

PARISH OF GLADSMUIR.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JOHN RAMSAY, A. M. MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, &c.—THE parish of Gladsmuir was erected, in 1692, by annexations from the contiguous parishes of Haddington, Tranent, and Aberlady, and took its name from the place where the church is situate. That place was called Gladsmuir, long before the parish was formed. In 1650, those portions of the parish of Gladsmuir which were taken from Haddington and Aberlady, were set apart with the view of forming a new parish. A chapel was built, where divine service was performed; and the place where it stood still goes by the name of the Old Kirk. A manse was also built, a little to the east of Penston,—which still bears the name of the Old Manse. But it was not till 1692, that the portion of the parish which was taken from Tranent was added to the other two portions formerly designed, and the whole erected into a separate parish. At that time, Gladsmuir was a rugged uncultivated tract of land, lying on both sides of the great London road, and probably was so named from its being frequented by kites or gleds, as they were commonly called.

Extent—Boundaries.—The parish extends from the Frith of Forth on the north, to the Tyne on the south, a distance of fully 5 miles; and from Merryhatton on the east to Whinbush on the west, a distance of 4 miles. It is bounded on the east, by the parish of Haddington; on the west, by the parishes of Tranent and Pencaitland; on the south, by the Tyne and Pencaitland; and on the north, by the Frith of Forth and the parish of Aberlady. On the east, it is intersected by a neck of land belonging to Haddington, separating the barony of Samuelston from the barony of Trabroun, and running west nearly as far as Gladsmuir. Otherwise, it is very compact, but of an irregular figure. It contains about 10 square miles.

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Topographical Appearances.—From the Frith on the one side, and the Tyne on the other, the land rises gently to a ridge, along which the great London road passes; and on the highest point of that ridge, the church is situate.

The prevailing winds in this parish are west, north and south-west. Our heavy rains are from the west. The rains from the west, when not very abundant, being carried along the Pentlands, are often afterwards attracted by the Lammermuirs on the one hand, and the sea on the other; and thus the district between Musselburgh and Dunbar receives perhaps less rain than any other district of Scotland. There is sometimes a good deal of rain at Edinburgh and westward, when there is none in that tract. The climate is naturally good, and it has been much improved by the high state of cultivation to which the county has been brought.

Hydrography.—The Frith of Forth bounds the parish, on the north, only to the extent of about a mile, the rest of the parish to the north being cut off from the sea by intersections of the parishes of Aberlady and Tranent. The shore is rocky, containing detached masses of rock interspersed by the terminations of strata appearing above the bed of the sea at low water. The Tyne, which forms the southern boundary of the parish to the extent of about a mile and a-half, is here but a small stream, the water of which is frequently carried off to supply the mills in its course. There is abundance of excellent spring water, at the northern and southern extremities of the parish; but in the middle tract, where the land is high, and coal has been wrought, it is not so plentiful, and some of the wells are very deep. In the midst of the coal-field, however, a little to the north of the village of Penston, in a line from east to west, three springs rise to the surface in great abundance, probably occasioned by a dike running through the coal-field in that direction. At Chesterhall, on the property of St Germans, about half a century ago, there was a considerable marsh, covering sixteen or seventeen acres; but, by ditching and draining, it is now completely dried, and converted into excellent land. There is not now a marsh in the parish,—though, a century ago, there appears to have been several. There are no streams or runs of water, except such as are produced and fed by drains from the adjacent fields.

Geology and Mineralogy.—This parish abounds with coal, particularly the barony of Penston. In the neighbourhood of that village, it was wrought so far back as the fourteenth century,

and has long furnished the chief supply to the eastern parts of the county. It was wrought when Oliver Cromwell was in this country, about the middle of the seventeenth century, and drew then a rent of L. 400. In 1834, it was found that the field lying to the south of the village of Penston had been very much wrought out; and a new tenant having succeeded to the lease of the farm, and also of the coal, a new pit was opened a little to the north of the Henmuir, and the coal has been wrought there ever since. But as most of the coal has been already wrought in that part of the property, borings were made in different places to the north of the village of Penston, and a pit was sunk in that quarter about a gunshot to the south of the great road. The operations there were, for some time, very much retarded by an influx of water; but a steam-engine was erected, and the water having been carried off, the work is now going on briskly, and a great quantity of coal is brought out and disposed of. The coal is of an excellent quality. The seam is about thirty-two inches thick, while the Pawnwood coal is from four to five feet thick. There are now two engines at work, and that part of the field is yet unbroken. At the same time, the work at the Henmuir is still going on. The coal-grieve at Penston has been so good as furnish me with an account of the different stratifications that were met with in the boring for coal, in August 1834.

	<i>Fath.</i>	<i>Feet.</i>	<i>In.</i>		<i>Fath.</i>	<i>Feet.</i>	<i>In.</i>
Length of box,	- 0	4	9	Blaes, dark-blue,	- 0	4	3
Fakes gray,	- 0	1	0	Blaes, black,	- 0	1	10
Blue dark, blue soft	- 0	7	10	Freestone, dark-gray	0	12	6
Coal, rough,	- 0	1	2	Freestone, darker,	- 0	0	10
Blaes, dark blue,	- 0	2	2	Do. hard,	- 0	0	10
Bands, dark-gray,	- 0	1	4	Do. dark-gray,	- 0	1	1
Blaes, black, mixed with coal,		1	0	Blaes, soft black,	- 0	0	4
Bands, dark-gray,	- 0	1	7	Coal,	- 0	0	9
Blaes, dark-blue,	- 0	0	7	Blaes, blackish,	- 0	1	11
Bands, dark-gray,	- 0	0	4	Freestone bands, gray,	0	1	1
Coal,	- 0	0	5	Do. dark-gray,	- 0	5	10
Blaes, dark-blue, intermixed				Blue bed,	- 0	0	2
with gray bands,	0	6	6	Freestone band,	- 0	0	6
Blaes, black, soft,	- 0	1	2	Coal, soft,	- 0	0	6
Freestone, gray	- 0	4	1	Blaes, blackish,	- 0	1	5
Blaes, dark-blue,	- 0	1	9	Coal, soft,	- 0	0	5
Coal,	- 0	0	9	Blaes, black, mixed with			
Blae,	- 0	0	3	freestone bands,	- 0	1	7
Coal,	- 0	2	4	Freestone, dark-gray,	- 0	5	1
Blaes, dark-gray,	- 0	0	6	Bands and blaes, freestone,	0	1	9
Freestone, dark-gray and hard,	2	3		Coal, splint,	- 0	2	8
Freestone bands,	- 0	0	10	Pavement,	- 0	0	2
Blaes, black,	- 0	0	4				
Coal,	- 0	1	8				
Blaes, black,	- 0	0	10				
				Fathoms,	16	4	2

Another pit has just been opened, a little below the North Mains,

upon the side of the road leading from Penston to the London road ; but it is not yet finished. We find that in 1812, coal was wrought upon the property of Hodges. There was also a brick-work upon that property, about fifty years ago ; but the working, both of the coal and the brick, has been discontinued. A proposal was made lately to set a-going a brick-work there for brick and tile ; but it was given up. Coal was wrought about thirty years ago at M'Merry, and also at the western extremity of the parish ; but the pit was removed a little to the west in the parish of Tranent, where it now is. It belongs to Anderson of St Germain's.

In 1835, at M'Merry, when the blacksmith was sinking a well a little behind his house, on the St Germain's property, he accidentally came upon some parrot coal. The tenant of the coal-work upon that property, upon hearing of this, examined it, and found a seam of parrot coal, which he has been working ever since, and which, having supplied the new gas-work at Haddington, promises to turn to good account. The tenant of the Penston coal also attempted to find it on the opposite side of the road, but did not succeed. The same year, borings were made in different parts of the Elvingston property, with a view to find coal, but without success. The magistrates of Haddington, some time ago, set on foot a colliery on their property betwixt Gladsmuir and Samuelston ; but after going on for some time, they were obliged to give up the work, having lost about L. 2000 in the experiment.

