

PARISH OF SOUTHEND.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINTYRE, SYNOD OF ARGYLE.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THIS parish lies at the extremity of the peninsula of Kintyre, and consists of what were formerly the parishes of Kilcolmkill and Kilblaan. Kilcolmkill literally signifies *the cell of Colum of the Cells*, or, in other words, *the Church of St Columba, the founder of Churches*. The remains of the former chapel, Kilblaan, *the church of St Blaan*, are still visible. No vestige whatever remains of St Blaan's chapel. These two parishes of Kilcolmkill and Kilblaan are now united, under the modern name of Southend or South Kintyre, which the parish has borne since the Reformation.

Extent, &c.—The extreme length of the parish is 11 miles, and greatest breadth 5; the whole being about 50 square miles. It is bounded on the east and south, by the Frith of Clyde, and the North Channel; on the west, by the Atlantic; and on the north, by the parish of Campbelton.

Topographical Appearances.—Its figure is polygonal. There are no considerable ranges of mountains in this parish. The highest mountain, called Knockmoy, (or Hill of the Plain,) is 2036 feet above the level of the sea, and is the most remarkable for its height in the district of Kintyre; it is a conspicuous object to all vessels coming from the westward.

There are some valleys that intersect the parish with small streams running through them, the principal of which are Coniglen and Glenbreckry, and which run at nearly parallel lines with each other.

Caves.—This parish abounds with many caves; some of these situated at Keil, are of considerable dimensions, and have a very striking appearance. There is one of these caves from which, according to the tradition among the country people, a subter-

* Drawn up by late incumbent, the Rev. Daniel Kelly.

raneous passage extends six miles from the mouth of the cave to the Hill of Killellan. There is also another situated near the fort of Dunaverty, which was the resort of that very pious man, the Rev. James Boes, and whose memory is still held in very deep veneration. He here retired for meditation and prayer, and in consequence, it still retains the name of Boes' Cave, although he lived as far back as the time of the Revolution.

Coast.—The sea-coast forms a circuitous course of nineteen miles. The shore is chiefly sandy towards the east coast, but to the west is high and bold, and very rocky, and has a fine appearance from the sea. The coast is indented with several bays abounding in coral banks, and where vessels may occasionally anchor. The names are as follows: Dunaverty Bay, Carskey, and Machririach. The principal headland is the Mull of Kintyre, called by the Romans *Epidium Promontorium*, where nature rears a strong barrier to resist the waves of the Atlantic. It is the nearest point of the whole island of Great Britain to Ireland, the distance being computed to be only eleven and a-half miles between the promontory and Tor Point, in the county of Antrim. At this place (the Mull of Kintyre) the wild and varied magnificence of the rocks projecting into the ocean, and exposed to all the fury of the waves, and the outrage of tempests, is peculiarly striking to the eye of a stranger. The solitude of the place is broken upon only by the hoarse murmuring of the waves. From the summit of the adjoining mountain of Knockmoy, an admirer of the sublime in nature may delight his imagination with one of the grandest scenes in North Britain. The green isle of the ocean is spread in all its magnificence before him. The islands of Islay, Rathlin, Jura, Gigha, and the distant mountains of Mull are in view. On the east, there is a magnificent prospect of the Frith of Clyde, the lofty hills of Arran, the coast of Ayrshire, and the Carrick and Galloway mountains. In the extreme horizon, Ailsa forms an object peculiarly striking.

Island of Sanda.—Southend not only includes the two ancient parishes of Kilcolmkill and Kilblaan, but also the Island of Sanda, with two very small ones close to it, (Eilean nancaorach), the Sheep Isle and Glunamore. The principal island, Sanda, is divided by a channel of three miles broad, from the south-east coast of the parish. It is of an irregular form, and about four miles in circumference, forming a single sheep farm, and covered with excellent grass. Buchanan, in his History of Scotland, re-

fers to its ancient importance as the station of the Scandinavian fleets in their excursions to these coasts, and during their contests for the possession of Kintyre and the neighbouring islands.

At the time it was the rendezvous of the Danish fleet, it was called Avona Porticosa; and is still called Aven by the Highlanders. Sanda, however, is the more ancient name, as appears from the life of St Columba, written by Adomnan, Abbot of Iona, in the year 680. The anchorage is still much frequented by the smaller classes of vessels that navigate the Frith of Clyde.

Paterson's Rock.—This is a large flat rock about one-sixth of a mile in length, which lies to the east-south-east of Sanda, and, from not having been correctly laid down in some of the charts, as well as from the rapidity or current of the tide, which flows directly over the rock, and thereby causes vessels to deviate from their course,—it has occasioned many shipwrecks during the last twenty years, attended with the loss of not a few lives. This very dangerous rock is always covered at high water; but at spring-tides, when there are, of course, low ebbs, the top of it is perfectly dry. During neap-tides, it is covered with water to the depth of four feet.

Meteorology.—The medium height of the thermometer, taken from daily observations, amounts, on an average, to 48 degrees; and the pressure of the atmosphere, as ascertained by daily observation by the barometer, is 29.54 inches. The following is the quantity of rain which fell in this district in the year 1831; but it may be mentioned, that the rain-gage by which it was measured is situated on the western extremity of the parish, and on rather a high level, for which reason it may indicate a greater fall than in some other parts of the parish. That year, 1831, may be considered as giving an average fall of rain.

January,	. 1.74	August,	. 2.93
February,	. 2.63	September,	. 3.34
March,	. 5.46	October,	. 6.19
April,	. 0.93	November,	. 6.61
May,	. 1.40	December,	. 4.76
June,	. 2.53		
July,	. 2.54	Total inches,	41.06

Hydrography.—The Frith of Clyde bounds the parish to the extent of above fifteen miles. The depth is variable in several places. At the distance of three miles from the shore, twelve fathoms of water are sometimes found. The tides along the coast run, at spring-tides, at six miles an hour, but at neap-tides at the rate of three. Off the Mull of Kintyre, there is a very

great peculiarity in the tide. Within a mile and a-half of the promontory, there runs an eddy tide like a whirlpool, and much stronger than that which runs in the channel, as, when the tide runs to the westward, this eddy tide runs to the eastward, along shore. Vessels have often been driven on shore from ignorance of this peculiarity in the tide.

