

PARISH OF EAST KILBRIDE.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON, SYNOD OF GLASGOW AND AYR.

THE REV. HENRY MONCREIFF, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE last syllable of the word *Kilbride* is a contraction for *Bridget* or *Brigid*, the Gaelic name of a saint, greatly famed in the legends of the Church of Rome. Disputes have been raised as to the place of her nativity, and it was supposed by Archbishop Usher, that there might be two saints of the same name, one belonging to Ireland, and the other to Scotland. However this may be, many places in Scotland have been dedicated to St Bridget. It is probable that the church of East Kilbride was originally one of the buildings erected in honour of her. The syllable *Kil* comes from *Cil*, a Gaelic word for a *church or burying-place*; and the name signifies *the church or burying-place belonging to St Bridget*. The parish is called East Kilbride, to distinguish it from West Kilbride, in the county of Ayr.

Boundaries, Extent, Situation, Topography, &c.—The village of East Kilbride is seven miles distant from Glasgow, as the crow flies. By the best and most frequented road, the distance is nearly eight miles. The position of the village may be represented as rather more than six miles and a half to the south, and somewhat more than a mile and a half to the east, of the western metropolis. The most northern point of the parish lies about a mile to the north-east of Kittockside, which has been described as the pleasantest village in it, and which is not far from its north-western boundary. This point is about four miles from Glasgow, as the crow flies, and about two miles to the west of the point at which the parish is most frequently entered, and which is situated about six miles from Glasgow by the main road, a short way to the north of the village of Nerston, the name of which is a contraction for North-East Town. The circumference of the parish is very irregular and undulating in its outline. In other respects, the shape is that of a sand-glass, the breadth in

the northern and southern portions being considerable, while it is very much diminished towards the centre. A line drawn across the northern half of the sand-glass, through its centre from east to west, would give a breadth of very nearly five miles. From the north-western corner, near which the road from Kilbride to Busby enters the parish of Carmunnock, to the north-eastern corner, which is not far from being in a direct line eastward, the distance is about five miles and a half; the breadth is nowhere else so great. At one part of the southern half of the sand-glass, the distance is about five miles from a point on the east, at which a bye-road, leading from the direct Strathavon and Kilbride road towards a place called Blackburn, crosses the Powmillon rivulet, to the point on the west where the road from Alderstocks to Eaglesham enters the parish of Eaglesham. In the centre of the parish, at the narrowest part, the breadth is not so much as two miles and a half, and, at the south end, it is only three miles. From the most southern point beyond Browncastle, a place considerably farther south than Strathavon, to the most northern already mentioned, the distance is nine miles and three-quarters, being the extreme length of the parish. The number of square miles is 35.50.

East Kilbride is in the middle ward of Lanarkshire, and is bounded on the north by the parishes of Carmunnock and Cambuslang; on the east, by Blantyre, Glassford, and Avondale; on the south, by Avondale and Loudon; and on the west, by Loudon, Eaglesham, and Carmunnock.

The least elevated ground in the parish is at Crossbasket, the seat of Alexander Downie, Esq. which lies on the road leading from Kilbride by Blantyre to Hamilton, about half a mile from the north-eastern corner, close to the border of Blantyre parish, and about 200 feet above the level of the sea. The highest ground is the top of Eldrig, a hill situated about the centre of the western side of the southern half of the sand-glass, extending into Eaglesham, and about seven miles distant from Crossbasket in a direct line. Its height is at least 1600 feet above the sea. From Crossbasket to Eldrig there is a gradual ascent, consisting of a regular succession of small hills, with very little level ground between them. A considerable part of the parish is moor-land, which commences about two miles to the north of Eldrig, and continues a considerable way down the south side of the ridge where Kilbride borders with Loudon. Eldrig is the highest part of that ridge formed by the hills in Eaglesham, Mearns, Neilston, &c.

The most direct road from Glasgow to Strathavon passes through the village of Kilbride. It takes its course within the parish for nearly five miles from its entrance into it out of Cambuslang parish, at the north of Nerston, to its exit from it in a south-eastern direction into Glassford parish at the bridge over the Calder, where that stream forms the southern boundary of Torrance, the estate of the principal proprietor. This road is very hilly, but otherwise excellent, being wide and kept in good repair.

Hydrography.—There are four streams deriving their origin from this parish, of sufficient consequence to deserve our notice. The Powmillon rises in the neighbourhood of Claddens and Dykehead, towards the eastern side of the southern portion of the parish. It flows in a south-easterly direction, and for about two miles it nearly forms the eastern boundary. When it reaches the south-eastern corner, it runs into Avondale parish, and, after passing through the town of Strathavon, joins the Avon at no great distance.

The Kittock rises in the northern portion about two miles to the southward of the village of Kilbride. It has its origin in a marsh commonly called Kittock's eye; it runs by the villages of Kilbride and Kittockside, passes the house of Piel, and joins the Cart beyond Busby; to which place the north-western boundary of the parish anciently extended, and still extends in relation to its civil affairs; though, as regards spiritual matters, the lands of Busby are now included in Carmunnock.

The White Cart and the Calder both originate in Eldrig. The Calder runs within the parish in a north-easterly direction for more than seven miles. From the central and narrowest part of the parish till it reaches Crossbasket, it is nearly coincident with the eastern boundary. Its banks, as it passes through the woods of Torrance and Calderwood, present scenes of no ordinary interest. Among these woods it takes its course in a variety of beautiful meanders. Directly opposite to Calderwood House it has formed a natural cascade at the distance of about 200 yards. It is impossible here to do justice either to the natural beauties of Calderwood in connection with this river, or to the taste and well-directed zeal of its present proprietor, Sir William Alexander Maxwell, Bart., as displayed in his exertions to make them appear to the best advantage by the assistance of human art. It is sufficient to say that the highest expectations will not be disappointed. The situation of Crossbasket is also extremely picturesque. After

leaving Crossbasket, the Calder mainly follows, though its course is broken by irregular windings, the boundary line between Cambuslang and Blantyre parishes for about three miles, till it reaches the confines of old Monkland parish, and there joins the Clyde.