From all which, it appears that the coal strata crop out on the east, about the kirk of Gladsmuir.

Lime has been found in different parts of the parish. At present, there is only one kiln in operation, at Hairlaw, a little to the east of Longniddry, on the property of the Earl of Wemyss. About a mile to the south, on the property of Ainslie of Redcoll, there is a kiln in pretty good preservation, where limestone had been burnt, but the working has been discontinued for some time. I do not know that lime has been wrought, on the south side of the great road ; but as there is a kiln in active operation on the eastern extremity of the Pencaitland estate, and upon the borders of the barony of Samuelston, it is highly probable that lime may be found on the contiguous lands of Samuelston or of Hodges. It is found, in the same line, all the way west to the kirk of Crichton, and on the north of the road so far east as the farm of Hoprig.

Iron ore has been found on the eastern extremity of the farm of Setonhill, a little below Cotyburn, in the hollow called the *Dean*.

It was wrought for some time, but afterwards the working was given up, for what cause I have not been able to learn. But now that there is so great a demand for iron, it is in contemplation again to begin the work. The property belongs to the Earl of Wemyss, who, in all probability, will not lose sight of a mineral of so much importance at the present time.

Freestone rock for building is found, every where in the parish. An old quarry on the road from Gladsmuir to Penston, from which stones were procured for building the church and school-house, is still open, but filled with water to a considerable depth. A quarry was also opened last year at Westbank, for supplying stones for the buildings upon the estate. Quarries of a similar kind are to be met with in different parts of the parish.

There is a remarkable dike of whinstone running through the parish, from east to west. It passes betwixt the house of Redcoll and Longniddry, and being quarried in different places, has furnished an abundant supply of excellent stones for making and repairing the roads. It has been traced through East Lothian all the way to Borrowstownness.

In the fields about Greendykes, Southfield, and Adniston, great quantities of boulders and detached pieces of rock have been found and removed. They were struck by the plough, and the cultivation of the fields could not be effected till they were raised and carried off.

The soil in the middle tract, upon the western extremity, and all upon the south of the great road, is clayey, with the exception of a small tract upon the banks of the Tyne, which is loamy; near the Frith, on the north, it is sandy, and as you advance southward towards Longniddry, it becomes a rich loam. There is a field lying to the south-west of Chesterhall, which is mossy. That field, forty years ago, was a bog, out of which the old people remember peats being dug. All vestiges of what it once was are now done away, and it is in a state of high cultivation.

Plantations.—Belts of wood are to be found in different parts of the parish, composed of oak, beech, lime, birch, elm, ash, chestnut, hazel, and some others. The plantations of Penston, Hodges, and Samuelston, being contiguous to each other, form a tract of wood betwixt 100 and 200 acres, lying on the south of the great road, and are composed of the different kinds of fir, but chiefly the Scotch. The Penston wood, consisting of 30 acres, was planted about forty years ago by Lady Ross Baillie. The wood at Hodges

is old, and in some places has been so much thinned, that it might be cleared and made arable at very little expense. Nowhere in the county are ditches and drains more necessary than on the property of Hodges.*

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.†

Ancient families—Baillie of Hoprig and Penston.—By far the most ancient family connected with this parish, is that of Baillie of Hoprig and Penston. That, indeed, is one of the most ancient families in Scotland, having been in possession of those lands for the long period of 540 years. John Baliol, Lord of Barnard Castle, was the founder of Baliol College, Oxford, and father of John Baliol, King of Scotland. He had a brother, Alexander Baliol or de Balliolo, High Chamberlain of Scotland, whose second son, William de Balliolo, swore fealty to King Edward I. in 1296, as appears from the Ragman Roll. He was proprietor of Hoprig and Penston, and acquired Lamington, in Lanarkshire, by marriage with a daughter, it is said, of William Wallace, Governor of Scotland. The family took the designation of Lamington, altering their name to Baillie.

Sir William Baillie of Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, dying without legitimate male issue about 1580, was succeeded by his eldest daughter Margaret, who married Edward Maxwell of the Nithsdale family. He took the name of Baillie, and from them descended William Baillie of Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, whose only son, William, dying unmarried, his estates devolved on his daughter, Margaret, married to Sir James Carmichael of Bonnytoun, in Lanarkshire, of the Hyndford family. Their son, Sir James, died without issue, and was succeeded by his sister, Henrietta Baillie of Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, also Bonnytoun, and married the gallant Admiral Sir John Lockhart Ross of Balnagowan,

* It may be noticed here, that a very large green tree stood at the west end of the manse, planted by Principal Robertson, when minister of the parish. Towards the bottom, it was about 3 feet in diameter, of a great height, and spread its branches over some of the buildings in its neighbourhood. The trunk, when the present incumbent came to the parish in 1833, was quite hollow and rotten in the middle, and the whole weight was supported by an outer rim of 2 or 3 inches thick, with an opening on one side. Had it been overturned by the wind, it might have done very great injury both to the manse and offices. To prevent which, it was cut down last year, and the fragments of it, laid up beside the house, bear witness of what it once was.

† There are no accounts of the parish, as far as I know, either written or printed. Some years ago, Mr M'Donald, of the Register-Office, found an account in MSS. of several of the parishes of East Lothian drawn up in 1627, which he has lately got printed, and has generously sent a copy of the book to the library of the General Assembly, to be preserved for the use of the church. The parish of Gladsmuir having been erected long after that period, of course cannot be amongst them. But the portion taken from Tranent is to be found under the head of that parish.

Bart. Her eldest son, Sir Charles Ross of Balnagowan, predeceased her, leaving by his first wife, Maria Teresa, daughter of James Lockhart of Lee and Carnwath, Count of the Holy Roman Empire, a daughter, Matilda, and by his second wife, Lady Mary Fitzgerald, daughter of William Robert, second Duke of Leinster, a son, Sir Charles Ross of Balnagowan, and five daughters. Matilda, the only child of the first marriage, succeeded to Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, married Sir Thomas John Cochran, Captain R. N. and died 1819. The eldest son, Alexander Dundas Ross Cochran Wishart Baillie, who is yet a minor, is the present proprietor of Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, and is lineally descended from William de Balliolo in 1296.

To this family, the parish of Gladsmuir in a great measure owes its existence; for William Baillie of Lamington was most active in procuring its disjunction from the neighbouring parishes, and its erection and endowment as a separate parish.

Douglas of Longniddry.—Another ancient family connected with this parish was Douglas of Longniddry. This family was a cadet of the Douglasses of Dalkeith, Earls of Morton, and was distinguished for steady attachment to the doctrines of the Reformation, which, about the middle of the sixteenth century, were spreading rapidly through this country.*

In the Duke of Somerset's expedition to Scotland in 1547, it is mentioned "7th September, marched that day nine miles, and camped at night by a town standing upon the Frith called Longniddrie. There was found a gentlewoman, the wife of one Hugh Douglas. She was great with child, whose estate the council understanding, my Lord's Grace, and my Lord Lieutenant took order, that all night, without danger or damage, she was well preserved." The Douglasses had the east part of Longniddry, where the vaulted ground floor of the castle still remains. At that time, the estate belonging to the Douglasses comprehended a considerable part of Hairlaw, Redcoll, and Setonhill, which have since been tak-

* When John Knox was obliged to leave St Andrews, on account of the troubles to which the Protestants were then subjected, he was invited to Longniddry by Mr Douglas. There he was employed in conducting the education of Mr Douglas' two sons, Francis and George, and also Alexander Cockburn, the eldest son of the laird of Ormiston. This Alexander Cockburn was a young man of great promise, but died at the early age of twenty-eight. A brazen tablet was erected to his memory in the aisle of the old church at Ormiston, which is still in existence. While residing at Longniddry, Knox was in the practice of expounding the Scriptures, and preaching the doctrines of the Reformation in a chapel, about half a-mile to the west of which he then lived, close by the present mansion-house of Longniddry, which, from his preaching in it, still goes by the name of Knox's Kirk.

en away from the estate of Longniddry, and fallen into the possession of different proprietors. The history of the House of Seton mentions that George Earl of Winton, who died 1650, "did conquest two considerable feu lands in Longniddrie, hereditarily; the one from Sir George Douglas in the east, and the other from the laird of Corstorphine (Forrester of Costorphine.") As also "he bought hereditarily the teynds of Longniddrie from the then Bothwell, Lord Holyroodhouse." The estates of the Earl of Winton were forfeited in the rebellion 1715, and sold to the York Buildings Company;—from whom Longniddry was purchased in 1779 by John Glassel, Esq. who was a native of Dumfries, and settled sometime as a merchant in Virginia. At his death, his only child, Joan, succeeded to the property, and married Lord John Douglas Henry Campbell, brother, and presumptive heir of William Duke of Argyle. Her eldest son, John Henry Glassel Campbell, is the present proprietor of Longniddry. The farm of Southfield, which formed a part of Longniddry, was sold by Mr Glassel, and is now the property of Lord Wemyss.