Rivers.—The two most considerable streams are, Coniglen and Breckry,—the latter stream rising from Knockmoy and falling into the sea at Carskey bay. The Coniglen is the most considerable of the two, and is subject to sudden risings; its direction is about south-east. It joins the Frith of Clyde at Dunaverty bay.

Geology and Mineralogy.—1. *Dip and Direction of Strata.*—The most general dip of the strata in this parish may be stated south and south-east. The general direction of the principal formation is north-east and south-west. The intrusion of trap and porphyry causes several derangements in different localities, as on the shore below Machririach, forming the western portion of Bailmhuilin bay, in connection with the *Arran-Man's Barrels* and the *Otter More*.

Here the strata of the new red sandstone and limestone are intercepted and altered in the dip, direction, and actual constitution. In fact, the whole of the Pennyland seems to be caused by the rising of the trap rock in almost every form and constitution through that secondary formation. The general dip of this seems to coincide with the general dip of the strata of the district, though the angle of inclination is much lower.

In different parts of the ridge of the Pennyland, the variegated red marly limestone, passes into gritty limestone and sandstone. The basaltic mass at Dunhian, in passing through this marl and sandstone, has altered them into reddish basaltic tufa, containing nodules of basalt with the same general tinge. In some places, the basalt assumes the columnar concretionary structure, and in the lower part of the dun, the altered marl or tufa shows the same tendency. There is a very distinct basaltic vein intercepting the old red sandstone and conglomerate strata at the shore, near the burying-ground at Keil. This does not appear to have altered or deranged the strata there.

The rocks comprising the mountain ranges, are not very numerous. The western portion of the parish is almost entirely composed of mica-slate, a portion of the great mica-slate forma-

tion of the central or Grampian range, passing through the whole of the district of Kintyre. This includes 'Glen Breckry and all to the westward. The dip and direction is the same as noticed.

In the upper part of the valley of Glen Breckry, the mountain-sandstone or quartz rock appears subordinate to the mica-slate. At Achnaslisaig, it is of the same colour and character as the limestone of Askomil, in the neighbourhood of Campbelton, on the north side of the loch.

The Coniglen district is principally in porphyry and the old red sandstone formation. The mountain range, forming the division between Glen Breckry and Coniglen, is composed principally of mica-slate, as already mentioned; but at different parts of the side next Coniglen, there are considerable hills both of claystone porphyry and old red sandstone (transition). The porphyry of Kil-irvan, and the old red of Kilblaen and Keil, rest on and form the western boundary of the valley of Coniglen. The mica-slate is found in a small part at the Blecklate wood, and in the bed of the river, near the junction of the Coniglen and Caoran waters. At Kerrafuar, it again forms the ridge enclosing the glen on the western side. The opposite side of the valley, at Killellan, is formed by claystone and claystone-porphyry, which supports a small portion of the variegated red marly limestone and sandstone formation. The porphyry extends from Killellan Hill through Ach-naelach. The lower part of the valley, as far as Dunglass Hill and Machrimore, is entirely of the old red. At Dunaverty, the coarse conglomerate of the old red sandstone appears extending from Brunerican.

Kildavie Glen lies between the old red sandstone range above described, which is bounded in this parish on the west by Coniglen; east, by the sea; on the north, by the continuation of the same formation in the adjoining parish of Campbelton; and on the south, by the Kildavies. The Pennyland forms the opposite side of the glen. This is already noticed as composed of basalt greenstone in almost an endless variety, and new red sandstone formation.

I am inclined to think that we have primary transition, secondary and alluvial formation. The mica-slate and subordinate varieties with limestone occupy the western portion of the parish, and about three-sevenths of the whole extent.

The old red sandstone formation occupies about three-sevenths of the parish in the north-east. From the appearance of the rocks,

and the high angle of inclination, from 40° to 50° , all the varieties of form usually met with are found here, from the coarsest conglomerate to the finest flag, with a slaty structure. The hardest sandstone appears to be finely granular in a clay or wacke basis or ground.

In Kintyre, the beds of mica slate, on its eastern shore, have an eastern dip, while those on the opposite side dip to the westward. The angles of the strata rise to about 25° , and are in some places considerably less. A tract of micaceous slate succeeds the chlorite series towards the north, and is continued in that direction as far as the Mull of Kintyre. At that place, it is immediately followed along the shore by the west of the Mull up to Ballachantuy and Killean by the red sandstone, without any interposed substance,—a fact easily explained by considering the unconformable relation of this rock to the primary strata and the irregularity of its margin, consequent upon the peculiar situation which it occupies with respect to these.

The secondary formation is principally found in the Pennyland above described. This forms about one-seventh of the parish. The summit of the range is composed of rocks of the trap series, and the shoulder at different places is formed of the new red or variegated marly lime and sandstone. At the eastern side, the trap rocks rise into the sea, forming dangerous submarine reefs at the Arran Man's Barrels and Rhua Mac Sheanaig, and in this bold headland there is a very extensive cave. But, as far as has been examined, there are neither stalactitic nor organic remains. Near the entrance, there is a pretty highly raised mound of rolled stones, such as are found on the beach.

The structure of the island of Sanda corresponds very much with that of the opposite shore of Kintyre, and, as in many other similar situations, the geological continuity of the strata between the two serves to indicate the alterations which have taken place in the sea line, and the encroachments of the ocean on the borders of the great estuary of the Clyde. The island of Sanda is composed chiefly of sandstone, and the sandstone of which it is composed is elevated to the north, the dip being to the southward, and varying from 15 to 20 degrees. It thus forms hills of about 300 feet in height, which, on some of the shores, are broken into cliffs of moderate elevation. One of these forms a very picturesque object, presenting a natural arch of considerable dimensions. The rock is reddish and grey, and is interstratified with slaty clay

of various colours, but chiefly of a grey hue. It has been largely used in the building of the parish church of Southend, and several principal houses in the country.

