

PARISH OF PETTIE.

PRESBYTERY OF INVERNESS, SYNOD OF MORAY.

THE REV. JOHN GRANT, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

WHAT is now called the parish of Pettie comprehends the united parishes of Bracholy and Petyn, situate within the ancient province or diocese and the modern synod of Moray, and in the county and presbytery of Inverness; with the exception of a pondicle of Lord Cawdor's property, called Calder's Braichlich, which is valued in the county of Nairn. The earliest mention of these parishes is in the "Registrum Episcopatus Moraviensis," or Chartulary of Moray. They formed a united parish previous to the Reformation, under the charge of "the vicar of Petyn and Bracholy," who was a prebendary of the Elgin cathedral, and appointed to do duty there by a deacon. The church of Petyn was dedicated to St Columba; for in the Chartulary, page 43, the vicar records himself as a witness to the deed of assignation of the first prebends, thus: "Ego, Walterus, Vicarius Sancti Columbæ de Petyn subscribo." They are spoken of in the Chartulary as two churches; for, in describing the maintenance of the prebendaries, it is said, "de omnibus decimis garbarum infra parochias dictarum ecclesiarum unam scilicet de omnibus decimis infra parochias de Petyn et de Bracholy;"* and among the "procuraciones recentioris ævi," they are set down as "Ecclesiæ de Petyn et Bracholy concurrentes."† There was a glebe at each church. A field on Ballispardan is still known by the name of the Glebe, which it has maintained since an excambion was effected in 1762, and a piece of land given at the church of Petyn equal to the two glebes. They seem to have been always united as one parish since the Reformation. In the minutes of session of date June 30, 1662, the people of Flemington are ordered to attend catechising in the church of Bracholy. A similar intimation is noticed March 18, 1688. But at what time Divine service ceased to be alternately performed in each, we have not been able to ascertain.

* Registrum, p. 72.

† Ibid. 366.

Name.—The name Bracholy, vulgarly called Braichlich, is obviously derived from the church or district being situated above or behind the wood, (*eaglais a bhraighe-choille*) ; a wood at one time having grown on the declivity to the moss. The etymology of Pettie is by no means agreed upon. Could we be certain that the name Lunyn or Lunnin in the Chartulary refers to the farm of Lonie, adjacent to Castle Stuart, to the east of which is a delta of land, from time immemorial called the Island, or Island Macmartin, (and as *i* or *inn* means an island,)—the names Lunyn and Petyn may perhaps have their etymons traced to the meadow, (Celtic, *lon*), and to the hollow, (Celtic, *pit*), or to the promontory, (Celtic, *Pait* hillock) *by the island*. The topographical description of Lunnin, given in the charter granted by the bishop, and confirmed by King William at Inverness, between 1171 and 1184, corresponds to that of Lonie, to the east of which is the island. By that charter, the hermit, John, obtains exclusive right to the island, “*quæ est in lacu de Lunnin ab orientali parti.*” It lends some probability to our supposition, of Lunnin being Lonie in Pettie, that Bishop Andrew in his grant of lands to Walter de Petyn names the lands of Lunnin* after those of Ardtrillen, (Altirlies), part of the present Culloden property, with which Lonie is conterminous. It militates, however, against our opinion, that Lunnin is spoken of as a church in connection with Croyn (Croy), when Petyn and Bracholy are spoken of as united churches. It seems scarcely probable that there would be a church at Lonie, if the church of Pettie was in its present site, and that, too, connected with Croy ; unless, indeed, we suppose that the lake between Lonie and Petyn was such at one time as to render intercourse between the two places somewhat difficult or impracticable, except by boat. Indeed, until Lord Moray, about sixty years ago, opened the main drain, the whole vale was a morass. At about the same distance as from the old church of Bracholy to Dalcross, there is, as we advance on the hill-side towards Inverness, Chapeltown ; and below it on the sea shore at Altirlie Point, (where there are the traces of a burying-ground), tradition says that a chapel once stood, and that out of its ruins the boiling-house of the first salmon-fishers who came to the Point was built. It would thus appear that there was a succession of churches on the hill side, and others at the shore, every two of which were served as one cure.

Extent.—The length of the parish is about 8 miles along the

* Chartulary, p. 23.

shore of the Moray Frith ; or from about a mile from Fort George till it comes to within four miles from the town of Inverness. It varies from 2 to 3 miles in breadth, and extends about 9 miles on the interior side, connecting the parishes of Nairn and of Inverness.

Boundaries and Figure.—The boundaries on the eastern and western extremities were, at one time, two brooks or burns, the courses of which can yet be traced, although the compulsory spirit of modern improvement no longer admits of their “wandering at their own sweet will.” That which separates Pettie from Inverness, a little beyond the fourth milestone from that town, is called *Ault-an-fhiler*, or fiddlers’ burn. It is now no better than a small drain, if it was ever much more, except after a heavy fall of rain or snow. That which separates Pettie from Ardersier on the east, formed at one time the boundaries between the properties of the Earls of Moray and Cawdor, where the villages of Stewarton and Campbelton now rise together. That burn has been, however, beyond the recollection of any one now living, turned to supply a mill, and to empty itself into the sea, on the west, instead of, as originally, on the east side of Stewarton. On the south, the parish is bounded by Croy, and by the Moray Frith on the north.

Topographical Appearances.—Though situated in the Highlands, and the entire population, till recently, speaking the Gaelic language, the parish is the reverse of mountainous. The land rises like a broken wave from the sea, in some places with a bank of considerable steepness and height, then sinks into a vale of moss land, (from which, till reduced to cultivation, the town of Inverness used to be supplied with rushes): thence it ascends again to the parish of Croy, and the Moor of Culloden, which extend along the ridge. Towards the sea the soil is of a clayey sand or of a light character. The Braes, as they are called, forming the ascent from the moss to Croy, are of a stronger and more fertile quality of soil. Several brooks fall over a bed of rocks into the vale; and from the advantage of these streams, some of the farmers in the braes and low grounds have thrashing-mills which are wrought by water. From this advantage, smuggling was very common, formerly, among the small farmers in the braes; and when they were removed, one of the first tenants of the enlarged farms, a Mr Collie, established a distillery, which was carried on, for several years, till his death. Even the greatest winding along the shore scarcely deserves the name of bay. It is between Altirlio Point, where a commodious harbour could be

formed, and the promontory on which the church is built. On this beach, coals and lime are landed, and further east, on the beach of Connage, towards Campbeltown and Fort George, the woods cut down in the eastern district are shipped. As nothing greater than a boulder is found along this sandy shore, vessels could land their cargo at any place, except for the danger of the tides being too low to carry them off. The sea recedes to a great distance at low-water, except at Altirlic Point, where, in consequence of the water receding very little, families from Inverness frequently take lodgings during summer and autumn, in the fishing village, and with the neighbouring farmers, for the purpose of sea-bathing.

Meteorology.—The climate of the parish is of the same character with that which prevails along the coast of Moray; and were the soil as rich as the climate is genial, no district in Scotland would surpass it in fertility. The superior farmers note, occasionally, in their books, the character of the weather, especially in seed-time and harvest, but, except by the writer, (whose register, however, is of too recent a date and too irregularly kept to be of any use,) no observations on the temperature by the thermometer, nor estimates of the quantity of rain by the guage, have ever been systematically made in the parish.

The following notices of the time of sowing and reaping are taken from the farm-books of John Gollan, Esq. of Gollanfield, and James Strother, Esq. one of our most intelligent and systematic farmers.

Note of sowing and reaping at Balmachree, west end of Pettie, by Mr Strother:—

Sowing began	and ended.	Reaping began
1832, March 11,	April 9.	August 29.
1833, 13,	March 30.	September 1.
1834, 13,	April 6.	August 20.
1835, 25,	17.	— 19.
1836, 19,	25.	September 1.
1837, April 5,	30.	August 28.
1838, March 28,	May 2.*	September 17.

At the east end of Pettie, about six miles east of Mr Strother's farm, J. Gollan, Esq. of Gollanfield, has recorded his sowings as follows:—

* For the last four years less wheat has been sown in November, which presents a greater breadth of barley in spring, and accounts for the lateness of concluding the spring sowing. The harvest is generally concluded in six weeks. In 1826 it required eight weeks.

Sowing began and ended.	
1826,	March 17, May 12.
1834,	17, April 21.
1835,	23, ——— 28.
1836,	22, May 10.
1837,	April 6, June 6 in the moss.
1838,	2, May 12.
1839,	March 29, April 17.

Dr James Tolmie of Campbeltown writes, "The medical topography of Pettie presents few of those features which are productive of insalubrity. A line of morass, extending with occasional breaks through nearly the length of the parish, exhibits, from the improved system of agriculture and draining, a continuation of fertile fields, rather than a source of marsh miasmata. Indeed, indigenous cases of intermittent fever are very rare. The climate in summer and autumn is dry and bracing; but in the winter months, the cold and humid south-west wind, to which, from lying in the mouth of a mountain defile, the parish is much exposed, is sharply felt. In common with the parishes around it, it presents a fair proportion of the maladies of our climate, although it is not distinguished by the prevalence of any particular disease. Erysipelas and rheumatism may be said to be common. In tracing the etiology of the former, (when it does not appear in an epidemic form,) a morbid predisposition may with more justice be attributable to exposure to cold and wet, and to other causes, than to any insalubrious locality. As a therapeutic agent in this exanthem, the peasantry place implicit confidence in the virtues of the herb *Geranium Robertianum*, used internally in the form of decoction, and externally as a stupe. I believe its efficacy to be more traditional than real, and probably entitled to the same praise as another curative process in this disease, often adopted by the Highlanders, which is the application of a piece of scarlet cloth to the inflamed skin. This latter is of great antiquity, possibly a Pictish relic. Whilst the matrons profess a thorough knowledge of 'baleful weeds, and precious juiced flowers,' they evince anything but discrimination in the use of them. Thus the *Glechoma hederacea*, an useless herb, is administered in almost every disease 'that flesh is heir to.' And, as showing the remote antiquity of the use of some herbs, and their extensive celebrity, it may be mentioned, that the plantain leaf, *Plantago major*, in Gaelic, *slan-lus*, which, upwards of two centuries and a-half ago, was declared by our great English bard to be 'excellent for your broken shin,' is here very generally known, and applied to recent wounds and old ulcers. If instances of longevity con-

stituted the comparative salubrity of a place, this parish may be said to possess it. But the want of mortuary registers, &c. necessarily renders this branch of medical statistics imperfect."

Hydrography.—There are several excellent and copious springs. There are some at the very top of the highest and sandiest part of the bank of the sea, and others on a level with the sea, and overflowed by it, at every high tide. Below the promontory on which the church stands, there is one with a copious rill, proved to be of the most uniformly cold temperature in the neighbourhood of Inverness. At Tornagrain there is *tobar na gul*, or the boiling fountain, where, on a level flat, there are various intermittent spouts, and with every ejection of the water, the purest sand rises and spreads round the orifice from which the water is thrown, till the weight of the sand changes the orifice, and this sand is distributed by the same process anew. At Culernie is *tobar na clerich*. Between Culblair and Mid Coul, is *Bruach-na-fuaran*, or Brae of the Well, where the old inhabitants say Loch-andunty empties its waters. Some of the farmers, however, towards the sea shore, are put to inconvenience from deficiency of water, if there be any continued drought in summer.

From a register of observations, &c. kept by Mr Adam, Ex-Rector of the Inverness Academy, we give the temperature of the two first mentioned springs. The spring at the church, Mr Adam found, during the whole years of 1821–22, to be uniformly at 47° Fahrenheit; but *Tobar na gul* varied in 1821, between 45½° and 46½°, and in 1822, between 45½° and 45½°.