Lands of Hodges.—The lands of Hodges in this parish, lying betwixt the baronies of Penston and Samuelston, took their name from Robert Hodge, a man of some eminence in his day as a lawyer. That property originally belonged to the town of Haddington, and formed a part of the extensive common attached to the burgh. The town having engaged in a law-suit, employed Mr Hodge, who resided in the neighbourhood, to conduct it. After being carried to the House of Lords, it was decided in favour of Haddington; and the magistrates gave Mr Hodge those lands as a compensation for his services in bringing the process to a successful issue.

In 1650, a decret was obtained from the Commission for the Plantation of Kirks, to disjoin the lands of Samuelston, Penston, Elvingston, and others, from the parishes of Haddington and Aberlady; to erect them into a separate parish, and to build a kirk at a place called Thrieplaw, on the west side of the Cittle knowe, being the east part of Mr Hodge's property. That erection did not take place; but a church was built which served as a place of worship for the western parts of the parish of Haddington. Mr Hodge took an active part, and had the principal charge in the building of this church. He was a man of exemplary conduct, was referred to in almost all cases of dispute, and was most active in maintaining the observances of religion, and peace and good or-

der in the neighbourhood. At his death, he was buried within the walls of the church, and was regarded as the founder of that establishment.

When a minister was appointed, a manse was built for him at the east end of the village of Penston, which manse is still standing, and is at present occupied by a corn-dealer in the parish. It continued to be the dwelling of the minister till the present manse was built, and still goes by the name of the old manse. Principal Robertson is said to have composed in it the greater part of the History of Scotland. The kirk at Thrieplaw continued as a place of worship till the erection of the present church in 1695, when it was allowed to go into decay. And, when a colliery was afterwards set agoing close by, the walls of it were made to form a part of some colliers' houses. Not a vestige of it is now to be seen, the working of coals in that place has long been discontinued, and four poor solitary cot-houses, situated in the most dreary and inaccessible spot that could be found in the whole parish, still retain the name, and keep up the remembrance of the *Old Kirk*. And yet, before the addition to the parish of what was taken from Tranent, it was perhaps the most central situation that could be found. It is now surrounded and shut up with large woods on all sides; but while it continued to be a place of worship, not a tree was to be seen about the place, and the boundaries of the different properties were marked by little hillocks raised for the purpose.

Land-owners.—There are 10 heritors or proprietors of land in the parish. The Earl of Hopetoun, vice-patron, along with the Crown, possesses the lands of Coates, and is but a small proprietor. The Earl of Wemyss has the highest valuation, and possesses the lands of Hairlaw, Redhouse, Setonhill, and Southfield. Baillie of Lamington possesses Penston, Westbank, Gladsmuir, Hoprig, Hoprigmains, and Wheatrig;* he is yet a minor. The Earl of Haddington possesses the lands of Samuelston, at present occupied by four tenants. Anderson of St Germain's possesses Chesterhall,

* *Farm of Wheatrig.*—The farm of Wheatrig, which belongs to Baillie of Lamington, consisting of sixty eight Scotch acres, is detached from the rest of the property, and was acquired in a peculiar manner. According to tradition, the Earl of Winton was invited to dine with Baillie of Lamington. Baillie took care that there should be no wheat bread at table, and when asked the reason, said, that none of his lands were fit for raising wheat. The Earl, with great good humour, made him a present of a ploughgate of land capable of raising wheat, telling him he had done so, that he might never afterwards be able to say that he could not treat his guests with wheaten bread, because he had no lands fit for growing wheat. From that circumstance the farm got the name of Wheatrig. It was taken from the property of Redhouse, now in the possession of the Earl of Wemyss.

Greendykes, East and West Adniston. The Honourable John Henry Glassel Campbell possesses the lands of Longniddry, consisting of one large farm and several smaller pieces let to the inhabitants of the village; he is a minor. Robert Ainslie of Redcoll, having lately purchased Elvingston and Trabroun, now possesses those lands, together with what he formerly possessed. The Honourable Miss Murray possesses Laverocklaw. John Ainslie, younger brother of Robert, has the lands of Merryhatton, which are part of the estate of Huntington. Lord Ruthven, in right of his Lady, possesses the lands of Hodges, and is by far the smallest proprietor in the parish. Only one heritor is resident in the parish,—Ainslie of Redcoll.

Eminent Men.—In the former Statistical Account of Gladsmuir, it is stated that George Heriot, founder of the hospital in Edinburgh which bears his name, was a native of this parish. It appears, however, from an account of his life published in the Scots Magazine in 1802, and from an account afterwards published in 1822, that his father, who was a goldsmith of great respectability, was born at Trabroun, in the parish of Gladsmuir, but that George was born in Edinburgh, June 1563, brought up to the same trade with his father, and held the lucrative appointment of jeweller to the King and Queen. On the accession of James to the English throne in 1603, he went to London and continued there till his death, February 1624. The Heriots of Trabroun were a family of some antiquity in East Lothian.

Dr Robertson, Principal of the University of Edinburgh, began his ministry in this parish. He succeeded his uncle, Andrew Robertson, and was ordained 17th April 1744, before (it is said) a very numerous congregation. He was presented by the Earl of Hopetoun, who singled him out as a young man of great promise. He lived for some years in the old manse, where he composed the greater part of the History of Scotland. He afterwards came to the present manse, where he continued till his removal to Edinburgh. At Gladsmuir, in the retirement of the country, he laid the foundation of that high eminence which he afterwards attained as an historian, as well as in conducting the affairs of the church, being for many years looked up to as the leader in the General Assembly. From Gladsmuir he was translated to Edinburgh, as colleague to Dr Erskine, in the church of the Old Grayfriars, with whom he continued to live in habits of the most friendly intercourse till his death.

William Baillie of Lamington deserves to be noticed here, not only on account of his private worth, but also on account of his munificent liberality to the parish. He was very active in procuring the erection of the new parish. He made a present to the parish of land for the church and churchyard, and for the school, schoolmaster's house, and garden, and built the church at his own expense, and in addition to all this, he allowed the minister, from his colliery at Penston, free coals for the use of his family. Baillie's descendants continued to the ministers of Gladsmuir the privilege which their worthy ancestor had so generously granted, till it was withdrawn by those who had the management of the property, at a period when the succession was doubtful. It is to be hoped this privilege will be again restored. But whether it be or not, William Baillie of Lamington will be remembered as a man deeply impressed with the importance of religion to the welfare of the country, as a benefactor to the church, and an active promoter of her true interests, as long as the parish of Gladsmuir shall exist.

Parochial Registers.—The records go back to the erection of the parish. The first minute is dated at Gladsmuir meeting-house, 26th April 1692.* The records are very defective. After the first volume, which ends in 1707, there are no minutes for thirty years following. There is also a blank from 1804 till 1833, when the present incumbent came to the parish. In the register of baptisms, there is a gap from 1734 to 1760. The list of marriages is also wanting from 1737 to 1766. But besides those defects, the registers of baptisms and marriages do not appear to have been accurately kept.

