

PARISH OF PETTINAIN.

PRESBYTERY OF LANARK, SYNOD OF GLASGOW AND AYR.

THE REV. JOHN VARY, MINISTER.*

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE derivation of the name of this parish is, in a great measure, matter of conjecture. The spelling in the more ancient charters is Pedynane or Petynane, while in the modern records it is generally Pittinine or Pettinain. Much stress, however, is not to be placed on the mode of spelling, as on the communion cups, both bearing date 1696, it is found differently spelt. The name, says Chalmers in his *Caledonia*, whatever be its true form, may be derived from the British *Peithynan*, signifying a clear plat or space, or from the British *Ped-y-nant*, signifying the lower end of a ravine through which a brook flows. The former of these derivations appears the more probable, as there is a considerable extent of nearly level land, of excellent quality, stretching to the north of the village of the same name, which was very probably cleared while the adjoining ground was covered with wood; and this supposition is strengthened by a circumstance, likewise mentioned by Chalmers, that David I. granted to Nicolas, his clerk, a carucate of land, in the forest of Pedynane, with the usual right of common of pasture.

Extent and Boundaries.—The figure of the parish is rather irregular, but may be more properly described as rectangular than in any other way, being nearly 3 miles in length, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth. It is bounded on the south, by Covington; on the west, by Carmichael; on the north-west, by a small portion of Lanark; on the north, by Carstairs and Carnwath; and on the east, by Liberton. From the four last mentioned parishes, it is separated by the river Clyde. Adjoining the river, there is a considerable tract of haugh or holm land, so very level that frequently in winter, after heavy rains in the south, and sometimes even in summer, it is co-

* Drawn up by the Rev. George Dickson, late incumbent of this parish, now minister of Kilrenny.

vered with water to a considerable depth, and the mud which is then deposited serves greatly to enrich it. At such times, the river has much the appearance of an arm of the sea, and occasions much damage to the corn crop, completely destroying it if in the shot-blade, and leaving so much sand upon the pasture, as to render it unfit for cattle, until again washed off by the rain. The ground rises by a gentle acclivity from the river, presenting an unequal surface; but in general it is well cultivated, and subdivided into different enclosures.

Topographical Appearances.—The only high ground deserving any notice is a ridge, which, commencing in the parish of Covington in the south, runs in a north-westerly direction through the parish, until it terminates in the west end of it, where it rises to the greatest height, about 500 feet above the bed of the river. The highest point of the ridge is named Cairn-gryffe, while the other portions are styled Westraw and Swaites hills, the one opposite the mansion-house of Westraw, and the other attached to a farm of the same name, situated at the bottom of the hill.

Climate.—The climate may rather be represented as moist than otherwise, and the sudden changes of the temperature of the atmosphere from hot to cold, and from cold to hot, particularly in the spring, are not unfrequent; and often give rise to colds, sore throats, &c. During the spring months, cold easterly winds frequently prevail, which produce a withering effect upon the pasture, the braird, and the blossom of the small fruit; but the dense fogs which prevail upon the east coast very rarely extend so far to the west. The highest winds are from the south and south-west, which is particularly indicated by the inclination of trees planted in exposed situations, being uniformly found to be toward the north-east. It may also be remarked, that the heaviest falls of snow are from the east and north-east.

The parish may be generally represented as dry and healthy. The diseases which prevail are such as are common to the neighbourhood, viz. fevers, sore throats, rheumatisms, &c. During the time that cholera prevailed in this country, it afforded great ground for thankfulness, that this parish was entirely free from it. The practice of vaccination is carefully attended to, so that a face marked by the small-pox is rarely to be seen.

