

ISLAND OF ARRAN.
PARISH OF KILBRIDE.

PRESBYTERY OF KINTYRE, SYNOD OF ARGYLE.

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I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THIS parish is situated in the mouth of the Clyde, and forms the smaller of two very extensive parishes, which divide between them the magnificent and strikingly picturesque Island of Arran. The small Island of Lamlash, or the Holy Isle, as it is sometimes called, also belongs to it.

Name.—The name of the parish requires little explanation, being obviously a compound formed by *Kill*, the well known Gaelic name for a burying-place, and *Bride* or *Bridget*,* that once popular female saint, whose name still lives in the names of so many parishes and other places, both in Scotland and other kingdoms. The etymology of the name of the island itself is disputed. Some derive it from the two Gaelic words *Arr* and *Inn*, the High Island; and others from *Arr Fhinn*, the slaughter or field of Fingal, conceiving it to have received its name from a battle said to have been fought at the north end of the island by Fingal against a son of the King of Norway, whose forces he totally exterminated. The field in which the battle was fought, is still called Arrin by the natives. Dr MacCulloch smiles at this etymology; and having made the notable discovery, that "Fingal was never heard of in Arran till lately," insists that Arran is simply ancient British, signifying a land of mountains. His etymology is most probably correct; and if we consider ancient British and Gaelic as kindred branches of the Celtic, it is substantially the same as the first mentioned above. But his statement in connection with it is a bold one even for Dr MacCulloch;

* An interesting and amusing outline of the history of St Bridget, or Brigid occurs in the first volume of Moore's History of Ireland in the Cabinet Cyclopaedia. It differs in some particulars from that given by Scotch antiquarians.—Vide Pennant's Tours, under the head of "Abernethy," with the authorities there referred to.

and if made in the presence of any Highlander in Arran, his surprise would not be less than that of any Lowland Scot, whom he might try to convince that "Bruce and Wallace were never heard of in Scotland till lately."

Boundaries.—The ecclesiastical division of Arran has been made longitudinally. Kilbride occupies the whole of its east side, except a couple of miles at its south end; and is spread over a surface of country from 20 to 22 miles in length from the Cock of Arran, a noted sea-mark at its northern extremity, to Dippin, a farm in the south. It varies in breadth from 2 to 4 miles, or $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the shore to the top of a continuous range of mountains, which separates it from the parish of Kilmorie. It contains about 42,000 imperial acres.

Topographical Appearances.—The most prominent feature in the general aspect of the parish is its alpine character. The greater proportion of it consists of mountains and high hills, which present considerable variety of outline and appearance. From the southern point of the parish to Brodick, their height is but moderate, averaging not more than 800 feet above the level of the sea. They rise for the most part in gentle acclivity from the cultivated grounds near the shore; present few bold precipices or rugged outlines, and are clothed with a mixture of green grass and brown heather to their tops; but from Brodick to Lochranza their character entirely changes. A considerable way up, a few of them have the usual mountain covering; but many are bare precipices from their very foundations; and the greater number raise their naked tops to the sky in stupendous pyramids and spires of rough granite. As seen from certain portions, they appear to the beholder as if they had but yesterday been upheaved from their primitive beds, below the bottom of the ocean. The absolute height of these mountains is not very great, the elevation of Goatfell (in Gaelic *Gaith Cheinn*, the mountain of winds), falling somewhat short of 3000 feet. But presenting as they do, at a glance, their full dimensions from the shore to their tops, and being congregated together in one stupendous group, Goatfell, towering above the rest, like a proud Highland chief surrounded by the cadets of his clan, few scenes can in their general effect be more impressively grand and magnificent. In Scotland there is no alpine scenery that can in all respects match them, except, perhaps, that of the Cuchullin hills in Skye. These mountains are intersected by deep corries and narrow glens, whose dark and sombre abysses produce

an effect upon the mind as overwhelming as the majestic mountains among which they repose. This is especially the case with Glenrosa, after proceeding a short way beyond its mouth; and with Glen Sannox, "the sublime in magnitude, and simplicity, and obscurity, and silence."* Some miles north from Glen Sannox, another scene presents itself, quite different in character from these, but scarcely less imposing to the view. A large mass of the mountain which crowns that part of the island having given way, and broken into numberless detached fragments, these are seen for more than a mile of rapid declivity, in promiscuous disorder, piled upon each other: presenting the appearance of an army flying before a superior force, one fugitive with his enormous bulk pressing down another, and both threatened with being overwhelmed by a still more gigantic form behind. This rocky stream continues its flow till it reaches the ocean.

The parish, both to the north and south, presents many other scenes of wild and savage magnificence. Those of soft and romantic beauty are not less numerous. Round almost the whole of the sea coast, except where the landscape is indented by the valleys and bays, there is a narrow and level border of land, walled up on the landward side by a high ridge of rocks, which the sea appears to have washed when its level was higher than at present. In some places this ridge is a series of rude cliffs and naked precipices; but in general, and more especially from Sannox to Brodick, it is exceedingly beautiful and picturesque; its rugged features disappearing amid the luxuriant ivy which clings to its face, and the rich clothing of natural birch, ash, oak, and thick brushwood which springs up among its numerous clefts, and crowns its top, covering, without concealing it. Here a cave scooped out by the sea, there a romantic amphitheatre formed by one of its numerous bends; and next a white cascade tumbling over the precipices,—give a variety to its successive aspects, which is ever and anon tempting the traveller to stop and admire.

For scenery, combining in a high degree both the beautiful and the sublime, the grounds about Sannox and the two bays of Brodick and Lamlash, will always attract attention. Mid-Sannox is formed by nature for being the site of a baronial residence. With its deep dark glen retiring behind, *Cir mor*, and *Cewn na callich* † towering majestically above it, its extensive grounds clothed in beautiful copsewood, and spreading out in gentle and varied undu-

* MacCulloch.

† *Cir Mor*, Gaelic, the large comb. *Cewn na Callich*, Gaelic, the Hag's step.

lations on every side, and its romantic river now buried amid deep ravines, and now seen threading its way in meandering curves to the sea, it is the very spot which an architect of taste would choose for giving a local habitation to his pencil's ablest design. Nature and art have both contributed largely to the rare combination of beauty and grandeur, which distinguishes the scenery round Brodick Bay. The bay itself is a deep regular curve of about two miles in length, belted the greater part of its compass with a beach of fine sand; whence an extensive and level plain, ornamented with cottages, villas, cultivated fields, and flourishing plantations, retires inwards, till it meets the beautiful and romantic valleys of Glensrosa, Glensheraig, and Glencloy. On its north side, Arran Castle, the insular residence of the Duke of Hamilton, shows a glimpse of its roof and battlements, among the trees of the richly wooded elevation on which it stands, pleasure grounds and extensive plantations surrounding it; Goatfell rising in the rear, and the whole line of the opposite frith, with the distant hills on the mainland in the foreground. Lamlash is very little indebted to art, but its capabilities are very great; and, with the addition of a few plantations on ground which is at present yielding nothing, and the cultivation of some waste land, well adapted for the operations of the plough, it could be made a place of very great beauty. Even in its present state, no lover of nature can behold its striking scenery without admiring it. The noble bay which forms its most prominent feature is a semicircle, from its northern to its southern extremity, fully three miles in length. In the mouth of it stands the Holy Isle; so picturesque by the beauty of its shape, which is an irregular cone, nearly 900 feet high; and its variegated surface, where heath-clad hills and grassy ridges are seen intermingled with naked red sandstone, surmounted by rude basaltic columns piled tier above tier upon each other. On each side of the island, there is a convenient entrance into the bay, which it both adorns and protects; and within, a harbour, with excellent holding ground, of sufficient depth of water for vessels of all sizes, and room enough for accommodating the largest fleet. Opposite to the island, and about the centre of the bay, stands the neat village of Lamlash, spread in a beautiful curve along the beach, with a sloping bank, crowned with thriving wood behind it. The rest of the scenery round the bay possesses much of that variety which the lovers of the picturesque delight to behold. On the west side lies the vale of Lamlash, a beautiful tract of well-cultivated and well-watered alluvial soil, reposing among hills of beau-

tifully varied outline ; on the north and east, the grounds about the manse, rising in gentle slopes and undulations towards the hills, intersected by numerous streams and rivulets ; on both sides of the bay, in approaching its two extremities, a line of thick copse-wood, clothing and sometimes hiding the barrier of precipitous rocks and cliffs which separate the level ground along the shore, from the cultivated land above ; and everywhere streams with wood-covered banks, which, along with the plantations on the hill behind the village, in the romantic glen of Altachorvie, and other places, gives the bay upon the whole a warm and clothed appearance. Whitingbay, to the south of Lamlash, is here entitled also to its own share of notice. It wants the bold features of the scenery farther north ; but it presents many spots of soft and romantic beauty, more especially about the glen of Ashdale. Here, as well as elsewhere along the coast, most eligible spots for neat and elegant villas are continually meeting the eye ; and if it suited the views of the proprietor to grant building-leases, all these would soon be occupied. Opulent individuals from Glasgow and Ayrshire would in a few years ornament the whole line of coast from Sannox to Largiebeg, with a succession of neat summer habitations for themselves and families, and make Arran the most attractive island in the West Highlands.