The catalogue of simple minerals is extremely brief. Quartz being universally diffused is to be found in veins and imbedded masses in the mica slate formation, and it is sometimes found in druses of the porphyry crystallized, and inclining to amethyst. Calc spar is also found in the limestone districts. In the amygdaloid and basaltic rocks near Ballyshear, we have the cubicite in veins and also steatite, analcime, and allied minerals.

The alluvial deposits afford a very interesting example of a subaqueous deposit of sand and gravel, along the different valleys of Glenbreckry, Kildavie, and Machrimore, more especially near the sea. As these are generally under cultivation, and have long been so, they do not exhibit so very mathematical a coincidence as the plains and outlines of Glenrey and other pastoral districts, yet it is very easy to trace a level at from 20 to 30 feet above the level of the sea. This plain being formed of gravel and sand, has, of course, been hollowed out by the courses of the different rivers. There are no organic remains in this alluvium. At the Keil rocks there are several instances of a small portion of a fragmentary alluvion resting on the small pinnacles of rock as on the margin.

On all the mountain ranges, both of the primary and transition districts, there are extensive peat bogs. These, as usual, contain numerous trunks of large trees, imbedded several feet below the surface in this mossy ground, showing that this country was once under a forest garb, although now almost entirely bare of trees. There have been found, at different times, arrow-heads and other implements of war, and also querns, &c.

There is considerable variety of soil, but I think that, on the slopes of the hills, the light gravelly soil on a till bottom is the most predominant. Towards the sea coast on the east, a light loam is mixed with sand or gravel. The light and gravelly soils, and sometimes clay and an occasional intermixture of mossy or peat earth, most frequently occur. The earlier cultivation of the soil seems to have occupied solely the higher parts of the ridges, and on almost every hill top on the eastern portion, at least the furrows and enclosures of fields, are easily traced in the old sward. The depths of the furrows plainly indicate that the tillage had not been casual, or merely experimental, but frequent and successive.

Of late years, the spirit of agricultural improvement has carried the cultivator into the low rich lands of the valleys; and draining has enabled him to reap the reward of his enterprise. Still, however, there is a great want of a more extended system of perfect draining.

The soil of the pasture ground is no less diversified than the arable. Some of it is dry and kindly, and produces a sweet and fine pile of grass; some of it wet and spongy, and covered with coarse grasses and rushes. Some of the flat grounds are marshy and some mossy, and a very considerable proportion of what is hilly, is covered with heath. Where these lands approach the sea, the growth of such plants is checked, and at last destroyed, a fine green pasture succeeding, which, under proper management, is capable of producing good crops of oats and sometimes bear. The shores afford striking examples of the fertilizing powers which the vicinity of the salt water possesses, and of the influence it exerts in preventing the growth of bog plants and the consequent generation of peat. The same effects are produced by the application of calcareous manures, under which treatment the useless plants disappear, and are succeeded by verdant pastures. The gravel and boulders along the shore are generally composed of the neighbouring rocks. Great large sandstones, as they are called, are found to consist of a kind of porphyritic granite, to which I know none similar in this district. There is another variety with smaller crystals of adularia or moonstone, something like specimens I have seen from Arran. There are also on the hills considerable blocks of mica and chlorite slate, basalt, clay stone porphyry; and the coast-gravel contains all these kinds in small sizes, along with quartz nodules, evidently afforded by the conglomerate of the old red. All the trap rocks on the shore afford gravel and detached blocks close to the beach. There are two or three instances of banks formed and forming by drift-sand blowing from the beach along the Pennyland, Brunerican, Machribeg, and Strathmore. This last is a very interesting barrier between the marine and fluviatile depositaries, and every year the lower part to the westward of Strathmore is in some degree altered. The sand and gravel thrown up by the powerful tide rolling round the Mull of Kintyre into Carskey Bay, forces up an embankment which causes the Glen Breckry water abruptly to turn its course to the westward, and to run parallel to the sea coast till it reaches another stream from the Strone Glen, and their united streams fall into the sea

at the margin of the mica slate emerging from the surface. It sometimes happens that a great fall of rain swells the Glen Breckry water, and if this happens at low tide about the end of autumn, the river of Glen Breckry forces its way to the sea in the middle of Strathmore bay; and this course it generally retains, at least during the rainy and boisterous months of winter.

There is a bank of fine coral between the farm of Keil and Machribeg, which, if made use of by the farmers, would be found to be a superior manure to lime for cold clayey soils. This treasure has been much neglected, and its value will never be fully or properly estimated, until a demand arises for it from other places. A great deal has been said of the advantages which have been derived from the use of bone as a manure. The quantity of that material which can be had in this country, or even imported from abroad, is extremely limited; but corals, to which there is scarcely any limit, might be found more valuable than even bones. They are both of them animal substances, and consequently contain much value in a small compass. Tried as a manure, the quantities of corals found on the shores of Machribeg and Keil has been and would be found highly useful for gardens and outfield lands, and cold soil of every description. After being scattered on the land, it takes a long time to dissolve; but the good it does from year to year is permanent, and nothing is more excellent for grass.

No mines of any value have been discovered in the parish. We have excellent quarries of limestone and whinstone for building dikes. It is of infinite benefit to the progress of agriculture, that the parish abounds with limestone, which the farmers make use of as manure upon ley ground, finding it very profitable in decomposing heath and other vegetable substances upon outfields which were never before subjected to the operation of the plough. By following this mode of cultivation, the farmers are annually enlarging the extent of their cultivated soil, and bulk of stackyards.

In the neighbourhood of the minister's manse, there is a large bank of Fuller's earth, which is exposed to view by the depredations of the river during heavy rains, but has never been made use of either in an agricultural or commercial point of view. It is found in some of the glens, and particularly at Auchnaclach and Lagna-craig, partly white, but generally a mixture of white and brown. The white, however, is the best. Like the coral mentioned above, its value is not sufficiently appreciated, although the kind to be

found here is of great use in cleaning oil out of cloth, and tar out of wool. The writer has learned, that, on the Duke of Bedford's property, it has been of great value as an article of commerce, and considerable quantities have been exported to foreign countries.

