

12, NORTHERN TERRACE, EDINBURGH.

DUMFRIESSHIRE AND GALLOWAY
NATURAL HISTORY & ANTIQUARIAN
SOCIETY.

FOUNDED 20th NOVEMBER, 1862.

TRANSACTIONS
AND
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
1928-29.

THIRD SERIES, VOLUME XV.

EDITORS:

L. R. ANDREWS, B.A., F.L.A.

W. R. GOURLAY, C.S.I., C.I.E., F.S.A.(Scot.).

JAMES TAYLOR, M.A., B.Sc.

DUMFRIES:

Published by the Council of the Society

1929



ROBERT BURNS
SILHOUETTE BY GEORGE BRUCE

(From Original in possession of Mr ROBERT HENDERSON, Moffat).

See page 95.

DUMFRIESSHIRE AND GALLOWAY
NATURAL HISTORY & ANTIQUARIAN
SOCIETY.

FOUNDED 20th NOVEMBER, 1862.

TRANSACTIONS
AND
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
1928-29.

THIRD SERIES, VOLUME XV.

EDITORS:

L. R. ANDREWS, B.A., F.L.A.

W. R. GOURLAY, C.S.I., C.I.E., F.S.A.(Scot.).

JAMES TAYLOR, M.A., B.Sc.

DUMFRIES:

Published by the Council of the Society

1929

Office-Bearers for 1928-1929.

President.

HUGH S. GLADSTONE of Capenoch, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire,
F.R.S.E., V.P.Z.S., M.B.O.V., F.S.A.(Scot.).

Hon. Vice-Presidents.

S. ARNOTT, F.R.H.S., Loveland, Castle-Douglas Road, Maxwelltown.
G. F. SCOTT ELLIOT, F.R.G.S., Drumwhill, Mossdale, Kirkcudbright-
shire.

FRANK MILLER, Cumberland House, Annan.

JAMES DAVIDSON, F.S.A.(Scot.), Summerville, Maxwelltown.

Rev. J. K. HEWISON, King's Mead, Thornhill.

E. A. HORNEL, Broughton House, Kirkcudbright.

Vice-Presidents.

T. A. HALLIDAY, Parkhurst, Dumfries.

ROBERT MAXWELL, Catherine Street, Dumfries.

R. C. REID, F.S.A.(Scot.), Cleuchbrae, Ruthwell.

ALEXANDER TURNER, Glensorrel, Maxwelltown.

Hon. Secretary.

Miss L. R. ANDREWS, County Library, Dumfries.

Editors of Transactions.

L. R. ANDREWS, W. R. GOURLAY, JAMES TAYLOR.

Hon. Treasurer.

M. H. M'KERROW, F.S.A.(Scot.), 43 Buccleuch Street, Dumfries.

Hon. Librarian.

G. W. SHIRLEY, Ewart Library, Dumfries.

Hon. Departmental Curators.

Antiquities—JAMES FLETT, Hillhead, Bankend Road, Dumfries.

Coins and Tokens—JAMES DAVIDSON, F.S.A.(Scot.), Summerville,
Maxwelltown.

Herbarium—W. SEMPLE, Mile Ash, Dumfries.

Hon. Secretary, Photographic Section.

J. P. MILLIGAN, Aldouran, Maxwelltown.

Members of Council.

The President; Vice-Presidents; Secretary; Treasurer; Departmental Curators; Secretary, Photographic Section; Miss A. J. GORDON, Kenmure, Maxwelltown; Mr THOMAS HENDERSON, Lockerbie; Mr BERTRAM M'GOWAN, Linwood, Dumfries; Mr JOHN M' BURNIE, The Garth, Dumfries; Dr T. R. BURNETT, Education Offices, Dumfries; Mr JOHN WIGHTMAN, 2 Franklin Place, Maxwelltown; Mr JAMES REID, Braehead Terrace, Maxwelltown,

CONTENTS.

SESSION 1928-29.

	PAGE
Abstract of Accounts, 1928-29	180
Annual General Meeting	9
Charleson, C. Forbes. Fragments from Old Kirkconnel ...	119
Corrie, J. M. Two Interesting Bronze Age Relics from Southern Scotland	50
Elliot, G. F. Scott. Notes upon <i>Caltha Palustris</i> , Linn ...	57
Exhibits	182
Field Meetings. The Carrick District	140
Little Clyde, Wanlockhead and Durisdeer	141
Orchardton and Dungarry	148
Gladstone, J. The Dovecote at Blackwood, Dumfriesshire ...	78
The Kirkpatrick's at Capenoch	85
Henderson, R. Some Burns Items	95
List of Members, 1928-29	183
Office-Bearers and Council	3
Presentations	181
Rainfall Records for the South-Western Counties, 1928 ...	138
Semple, W. British Records of <i>Ledum Palustre</i> , Linn ...	66
Shirley, G. W. A Play and Revels in 16th Century Dumfries	96
Smith, A. Cameron. The Baron Courts of Nithsdale ...	12
Williams, G. H. An Artificial Trout Loch in Galloway ...	71

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Robert Burns: Silhouette by George Bruce ...	<i>Frontispiece</i>	
Incense Cup from Cairngill, Kirkcudbrightshire ...	...	51
Small Urn found at Craigdhu, North Queensferry ...	...	53
Small Urn from Cairn at Balmerino, Fife ...	...	53
Urn from Wester Buchlyvie ...	...	53
Small Urn from Whinnieliggate, Kirkcudbright ...	...	54
Incense Cup found near Bogrie Farm, Lochrutton ...	...	54
Bronze Chisels from Dumfriesshire and Perthshire ...	...	55
Dovecote at Blackwood, Dumfriesshire ...	...	78
Plans of Blackwood Dovecote ...	...	79
Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick of Closeburn, 3rd Baronet ...	...	85
Sir James Kirkpatrick of Closeburn, 4th Baronet ...	...	87
Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick of Closeburn, 5th Baronet ...	...	92
Plans of Capenoch House ...	...	88, 89, 90
Fragments found at Kirkconnel ...	...	125, 126, 133

EDITORIAL.

Members working on local Natural History and Archæological Subjects should communicate with the Honorary Secretary. Papers may be submitted at any time. Preference is always given to original work on local subjects.

Enquiries regarding purchase of *Transactions* and payment of subscriptions should be made to Mr M. H. M'Kerrow, 43 Buccleuch Street, Dumfries.

Exchanges, Presentations, and Exhibits should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, County Library, Education Offices, Dumfries.

The Editors are not responsible for the accuracy of scientific, personal, or historical information. Each contributor has seen a proof of his paper.

PROCEEDINGS AND TRANSACTIONS
OF THE
Dumfries and Galloway
Natural History & Antiquarian Society.

SESSION 1928-1929.

19th October, 1928.

Annual General Meeting.

Chairman—H. S. GLADSTONE, M.A., V.P.Z.S., F.R.S.E.,
F.S.A.Scot., President.

The Secretary and Treasurer submitted their reports, which were approved.

The Council recommended the reappointment of the present Office-Bearers and Council, and that the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr G. W. Shirley, Hon. Sec., be filled by Miss L. R. Andrews. They also recommended that the Secretary, together with Messrs W. R. Gourlay and James Taylor, should act as joint editors of the *Transactions*.

The Chairman, referring to the resignation of Mr Shirley from the office of honorary secretary, said the duties of honorary secretary, the securing of papers during the winter, arranging antiquarian excursions in the summer, and the editing and indexing of the annual *Transactions*, were burdens which would tax an ordinary individual's time and ingenuity, and no greater compliment could have been paid to Mr Shirley than that three people should be asked to carry on the work which he had been carrying on. Mr Shirley was appointed honorary secretary on 21st October, 1910, but prior to that he had rendered editorial assistance. No one had held the office of secretary longer than Mr Shirley, and as editor of their *Transactions* it was universally agreed that

the *Transactions* had attained a pre-eminence amongst all other publications of a similar nature. Mr Shirley had personally edited no less than twelve volumes, and his indexing of the volumes had made the *Transactions* live. His personal contributions to their *Transactions* were as numerous as they were erudite, and showed the literary skill and ability which they might expect. As secretary Mr Shirley had been a target for inquiry, and had always been ready to impart from his store of knowledge. In these circumstances it was not surprising that he had heard widespread regret at his resignation. He had read in the *Standard* the following :—“ It is difficult to imagine the Society progressing without his stimulus and guidance.” These were very strong words, but he thought they were deserved. Mr Shirley’s services to the Society had been invaluable. Some might have wondered why, in these days when testimonials were very common, that no such commemoration had been arranged. A testimonial which might have been started would only be to commercialise Mr Shirley’s services, and if they tried to put those services on a commercial basis he did not know where they could possibly find an end. On reflection, therefore, it seemed best that no such tangible testimonial should be made, and if it was necessary for Mr Shirley at any time to think of what he had done, he had only to look at the volumes he had so ably edited during his career. His relationship with Mr Shirley had always been of the utmost cordiality. He now moved that in their minutes they record :—“ The cordial appreciation of the services which Mr G. W. Shirley has rendered to the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society as honorary secretary from 1910 to 1928; throughout this period he has not only performed his secretarial duties with marked zeal and ability, but he has also—as editor of our *Transactions*—raised them to a standard of excellence which places them in the forefront of similar publications; the members of the Society take this opportunity of placing on record their appreciation of Mr Shirley’s long-continued services, and they extend to him their warmest

thanks for all that he has done to advance the welfare of the Society."

Mr Shirley, in reply, expressed his appreciation of Mr Gladstone as president. He had been a most loyal, sympathetic, and helpful chief. He had also to thank Mr M'Kerrow for his services as treasurer; that portion of the work had never given him a moment's care. He had been trying to reason out why he did this work for the Society. Nobody did a thing purely and absolutely for the sake of the work itself; they must have some interest or natural impulse before they could take an interest in it, especially if the work was voluntary. He had come to the conclusion that right at the bottom it had simply been a matter of physical pleasure. What had given him most pleasure was the intellectual pursuit. We had a great deal of shame in Britain about intellectual pursuits, because we deemed ourselves liable to be charged with being intellectual snobs. He felt that there was a false shame among many people interested in ideas and in mental activity, and he thought that should not exist, but that they should be as bold and blunt and blatant about it as other people were about football or golf. It seemed to him that the most important thing for us to-day was the stimulus of intellectual activity. He would like to found a society for the stimulation of intellectual activity that would embrace almost all intellectual activity from the drama to questions about Egyptian bones and mummies, and so on. He did not intend to withdraw himself from the functions of the Society, which he hoped would have a flourishing life.

23rd October, 1928.

Chairman—The PRESIDENT.

W. W. Welsh, Esq., M.A., late Headmaster of Sedbergh, gave an extremely interesting address on "The Romans in North Africa." It was illustrated by particularly fine lantern slides.

16th November, 1928.

The Baron Courts of Nithsdale, 1757-1794.

By A. CAMERON SMITH.

[INTRODUCTION.]

The folio volume in manuscript, entitled on its first page "Barron Courts of the Estate of Nithsdale," was acquired by this Society at the Lennox sale in February, 1918. There is already a considerable body¹ of published records of Baron Courts, but this volume is unique in exhibiting the ancient institution in its last stages. It deals with the period 13th August, 1757, to 27th June, 1794, during which the minutes indicate a gradual decline, till at the end, although the remaining leaves have been cut away, the impression remains that the Baron Court has expired. In the earlier years of the period dealt with all the tenants appear at the court, and with frankness and loyalty admit their shortcomings. As time proceeds, however, evidence and attendance are both given with great reluctance. The court possessed, and in one

¹ The following BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BARON COURTS may not be complete:—

Court Book of the Barony of Urie in Kincardineshire, 1607-1747, edited by Douglas G. Barron, S.H.S., 1892.

Records of the Baron Court of Stitchhill, 1655-1807, ed. C. B. Gunn, S.H.S., 1905.

Court Book of Corsehull Barony, 1666-1719, in Arch. and Hist. Collns. relating to Ayr and Wigtown, vol. 4, pp. 65-249.

Court Book of the Baronies of Lasswade and Loanhead, 1664-1740, in Sir John Clerk's Memoirs, S.H.S., 1892, pp. 240-2.

Burlaw Court of Leith, 1724-1750, by David Robertson, in Bk. of the Old Edinr. Club, vol. 15, pp. 165-205.

Kindly Tenants of the Archbishopric of Glasgow, J. A. Brown, in Trans. Glas. Arch. Soc., New Series, vol. 5, pt. 2, pp. 105-124.

Kyndlie Tenants, Mrs J. R. Oliver, in Trans. Hawick Arch. Soc., New Series, vol. 1 (1888-90).

Old Stat. Acct. (1792), 6.512, New, 6.337,579, *Crawford parish*; Old, 2.262, New, 5.91, *Newton-on-Ayr*.

Scotch Legal Antiquities, Cosmo Innes (1872).

Morison's *Dictionary of Decisions under Jurisdiction: Baron Courts*, pp. 7539-7548.

Glasgow Herald, 21st Feb., 1912, D. A. Boyd; G. W. Shirley.

instance exercised, the power to amerce absents, but the decay of interest was inevitable, and one of the latest entries in this book shows that an action for multures had been appealed from the Baron Court to the Sheriff-Substitute. A fatal blow was probably given to Baron Courts by the Act of 1747 abolishing heritable jurisdictions, which placed their transactions under the supervision of the Sheriff and the Sheriff Clerk. It is probably to this Act that the present volume owes its existence, for although these courts had been held from immemorial times it would seem from a remark made by a witness (3rd January, 1758), that minutes were not recorded in writing at the time referred to (about 1743). If, as appears to be the case, appeals could be carried to the Sheriff Court, some written record obviously became a necessity. Thus the volume was quite possibly not only the last, but also the first, and only written record of these courts.

