

PARISH OF KIRKMAIDEN.

PRESBYTERY OF STRANRAER, SYNOD OF GALLOWAY.

THE REV. JOHN LAMB, MINISTER.

L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THIS is the most southerly parish of Scotland, forming the extreme boundary of that promontory which terminates in the Mull of Galloway, in Lat. $54^{\circ} 39'$ north, and Long. 5° west.

Name.—There are various accounts of the origin of the name of the parish. In Symson's Description of Galloway, it is said to have been "so called, because the kirk was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the print of whose knee is fabulously reported to be seen on a stone where she prayed at a place called Maryport, near to which there was a chapel long since but now wholly ruined." In Chalmers' Caledonia, it is said "to have obtained its appellation from the old parish church, which was dedicated to St Medan, to whom some other churches in this shire were consecrated, and was called Kirkmedan, from the name of the Saint. After being called by various forms of the name, Kirkmaiden at length became its settled appellation." There is a third account of the origin of the name, wholly traditionary, viz. that three *maiden* ladies of the name of Adair, belonging to a religious establishment at Kilhilt, in the parish of Portpatrick, built, or left funds for building, three churches. One of these was built at the chapel now in Stranraer: another at Kirkmaiden, now annexed to the parish of Glasserton: and the third in this parish; and hence the parish is said to have taken its name.

No change appears to have taken place in its name or boundary since the Reformation. Antecedent to that event, though at what period is uncertain, these must have undergone various changes, as is evident from the number of places throughout the parish, which, from their names, the ruins of buildings called kirks, traces of burying grounds, &c. must have been the sites of places of worship. The chief of these are Kirkbride, Kilstay, Kildonnan, Kirkleish, and Kirkdryne or Kirkdrain. At the last of these places, was the residence of Mr John Callender,

the first Protestant minister of the parish, though his place of worship was about a mile distant, on the farm of Mull, the old church already mentioned, and said by Chalmers to be dedicated to St Medan.

Extent and Boundaries.—The length of the parish in a direct line may be about 10 miles, and 12 miles by the roads. Its breadth varies from somewhat less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ to upwards of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles : and its area may be about 20 square miles. On the north north-west, it is united to the parish of Stonykirk by a boundary of about 2 miles in length. The sea is its boundary on all other sides.

Topography.—The form of the parish is very irregular and not easily described. The public road enters at the north-east corner, at a small modern building of antique construction, erected as a porter's lodge, or to commemorate the name of a place where, in old times, stood a kirk or chapel called Chapelrossan, or the chapel of the promontory. On proceeding a mile to the south-west, the mansion-house of Logan is seen on the right. It is small for the extent of the property, but handsome, commodious, and pleasantly situated. The road here separates, one line skirting the Bay of Luce to the village of Drumore ; the other leading to the Irish sea at the Bay of Portnessock. The parish here, to the extent of nearly 3 miles, is generally low and diversified with eminences, some of which are tastefully adorned with clumps of plantation. The village and harbour of Port Logan, in the south-east corner of Portnessock Bay, is a bare, bleak, unattractive-looking place in winter ; but affords a delightful summer residence for those who take pleasure in sea scenery and amusements. The breadth of the parish here is about a mile and a half. On leaving Port Logan, the road winds over a mountainous ridge, which stretches from sea to sea, a distance of more than two miles, descending rapidly into a narrow valley, also extending to the sea on both sides,—an extent of about a-mile and a-half. On the right in this vale, are seen the ruins of Castle Clanyard, in old times the residence of a family of the name of Gordon, a collateral branch of the House of Kenmure. Hence, a mile of up-hill road leads to the church, a building of the most mean appearance, and only remarkable for its elevated situation. The width of the parish here is considerably increased ; and about a mile and a half farther south, is at its greatest, nearly four miles.

Mull of Galloway.—The extremity of the Mull of Galloway lies south-south-east from the church, at a distance of about six

miles. The road now takes a more central direction. To the west, the land is bleak and mountainous; to the east, it slopes down to the sea, and constitutes the most fertile portion of the parish. Nearly opposite the church on this side are situated the old castle, village, and harbour of Drumore.

The point of the Mull is a peninsula of a mile and a quarter in length, by a quarter of a mile in breadth. It is joined to the mainland by a low and narrow isthmus formed by two small bays called East and West Tarbets. The hill forming the promontory, though bleak, rugged, and on its south-west side an almost perpendicular rock from its very summit, has always been regarded as an interesting object by those who are fond of looking on nature in rude grandeur. A handsome light-house, lately erected, with its establishment, has added greatly to the pleasure of the visitant, and converted what before was merely grand, into what is both grand and beautiful in a high degree. From the balcony of the light-house may be seen, in a clear day, the lofty peaks of Cumberland;—the Isle of Man in all its extent; the coast of Ireland from the mountains of Morne to Fairhead; the highest mountains of the counties of Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Ayr, and the towering Paps of Jura in Argyllshire. Though the picturesque and striking features of the coast are nowhere seen to more advantage than from the Mull-hill, there are other and higher eminences from which an equally good view of distant objects may be obtained. The chief of these are Montlokowre, Bunman, Cairnhill, Cairn of Dolt, and Grennan hill. The highest summit in the parish is probably somewhat under 900 feet above the level of the sea.

