

UNITED PARISH OF
DUNOON AND KILMUN.*

PRESBYTERY OF DUNOON, SYNOD OF ARGYLE.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THE united parish of Dunoon and Kilmun, in the county of Argyle and district of Cowal, lies on the northern side, or, as our Lowland neighbours term it, the *Highland* side of the Frith of Clyde. Strictly speaking, its sea-shore boundary forms the northern coast of that frith only from the point of Strone, in Kilmun parish, to the point of Toward, in Dunoon parish, this range also embracing the arm of the sea called the Holy Loch. From the point of Strone, the coast line of the parish runs along and forms the western shore of Loch Long, extending nearly to the entrance of Lochgoil, where that arm of the sea branches off from Loch Long: and from the point of Toward, its coast line, to the parish boundary in that direction trending north-westward, forms the eastern shore

* Communicated by Rev. M. Mackay, LL.D., late minister of the United Parish.

of the frith or channel separating the Island of Bute from Argyleshire. The village of Dunoon lies about 31 miles west-north-west from Glasgow, and about 10 miles, more directly westward, from Greenock.

Name.—In the Gaelic language, the word *Aoidh* signifies a *stranger* or *guest*: its plural is *Aoidhea*; and there is no etymological conjecture on the subject perhaps more natural than to suppose, that the name Dunoon originated in its being denominated thus in Gaelic, *Dùn-nan-aidhean*, or *Dùn-aidhean*, the Dùn or place resorted to by strangers or guests. Its modern pronunciation in Gaelic does not, at least, contradict this theory, which also receives additional confirmation, if it be thought, that, in such ancient times, the region of Argyle was considered worthy of being subjected to hostile or predatory incursions from the lowland regions opposite; and that in those times, whatever was the fencible force on “the Highland side” of the frith would be here assembled, to ward off such attacks, or to watch them. It may be also observed, that the obligation of maintaining a ferry at this point across the Frith of Clyde, forms a part of the feudal tenure by which a neighbouring proprietor holds certain of his lands. Another theory on this point, and only confirmatory of this one, will be offered when the antiquities of the parish come under review.

As to the name *Kilmun*; it must be left to controversial etymologists to determine whether the word Kil be merely the Latin *Cella*, or a primitive Celtic term signifying *death* or *the grave*. There is no doubt, that, from an early period, the place now called Kilmun had its place of worship and of burial. The writer professes no such acquaintance with the Romish calendar of saints as would entitle him to deny that a St Mund, Munde, or even Mun may have had even here “a local habitation and a name” long before the proprietor of a Glasgow steamer, connected with the place, made his vessel to bear the name St Mun. The existence of the saint is considered doubtful; and, should it even be proven, it does not by any means follow that his existence, or even his merits, can establish the real signification of the name. In Gaelic, it is invariably pronounced *Cill-a'-mhuna*. *Muna*, or *Munadh*, in that language signifies instruction or teaching, and, by common figure of speech, learning; and the word *Muin*, to teach or instruct, is still used in versions of our Gaelic psalmody. *Cill-a'-mhuna*, therefore, *anglicè*, Kilmun, *latine*, *Cella doctrinarum*, the sacred place of learning or instruction, may be considered the real signification of this name.

The name of the united parish of course dates its application from the union of both ecclesiastically.

Boundaries.—Its sea-coast boundary is the Frith of Clyde, as stated; or, more particularly described, that frith from Strone point to Toward point; Loch Long from Strone point to the extremity of Kilmun parish, near the entrance of Lochgoil; and the channel dividing Bute from Argyleshire, from Toward point to the extremity of Dunoon parish in its sea-coast line, close to the stream of Ardyne, to the westward of Castle Toward. Its inland boundaries touch more or less all the parishes of the district of Cowal, except Kilfinan,—having Inverchaolain on the west and north-west, taking the meridian line at Dunoon; touching Kilmodan to the north-west; and having Stralachlan and Strachur to the north-west and north; and the parish of Lochgoilhead on the north.

Figure.—This is very irregular, and not easily defined in mathematical language, unless it be termed an irregular polygon. Its sea-coast line runs direct scarcely to the extent of one mile in any one portion, and its inland boundary is equally irregular.

Extent.—From the extremity of Kilmun parish, near the entrance of Lochgoil, to that of Dunoon parish, near the stream of Ardyne, the sea-coast line, following its several bendings, and including the Holy Loch, extends, between these two points, to upwards of 30 miles. This has not been submitted to regular measurement. Its inland boundary presents an equal extent fully. Any estimate of its contents in square miles, considering the extreme irregularity of its figure, and its very unequal surface throughout, must be a mere approximation to fact. But, having recourse to the usual methods in such cases, it has been estimated about 180 square miles,—the breadth varying from 9 miles to 2, and downwards, toward the two extremities.

Topographical Appearances.—The general aspect of the territory embraced within the boundaries of the united parish, when viewed from the Frith of Clyde, or from its opposite coast, presents a bold and even grand collocation of hill and valley, with a smoother sloping aspect toward the sea coast, along the greater part of its extent. Its wild grouping of hills, scarcely in general aspiring to belong to the mountain class, as at least compared with many other portions of Highland scenery, may be said more to possess dignity than grandeur. Taken in detail, its features become more interesting and perhaps singular. These are found to be formed, taking the general lineaments, by five separate or distinct hilly or mountainous ranges. There is, first, that to the north of Glenfinart, running nearly from east to west; next,

the range running almost at right angles with the former, embracing a considerable portion of Kilmun parish, diminishing gradually in height towards, and terminating in, the point of Strone, separating Loch Long from the Holy Loch, and presenting its steepest acclivity immediately behind the village of Kilmun, lying on the eastern shore of the Holy Loch. We have, as the third of these ranges, Benmore, with its neighbouring hills stretching to the north-west and south-west, rising abruptly and boldly from the valley of the Eachaig and the place of Benmore, forming in part the steep and wild western banks of Loch Eck, and the northern side of Glenmassan. The fourth range, running nearly from east to west, forms the south side of Glenmassan, and the northern side of Glenlean. The fifth of these groups runs southward from Glenlean, forming the summit range of the territory comprising the parish of Dunoon proper, rising to its highest elevation towards the centre, westward of the village of Dunoon, in the hill denominated the Bishop's Seat, and terminating abruptly in the striking hill of *Buachail-ithean*, on the estate of Castle Toward: both the latter, as well as Benmore, commanding a magnificent view of the neighbouring counties and the Western Islands. The most striking feature of these mountain or hilly ranges is their wild and bold irregularity, both of position and appearance. Benmore is considered the highest of the hills of Cowal, and has been estimated at 2500 feet above the level of the sea; and *Buachail-ithean*, by measurement, has been found 1220 feet. The whole of the other ranges in the parish are of inferior height to Benmore; but their steep acclivities, and the abrupt and rugged breaks occurring, both separating and intersecting them at numerous points, render their appearance imposing, and, on more detailed inspection, exceedingly interesting. Taking these ranges as the more prominent leading features which the parochial territory presents, the corresponding valleys present another feature still more diversified and interesting, presenting in detail local scenery of softer shades and of milder forms than could be anticipated from a more distant view of the general aspect of the territory, as seen from any point beyond its own limits. The parochial bounds comprise also five separate valleys or glens, corresponding to the five different mountain ranges described. In describing Highland scenery, it may not be impertinent to state the distinction properly holding between *glen* and *valley*. The latter is always supposed and seen to have egress as well as entrance, and both equally patent; while the former, according to the use of the language whence the word is borrowed,

always presents at the termination opposite to its entrance some hilly or rocky barrier, rendering egress in that direction either difficult, or, in the apparent aspect of the scene, impracticable. Of the five valleys or glens now referred to, as embraced within this parochial territory, the most important by far, in point of extent, diversified appearance, and relative position, is the valley of the *Eachaig*, so denominated from the river *Eachaig*, to be afterwards mentioned. This valley is formed by the space between the second and third of the mountain ranges already described. Commencing at the inland extremity of the Holy Loch, and bounded at its commencement there on the western side by the fourth mountain range mentioned, and on the other side by the second, the Kilmun Hill, and presenting here an expanse of nearly two miles in breadth, it stretches till it reaches Loch Eck, a distance of about four miles, and narrowing as it approaches that lake. Loch Eck forms its continuation for seven miles or upwards, when the same valley, continuing its progress in a north-western direction, pretty uniformly, from the inland extremity of the Holy Loch, strikes into Loch Fine at Strachur Park, in the parish of Strachur, and at an angle somewhat acute, and on the Cowal side of Loch Fine, about five miles nearer the entrance of that arm of the sea than the town of Inveraray. Thus viewed, the valley of the *Eachaig*, with its continuation along Loch Eck and Strachur, forms a leading and very interesting feature in the topography of the district of Cowal. Its summit level, shewn by Loch Eck, is not more than about 18 feet above the level of the sea; and, while geological phenomena indicate sufficiently, that at some remote and unknown period the sea flowed along the whole of this valley, forming the portions of Cowal to the westward of it into an island, it may be of more importance practically, and in a commercial age, to hint that this valley presents by far the shortest, easiest, and most agreeable line of communication between Inveraray, the county town of Argyleshire, and the southern parts of Scotland, the distance between Kilmun and Loch Fine at Strachur not exceeding thirteen miles, along a level far from being impracticable to the genius of the railway engineer. From the inland extremity of the Holy Loch to the southern end of Loch Eck, a distance of about four miles, this valley presents a very considerable space of level surface, ranging between the mountain groups that bound it on each side, a space which, were adequate means employed to straighten and embank the course of the river *Eachaig*, flowing from Loch Eck till it falls into the Holy Loch, the valley might present, in this portion of its extent, a scene of no ordinary land-

scape beauty and interest. At the entrance to Loch Eck, at the southern extremity, the boundaries of this valley on either side combine to form one of the grandest scenes to be met with in the Highlands of Scotland. The rocky and shattered face of the mountain range on the eastern side present to the imagination the appearance of some huge interminable Babel-like ruin, its summit retreating and lost in the distance; while on the western side of this entrance, the eye is constrained also to rest in turn on the very striking appearance of hill and *corries*, forming the dark and mysterious recesses of *Coire-an-ti*.

Glenfinart may next be mentioned, taking its commencement at Ardentinny from the western shore of Loch Long, running in a westerly direction between the first and second mountain ranges already described, to the extent of upwards of three miles in length, till met by a hill barrier secondary in height to the two side boundaries,—this range separating it from Loch Eck and the valley of the *Eachaig*. This glen is, like the valley last described, well wooded both by copsewood and planting, and embraces a considerable space of level ground as its base, increasing in width toward the sea-coast, and is now undergoing the highest improvement in the hands of its present proprietor. Both the valleys now described are in the bounds of the parish of Kilmun proper, which also embraces the third falling to be mentioned,—Glenmassan. This opens from the western side of the valley of the *Eachaig*, about two miles from Kilmun, running almost at right angles with that valley, and continuing its course westward, bounded on either side by the third and fourth mountain ranges mentioned; at first narrowing into a gorge about two miles from its entrance, and then expanding its Alpine bosom into a very uncommon and well-defined level flat of arable alluvial soil many acres in extent, it is seen closely barriered at its upland extremity by the transverse range of the hills of *Garachra*. When thickly wooded on both sides, as this glen appears to have been, according to Highland song and tradition, and indeed on one side to a comparatively recent date, as is quite apparent, Glenmassan must have formed a singularly romantic and secure Highland fastness, the very birth-place of song and romance. Towards Dunoon from the glen last mentioned, and separated from it by the fourth mountain range mentioned formerly, commences Glenlean, from the western side of the Holy Loch, at its extremity inland, running nearly parallel with Glenmassan, and extending nearly six miles from its entrance; it mingles the distinctions between a glen and a valley, and narrowing at its inland extremity, brings the traveller along an excellent road abruptly

into view of the highly interesting and wild scenery of Loch Striven, an arm of the sea running inland, in the parish of Inverchaolain. It is a glen of less interest in its features than any of the three formerly mentioned, but sufficiently alpine in its general character. The three valleys last enumerated may be said to meet, and to blend themselves unitedly into the smoother and extended surface surrounding the Holy Loch at its inland extremity, forming there, with the surrounding mountain ranges, when viewed from any spot of the level, a *coup d'oeil* which may be termed magnificent;—the agricultural improvements now for some years in progress here, on the estate of Hafton, embracing a large portion of this level territory, and bringing into pleasing contrast and connection the native ruggedness of these mountain ranges with the cultivated and cheerful aspect of fields, plantations, and comfortable homesteads at their base. The fifth leading valley in the parish is at its western extremity, where bounded to the westward by the parish of Inverchaolain. Commencing at the *embouchure* of the stream of Ardyne, to the westward of Castle Toward, bounded on the eastern side by the gentle and well-wooded acclivities of *Buachail-i-thean*, and on the western side by the lower and well cultivated and wooded hills of Ardyne and Knockdow, in the parish of Inverchaolain, it assumes a north-western direction, narrowing almost into a gorge about two miles from the coast, when it again opens up into a wide alpine valley, stretching across northward, and presenting magnificent mountain scenery, especially on the eastern side, till, after a continuation of fully three miles in extent, it is intercepted by the hills of Glenlean.

The general aspect of the lower or sea-coast range is comparatively smooth, presenting more or less acclivity throughout the greater portion of the coast line along the parish. This lower range is generally well wooded, showing either the variegated shades of natural copse, in which the oak prevails, or the richer appearance of planting and enclosures, with well cultivated fields. The acclivity from the coast-line is, in general, more steep along the coast of Kilmun parish, corresponding with the facts usually presented in similar geological territories. Those along the coast of Dunoon parish are of a gentler slope. Considerable spaces, however, comparatively level, occur at the commencement of the several valleys mentioned, near the point of Toward, at the extremity, inland, of the Holy Loch, and in the vicinity of Dunoon. This general appearance is increased in interest, and contrasting more strongly with the higher inland and more alpine territory, by

the village of Dunoon, stretching, as it does, including the villas in its neighbourhood, to an extent of upwards of five miles from the entrance of the Holy Loch, on its western side, onwards towards the point of Toward; and by the village of Kilmun, on the eastern shore of the Holy Loch. The extent of sea coast has been mentioned already. Its margin is generally tame, though not flat, consisting chiefly of clayey slate, with certain interruptions. It can scarcely be said that any rock occurs, except that which forms the hill on which Dunoon Castle stood; and the frith is remarkably free, near its margin along this coast, from what seamen term reefs, the only ones occurring being two, the one near the coast at the point formed by the Castle-hill of Dunoon, and the other to the eastward of the point of Toward. On both these, beacons have been erected of substantial mason-work. The frith generally becomes shallow, as it approaches the coast. The principal bay is the Holy Loch, diverging from the Frith of Clyde in a north-westerly direction, and running inland about two miles from its entrance at Strone point. There is scarcely any other curvature of the coast-line forming any bay properly so called, except on a small scale at Ardentinny, and on both sides to the north-east and south-west of the point formed by the Castle-hill of Dunoon. The retreat of the tide exposes generally along the coast a considerable extent of shingly beach and sand, especially at the inland extremity of the Holy Loch. The principal headlands are the point of Toward and the point of Strone, the former opposite the island of Bute, and forming the angle where the strait or channel, dividing that island from Argyleshire, diverges from the Frith of Clyde; the point of Strone also forming the angle where both Loch Long and the Holy Loch commence to take their respective names as locally distinguished from the Frith of Clyde. On the point of Toward, a light-house, showing a revolving light, has been erected, and has contributed greatly since its erection to the safety of shipping when working up the frith.

On the sides of Benmore, there are several very remarkable fissures or chasms, running parallel with the acclivities of its sides, varying in width from ten inches to fifteen feet. The one found to be deepest, is about three feet wide. A stone dropped into it (striking, of course, against the sides in its descent,) takes fifty-eight seconds to reach the bottom. Its last fall is distinctly heard to be long, and sounds as if terminating in a body of water.

Climate.—The mildness of the climate is indicated by the vigorous healthy growth of evergreen shrubbery, many kinds of

which appear to luxuriate in the open air during the winter, and which may be called exotic kinds to most parts of Scotland. The *Arbutus* ripens its scarlet berries in several places; in well-kept pleasure grounds the myrtle is frequently seen in blossom in the months of December and January; and *Fuscias* not only survive the winter in the open air, but may be seen, where special attention has been paid to that beautiful deciduous shrub, reared into a hedge or garden fence. In the more elevated parts of the parish, indeed, along the hilly and mountainous ranges described, snow generally makes its appearance early in winter, and is frequently seen to continue for several months.