One reason why the court fell into disfavour was that in comparison with the civil courts this baron court was entirely one-sided; its officers from the Baillie downwards were the nominees and paid servants of the proprietor. The factor was sometimes the Fiscal of the court, and in no single instance does he fail to secure from the Baillie the decret which he craves. As fiscal he received the fines, and as factor no doubt accounted for them to the baron. The court was therefore entirely the creature of the baron, and was simply made the medium for enforcing his rights in accordance with time-honoured customs and the practices of good husbandry and neighbourship. The complaints of the miller, or tacksman of the barony, will occupy a large part of the proceedings. Lands which had once been part of a barony remained thirled to the mill even after the lands themselves had been detached and sold to new proprietors. Not only were the multures and services particularly distasteful in such cases, but also they were difficult to assess when lands had once been alienated. For how was the miller to know the amount of a tenant's "grindable corns" except by some sort of espionage or by the oath of the tenant himself? At first tenants seem to have truthfully admitted their abstractions, then finding multures

too onerous they depone negative or admit only small amounts. So great seems to have been the feeling against multures that at one period some tenants threatened to turn their lands to grass; from which it may be inferred that multures were so heavy as to turn the scale against cropping. That they did not persist in carrying out their threat was due to the suasion or admonition of the proprietor or his factor.

Perhaps owing to alienation of the lands of the sucken, perhaps owing to the thirlage itself and its consequent monopoly, the mill seems in some cases to have become inefficient for its work of grinding (1774 K), or even insufficiently water-tight to preserve grain consigned to it for multure (1769 K). Tenants produced to the court samples of meal wretchedly and wastefully ground by the mill of the sucken. They had a real grievance if they were compelled to pay multures to the mill under thirlage, and also to pay another more efficient mill for the actual grinding. The miller might retort that the evil state of the mill was due to the tenants' neglect to repair the mill and its pertinents in thatch, dams, and watergangs; but this did not allay discontent. Other evidence of a falling off in feudal loyalty appears (1769) in the neglect of the tenants of Kirkgunzeon to render to the family of the superior certain personal services, elsewhere known as boon (bound) work, e.g., leading peats. There is also a notable increase in the disposition to raise minor objections on points of procedure. One of the most original examples occurs in 1761, when a tenant—represented by a Dumfries writer—advances the plea that no officer of the court may be a Roman Catholic.

It may here be mentioned that, in contrast with other Baron Courts of which the proceedings have been published, the Baron Courts of Nithsdale took no cognisance of any questions of morality, peace, church-going, or small civil matters. The adherence of the Maxwells of Nithsdale to the Roman Catholic faith was sufficient reason for this abstention: in any case Kirk-sessions and civil courts of the county were at this period sufficiently occupied with such matters. The Baron Courts did, however, deal with a number

of miscellaneous breaches of tenant law and custom. These included ordinary arrears of rent, failure to attend (rent) collection-days, cutting of wood without permission, selling dung off their mailing, failure to maintain houses in tenable condition, to fill up marl-pits, clean drains, build march dykes. From the wood-cutting case it is learned incidentally that tenants used an ash tree for the beam of their plough, hazel for harrow teeth and rungs to a heck, and birch for "sledge-fett"—a reminder that wheeled carts were still very rare.

Another complaint accuses tenants of taking "firie peats" to Lochar Moss for lighting their tobacco pipes, and taking coals of fire (probably the same thing) to the wood of Caerlaverock at the winning of the hay, with disastrous results for the moss and danger to the woods.

Overcropping was another ground of action. From the minutes it is evident that by use and wont a tenant might only have three "furrs" broken (i.e., for crop) at any one time, but that some were in the habit of breaking a fourth furr (1761). The word farm is rarely used, but occurs in this case. Possessions is the usual term. A number of tenants occupied what might now be called a farm. It is presumed that use and wont prescribed a three-year rotation. What the rotation was is not indicated, but upon the fourth furr the offenders sowed "small corn," a crop suitable for ground in the last stage of exhaustion. Small corn, being distinguished from white corn in the fiars, was probably that which is in another place called as "brocked" or "gray-brocked" corn, a more exact description than the modern term black corn. "Brockit" denotes "mottled black and white," like the faces of some blackfaced ewes.

The word field is never used, because enclosing had not made progress beyond perhaps the "mains" or home-farm of the superior. A few instances occur, 1758, Duncow and Caerlaverock. The factor of Nithsdale was, however, endeavouring to induce neighbours to build mutual march dykes. It may be of interest to reproduce at this stage a

lease written by James Morrison, the factor who so frequently appears in the Baron Court Book.

10th July, 1759.—Tack of the farm of the Lands of Blackshaw (Caerlaverock parish) by William Maxwell of Nithsdale to Alexander Hieslop, then in Lands as presently possessed by him. The rent is £28 sterling, and the tenant is bound to carry all grindable corns—seed and horse corn only excepted—to the mill of the barony, and to pay the accustomed multures, mill dues and services, and assist in keeping the mill in repair; or—in the tenant's option—to pay the proportion of the mill-rent conform to an agreement signed by the tacksmen of the mill and the tenants of the barony, dated [], which gives them liberty of doing with their corns what they please upon payment of that sum; to build march dykes if any neighbour agrees. The tenant also obliges himself not to rumbut nor mislabour the lands and to take only three crops of outfield; to attend the Baron Courts in the Barony when cited thereto, and to obey the lawful acts and sentences of the Baillies thereof. The duration is for 21 years, with liberty to remove at every three years' end on six months' intimation.

This tack contains a word hitherto unknown, the verb *rumbut*, which also appears in an earlier tack on which this one is modelled. [Reg. Ho. Dumfries Comm. Deeds not marked Recorded.]

In all the subjects of litigation so far selected for mention the proprietor's interest may be said to be more conspicuous than that of the tenant. There were, however, a few cases which might be described as questions of Good Neighbourship or Neighbourhood, such as determination of marches, keeping cattle from straying after the usual date in early spring, allocation of working places at the mosses, and of netting places in the Water of Nith. The last of these cases it would require a Glencaple fisherman to interpret.

Most petty disputes over boundaries, or cattle straying upon crops, or at the peat-moss, were determined on the spot by burlawmen, who for their services might be recouped at the rate of two persons equivalent to one burlawman, or his price, 9d per day (14th December, 1758 H). In certain parishes there were Mossmen as well as Burlawmen (10th June, 1758 K) or as alternatives (1774 K). Being once elected at

the Baron Court of a particular barony they remained charged with the authority of the Baron Court, and any who disputed their ruling could be proceeded against at the next sitting of the court of that barony. As the intervals between courts were generally of considerable length, these officers constituted a useful jury of permanent local arbiters who regulated summarily the mutual concerns of the neighbours. Occasionally they might be ordered by the court to conduct special investigations or to execute specific decrees of the court.

The word burlawmen derives from early Saxon times. Skene, in his *Exposition of the Difficile Wordes in Regiam Majestatem* (1597), says: "Laws of Burlaw ar maid and determined be consent of neichtbors, elected and chosen be common consent, in the Courts called Byrlaw Courts. In the whilk cognition is taken of complaints betuix nichtbör and nichtbor. The quhilk men sa chosen as judges and arbitrators to the effect foresaid, are commonly called Byrlaw men. It is ane Dutch word for *baur* or *boursman* in Dutch is *rusticus*, ane husbandman. And sa *byrlaw*, or burlaw, or burlaw, *leges rusticorum*: lawes maid be husbandmen concerning nichtbourheid to be keiped amangis themselves." He also distinguishes between Birlaw and Baron Courts. [All other and sundrie things quhilk occurs in Barone courts are determined at the discretion and will of the Lord of the court.] "Except Birlaw courts the quhilkis are rewled be consent of neighbours." The first sentence is a quotation from *Regiam Majestatem* or the *Auld Lawes and Constitutiones of Scotland*, a code dating perhaps from the reign of David I. (1124-1153), the "exception" is Sir John Skene's comment. It is probable that a gift of barony entitled the superior to rule his own baron court, and that the Burlaw Court was a more democratic institution, a court of neighbours of equal standing who regulated their mutual relations in accordance with the common interest. The *New English Dictionary* quotes a document of 1257 relating to Furness Abbey in Lancashire. "Mutual trespasses of the avers [beasts] of William of Furness and the Abbot shall be mutually settled in accordance with Birelag without plea in

court." Here two considerable land-owners submitted themselves to Byrlaw, the unwritten law of neighbourhood, delivered, no doubt, in a moot of neighbours at the moot hill. The burlawmen seem to have been retained by the Baron Courts, especially for the simple matters of good neighbourhood. Wherever crofter communities actually share land or mosses in common some authority of elders is an absolute necessity to settle dates and to apportion shares. In the North of Scotland and in the Isles some such authority functioned till recent times, and perhaps still functions, but not under the name of burlawmen.

It is inconceivable, however, that the Baron Court, as we here see it in its moribund state, a mere tool of the baron, invariably giving decreet as craved by the baron, represents the baron court of early times. In the period here dealt with the tenants were tenants in the modern sense, liable to removal at the end of their tacks. On the other hand their predecessors of the 16th century and earlier were kindly tenants not liable to summary removal. The superior's consent was necessary for succession of the heirs of the kindly tenant—on payment of a casualty—but that he did receive not only heirs but also assignees is proved by the frequency with which tenants of the Nithsdale and other baronies wadset or mortgaged their diminutive possessions 'and all rycht, claim, and kindness thereto.'² No wadset would have been worth the paper it was written upon unless the creditor in whose favour the wadset was granted could reckon upon himself or his nominee being accepted by the superior as kindly tenant. For the same reason the "maills" payable cannot have been subject to arbitrary increase by the baron, for this also would diminish the value of the mortgage. The kindly tenants were therefore vassal proprietors of their rouses, tenandries, or mailings, holding of the baron as the baron held of the Crown. The procedure of succession was simple, being that still known in England as "copyhold," consisting simply of the payment of a casualty. The successor paid to the proprietor the hereziel or best aught,

² See these Trans. (3) 2.176; (3) 3.241; (3) 6.168; (3) 12.126.

and thereupon was "rentalit," i.e., enrolled in the rental or rent-roll of the barony. This mode of tenancy continued in one of the estates (Duncow) until it was sold by the Maxwells about 1800. Tenants were simply enrolled without written tacks. But in prospect of the sale and to protect the tenants they were provided with leases properly drawn out.³ The other features of kindly tenancy—security of tenure and of succession, and fixity of rent—had long disappeared. When the baron no longer depended on a body of his kin or kindly tenants to follow him to the field of war, and when with the advent of peace lands increased in value, the ancient system of kindly tenancy gradually disappeared. The last of the kindly tenants survived almost to modern times in the parishes of Newton-on-Ayr, and Crawford in Lanarkshire.⁴ The King's kindly tenants of the Four Towns (near Lochmaben) differed from others in holding directly of the Crown.

Without entering more seriously into the question of kindly tenure an extract may be quoted as illustrating the mutual dependence of the "master of the ground" and his kindly tenants in the period when the clan-system flourished in the South of Scotland.

21st July, 1551.—It is agreed that neither the Laird of Johnstone nor his heirs shall remove John Johnston of the Coitts, his father or any of his brothers from "ony of their auld natyve and kyndlie roumes" or possessions presently held by them, but shall maintain and defend them. The Laird has forgiven his rancour and shall receive them in hearty kindness and favour as becomes "the maister and chief to do to his servandis and kynnismen," while the said John and the others shall truly serve the laird with their bodies and goods as formerly. [Hist. MSS. 15.9.21, Annandale Pa.]

It is very clearly shown in an early minute that the multures payable to the mill of the barony were of three kinds—Multure, Knaveship, and Settness. The Knaveship was

³ Law Papers, *Dunwiddie v. Corrie* (1821).

⁴ See Bib. under note 1.

originally a small payment in kind made to the under-miller as a servants' perquisite. It was a sort of *pourboire*, but in Scots law obligation to pay multure was understood to imply the *additional* payment of Knaveship.⁵ In the barony of Holywood Knaveship amounted to a peck of meal for each boll of shilling.⁶ It seems to have gone into the miller's gernel (29th December, 1774), he being both miller and under-miller.

Multure was the principal payment, also made in kind, either the Eleventh or the one and Twentieth peck of grains coming to the mill; and all grain grown on the barony, except horse and seed corn, was expected to be carried to the mill of the barony. In some cases the multure, instead of being variable, because depending upon the crops, was commuted into a fixed payment of money or victual. The annual payment thus fixed was known as *Settness* (a word not found in Jamieson), the meaning being that the miller (or his baron) had *sett* the multures to the tenant (or new proprietor) as one might *sett* a farm (in tack) or a sum of money at interest.

The Baron of Nithsdale, not desiring himself to preside over his Baron Courts, granted commission of bailliary to a person who then became Baron Baillie. His commission covered all the six baronies represented in this volume—Caerlaverock, Duncow, Holywood, Lochrutton, Kirkgunzeon, and Terregles. The Baron Baillie, having presented his Commission in each of these baronies, appointed a clerk who was at first the schoolmaster in Terregles, but at later dates a writer in Dumfries. The Baillie also appointed a Procurator-Fiscal (who in the later stages was simply the factor of the estate), and last of all a Baron Officer. The last is probably the individual who in other records of Baron Courts is called the "Dempster." His duties were to serve

⁵ Green's *Encyc. of Scots Law* under *Knaveship*. The word *Multure* should be pronounced *mool'v*.

⁶ The word *shilling*, *schilling*, which occurs so frequently, denotes the edible groats freed or "shelled" of husks. When great oats were worth 1s 6d per peck (1780) corn-shilling was valued at 3s 6d. A boll contained 4 firlots; a firlot, 4 pecks; and a peck, 4 lippies. Singer, p. 416.

citations, call parties, and premonish persons amerced by the court to make payment within 15 days under threat of poinding. He, in fact, published the doom of the court, whence the name "Dempster." It is not used in this book.