Bays, &c.—The bays are numerous, and generally succeeded by a promontory of the same name. Beginning on the north-east, and going round the coast, we have, 1. The bays of Chapelrossan; 2. Balgown; 3. New England or Myroch; 4. Tirally; 5. Grennan; 6. Curghie; 7. Drumore; 8. Cairngarroch; 9. Maryport; 10. Portonkill; 11. East Tarbet; 12. West Tarbet; 13. Port Corkrie; 14. Clanyard; 15. Portnessock; 16. Port Gill. The chief headlands are Killiness Point and Mull of Galloway on the east; and on the west Crammag, Gounies, and Mull of Logan.

The only harbours are Port Logan, in the bay of Portnessock, on the western coast, and Drumore on the east. At both these places, besides a quay where vessels may lie in safety, there is good anchorage in the bays. Were the former so constructed that vessels could enter at low-water—and this could be done at no very

great expense, it would be most useful as a place of refuge when storms suddenly arise in the channel. As constructed at present, it is difficult to prevent either of these harbours filling up with sand and gravel. In several of the bays above enumerated, small vessels may, in fine weather, and with attentive management, be loaded or discharged; but the risk is so great, from change of wind and weather, that few are willing to enter them.

Caves, &c.—The caves, caverns, and fissures along the western coast are numerous; many of them extensive and capacious when entered; though so strait at the mouth as scarcely to admit a single person creeping on hands and knees; and the entrances of many are situated in places very difficult of access. Symson speaks of one of them as a rock “from which there is a continual dropping both in summer and winter; which drop hath this quality, that, if any person be troubled with the chincough, he may be infallibly cured by holding up his mouth and letting the drop fall therein.” In this cave, the dropping still continues to wear a hollow in the rock, on which falls, and to enlarge a stalactite in the roof above; but the belief in its healing virtue has long ago nearly, if not entirely disappeared.

Surrounded on three sides by the sea, the climate is considerably equalized; neither so intensely cold in winter, nor so hot in summer, as in more inland districts. As a proof of this, the ploughman may be seen in the fields for eight or ten days after the soil is completely frost-bound in the interior parts of the county. Consumption is a disease supposed to be rarely originated in the parish. Cancer is not unfrequent, and has been ascribed to the too plentiful use of dried salt-fish. Asthmatic subjects have found the climate favourable to their malady.

Springs.—There are several very copious springs of fine water, their temperature is about 48° Fahrenheit. Chalybeates are common, and one of a peculiar character was, a few years ago, discovered oozing out of a blue clay in the midst of moss, which speedily attained a great, but, from reckless application, a short-lived celebrity. It has not been analysed.

Zoology.—There is little peculiar in the zoology of the parish. The fox and the badger, formerly common, are now rarely met with. Otters inhabit the caverns on the western shore; and the rocks are tenanted by the common sea-gull, the Cornish chough (*Pyrrhocorax Graculus*), the shag (*Phalacrocorax Graculus*), the little razor-bill, the raven, several species of hawk, and flocks of

pigeons. About forty years ago, a pair of eagles had their eyrie on one of the precipitous cliffs near Dunman; but the ravages which they committed among the lambs roused the farmers to take revenge by setting fire to their domicile, and thus banishing the depredators. An individual of the bee-eater species (*Merops apiaster*), was shot in Logan garden in the summer of 1832.

The coast abounds with various species of fish; the most common are cod, the red or rock variety of which is highly prized; sythe, and especially the coal-fish (*Merlangus carbonarius*), which has no fewer than five different names among the fishermen, according to its different stages of growth; whiting, mackerel, and mullet are at times abundant; skate and other flat-fish, occasionally including turbot and sole, and red and grey gurnard, are frequently taken. The common hake, the dog-fish, smooth hound, (*Mustelus lævis*), are found accompanying the shoals of herrings. The gabboch, (*Scyllium cotulus*), braize, smelt, (*Atherina hepsetus*), are not uncommon. The Cornish sucker (*Lepadogaster Cornubiensis*), the lump-fish (*Cyclopterus lumpus*), *Morhua barbata*, here named good-speed; dragonet (*Callionymus lyra*), the stang-fish, (*Trachinus draco*), are also met with. The angler (*Lophius piscatorius*), is frequently cast ashore; and there was found in 1837 a single specimen of a small silvery fish, with rows of dots along its sides, correctly described by Pennant under the name of the *Sheppy argentine*.

Oysters of a large size are met with, both on the western shore and in the Bay of Luce; but beds sufficiently productive to be dredged have not been found. Lobsters and crabs are abundant, and are sometimes taken by fishermen from Ireland for the Dublin market.

Botany.—Forming the south-west point of Scotland, this parish is of great interest to the Scottish botanist, as presenting a vegetation differing considerably from that of the east coast, and closely resembling that of the neighbouring coasts of England and Ireland.

