

PARISH OF ARBROATH.

PRESBYTERY OF ARBROATH, SYNOD OF ANGUS AND MEARNS.

THE REV. GEORGE GLEIG, MINISTER.*

THE REV. WILLIAM STEVENSON, ASSISTANT AND
SUCCESSOR.

THE REV. JOHN COOPER, ASSISTANT.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name and Boundaries.—THE ancient name of the parish was Aberbrothock, of which Arbroath is a corruption. Amongst the peasantry in many parts of the counties of Forfar and Kincardine, it is pronounced *Arbroad*. The original name is descriptive of the situation at the mouth of the Brothock, a small river, which here discharges itself into the German Ocean, and which, in the Gaelic language, is said to signify the *muddy stream*.

The parish is about three miles in length, varying in breadth from one to ten furlongs. Its extent may be estimated at 820 English acres, and in shape it may be said to bear some resemblance to a boot.

Topographical Appearances.—Within the limits thus described, there is nothing approaching in elevation to a hill. The ground rises gradually as it recedes from the shore, till at the farther extremity of the parish it attains to a height of about 160 feet above the level of the sea. The extent of coast is nearly a mile and a-half. The shore is flat, with a rocky bottom, and forms the termination of the level coast, which extends eastward from the mouth of the river Tay. In the adjoining parish of St Vigeans, it assumes a very bold appearance, presenting a line of elevated rocks, with numerous caves and fissures.

Hydrography.—It may be noticed that there is a spring near the west end of the town of a chalybeate nature, and which, although now in a great measure overlooked, was at one time much resorted

* This Account has been drawn up by the Rev. Thomas Doig, Minister of Torryburn, formerly Assistant in this parish.

to. About two miles from the town there was formerly a small lake, which has been drained these many years. It still retains the name of Bishop's Loch. The only stream in the parish, with the exception of a small burn which falls into it, is the Brothock. Unless when flooded after rain, it discharges a very inconsiderable quantity of water into the sea. It takes its rise in the parish of St Vigeans, and, after a course of about six miles, enters the parish of Arbroath, through which it flows about a quarter of a mile, when it falls into the ocean. As the source whence the stream is gathered which drives a considerable number of spinning-mills, it is of no little value to the place.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The country part of the parish being a narrow strip of land, is distinguished by no peculiarity under this head which may not be described with more propriety in the account of the adjoining parishes of Arbirlot and St Vigeans. At the farther extremity, where the ground is from 140 to 160 feet above the level of the sea, the soil is thin, with a clay bottom; nearer the town of Arbroath it is black loam; and along the coast it is light and sandy.

Zoology.—The zoologist will find none of the more rare species of animals in the parish. In the neighbouring ocean is to be had an abundant supply of fish, consisting chiefly of the haddock, the cod, and the flounder, with herring and mackerel in their season. Stake-nets were erected a few years ago, in the hope of establishing a salmon fishery, but the success has not been such as to defray the expense. Shell-fish, viz. crabs and lobsters, are procured in great plenty.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Illustrative of this department, there do not appear to be any ancient or modern accounts of the parish in print or manuscript, with the exception of a series of brief notices in the Arbroath Magazine,—a publication which was begun and ended in the year 1800. The only other historical or descriptive statements regarding Arbroath, are those to be met with in works which refer to Scotland in general. A "Description of the Abbey of Arbroath, by James Thomson," was published at Arbroath in 1829, which contains a good deal of interesting, and, seemingly, correct, information, in a condensed form.

Historical Events.—In ancient times, one of the most important of these was the celebrated Assembly of the Estates of Scotland,

held in the Abbey in 1320, when a declaration was drawn up and signed, asserting the independence of the Scottish Church and kingdom, in language to which the Roman pontiff was not much accustomed in these days. In 1445, in consequence of a dispute about the election of a bailie of regality, a battle was fought near the town between the families of Lindsay and Ogilvie, in which the leaders of both houses fell, with about 500 of their followers. The next event of importance known to have taken place was the destruction of the buildings of the Abbey in the sixteenth century. The particulars have not been fully ascertained; only, the demolition appears to have taken place before the Reformation. Tradition says, it was accomplished by Ochterlony of Kelly, a proprietor in the neighbourhood, who had quarrelled with the monks, and had recourse to this method of avenging himself. In more recent times the town acquired a sort of notoriety, in consequence of a visit from one Captain Fall, commander of a French privateer, who appeared in sight with his vessel on the 23d May 1781, and commenced firing on the place. Having thus exhibited a specimen of his intentions, he sent several of his men, with a flag of truce, on shore, demanding L. 30,000 Sterling as the ransom of the town, and six of the principal inhabitants as hostages till the sum should be paid. Considerable alarm followed. But at last, after a variety of proposals had been made, a few of the townsmen presented themselves on the beach with such fire-arms as could be most readily procured, and bade defiance to the threats of the privateer. After expending some more of his shot during the night, and finding next morning that he had done little or no damage, the captain made off in all haste, and found an opportunity of gratifying his desire of plunder, by making prizes of several sloops that fell in his way. A battery was afterwards erected in front of the harbour as a means of defence, but was dismantled after the last general peace.

Maps, Plans.—No separate map of the parish is known to exist. A plan of the town, including the suburbs in the parish of St Vigeans, was drawn, and published by Wood in 1822.

Letters, Papers, &c.—Of these, in the possession of resident individuals, and tending to illustrate the biography, history, or antiquities of the parish, there appear to be none. The ancient records of the burgh have been lost. Several papers, however, relating to the Abbey of Arbroath, which are the property of Lord

Panmure, have of late been intrusted to the care of the magistrates, and are preserved among the existing records of the town. Amongst the documents in the possession of the kirk-session is a roll, beautifully written on parchment, dated 1445, exhibiting a statement of the dues payable from several crofts in the town and its immediate vicinity, for upholding lights in the Lady Chapel, which appears to have stood near to the present harbour. In this document the following streets and crofts are enumerated, viz. Neugate, Seygate, Neumarcatgate, Marcatgate, Grymysby, Mylgate, Lortburngate, Appylgate, Ratonraw, and Cobgate. These are all now built upon as streets, with the exception of Newgate, which is only partially occupied with houses. Grimsby was built upon during the latter part of the last century. To what extent the other places mentioned in the roll were built upon in the fifteenth century, we have no means of determining. In ancient times, Cobgate was the name given to that part of the High Street which is below, and Ratonraw to that part of it which is above, the present parish church.

Eminent Characters.—We are not aware of any distinguished warrior, statesman, or author, connected with the parish, either by birth or residence. It is the burial-place, however, of one of the kings of Scotland; William the Lion having been interred in the Abbey, which he founded.

Land-owners.—The superiority of the property is vested in the corporation of Arbroath.

Parochial Registers.—These consist of the kirk-session minutes, whose earliest date is 1669; and of the records of births and baptisms, and of marriage-contracts and marriages, which commence in 1659. They are in general in a good state of preservation. The entries of marriages are defective in 1659, 1661, 1696, 1697, 1698, and 1700; and of births and baptisms in 1660, 1661, 1696, 1697, 1698, 1699, and 1700; and the volume or volumes containing both, from 1735 to 1748 inclusive, have been lost. There is no record of the proceedings of the kirk-session from 1684 to 1732, nor from 1735 to 1748.

Antiquities.—Under the head of antiquities Arbroath has been long celebrated for the ruins of its abbey. This edifice was founded by King William the Lion in 1178, and dedicated to the memory of Thomas a Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury. The precincts of the abbey were inclosed with a stone wall from 20 to 24 feet in height; and formed an area 1150 feet in length from

north to south, and in breadth 706 feet at the north, and 484 at the south end. At the north-west corner there is a tower, still entire, 24 feet square and 70 feet high, formerly used as the Regality prison. The ground-flat is now converted into a butcher's shop. Another tower, somewhat smaller, stood at the south-west corner of the inclosure; which, with the addition of a slated spire, served for many years as a steeple to the present parish church. Having become ruinous, it was taken down in 1830, and a remarkably handsome spire, 152 feet in height, has been erected in its place. The main entry to the area was by a stately porch on the north side. If it had not been that, a few years ago, the vaulting was taken down under an apprehension of insecurity, this would have been entire. For defence it appears to have been furnished with a portcullis, which now forms the armorial bearings of the town of Arbroath. There was another entry, but far inferior in architectural display, at the south-east corner, known by the name of the *Darngate*. A considerable portion of the north side of the inclosure was occupied by the abbey church. The dimensions of this building were,—length, 270 feet; length of transept, 132 feet; of the nave, 148 feet; and of the choir, $76\frac{1}{2}$ feet; breadth of transept, $45\frac{1}{2}$ feet; of the central aisle, 35 feet; and of each of the side aisles, $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet. From marks, visible on the walls, the height from the pavement to the roof appears to have been 67 feet. The building is now in a state of ruin. All that remains is the south wall, with part of the east and west ends. A portion of the two western towers still exists in a very mutilated condition. The great entrance at the west end of the church is entire, with indications of a circular window above. A similar window, on a smaller scale, is to be seen in the upper part of the wall of the south transept. The other windows which remain are in the early-pointed or lancet-shaped style. The pillars which supported the roof of the church are all demolished; but their foundations may be traced without difficulty. Adjoining to the south transept, on the east, is a building, said to have been the charter-house of the abbey. It consists of two vaulted apartments, the one above the other, in a state of good repair. Immediately in front of this, and of the south transept, appear to have been the cloisters; and at a short distance from the south wall of the nave, are the remains of the abbot's house, which is still inhabited as a private mansion. On the whole, the buildings, although,