The opening of a Baron Court, if fully recorded, would appear somewhat as follows: "Court lawfully affirmit (or fenced) in due time of day"; or "*curiis affirmatis*." "Suits called," "*sectis vocatis*," or "roll called." The roll seems to have been called by the "Dempster" who, if satisfied, might add "with all members needful" and sign. Or if the court so decided there would appear "absents amerced." All the tenants of the particular barony were bound to attend the court (see lease quoted above). This was a universal rule in all primitive courts, including Parliament itself, and the courts of the sheriff. The persons under obligation to attend courts were known as "suitors"—not, of course, in the modern sense. The opening minute in this book, however, never extends beyond the one or two of these entries in either the English or the Latin form.

OFFICIALS OF THE COURTS.

Here and elsewhere the various baronies are denoted by initials:

John Maxwell wr. in Drumfries: Baillie, 13th Aug., 1757, to 8th Dec., 1772; "of Corswadda," 8th Dec., 1763.

He appoints

James Gordon schmr. at Terregles, Clerk;

Homer Harbertson in Baronhill, Procurator-Fiscal;

Lideous Reid in Bowhouse of Terregles, Officer, to the several jurisdictions, 13th Aug., 1757.

George Maxwell younger of Carruchan, Clerk, H. 27th Dec., 1771;

George Mackenzie wr. in Dumfries, Baillie, H. 8th Sept., 1774 (under comm^d dated 12th Jany., 1774);

John Crockat, Officer,

Simon M'Kenzie, bro. of the baillie, Clerk, H. 27th Dec., 1771; K. 28th Dec., 1774;

John M'Morrine wr. in Dumfries, Baillie, H. 14th Mch., 1783 (under comm^d dated 28th Dec., 1781);

James Twaddell wr. in Dumfries, Clerk, H. 14th Mch., 1783;
C. 5th June, 1784;

George Maxwell of Carruchan, Proc. Fisc., C. 5th June,
1784;

John M'Morrine, Baron Baillie of the Estate (under commⁿ
dated 28th Dec., 1781), appoints, 27th Dec., 1787,

Robert Thomson late in Terreglestoun now in Dumfries,
Officer of the various baronies; and

Samuel Clark wr. in Dumfries, Clerk, K.; "commissary
clerk of Dumfries," Clerk, "Drumsleet and Lincluden
Baronies," 29th May, 1790.

John Armstrong, wr. in Dumfries, Clerk, H. 9th Aug., 1789.

Alexander Moffat, wr., Dumfries, Clerk, Duncow, 8th
Mch., 1792.

The extracts which follow do not exhaust all the information obtainable from the manuscript. Mere lists of tenants, for instance, have as a rule been omitted. As the extracts proceed the language and spelling of the manuscript are here gradually modernised. Formulae and details of procedure when once exemplified are as a rule not repeated.

BARRON COURTS OF THE ESTATE OF NITHSDALE

Holden by John Maxwell, Writer in Dumfries, Baillie.

At Terregles, 13th August, 1757.—I, John Maxwell, writer in Drumfries, Baillie of the Hon^{ble} William Maxwell of Nithsdale, specially constituted by Commission dated

Do hereby empower James Gordon, Schoolmaster at Terregles, to be Clerk, and Homer Harbertson in Baronhill to be Procurator Fiscall of Court, and Lideous Reid in Bowhouse of Terregles to be officer in the several jurisdictions belonging to the said William Maxwell, and to continue as such untill they either be discharged or others appointed in their room and place. And they, having been personally present, accepted and gave their Oaths *de fidei Administratione Officii*.

Same Date.—Unto the Baillie of the Barrony of Hollywood the Petition of Christopher Armstrong, Tenant of the Mills of Clouden, being the Mills of the Barrony of Holly-

wood, Sheweth That by tack dated 21st March, 1754, the proprietor [Maxwell] sett to me the said Mills with the hail Multures, Sequels, and Pertinents for 11 years after Lammas then next; That the Lands aftermentioned lying within the said Barrony are astricted and thirled to the said Mills and pay the Eleventh peck of Multure and a peck of meal for each boll of Shilling of Knaveship.

Others pay the One and Twentieth peck of Multure besides the Knaveship.

Others are lyable [only] in the Knaveship, viz., a peck of meal for each boll of shilling.

Others have been in use to pay yearly the sums of money and quantities of victual aftermentioned in name of Settnesses in lieu of the multures, viz. :

Steelstown, belonging to Lady Steelstown, possessed by William Sturgeon, 10 pecks of Shilling and 5 pecks of Bear.

Fourmerkland, bel. Mr Andrew Baveridge; po. David and James Walkers, £4 yearly.⁷

Part of M'Whanrick, bel. William Irvine of Gribton, po. James Sheirswood, 2 merks.

Portrack, bel. John Maxwell, po. James Caellie and William Dunlop, 2 m. and Knaveship [as above].

Standalane, part of Portrack, bel. Hugh Maxwell of Dalswinton, 1 m.

Cowhill, bel. Dougal Maxwell, 3 bolls of small corn yearly.

Mid Killylung, bel. Anna Maxwell and Richard Lauder, her son, po. Joseph Shankland, 1½ boll small corn.

Upper Killylung, bel. Maxwell of Cowhill, 11 peck shilling and 8 peck bear.

Guillyhill and Martintown, bel. John Young of Guillyhill, po. Thomas Johnston, Thomas Hairstanes, and Samuel Howat, 20 p. shilling and 14 p. bear.

Dardryne, bel. to do., 2 p. shilling and 2 p. bear.

Carse, bel. Alex. Johnston of Carnsalloch, po. John Burgess and Hugh Walker, 15 p. victual—two part bear and the third part shilling.

⁷ All the sums are in Scots money.

The miller complains that the possessors have abstracted their corns, bear, rye, pease, and other grain growing on the said lands for crops, 1755, 6; craves that they be summoned to give their oaths of verity regarding abstractions, and be decerned to bring their hail grindable corns to the said mills and pay the multures.

The Baillie grants warrand to Lideous Reid, Stewart Officer and Officer of the Barrony of Hollywood, and the execution of summons is signed by him and witnessed by William Morrine in Morrintown and Thomas Hiddleston, miller at Over Mill of Clouden.

23rd August, 1757.—The Barron Court of Hollywood, holdin at Clouden Mills, by John Maxwell, Baillie.

The hail tenants personally present.

Court lawfully fenced.

[Same case] The Baillie, before further procedure, appointed the following to strick the Fears for Crops, 1755 and 6:

John Burgess and Hugh Walker, both in Holm of Hollywood, chosen on the part of Armstrong, the pursuer; John Cowan at Hollywood Kirk and William Dunbar in Portrack, chosen by the Heretors and Tenants lyable.

They having given oaths *de fidei* reported.

Pursuer (Armstrong) condescends upon the amount of abstractions alleged by him against

John Cowan at Holywood kirk, 10 p. of shilling and rye.

James Hairstanes in M'Whanrick.

David Crocket in Slaethorncroft.

Robert M'Naught in Foord.

James Crosbie in Stepfoord, each 10 p. shilling; and

Edward Elton at Holywood kirk.

Thomas Morrine, late in Hollenbush, now in Killylung, each 5 p. shilling.

All these being absent, decret is given against them.

15th December, 1757.—Same case. Depositions.

James Clark, tenant of half of Nether Killilung, acknowledges liability for the Eleventh Peck and Knaveship, but alleges that at commencement of his tack there was an

agreement with the Earl of Nithsdale that Robert Crocket in Netherholm, James Brown and William Clark, writers in Drumfries, and John Crocket, then miller, should fix a sum of money to be paid to the miller in lieu of the above multure. This he offers to prove by witnesses, and the Bailie grants diligence to summon these for Thursday, 5th January.

3rd January, 1758.—Clark's witnesses examined.

James Brown, writer in Drumfries, 66, married, deponed that some years before 1743 he was factor on the estate of Nithsdale, and about eighteen months before he gave up said factory he was present at Clouden Mills at a Baron Multure Court kept for the Barony of Holywood, where were also present the Earle of Nithsdale, William Denholm, and James Clark, merchants in Drumfries, at which Court deponent acted as clerk; that at that time John Crocket, the then Multurur, complained of Abstractions by the inhabitants of Holywood; that the defender and his partner alleged that the multure charged against them was very high, and that rather than pay they would turn their farm wholly into grass; that the Earl answered that as he had set the mills to John Crocket they behoofed⁸ to transact and agree with him, and whatever agreement was made should stand as a Rule during their tack; and that after long debate defender agreed to pay yearly £16 sc. in name of multure; that as there were no judicial minutes of the procedure then taken the deponent has none to produce.

John Crocket in Bilbow, 40, married, concurred, and further deponed that the Earl himself took deponent aside and treated him to agree with defender and his partner, and said it would be worse for him, the deponent and himself, if they turned their farm into grass.

Robert Crocket in Netherholm, 60, married, deponed that at the desire of the Earl he prevailed on John Crocket, the preceding witness, to transact the multure then in dispute.

The Baillie decerns that the tenants of Nether Killilung pay £16 yearly in name of Setness and in lieu of multure, and

⁸ Pron. *bood*, or rather *buid*.

that during the 19 years after Whitsunday, 1757, being the years of endurance of Clerk and Denholm's tack, and thereafter to carry all their grindable corns and other grain to the mills of Clouden and there pay the eleventh peck of multure with "Knavship" and other services.

8th June, 1758.—Barron Court of Duncow, holden at Duncow, by John Maxwell, Baillie.

Court lawfully fenced.

James Morison, factor on the Estate of Nithsdale, represented that there were no Burlawmen constituted in the Barrony for settling any disputes that may happen to arise among the tenents, and required the Baillie might appoint proper persons of best judgement.

The Baillie, considering the request reasonable, nominates, constitutes, and appoints William Robson, Duncow, John Corrie there, James Cowan in Quarrelwood, and James Robson in Newlands, to be Burlawmen of said barrony, who gave their oaths *de fidei* and sign the minute.

William Robson, tenent of the mill of Duncow, represented that the whole tenents of the barrony of Duncow and Quarrelwood, comprehending Castlehill, Bellholm, Riddingwood, and Newlands, are lyable to keep the mill in thatch, and the Damm and Watergangs in sufficient order yearly, but that the same was not regularly done, whereby he sustained a great deal damages.

The Baillie decerns in the terms of the crave, "and that the tenants shall assist in bringing home millstones," under penalty of £10 sc. each offender, by and attour⁹ performance.

The tenents of Duncow, viz., John Corrie and William Robson, complained that the meadow of Castlehill, lying among the lands of Duncow, whereof the tenents of Duncow have been in the immemorial and uninterrupted possession of eating the foggage after the hay was cut yearly, but that of late the tenents of Castlehill have inclosed the meadow with a dyke, whereby the tenents of Duncow will be deprived of a right which they have possessed for forty years and upwards.

⁹ Over and above.

The Baillie grants warrand to Farquhar M'Gillivray, Barron Officer, for serving summons upon David Blunt and Samuel Blunt, tenents of Castlehill, and grants diligence against witnesses, and warrand to cite the proprietor if living within the barony.¹⁰

James Morrison represents that in a tack granted to James Robson in Newlands the marches given up by said James were wrongly inserted in the tack, and desired that the Baillie, with the Burlawmen and tenants of Duncow and Newlands, perambulate the marches between these lands. The Baillie accordingly went to the ground with James Robson in Newlands, William Robson in Duncow, John Corrie there, James Cowan in Quarrelwood, William Stewart in Duncow, John Robson there, and John Black at Terregles, and settled the marches near Duncow to run from the mill-damm in a straight line on the south-east side of the mill-ledd conform to pitts digged in presence of the persons by Francis Nicolson, and ordains a stone dyke to be built thereupon. James Robson binds himself in £20 scots to observe the new march, and the Baillie ordanis the tenants to keep good neighbourhood under penalty of £10 sc.

9th June, 1758.—Barron Court of Caerlaverock, holden at Bankend.

At the desire of James Morrison, factor, burlawmen are appointed, viz., James Wilkin in Kilblain, John Rauline in Glencaple, Thos. Bell in Meikle Highmains, Thomas Jamieson in Bankend, John Edgar, James Rae, and James Dickson in Blaikshaw, who gave oaths, etc.

James Morrison, factor, represented that there was a dispute betwixt the tenants of Glencaple and Little Highmains anent pasturing on the muir and keeping up a march dyke betwixt these two grounds, and craves that the Baillie would settle the dispute. By their tacks these tenants are bound to possess the muir as formerly until a dispute between the Earl and Mr Ferguson of Townhead shall be settled.

The Baillie ordains that the Burlawmen examine the

¹⁰ The proprietor, Brown of Milnhead, did not, in fact, reside within the barony of Duncow.

dyke, employ workmen to repair it, and apportion the expences between the tenants of the two lands.

The Factor complained that sundry persons of the Barony lyable in rent did not attend the collection-day. The hail tenants, all personally present, are decerned to attend upon collection-days, as the factor inclines, under penalty of £2 sc. in default of sufficient excuse, "to be made by some token from the tenent at the collection house by the barron officer."

The Factor complained that sundry inconveniences arose to his constituents from disrepair of the tenants' houses. Burlawmen are ordained to inspect "the whole tenents" houses, and report betwixt and Lammas next the expences necessary in each case.

Thos. Bell, tenant in Meikle Highmains, for himself and partners, and John Gowan and John Jamieson, tenants of Little Highmains, represented that they are in dispute as to a Lonning¹¹ betwixt these two grounds, and craved a proof. Granted.