From the crumbling nature of the rocks, they are covered with vegetation. On the cliffs along the west side, especially south of Dunman, the highest, we meet with abundantly,

<i>Euphorbia Portlandica</i>	<i>Limbarda crithmoides</i>	<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	<i>Pyrethrum maritimum</i>	<i>Apium graveolens</i> ;
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	<i>Statice spathulata</i>	

And at one place among the debris at the foot of the cliffs, Dr Graham, Professor of Botany in Edinburgh, discovered in August

1835 the *Ononis reclinata*; this being the only station yet known for this plant in Britain.

Where the ground is marshy, we find

<i>Ceanothe pimpinelloides</i>	<i>Scirpus Savii</i>	<i>Schoenum nigricans</i>
<i>Carex extensa</i> and <i>distans</i>	<i>Juncus maritimus</i>	<i>Fulicaria dysenterica</i> .

On the gravelly beach,

<i>Lithospermum maritimum</i>	<i>Atriplex laciniata</i>	<i>Crambe maritima</i> ;
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On the grassy banks overhanging the rocks, we find

<i>Oxytropis uralensis</i>	<i>Jasione scabiosa</i>	<i>Scilla verna</i>
<i>Astragalus hypoglottis</i>	<i>Daucus carota</i> , v. <i>maritimus</i> .	

Soon after passing the East Tarbet, towards the north, the coast becomes flat; where sandy, producing abundantly,

<i>Raphanus maritimus</i>	(and more rarely)	<i>Orchis pyramidalis</i> and <i>Brassica</i>
<i>Polygonum Raii</i>		<i>monensis</i> ; (where gravelly), <i>Glaucium lu-</i>
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>		<i>teum</i> and <i>Vicia sylvatica</i> .
<i>Convolvulus soldanella</i> .		

Also occasionally on the banks near the sea,

<i>Verbascum thlaspi</i>	<i>Hypericum Androsæmum</i>
<i>Convolvulus sepium</i> .	

Where the soil has been undisturbed are found,

<i>Ulex Europa</i> and <i>nanus</i>	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>
<i>Erica cinerea</i> and <i>tetralix</i> .	

In the inland marshes we find,

<i>Hypericum Elodes</i>	<i>Helosciadium nodiflorum</i>
<i>Alisma ranunculoides</i>	<i>Lythrum Salicaria</i> .

In the cultivated fields,

<i>Stachys arvensis</i>	<i>Lamium intermedium</i>
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Plantations.—The plantations are mostly confined to the vicinity of Logan House, and are generally in a thriving state, and contain trees of considerable magnitude, considering the warfare they have to wage with the storms, and the copious sprinklings of spray they must frequently submit to from the sea. The most suitable for the climate—for there is soil for every variety—seem to be the ash, mountain-ash, sycamore, elm, beech, birch, and Huntingdon willow among the deciduous trees. Pinaster, white spruce, Scotch fir, *Pinus montana*, holly and yew among the evergreens. Where well sheltered from the sea, many other kinds also grow freely.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Symson's description of Galloway, and Chalmers's Caledonia, contain the only record of this parish worthy of notice. The latter says, "The parish church of Kirkmaiden belonged to the abbot and monks of Souleseat, which enjoyed the rectorial revenues, while the cure was served by a vicar. In Bagimont's Roll, it is stated that, in the reign of James V. the vicarage of this church was fixed at L. 2, 13s. 4d. At the Reformation, the rectorial revenues were let to William Adair of Kinhilt, by the abbot and

monks of Soulseat, for the yearly payment of 300 merks and 100 bolls of bear, small measure. The church of Kirkmaiden was vested in the King by the act of 1587. A portion of the revenues of this church was assigned as a stipend to the Protestant minister of the parish, and the remainder was afterwards granted by Charles I. in 1630, as part of the stipend for the minister of the newly established parish of Portpatrick, in which grant the King reserved to himself and his successors the patronage of the church of Kirkmaiden. But King James had heretofore, in September 1602, granted the five merk land of Drumore, with the patronage of the church of Kirkmaiden, to Ninian Adair of Kinhilt, whose son Robert obtained a ratification of this grant in the Parliament of 1641. Symson says, in his account of Galloway, "The King's Majesty is patron of the parish of Kirkmaiden, although the lairds of Kinhilt pretend a right thereto, and are in possession." The Earl of Stair (as proprietor of the lands of Drumore) has long been the patron of this parish. As the old church of Kirkmaiden was situated in a very inconvenient situation in the southern extremity of the parish, the parishioners gave in a representation to the General Assembly, praying for a new church in a more central situation. This was referred to Parliament, and the Parliament in October 1639 remitted the prayer to the commissioners to be appointed for the plantation of kirks. The desire of the petitioners was granted, and a new church was built in a more central situation." The following extract from the presbytery records gives a somewhat different account of the removal of the church to its present site.