when entire, they must have had an imposing aspect, were inferior, in point of magnificence, to some others of which Scotland could boast. Little is known respecting the history of the abbey, although it was much celebrated in its day. The monks were brought from Kelso, and were of the Tyronensian order. The abbot exercised episcopal jurisdiction within his precincts, and had a seat in Parliament. Of those invested with this dignity, two may be mentioned as distinguished,—Gawin Douglas, who was afterwards bishop of Dunkeld; and Cardinal Beaton, who held this along with his other dignities, and who appears, during his incumbency, to have alienated part of the property of the abbey. After the Reformation, the revenues and unalienated possessions of this wealthy establishment were erected into a temporal lordship in favour of Lord Claude Hamilton, third son of the Duke of Chateherault. Lord Arbroath is one of the present titles of the Duke of Hamilton. These revenues afterwards came to the Earl of Dysart, from whom Patrick, first Earl of Panmure, in 1642, purchased them, including the patronage of thirty-four parish churches. In Thomson's account of the abbey the following statements are given of the revenues at the time of the reformation. "At the visitation of the monasteries in the years 1561 and 1562, by the commissioners appointed by the privy-council, the revenues of this establishment, as registered in the various books of the commissioners, were found in money and in kind to be:—1st, By the Register of the Collectors of the third of the ecclesiastical benefices, L. 2483, 5s.

Wheat,	-	26 Chalders.	9 Bolls.	1 Firlots.	0 Pecks.
Bear,	-	118	7	0	2
Meal,	-	168	8	2	0
Oats,	-	27	10	3	2½
Salmon, 1 Last, 3 Barrels.					

2d, By the Register of Assumptions of the whole benefices, L. 2553, 14s.

Wheat,	-	3 Chalders.	3 Bolls.	3 Firlots.	2 Pecks.
Bear,	-	143	9	0	2
Meal,	-	196	9	2	0
Oats,	-	27	11	0	0
Salmon, 3 Lasts, 1 Barrel.					

Omitted, capons, grassums, *dawikis*, and all other services and small duties, as also the dependent churches of Abernethy, Moni-

fieth, and Tannadice." A Latin rent roll in the Book of Assumptions, which was returned soon after 1561, gives, in addition to the salmon, three barrels of *glyssort* (grilses), and the valuation of the churches of Abernethy, Tannadice, and Monifieth, thus:—Abernethy, L.273; Tannadice, L.237, 5s. 4d.; Monifieth, wheat, 4 ch. 12 bolls; bear, 12 ch. 9 bolls; meal, 15 ch. 10 bolls. The books, both of surplus and annexation of the third of the ecclesiastical benefices, give L.2594 as the money revenue; and in all the other articles they agree with the registers of the collectors and of assumptions, except in the single article salmon. In 1530, the order issued for the yearly provision for the abbey was, to purchase 800 wedders, 180 oxen, 11 barrels of salmon, 1200 dried cod fish, 82 chalders of malt, 30 of wheat, and 40 of meal, in addition to the rent in kind paid by the tenants. This may seem extraordinary, inasmuch as the number of monks was only twenty-five. But it is accounted for when we consider that visitors of all ranks, including at times the king himself, with a retinue of nobles, were gratuitously entertained in such establishments. The churches, the patronage of which belonged to the abbey, were Arbroath, Arbirlot, Panbride, Lunan, Congschollis, now Inverkeillor, Inverkeillor or St Murdoch's, Monikie, Murroes, Mains, Monifieth, Dunnichen, Clova, Ruthven, Glamis, Kirriemuir, Kingoldrum, Newtyle, Garvock, Dunivaig, Abernethy in Stratherne, Inverness, Mornack or Auchterarder, Banff, Gamry, Langley, Guild, Kingennie, Banchory or Trinity, Bethlehem or Bethelney, Forgue, Tyrie, Tarves, Nigg, and Fetterangus. In the year 1815, the Barons of Exchequer ordered the ruins of the abbey to be so far repaired as to preserve them from total dilapidation. On this occasion the rubbish was removed, and a portion of the pavement of the church again exposed to view. A search was also made with a view to discover, if possible, the tomb of the royal founder. The lid of a stone coffin was found, with the mutilated figure of a man in *alto relievo*. But no evident tokens of King William's sepulchre appeared, although, since that time, the old wily sexton has been accustomed to exhibit to credulous visitors a few mouldering bones in a wooden box as those of the monarch;—and, although bone after bone has been abstracted, new ones have always been found to supply their place.

Modern Buildings.—Dedicated to the purposes of religion, the most conspicuous of these are the parish church and chapel of ease. There is nothing, however, worthy of remark in the appear-

ance of either. Only it deserves to be noticed that the spire of the church, which was rebuilt in 1831, is one of the most elegant structures of the kind to be seen in Scotland, and reflects much credit on the architect, Mr Henderson of Edinburgh. It is in what is commonly designated the Gothic style, and was erected at the expense of L. 1300, a considerable part of which was raised by voluntary subscription. The Episcopal chapel has a plain exterior, but is neatly fitted up within. The dissenting meeting-houses are of a very homely aspect, but most of them, nevertheless, are groaning under a load of debt. The Town-house is a handsome building, erected in 1806. Besides the great hall, which is an elegant room, it contains an office for the use of the town-clerk, and apartments for the meeting of the town-council and the small-debt court. In the upper part of the building is the prison, which is now made secure, and is kept in excellent order. The Guild-hall is a plain unostentatious edifice. The Trades-hall was erected in 1814, at an expense, the weight of which is still felt by the incorporations. The academy, built partly by private subscription in 1821, has a chaste appearance.* In front is an excellent playground for the scholars. Amongst the public buildings in the parish may be mentioned the Signal-tower for communicating with the Bell-Rock light-house, which is twelve miles distant, on a rock in the ocean. Several of these structures are built of stone brought from the shores of the Firth of Forth, whilst others are composed of a red sandstone from quarries in the immediate neighbourhood. Of this last kind of stone most of the houses in Arbroath are built. The colour, however, does not appear to be a favourite one, as many of the proprietors have lately painted the outside of their houses, so as to give them the appearance of a light gray. The town, as a whole, cannot be called handsome. Part of the High Street looks well; but most of the other streets are narrow. And although elegant houses are to be met with in most quarters of the town, the generality have a very ordinary appearance; and, in the cross streets, many of the houses are only one storey in height.

III.—POPULATION.

The registers of marriages and baptisms furnish the only means by which an estimate may be formed of the population of the parish in ancient times. Taking these as data, the number of inhabitants may be calculated to have been 1500 about the time of

* The building of the Academy cost L. 1600.

the Restoration, in the year 1660. At the Revolution, in 1688, the number appears to have been 1400. In 1707, the year of the Union, it had apparently risen to 2000; and in 1715, the year of the first Rebellion, to 2300. As the result of actual enumeration, the population is stated to have been 2098 in the year 1755; 3943 in 1776; and 4676 in 1792. The following are the returns which have been made since the commencement of the present century.

In 1801,	2057 Males.	2886 Females.	4943 in all.
1811, -	2267	3019	5280
1821, -	2694	3315	6009
1823, -	2927	3550	6477
1831, -	3203	3740	6943

In the enumerations of 1801 and 1811, resident seamen are not included. In the three subsequent enumerations they are included. The increase which the returns successively exhibit may be ascribed chiefly to the establishment and extension of the staple manufacture of the place. Of the population, as above stated, nearly the whole must be viewed as belonging to that part of the town of Arbroath which is situated within the parish. Divided into town and country, the population at the following periods may be stated thus:—

In 1792,	-	4545 Town.	131 Country.
1801,	-	4763	180
1811,	-	5068	212
1821,	-	5751	258
1823,	-	6217	260
1831,	-	6624	319

The yearly average of births recorded during the last seven years is 197; to which may be added 20 as the average of those not recorded, making in all an average of 217 births yearly, or 1 to 32 of the existing population. For the same period, the yearly average of marriage-contracts, where both parties resided in the parish, was $39\frac{1}{2}$; where the man only resided, $13\frac{1}{2}$; and where the woman only was resident, $15\frac{1}{2}$. It is only since the beginning of the year 1828 that a register of burials has been accurately kept. During a period of four years from that date, there have been interred in the church-yard of Arbroath, on an average each year, $140\frac{1}{2}$ persons who died in the parish; $73\frac{1}{2}$ who died in the suburbs of the town, in St Vigeans' parish; $7\frac{1}{2}$ who died in the country part of the parish of St Vigeans; and 3 who died elsewhere. Probably 10 persons may die annually in the parish of

Arbroath, who are interred elsewhere. This would exhibit 150 deaths yearly in the parish, or 1 out of 46 of the existing population.