Hydrography.—The river Clyde, rising upwards of twenty-five miles to the southward, in the parish of Crawford, flows along with considerable rapidity, until within a few miles of its

reaching the parish of Pettinain, when its motion becomes much slower, its depth increased, and its aspect changed. From being rapid in its motion, and lively in its aspect, it becomes slow and still, and continues so for several miles, making in its course many beautiful windings through the haugh or holm land, and moving so slowly and smoothly, that a stranger is at a loss to know in what direction it is flowing. Such is its general aspect until nearly half a mile from where it leaves the parish, where some rocks impede its course, and over which it rushes with considerable rapidity and noise. It was proposed at one time to remove two or three feet from the surface of these rocks, and thus diminish the depth of stagnant water above, and likewise prevent the floods from overspreading so much of the adjoining land, by conveying the water more rapidly away; but the proprietors interested on both banks of the river, not being satisfied as to the probable result, the scheme was abandoned, after an experienced engineer had been consulted, and had given it as his opinion that the plan was practicable. The river proceeds at its entrance into the parish from south to north, and afterwards from east to west, compassing more than one-half of the parish.

Geology and Mineralogy.—It is unnecessary to occupy much space in adverting to this head. The ridge of hills, to which allusion has already been made, consists chiefly of compact felspar or felspar porphyry, and sandstone; the western part of the ridge being composed of the former, and the south-easterly part of the latter. The felspar furnishes an excellent material for road making, and is accounted so very valuable for this purpose, that it is carted to the distance of several miles, into some of the neighbouring parishes. There is a great want of freestone for dressing. The hewn stone used in the building of the present manse, was brought from the neighbourhood of Nethanfoot, a small village upon the Clyde, in the parish of Lesmahagow, at a distance of more than ten miles. Various attempts have been made to find limestone, but hitherto without much success. Wherever it has been found, it was either situated at such a depth below the surface, or the stratum was so thin, that it was not deemed advantageous to work it.

Soil.—There is a considerable variety of soil in the parish. In the haugh or holm land adjoining the river, it appears to be a compound of clay and mud, and extends to the depth of several feet, under which is generally found a stratum of gravel. Around the

village, and in various other parts, a rich loam is found to prevail; while other portions display, some a sharp gravelly, and others a sandy soil. The higher grounds are generally covered with heath and bent, and, having a clayey till as subsoil, are very unproductive, and not susceptible of much improvement.

Zoology.—The parish is not distinguished by any of the rarer species of animals, if we except pheasants, a vast number of which have, within the last three years, been brought from England, and are now finding their way into the neighbouring parishes. They, along with the hares, which have been much protected of late, and are literally swarming, have been found very destructive to the crops, and have furnished a subject of much complaint among the tenants.

In the Clyde are found trout, pike, and perch, though the last is limited only to particular places. The trout are not nearly so numerous as formerly, which may be ascribed, in some measure, to the river being more fished, and to the method practised in fishing. The practice frequently adopted is for two persons, with short rods, to repair to the river, each taking an opposite side, and with a line stretched across, and to which are appended, by means of a piece of gut, a great number of dressed fly-hooks, the river is thoroughly fished, and the fishers in general well rewarded with a plentiful supply of trout. The decrease of trout may also be partly owing to the increase of pike, some of which are found of an enormous size, and are known to prey upon the trout. During last summer, one was caught, which measured in length upwards of three feet, and weighed more than twenty pounds. It was presented to Sir Norman Macdonald Lockhart of Lee and Carnwath, Bart. at that time residing in Carnwath House.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The whole parish belongs to Sir Windham Carmichael Anstruther, of Anstruther and Carmichael, Bart., with the exception of 250 or 300 acres, belonging to Hugh Smith, Esq. of Westown, and about nine or ten acres, the property of Henry Monteith, Esq. of Carstairs. This last portion, viz. Mr Monteith's, is separated from the rest of the parish by the river Clyde, which, in the haugh land, is frequently found to change its course; but there is little doubt of its being formerly joined to the rest of the parish, from the circumstance of the old course of the river being still visible, and from its always having been liable for stipend.

Parochial Registers.—The oldest parochial register bears date

1689, and for a considerable period of time, down to 1780, the transactions of the heritors and kirk-session appear to have been pretty regularly recorded; but between that year and 1803, much less attention has been paid, and the consequence is that they are very defective. The different registers of births, marriages, and deaths, are now kept with the greatest accuracy.