Along the sea shore, there is abundance of cod, ling, and whiting; but although such is the case, their value is far from being appreciated.

Botany.—The almost total absence of wood gives the country that air of bleakness and sterility which, to the painter's eye, is never compensated by flowery meadows or fertile fields. The farm of Keil has assumed a very improved appearance, since it became the possession of the late Dr M'Larty. When he entered into possession of this property about twenty-four years ago, it was absolutely in a state of nature. He improved it in every possible way by draining and inclosures, planted some thousand of larch, poplars, and forest trees about his farm-house and gardens; decorated the place with a variety of beautiful shrubbery, which has rendered it an ornament to this part of the country; and his rising plantations will ultimately prove a most valuable acquisition to his property. Mr M'Millan of Levenstrath has also improved his property in a similar way. Mr M'Donald of Ballyshear deserves great praise for his exertions in improving and beautifying his property, encouraging his tenantry; and his exertions have been unremitting ever since he settled in the parish. He has interspersed his lands with belts and clumps of planting, inclosed them with hedges, built a range of the most splendid office-houses to be seen in the country, improved, drained, and limed waste land, and opened up a handsome approach to his elegant mansion-house.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The Mull of Kintyre is the place where the Dalriads landed and settled in 503, under the direction of Lorn, Fergus and Angus, sons of Erc. Lorn acquired possession of the northern division of the county of Argyle, which still retains his name. Fergus remained in Kintyre, and Angus is supposed to have colonized Islay. In 718, one of the descendants of Fergus, named Duncan, was styled king of Kintyre. According to Pinkerton, the whole ancient territories of this tribe did not exceed the limits of the present Argyleshire; but there is no portion of history so obscure as that of the Irish Scoto Kings, from the period of their landing in this parish, till their accession to the Pictish throne in 843. In 1158, Somerled, Lord of Kintyre, married a daughter of

the King of Man, and the Chronicles of Man inform us that by this Princess he had four sons:—Dugald, of whom came the M'Dougalds of Lorn; Reginald, the progenitor of all the M'Donalds, and other two sons, Angus and Olave, of whose issue history has not recorded any thing memorable. After the battle of Methven, the illustrious Bruce fled to Kintyre, and was hospitably entertained by Angus, Lord of Kintyre, at the castle of Saddle, and on his way to Ireland he took refuge in the fortress of Dunaverty, in this parish, where, according to Archdeacon Barbour, he remained for some nights. That fortress, the remains of which are still visible, was built on the top of a tremendous precipice, hanging over the sea, which nature, assisted by art, rendered impregnable. The sea nearly surrounds it; and the fosse covered with a drawbridge, (after which two or three walls, one within the other,) fortified the ascent. From this fortress Bruce was sent by Angus to the island of Rathlin, distant about twenty miles, and there he remained in concealment until after the death of Edward I. of England. On the island of Sanda, distant about three miles from Dunaverty, is a hill still known by the name of Prince Edward's hill. The only Prince of that name connected with the history of Scotland is the brother of Robert Bruce, and the tradition in the parish is, that he was placed there to give timely notice to the king of the approach of danger. At the battle of Bannockburn, Angus and his followers fought on the right flank of the army, and, as a mark of distinction for his gallant conduct on that memorable day, Bruce assigned to him and his descendants, the same honourable position in the royal army on all future occasions. This Angus, who was buried in the monastery of Saddle, was, after his death, denominated the Great M'Donald; but his grandson John abandoned the interests of David Bruce, and espoused the cause of Edward Baliol. He afterwards, however, returned to his allegiance, and was married to the daughter of Robert II. Of this marriage there were four sons, Donald Lord of the Isles, John of Antrim, Alexander and Allan. Donald, in right of his wife, succeeded to the earldom of Ross, and his son Alexander was designed Earl of Ross and Kintyre and Lord of the Isles. John, the son of Alexander, died without lawful issue, when John, the son of Angus, his natural son, claimed his estates. The earldom of Ross was taken possession of by the Crown, and James IV. held a Parliament in Kintyre in the year 1493, and emancipated the vassals from their connection with

those who claimed to represent the Lords of the Isles, and granted them, *de novo*, charters holding of the Crown; but the descendants of John of Antrim claimed Kintyre, and their vassals still adhering to the representative of their ancient Lords, James V. found it necessary, in 1536, to make an expedition to Kintyre to subdue the Macdonalds; he built the castle of Kilkerran, and placed a garrison in it, but James Macdonald, then chieftain of the clan, destroyed the garrison, and demolished the walls. His son Angus, and M'Lean of Duart, carried on a savage feud of extermination against each other, and being prevailed on in 1591, to go to court for the purpose of having their differences reconciled, they were both committed prisoners to the Castle of Edinburgh, but were afterwards released on payment of a small fine. Angus, however, continued to display his innate cruelty in acts of the most cold-blooded murder. He resided chiefly at the Castle of Lochhead (now Campbeltown). He put the fortification of Dunaverty, in this parish, in a state of repair, as it was the principal channel of communication between him and Antrim. He repeatedly resisted and defied the Government, and being complained of by his Protestant neighbours, the Earl of Argyle, who was in arms after having suppressed an insurrection among the clans in the north, was ordered to march against him. On his approach, Angus and his son James, with their followers, fled to Ireland, when Argyle obtained quiet possession of Kintyre. The lands of Macdonald were then forfeited to the Crown, and gifted by King James VI. to the Earl of Argyle. In the course of a few years thereafter, Angus was pardoned for all his crimes, and a pension was bestowed on his son, who was knighted, but the lands were never restored. Sir James died without issue, when Kintyre was claimed by Coll Macdonald, commonly called Coll Kitch, from his being left-handed. Some writers say he was a natural son of the Earl of Antrim, and a late author of the History of the Highlands and of the Highland Clans, calls him a native of Iona; but the tradition in this parish is, that he was the nearest and lawful heir of Sir James Macdonald. Coll Macdonald, who was noted for his strength and prowess, left no means untried to harass Argyle, and recover possession of the lost territories of his family. He, with the aid of his partizans, took violent possession of the Island of Collonsay, and, aided by his clansmen in Islay, frequently invaded Kintyre for the purpose of plunder. His son, Alexander, commanded the