Climate.—The climate of the parish is upon the whole mild and moderate. There is seldom any long continuance of intense heat in summer ; and as seldom of extreme cold and frost in winter. Goatfell and the neighbouring hills are in winter usually covered with a mantle of snow. But on the lower grounds in the valleys along the coast, in the heaviest storms, snow seldom lies more than a day ; and so rarely are there any severe visitations of frost and biting east winds, that at Arran Castle, and the Whitehouse, many of the plants of warmer regions stand the whole winter in the open air. Among these may be mentioned geraniums, myrtles, fuschias, *Calceolaria rugosa*, *Passiflora cærulea*, *Camellia*, *Hydrangea hortensis*, and *Magnolia grandiflora*. It must be acknowledged, however, that what the parish wants in snow and frost, is abundantly made up to it in rain ; of which few places even in the Hebrides receive a more liberal share. The prevailing winds are the south and the west, which almost always bring copious showers along with them. And from the great bulk and height of the Arran mountains, which attract every cloud from the Atlantic as it passes, they often come charged with such overwhelming floods, that the numerous mountain torrents swell in an hour's time ; often overflow

their banks in approaching the lower grounds; and sometimes sweep before them the best built bridges in the parish. When these violent storms of wind and rain occur, as sometimes happens, in summer or harvest, the crops of corn and potatoes suffer great injury. The prevalence of strong west winds in winter has, in the more exposed places, given all the trees an inclination eastward, and thinned their branches and foliage on the exposed side. The amount of rain that falls during the year varies very considerably in different parts of the parish, the places shut in among the high mountains having of course the amplest share. At the Whitehouse, in the neighbourhood of Lamlash, the quantity that fell in 1833 was 66 inches, and 6-10ths; in 1834, 57.6; and in 1835, 73.7. Notwithstanding this superabundance of moisture, the climate upon the whole is far from being unpleasant. Those dull hazes and fogs, which often linger for days and weeks over many other places in this country, are in a great measure unknown in the parish of Kilbride; and days of constant rain do not often occur, mornings of drenching floods being not unfrequently succeeded by bright and beautiful afternoons of clear and smiling sunshine. Few places in Scotland are, it is believed, more favourable to health. The diseases which most generally prevail are those arising from poor fare, and exposure to damp and wet weather. None can be mentioned that is peculiar to the place. The *eight-day* sickness, spoken of in the former Statistical Account, which a few generations ago was so fatal to infants and children, is now never heard of, having disappeared along with its cause,—unskilful treatment on the part of self-taught midwives. The epidemics of large towns are occasionally imported by young men and women at service in the low country. But they do not remain long, or spread to any extent. Instances of longevity are numerous. Of five members of the kirk-session of Kilbride who died within the last twelve years, one was ninety-two, three eighty-eight, and one seventy-nine years of age. The writer has in the course of the present week, (April 1840), attended the funerals of two of his parishioners, one of whom (a female who lived at Brodick) reached the very advanced age of ninety-nine; the other was entering upon his eighty-ninth year. There are at present living within a mile of Lamlash, and enjoying the unimpaired use of their mental faculties, three men, two of them several years above ninety, and the third, eighty-eight. Mr Paterson, in his "Account of the Island of Arran," in the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, mentions a si-

milar fact, of which the writer is cognizant, viz. that in the year 1834, "in a population of less than 400 persons about the village of Lamlash, there were 16 individuals living, the average age of whom was 84½ years, and not one of them was under 80."

Hydrography.—This parish is pre-eminently "a land of fountains and rivers of waters." Wells of the purest water, gushing out from the clefts of the rocks and the sides of the hills, are met with in every part of the parish. Some of those in the north are strongly impregnated with iron and other mineral substances. Every valley has its river, with a numerous host of tributary streams that pour into it from every side their liberal contributions. The rivers of North and South Sannox, of Glenrosa, Glencloy, and Ashdale, are the largest. The last of these, a short way up the glen, has two beautiful cascades, one above a hundred, the other about fifty feet high, which fall with picturesque effect, through gorges of columnar basalt, over veins of the same substance on which the columns rest. When the river is swelled by rains from the hills, people can pass dry between the larger cascade and the rock over which it falls. The parish contains but one lake, insignificant in size, which is situated on the Ury Hill, south of Lamlash.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The geological phenomena presented by the Island of Arran, and more especially the parish of Kilbride, are almost without a parallel in Scotland for interest and importance. They exhibit within a small compass a kind of epitome of the mineral structure of the globe; shewing in regular progression, the successive formations, from the primitive unstratified granite, to the diluvial gravel and sand reposing in incipient strata on the latest formed rocks. They are, in fact, the speculations which the structure of Arran suggested to Hutton, and received so eloquent an exposition in the "Illustrations" of his disciple, Professor Playfair, which first raised geology to the rank of a science in Great Britain. Accordingly, there is no part of Scotland, which geologists have more frequently visited, or described with more minute and laborious care. Professor Jameson, in his *Mineralogy of Arran*, gave the first detailed account of it. He has since been followed by Necker, Headrick, MacCulloch, Sedgwick, Murchison, and Messrs Oenhausen and Dechen, two scientific Germans; all of whom gave the results of their enquiries to the public. To gratify in some measure the curiosity of those who may not have seen the elaborate geological statistics of those who have published

on the subject, it may here be stated in the words of Professor Jameson, that Arran (and it may be added, the parish of Kilbride in particular) "affords highly instructive examples of Neptunian and Plutonian rocks of the primitive and transition classes, viz. clay-slate, mica slate, greywacke, as Neptunian deposits; and granite, as a Plutonian rock. The junctions of the granite, of which there are two formations, with each other, and with the Neptunian slates, are most instructive; and annually attract to Arran, visitors from all parts of Britain, and even from distant continental countries. Reposing on these rocks is a deposit of the old red sandstone, on which rests the coal formation; and a great conformable series of strata of red sandstone, by some geologists referred to the so-called new red sandstone. These Neptunian secondary rocks are traversed in all directions by Plutonian rocks of the porphyry and trap series, affording an admirable study to the geologist interested in the natural history of ignigenous formations." *

The two granite formations appear towering above the rest of the island, in Goatfell and the neighbouring high mountains. This group is invested all round by the slate mountains, which form a sort of elevated terrace projected from their sides; and the strata of which rest upon the granite at various angles of inclination. The junction of the slate and granite is generally concealed by the soil, the grass and loose stones; but it is distinctly seen on the north side of Tornidneoin, near Lochranza, and one or two other places. The slate is covered by the sandstone and other secondary strata, which at the north side of the island rest upon it at an angle sometimes approaching very close to the perpendicular, but towards the south subside into much lower elevations. Scridan forms a remarkable spot, as being a central point from which these strata dip towards opposite quarters, taking corresponding ranges south to Corrie, and north to the Cock. Of the veins of trap and porphyry which traverse the secondary strata, specimens may be seen along any part of the coast. Two of the most interesting appear, one on the shore below Corrigills; and the other on the eastern shore of Lamlash. At the former place are seen two veins, one of trap, the other of porphyry, or porphyritic claystone, ascending through the sandstone, in some places in immediate contact with each other, and elsewhere with portions of the conglomerate of red sandstone interposed. In the sandstone, fragments of trap of the same character as the vein, are here and there imbedded; while

* Vide Professor Jameson's Contributions to Murray's Encyclopedia of Geography.

the porphyry winds itself round the fragments which obstruct its course. On the Lamlash shore, the sandstone strata are intersected by an oblique vein of trap; and that again is traversed by another vertical vein, of which the exterior surface consists of pitch-stone. A vertical vein decomposing into spheroidal forms is also seen in this place, traversing the last mentioned veins, and the secondary strata also. Dr MacCulloch, from whom this description of them is taken, has given neat and accurate diagrams of these two very interesting spots. In the various places where the trap veins appear, they sometimes cross each other, without mixing their substances. The veins themselves are not always uniform in their texture, parts containing nodules of a darker-coloured trap than the general body of the vein. There is often a mutual penetration of the trap and sandstone.

Useful Materials.—Coal is found a little south of the Cock. It is of the kind called *blind* or *glance* coal, and is considered of excellent quality. About eighty years ago, an attempt was made to work it, but the undertaking, for some reason, was not prosecuted long. A slate quarry, in the same neighbourhood, was at one time wrought to a considerable extent; but its distance from the harbour at Lochranza, and the direction of its strata, which is contrary to the declivity of the mountain in which it is situated, caused the work to be long ago discontinued. Among these strata, ironstone is abundant; but no attempt has ever been made to turn it to account. The most valuable mineral among them is the limestone, which abounds in this parish, both to the north and south, and is not less excellent than abundant. There is a quarry of limestone at Corrie, which has been wrought for a great number of years, supplying the Island of Arran and many places in the mainland. The stone is of a blue or purple colour, and contains numerous shells, principally oysters and clams, which retain their natural shape. When analysed, it was found to contain in one place, 98½ parts of carbonate of lime to 1½ of clay; and in another place, 97 of carbonate of lime to 3 of clay and iron. The Accraploch limestone, at the head of Benlester, near Lamlash, is not less valuable. Its proportions are 96 carbonate of lime, 3 iron, and 1 clay. The Arran freestone is of the best quality, and in great abundance. The only quarries of it which are regularly wrought are near Corrie, whence it is exported in considerable quantities to the Clyde, Ireland, and in other directions. The rock-crystals of Arran have long been celebrated. These are found in the granite mountains, in veins in the granite, or in cavities of the granite

itself. Their general figure is regular six-sided prisms, acuminated by six faces. Their colour varies, some being black, others brown, and a few a beautiful yellow. The yellow are the most valued, but the brown is the most abundant. The variety of emerald, named Beryl, occurs in regular six-sided prisms, associated with fine crystals of mica, felspar, and rock-crystal, in cavities in the granite. Professor Jameson, to whom we owe the discovery of this gem in Arran, has, we understand, in his cabinet, crystals nearly an inch in length, of a mountain green colour, still attached to the graphic granite, so frequent in our glens. Beautiful crystals of the sub-gem-named Pistacite occur in veins in the slate quarry of Glen Halimidel. There is an extensive vein of sulphate of barytes at Sannox, which is seen traversing the channels both of North and South Sannox rivers; and therefore, in all probability, runs along the whole intervening space. This mineral bears, at present, a high price in the market. Accordingly, the proprietor, stimulated by the remarks of two well known practical chemists from Glasgow, who visited the Island of Arran in 1836, has recently opened a regular barytes quarry at Sannox, and erected in its neighbourhood a large mill, in which the mineral is pulverized, purified, and thoroughly prepared for the market. The quarry is situated within a mile of the sea shore.

The Holy Isle, which forms part of this parish, is composed principally of clinkstone, which rises to the top of the island in ranges of rude columns, placed over each other, and rests below upon a basis of red sandstone, with a stratum of white sandstone interposed between it and the columns. On the south and east side of the island, there are several veins of greenstone and basaltic porphyry. Of the latter, some are seen to intersect not only the sandstone strata, but also those of columnar clinkstone which rest on them.