Ages of the persons interred.

Ages.	Persons.	Ages.	Persons.	Ages.	Persons.
Under 1	- 150	40—50	- 49	91	- 3
1—2	- 65	50—60	- 48	92	- 1
2—5	- 75	60—65	- 48	94	- 2
5—10	- 47	65—70	- 52	95	- 1
10—15	- 28	70—75	- 47	98	- 1
15—20	- 34	75—80	- 45	99	- 1
20—30	- 66	80—85	- 46	Unknown,	11
30—40	- 55	85—90	- 22	Total,	898

The following is a statement of the diseases, of which the persons above enumerated are understood to have died. The statement depends altogether on the report of the relatives or friends of the deceased, and has therefore no pretensions to scientific accuracy; yet, as it may not be wholly useless, it is here exhibited.

Consumption,	- 198	Dropsy,	- 17	Mortification,	- 2
Age and decay,	- 184	Inward complaint,	17	Stomach complaint,	2
Water in the head,	50	Child-birth,	- 16	Vomiting of blood,	2
Hooping-cough,	- 49	Asthma,	- 15	Sore throat,	- 1
Still-born,	- 45	Small-pox,	- 15	Exposure to cold,	- 1
Bowel complaint,	- 44	Measles,	- 13	White-swelling,	- 1
Croup,	- 41	Cramp,	- 11	Broken leg,	- 1
Fever,	- 40	Teething,	- 10	Wound in the leg,	1
Inflammation,	- 31	Cancer,	- 4	Untimely birth,	- 1
Accidents, viz. killed,		Jaundice,	- 3	Suicide,	- 1
drowned, scalded,	28	Complaint in the head,	3	Not stated,	- 2
Apoplexy and paralysis,	23	Hysterical fits,	- 2	Total,	- 898
Bowel-hive,	- 22	Gravel,	- 2		

The following is a tabular view of the population in 1831, above 20 years of age, exhibiting the number of persons who are single, married, and widowed.

Ages.	Males.			Females.			Total		
	Single.	Married.	Widowers.	Single	Married.	Widows	Single.	Married.	Widowers and Widows.
20—30	399	176	1	404	250	11	741	426	12
30—40	95	298	11	162	336	37	257	634	48
40—45	19	97	4	42	109	16	61	206	20
45—50	11	130	8	23	102	38	34	232	46
above 50	41	331	84	128	254	308	169	585	392
Total	505	1032	108	757	1051	410	1262	2083	518

N. B.—Of the population under twenty years of age there are four males and four females married, and one female a widow.

Tabular view of the number of families and houses.

	1801.	1811.	1821.	1823	1831.
Families, - - -	1285	1367	1494	1564	1727
Inhabited houses, -	622	638	726	832	1171
Uninhabited houses, -	3	3	5	—	11
Houses building, - -	—	5	3	—	7

The following is a tabular view of the employments of the whole population of the parish of Arbroath.*

	Males			Females			Total		
	above 20.	under 20.	Total	above 20.	under 20.	Total	above 20.	under 20.	Total
Agriculture,	40	16	56	13	6	19	53	22	75
Manufactures,	479	134	607	359	175	534	832	309	1141
Retail trade and handicraft,	616	145	761	155	25	180	771	170	941
Wholesale, capitalists, bankers, professional, and other educated persons,	110	13	123	21		21	131	13	144
Labourers not agricultural,	88	2	90	33		33	121	2	123
Shipmasters and mariners,	216	67	283				216	67	283
Household servants,	3	1	4	151	101	252	154	102	256
All other persons,	99	1180	1279	1488	1213	2701	1587	2393	3980
Total,	1645	1558	3203	2220	1520	3740	3865	3078	6943

It may be here remarked, that the parish can boast of no family of noble blood; and that almost all depend, more or less, on some line of business as a means of subsistence. The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, who are resident in the parish, and have property within the same, is two; and even these are only feuars from the corporation of Arbroath.

The people do not appear to be remarkable for any peculiarity in strength, size, or complexion, or other personal quality. As is common in most places, the appearance of a man indicates in some measure the trade or occupation which he follows; and, perhaps, a degree of huskiness in the voice may be viewed as characteristic of the females employed at spinning-mills. In the census of 1831, 9 males and 15 females were returned as *insane or fatuous*; 2 males and 3 females as *blind*; and 1 male and 3 females as *deaf and dumb*.

Language, Habits, and General Character of the People.—The language generally spoken is the Forfarshire dialect of the Scottish tongue, with a peculiarity of accent distinct from that which is observable in the neighbouring towns of Dundee and Montrose. Amongst the genteeler classes, however, correct pronunciation is

* On this subject, some more minute tabular details will be found in the original MS.

much more attended to than it was thirty or forty years ago. The shibboleth, by which a native of Arbroath may be detected most readily, is his pronunciation of any word in which the letters *o* and *i* are found in conjunction, as in the words *oil*, *spoil*, *anoint*, *point*, &c. It is impossible to exhibit on paper the sound which a native of Arbroath gives to these words; but a stranger who has once heard it, will never forget it.

In regard to the general habits of the population, if it be asked whether the working-classes are cleanly or otherwise, the reply must be in the affirmative, when compared with the appearance of the same classes in some of the larger towns. And if the question be put, whether the people in general enjoy, in a reasonable degree, the comforts and advantages of society, it may be stated, that most of the old men and women belonging to the class of operatives are very poor, in consequence of the difficulty of finding employment in that particular department of work, viz. winding yarn, and spinning at the wheel, by which they were enabled, some years ago, to earn a living. Many also in the same class, who have not passed the vigour of mature age, are in very straitened circumstances,—especially weavers, whose wages are extremely low. This is particularly the case where there is a family of young children who have not arrived at an age to be able to do any thing for themselves. In a great many, however, of those cases where extreme poverty is observable, the people are the main cause of their own wretchedness. The head of the family frequents the tippling-house, where he spends no inconsiderable portion of his earnings; and thus the wife and children are left in misery. In connection with this, and as accounting for much of the prevailing poverty, it may be noticed, that comparatively few young men or women in the operative class, while they remain unmarried, ever think of saving any part of their wages; and that most of them enter into the married state without any previous provision for the probable expenses even of a humble family establishment. Nineteenths of the distress to be found in Arbroath may be traced to these sources. And if potatoes, with a sprinkling of salt, have in many instances been almost the only species of food attainable in families, it becomes a serious question, involving a high moral responsibility, how far absence from the tippling-house, combined with previous habits of economy, might have elevated such families above the necessity of subsisting on such scanty fare. The evil, however, exists already; and it is no easy matter to cure it,

especially as a great majority of the sufferers seem to think, or at least wish it to be understood, that they are not themselves blameable. All their evils, they conceive, are to be ascribed to the government of the country; and they look, with a delusive hope, to a reformed parliament as a cure for their every sorrow! At the same time, it is not to be conceived that these apparently condemnatory remarks are universally applicable. Amongst the operative class of society in Arbroath, we have found a numerous body of men and women whose habits are alike industrious and frugal,—who are exemplary in a discharge of the duties of morality and religion,—and have evinced a commendable patience in the endurance of that adversity which may have fallen to their lot. Not a little of the theological attainment, Christian practice, and evangelical zeal existing in the parish, is to be found in this rank of life. Several of the most enlightened and efficient of the Sabbath-school teachers in the place belong to the same class; and the example they have given of a well-ordered conversation has been blessed to many around them.

The state of society in Arbroath has, we believe, been affected considerably by the great number of bankruptcies which took place in the year 1826. In that memorable year several of the most industrious and honest men in the town, who had realized what was to them an ample fortune, were ruined; but, on the other hand, many of the failures were altogether inexcusable,—the bankrupts having scarcely ever had a penny which they could legally call their own. Not a few of this latter class have been driven, apparently for ever, from the circle in which they once affected to move, but into which they ought never to have been admitted. In consequence, both the commercial and the moral atmosphere of the town have been in some degree purified. These would-be-gentlemen have shrunk back to their original obscurity; or, if any of them are still occasionally heard of, it is only as the rallying point of local excitement amongst the revolutionary and ill-doing portion of the community, or as acknowledged superiors in the revelries of the pot-house. The cause of religion has gained not a little by the fall of the class of persons now adverted to. In the day of their glory, all that wore the aspect of genuine piety or Christian zeal was avowedly the object of their scorn; and their vulgar slang was obtruded officiously wherever they had an opportunity of presenting themselves. But their unhallowed influence is now happily at an end.

As illustrative of the general character of the population, it is worthy of notice, that, considering the limited extent of means, subscriptions for any public or benevolent purpose, which of late have been frequent, have, in almost every instance, met with distinguished success. In proof, also, of an improved tone of sentiment, it may be observed, that the smuggling of gin from the continent, which, thirty or forty years ago, was in such repute as to enable smugglers from the coast of Kent to aspire after matrimonial alliances with respectable families in the town, would now subject the man who was known to engage in traffic of this kind to public scorn.