Antiquities.—There were lately to be found in the parish, the remains of several old mansion-houses; but the tide of time is sweeping them fast away, and levelling with the ground the most stately monuments of former greatness. The mansion of the Douglasses of Longniddry, distinguished for their zeal for the Refor-

* That minute mentions, that the United Presbytery of Haddington and Dunbar had appointed Mr Moncrieff, minister of Saltpreston, now Prestonpans, to be moderator of the Session, for the purpose of uniting with the heritors, in the choice of a minister to the new parish. The heritors were called at the door of the church, intimation of the meeting having been formerly given to them. Whereupon, they and the elders unanimously made choice of Mr Mungo Watson, then minister of the chapel, to be minister of Gladsmuir. He, of course, was the first minister of the parish. It is worthy of notice, that, some time after, as appears from the minutes of presbytery, he got a call to the parish of Linlithgow; but the people of Gladsmuir being attached to him, and having petitioned against his removal, the presbytery refused to loose him from his charge, and he continued minister of Gladsmuir till his death.

mation, is now known only by a circular mound, rising a few feet above the ground, containing the subterraneous vaults which were connected with the building. The wall running along the public road is still called the *Laird's Dyke*; and a part of the field, a little to the north, the Laird's Garden.

The two mansion-houses of east and west Adniston, which anciently belonged to different proprietors, have been so completely demolished, that not a vestige of them is now to be seen. The old house of west Adniston was situate close by the present farmhouse, and was last occupied by two ladies, one of whom was married to the Earl of Winton, the father of the last Earl. It was taken down about twenty years ago, and the materials used in building the present farm-offices. The mansion-house upon the farm of east Adniston was about a quarter of a mile distant from the other, and formerly occupied by the proprietor, Mr Adniston. It was taken down in 1832, to assist in building the present magnificent set of offices at the farm of Greendykes.

At Penston, there was an old mansion-house occupied by the proprietor when he resided in this part of the country, but no remains of it are now to be seen. It was strongly built, with a very thick wall, and the apartments had arched roofs, as was common in ancient times. It stood on the south of the road running through the village, opposite to the barn which has just been built. The garden attached to it still remains. Contiguous to the old mansion-house, was a pretty large store-house or granary, which was built in 1670, as appears from a date on one of the lintels of the door, for the purpose of receiving the rents of the tenantry, which at that time were paid in kind. An old man above eighty remembers, when Dundas of Arniston had the charge of the property, that the farmers used to carry the corn in sacks, upon horses' backs from Penston to Arniston, there being at that time no carriage roads across the country.

Betwixt Penston and Henmuir, are to be seen the ruins of an old windmill, which was employed to draw up the water from the coal. When there was wind, it answered the purpose extremely well; but in calm weather it could not act,—the water got the better of the workmen, and they were thrown idle. This inconvenience is now completely remedied by the use of steam-engines, of which there are two upon the coal-work.

At Seatonhill, about two years ago, when the servants were ploughing in the field contiguous to the farm-house upon the south,

the ploughs struck upon some large stones, which, when dug up, were found to be coffins composed of flag-stones of a peculiar quality, probably a kind of puddingstone, others of a kind of red flag-stone, common in the neighbourhood. The coffins were about 5 feet long by 2 broad, all of them containing bones. More have since been dug out: and it is probable there are many still remaining in the ground beyond the reach of the plough. Specimens of the stones are preserved by the tenant, and are also in my possession. On the eastern part of the same farm, not far from the coffins, an urn was found full of bones. It was broken in the taking up, but the fragments are in possession of Mr Black.

On the farm of Southfield, about a mile to the south of Longniddry, while the labourers were employed in making drains, they found a variety of small silver coins of different dates and sizes, chiefly British. They were given to the tenant, with whom they are to be found. Similar coins were found in the neighbouring farm of Greendykes, some of which are in the possession of the proprietor. It is probable the place had been some military station, where they had been deposited.

Modern Buildings.—There are hardly any modern buildings of consequence in the parish. The House of Redcoll, built about twelve years ago, and inhabited by the proprietor, is a neat substantial building, with a garden and set of good offices. It has a porter's lodge, and an approach from the road of about 300 yards, with a belt of trees on each side.

The house at Southfield was built, about thirty years ago, by the proprietor Mr Gray, and inhabited by him. But when the farm came into the possession of the Earl of Wemyss, it was given to the tenant as a dwelling-house, and has since been occupied by him. It is a small but handsome house, with a considerable number of trees scattered about it. It is open to the north, but quite shut up in the view to the south.

The farm-houses are in general good. A new one was built last year upon the farm of Hoprig Mains. Some have undergone repairs and got additions. Those at Penston and Westbank have got a substantial set of new offices with slated roofs. But, among all the farm-offices in the parish, and I may say in the county, none are to be compared to those of Greendykes. They were built by the proprietor a few years ago, and are more like the offices you might expect to find connected with a Ducal palace, than the house of a tenant.

III.—POPULATION.

From the appearance of ruined houses on both sides of the parish, an opinion has prevailed that the inhabitants were once more numerous than they are now. But by a numeration which was made at the first seating of the church in 1697, it appears that the number of inhabitants then must have been under 1350. When the census was taken by Dr Webster in 1755, the numbers were 1415, and at the time when the last Statistical Account was drawn up the population was 1380. By the census in 1821 it was found to be 1623, and in 1831 it amounted to 1658. Since that time, it has varied very little. Of these, 822 are males, and 836 are females.

From the above statement, it appears that the population in the course of less than a century has increased more than 200. This increase has arisen, not from the introduction of manufactories or public works, (there are none such; and a brewery, which was formerly carried on at Trabroun, has for many years been given up,) but from the general improvement of the parish. The whole parish, many parts of which about a century ago were bleak and barren, covered with broom, and furze, and brambles, has been gradually brought into a state of high cultivation, and made capable of producing all kinds of crops. In consequence of which, a stimulus has been given to improvement, which, notwithstanding the great depression in the prices of grain, is still going on, and gives employment to a far greater number of families than formerly. Besides, the greater demand for coals, occasioned by the increased consumption from steam engines, must have given employment to an additional number of families. The population residing in the villages of Samuelston, Penston, and Longniddry, amounts to 684; in the country, 974. In that part of the parish inhabited by colliers, the population is constantly shifting, and in the course of two or three weeks may vary from 20 to 50. This shifting has prevailed very much, of late, in consequence of a change of tenants.

The average number of births, for the last five years, was 51, the number varying from 40 to 59. The average number of marriages for the same time was 16, varying from 10 to 24. No account of deaths being kept, the average number cannot be ascertained. There are several persons in the parish above eighty, chiefly men, two of whom have now reached their ninetieth year. The number of families is 358. The number of inhabited houses is 348. In the agri-

cultural part of the parish, five houses are uninhabited. A considerable number of houses allotted for colliers were empty some time ago, but are now mostly occupied. No houses are at present building. There are three fatuous persons connected with the parish, two men, both above middle age, and one woman. There is also a little girl deaf.

Character and Habits of the People.—The people in general are cleanly and attentive to their dress. Their manners have acquired a considerable degree of polish, arising in some measure from their vicinity to the capital, and from the great intercourse that is now maintained all over the country. That rusticity of manners and dress, and outlandish appearance which some time ago characterized our rural population, are fast wearing away, and the manners and dress of the people are rapidly improving. The labouring classes here are in no want of employment, enjoying many of the comforts of life, and in general seem to be contented with their condition. And at no former time, perhaps, was their condition more favourable,—for while the necessaries of life, both with respect to food and clothing, are low in price, their wages are nearly the same as when things were double their present value. Their food is plain but substantial; they are in the midst of coal; and they want only comfortable houses to make their situation what it should be.*

* The lands of Samuelston were so much infested by witches in 1661, that John Earl of Haddington, to appease his tenants, was under the necessity of presenting a petition to his Majesty's commissioner, for the purpose of getting them tried by a court of judicature. The following extract from this commission shews that the arts of darkness continued to be practised by numerous bodies, to the no small terror of the lieges.