Soil.—The cultivated soil in this parish is in general light; and best adapted to turnip husbandry. In the valleys, which are of considerable extent, it varies greatly in kind and quality. In many places close to the shore, it is little else than granitic sand washed down from the mountains to the sea, and driven back by the sea upon the land. In other places, it is a fine alluvial loam, or land originally moss and marsh, but, by draining and cultivation, converted into a good black mould. The loam is in most places more or less mixed with gravel, and interspersed with patches of moss. On the rising grounds between the level parts of the val-

leys and the hills, there are usually from five to ten inches of loam mixed with gravel, resting for the most part upon close red till. The land in such places is therefore cold and spouty; and would be materially benefited by furrow-drains and the subsoil plough. The extensive tracts of table-land between the promontories contain a considerable portion of the same kind of loam that is found in the valleys; but their predominating soil is a mixed loam of moss and red friable clay. In the narrow belts of land which are situated between the shore and those rocky banks which skirt so much of the coast, the soil presents great varieties. Sometimes it is sand mixed with sea-shells; sometimes moss resting upon marl. In the south, about Whitingbay, much of it is shingle, or light sandy loam, with red clay marl under it. The parish contains very few farms presenting much uniformity of soil. It sometimes happens that the same field presents one patch of stiff clay, another of soft moss, and another of loam or gravel, or both mixed together, with as many kinds of subsoil resting under them.

Zoology.—1. *Quadrupeds.*—At one period, when wood was abundant, roes, wild boars, and red-deer were very numerous in the parish. Of these, the two former were long ago extirpated; and the last are now reduced to a few dozens, which are rarely seen except in the most retired recesses of the mountains in the north of the island. The Duke of Hamilton placed a pair of small American deer, a few years ago, in the pleasure grounds about Brodick Castle. They appear to thrive well, and have already a numerous offspring, which roam at large among the plantations. Hares and rabbits are very plentiful, and there are a few wild goats. Few quadrupeds of prey ever found their way to Arran. It contains some wild cats, but polecats, badgers, stoats, weasels, and squirrels were never seen in it. It contained foxes at one time, but they are now extirpated. The brown rat is very common, and commits great depredations in the dwelling-houses and barn-yards. Of amphibious quadrupeds, seals and otters are occasionally seen along the shores.

2. *Fishes.*—The rivers of the parish abound in trouts and eels, but they are generally small in size. With a view to the improvement of the former, minnows were brought a few years ago from Ayrshire, and put in the several rivers and lakes of Arran. The result of the experiment cannot for some time yet be ascertained. When the rivers are swollen in summer, salmon and sea-trout ascend in considerable numbers, when they are caught both with the

rod and the net; the latter, however, is used at the mouths of the rivers only. The sea along the coast abounds in valuable fish. The kinds most commonly found are whittings and haddocks; but cod, ling, mackerel, conger-eels, skate, flounders, soles, and turbot, with a variety of smaller fishes, are also often caught. Lobsters and crabs, and great varieties of other shell-fish, are to be found along every part of the coast, but are most abundant at the south end of the parish, and in the neighbourhood of Pladda. Oysters are got only at Lochranza. Herrings pay short occasional visits to all parts of the coast, but their favourite haunts are on the west and north sides of the island, in the sound of Kilbrandon, between Arran and Carradale. They generally make their first appearance in July, and remain till the end of November. Those cured in the months of August and September are considered the best.

3. *Reptiles.*—The reptiles most commonly found in the parish are the nimble lizard, the blind dorne, the adder, the warty-eft, the water-eft, the brown-eft or ask, the common frog, the edible frog, and the toad. The writer has not seen any of the venomous toads described by Pennant as natives of Arran; but the people of Lochranza declare that they are often seen in that quarter, and describe them as rough on the back, corpulent in shape, and from six to eight inches in length.

4. *Birds.*—These are very numerous, and in great variety. Of *land* birds, the most conspicuous and important are the red and black grouse, both of which are very abundant, and the latter so fond of descending to the low grounds, as seriously to annoy the farmer in spring and harvest. The ptarmigan is occasionally found near the summits of the granite mountains. Pheasants, which were introduced some years ago, are now numerous about Brodick, and are gradually spreading over the whole of the parish. Eagles, falcons, hawks of various species, hooded and carrion crows, ravens, owls, and magpies, were at one time very numerous, and are still to be met with, but the premiums given by the Duke of Hamilton for destroying them have nearly effected their extirpation. Other birds, however, especially the smaller ones, have increased in proportion, to the serious loss of the lovers of cherries, strawberries, and other garden fruits. Among these may be mentioned as very common, the ring-dove, the rock-dove, the cuckoo, the swallow, the martin, the sand-martin, the swift, the missel-thrush, the common thrush, the red-wing thrush, the fieldfare, the whin-

chat, the redbreast, the hedge and house-sparrow, the wagtail, (white, gray, and yellow), the yellow-hammer, the common bunting, the linnet, the chaffinch, the common wren, and (the most pestilent and numerous of the whole) the moor-blackbird. The rarer *land* birds are, the kestrel, the goatsucker, the ring-thrush, the water-ousel, the wheat-ear, the golden-crested wren, the goldfinch, and the starling. Among the *waders*, those which occur most frequently are the curlew, the corncrake, the woodcock, the snipe, the lapwing, the green-plover, the ringed-plover, and the oyster-catcher. The bittern is met with occasionally. A beautiful specimen of this bird was shot in a swamp below the Whitehouse a few years ago. Among the *water birds* which frequent the coast, the following occur: the cormorant, the shag or scart, the solan goose, the mallard or duck, the teal, the wild goose, the razor-bill, the puffin, the northern diver, the common gull, the silver gull, the guillemot, and the tern. Of these, the gull and the scart are among the most numerous.

5. *Insects*.—To one conversant with such subjects, the entomology of Arran would furnish materials for a volume. Presenting on its mountain tops the atmosphere and temperature of the Alps; and in its wooded glens and sheltered valleys, a climate nearly as mild as Devonshire, its insect races are as varied as its physical character. Among these, the most interesting are its beetles, butterflies, and moths. Of the first, two may be mentioned as particularly deserving of notice, which are found in beauty and abundance near the manse and at Whitingbay, viz. *Chrysomela fulgida* and *Cicindela campestris*. The following is a list of butterflies and moths, collected in Arran by Mr Connell, of the High School, Glasgow, during the month of July 1836. It was the most unfavourable July for the purpose in the memory of man, otherwise the list might have been greatly extended. Though it encroaches on the parish of Kilmorie, it is too valuable not to be presented whole.

- Cynthia cardui*. Not common. Specimens taken near Brodick and King's Cove.
Hipparchia blandina. An Arran specimen of this insect first announced to entomologists, the fact that it was a native of this country; not common. Found near Brodick and Dugary.
Hipparchia polydama. Abundant.
 _____ *pamphilus*.
 _____ *hyperanthus*. Three specimens taken near Bessan Head.
 _____ *janira*. This insect seems not confined to any latitude, soil, or vegetation.
 _____ *semele*. Found chiefly on stones, exposed to the sunbeams, and sheltered from the wind.

Polyommatus albus. The sea cliffs opposite Kilmorie parish church, abounded for a few days with this, which is the smallest of British butterflies.

Polyommatus Alexis. Common everywhere.

Vanessa urtica. Confined almost exclusively to the eastern side of the island.

Pontia brassicae. Abundant everywhere, except on the west coast, and in the centre.

—— *rapæ*. Chiefly around Brodick.

—— *napi*. Chiefly around Brodick.

Melitæa Euphrosyne. High grounds between Brodick and Shirkan.

Argynnis aglaia. Not uncommon.

Lycæna phlæas. Found at Slidery.

Arctia caja. Common.

Cerura vinula. Rare.

Macroglossa stellatarum. The specimen seen and taken near Bennan Head.

Minea chærophyllata. Found in Kilmorie.

Anthrocera filipendulæ. Rare, and found near Bennan Head.

The following were obtained about ten o'clock on the ferns and brambles near the sea coast between Bennan and Kilmorie. The locality was visited for a few minutes during five or six evenings, the weather not permitting longer or more frequent visits.

<i>Spilosoma menthastris</i>	<i>Episema cæruleocephala</i>	<i>Harpalyce fulvata</i>
<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	<i>Leucania impura</i>	<i>Margaritis verticalis</i>
<i>Mamestra brassicae</i>	<i>Larentia chenopodiata</i>	<i>Botys forficaris</i>
<i>Hepialus velleda</i>	<i>Harpalyce ocellata</i>	<i>Anarta myrtilli</i>
<i>Rumia crotsegata</i>	<i>Fidonia atomaria</i>	<i>Pterophorus punctidactylus</i>
<i>Ophiura lusoria</i>	<i>Cabera exanthemata</i>	<i>Nemeophila plantaginis</i>
<i>Leucania pallens</i>	—— <i>pusaria</i>	<i>Harpalyce sylvatica</i>
<i>Hepialus humuli</i>	<i>Actebia porphyrea</i>	<i>Plusia gamma</i> .
<i>Plusia chrysis</i>	<i>Xylina putris</i>	

To the above list may be added *Hipparchia ligea*, the rarest of the whole. A specimen of it is said to have been caught by the late Sir Patrick Walker near Brodick.

Botany.—The botany of this parish and of the island in general has little to distinguish it from that of other Highland districts.

1. Among its rarer plants the following occur :

<i>Althæa officinalis</i>	<i>Elymus arenarius</i>	<i>Lithospermum maritimum</i>
<i>Arbutus Uva Ursi</i>	<i>Epipactis ensifolia</i>	<i>Mslaxis Loeselli</i>
<i>Avena pliculnris</i>	—— <i>pallens</i>	<i>Mentha gentilis</i>
<i>Brassica monensis</i>	<i>Habenaria alba</i>	<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>
<i>Carex pauciflora</i>	<i>Hymenophyllum Wilsoni</i>	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	<i>Hypericum elodes</i>	<i>Pinguicula Lusitanica</i>
<i>Convolvulus Soldanella</i>	<i>Juncus biglumis</i>	<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>
<i>Cotyledon umbilicus</i>	<i>Lathyrus sylvestris</i>	<i>Sium repens</i>
<i>Crambe maritima</i>	<i>Listera cordata</i>	<i>Smyrnum Olusatrum</i>
<i>Cuscuta europæa</i>	<i>Lithospermum officinale</i>	<i>Typha latifolia</i> .