One great source of demoralization in large towns has not yet found a place in Arbroath, viz. *pawn-broking* establishments;—although we regret to be under the necessity of stating, that in some of the low public houses, articles of wearing apparel, and even bed-clothes, are taken as a pledge for payment of the liquor consumed.

From the foregoing remarks it will be seen, that, as is the case in other communities of the same extent, there is a mixture of good and evil in the society of Arbroath;—whilst some of the particulars here noticed may serve to indicate where and how the application of moral means may be used with a view to the cure of existing evils.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The whole of the land in the parish is in a state of cultivation; and the only portion of it apparently which has never been under the plough, is a common of twenty-six acres, which is in pasture. The ordinary rotation of crops is, 1st, grass; 2d, oats; 3d, green crop, viz. potatoes or turnip; and, 4th, barley. The rent of land is L. 6 per acre near to the town,—gradually diminishing as the distance is greater, till, at the farther extremity of the parish, it is only L. 1, 10s. per acre. The average rent of land throughout the parish may be stated at L. 2. 10s. per acre. Farm-servants, viz. males, are hired per half-year at L. 5 or L. 6; and female labourers are hired, for the day, at from 6d. to 8d.

Manufactures.—The principal manufactures carried on in Arbroath are those of yarn spun from flax and tow,—canvas, brown and bleached linen, leather, cast-iron, bone-dust, tallow-candles, &c.

Exclusive of those in the suburbs, the number of mills in the

parish for spinning yarn is four,* at which are employed 159 men and boys, and 234 women and girls, in all 393. The working hours are $12\frac{1}{2}$ per day; and the average weekly wages are, for men, from 10s. 6d. to 15s. 6d., and for boys 3s. 3d.; for women, from 4s. 6d. to 5s. 3d., and for girls 3s. 6d. The number of canvas weavers employed by persons residing in the parish is 316. Their working hours are $12\frac{1}{2}$ per day, and their weekly wages 7s. 6d. The following is the number of persons employed by residents in the parish, connected with the linen manufacture; viz. 1173 weavers, who, at 14 working hours per day, may earn each, on an average, 6s. of wages per week; the number of women employed as winders is 372, whose weekly wages may be stated at 3s.; 25 men employed as warpers at 12s. each per week; 31 starchers at 10s. 6d.; and 25 lappers and overseers at 15s. per week.

Navigation.—As a sea-port, Arbroath has kept pace with the increasing population of the place. In 1781, there belonged to the harbour 18 vessels, registering 900 tons. In 1791, there were 32 vessels, registering 1704 tons. At present, the number of vessels belonging to the harbour is 77, registering 6700 tons. In 1831, the number of arrivals from foreign ports was 56, and of coasting arrivals 543. In 1832, the arrivals from foreign ports amounted to 60, and coasting arrivals to 538.

The imports at the harbour of Arbroath, in 1831, were,

Bones of animals,	-	6,210 cwt.	or 310 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons.
Oak bark,	-	7,423	or 371
Flax, hemp, and codilla,	41,915		or 2096
Hides, wet and dry,	2,424		or 121
Battens, deals, and deal ends,	38 hun.	1 qr.	9 odds.
Oak plank,	-	24 loads,	18 feet. a load equal to 50 cubic feet.
Oak and fir timber,	378.		

Besides sundry small articles of Baltic produce, and groceries, &c. from London.

During the same year, 6868 ells of sail-cloth were exported. All the goods intended for export are sent either to Dundee, Glasgow, or London.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Burgh.—In the parish is situated the Royal Burgh of Arbroath, or Aberbrothock; which, including the lands within the royalty, oc-

* The number of spinning-mills in the suburbs in the parish of St Vigeans is 12, making a total of 16 in the town and suburbs,

cupies its whole extent, with the exception of the small croft of Barn Green, and the streets within the former precincts of the Abbey. In 1831, the population of the country part of the royalty was 319, and of the town part 5435; leaving 1139 as the population of the district which is without the royalty. But, in order to show the actual extent of the town and its connected suburbs, it is necessary to include that portion of the latter which is situated in the adjoining parish of St Vigeans. The population, at different periods, will then appear as follows:

Town of Arbroath, and its connected suburbs,	1755.	1792.	1801.	1811.	1821.	1829.	1831.
In Arbroath parish, -	2000	4545	4763	5068	5751	6217	6624
In St Vigeans' parish,	50	1369	2312	2801	3155	3498	4587
Total, -	2050	5914	7075	7959	8906	9715	11,211

The date of the erection of Arbroath into a royal burgh cannot now be ascertained. The most ancient charter extant is one granted by James VI. in the year 1599; wherein the town is recognized as having previously enjoyed similar privileges. It has been pretended that these privileges were originally bestowed by King William the Lion, the founder of the abbey. But, in point of fact, before the Reformation, Arbroath appears to have been merely the abbot's burgh; one of the two bailies, by whom the town was governed, having been chosen by the abbot. The head of the Airly family is said to have been heritable bailie of regality, or acknowledged as such, for many years. According to the sett of the burgh, the magistrates and town-council must not consist of more than nineteen, nor of fewer than seventeen, persons; and the number must be made up of a provost, two bailies, a dean of guild, and treasurer, with the addition of the convener of the incorporated trades, and two trades councillors,—the other nine or eleven being guild councillors. For a considerable period previous to the year 1766, the administration of the affairs of the burgh appears to have been extremely corrupt. An oath of secrecy was taken and subscribed by the faction then in power; while an extravagant expenditure had brought the town into a state of insolvency. By prudent management, the funds of the burgh have since been raised to a sufficiently flourishing condition. The public debt is, indeed, considerable,—amounting to L. 16,000. But the income is L. 3000; L. 1400 of which arise from the harbour dues; while

the ordinary expenditure, without including the interest payable on the debt, may be stated at L. 2200.

Prior to the union of the kingdoms, Arbroath sent a representative to the Scottish Parliament. Afterwards, it was joined with Montrose, Brechin, Bervie, and Aberdeen in returning a member to the Parliament of the United Kingdom. Under the provisions of the Reform. Bill, Forfar has been substituted for Aberdeen. The number of voters within the new boundaries marked off for Arbroath is 472, amongst a population of 11,446. In the burgh proper, or that part of the town under the jurisdiction of the magistrates, containing a population of 5804, the number of dwelling-houses valued at L. 10 of yearly rent and upwards, is 135; viz. 1 at L. 80; 2 at L. 30; 4 at L. 35; 15 at L. 20; 20 at L. 18; 13 at L. 15; 13 at L. 14; 19 at L. 12; and 48 at L. 10;—in all, 135, valued together at the yearly rent of L. 1985. We believe the number of dwelling-houses valued at L. 10 and upwards of yearly rent, in that part of the town which is not within the jurisdiction of the magistrates, does not exceed twenty; so that, had dwelling-houses merely been taken into account, as the qualification for voting for a Member of Parliament, the constituency of Arbroath would have consisted of 155, instead of 472 persons.

In Arbroath, besides the guildry, there are seven incorporated trades; viz. smiths, glovers, tailors, weavers, shoemakers, wrights, and bakers. There are three masonic lodges in the town, and societies of gardeners, &c.

There is no police establishment in the town, with the exception of the three town-officers, aided, on extraordinary occasions, by special constables. The only seasons, in general, when an active and powerful body of police appears to be necessary, are the Saturday evenings, when quarrels, the consequence of intoxication, often take place in low public houses, or in the streets. Otherwise, the town is, for the most part, very quiet. Street robberies are unknown; and it is seldom that women of loose character are seen parading at unseasonable hours. Persons of this description are, doubtless, to be found amongst the population. But, keeping out of view the suburbs in the parish of St Vigeans, it is not known that there is more than one house within the burgh which may be accounted professedly a brothel. If there is no regular police establishment in the town, the inhabitants are saved the expense of the usual tax for upholding one. Neither is there

any tax imposed for paving and lighting the streets. This has been done hitherto at the expense of the corporation of the burgh.* There is, at the same time, a great want of public wells for supplying the inhabitants with water. Attached to most of the houses, indeed, there is a pump or draw-well in the back court. But the water to be had from these is generally hard, and not adapted to some of the uses to which such a commodity is applied.

Means of Communication enjoyed by the Parish.—Of these, the post-office is one of the most important. The mail passes through Arbroath from the north every evening at half-past eight o'clock, and from the south every morning at half-past two. The only ground of complaint in regard to the carrying of letters is the want of a cross post to Forfar.

The length of turnpike roads in the parish, without including that part of the road which forms the boundary of the parish, is almost two miles. The length of streets in that part of the town of Arbroath which is within the parish is 8913 yards. Including the suburbs in St Vigeans' parish, the total length of streets within the connected buildings, which may be said to constitute the town, is 15,622 yards. The streets, with the houses and gardens attached to them, in both parishes, cover an extent of 201 English acres, of which 107 are in the parish of Arbroath.