Lakes.—The only lakes or lochs we have to mention are Loch Flemington and Lochandunty (*Lochan-dun-duibh*), the loch of the black hillock. They are both situated on the ridge towards Croy, and in the old parish of Bracholy.

Geology.—“The ridge which bounds the parish on the south belongs to the old red sandstone formation, and its bed consists either of red or of a bluish-grey micaceous sandstone with little or no conglomerate, and no subordinate layers, except a few thin ones of limestone and a bituminous shale, which is not abundant. No scales or other impressions of extinct fishes or other organic remains have as yet been found, though, on the south side of the ridge, on the estate of Cantray, the sands there have been found to exhibit traces of sauroid reptiles.”*

It requires little skill in decyphering the monuments of past

* G. Anderson, Esq. Inverness.

revolutions on the earth's surface, to be able to trace the appearances and formations of the undulating plain, lying between the foot of the ridge and the shore of the Frith, to aqueous causes. Some seem inclined to regard the appearances which this district presents, as indicative that it once formed the estuary, on which the waters which flowed from the Great Glen of Scotland struggled with those of the Moray Frith; and that the undulating surface consists of the accumulation of sand and soil then thrown up, and before which the sea has retreated. Others have adopted the theory, that the sea formerly covered a channel, extending from the Moray Frith to the western coast, along the Great Glen, or the line of the Caledonian Canal; and that the land which now separates the two seas is an upheaved bed or beach of the sea. Whatever facts other districts may furnish in support of these views, nothing has been brought to light in this parish, so far as we know, which would indicate that the formations in the plain are from marine deposit. Lyell, in his account of the encroachments of the sea on the land in different places round our island, notices, that "there have been inroads of the sea at Fort-George, and other places in Morayshire, which have swept away the old town of Findhorn." This supposes the sea to have advanced inwards in the Glen, and not to have retreated. Anterior to such irruption of the sea, the parish must have formed the basin of a fresh water lake, and the formations must be the effect of a fluvatile, not marine deposit.

The greatest excavations which have been made in the lowest parts of the vale do not penetrate deeper than, if so deep as, the present level of the water in the Frith. The lowest stratum is composed of arenaceous clay and marl, rarely capable of being applied to any useful purpose. It is not unlikely that this rests on the sandstone on which Fort-George is built, almost in the very waters of the Frith. This lower stratum forms the bed of the moss; and on it, where the ground ascends from the moss, we find superimposed a stratum of very varying thickness, of a very fine white and compact dead sand. On the top of this, and sometimes in its mass towards the top, are very thin layers of sand, looking as if coloured with oxide of iron. In some places there is no soil over this sand—not a sufficient growth of grass to conceal it—but a feathering of broom, rising so spontaneously, as to show that, if it were not uprooted for fuel by the poor, the surface would soon be clothed with it. On much of the land in cultivation, the broom

threatens to dispute the ground, if left under grass three years. In other places a kind of sandy loam, varying from a mere sprinkling to the depth of many feet, covers the compact sand : and towards the east, soil of a less sandy, but more stony character, and less pervious to water, is found. Such stratification gives evidence of an aqueous sediment, very gently and gradually deposited in all but the uppermost stratum. From the height above the present level of the Frith, to which the deposit has been made, the waters of the lake must have flowed a considerable distance before they emptied themselves into the sea, or else the whole basin—from Beaully to Fort-George—has been uniformly upheaved, because the ground at these extremes presents corresponding elevations. But whether at the period when the sea broke in at Fort-George, and gained upon the land along the shores of the Moray Frith at Findhorn, there was a convulsion of nature, by which the lacustrine basin of Pettie was elevated, and the shores at Findhorn depressed ; or whether the sea only gradually ate away the eastern barrier, so as to drain the lake while it made a farther entrance for itself, we have no means of determining.

There is evidence, that, on the beach between Campbelton and Fort-George, the sea has encroached upon the land ; for I have heard Dr Tolmie repeatedly say, that he has dug up peat-moss, bearing the evidence of terrestrial flora, nearly two hundred yards within flood-mark. But, except at this place, at Campbelton, where the waves, deflected from Chanonry Point, would soon cut their way, unless obstacles were interposed, into the moss of Pettie, and reduce the bank between that and Castle Stuart to an island, (which it obviously once was), the land is gaining from the sea along the rest of the coast of Pettie. For there are now fields of cultivated land, and stretches of pasture, bearing obvious marks of being reclaimed sea-beach. We wish we could ascertain whether there be any difference between the soundings lately made, in the Trigonometrical Survey of this coast, and any previous soundings, so as to show the rapidity with which, it is likely, the Frith is adding to the land between Inverness and Fort-George.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The history of the north of Scotland, previous to the twelfth century, with the exception of some few particulars, may be classed with that of the ages of fable and romance. By that time we find the name of Petyn noticed in history ; and mention made of a fortalice or castle, which seems to have been erected either as

defence in case of invasions by the Danes from the sea, or as a stronghold, in order to retain possession of the country upon the subjugation of the Moraymen in the reign of Malcolm IV.

The ancient territory of Petty and Brachly, comprehending at least the whole modern parish, first occurs in record as part of the possessions of a branch of the great family of De Moravia, who seem to have held these lands as *firmarii*, or tenants of the Crown, from the end of the twelfth century; and, early in the thirteenth, Walter De Moravia conferred the parsonage tithes of the churches of Petty and Brachly on the cathedral church of Moray, of which they thenceforward formed one of the prebends, the patronage remaining with the family of the granter.

In 1226, Bishop Andrew enters into an agreement with Walterus de Petyn, relative to the lands of Ardtrillen, Lunyn, Duldavy, and Croyn, which lands his father, William, it is said, had held, and affirmed that they belonged to him by hereditary right. It is not improbable that Petyn had been possessed by Freskyn himself. In charter 61 of the chartulary of Moray, which establishes prebends in Elgin cathedral, this is said to be done as to Pettie and Bracholy, with the consent of Walter de Moravia, then patron. In the preface to the chartulary we have an account of successive possession of these lands by Sir Andrew Murray, and Archibald the Grim, third Earl of Douglas, by his marriage with the heiress of Bothwell and Pettie.

It is probable that the lands of Petty and Brachly formed part of the territory contained in the successive erections of the Earldom of Moray; while, at the same time, the neighbouring families of Mackintosh and Kilravock had acquired some title to various parts of them, under which the former occupied the lands of Hallhill, and the latter those of Flemington and Easter Brachly, until the old tenure of Flemington was changed into a feu from the Earls of Moray about the beginning of the seventeenth century. The greater part of the parish is still the property of the Noble family of Moray.

The family manuscript history of the Mackintoshes, in possession of the chief at Moyhall, states, that the Mackintoshes became possessed of Pettie and Bracholy, formerly possessed by the Moraymen, who were entirely destroyed in the rebellion.

In 1281, the Earl of Ross, having injured the churches of Petyn and Bracholy, came to terms with the church, by assigning the lands of Kattapol and Pitkanny to the Elgin cathedral, as a

propitiation for his own soul, the souls of his wife and children, and all his predecessors, and all his successors. (Charter 220.)

The people of Pettie were engaged in the battle of Clachnaherry, (see Sir R. Gordon or Brown's History of the Highlands, Vol. i. p. 151,) for the Moyhall manuscript states, that the fiery cross was sent by Mackintosh to Pettie, calling out the people to the pursuit of Munro of Fowlis.

In 1368, the Moyhall manuscript makes William, the seventh Laird of Mackintosh, to have his residence in Connage, Pettie.

From 1314, when the Crown lands in Moray were erected into an earldom by King Robert Bruce, and bestowed on his nephew, Randolph, Pettie seems to have always formed part of the lands belonging to the Comitatus or Earldom of Moray.

In 1455, (Shaw, Part II.) the lands of the Earldom were annexed to the Crown; and some time after the Laird of Findlater held the barony of Pettie of the Crown, and afterwards of the Earl of Moray.

In 1495, the Moyhall manuscript states, that the Earl of Huntly kept possession of Connage, sixteen years, till King James V. was born; at which time the feu of Petyn was given by King James IV. to Sir William Ogilvie of Banff, because his wife, called Nannie Pant, an English woman, was the first advertiser of the birth of his son, James V. Sir William, shortly thereafter, begged the Castle of Petyn, and dwelt therein till the Clan Chattan, under the conduct of Dougal Mor M'Ghille Chillum, besieged and burnt it, and slew a son of Sir William's, and eighteen men, whom they found there. Upon this the said Dougal put himself in possession of Connage, and chased John Ogilvy, possessor thereof, and brother of Sir William, with his wife and children, out of the country, and crushed the same for some five or six years, till himself and his two sons, Farquhar and Duncan Roy, were slain in the castle of Inverness. In a manuscript history of the Roses of Kilravock, in possession of Dr Rose of Inverness, Hugh Rose of Kilravock, who is called a grandchild of the Mackintosh, is said to have aided in this destruction of Hallhill Castle, which is stated to have happened in or about 1513.* The

* In the Charter-room of Kilravock is preserved a charge upon a decree of Council against "Lauchlane M'Kintosh of Dunachtane; Donle More M'Gillecallum; Farquhar his sone; Robert Stewart of Clavale, Huchoun Ross of Kilravock; Henry Dolace of Conray; Walter Ross of Kinstary, and Donald Glasche M'Kintosh," for the masterful destruction and downcasting of the "House of Petty, called Hallhill," pertaining to "Umquhile Williame Ogilvy of Stratherne, Kny't., and now to John Ogilvy, his son and ara." It narrates minutely the goods *spulzied* by the Mac-

circumstances which led to this violent proceeding on the part of the Mackintoshes are to be found detailed at length in Lesly's and Sir R. Gordon's histories. They record it as occurring in 1526, and give twenty-four of the Ogilvies as the number killed. There are other discrepancies between the manuscript and the published histories.

In May 1543, the Moyhall manuscript states that William, the fifteenth laird of Mackintosh, got a new liferent tack of Pettie and Brachly, from the Queen Regent. Likewise on May 15, 1546, being Saturday, Mackintosh, in revenge for what had been done by the Clan Ronald, at Abertarf, in July 1544, to the people of Pettie, did harry and spoil all the lands of Glengarry, and killed such of the people as made opposition. In 1548, Mackintosh having received Lachlan, the son of John Malcolmson, into favour, gave him possession and tenantry of Connage.

In 1548, The Earl of Huntly had the Earldom of Moray bestowed upon him: and about two years afterwards, in virtue of the powers with which he was entrusted, as Lieutenant-General in the north, he seized and put to death the chief of the Mackintoshes, and declared his lands to be forfeited. It was believed that Lachlan Mackintosh, a near kinsman of the chief, had falsely accused or betrayed the chief to Huntly. At all events, the fact, that Lachlan was made, by Huntly, joint sheriff-depute of Inverness, with Munro of Fowlis, and Chamberlain of the lands of Pettie, gave colour to the imputation. Determined not to let the murder of their chief go unrevenged, the clan Chattan entered the Castle of Petyn by stratagem, the last day of September 1551; apprehended Lachlan, and slew him. (Moyhall MS.) Greater commo-

kintoshes and their party, and on the whole affords a good idea of the plenishing and modes of life of a Baron of Inverness-shire in the reign of James V. It is dated in 1516, the fourth year of that King's reign. We regret that we can find room for only one or two extracts from this curious document. It enumerates *inter alia*, " tua chieris carvit, price of y^e pece xl s.—ane lang sadill of estland burd—tua thousand candellis of tatch, price of y^e pece ourheid iii d.—ane barrell of gunpowder price x L.—ane pare guardivianis, price iiii L.—tua hale stand of Dornwick small napry—viii hale stand of napry of Bertane clat—xxiiii halbertis and axis—xii Jedburgh stavis—xv hand bollis (bows)—x dosane of arrois—xvi pare of splentis (greaves)—iiii jakkis—viii sellets (helmets)—viii stele bonettis—lx elnis of lynning clat, price of y^e eln xvi d.—xxvi kirtillis and gornis for women, price of the pieces xii s.—viii pare of doubill solit achone, price of the pare ii s.—xii Murray-girnalis—v punchionis of allacant, battard, muscade, and caprik wine, price of y^e tun xx L.—xxxix bollis of mele, price of y^e boll ix s.—lv bollis of malt, price of ye boll xiii s. and iiii d.—v bollis of threschin quhete, price of ye boll xxviii s.—hekkis, spadis, hewin axis, cultar sokkis, and yr pertinend—sleddis with quhelis, harrois, saddills—irne bandis, snekkis and platis for durris and windois of costlie werk—tua bellesis, with all the grath pertening to ane smyth—tua abbis with chesabillis, and all grath pertening to the altar for saying of mess," &c. &c.

tion might have ensued, says Sir R. Gordon, but for the prudence of the Queen Regent, who recalled the act of forfeiture.