2. *Rarer mosses*.—

<i>Andrea rupestris</i>	<i>Bryum nutans</i>	<i>Dicranum pellucidum</i>
<i>Anictangium ciliatum</i>	—— <i>turbinatum</i>	—— <i>squamosum</i>
<i>Bartramia fontana</i>	—— <i>ventricosum</i>	—— <i>taxifolium</i>
—— <i>ithyphylla</i>	<i>Conostomum boreale</i>	—— <i>virens</i>
—— <i>poenifermsis</i>	<i>Dicranum adiantoides</i>	<i>Didymodon heteromallum</i>
<i>Bryum alpinum</i>	—— <i>bryoides</i>	<i>Entoethodon Templetoni</i>
—— <i>carneum</i>	—— <i>flavescens</i>	<i>Gymnostomum æstivum</i>
—— <i>horreum</i>	—— <i>flexuosum</i>	—— <i>curvirostrum</i>
—— <i>ligulatum</i>	—— <i>glaucum</i>	—— <i>rupestre</i>

Hedwigia cœstiva	Jungermannia julacea	Tortula unguiculata
Hypnum aduncum	————— tomentella	Trichostomum aciculare
————— commutatum	————— undulata	————— languinosum
————— molluscum	Orthotrichum pulchellum	————— polyphyllum
————— scorpioides	Polytrichum nanum	Weissia acuta
————— Silesianum	————— piliferum	————— recurvata.
Jungermannia bicuspidata	————— undulatum	
————— Hutchinsiae	————— urnigerum	

Jungermannia Hutchinsiae is new to Scotland; and was found in June 1836 in moist caves on the way from Lamash to Clachland Point. It is found mixed with very broad specimens of *Jungermannia epiphylla*.

3. Ferns.

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum	Asplenium viride	Lycopodium selaginoides
————— ruta-muraria	Blechnum boreale	————— selago
————— trichomanes	Lycopodium clavatum	Scolopendrium vulgare.

4. Lichens.—

Alectoria jubata	Parmelia physodes	Ramalina scopulorum
Cetraria glauca	————— saxatilis	Scyphophorus cocciferus
Cladonia furcata	Peltidia canina	————— pyxidatus
————— rangiferina	Ramalina fastigiata	————— tartarea
Lecanora tartarea	————— fraxinea	Squamaria murorum, &c.
Parmelia caperata		

All the above lists are very imperfect, and presented merely as specimens.

5. Sea-weeds or Algæ.

Asperococcus fistulosus	Delesseria alata	Ectocarpus tomentosus
Ceramium diaphanum	————— sanguinea	Fucus ceranoides
Chondrus crispus	————— sinuosa	Plocamium coccineum
Chylocladice kalifornis	Desmarestia aculeata	Ptilota plumosa, &c. &c.
Conferva linum		

Conchology.—Among the shells found along the coast, the following occur. A few land-shells are interspersed :

Amphidesma declive	Cyclas corneus	Physa fontinalis
————— compressum	Fusus corneus	Paludina tentaculata
————— pubescens	Helix arbustorum	Scalaria clathrus
Astarte compressa	————— hortensis	Terebra reticulata
————— Scotica	————— trochilus	Terebratula aurita
Balea perversa	————— nemoralis	Tornatella tornatilis
Bulla lignaria	Lucina flexuosa	Tellina squalida
Cardium aculeatum	————— radula	————— crassa
————— lævigatum	Nassa reticulata	Trochus magus
————— medium	Nucula nuclea	————— ziziphinus
————— exiguum	Patella clypeus	Venerupis virginea
Carychium minimum	Pecten Islandicus	Venus sena
Cingula labiosa	Pectunculus pilosus	————— cassina
————— subumbilicata	Pupa sexdentata	————— fasciata
Clausilia perversa	Planorbis spirorbis	————— rugosa, &c. &c.

Woods and Plantations.—The parish has at present, upon the whole, a bare appearance; but the period is not remote, when a considerable proportion of the lower grounds, and

many sheltered spots in the hills, were covered with natural wood. There are still about 150 Scotch acres of such woods, scattered in patches of unequal size, rocky eminences, and the banks of streams, from Sannox to Knockankelly. They consist principally of oak, ash, birch, rowan, hazel, and alder. There are about 553 Scotch acres under regular plantations. Of these about a dozen of acres are planted on the grounds round the Bay of Lamlash; and all the rest at Brodick; principally in the neighbourhood of the castle. Mr Fullarton has, within these few years, planted a considerable number of acres on his well-cultivated and picturesque property of Kilmichael. The plantations round the Castle of Brodick are of various ages. The oldest contain many large and stately trees; and all, in whatever stage of growth, have a healthy and vigorous appearance. In these plantations, the prevailing trees are, Scotch, silver, and spruce firs; larch, oak, ash, elm, sycamore, and birch. In more favourable situations, these are interspersed with poplars, walnuts, chesnuts, and laburnums. By a very excellent arrangement, most of the stack and kail-yards in the parish have rows of forest trees planted round them. The thinnings of the plantations have of late years proved extremely serviceable to the people of Arran, by supplying them with palings for their fences, and wood for their houses and farm implements. The improvident destruction of the natural forests, which was for several generations allowed to go on without check, made wood not long ago so scarce in Arran, that the people had often to cross over to Ayrshire, with no farther errand than the procuring a stick to mend a cart or a plough. Now all such wants are supplied promptly at home, at little expense either of time or labour; and by judicious management, there will in future be no lack of wood for any ordinary purposes.*

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Accounts of the Parish.—A very minute account of the parish of Kilbride and of the Island of Arran in general, is given in a work by the Rev. James Headrick, published in the year 1807. It embraces a "view of the mineralogy, agriculture, manufactures, and fisheries of Arran, with notices of its antiquities." A shorter but very accurate ac-

* The lists in Botany and Conchology, and many of the facts stated under the head of Zoology, the writer owes to the kindness of his scientific friend, the Rev. David Landborough of Stevenston. This gentleman has viewed the Island of Arran with the eye both of a poet and a man of science. His well-known poem "Arran" contains many beautiful and striking descriptions of Arran scenery, of which the writer would have made very liberal use, had the limits assigned him admitted of it.

count of the island was lately drawn up by John Paterson, Esq. factor to His Grace the Duke of Hamilton; and published in the thirty-first number of the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture. This account, while embracing all the topics discussed in the larger work of Headrick, is particularly valuable as a record of the numerous improvements recently made or at present in progress in Arran. It is accompanied by a neat and excellent map of the island.

Land-owners.—The whole parish, except the farm of Kilmichael, is the property of His Grace the Duke of Hamilton, who is superior of the whole island. The farm of Kilmichael belongs to John Fullarton, Esq., who resides on his property. The two farms of Corrigills are a recent purchase from the Marquis of Bute. The Duke of Hamilton's rental in this parish is L. 4412; and Mr Fullarton's farm is worth about L. 100 of yearly rent.

Parochial Registers.—No register for deaths appears to have ever been kept in the parish. Those for births and marriages commence in the year 1728, and come down to the present day; but till a very recent period they do not appear to have been kept with much regularity. The records of the proceedings of the kirk-session go back to the year 1704: and at one time they were pretty voluminous. But the volume commencing with the year 1750, and most of its successors, were lost about thirty years ago, by a gentleman to whom they were very improperly lent, to gratify an idle curiosity by their perusal.

Historical Events.—In glancing at these, it is impossible to separate the history of the parish of Kilbride from that of the Island of Arran in general. In its more remote periods, that history is to a very great extent a blank. From the character of those numerous remains which it everywhere presents, its erect columns, its clay urns, its Druidical circles, and its sepulchral cairns with stone coffins, it would appear that the original inhabitants of Arran were the ancient Britons, who, wherever they were established, left similar traces behind them. And it is now admitted by the best antiquarians, that these were all of them branches of the great Celtic family. During the two first centuries after the invasion of Agricola, the Caledonii; and in the third and fourth, the Picts, (who were either cognate Celtic tribes, or perhaps the same people under a different name, mixed a little with the Scandinavian race,) appear to have occupied the Hebrides and the Highlands in general, and therefore the Island of Arran. In the be-

BUTE.

ginning of the sixth century, another Celtic race,* a colony of Irish Scots, usually called the Dalriads, effected a settlement in the western districts of the Highlands, more especially Argyllshire; and Arran lying so near Kintyre, which was their first settlement, would probably have formed an early part of their conquests. This race, in the course of the three following centuries, gradually extended their power over the greater part of the mainland of Scotland, to which they gave the name which it still retains. But the dominion of the Hebrides was wrested from them by the Scandinavians; who, after many previous piratical expeditions to these isles, began, towards the end of the ninth century, to form in them regular settlements. At length Harold Harfager, after establishing himself as King of Norway, and subduing Shetland and Orkney, added to his other conquests the whole of the Hebrides, south to the Isle of Man. Arran must *then*, if not before, have fallen under the Scandinavian yoke. From this period till the final cession of the Hebrides to the Kings of Scotland, Arran shared the fate of the rest of these islands, which were ruled by chiefs, dependant sometimes on Norway, but more frequently on kings of the isles, who yielded to Norway more or less allegiance. What changes were effected on the early Celtic population of the isles, by the conquests of the North-men, it is impossible now to ascertain. But as the language of the Celts ultimately prevailed, it is evident that the Celtic blood continued all along to predominate in the great body of the people, whose language their conquerors gradually adopted. For some generations previous to the incorporation of the Hebrides with the dominions of the Scottish monarchy, Arran appears to have been in possession of one of the branches of the family of Donald, Lord of the Isles, probably the Macruaridhs, who ruled in Bute. *Monro*, Dean of the Isles, speaks of a monastery in the Holy Isle, opposite to Lamlash, said to have been built by one of the sons of *Somerled*, and endowed by him with the lands round the bay of Lamlash; and *Somerled* himself is said to have built a castle in the same island. It would seem that Arran passed next into the family of the High Steward of Scotland. Shortly after the death of *Somerled*, *Walter*, the High Steward, got for himself some footing in the neighbouring island of Bute. He improved this advantage, and strengthened his interest in Bute, by the marriage of *Alexander*, his son and heir, to the grand-daughter of

* For an account of the origin of the Scots and Picts somewhat different from this and perhaps a more probable one, see *Sir W. Betham's Gael and Clndri*.