In addition to the mail-coach, there are several stage-coaches, which either start from Arbroath, or pass through it, and thus facilitate the means of communication with other parts of the country. Such are the New Times from Aberdeen to Perth, the Highlander from Montrose to Dundee, and the Commercial Traveller from Arbroath to Dundee, every lawful day; together with a coach from Arbroath to Forfar, generally once a-week, on Wednesdays. The principal inn or hotel, kept by Seaton, affords ample and excellent accommodation for travellers. There is a second inn likewise, where the lodging and entertainment are considered good.

There is neither canal nor rail-road in the parish, although surveys have been made, with a view either to the one or the other, between Arbroath and Forfar.

As a means of communication between those parts of the town and suburbs which are separated by the Brothock, there are five small stone bridges, two of which are in the parish of Arbroath.

As a means of ready intercourse by sea, the harbour of Arbroath

* The cost of lighting the streets within the burgh with gas, in 1831, was L. 181.

merits attention. The first intimation on record of such a convenience is an agreement between the abbot and the inhabitants of the town in the year 1394, by which the contracting parties bound themselves to erect a pier for the accommodation of such vessels as might resort to the place. The abbot submitted to bear the greater share of the expense, in consideration of a certain yearly duty to be paid to him out of every rood of land within the burgh. This pier, which was of wood, having been found insufficient, it was resolved, in the year 1725, to remove the harbour from the foot of the East Causeway or High Street, where it had hitherto been, to the west side of the Brothock. The principal part of this new erection, which is faced with stone, consists of a basin about 124 yards long by 80 broad. The entrance from the sea is at the south-west corner, where it is contracted to the width of 31 feet, and defended, when necessary, against the swell of the ocean, by means of fourteen or fifteen beams of wood, which can be let down in a few minutes into a groove on each side, and then secured at the top by bars of iron. It is still farther defended from the sea in stormy weather, by an outer bulwark of stone. The harbour is dry at low water. At its entrance, there is at spring tides a depth of 15 or 16 feet of water; and at neap tides, of 9 or 10 feet. But there is a bar of rock at a short distance from its mouth, which prevents vessels of large burthen from entering it. Arbroath was long considered merely as a creek belonging to the port of Montrose; and shipmasters laboured under the inconvenience of being obliged to travel all that distance before their vessels could be cleared out at the custom-house. But it is now so far an independent port, that a deputy-collector, comptroller, and other officers, are established on the spot. Every practical advantage connected with a resident custom-house establishment is, in consequence, enjoyed.

Bell-Rock Light-House.—In connection with Arbroath as a sea-port, mention must be made of the Bell-Rock Light-House,—an establishment of inestimable benefit to the east coast of Scotland in general. In pursuance of an act of Parliament passed in 1806, operations with a view to this important erection were commenced in 1807. The building was finished in October 1810; and the light exhibited for the first time on the evening of February 1, 1811. During the progress of the works, a floating light was kept up in a vessel moored at a short distance from the place. The light-house is erected on a rock in the ocean, distant about twelve miles from Arbroath, and thirty from

St Abb's Head. When the tides are neap, the rock is scarcely uncovered at low water. But at spring tides, when the ebb is greatest, that part of the rock which is exposed to view at low water, measures about 427 feet in length by 230 feet in breadth; and at this state of the tide, its average height above the surface of the sea may be stated at four feet. From the higher part of the rock a reef extends, in a south-western direction, about 1000 feet. At high water the rock is wholly covered, to the depth of from ten to twelve feet. The light-house is of a circular form. The two first courses of the masonry are sunk into the rock; and the stones of all the courses are of dove-tailed work. The ground-course is 42 feet in diameter; and the building gradually diminishes, till, as it rises to the top of the parapet wall of the light-room, it is only 13 feet in diameter. The total height of the masonry is 100 feet; but, including the light-room, the height is 115 feet. From the foundation, the edifice is solid to the height of 30 feet. Here is the entry, to which there is an ascent by means of a rope-ladder with wooden steps. At the door the walls are seven feet thick; but gradually diminish, till, at the parapet wall of the light, the thickness is only one foot. The light-room, which is 15 feet in height by 12 in breadth, is of an octagonal form. The windows have cast-iron frames, with plates of polished glass a quarter of an inch thick. The light, which in clear weather is visible at sea at the distance of eighteen miles, is from oil, with argand burners placed in the focus of silver-plated reflectors, of the form of a parabolic curve, and of the diameter of two feet. The light revolves, turning on its axis once in six minutes, in the course of which, a bright and a dark-red light are alternately exhibited. Two large bells attached to the light-house are tolled in foggy weather, by means of the machinery which moves the lights. At Arbroath a suit of buildings has been erected, where each light-keeper has three apartments for the accommodation of his family. Three of the light-keepers are always at the light-house, where they remain six weeks at a time, after which they are a fortnight on shore with their families. Connected with the apartments for their accommodation, a signal-tower has been erected, about fifty feet in height, to communicate with the keepers at the rock. The total expense of this magnificent and important erection was about L.60,000.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parishes of Arbroath and St Vigean were originally one; and both names seem to have been applied indiscriminately. The disjunction appears to have taken place

soon after the Reformation. At first the parish was viewed as consisting only of the burgh; but afterwards, the grounds inclosed within the walls of the abbey garden, with the croft of Barn-green, were also considered as belonging to it. The parish church is situated near the centre of that part of the town which is on the east side of the Brothock. There are no means, apparently, of ascertaining the date of its foundation. In the year 1764, it was considerably enlarged by removing the south wall eight feet back, and by adding to the accommodation in the aisle on the north side of the church. In each end, and in the aisle, there is a double tier of galleries. By recent measurement, it has been found to contain 1412 sittings, allowing eighteen inches to each. Some of the seats in the galleries are very inconvenient, being so near to the ceiling that it is difficult for a man of ordinary size to stand in them upright. There are no free seats for the poor; the whole being the property either of individuals, or of corporate bodies, who let, generally to the highest bidder, the sittings not required for their own immediate use. This has often proved a very serious evil, and has been justly complained of.

The minister of the parish has neither manse nor glebe. In the year 1701, the arable ground and grass within the abbey garden (which had been bestowed on the Bishop of Brechin during the reign of protestant episcopacy, and had reverted to the Crown at the Revolution,) were granted in lease-hold to Mr Fergusson, then minister of Aberbrothock, in aid of his stipend. But after his death, the magistrates petitioned for a lease of the said grounds, which was granted to them in 1737. And again, in 1753, they applied for, and obtained a grant of them in perpetuity for payment of an annual feu-duty of L. 8 Sterling. All that was assigned to the minister in lieu of the abbot's house and garden was the yearly sum of L. 4, 8s. 11d. Sterling, in name of house-rent.

The first notice of the stipend of the minister of Arbroath, of which we are aware, is that appended to Dr M'Crie's *Life of the celebrated Andrew Melville*. His brother, James Melville, appears to have been minister of this parish,—probably its first incumbent. In the year 1591, Thomas Ramsay, in Kirktown, bound himself “to pay to the richt worchipfull Mr James Melvill, minister of Aberbrothock, 4 bolls bier, wt. ane peck to the boll, and twa bolls aitmaill wt. the cheritie, guid and sufficient stuff—the mail to be for the sd. Mr James awin aeting, all guid and fyne as ony gentill man sall eat in the country adjacent about him;—or fail-

zeing delivery, to pay for every boll 4 lib. of money."—(Register of Contracts of the Commissariat of St Andrews.)—"He was alive in March 1596, when he obtained decret against John Richardson, for the few farme of the kirk-lands of Aberbrothock, assigned to him by the Lords of Counsel, viz. 2 bolls wheat, 28 bolls bear, and 20 bolls aitmeal." The stipend of Arbroath is stated by Playfair in his Description of Scotland, to have amounted in 1755 to L. 71, 18s. 0½d. In the Statistical Account of the parish, written in 1792, it is said to have consisted of 6 b. of wheat; 22 b., 2 f. 3 p. and 1 lip. of barley; 23 b. 2 f. and 2 p. of meal; and L. 54, 8s. 10d., including the rent for the church-yard grass, but not including L. 4, 3s. 4d. for communion elements, and L. 4, 8s. 11d. for house-rent. It has since been augmented, and now consists of wheat, 6 b.; meal, 69 b. 1 f. 3 p. and 1½ lip.; and barley, 68 b. 2 f. and 2½ lip.; besides L. 72, 15s.; a teind of fish yielding L. 6; and L. 4, 8s. 11d. for house-rent.*

There is also a permanent assistant minister in the parish, who officiates as a colleague, and has the charge of one of the two districts into which the parish is divided. His stipend arises partly from the proceeds of an endowment of L. 790, the commencement of which was a bequest of L. 565 by a Convener Mill in 1776. The scanty income which this could afford was made up by the people, at first to L. 50, and afterwards to L. 60 or L. 70. A large portion of the emoluments of the session clerkship has since been added, and the sum given by the people greatly increased; so that, during the last year of the incumbency of the writer of this, the proceeds amounted to L. 180.

The patronage of the parish belonged formerly to the Earl of Panmure, but was forfeited to the Crown in 1715. The patronage of the office of assistant-minister of the parish is vested in the kirk-session.