"Presbytery at Kirkmaiden, the 10th day of July 1638.—Upon the whilk day, the parochiners of Kirkmaiden presented ane supplication, desiring that, in respect their kirk was builded at the most extreme part of the paroch, and lay very inconveniently, that they would appoint some more convenient place.—Whilk the brethren having considered, thought it reasonable, and assigned a part in Corghie, in the midst of the parish, for building a new kirk—desiring the Lords of Council, by petition, to grant their letters to further the same, and to ratify the same in tyme coming." The Session records say, "that the building of the church commened in 1638. On the 5th of March in that year, the National Covenant was renewed at Edinburgh, and by order subscribed by all the congregations within the kingdom." It was subscribed at Kirkmaiden the 25th March in that year, and from this circumstance

the kirk was long called, (supposed by way of sobriquet,) *Kirk covenant*.

Eminent Characters.—Under this head, may be mentioned, Andrew M'Douall, Lord Bankton, one of the Judges of the Court of Session, and author of "Institutes of the Laws of Scotland." He was son of Robert M'Douall, Esq. of Logan, and Sarah Shaw, daughter of Sir John Shaw of Greenock, and was born at Logan, about the year 1685, and died at Bankton, in East Lothian, in 1760. Lord Bankton was thrice married; but none of his marriages was productive of children. His character as a lawyer and a judge was only equalled by his character in all the relations of life. The estate of Bankton, which had previously belonged to the celebrated Colonel Gardiner, descended, on his Lordship's death, to the head of his family, and still belongs to the M'Doualls of Logan. (Murray's *Literary History of Galloway*.)

Robert M'Douall, Admiral of the Blue Squadron in his Majesty's Fleet, and who had formerly held a similar rank in the Portuguese service, was the son of Alexander M'Douall, and Mary Gordon in Portnessock; born in 1729, and died at Stranraer 1826.

Land-Owners.—The land-owners of this parish were formerly numerous; at present, there are only four, and the property of one of them is too small to entitle him to a voice in any parochial matter. Their names and proportions of rent, according to the old Scots valuation, are as follows: Major M'Douall of Logan, L. 3181, 15s.; the Earl of Stair, L. 853, 10s.; John M'Taggart, Esq. of Ardwell, L. 358, 15s.; Captain Maitland of Freuch, L. 6. Total, L. 4400.

Parochial Registers.—The following table contains a list of all the ministers of this parish since the Reformation; extracted from the prefatory notes to the existing session-books.

	Name.	Where from.	Settlement.	Removal.
	John Callendar,	Falkirk,	-	Died 1639
	Alexander Turnbull, A. and S.	Tranent,	1638,	Do. 1658
	James Wilson,	Paisley,	1660,	Ejected 1662
Episcopal.	Thomas Ireland,	Weem,	1662,	-
	James M'Gill,	Teviotdale,	1665,	-
	David Carstairs,	Fife,	1667,	-
	George Young,	Stranraer,	1682,	-
	James Wilson,	again settled,	1689,	Died 1691
	Samuel Kelso,	Ireland,	Officiated two years not settled.	-
	Alexander Marshal,	Falkirk,	1697, removed to Kirkcolm.	-
	James Monteith,	Glasgow,	1699,	Died 1714
	John Anderson,	Do.	1716,	Do. 1736
	James M'Ferrand,	Greenock,	1738,	Do. 1763
John Coulter,	Crawfordjohn,	1764, Removed to Stranraer.	-	

Robert Callendar,	Falkirk,	1772,	Died 1812
Robert Cooper, A. and S.	Clarg, Pennin- hame,	1800,	Do. 1801
Thomas Young, A. and S.	Redgorton, Perth- shire,	1802,	Do. 1818
James French, A. and S.	Stonykirk,	1817,	Do. 1826
John Lamb,	Yester, E. Lo- thian,	1826,	

N. B. Those marked A. and S. were settled as Assistant and Successor.

The earliest of the session records commences in 1699, in the time of Mr Monteith. In Mr Anderson's book, reference is made to that of Mr Turnbull, who was the second minister; but that book, though it appears to have been in existence in Mr Anderson's time, (1716), has been long since lost. From Mr Anderson's settlement to the present time, the session records, and registers of births, deaths, and marriages are continuous. They are, in some instances, written by the minister, but generally by the session-clerk.

Antiquities.—The traces of ancient buildings are numerous; but their history is either altogether lost or involved in traditionary fable. Dunman, a high rocky hill overhanging the sea, at the south-west corner of the parish, has on its summit the remains and distinct traces of a fortification. It is said to have been a place of great strength in the days of the Picts. On another less elevated promontory, half a mile north of Dunman, are also distinct traces of a place of strength. A round tower, of about 57 feet, has formed the principal building. In front of this building, there has been a fosse or ditch, and at a little distance outside of this a circular wall. A short way south of Dunman, are two small green eminences, called "*the auld Kilns,*" situated amid surrounding heath. These, tradition says, were used by the Picts in preparing their mysterious beverage *heather crap ale*. Farther to the south, there is another green spot named the *Peat Knowe*, where it is said some ceremony was gone through for banishing an epidemic disease called *burying the peat*. The promontory forming the Mull-head is said to have been the last retreat of the Picts; and here, when no longer able to withstand their enemies, the last feeble remains of them are said to have leapt or been forced into the sea; and a tradition, illustrative of the tenacity with which they kept the secret of brewing their ale, still exists in the parish. When all were in the sea, except a father and son, they were offered their lives, on condition they would reveal this secret. The father promised to consider of this proposal, after they had precipitated the son over the rocks. This was done, and he then said the secret remains with me alone, and will die with me, and immediately leapt over. At