Angus Maesomerled, supposed to have been then Lord of Bute. Angus and his three sons afterwards fell in battle, leaving, it would seem, no male issue behind them. On this, Alexander, the son of the steward, claimed in right of his wife the island of Bute, and, it is supposed, the island of Arran also. The claim was resisted by Ruaridh, son of Reginald, and grandson of Somerled; but the Scots settled the dispute for a time by expelling Ruaridh, and seizing both Bute and Arran.* Hence it seems a fair inference, that Arran as well as Bute formed part of the inheritance claimed and obtained by the heir of the High Steward. Complaints of these and similar encroachments of the Scots sent to the court of Norway, led to the celebrated expedition of King Haco in 1263. Alexander III. then King of Scotland, vindicated the aggressions of his subjects, by claiming the whole of the Hebrides as an ancient appendage of the Scottish crown, unjustly wrested from his predecessors. In the appeal to the sword which ensued, Haco was at first successful. He recovered all the isles that had been conquered by the Scots, and re-established Ruaridh in all the possessions from which he had been expelled. He then assembled all his forces in the island of Arran, whence proceeding with his land troops to the opposite coast of Ayrshire, while his fleet advanced along the Frith of Clyde, he for a short time pursued without resistance his desolating career, till his decisive defeat at Largs, and the subsequent dispersion of his fleet by a storm, had so thoroughly annihilated his power in the Hebrides, that his successor was obliged to cede the whole of the Hebrides on easy terms to the Scottish crown. In the arrangements which ensued, neither Arran nor Bute is mentioned among the possessions bestowed on any of the descendants of Somerled. Hence the probability is, that they both continued in the family of the High Steward.

During the wars which were occasioned by the attempts of Edward I. of England to annex Scotland to his own dominions, the island of Arran fell into the hands of the English, who, in 1306, held the Castle of Brodick under Sir John Hastings. Sir James Douglas and some other partizans of Bruce made an attempt to surprise the garrison; in which some say they were successful, though others, probably upon better grounds, consider that they were foiled, at least till Bruce himself joined them. This memorable event occurred in the year 1306. After passing a solitary winter as an exile and fugitive in Raebriek, in the north of Ireland, Bruce sallied forth in spring from his hid-

* Gregory's History of the Highlands of Scotland.

ing-place, to hazard another stake for his crown and kingdom, and landed in Arran with a few but faithful followers, in a small fleet of thirty-three row-boats. History dwells with minute fondness on this part of the monarch's adventurous career; his landing on the west side of the island; his waiting with Douglas and those of his partisans who preceded him, by whom he was recognized by the blowing of his horn; his occupations during his stay; and his enterprising voyage to the mainland, on beholding the fire on Turnberry Head, which, though not the signal light which he deemed it, proved in the result the dawn of his prosperous fortunes, in establishing the liberties and independence of his country. Several memorials of the Bruce still remain in the island of Arran. The *King's Cove* on the west coast; *Dalry*, or the King's plain; *Toranrigh*, or the King's mount, and *King Cross*, whence he embarked for the coast of Carrick, are places said to have all received their names from their connection with Bruce. Some of the names may perhaps be otherwise accounted for. But other and less doubtful traces of Bruce are furnished by grants of land which he made to several of the natives, for services rendered him while in the island. Mr Fullarton of Kilmichael is the lineal descendant of one of these, Feargus Macloy or Maclewis. He still possesses the charter for his lands given to his ancestor, which is signed by Robert II. and dated Arnele, 26th November, in the second year of his reign. The lands granted to others on the same occasion have passed long ago out of the hands of their descendants, and now form parts of the property of the Duke of Hamilton. For reasons already adverted to, it is probable that the principal proprietor in Arran was at this time the High Steward of Scotland. At all events, it unquestionably belonged to him in the next generation, when, by the failure of male heirs to Bruce, the High Steward, under the title of Robert II., ascended the Scottish throne. Arran by this event became part of the patrimony of the crown; and its inhabitants, having taken up arms on this occasion in behalf of their master, they were freed from the annual tribute of corn which they formerly paid, and granted many other privileges. In conjunction with the men of Bute, they constituted the celebrated Brandani, who afterwards acted as the King's body guard. The island of Arran was at that period mostly covered with wood, and richly stocked with deer, foxes, and other animals of the chase. Hence it became a favourite resort of the Stewart kings in their hunting excursions. The castle of Lochranza, the walls of which still remain sufficiently entire to attest its former magnificence, was


built by one of the Stewart kings as a hunting-seat. Fordun mentions it as a royal castle in 1380. In the expedition which the Earl of Ross fitted out in 1455, under his kinsman Donald Balloch of Islay, to support the Earl of Douglas against his sovereign, Arran suffered severely under this fierce marauder. He carried off from this island and the Cumrays a great deal of plunder; and, after storming the castle of Brodick, levelled it to the ground. In the next reign, when the house of Boyd were the principal favourites at court, Arran became for a short time the property of Sir Thomas Boyd, to whom the King gave his eldest sister the Princess Margaret in marriage, with the island of Arran, then erected into an earldom as her marriage portion. On the disgrace of the Boyds, Sir Thomas Boyd was divorced from his royal spouse, and the King selected as her second husband the Lord Hamilton, the heir of a family of Norman extraction, for many generations before distinguished in the annals of Scotland; and which, during the former reign, rose rapidly into influence and importance, by their seasonable espousal of the royal cause against the house of Douglas. The titles and estates of Arran, thus transferred to the family of Hamilton, have continued ever since in their possession, with the exception of a short period in the reign of James VI., when, through the oppressive proceedings of the Regent Morton, they became forfeited to the crown, and were afterwards for a few years usurped by the court minion, Captain James Stewart.

In 1544, when Henry VIII. of England sought to punish the Scots for their refusal to enter into his scheme of uniting the sister kingdoms by the marriage of his son Edward to the Princess Mary of Scotland, one of his warlike measures was sending an expedition against the west coast of Scotland, under the Earl of Lennox. On his arrival there, Lennox's first proceeding was an attack upon the Island of Arran, from which he carried away much plunder, after demolishing the Castle of Brodick. Twenty years later, the Earl of Sussex, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, provoked by the frequent incursions of the Scottish islanders into the north of Ireland, and the support which they gave to their countrymen settled there, in their opposition to the authority of the English viceroys, landed with a considerable force in Kintyre, then in possession of the Macdonalds, the principal objects of his resentment. When he had sufficiently gratified his cupidity and revenge by his ravages in that district, he steered his course to Brodick Bay in Arran, where landing, he desolated with fire and

sword all the neighbouring country. The last time that Arran saw an enemy on its soil, was during the temporary occupation of Scotland by the usurper Oliver Cromwell. He placed a garrison of eighty men in Brodick Castle, and strengthened it by raising on its north side a bartizan, which still remains. His troops fell victims to the angry passions of the Highlanders. It would appear that they used some improper liberties with the females of the island, and otherwise conducted themselves with the usual license of conquerors. The Highlanders, fired by such insults, watched their opportunity for revenge; and, taking the Englishmen by surprise when out on a foraging excursion, they put them all to the sword. The last of the party that fell was dragged forth from his concealment under a large stone near the road side at Sannox, which still, from its remarkable appearance, attracts the notice of visitors.

Antiquities.—This parish abounds in relics of antiquity. Among these the first place is, from its importance, due to the Castle of Brodick. It is believed that there was a fort on the present site of the castle as far back as the occupancy of the island by the Danes. During the stormy periods of Scottish history it was so often demolished that it is probable that no part of the original structure is now standing. But part of it is unquestionably very old; more especially a high and massy quadrangular building to its north-east side, which bears every mark of the architecture of those times of feudal warfare and disorder, when every castle was a stronghold, and strength and security were more valuable properties of a habitation than comfort and convenience. The castle is still inhabited. Somewhat more than a century ago, the Duchess Ann of Hamilton made an addition to it on the west side, which, with a few alterations on the older parts of the building, has rendered it a tolerably commodious habitation. It is occasionally the residence of the Hamilton family, during their visits to Arran at the shooting season. The castle still retains much of its ancient feudal appearance. The large court behind the castle, with the high and thick wall enclosing it, still remains. And the broad and deep moat, which at one time protected it on one side, can easily be traced along the whole line of its compass.

Relics of much earlier times than the feudal are presented in many parts of the parish. Some of these are, however, disappearing every year before the attacks of the pickaxe and the plough. Last year a double circle of these erect stones, usually called Druidical,

which stood on the farm of South Sannox, was used as building-materials for a dry dike; and, about twenty-four years ago, a very complete circle at the mouth of Glensheraig was removed, in clearing the field in which it stood for the operations of the plough. But there are imperfect remnants of circles still to be seen at the top of Blarmore glen, at the head of Glencloy, and in some other places. Many erect monumental stones or columns still remain in the parish. The largest of these, which is 14 feet high, stands on the lower side of the road at Brodick wood; and at Glenshant, Sannox, Mayish, and Largiemore, others of the same description appear, either singly or in irregular groups. Perhaps a few of them may be remnants of circles. Of the sepulchral cairn, there are one or two specimens not far from the manse, on the farm of Blarmore; but the largest which the writer has examined is one of more than 200 feet in circumference, at the head of Moniemore glen. From its position, on a plain of considerable extent, near the mouth of a narrow pass, between the east and west side of the island, it is probable that this was the scene of a battle; and that the cairn was erected to cover the ashes of those who fell in the engagement. A considerable part of the stones was carried away two years ago, for building a dike in the neighbourhood; and as those on the surface were removed, several stone coffins, each composed of six unhewn flags, were found under them. Similar coffins are every year met with, in cutting drains and ditches, in different parts of the parish, sometimes connected with cairns and sometimes not. There is a large collection of them on a narrow plain near the shore at Largiebeg. In some of them, when opened, there were found rude urns of unbaked clay, containing ashes. One turned up last year in the neighbourhood of the manse contained human bones. And in another, which a man at South Kiscadale fell in with several years ago, in making a fence round his garden, there was found a piece of gold in the form of a handle of a dagger thus , with some iron or steel, much corroded, at each end. The man concealed his prize, till he got it disposed of to a jeweller in Glasgow, who melted it down into rings and brooches. It was, therefore, never submitted to the eye of any experienced antiquary, to ascertain either its age or probable use. From the description given of it, the probability is that it was the guard of a sword handle. There are in different places in the parish, what appears to be vestiges of ancient forts. One of these is on *Tornachin* (*Glach*).

the fairy's mound,) in Glencloy, where it is understood that those of Bruce's partisans, who arrived in Arran before himself, took shelter, while the English held Brodick Castle in its neighbourhood. Another is *Dunfynn*, or Fingal's fort, situated on a round eminence of considerable elevation, near the point of Clachlands. Headrick conjectures that this was one of those vitrified forts so common in the north Highlands. No traces of vitrification now appear. The site of the wall by which it was surrounded can still be traced.