"*Edr. 3d April 1661. Commission for Judging of Witches, &c. in Samuelston.*—To the Right Hon. His Majesty's Commissioner, his Grace, and the Lords, and others of the Parliament appoyntit for the Articles, the humble petition of John Earl of Haddington, Sheweth,—That, upon severall malefices committit of late within and about my landis of Samuelstoune, thair being severall persones suspect of the abominable sin of witchcraft apprehendit and searched, the marks of witches wer found on thame in the ordinarie way, severallis of thame haif made confessioun, and haif dilatit sundrie others within the saidis boundes, and haif acknowledged paction with the devile. Thair names are these: Elspet Tailyeor in Samuelstoune, Margaret Bartilman, Mareoun Quheitt, Janet Carfrae. These haif maid confessioun alreadie. Otheris they haif dilatit as partakeris of the same cryme with thame, viz. Christiane Deanes, Agnes Williamsons. These are dilatit be the former, and the marks are found on thame, quha ar lykwayes apprehendit, otheris are lykwayes dilatit by thame, namelie, Helene Deanes, George Milnetowne, Patrik Cathie, Anna Pilmure, Elisabeth Sinclair, Margaret Baptie, Janet Maissone, and Margaret Argyile, Elspeth Crawford. These are dilatit be the former confessing, bot ar not as yet apprehendit nor searched. And trew it is, that throw the frequencie of the said sin of witchcraft in the saides boundes, my haill tenentes there threatnes to leave my ground without justice be done on these persones. And becaus the lawes ar now silent, this sin becomes daylie more frequent. Also, thair (ar) two otheris persones apprehendit for thift in the foresaide boundes, quobom I haif intertaind in prisone within the tolbuith

During the last three years, there were 9 illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

The two great divisions of labour carried on in the parish are agriculture and mining, or the working of coals. Agriculture is the principal employment of the people. There are 22 farmers in the parish, occupying land from above 50 to 500 acres each; 9 smaller farmers, occupying from 10 to 40 acres each; and 5 sub-tenants, occupying under 40 acres each. Some of those farmers retain upon their farms, including hinds and their families, and labourers, from 50 to 76 individuals. On the farm of Coates, there is a resident population of 76; on that of Hairlaw, 67, besides others who do not reside upon the farm. The inhabitants of Penston, Henmuir, North mains of Penston, and M'Merry containing a population of betwixt 400 and 500, are chiefly employed in the working of coal. The great London road running through the parish about two miles and a-half, the public road running through Longniddry about two miles, and the North Berwick road

of Haddington upon my ain chairges thes ten weikes by-gane; and other two ar apprehendit for robberie committit be thame within my boundes and landes of Byres thes twentie weikes by-gane, within the tolbuith of Edinburgh, upon my own chairges."

The Lord Commissioner and Lords of the Articles, after hearing the petition, granted a commission for putting to death such of the above persons as were found guilty of witchcraft by confession, and for trying the others, which, if we may credit tradition, was put into execution. The field in Samuelston where they were burnt was called the Birlie Knowe, and was situated on the south side of the village, between the Tyne and the mill-dam, where, within these few years, (it being now ploughed up) kimmers bleached their linens clean, and found it a very useful spot, unhallowed as it was.

About this time, a warlock drove a lucrative trade, called Sandie Hunter, (*alias* Hamilton,) whom it is said the devil nick-named Hattaraick. He was originally a nolt-herd in East Lothian, and was famous for curing diseases both in man and in beast, by words and charms. Wherever Hattaraick went, none durst refuse him an alms. One day he went to the gate of Samuelston, when some friends after dinner were taking to horse, a young gentleman, brother to the lady, switched him about the ears, saying, "You warlock carle, what have you to do here?"—whereupon the fellow went away grumbling, and was heard to say, "You dear buy this ere it be long." After supper the gentleman took horse and departed, and crossing Tyne water to go home, he passed through a shady piece of a haugh called the Allers. What he saw there, he would never reveal, but next day he was in a high state of delirium, and had to be bound. The Lady Samuelston hearing of this said, "Surely the knave Hattaraick is the cause of this trouble; call for him in all haste." When the warlock came, "Sandie," says she, "what is this you have done to my brother William?"—"I told him," replied he, "I should make him repent his striking of me at the yait lately." She giving the rogue fair words, and promising him his sack full of meal, with beef and cheese, persuaded the fellow to cure him, which was speedily effected. When Hattaraick came to receive his wages, he told the lady her brother would shortly leave the country, never to return; upon which, she caused him to make a deposition of his property to the defrauding of his brother George. After the warlock had pursued his lucrative calling for some time, he was apprehended at Dunbar, taken to Edinburgh and burnt on the Castlehill.—Satan's Invisible World.

Sinclair, from whom the substance of the above is copied, says, that he had the information from the gentleman's brother.—St Baldred of the Bass, p. 276-8.

upon the coast, with the cross and parish roads, employ in winter 30, and in summer about 20 men. These men and day-labourers receive from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. per day. There are 7 carpenters who employ, upon an average, 10 men as journeymen or apprentices; last year their wages were 2s. 6d. per day. There are 2 masons, wages 3s. per day; 9 blacksmiths, wages from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per day; 2 bakers, wages from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per day, with victuals; 4 tailors, who are generally paid by the piece, and whose wages have not risen lately, in proportion to the rise in some other professions; 2 weavers, one of whom is an old man, and able to do very little work.

There are employed at the Penston coal-works 50 colliers, 30 women putters, and 26 boys; and at the St Germans colliery, residing in this parish, 12 colliers, besides women putters and children. A collier and his putter throw out, at an average, fifteen load of coals per day, which is equal to 4s. 4½d. But as there are frequent interruptions, their income can hardly be rated so high for any length of time. The general income of a man and his putter may be stated at from L. 1, 1s. to L. 1, 5s. per week; a load of coal weighs 200 pounds, for which they receive 3½d. Men-servants living in the house have from L. 4 to L. 6 half yearly; women-servants from L. 2, 10s. to L. 3.

Agriculture.—The parish of Gladsmuir contains very nearly 5080 Scotch, or 6386 imperial acres, arable. Some parts of it, particularly the lands upon the north, to the extent of about one mile and a-half from the coast, and running east towards the Byres hills, were very early cultivated, and about the beginning of the seventeenth century bore a very high valuation; as may be seen from an account of some of the parishes of East Lothian, lately printed by Mr M'Donald of the Register-Office. Other parts, particularly the lands in the centre, intersected by the great London road, are of recent cultivation, and of an inferior soil. Here, however, improvements are rapidly going on; lands that long lay waste have been reclaimed, and are now under the most improved system of husbandry. And notwithstanding the very low prices of grain, and the many discouragements from that circumstance, in the way of both landlords and tenants, the spirit of improvement seems to surmount every obstacle. As a proof of this, steam engines for thrashing the crops have been erected on many of the farms, and there are at present in the parish no less than ten employed for that purpose. It is in contemplation to erect more.

HADDINGTON.

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In cropping, rotations of five, six, seven, and eight years are followed. The most common are five and seven years. The five years rotation consists of, 1. fallow; 2. wheat, barley, and oats; 3. and 4. pasture; 5. oats. The seven years rotation is, 1. turnips and potatoes; 2. barley and wheat; 3. and 4. grass; 5. oats; 6. beans; 7. wheat. The eight years rotation is, 1. fallow; 2. wheat; 3. barley; 4. and 5. grass; 6. oats; 7. beans; 8. wheat.

The kinds of manure employed are byre and stable dung; lime and earth collected from cleaning ditches, roads, &c. mixed with lime, forming compost; rape, and bone dust. The rape dust is very generally used. Iron ploughs and harrows are almost universally employed. Machines for sowing grain are getting more and more into use. Turnips are eaten upon the ground with sheep, or brought home to feed cattle bought in about the end of harvest, to be fattened for the butcher, while the straw is converted into manure by cattle kept in the close.