The factor craves decret against James Jameson in Greenmill for £9 15s 3 5/12d stg. arrears of rent. His half-year's rent is £1 7s 6d. The Baillie ordains the Barron officer to call the said James Jameson at the Barr, who being called several times did not compear. Warrant granted to the Barron officer to premonish James to pay within 15 days under pain of poynding, etc.

10th June, 1758.—Barron Court of Kirkgunzeon holden at Kirkhouse.

Burlawmen appointed: William Paterson in Blairshinnoch, James Biggar in Cowan, John Pain in Bargrugg, and Wm. Anderson in Glaisters.

The Baillie thereafter constituted and appointed James Campbell in Barclosh, Alexander Herries in Claubelly, James Coltart in Allyfoord, and Wm. Stitt in Ingleston to be mossmen for settling disputes arising at the mosses, with power

¹¹ A *loaning* is properly a service road or path between the lands of different tenants. It might, however, be merely a boundary dyke (of earth).

to apply to the Burlawmen for assistance. William Paterson in Blairshinnoch is to oversee the whole, as he has been the old mossman and knows the practice best.

Tenants ordained to attend collection days at the Forge of Kirkgunzeon upon intimation to be made by the Baron officer at least three days before the date to be fixed by the factor. Under penalty [as 9th June, 1758].

Burlawmen to cause tenants to put their houses in repair betwixt and Martinmas.

Decreet against John Thomson in Porterbelly for arrears of rent, according to accompt made by Mr M'Cartny, the preceding factor. The half-year's rent is £3 stg. besides casualties.

12th May, 1758.—Barron Court of Lochrutton holden at Milltown of Orr.

The factor represented that the Milltown of Orr was the ordinary place of meeting with the tenants of Lochrutton and Kirkpatrick Durham. Tenants ordained to attend there when cited, and to obey the acts and sentences of the Baillie of the Estate of Nithsdale. There being no Burlawmen, the following are appointed: John Sloan in Bogrie, John Hislop in Nether Barfill, William Smith in Craigley, Andrew Milligan in Milltown of Orr, and Wm. Clark in Lawston.

Order that tenants attend collection days [as above].

Decreet for arrears against Joseph Clark in Bettyknows, possessor of Markland Park, John Paterson in Bowrick, Rodger Soffly in Auchengibbert, and John Knox in Town of Orr.

John Frazer and Andrew M'Minn, tacksmen of the Mill of Milltown, complain that the haill tenants of Lochrutton and Orr have failed to bring their haill grindable corn to the mill and there pay the accustomed multures, milldues, and services used and wont, viz., one peck of meal for each boll of shilling, to furnish thatch to the mill, and keep the dams and watergangs in sufficient repair, and that sundry of the tenants have sold great quantitys of corn by¹² the mill without paying multure. Against James Kirkpatrick in

¹² I.e., *past*.

Markland, who during three years has so abstracted 36 pecks of shilling, decreet is given for 2 pecks of meal. The Baillie orders all tenants to carry their grindable corns to the mill, seed and horse corn only excepted, pay multures, and render services [as craved].

17th July, 1758.—Barron Court of Terregles holden at Bowhouse.

The Baillie constitutes and appoints as Burlawmen, Homer Harberson in Barnhill, Theodore Edgar in Bowhouse, James Card [signs Caird] in Beltonhill, and James Tait in Hole.

The factor complains that William Wright in Cullochian casts, on a moss in his possession, a great many pitts for marl and fails to fill the same up with rubbish, and that he ought to clean the drain not only through the hard ground but also through the moss. Decreet in £3 sc. for "damnages for bygones," and for performance as craved.

William Newall of Castlehill, tacksman of the Glen Mill, complained that tenants did not regularly pay their proportions of thatch to the mill by which the same was in great hazard of going into ruin. The Baillie ordained that the tenants bring the thatch to the mill this year and every two years thereafter, upon eight days' warning by the millar to each tenant, and that the millar may stop and detain each tenant's grain in the mill till the thatch (or a fine) is paid, and that the millar shall keep the mill wind and water tight.

The factor complained that tenants carried dung off their old possessions at their removal to other mailings, or sold the dung off their ground. The Baillie enacts and statutes accordingly.

14th December, 1758.—Baron Court of Hallywood holden at Charterhall.

The Baillie appoints the following persons to strike the Fiars for crop 1757: James Crosbie in Stepfoord, and Thomas M'Coon in Moss-side (chosen on the part of feuars and

tenants); and John Burgess in Holm, and James Wightman in Bearcroft (chosen by the millar).

Christopher Armstrong, miller, alleges abstractions against the following tenants and possessors liable in thirlage to the mills of Cluden :

James Crosbie in Stepfoord; 31 md.

Gilbert and William Tods for part of Little M'Whanrick.

James Sheiswood in M'Whanrick.

John Ker in Glengower.

Richard Maxwell of Killylung.

John Cowan for Graystoneflatt and Old Wood,

John Cowan for Stewarton.

John Houp in Newtownfoot.

Thos. M'Coon in Mosside.

Robt. M'Naught in Foord and Dardryne.

Sibella Douglas.

The amounts — of corn, rye, and bear — range up to 300 pecks. In the depositions which follow there occurs the "fourth-part" as a measure of meal. Mention is also made of "gray brocked corn" sold, and "brocked corn" bought for seed, by James Hairstanes, tenant of Little M'Whanrick, and 3 pecks of rye bought from Auchengeith.¹³

Appointment of Burlawmen.—As Hollywood is a large and wide parish, it is thought reasonable that two proper persons should be settled in the foot of the parish, two in the middle, and two in the head. The Baillie therefore appoints Edward Elton at Hollywood Kirk, John Burgess in Holm, Christopher Armstrong, tenant of Cluden Mills, David Crocket in Slaethorncroft, James Crosbie in Stepfoord, and Adam Stott in Underwood; and ordains that in case any of the Burlawmen be called in seed-time or harvest, the persons calling them shall indemnify the Burlawmen of their expenses for every day they are employed in said office in said seasons by either paying each of them ninepence for each day, or furnishing two persons in each of their places either to the harvest rigg or in seed time.

¹³ Auchengeith, the highest farm in Kirkmahoe, is not now cultivated.

4th April, 1760.—Baron Court of Hollywood holden at Charterhall by John Maxwell, Baillie. James Gordon, clerk; Homer Harberson, pro^r fiscal; Farqr M'Gillivray, off^r.

Court lawfully fenced.

At the desire of the factor the tenants of Hollywood give statutory declarations as to their liability to the mills of Cluden for multure and knaveship [or settness in a few cases]. The deponents generally sign with their names or initials.

Edward Elton at Hollywood Kirk for lands of Kilcroft and part of Muircroft belonging to himself in property.

Adam Stott in half of Underwood, bel. Steelston.

Robert Findlay in Crossleys for part of Crossleys, bel. Robt. Ferguson of Isle.

James Sheuswood in Meikle M'Whanrick for a Cott Croft in Meikle M'Whanrick.

Thomas Sturgeon for the other half of Underwood depones as his nighbour Adam Stott.

Thomas Hunter in Carlincroft for Carlincroft, part of Blackcroft, Birkhall, and the half of Townhead, bel. to Dougal Maxwell of Cowhill.

John Ker in Burnhead of Dunscore for a piece of ground call'd the Catlochan, bel. to Capt. Gordon.

Thos. Morrine in Mid Killylung.

James Wightman in Bearcroft and Foord, bel. Mr Ferguson of Isle, and another place call'd Foord, bel. Guillyhill.

John Morrine in Townhead of Glengaber, bel. John Martin. He declares also for Thomas Morrine's share of Glengaber.

Hugh Walker and John Burgess in Holm, bel. to Carnsalloch, for these lands, and for Over Broomrig, bel. Guillyhill.

John Cowan in Abbey for Stewarton and Napierton, bel. Guillyhill, and for Lochfoot, Graystoneflatt, and Old Wood, bel. Cowhill.

Thomas Morrine, now in Killylung, for the old pendicle

of Hollenbush within the Old Dyke [at] the low end of the Town.

Marion Cowan, servant to Mr Maxwell, depones for the lands of Cowhill and Upper Killylung.

Robert Goldie for St. Michael's Croft and Killness, bel. Lady Steelston.

Robert Stott of Clauchan for Clauchan, bel. to himself.

James Walker in Fourmerkland, whose brother, David Walker, is conjunct with him in the tack.

James Crosbie in Stepfoord.

James Welsh in Muirheadston, bel. to Mr Brown of Nunland.

William Stott in Causewayfoot, whose father possessed these lands before James Welsh.

William Morrine in Morrinton, bel. one third to himself and two thirds to the tutors of William Morrine.

William Stott in Causewayfoot of Barfreggan, bel. $\frac{1}{3}$ to himself.

Robert Stott in Barfreggan for the $\frac{2}{3}$ of Causewayfoot, *alias* Barfreggan, bel. himself.

Jacob Bell and Robert Biggar in Steelston, bel. Lady Lochartur.

Thomas M'Coon in Mosside, bel. to Maxwell of Cowhill.

William Walker in Maxwellton, bel. Mr Irvine of Gribton.

Robert M'Naught and John M'Feggan in Foord for the lands of Foord and Dardryne, bel. Mr Young of Guillyhill.

William Henderson and James Fisher in Myreside.

Thomas Johnston in Guillyhill, with Thomas Hairstanes and Samuel Howat, possess the lands of Guillyhill and Martinton. He likewise possesses Dallawoodie and Bogside, bel. Mr Young.

William Dunbar and James Kaillie [signs Kellie]¹⁴ in Portrack.

¹⁴ The surname of Burns's predecessor in Ellisland. In his case also there are alternative forms. The name is probably derived from the place Cally, or Caly, in Girthon.

Edward Walker in Little M'Whanrick, bel. $\frac{1}{2}$ to Isle Ferguson and $\frac{1}{2}$ to Gribton.

David Crocket in Slaethorncroft for Slaethorncroft and part of Blackcroft, and all Marchthorn, bel. Mr Maxwell of Cowhill.

John Wightman in Glengaber for his portion of Glengaber.

James Hairstanes in Newtownfoot and Waulkmillcroft, bel. Gribton.

William Howat in Crossleys for $\frac{1}{3}$ of Crossleys, bel. to himself.

James Edgar in Crossleys for $\frac{1}{4}$ of Crossleys, bel. Robt. Stott of Clauchan.

For the lands of Looberry, bel. John Morrine of Sweyr, the miller makes declaration.

Jean Hiddleston in Paddockhole for $\frac{1}{2}$ of the lands of Paddockhole. She is the only person who declares she cannot write.

John Crosbie, smith at Charterhall, for a small pendicle called Charterhall, bel. Lady Steelston.

20th December, 1760.—Baron Court of Holywood holden at Charterhall by John Maxwell, Baillie; James Gordon, clerk; Farq^r M'Gillivray, officer.

The factor represented that the Mills of Cluden having fallen in his hands from Cand^s to Lammas last, by the bankruptcy of Christopher Armstrong, the former tenant, he had put in a servant to uplift the multures.

The factor submits a list of abstractions alleged by him to have been made by tenants. The list agrees with the list of deponents already given, but contains a few additional names. The amounts alleged vary from 100 pecks of corn to 7 forpets¹⁵ of bear.

Fiars struck by John Burgess and Hugh Walker in

¹⁵ On this page (53) the forms fourth-part, fourt-part, and forpit all appear. A calculation on the margin shows the measure to be a fourth part of a peck, what in Singer is called a *lippie*. It is curious that Singer's form does not occur in this book.

Holm, chosen by the pursuer (the factor), and David Walker in Fourmerkland and James Crosbie in Stepfoord.

The factor craved that the Baillie would take the oaths of tenants on their abstractions, and they being called by the officer at the Bar compeared. A number deny abstractions; others admit amounts, which they state. A few having refused to depone are decerned in terms of the lybell. "John M'Feggan having been Impertinent in the Court is Decern'd in Ten Groats [3s 4d], payable to the Proc^r Fiscall, and the officer accordingly premonished him at the Barr." Some, though often called at the Bar by the officer, failed to compear, and were held confessed.

The Baillie decerns and declares accordingly, and ordains extracts.

26th January, 1761.—Baron Court of Terregles holden at Bowhouse.

The factor complains against William Wright, tenant of the farm of Culloch, anent his overplowing of the said farm and taking in more Breaks than [three] the usual and known Custom of the Parish, and particularly of that farm. Defender appeared with his procurator, William Clark, writer in Dumfries, who before stating his defence insists that the whole members of court, viz., Baillie, Clerk, and officer, produce a certificate of their being duly qualified to his present Majesty King George the third as the Law requires; and besides the person who acts as officer is a Roman Catholick so cannot exerce or injoy any office whatever, and it's Instantly craved the officer may declare whether he is Roman Catholick or not.

The factor answered that he knew no law that obliged no member of the court to be qualified but the Baron Baillie, who was qualified; and as to the officer's declaring whether he was a Roman Catholick, did not think himself obliged to answer that question in this court. The Baillie repels the objections, and as to his own being qualified that would appear by Justice of Peace Court Books.

The defender further pleads that the complaint is irrelevant, being at the instance of the factor without concurrence

of the Earl of Nithsdale; and, secondly, that he was only summoned on Saturday last¹⁶ about 8 o'clock in the evening without witnesses being present; thirdly, that in the tack between the Earl and his tacksmen Chas. Mercer, mathematician in Dumfries, and Joseph Johnstone, surgeon there (to both of whom defender succeeded as assignee), there was no restriction on the tenant's plowing provided he do not take more crops than four from each break without laying the same out [in grass]; and denies that he ever plowed more than four furs in any one Break; and the ground that he now pretends to plow having lyen out so long that the same is becoming fitt¹⁷ for pasture being quite fogged.

The factor replied that the factory granted by the Earl gave him power to call tenants before his Baron Court; that 24 hours was sufficient warning; that even though not expressly restricted by the tack, the tenant cannot go beyond the common custom of the place, and *separatim* by the tack he is bound to obey the acts and sentences of the Baron Baillies.