the neck or isthmus of this promontory are the traces of a double line of fortification, extending from sea to sea. There is a small cave, though one of no little note formerly in the parish, on the south-east coast, between the bays of Port-ankill and East Taret, called by Chalmers St Medan's Cave; together with a pool in the adjoining rock, called the well of the Co', or the chapel well,—for the place often goes under the name of the Chapel. From the superstitious observances connected with this spot, it seems likely that it was the abode of some Druid or recluse, in times prior to Christianity; and in later times, it might also have been the retreat of some monk, or disciple of St Medan, who would probably take advantage of its locality and reputation to serve his own interested views. To bathe in the well, as the sun rose on the first Sunday of May, was considered an infallible cure for almost any disease, but was particularly efficacious in the recovery of “back-gane bairns.” And till no very remote period, it was customary for almost the whole population of the parish to collect at this spot, on the first Sabbath of May, which was called Co' Sunday, to bathe in the well; to leave their gifts in the cave, and to spend the day in gossiping or amusements.

The well is a natural cylindrical hole in the solid rock, about four feet in diameter, and six feet deep, filled with loose stones, to about half its depth. Round its mouth are three or four small holes, which were used for bathing the hands and eyes, while the large one was used for the body generally. There is no spring; the well is kept full by the surf breaking over the rock at full flood and spring-tides. The inner apartment of the chapel or Co' is a natural cavity of the rock. The outer is of rude mason work, with a door and window. The walls are now greatly dilapidated, and the roof long gone. At its best, it must have been a *mortifying* residence. Strangers, on a first visit, are still reminded of the custom of leaving a present or gift at departure. A pin, a blade of grass, or a pebble from the beach, are now considered sufficient—though, no doubt, in the days of our hermit, more substantial offerings were looked for and bestowed.

The ruins of buildings of a more recent period are of those mentioned by Symson, namely, the old house of Logan; Castle Clanyard and Drumore. Among the antiquities of the parish, may be included the church-bell, said to have been at one time the dinner-bell of Castle Clanyard, and to have been brought to that place from Kenmure. The inscription upon it is, “*Nicolaius Ramsa Dominus*

de Dalhuissi me fieri fecit Ano Dni Millesimo quingentesimo xxxiiii. IHS Maria Jhone Morison"—from which it appears that it was made in the year 1534, for Nicholas Ramsay, the grandfather of the first Earl of Dalhousie.

Modern Buildings.—The only modern buildings worthy of remark are the quay at Portlogan, erected by the late proprietor of Logan, at a very considerable expense; and the Light-house, erected a few years ago, at the extreme point of the Mull of Galloway. Vessels bound from the English coast to the north sometimes mistook the Bay of Luce for the Channel, and did not discover their mistake till they were aground on the sands at its head, where it is not always practicable to get off. This mistake, except in very foggy weather, the light effectually prevents.

III.—POPULATION.

The number of the inhabitants in 1790 was 1380; of families, 285. In 1801, the number was 1613, of whom 742 were males, and 871 females; families, 335. In 1811, the number was 1788, of whom 834 were males, and 954 females; families, 357. In 1821, the number was 2210, of whom 1090 were males, and 1120 females; families, 442. In 1831, the population was 2051, of whom 973 were males, and 1078 females; families, 429.*

The population residing in villages is about,	500
in the country,	1550
The average number of births for the last 7 years is,	46
deaths,	20
marriages,	10
The average number of persons under 15 years, was	813
No. of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	192
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	94
The average number of persons betwixt 15 and 30,	527
30 and 50,	396
50 and 70,	249
upwards of 70,	65
Children in each family,	3
Number of houses inhabited,	407
Number of fatuous persons 4—deaf and dumb 4.	

The inhabitants who are descended from native ancestors are rather remarkable for size and strength. This was said to have been conspicuous, when the Kirkmaiden company of volunteers was reviewed along with those of other parishes. The habits of the people with regard to the cleanliness of their cottages, cannot be much commended. There is little peculiar in their dress. The home-spun *linsey woolsey* gown, and blue cloth coat, are still produced by a few thrifty housewives; and although linen webs are

* The cause of the decrease at the last date was that, in 1821, the quay at Port Logan was being built, where upwards of 200 people, not belonging to the parish, were employed.

not now, as formerly, made up for the market, they are still manufactured in considerable quantity for home use. Their style and manner of dress, on the whole, is decent, neat, and substantial. The ordinary food of the peasantry is oatmeal porridge and milk, when milk can be got, for breakfast; for dinner, potatoes and salt-herrings, or other kinds of fish,—and with the better economists, pork or bacon differently prepared; and potatoes and milk or herrings to supper. The bread is oatcakes or scones, composed of potatoes and oatmeal, or more rarely, of potatoes and wheaten or barley-flour. The difficulty of procuring milk where the dairy system prevails, has perhaps been the principal cause of the too frequent use of tea and its accompaniment *loaf bread*,—considerable quantities of both being consumed even by the poorest; and it is to be feared too many forego the more substantial fare which the pig they feed would furnish, to indulge in this favourite repast.