The population of the parish having greatly increased, a chapel of ease was erected in 1797, in the north-east corner of the abbey grounds, under the name of the Abbey Chapel. It accommodates 1268 persons, allowing eighteen inches to each sitter. As in the parish church, so here also the seats are private property. No parochial district is assigned to the minister, which we regard as a great evil. But he may dispense the ordinance of the Lord's supper, and baptize the children of those parishioners who are

* The allowance for communion elements is L. 8, 6s. 8d.; and the grass of the church-yard yields annually L. 4, 10s.

members of the Established church, provided they are sitters in the chapel. His stipend is L. 102, arising from a rate imposed on the seats or pews, according to their valuation at the time when the chapel was built. The patronage is vested in those of the proprietors of pews who are members of the Established church. But it is not necessary, in order to qualify a proprietor to vote, that he should be a sitter in the chapel. In fact, it cannot be said that the congregation have the choice of their pastor. By the constitution it is provided, that a majority of the committee of management must be members of the kirk-session of the parish.*

Arbroath is the seat of a presbytery, consisting of eleven parishes, within the bounds of the synod of Angus and Mearns. From the presbytery, two ministers and a ruling elder are sent to the General Assembly of Church of Scotland.

As might be expected, there are several dissenting meeting-houses, viz. one Episcopal, containing 381 sittings; two belonging to the United Secession Synod, the first of which has accommodation for 780, and the latter for 600 sitters; one Relief, seated for 400; and one Congregational or Independent, with 400 sittings; besides smaller places of meeting for Glassites, Bereans, and Baptists. The church accommodation for all classes of dissenters may be stated at 2700 sittings; while that within the pale of the Established church is 2680 sittings. In the suburbs in the parish of St Vigeans, there is a Wesleyan Methodist meeting-house, which will accommodate 300; and one belonging to the Original Secession, which is seated for 300. For the town and suburbs, the total amount of church accommodation is, in the Establishment, for 3910 sitters,—and, amongst other denominations, for 3300. By adverting to the state of church accommodation merely, the numerical strength of the dissenters might seem to be considerable. But it must be borne in mind, that most of the dissenting places of worship are miserably ill attended. It is difficult, in some cases, to ascertain exactly the amount of stipend paid to the ministers of those congregations that do not belong to the Established church. That of the Episcopal minister is estimated, including the Easter offerings, at L. 150. The minister of the first Secession congregation has, we believe, L. 105, besides a house and garden. The second Secession congregation

* Another Chapel of Ease was erected in 1829, for the accommodation of that portion of the suburbs of Arbroath which belongs to the parish of St Vigeans. It affords room for 1230 sitters, allowing eighteen inches to each.

profess to allow to their minister the same sum, without a house and garden. However it may be at present, a few years ago the members were unable, or unwilling, to raise that sum; and the minister, who is since dead, having obtained a grant of any collections which might be made at an evening service, was supported, in a great measure, by the voluntary contributions of members of the Established church, who attended that service and pitied his case. The Relief minister is understood to have L. 60 per annum allowed to him; whilst all that can be said of the emoluments of the Congregational or Independent minister is, that they must be miserably poor. Amongst the Glassites, Bereans, and Baptists, the ministerial service is gratuitously performed. From the foregoing statement it will be seen, that none of the livings, whether in or out of the Establishment, are great. And it may be noticed in passing, that, within the period of a very few years, three dissenting ministers have been literally starved out of the town by their congregations.

The following tables will serve to exhibit the classification of the inhabitants of the parish, according to their religious profession, and are the result of actual enumeration. The first table, exhibiting the state of religious profession in the year 1823, includes not only the parish of Arbroath, but the suburbs also in St Vigeans parish. The other tables, which exhibit the state of religious profession in 1831, refer to the parish of Arbroath only.

State of religious profession in 1823.

	Parish of Arbroath.	Suburbs in St Vigeans.	Total.
Established Church, -	5209	2806	8015
Episcopalians, - -	423	117	540
United Secession, -	305	232	537
Original Secession, -	24	107	131
Methodists, - - -	221	61	282
Glassites, - - -	99	35	134
Congregationalists, -	57	42	99
Bereans, - - -	17	15	32
Dalites, - - -	5	5	10
Baptists, - - -	1	5	6
Socinians, - - -	2	0	2
Universalist, - - -	1	0	1
No denomination, -	113	73	186
Total, - - -	6477	3498	9975
Summary, viz.			
Established Church, -	5209	2806	8015
Dissenters, - - -	1155	619	1774
No denomination, -	113	73	186
Total, - - -	6477	3498	9975

In the above table, those are entered as belonging to the Established church, who, whilst members of the same, were sitters at the time in other places of worship, in consequence of the want of church accommodation in the Establishment. In the subsequent tables, all are entered according to the church, chapel, or meeting-house, in which they professed to attend worship in ordinary. Some, in consequence, are entered as dissenters, who profess to be members of the Establishment.

<i>Established Church.</i>	Persons professing to attend worship.	Communicants.	Persons above 20 years of age who are not Communicants.	Families or portions of families amongst whom are no Communicants.	Number of persons in such families, or portions of families.
Arbroath Church, -	2865	1474	236	27	63
Arbroath Chapel, -	1481	699	132	32	108
St Vigeans' Chapel, -	690	360	51	6	14
St Vigeans' Church, -	76	33	7	2	2
Arbirlot Church, -	8	6	90	0	0
No fixed place in the } Establishment, }	298	78	106	41	112
<i>Dissenters.</i>					
1st United Secession, -	250	127	26	13	21
2d United Secession, -	257	111	28	19	34
Original Secession, -	13	7	1	4	4
Episcopalians, -	433	214	42	17	56
Relief, -	203	74	24	7	16
Wesleyan Methodists, -	142	48	25	12	38
Congregationalists, -	84	24	31	15	35
Glassites, -	69	27	12	4	21
Bereans, -	11	8	1	1	1
Baptists, -	9	3	3	1	4
Papists, -	13	3	7	5	6
No denomination, -	41	0	24	21	41
<i>Summary, viz.</i>					
Established church, -	5418	2624	532	108	299
Dissenters, -	1484	646	200	98	236
No denomination, -	41	0	24	21	41
Total, -	6943	3290	756	227	576

It appears by the foregoing table, that, amongst every 1000 persons professing to attend worship, there are, in the Established church, 484 communicants; and among the dissenters, 435 communicants;—that, in the Established church, the proportion of persons above twenty years of age who are not communicants is 98 in 1000: and, amongst the dissenters, 134 in 1000;—and that in the Established church, the proportion of the number of persons in families, and portions of families, amongst whom there is not a single communicant, is 55 in 1000; whilst, amongst the dissenters, the proportion is 157 in 1000.

The following table exhibits the number of sittings in the Established church occupied as private property, or rented, by persons residing in the parish of Arbroath; with the number of persons for whose accommodation they are thus occupied or rented; and also the number of persons amongst whom, while professing to attend worship in the Establishment, there is not a single sitting occupied as property, or rented.

	Sittings occupied as property, or rented.	Persons by whom they are thus occupied, or rented.	Persons by whom no sittings are either occupied as property, or rented.
Parish church of Arbroath,	- 1388	2439	426
Arbroath Chapel of Ease,	- 729	1297	184
St Vigeans Chapel of Ease,	- 442	650	40
Parish church of St Vigeans,	- 24	56	20
Parish church of Arbirlot,	- —	—	8
No fixed place in the Establishment,	- —	—	298
Total,	2583	4442	976

Divine service in the Established church is in general well attended. There is evening service in the parish church during five months in the year, commencing in the month of April. Such a service,—even if it were continued all the year round,—may be deemed almost necessary, as, in many families, circumstances, often unavoidable, occur, which prevent some of the inmates from getting out to church during the day. Yet it is to be feared that the laudable object for which “*the exercise*,” as it is familiarly termed, was originally established, has come to be abused. Many of those who attend might be better employed in instructing their children at home. Among the dissenters, with whom such services are common, the evening is accounted the grand diet. The best prepared discourse is reserved till then, and seats are provided for all who contribute a halfpenny to the collection, and thus assist in keeping up the money concerns of the meeting-house. Amidst the good which might result from evening services in Arbroath, if attended only by those for whom they are necessary, this evil has arisen, that they have tended to add to the number of those belonging to the Established church who rent no sittings, but who might easily, in most cases, pay a moderate seat rent. These have got into the way of trusting to free seats at the “*evening exercise*,” and their families are brought up in habits of carelessness in regard

to that which was deemed essential to the respectability of the men of a former generation.

In the Established church the Lord's supper is dispensed twice a year. The average number of communicants each time may be stated at about 850 in the parish church, and 680 in the Abbey chapel of ease. Amongst the operative classes, it is very common for the husband to communicate at the one time, and the wife at the other; while, it is to be feared, not a few, under the pretence of family cares, do not communicate so often as once in the year.