The Baillie repels the objections, grants a probation, and prohibits defender from plowing any more of the break meantime.

13th April, 1761.—Baron Court of Kirkgunzeon holden at Kirkhouse.

The factor represented that the burlawmen constitute in this barony at last court [10th June, 1758] 'was' anxious to be changed. New burlawmen appointed: William Simpson in Tarkirra, William Wightman in Breckonside, William Thomson in Branetrigg, Samuel Campbell in Barclosh; and James Biggar in Cowan continues.

The factor complains that certain tenants have plowed the fourth furr, viz.: John Ferguson in Drumjoan, Wm. Muirhead and John M'Cand in Congeith, James Smith in Cowans, Robt. and Wm. Herries in Conniven, Robt. Wright

¹⁶ The court-day being Monday in this case.

¹⁷ The sense would seem to require the word *unfit* here. The successive crops were called the *ley-breck*, *aval*, and *third-furr-breck*.—*Dfs. Test*, 8th May, 1754, Gavin Brown of Bishopton.

in Corra, Wm. Stitt in Ingleston, Jas. Copland in Porterbelly, Wm. Thomson in Brandrigg, John and John Thomsons in Killyminzan, James Thomson, Porterbelly.

Robert Wright in Corra acknowledged he had plowed some fourth furr, but cannot condescend on the quantity, only he sowed above two loads of small corn. Five make such admissions, and are fined £10 sc., to be paid to the factor.

The factor complains of tenants cutting timber in the parish, viz., ash, oak, alder, birch, etc., and libels Jas. Campbell in Barclosh, James and Alex^r Herries in Claubelly, John Pain in Bargrugg, Widow Newal [Janet Stitt] in Culkeist, William Thomson in Quahead, Wm. Simson in Tarkirra, Wm. Anderson, and Wm. Wightman in Glaisters, Wm. and Robt. Herries in Conniven, Wm. Stitt in Ingleston, Robt. Clark in Yonder Cowans, Wm. Thomson in Brandrigg, Robt. Watson in Cairton, besides those next mentioned as deponing.

Samuel Campbell in Barclosh acknowledged that he cut birch and allar, etc., but refused to depone upon the quantity and that sundry of his neighbours cut in the wood of Barclosh, but would not tell who they were. Therefore the Baillie holds him as confessed on the quantity lybelled, and fines him in £12 sc.

Jannet Stitt [Widow Newall] acknowledged that her son, James Newal, had cut about two score of harrow teeth of hazel, and sundry wands besides. The Baillie fines her in five groats. "Past from."

William Stitt in Ingleston had cut a large ash tree, which he put into his houses, and cut another ash for a plough beam, without authority from Lord Nithsdale. Amerced in 20 s. stg.

Robert Smith in Culdrain cut two carriages¹⁸ of hazels and a piece of birch for sledgefett.¹⁹

William Simpson in Tarkirra cut an ash stick in his own possession for supporting one of his houses which would rive to be a pair of rafts²⁰ or better, and cut as many hazels in Armanoch wood as was rungs for a heck.

¹⁸ Car-loads.

¹⁹ Sledge-feet (?), runners.

²⁰ Split to make a pair of rafters,

James Smith in Cowans cut no timber, but what was put in my lord's own houses.

Alexander Herries in Claubelly cut a piece of birch for a pan²¹ to a house and some other pieces for staiks. All the persons who inculpate themselves or refuse to depone are fined.

The factor complains that sundry tenants do not regard the Mossmen's determination, and that on 2nd June last John M'Cand and Wm. Muirhead refused to let the Mossmen's verdict in regard to the moss belonging to the Cowans take place; and craves they may be fined for contumacy and ordained to obtemper the Mossmen's decree, and likewise the Burlawmen's decree for "streighting" the marches betwixt Congeith and Cowans. The Baillie fines these, and also the tenants on the other [Congeith?] side, viz., James Smith, John Copland, and James Kirkpatrick, each in 40s. sc.

1st February, 1762.—Baron Court of Holywood, holden at Charterhall.

John and James Mortons tacksmen of the mills of Cluden complain of abstractions for the crop of 1760.

Fiars struck by Hugh Walker and John Burgess in Holm (for pursuer) and James Wightman in Bearcroft and James Crosbie in Stepfoord (for the parish).

John Wightman younger in Glengaber depones to an abstraction of seven forpets of wheat;

Thos. Hunter in Carlingcroft refused to depone, and therefore is decerned;

James Henderson in Nether Killylung, compearing by James Clark, merchant in Dumfries, principal tacksman, alledged that he still possessed upon their old tack and could not be liable for Multure. To which John Morton answered that the tack was reduced by the Lords of Session, and of consequence the agreement for £16 sc. of settness fell, and that the lands were now liable for the thirlage.

John Kirk in Glengaber Townfoot and Wm. Henderson not compearing were held confessed.

²¹ In the roof of a house a *pan* is still understood as a horizontal timber which lies upon and stretches between the couples (rafters).

23rd August, 1762.—Baron Court of Kirkgunzeon held at Kirkhouse.

Arrears of rent [incomplete minutes].

8th December, 1763.—Baron Court of Holywood, holden at Charterhall, by John Maxwell of Carswaddo, Baillie.

James Morton, tacksman of the mills of Cluden, complains of abstractions for crops 1761 and 1762. The depositions, mostly negative, contain little that is novel. Persons are appointed to strike the Fiars for 1761, 2, but the report is left blank.

18th January, 1765.—Baron Court of Terregles holden by John Maxwell of Carswaddo, Baillie.

John Morison, tacksman of the Glenmill or mill of the barony of Terregles, complains of abstractions, against Homer Harberson [Herbertson] in Barnhill for the lands of Barnhill and the five crofts called Hardthorn. It appears that the latter had paid to the preceding miller 22 dishfuls of meal yearly. Since the entry of the present miller, 13th October, 1760, he admits abstractions to the extent of 300 pecks of corn and other grains from the half of Terregles-town, which he also possesses. The determination of the amount of multure is referred to James Glover in Cleuchbrae and John Corrie in Burnside as arbiters, who say that "for every 13 pecks of the 300, except 12 pecks allowed for Sottings,"²² the defender shall pay pursuer a dishful of meal. The Baillie accordingly decerns for 3 pecks 4 dishfuls.²³

19th January, 1765.—Baron Court of Holywood, etc.

Complaint of abstractions for 1763. The fiars are struck by Hugh Walker and John Burgess in Holm (for pursuer) and Thomas Morrine in Looberry and William Stott of Clauchan (for the parish).

²² The word *Sottings* is written very clearly, but is not understood.

²³ A calculation from these figures leads to the conclusion that a *dishful* denotes the *sixth* part of a peck; but see later under K., 29th Dec., 1774, where it is stated to be *an eighth*,

The depositions of Robert Stott of Barfreggan and John Cowan in Abbey (both negative) are followed by a blank of three pages.

15th August, 1765.—Baron Court of Carlaverock holden at Greenmill.

The factor complains that "sundry malicious persons had this year set fire to Locharmoss by taking frie peats thereto for lighting their tobacco pipes by which but for great care and activity the estate would have suffered great and irreparable loss; and also that several people were in use and custom to take coals of fire to the wood of Carlaverock at several improper times, particularly that of winning the hay whereby the whole wood was in danger." The Baillie grants warrant against offenders, and an order which is to be read publickly at the parish church door upon the Lord's day after Divine service, to the effect nobody may pretend ignorance. [Blank pp. 84-87.]

2nd February, 1769.—Baron Court of Holywood holden at Charterhall.

Abstractions for years 1765, 6, 7. The proceedings are remarkable for the number of tenants (8) who do not compare and are condemned in absence.

William Bell in M'Whanrick admits that he carried 6 pecks of rye by²⁴ the miln because the last rye he carried to the miln was spoil'd by reason of the miln's not being in order, but that notwithstanding the meal was used in his family and that he eat thereof himself and found no bad consequences therefrom. Out of some 18 deponents one man and one woman stated that they cannot write. A few others, however, omit to sign the minute. [pp. 93, 94 blank.]

17th February, 1769.—Baron Court of Kirkguneon. Held at Kirkhouse.

John Thomson, millar to the miln of Kirkguneon, represents that the tenants thirled to the miln had been deficient

²⁴ See note 12.

in repairing the miln, dams, and watergangs, and did not pay in their proper quantity of thatch for keeping the said miln watertight, whereby complainer is not in power to serve the said thirle properly, or preserve the stuff in the miln from damage. The complainer is ordered to give in a condescendence.

The factor complained that several of the tenants, though bound by their tacks to lead peats and perform other services to the family of Terregles, had refused or delayed to do so though legally warn'd by the Baron Officer. The Baillie ordains the persons complain'd on to be called to the Bar.

Wm. Anderson and Wm. Wightman in Glaisters²⁵ declared that they had not been able to lead their quantity [of peats] but were satisfy'd to make it up next year. James Newall in Culkiest declares similarly; John Wightman in Congeith is absent. Each is fined in 3s 4d.

The factor complains of tenants not attending the collections, and ten tenants named are fined 3s 4d for contumacy in not attending the court. [p. 98 blank.]

10th April, 1769.—Barron Court of Kirkgunneon held at Kirkhouse.

Action by the miller is resumed. As regards abstractions few of the tenants admit any, except some seed-corn, and refuse to depone as to the amounts. Most admit absence from working at the miln, damms, and watergangs for "two days," or "two, or three years."

James Murchie in Barclosh acknowledges absence for these four years, and submits himself in will of the complainer if he charges no more than 2s stg. for the said four days.

The Baillie ordains the miller and tenants to produce their tacks in court; also, as it is alleged that the miln is not in a sufficient condition for grinding, allows the tenants an inspection thereof, for report at next court day. He likewise decerns each plough within the barony to pay the multerer 6d stg. (each half, and quarter plough, 3d and 1½d) with

²⁵ Father of Dr Wightman, minister of Kirkmahoe.

which the miller is to put the mill, etc., in fencible condition, and so in all time coming. [pp. 104-106 blank.]

12th June, 1769. [Petition].—Unto the Bailly of the Barrony of Carlaverock the Petition of Alexr. Hyslop in Howmains and John Rawline and the other tenants in Glencaple Humbly Sheweth,—That we as tenants of these farms have been in the uninterrupted possession past memory of man of killing fish in the Water of Nith opposite to our possessions and have always been in use to have the privilege of the first out fall of Draughts and the foremost band of nets and²⁶ the flowing; and true it is that we have been stopt by the other tenants in the parish from using our right and privilege. These two petitioners, with Thomas Dun and William Paterson, are the signatories.

12th June, 1769.—Baron Court of Carlaverock holden at Greenmill by John Maxwell of Carswaddo, Baillie. Court lawfully fenced and all members present with Mr James Morison, factor on the Estate of Nithsdale.

The following are extracts from some of the depositions :
William Rig in Mabie, 63, has lived in the neighbourhood of Kirkconnel and Glencaple all his days; has seen the tenants of Carlaverock often fishing in the water of Nith but never (except the tenants of Glencaple and Howmains) above, off and on, the Round Scar in the Kirkconnel side of the water in the flowing, and that this Round Scar is opposite to the Long Craig on the Nithsdale side of the water.

Joseph Allen in Nethertown of Carswaddo, 60, depones that the tenants in the underpart of Carlaverock seldom or never came above the Round Scar opposite to Long hast (*sic*) Bog to fish in the flowing, and that the tenants of Glencaple and Howmains were never interrupted in fishing in the upperside of these meiths.²⁷

John Rig in Kirkconnel, 58, depones that he never saw the under part of the parish go above the Round Scar on the

²⁶ *In* the flowing is perhaps meant.

²⁷ *Meiths—landmarks.*

Kirkconnel side and the Lime-kiln on the Carlaverock side; and what he understands by the Long Balk is the Band²⁸ of fishers from the under part of the parish of Carlaverock.

John Allen in Newabbey, 76, who has fished in the Nith since he was 16 concurs.

26th June, 1769.—Green Miln. [Same case.]

John Dickson in Flosch of Ruthwell, for defenders, 60, all his days has been in the custom of going with half-nets to the Nith and fishing therein both in fresh and salt water. While he lived in the north and east part of the parish of Carlaverock was never interrupted in any part of the water in the flowing, but has been often interrupted by pursuers when fishing in the outfall, as the pursuers had always the first foord. Being interrogated why he was interrupted, he deponed that there was at that time two fords and that the tenants of the lower part pretended to fore-balk the tenants of the upper part in one of these fords; but, as deponent understood that the tenants of the upper part had the best right to the first of these fords and the under ford went away, they desisted.

John Hutton in Blaiket, in the parish of Urr, 63, who has lived all his days in the parish of Carlaverock, except the last five, concurs with the last witness. Upon interrogatory for the pursuers he depones that he never fished above the Black Craig or limekiln above the longhirst.

Thomas Hyslop in Craig of Kirkconnel, 53, lived in the parish of Carlaverock 23 years, was never interrupted in fishing in the flowing in any part below My Lady's Pear, which is in the Kirkconnel side of the water and near opposite to the longhirst bog on the Nithsdale side; and²⁹ the outfall he always understood the pursuers to have the first foord.

The Baillie makes Avisandum.

22nd August, 1769.—Baron Court of Holywood held at Charterhall.

²⁸ Perhaps *bound, limit*, is meant.

²⁹ *In* understood.

John Morton, tenant of the Mills of Clowdan, against tenants and possessors of the Barony of Clowdan,³⁰ thirled to the mills. The Court is adjourned to 22nd January, but in the meantime the Millar and Sucken present condescend upon persons to strike the Fiars for 1760. [The list of prices is left blank.]