Meteorology.—A very regular and accurate register of meteorological observations has been kept at Castle Toward for twenty years past by the late Kirkman Finlay Esq., and is still continued by the present proprietor, Alexander S. Finlay, Esq. The situation where the thermometer, barometer, and rain-gauges are placed, is about 120 feet above the level of the sea, and at the distance of about half a mile to the north, the hill of *Buachail-ithean* rises to the height of 1100 feet above that level. A table of the general monthly results for the last three years preceding 1843 is here introduced.*

1840.	Atmospheric variations.				State of the wind taken at 9 o'clock A.M.								Atmospheric pressure.		Extero. therm. in the shade.		Fall of rain.
	Wet and stormy.	Fair.	Frosty.	Snow & hail.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	N.	N.E.	Monthly mean. 9 o'clock, A.M.	Monthly mean. 6 o'clock, P.M.	Monthly mean. 9 o'clock, A.M.	Monthly mean. 6 o'clock, P.M.	
Jan.	20	9	6	2	5	0	8	9	3	4	1	1	29.45	29.40	38½	41	7.6
Feb.	10	16	7	3	13	3	3	4	2	2	2	0	29.66	29.66	39	41	3.2
March	5	26	10	0	14	1	0	0	1	11	1	3	30.26	30.27	41	43	0.6
April	9	21	2	0	12	0	5	6	5	0	2	0	28.96	30.04	49	47½	1.2
May	16	15	0	0	16	0	2	3	2	2	6	0	29.86	29.85	51½	54	3.6
June	18	12	0	0	3	1	11	3	5	4	2	1	29.72	29.79	55½	53½	3.6
July	17	14	0	0	1	0	5	5	6	8	6	0	29.75	29.83	54½	56½	3.8
Aug.	16	15	0	0	6	1	9	5	4	4	2	0	29.74	29.67	58½	59½	3.7
Sept.	22	8	0	0	7	0	4	5	5	6	2	1	29.68	29.64	51½	54	7.3
Oct.	13	18	4	0	6	2	1	2	5	10	5	0	29.77	29.86	47½	47	2.
Nov.	16	14	6	0	9	4	3	4	2	0	8	0	29.83	29.53	43	41½	4.2
Dec.	11	19	9	1	9	4	4	3	1	5	4	1	29.92	29.91	39½	39½	3.3
	173	187	44	6	96	16	55	49	41	56	41	7					43.3

* It may be observed with respect to this table, that the situation of Castle Toward, facing the S. W. W. and N. W., with a very large and open expanse around in these several directions, may in some measure tend to produce results more equable than might be found by similar observations in any other locality of the united parish. The rain-gauge chiefly used is one of very simple construction by Mr Thom of Ascog, in Bute. Mr Finlay, however, to ensure the greater accuracy, employed gauges of different constructions, comparing the results. His superintendence of this register

TABLE—continued.

1841.	Atmospheric variations.				State of the wind taken at 9 o'clock A.M.								Atmospheric pressure.		Extern. therm. in the shade.		Fall of rain.
	Wet and stormy.	Fair.	Frosty.	Snow & hail.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	N.	N.E.	Monthly mean. 9 o'clock, A.M.	Monthly mean. 6 o'clock, P.M.	Monthly mean. 9 o'clock, A.M.	Monthly mean. 6 o'clock, P.M.	
Jan.	9	9	2	6	4	1	1	4	4	4	9	4	29.75	29.64	35½	36½	3.0
Feb.	12	16	2	4	13	0	10	1	0	1	2	1	29.83	29.80	36½	37½	3.3
March.	17	26	0	0	5	9	13	1	5	4	2	0	29.75	29.79	43	42½	3.2
April.	20	21	9	0	6	1	7	1	4	8	9	0	29.84	29.75	46	49½	2.8
May.	11	15	1	0	9	1	8	0	9	2	2	0	29.72	29.77	50½	55	3.6
June.	13	12	0	0	9	1	4	1	4	8	3	0	29.92	29.94	56½	58	2.8
July.	16	14	0	0	3	1	4	1	1	19	2	0	29.92	29.85	55	56½	3.6
Aug.	14	15	0	0	2	2	5	2	5	12	2	1	29.89	29.82	56½	57	5.6
Sept.	16	8	0	0	14	3	8	1	1	3	0	0	29.56	29.89	55½	62	4.1
Oct.	15	18	0	1	11	0	1	0	8	2	7	1	29.59	29.60	45	47	5.8
Nov.	14	14	6	1	9	3	1	2	6	0	8	1	29.55	29.57	41½	43	3.2
Dec.	23	19	3	0	3	1	3	7	2	8	6	1	29.60	29.59	38½	39½	5.4
	180	173	28	12	88	17	65	21	49	71	44	9					46.4
1842.																	
Jan.	13	9	3	2	10	2	7	0	1	2	8	1	29.74	29.99	36½	38	4.3
Feb.	13	16	3	2	3	2	12	6	3	1	1	0	29.74	29.63	38½	38½	5.
March.	21	26	2	3	0	2	5	6	5	8	4	1	29.75	29.78	42½	43	6.
April.	0	21	6	1	19	0	2	0	0	5	4	0	30.30	30.38	48	52	0.
May.	17	15	0	0	11	2	13	0	2	3	0	0	29.74	29.69	51½	53	2.71
June.	11	12	0	0	13	0	7	2	0	8	0	0	29.99	30.01	59	62	3.39
July.	13	14	0	0	10	0	4	5	0	11	1	0	29.96	29.87	57	61	0.
Aug.	14	15	0	0	8	0	4	4	1	3	5	1	30.05	30.03	60½	61½	4.71
Sept.	13	8	0	0	12	1	4	0	6	2	3	0	29.96	29.97	55	53½	2.76
Oct.	10	18	6	0	4	0	0	2	6	7	12	0	29.69	29.70	44½	44½	1.54
Nov.	9	14	5	1	17	0	4	0	2	0	7	0	29.69	29.65	42½	45	2.96
Dec.	2½	19	0	1	4	1	7	9	4	5	1	0	29.90	29.94	44½	42½	6.27
	155	200	25	10	109	10	76	34	30	55	48	3					39.37

While the above table distinctly enough shows, that, according to the number of days throughout the year on which it occurs, the east is the prevailing wind, yet it must be also considered that, throughout the greater part of the year, the winds are exceedingly variable, and the south-west is by far that most experienced, as bringing both rain and heavy gales. During the winter and spring months, till towards the end of March, it may be said that the south-west, varying to west and north-west, prevails; and during the month of April, sometimes commencing earlier, onwards to the middle and frequently till the end of May, easterly winds prevail, when the winds again become very variable till the com-

was unwearied and constant, and its accuracy may be most fully relied upon. The register itself is a daily one; and the average results of each month, as exhibited in the table, have been very carefully drawn out and collated. The term "frosty" is to be understood as indicating a day on which there was any frost, the thermometrical observation of the day showing the degree of it.

mencement of the winter season. The east wind, though not accompanied here with the same depression of atmospheric temperature as it brings on the east coast of Scotland, is, notwithstanding, keenly felt: and the months of March, April, and frequently a considerable portion of the month of May, may be said to be the coldest period of the year.

Judging from results, both in ordinary and extraordinary circumstances, the climate of this parish may be considered highly conducive to health.

Hydrography.—The Frith of Clyde, immediately opposite Dunoon, is about three miles across to the opposite shore. There is a regular ferry, now, indeed, not so much in demand since the introduction of steam navigation. The landing place of the ferry on the opposite coast of Renfrewshire, is at about a quarter of a mile toward Gourock, from the Cloch Light-house. This is the narrowest part of the frith to the westward of Gourock, expanding as it does from the point of Gourock northward into more spacious width, as it sends off the branches of Loch Long and the Holy Loch; and widening again beyond Dunoon, the coasts of Renfrewshire and Ayrshire trending pretty rapidly southward, and that of Argyleshire on the northern side, maintaining its direction westward to the point of Toward, trending slightly northward. Opposite Dunoon, the depth of the frith in the centre, and increasing towards the Renfrewshire coast, till approaching close to the coast, is about sixty fathoms. From the point of Strone, a bank is raised, and extending to a considerable distance across the frith in the same direction as the point, and occasioned by the tides flowing into and from Loch Long and the Holy Loch, on which the depth, in ordinary tides, is only sixteen fathoms, and suddenly increasing to thirty-two and upwards on either side. The current in the portion of the frith opposite Dunoon runs, in neap tides, at the rate of $\frac{3}{4}$ knots an hour, and in spring tides, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ knots, — increased here no doubt by receiving the branch currents from Loch Long and the Holy Loch in ebb tides, and supplying those arms in flood tide. The tide at Dunoon rises and falls, in spring tides, about fourteen feet perpendicular, and in neap tides, from nine to ten feet. The highest and lowest tides generally occur at the period of the vernal equinox.

A very extensive and highly picturesque view of the frith is presented from almost any part of the coast in the neighbourhood of Dunoon; but from the Castle-hill, Dunoon, it is particularly in

teresting and extensive, ranging from Helensburgh in Dumbartonshire, and extending seaward to Ailsa Craig, that object being from this spot clearly discernible by the naked eye in a clear state of the atmosphere, the same view embracing the islands of Cumbræ, and portions of Bute and Arran. At any point of considerable elevation above the coast, near Dunoon, the same view of the frith is prolonged inland to Dumbarton Castle. The Holy Loch is the only arm of the sea that intersects the united parish. From where it branches off from the frith at the point of Strone, it runs inland a distance of about two miles direct, and is about a mile broad at its entrance, narrowing at the village of Kilmun, opposite which, the currents both of the frith and of the streams emptying themselves into the loch have thrown up an extended shingly bank on both sides;—beyond this, inland, it again widens, and maintains its breadth to its inland termination. It divides in its length the parishes proper of Dunoon and Kilmun. The Holy Loch affords convenient and accessible shelter to the coasting trade of the Clyde, and not unfrequently to its foreign shipping. It has good anchorage in from fifteen to seventeen fathoms water, with good holding ground, the most secure being beyond the narrowest part inland, where again the loch expands.

The only fresh water lake of any extent is Loch Eck, and of it this united parish claims not the whole extent, nearly one-half of it lying within the parish of Strachur. Loch Eck is about seven miles in length, its general breadth being pretty uniform, and about half a mile. It extends southward and northward nearly. Its depth varies; toward the banks on each side it is shallow, but increases suddenly in depth toward the middle; and toward the place of Bernice, lying on its western bank, its depth is about sixty fathoms. Its scenery is interesting, presenting precipitous and well-wooded banks on the western side, from its northern extremity nearly to its southern, and embracing on that side the picturesque and beautiful spot of Bernice, the property of Mr Fletcher, where the landscape is softened by thriving plantations of larch, and well cultivated fields,—a picture of cultivated Highland retirement and seclusion. Its eastern bank is more tame and level, but varied in appearance and interest by copse, planting, and sections of arable land, with their humble residences.

The only stream in the united parish which can aspire to the name of river, is the Eachaig, which issuing from Loch Eck at its

southern extremity, and running a course of nearly four miles along the valley bearing its own name, empties itself into the Holy Loch. It is joined in its short course by its two tributary streams, the Massan, which, issuing from the glen of that name, joins the Eachaig near the place of Benmore, and the stream called the Little Eachaig, issuing from Glenlean, which joins the Eachaig immediately before its junction with the sea at the inland extremity of the Holy Loch.

The parish abounds, as may be supposed from its central, hilly and mountainous aspect, with minor streams and rivulets, all subject to sudden rises in rainy weather, and many of them, when flooded, forming cascades, though none of these can be termed perpetual ones; except where the Massan, passing through the gorge of that glen, and over a ledge of rock, has worn out for itself a rugged and diversified course, where, especially when flooded, this stream presents a very picturesque and impetuous fall.

There are no springs in the parish meriting any particular notice, though excellent spring water abounds in every part of it.

Geology.—The whole parish consists of the mica-slate and clay-slate system, which stretches across the breadth of Scotland, from Kincardineshire on the east, to Argyleshire, Bute, and Arran, on the west. The oldest and most extensive formation in the parish is mica-slate. With the exception of the southern part of the Kilmun hill, from the old mansion-house on Mr Campbell of Monzie's lands, near the church of Kilmun, to the point of Strone, the whole of Kilmun parish, extending from near the entrance of Lochgoil, including Glenfinart, the bold and rugged sides of Loch Eck, Glenmassan, and Glenlean, consists of this rock. The mica-slate is highly indurated, contorted into curves and every variety of form, and is traversed by veins of compact quartz. It ranges generally from north-north-east to south-south-west, and dips south at various angles from 85°, or nearly vertical, as at Inverchapel, near the entrance to Loch Eck, and at Benmore, to 70° and 45°. The mica-slate passes into clay-slate, which forms the southern portion of the Kilmun hill, and by far the greater portion of the parish of Dunoon. The transition from mica to clay-slate is well marked by the aspect of the territory; the former forming the bold, broken, precipitous, and highly picturesque outlines of Loch Eck, Glenfinart, and Glenmassan hills, and the latter, the more even and regular outline of the hills behind Dunoon. The clay-slate is greenish, grayish, and bluish in colour,—

sometimes it occurs finely laminated and firmly grained. It dips south, and mostly at an angle of 45° . It has been quarried and used as roofing slates, both on the estate of Toward and in the vicinity of Dunoon, and is still occasionally used, or has recently been, at the latter place. Builders, however, have considered it inferior to Balachulish and Easdale slate; and the latter are almost always preferred.

The clay-slate, again, passes into greywacké at the point of Strone, and at Toward. The greywacké is coarse-grained, and alternates, at the junction, with the clay-slate in inconsiderable strata.

The old red sandstone skirts the shore from the farm of Ineland, five miles and a-half to the west of Dunoon, to within a mile or upwards of Toward Castle. The whole of Toward point belongs to this formation, excepting where, on the west side of the point, a considerable bed of limestone occurs. The red sandstone lies unconformably to the primary rocks below. Its lower strata consist of a coarse conglomerate, made up of the fragments of the adjacent schists, and its upper strata are of a deep-red colour, and not very firmly granulated. Its position is nearly horizontal, or dips to the north at very low angles. The red sandstone has been quarried at different periods, more or less, and used in building. The old castle of Toward appears to have been built mostly of this stone; but it is found to be somewhat porous, and not of such firm consistency and adaptation to building purposes as that occurring abundantly on the opposite shore of the Frith of Clyde, in Renfrewshire.

A narrow bed of limestone, as noticed already, occurs near the Light-house at the point of Toward, superimposed upon and conformed, as far as can be seen, to the red sandstone. The working of this limestone was begun, several years ago, by a former proprietor of lands in the neighbourhood, but was abandoned as an unprofitable speculation, the mineral proving impure, and loosely aggregated. Another limestone bed occurs on the face of the hill rising westward of the point, on the lands of Castle Toward, which has been occasionally wrought for farming purposes, and the quality found sufficiently good. Certain provisions of statute, or in the navigation code of the country, prohibiting the use of lime-kilns within certain distances, or within view of Light-houses, this quarry has ceased to be wrought since the erection of the Light-house on Toward point. Limestone again occurs on the

lands of Castle Toward toward the boundary of the parish to the westward. This bed has not been closely examined in detail; but has been pronounced by competent judges to approach to the consistency of good marble.

Igneous rocks are of frequent occurrence throughout the united parish, but nowhere in great mass. The Castle-hill, Dunoon, is formed of a very dark greenstone, and a section is laid bare on the shore, beneath which there is exhibited, even to the unscientific observer, a very interesting junction,—the protrusion of the igneous rock through the clay-slate, and the manifest disturbance, discolouring, and crystallization of the latter by the former at the point of contact. The Gantocks, a partially sunk rock, a few hundred yards, here, distant from the shore, is also of the same igneous origin.

Dikes of porphyry and other trap traverse the red sandstone in the neighbourhood of Toward point, upraising and discolouring it, and at several points they cross each other.

No kinds of the more valuable minerals or ores have been found to occur. Coal was at one time supposed to exist below the flat or basin portion of land occurring between Toward point and the more elevated rising banks in its neighbourhood. Attempts made towards its discovery by a former proprietor of those lands, failed of success. Serpentine, susceptible of high polish, occurs in considerable quantity at the coast, about four miles westward of Dunoon.

The soil of the parish generally is a light, and, for the most part, rather shallow, sandy loam, lying upon the kind of bed that has been already described. Where depressions of the surface occur, beds of sandy gravel are found to occupy them beneath the covering of soil; and either these or moss, more or less deep, in the smoother or more level parts of the parish. In portions, indeed, of the several valleys which form the local features of the territory, the soil is deeper, and favourable to the purposes of farm husbandry. What in agricultural language is denominated a "hanging soil," where not cultivated, is generally found covered with copse, the oak, birch, hazel, and ash prevailing, the first chiefly; and where cultivation has been promoted, or enclosures formed, the ordinary crops and plantations thrive successfully.

Botany.—The geological structure, which is known so well to exert a considerable influence on vegetation, being but little varied throughout the parish as a whole, its botany may be supposed to

have no very great diversity. The hills, though rising to a height approaching to 3000 feet above the level of the sea, are not sufficiently lofty to produce the rarer species of Scottish alpine plants, yet several plants do occur which are highly interesting to the botanist.