Antiquities.—It is unnecessary to make any remarks on the encampment, so well described in the former Statistical Account, except to state that the traces of it are gradually disappearing;* and likewise to observe, that there is now no vestige of the long stone or cross, of which mention is also made in the former Account of the parish.

Mansion-Houses.—The only mansion-house deserving of notice is that of Westraw, belonging to Sir Windham Carmichael Anstruther, Bart. It appears to have been originally a small house, but, with the additions which have been made from time to time, it now affords a good deal of accommodation. It was here that the late Earl of Hyndford, at whose death the title became extinct, chiefly resided, although he had a splendid residence at Mauldslie,

* “In the confines of the parish on the south, and on the high moorish ground formerly mentioned, the vestiges of a large camp, or fortified station, are still very visible. It contains about 6 acres, which form an irregular figure, approaching to that of a circular area. The walls seem to have been very thick and high, and to have been composed chiefly of coarse stones, many of them a kind of flag, collected, probably, from the adjoining grounds; but there is no appearance of mortar or cement. It is situated upon the side of a deep moss, within which, at a little distance, are the remains of a small fort, scarcely including a rood of ground, which has evidently been connected with the large one by a passage made through the moss. The figure of this small fortification is likewise round, and the wall of it has been built with the same kind of stones. The large camp includes several springs of excellent water. Some urns were found, under the ruins of the wall, a great many years ago, by some people that were digging out the larger stones for the purpose of building. They were each of them enclosed within four coarse flag stones, set on edge, and covered with one laid flat. The space included by these flags was filled to a considerable depth with a fine whitish sand, among which the urn was standing in an inverted position. Upon removing the urn, something of a soft slimy nature was found upon the sand, which probably might be the ashes of human bones. A large urn, surrounded with fine small ones, was found in the bottom of a cairn of stones, about a quarter of a mile distant, and enclosed in a similar manner. This large camp has two smaller ones in its view; one of them to the north-westward, upon the highest top of the hill, and the other to the south-eastward, on the top of a little hill in Covington parish, each about the distance of half a mile. The first of these appears to have been surrounded with two walls, between which there has been a deep ditch. The walls have been built of large rough stones, such as are found upon the hill. A vast number of them still remain upon the place. This fortification has likewise been of a roundish figure.

“On the top of a little rising ground, about half a mile west from the village, there has stood one of those long stones which are known by the name of *Crosses*. It still lies near the place, and a socket of stone remains in which it is said to have been fixed. From this place, which is connected with the plantations of Westraw, there is a delightful view of the house and enclosure of Carstairs, on the opposite side of the river.”—Old Stat. Account, Vol. xii. p. 39.

about twelve miles farther down the Clyde. At his death, the succession passed into the family of Anstruther, one of whose ancestors had married a sister of the Earl of Hyndford, by whom the deed of entail was originally executed, and who provided that, failing certain male heirs, the succession should pass into the female line.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the parish does not appear to have varied very materially for a considerable period of time. It is stated to have been on the decrease when the last Account was given, but at present the number is considerably greater than that formerly given, the total population by the last census being 461. Of these 117 reside in the village of Pettinain, and the remaining 344 are scattered throughout the parish.

The population in 1801 was,	430
1811,	401
1821,	490
1838, September, by census taken by present incumbent,	402
The yearly average of births for the last seven years, as ascertained from the register, is	104
The yearly average of deaths for the same period,	64
of marriages,	44
The average number of persons under 15 years of age,	159
betwixt 15 and 30,	143
30 and 50,	79
50 and 70,	57
upwards of 70,	28
There are of unmarried men, bachelors, and widowers, upwards of 50 years,	15
women, upwards of 45 years,	27
The average number of children in each family is	44

There is only one person in the parish deaf and dumb.

At present, there are no resident heritors in the parish; and the proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards amount only to two.

