen*, a large mansion on the banks of the *Dighty*, is the residence of *Thomas Erskine, Esq.*, author of *Remarks on the Internal Evidence for the Truth of Revealed Religion, &c.* *Mr Colville of Laws* has recently built, near the vitrification already mentioned, a seat of considerable magnificence, in a florid style of architecture. In point of prospect, the site is one of the finest in *Forfarshire*.

III.—POPULATION.

It appears from the parochial register that the average number of births, about 1580, was 38 per annum. About 1670, the average had decreased to 30 per annum; and about 1700 it was still smaller. The decrease of the population at this period was owing to the sweeping away of several villages, particularly

two considerable ones called Cadgerton and Fyntrack, (modernized into Fintry,) not a vestige of either of which now remains. About 1750, again, the average of yearly births had increased to 37; but the population had again decreased considerably at the time of the publication of the former Account.

It amounted in 1755 to	1421—(Dr Webster's Report.)
in 1794	1218—(Sir J. Sinclair's Account.)
in 1821	2017
in 1891	2696
in 1841	3461

The rapid increase during late years is doubtless owing to the recent springing into existence of the village of Broughty Ferry, and to the extension into the country of the trade of Dundee; and from both causes it may be inferred, that the increase will still proceed in a large ratio. For, in addition to the public works which have of late been set in operation, others have been contemplated should trade revive; while the railroad from Dundee to Arbroath, which passes through the whole breadth of the parish, promises to increase the traffic of the district, and the number of houses along the line. Indeed, Lord Panmure has begun to grant ninety-nine years building leases on the links of Barnhill, which begin already to increase the population. And, should commerce improve, doubtless many of the citizens of Dundee will be glad to exchange the smoke and bustle of the town for the freshness and retirement of a country villa, from which the railroad will transport them, at almost every hour, to their business and counting-rooms in fifteen minutes. The situation, the climate, the abundance of excellent springs, the comparative cheapness of the soil, and the many facilities of the locality, conspire to render almost certain the anticipation, that a large and respectable population will soon be set down on what is at present only a sheep-walk and a rabbit-warren.

The population is at present thus divided; in Broughty Ferry, 1980; in Monifieth, 250; in Drumsturdy, 190; and in the country, 1041.

Average births per annum, 75; average marriages per do. 27.

On the whole, the inhabitants are a moral and industrious people; and, though in some instances the public works have introduced their attendant evils of profligacy and drunkenness, the contagious example has not spread among the rest of the parishioners. Few have come to years without an ordinary education; intellectual attainment is obviously prized and advancing. The

smuggling of foreign liquors, tobacco, &c. along the coast was unfortunately too common within these thirty years past, but is now wholly unknown. Surer and honester methods of acquiring a livelihood are now adopted, as much from choice as from necessity; so that a competency is enjoyed by most, and even riches, according to their station, have been amassed by many of the inhabitants.

Three lunatics are kept in the Dundee asylum. Three others are fatuous, and five are deaf and dumb.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The number of imperial acres in the parish is 6054. Of these there are,

Under cultivation,	4574 acres.
Pasture (chiefly links),	926
Wood (planted),	554

The rent of the best land may be stated at L.3, 10s. per acre, (though some is let at above L.4); that of the worst at L.1 per acre. The valued rent, extracted from the valuation roll of the county, published in 1823, is L.5941, 13s. 4d.; but the actual rent may be about L.9500. The sessional record mentions, that, in 1633, an assessment being made for the reparation of the kirk, the number of ploughs in the parish was 48. Every thing considered, this shows that not much more than one-third of the land now cultivated was at that time under the plough.

The whole of the reclaimable land in the parish is now under tillage, all the rest being either planted, or sandy links, which can hardly be improved. The large farms on nineteen years leases vary from 100 to 300 acres. There are, besides two or three smaller farms, numerous pendicles of from five to fifteen acres. The possessors of these in some instances pursue other trades, or employ the spare power of their horses in cartage, &c. for hire. They generally keep a number of cows out of proportion to their lands, by buying in grass, turnips, and fodder; and they find considerable profit from the sale of milk, butter, and cheese in Dundee, or among their manufacturing neighbours who can keep no dairy. Several of the large farmers also find it advantageous to keep extensive dairies for the supply of the Dundee market, sending the milk, either sweet or skimmed, into town once a day in summer, and twice a week in winter. Less stock is thus reared in the parish than might be expected, and sheep husbandry is almost unknown. Monifieth has long been famous for its potatoes; and there is a considerable trade in planting them early for the

Dundee market, in which the carts marked "Monifieth" are always looked out for by the purchaser.