Societies for Religious Purposes.—At the head of these may be placed the Sabbath evening school society, which comprehends within the field of its operations the parishes of Arbroath and St Vigeans. It has been in active operation upwards of twenty years. Dissenters are admitted to teach in its schools, but only on the condition of declaring their adherence to the doctrinal standards of the Established church. A library of 1100 volumes is connected with the institution; and, besides the ordinary religious books for children and young persons, contains several works of a valuable description. The receipts of the society during the year 1831 amounted to L.31, 0s. 3½d. and the expenditure to L.33, 14s. 4d. The number of male teachers at the same period was 49, and of female teachers 6; while the number of male scholars attending the schools was 437, and of female scholars 593, in all, 1030. The population of the district, included within the field of the society's operations, is 14,078; so that 1 of 13½ of the existing population is receiving Sabbath school instruction. The reports of the society do not distinguish the number of scholars residing respectively in the parishes of Arbroath and St Vigeans. But the enumeration of the inhabitants of the parish of Arbroath in 1831, exhibited, in regard to this, the following result:

Age.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Age.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 6,	- 12	11	23	15-20,	- 11	29	40
6-10,	- 82	104	186	20-30,	- 0	7	7
10-15,	- 84	124	208				
				Total,	- 189	275	464

A Bible society has existed in the parish since the year 1812. It has been auxiliary to the Edinburgh Bible Society since the British and Foreign Bible Society showed no sign of amendment in the matter of promoting the circulation of the Apocrypha. The average annual income of the institution during the years 1829 and 1830 was L. 38. A society for religious purposes in general, which, a few years ago, was in a flourishing condition, has since in a great

measure fallen away. A home missionary society for the town and suburbs was established in 1830. The expenditure during the year ending March 1832 was L. 43, 10s. 6d., leaving a balance against the society of L. 5, 13s. 4d.

Deputations from most of the leading religious institutions in the united kingdom visit Arbroath in the course of the season. A few years ago, when it was presumed that a Catholic spirit pervaded the several bodies of Dissenters, the collections, made up chiefly of what was given by members of the Established church, were in general liberal. But they have fallen much off since the Dissenters began to exhibit a spirit of sectarian virulence against the Establishment. In the parish church and chapel of ease, collections have been made from time to time in aid of the Scottish Missionary, the Bible and the Gaelic school societies, as well as the General Assembly's schools, and the General Assembly's mission to India. No record, apparently, has been kept of these collections, so that the amount cannot be exhibited. On the whole, however, the total amount subscribed and collected annually in the parish for religious purposes may be stated at about L. 130 or L. 140.

Education.—Illustrative of the state of education, the following table exhibits the number of persons residing in the parish, who were returned in the census of 1831 as being then at school.

Ages.	Number at School.		Total.
	Males.	Females.	
2-6,	181	107	288
6-10,	263	236	499
10-15,	147	135	282
15-20,	13	23	36
20-30,	2	3	5
Total,	556	504	1060

The above includes those attending week-day schools of every description. On the same occasion, a return was made of the number of persons above six years of age who could neither read nor write, of which the following is an abstract:

Ages.	Number who cannot read.			Number who cannot write.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
6-10,	2	7	9	170	239	409
10-15,	0	1	1	29	98	127
15-30,	3	3	6	17	208	225
30-50,	0	5	5	11	220	231
Above 50,	2	5	7	23	275	298
Total,	7	21	28	250	1040	1290
6-15,	2	8	10	199	337	536
Above 15,	5	13	18	51	703	754

In the foregoing table, are included, as unable to read or write, those only, who, by their own confession, or that of their parents or guardians, have never been taught even the first principles of reading or writing. But those are not included, whose inability to read or write has been occasioned by blindness, insanity, or any other physical defect. It may likewise be stated, that many of those who have left school, and who profess to be able to read or write, can do so very imperfectly. We have not, however, the means of distinguishing such from others who have so profited by their education as to enjoy the advantages arising from it.

In the parish there are in all twenty-four schools; four of which, connected with an establishment which has of late been termed the Arbroath Academy, are under one roof. These four are endowed,—and may be viewed as having come in place of what was originally the parochial school. The other schools in the parish are unendowed. One of them is supported by an association, termed the Arbroath Female Benevolent Society, for the instruction, gratuitously, of poor children. The school-house was erected out of funds raised by subscription. An infant school was established in 1831,—and is supported partly by subscription, and partly by means of school fees. Besides these, there are two schools for the instruction of young ladies in the useful and elegant branches of female education. And, in addition to these, there are ten schools, intended chiefly for beginners, taught by elderly women in the more humble walks of life. The academy is under the superintendence of a rector, and three masters, to each of whom a separate department is assigned. The salary of the rector is L. 34, and L. 6, 10s. in name of house rent. Including the emoluments derived from a mortification by the late town-clerk, Mr Colvill, for the education of five poor children, his income, apart from fees, may be estimated at about L. 50 per annum. The other masters have each a salary of L. 25 per annum. The following is a list of the branches taught at the academy, with the fees annexed, as authorized by the magistrates and directors.

I. Classical and Mathematical Department.

Latin and Greek, with antiquities and ancient geography, per quarter,	L. 0	8	6
French,	0	10	6
French, with either Latin or Greek, or all three,	0	13	6
Mathematics,	0	10	6
Navigation,	0	10	6
Do. per course,	1	11	6
Do. with lunar observations, per course,	2	2	0

Geography, first course of six months, - - - -	L. 1 1 0
Do. with history and construction of maps, - - - -	0 15 0
Elements of chronology and British history, - - - -	0 10 6

II. Commercial Department.

Writing, plain and ornamental, per quarter, - - - -	0 4 0
Writing, arithmetic with the demonstrations, and geography, so far as relates to places upon maps, - - - -	0 6 0
Book-keeping in all its forms, - - - -	0 10 6

III. English Department.

English reading and recitation, per quarter, - - - -	0 5 0
Do. do. and English grammar, including composition if required, - - - -	0 6 0
Grammar by itself, - - - -	0 5 0

IV. General Schools.

English, - - - -	0 3 0
English and writing, - - - -	0 3 6
English, writing, and arithmetic, - - - -	0 4 0
The above, with English grammar or Latin, - - - -	0 4 6

When the erection of the academy was contemplated, in 1820, the magistrates, with a view to obtain the assistance of the public, proposed that every person, subscribing L. 10, or upwards, to the intended building, should be a director for life, and have a vote in the appointment of the masters, with the exception of the rector, the nomination of whom remains with the magistrates and the parish minister as before. In the unendowed schools in the parish, taught by males, the average fees, per quarter, are,—English 4s.; do. with writing, 5s.; do. do. with arithmetic, 6s. 6d. The fees at schools taught by elderly women, are, commonly, three half-pence per week. In the first established of the two schools in the parish, for the board and education of young ladies, the following are the terms on which the subjoined branches are taught, per quarter,—

Music, three lessons a-week, - - - -	L. 1 5 0
Ditto, five lessons a-week, - - - -	2 0 0
Drawing, - - - -	1 1 0
French, - - - -	0 10 0
Italian, - - - -	1 10 6
Geography and history, - - - -	0 10 6
Writing and arithmetic, - - - -	0 6 0
Fancy work, - - - -	0 10 6
Plain work, - - - -	0 6 0
Ditto, with English and grammar, - - - -	0 10 6

Young ladies are taught all the branches for L. 12 per annum. Board, exclusive of education, at this seminary, is L. 25 per annum, and washing L. 4 per annum.

Literature.—It cannot, perhaps, be said that there is much taste

in the town for the higher branches of literature. Few parents think of giving their children a classical education. Of late, however, there is an improvement in this respect.—There is a public library, the property of which is vested in the shareholders. The purchase money is L. 5, besides half a guinea of annual subscription. The number of volumes in the library is upwards of 4000, of which one-fourth consists of novels and romances, and one-eighth of voyages and travels. It contains the leading monthly and quarterly reviews and magazines. But works of a theological nature have, in a great measure, been excluded.—A small library, consisting of theological and miscellaneous publications, is attached to the Abbey Chapel of Ease, and another of a similar description to the Chapel of Ease in the parish of St Vigeans.—A mechanics' library was instituted in 1824. It contains upwards of 500 volumes, of a theological as well as scientific description. With this it is intended to connect a mechanics' institution or school of arts; and a building for the purpose has just been erected. This comprises also a mechanics' reading-room, which is open every day of the week, Sabbath excepted. There is another public reading-room in the town, frequented by most of the merchants and higher class of shopkeepers; which, we regret to remark, is kept open on the Lord's day. There is no newspaper or other periodical work published in the town. The provincial newspaper, which has the greatest circulation in the place, is the *Montrose Review*.

✓ *Charitable and other Institutions.*—There is neither alms-house, poor-house, hospital, dispensary, nor lunatic-asylum in the town. Still, however, there are several charitable institutions connected with the parish. The most ancient of these is Carmichael's mortification for the benefit of seven shipmasters' widows. The bequest is dated 29th August 1733; and, at present, the net proceeds arising from land-rent, feu-duties, and the interest of L. 600, amount to L. 130.

By deed of mortification, 6th July 1811, the late John Colvill, Esq. town-clerk of Arbroath, left property for the following purposes connected with the parish, viz. L. 30 per annum to the parochial schoolmaster of Arbroath, for the education of five poor children of that town, he furnishing each of them with pens, ink, paper, and books, to the value of L. 2;—also L. 10 yearly to the clergyman of the Scotch Episcopal chapel of Arbroath; and L. 10 yearly to the poor of Arbroath, under the direction of the minis-

ter and Kirk-session; and, in addition to this, a sum annually to twenty poor householders, which at present yields about L. 3, 10s. to each.