auxiliaries sent by Lord Antrim to assist the royal cause in the struggle between Charles I. and his Parliament. Alexander served under Montrose as his major-general; and immediately after the battle of Inverlochy, where Argyle was defeated on the 2d of February 1644, his father, Coll, invaded Kintyre, and took possession of it as his inheritance. When Montrose was appointed Captain-General of Scotland, he conferred the honour of knighthood on his major-general; and, after the battle of Philiphaugh, the Earl of Huntly in the north, and Sir Alexander Macdonald in the south, were the only chieftains that remained in arms against the Covenanters. After subduing Huntly, Lieutenant-General Leslie marched south, and being joined by the Earl of Argyle at Inverary, they invaded Kintyre, and, after a skirmish which took place at Rownaberine, in the parish of Killean, on the 25th May 1647, they retreated to Dunaverty. Sir Alexander placed his kinsman, Archibald Macdonald of Sanda, a very gallant and experienced officer, who had also served under Montrose, assisted by Archibald Og, or Young, his son, with 300 men in the fortress, with a few of the clan Macdonald who had joined them, and went himself with his father and the remainder of his forces, to Islay. General Leslie having been joined by the Marquis of Argyle and a vast number of his clan, who collected to his standard, as he went along, proceeded to Dunaverty, and regularly invested the castle, which was for a considerable time most gallantly defended against an army ten times the number of the garrison. During the month of June, several desperate assaults were made upon it, but the assailants were always repulsed with considerable loss. About the 10th of July, however, the besiegers discovered that the garrison was supplied with water, by means of pipes communicating with a spring without, and a well within. These were cut off, and when a party from the fortress made an attempt to supply themselves from a stream near the base of the rock, they were all slain. The want of water, in the dry sultry month of July, drove the besieged to despair; and, as it was impossible to hold out any longer, a flag of truce was sent to General Leslie and the Marquis of Argyle, offering to surrender on such terms as might be agreed on, and, after several stipulations proposed by Archibald Og Macdonald of Sanda had been rejected, the garrison at last surrendered to the mercy of the kingdom. General Leslie afterwards made a nice distinction, that the besieged had yielded themselves to the king-

dom's mercy and not to his, and, availing himself of this infamous casuistry, he caused as disgraceful, bloody, and indiscriminate a massacre to take place as the pen of history has ever recorded. The whole garrison were put to the sword, except one young man of the name of M'Dugald, saved by Sir James Turner, and the infant son of Archibald Og Macdonald of Sanda, who was carried by stealth out of the fortress by his nurse, before the massacre commenced.

In the indiscriminate carnage, both Archibald More Macdonald of Sanda, and his son, Archibald Og, a young man of great gallantry, fell, and with them the power of the Macdonalds of Kintyre and Islay, who, from this period, may be said to be no more a clan. After leaving Dunaverty, Coll Kittoch took the command of the fortress at Dunniveg, in Islay; and Sir Alexander proceeded with part of his forces to Ireland, and there joined the Royal army, where he was soon afterwards killed in a battle fought against the Earl of Carlingford. Coll was taken prisoner at the siege of Dunniveg, and afterwards hanged at Dunstaffnage. Neither Coll nor his son left issue, and Kintyre was never afterwards claimed by any of the descendants of the Lords of the Isles.

Sir Alexander Macdonald's uncle, Archibald Mor Macdonald of Sanda, would have succeeded him; but he, as well as his gallant son and heir, fell on that day. This Archibald Og was succeeded by his only son, Ronald Macdonald of Sanda, then an infant at the breast. He and his nurse, Flora M'Cambridge, had been taken to the garrison as a place of safety on the approach of the enemy; and, during the shocking massacre which ensued, when the child's father and grandfather were slain, this faithful nurse made her escape with her charge naked in her arms to a cave in the Moil.

This Ronald became a person of considerable consequence. He married Dame Anne Stewart, sister to the first Earl of Bute, thereby strengthened the interest of his family, and obtained charters to some of his lands from the Bishop of Whitehaven; it being the policy of the Argyle family to prevent the Macdonalds obtaining charters from any others than themselves; but, at this time, the Argyle interest was low,—the Marquis having suffered on the scaffold, A. D. 1661.*

* Archibald Mor Macdonald of Sanda, and his son, Archibald Og, the father of Ronald above-mentioned, were interred in the middle of a field on the farm of Murchibeg, not far from the shore. The place where their remains were deposited, along

The peninsula of Kintyre, which we have seen was possessed by the Macdonalds for ages, was gifted by James VI. to the Earl of Argyle in 1613; and, when Angus Macdonald and his son James, with their vassals, fled to Ireland, in consequence of the overwhelming force which Argyle brought to bear upon them to effectuate their expulsion, after Argyle had thus obtained possession, he imported a colony of agriculturists and graziers to occupy the deserted lands. These people being kindly entertained encouraged others to follow; and, in the course of a few years, Kintyre was principally inhabited by strangers. But, on the defeat of Argyle by Montrose, 2d February 1644, Macdonald again recovered possession of the country, when the lowlanders precipitately fled to Ayrshire, and soon after swelled the ranks of the Covenanting army. Coll Macdonald then divided the again deserted lands among his followers; but, on the total defeat of the Royalists after the battle of Dunaverty in July 1647, Argyle again ultimately recovered possession of the country. In 1648, shortly after Argyle and Leslie left Kintyre, the plague broke out, and depopulated the greatest part of the country. When the plague had subsided, the Marquis of Argyle imported a colony of agriculturists from Ayr and Renfrewshire.

In 1662, when the Act Recissory was past, and Prelacy restored, and the persecution soon thereafter raged with great violence in these counties, a number of the inhabitants fled to Kintyre, where they were cherished and sheltered by their countrymen and relatives who had previously settled in the country.