The Mackintoshes seem never to have forgiven the Earl of Huntly the murder of their chief. For, besides obeying with reluctance his commands, even when he was clothed with a royal commission, they took every opportunity of wasting his estates.

In 1561, Queen Mary conferred the Earldom of Moray on her brother, the Regent.

Upon the murder of the bonny Earl of Moray at Donnybristle in 1591, by the Earl of Huntly, the Mackintoshes of Pettie, under the conduct of Angus of the Brazen Face, the intrepid head of the house of Kylachy, who lived at Culerney, (Pettie,) and whose impudence and prowess still form the subject of a winter's evening tale,—ravaged Strathdee and Glenmuic, and slew, with others of local note, the old Baron of Bregley; Huntly retaliated by wasting and spoiling the district of Pettie, and killing many of the Mackintoshes. Huntly had scarcely returned home and disbanded his army, when he was informed that the Mackintosh, 800 strong, had invaded Achindown and Cabrach.

This outrage led to his making a second expedition into Pettie, in which he left traces of his vengeance, of a more terrible character than he did in the former. The Kilravock manuscript confirms these accounts of Huntly's raids given us by Sir R. Gordon.

“The Earl of Huntly, Allan M'Dhomhuil Duibh, (Lochiel), Macronald of Glengarry, designing an expedition against Pettie and the clan Chattan, give assurance under their hands to Hugh Rose, that himself, kin, and tenants, should be free from their armies, March 18, 1592-3.”

Spalding and Sir R. Gordon contain an account of a commotion of rather an alarming character, which had arisen in 1624, when the Earl of Moray brought north an army of his dependents from Doune, Menteith, and Balquidor, and began to dispossess the Mackintoshes of lands which he had given them in Pettie.*

* In the Inverness Courier, there appeared, some months ago, a statement of ancient rentals. The proprietor of that journal informs me, that it was found by John Macqueen, Esq. among some old law papers. It is entitled “The Book of the Valued Rents of the Sheriffdom of Inverness and Ross, as the same was appointed and rectified by the Commissioners appointed by the Act of Convention of Estates.”

Parochin of Pettie and Breachlie.

James Erle of Moray,	1.6478	5	0
John Ros of Spellasnaldick,	300	0	0
John Macintosh of Lony,	212	6	8
Angus Macqueene of Corribrook,	30	0	0

It was on this occasion that Duncan Forbes, Provost of Inverness, the first of the Culloden family, went to London with a remonstrance to the King against the oppressive proceedings of the Earl of Moray: and it might have been, both on account of the annoyance which they received from the Earl of Moray at this period, and as an acknowledgement of what they owed to the friendship of the provost and inhabitants of Inverness, that the Mackintoshes, in 1626, sold their estate of Culloden to Duncan Forbes. In the genealogy of the family of Forbes by M. Lumsden, (reprinted with additions at Inverness in 1819, by the late Major Duff of Muirtown,) we are informed, that, when this purchase took place, the old "castle was built up but to the second story, and that this estate was afterwards much enlarged by the purchase of lands contiguous, made from Lord Moray, Lord Lovat, the town of Inverness, Rose of Altirlies, and Rose of Kilravock.* It is a curious fact, that it was never known which half of Altirlies belonged to either proprietor; and there is an elder in this parish, Mr David Fraser, late of Breachnish, who recollects that his father, and all the tenants, in paying their rent in kind, used to go with the one-half to Balnain, and with the other to Culloden House.

Next in importance, in territorial extent, to the property of Culloden, was that of Flemington, at the period when the former Statistical Account was written. In the notice of the seventh laird of Kilravock, in the manuscript to which I have already referred, it is said, "this Hucheon was the king's tenant on the lands of Flemington, Easter Brachlie and Hallhill, within the lordship of Pettie." A gentleman possessed of intimate knowledge of the antiquities of the province of Moray, writes to me, "there are symptoms of Flemish intercourse, and even of Flemish co-

James Cuthbert of Aldirlies,	L.846	0	0
William Macintosh of Holme,	142	6	8
William Ros of Kilrack,	255	0	0

Mr Macqueen conjectures the original to have been prepared early in the seventeenth century. It is probably the Macintoshes mentioned here whom Lord Moray dispossessed.

* The first trace we can find of the title to one-half of Altirlies, Breaknish, and fishings, is a charter under the Great Seal, dated 20th January, and sealed 8th February 1688, in favour of George Cumming, merchant-burgess of Inverness, and Robert Ross, name-son of the Provost of the burgh. On the death of James Cumming, (son of George) the succession opened to James Hay Cumming, his son, who on 10th September 1723, disposed the lands to Alexander Mackintosh of Termit. In 1723-25, he sold the lands and fishings for 7000 merks to John Forbes of Culloden, elder brother of the Lord President. The lands of Cullernies, of which the Earl of Moray is superior, came into the possession of the family of Culloden in 1730; and about 1768, the other half of Altirlies, of which the superior is Fraser of Balnain, was purchased by John Forbes of Culloden, great grandfather of the present proprietor, Arthur Forbes, Esq.

lonization in so many parts of our eastern coast, that it seems reasonable to take the name as it stands, and to suppose it to mark an early settlement of some enterprising or discontented colony from Flanders. Hugh, the seventh laird of Kilravock, had an asseidation of these lands from King James IV., 6th July 1439, which narrates the previous possession by his family. Many subsequent leases are preserved in the Kilravock charter chest. In July 1639, the Earl of Moray, having then acquired the lordship, changed the leasehold into a feu, and the lands of Flemington and part of Bracholy continued to be held in feu of the Moray family, as far down as I have investigated." The manuscript already quoted, records that Flemington was obtained from the Earl of Moray for 3000 merks, since the Earl, being very kindly, gave them a good bargain. Shaw in his history of Moray, Part ii. Family of Kilravock, gives a minute account of the manner in which, by a decision of the House of Lords, 1787, Flemington became separated from the Kilravock estate. Since the last Statistical Account was written, Flemington has been sold. Flemington is now divided into two estates. The chief part, now called Gollanfield, has been purchased by the present proprietor, John Gollan, Esq. and the other part, perhaps about a sixth of the whole, by Major Fraser of Fort-George, who has retained the name of Flemington.

Lord Cawdor is the only other proprietor in this parish. He possesses a narrow stripe of land descending from the ridge of Croy to the moss. It is called Calder Brachlaich, and from this name must have belonged to the family of Calder. There is no vestige of a record as to either the manner or the time in which it came into the possession of the Calders. The factor writes me, "the earliest charter I can find is of February 1662; but from it there seems no doubt that it was, long before that time, in the family, and is understood to be comprehended in the more general description of the thanage and barony of Calder, now called Cawdor." The local tradition is, that Calder Brachlaich went as pin money, or to grow lint to one of the Earl of Moray's daughters, who married a laird of Cawdor. This account is, we think, unfounded; for there is no evidence that the Earl of Moray ever possessed it. It is not improbable that it was acquired by the Calders, from Rose of Kilravock, and was at one time considerably larger. In the manuscript history of the seventh laird of Kilravock, it is stated that the Bishop (Andrew) and Hugh Rose, disputed their boundary; and a story is told, which would imply that

Hugh was, by means of perjury, cheated out of part of his property by the Bishop.

We close our civil history of the parish by noticing that, in the session records of November 1649, we have, on the 4th, this entry, "That day the minister made intimation to the elders to be prepared again the next day to give their oaths whether ilk ane of them did know of others anent the engagement and insurrection at Inverness. On the 5th, the elders underwritten being present, and being all sworn, deponed they knew nothing, but that they went to Moray and Inverness, with my Lord of Moray, their maister." They were desired to appear before the Presbytery at Inverness. The Presbytery, we regret to say, has no records earlier than 1702. And we have had no opportunity of consulting those of the town-council, to ascertain the cause or character of this insurrection, which is probably noticed in the records of the burgh. In the continuation of Sir R. Gordon's history, among other instances of anarchy which followed the death of Charles I., this year, it is recorded, that, in February, Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty, Colonel H. Fraser, and others, assaulted and took the town of Inverness, expelled the garrison, razed and demolished the walls and fortifications of the town, pretending that the Parliament had sent private commissions to apprehend them; whereupon Lieutenant-General D. Leslie was directed, with his forces, to apprehend them. The Kilravock manuscript says, "the Mackenzies, Frasers, &c. take arms for the king, surprise and demolish the fortifications about Inverness; but are defeated and dispersed by Colonel Ker and Major Strahan, at Balvonie. Our session records show, that the Earl of Moray was in the north at the end of the year, his presence being probably required by the commotions which had arisen; but what part he took in the local affairs of this neighbourhood, at that period, we have not been able to ascertain.*

Eminent Characters.—The only individual of eminence connected with this parish by birth was Dr James Fraser, the liberal benefactor of King's College, Aberdeen. He was the son of Mr Alexander Fraser, minister of this parish from 1633 till 1683. By a note in Kennedy's History of Aberdeen, we learn that he entered as a student in King's College, Aberdeen, about the time of the

* The records of the Inverness kirk-session may throw light on this rising. We have been told, that there are among the papers of Mr Robertson of Inches, letters written by the Earl of Moray, from Castlestewart to the Laird of Inches. The date has not been told us. They might throw light on the events of this period, or of 1626, if examined.

Restoration, in the fifteenth year of his age; and, after completing his education, took the degree of A. M. Having gone to England, he was entrusted with the care of several young men of quality, with whom he travelled on the continent. One of his pupils was the eldest son of the Earl of Berkley. He was afterwards appointed by Charles II. preceptor to the Duke of St Albans, and nominated Secretary of Chelsea Hospital. This office he held during the reign of James II., William and Mary, Queen Anne, and George I. He died in 1731, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. About the year 1725, he contributed about L.1400 Sterling towards repairing the College, and furnishing additional books to the library. Besides making this liberal donation, he founded two bursaries,—one in philosophy, and another in theology,—a short time before his death. He left his library, partly to the presbytery of Inverness, of which his father was a member, and partly to the College, and gave the presentation to the bursaries to the magistrates of Inverness, with concurrence of the presbytery. By the careful and skilful administration of the Professors of King's College, Dr Fraser's mortification has so greatly increased, that additional bursaries have been established upon it.

Lord President Forbes is more connected with the parish as a proprietor than by residence. He was born at Bunchrew in Kirkhill, which, for more than thirty years, was his favourite residence, and the place where he pursued his studies and wrote his works. It is greatly to be regretted, that no memoir deserving of the name exists of a man to whom Sir James Mackintosh pays this noble testimony in his review of the Culloden Papers:*

“ There are various lords and lairds who make but a shabby figure in this collection. But our great pride and consolation is in the ever-clear honour and open heart of him to whom they address themselves. For Duncan Forbes no descendant will ever have to blush or feel ashamed; and the perusal of this book will prove that Scotland, even since she ceased to be a separate kingdom, has had at least one statesman whose principles were as pure as his understanding was enlightened; and whose concern for his country was not so much as suspected to be quickened by any regard to his own power or emoluments.”