The minute consists of a list of names, including

John Wightman a peck bear, and

James Fisher in Catlochan half a peck bear. In the other cases no amounts are alleged. The Baillie "decerns against the abstractors in terms of the condescension." The minute is very brief and perfunctory.

27th December, 1771.—Baron Court of Holywood held at Clowdan Mills by John Maxwell of Corswadda, Baillie of the said Barony.

Court lawfully fenced.

The Baron Baillie appointed George Maxwell, younger of Carruchan,³¹ clerk of the Baron Court, who gave his oath *de fideli*, etc.

The Baron officer reported that he had verbally warned the whole tenants within the thirlage of Cloudan to attend, and several of them appeared accordingly.

Robert Ireland, milner of Cloudan, craved that the Baillie would appoint persons for ascertaining the fiars for 1770. Accordingly John Wightman in Burnside, and David Crockat in St Michael's Croft, for the milner, and Edward Walker in Hollinbush and Edward Elton in Kilncroft, report a list to which the Baillie interpones his authority.

8th December, 1772.—Baron Court of Holywood.

Similar. "Several appeared accordingly." Fiars for 1771. [This is the last court held by John Maxwell.]

8th September, 1774.—Baron Court of Holywood held

³⁰ *Sic.* Lincluden appears later.

³¹ George Maxwell of Carruchan was factor for Nithsdale, 24th June, 1773. *Presby. Rec.*

at Clouden Milns by George Mackenzie, writer in Dumfries, Baron Baillie of the said Barony.

The said George Mackenzie produced a commission of Bailliary from the Comm^{rs} of William Maxwell of Nithsdale, dated the 12th etc. of Jan^{ry} 1774, reg^d in the Commissary Court Books of Dumfries, 3rd September curr^t. The Baillie appointed John Crocket Baron Officer of the barony, who gave his oath *de fidei*.

Robert Ireland, tacksman of the Mills of Cloudan, complains that tenants [named] have for some years been buying and selling corn to one another and thereafter alleging that such corns were not liable to multure. He therefore claims abstractions for years 1771, 2, and 3.

The Baillie appoints his brother Simon M'Kenzie to be clerk to said barony, who accepted and took oath.

Four tenants admit the amounts libelled against them, other admit smaller amounts, or depone negative. The Baillie decerns in accordance with the admissions.

29th December, 1774.—Baron Court of Kirkgunyan held at Kirkgunyan Mill. The same Baillie produces his Commission as in last minute, and appoints the aforesaid John Crocket to be officer of this barony, and Simon M'Kenzie to be clerk thereto.

John Thomson, miller of Kirkgunzian, produces a similar libel against tenants for selling corns to persons without the barony, and also for grinding corn at other mills, for seven years bypast. The same persons have all along refused their services to the mill and pertinents, whereby they are at present in very bad order.

The miller declares that he is entitled to three forpets of meal for every boll of shilling, and that every 40 pecks of corn are computed to yield one boll of shilling; that he is also entitled to $\frac{1}{8}$ peck of meal or dishfull on each boll of shilling as miller, and to the whole dust that lies in the shilling ring.

John Ferguson in Drum John admits abstractions, but refuses to condescend on particulars, but alleges that the mill is in such bad repair that she cannot grind corn into meal

properly, and produces a sample of meal grinded there to evince this fact; which was inspected by the baily.

William Clark in Cowans produced three samples of groats to show that the mill was insufficient to grind them properly. These were inspected by the Baily.

Compeared William Wightman in Glaisters, from whom the Multur passes.

Alexander Ferguson in Tarkerrow admits abstracting 5 pecks of rye for the reason that some time earlier he sent 5 pecks of rye to the said mill, which lay there six weeks before he could get it grinded, and when it was returned he got only six forperts of meal or thereby for his 5 pecks of rye.

James Murchie in Barclosh has regularly furnished thatch to the mill except this year.

The Baily makes avizandum. Thereafter Mr Maxwell, factor, represents that four 'barleymen' or mossmen should be appointed. There were chosen William Anderson in Cowans younger, Alexander Ferguson in Tarkerrow, John Ferguson in Drum John, and William Black in Ingleston.

10th July, 1778.—Baron Court of Holywood, held at the mill of Cloudan.

The same miller complains of abstractions for years 1774, 5, 6. He states that the tenants named, though frequently desired by him to deliver the quantities libelled in name of Multure or Knaveship, have all and each of them refused to do so. The tenants who appear generally agree to pay these, and absents are decerned to pay according to the prices ascertained by the Fiars of the County of Dumfries.

14th March, 1783.—Baron Court of Holywood held at Cluden Mills by John M'Morrine, writer in Dumfries, Baron Baillie.

This new Baillie produces a Commission of Bailliary granted by Lady Winifred Maxwell of Nithsdale, spouse to Wm. Haggarston Maxwell Constable of Everingham and Nithsdale, dated 28th December, 1781, reg^d in the Com. Ct. Bks. of Dumfries, 21st January, 1782.

Wm. Caven, tacksman of the Milns of Cluden, craved

that Liquidators be appointed to fix the Fiars for 1780, and 1. David Crocket in Kilnnest and John Walker in Holm (for the miller), and John Stott in Burnfoot of Cluden and John Martin in Townhead of Glengaber (for the parish), report a list of fiars.

The Baillie appoints James Twaddell, writer in Dumfries, to be clerk to the barony.

Numerous depositions follow, but the decret is left blank.

5th June, 1784.—Carlaverock. The same Baillie appoints the same clerk to this barony.

14th June, 1784.—Baron Court of Carlaverock held at Bankend. The Baillie appoints George Maxwell of Carruchan to be Fiscal of Court, who accepted and gave oath.

The Court being lawfully fenced, George Maxwell of Carruchan, factor for Lady Nithsdale and husband, produced a lybelled summons against tenants for cutting and destroying wood. George Weir depones that he has summoned the persons lybelled.

One of the defenders being absent is fined for contumacy in £10 sc. payable to George Maxwell, Fiscal of Court. The admissions relate to oak, ash, alder, birch, hazel, and saugh. Fines from £10 sc. downwards are paid to the said George Maxwell.

Carlaverock, 16th June, 1784.—Robert Burnie in Bowhouse (the person fined for contumacy) craves to be assoilzied. He depones that he only cut some brushwood by the liberty of the Baron Officer. The fine was modified to £2 sc., which was instantly paid.

27th December, 1787.—At Bridgend of Dumfries. John M'Morrine, Baron Baillie of the Estate of Nithsdale, appoints Rob^t Thomson, late in Terregles Town, now residing in Dumfries, to be Baron Officer of the Baronies of Drumsleet, Lincluden, Terregles, Duncow, and Kirkgunzeon, and other lands in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright.

29th December, 1787.—Baron Court of Kirkgunzeon.

The Baillie produces his commission [as 14th March,

1783]. He also appoints Sam^l Clark, writer in Dumfries, to be Clerk of this court during pleasure; who gave his oath *de fidei administratione officii*.

Curia legitime affirmata.

Mr Andrew Boyd, younger of Milnton, procurator for the proprietors, claims arrears of rent against James Herries in Armanoch. Robert Thomson, officer, reported citation. The defender being three times called by the officer at the door of the court-house did not appear, and decret was given against him. The defender entering the sentence was intimated to him.

29th August, 1789.—Baron Court of Holywood, held at Clouden Mills.

The Baillie appointed John Armstrong, writer in Dumfries, to be Clerk to the said Barony.

Wm. Cavens, miller of Clouden Mills, represents that Fiars had not been struck since crop 1782.

The liquidators report for years 1786, 7, 8, but depone that the same could not be done with precision for 1783, 4, 5, and the miller agrees to accept the Fiars of the County of Dumfries for these years.

Arrears of multure up to Lammas, 1789, are claimed by the miller against Dr Bryce Johnston, proprietor of Mosside and Birchhall, Wm. Denholm of Gullyhill, Thomas Dickson of Townfoot of Glengaber, Wm. Aitken of Looberry, John Wightman of Burnside of Glengaber, James Miller, portioner of Crossleys, Edward Cogan, tenant of St Michael's Croft, William Thomson in M'Whanrick, David Newall for himself and as factor for the Estates of Steelston and Isle,³² and George Johnston of Cowhill.

29th May, 1790.—Baron Court of Drumsleet and Lincluden.

³² This mention is valuable as confirming the supposition that it was Mr Newall, factor for Isle, who, upon vacating the Isle for the winter of 1788, gave permission to the poet Burns to take up house there until Ellisland was rebuilt. See *Burns Chron.* (1927), (2) 2. 5. In Wallace *Burns*, 3.198, it is stated that Mr Newall was factor for Dalswinton; but there is no evidence for this, and it is very unlikely.

The Baillie appointed Samuel Clark, commissary clerk of Dumfries, to be Clerk to the said Baronies.

George Maxwell, Esqr., chamberlain on the Estate of Nithsdale, claimed arrears of rent against William and George Bells, John Johnston, James Allan, all at Newbridge, James Crichton at Glenmiln, Alexander Walker in Halhill, David Walker in Aikiebuss, Benjamin Smith and Agnes Ferguson both in Bowhouse. The amounts vary from £88 to £1 stg.

Cited, and called, the defenders did not appear, except James Crichton.

Dumfries, 9th October, 1790.—This is the Baron Court Book referred to in my deposition emitted before the Sheriff-substitute of this date in the process, Wm. Cavens, etc., against Doctor Johnston and others.

[Signed] John M'Morrine.

John Welsh.

Duncow, 8th March, 1792.

The court being fenced, the Baron Bailie appointed Alex^r Moffat, writer in Dumfries, clerk to the Baron Court of the Barony of Duncow during pleasure.

5th October, 1793.—Baron Court of Hollywood held at Cluden Mills.

At the request of Wm. Cavens, miller at Cluden, the Fiars are struck for 1791, 2, by the following liquidators: Adam Corrie in Bellfield, James Colvin in Abbey, James M'Feggan in Muirside, and James Black in Summerhills. The fiars of the county are to be accepted for 1789, 1790.

27th June, 1794.—Baron Court of Hollywood held at Cluden Milns by John M'Morrine, Baron Bailie.

Fiars for 1793 struck by the following liquidators: Adam Corrie in Bellfield, James Colvine in Abbyland, David Crosbie in Marchthorn, and John Patterson in Guilliehill; who did find as follows to wit. [The remaining leaves—after p. 158, approximately half of the book—have been cut away. There is nothing to indicate that they contained minutes.]

Throughout the book are scattered various lists of Fiars for the years 1755 onwards, with frequent blanks. An inserted sheet contains those of every year from 1780 to 1793, but those for the years marked 'Sheriff' are no doubt the Fiars for the county.

The kinds of victual are represented in the following table, with variants from later years. The prices are *per peck* for all the grains, *per stone* for meal only, 'all Nithsdale measure, and sterling money':

Great Corn, 2s 1d; *White Corn*, 1759 onwards.

Small Corn, 1s.

Wheat, 3s 6d.

Rye, 2s 6d.

Corn shilling, 5s 4d; *White Corn shilline*, 1765.

Bear, 2s 3d; but 1759 distinguishes between *barley*, 1s 6d, and *bear*, 1s 3d; the latter is *bigg* in 1760.

Meal, 2s.

It is probable that *small corn* was the *gray-brooked corn* mentioned above (H. 14th Dec., 1758); but the fiars throw no light on this point.

The years for which the fiars are given in the minutes are 1755, 7, 9; 1760, 3, 5, 6, 7; 1770; 1782, 6, 7, and 8.

Two Interesting Bronze Age Relics from Southern Scotland.

I.—AN "INCENSE-CUP" FROM CAIRNGILL, KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

By J. M. CORRIE, ESQ., F.S.A. Scot.

Among objects that have recently been brought under the notice of the Society either as exhibits or as donations to the Society's collection two relics, one of them a small urn of the so-called "incense-cup" variety from Cairngill, Kirkcudbrightshire, and the other a bronze chisel of unusual form from a portion of the *Deil's Dyke* in the parish of Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire, are deserving of extended notice. Mr Shirley has therefore invited me to contribute a short paper describing the circumstances under which these objects

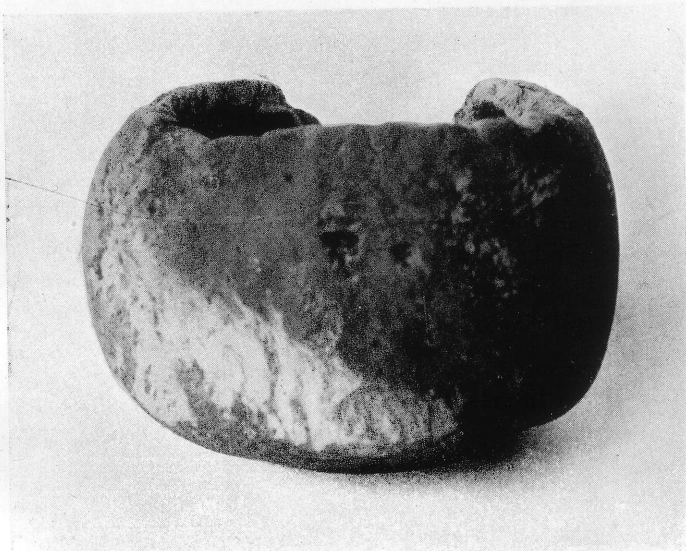


Fig. 1.

INCENSE CUP FROM CAIRNGILL, KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

were recovered, and pointing out to some extent at least the features and characteristics that invest the relics with particular interest. I shall first deal with the incense-cup. This interesting little pottery vessel (Fig. 1) was recovered in the summer of 1926 from a cairn or mound within the garden grounds at Cairngill, a modern residence occupied by Mr Oliver H. Haslam, in the parish of Colvend and Southwick, in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright. It has since been generously presented by Mr Haslam to the Society's collection.