A Destitute Sick Society was instituted in 1812. Several sums have been bequeathed to it since that period, which will have the effect of rendering it permanent; but it depends for support chiefly on voluntary contribution. The sums distributed weekly to each patient, vary from one shilling to half-a-crown;—the average may be stated at eighteen pence. The average annual expenditure is about L. 73. That during the year 1831, was L. 75, 15s.

There have been several *Friendly Societies* connected with the parish, some of which have failed in consequence of the inaccuracy of the calculations made at the outset. The Glovers' Friendly Society, which was instituted in 1802, has since been remodelled on approved principles. Another, styled the Arbroath and St Vigean's Friendly Society, was established in 1830, on principles which bid fair to enable it to succeed.

Savings Bank.—This useful institution was established in 1815. The following table exhibits the transactions for each year:

From May	1815 to January	1817, L.	Receipts.	Disbursements.
	1815 to January	1817, L.	684 6 6	L. 319 13 6
	January 1817 to	1818,	379 16 3	- 309 9 0
	1818 to	1819,	489 17 3	- 329 7 5
	1819 to	1820,	516 13 3	- 342 7 11
	1820 to	1821,	553 4 0	- 454 15 4
	1821 to	1822,	876 2 11	- 518 18 5
	1822 to	1823,	1181 2 7	- 790 15 3
	1823 to	1824,	1214 9 3	- 1104 17 7
	1824 to	1825,	1756 4 0	- 1294 17 4
	1825 to	1826,	2519 13 10	- 1775 8 1
	1826 to	1827,	1543 7 5	- 2596 7 5
	1827 to	1828,	1273 4 4	- 1127 4 4
	1828 to	1829,	1753 17 10	- 1457 1 10
	1829 to	1830,	2437 12 11	- 1849 13 5
	1830 to	1831,	2282 1 3	- 1999 15 8
	1831 to	1832,	2720 8 5	- 2298 8 4
	1832 to	1833,	2937 10 8	- 2614 6 7

Of 648 depositors at last balance, there were 344 adult females, 267 adult males, and 37 children. The first class of depositors consists principally of maid-servants in the town and neighbourhood, of unmarried women not in service, and of girls at spinning-mills. The second class are principally weavers, and other *low-paid* tradesmen. And here it may be stated as a fact worthy of notice, that very few of the deposits are by tradesmen who receive what may be termed *very high wages*. Among this class, likewise,

there are accounts kept in the name of individuals for behoof of temporary societies, consisting of from 50 to 80 individuals, who pay each sixpence or a shilling weekly, which accumulates till a term, when it is uplifted for the purpose of paying rents, &c. Since 1830, two societies have been formed in the village of Auchmithie, in the adjoining parish of St Vigeans, among the fishermen, each consisting of 25 members, who pay sixpence weekly, and deposit the amount in the savings bank. Thus, the ramifications of the institution are much farther spread than the number of depositors would at first sight appear to indicate.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The parish of Arbroath is not subjected to the curse of an assessment for the support of the poor. The following is the number of persons, in the years 1830, 1831, and 1832, receiving parochial aid, with the sums allotted for their maintenance.

	In 1830.	In 1831.	In 1832.
Weekly pensioners,	48	45	44
Sum expended in supporting them, L.	141 16 6	135 10 7	128 1 3
Persons receiving occasional aid,	147	141	137
Sum expended in relieving them, L.	74 14 0	62 4 6	73 18 9

The allowance to weekly pensioners on the poors' roll varies from 9d. to 4s. per week. The usual allowance may be stated at 1s. per week. There is also expended annually by the kirk-session about L. 45 for coals to the poor. The annual cost of lunatics is from L. 30 to L. 40. The amount of funds for the support of the poor, under the management of the session, during the years 1830, 1831, and 1832, is as follows:

	In 1830.	In 1831.	In 1832.
Arising from collections at the parish church and chapel of ease,	L. 202 11 9½	L. 194 11 3	L. 194 19 10½
Arising from mortifications and other sources,	162 1 2½	150 16 1	121 13 9½
Total,	L. 364 13 0	L. 345 7 4	L. 316 13 8

The total expenditure for the poor has been, in 1830, L. 375, 6s. 2d.; in 1831, L. 357, 7s. 2d.; and, in 1832, L. 366, 19s. 5d. It appears, from the above statement, that, during these years, the expenditure has exceeded the income. This has arisen, partly, from "*untoward events*" in connection with the chapel of ease, where the collections have fallen off one-half of what they were some time ago. But the cause of this defalcation of revenue, will, it is hoped, be speedily removed, that the evils of a compulsory assessment may be avoided.

Prisons.—There is a jail in the burgh of Arbroath. It is well

secured, and every means observed for preserving the health, and promoting the comfort, of the prisoners. The jailor is under the superintendence of one of the bailies of the town by turns. The number of persons confined in the jail, during the year 1831, was 55, of whom 46 were imprisoned for debt, 6 for theft, and 3 for desertion of service.

Fairs.—Of these there are two held in the parish. Whatever may have been the business transacted at them formerly, the whole is now confined to the sale chiefly of ready-made shoes, sweet-meats, &c.; while, in the evening, the public houses are crowded with the idle and intemperate.

Inns and Alehouses.—Of these there were, in 1832, within the royalty, 85; in the parish, without the royalty, 10; total within the parish 95. Thus there is in the parish, on an average, one public house, or place where spirituous liquors are sold, to every 18 families, or to every 40 individuals, of the population of both sexes, above 20 years. We have already said that a very large portion of the misery which afflicts the labouring classes may be traced to habits of intemperance. And one of the causes of the prevalence of this vice may fairly be ascribed to the *number* of public houses which are licensed.

Fuel.—The fuel made use of in the parish is coal, imported by sea from the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Coal is likewise imported from the Firth of Forth, chiefly for the use of large manufacturing establishments, where steam is employed as the moving power.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Table showing wages, per week, of the following classes of artisan labour:—

	1812.	1819.	1826.	1833.
Ship-carpenters,	L.1 2 0	L.0 15 0	L.1 0 0	L.0 14 0
House-carpenters,		0 14 0	0 15 0	0 12 0
Masons,	0 12 8½	0 9 0	0 10 3	0 10 3½
Founders,	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 0 0	1 1 0
Blacksmiths,	0 16 0	1 0 0	0 16 0	0 15 0
Tailors,	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 18 0
Curriers,	1 12 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	1 8 0
Tanners,	0 15 0	0 14 0	0 13 0	0 13 0
Millwrights,	0 12 0	1 0 0	0 17 0	0 15 0
Weavers,	0 16 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 6
Flax-dressers,	0 15 9	0 9 0	0 10 6	0 10 8
Shoemakers, 10s. to	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0

Table showing the prices of provisions and other necessaries of life, during the following years, for the working-classes:—

	1812.	1819.	1826.	1833.
Wheaten bread per quart. loaf,	L.0 1 6	L.0 0 11	L.0 0 10	L.0 0 8
Oatmeal per peck of 8lb. Dutch,		0 1 4	0 1 4	0 1 0
Potatoes per stone of 16lb. Dutch,		0 0 4½	0 0 4½	0 0 4
Barley per lb. avoirdupois,		0 0 2½	0 0 2½	0 0 2
Beef do.	0 0 8	0 0 7	0 0 6	0 0 5
Mutton do.	0 0 8	0 0 7	0 0 6	0 0 5½
Cheese do.		0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4
Butter do.		0 0 10½	0 0 10	0 0 8
Beer per barrel of 18 gallons,	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 9 0
Soap per lb.		0 0 9½	0 0 7	0 0 6½
Candles per lb.		0 0 11	0 0 7	0 0 6
Brown sugar per lb.		0 0 10½	0 0 8½	0 0 7
Tea per lb.		0 7 0	0 6 6	0 5 6
Salt per lb.		0 0 2	0 0 1½	0 0 1½
Coals per imperial barrel,	0 1 3½	0 1 3½	0 1 2	0 1 1
Hats each,	0 7 0	0 6 6	0 6 0	0 5 6
Shoes for men per pair,	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 9 6
Shoes for women per pair,	0 6 6	0 6 6	0 6 6	0 6 0
Coarse calico per yard,	0 1 0	0 1 1	0 0 7	0 0 6
House-rent per year,	3 0 0	2 15 0	2 15 0	2 15 0

Since the preceding account was printed, the following statement has been obtained of the average gross amount of raw produce yearly raised in the parish:—

Grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man or the domestic animals,	L.1490 0 0
Potatoes, turnips, &c. cultivated in the fields for food,	502 10 0
Hay, meadow or cultivated,	340 0 0
Land in pasture,	320 0 0
Gardens and orchards,	350 0 0
Annual thinning and periodical felling of woods,	
Fisheries,	1200 0 0
	<u>L.4142 10 0</u>

December 1833.