The people enjoy in a considerable degree the comforts and advantages of society, and seem contented with their situation and circumstances. Their secluded situation does not present many opportunities of cultivating their intellectual powers. Their attainments in religious knowledge are respectable, and their general demeanour is peaceable and orderly. Poaching in game is occasionally followed by a few individuals. Smuggling, which at one time was almost the sole occupation of many of the principal inhabitants, is now entirely abandoned.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The parish may contain about 11,971 imperial acres, which may be thus classed, and the value of the gross annual produce stated.

Imp. ac.			
240 wood,	-	-	L. 40 0 0
129 roads, about 43 miles,			
1400 rocky moor and moss,	-	-	350 0 0
6312 pasture,	-	-	4965 0 0
512 wheat,	-	-	2662 0 0
1867 oats,	-	-	4032 0 0
155 bear,	-	-	557 0 0
375 rye-grass hay,	-	-	335 10 0
50 meadow hay,	-	-	75 0 0
815 potatoes,	-	-	4665 5 0
116 turnips,	-	-	460 0 0
11,971			L. 17541 15 0

All the land is already in tillage or laid down in pasture that could be profitably cultivated, except a considerable breadth of moss, now almost unproductive of peats. This, if drained and sub-

jected to a proper rotation of crops, might, at least, in the form of meadow or permanent pasture, be made to assume a more seemly aspect. There was at one time a small common attached to the churchyard; but it has long ago merged into the surrounding property. The woods are under the management of a judicious and experienced forester. The yearly thinnings are very useful for many farming purposes. They consist principally of ash, beech, and larch.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land may be about 14s. per acre. The farmers are not in the practice of grazing cattle and sheep, except what belong to themselves.

Rate of Wages—Prices.—The wages of ploughmen are at the rate of L. 9 per annum; of maid-servants, L. 2, 5s. for the half-year, with board. Married men servants, or *benefit men*, get L. 9 of money; 5 Galloway bolls of potatoes, and two bushels planted; 52 stones of 17½ lbs. oatmeal; 2 tons or 48 cwt. coals, with house and garden. A day labourer's wages in summer are 1s. 2d.—in winter 1s. Females employed at out-door work receive 6d. or 7d. per day. Reapers' wages are 1s. 6d. per day without victuals; men are frequently hired for the harvest season, and receive L. 2 with board. Masons' wages are 2s. or 2s. 6d.; joiners 2s. per day, without victuals. A rood of mason work, furnishing all materials, will cost at an average about L. 3, for labour only L. 1, 10s. A good box-cart costs about L. 7, 10s.; an iron plough from L. 3, 10s. to L. 4; an iron drill plough about L. 3.

Live-Stock.—The few sheep-walks in the parish are stocked with the black-faced breed of sheep. The farmers generally keep a few of the Leicester breed for their domestic use. The cattle reared are principally of the Galloway breed, and more attention seems to have been lately given to its purity. There are in the parish several large dairies, in which the Ayrshire breed are kept and reared, or a cross between that and the Galloway bull, whose progeny generally take his likeness.

Husbandry.—Although the agriculture of the parish cannot be said to be behind that of the neighbouring districts, it has made little progress, except on a few farms, during the last twenty years, and is susceptible of great improvement. What the land chiefly requires, is thorough draining, followed up with the subsoil plough. A great proportion of the soil, resting on a stiff retentive *till*, is soaked, or, as the farmers express it, soured, with stagnant water during winter; and in dry summers, where clayey, it becomes un-

productively hard,—where light and peaty, too loose for the roots of grain to retain their hold during high winds. Were the till broken up, and the water allowed to sink and run off by drains, the clayey soils would become more friable, the peaty, with a gradual admixture of the subsoil, would acquire a more adhesive texture, lime and manures would tell with more effect, and all would undoubtedly be rendered doubly productive. This improvement, though great and permanent, would also be expensive, and would be most effectually promoted by the landlord defraying the greater part of the expense,—seeing it judiciously executed, and receiving interest for the outlaid capital in the shape of additional rent.

Thorough draining, consisting of shallow drains running parallel to each other, at the distance of 15 or 18 feet, has been introduced to a limited extent with the most beneficial results. The drains are cut about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, and filled to within 14 or 16 inches from the surface with small stones. The expense of opening and filling such, exclusive of the stones, is about 6d. per rood.