The place-name Cairngill—cairn of the narrow glen—is significant. On the six-inch Ordnance Survey Map (Sheet LI., N.W.) the name has been applied only to the neighbouring burn, but there can be little doubt that when first bestowed the cairn, and not the burn, was the important feature. The site, which escaped the notice of the Ancient Monuments Commission during their survey of the county in 1913, lies close to the highway between Dalbeattie and Kirkbean, on its north side, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, and only some 130 yards distant from the high-water mark at the north shore of Sandyhills Bay. Mr Haslam, who has kindly supplied me with particulars of the discovery of the incense-cup, tells me that the relic was found near the outer margin of the cairn at no great depth from the surface at that point. It seemed, according to the statement of the workman who found it, to have been surrounded by a number of small stones carefully set in a roughly rectangular formation; but there was no trace of a constructed cist or of any protective covering. In addition to the incense-cup three small fragments of another urn of coarser texture, apparently portions of a cinerary urn, and some comminuted burnt bones were discovered at the same time and place. We shall see later than such an association is typical. The position of the incense-cup within the structure suggests that the interment was one of secondary character, and this view is supported, if not, indeed, confirmed as the result of inquiries made by Mr Haslam. He has ascertained that what he believes was a cist had been

found in the same mound about thirty-five years ago by workmen in search of building materials, but no information as to whether or not relics of any kind had been secured at that time has so far been forthcoming. He has been told also that the site was the place where drowned sailors were buried in the old days, a statement which he suspects points to other remains having been found there to give rise to the story.

The occurrence of these small pottery vessels in pre-historic burial sites is always a feature of considerable interest because it is not regular; and although a number of examples have been recorded from different parts of the country and the circumstances of the discoveries in certain cases carefully noted, no definite explanation of their special purpose has, as yet, been determined. It is desirable therefore that, whenever possible, finds of this character should be particularly examined and the results of the investigations recorded. It is important also to observe that urns of this type are peculiar to the British Isles, and that they are, almost invariably, found either inside or in close association with a larger urn usually of the cinerary type in burials after cremation. In a number of cases they have been found to contain the bones of an infant or young child, while the larger urns accompanying them have occasionally enclosed the cremated remains of an adult female, presumably the mother. In other instances they have been found without contents of any description. Obviously they represent a special class of sepulchral vessel, but their purpose is still a matter of speculation. The evidence of associated finds, as we shall see presently, assigns them to the period of bronze in Scotland.

In the year 1851 a remarkable specimen containing the burnt bones of a child of tender years and two fragments of a small bronze pin was found within a larger cinerary urn, one of a group of about a dozen such vessels, recovered from a mound at Genoch, in the parish of Straiton, in Ayrshire. The small cup-shaped vessel was provided with a perforated lid of coarser and thicker clay which was in



Fig. 2.

SMALL URN FOUND AT CRAIGDHU,
NORTH QUEENSFERRY
(2 inches in height),

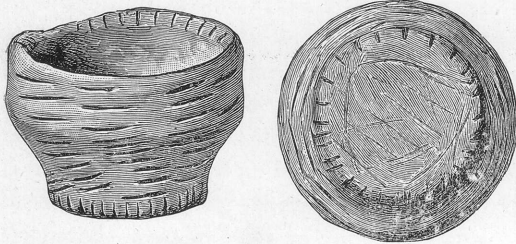


Fig. 3.

SMALL URN FROM CAIRN AT BALMERINO, FIFE.



Fig. 4.

URN FROM WESTER BUCHLYVIE
(2½ inches in height).

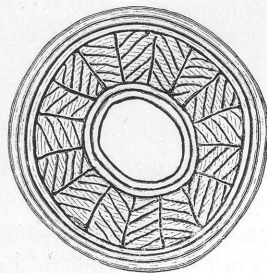


Fig. 5.

UNDER PART OF THE URN
Highly Ornamented.



Fig. 6.

SMALL URN FROM WHINNYLIGGATE,
KIRKCUDBRIGHT.

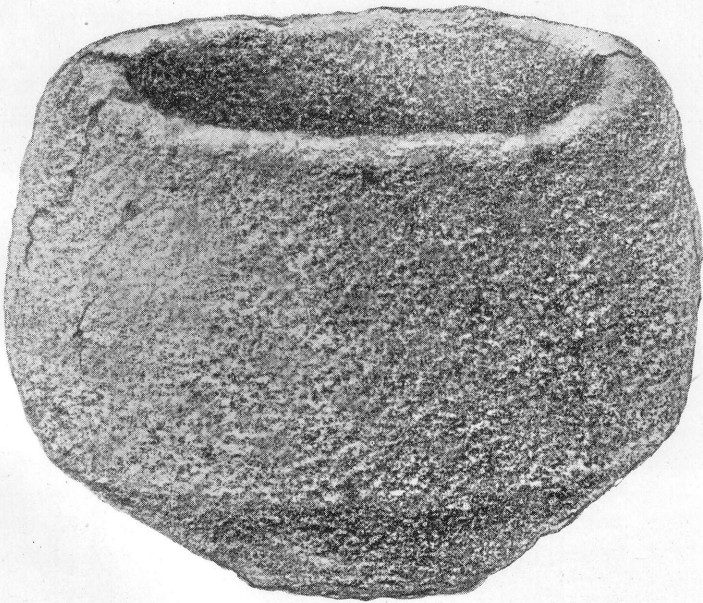


Fig. 7.

"INCENSE CUP," FOUND NEAR BOGRIE FARM, LOCHRUTTON
(Exact Size).

position when the relic was discovered. The larger urn also contained burnt bones, but, having been broken at the time of the discovery, it was unfortunately not preserved, and no detailed information in regard to the contents is available.¹ Another specimen (Fig. 2) which was taken from a cist in the centre of a cairn of considerable size at Craighdu, North Queensferry, in the county of Fife, assumed the form of a diminutive copy of the cinerary urn in which it was enclosed. The larger urn again contained calcined bones.² A tiny specimen (Fig. 3) discovered in 1901 along with seven urns of food-vessel type and a collection of beads of two classes in a bronze age cairn at Greenhill, in the parish of Balmerino, Fife, is particularly noteworthy on account of its unusual associations—which, in addition to food-vessel urns, were apparently those of an unburnt burial—and because of its size. It measures only $\frac{7}{8}$ inch in height, $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch across the top, and $13\text{-}16$ ths of an inch in diameter at the base.³ In England incense cups have been found in association with articles of bronze, such as knife daggers and awls, and at other times with implements of flint and ornaments of jet.

These little urns also show considerable diversity of form, and they are frequently ornamented, even the bases, in certain cases, as, for example, one found at Wester Buckleyvie, Fife, in 1866 (Figs. 4 and 5), being as completely decorated as the rest of the vessel⁴. In other instances, as in the Cairngill specimen, they are left plain. Very often, too, they are pierced through the walls on one or both sides by two or four small holes. A specimen from Whinnyliggate Schoolhouse, in the Stewartry (Fig. 6), which is unique among Scottish examples, although corresponding vessels have been found in England and Ireland, shows an unusual development of this feature in having no fewer than fourteen large triangular perforations within a continuous chevron ornament of incised lines.

1 *Scotland in Pagan Times: The Bronze and Stone Ages*, p. 45.

2 *Scotland in Pagan Times: The Bronze and Stone Ages*, p. 46.

3 *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, xxxvi., 635-653.

4 *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, ix., 190.

The Cairngill discovery has added nothing fresh to our knowledge of these vessels, but the relic is quite an interesting and typical representative of its class, and the Society is to be congratulated on acquiring the specimen. The relic has fortunately been preserved almost complete, although at one point the surface of the vessel has been peeled and scarred, apparently through contact with a spade or pick. A small portion of the wall is missing, but the fracture here is certainly old. The urn measures $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches across the mouth, $3\frac{2}{3}$ inches in greatest diameter, tapering sharply at the bottom to a small circular and slightly concave base measuring $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches across. It is undecorated, and does not show any of the small side perforations that I have mentioned as being a characteristic feature of other examples. In this respect, as well as in size, general appearance and method of manufacture it closely resembles a specimen (Fig. 7) found alone and full of burnt bones in a mound near Bogrie, Lochrutton, which has previously been figured and described in the Society's *Transactions*.⁵ In the Society's collection there is also a neat and very slightly ornamented specimen showing two small perforations about half an inch apart on one side, which was recovered in 1887 from the reputed site of a Stone Circle at Greystone, near Dumfries.⁶

II.—A BRONZE CHISEL FROM KIRKCONNEL, DUMFRIESSHIRE.

We come now to the second relic, a bronze chisel of unusual form (Fig. 8, No. 1), from a portion of the Deil's Dyke, near Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire. The Society is indebted to Dr Semple for bringing this interesting object to light, and I have to express my thanks to him for information concerning the discovery, and for being allowed to bring the relic again before your notice. Dr Semple has already explained that the implement was found some years ago by

⁵ 1918-19, pp. 46-7.

⁶ *Transactions*, 1886-7, pp. 38-41.

a Mr Robert Sharp during draining operations close to a portion of an earthen wall in Kirkconnel parish, which he believes to be a fragment of the Deil's or Pict's Dyke—a remarkable construction that—as all of you are probably aware—is said originally to have stretched continuously from Loch Ryan, in Wigtownshire, across Galloway to the Nith, and possibly beyond that. Mr Sharp, who found the chisel, seems to think that the relic came from the middle of the Dyke itself, but he hesitates to commit himself definitely to that point; and Dr Semple, as the result of his inquiries, is inclined to believe that the chisel was found immediately beneath the Dyke. To-night I wish more particularly to direct your attention to the implement itself. It is a remarkable specimen, and possesses features of unusual interest. The cutting edge of the implement is set transversely to the flanges, which are terminated at the base by a well developed cross limb or stop of a form that has only once before been noted on any other flanged relic found in Scotland, and that was a chisel of similar type from Perthshire (Fig. 8, No. 2).

Implements of the same form as these two Scottish examples have been found in Ireland, but there also they are rare. By some authorities they have been grouped among the axes, and by others they have been classified as chisels. The distinctive features—the provision of unusually set flanges and a cross-stop of special form—indicate the manner of hafting. We believe, from these characteristics and from the attenuated appearance of the implements, that they were intended for use as chisels and not as axes. We do not find the curiously developed cross-stop on any undoubted flat axes of the bronze period, but it has occasionally been noted on early trunnion chisels found in England and Ireland, and it occurs also on two Scottish examples. One of the latter, a chisel of elongated form, from an unknown location, is preserved in the National Museum of Antiquities at Edinburgh. The other has been recorded and figured by the late Dr Daniel Wilson, who says that it was found along with other bronze relics at Strachur, Argyllshire.⁷

⁷ *Pre-historic Annals of Scotland*, i., 381,

We are familiar also with tanged chisels provided with a circular collar in place of the cross-stop. Other forms include the flat tanged type closely resembling an attenuated flat axe, the socketed type, and lastly the solid cylindrical type. These forms also are rare in Scotland, and obviously they are not contemporaneous. Indeed they represent a series of progressive changes covering a long period of time; and while some of the earlier forms, such as that of the Kirkconnel relic, may be assigned to the Bronze Age the later types may conceivably have survived into or even have originated in the Early Iron Age. "Many of the earlier bronze implements, such as the flat and flanged axes," says the late Dr Joseph Anderson, the eminent Scottish archæologist, "are ornamented by patterns of different kinds, chiefly of various combinations of short straight lines indented in the metal. These patterns, which exhibit considerable variety of form and fertility of design, must necessarily have been produced by tools of bronze, and the punches employed for this purpose must have resembled stout, narrow, and blunted chisels. Some such implements must also have been employed to a large extent in producing the varied patterns in chased work and *repoussé* work, both in bronze and silver, of the Early Iron Age."⁸

Dumfriesshire and Galloway is fairly well represented among the finds of Scottish bronze chisels. A fine specimen of the flat type, $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, was found at Low Torrs, Dunragit, Wigtownshire, and two others of different forms were included in the important hoard of bronze relics discovered by a member of this Society at Glentrool, Kirkcudbrightshire, in the summer of 1915.⁹ Another specimen of solid cylindrical type from an excavation in Dumfries has also been figured and described in the Transactions of the Society for 1895-6.

The Kirkconnel implement, however, is one of outstanding importance. It measures $5\frac{1}{8}$ inches in length, $\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch in thickness at the butt, and $15\text{-}16$ ths of an inch across the

⁸ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, xxviii., pp. 212-3.

⁹ *Ibid.*, lv., p. 29 ff.

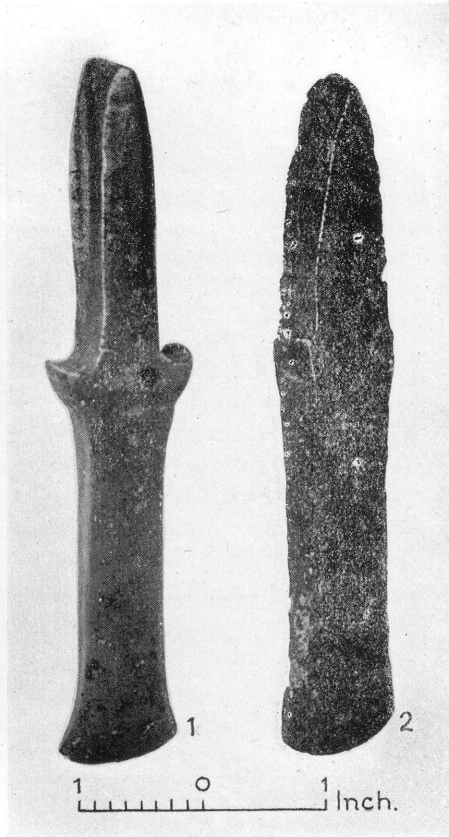


Fig. 8.
BRONZE CHISELS FROM DUMFRIESSHIRE
AND PERTHSHIRE.

sharp cutting edge. The flanges extend for $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches from the butt, and are terminated by the unusual projecting cross-stop which measures 1 inch across. Since it was discovered the implement has unfortunately been dressed up with a file to make it shine, but otherwise its condition is not seriously impaired.