Live Stock.—The number of sheep kept in the parish has of late been upon the increase, and is now betwixt 2000 and 3000. They are bought in as they are required, and are black-faced, but chiefly Cheviot, and a cross breed of Cheviot and Leicester. The milk cows are not of any particular breed. There are a considerable number of the Ayrshire. They are reared or bought as occasion requires, and not more than two or three are kept by each farmer to supply his family with milk and butter. Black-cattle are bought in at the end of harvest, and fed off on turnips for the market. The number of these may amount to about 500. There are 78½ plough-gates requiring 172 horses. Twenty-six are kept for riding and occasional work, and 20 for driving carriages, making in all 218 horses, besides young ones.

The duration of leases is nineteen years. I believe there are no exceptions to this rule. Such a length of time affords the farmer sufficient opportunity to remunerate himself for the expense laid out in the cultivation of his farm. The farms are all enclosed, mostly with thorn hedges and ditches; and the hedges and ditches are well kept. The farm buildings have been much improved in the course of the last year, and repairs and improvements are still going on. It is to be hoped, as soon as the projected improvements have been made upon the farm-houses and offices, the attention of the proprietors will be directed to the cottages, most of which have great need of improvement.

There are 240 Scotch or 302 imperial acres under wood, includ-

ing belts for shelter, shrubberies, and ornamental planting; 34 imperial occupied with houses, offices, gardens, and common patches in villages; and $7\frac{1}{2}$ with roads, making in all 5358 Scotch or 6751 imperial acres in the parish.

Rent of Land, and Wages.—The rent of land varies from L. 5 an acre to less than L. 1. The average of the whole, this present year, the price of wheat being very low, will be nearly L. 1, 12s. per Scots acre. Farm-servants are hired by the year, and paid partly in money and partly in kind, as follows: $6\frac{1}{2}$ bolls of meal, 4 bolls potatoes, 2 bolls barley, $\frac{1}{2}$ boll pease, 2 stones pork, when pigs are not kept, a cow's grass, and L. 8, 10s. money, with a house, for which the servant furnishes a shearer in harvest for twenty days. When a cow's grass is not given, L. 5 money additional is allowed. In some farms, there is a little difference in the articles which make up the wages; but the amount is nearly the same all over the parish, being equal to from L. 21 to L. 24 money, this present year. In some instances, they are paid in money, and receive 9s. per week. The farm-servants are generally bound to keep bondagers, as they are called, that is, persons to work in the barn and fields when required. They are females or boys, and if the hinds have none of this description in their own families, they must hire them. It was long the practice to hire farm-servants at Christmas or the end of the year, but a resolution was entered into by the tenantry lately, not to hire them till the beginning of February. The average rent of grazing, as near as can be computed, is L. 3 per ox or cow, and 15s. per ewe or full-grown sheep, pastured for the year.

Draining, &c.—Draining is carried on not only in the parish, but in the neighbourhood, to a very great extent. There is little under water, and therefore the object of the farmer is to prevent water from lodging on the surface and injuring the crops. Tiles are chiefly employed, and the drains are frequently made in every alternate furrow, and sometimes even in every furrow. They vary in depth from eighteen to twenty-four inches, and the expense of making the drains and furnishing the tiles is from 10d. to 1s. the rood. Sometimes, the proprietor furnishes the tiles as an encouragement to the tenant to use them in draining his fields. At other times, the whole expense is borne by the tenant himself. The universal opinion among farmers seems to be, that the increase of the crop soon repays all the expense of the drains. Stones also are used, but rarely since tiles have been introduced, they having been found to

answer the purpose. Sometimes stones are employed along with the tiles. This is undoubtedly the most effectual mode; but the objection to it is, that it is both tedious and expensive,—whereas the advantage of tiles, is, that the work is performed with great expedition, and with little expense of carriage.

In some parts of the parish where the soil is deep, particularly at Southfield, trenching has been practised to a considerable extent. Upon this subject there is a diversity of opinion,—some maintain that the new earth brought to the surface requires a considerable number of years before it get into a proper bearing state. This opinion, however, is far from being general; and many hold that the new soil brought to the surface, after a long period of rest, becomes far more productive, the old having been exhausted by continual cropping. The expense of the process must be a great obstacle in the way of its being carried on.

Amount of raw Produce.—In the present circumstances of the parish, the amount of raw produce cannot be very accurately ascertained. Several of the tenants entered upon their farms only last year, and hence their farms were not cropped, either as they had been before, or as they will afterwards be. The farmers, in general, have made the returns required with the greatest readiness. According to the statements received, the amount for 1835 was nearly as follows:

White crop, including wheat, barley, and oats,	2060 acres.
Green crop, including beans and pease, potatoes, turnips, cabbage, and mangel wurzel,	848
Hay,	298
Pasture, including links,	1160
Bare fallow,	714

The value of all which, estimated according to last year's markets, will be about L. 30,000.

The gardens in the parish are not deserving of particular notice. The three mansion-houses, Elvingston, Redcoll, and Southfield, which last belongs to Lord Wemyss, and is occupied by the tenant, have each of them gardens inclosed with a good wall, where all kinds of vegetables are raised, and which are well stocked with fruit trees. Several of the farm-houses have also gardens attached to them surrounded with a wall, in which all kinds of vegetables and fruits are reared. The tenant at Redhouse, on the northern extremity of the parish, has a large mail-garden, the produce of which is disposed of chiefly in the Edinburgh market; but, as most of the garden lies in the parish of Aberlady, it does not fall to be

taken notice of here. The gross produce of all the gardens may amount to about L. 200.

The two coal-pits now wrought on the Penston property produce from 12,000 to 15,000 tons a-year.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The nearest market-town is Haddington, which is about four miles distant from the church. It was long the principal grain market in Scotland; but most of the farmers in the western parts of the county carry the greater part of their grain to Dalkeith and Edinburgh, to both of which places Haddington is now inferior as a grain market.

Villages.—There are three villages in the parish,—Samuelston, Longniddry, and Penston. Of these, Samuelston contains a population of 187. It is an irregular scattered village, situate on the north bank of the Tyne, running north-east by south-west. In former times, it carried on a considerable trade in meal, but though there are still two corn mills, the trade has very much dwindled away. There is also a saw-mill attached to one of the corn-mills, which is of great use in cutting out paling and pieces of wood, for various purposes. There are three farms connected with it, Eastmains, Backbrae, and Templehouse,* besides two smaller pieces of land given to the villagers for their accommodation.

Longniddry is situated about half a mile from the Frith, and is also an irregular straggling village. It is completely changed from what it once was. In former times, four tenants lived in it,—one in Cooper's Close, one in Burnfoot Close, and one on each side of the road, about the middle of the village,—who had each a considerable farm. The property has been very much diminished, and the whole has been thrown into one farm, with the exception of a few fields rented by some labourers in the village, who employ horses for carrying on their business. The present farm-house, which is commodious and of good appearance, stands about 200 yards to the south of the road, running through the village. Betwixt that house and the road, there were formerly a considerable number of cot-houses, not a vestige of which now remains, and the place where they stood is under crop, and very productive. The present mansion-house, which is let, stands about a gun-shot to the west of Cooper's Close. The garden is immediately in front, the

* Besides Templehouse in Samuelston, there was in former times in the parish another place of this name, situate in a field betwixt Hoprig Mains and the public road. Some of the old people remember having seen the house.

offices on the west, with a small court, having altogether a desolate appearance. On the east, are the ruins of the old chapel, called John Knox's Kirk, and an old barn and stack-yard, occupied by one of the inhabitants, who has a small piece of land from the proprietor. Adjoining the offices to the west, some of the inhabitants remember several rows of houses, forming a little village of themselves, all of which have been swept away, without a stone remaining to mark the place where they once stood. One old man remembers seventy houses being taken down. At that time, the farm of Southfield formed a part of the Longniddry estate. The present population of the village is 195.