We wish we could mention Sir James Mackintosh himself as a native of the parish. His parents and ancestors, for many generations, lived at Connage, although the family property was Kylochy,

* Edinburgh Review.

where his father resided when Sir James was born. The family burying-ground, in which his father was the last who was interred, was within the walls in the east end of the old church of Pettie, on the foundations of which the present one has been erected.

Besides the eminent names which we have mentioned, we are entitled to notice also that of James Clark, Esq., who died at Naples about the close of the last century. He had evinced a genius for painting when a youth, and, by the aid of contributions from the local gentry, and some assistance from relatives, he was enabled to visit and reside for some time in Italy. In token of his attachment to his native country, and of his obligations to those who had befriended him, he bequeathed "to the Directors and Governor of the new established Academy in Inverness a picture of the Holy Family, Jesus Christ, the Virgin Mary, Joseph, and St John, by Sassoferato, to be placed in the hall of the Academy," where the picture is now to be seen. The records of the Inverness Academy contain the extract from his will, and the correspondence with his brother, Mr Alexander Clark, London. We have reason to believe that these gentlemen belonged to the Clarks of Pettie.

We can claim but one native author, a man in humble life, who could neither write nor read. He died about two years ago, at the age of fourscore and upwards. He was a man, although eccentric, of decided piety and genius, and much esteemed by all who knew him. His memorial on earth is a small volume of "Spiritual Songs, by Donald M'Rae." Although this may fall into oblivion,—a fate which good judges say it does not deserve,—there is reason to believe that his record on high will be eternal.

Antiquities.—The chief object of antiquity is Castle Stuart, a fine and very entire specimen of the baronial architecture of the country during the period of feudal grandeur. It is remarkable for the extent of its projections, square and round, which spring from a series of corbels, on several angles of the buildings. The date of its erection, inscribed on one of the front windows, is 1625. But Sir R. Gordon, in recording an event which had happened in 1624, describes the Castle as a house "now of late built."

In the plantation opposite the school-house is *Tom-a-mhoid* or Court-hill, and *Tom-a-chroich* or Gallow-hill. The former is said to have been the favourite abode of fairies: and a story is told of a farmer's wife having been detained amongst them for a whole year, without being sensible of the lapse of time, and afterwards returning home, to the surprise and delight of her friends. It is

also said, that, about the commencement of my predecessor's incumbency, the fairies endeavoured to steal a new-born infant from its mother, at Lag-chree. Of this nefarious attempt, and of the sensation which it occasioned, there is a history in MS. by a venerable person who was parish schoolmaster at the time.

When Darnaway was building, the joists of Castle Stuart were taken out, nearly to the entire destruction of its beautiful mouldings and friezes; but they could be put to no use in the new edifice. For several years, the Castle had stood unroofed; and from neglect, the heavy projections were tearing the walls asunder. Of late years, the eastern wing has been rendered habitable; the whole building has received a roof sufficient to preserve the walls; and, by the introduction of long bars of iron, the progress of the rents in the walls has been stopped, and their existence can now scarcely be detected. The interior of the building is one open space, from the vaults which cover in the lowest story and form the floor of the second; to the roof. The garden of Castle Stuart, about twenty-five years ago, was the favourite resort of the school-boy, who used to repair, from Inverness and other quarters, to it as a paradise in which to spend his holiday. The turrets of the castle could scarcely be seen at that time, surrounded as it was by an old and flourishing orchard. The Castle now stands in naked majesty, in an arable field, only distinguished from other fields, by a hedge of ash-trees, which have weathered some hundred winters. It must be added, that the destruction of the trees was accomplished without the knowledge and to the vexation of the Earl of Moray. In 1796, when the Earl of Moray was made a British peer, he took the title of Lord Stuart of Castle Stuart.

There are several of those circles of stones called Druidical circles. Besides those still existing, there were, about thirty years ago, two more on Flemington, the stones of which were taken to build the offices. On the farm of Hillhead, there is a large cairn, in the immediate neighbourhood of which a stone coffin was excavated, many years ago. At Loch Flemington, there are what are supposed to be the traces of a Flemish camp. Some years ago, pistols rudely mounted with silver, and marked A. M. P., were found in the mud of the same loch, where they had probably lain since the battle of Culloden. It is also said that a castle at one time stood on an island in this loch, and that in very dry summers its foundations can be discerned. A clay urn, protected in a frame of square stones, was discovered, in clearing the foundation for a

house, near the loch. On the farm of Balmachree, there was a moat-hill, where stone-coffins containing urns were discovered. On the farm of Culblair, a shilling of Queen Elizabeth's time, as also a fragment of something like a battle-axe, delicately flowered, have been found in the moss. On the old Nairn road, at the boundary line between Petyn and Bracholy, is *clach-an-tuil*, or holed stone, the use of which is unknown; but the water collected in it was imagined to cure wens. The Messrs Anderson of Inverness, in their Guide to the Highlands and Isles, say, "Near the church are two of the largest tumuli, called moat-hills, in this country. The circumference of each at the base is 120 feet, and the height 42. On the south side of the bay, an immense stone, weighing at the least eight tons, which marked the boundaries between the estates of Lord Moray and Culloden, and called *clach-an-aban*, or beach-stone, was, on the night of Saturday, 20th February 1799, carried forward into the sea 260 yards. Some suppose that nothing short of an earthquake could have moved such a mass; but the more probable opinion is, that a large sheet of ice, which had collected to the thickness of 18 inches round the stone, had been raised by the tide lifting the stone with it, and that their motion forward was aided and increased by a tremendous hurricane, which blew from the land." In the Edinburgh Wernerian Transactions for 1817-20, Sir T. Dick Lauder gives a minute account of this "travelled stone."

There are places which, it is said, have derived their names from Fingalean heroes who were buried there. Among these *Pipan and Ian Beag nam Fion* may be mentioned. We must not omit what seems to be a notice of the latter, a pigmy of 14 feet, given us by Lesly. "Apud Moravos in ecclesia cujusdam pagi Petyn nomine servantur ossa cujusdam Johannis quam antiphrastricos parvum appellant, qui vix tercentis ab hinc annis vita decessit, quem ossium vasta magnitudo quatuordecem pedes longum fuisse docet. In hujus coxendicem nemo est apud nos, qui non manum simul et brachium facile immittere posset." The histories of Robin Hood make his friend Little John to retire like a smitten deer from his gay green wood and companions, in order to rest his weary bones in the dry sands of Petyn. To these we must add "Johannes eremites," mentioned in the fourth charter of the chartulary; so that there would seem to be some ground for regarding the name of the parish as *Pait or Pit-Ian*.

In the church-yard lies the chief of the Macgillivrays or Dun-

maglass, who was killed at the battle of Culloden. It is said, that after the battle, his body with fifty others was thrown into a pit; and, that so far did the King's troops carry their animosity, that for six weeks they guarded the field, and would not grant the consolation to his friends of placing the body in the family burying-ground. At the end of that period, it is said, that, by pouring some ankers of whisky into the opened grave, it was found possible to remove the body to the church-yard of Pettie.

Since the year 1606, when Lachlan, the third of that name, and sixteenth Laird of Mackintosh, was buried in Pettie, it has been the family burying-ground of the chiefs of clan Chattan. In 1651, Duncan Mackintosh was buried in Dunlichity, it being found impossible to bury him in Pettie, from the number of English troops then in the place.* The remains of four chiefs and two of their ladies are laid in the vault; the other members of the family are interred within the enclosure. (Moyhall MS.).

It is said that in 1746, when the Highlanders under Prince Charles found themselves at a loss for balls, they meditated a resurrection of the chiefs and their ladies, with the view of converting the leaden coffins into bullets.

III.—POPULATION.

Were one to form a judgment merely from the uncommonly crowded aspect of the churchyard, which is almost literally paved with all varieties of ancient tombstones, bearing the curiously wrought emblems of the avocations in which life was spent, and those of mortality blended together; or from witnessing the frequent funerals from neighbouring parishes, he would at once conclude that the parish must have been very populous in former times. This conclusion is supported by the evidence of the register of marriages and baptisms for many years subsequent to 1704.

Average of both for seven years, from 1704 inclusive, baptisms, 62; marriages, 16; and we must remember that there was less care in recording births at that period than in the present day.

Amount of population by census of 1821,	1758
1831,	1826

A considerable decrease in the population would have been manifested at the last census, compared with that immediately preceding it, from the extent to which the conversion of clusters of crofts and

* Kirk-session record has this entry:—14th September 1651. No session, for many elders were absent through the report of the approach of the English army.

small farms into large ones, was effected about twenty years ago on the Earl of Moray's property, were it not that a compensation was found for the decrease of tenants in the growth of the village of Stuartown, and of hamlets on the property of Gollanfield. A few years ago, about fifty persons of all ages emigrated to Canada. Some families of fishers have also been obliged to remove from the parish; some of them have gone to Tarbet (Ross-shire,) and others to Burghhead. The village of Stuartown (on the Earl of Moray's property,) which may be called the suburbs, and forms about a third of Campbeltown in Ardersier, (which is Lord Cawdor's property,) and which is the only village in Pettie, contains about 30 families of fishers, pensioners, and labourers.

	Births.				Marriages.			Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.		M. & F. in parish.	Fem. only.	Males only.			
1832,	22	17	39	-	1	1	3	5		
1833,	21	14	35	-	3	6	2	11		
1834,	14	14	28	-	3	6	3	12		
1835,	13	19	32	-	9	6	4	19		
1836,	23	14	37	-	3	1	3	7		
1837,	28	6	34	-	6	6	4	16		
1838,	22	15	37	-	7	1	3	11		
	143	99	242*		35	27	22	81		
Average of births is nearly 35.				Average				5 nearly 4	3	11½

Only one heritor can be said to be resident, viz. the proprietor of Gollanfield. Members of the Earl of Moray's family spend, occasionally, a few days of the partridge-shooting season, in Castle Stuart. Major Fraser of Flemington, having duties to discharge as Acting Governor of Fort George, generally resides in the Fort. Neither of the other two heritors have a residence in the parish.

Of insane and fatuous persons there are six, three of each sex: and there are three persons totally blind.

Language.—English is the sole language of some of the families, but chiefly on the Earl of Moray's estate. The greater proportion of the farm-servants, and all the old aboriginal tenantry, prefer to speak Gaelic. A man now living recollects the time when there was not on all the Culloden estate, one who could tell a traveller the road to Inverness in English. Forty years hence, we apprehend it will be nearly as difficult to find many in the parish, who, if questioned in Gaelic, will be able to answer in that language.

* Of these, six males were illegitimate.

The customs and habits of the people are more like those of a Lowland than of a Highland population. We may be permitted to notice two customs, said to have been common when the former Account was written. At marriages, which were wont to take place in the church, the children of the parish school were in the habit of barricading the door, and of refusing admittance to the party till the bridegroom should either make a present of fourpence to buy a new foot-ball, or earn exemption from the exaction by kicking the old ball over the church. If the bridegroom could not achieve the exploit of kicking the ball, or would not pay the pence, "the cleverest fellow might take off the bride's shoes," and thus degraded he might enter the church. At funerals, also, it was a custom peculiar to this parish to run as fast possible, so that often persons fell when carrying the body to the grave. Hence, in the neighbouring parishes, if rain came on, or if it was wished to quicken the progress of a funeral, it used to be said let us take "the Petie step" to it. This custom was revived a few years ago by some lads, at the funeral of a woman, known as *Camronach-na-peasairach's* wife, and who was long dreaded and consulted as a witch. The Pettie step at funerals is now as decorous as that of their neighbours; and the school impost at marriages has gone into desuetude. The fishers are the only class who now come, with a piper at their head, to be married in the church; and till they muster in less force, it is the only place which can afford sufficient room.—The Highland costume is never worn as common dress.