The White Cart, after leaving Eldrig, forms the western boundary for more than four miles northward. About half a mile directly to the west of Jackton, the most western village in the parish, it meets Carmunnock parish, and bounds it on the west for about five miles. It then leaves Carmunnock about a mile from the church of Cathcart, and after passing close to that church, it turns westward, runs by Pollockshaws to Paisley, and is finally discharged into the Clyde between the parishes of Renfrew and Inchiunan.

The water of the wells in the village of Kilbride and the immediate vicinity is, for the most part, calcareous. In the other parts of the parish, the water is generally of the same character where the wells are deep.

Climate, &c.—The prevailing wind is from the south-west. There is more humidity in the atmosphere of the upper and more southern parts of the parish, than in that of the lower and more northern. The quantity of rain which falls annually in the former portion is considerably greater. The climate is rather cold, from the elevation. The frost sets in early, and continues late. But the air is, on the whole, pure and bracing. The tendency of the parish in regard to the health of its inhabitants has probably undergone a considerable change for the better within the last thirty or forty years, in consequence of the improvements that have been made in agriculture. In the course of twenty years previous to the present, there have only been two occasions on which fever has spread among the people, and only one in which it prevailed to any great extent. It is a remarkable circumstance, with which I have been made acquainted by a most competent medical witness, viz. George Espie, Esq. M. D. Brousterland, that, in the year preceding that in which Asiatic cholera was first known to be prevalent in this country, there occurred upwards of thirty cases in the parish of East Kilbride, of a character such as would now be considered to indicate the presence of that frightful malady. In the year 1832 itself there were only one or two instances of the disease. Consumption is not unfrequently to be met with in this parish. But I am not aware of any complaint so specially prevalent in it as to merit particular notice.

*Geology and Mineralogy.**—The parish of East Kilbride forms part of that vast accumulation of coal, limestone, and iron, intermingled with irrupted igneous rocks of the trap series, which cross the island in a belt from the coast of Ayrshire, opposite the Isle of Arran in the west, to the mouth of the Frith of Forth in the east. The great coal beds in the parishes of Hamilton, Bothwell, and the Monklands, to the east and north, geologically speaking, lie higher in the series, and above the lime beds of Kilbride. The coals which lie above the limestone are, therefore, too high up in the series to be found in this parish, and the coals which lie at the bottom of the limestone formations, as at Ponfeich in Carmichael, are too far down to be reached here: the parish of Kilbride, therefore, does not abound in coal of the best quality. At Blacklaw, or Mount Cameron, there are two seams of coal. The first seam is about three feet thick, and between it and the lower seam, which is two feet thick, there are six fathoms of freestone. The dip is south. In other places coal also has been found; but it is only of the inferior sort which occurs in the middle limestone series, and is used chiefly for burning lime. Coal for culinary and household purposes is chiefly brought from neighbouring parishes, where it is found above the lime.

Limestone† rocks of various sorts abound in this parish, and, as in other places in the west of Scotland, occur chiefly in plies or beds of from 3 to 7 or 10 feet in thickness. At Shields, limestone is wrought within a gunshot of a whinstone quarry, and all along the western borders of, and towards the boundaries of the parish with Renfrewshire and Ayrshire, limestone with greenstone are much inter-

* This part of the Account has been furnished by the Rev. William Patrick.

† In the Account of the parish of Blantyre, which borders on this parish to the north and east, a fuller and more detailed description of the geology of this district will be found. In connection with the geology of both parishes the following facts deserve notice: At Mauchline Hole the river Calder winds along the base of a precipice, in which at least ten distinct beds of ironstone may be traced for a considerable distance. These several beds, of an average thickness of 5 or 6 inches, are separated by beds of schist, containing nodules of ironstone, along with many fossil and vegetable impressions, with the *productus* and *euomphalus* in great abundance. The upper portion of this escarpment is formed of freestone, and also of coal-sandstone, with vegetable impressions. In this same formation coal has been wrought at the same height near Mauchline Hole. The bed of the Calder here is a deep water-worn passage excavated through thick plies of calcareous rocks, and from many trials made they seem to be at least 6 feet thick. If we connect these appearances with some of the *auvill* ball sections on the Calder, near Calder wood, it results that the coal alternates with the beds of limestone containing numerous fossils of the transition period. The same phenomena reproduced, according to M. Dufrenoy, near Alston-Moor, in Cumberland, would lead to the conclusion, that the Glasgow coal-field belongs to the very lowest of the carboniferous strata. From its connection also with the old red sandstone at Lanerk, and the Leadhills greywacke, this is perfectly obvious.

mingled. At Allerton farm, in the bed of the Cart, limestone is seen dipping in below the igneous rocks, at an angle of 40° west; a little below, ironstone occurs above the limestone at an angle of 8° north. At Allerton, the limestone is all lying on its edge; a clear proof that it had been deposited before the eruption of the igneous rocks, and afterwards disturbed by them. Limestone above the bridge at Netherbridge dips 40° south. Limestone with greenstone alternates frequently in the Cart, till it bounds this parish. Thornton Glen is full of limestone. It is also wrought at Hillhead, in the lands of Drip, at Hall, and at Thornton. These are all one bed or post. The greenstone comes in to the north. The limestone at Braehead is also cut off by the whin at Carmunnock. In Shields quarry the limestone seems to be on an anticlinal line, dipping east at 18° , and west at 5° . At Newlands the limestone posts are nearly horizontal, the whole, with the dip of the earth and shale above being only about 3° north. As the plies here are very interesting, on account of the appearance of Roman cement, we give them as follows:—

1. A layer of blaze, several feet in thickness, almost as hard as clay-slate.
2. Roman cement, *i. e.* lime with ironstone 8 inches thick.
3. Common slate-clay or blaze.
4. Limestone $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick.
5. Two inches of the same black hard blaze, as above the Roman cement.

Roman cement is also found at Clay-brae, Limekilns, and Mossneuk, of the very best quality.

One remarkable feature in the lime deposits here is their connection with the trap and other igneous rocks, which are sometimes seen above it, sometimes underneath it, and occasionally interstratified with it. In some places the limestone is completely turned on edge, and in other places, as Hermyres, and at Shields, near Newton, the rock is rent into wide perpendicular fissures, almost the whole depth of the stratum.

The limestone when first denuded of its diluvial covering is full of inequalities, and smooth and undulating as if water-worn. These inequalities are generally observed to arise from the presence of shells and other marine products, which, being harder than the lime, are not so easily rubbed or fretted away. The whole affords a decisive proof of some great changes since the limestone first began to be deposited; but as to what these changes were, their causes or amount, such inquiries belong entirely to another branch of the science, and fall within the province of the speculative geologist.