The sea shore affords two plants that cannot fail to strike the attention of one who walks upon the sandy or shingly portion of the beach between Dunoon and Toward. The first is the yellow-horned poppy (*Chelidonium majus*), with its large yellow blossoms, and singular seed-vessels; the other, a plant indeed peculiar to northern coasts, is the sea-side Gromwell (*Lithospermum maritimum*). It sends forth from a perennial central root a number of procumbent stems, clothed with bright, purplish, blue flowers, and fleshy leaves of a sea-green colour, observed to possess a flavour, when eaten fresh, exactly similar to that of oysters. The scurvy-grass (*Cochlearia officinalis*), and the grass wrack (*Zostera marina*) so much employed in the Hebrides, Orkneys, and Iceland, for stuffing beds, are also common on the beach. Moist and-marshy grounds present us with the pale butterwort (*Pinguicula lusitanica*), a species first found in Portugal, whence its specific name, and which has since been ascertained to be a native of the western side of England, Wales, and Scotland; while, strange to say, it grows nowhere in the interior of our island, nor can it be discovered on the eastern coast. It yields in beauty to the common butterwort (*P. vulgaris*), but its rarity recommends it to the plant collector. In the same kind of localities is found the Gipsewort (*Lycopus Europæus*); the black bog rush (*Schænus nigricans*); the curious and minute thyme-leaved flax-seed (*Radiola millegrana*), which latter grows at Toward Point; *Myosotis palustris*, with its turquoise-coloured blossoms, which is the true "forget me not;" brook-weed (*Samolus Valerandi*); marsh-violet (*Viola palustris*); the grass of Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*), affording a beautiful example of nectaries, or honey-bearing glands in a flower; the long-leaved sundew (*Drosera longifolia*); the great bilberry, or bog whortleberry (*Vaccinium uliginosum*), of which the fruit is large and esculent, and the foliage used by the Icelanders, mixed with the alpine club moss, to produce a yellow dye for woollen stuffs; the yellow mountain saxifrage (*Saxifraga aizoides*); and higher up the hills the starry saxifrage (*S. stellaris*); the large-flowered bitter-cress (*Cardamine amara*), in the glen near Mr Malcolm's beautiful villa in the vicinity of Dunoon; the marsh dandelion (*Leontodon palustre*). Also, among orchideous plants, the early purple

orchis (*Orchis mascula*); marsh orchis (*O. latifolia*); and spotted orchis (*O. maculata*); and butterfly habenaria (*Habenaria bifolia*), with its deliciously scented flowers, which, with many other cream-coloured, or pale greenish-white blossoms, become much more fragrant on the approach of evening; and lastly, as pre-eminently indicating a moist and boggy soil, may be mentioned the sweet gale or Dutch myrtle (*Myrica Gale*), the badge of the clan Campbell, a shrub remarkable for the aromatic fragrance of its foliage, which, together with the elasticity of its young twigs, recommended it for beds among the population of the Highlands—

“Gale from the bog shall waft Arabian balm.”

Fresh water pools and minor lakes in the parish yield the marsh and water speedwells (*Veronica scutellata* and *anagallis*). There, too,

The water-lily to the light,
Her chalice rears of silver bright;

and nowhere, perhaps, in greater profusion and loveliness than in the loch of Dunloskin, on the Haston estate, near Dunoon. Its roots are used in different parts of Scotland, for producing a black or deep purple dye: the bladderwort (*Utricularia vulgaris*), its leaves furnished with little vesicles or bladders. These, by a beautiful provision of nature, are filled with air during the summer season, when the plant rises to the surface of the water, and expands its flowers in the free atmosphere. Afterwards the air escapes from these vesicles, and the plant, by its own specific gravity, then sinks to the bottom of the water, there to ripen its seeds. This interesting and beautiful production is found in pools near the Bull-wood, westward of the village of Dunoon. The water lobelia (*Lobelia Dortmanna*) abounds in Loch Eck. Its leaves are constantly submerged. If these leaves are cut through transversely, they will be seen to be each of them composed of two parallel tubes, like a double-barrelled gun,—a structure not known to exist in any other plant. In the same lake, and always near the shore, may be seen in profusion the plantain shore-weed (*Litorella lacustris*), matting the edge of the water with its velvety green tufts.

Dry and open banks and fields are adorned with the poor man's weather-glass (*Anagallis arvensis*); the common centaury (*Erythraea Centaurium*), and field gentian (*Gentiana campestris*), both which are remarkable for their powerfully bitter principle, and may be safely used as stomachics; the bistort or snake-weed (*Polygonum bistorta*), and viviparous alpine bistort (*P. viviparum*), in more mountainous situations; the awl-shaped spurrey (*Spergula*

subulata); the smooth field pepper-weed (*Lepidium Smithii*); the trailing and upright St John's wort (*Hypericum humifusum* and *pulchrum*); the charming sweet-scented gymnadenia (*Gymnadenia conopsea*); the green and the white habenaria (*Habenaria viridis* and *albida*); and, finally, the common and the heart-leaved tway-blade (*Listera ovata* and *cordata*.)

Stone walls afford sufficient nourishment for the pellitory of the wall (*Parietaria officinalis*), especially at Achenwillin, and at the old Castle of Toward. The stamens of this plant are of a most curious structure, jointed and elastic, so that in fine warm weather they may be seen, as the buds expand, to unroll themselves with a jerk, and scatter little clouds of pollen or fertilizing dust to a considerable distance. The wall pennywort (*Cotyledon Umbilicus*) is nourished in the same situations.

Woods and coppices, especially if moist, produce the common and alpine enchanter's nightshade (*Circea Lutetiana* and *alpina*); the daffodil (*Narcissus Pseudo-narcissus*), is seen on banks near Dunoon, apparently wild; and the lesser winter gum (*Pyrola minor*), and the tutsan (*Hypericum Androsæmum*), grow at Kilmun and Ardentinny.

In rocky places are observed, the northern bedstraw (*Galium boreale*), and, among the hills, the mountain sorrel (*Oxyria reniformis*), whose leaves have an agreeable acid taste; also the stone bramble (*Rubus saxatilis*). The higher mountains of the parish, such as Benmore, not being of sufficient elevation to hold out the prospect of a rich harvest of alpine plants to the botanist, have not been examined with the attention which they perhaps deserve. But the following alpine productions may be mentioned: the dwarf cornel (*Cornus suecica*); procumbent Sibbaldia (*Sibbaldia procumbens*), which is named in honour of Robert Sibbald, who wrote a natural history of Scotland so early as the closing part of the seventeenth century, and who then published a figure of this plant; spiked mountain woodrush (*Luzula spicata*); the purple mountain saxifrage (*Saxifraga oppositifolia*), a lovely flower, well adapted for adorning artificial rock-work; the alpine rasp or cloud-berry (*Rubus Chamæmorus*), which bears a beautiful and finely flavoured large orange berry; the alpine meadow-rue (*Thalictrum alpinum*); the rose-root (*Rhodiola rosea*); and, lastly, the least alpine willow (*Salix herbacea*), a genus of which many of the kinds possess an arborescent character, while the present miniature species, of which little forests, if they may be so called, are

seen clothing considerable patches of the otherwise bare grounds on the highest summit of Benmore, only attains the height of one or two inches, yet bears its leaves, its catkins, and its flowers as perfect as those of its brethren in the willow tribe, which, on our plains and valleys, constitute real trees.

The nature of the soil, the moist rocks, and shady glens of the parish are highly favourable to the growth of cryptogamic plants, particularly of ferns, which, in the form and structure and colour of the foliage, far exceed the flowering plants. Not fewer than four species of club-moss have been found: the common club-moss (*Lycopodium clavatum*), of which the excessively minute dust-like seeds, being highly inflammable, are used to produce artificial lightning on the stage; the fir club-moss (*L. Selago*), and lesser alpine club-moss (*L. selaginoides*), and upon the higher mountains the savin-leaved club-moss (*L. alpinum*). We must be permitted to point particular attention to the noble fern, the Osmund royal (*Osmunda regalis*), which abounds among moist copsewood in several situations in the parish, and especially near the road, from Ineland to Toward Chapel, and in the Bull wood, near Dunoon; the moon-fern (*Botrychium lunaria*): this is found on dry grassy banks above Mr Malcolm's residence, near Dunoon; the pale mountain and the three-branched polypody (*Polypodium Phegopteris* and *calcareum*), in woods near Dunoon; the close-leaved, prickly shield-fern, and heath shield fern (*Aspidium lobatum* and *Oreopteris*); the brittle bladder fern (*Cistopteris fragilis*); the green and the wall rue spleen-wort (*Asplenium viride* and *Ruta-muraria*); the hart's tongue (*Scolopendrium vulgare*), which grows among the woods at Ardentinny; the curled rock-brake (*Cryptogramma crispa*); whilst among the smallest, but certainly the most delicately beautiful of the fern tribe, are the Tonbridge and the Scottish filmy ferns (*Hymenophyllum Tunbridgense* and *Wilsoni*). The latter is a recent discovery in Britain, and was first detected in Scotland, growing in the same spot with the former species, in the beautiful grounds of Professor Buchanan at Ardfillan, in the Bull-wood. It has since been found, in great abundance, in this and other parishes, but nowhere, perhaps, growing more luxuriantly than in the singular rents and chasms of Benmore, the picturesque property of George R. Wilson Esq.*

We cannot dismiss the subject of the vegetation of the parish, with-

* Obligingly communicated to Dr Mackay by Sir William J. Hooker.

out remarking how admirably a great extent of it is calculated for the growing of timber, not only of the fir kind, but of oak and other kinds of hard-wood. The extensive and beautiful plantations of Archibald Douglas Esq. of Glenfinart, James Hunter Esq. of Hafton, George R. Wilson Esq. of Benmore, and, on a still more extensive scale, those of Alexander S. Finlay Esq. of Castle Toward, amply attest this fact, as do many individual older trees here and there throughout the parish. An avenue of limes near the church of Kilmun contains specimens of a very superior order; and must be, it is supposed, upwards of 200 years old, and all of them still showing perfect vigour and healthiness. Among the beautiful native trees which grace the district, the holly must not be passed without notice. Perhaps in no part of Scotland are the unprotected groups of this handsome and hardy evergreen seen larger in size, or more perfect in form, than on the farm of Orchard on the Hafton estate in this parish,—some single specimens near the farm-house there showing a trunk of about three and a half feet in circumference, and a height of more than 28 feet.

Plantations.—In the united parish, the plantations cover 2167 imperial acres. Larch and Scotch fir are in these by far the prevailing kinds of timber, and all of them may be said to be in a most thriving condition. The oldest larch is on the lands of Glenfinart; and around the house of Glenfinart, and in the lawn, there are oak, sycamore, and beech trees of great age and size, which form a fine contrast to the bold and rugged scenery around. The most extensive of those plantations, taken separately, are those on the estates of Castle Toward and Glenfinart. On the estate of Castle Toward, the plantations were begun by the late Kirkman Finlay Esq. on his purchasing those lands in the year 1818. Down from that period till 1841, there were planted by him nearly 5,000,000 of trees, now covering about 900 imperial acres in this parish, besides about 30 acres in the parish of Inverchaolain, into which the lands of the Castle Toward estate extend. The planting here, though begun chiefly with larch, except on the pleasure-grounds, where every variety of tree and shrub suited to the climate has been introduced, was intended, by a judicious arrangement of hard-wood intermingled, especially oak, to be brought ultimately to contain, in most parts of the extent, the oak and other hard-woods exclusively. This intention is in course of being followed out, and the oak and other hard

woods seem to vie with the larch in vigorous and healthy growth. Some of the other plantations mentioned have rather suffered from want of attention to early thinning; but they have all of them been, for several years past, attended to with great care, and the favourable results are very manifest. It would, indeed, be difficult to say to which of the kinds of timber planted the soil and climate appear to be most adapted, where all kinds may be said to thrive so prosperously. The comparative value of the different kinds in the market must vary with circumstances, over which landowners locally can have no control. But there can be no question, that the soil and climate are adapted to the rearing and growth of the oak,—the royal timber of Great Britain, for which timber its markets will always afford demand, while it continues to be the great maritime power of the civilized world. But little of the parochial territory adapted to planting as much as the parts of it planted already, has yet been turned to that use. Of the ornament and shelter, not to speak of profitable returns which planting affords, the lands of Castle Toward, Glenfinart, and Hafton, in this united parish, are very striking instances. The late Mr Finlay of Castle Toward pursued the system throughout of planting the arable soils of inferior quality, while he improved, by liberal and judicious expenditure, the richer portions, bringing these into the highest state of cultivation by systematic farm husbandry.

Zoology.—There are none of the rarer species of animals found in the parish; and the zoology is generally the same with that of all other portions of the west of Scotland. Among quadrupeds, the mountain red deer may be said to have become extinct, both in this parish and in the whole district of Cowal; though, down to a very recent period, the parish of Kilmun embraced a deer forest, *Coir'-an-Ti*, on Benmore. The system of sheep farming has no doubt conduced to this, causing the hills in the district to be more frequented than formerly, both by men and dogs, disturbances which that noble animal brooks not. The late Kirkman Finlay Esq. of Castle Toward, among his many improvements, introduced a species of American deer into his grounds at Castle Toward, where they thrive prosperously. It is an animal growing apparently to the size and weight of an ordinary red deer, or nearly, and is of a lighter colour, but not possessing (and what animal does?) the noble symmetrical form and bearing of the red

deer; and seems to have predilection for park shelter and pasturage. Hares are very numerous; and the alpine hare has also been frequently found in the higher grounds. Foxes, martens, polecats and wild cats, otters, and weasels are also frequent. The roe is common, though not very numerous, in the plantations and copse-woods throughout the united parish.

Of domestic and agricultural zoology, there is no uncommon species or kind to be noted. The parish sustains an equal character with the other districts of Argyleshire and the west Highlands, for rearing the particular kind of black-cattle, denominated in the markets, "West Highlanders," the qualities and appearance of which are sufficiently known. This breed, indeed, has, within the last twenty years or upwards, in this parish, yielded very much to the Ayrshire breed,—dairy produce having become more an object of attention, as forming a part of systematic agricultural pursuit. There is no doubt, however, that the West Highland breed claim stronger alliance to the climate and soil; and it appears a question among experienced farmers, whether these might not, in the whole district, upon the whole, form a more profitable stock. The black-faced sheep, of which there are several and considerable flocks, is almost the only species reared. Cheviots were considered for a long time to yield better returns in Scotland to the sheep farmer; and both from the nature of the pasture and comparative mildness of the climate, one would suppose this district much more adapted to the rearing of that breed of sheep, than the more northerly and mountainous parts of Scotland, whence the largest flocks of them are now annually driven to the markets of the south; but the humidity incident to the western coast is judged to be unfavourable to them, inducing disease. There is no particular breed of horses. The native Highland pony may be said to have disappeared, and to have given way to the more profitable working animal, this of course varying in value and quality, according to the circumstances of the owner, and the degree of system with which, on the different properties in the parish, agricultural pursuits are conducted. On several of the farms, cattle of this kind are to be seen equal to any that can be met with in the most highly cultivated districts of Scotland. Two small flocks of goats are still kept in the parish.

Ornithology.—There are no rare or uncommon species of birds. The common birds of prey are not very numerous; the attention

paid to the rearing of sheep-stock has diminished the number of the more powerful of these, though the eagle may still be seen claiming its right to the fastnesses presented in the uplands, and especially along the south-eastern side of Loch Eck. The minor kinds are also diminished in number, by the attention paid to the preservation of game. Of game, partridges, grouse, and black-game are pretty numerous; the last-mentioned said to be increasing. Ptarmigan are found on the highest hills in the parish, though their number is but small, and their race thought to be almost extinct. Pheasants were introduced several years ago, and have become pretty numerous in the several plantations and pleasure grounds. The snipe, the gray and green plover, the woodcock, and the landrail, in their season are numerous. Of birds of passage, the two last-mentioned and the cuckoo, the common swallow, the lapwing, the water-wagtail, are numerously seen. The heron is frequent along the coast; it haunts the marshy grounds in the parish, and frequently nestles. Not many years since, they formed a regular heronry in a clump of Scotch firs, not far from Hafton House, but they have latterly again abandoned it. The curlew is very frequent, and may be seen almost daily in considerable numbers, especially at the inland extremity, and along the shores of the Holy Loch. It does not appear to be considered as game; nor is it nor the heron, in this part of Scotland, considered as fit for the table, while, in other parts of the country, both are highly esteemed. The kinds of aquatic birds frequenting the coast are not very numerous. With respect to the sea-coast, indeed, the constant traffic and passing of steamers is more than sufficient to scare such tribes. Large numbers of aquatic fowls during the winter are frequently seen to frequent the Holy Loch, at its inland extremity, but seldom are allowed to remain long unmolested. On the small loch at Dunloskin, the water-hen or water-coot may be frequently observed, interesting in its apparent love of solitude, and of solitary playfulness; but it is still more remarkable for its architectural skill, and is said to build its nest on the water, floating and moveable. From the season of the year at which it is seen frequenting this lake, it most probably builds, though neither its young, nor any specimen of its nest have been discovered. The ordinary species of smaller birds are common and numerous; while the thrush, the blackbird, and the robin contribute their share, with the sky-lark

and the cuckoo, to the music of the gladsome seasons of the year. The blackbird levies tribute, which horticulturists consider oppressive in the fruit season; and the spurious breed of it, described by the author of "the Manse Garden," has, of late years, become so abundant, as to be considered a positive annoyance. The common rook, though not inhabiting the parish, frequents it, in the seasons of spring and harvest particularly, in great numbers, and to such a degree as to render its visits scarcely welcome to the agriculturist.