Upon the whole, I would say, that the population are in as comfortable and apparently contented circumstances as those of any Highland district. As to the tenantry, if the transmission of farms from sire to son for many generations, and the possession of means rather beyond what is requisite for their agricultural enterprise, be any evidence of their enjoying, in a reasonable degree, the comforts and advantages of society, several of the aboriginal tenantry may be said to be contented with their situation. And if the principle, which has been acted upon by P. B. Ainslie, Esq., the Earl of Moray's Commissioner, and which, both from its equity, and novelty at least in the north Highlands, deserves to be noticed, be taken as a criterion, (and by which, instead of setting the farms up to roup, or accepting the highest offer in writing, as most of landlords do, the farm is valued by a competent judge brought from the south at his Lordship's expense, and is let, after a con-

siderate estimate and investigation, in some instances, even at less than the tenant has actually offered, and under the valuator's appreciation,)—if this be a system of dealing between landlord and tenant, embodying the favourite sentiment, "live and let live,"—we may infer that, upon the whole, the tenants are satisfied with their circumstances. And, since poverty is as often the parent as the offspring of vicious habits, the character of the people, who are in general orderly and moral, may be taken as presumptive evidence that they are not ground down by the extortion of unreasonable landlords.

Smuggling at one time existed, but it has entirely disappeared of late years.

As to the religious state of the people, there is no denying that an universal opinion prevails in the Highlands, and it is not entirely confined to laymen, that piety was more flourishing in the days of their fathers than in their own day. If we consult, however, the records of session of this parish, it will be found, that the instances of gross immorality and indecency which crowd and contaminate their earlier pages, become gradually fewer as we approach the present day. Some of these have for years been unknown. From the habits of society in former days, when the Strathdearn feuars used to meet the tenantry of this parish and the factor at Castle Stuart, and spent not days but weeks in uncontrolled revelry, scenes were then witnessed, such, that the very mention of them makes people of ordinary stomachs thankful that they have been born out of season. On the other hand, we must recollect that, if a man was then actuated at all by religious principles, he was obliged to stand more entirely apart from the common intercourse of society, and his religion would shine forth in stronger relief than would the character of the very same man if living now, when a general decency of deportment prevails. Besides, the absence of the variety of books and newspapers now circulated made our forefathers very much, and of necessity, men of one business and one book. Their small adjacent farms made it as convenient to them to meet often as if they dwelt in a village, and gave them neither poverty nor riches, but a competency and leisure. Frequent prayer and fellowship meetings became naturally the fuel and the fruit of piety in such a state of things. Such religious men would be justly and greatly venerated as lights shining in a dark place. Besides, the custom unknown to the Lowlands, by which men of this description, at stated monthly meetings, and on the Friday preceding the dispensation of the Lord's Supper,

were called upon to express their opinion or experience upon some religious question before the congregation,—gave them an opportunity of becoming prominent among their neighbours for any superior knowledge, zeal, or eloquence. If the piety of the decidedly religious among our forefathers was thus more eminently exhibited than that of the present time, the number of such individuals, it must be recollected, was but few; the passions of the mass were far less restrained than in the present day, when decorum seems as if almost graduating into religion; and it may safely be questioned whether, on the whole, the former or the present state of things is to be regarded as the more flourishing, in a religious respect.

In addition to non-resident proprietors, the parish labours under an almost greater evil—non-resident tenants. No proprietor who has the moral well-being of a community at heart should ever tolerate such a system. Its evils are obviously manifold. We question also whether the modern system of the entire absorption of small farms by large ones, will not ultimately tend to generate a worse moral-conditioned rural population, than if there were left a proportion of small farms,—establishment in which might be within the reach of industrious men, who had earned a character and small capital in serving the occupiers of the larger farms. It would be an advantage to the district, if, at some central points, such as where a smithy is found, a few small houses on the cottage system were erected, for a carpenter, gardener, merchant of small articles commonly in demand, tailor, and labourers. The members of all their families would be of service to the farmer at certain seasons of the year.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—Pettie may be described as an entirely agricultural parish, since the whole population, with the exception of the fishers, are employed directly in agriculture, or the subservient arts.

The Earl of Moray's properties, "the lordship of Petyn," and the barony of Connage, comprise, apart from small crofts, 24 farms, at the average of about L. 160 of rent. The estate of Cullo-den in the parish contains, apart from crofts, 6 farms, at the average rent of L. 104. Gollanfield, now chiefly farmed by its proprietor, contains 7 farms, at the average rent of perhaps L. 60. Flemington contains, besides the Mains, one farm of about L. 50. The Mains may be of the same value. The rental of the parish is, including feus and crofts, fully L. 5000.

The extent of the different estates is shown by the following tables :—

	Arable.	Uncultivated includ. moss.	Wood.	Total.
Lord Moray,	3800	700	1200	5700 Imp. acres.
Lord Cawdor,	210	48	79	337
Culloden,	585	378	218	1181
Gollanfield and Flemington,	680	143	77	900*
	<u>5275</u>	<u>1269</u>	<u>1574</u>	<u>8118</u>

The valued rent, and the cess paid by such proprietors as have no other property in this county, except in this parish, are given in the subjoined table :

Lord Moray pays L. 28, 17s. 1d.,	effeiring to valued rent,	L. 2423 10 0
Lord Cawdor,	- - - - -	120 0 0
Culloden,	- - - - -	441 15 0
Gollanfield, pays L. 1, 10s. 9d.,	- - - - -	130 19 0
Flemington, 6s. 2d.,	- - - - -	26 3 0
	Total valued rent,	<u>L. 3142 7 0</u>

The assessed taxes paid by the parish last year were L. 62, 19s. 3d.† In 1814, it was L. 221, 7s.

By the six-shift rotation, under which the farms have hitherto been managed, there would be under

Potatoes and turnips,	-	880 acres.
Pasture, grass, and hay,	-	1760
Wheat, barley, and oats,	-	2640
	About	<u>5280</u>

Raw Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce may be as under :

880 acres in turnips and potatoes, at L. 3, 10s.,	1.3080 0 0
1760 acres in pasture, grass, and hay, at L. 1, 10s.	2640 0 0
1940 acres oats, producing 5820 quarters, at L. 1, 4s.,	6984 0 0
550 acres barley, producing 1925 quarters, at L. 1, 10s.,	2887 10 0
150 acres wheat, producing 450 quarters, at L. 2, 13s.,	1192 10 0
	<u>L. 16784 0 0</u>
5280 acres straw, of 8195 quarters, at 5s.	2048 15 0
1269 acres uncultivated, at 2s.	126 18 0
Wood sold yearly about L. 200, or	150 0 0
	<u>L. 19109 13 0</u>

The harvest work is generally done by threaving, for barley and oats at 2½d. per threave of two stooks, and 3d. for wheat; the sheaves 32 inches in circumference. When shearers are engaged for the harvest, the wages for men are from L. 1, 15s. to L. 2, and for women L. 1, 4s. to L. 1, 6s., with victuals; and they are bound to assist in taking up the potatoes. The scythe is occasionally used by some of the farmers, but not to any great extent. Corn is never let out to be cut by the acre, except when a tenant may

* It is not specified whether these be Scots or imperial acres.
 † In the adjacent parishes there was paid in 1814 by Adersier, L. 205 14 2
 by Calder & Croy, 322 2 0½
 by Daviot, 156 3 3

be leaving his farm, and has not the requisite establishment of servants. In that case, it is generally let at about 9s. per Scotch acre, for cutting and stooking.

The 1200 acres of plantations on Lord Moray's estates may be divided as follows:—About 200 acres of about the age of sixty years; 250, thirty-two years; 500, from fifteen to twenty years; 150 to 200, from one to ten years: including about twenty acres of oak coppice, managed in the most approved manner. The cutting of wood on the estate extends little beyond what is required for thinning, and the supply of timber requisite for local purposes, such as in fences and the erection of farm-buildings. A vessel landing coals may occasionally obtain a cargo of props or deals.*

The only instance of sawing by a steam-engine ever seen in this district, took place in the manufacture of part of the woods of Culoden into staves, by that enterprising gentleman, J. Inglis Nicol, Esq. M. D., Inverness. So soon as the fir-wood on Lord Moray's estate is sufficiently cleared, oak is planted in its stead. Major Fraser has surrounded Flemington with a flourishing belt of fir, larch, and spruce.

The parish is not remarkable for any particular breed of cattle, as attention is only paid to feeding and agriculture. Since few, if any, of the farmers have an outrun of pasture, the system pursued is to purchase at the Moor of Ord and Bogbain trysts, stots for winterers, and sheep to eat off turnips. The dryness of the soil is favourable "to the feeding off" of sheep; but this system is obviously regulated by the fertility of the season in the produce of straw and turnip. Some of the tenants, occasionally, let the run of their farms and a proportion of their turnips to sheep-farmers for the winter; but no yearly average per head or per acre can well be stated. So seldom are fields let for grazing, or cattle received for this purpose, that it is almost impossible to state any average per head or per acre. The Aberdeen or Buchan black and polled breed of cows is preferred to the Ayrshire. Some of the farmers select for winterers the short-horned species, or crosses from that breed. But, in general, the stots are either of the Highland or Buchan breed.

No leases under nineteen years are ever offered or taken. The landlords sometimes build all the offices, and, at other times, leave

* The wood on Lord Cawdor's property was only in process of planting, and that on the Culoden property had just been sold when this Account was written.

the tenant wholly, or in part, to erect the buildings, as may happen to be agreed upon, when the lease is taken.

The rule or understanding on the Earl of Moray's estate is, that the main drains or levels are kept in repair or efficient by the landlord, and the tributary drains by the tenant.

There is a feeing-market for servants held at Inverness, about a month before each term.

Wages.—The rate of wages for the half-year may be given as follows:—A foreman, from L. 6, 10s. to L. 8; a ploughman, L. 4 to L. 5; herd-boy, L. 1, 10s. to L. 2; a female, L. 1, 10s. to L. 2; an able-bodied day-labourer in summer, from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.; do. in winter, 1s. or 2d. per hour; females for common work, 6d. per day.

Formerly when the tenants sold their produce of oats almost entirely in meal, and rarely in grain, there were four mills in the parish; and the district thirled to each was called the *siucam* of that mill. The only one of these now existing is the mill of Connage, at Campbeltown. There was another at Culblair. The third was at Loddack or *Tornagrain*. The fourth was a salt water mill, which was double, or had two wheels. Its ruins still stand towards the entrance of the bay near the church. Across this bay a dike was erected, and the keeping in repair of so many feet of the dike was assigned to each tenant on the Earl of Moray's estate. A considerable supply of water for this mill was obtained from a burn which flows into the bay; but the object of the dike was not merely to dam up the waters of this burn, but, first to exclude and then to admit the flow-tide at sluices so constructed, as that the mill might be turned both by the flow and the ebb-tide. This mill was given up about fifteen years ago. The following extract of minute of kirk-session shows that its erection was of an old date:—17th Sept. 1682, “P. F. and M. English, millers of the salt water mill, charged by the officer for setting it, and grinding on the Lord's day.”

What is now the bog, was the old pond of the mill, which has been raised nearly to a level with the adjacent ground by the sand carried down by the burn, and the wreck driven in by the sea.