Much interesting information may also be found on the lime-

works of Kilbride, in Mr Ure's History of Rutherglen and Kilbride.

The igneous rocks are mostly varieties of trap, with that volcanic-looking rock the Osmond stone, which abounds on the west side of the parish. It is seen in great perfection about the head of the Cart, particularly in a rock at Craigend facing the west, in great amorphous masses; some pieces like a compact whin. The burn forming the west branch of the head of Cart rests entirely on the Osmond stone. It is of a speckled greenish colour at the bottom of the water, but where exposed to the air chiefly of a grayish hue. In this locality it abounds with rolled balls of porphyritic trap. Down the water about a hundred yards, a blue trap occurs much water-worn, which seems to be the rock on which the Osmond is lying. The rocks about Millhouse are all of a coarse trap conglomerate, or of the roughest sort of Osmond, and near the mill a dike of pure trap runs through the Osmond, a pretty plain proof that the trap is of a more modern date. The head of Cart, formed by the junction of Torburn and Thriepland burn, for a mile or two, is chiefly of Osmond. The dip, if it has any true dip, appears generally at angle of 30° north. At Craigenfich, the rocks of this formation are very high, perhaps forty or fifty feet. The coarsest and roundest aggregate is always uppermost, and the finest and most compacted below. It is from these lowest portions of the accumulated mass that the stones for bakers' ovens, and other purposes where the resistance to heat is required, are chiefly found. This mass of accumulated igneous matter bears many marks of a volcanic origin. The heaviest and densest portions of the aggregate are found below, and often bear the marks of accumulated pressure, whereas the roundest and lightest of the mass is above, and seems to have floated on the other. Its pores or crevices are often filled with steatites, and sulphate of barytes, and not unfrequently with calcareous spar, and occasionally with zeolite. To the north this great mass of volcanic matter lies on limestone and slate-clay, and in the south chiefly on blue trap. Its chief component part seems to be clay. Acids do not affect it. It is harsh to the touch, and breaks with uneven surfaces in all directions. It stands a great heat without being rent or melted, and hence its use for bakers' ovens, &c.

This parish abounds with excellent freestone, which is interstratified between the limestone and coals. There is an excellent quarry

at Dalmuir, with a dip 5° west. Much of this stone is carried to Eaglesham and other places, where the whinstone only occurs.

As Mr Ure has nearly exhausted the mineralogy of this district, (although not very full on its geology,) it may be as well to give the result of his labours in a tabular form.

Earths and Stones.—*Argillaceous.*—Potter's clay; camstones; bluish pipe-clay; black-grey till, with vegetable impressions; fire-clay, till full of entrochi, shells, &c.; hard black slaty till; uncommon till, called by the miners *Maggy*; inflammable schistus; argillaceous breccia; Osmond stone; white steatites; sulphate of barytes; white fibrous zeolite, also compact and crystallized, or in radiated crystals in till.

Calcareous.—Limestone replete with marine productions; limestone flag; fine white limestone; also reddish limestone, containing some iron; limestone with selenite and manganese; also limestone spar, semitransparent, and of a rhomboidal form, sometimes opaque, reddish, fibrous, pyramydical, prismatic, or in hexahedral and truncated crystals. Lime is also found in the state of stalactites and stalagmites, and in incrustations of various plants of the class Cryptogamia.

Saxa silicia.—Quartz nodules; whinstone containing felspar, quartz, and shorl; petrosilex; freestone; millstone grit; coal; petroleum; pyrites in nodules, &c. &c.

Metallic substances.—Hæmatites; ironstone; calcareous ironstone, in tetrahedral prisms and in balls; Ludus Helmontii; septaria, or waxen veins; ætites, or eaglestone; blood-red argillaceous iron ore (keel), and galena at Eldridge.

Extraneous Fossils.—*Vegetable Impressions.*—Arundo, or bamboo of India; Equisetaceæ; impressions of ferns and roots of plants; branches of trees in a charred state in coal and freestone; impressions of exotic pines; impressions of the bark of oak in freestones, &c.

Marine Petrifications.—Of univalve shells there occurs the *Patella* or limpet, *Orthoceratites*, *Cornua Ammonis*, smooth and round, also flat; *Cochleæ*, *Helices*, chambered *Nautilus*, *Turbo*, *Terebra*, *Buccinum*, *Trochus*, *Serpula*, *Planorbis*. Of bivalves there occur the cockle, muscle, *Anomia lævis*, with various other species of *Anomiæ*; *Conchæ pilosæ*, *Pecten*, and various *Echini*. *Entrochi* occur, including screwstones, fairy-beads, witch-beads, limestone-beads, *Astropodiæ*, with various siliceous substances containing shells.

Coralloides.—*Junci Lapidei*, *Astroitæ*, *Fungitæ*, *Milleporæ*, *Escharæ*, and *Retepori*, or fan-coral.

Fishes' Teeth.—*Plectronites*, *incisores*, with many undescribed species.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

According to the Chartulary of Glasgow, East Kilbride church belonged to the Bishops of Glasgow, and was confirmed to them by a bull from Pope Alexander III. in the year 1178; by another from Pope Lucius III. in 1181; and by another from Pope Urban III. 1186. From the same authority it appears, that Roger de Valnois had a castle at East Kilbride in 1182 and 1189.

In the Taxed Bagimont's Roll, L.16 Scots is the sum fixed for the ecclesiastical property in East Kilbride at the Reformation. Mr John Stevenson, who was also chantor of Glasgow Cathedral, held this parsonage, which was then worth L. 266, 13s. 4d. Scots per annum, as appears from the MSS. Rental Roll in the Rotuli Scotorum, fol. 8.