Insects.—There are no species particularly destructive to vegetation or cultivated crops, except the caterpillar, to small fruit and other kinds of garden produce. Midges, during the earlier autumn months, are considered to be both numerous and offensive, especially in the more wooded and sheltered localities along the coast. The glow-worm is frequently seen in the autumn evenings, frequenting sheltered banks along the public roads, and appears to have predilection for soft herbage, as its retreats are in the neighbourhood of marshy grounds. Bees are cultivated, but not very generally, throughout the parish; and though, in some seasons, they prosper abundantly, the general humidity of the atmosphere seems to prevent their regular prosperity.

Reptiles.—The common viper is sometimes seen, but is by no means frequent. The common lizard is also a native of the district, but is far from being numerous.

Ichthyology.—The fresh water species in this department are generally those common to all parts of the country. Salmon has free access to Loch Eck, along the river Eachaig, from the Holy Loch, and does not ascend that stream in any number till a comparatively late season of the year, towards the end of June, in July, and August. The fishing of this river is owned by Mr Campbell of Monzie, and that of Loch Eck by the respective proprietors along its banks. The resort of salmon to this stream and lake must be considerable. The fishing at the entrance of the river into the sea, at Kilmun, is usually let to a tenant; and the unhappy river itself is sadly punished, day by day, during the open season at least, by innumerable aspirants to the triumphs of this species of sport, not all certainly of the Isaac Walton school; and yet considerable numbers of the noble fish, braving, no doubt, many a fright on their way to the lake, fall there to the drag-net and the rod. Grilse and sea-trout are taken on the Eachaig at

an earlier period of the year than salmon. Pike occurs on the small lake at Dunloskin, and only there in the parish. Loch Eck abounds with the small fish commonly called the fresh water herring, (the *Gwyniad* of Pennant, and *Salmo Lavaretus* of Linnæus,) and by the country people the powan. Its resemblance to the proper herring, in shape, colour, and, so far as an eye not specially skilled in ichthyology can detect, in scales and fins, appears perfect. Its size is smaller, seldom exceeding six or eight inches in length. Its fish tastes differently also from that of the real herring, and is considered rather insipid. Another small fish is also taken on Loch Eck, though not frequently, or in any numbers, called by the country people the *Goldie*, which is said to be uncommon. It is in length not more than four or five inches, and of a beautiful golden hue when taken out of the water, and changes its hues of colour in interesting and beautiful variety. When held up by the hand, it appears almost transparent, and seems a creature of peculiarly delicate structure. No specimen of it has happened to be seen by the writer; but it is supposed to have become a tenant of this lake under the auspices of the ecclesiastics, in former times holding considerable possessions at Kilmun and along the Eeachaig. Another minute fish abounds in Loch Eck, not exceeding in size a common minnow, called by the country people the stickleback. Its peculiarities, as distinguishing it from the minnow, are long thorny prickles on both sides of the head, and also in its dorsal fins, which it has the power of raising erect when pursued or threatened, and thus it protects itself from its more powerful neighbours. Flounders and eels are also common in Loch Eck; and the lamprey eel is also taken, but not frequently. The ordinary kinds of common trout are numerous in the minor streams in the parish, seldom exceeding a pound in weight, and not very commonly found at that size.*

The salt water kinds of fish are also the common ones. Haddock, cod (the species of the last commonly called rock-cod,) skate, flounder, eels, the conger eel, frequently of very large size; the cole fish, at a certain stage of its growth popularly called seathe along the west coast, in great abundance during the summer and autumn; whiting, sea perch, mackerel, gurnet, and sole,—are all taken, the last mentioned not frequently, though they are known

* A considerable number of gold and silver-fishes have been, within the last few years, introduced into Loch Eck by Mr Wilson of Benmore. The species is found to thrive in ponds, in pleasure grounds near Dunoon. They may probably do so in Loch Eck; and their origin there merits to be recorded.

to inhabit the Frith of Clyde in abundance. Scarcely any systematic pursuit of this important branch of industry is followed in the parish. It may be said, that scarcely any of the population are fishermen by trade, except a few who confine their attention to the herring fishing in its season; and the few persons resorting to the occupation of fishing doing so rather from necessity than from choice or habit, and with but indifferent findings, and only in the more sheltered parts of the frith. The quality of the fish caught is but inferior generally, and the market in Dunoon but indifferently supplied. Salmon fishing along the sea coast, with a kind of net recently introduced, called a bag-net, has been followed for the last few years, and with considerable success, by an enterprising respectable family in the neighbouring parish of Kilfinan, the Messrs Scoular. The shoals of herring annually resorting to Loch Fine and the neighbouring arms of the sea, seldom visit the coast of this parish or the Holy Loch. For the last eleven years, no considerable take of them has occurred but once. Individual herrings, sometimes to the number of a few dozens, in the early part of summer, are frequently taken by the rod, and with the ordinary fly bait used for the seath. The herrings thus taken are considered inferior in quality,—apparently stragglers from the aquatic camp of the great bodies of that rather mysterious fish.

Shell-fish.—Lobsters and crabs are found frequently, but not in great numbers, the fishing of the former not being systematically pursued, though there is no portion of the coast of Scotland more likely to yield a good return to that special department of fishing occupation, and within such easy access to the Glasgow market. There are no beds of oysters meriting notice, though they are found mostly along the whole coast of the parish, but thinly scattered, and considered to be of excellent quality. In the Holy Loch, towards its inland extremity, and the bay of Ardentinny, there are mussel *scalps* of natural growth and of very considerable extent. In the former place they are now begun to be preserved by the proprietor, Mr Hunter of Haston; and, by careful preservation, may speedily be extended over a surface of many acres. Along the sands in the same place, laid bare at every tide, the common cockle abounds. It is not considered here as an article of food, and scarcely so used at all; while, in certain parts of Scotland, it is considered a delicacy, and is found of considerable importance as an article of food. It is quite certain that this de-

licate shell-fish is capable of being cultivated; the more the sand which it inhabits is turned up in searching for it, giving it in process of time a consistency and degree of hardness which seems to favour the growth and increase of the cockle. Considerable quantities might, even now, at every tide be gathered; and it might afford profitable occupation to many a humble individual, were but local prejudices surmounted. At spring-tides, and especially those occurring about the time of the vernal equinox, when the greatest extent of sea-sand along the coast is laid bare, spout-fish, or razor-fish, are found in great numbers. The ordinary minor tribes of shell-fish abound along the coast.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

No ancient history of this district is known to exist. But there are not entirely wanting notices and references, in writings of undoubted antiquity, indicating that, in the earlier centuries, there was close and constant intercourse between Ireland and the district of Cowal. The tradition of the Lamonts being the possessors of the whole district of Cowal is still universal among the native inhabitants. And whatever may have been the fact, as to whether that clan sprung from the Dalriadic colony, or whether they were the descendants of a still earlier race of occupants, it is obvious, so far as tradition can go to establish it, that the Lamonts assumed the superiority of this district at a very early period. Mr Skene, in his very valuable work, "The Highlanders of Scotland," remarks, "there are few traditions more universally believed in the Highlands, or which can be traced back to an earlier period, than that the Lamonts were the ancient possessors of Cowal. And it is abundantly clear, from historical notices connected with the district, that they continued to be the possessors of the district, and their name the prevailing one, down to a period comparatively late,—the middle of the seventeenth century." Our notices on this head must be necessarily brief. The general result of inquiries directed to this subject is, that the extension of the power and rights of the Scottish monarchy evidently operated as a disturbing force on the more ancient order of things in this district, issuing in the event, too frequently still the concomitant both of conquest and colonization,—the dislodging of the native inhabitants, and the rapid obscuration of their actual history. It appears that Crown charters were unknown in Cowal down to the time of Alexander II. The first of the Stewart family is admitted to have been Walter *filius Alani*, who had the island of Bute given

him by David I., A. D. 1135, and was created High Steward of Scotland by Malcolm IV.; and it farther appears as if he had obtained the lordship of Cowal, not by royal charter in the first instance, but by marriage with an heiress of the Lamont clan. And while the events of Scottish history which first placed the Stewart dynasty on the throne, form so important a portion of that history in general, it is pretty obvious that those events were the means of extending over the greater part at least of the district of Cowal the sway of the ancestors of the house of Argyle,—the Campbells of Lochawe, who were among the first and the most active supporters of "Robert the Steward." Their services were requited by grants: and while it may be considered capable of historical demonstration that the first royal grants affecting the superiority or lordship of Cowal did not immediately tend to the uprooting of the more ancient possessors, the Lamonts, the same cannot be said of the superiority acquired by the Campbells. Various portions of the district of Cowal and of this united parish are traced, in times almost immediately subsequent, into the possession of individuals and families of the name of Campbell, the allies and the relatives of the house of Lochawe and Argyle. This later subdivision of the territory of the greater portion of Cowal under the sway of the Campbells has continued, partially, down to present times. And in times, more strictly speaking, recent, the tenure of property in this united parish has undergone more of transference than perhaps has occurred, within the like period, in any other portion of the Highlands,—issuing into the subsisting result, from aggregate causes, of landed property in this parish commanding as high a market price as in any district of Scotland at large. And modern improvements, liberally conducted, promise, with the operation of the same causes, to maintain the value of land at the same rate. The revolution may be said, here, to be completed, of the age and times commonly called feudal having passed away, and the commercial age, bringing its own benefits doubtless, having been established in its stead.

Antiquities.—Commencing the brief notices of these which our assigned limits permit, it is felt due to the memory of a period unknown, or at least not fully ascertained, to notice the frequency of what are commonly called, "stone coffins," which are found generally not far from the sea shore. No striking rude obelisks or pillars anywhere in the parish mark the scenes of battles and slaughters, and the fall of leaders and chiefs. But the

frequent occurrence of these depositories of the dead indicate that the times of old were not always times of peace to the ancient inhabitants. Within the space now occupied by the villages of Dunoon and Kilmun, and on the lands of Castle Toward and other localities, and where no indications whatever occur of those spots having been dedicated exclusively to the use of ordinary sepulture, these resting-places of a race unknown are found to be very numerous. The stone coffin is formed of three rude slabs of the native schistose slate, one laid flat forming the bottom of the coffin, the other two placed over this at an angle to make them meet at top, and no other security appears to have been sought. The earth is levelled around, and the coffin not much more than barely covered by the shingly soil, where they are most frequently found to occur. The skeleton is generally found entire. The writer regrets not having had personal opportunity of examining many of these interesting depositories, proclaiming as they do the passing nature of this world's history. There is reason, however, to believe, that they are found showing that no special position of the body was studied, the extremities lying towards the east, west, south, or north, as convenience appeared to dictate. On opening one of these graves lately, the skeleton was found beautifully "laid out," every bone, to the smallest, occupying its natural anatomical place; the tibial bones indicating a person five feet ten inches high, or thereabout. The skeleton is found reposing upon gravel or sea-beach shingle, clean and pure as if washed by the last sea-tide, while evidently no disturbing force had ever visited "the narrow house." Whether this effect may have been produced by the ordinary process of percolation of moisture from the surface, or whether, indeed, as does appear the more probable conjecture, the grave being situated not more than fifteen feet above the present level of the sea, that this level may have both risen and again fallen since the period of inhumation, is not easily decided. The writer feels inclined to adopt the latter theory, and thus a very remote period must be assigned to this mode of sepulture. The bones are found perfectly entire, tinged of a pretty deep brownish hue, but friable almost to the touch.

What appears evidently to have once been a Druidical altar, or *Crom-leac*, occurs on the farm of Ardnadam, on the Hafton estate. Popular story had elevated it to the rank of a royal grave, and of royalty bearing the name most illustrious of all for antiquity,—Adam! but a diligent search at the foundation, proven

by the result not to be sacrilegious, has negatived the popular story,—no disturbance of the subsoil manifestly having ever before taken place. The top-stone of the *crom-leac* is seen still occupying its proper place; and the pillars indicate a place of highly respectable order in its day; and the native oak still, amidst all vicissitudes, continuing to claim alliance with the soil, points out that this spot, not improbably, formed the *grove* of the district, where Druidic priesthood and worshippers had once their resort and their orgies.

On the farm of *Ardinslat*, on the Hafton estate, there is presented, what no one, who has had occasion to see and mark any number of such acknowledged remains, can doubt for a moment to be Roman. It now presents itself as a green mound, an oblong square, about 90 feet in length, by about 73 in breadth, raised about ten feet above the surrounding level; the *fossa* clearly traceable around it, as well as the entrance, though the latter has been partly obliterated by the erection of some modern enclosures. The sides of the mound are seen bearing, as indeed the whole of it does, that compacted smoothness and finish which is always found marking the labour of the Roman soldier, and the same slope on all the sides, which is always seen characterizing their military labours of the same description. That Agricola, on one occasion, ran his fleet up Loch Fine, to the westward of the district of Cowal, is well known. Traces of the soldiery having landed at the place of Otter, on the side of Loch Fine, have been discovered, though there is no evidence of their having formed any regular encampment there. And whether any division of that army penetrated across the district of Cowal to the Frith of Clyde, is not certain. In such a march, indeed, exceeding twenty-five miles by modern computation, it may be supposed they would have marked it by some other military works, less or more distinct, had they crossed this territory. None such, we believe, has been noticed along any route by which they could have marched. And the most probable conjecture to be formed regarding this mark of their operations is, that, while engaged in the important labour of erecting their wall from Abercorn to Dunglass, on the Clyde, they would station an outpost here, to communicate with the main body by signal, giving alarm of any danger approaching seaward. The spot selected for the *station*, for such it may be called, appears at once particularly well chosen for such a purpose, situated at the foot of a considerable eminence, the summit of which could be gained from the

station in two minutes, and whence a clear and extensive view of the frith is commanded, both seaward from its entrance, and inwards uninterruptedly to the rock of Dumbarton. The spot chosen would thus have suited the purposes of a modern military picquet far better than Dunoon Castle, which, though commanding the best seaward view of the frith, does not command the inland view so far as to Dumbarton Castle.