Beans are not sown; and pease and rye only occasionally, and to so small an extent as not to deserve notice. Tares are grown to a small extent. Bear or big is not now, and has not been in the memory of any now living, grown in this parish. Both Chevalier and common barley are sown. The Hopetoun and potato oats are sometimes sown; but the oats commonly sown in the dis-

trict are the late Angus. The Sandy oats now threatens to displace the Hopetoun and potato oats. The tenants find that the ground will not stand wheat at every rotation.

It may be stated here, that, until the introduction of the system of large farms, and the modern system of agriculture, flax was universally cultivated in this parish, for which it was even famed. The cheapness of cotton articles has had the effect of putting an end to the cultivation of flax.

Lime has been in use at least since the large farms have been formed, and it may be said that turnips are never put down except with bone dust. At the season when they are sown, it is supposed that common manure keeps our light soils too open in the heat which then prevails; at all events, the bones give the best produce. From 20 to 25 bolls of lime per acre is the rule followed. Second liming of a field does not seem to answer so well as was anticipated; and subsoil ploughing and trenching seem not unlikely to become common on all the farms, before lime is laid on a second time.

The majority of the agricultural servants come from the interior Highlands. Native lads seem to prefer acquiring a trade when they have an opportunity.

There has existed for upwards of fifty years, the Pettie and Ardersier Farmers' Society. Premiums are yearly awarded to those who are adjudged to be the best ploughmen at a public competition. A prize has been added this year, to be given to the lad whose horses appear best groomed, and their harness best kept.

The description of horses used in agriculture seems to be a cross between the Highland garron and the finest heavy horses from the south. They are both hardy and active, but not remarkably large. A pair of horses are considered sufficient for every fifty acres of a farm. They are in some request for double harness.

Fisheries.—There are two stake-nets on the property of the Earl of Moray, and one on the property of Culloden at Altirliel-Point. The erection of the former is of recent date, and it is said they have not as yet been found a very remunerating enterprise. The annual rent of all these salmon fishings is under £. 60. The Messrs Hogarth of Aberdeen rent the entire beach belonging to the Earl of Moray, and Mr R. Mackinnon, Altirliel Point, has for many years possessed the fishing at that station, with other fishings in different places of the Highlands.

There are 24 boats belonging to the parish engaged in the

herring-fishing. They are the property of four, we may say five, crews, or bands of eight men, who fish in company in one boat for haddocks, but who, in the herring-fishing, as they may happen, individually, or conjointly, to possess a boat, break up, and hire as many as may give a crew of five hands and a boy to each boat.

Lads from the West Highlands are engaged for the herring-season at the rate of about L.4. They receive in addition, perhaps, a barrel of herrings. When they fish haddocks, eight men form the crew. The fishers look to the herring-season as the great source of their income. Some of them almost despise the haddock-fishing as scarcely worth their pains. They are absent at the herring-fishing at Helmsdale, Wick, or Burghhead, about six weeks from the middle of July.*

It may safely be stated, that there is not along the coast of the Moray Frith, on either side, any colony of fishers more deserving of encouragement, and who receive less, than the fishers of Pettie. They are like the order to which they belong, very stationary in their knowledge, not a few of the parents being unable to read, and all of them too little disposed to keep their children either long or regularly at school. But they are almost to a man orderly and irreproachable in their conduct, and of industrious habits. They are ready to enter the service of the farmers for the labours of the harvest, on their return from the herring-fishing; and from their residence in the vicinity, they render it practicable to some of the farmers to relieve themselves of the necessity of bringing shearers from a distance, and of finding them accommodation. While they increase the advantages of the district by the supply of fish, they purchase from the farmers what they require of meal, which, with fish, is their chief, we may say their only food. From there being no pier within a given distance of their dwelling, they are not entitled to certain aid, for the repair of their boats, which other fishers near a pier receive from the Fishing Board. A pier, to the erection of which the Fishery Board would contribute so largely, would be an advantage, not only to the fisher, but to the farmer, in the saving of strain to his horses in drawing coals and lime through a soft beach, without being obliged, as at present, to avail himself of moonlight or daylight to suit the state of the tides; and by facilitating the shipping of grain or wood.

* Lesly mentions, that, long before his time, herrings were taken at Inverness. "*Magna hancum ad ipsius littus captura olim percelebre.*" We can believe the fact sooner than the reason vulgarly assigned, which he gives for their forsaking that coast. We have heard some of the older fishers say, that they have caught fish to the west of Altirlics, which they now seek to the east of Fort George.

On what principle Government aid for the repair of boats is only given to fishers within a certain distance of a pier, we know not; but it is obvious, that fishers who have to bring their boats ashore on an open beach, run the risk of greater injury to their boats than those who have the advantage of a pier. And a person ignorant of the reason of such a rule, as the writer confesses himself to be, would suppose that those who have a pier, and incur less tear and wear, should not be the parties to receive any peculiar favour or aid. Those who have no pier are at the expense of two pounds more a year in ropes and anchors, by having "to *hing* at anchor" so often in deep water before they can bring their boats ashore. If we might judge from the public prints, it would seem to be no great national outlay to extend the Government aid to all fishers, wheresoever resident: "It appears that the total sum voted by Parliament during the last ten years amounted to L.144,000, of which there has been paid for building or repairing ports or quays in Scotland, L.27,666, or an average of L.2766 yearly; for repairing the boats of fishermen in Scotland, L.4435, or an average of L.443 yearly; and for salaries and allowances of the officers, and incidental expenses of the establishment, L.116,364, or a yearly average of L.11,636."

It is another disadvantage of which the fishers of this coast complain, that, although their business be on the great waters, they are obliged to pay *road-money* on land. The fishers of Ross-shire are said to be relieved from this impost; and there are perhaps twenty fishers in Ross-shire for every one in Inverness-shire.

The fishers both of Pettie and of Connage were formerly in possession of crofts, by which one or more of a crew supported a horse. They were thus enabled, except when they had a large take of fish, to leave their boats at home, and, independent of the tide, to carry their fish to market, and to return home when they had sold their fish, without loitering till the next tide on the streets of Inverness, by which means they escaped many temptations to tippling. For some years they had been deprived of these crofts. But recently a crew has been removed from the estate, and crofts assigned to the rest of those in Pettie. If the possession of crofts should, as some think, make them less industrious in their calling as fishers, and enable them to carry to Inverness small takes of fish which they would, otherwise, sell in the parish, the moral benefit resulting to the men themselves should reconcile us to their possessing them. It were desirable that some plan or order were adopted, according to which their houses should be built and placed: for their straggling turf

huts are hardly in keeping with the agricultural advancement of the district. It would be well, also, if their possession of crofts had been made dependent on their sending their children, female as well as male, to school, till able to read and write; and that, as a precaution against pauperism, in case of disasters at sea, they should be required to contribute to the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Benevolent Society.*

Oysters of an inferior description may be fished between Artirrie-Point and Avoch. The grandfather of the present proprietor of Culloden had taken some pains to form and foster a bed, by procuring oysters from a distance, and placing them at the Point. More recently another bed has been formed.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—Inverness is the great market to which the population bring all their marketable commodities: the tenant, his well fed stot and grain; the cottar's wife, her fowls, eggs, and dairy produce; and the fisher, his nocturnal capture of cod, skate, whiting, haddock, flounder, sole, or herring. Since steamers have begun to ply regularly between London and Inverness, any uncommonly fine beast is sent to Smithfield. The coach-road from Aberdeen to Inverness, by which two stage-coaches and the mail daily leave and reach each place, runs through the entire length of the parish, making a bend so as to pass near Fort George through the village of Campbelton. Every obstacle to the formation of a line of road higher up, keeping nearly the track of the old Nairn road, is now removed; and the making of it has been commenced. This line will nearly bisect the parish along its entire extent from east to west, will save about two miles in the distance between Nairn and Inverness, avoid a good deal of hill, and open up a better access towards Cawdor and Croy. At present there is, strange to say, not even a receiving-house for letters in the parish. To the advantage of the new line of road, that of a post-office will doubtless be added. The nearest post-offices are at Fort George, (Ardersier,) and Inverness. The only tryst held in the parish is the long established and much frequented Campbelton market, held on the confines of Pettie and Ardersier, at Lammas. It is here that farmers from Morayshire and round Inverness engage their shearers; a good deal of business is done in the sale of lambs, cattle, horses, and small quantities of wool not worth being offered at the Inverness wool market.

* All that is required to constitute a member is a yearly contribution of 2s. 6d.

Ecclesiastical History.—In the history of the Reformation from Popery, or of the struggles between Presbytery and Episcopacy, we find no mention of this parish, or of any names connected with it. Indeed, the changes of the national forms of religion seem to have extended to the North Highlands, with comparatively little excitement in the public mind, and without having led to much personal or domestic suffering. Hence we have no places rendered interesting by a martyr's grave, *nullum saxum cum nomine*. As to the north, generally, all that Wodrow can say is, "that the seed sown by Hog, Dickson, Bruce, and M'Killigan, took root in the soil, and that, though there were but few comparatively with the west and south, yet there were more than many imagine dissatisfied with Prelacy." This assertion derives confirmation from the diary of a religious lady called Lilius Dunbar of Torreich, a manuscript copy of which is in the possession of Captain Shaw, Culblair, in this parish. By the year 1570, when the celebrated Robert Pont was visiter and the commissioner of Moray in the General Assembly, Shaw states that almost all the parishes in Moray had Protestant teachers. He gives the names of those in Pettie and Bracholy: Andro Braboner, 1568; James Dunbar, 1579. Of these we know nothing, and of Donald Macqueen, who served from 1613 to 1630, the only notice we find is in this entry in the synod books; Mr Macqueen "regrets that Mr P. Dunbar, (minister of Dores) his travels are unfruitful in the place where he serves, and that only through want of the language." From 1630 to 1633, there seems to have been no minister. For the synod appointed a "Committee to entreat my Lord of Moray to present some qualified man." From 1633 till 1683, Alexander Fraser, father of Dr Fraser of Chelsea, was incumbent. We have a register of births during his whole incumbency; but not of marriages. The session-records begin in 1644; but the first few leaves of the volume were destroyed from its not having been bound till recently. The following extracts are given as illustrative of the times and of the character of the man.*

* "September 29, 1644. This day the minister did inquire of the elders and deacons if they knew of any persons that were sick in their divisions, . . . the minister promised to visit them on Monday. The minister desired them to search if there were any Sabbath breakers, and to delate them.

"October 1644. Intimation made that no mills grind on the Sabbath, under pain of censure, penalty, and repentance.

"November 24. All the elders and deacons exhorted upon ane form before the pulpit after the sermon respecting their duty and diligence in the work of God.

"16th March 1645. J. M'Dougal is declared banished, and declaration made, if any shall harbour her within the parish they shall pay, &c.

"The penult of May 1647. — — — being accused for their violating of the

Mr Fraser's long incumbency extended over the most troubled times of Scottish ecclesiastical history. Judging of his character by all that is known of him, we would regard him not as a mere temporizer, but as a man of a gentle and Catholic spirit, anxious to fulfil the ends of his ministry in his own parish, and who, for the sake of peace, would approve of Leighton's "Modest Defence of a Moderate Episcopacy." The synod records show that he incurred some censure during the period of Presbyterian ascendancy; but if he was considered by the Presbyterians as deficient in zeal in proceeding against Papists, compliers, and malignants, he showed equal inaction in the times of Episcopacy, in compelling conformity by attendance at the Lord's table. The

Lord's day in drunkenness and biding from church, were sharply reprov'd, and ordained to stand at the pillar the next day, . . . under the pain of banishment.

" August 1647. — — — rebuked for his disobedience to his father and mother, and exhorted to crave of God mercy and grace to behave himself towards the said old persons as dutiful children ought.