A most interesting volume was published in the year 1793, by the late Rev. David Ure, A. M., (who was at that time a licentiate of the Church of Scotland, who had for many years acted as assistant to Mr David Connell, minister of the parish, and who was afterwards himself the minister of the parish of Uphall,) entitled "The History of Rutherglen and East Kilbride." The avowed object of this work, as announced on its title-page, was to promote the study of antiquity and natural history. The first and second chapters of it relate to the civil history, antiquities, and general circumstances of the burgh and parish of Rutherglen. In the fifth and sixth chapters, the author treats of the natural history of Rutherglen and East Kilbride in conjunction. The third and fourth are devoted to the civil history, antiquities, and general circumstances of East Kilbride. Mr Ure sent a compend of his account of East Kilbride to Sir John Sinclair, which forms the sixty-second number of the work with which that gentleman favoured the public. But a perusal of the compend can furnish no adequate idea of the value of Mr Ure's own publication. Its fulness and accuracy are most remarkable, when the date of its composition is considered. I am not aware that it has left anything to be supplied in regard to the civil history of the parish before its author's time, or in regard to the antiquities, except in so far as the condition of remains may have since been altered. The work was pub-

lished in Glasgow by subscription, and there appear to have been nearly nine hundred copies subscribed for.

Before the reign of King Robert Bruce, nearly two-thirds of this parish belonged to the powerful family of the Cummins. The whole was forfeited by the treachery of John Cummin, whom Bruce killed at Dumfries. The same possessions were given, in the year 1382, to John Lindsay of Dunrode, successor to James Lindsay, who assisted the king in killing the traitor. The Lindsays, preferring their new possessions in Kilbride to their ancient family seat, near Gourrock, took up their residence in the parish. It is reported that the last representative of this family was remarkable for his haughtiness, oppression, and every kind of vice. Among the instances of his cruelty it is told, that, when playing on the ice, he ordered a hole to be made in it, and one of his vassals, who had inadvertently disoblged him in some trifling circumstance, to be immediately drowned. The place has ever since been called Crawford's Hole, from the name of the man who perished in it. Tradition also mentions, that this haughty and cruel chieftain was soon afterwards brought very low, and that, having worn out the remains of a wretched life, he at length died in a barn belonging to one of his former tenants. "Such," says Mr Ure, "was the miserable end of one of the greatest and most opulent families in this country."

The family of Lickprivick made a considerable figure long before the reign of Robert Bruce. On account of singular services, they obtained, in the year 1397, the heritable title of Sergeantry and Coronership in the Lordship of Kilbride, along with considerable emoluments inseparable from it. The charter was renewed to them by James I. of Scotland, James IV., and James VI. More recently, the title, with the profits, became connected with the estate of Torrance. One of the Lickprivick family was printer to James VI. The name appears to have now become extinct in this part of the country. Mr Ure mentions the death of the last person bearing it, of whom he had heard, as having taken place at Strathavon, a few years before he published his book.

The family of which the present Sir William A. Maxwell, Bart. of Calderwood is the representative, may be traced back, in their connection with this parish, and by the name of Maxwell, to so early a period as the reign of Alexander III. The family, represented by Miss Stuart of Torrance, the principal proprietor of the parish, derive their origin, through the Stuarts of Castlemilk,

from Sir William Stuart, who is mentioned in Rymer's *Fœdera Angliæ* as one of the sureties given on the part of Scotland, in 1398, for the preservation of the peace of the Western Marches between England and Scotland; and who, along with his brother, Sir John Stuart of Darnley, went to France during the reign of James I. of Scotland, and rendered such signal services to Charles VII. of France, that they are mentioned with high encomiums by many historians of those times.

The Maxwells of Calderwood and the Stuarts of Torrance have frequently given to the nation men of distinguished ability, who have honourably supported leading characters in the camp or the court. Many of them have acted a conspicuous part both in Europe and in the East and West Indies.

The parish of East Kilbride comprehends the ancient parish of Torrance, the name of which is derived from *Torran*, the diminutive of *Tor*, "a mount." At the Reformation this parish was held by the Hamiltons, (cadets of the family of Hamilton,) and was leased for forty merks yearly. It probably embraced the estate of Torrance, of which the Hamiltons were proprietors. Its name was taken from an artificial mound of earth, still known by the name of the *Tor*, which is situated about a quarter of a mile from the present House of Torrance. It is about an hundred and sixty yards round the base, and twenty of ascent. The area on the top is of an oval shape, and there are some trees of considerable height now standing upon it. The earth seems to have been originally dug out on all sides evenly round the spot, in order to construct it. It appears now in a plantation very near the modern road from Kilbride to Strathavon. The old kirk of Torrance stood about half a mile from the mansion-house, near the village of Newhouse Mill, on the border of Blantyre parish. It was left to fall into ruins after 1539, and had been totally demolished long before Mr Ure's time. He mentions that human bones were occasionally dug up in what had been the adjoining burying-ground. About twenty-five years ago, the tenant of Newhouse Mill farm, removed all the earth of this ancient churchyard, in order to enrich the soil of one of his fields. Mauchline Hole, or Calder Glen, as it is now called, which has recently been united to the estate of Calderwood, is said to have been the residence of the rectors of Torrance. The records of the presbytery of Glasgow, in 1589, inform us, that the parish of Torrance was, in that year, annexed to the parish of Kilbride, "as being a pendicle thereof, and as next adjacent to the said kirk."

The lands of Busby were detached from the parish of Kilbride, and annexed to Carmunnock, *quoad sacra*, in 1642, and again in 1725.

In Popish times, the rector of East Kilbride was *chantor* to the Cathedral of Glasgow. Wodrow in his history observes, that, about the middle of the seventeenth century, the people of this parish were greatly divided in their religious opinions. The Rev. John Burnet was the Presbyterian minister at the Restoration, and had then laboured for many years, with much popularity and success. He was outed from his charge, and deprived of his living, by the Act 1662. He was offered the indulgence in 1673, not long before his death. He was not so strongly opposed to this measure as many of his brethren. But he felt it to be his duty to decline the offer; and his reasons for not accepting of it, along with his letter to the Duke of Lauderdale, are to be found among the Testimonies of the Scots Worthies, as published at Glasgow in 1829. Wodrow says of him, that, "though he had no freedom to fall in with the indulgence himself, yet he was very opposite to division upon that score, and both heard the indulged ministers, and pressed his people in Kilbride to do so; that he had been singularly useful in that parish, where there were a great many Quakers and Separatists; and that, by the excellence of his preaching and other labours, he had reclaimed the greater part of them." From his death to that of Mr David Connell, in 1790, the people were united in religion. But, when a presentation from the Crown, to supply the vacancy which that event occasioned, was procured for Mr James French, then minister of Carmunnock, a division took place, and a meeting-house was immediately built in the village of Kilbride, in connection with the Relief body.