In glancing at these faint vestiges of ancient times, it would be unpardonable to omit the case of St Molios, in the Holy Isle. Molios (or, as the name means in Gaelic, the shaved servant of Jesus), was a disciple of St Columba, who, not considering the discipline of Iona sufficiently rigid, retired for greater seclusion from the vices of the world, to this lonely isle, whence he diffused the light of Christianity among the formerly Pagan inhabitants of Arran. The cave which formed his residence is merely an excavation in the red sandstone, hollowed out by the sea, when its level was higher than at present, with its mouth defended by a wall of loose stones. On the roof of the cave there is a Runic inscription, stating the name and office of the saint, and a little raised above its floor, a shelf of rock, said to have been his bed. In the neighbourhood of the cave, there is a large flat stone, called his dining-table, and a spring of pure water (his bath) much resorted to in the ages of superstition, and celebrated for the healing virtues alleged to have been communicated to it by the prayers and blessings of the saint. Martin speaks of a curious stone bequeathed by this saint, and long famed for its many miraculous properties; more especially its power in curing diseases, and protecting in battle the lives of its fortunate possessors. This stone was so carefully transmitted as a valuable heir-loom from one generation to another, that it was lost only within these few years, by being committed to the custody of a gentleman who partook too much of the scepticism of the age to have any faith in its virtues. It retained, however, some share of its credit, till its final disappearance. Some, even of the present generation, have had recourse to it for the cure both of man and beast. This esteemed relic was a smooth green globe, probably of jasper, about the size of a goose egg. About a mile north from St Molie's cave, and near the house of the present tenant of the Holy Isle, stood the monastery spoken of by Dean Mouno. Even in the time of the dean himself (1594),

the monastery was in ruins; but the consecrated ground on which it stood was for many generations after him used as a burying-place by the people of Arran. The cause of its abandonment was the loss of a number of people who were accompanying a funeral to this place. The boat which carried them was upset by one of those sudden and violent squalls of wind with which the bay of Lamlash is in unsettled weather so often visited. The situation of this burying-place was pointed out by a number of rude tombstones which lay in heaps upon the ground; till two years ago, a modern utilitarian, who had none of Dr Johnson's reverence for sacred places, cleared the spot, and turned the bones and ashes of the dead to account, by rearing from them a crop of onions and carrots. Besides the religious house in the Holy Isle, there was, previous to the Reformation, a small church or chapel at Kilmichael in Glencloy, the foundations of which were raised only a few years ago. There was also a church at South Sannox, dedicated to St Michael. The only vestige of it now remaining is a rude image of its patron saint, which has been preserved, by being built up in the wall of the church-yard, which is still used as a burying-place.

Modern Buildings.—There are no modern buildings in the parish that call for particular remark. The few genteel families in the parish, and the more substantial farmers, occupy houses similar to those of the same class in other parts of the country. During the last few years, several neat slated cottages have been built in different parts of the parish; more especially round the bay of Brodick, for the accommodation of summer visitors. The smaller tenants live in houses much superior in appearance and comfort to those which they occupied twenty years ago. But many of them are still very indifferent habitations: the majority of them being built with dry stones, and thatched with straw or heather, made secure against storms with ropes of heather fastened by wooden pins.

III.—POPULATION.

The population in 1755 was 1869

1793 2545

1801 2169

1821 2714

1831 2656

1845 2397

From this table it appears that, between 1755 and 1793, the population of the parish had nearly doubled. The cause was, a very injudicious system which then prevailed, of allowing the tenants on every farm to multiply without check, the share of a farm occupied by

the father being, as his family grew up and settled in life, often divided among two or three of his sons. The decrease from 1798 to 1801, was principally owing to the number of young men who then went to sea; several hundreds leaving the parish every year, some for the Royal Navy, others for the bounty fishing, and others on board merchant ships. Of these very few ever returned to their native parish; as many of them were either lost at sea, or fell in the service of their country, and those who lived, settled in the different sea-port towns in the low country. From 1801 to 1821 the same cause continued to operate in keeping down the population; but the continuation of the old system of subdividing farms, with the greater abundance of the necessaries of life arising from the additional land brought under cultivation, produced in it, upon the whole, a slight increase. Its gradual decline from that period till the present day has arisen from several causes. Of these, the most important are an extensive emigration to Canada and Chaleur Bay, which took place in 1830; the care taken to prevent any farther splitting down of possessions; the decline in smuggling, which, at one time, afforded a sort of occupation for a great number of young men; and increased habits of industry in the rising generation, who, instead of following the old practice of loitering half idle at home, go to trades or service in the low country, or engage as sailors in merchant ships.

Language, Manners, Morals.—English is well understood, and more or less spoken in all parts of the parish: but among the rural population, Gaelic is decidedly the prevailing language. In the villages, which contain a number of settlers from the mainland, English is rapidly gaining ground, and is spoken by the rising generation with the same fluency as Gaelic. From the nearness of Arran to the mainland, and the constant intercourse with it maintained of late years, the people exhibit in their manners a curious mixture of the Highlander and Lowlander. With the bland courtesy of the former, and that seemingly artless simplicity which so often hides under it a great share of shrewdness, intelligence, and art, they have learned to blend no inconsiderable share of the bluff and sturdy independence of the latter. The Highland character, however, decidedly predominates. The practice of illicit distillation prevailed very generally not many years ago. But the heavy fines imposed of late on convicted delinquents, and the diminution of the gains of smuggling by the improvement of the spirits manufactured by the licensed distiller, have in a great measure put

an end to this demoralizing traffic. Still the most upright of the common people are disposed to view it, if at all a breach of the Divine law, as at least a very venial one. The encouragement given by the proprietor to agricultural improvements has given a great impulse to the industry of the people. But in this respect they are still far behind their neighbours on the Ayrshire coast. Nor can they be expected to match them, till, by the enlargement of the size of the farms, and the gradual removal of the surplus population, provision is made for affording them steady and profitable occupation. The want of regular work gives time for much idle talk. Accordingly, the most trifling article of intelligence flies with rail-road speed from one extremity of the parish to the other. The ancient games and amusements of Highlanders have disappeared, and have almost ceased to be even matters of tradition. Highland superstitions are also rapidly on the decline; though the belief in ghosts, witches, and fairies, has still a firm hold of the minds of many; and the power of the *evil eye* is a very general article of faith. They have still a number of traditions about Fingal, or as they call him Fiunn MacCoul, and his heroes, whom they speak of as a race of gigantic warriors and hunters. These traditions agree better with those which prevail in the north of Ireland, than with the more refined and poetical tales of Macpherson's Ossian. In some of these St Patrick occupies a prominent place. The people in general are very temperate and chaste. Among the rural population, there is perhaps not one habitual drunkard. It is to be lamented, however, that intemperance is fast gaining ground among the sailors in the parish, and such of the tradesmen as earn high wages. Of the latter, the majority are from the mainland, whence they import the prevailing vices of the lower orders in our large towns along with them. The number of illegitimate births is small; and perhaps the half of these is occasioned by the intercourse of the parish with the mainland, whence girls, who repair to it for service, occasionally return in a state of pregnancy. No people can be more frugal than the natives of the parish. They live upon the humblest fare; potatoes are with the majority of them the staff of life; and animal food is a luxury in which they rarely indulge. In dress the more aged of both sexes have departed very little from the unadorned simplicity of their progenitors; but the young very generally follow the fashions which prevail among their own class in the mainland, the softer sex as elsewhere taking the lead. On Sabbath, the church

presents the same array of silks, laces, and bonnets as meets the eye in a low country congregation. With prudent thrift, however, the more considerate of them sometimes carry their fine shoes and stockings in their laps till they approach the church. A very excellent feature in their character is the strength of their domestic affections. The wages of the children are, after a suitable deduction for their wardrobes, almost always at the disposal of their parents, to assist in paying their rents, and supporting them under the privations and infirmities of declining years.

Religion.—In point of religious information, the people in general are on a level with those in the same sphere of life in the low country. There being but one parish church for a population spread along a coast seventeen miles in length, the attendance upon public ordinances is not so regular as could be wished. But the great bulk of the young and rising generation are in this respect, upon the whole, very exemplary. Many of the more aged are kept from church by distance and the infirmities of declining years. But there is a considerable proportion of them, though their number is gradually diminishing, who are absent from choice; having several marked peculiarities of sentiment and character, which render the style of preaching, generally acceptable among well-educated Christians, unpalatable to their taste.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The parish being mostly occupied by lofty hills and mountains, the arable part of it bears but a small proportion to the extent of its surface; and is confined to the glens and valleys, and the more level parts of the declivities which skirt the bottoms of the hills. Cultivation is carried in very few places more than 200 feet above the level of the sea. The number of Scotch acres at present under cultivation is 4270½; and the number considered capable of cultivation about 800. The parish is divided into 208 farms of very unequal size; and of these 161 are under L. 20 of rent; 30 above L. 20, and under L. 40; 11 above L. 40, and under L. 100; and 6 above L. 100.

Rent of Land.—Arable land rents, according to its quality, from 5s. to L. 2 per acre, averaging about L. 1, 5s. The average rate of grazing a cow in summer, and foddering her in winter, is L. 4, 10s. The rent of a cottar's house is L. 2 per annum.

Rate of Wages.—Farm-servants are usually hired by the half-year. Exclusive of board, men-servants receive from L. 6 to L. 8, 10s.; and women from L. 2, 10s. to L. 4. Male labourers en-

gaged by the day receive in summer from 1s. 6d. to 2s. without victuals; and females from 8d. to 10d. In winter, labourers generally work by the piece; and when engaged by the day, generally receive the same allowance as in summer. Reaping in harvest is paid at the rate of 10s. per acre, without victuals. Masons and carpenters when they work by the day charge 3s. with victuals, and 3s. 6d. without them. The rates of mason and other mechanical work, when done by contract, are as follows: Building rubble walls (and carriage) per rood of 36 yards, from L. 5, 8s. to L. 5, 10s.; hewing per foot, including quarrying and price of stones 7d.; plastering per square yard, including lime and sand, 5½d.; flagging per square yard, 2s. 10d.; diking, per rood of 19 feet, 5s.; slating with Easdale slates, large size, per rood, L. 3, 15s.; do. under size, L. 2, 14s.; roofing per rood, with American pine, including sawing and nails, L. 6, 10s.; with Scotch fir, L. 4, 7s.; sawing per 100 feet, 4s. 7d.; windows per foot, from 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.; bound doors, full mounted, from 14s. to L. 1; farm-carts with iron axle-tree, from L. 9 to L. 9, 10s.; with wooden axle-tree, from L. 7, 10s. to L. 8; iron ploughs, L. 5; wooden ploughs, L. 1, 14s.; a pair of harrows complete, L. 1, 8s.; wheelbarrows, from 18s. to L. 1.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The sheep reared on the hills are all of the black-faced kind. A few Cheviots and Merinos are occasionally pastured on the lower grounds. The cattle are chiefly of the Highland Argyllshire breed; for the improvement of which, bulls, the property of the landlord, are distributed at convenient distances among the smaller tenantry. The more opulent farmers, besides their Argyllshire stock for rearing, keep cows of the Ayrshire breed for a dairy stock; with which they have succeeded well, their cheese and butter bearing a fair comparison with the produce of the best dairy districts of Ayrshire. In cattle and dairy produce, the small tenants, though rapidly improving, are still far behind; as they have hitherto attended too little to the proper rotation of crops, and the sowing down of their lands for pasture, with clover and rye-grass. Their sheep in the hills are also diminutive in size; but they take on flesh very readily, and make most excellent mutton, when transported to the more luxuriant pastures of the mainland.