Dunoon Castle.—There is ample evidence on record of this castle having been in existence in the twelfth century, when the influence and power of the Scottish monarchy, properly so called, began to be practically exercised in this portion of the Scottish dominions. But we are inclined to ascribe to it an origin by many centuries earlier than that period. Were we to follow conjecture, or to form a theory founded upon tradition, language, and local usages,—not always in inquiries of this kind without their value, we would assign to this fortalice, as the probable *latest* date of its foundation, the period of the Dalriadic colony obtaining possession or sovereignty in Cowal in the sixth century. *

* The uses of the word *Dùn*, in the native language of Scotland, are sufficiently well known. Nor can it be questioned, whatever may have been the origin of the building or its remote date, the native language would so designate any defensive erection as well as the rock itself. One theory of the etymology of *Dunoon* has been already offered. But it may now be ventured, on grounds to be stated immediately, to fix a particular signification to the word "*oidhean*," here, *i. e.* strangers. Without any prejudice to the theory already submitted, it is considered that foundation exists for supposing that "*oidhean*," strangers, of a particular class, did at one time obtain possession or mastery over this *Dùn*. They have fixed, in local history and usage, traces of themselves. While in the Scottish dialect of the Gaelic language, a stronghold of this kind is called *Dùn*; in the Irish dialect, the word *Mùr*, or *Màir*, has the same signification. Both the terms, no doubt, occur in ancient writings, unquestionably Irish; but it is sufficiently known that the term *Mùr*, for a fortress, was never, so far as known, the appellative popularly used in Scotland. Another word constantly occurring in Irish writings, and never, so far as known to us, in the popular Scottish dialect of the Gaelic, is *lann*, signifying in the Irish dialect any inclosure, such as a garden or field. And we cannot doubt but the term *bord-land*, or *borde-land*, occurring in several charters connected with Dunoon, is derived from, or rather is a corruption of the Celtic *mùr-lann*, the labial consonants *m* and *b* continually interchanging even in the same language. This term *bord-land* is found in charters, designating certain lands around Dunoon Castle, as in the charter under the Great Seal, granted January 18, 1472, "to Colin Earl of Argyll, Lorne, and Campbell, Master of our Household, granting him the keeping of our Castle of Dunoon, with power to appoint constables, janitors, jailors, and other officers for the keeping of the said castle," and granting and conceding "the lands of *Borde-land* and their pertinents, extending to twenty-seven merks current coin of our realm." This term appears to have puzzled certain of our Scottish antiquarian etymologists not a little; whereas its meaning in Gaelic, or at least in the Irish dialect of that language, is perfectly obvious,—*Mùr-lann*, *i. e.* the enclosures or fields attached to the castle, or appropriated to its more immediate uses. It also appears by similar evidence of charters, that the same term was extended to designate a still wider range of lands in and near Dunoon, than those meant in the particular charter cited. These lands being held of the castle or its occupants, the occupiers of the lands would naturally fall to be considered vassals. And what decides, to our apprehension, both the ety-

The small portions of the walls still exposed do not indicate a period earlier than the fourteenth or fifteenth century. The castle shared in the tumultuary events of its country's history. It was besieged and taken by Baliol in 1333, and again retaken by "Robert the Steward" in 1334, and it may be supposed to have been first raised to the rank of a palace when he ascended the throne. The royal charter already quoted proves the Argyle family to have acquired the lordship of it in 1472, as they most probably did indeed a considerable time before that date, both of this castle and of most of the lands in the district, denominated "King's Cowal," or "Steward's Cowal," excluding, it is believed, the district of Kerry (now the parish of Kilfinan), and Stralachlan and Strachur. The castle was again besieged by the Earl of Lennox, in his descent on the west of Scotland in 1554, when the Earl of Argyle was obliged to abandon it with considerable loss. Most probably, the more modern masonry, which portions of the walls disclose, may have been executed subsequently to that event by the Argyle family, and previously to 1563, when it was visited by Queen Mary. Charters are extant, granted by Queen Mary, on occasion of this visit. It appears to have continued to be a residence of the Argyle family, till the earlier part of the seventeenth century. The political convulsions of that period, in which that noble family shared and suffered so deeply, appear to have caused, with other effects to them, their ceasing to reside in Dunoon Castle; and the last public event connected with its history occurred in connection with their interests in 1646, when deeds of barbarous atrocity were

mology and its origin, is a usage of the district and of its dialect, now almost forgotten. The inhabitants of the village of Dunoon, as it formerly existed, and of a certain space around it, were styled by their neighbours in Cowal, *Mùr-lannaich*, i. e. the men or the race of the *Mùr-lann*, the castle "pertinents,"—the term being used as a kind of jocose taunt, implying against them some reproach of vassalage or servility. And however groundlessly applied in more modern times, the inhabitants of this particular locality being equal in all respects of good fame to their neighbours using the taunt, yet its application indicated the origin of the appellative. And though this may appear to some but slender foundation for a historical theory, yet, when considered with the ordinary local usage and speech, the term, in its component parts, being foreign to the native dialect, and manifestly Irish, together with the popular idea attached to it, amounts, in our apprehension, to no mean historical evidence, that this castle had its remote period of Irish, or rather Dalriadic sway; and that that colony very probably were the *strangers* after all, who gave to Dunoon its present existing name. The real signification of the term *Mùr-lannaich* appears, more recently at least, to have become unknown to those employing it, while still its usage continued to prevail, showing both the antiquity and the foreignness of its origin. It is indeed but natural to suppose, that a conquering colony would have their attention directed to such a spot, and that one of their first measures would be to put it in proper defensive condition; and hence, most probably, it had become a place of importance in the district, several centuries previous to the period when we find it gifted to the High Steward of Scotland.

committed by certain leaders of the Campbells, in the vicinity of the castle. The statement of those atrocities, as exhibited in the indictment against the Marquis of Argyle, may fairly be considered as not at least underrated. The public prosecutor of the day has recourse even to popular superstitions to aid in vilifying the character of the accused party. But, making all allowances for exaggeration, it is too abundantly certain, while the noble defendant pleads his having been no party to these atrocities, that they were of no ordinary type; and, whatever may have been the innocence of the Marquis of Argyle personally in this most infamous transaction, it is but too evident, that the leaders of his clan took advantage of existing turmoils to wage a war of extermination against the clan Lamont. The indictment of the Marquis of Argyle bears, that certain of his clan having besieged and forced to a surrender the houses of Toward and Escog, then the property of Sir James Lamont, having violated the terms of the capitulation on which the surrender was made, "did most treacherously, perfidiously, and traitorously fetter and bind the hands of near 200 persons of the said Sir James's friends and followers, who were comprehended within the said capitulation, detaining them prisoners with a guard, their hands being bound behind their backs like thieves, within the said Sir James's house and yards of Towart, for the space of several days, in great torment and misery;" and, "in pursuance of their farther villany, after plundering and robbing all that was within and about the said house, they most barbarously, cruelly, and inhumanly murdered several, young and old, yea, sucking children, some of them not one month old." And again, "The said persons, defendants, or one or others of them, contrary to the foresaid capitulations, our laws, and acts of Parliament, upon the — day of June 1646, most traitorously and perfidiously did carry the whole people who were in the said houses of *Escog* and *Towart*, in the said boats, to the village of *Dunoon*, and there most cruelly, traitorously, and perfidiously cause hang upon one tree near the number of thirty-six persons, most of them being *special gentlemen* of the name of *Lamont*, and vassals to the said Sir James." And, after enumerating these persons, the indictment proceeds to enumerate others, who were likewise "barbarously, inhumanly, and unchristianly murdered with dirks, and cut down with swords and pistols;" and "John Jamison, then Provost of *Rothsay*, who, being shot thrice through the body,

finding some life in him, (they) did thrust several durks and skenes in him, and at last did cut his throat with a long durk."—"And to manifest their further cruelty, they did cast some of the aforesaid persons into holes made for them, who were spurning and wrestling, whilst they were suffocated with earth; having denied to them any time to recommend themselves to God, albeit earnestly desired and begged by the said murdered persons. Inasmuch that the Lord from heaven did declare His wrath and displeasure against the foresaid inhuman cruelty, by striking the tree whereon they were hanged in the said month of June, being a lively, fresh growing ash-tree at the kirk-yard of *Denoone*, among many other fresh trees with leaves,—the Lord struck the said tree immediately thereafter; so that the whole leaves fell from it, and the tree withered, never bearing leaves thereafter, remaining so for the space of two years, which, being cut down, there sprang out of the very heart of the root thereof a spring like unto blood, popling up, running in several streams all over the root, and that for several years thereafter, till the said murderers, or their favourers, perceiving that it was remarked by persons of all ranks (resorting there to see the miracle), they did cause howk out the root, covering the whole with earth, which was full of the said matter like blood." That such a document as this, especially in the times, and in the circumstances in which it was drawn up, should exaggerate, cannot be doubted. But it is evident that too much of it must have been matter of fact, and is to be viewed, and happily, as the last outbreak of fierce misrule, occasioned perhaps by a long course of mutual provocations between a party, the Lamonts, who considered themselves the original possessors of the territory, and another party, the Campbells, who, it is historically evident, had been obtaining the ascendancy in the district, ever since the transference of its lordship from the hands of the Stewards to those of the house of Argyle. It does not appear that Dunoon Castle was ever inhabited after this period, but was allowed to fall into decay.

The old Castle of Toward, the residence of the chief of the Lamonts, or at least of some principal cadet of the family, designated in the indictment now cited as the house of Sir James Lamond, is a ruin, apparently of no earlier date, as a building, than the fourteenth or fifteenth century, of the style common to that age. It does not appear to have been inhabited at any time sub-

sequent to the period when it was the scene of the cruelties set forth in this indictment.

In ecclesiastical antiquities the parish is not particularly rich. Besides the churches of Dunoon and Kilmun, there was but one chapelry, of which any traces remain. This was dedicated to the Virgin, and situated on the farm of *Toward-an-uillt*.*

The ecclesiastical establishment of Dunoon appears to have been but an ordinary parochial one; though popular tradition places an Episcopal residence there. There is no evidence extant, so far as known to the writer, that any of the bishops of the olden time had their residence here. Certain graves are pointed out in the burying-ground as those of bishops, and the fact is not improbable. They appear but of comparatively late date, and the

* There is a special interest traditionally connected with its place of sepulture (now scarcely discernible), from its containing the grave of MacGregor of Glenstrae, whose burial occurring here is connected with a story of the times, indicating that, as they were periods of anarchy and blood, neither were they without their manifestations of a natural generosity. The Lamont of the day occupying the Castle of Toward, had gone, during his early life, on a hunting excursion, and to visit MacGregor of Glenstrae. The only son and child of this MacGregor, a youth of Lamont's own age, was his companion in the forest during the visit, and, accompanied by the necessary number of MacGregor's retainers, they had occasion to spend a winter's night in some cave or shelter, no uncommon practice among Highlanders of the time when following the chase. During the night, unhappily, the two had a quarrel, when the young MacGregor fell, mortally wounded, under the sword or the dirk of Lamont. Lamont, as may be supposed, betook himself to flight, to evade the immediate vengeance of MacGregor's retainers. Wandering in the dark, and a stranger in the bounds where he wandered, espying a light, he made for it, and did not, in his perturbation, perceive till he had entered the house, that it was the house of the father whose only son had fallen, but a few hours before,—the victim of his unhappy anger. The old MacGregor intuitively perceived, by the perturbation of Lamont, what it was that had happened. To his honour he commanded his feelings, and said to Lamont, "Here, this night, shall you be safe." On the retainers arriving, Lamont was protected from their fury by the bereaved and heart-stricken, but manly and generous father. During the night he accosted Lamont, and addressing himself to a journey, commands Lamont to follow him, and conducting him from his residence of Glenstrae, near Glenorchy, across hill and mountain, till they arrived at the place of *Dùn-da-ràmh* on Lochfine;—MacGregor secures a boat and oars for Lamont to ferry him across to Cowal—"Go," said he, "flee for your life—land in your own country, and there shall we pursue you—save yourself if you can." For many years, Lamont, having escaped the vengeance of the bereaved father and clan, was safe in his castle at Toward. Events of a different kind pursued the bereaved MacGregor of Glenstrae. By rapacious and more powerful neighbours, he was not only stripped of his lands, but pursued as a culprit under show of offended justice,—the common stratagem of the times on the part of powerful and unprincipled oppressors. MacGregor made for Cowal and for the Castle of Toward, and, arriving there, forsaken and scathed by the world, he sought protection and refuge from Lamont. This was most cordially and heartily granted. The venerable and bereaved MacGregor of Glenstrae lived for years the guest of Lamont,—the one forgiving, the other joyful not only in the forgiveness received, but in the power of shielding and cherishing his venerable deliverer. The aged man breathed his last in peace under the roof of Lamont, and was buried, as tradition reports, with all the honour due to his rank, and his grave is still pointed out in this burying-ground, or very recently was, by the aged inhabitants of the district.

exposure of the burying-ground for several years without inclosure, led to the defacing of any inscription which might have marked these graves. It is most likely that certain of those whose designation has been fixed in history as *Tulchan* Bishops, and others perhaps of an earlier day despoiled of their revenues, may have found shelter and protection here, under the sway of the Argyle family, and ended their days in personal comfort. The remains of a house are pointed out, to which the name has been assigned of the bishop's palace. There is, however, nought belonging to such an establishment pointed out in history as having existed in Dunoon,—and most probably the residence so denominated might be a dwelling-house, assigned by the Argyle family, after the Reformation, to individuals of the order. Neither is there any trace to be discovered, to show that any nunnery ever existed in Dunoon,—the story of its existence being merely founded, apparently, on the assumption, that the name Dunoon *must* signify some connection with a nunnery! The ancient parish church, replaced by the present so late as the year 1816, appears to have been built in a style superior to most of the parish churches of the same period,—a fact easily accounted for by its proximity to the castle, and that being possessed for such a period of time by a noble family, disposed to liberality toward the existing establishment of their day.

The place of Kilmun is, ecclesiastically, of higher repute than Dunoon. Tradition ascribes the origin of a church in that place to the circumstance of a ship bearing a precious cargo of consecrated earth from the Holy Land, or Jerusalem, having been stranded in the Holy Loch, and the cargo having been discharged, that the church of Kilmun was erected on the spot where this earth had been deposited, or the portion of it saved from the wreck. The ship, tradition bears, had been destined for Glasgow, and its cargo intended for the purpose of erecting upon it some ecclesiastical edifice of more than ordinary sanctity. Tradition ascribes this event to the times of St Kentigern, and points out the Cathedral of Glasgow, as the building for consecrating the foundation of which this earth from Jerusalem was intended; and that the catastrophe gave its name to the Holy Loch. For the latter of these traditional assertions there is some apparent foundation in the Gaelic name by which this arm of the sea is designated,—“*an Loch sèanta*,” the *charmed* loch; and while it certainly does not appear in

what the virtue of the charm consisted, there can be little doubt, that the name must have arisen from some specific event, to which the spirit of the times would ascribe some mysterious influence. It does not appear that any ecclesiastical relation subsisted at any period, so far as elucidated in the history of religious houses, between Kilmun and the Archiepiscopal see of Glasgow. But willing to save the credit of traditional story, it may not be uninteresting to observe, that the chartulary of Glasgow, recently published by the Maitland Club, as the donation of Mr Ewing of Levenside, records the fact of John, bishop of Glasgow, about the year 1122, having gone to the Holy Land;* but the next year, by order of the Pope, that he returned to his see. His procuring a gift of such supposed value, to be carried to Scotland, has nothing improbable, at least, to discountenance the belief, that such an event might even have occurred as this precious consignment having been subjected to the catastrophe which this tradition records. It is certain that the first, or at least a preceding church to that of which we shall presently notice the foundation, stood, not upon the spot where the more recent erections have stood, but close to the sea-shore, on the site now occupied by the villa and grounds of William Graham Esq. at Kilmun. A collegiate church for a provost and six prebendaries was founded at Kilmun, by Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochawe, who was also afterwards the first of that family who assumed the title of Argyle. His grant is dated 4th August 1442, and this munificent gift to the church, stated to be "*pro salute animæ quondam Marjoriæ conjugis meæ, et modernæ consortis meæ, et quondam Celestini filii mei primogeniti.*" Other grants of land to the church of Kilmun by the family of Argyle, are found recorded in the chartulary of Paisley, to which abbey Kilmun appears to have been ecclesiastically attached or subject. The foundation thus granted to the church of Kilmun appears to have raised it to some rank of importance in the vicinity. The tower of the church, indicating it, by the style of its architecture, to have been erected about or subsequently to the period of the grant constituting it a collegiate church, still stands almost entire; the plan, form, and size of the body of the church itself have been obliterated by more recent erections; but, so far as can be traced, the church formed a building of pretty

* "*Sed cum episcopus : cognita infelicis populi ferocitate et abhominabili vitiorum multiplicitate ; uptote perterritus Jerusalem proficisci disposuisset.*"

extensive dimensions, and to correspond with the portion of it extant, the tower, the style of its architecture must have been respectable. The tower is square, and stands about forty feet in height, and contains within a stair of peculiar construction, built on geometrical principles, of which it is thought there are but very few specimens to be found in the architecture of the period. It is partly effaced by the gradual decay of the masonry. The place of Kilmun is also known as the place of sepulture of the Argyle family. According to Douglas, in his peerage of Scotland, Sir Duncan Campbell, afterwards Lord Campbell, and grandfather of Colin, the first Earl of Argyle, is stated as the first of the family interred at Kilmun. But even from the terms of the grant founding the collegiate church, there is ground to believe that it had been the family's place of burial prior to the date of this grant in 1442. There is evidence of Sir Gillespick or Archibald Campbell of Lochow having obtained a grant of the lands of Kilmun, prior to 1343; and his son, Sir Colin Campbell of Lochow, appears to have received "from King Robert II. a charter of several lands in Cowal, which had pertained to John Stewart of Auchingown, his Majesty's natural son, dated 20th June 1404. He had also from Robert, Duke of Albany, a charter of the lands of Strathachy, (evidently *Strath-eachaig*, forming the greater part of the parish of Kilmun, according to designation in popular local usage,) within the barony of Cowal Stewart." While these proofs evince the time and manner of the Argyle family obtaining possessions in this district, popular tradition ascribes the commencement of the family's sepulture at Kilmun to a still earlier period, while yet the Lamonts held the territorial ascendancy of Cowal undisturbed. A rude verse, in Gaelic, uttered on the occasion of this right of sepulture being granted by Lamont to the family of Lochawe, is still repeated by the *Seanachies* of the district. In this verse, Lamont describes himself as "the great Lamont of all Cowal," and the right is granted "to the knight of Lochaweside," in consideration of present necessity, for the interment of the knight's son, who is reported, by the same traditionary evidence, to have died in the low country; and his remains having been carried by sea to Kilmun, and a continued snow storm having rendered its conveyance to the family burying-ground at home impracticable, this grant was sought by the knight of Lochawe, and conceded by "the great Lamont of all Cowal." This tradition receives some countenance in the fact of the family of

Argyle, after having received Dunoon Castle, and making it, at least one, if not the principal residence occupied by them for the time, showing preference of Kilmun as their place of family sepulture, and bestowing more liberally on the ecclesiastical foundation there. The place of interment was within the ancient church; and the access to it continued to be through the body of the parish church till the year 1793 or 1794, when the cemetery now standing was erected. It is a simple square building, pavilion roofed, without any architectural ornament, and the family of Argyle still continue to use it as their place of sepulture.