The noble family of Argyle, to their immortal honour, gave an asylum, during those perilous times which intervened between the Restoration and the Revolution, to several Ayrshire and Renfrewshire gentlemen of the Covenant, when cruelly oppressed by the Government,—among others to the Laird of Ralston, Maxwell of Williamwood, Maxwell of South Barr, Hamilton of Wishaw, and Maxwell of Milwood, and Dunlop of Garnkirk; and when these gentlemen could return home in safety, their farms remained in the

with those of another chieftain, it is said, of Largie, is marked by three large flagstones, which are now sunk considerably into the earth. Though the field where they lie has been regularly ploughed and cultivated for more than a century past, yet, much to the honour of the feelings of the people, this spot still remains untouched, and is regarded with a solemn respect to the memory of the brave.

In the year 1822, after an uncommon high tide, accompanied with a gale of wind, the sand was drifted from a bank in the farm of Brunerican, which lies in the immediate neighbourhood of Dunaverty; and there thus became exposed to view an immense charnel house of human bones, skulls, with the bones of legs, arms, &c. scattered about in every direction.

hands of their followers, who now constitute the lowland class in this parish, and who still possess peculiarities belonging to the period of their removal to Kintyre. Their descendants still occupy a number of the best farms in this parish. They are a sober, hard-working, industrious class of people, who have very rarely amalgamated themselves by intermarriages with the Highlanders. So far, indeed, do they carry this unsocial feeling, that they have a place of sepulture for themselves, detached only by a strand from that of their Highland brethren. The names of the principal followers of the gentlemen above-mentioned who settled in the country, were Ralston, Dunlop, Colville, Reid, and Huie.

In the latter end of last century, the Lowlanders complained of the occasional absence of the parish minister, and as many of them did not understand the Gaelic language, they, in the year 1798, built a church of their own in connection with the Relief Synod, where English alone is preached. The Duke of Argyle, principal proprietor and patron of the parish, gave them ground for their chapel, and accommodation for their minister. Although they joined the Relief body, they do not consider themselves dissenters from the Church of Scotland.

Land-owners.—The land-owners of the parish are seven in number :

Names.	Rental.
Duke of Argyle,	L.5000 0 0
William M'Donald, Esq. of Ballyshear,	1100 0 0
John M'Millan M'Neill, Esq. of Carskey,	600 0 0
Donald M'Millan, Esq. of Lephonstrath,	600 0 0
George M'Neill, Esq. of Ugadale,	200 0 0
William M'Donald, Esq. of Sanda,	160 0 0
John M'Larty, Esq. of Keil,	150 0 0
Total rental of the parish,	L.7810 0 0

Parochial Registers.—The parochial register extends no farther back than the year 1765. The old registers were unfortunately destroyed by a fire which accidentally took place in the study of the gentleman who was then clergyman of the parish, the Rev. David Campbell; but since that period, the register has been regularly kept.

Antiquities.—There are some obelisks in the parish, the erection of which tradition assigns to the Picts. Many urns of rude manufacture, and filled with bones, have been dug up a little to the east of Machrimore Mill.

The ruins of a religious house of St Columba near the shore of Keil are still pretty entire. The tradition connected with

this is, that St Columba landed here on his way from Ireland to the Hebrides. Here also is the pedestal of a large stone cross, no doubt dedicated to the memory of the saint, but which has been removed from its proper place, and now lies neglected at Inveraray. On the lands of Machririach, near the mansion-house of Mr M'Donald of Ballyshear, are also the remains of a religious edifice called after, and dedicated to, St Coivin. In the island of Sanda, are also situated the ruins of a chapel dedicated to St Ninian, together with two crosses of very rude design. In this burying-ground, there is a superstitious story, universally believed, respecting an alder tree growing over the reputed grave of the saint, over which should any one walk, even by chance, he is doomed to die before a year expire. Like the former repositories of the dead, this burying-ground also shows every mark of neglect, being unenclosed; the grave-stones are broken and defaced, and betoken that want of affection and respect for the dead which is cherished by the rudest nations. No vestige remains of the parish church of St Blane. Here also neglect is conspicuous. The chapel was carried away by the water of Coniglen, which passes close by it, as was also the whole of an extensive cemetery attached to it, with a very small exception, which now forms the bank of the river, and human bones may now be seen bleaching in the sun. We must not omit to mention the ruins of St Catherine Chapel, situated in a lovely spot on the banks of a stream in the secluded pastoral vale of Glenadle, where, close to the chapel, there is a cemetery and holy well, frequented by diseased persons to a late date. In this parish are situated the remains of what are usually denominated Danish forts. The principal remains of one of these are situated on the farm of Balemacumra, which is near the Mull of Kintyre. The situation is almost inaccessible, being on the head of a perpendicular rock 180 feet in height, the base of which is about 100 feet from the sea. The fort is surrounded by three walls. The inner is 12 feet in thickness, the second 6 feet, and the outer wall 3 feet. The space between the inner wall and the edge of the precipice is 66 feet in length, and its medium width 22 feet.

Ministers.—Mr Duncan O'May was minister of this parish in the year 1631. Mr David Simson was settled in 1655, and outed in 1663; afterwards indulged; in August 1685 banished, by orders of Government, to New Jersey, where he died. He was succeeded by his son, Mr David Simson, who conformed to the Prelatic

establishment; but, at the Revolution, recanted, and was minister of Killarow, in Islay, where he died, May 1700. Mr Dugald Campbell was ordained minister of Southend 11th May 1696. Mr David Campbell, ordained 22d September 1742. Mr Donald Campbell, admitted 3d September 1794, and translated to Kilnilver, in the Presbytery of Lorn, in 1798. Mr John M'Keich, admitted the 8th May 1799; died the 16th June 1815. Mr Daniel Kelly, ordained 12th June 1816, and translated to Campbeltown 23d January 1833. Mr Donald Campbell, ordained 9th May 1833.

Modern Buildings.—Since the publication of the last Statistical Account, there have been several new mansion-houses built by the residing heritors, and particularly those of Mr M'Donald of Ballyshear; Dr M'Larty, Keil; Colonel M'Neill at Carskey; and Mr M'Millan at Levenstrath. There has also been built a new manse and school-house. The most valuable public building in the parish is the light house at the Mull of Kintyre.

