

There are in the parish about 3000 acres cultivated or occasionally in tillage, and about 900 acres under wood.

The average rent of land per acre is L.1, 5s.; real rental of the parish, L.3100.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Ecclesiastical State.—The number of families in the parish is 190, and all belong to the Established Church. Stipend, 128 bolls barley, 128 bolls meal, with L.8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. The glebe is about twelve acres in extent, and may be valued at L.15. The manse was built in 1783; it was repaired and additions made to it in 1826.

Education.—There is but one school in the parish,—the parochial. The teacher's salary is L.34, 4s. 4½d.; probable amount of his school-fees, L.25. He receives, as session-clerk, L.1, 10s. per annum, and shares in the Dick Bequest.

Poor.—Number of poor, 18. Average annual amount of contributions for their relief, L.34, whereof, from church collections, L.24; from alms and legacies, L.10.

PARISH OF OLD MACHAR.

PRESBYTERY OF ABERDEEN, SYNOD OF ABERDEEN.

THE REV. ROBERT SMITH, } *Ministers.*
 THE REV. P. FORBES, D. D., }
 THE REV. GAVIN PARKER, *Bon Accord.*
 THE REV. JAMES BRYCE, *Gilcomston.*
 THE REV. ROBERT FORBES, A. M., *Woodside.*
 THE REV. WILLIAM MITCHELL, *Holburn Street.*

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THE parish of Old Machar was originally a deanery, called the Deanery of St Machar, and comprehended the parishes of Old Machar, New Machar, and Newhills. In times of Popery, they do not seem to have been divided into separate parishes, but to have been chapels in the deanery, at which chapels divine worship was regularly performed, as the inhabitants of so extensive and populous a district could not conveniently meet in one place for public worship. New Machar seems to have been erected into a se-

parate parish about the time of the Reformation; and Newhills about the year 1663.

The extent of this parish is great, and its form irregular. Its south-east corner forms the north and west boundaries of the city of Aberdeen, or parish of St Nicholas. It extends about three miles up the Dee, by which river it is bounded on the south, and divided from the parish of Nigg, and county of Kincardine. The western boundary stretches in a crooked line from the Dee to the Don, at the distance of about two miles and a-half from the parish church. By this line it is divided from the parishes of Nether Banchory and Newhills. Crossing the Don, it extends a mile and a-half farther up the river, making in all four miles from the river's mouth. On this part the Don divides it from the parishes of Newhills and Dyce; its northern boundary passes by the parishes of New Machar and Belhelvie, till it joins the sea at the Black Dog, forming a sweep, every part of which is distant from the parish church at least four miles. On the east, it is bounded by the sea, from the Black Dog to Aberdeen, the extent of coast being about five miles. Its greatest length, from north to south, may be seven or eight miles, and its greatest breadth about four miles.

This parish rises in a gentle slope from the sea, and though there is no eminence in it that deserves the name of a mountain, its surface is beautifully diversified by rising grounds. The windings of the Dee and the Don, the manufactories, and the woods on the banks of the latter, some detached clumps of planting on the rising grounds, interspersed with a number of gentlemen's seats and villas,—together with the various prospects of the sea, the rivers, the cities of Old and New Aberdeen, and the villages of Gilcomston and Woodside,—give a pleasant variety to the general appearance of this parish.

The soil is in some places naturally fertile; in others barren.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—The principal of these are,

City of Aberdeen.			
Per Master of Kirk and B. Works,	L. 579	16	10 Valued rent.
Treasurer,	248	2	0
Master of Mortifications,	200	0	0
Union Street Trustees,	138	9	8
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	L. 1166	9	8