The name of Flakefield took its rise from a place called Flakefield, in the southern division of this parish. A young man of the name of Wilson went from Flakefield to Glasgow, and commenced business as a merchant, about the middle of the seventeenth century. To distinguish himself from another Wilson, who had come with the same views from the same neighbourhood, he assumed the name of Flakefield, which he ever afterwards retained. This person's son was the means of giving rise to a very lucrative and useful branch of business, by which the prosperity of Glasgow was greatly advanced. A particular account of the circumstances connected with the origin of that business is to be found in Mr Ure's History.

The village of Kilbride was constituted a burgh of barony about the end of Queen Anne's reign, and the inhabitants were empowered by the grant to hold a weekly market on Tuesday, besides four fairs in the year. When the plague raged in Glasgow the people in Kilbride, and in the neighbouring parts of the country, would not approach nearer the city with their marketable goods than a hill about half a mile to the north of Kilbride, on the old road to Glasgow, to which the inhabitants of Glasgow consequently resorted, as a temporary market-place, and which has ever since retained the name of *the market-hill*.

The parish of East Kilbride is remarkable for having been the residence of Mrs Jean Cameron, a lady of a distinguished family, whose zealous attachment to the exiled house of Stuart, and whose active exertions for its interest, in 1745, made her well known through Britain. Mr Ure gives a description of her character and manners, as she appeared during the latter part of her life, which is fitted to produce a most favourable impression. After the public scenes in which she took a share were at an end, she retired to a bleak and solitary spot, then called *Blacklaw*, which is a small eminence about three-quarters of a mile south-east from the village of Kilbride, where there was a neat and commodious dwelling-house. She there spent the remainder of her days. She attended divine service in the parish church. She died in 1773, and was buried amid a clump of trees on the south side of the house in which she had lived. The trees appear to have been since cut down, for though there are trees not far distant, the grave is now in an open field, and, while it is itself respected, the ground close round it is regularly ploughed over. In the year 1831, there was an old man resident in the parish, of eighty-three years of age, from whom Dr Espie obtained the following information regarding Mrs Jean Cameron, which he communicated in a letter to a friend. The letter was afterwards printed in the *Edinburgh Literary Journal* for October 1831, p. 227. The old man, according to Dr Espie's account, had been a servant to the late well-known Professor Miller of Glasgow, who resided at the time at *Whitemoss*, a place within the parish, a short way to the east of Kilbride, and who ordered this man to go to church early on the first Sabbath after Mrs Cameron arrived, to prevent any of his tenantry from occupying his seat, lest there might not be proper accommodation for her. He stated to Dr Espie that she had the farms of *Blacklaw* and *Roddenhead* in her possession; that she kept

cows on Blacklaw, and let the other farm; that she was often a visitor at Whitemoss, sometimes at Torrance, and at Calderwood; and that she was highly respected by the neighbouring gentry. He was at her funeral, and walked close after her brother from the house to the grave. About twenty years ago, a tenant of Blacklaw opened her grave, in the hope of finding gold rings on her fingers, but was disappointed. The place has since been known by the name of Mount Cameron.

Long Calderwood, a place about a mile and a half to the north-east of the village of Kilbride, must always be peculiarly interesting to literary and scientific men, as having been the birth-place of Dr William Hunter, eminent both as a physician and as a scientific inquirer; and of his brother, Dr John Hunter, who, having arrived at the head of his profession in London, distinguished himself so greatly both by his medical investigations and in other respects.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners of the parish are, Miss Stuart of Torrance; Lady Montgomery; Sir William Alexander Maxwell of Calderwood; and William Kippen, Esq. The nearest gentleman's seat to the village of Kilbride is that of Patrick Graham, Esq. of Limekilns; but the greater part of his property lies in other parishes. Property of considerable extent in point of valuation is also held in the parish of Kilbride by the Duke of Hamilton; by Alexander Downie, Esq. of Crossbasket; and by John Reid, Esq. of Kittochside. There are 18 proprietors, of whom each has land with above L. 100 Scots of valuation. There are about 110 who possess land to a greater or a less extent, or have such house property as to give them valuation.

Parochial Registers.—The oldest parochial register extant bears to have been commenced on the 20th of March 1688. The first register of a marriage is dated the 28th of that month. The first register of a birth is dated the 1st of April of the same year. The register has since been kept with tolerable regularity.

Antiquities.—In the neighbourhood of Kittochside, there were two ancient fortifications, referred to by Mr Ure. They stood on two hills, now known by the names of Castlehill and Rough-hill. The former is on the north, and the latter to the south of the Kittoch; the distance between them is about 200 yards. They have been so well described by Mr Ure, that it is unnecessary to say more here regarding them, than that since his time the Castlehill has been beautifully covered with trees, and that

none of the stones remain on the top of the Rough-hill. It is worth while, however, to mention a discovery which he made of a *cell* or stone hatchet, lying not far from the ruins on the Rough-hill. It was formed of a coarse kind of ironstone; it was 6½ inches in length, and 3 in breadth at the face, but only 1 at the other end.

The ruins of Mains Castle, once the extensive habitation of the rich and powerful families of the Cummins and the Lindsays of Dunrode, are about a mile to the north of the church and village. They remain much in the same state in which they were described by Mr Ure.

The mansion-house or Castle of Lickprivick stood about a mile and a half to the south of the village. It was probably older than most other buildings known to have existed in the parish. About sixty years before Mr Ure's time, the whole of it was reduced to ruins. When he surveyed the spot, nothing remained but some scattered rubbish. Even that last trace of it has now completely disappeared. But the artificial mound of earth, not far from the site of the building, still continues as a marked object, being 14 feet in height, square at the top, with each side measuring 12 yards.

In 1793, the remains of a very large cairn, called Herlaw or Harelaw, were still to be seen on the farm of Rawhead, about the centre of the parish. The site of it is nearly a mile distant from the present farm of Harelaw. When Mr Ure wrote, some thousand cart loads of stones had at different times been taken from it, and some thousands then remained. The stones appeared to have been gathered from the land. Many urns with fragments of human bones were found in one corner of it, but none of them were preserved. It was about 12 feet in height, and covered a base of 70 feet in diameter. But its dimensions must have been much greater when it was entire.