Character of the People.—The habits of the people are cleanly, and a good deal of attention is paid to neatness of dress. Their ordinary food is porridge, made of oatmeal, for breakfast; broth with beef or pork, or butter and cheese to dinner; and porridge or potatoes, according to the season of the year, to supper. The people, in general, are happy and contented with their situation, and may be characterized as quiet and sensible, industrious, and regular in their attendance on Divine ordinances. Poaching is not often practised, except among the pheasants, and in those cases where the poachers have been detected, they have been found to be individuals from other parishes. There is no smuggling or pawnbroking carried on in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—Of the land under cultivation, or which has been occasionally under tillage, the number of acres is computed to be about 2320, while the portion which remains constantly waste or in pasture may be estimated about 740 acres. It would not be advisable to apply any portion of capital to the improvement of the greater part of this description of land, as it could not afford a remunerating price to the tenant. The only way in which it could be turned to advantage, would be by planting it, and from the thriving appearance which that portion of it exhibits, which was planted some years ago, great encouragement is held out to plant more extensively. Within the last fifteen years, about 92 acres of the hill, to which reference has already been made, have been planted under the judicious management of the late Colonel Anstruther, acting as curator during the minority of the late Sir John Carmichael Anstruther, Bart. who was accidentally killed in his fourteenth year, while residing at Eton for his education. The land which has thus been planted, was generally moorish and very unproductive; but now that the trees have sprung up and assumed a thriving appearance, the sterile aspect of that portion of the hill is much changed, and the property considerably benefited by the shelter which is thus afforded, and by the profit which will ultimately accrue from the thinning of the trees. The kinds of trees which were selected for this plantation, were chiefly Scotch fir and larch; but since they have sprung up, and are capable of affording some shelter, various kinds of hard-wood have been introduced. In the whole parish, exclusive of what is around the mansion-house of Westraw, where is a considerable extent of plantation, consisting of oak, ash, lime, plane, beech, hornbeam, and fir, of a considerable age, there may be about 160 acres planted and natural; the latter of which forms but a small proportion to the former.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of the arable land per acre, may be stated about L. 1, 6s. 6d., and the pasture or waste land about 2s. The average for grazing an ox or cow on good pasture is about L. 4; but of course the rent must be regulated by the quality of the pasture. There are so few sheep kept in the parish, that the rate of grazing cannot be particularly stated.

Wages.—Farm-servants are generally hired by the half-year. The wages of ploughmen range from L. 5 to L. 7, along with victuals, but some superior ones receive more. Female servants are hired for

the same period. Their wages are much higher in summer than in winter. During the former period, they range from L. 3, 10s. to L. 4, and sometimes even L. 4, 4s. but in winter they are much lower. The general rate of labour for day labourers is 1s. 6d. per day including victuals, but masons and carpenters receive higher wages.

In consequence of the various Agricultural Societies which have been established in the neighbourhood, and the cattle-shows which have been instituted, much attention has of late years been paid to the improvement of the breed both of cattle and horses. The particular breed of cattle which has attracted most attention is the Ayrshire, and the greater part of the farmers testify a very laudable desire to excel in rearing such. Some of the farmers are disposed to allege, that the horses now reared do not in many instances possess so much bone as formerly. There are, however, a number of well-formed and strong working horses to be seen, and some estimate may be formed of their value, when it is stated that a one-year old colt will sometimes bring from L. 20 to L. 30.

Husbandry.—The character of the husbandry pursued is in general good. Situated as the parish is, at a considerable elevation, about 700 feet above the level of the sea, oats and barley are the principal kinds of grain sown. Potatoes are grown to a considerable extent, and turnips to a much greater. The greatest care is taken to prepare the ground for both of these kinds of crops, by frequent ploughing and harrowing; and when the soil appears to be sufficiently pulverized, the manure is applied in drills, and in general an excellent crop rewards the industry and expense of the tenant. The manure is generally such as has been made upon the farm, and from the number of cattle kept, and the great quantity of turnips and fodder consumed, it has not been found necessary, except in a very few instances, to have recourse to bone dust, or other manures. And here it may be proper to state, that a great number of milk cows are regularly kept on every farm. Butter and cheese are articles to which the farmer looks as much for the payment of his rent, as to his oats and barley, and hence the great quantities of each which are regularly sent to the Edinburgh market. It is the general practice for the farmers to keep from fifteen to twenty cows, and in some instances there are no fewer than thirty-five or forty. The former practice was to make butter, and what was termed skim-milk or common cheese, but of late several of the farmers have got into the way of making sweet milk

or Dunlop cheese, which generally meets with a more ready market, and brings a fair price.