The hill of Benmore was long appropriated to the purposes of a deer forest; and traditions are not wanting of the family of Argyle having particularly prized it, as affording the exercise of that sport, and their having and exercising certain servitudes over places at a considerable distance, the holders of which were, by their tenure, bound to assist in the *battue*, when the members of the family visited this forest. The remains of mounds erected for the purpose of driving the deer into certain passes, are still visible on this hill, and it continued to be preserved as a forest till near the close of the last century. In this forest a cave is shown where some of the charters and papers of the Marquis of Argyle lay concealed, while he was under the ban of his persecutors of the day; and the cave has since been designated and known by the title of the Paper cave. An inhabitant of the parish, within the last twenty years, had in his possession some staves of one of the casks in which these papers were held in the cave. The introduction of sheep-farming into the district soon banished the deer from this forest, as it has done from the whole district of Cowal, and the hill forms a part of the property of George R. Wilson, Esq. of Benmore.

The last occurrence connected with political events which disturbed the peace of this district, was the invasion of it, as well as of those in its vicinity in Argyleshire, by "the Athol men," upon the execution of the Earl of Argyle, in 1685. The Marquis of Athol, who had obtained the royal authority "to protect" Argyleshire, appears to have entrusted the exercise of his protectorate to hirelings or vassals, who distinguished themselves and their noble employer by the most lawless and cowardly treatment of the inhabitants. The events characterizing this invasion, (for by no other name can it be properly designed,) are still borne in memory by the descendants of those who suffered at the time,

in their property and effects, if not in their persons. A printed record of the losses sustained by the several proprietors of the district, has many interesting notices indicative of the usages and habits of the people at that period, and demonstrative of the change that has since taken place. The violences of the Campbells toward the Lamonts appear in this visitation of the Athol men to have met with retributive visitation. Fixing their headquarters at Inverary, they seem to have taken into their own hands the powers of "pit and gallows," and no inconsiderable number of the Clan Campbell perished by their hands. While ravaging this parish, they were not permitted altogether to go unmolested. A native inhabitant, of the name of Archibald Whyte, is recorded in story, as the daring and brave head of a kind of *guerilla* party, who hung upon the rear of the Athol men, whithersoever they went; and he is stated, on more occasions than one, to have diminished the number of the lawless invaders.

No events of any special public importance appear to have characterized the civil history of the parish, from the latter part of the seventeenth century down to the beginning of the present. The introduction of the system of sheep-farming, about seventy years since, began gradually to work changes on the condition of the rural inhabitants, larger sections of the soil coming to be appropriated to that pursuit, and the people to be driven into smaller holdings, bordering on the cottar system, to some extent.

The application of steam to the practical purposes of navigation, it is sufficiently known, began on the River and Frith of Clyde, and no portion of Scotland perhaps, certainly none of the Highlands of Scotland, has more witnessed or experienced the manifold results traceable to that triumph of scientific and mechanical genius and skill. It has tended, within the last twenty-five years, to change, it may be said, wholly, the physical aspect of this territory; and in many respects, far from being immaterial, moral consequences have also resulted from the same immediate operating cause. In the year 1822, the village of Dunoon presented but the appearance usual in Highland *clachans*: there were not more than three or four *slated* houses, besides the parish church and manse. As the power of steam became subservient to the purposes of navigation, and the first steamers built begun to venture beyond Greenock, and to dare the dangers of crossing the frith,—esteemed no ordinary measure of boldness at that time,—individuals, and a few families from Glasgow, began to resort to

Dunoon as a summer residence. The number was but small, indeed, who could find any accommodations to suit them. In the year mentioned, James Ewing Esq., then of Glasgow, and now of Levenside, in Dumbartonshire, commenced building the marine villa called, since, the Castle House, on the grounds immediately adjoining Dunoon Castle. The taste displayed in the erection of his villa, and in the laying out of the grounds around it, pointed out to others the advantages of the locality, of which several individuals of respectability soon availed themselves ; and the village has since gone on increasing.

About the same period, but a few years earlier, the purchase of the estate of Auchavullin, and other neighbouring lands now forming the estate of Toward, by the late Kirkman Finlay Esq., formed an era in the agricultural history of the parish, and in all its rural economy. Not more successful and distinguished as a British merchant was Mr Finlay in his commercial pursuits, than he became here as an agriculturist, and an improver of lands presenting no particular attractions nor promise of easy conquest, when he became their proprietor. With many local disadvantages and local prejudices to combat, Mr Finlay had been but a few years the proprietor of those lands, when, in the several departments of inclosing, draining, planting, tillage, and systematic husbandry, not to speak of ornamental landscape improvements, more strictly so termed, his estate became a pattern, the benefits of which, it may be affirmed, without prejudice to the claims of other proprietors to the like merits, were felt and appreciated, and his example followed throughout the whole district. In the department of planting, indeed, within the bounds of the united parish, a good deal had been previously done on the estate of Glenfinart by the late Earl of Dunmore. But success had scarcely yet been demonstrated, when Mr Finlay commenced his operations on the Toward estate. About the same period, also, the late James Hunter Esq. of Hafton became proprietor of that estate in the neighbourhood of Dunoon, and, in building, planting, and other improvements, set the same beneficial example, which has since been still more extensively followed up by his son, James Hunter Esq. the present proprietor of the same estate, now considerably enlarged.

The picturesque village of Kilmun on the Holy Loch was begun about the year 1829, by David Napier Esq. of Glasgow purchasing an extensive feu of lands running along the eastern shore of that arm of the sea, from the late General Campbell of Mon-

zie. This village has also risen rapidly into considerable extent; and though its appearance, and the disposal of the houses of which it is now composed, might have been much more advantageously arranged had the whole been done under the eye of a proprietor owning the whole of the lands adjacent, as well as the space now feued, still the village of Kilmun forms a favourite summer resort, and is rapidly increasing. While the territorial aspect of the united parish has thus undergone, both by the erection of villages and by agricultural improvements, a very remarkable change, during so brief a period as little more than twenty years, the whole must be attributed to the wonderful powers of the steam-engine applied to the purposes of navigation. Previously to the era of this discovery (not of steam power, but of steam navigation,) the access from this parish and from the neighbouring districts to the low country and towns on the Clyde was tedious, uncertain, and sometimes dangerous.*

The passage by steam from Dunoon to Glasgow is now made on average in three hours. And the same marvellous power of steam now applied to inland travelling, the transit from Dunoon to Glasgow is accomplished in two hours, and to Edinburgh in four.

Parochial Registers.—These consist of several manuscript volumes and scattered fasciculi of scrolls and portions of minutes and registers, irregularly kept, down to a comparatively modern date. The session book of the parish of Dunoon commences December 6, 1692, and, while designated as the session record of the parish of Dunoon proper, some of its sederunts show the heritors of the parish of Kilmun to have been also present, indicating that Kil-

* The contrast in facility of intercourse between the two periods may be best illustrated by an instance or two. The late minister of the parish of Rothsay mentioned to the writer, his having, in the summer season, not longer ago than twenty-four years, been three days nearly in making good a passage from Rothsay to Greenock. A gentleman resident in Glasgow has also mentioned, that, about thirty-two years ago, desiring to convey his family for summer residence to the village of Gourrock, three miles beyond Greenock, on the Clyde, they set out from Glasgow in the morning in one of the passage-boats at that time plying on the river, and denominated, not very appropriately, "Flies." The whole of that day they were occupied in making good their way the length of Bowling Bay, not nearly half-way from Glasgow to Greenock, and there came to anchor for the night. Weighing next morning and proceeding to sea, the wind being contrary, after spending the whole day in buffeting the waves of the Clyde, they were forced to put back, returning the second night to Bowling Bay. The third day they made the next attempt and succeeded in making Port-Glasgow, in the afternoon, where he took post-horses, leaving the *fly* in disgust; and having seen his family housed in Gourrock, he returned by land on the fourth day to Glasgow, weary, sick, and exhausted; the voyage and journey, he added, costing him L.7, 14s. At present, any modern steamer makes the passage from Rothsay to Greenock in two hours; and the passage is made from Glasgow to Gourrock in a quarter more than two hours, in any weather not absolutely tempestuous; and the expense of either passage is not more than *one shilling*.

mun had not then any separate ecclesiastical standing. Another session record of the united parishes of Dunoon and Kilmun commences anno Domini 1695. This appears to be regularly kept till 1699. A *hiatus* then occurs from that period down to 1753, from which last date these records have been regularly kept. The register of births commences with the date of 1754, and appears during the earlier years after that date to be but irregularly kept, and is considerably mutilated. The register of marriages commences in 1742, and appears kept but imperfectly till 1754, and pretty regularly from that date till 1800, from which date both these registers are kept with perfect regularity. Interesting local notices occur in the earlier minutes of the kirk-session, and of the meetings of that body and the heritors jointly. Among other notices, there is one of the proposed endowment of a grammar school at Dunoon so early as the year 1697. The endowment is stated to be made up of a certain stent upon the bishop's rents in several parishes of Argyleshire, not confined to the district of Cowal. The minute does not bear upon what authority this arrangement had been made; and, what is of greater moment, it does not appear to have taken effect, while it demonstrates, at the same time, the necessity felt of having one of the *scholæ illustres* established in Dunoon, as the leading place of the district of Cowal.

Land-owners.—The principal land-owners in the united parish, and in the order of their respective valued rents, are, Alexander S. Finlay Esq. of Castle Toward; James Hunter Esq. of Hafton; John Campbell Esq. of Dunoon; Archibald Douglas Esq. of Glenfinart; John MacArthur Moir Esq. of Milton; Alexander Campbell Esq. of Monzie; William R. Campbell Esq. of Ballochyle; Alexander Lamont Esq. of Knockdow; Donald Fletcher Esq. of Bernice; and George R. Wilson Esq. of Benmore. The valued rent of the united parish is L. 420, 1s. 10d.; and the real rent at present is above L.9000, exclusive of feu-duties.

Modern Buildings.—Of these, all classes united, there is no inconsiderable number. In the class of mansion-houses may be ranked first Castle Toward, built by the late Kirkman Finlay Esq. It is considered by competent judges that there are few specimens of the modern Gothic more happily conceived, and more adapted to the circumstances of situation. If, when critically examined, it be judged deficient in massive grandeur, its lighter and more ornate features harmonize with the surrounding

scenery. The design is by the late David Hamilton Esq.; and there was none of that talented architect's plans which he himself considered more satisfactory. Hafton House, of the mixed modern Gothic, is equal in size to Castle Toward; and its situation on the western shore of the Holy Loch adds a pleasing feature to the coast view; while, from its low and sheltered situation, and its extensive park attached, it commands an extensive inland view of the Frith of Clyde. Glenfinart House, built by the present proprietor, Archibald Douglas Esq., in the mixed English manor-house style, is beautifully situated in the glen by which it is named, and occupies the site of the former mansion-house for many years occupied by the late Earl of Dunmore. The mansion-house of Benmore, the residence of George R. Wilson Esq., situated at the foot of the lofty hill whose name this property bears, presents an interesting feature in the almost alpine scene around it, and its well arranged and finished grounds surrounding it, both please and surprise as the grounds are entered, presenting so perfect a contrast to the ruder features of the scenery which the eye had been resting upon, while ascending the valley of the Eachaig, on the verge of which it is situated. The villas around and in the neighbourhood of Dunoon present a very pleasing and cheerful appearance, and among them it might be deemed almost invidious to make any distinctions. The Castle House, already mentioned, now the property and summer residence of Robert Eglinton Esq., is, in point of situation and interest, closely allied to the old Castle of Dunoon, and graces the village; while the house itself, as if sprung from the ruins of the scarce discernible walls of the ancient fortalice, presents an emblem of the change that has passed over our father-land.

The parish church of Dunoon is a modern erection, from a design by Mr Gillespie Graham: it was erected in 1816. Its order is Gothic, and there are perhaps few modern parish churches occupying so commanding a position, or more successfully designed. It has been recently enlarged, by a considerable addition to it in length, under the superintendence of the late David Hamilton Esq., in 1834. In 1839, farther additions were made. Subscriptions having been entered into for procuring a proper clock and bell, suited to the altered state of the village and neighbourhood, the tower was raised eight feet, which brought it properly to correspond with the increased length of the building, by the recent addition made to it. The clock was presented

by William Campbell Esq. of Tullichewen, at that time the proprietor of the Castle House, and is recorded in the minutes of the meetings of heritors, as having been presented by Mr Campbell, "to the parish and village for the public use of the inhabitants."

The present church of Kilmun was erected in 1841, from a design by Thomas Burns Esq. architect, Glasgow. It is in all respects an excellent building, and its appearance not unpleasing nor unsuitable to the surrounding scenery. More ambitious in the elevation of its tower than its aged neighbour, the ancient tower of the collegiate church of Kilmun, which still stands in the immediate vicinity, it may, to the taste of some, present a contrast more abrupt than satisfying. The church, however, corresponds with the modern village in its vicinity; and only betokens the change which the old tower itself silently but impressively proclaims, as having passed on the affairs and prospects of men, since the more ancient days of its own erection.

Two chapels have been erected in the united parish within the last few years, one near the point of Toward, and the other at Ardentinny in Glenfinart, partly by subscriptions, and partly by the funds of the Church Extension Scheme. They are both substantially and not inelegantly built and finished, and while supplying needful accommodation for divine worship to those two portions of the parish population, situated remote as they are from the parish churches, they present a feature in the parish scenery, not detracting, at least, from the interest which its other features awaken.

A dissenting chapel in connection with the Associate Synod was erected in Dunoon in 1829, and is a building of highly respectable appearance and style.

Among modern buildings in the united parish may be classed a Lazaretto, connected with the quarantine station in the Holy Loch, erected by Government, on the Dunoon side of the Holy Loch, about forty years ago. The buildings consist of an extensive and complete range of stores, suited to receive infected goods of every description. The buildings are surrounded by a high wall; and close to them is erected a range of houses for the use of the superintendant of the quarantine, and the men employed in its service. The general opinion prevails of this quarantine station not having served its purpose; or rather, it has been proven that it had no adequate purpose to serve; and it is

believed that Government intend to discontinue the establishment wholly.

The only manufactory in the parish, if it may be properly so designated, is a gunpowder mill, or works, erected a few years since in the parish of Kilmun, at Glenlean, by Robert Sheriff Esq. These works are carried on with spirit, on a limited scale, and the quality of gunpowder manufactured is said to be equal to any produced in any other similar works in Scotland or England. The trade is said to be profitable, and employs about thirty persons or upwards. Their charcoal is made from alder, and the erection of these works has enhanced the value in the district of a species of timber otherwise mostly of no value at all, nor the tree one of the ornamental kind. The quantity of this timber required, in proportion to the quantity of gunpowder produced, is very large. Other two works of the same kind have since been erected in the county; and it is worthy of notice, that alder wood from Norway is now offered to be supplied by contract to one of these works, at a lower price than it can be purchased in the immediate vicinity.

Some years ago, there were erected within the bounds of the parish not fewer than three distilleries for the production of whisky. They have been all abandoned as unprofitable speculations; and were the abandonment of places for the *sale* of whisky to follow, the moral benefit would be the more complete.

III.—POPULATION.

Perhaps in no parish in Scotland is the population more variable, comparing one year with another. By this is meant the more permanent population, exclusively of the numerous families who are visitors during the summer and autumn months. While building and other improvements proceed actively, numerous families of tradesmen from the towns on the Clyde, and labourers, reside for a year or two, and again remove. Families also sometimes reside during the winter months in villas or houses, either their own property, or occupied for the time. The residence of such is made of course to suit convenience and taste; and transfers in such kinds of house property are of frequent occurrence; and altogether, there may be said to be an irregular and varying condition of the population as to actual amount. In the following enumeration, the families are not included who reside in houses of their own within the parish during the summer and autumn months only, although legally they might be considered parishioners.

nature of circumstances causing their erection and increase, it may be said, suburbs of Glasgow and the other neighbouring towns, causes affecting the prosperity of those places will naturally affect the villages on the coast.

The number of families in the united parish is 520, permanently residing. It has been found that the average number in a family is $5\frac{1}{2}$ members.

The number of insane, fatuous, blind, deaf and dumb, amounts at present to 6.

The people enjoy, on the whole, in a reasonable degree, the ordinary comforts of life; and their standard of comfort, as to dwellings and diet, is much above that to which many other portions of the population of the Highlands have, by hard necessity, fallen. The peasantry are here spoken of. And, so far as encouraged or permitted to live in the habits proper to a well-conditioned rural peasantry, or encouraged to improve that condition, contentment with their situation and circumstances is a virtue peculiarly exhibited in their character.