Fisheries.—All along the coast salmon-fishing is pursued. The value of the fishings have much decreased of late years, owing chiefly to the judicial prevention of stake-nets and sole-nets. Common-haul or cobble-nets only can now be legally used. About thirty hands are employed; and, though the season opens in the beginning of February, little is done till the beginning of April. About twenty years ago, the rent of the fishings was L.1500, when 729 fish have been known to be got during a tide at one station. The rent at last letting was L.325, and the above number of fish will hardly be got at one station during the whole season.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce annually raised in the parish is as follows:—

Wheat, 280 acres at L. 10 per acre,	L.2800	0	0
Oats, 1040 do. at L.7 per acre,	7280	0	0
Barley, 640 do. at L.8 per acre,	5120	0	0
New grass, 700 do. at L.5 per acre.	3500	0	0
Old grass, 700 do. at L.2, 10s. per acre,	1750	0	0
Turnips, 560 do. at L.6 per acre,	3360	0	0
Potatoes, 454 do. at L.10 per acre,	4540	0	0
Fallow, 200 do		0	0
Links pasture, 926 do.	40	0	0
Wood sold annually, at an average,	150	0	0
Salmon fishings,*	740	0	0
Produce of gardens, about	180	0	0
Produce of white fishing (lowest calculation,)	5000	0	0
Pavement from quarries, &c.	unknown		
Total,	L.34,440	0	0

Manufactures.—Weaving is carried on to a considerable extent in the parish, it being a kind of trade with some to bring the yarn from Dundee, apportion it to the weavers around, receive back the webs, and carry them to Dundee.

There is a large spinning-mill at the mouth of the Dighty, driven partly by water and partly by steam. When in full operation it employs 130 hands. Half a mile farther up the river is an extensive bleaching work, giving employment at present to 90 work people; but, when enlarged according to the present intention of the proprietors, it will employ double that number. A smaller bleaching work on the river stands idle and unfinished; and besides these, other works are talked of, which, if trade prosper, will assuredly go on.

In the village of Monifieth a foundry and machine-work are in

* In this calculation we have given only the rent, the expense of nets, &c. and the wages, since, taking the average of the last five years, the fishings have little more than cleared themselves.

active operation. About 100 hands are employed. The business carried on is chiefly the making of machinery for spinning-mills. The village has also a cart and plough manufactory, of long established repute.

In Broughty Ferry an establishment for curing cod prepares 400 fish per week for exportation, when the season is favourable. Here also are two roperies, and a foundry, besides breweries, bake-houses, &c. and the several manufactories common in a large village.

Several tanneries, a fulling-mill, a lintseed-oil-mill, a bleach-field on the old system, and a thread-mill, which were in operation during last century, have been discontinued for upwards of forty years.

Navigation.—We have no regular harbour in this parish; but coal and lime vessels of small tonnage deliver their cargoes all along the coast,—the receding tide leaving them dry on the sloping sandy beach. Small vessels are occasionally built at Broughty Ferry, where the nature of the shore permits them to be launched at once into deep water. Indeed, on account of the depth of water, and the natural shelter which would be afforded for shipping, the construction of a harbour there, for the larger vessels engaged in the Dundee trade, has often been spoken of as easy, desirable, and likely to be gone into at no distant period. And as the railway passes along the very brink of the river, perhaps this may be a cause of the speedy effectuation of the project.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The market-town is Dundee, from which the remotest part of the parish is not distant more than seven miles. A half-yearly market for cattle, horses, &c. used to be held at Monifieth, and the semblance of it is still kept up. Within these thirty years it was of considerable importance; but of late it has dwindled into nothing.

Broughty-Ferry is a large village, containing in all nearly 2200 inhabitants, situated chiefly in this parish, though a small part belongs to the parish of Dundee. Fifty years ago it consisted of about half-a-dozen fishermen's huts; but the proprietor having begun to feu about the year 1790, it started at once into a considerable town, and is still rapidly increasing. It presents a clean and neat appearance; and from the river, the view of the village in front, with the villas of the more wealthy on the sloping background, is very picturesque. The streets, most unaccountably,

are neither paved nor Macadamized, so that the blowing of the fine sand on which the village is built, is very disagreeable in dry weather. This place is much resorted to in the summer months as bathing-quarters; indeed, the population, during three months in the year, is greatly increased from this cause; and many of the inhabitants, who have rooms or flats to let, mainly depend on this for their support. Dundee is chiefly supplied with white fish from Broughty Ferry. Thirteen boats, having each at an average six men for a crew, are statedly employed in this branch of industry; but during summer, the number of boats employed is considerably greater. Upwards of fifty families depend for support on the white-fishing. Haddock, cod, ling, flounders, soles, whiting, plaice, skate, and turbot, are the fish commonly or occasionally caught; but for two months in summer, most of the fishermen, in larger boats for the purpose, are engaged in the herring fishery on the northern coasts of Scotland. In the Dundee Police Act, there is a provision for a police to Broughty Ferry; but as yet it has never been acted on, though there is good reason for some establishment of the kind. For instance, steam-boats, during the summer months, bring down an inundation of the worst population of Dundee on the Sabbath day. Hence drunkenness and riot, in spite of all moral exertions to put a stop to the evil, are too common on a day set apart for holy rest; and that, too, in a locality where the inhabitants, in general, respect and prize Divine ordinances. There is a penny-post from Dundee to Broughty Ferry. It is carried by a foot-runner, who goes twice a-day, the distance being four miles.