Husbandry.—In this department, the parish of Kilbride and the Island of Arran in general, have been improving of late years with rapid strides; and there is, perhaps, no place even in the Ho-

brides, where improvement was more urgently needed. Till the year 1815, all the lands in the island were let in farms of considerable size, which a number of tenants, varying from four or five to ten or a dozen, occupied in common, and cultivated according to what is called the runrig system; none having the same rig for two years in succession, except after the potatoe crop. The arable land was divided into outfield and infield. The outfield, which was that next the hills, got a little manure the year it was broken up from lea; but none afterwards. The only grain sown in it was oats; of which crop after crop was raised, till the ground was thoroughly run out. It was then allowed to rest, yielding for several years nothing but weeds; and as soon as these began to disappear by the return of grass and heather, it was again broken up to undergo the same exhausting process of cropping. In the cultivation of the infield land, the system pursued was equally injudicious. No regular rotation was followed; but the general rule was, 1. oats; 2. oats; 3. potatoes and pease; 4. bear with dung; 5. pease; 6. oats or mashlam; 7. two years of pasture choked with weeds, unaided by sown grasses, and therefore deficient both in quality and quantity. The implements of husbandry were of the rudest description; a harrow often made entirely of wood; on many farms no carts, but cars or sledges in their stead; and wooden ploughs short in the stilts, clumsy in their whole construction, and drawn by four horses with a man leading them, and one or two following the plough with spades, to level the inequalities which it left in the furrows.

In 1815, the whole of this miserable system of rural management was changed. The large farms, possessed formerly in common, were subdivided into small lots, having each its own tenant. To every farm a small portion of hill (formerly a common also) was attached, and the quantity of stock to be placed on it precisely fixed. A rotation of crops was laid down. The proprietor gave plants for inclosing the arable land with thorn fences; and allowed timber, lime, and in some cases a year's rent in money, for the erection of proper dwelling-houses and steadings; while, at once to stimulate and direct the industry of his tenantry, he planted in convenient situations, here and there, a few large farmers of skill and capital, to whom he gave leases of nineteen years; substantial slated dwelling-houses and farm-steadings; and all the other accommodations usual in the more improved districts of Scotland. To improve the breed of cattle and sheep, a number of contigu-

ous farms, better adapted for grazing than cropping, were converted into sheep-walks, and let to men of capital, skilled in the management of store farms. Other stimulants to improvement have been more recently applied, by liberal allowances for the opening of drains; and the subdividing of lots with fences; the establishment of a farmer's club, which gives premiums for ploughing, sheep, black-cattle, and general rural management.

Improvements are accordingly going on now with spirit. The better class of farmers have introduced all the improved modes of husbandry which prevail in the more advanced agricultural districts, with horses, ploughs, thrashing-mills, &c. to correspond. And hence their returns in produce are as good as the quality of the soil and nature of the climate will admit of. By the liberal use of bone manure, they are able to lay down their lands in good condition for summer pasture, and to feed cattle in winter with turnips and hay for the butcher. With the addition of furrow-draining, which has been recently adopted by a few of the tenants, and the introduction of the subsoil plough, their system of rural management would be complete. The smaller tenants have yet much to learn. They put little lime on their lands; neglect the cleaning and protecting of their thorn fences; evade the rotation of crops laid down for them when they can, and are not sufficiently alive to the advantages of green crops and sown grasses. Hence their fodder is scarce in winter, and their pasture defective in summer; and their cattle a stunted-breed, unproductive either for the dairy or the butcher. Even in this class, however, there are several very excellent farmers, who for horses and cows, farming implements, and produce of all kinds, will not suffer by being compared to those who farm on a larger scale. Nothing is wanted to place the agriculture of Arran on the most thriving footing, but to give encouragement to such meritorious farmers, by extending the duration of their leases from the present short term of seven to nineteen years, and enlarging their lots, as the lands around them fall out of lease.

Produce.—Of the *gross annual* produce of the parish, it is difficult to form a very accurate estimate. The following approximation to it has been supplied by a gentleman intimately acquainted with the agricultural state of the parish:

Wheat, 30 quarters.
 Barley and big, 947 do.
 Oats, 2727 do.
 Beans and pease, 425 do.
 Potatoes, 476 bolls, of 12 imperial bushels each.

Turnips, 83 Scotch acres.
 Rye-grass and meadow hay, 6820 imperial stones.
 Flax, 280 do.
 Eggs, 850,000.
 Cheese, 3500 imperial stones.
 Butter, 4800 do.
 Herrings, 2660 barrels.
 Other fish, 2900 imperial stones.
 Sheep produced annually, 2260.
 Horses, do. 150.
 Figs, do. 630.
 Milch cows grazed, 1050.
 Other cattle do. 750.
 Poultry, 3,800.
 Straw consumed by cattle, 109,000 imperial stones.
 Limestone quarried, 3400 tons.
 Freestone do. 300 do.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Towns and Means of Communication.—There are no market-towns either in the parish or island. The people carry their cattle and produce to market to the different towns on the mainland; principally Saltcoats and Ardrossan; with which there is regular steam communication throughout the year. The Isle of Arran steam-packet plies between Arran and Ardrossan, twice a-week during the winter and spring months, and in summer daily. From the beginning of June till the end of September, the steam-boats of the Castle Company ply regularly between Glasgow and Arran twice a-week. There are two annual fairs in the parish, one at Lamlash in the beginning of winter, and the other at Brodick, the last week of June. The Lamlash fair is thinly attended; and any little business done at it, is almost exclusively confined to the selling and exchanging of horses. Brodick fair, though established only a few years ago, attracts great crowds both of the inhabitants of Arran, and people from the mainland; and there is considerable business done at it, in horses, cattle, and wool. The post-town is Saltcoats. In connexion with the post-office of that town, there are two subordinate offices in the parish of Kilbride, which communicate with it daily, Sundays excepted, in summer and autumn, and twice a-week during the rest of the year. Perhaps no island in the Hebrides is better accommodated with roads. From Gortan Alistair, a little south of Lamlash, to Brodick, there is a Parliamentary road, which was last year regularly macadamized, and is always kept in a state of excellent repair. In 1817, a line of road in continuation of this, made at the expense of the Duke of Hamilton, and kept in repair by the statute labour of the district, was carried from its northern termination as far as Sannox, and from its southern point round the whole of the southern and most va-

luable part of the island to the Blackwater river. There are also two excellent roads which communicate with the parish of Kilmorie; one made by the Duke of Hamilton from Lamlash to Benicarragan, in the district of Southend, and the other a Parliamentary road from Brodick to the Blackwater in the Chiskan district. To render the inland communication of the parish complete, it would be extremely advantageous to continue onward to Lochranza the road which terminates at Sannox, and to build a few additional bridges; one over Ashdale Burn, and other two on the rivers of South and North Sannox. There are harbours at Lochranza, Corrie, Brodick, and Lamlash. The three latter have quays attached to them, but not of sufficient extent, being accessible to vessels only at high water. There was at one time an excellent quay at Lamlash, fit to admit vessels of every size at all states of the tide. It was built in the time of the Duchess Ann of Hamilton, who planned it on such a scale, that though the wages of masons were then only 8d. and those of labourers 4d. per day, and the materials with which it was built quite at hand, the work cost L. 2918. By a piece of gross mismanagement, this admirable quay was some thirty or forty years ago allowed to be used as a quarry for erecting the village of Lamlash;—a measure of which the folly is now deeply felt, as the productive industry of the island is so greatly increased, and steam navigation has created so much intercourse between Arran and the mainland. The island cannot have that accommodation which its growing importance demands, till this gross blunder is repaired by the erection of a proper quay at Brodick or Lamlash.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated at the south end of the village of Lamlash. It was built in the year 1773, and is a plain and unambitious building, without vestry, steeple, or belfry, quadrangular in form, with an aisle containing a small gallery opposite the pulpit, projecting from one of its sides. It contains about 560 sittings, which are all free, and, with the exception of the seats of the two proprietors, the minister's family and two or three others, common to all the parishioners. There is no other place of worship connected with the Establishment actually within the bounds of the parish. But there is a chapel at Lochranza, near the northern extremity of the parish, at its point of junction with the parish of Kilmorie, in which a preacher of the Gospel officiates as assistant to the two ministers of Arran. He has the charge of a district in Kilbride parish, containing a popu-

lation of about 200. The provision for the support of the chapel is 500 merks Scots, mortified for the purpose by the Duchess Ann, with the interest of a sum formed by the accumulation of the salary, during a vacancy of fifteen years, which occurred about twenty years ago. The district under the sole superintendence of the parish minister is seventeen miles in length; and contains a population of nearly 2200; belonging, with a few trifling exceptions, to the Establishment. Of these, there are above 200 from nine to ten miles from the parish church; 600 from four to six; and 1600, more than two. In these circumstances, it is obvious, that though the parish church is at present in nearly as central a situation for the whole population as could well be fixed upon, a large proportion of these are at such a distance as precludes either regular attendance upon ordinances on their part, or efficient pastoral superintendence on the part of the minister. Accordingly, both pastor and people are at present making efforts for getting an additional church and parish for the large and populous district round Brodick Bay. How they may succeed, it is difficult to say, as they are not in circumstances either to build a church or support a minister without external aid. The present church is generally full in good weather; in summer sometimes uncomfortably so. But if the people were all within a convenient distance of the church, a house of twice the size might be filled. The communicants alone, who exceed 600, would require more accommodation than the present church affords.* The manse is beautifully situated on a sloping eminence about a mile north-east of the church, and commands a fine view of the bay, and of the opposite coast of Ayrshire. It is a substantial and commodious house, built in 1826. The glebe consists of about 19 Scotch acres, fences, roads, and church-yard included. When the present incumbent entered upon its possession, it was,

