

spirituous liquors in the village, and eight in the country part of the parish.

The great number of public-houses, and the low price of whisky, are prejudicial alike to the temporal comfort and moral condition of the population.

*Fuel.*—The only fuel used is coal. The Weston or Crawfordston colliery is three and a-half miles from Torbolton. The coal, which is of excellent quality, costs at the pit 6s. per ton of 20 cwt.

At Adamhill, two miles from the village, light or cannel coal can be obtained at 6s. 8d. per ton of 20 cwt.

*January 1842.*

## PARISH OF CRAIGIE.\*

PRESBYTERY OF AYR, SYNOD OF GLASGOW AND AYR.

THE REV. JOHN STIRLING, D. D. MINISTER.

### I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

*Boundaries, &c.*—This parish † is bounded on the north by Riccarton and Galston; on the east, by Mauchline; on the south, by Tarbolton, &c.; on the west, by Monkton and Symington.

*Topographical Appearances.*—The hills near the church, with the exception of a craggy rock jutting out here and there, are covered with verdure to the very summit, and although comparatively low, being only about 500 feet above the level of the sea, the view from them is both extensive and beautiful. The parish contains a part of the suppressed parish of Barnweill, the greater part of the stipend of Barnweill being transferred to the support of the minister of Stair. The parish is, in a direct line, about seven miles long, and one and a-half miles broad on an average.

### II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

*Parochial Registers.*—These are, 1st, A register of births and baptisms. The first baptism recorded is in 1679, and for many years this register appears to have been irregularly kept. The births commence to be recorded along with the baptisms in 1807, and from that time the record is kept pretty regularly. 2d, A re-

\* Drawn up by Mr James Watson, schoolmaster.

† Craigie parish and that of Riccarton were formerly united, but were disjoined in 1647.

gister of proclamations of marriage, commencing in the year 1679, —not regularly kept till 1776. *3d*, A minute-book of the transactions of the kirk-session from the year 1775, kept regularly. *4th*, Cash accounts of the poor's funds from 1788 regularly kept since 1804. *5th*, Minutes of meetings of the heritors commencing in the year 1787.

*Land-owners.*—The land-owners of the parish, with their respective valuations are,—

1. James Campbell, Esq. of Craigie,	L. 1102	11	4 Scots.
2. John Ferrier Hamilton, Esq. of Cairnhill,	720	15	0
3. William Campbell, Esq. of Netherplace,	394	10	8
4. William Smith Neill, Esq. of Barnweill,	305	10	2
5. Richard Alexander Oswald, Esq. of Auchencruive,	290	14	4
6. John Kennedy, Esq. of Underwood,	220	9	1
7. The Rev. Dr John Stirling of Foulton,	69	16	2
8. George Sheddan, Esq. of Knockmarloch,	42	0	0
9. John Anderson of Mosside,	37	2	6
10. George James Campbell, Esq. of Treetsbanks,	25	0	0
11. MacAdam Cathcart of Craigengillan,	4	5	0

Total Scots valuation of Craigie parish, L. 3218 14 3

*Mansion-Houses.*—The mansion-houses in this parish are three; *1st*, Cairnhill, which consists of two parts separated by an area or small space between. The oldest part is a tower that has already stood the storms of several centuries, and is still in good repair and habitable, and, like other ancient edifices, has been strongly built. The other part is comparatively modern. *2d*, Barnweill is a neat house, built about half a century ago. *3d*, Underwood is also a commodious house, built about fifty years ago, and now occupied by the proprietor and family.

Only two of the heritors at present reside in this parish.

*Antiquities.*—Craigie Castle, a very ancient building, was at one time the residence of the Wallaces of Craigie, but is now in a state of dilapidation. The castle has been surrounded with a moat enclosing about four acres of land; and the entrance into it was at the south-west side by a drawbridge.

There still exist some artificial mounds, (named law-hills) on which, in former times, persons guilty of crimes, real or supposed, are said to have been tried; but some of them appear to have been military encampments, especially the one on Barnweill hill, and another near Campcastle.

### III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population in 1801,	-	786
1811,	-	767
1821,	-	803
1831,	-	824
1841,	-	779

## IV.—INDUSTRY.

This parish is entirely agricultural.

There are three limestone quarries, and there is one tile-work, lately erected, which produces good tiles, and is of great advantage to the farmers.

The parish contains coal of different kinds, both what is termed **dross** and **cannel coal**. The coal has been wrought in several places, and at different times, and at one of the works very lately, but the working is now discontinued as unprofitable.

The parish contains about 6300 imperial acres, all fit for cultivation, except about thirty acres of hills. There are also about forty acres of meadow, on which water is kept during winter for the use of corn-mills. Part of the hilly ground might be cultivated, but whether profitably or not, is doubtful. About thirty years ago, the uncultivated hilly land was double of what it is now.