Light House at the Mull of Kintyre.—The Mull of Kintyre light-house was begun to be built in 1786, and was finished in the year 1788, and is a work of great utility and importance for the navigation of the channel between Scotland and Ireland. This establishment is one of the extensive range of light-houses erected on the coast by the Board of the Commissioners of the Northern Light-houses, instituted by Act of Parliament in the year 1786, whose jurisdiction extends to the entire coast of Scotland and the Isle of Man. The Light-house Commissioners by their first Act were authorized to collect small duties upon shipping, and in the first instance to erect only four light-houses upon the principal headlands of the coast, of which the Mull of Kintyre was one. The site of this building was very inaccessible, both by sea and land, as it is perched on a cliff about 280 feet above the level of the sea, and near to those rocks, known to mariners by the familiar name of "the Merchants." Towards the sea, a landing is opposed by the strength and current of the tides, and the almost continually boisterous state of the waves dashing upon this iron-bound shore, which consists of immense masses of mica-slate and quartz. The light-house on the opposite side is environed by mountains and morasses, and is about five miles from the nearest habitation. The buildings were erected by Mr Peter Stuart of Campbeltown, but the light-room and the reflecting apparatus were brought from Edinburgh, and carried chiefly upon men's shoulders over the

mountains. The work having in this arduous manner been completed, the light was exhibited for the first time on the night of the 1st day of December 1788.

The new road formed through the mountains of the Mull commenced in 1828, is found to give great facilities in communicating with the light-house, and conveying every necessary article.

The Mull of Kintyre light, according to the description in the "British Pharos," is known to mariners as a stationary light, "appearing like a star of the first magnitude at the distance of six or seven leagues," but it is to be regretted that dense fogs occasionally rest upon the high land of the Mull, while it is clear below; by which the light is at times obscured.

Mills.—There are two mills in the parish, one on the property of the Duke of Argyle, and the other upon the property of Mr M'Donald of Ballyshear.

III.—POPULATION.

In the year 1755, the number of souls in the parish was computed at	1391
1793,	1300
1795,	1625
1802,	1825
1811,	1899
1821,	2004
1831,	2120
1841,	1598

There is one village in the parish, situated near the shore off Dunaverty, with a population of 98 souls, and which has not much increased since its first commencement.

Number of deaf, 1; deaf, dumb, and insane, 1; blind, 2; fatuous, 3; total, 7.

Language.—The language generally spoken by two-thirds of the people is Gaelic; but, from the establishment of schools and the intercourse with Campbelton, and the Lowland districts of Scotland, the English language is beginning to be universally understood. Families who understand Gaelic best, 210; do. English best, 145.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The parish consists of 25,000 Scotch acres. The Duke of Argyle possesses of these 18,625 acres, 10 poles.

It has been ascertained that the proportion of arable to pasture is nearly as one to five. The parish consists of 89 merk lands. A third might be added to the now cultivated land with a profitable application of capital.

Old valued rent of the parish, L.409, 3s. 4d. Sterling.

From 100 to 150 acres may be under wood, either natural or planted.

Live-Stock.—Throughout Kintyre, in general, and the parish of Southend, the principal breed of sheep is the black-faced. It was introduced by store-masters from the south, who brought their own sheep,—the Linton along with them. It is much to be regretted, that the Cheviot had not been introduced in place of the Linton. This kind is indeed hardy, and well adapted to a mountainous region; but their wool is coarse, loose, and shaggy, and they are subject to a very fatal disease,—the braxy,—which, before the introduction of these sheep, was totally unknown in this country. Several, however, of the more substantial tenants are in the practice of rearing English sheep for the use of their families, and allow them to pasture along with their black-cattle. Some considerable attention has been paid to the improvement of the native sheep of the district by the introduction of black-faced tups. The new Leicesters have lately been introduced upon the lowlands, and the soil appears to agree admirably with them, though, from the dampness of the climate, they must be housed during winter.

In this parish, and throughout Kintyre, the cattle are of an inferior description to those in the upper part of the county of Argyle, being a cross between the Irish and West Highland, and have merely a faint resemblance to the original breed of Highland cattle.

Mr Stewart of Glenbuckie, the Chamberlain of Kintyre, has very much improved the breed of cattle by introducing handsome bulls into the district; and he has also established a dairy of forty-five low country cows upon one of his own farms, as an example to the inhabitants of the district to excite them to pay more attention to that breed of cattle. He has been very successful in the making of imitation English cheese, and obtains for this article the highest English price in the Glasgow market.

The general agricultural management is good. The soil is of a light loam and sandy nature along the sea coast; but produces potatoes in great abundance, and yields from sixteen to twenty seeds. Turnips grow well when properly managed. Bear or big thrives well; but the soil, particularly in the eastern district of the parish, is considered too light for wheat, barley, or beans. But, in many parts of the parish, where there is deep loam and strong land, could good enclosures be obtained, wheat

would be found to answer well. It is not, however, cultivated; but beans are now raised in great abundance.

The tenantry have been industrious in draining to a very great extent, which, from the nature of the soil, is much required; and their mode of doing so is by cutting the drains three feet across and four feet deep, and piping with stones. In this way, within the last twelve years, nearly a third has been added to the arable land.

The Duke of Argyle has straightened and embanked the water of Coniglen. The undertaking was one of great extent, and although attended with the expense of L. 1600, has added much to the value of his Grace's property.

Leases.—Leases are generally for nineteen years.

The tenants generally build their own houses, but the proprietors in some cases give assistance. The houses of some of the inferior tenants are built with clay, and are generally low, narrow, and cold. This is the more inexcusable, as stone and lime are at no great distance. There has, however, been lately a farm-steading erected on the Duke of Argyle's lands of Machribeg, which will compete with most in any part of the kingdom.

The farm-houses of nearly all the better class of tenants are excellent and substantial. Their roofs are indeed thatched with straw, which is a disadvantage; and were slate roofs introduced, it would be of great advantage.