" August 20, 1648. That day there was ane fast intimated to be celebrated for these reasons: That God would move the King's heart to peace and unity with his subjects—that it would please God to remove the extraordinary rain which threatened universal famine. That day there was read from the pulpit an act of the General Assembly, against the acts of approbation of the unlawful engagement.

" December 14, 1648. That day the solemn acknowledgment of the sins of the land about the breach of the League and Covenant was read and explained out of the pulpit.

" December 23, 1649. That day the minister made premonitions to the parishioners that no days be kept for feasting or abstaining from work. (To abolish Christmas.)

" 1651, July 27. All and every of the elders and deacons, and heads of families are ordered to search out how many had withdrawn and absented themselves from the Lord's table, that they may be censured as recusants.

August 10, 1651. Many said to be of the baser sort and ignorant, from Flemington, were asked, every one apart, what was the cause they did not communicate. Their excuses were found frivolous. They were ordained to do public repentance the next Lord's day for their high contempt.

August 17. All recusants stood in public, confessed their contempt and ignorance, and promised never to do the like again.

Feb. 2, 1662. That day the minister did report to the session that there came ane order from Parliament, inhibiting all church meetings till further orders.

May 26, 1662. This day the minister did intimate to the people that Wednesday next be set apart for public thanksgiving for the late deliverance, and that all beseech God to bring our King safely to his throne.

From 2d February till 7th July, every Sunday, the entry is, that day no session, for the cause aforesaid.

On the 7th July, it was intimated that there was ane order from the estates, sanctioning church meetings.

May 25, 1661. A thanksgiving for the King's restoration to his three kingdoms is intimated for Wednesday after, and people ordained to meet frequently that day. From 1658, scarcely a week passes the whole year round without catechising.

September 16, 1660. That day Dougall Macandrew, being found ignorant in the grounds of religion, and being sharply rebuked therefor, he inacted himself conjointly with Donald Macoill, his cousin, that he shall, through the Lord's strength be well grounded within a month, and that under the failure of ten pounds.

February 1665. Mr James Fraser, (could this be Dr Fraser of Chelsea, the minister's son,) is elected schoolmaster by the session, and 12 bolls of good and sufficient victuals promised to be paid him out of the parish, and 10s. out of every chaldier of free rent victual, with all the casualties of baptisms and marriages, as likewise L. 20. Scotch money for being clerk to session and precentor in the church.

session records bear sufficient evidence that he was not slothful as a parish minister.

"No priest supinely drouing o'er his charge :
But the best portion of the good man's life,
His little, common, unrecorded acts
Of kindness and of love."

His son seems to have inherited the same liberality of sentiment, for, although resident the greater part of a long life in England, he left his fortune for the promotion of science and religion in the Presbyterian institutions and land of his fathers.

Mr Fraser was succeeded by a Mr A. Denune, said to have been a native of the parish. Shaw says he was ordained privately. From the record of session, we could gather no confirmation of that statement. For 12th November 1682, "Understand that from this day, Mr Alexander Denoon is helper till Whitsunday." In April Mr Fraser dies; and it is often noticed in the record that certain things could not be done, as there was no *actual* minister.

On 6th April 1684, Mr Æneas Macbean of Inverness intimates, that Mr Denoon was to be institute. The minutes of the earlier part of his incumbency lead us to believe that tippling was in his time very prevalent in the parish.*

In 1704, a process was commenced before the Presbytery against this incumbent, which ended in his deposition. A great part of the first volume of the Presbytery's records is taken up with the libel and evidence in this case. From some cause or other he was never ejected. In 1710, the Lord Advocate applies to the Presbytery for "a double of the process;" and it is likely that the civil law lent no aid; for in 1711, the Presbytery resolve to petition the Lords of Justiciary, then sitting at Inverness, to eject him. In December 1708, the Presbytery appoint the ministers of Inverness to apply to the sheriff to declare the church vacant; and in March 1709, "they report that the sheriff refuses to assist in that affair without a warrant from the Government, in regard that there was a riot in that place formerly, and that the people were ill set." It would seem that the people were on the side of the deposed Episcopalian minister. In April 1712, Mr James Calder says he did not supply at Pettie, because Mr Denoon's wife would

* March 1, 1685. If any sold ale or other liquor on the Sabbath day, especially in time of divine service, except to sick persons, they should pay 4. 0. 0. penalty, and stand three days in sackcloth, *toties quoties*.

May 31, 1691. Two elders are ordered to go from alehouse to alehouse next Lord's day, and report diligence. June 28. The minister resolves to call the several wives by name who sold ale after sermon, to prevent miscarriages in time of divine service, and to fine the absent in 18s. 4d., *toties quoties*.

not give him the key of the kirk. In 1709, the Presbytery are relieved from their perplexity by Mr Denoon's death.

Mr Denoon was succeeded by Mr Daniel Mackenzie, who was translated to Inverness in 1727. A Mr J. Duncanson, translated from Ardcloch, succeeded Mr Mackenzie, and died in 1737. Mr Lewis Chapman, from Alvie, who died in 1741, was Duncanson's successor.

Between the years 1704-39, the school of Pettie, taught by Mr John Clark, son-in-law of Mr Denoon, rose to high repute as a classical seminary, and sustained its character under subsequent teachers. The tradition is, that the farmers' sons in the parish understood Latin about as well as Gaelic. From the fame of the teachers, gentlemen's children from great distances were boarded in the parish. It was at this school that James Grant, late of Corrymony, author of "The Origin and Descent of the Gael," &c. acquired the rudiments of his education; and General Fraser, and his brother Archibald, the sons of the Lord Lovat, who was beheaded, were among the pupils.

On the death of Mr Chapman, Mr Æneas Shaw was translated to Pettie from Comrie in 1742, and was removed to Forres 1758. The tradition is, that at the time of the battle of Culloden, by giving certificates of character to the rebels of his neighbourhood, and asking no questions for conscience sake, he saved the lives of a great many. It may serve to show with what wanton disregard of life the King's army conducted themselves at that time, that, in passing the road, they seized this minister's servant and hung him on a tree, from which he was cut down, before life was extinct, by the minister himself.

In 1759, a Mr John Morrison became minister of Pettie. We are ignorant of the place of his birth, and of his parentage. It appears that he was missionary at Amulree in April 1745, where he continued until translated to Pettie. There is to this day a prevalent belief in the North Highlands, that he was endowed with the gift of prophecy, and anecdotes in confirmation of this are related. He went by the name of the *bard*, and besides a song in praise of his patron, the Earl of Moray, beginning thus,

" Deoch slainte an Iarla chluiteach;
Thug smuid dhuinn sa bhaile so,"

which means, "health to the famous Earl who has placed me by this hearth," the two following popular Gaelic songs are said to

INVERNESS.

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be of his composition, and to have been written in praise of the lady whom he baptised, and who became his wife :

- 1 Mo nighean dubh, tha boidheach dubh,
Mo, &c.
- 2 Ho mo Mhari laodbach,
Ho, &c.*

A schoolmaster of the name of Allan was ejected at this period, after a tedious process before the Presbytery. His recriminations against Mr Morrison are of an amusing nature.

From the year 1739, the time when Mr Clark had either died, or had ceased to act as session-clerk, till 1749, there are no session-records, nor baptismal registers. In 1765, there is a minute of session, complaining that previous session-clerks had taken away the records for not being paid their fees, "and no wonder then at the blanks to be found here." But from 1749, till the present day, there are regular baptismal and marriage registers.

From 1774 till October 1833, Mr William Smith, a native of Rafford, who had acquired Gaelic, was minister of this parish. In strength of mind, ecclesiastical knowledge, and methodical habits, he had few equals. It is to be regretted that he did not publish, as he at one time intended, an edition of Shaw's History of Mo-

* All that is related of him, indicates that he was a man of great sagacity, much humour, and fervent piety. The manner in which he became the minister of Pettie, may be noticed as illustrative of the times. There was a merchant in Inverness to whom a follower of the Lovat family in the Aird was deeply in debt. As no attorney in Inverness would undertake to recover the debt, the merchant employed a writer in Edinburgh, Mackenzie of Delvin, who was factor to the Earl of Moray and other proprietors in the north. Mr Mackenzie succeeded in forcing payment of the debt. The Frasers consulted how they might best avenge this audacious interference with the liberty of their clansman. As Mackenzie was in the habit of coming to the north at certain periods of the year, it was resolved to waylay him in Slocmuic on the first occasion; and to put him to death. A Mr Nicolson, minister of Kiltarlity, was present at dinner when this scheme was concocted, in the house of the chief or some leading clansman. To send a letter to Mackenzie by a bearer, or by post, would at that time scarcely have escaped discovery; and, if ever discovered, would end in the ruin of Mr N., as a traitor to his friends. The contrivance he fell upon was to write to Mr Morrison, to visit him on urgent business. Morrison accordingly came to the Aird, was informed by Mr Nicolson of the intentions of the Fraser's, and was dispatched to Mackenzie of Delvin, to caution him never to come to the north without a strong escort of friends.* On his next visit to the Highlands, a numerous body of tenantry was requested to meet him at Dalwhinnie; and the Frasers, finding him so protected, did not venture to make their attack. Mackenzie rewarded Mr Morrison for his service by procuring his appointment to the church of Pettie, on the removal of Mr Shaw to Forres.†

* We have been informed by a descendant of Mr Morrison's that Mackenzie was related to Mr Morrison.

† From the session records of Mr Morrison's time, we give the following extract : 19th October 1772. It being complained, that, upon the 11th, the tenants and herdsmen of Wester Dalziel, gathered in a mob, and buckled together in such a tumultuous manner as caused the effusion of blood before they parted, which is said to be contrary to the rules of Christianity and decency on the Lord's day. The persons that singularized themselves in this tumult, as reported, were summoned to appear; and having attended accordingly, their depositions are recorded.

ray, with additions and notes. From access to family documents, and intercourse in early life with many whose oral narrations could furnish materials for interesting local history of the former half of the last century, and from the singular retentiveness of his memory, he was peculiarly qualified for this undertaking. A copy of Shaw's work, full of his marginal notes and corrections, which it is said had been borrowed for the assistance of agents in an important legal process, it has been found impossible to recover.

The writer of the present account became assistant to Mr Smith in 1832, and his successor in 1834. It was during the latter part of Mr Smith's time, that the change from small to large farms, and the introduction of lowland tenantry, took place. Till this change was effected, it was, only occasionally, necessary to preach in English. English has, for several years, been scarcely less necessary than a Gaelic service, every Sabbath.

The church is by no means conveniently situated for the greater part of the people, even of the parish of Pettie. The inhabitants of the parish of Bracholy are nearer to Ardersier, or Croy, or Cawdor, and, at the extreme east, to Nairn, than to their parish church. Hence comparatively few from Bracholy attend at all. Nearly the entire parish of Bracholy should be apportioned to Ardersier and Croy, as it virtually is *quoad sacra*, since all the people have ever been in the habit of attending in these churches. The church is about seven miles from the extreme eastern point, and not fully two from the western boundary, which is only four from Inverness. It contains 596 sittings. On ordinary occasions, a less number would suffice, as, both from the inconvenient situation of the church, and the existence of the two languages, the church-going population are only in part, and never at the same time in church.