The village of Penston is chiefly inhabited by colliers. The farm-house is at the west end of it, and is commodious and in good repair. A handsome set of offices, with a steam-engine, has just been erected, and also a saw-mill. The houses in the village are in a state of bad repair; the place is altogether dirty, and, though situated in the heart of one of the finest agricultural districts of Scotland, has a very uncomfortable and unhealthy appearance. It stands upon an eminence, about half a mile to the south of the great English road, and a mile west from Gladsmuir kirk. The inhabitants are supplied with water from three open wells, one at Northmains, another behind the old manse to the east, and another to the west of the farm-house, all on a line running from east to west. Were a proper drain to be formed on each side of the road, with a declivity from the houses, it would contribute much to the cleanliness and health of the place. The present population is 302.

Means of Communication.—The means of communication enjoyed by the parish are very abundant. The great London road runs about two miles and a half through the centre of the parish. Along that road, six stage-coaches pass and repass every day, at different hours, besides the mail-coach. On the coast road, the North Berwick coach passes and repasses every day, besides carriers to Aberlady, Dirleton, and North Berwick, on different days of the week. There is also the road running from Coates, past Setonhill and Hairlaw, through Longniddry to the west. These roads are intersected by others running north and south, the whole breadth of the parish. They are all kept in good repair, by which means the facilities of intercourse are very great. The bridges in the parish are merely little arches, suited to the paltry streams of water that flow through them.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situate nearly in the centre of the parish, and is accessible to all the inhabitants. None are farther distant from it than two and a half or three miles; and they do not seem to think the distance of much consequence, for the most distant are as regular in their attendance as those who are nearest. It stands upon the highest point of the ridge betwixt Tranent and Haddington, about 350 feet above the level of the sea, and 240 to the north of the great road. The situation is one of the finest in Scotland. On the north, it commands an extensive view of the Frith of Forth, with the county of Fife stretching beyond: to the east, all those objects that are most picturesque, the Byres hills, North Berwick Law, with the rich country around, the Bass and Traprane Law. On the south, the vale of the Tyne, with the Lammermuirs in the back ground, and to the west the Ochils, and some of the distant hills of Dumbarton and Perthshire, with Leith, Edinburgh, the Pentlands, and the rich country intervening. But, though beautiful in point of situation, its appearance is mean and ruinous. It is small, cold, damp, and in bad repair. The churchyard is sufficiently large for the parish, but it is very wet. The greater part of it is surrounded by a wall, which is much broken down; the remaining part is protected by an hedge, which also is in a state of great decay. The church affords accommodation for 535 sitters, being at least 200 less than would be required for the accommodation of the parish. The heritors granted to the kirk-session sixty-two sittings, chiefly those set apart for the communion tables, to be let for a small price to the people when required. These seats are let at 1s. each, and when not let, are occupied by those who cannot be accommodated otherwise. The rest of the sittings as usual are allotted to the heritors, according to their respective properties in the parish. The church was built by Baillie of Lamington in 1695.

The present manse was built in 1725, previous to which the ministers lived in what is still called the old manse, about a mile to the south-west of the church. The late incumbent finding the manse too small for his family, got a considerable addition made to it in 1803, consisting of a large room below, and two smaller rooms above. When the present incumbent came to the parish in 1833, considerable improvements were made upon the offices, and they are now in a state of pretty good repair. About twenty years ago, the garden was inclosed with a good stone wall, which was built by the heritors, the tenants having agreed to drive the carriages. But,

besides what is enclosed, there is at least a rood outside the walls all around where all kinds of crops are raised.

The glebe is small, consisting only of about 5 acres, including garden, barn-yard, &c. The soil is loamy, upon a clayey bottom. Most of it has been drained with tile and stones within these two years. This year, the field immediately behind the manse, which was wet, uneven, and full of weeds, has been drained and trenched, with the view of its being laid down in grass, in a more favourable state. The annual value of the glebe, estimating it according to the lands in the neighbourhood, is about L. 8. The stipend consists of about 34 bolls of wheat, 137 bolls of barley, 24 bolls of oats, 95 bolls of meal, with L. 10 for communion elements, the amount of which varies according to the fiars of the county.*

There are no chapels nor dissenting meeting-houses in the parish. The number of persons of all ages attending the Established Church varies from 400 to 500. Those who are in the practice of attending are never all present at the same time. From the uncomfortable state of the church, many are prevented from attending who otherwise would do it; and a considerable number are very irregular in their attendance. The average number of communicants is 500. It is not easy to ascertain how many attend dissenting places of worship. The number, however, may be stated to be betwixt 40 and 50. All this leaves a very considerable proportion of the examinable persons of the parish who are not present at any place of public worship on the Lord's day.

A society for religious purposes was instituted, in the beginning of last year. The design of it was to promote the progress of religion in the parish, and to contribute to the objects recommended by the General Assembly. Its contributions during the first year of its existence amounted to L. 6; and they are now upon the increase. The average annual amount of church collections for religious and charitable purposes, for the last five years, is about L. 20.

Education.—Besides the parochial, there are four private schools in the parish. The parochial school is situate at Gladsmuir, close by the church and manse, and is very much shut up by the school-master's garden. The number attending the school is, upon an

* There have been eight ministers of Gladsmuir since its erection. 1. Mungo Watson; 2. John Bell; 3. — Seathrum; 4. Andrew Robertson; 5. William Robertson, ordained 17th April 1744; 6. Francis Cowan, ordained 5th April 1759; 7. George Hamilton, ordained 15th April 1790; 8. John Ramsay, admitted 14th February 1833.

average, betwixt 80 and 100. The branches taught are such as are usual in parish schools, including Latin, Greek, French, and the practical parts of mathematics. The salary is the maximum, L. 34, 4s. 4½d. ; and the school fees amount to L. 40. The hours of attendance are, in winter, from nine to half-past three, with half an hour of interval; and in summer, from nine to four, with an hour of interval. The school-house is too small; but in other respects, it is comfortable enough. The schoolmaster's house is large and commodious, consisting of two apartments below and three above, with closets. It is damp, however. The apartments are very low in the roof, and have much need of repairs. The schoolmaster holds also the offices of session-clerk and heritors' clerk, the fees of which amount to about L. 30 a-year.

There has been a school in the village of Samuelston, from time immemorial. In former times, the master was allowed L. 2 a-year from the heritors; but that has been discontinued for a considerable time. Some years ago, when the schoolmasters' salaries were augmented, an attempt was made to get a chalders of victual to be divided betwixt the schoolmasters of Samuelston and Longniddry; but it could not be obtained. The schoolmaster of Samuelston has a free house and school-house; and he got lately from the proprietor a small piece of ground, as garden ground. That, with the school fees, is all he has to live upon. The school fees are small, and the number of scholars upon an average is about 30, affording the schoolmaster an annual income of about L. 15, a miserable pittance for the support of a man who holds the office of a schoolmaster. Were the schoolmaster of Gladsmuir to depend entirely upon voluntary support, his income could hardly be expected to be much better. To what a lamentable state would education in the country be then reduced!

There is also a school at Longniddry of long standing. Here, too, the schoolmaster is furnished with a free house and school-house. Two years ago, when a new schoolmaster was appointed, the people, very much to their credit, got the school-house repaired and fitted up in a handsome manner. And last year, the dwelling-house having only one apartment, had another added to it, which makes the house pretty commodious. This is the more praiseworthy, as the people are all of the labouring class. The average number of scholars there, last season, was 60. An evening school is also kept for the benefit of those who are at work, through the day. Besides the school fees, the teacher at Longniddry has

two guineas a-year granted him by the proprietor, and the same sum by the Earl of Wemyss, which, though small, is a considerable addition to his income, and is creditable to the Noble proprietors, who thus contribute to the education of the labouring poor, and in this way essentially promote the improvement of the community. The annual income of the teacher here may amount to about L. 25.

A school is also taught at the village of Penston, about a mile to the south-west of Gladsmuir, and consequently within reach of the parish school. This village being chiefly inhabited by colliers, the children are sent early to work; and, after labouring one part of the day, they are sent to school, another part of the day, when there is a school at hand; but were the distance considerable, this object could not be accomplished. It was with a view to such accommodation, that a school was erected and is still kept up at Penston. The teacher has to find a house for himself; and the school-house, through neglect, is in a wretched condition. The number of scholars is small,—last year not exceeding 25. The inhabitants are constantly shifting; and lately the teacher was at the point of giving up the school for want of support. He is an old man, and his whole income last year did not amount to L. 10.