Quarries and Mines.—There are excellent quarries of lime and whinstone; the latter used for farm-buildings and dikes. The use of lime as a manure is pretty general, and has been found most highly useful for the purposes of agriculture.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The distance from Campbelton, the nearest market-town, is nine miles. There is one village called Newton Argyle. The nearest post-town is Campbelton. There are no turnpike roads in this parish; but those we have, owing to the vigilant care of Mr Macdonald of Ballyshear, the principal residing heritor, have been greatly improved. Several good and substantial bridges have been built, and many places straightened and levelled,—indeed, the state of the roads is creditable to the district, considering the small means at the disposal of those who have the superintendence of them.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church stands on a beautiful bank, ris-

ARGYLE.

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ing gradually from the stream of Coniglen, which flows past it on the south-east. It was built in the year 1774, and is at present in a good state of repair. It is capable of accommodating 600 persons. The sittings are all free.

The manse was built in the year 1818. The extent of the glebe is 8 acres 1 rood, Scotch measure, and may be valued at L. 15 Sterling. The amount of the stipend is L. 58, 9s. 9½d., paid by the heritors, with an allowance of L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements; and L. 91, 10s. 7d. more is allowed from the Exchequer.

There is also, as already stated, a Relief meeting-house, which was built in 1798, when a number of the lowland tenants who did not relish sermons in the Gaelic language, applied to the late Duke of Argyle for ground to build a place of worship, which he was pleased to grant; but as the bulk of the population are Highlanders, and as many of the Lowlanders have emigrated to America, it is but thinly attended.

Education.—There are four schools in the parish,—a parochial school; one connected with the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge; one in the east side of the parish, at Glenhervie, to which His Grace the Duke of Argyle gives L. 4; and an unendowed school. Parochial schoolmaster's salary, L. 34, 4s. 4½d.; fees, L. 30: total, L. 64, 4s. 4½d. Society schoolmaster, L. 16 from the Society; from the Duke of Argyle, L. 5; fees, L. 10: total, L. 31. The parochial schoolmaster has the legal accommodations.*

* I beg to mention one well authenticated circumstance, for the purpose of showing how high our privileges are, compared with those of our forefathers in this country. About one hundred and forty years ago, there appears to have been a great scarcity of Bibles in the parish. There was an Irish Bible, the property of the kirk-session, the gift of the illustrious Boyle. I find in the old records of the presbytery of Kintyre, an urgent application from Mr M'Neill of Tirfergus, a respectable heritor of the parish, for the use of this Bible. The following particulars are extracts from the records of presbytery. "At Campbeltown, 3d August 1692, for as much as John M'Neill of Tirfergus addressed the presbytery for the loan of the Irish Bible gifted by Sir Robert Boyle to the parish of Southend, in Kintyre, for the use of the ministers that shall be in the said parish, promising that he will have special care of it, and that he shall return it upon demand,—the presbytery considering the present vacancy of Southend, the presbytery condescends that Mr Robert Duncanson (in whose custody the said Bible is at present) deliver the same to the said John M'Neill, he being obliged to return the same in as good order as he now received it to the future minister of the said parish, or to any other whom the presbytery of Kintyre shall appoint, under the penalty of such a sum as the presbytery shall nominate."

"At Campbeltown, the 14th December 1692, forasmuch as the presbytery convened at Campbeltown, the 3d day of August 1692, allowed Mr Robert Duncanson to give to John M'Neill of Tirfergus the use of the Irish Bible bestowed by Mr R. Boyle on the parish of Southend, the said John M'Neill giving in his obligation to be accountable for the same, Mr Robert Duncanson declared that he did deliver

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 40, and the yearly average sum allotted to each person is 10s. per annum. The annual amount of contribution for the relief of the poor arising from church collections, L.24; hasty marriage money, L.5: total, L.29.

Inns.—There is one inn in the parish, situated near the village; and four other houses in which spirits are retailed.

Fuel.—The operation of manufacturing and carrying home peats for fuel is attended with great expense of time and labour. There is an inferior kind of coals in the neighbouring parish of Campbelton; but they are at the distance of ten or twelve miles from the most populous districts of the parish.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

In the year 1793, the rental of the parish was L.3000: it is now nearly L.8000. And nearly double has been added to the arable land by draining and cultivation.

The disadvantages to which the parish is liable are, want of timber and want of inclosures, scarcity of fuel, leases too short. The culture of wheat, in a certain proportion, ought to be adopted into the agriculture of the parish, since, where barley grows, wheat may very often be successfully produced.

Cottagers ought to be more encouraged. The Mull of Kintyre has been converted into an immense sheep-walk, under one Company, and is now occupied by 6000 sheep. This was half-a-century ago, a great pastoral country, which then reared and supported thirty or forty families, whose ancestors had occupied that remote and extensive region for ages.

The erection of a pier or quay at Dunaverty bay would not only prove a lasting benefit to the parish, but also greatly enhance the value and sale of the raw produce; by enabling tenants to ship their grain, potatoes, &c. direct for the Clyde and other places, where there is always a ready market, instead of being exposed to

the said Bible to the said John, and that he received his obligation for the same, of the date the 16th day of November last, which obligation was produced in presence of the presbytery, and appointed to be recorded in *futuram rei memoriam*."

Followeth the tenor of the obligation granted by the said John M'Neill for the above-mentioned Irish Bible: "I, John M'Neill of Tirfergus, grants me to have received from Mr B. D., minister of Campbeltown, (according to the appointment of the presbytery of Kintyre), the church Bible of the Irish character, bestowed by the Honourable Sir Robert Boyle on the parish of Southend of Kintyre, which Bible I oblige me to restore sound and entire, and to deliver the same to the minister of the said parish or to the presbytery when required, under the penalty of

In witness whereof, I have written and subscribed these presents at Campbeltown, the 16th November 1692 years. Sic subscribitur Jo. M'NEILL."

the necessity of taking the produce of their farms to Campbelton by land carriage, and there often compelled to dispose of it at a sacrifice of value. The erection of this pier would also enable the parish to be supplied with coals direct from the ports of Ayr and the Troon, or from Ballycastle in Ireland.

November 1843.