The turnpike road from Dundee to Arbroath transects the parish towards its southern extremity. On this road one mail passes south and another north every day. Three other coaches used to run on this road, but the opening of the railway some years since has put a stop to them all. The public road from Dundee to Brechin skirts the north-western boundary of the parish; and about twenty miles of parish roads (some of which are very indifferently kept) facilitate communication throughout the district. As already alluded to, the railway from Dundee to Arbroath passes through this parish coastwise for nearly three miles. On account of the level nature of the line, the facilities granted by the extensive proprietor, through whose estate it chiefly passes, and for other reasons unnecessary to be detailed, it is supposed this is the cheapest railway in Britain, as assuredly it is of the utmost

advantage to the interests of the country. By it an additional mail is carried south and north daily.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church stands on the brink of the Tay, at the southern extremity of the parish, and is consequently rather inconveniently situated for a considerable proportion of the population; but it is well set down for the contemplated increase along the line of the railway. It was built in 1813, is in good repair, is seated for 1100 hearers, but will contain 1200 with ease. Now that 2000 of the population have been taken away by the Broughty Ferry chapel, it is much too large for the parish; and yet it is believed that, in a few years, it will be found small enough; for, exclusive of the Ferry district, the population of the original parish has increased upwards of 400 since that chapel was erected fifteen years ago. In the old church, what was called “the common loft” belonged to the session, in lieu of which several pews have been given to the session in the new church. All the rest are the property of the heritors, and given by them to their tenants. The manse is a commodious house, and was built in 1829. The glebe consists of four and a-half acres of excellent land. The stipend amounts to 17 chalders of victual (half meal, half barley), with L.10 for communion elements. The only benefaction now extant is a mortification of L.100 Scots yearly, payable from Grange, partly as a bursary for poor scholars, and partly for the behoof of the poor’s funds.

As hinted above, the village of Broughty Ferry, with a small landward territory around it, was, in 1834, erected into a parish ecclesiastical, having been previously the district attached to the chapel of ease there. This chapel was built in 1826, and a minister was ordained to the charge in 1827. The election of the minister is vested in “the male sitters, being communicants.” A bond, given to the Presbytery, secures L.120 of annual stipend to the minister. But when the debt is liquidated this will be increased. The sources whence the stipend is derived are, the seat-rents, and six annual collections made at the church door in behalf of the funds of the institution. The chapel is seated for 720; but 800 more seats would be required to meet the wants of the population. For several months in summer, especially when the village is filled with sea-bathers, the want of church accommodation is very painfully felt. No manse, glebe, or endowment of any kind is attached to this church. The Rev. David Davidson is the present incumbent.

There is a Dissenting chapel in Broughty Ferry. It was built by Mr Haldane, but is now the property of Mr Erskine of Linlathen, and given by him to be used as a place of worship in connection with the United Associate Synod of the Secession Church. There is, however, no fixed pastor at present; nor has there been for some time.

The distribution of the population among the various Christian denominations is as follows:

Church of Scotland in Monifieth, 1273.	Broughty Ferry, 1650.
Dissenters, - - 152	- - 165
Episcopalians, - - 11	- - 112
Catholics, - - 9	- - 13
Unknown, - - 25	- - 36

and the number of communicants in connection with the Establishment is about 1300.

A parochial Bible and Missionary Society, established many years ago, has some years since been cut down into two,—one in Monifieth, and one in Broughty Ferry,—by which the schemes in which the Church of Scotland has embarked are specially supported.

Education.—The total number of schools in the parish worth mentioning, (Sabbath schools not included), is eight; viz. one parochial; three supported wholly by Mr Erskine of Linlathen (two female schools in the parish of Monifieth, the other, an infant school in Broughty Ferry); two partially endowed, the others on the teachers' own adventure. There is besides an excellent school in connection with the church of Broughty Ferry; but it is situated just beyond the boundary of the civil parish of Monifieth. The average number of scholars yearly is 490; and it may be said generally, that most of the children who ought to be at school are sent to it, and that the benefits of education are known and appreciated. The parochial schoolmaster has the legal accommodations on a very comfortable scale. His salary is L.25, 13s. 4d. per annum,* and his school-fees average about L.35 more.

It is important to notice the exertions made by the Church of Scotland in behalf of education during all her history, but especially before schools were endowed by the authority of Government in every parish. The sessional record gives some interesting information on this head, regarding what was done in Monifieth.