	John Paton, Esq. of Grandholm.				
Land,	.	L. 710	0	0	Valued rent.
Fishings,	.	271	15	10	
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		L. 981	15	10	
	Lord and Lady James Hay.				
Land,	.	L. 622	4	4	
Fishings,	.	166	13	4	
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		L. 788	17	8	
	Heirs of Colonel Gordon of Parkhill.				
Land,	.	L. 543	6	8	
	H. D. Forbes, Esq., Balgownie.				
Land,	.	L. 541	15	0	
	Sir M. and Lady Bruce.				
Land,	.	L. 488	12	6	
	King's College.				
Land,	.	L. 425	15	2	
	James Skene, Esq. of Rubislaw.				
Land,	.	L. 370	0	0	
	John Leslie, Esq. of Powis.				
Land,	.	L. 186	16	0	
Fishings,	.	166	13	4	
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		L. 353	9	4	
	Walter Duthie, Esq., Ruthrieston.				
Land,	.	L. 300	0	0	

In this list are not included several smaller heritors, who are proprietors of fishings chiefly. The average valuation of these may be about L. 260.

Parochial Registers.—There are registers of births, marriages, and burials. They contain only the burials in Old Machar churchyard; but there are three other churchyards in the parish.

Mansion-Houses.—The chief of these are, Grandholm, Scotstoun, Denmore, Balgownie, Hilton, Powis, Cornhill, Woodside, &c.

III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1801,	-	9,911
1811,	-	13,731
1821,	-	18,312
1831,	-	25,107
1841,	-	28,102

All south of the Don is included in the Parliamentary boundary of Aberdeen.

Population in the continuous village from Preventive Station (inclusive) to its termination north-west of old Bridge of Don,	290
At Grandholm Haugh, including cruives, manufactory, and dependencies,	238
At Persley,	102
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Total in villages north of Don,	630
In country north of Don,	860
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Total north of Don,	1490

The population of the *quoad sacra* divisions in 1841 was as follows:—

Bon-Accord,	5171
Gilcomston,	4115
Woodside,	4825
Holburn Street,	3729

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—Extensive improvements have, of late years, been effected in the way of reclaiming waste lands on the property of the late Colonel Gordon of Parkhill; by Messrs Nicol, Reid (Leuchlands), Craighead (Mindurno), Simpson (Cranbay), and others. One of these active farmers, Mr Nicol, received a premium, a few years ago, for his improvements from the Highland Society. Much credit is also due to the late Colonel Gordon, the proprietor.

The real rental of the parish is not known; but the valuation, at allocating the schoolmaster's salary per decret of the Commissioners of Supply, 2d February 1758, was L.10,882, 11s. 4d. Scots. Where no valuation cess-books was attainable, the Commissioners affirmed the valuation at one-fifth of the then real rent.

Fishings.—Salmon-fishing is carried on in the Don, but principally by stake-nets in the sea.

Manufactures.—Cotton-spinning is carried on at Grandholm Haugh by Leys, Masson, and Co.; thread-spinning and weaving at Gordons Mills, by Milne, Cruden, and Co.; and at Printfield, by Gordon, Barron, and Co.; and bleaching at all of these places for their own goods; flax-spinning, weaving, and bleaching, at Broadford and Rubislaw, by Richards and Co. All of these manufactures are carried on to a considerable extent.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish contains the four *quoad sacra* divisions of Gilcomston, Bon-Accord, Woodside, and Holburn Street. The stipends are as follows:—

Old Machar, first minister,	L.273	1	8	} From teinds.
second do.	282	19	9	
Gilcomston,	290	0	0	} From seat-rents.
Bon-Accord,	150	0	0	
Woodside,	150	0	0	
Holburn Street,	180	0	0	

In regard to the religious denominations of the population of the whole parish *quoad civilia*, the report to the Commissioners of Religious Instruction in 1836 was as follows:—

Belonging to the Established Church,	19,654
other denominations,	6,253
Not known to belong to any denomination,	1,658
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	27,565

The present parish church formed part of the Cathedral of St Machar, which was founded in 1357, and finished in 1522. It was last altered in 1832-3. Besides the parish church, there is a chapel in King's College, which is open, during the session, for the accommodation of the professors and students.