All the variety of turnip is cultivated ; but the globe, red-top, and yellow are the most common, the latter having almost supplanted the *ruta бага*, which is now very partially cultivated, as it is generally supposed to require both land of the best quality, and a larger portion of manure to ensure a good crop. Carrots have, in a few instances, and to a very limited extent, been sown, and have been found very useful, both as an article for domestic use, and as food for horses. Were this species of crop cultivated to a greater extent, there is little doubt, that a considerable portion of oats might be saved, and horses kept in fully as good condition as now. From the quantity of saccharine matter contained in them, they must be highly nutritious, and, being given along with a proper proportion of oats, would tend to keep the animal frame in a healthy state.

Improvements.—There are few parishes where improvements have been carried on to such an extent, and with so great advantage to the property. As a proof of the extent to which draining has been carried, it may be sufficient to state, that upwards of 20,000 yards, or nearly twelve miles of covered drains have been put into the ground within the last sixteen or eighteen years, and these drains are generally from five to seven feet and a half in depth, and all of them three feet filled with stones. Besides these, there have also been executed within the same period nearly 5000 yards of open drains, and also a considerable extent of surface drains, to prepare the ground for planting. A considerable improvement has also been effected in the way of erecting additional fences. All these improvements were suggested and carried on by the late Colonel Anstruther, and the excellent effects which have resulted from them clearly prove that they were planned with much judgment. It may also be remarked, that, on the property of Westown, a very great improvement has been effected, by breaking up a portion of land, which was in some measure lying waste, but which, by the judicious application of skill and capital, has been made to yield excellent crops.

Owing to particular circumstances, the duration of leases has been very short, and consequently unfavourable to the occupier ; for no tenant will, under a lease of six or seven years, embark much of his capital in the improvement of his farm, when he has no certainty of possessing it for a longer period, and when the very improvement which he has effected may be the means of inducing others to overbid him, and thus reap the fruits of his skill and in-

dustry. In reference to the state of the farm buildings, it may be said that they are not so good as they ought to be, and, compared with those in other parts of the country, are decidedly inferior. It ought, however, at the same time, to be stated, that the tenants in general are contented with them, and seem more desirous to improve their farms, and to excel in husbandry, than to enjoy elegant houses.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish cannot be accurately ascertained. The following is an approximation towards it, but is only to be viewed in that light:

Of oats and barley, 580 acres, yielding 6 bolls per acre, at 15s.	L. 2610
Of potatoes and turnips, 200 acres, at L. 5 per acre,	1000
Of hay, 200 acres, yielding 150 stones per acre, at L. 3 per 100 stones,	900
Of pasture, 900 acres, at L. 2 per acre,	1800
Of do. 1180 acres, at 5s. per acre,	295
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	L. 6605

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town, &c.—The nearest town is that of Carnwath, at the distance of three miles; but in consequence of the Clyde intervening, and the river being frequently impassable, particularly in winter, the inhabitants generally resorted to Lanark, at the distance of five miles and a half, having easy access to it by a bridge over the Clyde at Hyndford. The communication with Carnwath, however, was greatly facilitated about six or seven years ago, by means of a large boat, or float, stationed where the ford formerly was, and open at each end; and by means of which the river can now be passed at all times, except when it rises to such a height as completely to overflow the road, and to render the entrance into the boat impracticable. The float is attached to a patent chain cable stretched across the river, is worked so easily by machinery, that a boy can manage it, is capable of receiving cattle, and carriages of every description, and can even at one time convey four carts across. It has been found to be of great advantage to the parish, and, indeed, to all the adjoining district. It cost at first about L. 500, and the public are indebted for it to a few public-spirited gentlemen in the neighbourhood, viz. the late Sir Charles Macdonald Lockhart, Bart., the late Colonel Anstruther, Henry Monteith, Esq. of Carstairs, and some others, who came voluntarily forward, and subscribed the requisite amount. A small sum is exacted in crossing, but the facility and security afforded is so great, that the exaction is readily complied with. Before it was established, it frequently happened that, during the winter months,

there was little or no communication with Carnwath, except by travelling nine or ten miles.