* To explain why, in such a parish as Monifieth, the maximum salary has not as yet been given to the schoolmaster, it may be proper to mention, that the heretofore pay L.45 yearly in pensioning off the old schoolmaster, who, from age, had become unfitted for his laborious duties. When this burden ends, doubtless the maximum salary will be given.

The parish appears to have had a "reidar" from the period of the Reformation; and though it is not expressly said, some entries would lead us to infer that he acted in the capacity of schoolmaster also. At any rate, on the 18th November 1599, "Mr Thomas Zoung was electit schoolmaister wt. cōsent of ye haille assemble;" and, on the 16th March 1600, the following provision was made for his maintenance:—"Item, becaus ye guid restan of ye kirk and cōmonweill dois not litell depend fra ye diligent up-bringing of the youth in lerning and vertew. Therefor, for the establishing of ane schoolmaister, ordaynis everie pleuch occupyd be the ownar to paye zeirlye fourtie sh., and be the fermouair 20 sh.; and everie twa marks restrinit to ane pleuch; and sic as has no labouring to paye for everie bairnie x. sh." This was, however, either an inadequate aliment, or it was ill paid; for, as a result of the act of Privy-Council in 1616 (which, unfortunately, was never properly implemented), ordaining every parish to maintain a schoolmaster, we find the following:—"14 Dec. 1617. The sessione considering the insufficiencie of ane provisiōne to the schoolemaister, hes thoct expedient, that of everie baptism he have twa shillings, and of everie marriage fourtie d." And again:—"17 Oct. 1619. As concerning the establishing off the schoolemaister, thoct meitt and aggreitt upon that, for his intertainment, the Laird off Grange sould find him ane quarter of ane zeir, and the minister ane uther quarter, and the rest of ye parochie quha hes bairnes sould provyd for him the uther halff zeir." There are other entries of a similar import.

A regular schoolroom, however, was not erected till 1656, the Presbytery of Dundee having previously perambulated the parish, and fixed upon a central site for it. When the school was removed to the most uncentral locality of the village of Monifieth, where it now is,—is not known. A dwelling-house for the schoolmaster was not built till 1691. Indeed, until 1696, when parochial schools were finally established by the Legislature, those who held the office of teacher in the parish appear to have been very inadequately remunerated. One person resigned on the ground that he could not live by the profession.

The celebrated scholar, David Doig, LL. D. (rector of the grammar school of Stirling, and an able writer in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*), was a native of this parish, and was admitted schoolmaster in 1749;—and, for several years towards the close of last century, Mr W. Craighead, the author of a treatise on arithmetic formerly much in use, held the same situation.

Literature.—Two parochial libraries are in operation. That in Broughty Ferry was instituted in 1829, and contains upwards of 500 volumes; that in Monifieth was instituted in 1836, and contains upwards of 600 volumes. The readers in each are not so numerous as they ought to be and once were.

There is no friendly society in the parish. One was attempted among the fishermen of Broughty Ferry; but after a short and sickly existence, it has been broken up. Two savings banks (one in Monifieth and the other in Broughty Ferry) on the National Security system are succeeding more prosperously. In the Broughty Ferry branch there are L. 600; in Monifieth, L. 200.

Poor.—The average number of persons regularly receiving parochial aid is 40, besides occasional paupers; and the average amount of supply to each is 6s. per month. The collections available for the poor, made at the doors of the two churches, average L. 80 per annum. A trifle more is realized from hearse and mortcloth dues; but hitherto this income has been found inadequate to meet the expenditure, so that the heritors have voluntarily assessed themselves in order to defray it. It is to be lamented, that the independent spirit which formerly instigated many of the industrious poor to disdain parochial relief is fast wearing out.

Inns.—In the Monifieth district of the parish there are five licensed ale-houses; but in the Broughty Ferry district, there are one hotel and twenty alehouses.

Fuel.—The fuel used is sea-borne coal and brushwood; for which last “birns,” or the scorched stems of burnt furze, is a common substitute among the poorer classes. Peats of an excellent quality used to be dug out of the links by “tiring” the sand to the depth of from four to eight feet. This was less laborious than might be imagined, as the stratum of moss when arrived at is often “twelve peats deep.” This mode of obtaining fuel, however, was some time ago put a stop to by the proprietor, on account of the blowing of the loosened sand, and consequent destruction of the pasture which it occasioned. On a late occasion, in cutting a deep drain through the links, a canoe was discovered deeply imbedded in this stratum of moss, at least a mile from the shore; giving proof that the whole of the links from Monifieth to West-haven, (forming an isosceles triangle, of which the base is five miles, and the perpendicular from the vertex to the base three miles,) were at one time under water, and constituted part of the estuary of the

Tay. The etymology of the names of the places, situated on the steep brink rising above the links, unequivocally corroborates the same supposition.

September 1842.