Gilcomston, formerly a chapel of ease to Old Machar, was erected into a *quoad sacra* parish by the General Assembly in 1834. There are within its bounds an Episcopal congregation, and another of the Original Seceders.

Bon-Accord also was a chapel of ease to Old Machar from the year 1828 to 1834. In this district, there is a Baptist congregation.

Woodside was also a chapel of ease to Old Machar. There is a congregation of Independents within its bounds.

The glebe attached to the second charge of the *quoad civilia* parish is between six and seven acres in extent. Present rent, L.31, 10s. The manse was built in the end of last century, and is in good repair.

Education.—There are two schools north of the Don, and a great many on the other side of the river. The salary of the parochial schoolmaster is nominally L.30, but several moietyes are annually lost;—the original heritors assessed in 1758, and their successors, being unknown. Fees from L.30 to L.35; allowance from the Dick Bequest, about L.30.

Savings' Bank.—There is one in the parish, but the business done is very trifling.

Poor.—Average number of paupers, 157, receiving an average payment per quarter, of 7s. 11½d. each; 435, average payment per month, 4s. 6½d. each; 50 orphans and deserted children, 7s. 9d. per month; 277 temporary supplies, 4s. 9d. each supply; 17 lunatics in asylum, L.15 each; 11 do. not in asylum, L.5, 3s. 8d; 63 children at school, 2s. 5d. per quarter each; 63 funerals of paupers, 10s. 6d. each; clothing and shoes for paupers, L.91, 6s. 2½d. 25 paupers belonging to this parish are supplied through the parish in which they reside, at a cost of L.30, 2s. 11d. Expense of poor's house, Gilcomston, (containing 20 very aged or disabled paupers who have no relatives to care for them), L.140, 0s. 5½d.; medical attendance and medicines for poor in the north division of the parish, L.14, 8s. 8d. The income applicable to defray these expenses was, in the year ending 31st July 1842, L.170, 7s. 2½d., arising from church collections, after

deducting those made for the Infirmary, church schemes, &c.—viz. Old Machar, L.28, 8s. 7½d.; Woodside, L.31, 1s. 3½d.; King's College Chapel, L.5, 9s. 0½d.; Gilcomston, L.60, 8s. 3d.; Bon-Accord, L.25; Holburn, L.20. The gross collection at the four first churches, in the year ending 31st July 1842, amounted to L.318, 17s. 3½d. Bon-Accord and Holburn churches contributed stated sums. Gross legal assessment for the same year, L.2378, 13s. 8½d.

December 1842.

PARISH OF LUMPHANAN.

PRESBYTERY OF KINCARDINE O'NEIL, SYNOD OF ABERDEEN.

THE REV. CHARLES M-COMBIE, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE etymology of Lumphanan, which is spelled in the most ancient writings, Lunfanan, Lonfanan, and Lanfanan, cannot be ascertained with certainty. We may conjecture that it comes from three Celtic words, *Llan* or *Lan*, a church—*Fan*, a descent—and *An*, water,*—a derivation which might naturally suggest itself to those who observed that the principal stream in the parish passes near the church, in its descent from the mountains to the Loch of Auchlossan.

Situation, Extent, and Boundaries.—The parish is situate between the Dee and the Don, in the district of Mar, twenty-four miles from Aberdeen.

The length of the parish from north to south is 6 miles; the breadth from east to west, 4 miles.

It is bounded on the north by the parishes of Tough, Leochel, and Coull; on the south by Kincardine o'Neil and Aboyne; on the east by Kincardine o'Neil; and on the west by Coull and Aboyne.

Geology.—The rocks of the parish are of the primitive order, formed chiefly of porphyritic granite and granite.

Zoology.—Besides the domesticated races, the following animals reside during the whole, or a part of the year, in the parish, or occasionally visit it.

* Chalmers's Caledonia, Vol. i. p. 54, 23, and Vol. iii. p. 3.