Besides these schools, there is one at Cotyburn, a solitary place at the north-eastern extremity of the parish. This school is taught by a man who was in the army, and has a small weekly pension from Government. He has a dwelling-house and school-house attached to it; for both of which he pays rent. The average number of his scholars is 24, thus affording him an income of about L. 10, which, with his pension from Government, affords him a scanty subsistence.

The price of education per week is from 3d. to 6d., or from 7s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. a-year, calculating the year at three quarters; for, in country schools, the vacations are long, and seldom more than three quarters are paid for. And as 1s. is paid for coals during the winter, the annual expense of education for the common branches amounts to from 8s. 6d. to 14s. 6d.,—besides the expense of books, which is small considered by itself, but great to those labourers who have three or four children at school, and who have themselves an income not exceeding L. 25 a-year.

Sunday Schools.—There are 3 Sunday schools in the parish,—one at Penston, the number of scholars attending which has, for some years, been very fluctuating. This arises, partly from the

difficulty of obtaining teachers properly qualified, and partly from the changes that are constantly taking place in the population. There is another at Longniddry. It began about two years ago. It is well taught and well attended, and has already been productive of much good in the neighbourhood. The third is at Tra-broun, superintended by the Misses Law. But as that property has just been sold, it is doubtful whether this school will be continued.

Parents send their children to school at different ages. Some are sent when only four years old; others not till they are seven or eight. But care is taken that sooner or later all be taught to read. When the parents cannot afford to pay for them, they are paid for from the poors' fund, or by charitable individuals who take an interest in them. In this parish, the schools are so situated that they are accessible to all the inhabitants. There are none, as far as I know, above fifteen years of age who cannot read; but there are many who cannot write. And there are some who have been very imperfectly educated themselves, and, having felt the evils of a neglected education, are anxious to have their children properly instructed.

Libraries.—There are no parochial libraries in the parish. This want is supplied by three itinerating ones, which are stationed in each of the three villages of the parish. These libraries, after remaining two years in their stations, are returned, and new ones sent in their place. In this way, the attention of the people is kept up by a regular succession of new books, which are well selected and arranged under the superintendence of Mr Samuel Brown at Haddington.

Societies.—There are 2 friendly societies in the parish,—one at Longniddry of old standing, and another at Penston, instituted in 1823, both of which are in a thriving state. At Penston, a Mortcloth Society was set on foot more than fifty years ago, by Lady Ross Baillie of Lamington, for the benefit of her colliers there. None but colliers connected with the coal-work have a right to become members. Lady Ross presented the society with three mortcloths, and that number has been kept up ever since for the use of the members, who have now acquired a prescriptive right to employ their own mortcloths, when they bury their dead in the churchyard of Gladsmuir. At Penston, there is also a Coffin Society, the object of which is to discontinue the use of mortcloths altogether. The members are furnished by the society with coffins, decently

covered with black cloth, and no mortcloths are used. Those who are not members may also obtain a coffin from the society, at a cheap rate, by paying for it. This Society was instituted about two years ago. Besides these, there is a yearly Society at Penston, the members of which draw sick money in case of illness, and receive a sum of money for the burial of their dead. Connected with the parish is a Frame Society for the protection of the dead, to which the greater part of the parish belong. The safes are of malleable iron, and of a construction such as is usually employed. When used, they are generally sunk about two or three feet below the surface of the ground. A Savings' Bank was instituted some years ago, but it gradually died away, and now no longer exists. A Curling Society was begun in December last, but there having been very little frost, the ice was never in a condition to be played upon, and the members of course were deprived of an opportunity of displaying their skill.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons upon the poors' roll is 41; and the average sum allowed to each per week is 1s. 3d. The sum allowed varies according to circumstances. Some get 1s., some 2s., some 3s., and one family gets 4s. per week. In addition to which, most of them get a cart of coals, in the course of the winter. A collection is made at the church for this purpose, which comes far short of what is laid out for coals. Whatever is deficient is taken from the poors' fund. Besides those who receive a regular allowance, there are always some who receive occasional aid, in cases of distress or unexpected misfortunes. Five, in addition to their weekly allowance, get their house rents paid.

The average amount of annual contributions for their relief for five years is L. 200, 9s. 3d. of which L. 167, 17s. arises from an assessment which is laid on once a-year, at a meeting of heritors called for the purpose. The collections at the church amount to L. 16, 6s. 5d.; mortcloths L. 4, 18s. 2d.; putting in stones for marking burial ground 17s. 5d.; seat rents, 11s. 7d.; marriages, &c. L. 1, 8s. 8d.; interest of a bill for L. 170, L. 8, 10s. The poor, with a very few exceptions, are all paid in money, and, therefore, in the present depressed state of the grain market, their allowance is much greater than when provisions are dearer. The poor in general have little reluctance to apply for parochial aid, whenever they think it can be obtained. Children also who are living in comfortable circumstances, are very much disposed to leave their aged parents to shift for themselves, or to get relief for them from the parish. The collections at the church are very small, chiefly

from an idea, which very generally prevails among the labouring classes, that there is no occasion for them to give any thing to the poor, because what they give is just so much saved to the proprietors, who are bound by law to support them. In this way the divine law of charity, in these times of innovation, is too generally evaded.

Alehouses.—There are, at present, in the parish, ten public houses, or houses licensed for retailing spirits. It cannot be doubted that so many of them, when they are not needed, have a very pernicious influence upon the morals of the people. When there are so many persons anxious to get customers to their houses, they cannot be expected to be very careful to prevent that excess in drinking which prevails among us to such an extent. The act permitting publicans to keep their houses open on Sundays ought immediately to be abolished, as one of the most ill-advised that was ever sanctioned by a British Parliament.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the former Statistical Account was drawn up, a striking improvement has taken place in the roads, in the cultivation, draining and fencing of the fields. Different kinds of manure have also been employed with success. The farm-houses and offices have undergone a proportional improvement. In consequence of the depressed state of the markets, some of the tenants are beginning to throw more of their fields into pasture, which promises not only to make them a suitable return, but which will prevent them from being exhausted by overcropping. It also appears from the former Statistical Account, that 134 black-cattle were kept; now they amount to 500. Then the number of sheep was 100; now they amount to betwixt 2000 and 3000. Then rape-cake and bone dust were never thought of as a manure; now they are very much employed. All this shews the great attention that is paid to the enriching and improving of the soil. The wages of labourers and tradesmen also have risen almost an half, while the price of provisions and clothes has been as low as at that period.

Gladsmuir kirk has often been remarked as liable to be struck by lightning. A remarkable instance of this happened 21st July 1789. It is thus described in the former Statistical Account:—
“A thunder-storm began in the north, and came gradually nearer, having circled round by the west. The school, where above seventy children were then assembled, unfortunately stood in its way. The thunder burst upon the house, and seemed at first to

have levelled it with the ground. The walls were rent, the windows shattered, and the roof demolished. A thick darkness, caused by the smoke and dust, for a while concealed the extent of the mischief. When it subsided, the neighbours who first entered, anxious for the fate of their children, had reason to fear the worst; for few signs of life appeared. The whole crowd of little ones, either stunned or terrified, lay stretched upon the ground beneath the tables or benches where they sat. Many were quite senseless, but afterwards recovered. Two boys were killed outright, and the master with many others much injured. The effect of such a scene is not soon worn off from the minds of children. A black cloud still terrifies the whole school, and a clap of thunder more than ordinarily loud, scatters the whole little troop in an instant." Another instance afterwards occurred. While a storm of thunder and lightning was passing over the place, the family at the manse were alarmed, and darkened the windows. The females crowded together in the middle of the dining-room for shelter. One of the maids who had occasion to go up stairs, had no sooner got to the bottom of the stair, than the lightning struck the house and killed her in an instant. To prevent such fatal accidents in future, conductors were placed upon the manse, and are still there.

September 1836.