The demoralizing business of smuggling has entirely ceased in the parish, and, it is believed, entirely throughout the district of Cowal. There are instances of poaching in game, though not numerous. There is no public pawnbroking.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—By estimate carefully made, though without actual survey, the number of imperial acres in the united parish, either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, amounts to 2743. Of these, 1356 are in the parish of Dunoon proper, and 1387 in the parish of Kilmun. The number of acres which have never been cultivated is what remains of the estimated superficial contents of the united parish, supposed to be about 180 square miles, deducting the number of imperial acres stated above, and, perhaps, one-third part of what has been devoted to planting within recent years. In judging of the extent to which tillage might be still carried in such soil, climate, and circumstances as the surface of this parish presents, much skill and practical judgment are demanded in forming any opinion to which weight might be justly attached. But grounding our opinion on the testimony of experienced persons acquainted with the localities, it is thought, that, with a profitable application of capital, nearly as many acres more as are now in tillage might be added to that number, which might at least yield more profitable returns than now, by occasional tillage, and by

being devoted more usually to the purposes of pasture. There is no portion of the parish in a state of undivided common, the boundaries of each property being ascertained. The number of acres under timber has been already stated under the general head of natural history. The extent of copsewood in the parish amounts to as many acres as there are of planting. Both planting and copse are carefully tended with respect to yearly thinning, periodical felling, and pruning. The oak is unquestionably the prevailing native tree, with other kinds already specified. Larch and Scotch fir prevail in most of the plantations.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land per imperial acre may be stated at L.1, 4s. in the parish of Kilmun proper, and at L.1, 16s. in the parish of Dunoon. The difference in these two average rates arises from capital having been more liberally applied to the improvement of land in the latter than in the former parish, of late years. This difference, it is not improbable, may soon cease, improvements of this kind being in progress now in the parish of Kilmun, which promise to be successful.

The average rate of grazing may be stated at L.3 per ox or cow grazed for the year; and of sheep, at from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per head.

Rate of Wages.—The rates of labour may be stated as under: farm-servants, with board and lodging, L.7; female house-servants, do. L. 3, 10s. to L. 4 per half-year; farm day-labourers, per day, without board or lodging, 1s. 8d.; country artisans, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; journeymen tradesmen, 2s. 6d. to 3s.

Live-Stock.—Of sheep, except where Leicesters, South Downs, and other kinds are reared in limited numbers on gentlemen's grounds and enclosures, the black-faced is that universally reared as farming stock. With respect to black-cattle, as has been stated already under the head Zoology, the Ayrshire breed has come to prevail, while it is questioned by farmers of experience whether the West Highland breed might not make better returns.

Husbandry.—The proportion of the parochial territory, strictly speaking, devoted to agricultural purposes, has been stated already, the whole of the territory besides, except what is occupied by enclosures and planting, being devoted to the rearing of sheep stock, or rather, indeed, chiefly to that purpose, and partially to the rearing of cattle. The agricultural system pursued on grain farms has come to be regulated, as it always ought to be, by terms of lease, in each particular case. The system generally pursued on

these farms is that denominated a seven years' shift, varying, however, in particular instances. Ley ground, on being broken up, is sown with oats; the year following, with green crop; it is then sown down with grass seeds, together with barley or oats; one or two crops of hay in successive years follow, according to soil and circumstances; and two, three, or four years of pasturage, when the ley is again broken up to undergo the same rotation of cropping. The principal crops raised are oats, potatoes, turnips, and hay. Barley is not now so much cultivated as some years ago, it being found that oats yield a better return. Wheat was tried, and cultivated to a considerable extent on the better farms in the parish some years since; but its cultivation has been abandoned, the soil being found not of sufficient strength to withstand this species of crop; and while the farms on which it was raised, yielded beautiful crops in favourable seasons, the climate was found, from its humidity, unfavourable to the securing of it in perfect condition. On the estates of the resident proprietors, the state of farm husbandry may be mentioned now as approaching that of the best cultivated districts of the lowlands of Scotland. On the estates of Castle Toward, Hafton, and Glenfinart, especially, this statement may be safely ventured. On the first, indeed, the agricultural improvements of which it is susceptible may be said to have been brought to their full bearing several years ago. On the two latter, improvements, liberally conducted, are every year making progress successfully, in the reclaiming of waste land and draining, as well as in the important matters of farm-buildings and enclosures. Furrow and tile-draining are systematically pursued. The late Mr Finlay of Castle Toward first introduced the practice of furrow-draining, and is said to have been among its first promoters in Scotland. There were strong prejudices against it in the minds of practical agriculturists, but its manifest benefits soon dispelled those prejudices, and either that or tile-draining may now be said to be universally adopted on the lands of all proprietors in the district who deem agricultural improvements an object deserving of their attention. Indeed, this system of draining, with that of regular enclosures, are the improvements which have the first place in changing the appearance and in advancing the value of any lands susceptible of being improved at all; and, in this parish, they have of late years been greatly advanced. A striking and not pleasing contrast is now exhibited between the lands of heritors permanently residing upon them, and those of heritors who entrust the management of

their lands to law agents rejoicing in the name of Factor. Farm-buildings present the same contrast. The duration of leases varies; but, on improving leases, is generally understood to be nineteen years; and, with the resident heritors, they are considered to be on terms, generally, favourable to the occupier. The greatest obstacle to improvement is with proprietors themselves, who delegate their duties to, and throw their responsibilities upon others.

Quarries.—There are quarries sufficiently fit for purposes of rubble work building in the neighbourhood of Dunoon and Kilmun, those in the former vicinity being owned by Mr M'Arthur Moir of Milton, and Mr Hunter of Hafton, both of whom are liberal in granting the use of them. Those in the vicinity of Kilmun are owned by Mr Campbell of Monzie. There are both slate and freestone quarries, but they have not been much wrought of late, or rather have been abandoned, it being found that those building materials can be procured elsewhere of better quality and at no higher expense. There are no mines of any kind in the parish.

Fisheries.—There are no fisheries, except one salmon fishing on the Eachaig at Kilmun, and that carried on along the coast, as already described, under the head of Ichthyology. A few of the inhabitants pursue the herring fishing on Loch Fine during the summer and autumn months. There are eight boats usually engaged in this occupation belonging to the united parish, each employing during the season four men. Its profits are precarious, and its effects, morally, not beneficial, unless when those engaged in it have Christian principles to restrain them from the dissipation and excesses too lamentably common among those following that pursuit.

Raw Produce.—It is considered unnecessary to present in any tabular view the average gross amount of produce raised in the parish, nor is it easily ascertained, so as to secure accuracy, without which, any such statement would be destitute of value. To ascertain it accurately involves a system of personal questioning, not pleasing to either party. The quantity of land under cultivation has been stated, and, it is hoped, with a pretty close approximation to fact; and the value of all kinds of farm and dairy produce, as already stated, command fully or nearly the value of the most public Scottish markets. The average sheep stock reared in the united parish has been estimated, by competent judges, at 20,000; black cattle at 1130; horses employed in agriculture and other uses, 200. Sheep for the butcher market have of late been

frequently shipped at Dunoon for Liverpool, where they arrive in fifteen or eighteen hours.

There are no manufactures of any kind conducted in the parish.

Navigation.—Neither Dunoon nor Kilmun has hitherto been known as a shipping port. As an instance of parochial enterprise, and the first of its kind locally on record, it is not unworthy of notice, that this year a schooner of upwards of 80 tons burthen was built, rigged, and launched at Dunoon, by Messrs Dugald, Malcolm, and Daniel M'Larty of this place, and is now employed in foreign trade, ranking as a first-class vessel at Lloyd's, appropriately named the Spokesman, the English signification of her builders' surname. Under this head too, though not strictly belonging to it, it may be noticed, that to obviate the inconvenience of landing from steamers in open boats, a private joint-stock Company was entered into in the year 1835, for the object of erecting a pier or jetty, at which steamers might touch at all states of the tide. The object has thoroughly succeeded. The jetty extends 130 yards from the shore into about $4\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms water, and has seven feet water at its extremity at the lowest tide. A pontage of one penny is levied on every passenger landing or embarking, and proportional rates upon goods, furniture, &c. Though requiring pretty extensive repairs annually, it is understood to yield a good return for the capital invested. It is an immense accommodation and benefit to the village and parish. A more substantial quay, of solid masonry, has been erected by Mr Napier at Kilmun, rendering the landing there easy and comfortable at every state of the tide.

Associations.—There is an Association for the encouragement of cottage gardening, established for the last five or six years. It is countenanced and encouraged by the landed gentlemen of the neighbourhood,—annual exhibitions of flowers and vegetables are held; and the same Association also contemplates the improvement of dairy produce and system of management. It has had already very beneficial effects, in promoting the neat appearance of cottages in the village and neighbourhood. A Farmers' Society has been also established for many years past, in the district of the parish of Dunoon commonly termed Nether Cowal, and embracing a portion of the neighbouring parish of Inverchaolain. Its object is the relief of members fallen into indigent circumstances; and with limited funds, it has been, on many occasions, found benefi-

cial. A Fisherman's Society also existed in Dunoon for many years past, but has recently been dissolved, there being but few of the inhabitants, scarcely indeed any, following that occupation exclusively.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There is no market-town, properly so called; and the two villages supplying their place to every practical purpose, have been already described.

With respect to means of communication, the parish enjoys them abundantly. There are three post-offices in the united parish,—Dunoon, Kilmun, and Ardentinny. At Dunoon there are, in the winter season, two arrivals and despatches of mail daily, and in summer three a-day. The other two post-offices have one daily receipt and despatch. Properly speaking, there are no turnpike roads, there being no turnpikes or tolls within the county of Argyle hitherto. The length of roads in the parish is reckoned at forty-nine miles. A road now runs along its whole coast from one extremity to the other; the portion of this road extending from near Strone point, to the boundary on that side of the Glenfinart estate, having been executed last year by private subscription, and affording much benefit to the parish at large, especially to its visitors in the summer season, to whom this road opens up a most interesting and extensive drive. Another road from the southern extremity of Loch Eck to the place of Whistlefield on that lake, was also executed a few years ago by private subscription, and opens up a direct line of communication with Strachur, Inveraray, and the western parts of Argyleshire. On the road from Kilmun to Loch Eck, was run the first steam carriage on a common road, it is believed, in Scotland. It was an enterprise of Mr Napier; and though no catastrophe, happily, marked its operation, the enterprise was abandoned, as was a steamer on Loch Eck, to the great deliverance from scandal of that peaceful and interesting Highland scene. Substantial wooden bridges have been recently erected on the Eachaig, the Little Eachaig, and the Massan, and afford much-needed accommodation, making the lines of communication throughout the parish complete. The roads are generally kept in good order and repair. The exactions of statute-labour money under the present Act of Parliament are accounted burdensome, and pressing too unequally both on residents for a time merely, and on the poorer classes. The provisions of an Act about to be passed

during the present session of Parliament, are expected to bear more lightly and equally on the inhabitants.

The Holy Loch is the only harbour or good anchorage along the coast of the parish. While the internal communication in the parish is complete by good roads and bridges, the communication by sea, and by steam navigation with Glasgow, Greenock, and the other towns on the Clyde, is, it may even be said, superabundant, both from Dunoon and Kilmun, but especially the former. The passage to Greenock from Kilmun or Dunoon is scarcely an hour in ordinary weather, and three hours to Glasgow. There is daily communication during the winter season between Glasgow and Kilmun, once a-day, and in summer at least twice. From Dunoon there are, in the winter season, generally four opportunities of conveyance by steam to and from Greenock and Glasgow, as well as to and from Rothsay, and once daily to and from the western parts of Argyleshire. During the summer season, the opportunities of conveyance by steam in most of these directions amount at least to sixteen daily.

Ecclesiastical State.—Dunoon and Kilmun being a united parish, it may be proper to remark, that there is no distinct or separate management or administration of the affairs of each, either *quoad civilia* or *quoad sacra*.* The parish churches both

* There is a singular uncertainty as to the date of the annexation of Kilmun to Dunoon. A grave-stone in the churchyard of Kilmun bears the name of "John Campbell, minister of Kilmun, who departed this life 20th December 1690," and yet, in the presbytery records there are indications, as well as in minutes of session, that the annexation must have taken place many years previous to that period. In 1659 it appears, from the presbytery records, that the presbytery had to perambulate the bounds of each parish, so as to ascertain them, with a view to a proposal then made by the Marquis of Argyll, "to separate the said parishes in two distinct cures, and settling a stipend for them." This proposal seems not to have been carried into effect, for on the 19th March 1660, "the presbytery appoint ane letter to be written to the parishioners of Dunoon and Kilmun, to press them to be diligent and active in dealing with my Lord Marquis, and in backing the presbytery's letters sent to my lord anent the settlement of the stipends of the said parishes." On 18th April of the same year, the presbytery refuse to translate the minister of Kilmun to Dunoon, "because" (for Dunoon) "there is no localitie of ane thousand merks mortified out of the bishop's rent, neither gleib designed, neither is ther ane manse builded." In June, the year following, 1661, the presbytery record thus—"James Frissell having exercised his gifts amongst us this year bypast, and the parishioners of Dunoon and Kilmun having given him ane call to be their minister, the presbytery did admit the said Mr James minister at the said kirk, according to the said call." In September of the same year it is stated, "that Mr James Fraser (formerly Frissell), present minister of Dunoon and Kilmun, wants the Irish, and, with consent of the heritors and elders, gets ane assistant to help him at Kilmun two Sabbaths, and each third Sabbath at Dunoon, in Irish." "The presbytery declaring this to be in the interim, till it be known in due time how these kirks may be constantlie served for the future, whether by divisoun in two distinct charges, or byrwise." The "interim" has, unfortunately, proved a long one. The glebe was designed at Dunoon, with reference to the two parishes, and the manse built.

of Dunoon and Kilmun are pretty centrically situated, as to territorial bounds, respectively; but the distance of each from the further extremity of each parish, is too great to admit of the attendance from those parochial districts being regular or general; the distance of the church of Dunoon from the further boundary of the parish to the westwards being upwards of ten miles; and that of Kilmun fully eight miles from the boundary of that parish to the northward. In each of these districts, the nearest of them situated beyond four miles from the parish church, is a population of upwards considerably of three hundred and two hundred respectively. The present church of Dunoon was built, as already stated, in 1816, and is a very handsome edifice in the modern Gothic style, with a tower, and is strikingly situated on the highest ground in the village, the castle-hill excepted. It is at present in a very thorough state of repair, comfortable, and handsomely finished within. There are no important benefactions on record; but by the judicious management of small benefactions, and from other sources, an accumulation of poor's funds took place, during the incumbency of the last minister of the parish, Dr John Campbell, amounting to upwards of L.700. At the date of its erection, the church was considered to afford ample accommodation to the parishioners, being seated for 500. The rapid increase of the village of Dunoon, and the accession to the population, especially in the summer months, rendered it insufficient to accommodate the resident population; and to obviate this inconvenience, while the state of the law prevented additional accommodation being demanded or granted in the circumstances, it was judged, as the most expedient and safe plan, that the accumulated poor's fund should be invested in building an addition to the church, and that seat-rents should be levied on those additional sittings, to replace the capital thus invested, and its interest while so invested. It was further considered, that the additional amount of weekly collections arising from increased accommodation, would in the meanwhile more materially benefit the parochial poor, than any interest which could be expected from any safe investment of this accumulated fund. The accumulated fund, amounting at that time (1834), to L.607, 5s. 6d., was accordingly lent by the heritors and kirk-session to two of the heritors on their personal security,—the late Kirkman Finlay Esq., of Castle Toward, and James Hunter Esq., of Hafton,—they voluntarily and generously agreeing to take the risk of repayment; and that the

money thus invested for the public accommodation and religious benefit of the community, as well as for the advancement of the interests of the parochial poor, should be forthcoming on any emergency which might occur in course of Providence to render its immediate application needful for the relief of existing pauperism. The changes which had been occurring in the parochial economy for some years prior to this period, had increased the pauperism of the parish, with certain of those changes having their tendency to raise the demands of pauperism. The addition to the church was accordingly built, needed church accommodation supplied to the extent of 278 sittings; and hitherto the scheme has fully justified the expectations of those interested in its success. From fifty to sixty pounds, the proceeds of letting those seats, go annually to replace the capital, besides paying the interest of the investment; and the collections for behoof of the poor, meanwhile, have so increased, as beyond doubt to exceed any amount of interest which could be safely realized from the fund by any other mode of investment. As a landward parish, the whole sittings allocated to the heritors are free, and occupied by the landward population. The sudden rise of the village has created, however, a class of parishioners who have no claim on heritors for such accommodation; and the heritors whose allocations of sittings more than supply the occupiers of their own lands, are in the habit of letting the surplus sittings at a reasonable rate, the proceeds being generally applied by them to religious and charitable uses. Further accommodation, to the amount of sixty sittings, has been more recently still provided, by an alteration in one of the galleries, so that the accommodation provided is now about 838 sittings.