Means of Communication.—The only turnpike road connected with the parish is that leading from Carlisle to Stirling, which passes merely through a corner of the parish. The parish roads are kept in excellent repair, and afford a ready communication in every direction.

Besides a number of enclosures which formerly existed, there have recently been erected stone fences to the extent of 4840 yards. They are from four to five feet in height, and cost 1s. 3d. per yard in erecting.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is conveniently situate for the greater part of the population; those farthest removed from it do not exceed two miles. The belfry bears date 1696, with the inscription "Holiness becomes God's house;" but it appears to have formed part of a much older building than the present church. The church is in good repair, having been completely reseated in 1820. It affords accommodation for 234, according to the legal calculation; and there are 48 free sittings. The patronage belongs to Sir W. C. Anstruther, Bart.

The present manse was built in 1820, and is a very excellent and comfortable house. The former manse, which was built in 1711, is still in existence, and being found substantial though small, it was converted, in 1820, into office houses, for which purpose it answers exceedingly well. The glebe consists of about 10 acres, including site of the house, garden, &c. but only 8 acres of these are, properly speaking, arable, the remaining portion being unfit for any other purpose than pasturing, in consequence of its being precipitous and near the rock. It may be valued from L. 25 to L. 30. The stipend is partly made up by the Government bounty. It consists of 52 bolls oatmeal, with some fractional parts, 28 bolls bear do. do.; from the heritors, L. 50, 19s. 4½d.; from the Exchequer, L. 47, 6s.

There are no chapels of any description in the parish, the whole population being connected with the church, except four or five individuals, and it ought to be stated to the credit of the parishioners that the church is in general well attended. The number of communicants is about 200.

Education.—There is but one school in the parish, the parochial school, which is of course endowed. The branches commonly taught are, English, English grammar, writing, arithmetic, Latin,

and geography. The salary of the parochial schoolmaster is 1 chalder, 14 bolls, amounting to nearly L. 32. Besides his salary, he draws the interest of 500 merks mortified in 1708 by the Earl of Hyndford. His fees may amount to L. 17 per annum. With respect to a house, he may be said to have the legal accommodation, in so far as he has two apartments, but they are very small. An allowance is granted on account of the garden falling short of the legal extent. The general expense of education for the year may be estimated about 10s. 6d. This is to be understood as applicable only to the common branches. All the youth betwixt six and fifteen years of age have been taught to read, and generally to write; and it is not supposed, that there are more than two or three above fifteen years of age who cannot read or write.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of poor is not great, although greater than at some former periods. Only a few of the most necessitous get a regular allowance, the practice having been for the session to grant, from time to time, such occasional relief as the necessities of the individuals seemed to require; and this was done with the view of keeping up as much as possible the spirit of independence, which it is to be lamented does not prevail to the same extent as formerly. The collections for the poor are necessarily limited, in consequence of there being no resident heritor. They may amount to L. 8 per annum, and the deficiency for the support of the poor is at present made up by a voluntary contribution from the heritors and tenants in equal proportions. There were some funds belonging to the poor, but, owing to particular circumstances, it has of late been found necessary to uplift a portion of them to meet the necessities of the poor.

There are neither fairs nor ale-houses in the parish.

Fuel.—The fuel which is chiefly consumed consists of coal, brought from the parishes of Carnwath or Douglas, at the distance of eight or nine miles, and costing at the coal-hill about 3s. for 12 cwt.

November 1838.