* The above was written three years ago. Since that time an elegant and commodious church has been built at Brodick. The expense of the edifice amounted to about L. 850; of which L. 100 was contributed by His Grace the Duke of Hamilton; L. 167, 15s. by the Extension Committee of the General Assembly; nearly L. 150 by the inhabitants of Brodick and summer visitors; and L. 448 by the friends of religion in the cities and large towns of the mainland, in subscriptions procured by the writer of this article. The church was opened for public worship on the second Sunday of November 1830; and a parochial missionary attached to the district of Brodick now preaches in it regularly to a crowded congregation. Without an endowment from some quarter, however, it is to be feared that the services of an ordained clergyman cannot be secured for it. In the meantime, the attendance at the parish church is considerably diminished. There is, however, abundance of population for filling both churches; and it is to be hoped that all the spare room will be occupied as soon as the increased facilities for pastoral superintendence, arising from the services of an additional labourer in the vineyard, have had time to tell upon the minds of the people.

with the exception of a few patches, one uncultivated waste. It has since been drained, limed, and subdivided, at an expense which the writer is ashamed to mention, as the soil is too light to remunerate him for his outlay. It would at present let at a rent of L. 20 per annum. The stipend consists of 17 chalders, in equal proportions of barley and oatmeal, and payable according to the rates of the county. The allowance for communion elements is L. 8, 6s. 8d.

The whole of the parishioners belong to the Established Church, with the exception of about forty individuals connected with the Congregational Union of Scotland. The last have a chapel at Sannox, containing about 260 sittings. Their minister, having scarcely any congregation of his own, draws his audience principally from among those members of the Establishment who are unable to attend their parish church. On the evening of every third Sabbath, he preaches at the school-house at Brodick; and one Sabbath in the three the whole day at Lochranza. He is principally supported out of the funds of the Congregational Union; and by religious societies, by which he is employed in itinerating through the Highlands for a few months every summer. He has a good house attached to his chapel. Both the house and the chapel were built by subscription about twenty years ago.

Education.—There are at present 6 schools in the parish, belonging exclusively to itself, and a seventh at Lochranza, common to Kilbride and Kilmorie. The maximum salary for parochial schools is distributed in unequal portions among four of these; Lamlash receiving L. 19; Brodick, L. 16; Corrie, L. 4; and Lochranza, L. 6, with nearly an equal sum from Kilmorie parish. The other schools are, an Assembly school at Whiting Bay; and a private school at Lamlash. At all the schools, the fees for teaching are the same as in the parochial schools of rural districts in the low country. The people, however, being generally poor, the amount of school-fees in the best attended of them does not exceed L. 14 per annum; in some, it is as low as L. 5. All the parochial teachers have schoolhouses, without rent, from the Duke of Hamilton; and the Assembly teacher, the accommodations required by the rules of the Assembly Committee on schools. The salary of the Assembly teacher is L. 25. Whiting Bay has been singularly fortunate in a succession of excellent teachers, appointed by the Committee of the Assembly. The branches usually taught in the school-house

are, English and Gaelic reading, writing, English grammar, arithmetic, book-keeping, and navigation. Sabbath schools are established in all the districts of the parish. The majority of them are taught by the teachers of the week-day schools; a few of them by these, in conjunction with other pious and well-disposed individuals. These schools are conferring inestimable benefits, in rearing up the rising generation in right views of Divine truth, and correct rules of moral conduct. But they would be much more extensively beneficial, both to teachers and taught, did the circumstances of the people admit of their providing their children with those admirable text-books which are now in general use in well-conducted Sunday schools in the low country. In winter and spring, the number of children who attend school in the parish averages about 450. In summer, many of them are employed in herding and field labour; and therefore the attendance is much less. The advantages of education, however, are very generally appreciated; and there are few, if any, above the age of six, who are not in the way of being taught to read. Still, it is a general complaint among the teachers, that children, during the time they are with them, are not obliged to give more punctual attendance at school; and that they are allowed to quit school altogether, and, considering their education as finished, at too early an age for retaining permanently what they have been taught.

Libraries.—In the year 1824, a few public-spirited individuals established a small library in the parish; and to make it easily accessible to all, the amount of the subscription was fixed at 1s. per annum. There are, at present, about 80 subscribers, the majority of them young men of the working classes who enliven their long winter evenings by the perusal of its volumes. The subscriptions are collected once a-year at a general meeting, at which the new-books to be added to the collection are proposed and voted for. The collection, from the low amount of the subscriptions, consists as yet of only 300 volumes; but these are well selected, and supply several excellent works in history, biography, popular science, geography, and practical divinity. Most of the religious books, either originally composed in Gaelic, or translated into Gaelic from the English language, are found in the collection, and have always a great circulation among the more aged of the subscribers. The more wealthy of the parishioners occasionally make donations of books to the library.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of paupers, who receive regular parochial aid, is 50; among whom is distributed annually the sum of L. 60. They receive their respective allowances quarterly, in sums which vary from 3s. to 12s. to each, according to their several necessities. The average number of occasional paupers cannot be easily stated; very few applying to the session for aid, except persons who wish to be placed regularly upon the roll. Taking the average of the last seven years, the amount of the church collections, including dues for mortcloth and marriage proclamations, has been L. 46, 11s. 3^d. The kirk-session has a small capital arising from bequests, lying at interest in Irvine Bank. Its present amount is L. 100; but it is yearly decreasing, as the quarterly distributions in winter and spring considerably exceed the amount of the church collections at those seasons of the year. A number of the more destitute of the paupers receive small pensions from His Grace the Duke of Hamilton. The amount of the pensions varies from L. 1 to L. 2 per annum; and the majority of them is bestowed upon old men, and poor widows of good moral character. The sum distributed among them at the last annual term was L. 68, 11s. Paupers have generally speaking lost much of the reluctance to appear on the session-roll which they at one time manifested; and many of them are clamorous for additions to their allowances. But none ever make application except persons really in destitute circumstances, and unequal to their own support; and such applicants would be greatly more numerous, and a heavier burden on the fund, were it not for the forward and liberal charity of neighbours and relations; many of whom are themselves in circumstances little elevated above the objects of their willing bounty.

Inns and Alehouses.—There are six public-houses in the parish; of which three are at Lamlash; two at Bredick; and one at Corrie. The largest of these is the inn at Bredick; an old, but commodious house, much resorted to in summer by visitors to the Island of Arran. By its present respectable occupants, it is exceedingly well kept; and no person leaves it without being gratified by the assiduous attentions of its inmates. The other houses, though smaller, are very neat and clean, and occupied by families of respectable character and conduct. Their number, however, might be reduced, especially at Lamlash, to the obvious benefit of the morals of the people, and without any undue diminution on the accommodation required for strangers. But the houses which

call most loudly for the interference of the magistracy, are small whisky shops in different parts of the parish, which contrive dexterously to elude the scrutiny of the excise; and afford the lovers of ardent spirits opportunities of indulging in their favourite beverage, without the public notice which they would incur by frequent visits to the licensed public-houses.

Fuel.—The fuel of the labouring classes is generally peats. Every tenant has a right to cut peats in the hills; and their only expense to him is the labour of cutting and carrying them home. In the wet climate of Arran, they are a very precarious kind of fuel; but their quality is in general excellent, and when secured in good condition, they are an excellent substitute for coals. Those in easy circumstances, for the most part, burn coals from Ayrshire. The freight usually charged is, from Ardrossan 4s. and from Ayr 5s. per ton of 24 cwt.; and this, added to their price at the place of embarkation, makes them in general 14s. or 15s. per ton.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

It must be acknowledged that this parish is in many respects very far behind the rural parishes on the mainland of Scotland. But there are probably few parishes in the kingdom, where the progress of improvement has of late been more rapid. In the year 1793, when the former Statistical Account of the parish was written, it was, notwithstanding its proximity to the very centre of Scotch commerce and industry, in a state as rude and primitive as the most remote islands of the Hebrides. There were not at that time six carts in the whole parish. Of regularly formed road there was not a mile; nor a single bridge built with stone and lime. The houses of the tenantry and common people in general were the meanest hovels; and their clothes of the coarsest home manufacture. Their land was so unskillfully cultivated that its returns did not nearly afford them the requisite supply of food. Their cattle, though from their very diminutive size easily supported, died upon their hands in hundreds every severe spring. And they were themselves, though like Highlanders in general courteous and respectful in their manners, greatly deficient in every branch of useful knowledge. Many of the old were never taught to read; and the majority of both old and young could speak little or no English. The changes in all these respects, which have since that period occurred in the parish; the preceding pages have sufficiently explained.

To do full justice to the capabilities of the parish, there are

several other changes still imperatively called for. Of these the most important are, 1. Some additional wood for affording shelter to the more exposed farms, and improving the general appearance of the parish; 2. The enlargement of the size of the farms, and the lengthening of the leases to nineteen years; 3. Good quays at Lamlash and Brodick, so as to afford the parishioners the requisite facilities for carrying their produce to market.

It is understood to be the wish of the proprietor, to preserve as much as possible the present character of the parish as a romantic rural retirement. Were his views different, there is no property in the west of Scotland, the value of which could be more easily increased. The attractions of its healthy climate and majestic scenery, make it even in its present state a place of considerable resort to summer visitors. Many of these, if they could get building-leases, would erect villas in the parish, and perhaps reside in it the whole year. There would thus be a home market for much of the produce of the island that is at present carried out of it at considerable expense; much additional employment got for the poor and working classes; and the foundation laid for converting the village of Lamlash into a thriving town of tradesmen and shopkeepers, to minister to the wants and luxuries of the genteeler classes in the parish. With the finest harbour in the west of Scotland in front of it, and abundance of coals on the opposite coast, Lamlash ought to be, not a paltry village, but a flourishing town, the seat of manufactures and the centre of commerce. In fact, it is a more arduous undertaking to hinder than promote its growth and prosperity. For now that the rail-road from Glasgow to Ayrshire is on the point of being completed, the power of steam will bring it so near Glasgow and Paisley, that its inhabitants can very easily draw towards themselves a few currents from that broad stream of wealth and industry, by which these mighty and inexhaustible reservoirs are at present feeding and enriching so many populous villages and second-rate towns of the mainland.

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