The present church of Kilmun was built in 1841. It provides ample accommodation, being seated for 450, and capable of admitting galleries should they yet be required. The manse and offices of the united parish, situated near the village of Dunoon, were erected in 1803. They underwent a thorough repair, and an addition was made to the manse, in 1833. The glebe extends to about twelve imperial acres, with an additional small pendicle situated in the village, where the manse, offices, and garden formerly stood before the erection of the present. The glebe has been valued at L.18 annual rental. The pendicle of glebe land in the village, with the old manse, and a servitude on the Castle Hill, let at L.2, 2s., make an addition

to the stipend of about L.12 or L.14 annually. The stipend of the united parish consists of 258 bolls, 3 firlots oat-meal, Linlithgow measure, and 2 bolls, 2 firlots bear, at the county fiars prices, and L.31, 4s. 7½d. vicarage dues, all payable in money. The teinds are exhausted. The Duke of Argyle is patron.*

Two chapels of ease, or preaching stations, have been recently erected in the united parish, as already stated. Probationers of the church, acting as parochial missionaries, officiate at those stations; on alternate Sabbaths at Toward chapel, and each Sabbath throughout the year at the Ardentinny chapel. The missionaries are paid by an annual collection, made on that behalf, at each of the stations, and in each of the parish churches. The annual expense for thus supplying religious ordinances to a portion of the population, otherwise almost in point of fact excluded from that privilege, and from many others of the same kind, is L.90, with certain allowances for travelling expenses. The Sabbath collections at each of those chapels are appropriated to the use of the parochial poor, and have formed a considerable source of that revenue since the commencement of those missions, averaging from L.25 to L.31 annually, from both together, while it has not been found, that the erection of those much-needed places of worship has diminished, by any means, the ordinary Sabbath collections at the parish churches. It is but just to state, that the heritors more immediately interested in those portions of the parochial territory have manifested liberality in supporting these preaching stations.

In addition to the two missionaries thus parochially employed, the minister of the parish officiating alternate Sabbaths at Kilmun and Dunoon during the summer and autumn half-year, and during the winter and spring half-year, two Sabbaths at Dunoon, and every third at Kilmun,—another missionary or assistant, hitherto unordained, is employed, to alternate with the parish minister at Dunoon and Kilmun, and to take the more active weekly superintendence of the population of Kilmun parish. He resides at Kilmun. His salary is guaranteed by the parish minister to the amount of L.70 per annum. This salary is made up by voluntary contributions from the parishioners, and many of our summer visitors contributing liberally to this object, as to all other charitable

* By act of the Scottish Parliament, passed 8th day of November 1641, a mortification of 1200 merks by the King to the minister of Dunoon is ratified; but under the burden of 200 merks Scots money, "to ane schoolemaster who shall remane at the said kirke of Donoone." The mortification is "out of the reddiest of the teindis, teind duties, and vp^r. rentis of the bishoprick of Argyle."

and religious objects connected with the parish. The assistant's salary hitherto has never been under L.70, and has been rather increasing annually than diminishing,—amounting the last two years to L.90, L.100, and upwards.

There is one Dissenting chapel in the united parish, situated in Dunoon, in connection with the Associate Synod. This is the only Dissenting place of worship. Within the last year, a manse has been built for the minister of this congregation.

The whole of the families in the parish, with the exception of those adhering to the Dissenting congregation, are in the habit of attending the Established Church; and excepting also a few individuals and families in the two villages, either fugitives from discipline, or not professing to belong to any religious denomination. The average attendance of persons of all ages attending the Established Church varies, as in the statement following, from the circumstance of the villages being watering-places of considerable resort during the summer and autumn months: average attendance at Dunoon during the winter and spring, 450; at Kilmun, 220; at Dunoon during summer and autumn, 860; at Kilmun, 380; at Toward chapel, alternate Sabbaths, 180; at Ardentiny chapel throughout the year, 80.

There are four or five families, Episcopalians, permanently resident at present in the parish. Respectable persons of that communion generally attend the services of the Established Church, whether permanently resident or resorting to it as visitors in summer and autumn, and probably some also the Dissenting chapel. Frequently fugitives from discipline, here as elsewhere, profess to belong to that communion. There are at present, so far as known, only three Roman Catholics resident in the united parish. The attendance upon Divine service at the different places of worship connected with the Establishment throughout the parish may be called good; but is less so in the village of Dunoon than it might be. It is believed that the attendance at the Dissenting chapel is equally good in proportion to the number adhering to that communion.

The average number of communicants in the united parish is 627.

There are no societies for religious purposes established in the parish: the annual contributions to the schemes of the Church are made parochially. The united parish has, in this manner, contributed to the several schemes of the Church, during the last four

years,—1839, L.205, 5s. 6d.; 1840, L.126, 14s. 6d.; 1841, L.112, 19s. 2d.; and 1842, L.70, 8s. 0d.

Education.—There are, in the united parish, three parochial schools,—one at Dunoon, one at Toward, and one at Kilmun. There are also two schools on the scheme of the General Assembly's Education Committee,—one at Dalilongard, in the parish of Dunoon, the other at Ardentinny, in the parish of Kilmun. There is a school taught also in connection with the Dissenting congregation in Dunoon. Within the last few years also, a female school of industry has been set on foot in Dunoon, with the object of instructing the rising female generation in the necessary and useful departments of knowledge. It owes its commencement and support to an Association of ladies resident in the parish, and usually resorting to Dunoon in the summer season. It has been attended with very gratifying success, is well conducted by a committee of ladies annually chosen, and is very efficiently taught. This seminary promises to be a very great benefit and blessing to the female youth of the village and its neighbourhood.

Of the three parochial schools, Latin is taught only in that at Dunoon, and the higher branches of education at none of them. These are, however, taught at the General Assembly schools mentioned. The parochial teachers have the full legal accommodations. The school-house and teacher's accommodations at Toward have been liberally granted and erected at the sole expense of the late Kirkman Finlay Esq.; and, at Ardentinny, a house for the teacher has been provided by Mr Douglas, and adjoining to it, a neat and comfortable school-house has been erected at the sole expense of Mrs Douglas of Glenfinart. The accommodations are fully equal to the average of parochial schools, and a mere nominal rent is charged. The rates of school fees are as follow: in the parochial and Assembly schools per quarter,—beginners, 2s.; reading and writing, 3s.; arithmetic, 4s. 6d.; Latin, 5s.; book-keeping, 10s.; Greek, French, geography, mathematics, and navigation, (where taught,) 10s.

The salaries of the several teachers are as follow: Dunoon, L.30; Toward, L.22; Kilmun, L.25, and L.2, 2s. allowance in lieu of garden; Assembly school at Dalilongard, L.25; Assembly school at Ardentinny, L.25; salary of teacher of Female School of Industry, Dunoon, L.30, with house and garden; salary of teacher of school connected with Dissenting chapel, not known. The amount of school fees received by each, it would be difficult to state with accuracy; but, generally speaking, such fees are

well paid, and they afford, it must be acknowledged, but very inadequate compensation for the amount and the importance of the labour bestowed.

It may be stated that there are scarcely any of the young within the parish, excepting in cases of culpable neglect on the part of parents, and these, happily, are but few, who are not able to read and write, between the ages of six and fifteen, or who are not under instruction. The people are certainly becoming more alive to the benefits of education. With the schools that have been mentioned, as now instituted and maintained in the united parish, there cannot be said to be any parts of the parish, containing a population adequate to justify the establishment of additional schools, so distant from school as necessarily to prevent attendance. In the more upland portions of the parish, indeed, individual families are so situated, as to exclude their children from attendance on school, and the parents, in such cases, generally manifest a laudable desire to supply this, by employing young men to instruct their children. An aid school, during the winter months, for the benefit of the younger children, might be advantageously placed in one or two situations.

The number of schools in the united parish, as has been now stated, is seven. The average attendance on the whole of them, by comparison of lists furnished at the annual examinations for the last four years, may be stated at 290 or 300. It is to be regretted, that, taking recent improvements as the standard in the quality of the instruction communicated, it is not such in the parochial schools generally as is to be desired. The teachers of these show, most of them, diligence and faithfulness in the exercise of their important trust, according to their ability; but there is assuredly need that the standard should be raised.

The beneficial effects of educational facilities are certainly begun to be seen and felt, and, it is to be hoped, will increase. Sabbath schools are taught in connection with the several schools mentioned.

Literature.—There is a parochial library instituted within the last two years, its property vested in the majority of the annual subscribers. The rates of contribution are, 1s. of entry-money, and 1d. per month. It already consists of about 300 volumes, and promises to be beneficial. Visitors to the place during the summer season are admitted on the same terms as permanently residing parishioners to the use of this library. There is also a library for the use of the Sabbath schools, and small libraries are

supplied by the General Assembly's Education Committee for the benefit of the youth attending them.

Savings' Bank.—One of these most beneficial institutions, being a branch of the Glasgow National Security Savings' Bank, was established in Dunoon in October 1839. Its success has fully justified the anticipations of its promoters, and it promises to be of essential benefit to the labouring classes. The amount deposited the first year was L.248, 9s. 1d.; second year, L.250; third year, L.177, 11s.; and the fourth year, L.581, 9s. It is superintended by a committee of management, and certain of the gentlemen interested in its success, guarantee the safety of the deposits, in their transmission to and from the head institution in Glasgow. The whole sum deposited till December 1843, is L.1257, 19s. 1d. Of this sum there has been drawn L.489, 11s. 3d., leaving a balance in favour of depositors of L.768, 7s. 5d. Another branch of a Savings' bank has been commenced at Ardentinny.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid for the last seven years, is 68½, not including the children in families receiving this aid. Of this number, some are not permanently placed on the poor's roll, but receive occasional aid. The altered circumstances of the parish, changing as it has done, within the last twenty years, from being comparatively a retired and rural one, to a state bordering so much on the circumstances and habits of town life, has, no doubt, with benefits, produced the evil of an increased parochial pauperism; and has had its manifest tendency, as might be anticipated, to increase the demands of pauperism; the feelings and views of individuals being influenced by the local current of the times; and many individuals formerly resident in towns, obtaining settlement in the parish, and not influenced by the feelings peculiar to a rural and Highland peasantry. The highest rate per week given to single paupers is 2s. 6d., with frequently house rent besides, and occasionally some supply of clothing. The highest rate to widows with children, varying of course according to the number and age of the children, is 4s. per week, and generally house rent, with assistance for clothing.

The annual amount of contributions for their relief from church collections during the last seven years, (1842 inclusive,) is as follows: 1836, L. 116, 19s. 3¼d.; 1837, L. 129, 19s.; 1838, L.110, 17s. 10¼d.; 1839, L.118, 9s. 6¼d.; 1840, L.109, 3s. 6d.; 1841, L. 124, 19s. 6¼d.; 1842, L. 128, 3s. 6¼d. The other

sources whence contributions are derived, are the interest on accumulated fund, invested (as noticed) in erecting the addition to the Dunoon church, mortcloth dues, and dues on proclamations of bans for marriage, with occasional donations from heritors and benevolent individuals; and during the seven years mentioned above, there have been distributed from these sources cumulatively,—in 1836, L.46, 8s. 6½d.; 1837, L.33, 12s. 7½d.; 1838, L.38, 7s. 7½d.; 1839, L.34, 18s. 7½d.; 1840, L.31, 14s. 3½d.; 1841, L. 28, 14s. 7½d.; 1842, L. 30, 8s. 7½d. The highest amount of annual church-door collections at Dunoon has been, in 1842, L.101, 8s. 9½d.,—and at Kilmun church, the highest has been, in 1841, L. 31, 1s. 0½d.

The sums here stated have been found barely adequate to supply the wants of the existing pauperism; and during the period mentioned, it has been found necessary, on two occasions, to draw to a small amount upon the accumulated fund. The amount of pauperism varies from year to year; but its tendency has undoubtedly been, during the period now under review, to increase. There is no other mode used in procuring funds for the poor besides that of church-door collections and the other means mentioned. The disposition to refrain from seeking parochial relief is very swiftly passing away; instances of it are met with, and in the rural parts of the parish they are more frequent; but among those accustomed to compulsory modes of relief in towns, no such feeling can be expected to exist: and their example here must be expected to have its effect. The facility of obtaining parochial settlement is felt to be a special grievance, not beneficial to the poor at large, and highly injurious, even oppressive, to individual parishes; and in a country like Scotland, where local changes are continually progressive, an extension of the period necessary to make good parochial settlement, from three to seven years at least, would assuredly be an improvement in this difficult branch of national legislation,—and would unquestionably be conducive to the interests of morality among the poor themselves.

Prisons and Police.—There is no jail nor place of confinement in Dunoon, or the united parish. It has been in contemplation for some time past to erect a lock-up house at Dunoon. The rural police established in the county has been found beneficial here, in suppressing vagrancy, and in checking petty delinquencies. There are no fairs or markets of any general resort held within the parish.

Inns, &c.—Under this name may be classed, two in Dunoon, one

at Kilmun, and one at Ardentinny. But it is not the most pleasing task to record that there are not fewer than eighteen places besides, within the united parish, licensed for the sale of spirituous liquors. In the year 1841, the amount of spirits imported into the united parish for consumpt in those places, amounted to 2958 gallons. It is obvious that so many places of resort, for the consuming of ardent spirits, is altogether out of proportion to the population of the parish.

Fuel.—The fuel now almost universally used is coal, procured generally at Glasgow, and sometimes from mines on the Ayrshire coast. The general cost is from 11s. to 14s. per 24 cwt. Peats are still used by the inhabitants in the more upland parts of the parish; but even in such situations coals are preferred.

Presbytery.—Dunoon being the seat of the Presbytery bearing that name, it may be proper to remark, that the presbytery embraces the six parishes in the district of Cowal, viz. Dunoon and Kilmun, Inverchaolain, Kilmodan or Glendaruel, Kilfinan, Strachur and Stralachlan, and Lochgoilhead and Kilmorich or Cairndow, with the two parishes in the island of Bute, Rothsay and Kingarth. To these are added the *quoad sacra* parishes of New Parish, Rothsay, and North Bute.

The presbytery records consist of eleven volumes, including the separate register. The first volume begins 1st 1639, and ends on first Wednesday of May, 1686. This volume becoming decayed, and the writing in danger of being obliterated, has been transcribed at the expense of the members, and contains many interesting notices of the manners and events of the period. The second volume begins 26th November 1689, and ends 24th March 1707. The third volume begins 20th May 1707, and ends 12th October 1716. The fourth volume has been recently recovered by the presbytery, and consists of minutes in scroll, commencing 4th December 1716, and ends 5th October 1731. The fifth volume begins 1st February 1737, and ends 30th March 1761; down from which period the records are regular and complete.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The variations betwixt the present state of the parish and that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account, are certainly striking and great. The rise, progress, and advancement of the villages of Dunoon and Kilmun, are in themselves changes of local importance, and their progress has been unusually rapid. The one fact of steam communication with the Lowlands and towns

of Scotland, having brought this portion of the Highland national territory to be but virtually a rural adjunct of those towns, especially of Glasgow and the towns on the Clyde, is a change singular enough in itself; and the conjoint influence of the two facts now mentioned must necessarily have had an effect upon the manners and habits of the native and resident population. Landed property also has undergone several transfers since the period of the last Statistical Account. It is believed that there are only two estates in the parish similarly situated as at that period, all the others having undergone transfer, diminution, or change. Landed property has also undergone very great and material improvements within the same period, in the greater portion of it embraced by the united parish. This also has tended so far to influence the habits and manners of the population. The rural portion of the population has decreased in number, while what now, in every practical sense, may be called the town population, has greatly increased. The general effect, morally and religiously considered, it is not perhaps easy to estimate. It must be so far matter of opinion; nor, in these respects, would it become the writer to institute any comparison between the two periods, not having been acquainted with the former of the two, and having witnessed only a few years of the change which may still be said to be in progress. The progress is one which has its tendency to assimilate the population more to the standard of their lowland neighbourhoods in habits and manners, and also to the town population of those districts of Scotland. The villages in the parish may be said to have locally the same influence as towns have upon the population of the territory around. The change produced and in progress still, must fall under the general problem which perhaps has too largely been solved, that such circumstances are more unfavourable than otherwise to an advance and improvement in morality, and the desirable ascendancy of vital and practical religion among the bulk of a population. The state of this parish, too, falls in with that generally of our country at large in a period of progressive physical improvement, or at least change,—calling for and demanding additional and enlarged appliances of those means which, by the Divine blessing, conduce to the nurture and establishment of sound moral and religious principles, which alone can conduce to the true happiness of any community or country. It may be borne as a testimony to the population in general, that they avail themselves of such means, in the measure

in which they are placed within their reach ; that there is a general desire of improvement, and, it is to be hoped, a degree of it manifested.