The land in tillage is managed in different rotations of cropping; the six-shift seems to be the best. The order is as follows: 1. oats after grass; 2. green crop of turnip or potatoes; 3. wheat or other white crop; 4. grass for hay or pasture, and the remaining years in pasture.

The duration of leases, where these exist, is generally nineteen years. Those last given seem favourable to the occupiers; who are furnished with suitable farm-buildings, and receive a liberal allowance of lime; and whatever drainings they judge necessary are opened to them, free of expense.

With regard to farm-buildings, there is great room for improvement. Very few contain accommodation sufficient to allow of the most profitable farm management, and many of them are in a decayed and ruinous condition. The greater part of the parish is enclosed, but, except in the vicinity of Logan, with insufficient fences. These consist of stone walls, turf with whins on the top, hedge and ditch. Many of the first are badly built, or built with bad materials; the second are not kept closely furnished with furze; the last, when properly executed, are by far the best, effectually securing the enclosure from the first, and soon after affording shelter besides. The quicks, consisting of thorn and beech, are planted in a facing of stone about three feet in height, banked behind with the earth taken out of the ditch,—which bank is also planted with sets of the hardier willows. Timber trees are

planted in the hedgerows, but seldom with good effect; unless where sheltered, they rarely get beyond the stature of a bush, and are injurious to the fence, without being ornamental to the landscape.

The greatest and most striking improvement that has recently been made in the parish, is on the roads. These, only a few years ago, were in a scandalous state, carelessly formed, or in many places not formed at all, and as carelessly kept. Many old lines have lately been improved, new lines of considerable length have been or are in the course of being formed, and almost all kept comparatively in excellent repair. The fund for upholding the roads is derived from the conversion of Statute labour. The assessment for this purpose is L. 1, 10s. Scots in the hundred pounds Scots of valued rent, and 2s. 6d. from householders and mechanics, amounting in whole to L. 75 Sterling. There is no turnpike road in the parish.

There are many obstacles existing to agricultural improvement. These arise from want of capital or enterprise in some instances,—the want of encouragement by the principal proprietors,—the want of sufficient fences and suitable accommodation in farm-buildings,—and, above all, the want of leases, or of such as last longer than a year; for it will generally be found that “short tacks make thriftless tenants.” The most of these obstacles, however, arise from peculiar circumstances in which the principal proprietors are placed, and it is confidently expected, that, along with these circumstances, they will soon be removed.

Quarries.—There is an extensive body of slate-rock in the parish, which has been wrought in several places to a considerable extent, but not perhaps to a depth sufficient to obtain the article so good as it might otherwise yield. These quarries have, for some years past, been abandoned.

Fisheries.—Fishing is not followed after with that industry and enterprise which the favourable locality would lead one to expect. Few make it their regular occupation; although many of the inhabitants engage in it occasionally, both with net and line, and sometimes with very encouraging success. As many as fifteen cart loads of *blockins* or of coal-fish have been taken with the drag-net, during a single tide. The herrings, after having nearly abandoned the coast for years, are again promising to revisit it, and the people are now well prepared with nets to receive them. In connection with fisheries, Logan fish-pond deserves notice, as it is an object of attraction to all strangers visiting the parish. It is situated on

the north side of the bay of Portnessock, and is formed by a circular excavation from the solid rock, connected, by a natural archway, with the sea. This opening is shut up with an uncemented stone-wall, which effectually secures the prisoners, and allows a free entrance and exit to the tide. The pond is always kept well-stocked, especially with cod, lythe and coal-fish, and a few flounders. A salmon, red and grey gurnard, and some other small species have sometimes, by way of ornament and variety, been introduced; but the salmon lives only a very limited period, and the smaller soon become the prey of the larger inmates. On descending by a rude stair to the surface of the water at a large stone-flag, the fishes forthwith repair to this spot, where many of them, with their heads above water, are eager to receive from the hand of their keeper their usual treat of limpets. On such occasions, the keeper may be seen lifting one into her lap, putting a limpet into its mouth, patting it on the head, and returning it to its native element. It appears somewhat uncomfortable and impatient when put through this ceremony, but does not resent the liberty she takes with it, by any subsequent pet or shyness. She firmly believes that they not only *hear*, but that they can distinguish *her voice* from that of a stranger, and she relates the following occurrence as one of her proofs: During a very high tide lately, the sea so injured her house, that she was obliged to leave it, and reside for some days in the village of Port-Logan. Part of the wall surrounding the pond was forced into it, several of the fishes were killed or hurt, and the rest so alarmed, that they remained at the bottom, and would not venture to the surface, till she uttered her wonted call, when they immediately repaired to their feeding station as before. Being on such a familiar footing with her finny charge, it is not to be wondered, that she should have a struggle with her feelings, when consigning one of them to the care of the cook.

Manufactures.—Kelp was formerly manufactured in considerable quantities, but, owing to its low price, is now entirely given up.