This cairn was entirely removed about the year 1808, and no distinct remains of it appear on the little mound of earth which was its base. The stones were used as materials in the erection of fences. The spot is now planted with trees, and two or three stones are lying imbedded in the grass, at what was formerly the centre of the pile.

The remains of another cairn were to be seen in Mr Ure's time at Lawknowe, near Mains Castle. It has now entirely disappeared, and its site is occupied by a modern potato-house.

This cairn was peculiar, from having in the bottom a circle of large flags set on edge, not perpendicularly, but sloping a little outward. They were of a hard gritty schistus, found plentifully in the neighbourhood. It is to be regretted that Mr Ure's advice has been neglected, that what still existed of this circle should be allowed to remain as an example of the peculiarity, which is very rare.

Mansion-Houses, &c.—There is no mansion-house in the parish which is entirely modern, except that of Mr Kippen at Lawmuir. The greater part of Crossbasket House is modern. Calderwood House is now receiving an extensive and most beautiful addition. Torrance House has been added to at different times. The oldest part is about 500 years old. It may here be noticed, that the property of Mains now belongs to the Torrance family, and that a stone having the arms of Scotland cut upon it, which was formerly placed over a beautifully arched gate at the chief entry to Mains Castle, by the drawbridge, was, about 100 years ago, transferred by Colonel Stuart to the front of Torrance House, above the entrance. Limekilns House has also been gradually brought to its present state by successive additions. The House of Kirkton Holm, belonging to Sir Alexander Montgomerie Cunningham, was a very elegant modern structure in the time of Mr Ure; but it is not occupied as a family residence at the present day. Cleughern Lodge, belonging to Lady Montgomerie, is a pleasant and convenient residence for shooting quarters. The new manse, with its offices, is a very elegant modern building, as well as a most comfortable habitation, which does great credit at once to the taste and consideration of the heritors. It stands very conspicuously at the south-east end of the village, close to the Strathavon road.

III.—POPULATION.

The following table was taken by Mr Ure, from the session-books, and shows the number of baptisms registered at each of twelve separate dates from 1688 to 1790, inclusive.

Yearly.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1688,	27	20	47
1689,	25	22	47
1700,	21	16	37
1710,	28	30	58
1720,	17	31	48
1740,	26	30	56
1770,	30	25	55
1780,	39	35	74
1785,	29	42	71
1788,	32	31	63
1789,	31	34	65
1790,	30	32	62

No register of burials had then been kept in the parish, so that the difference between the births and the burials could not be ascertained. No accurate calculation, moreover, can be instituted from the above table, as the children's names had not been uniformly enrolled. The return of the population made to Dr Webster in 1755 was only 2029. Not very long before Mr Ure's time, the upper part of the parish was greatly depopulated by the accumulation of small farms into large ones. In 1793, he states that the parish was inhabited by 587 families, which contained 2359 persons, of whom 1065 were males; 1294 females; and 488 children under six years of age. He likewise mentions that the village of Kilbride consisted of 71 dwelling-houses, and was inhabited by 167 families, containing 524 individuals.

Since 1793, a few additional limeworks, and the agricultural improvements, have probably contributed, in some small measure, to produce the increase of population which has taken place. In 1821, there were about 890 inhabitants in the village or town of Kilbride; 225 in the village of Maxwellton; about 30, who might be regarded as a village population, in Nerston; about 50 of the same class in Jackton; about 128 in the village of Busby, which belongs to East Kilbride, *quoad civilia*; about 22 of a village population in Kittochside; about 40 of the same in Crosshill or Aldhouse quarter; and about 2100 of a rural population in the whole parish, *quoad civilia*.

In 1836, there appear to have been about 960 persons resident in the village or town of Kilbride; there were 267 in Maxwellton; and about 2380 in the rest of the parish, *quoad sacra*, that is, exclusive of the Busby quarter. The proportion between the village and the country part of the population cannot have been much altered since 1821, except as regards Kilbride and Maxwellton.

	Males.	Females.
In 1821, there were 525 children under 5 years of age,	282	243
414 between 5 and 10,	221	193
384 10 and 15,	199	185
366 15 and 20,	173	193
650 20 and 30,	316	384
426 30 and 40,	220	206
289 40 and 50,	152	137
195 50 and 60,	98	102
161 60 and 70,	63	98
52 70 and 80,	23	29
22 80 and 90,	9	13
1 female between 90 and 100.*		

* I regret that my data are not such as to enable me to give an accurate statement of a similar kind, in regard to the present time. But, as the accuracy of the above may be relied on, it may, when compared with the other data which I have furnish-

The yearly average of baptisms is not equal to that of births, for some children have remained unbaptised. But I am unable to give a nearer approximation to the truth than what the following statement, regarding the baptisms, may afford. The average number of baptisms yearly in the Established parish church for the last seven years, as per session-books, has been $53\frac{2}{7}$; in the Relief church, as furnished from accurate lists, by the Rev. Mr Cameron, exclusive of the children of persons not living in the parish, 44; total, $97\frac{2}{7}$.

It ought to be observed that, strictly speaking, a few more births should be added, besides the unbaptised, as several born in Kilbride have been baptised in Eaglesham. This remark applies principally to the Dissenters.

It appears from a list kept by the grave-digger, who is also church-officer, and a person who may be relied on for accuracy, that the yearly average number of burials in the parish churchyard for the last seven years has been 71.

It appears from the parish register that the yearly average of marriages for the same time has been $29\frac{2}{7}$.

There are no nobility resident in the parish. There may be from half a dozen to a dozen persons of independent fortune. There are from 80 to 90 proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards.

Character, &c. of the People.—A considerable portion of the people are very poor. This is particularly the case in the village of Kilbride, where there is a number of weavers, but no regular manufactory to keep the people in employment. In the country parts, the population are generally comfortable, industrious, contented, and influenced by the religious habits of their forefathers. There are many persons in the villages of most excellent character, both intellectually, morally, and religiously.

Poaching in game, it is to be feared, prevails to a considerable extent. Smuggling used to be prevalent, but is not so now. There is no licensed pawnbroker, nor is there any reason to suppose that the system of pawnbroking is carried on.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—A considerable portion of the upper and southern part of the parish has never yet been in tillage, but continues in a

ed, as to the comparative state of the population in 1821 and 1836, be of some use in leading to an approximation to what is now the truth. It was made up by the schoolmaster in June 1821.

mossy state. There can be no doubt that additions may hereafter be advantageously made to the cultivated land. There is not much undivided common in the parish.