We give the several outlays upon the parochial buildings of this parish, as we find them noticed in the records of Presbytery, from the beginning of the last century to the present day. In 1720, on the manse, L. 968, 1s. 4d. Scots, and on the same, L. 1026, 2s. Scots in the year 1747. The church was built in 1767, without any decret of Presbytery, so that the expense is not mentioned. It could not have been great, for the west gable of the preceding church, part of which continues in the present church, was left standing, and the bare walls and roof with the pulpit were all that the heritors erected. The walls were never plastered nor the roof ceiled, and each farmer on the separate

properties paid for the pew which he occupied. The fishers erected one gallery and the session another, for which they took rent for a time, and which they ultimately sold. The tradition is, that it was for this church that the first ship laden with lime came to the beach; and the point where the lime was landed obtained the name it bears, *Rue an-aoil*. In 1810, the church-yard and the garden were enclosed with a sunk fence, and repairs made on the church and manse, and the offices built, the cost of which amounted to L. 827 Sterling. In 1811, on repairs, L. 100. In 1828, for the school-house, L. 200. We have not found the expense of the preceding school-houses. Between 1836 and 1839, the church, manse, and garden wall were rebuilt, and the offices repaired, which, including plans, &c. cost L. 2022, 12s. A drawback of L. 113 on glass and timber used in the church was obtained. It is due to the heritors to say, that all that was found requisite, they in the most prompt and liberal manner resolved to provide. The church is a model for a country church; and the entire accommodations are sufficient and satisfactory in every respect. Some approximation may be made from this statement towards ascertaining how far the free teind in the heritors' hands has been consumed, or a tax on the rental occasioned by the cost of the parochial buildings, for the last century.

The glebe of Pettie was enlarged by an excambion, so as to include the equivalent for that of Bracholy. The arable glebe, exclusive of the garden, and of the declivity from the churchyard to the marsh, is upwards of twelve acres in extent. About six acres are made to differ from the unreclaimed sand only by the force of cultivation. The stipend is 15 chalders. When the stipend was modified on the 1st July 1829, there appeared a free teind of L. 238, 15s. 11d., out of which there was allocated 29 bolls, 2 fir-lots, 2½ lippies meal, and same of barley.

The population, with the exception of two Roman Catholics, and two families belonging to the Secession, are of the Established Church. The number of communicants in the parish is as follows:—Males, 36; females, 45; in all, 81.

The church collections for the last seven years are shown by the following table:—

	Ordinary.	Extraordinary.	Object of extraord. collections.
1882.	L. 14 14 9*	L. 3 7 4½	Inverness Infirmary.
1833.	9 11 11	4 5 9	India Mission.

* The collections of this year were raised above the average of that period, in consequence of the alarm occasioned by the appearance of the cholera at Inverness having led the inhabitants of that parish, on the east, to attend at Pettie.

	Ordinary.	Extraordinary.	Object of extraord. collections.
1834,	L.9 19 10	L.3 19 7	Infirmary.
1835,	13 6 3	{ 2 5 2½	Do.
1836,	13 18 5½	{ 7 0 9	Gollanfield school.
1837,	10 9 2	{ 2 9 10	Assembly's Schemes.
		{ 5 0 0	Do. Do.
1838,	15 0 2	{ 3 3 0	Infirmary.
		{ 3 1 0	Assembly's Schemes.
		{ 3 9 3½	Infirmary.

Mortcloth proceeds may average L.3 yearly.

Education.—In 1838, the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge received on their scheme the school of Gollanfield, at the east end of the parish.* The school accommodates a district of Croy, as the Society's school at Culloden (Inverness) is available to the west end of this parish. The parish and other school in Ardersier and Croy are more convenient for some of the parishioners than are the schools within the parish; and hence, of the children of this parish, there are, on an average yearly, at the parish school of Pettie about 50; Ardersier, 12; Croy, 40; Society school, Gollanfield, 55; Culloden, (Inverness,) 48. In Campbeltown, (Forsyth's,) 15; female (reading school,) 6; Long's, 21; infant, 3; total, 250. In the Society's schools, Culloden and Gollanfield schools are kept on the Sabbath evening; and during the summer months, in the church, also, before service, a school is open to all who choose to attend; but is chiefly designed for those in service, of whom there are many more in the parish unable to read than, for its credit, we should like to state in round numbers. We fear there are not few parents, who are indifferent to the education of their male children, and consider it entirely superfluous for females. The above observation is by no means confined to the fishers of our population. But we hope that such feelings and views are daily losing ground among the people.

The want of a school for the instruction of females is much felt. Were the heritors to give a house and a small contribution for this purpose, they could hardly bestow a greater boon upon the people. It is lamentable to see poor girls under the necessity of expending the earnings of one term, at a period of life when they become almost ashamed to confess their ignorance, in boarding themselves at Inverness, as long as they can during the next, in order to possess those common qualifications with which others more favourably situated begin service. Were the proprietors resident, the female members of their families would consider such a

* Government have allowed L.40 to aid the erection of the school-house here; but, although the building is finished, we are not yet in circumstances to implement the condition annexed to the grant.

deficiency in the system of parochial instruction, a special reproach upon them;

Literature.—About a year ago, a parish library was commenced; not so much in order to meet the demand, as to create a taste for reading.

Parochial Funds.—The poor on the roll are about 50. The proceeds of the mortcloth, the ordinary collections, and contingent contributions, are the only available funds, which are rarely divided oftener than twice a year. In regard to the feelings of the poor in applying for parochial relief, there is found fully as much delicacy, on their part, in claiming relief, as there is promptness, in some quarters, to inquire whether they are in circumstances which render such an application necessary. In all such parishes as this, an allowance by the heritors equal to the parochial contributions would be sufficient for the maintenance of the poor. The contributions of the people would be proportioned to the necessities of the poor at the time; the amount would be an index of the state of the poor; and heritors would have the satisfaction of seeing that their tenants did not lay a greater burden on them than they were cheerfully bearing themselves. Every parishioner would have a motive to liberality by being conscious that every penny from him secured two to the poor. In consequence of the apathy towards the poor evinced by the heritors, some of the parishioners have begun to withhold their wonted church contributions, and others threaten to follow this example; all things seem tending to the speedy introduction of an assessment.

Judging by all that we have been able to glean from natives of the parish, the names of *Earl of Moray*, and *Forbes of Culloden*, seem ever to have been associated with all that is mild and paternal in landlords. "We had heard from our ancestors," said an old man, once, emphatically in Gaelic, "that Pettie was the envy of the tenant and of the poor, *ach dh' fhalbh i builleach*, that day is gone." Part of his regrets was to be traced to dissatisfaction with the agricultural changes which he had lived to witness. But, as there is no record, that, with the exception of L. 10 bestowed at the death of the late Earl of Moray, the poor have ever received, through the kirk-session, a single donation of meal, fuel, or money, from any heritor, we inquired how such a testimony could be given, as to the happy condition of the poor; and how they could be said to be worse off now than in former times. The benevolence of these proprietors was evinced by their gratuitous

bestowal of crofts on decayed farmers, and allowances to individuals considered to have some claim on their bounty; so that there always were, and there now are, some select objects who are pensioners of this description. But although no class of men are more compassionate than the present occupiers of the large farms, it will be obvious at a glance, how the introduction of large farms, had brought the general poor, who had no claims to be received as pensioners, and who were reduced to subsist by alms, into a worse condition than they were in before. For, in a forenoon, and in the circuit of what now comprises only one or two large farms, they could obtain as many small cupfuls of meal, as they can now obtain after traversing a quarter of the parish. If the agricultural changes have spread an ampler board before a proprietor, it is, surely, not unreasonable to expect that some crumbs may be cast to the unpensioned and unbefriended of this class of paupers.

This district, from its being traversed by the public road to Aberdeen, is peculiarly infested by impostors, pretending to be shipwrecked sailors, clerks, and schoolmasters whose health has failed, and vagrants with forged or out-dated passes, or begging certificates furnished with too much facility. We expect a remedy to this evil from the adoption of the Constabulary Act by the county, and the rural police now in course of formation.

Fuel.—Coal (English chiefly) is the fuel of the farmers. On Gollanfield and Culloden properties, peats are a good deal used. The poorest classes avail themselves of any brushwood which they can find.

Ale-houses.—There are two licensed dram-houses on the old Nairn road, and two in the village of Stuartown. There were twelve such houses when the former Account was written.

Savings Banks.—It is not improbable that, before the present Account passes through the press, a savings bank may be established in the parish. *

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the former Statistical Account was published, extraordinary changes have taken place in this parish. Large tracks, which "nature then held in her own hands," and which were clothed only with broom or whins, are now enclosed and subdivided as fertile fields. The clumps of trees which marked the frequent

* One has been established at Inverness, and is available to the surrounding districts.

farm-house, have long since yielded to the axe, and one farm embraces what was of old three, four, or eight small farms.

The former Account states, "A few of the occupiers of the larger farms have adopted the modes of cultivation introduced into the more improved parts of the country. But the whole of the ordinary tenantry still retain the same practices that were followed by their predecessors. Barley is sown with manure, and oats without it, so long as the land will produce more than the seed sown in it; after which it is allowed to rest three years as lea, and then it is broke up to undergo the same treatment. From improper management the land does not produce so much grain as it otherwise might." It may now be said that in no district is a superior style of farming to be witnessed. The six-shift rotation has been followed, but the tenants are already returning to the five. The smallest farmer endeavours to emulate the most spirited of his neighbours. As soon as any improvement in agriculture has fairly been ascertained in other places, it is found to be adopted by the enterprising tenants of the large farms; so that the system of husbandry is of the most approved description. From the lightness of the soil, it not unfrequently happens that much loss is sustained at the sowing of the turnip crop by strong westerly winds. We have, oftener than once, seen acres of flourishing young turnip braird, shrivelled and wafted away, both root and leaf, in the course of one hour, by one of these gales occurring after a few scorching days. This very year, a stone dike, about four feet high, saved a field on the Brae side, for an extent of one hundred yards from it. From the clouds of dust rising from the recently sown turnip fields, a stranger could scarcely imagine how vegetation makes any progress in so arid a soil, until he observes the great counteraction to the want of humidity in the ground, which is derived from the exceedingly heavy dews, which are the effect of the porousness of the soil. Before the moss was sufficiently drained, the potatoes used to suffer in the beginning of autumn, on some farms, from a mildew, which advanced along an invariable course, and blighted the potatoes, but without affecting any other crop. This now happens more rarely than in former years. The interruption of trees would furnish, if not an entire, yet a considerable preservative from the damage occasioned by this mildew, as well as by the wind. If beltings of trees between the several farms, or even single rows between the fields, were planted, the influence of these in dry summers would more than countervail the

damage which some farmers lay to the account of trees,—while they would exceedingly beautify the aspect of the parish.

As respects horticulture, this parish can advance no claims equal to some others, with a less favourable climate. Some of the cottages have a pleasing patch of garden attached to them, and in these we generally find one or more hives of bees, which seem to thrive in this district. Each of the large farms has its garden, and the best farmer is not always the worst gardener. But, except at Flemington, Freetown, and Culblair, no garden engages the entire labour of a gardener. The fine garden of Culloden House is in Inverness parish. Were the parish so wooded as to afford protection from the north and east winds, the soil and climate would encourage more attention to horticulture, even with the disadvantage of having no resident proprietors to set an example.

In conclusion, we cannot but anticipate, that with landlords and tenantry, such as, in the main, the parish can boast of, its agricultural management will continue to bear comparison with that of any other parish in similar circumstances; that, with the removal of those economic disadvantages, to which truth required that we should allude, the farmer, fisher, and pauper will have little to envy, when he contrasts his own condition with that of his compeers anywhere else.

Written autumn 1839.

Revised February 1841.

PARISH OF LAGGAN.

PRESBYTERY OF ABERTARFF, SYNOD OF GLENELG.

THE REV. DONALD CAMERON, MINISTER

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, and Extent.—The name is supposed to be derived from the Gaelic word *lag*, signifying a small round hollow plain or dimple. *Laggain* or *Laggun* is the plural of the word *Lag*; *Laggan* is also the diminutive of the same term.

The extent of this parish from north to south, and from east to west, is about 22 English miles in each direction. It is bounded on the north, by Boleskine; on the east, by Kingussie;