There is only one corn-mill, viz. Heughmill. The loch attached to this covers about twenty acres of the meadow-land. There are other two lochs, viz. Fail loch, partly in this parish, and partly in Torbolton; the mill driven by the water of this loch is in Torbolton parish. Loch Brown is partly in three parishes, viz. Craigie, Mauchline, and Torbolton. The mill driven by its water is in the parish of Mauchline. This loch covers nearly a hundred acres, and is not dry in summer: and perhaps more than the half of it is in this parish.

The rental of the parish may amount to L. 7700 Sterling, and the average rent per imperial acre, exclusive of woods, is L. 1, 5s.

The length of lease is generally nineteen years. A general improvement in agriculture has taken place; ploughing is neatly executed, and the corners of the fields, and sometimes the borders of the hedges delved where the plough cannot reach; many of the grass-fields are cleared of thistles and other weeds, and the hedges generally are well kept. But the greatest improvement is that of furrow-draining. One of the proprietors, in order to have the draining on his property thoroughly executed, pays the whole expense of draining, except the carting of the tiles, and charges his tenants about four per cent. per annum on his expenditure; another pays the tiles at the kilns, charging the tenants 1s. per thousand tiles, which comes to nearly five per cent. per annum; other proprietors assist a little, but the greater part of the draining is at the expense of the tenants.

The farm-houses are substantial and commodious. About a

half of the farm-houses are now slated, and three of them are of two stories.

*Produce.*—

Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Amount in imp. acres.
In pasture, 3613	In oats, 1426	In beans, 126	= 5167
ryegrass, 720	wheat, 13	potatoes, 102	= 835
meadow, 100	barley, 6	turnips, 25	= 131
and in wood, 167	planted for ornament or shelter,		- 167
Total land in the parish of Craigie,			6900 acres.

The average size of the farms is about 90 imperial acres. The above is exclusive of the turnpike and parish roads, and of that part of Loch Brown that is flooded in summer, so that the whole contents of this parish are above ten square miles. The produce of the oats per acre is from thirty-two to sixty-four imperial bushels, average forty-eight bushels per acre. The average produce of beans is twenty-four bushels per acre. Potatoes average about eight tons per acre; turnips average about sixteen tons per acre: ryegrass weighs about twenty-six cwt. of 112 lbs. each; and meadow hay weighs about twenty-eight cwt. per imperial acre on an average. Pease are included along with the beans. Perhaps there may be five or six acres of pease. The barley is mostly sown for family use. Little flax is sown, and few field-cabbages are raised, perhaps not more than an acre of each.

*Live-Stock.*—The live-stock is as follows: 148 horses and mares fit for work; 25 bulls, 759 milk cows; 437 young cows, including queys, stirks, and calves to be reared; 293 sheep, mostly of a mixed breed; and 145 swine. The milk of the cows is for the most part manufactured into sweet milk cheese, and the yearly produce of each cow is from 2½ cwt. to 3½ cwt.; the average is 3 cwt. The whey is mostly used in feeding swine.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

*Ecclesiastical State.*—The church was built in 1776, and the manse in 1808 and is in good repair. The stipend consists of sixteen chalders of grain, one-half oatmeal, and the other half barley, paid by the fiars price of the county, and L. 10 to provide communion elements. The glebe contains about five acres, and is worth L. 10 per annum. The patronage belongs to James Campbell, Esq. of Craigie.

One hundred and twenty-eight families belong to the Established Church; 3 families belong to the United Secession; and of

other 9 families, part go to the Established Church, and part to the Secession.

*Education.*—There are two schools in the parish, the parochial school, and one in the south-west end of the parish, at Underhills, near Barnweill, and no additional schools are required, as the east end of this parish has the advantage of schools in the vicinity, one in the parish of Galston, and another in the parish of Mauchline. The school-room at Underhills is given free of rent by the proprietor, and the teacher is supported by the school-fees.

The parochial school-house was built in 1807. The schoolmaster's salary is the maximum; and the average amount of school-fees per annum for ten years is about L. 20 Sterling, making the schoolmaster's income about L. 54 per annum, exclusive of house and garden.

*Friendly Societies.*—There are two Friendly Societies for males only, and their expenditure yearly is from L.60 to L.70.

*Poor.*—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 12, who are paid monthly from the poor's funds. A few others receive aid occasionally. The average sum paid to each of these twelve is L. 4, 2s. 5d. per annum. Three of these have about L. 6 each; the rest have considerably less than the average. The annual average amount of contributions for relief of the poor for the last nine years is L. 51, 19s. 1d., viz.

Church collections,	L. 30 17 7½
Interest of a fund, L. 7, 3s. 2½d.; gifts, L. 2, 14s. 3½d.	9 17 6
Mortcloth dues, 15s. 3½d.; Proclamation dues, &c., L. 2, 3s.	2 16 3½
Cash refunded, L. 2, 18s. 10d.; extras, L. 2, 11s. 7½d.	5 10 5½
Contributions from the heritors,	2 15 2½
<b>Total average amount of contributions made for relief of the poor of Craigie,</b>	<b>L. 51 19 1</b>

*February 1842.*