Navigation.—There are four small sloops belonging to Drumore, of 16, 25, 29, and 37 tons burthen respectively. They are employed in exporting farm-produce, and importing lime and coals, or otherwise engaged in the coasting trade.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—There is no market-town in the parish. The nearest is Stranraer, at a distance of about 18 miles from the

church. A carrier from each of the villages of Drumore and Port-Logan goes regularly to Stranraer, once and sometimes twice weekly. Penny post-offices are established, at regular distances, on the road between Stranraer and Drumore. The mail is conveyed daily by a car, carrying also passengers, to Port-Logan, and is forwarded by a person on foot to Drumore.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situated in the centre of the parish; but, being six miles distant from the extremities, it is inconveniently placed for the aged, infirm, and even the hard-working labourer. The building of it was commenced in 1638, but owing, it is said, to some dispute among the heritors, it was not completed till several years afterwards. The walls and roof are substantially good, the seating is in a state of great disrepair; but as it accommodates only 275 sitters, its worst fault is its want of room. None of the seats are rented. There is a small gallery occupied by the residing heritor and his immediate dependents; the rest of the seats are apportioned to the different farms. Few of the farmers, however, have sufficient accommodation for their own families exclusive of their servants and labourers; and there is none whatever for the inhabitants of the two villages.

The manse, having become partly ruinous and very uncomfortable, was taken down, and a commodious and substantial one was built in 1837. The extent of the glebe, including garden and site of houses, is 6 acres, and its value about L. 1, 6s. per acre. The amount of stipend is L. 137, 13s. 6d. Sterling in money, 5½ Galloway bolls of bear, and 75 imperial stones of oatmeal. L. 5, 7s. 8d. is received from the Exchequer, to raise it to the minimum amount. There is no Dissenting or other chapel in the parish. It is proposed to erect a church, somewhere between this and the neighbouring parish of Stonykirk,—to which a parish, containing a population of 1000, may be attached.

There are about 88 Roman Catholics, and 28 Protestant Dissenters in the parish; the remaining 1935 of the population belong, professedly at least, to the Established Church.

The attendance upon public worship at the Established Church has been improving for a considerable time past, and would undoubtedly be greater were the church larger. The inhabitants may not be a church-going people; but this arises principally from the want of accommodation; few who have sittings for themselves have sittings for their children also. They are thus prevented from bringing them to church, and training them up to church-

going habits. The average number of communicants is about 400.

There is, at present, no Society for religious purposes. A parochial Association is on the eve of being formed for promoting the four schemes of the General Assembly. The average amount of yearly collections for religious purposes is L. 5.

Education.—There are three schools regularly kept in the parish; two situated for the accommodation of the children at the extremities; one on the parochial establishment in the centre of the parish. English, writing, and arithmetic, are taught in all. Geography and mathematics are also taught in the school, at the northend of the parish; and these branches, with French and Latin, are taught in the parochial school. The parochial teacher's salary is L. 25, 13s.—with the legal accommodation of dwelling-house, school-house, and garden. One of the other teachers receives L. 4, being the interest of a sum bequeathed for the education of poor children. The third teacher is entirely dependent on school fees. The expense of education is 2s. per quarter for English reading and writing, and 3s. for the higher branches. The children of paupers are taught gratis. The average number attending the parochial school is about 65; and 90 at the other two. There are no parts of the parish so distant from the schools as to prevent attendance; and the people are so alive to the benefits of education, that there are none above six years of age who cannot read, or above 15 who cannot also write. There are, indeed, four or five adult individuals who cannot read, or who read but imperfectly; but these are all from Ireland. No additional schools are required; but the amount of fees, where this is the only remuneration, is quite too small to secure the services of an efficient teacher. Great benefits have undoubtedly resulted from the facilities of procuring education.

Literature.—A parochial library was instituted in 1836. It already contains upwards of 600 volumes in religion and general literature.

Poor, &c.—There is no legal assessment for the poor. They are supported by church collections and other contributions; by the interest on sums bequeathed for their behoof; but principally by the alms of the charitable, which they are in the habit of collecting quarterly. The average number of persons receiving parochial aid, including eight who are relieved occasionally, is 57; and the average yearly sum allotted to each is about L. 1, 10s. The an-

nual amount of contributions for their relief is about L. 90. Of this sum, L. 31, 12s. consists of church collections; L. 30 of interests from legacies; and L. 30 of voluntary contributions by heritors and others, mortcloth dues, &c. Parochial relief is not, in general, considered degrading; and there is, consequently, little reluctance in seeking it.

Alehouses.—There are no fewer than ten ale-houses or public-houses in the parish; and their influence on the morals and comfort of the people is most pernicious.

Fuel.—The fuel used in the parish consists of coal imported from England, Glasgow, and Ayrshire, and sold at the rate of 16s. to 18s. per 24 cwt. Peat also is used: and poor people are frequently obliged to have recourse to furze and heath.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The most striking variations betwixt the present state of the parish, and that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account, are observable in the introduction of the modern system of husbandry; the more extensive cultivation of green crops, especially potatoes; the substitution of wheat for bear; and the now improved state of the roads.

February 1839.