Planting of trees has not proceeded to any great extent in East Kilbride, except on the grounds of Torrance and Calderwood, and on the ground belonging to Glasgow College. Within the last two years, the College appears to have planted about fifteen acres, and within twenty years previously, they must have planted from twenty to thirty acres. Mr Ure says it is a mistake to suppose that planting will not thrive in the cold climate of Kilbride, because every house almost, even in the most exposed situations, is surrounded with large trees, of various species. But then he mentions that considerable attention was paid to the raising of these trees. The soil was prepared by draining off the water. A handful of oats was thrown into the bottom of the hole dug for the young tree; over these about an inch of good earth was laid; upon this, the roots of the plant were carefully spread and covered up with the best mould that could be got; and the plant secured from the cattle. The oats having come to a state of vegetation, raised a proper degree of heat, and thereby made the plant set forth with vigour.

One cause, which has probably operated to prevent an increase of plantation in this parish, is the great subdivision of property that exists in it. This circumstance, added to the difficulties of the soil and climate, must have deterred the proprietors from attempting to surround their lands with any extent of wood.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land per acre in East Kilbride cannot be more than L. 1, 10s. The average rent of grazing for a single cow may be stated at from L. 3 to L. 4 Sterling per annum, where the grazing is directly paid for by itself. But where the land is rented for the sake of grazing, as is generally the case near the village of Kilbride, the expense may be reckoned to be about L. 5 for each cow.

Rate of Wages.—The rate of payment for labour is about 10s. a-week in winter, and 12s. in summer. In some instances, the weekly wages of quarrymen may be a little higher. The half-yearly wages of farm-servants, in addition to their food, vary from L. 7 to L. 10 Sterling.

I have obtained from a respectable dealer in Kilbride, a list of the medium prices at which he has bought different articles of produce in the parish during the last six years, which is as follows :

1835, meal at 36s. per load of 2½ cwt.	1837, potatoes, 9s. per boll of 16 pecks.
1836, do. 42s. do.	1838, do. 16s. do.
1837, do. 44s. do.	1839, do. 14s. do.
1838, do. 35s. do.	1840, do. 16s. do.
1839, do. 42s. 6d. do.	1835, barley, best sort, at 20s. per cwt.
1840, do. 40s. do.	do. do. second do. 16s. do.
1835, cheese at 45s. per cwt. of 112 lbs.	do. do. third do. 12s. do.
1836, do. 52s. 6d. do.	1836, barley at the same prices.
1837, do. 50s. do.	1837, barley, first, at 19s. per cwt.
1838, do. 50s. do.	do. do. second, at 15s. do.
1839, do. 55s. do.	do. do. third, at 12s. 6d. do.
1840, do. 50s. do.	1838, barley, first, at 21s. per cwt.
1835, butter at 10d. per lb.	do. do. second, at 16s. do.
1836, do. 11d. do.	do. do. third, at 13s. do.
1837, do. 10d. do.	1839, barley, first, at 21s. per cwt.
1838, do. 11d. do.	do. do. second, at 15s. do.
1839, do. 11d. do.	do. do. third, at 14s. do.
1840, do. 11d. do.	1840, barley, first, at 21s. do.
1835, potatoes, 9s. per boll of 16 pecks.	do. do. second, at 16s. do.
1836, do. 16s. do.	do. do. third, at 12s. do.

The above table may be relied upon as conveying accurate information. It gives the wholesale prices, and the person who drew it up keeps a general shop for selling these and other articles in retail. He assures me that his purchases were made within the parish.

“Insurmountable obstacles,” says Mr Ure, at the commencement of his fourth chapter, “both from the soil and climate, will always obstruct agricultural improvements in this parish.” These insurmountable obstacles have, however, in the course of the last forty years, been surmounted in a great degree. I am informed that the effect of the improvements has been such as to make both seed-time and harvest earlier on an average than formerly. The extent to which the draining of land has advanced in East Kilbride, within the last twenty years, is highly creditable. Indeed, sixty years ago, Mr Reid of Castlehill had set a praiseworthy example in this respect. But it was not till within the last fifteen years, that it was generally followed. At a period from twelve to fifteen years ago, the parish of Kilbride was found taking the lead of all the neighbouring country in the improvement of land by draining. The exertions which its heritors and farmers then made, operated as an incitement to those of other parishes, to adopt a similar course. It may now be affirmed that, in most of the farms in the lower part of the parish, nearly the whole land has undergone the process. It is considered by competent judges here, that, in order to drain properly, there must be a fall of length in the drain for every square fall of ground that a field contains. Different opinions prevail among the farmers as to the best modes of draining. Some approve of furrow-draining, while others prefer

cross-draining. Tile-draining was not known in the parish till within the last five years. Most of the farmers still use stones. The expense of draining with stones, exclusive of horse labour, may be calculated at about L. 5 Sterling per acre. The whole expense, including horse labour, may be from L. 9 to L. 12, according to the distance from which materials must be brought. Although the expense for the carriage of tiles is not so great, the difference in the price of the article must make tile-draining, on the whole, more costly. The price of tiles here is L. 1, 7s. 6d. per 1000.

The improvement thus produced has, of course, increased the agricultural produce to a very great extent. The dairy produce, in particular, is at least four times as great as it was forty years ago. Special attention, indeed, had been paid to the management of milk cows even in Mr Ure's time. The breed was greatly improved, as he relates, in consequence of measures adopted more than eighty years ago, by an ancestor of Mr Graham of Limekilns. But the improved state of the land, accompanied by a more skilful treatment of this useful animal, have rendered her far more profitable to the farmer, within the last twenty years, than she could have been previously. Twenty years ago, turnips were scarcely cultivated in East Kilbride at all. Mr Ure mentions that, in his time, a few trials had been made to raise this vegetable, but that, for want of success, the practice had been abandoned. At the present time, when the farmer, as is customary, lets out his cows to a cow-farmer or bouer, as he is called, it is usually part of the bargain, that the farmer shall allow to the bouer, at the rate of about an acre of turnips for ten cows, besides an allowance of about two bolls of beans for every cow. Large quantities of butter-milk are carried into Glasgow or Rutherglen every day in summer, and once or twice a week in winter, from not a few of the farms; while from almost all, one cart at least, is sent, bearing this commodity for sale, twice or thrice a week in summer, and less frequently in winter. In Mr Ure's time, the milk was, for the most part, made into sweet milk cheese. Each farm on an average produced about 100 stone weight yearly, and the annual product was about 11,100 stone weight, which at 7s. per stone, come nearly to L. 4000. By comparing this statement with the medium prices of cheese during the last six years, as already given, and by considering the amount of dairy produce to be now between four and five times as great as it was in 1793, some estimate may be formed of the present value of that produce. A great encouragement to improve

the breed of cattle has arisen from a cattle-show for the parishes of Eaglesham, Mearns, Carmunnock, Cambuslang, and East Kilbride, which was instituted in the year 1816, and is held annually at Kilbride on the second Friday of June.

The most common period for the duration of leases in this parish is nineteen years. Several of the Torrance farms have recently been leased for twelve years. The state both of farm-buildings and of enclosures has improved and is improving.

Quarries, &c.—There is an ironstone mine at Basket, which belongs to Mr Dunlop of the Clyde Iron Works, while the surface is the property of Mr Downie of Crossbasket. There are freestone quarries at Lawmuir, Bogton, Benthall, and on a farm of Torrance near the village of Kilbride. Freestone is to be got in many other places. There are lime-works at Braehead, Limekilns, Thornton, Thornton Hall, and elsewhere. There are two tile-works in the parish,—one at Springbank, about half a mile to the west of Kilbride; the other at Millhouse, to the west of Auldhouse, and almost close to the parish of Eaglesham. There is abundance of clay in the parish suited to the purpose of tile-making. Roman cement is found in various places, and is worked to a considerable extent.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

By the grant in Queen Anne's reign, constituting the village of Kilbride a burgh of barony, the inhabitants were empowered to hold a weekly market on Tuesday, besides four fairs in the year. The market-day had ceased to be observed in Mr Ure's time, but the fairs were then tolerably well frequented. At a subsequent period only two fairs appear to have been kept, one which was held in November on the Tuesday after Rutherglen fair, but has now gone into disuse, and another, which is still held, in June, on the same day with the cattle-show. Both were for the sale of horned cattle and sheep.

Besides the town or village of Kilbride and the village of Maxwellton, the parish may be said to contain five other small villages, viz. Auldhouse, including Crosshill, about the centre; Jackton, about a mile from the western side on the road to Eaglesham; Braehead, at the north-western corner; Kitchside, about a mile to the east of Braehead; and Nerston, about a mile and a half, as the crow flies, from the north-eastern corner. Maxwellton is not much more than half a mile distant to the east of Kilbride.

Means of Communication.—There is a post-office in Kilbride connected with Glasgow. There is one public coach which passes

through Kilbride from Glasgow to Strathavon. There is a good bridge, leading out of the parish into Glassford, over the Calder, where that river divides the Torrance property from Crutherland, the seat of John Smith, Esq. This bridge has been greatly improved within the last year. There are three turnpike roads, of which one is the Glasgow and Strathavon road. Another leads from Kilbride to Eaglesham, and a third completes the communication between Kilbride and Busby and Carmunnock. The parish roads are kept in excellent order.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is in the village of Kilbride, and is as conveniently situated for the population as the circumstances of so extensive a parish will admit of. It is nearly eight miles distant from the southern extremity; about three miles and a half from the western; about two miles and a half from the northern; and about three miles from the eastern. It was built in 1774, and received a new roof and other repairs in 1838. If it were fully seated it might afford about 1200 sittings, but it can only at present accommodate about 900 persons. The manse was built in 1836 and 1837. The glebe contains about 5 acres, and is worth nearly L.20 a year. The stipend consists of nine chalders of meal and nine of barley, besides L.10 for communion elements. During the present year a missionary is placed in the Aldhouse quarter, whose salary is paid by a subscription from some of the heritors and myself. There is a church in Kilbride connected with the Relief body. A Methodist chapel has also been established. The stipend of the Relief minister is about L.120 yearly, paid by the congregation, in addition to a free-house and garden. In 1836, there were about 1962 persons professing to belong to the Established Church; 1359 belonging to the Relief; 115 of the Reformed Presbyterian persuasion; 94 of the United Secession; and 76 Roman Catholics. The average number of communicants in the Established Church is about 500. There is a Tract Society in the parish, in which both churchmen and Dissenters join, and in connection with which there is a monthly prayer meeting.

Education.—There are two district parochial schools besides the principal one at Kilbride. One of these is at Aldhouse, and the other at Jackton. There is a very excellent school in Maxwellton, supported by the liberality of Sir William Maxwell, and there is an unendowed school in Kilbride. In all these schools, the ordinary branches are taught. Some of the modern improvements

have been introduced, with great advantage, into Sir William Maxwell's school. The parochial teacher at Kilbride has the maximum salary of L.34. The other parochial teachers have about L.8 of salary each, the one at Aldhouse having the advantage of a free house provided by voluntary liberality. Sir William Maxwell allows a liberal salary to the teacher of his school.

Libraries.—There are two libraries in the parish,—one a parish library, and the other a subscription library.

Poor.—The average number of poor yearly on the permanent roll for the years 1835–36–37, was 32; not on the permanent roll, 13. An assessment for support of the poor was first imposed in 1800. Average amount yearly of church collections for the above years, L. 20. Average amount yearly of assessments for these years, L.142; ditto of mortifications, mortcloth dues, &c. L.18.

Friendly Societies.—There are four Friendly Societies, which have been of great advantage.

Savings' Bank.—A savings' bank was instituted a few years ago in connection with the Glasgow National Security Savings Bank. It still subsists.

Inns.—There are 19 inns and public-houses in the parish, the number of which is unquestionably prejudicial to the morals of the people.

Fuel.—Coal is to be found in East Kilbride, but not of the best quality. A great deal is brought from Hamilton and Cambuslang. Peats are to be found in abundance, and are much used. The expense of the inferior coal found in the parish or close to it is, including cartage to the village of Kilbride, at an average of 4s. 6d. per 12 cwt. The expense of the coal from Cambuslang, when brought to Kilbride, is 8s. 8d. per 16 cwt.

December 1840.