7th December, 1928.

Chairman—Mr R. C. REID.

Notes Upon *Caltha Palustris*, Linn.

By G. F. SCOTT ELLIOT, M.A., B.Sc., F.R.G.S.

The Marsh Marigold (otherwise Horse Blob, Water Dragon or King Cup), is exceedingly common in Great Britain. It has even been recorded at 3400 feet altitude in the Highlands. It is, however, rather rare in chalk or limestone districts. But even in the streamless dales of Yorkshire and Derbyshire it may be found at spring heads and along such burns as do exist (1). It almost always occurs in wet mud, on gravel kept moist by rivers and streams, or in wet, rather marshy meadows.

Caltha palustris has an enormous range : it may be found almost anywhere in Europe from Norway to Spain and Italy. It is, however, rare or absent in Southern Spain and in the Midi of France. An interesting point is that it ranges right round the North Pole from Norway through Siberia, Kamschatka and Alaska to Labrador. It does not occur in West Greenland. The southward limit is not so easily defined, but it is recorded for the Caucasus, Taurus, Himalayas, Iowa, S.E. Pennsylvania, So. Carolina, Newfoundland, etc. In America it is found chiefly on the outskirts of the Prairie Swamp Forests and in wet copses.

In April and May its multitudes of golden yellow flowers are quite conspicuous in the bare or thinly occupied marshland amongst immature herbaceous stems, leaves of Rushes,

Meadowsweet, etc. In June or July the fruits and mature leaves are not so easily seen, for by this time the regular meadow association is in full development.* Later in the year its flowers would have no chance in the serried ranks of the meadow grasses; it is only by flowering so early in the season that it has its opportunity.

The flowers are variable. In this country they are of quite a respectable size (3 to 4 centimetres in diameter): in Nova Zembla they are only one centimetre across. The sepals are usually five in number, stamens 70 to 80, carpels from 3 to 13 or more. Honey is secreted by the bases of the carpels

* E.g., *Juncus communis*, *Iris pseudacorus*, *Senecio aquaticus*, *Spiraea ulmaria*, *Lychnis Flos-cuculi*, *Valeriana officinalis*, *Stachys palustris*, *Ranunculus Flammula*, *Angelica sylvestris*; in wetter places *Poa aquatica*, *Veronica Beccabunga*, *Myosotis palustris*, *Polygonum hydropiper*. Less conspicuous are *Galium palustris*, *Hydrocotyle*, *Juncus bufonius*, *Montia fontana*, and *Epilobium tetragonum*. These are but a few of its regular companions or, strictly speaking, successors in Galloway.

CALTHA PALUSTRIS—INSECT VISITORS (2).

	Germany.	Flanders.	Dumfriesshire and Galloway.	Yorkshire.
Hive bee	X	X	X	X
Bombus	X	—	X	—
Smaller bees . . .	2 species*	—	1 species	—
Hover flies and larger sucking flies	5 species†	3 species	2 species	—
Small flies	X	—	X	—
Beetles	X	—	X	—

* *Andrena*, *Osmia*.

† *Empis*, *Melanostoma*, *Eristalis*, *Rhingia*, &c.

CALTHA PALUSTRIS.

		Percentages of flowers with sepals numbering						
			4	5	6	7	8	9
(3)	Sweden: Gathered	3-28 May	.7	92.7	5.4	.8	.1	.05
	" "	1st June	.6	84.3	12.1	2.7	.2	
(4)	" "	Harjedal	3.5	94.9	1.4	.2		
	" "	Bohuslan	.2	93.5	4.7	1.7	.2	
	" "	Tyskland	—	79.4	16	2.1	1.4	1.1
(5)	Scotland: Meadow, Castle-							
	" Douglas . . .		2	95	3			
	" Wet Meadow, Drumwhill		6	85	9			
	" In ditch in rich soil, Dunlop, Ayrshire		0.6	74.2	22.2	3		

where they touch one another. The stamens mature from the outside inwards and bend towards the centre of the flower so that a passing insect is well dusted with pollen. The stigmas of the carpels form at first a little cushion in the middle of the flower, but later the carpels diverge widely: they are not united together.

Insects probing for honey must get well dusted with pollen and leave it on the stigmas of the next flower visited. Numerous insects, possibly all those which are abroad in May, have been recorded for the Marsh Marigold.

The Ranunculaceæ to which *Caltha* belongs is one of the most primitive of all the natural orders. In all orders, except those few which are considered archaic or primitive, sepals, petals, stamens and carpels are arranged in circles. The number in each circle is usually fixed and definite.

The Marsh Marigold has only one circle of bright yellow sepals; these also act as petals attracting insects to the flowers, but they play the regular part of sepals in that they cover stamens and carpels in the bud.

The number of sepals, however, is *not* fixed; there may be four, five, six, or more. If one could discover why some have many and others only a few sepals, then there might be a clue to the reasons which have induced almost all flowering plants to fix upon three, four or five sepals as the most suitable number to have.

The sepals of *Caltha palustris* have been counted by many observers in different countries and at varying times of the year; some of the results are given in the table.

Now, of the three places in Sweden where Falck carried out his measurements, Harjedal is in the north, Bohuslan is in Mid Sweden, and Tyskland is in the south. A first suggestion was to the effect that the farther south the place (that is the more genial the conditions) the fewer were the flowers with four sepals. This was confirmed by observations in Denmark, which showed that there only 0.5 per cent. had four sepals, as well as by others in Holland and Germany where none had so few as four. The two series given by Gertz showed that early flowers, presumably open-

ing in worse weather, had a higher percentage with four and a much smaller number with six. The ditch at Dunlop was chosen by myself because the plants seemed to be unusually vigorous: those near Castle-Douglas were in an open, rather exposed place where there was much competition.

The obvious explanation of all these observations is that the more favoured the locality and the more vigorous the plant the more numerous are the sepals. It would surprise no one to find that a particularly vigorous branch of a birch or other tree had more leaves than an exposed and starveling shoot. It seems quite unnecessary to assume that there are special strains of *Caltha*, some with four and others with five sepals. The simplest and most satisfying theory is that the number of sepals simply varies with the food supply and with the general vigour of the individual.

If this is so, stamens and carpels ought also to show similar variations in number. That they do so has been proved by Dr Burkill (6) who counted 11,453 stamens and 891 carpels of the Marsh Marigold. The terminal flower is usually the first to open, and is almost always the largest. His observations show distinctly that the earliest formed flowers carry the most stamens and carpels, and also that the largest branches (i.e., those which produce most flowers) have in their flowers more stamens and carpels than the flowers in corresponding positions on weaker stems.*

There are two very interesting species of *Caltha* which also suggest that the number of stamens and carpels depends upon individual vigour.

One (*C. limbata*, Schl.) grows in Chile at 3000 metres altitude (Maule river), and has only 8 to 10 stamens and 2 to 5 carpels. Another still hardier little plant (*C. Dionæfolia*, Hook.) lives in the Straits of Magellan and about Cape Horn; this almost antarctic plant has 5 to 9 stamens and only 3 carpels. † (7)

* For details reference must be made to the original.

† Falek found one specimen in Sweden with five stamens and no carpels at all. In Galloway the carpels vary from four to thirteen: about one-third (31.2 per cent.) have eight carpels.

In other plants also there is evidence that a favourable position on the stem or other advantage leads to an increase of stamens, carpels or of flowers. For instance, the common Daisy has in Germany an average of 34 ray florets; in the Isle of Wight it has 46, at Rome 55, and near Palermo 65. (8) Dr Burkill (l.c.) shows that this holds true in three species of *Ranunculus*, in *Bocconia*, and especially in the Chickweed (*Stellaria media*).

If the general rule is correct, that is if the number of sepals in *Caltha palustris* and of stamens and carpels in all flowers varies with vigour, then it is just because they cannot manage to develop beyond a certain point.

In all these flowers the first rudiments of sepals, petals, etc., appear as minute projections of embryonic tissue; first come the sepals, then petals, with stamens and carpels in the order named.

In the Cape Horn *Caltha*, which lives in a terrible climate, and probably in a state of starvation, the food supply would, let us suppose, fail after forming at most 9 stamens and 3 carpels, and so no more rudiments would appear.

After pollination there is a distinct elongation and lengthening of the flower stalk, which endeavours to keep pace with, or over-reach, the Ragged Robin and other stems which are now in full development.

The carpels also enlarge and diverge, turning outwards and downwards. They are very like small pea pods, and may be 2 cm. long and 5 mm. broad.

In consequence of this quick growth, which is especially marked in wet weather, a state of strain is developed along the upper edge of the carpels, which is, of course, the two united edges of the carpel.

If at this time one touches the tip of a plump strained-looking pod it bursts and most of the seeds are thrown out. In one case the carpel was 4 cm. above the mud and the seeds were scattered to 20 cm. distance.*

* Some authorities say that the opening of the carpels only takes place in wet weather as in *Veronica Beccabunga* and *V. Anagallis*.

The seeds themselves are about 3.5 mm. long, of which about 1 mm. is due to a spongy air-filled cap, which is the enlarged raphe of the ovule. The characteristic sponginess of waterplants is here employed to make the seeds buoyant. They do, in fact, float for from one to four weeks, or even longer, so that in floods or wet weather they may be carried for quite a long way down a river.

When ripe the seed itself is brown, shining and hard : the shell contains astringent tannin which protects the embryo during its voyages (10) : the shape is rather like that of a bomb : the contours (except the fleshy annex) are streamlines. All these points are obviously advantages in navigation.

The surface of the seeds becomes distinctly sticky after they have been a little time in water. I lifted a few seeds out of the water with a feather, which was then hung up above the table ; twenty-four hours afterwards most of the seeds were still sticking to it.

Thus the Marsh Marigold has three distinct methods of distributing its seeds : the elastic splitting of the carpel is due to the ordinary natural result of growth and of the drying up of the tissues ; buoyancy is just a slight development of the sponginess of waterplants in general ; the sticky secretion of the seed coat is probably a mucilaginous degeneration of the cellwall-substance in contact with water, yet this slight change would keep the seeds entangled in a wild duck's plumage even for a very long flight.

None of these modifications are in any way unusual, but they are obviously advantageous. In the Arctic regions, where *Caltha* decorates the flat, undulating and most desolate tundra, running water is probably rare. Birds probably have carried its seeds all round the North Pole.

After six weeks in water most of my seeds had germinated. The embryo lies just below the hard pointed end : it is here that the seed coat splits and the tiny rootlet grows out and fixes itself in the mud by root hairs.* The tips of the seed leaves remain within the seed coat : in fact they had con-

* The ordinary roots have no root hairs.

siderable difficulty in getting out of it: under natural conditions it is probable that the testa and swollen raphe stick to the mud: this would greatly assist the seed leaves in becoming free.

Most authorities state that *Caltha palustris* is poisonous, and it is certainly not often eaten by grazing animals. It is, however, said that the European bison (now nearly extinct) was very fond of it. It certainly suffers severely from the ravages of snails and various insects. Neat round holes in the leaf are probably made by leafcutting bees: a minute orange grub about half a millimetre in length frequently devours the buds: possibly the mother insect introduced its eggs through a round hole which one finds in such cases between the bases of the sepals.

Some twelve or thirteen parasitic fungi have also been recorded for the Marsh Marigold. These include two Rusts and two Mildews† (11). One of the former, *Puccinia Calthae*, is common on the radical leaves in July, and has been noticed in Europe, Siberia, and North America.

There are some 26 other species of the genus. *Caltha palustris* now flourishes, as we have seen, right across the whole north temperate world. It has the widest distribution of all the species of *Caltha*. There are other species in Scotland, Transylvania, the Caucasus, Asia Minor, Persia, the Himalayas, and East Indies.

In North America there are quite a number of *Calthas* (8 or 9 species), and especially in the Rocky Mountains.

Now, when glaciers existed in the Yosemite valley there was every opportunity for the pioneer *Calthas* to migrate from the Rockies southwards along the Cordillera of the Andes. They certainly seem to have done so, for to-day one finds many *Calthas* in the Andes; there are several in Chile, and at least three in Fuegia and about the Straits of Magellan. If, as seems probable, its seeds can be carried in birds' plumage, the existence of a species in Australia and two in New Zealand is not surprising.

† *Erysiphe polygoni*, *Sphaerotheca humuli*.

There are many other interesting points in the mode of life of *Caltha palustris*.

Thus an ordinary plant will have 20 roots, each of which is from 20 to 30 cm. long and 2mm. or more in diameter. The active transpiration of such a plant, especially if growing in mud and in windy weather, will undoubtedly tend to keep the soil more or less dry.

Now, in cold, wet, temperate regions, mosses are always endeavouring to occupy wet ground. Poor pasture, or, for instance, a tennis lawn, if the grasses are unhealthy, will soon become mossy and fogged. Unless checked there is always the danger that a peat moss might form.

In that case the Ragged Robin association and meadow grasses would be suffocated and a "Lochar Moss" would develop.

You will see then that such plants as *Caltha palustris* take their place as a working unit in the maintenance of the greatest number of the very best plants in their particular station.

The Marsh Marigold has resided in Britain for many thousands of years. (Dr Reid—Origin of the British flora.)

At Mundesley, in Norfolk, its nuts were found in the Cromer Forest bed along with *Trapa natans*, as well as *Elephas meridionalis*, Hippopotami, etc., etc. These beds are reckoned as Late Pliocene, that is, before the Great Ice Age.

During warm interglacial times, that is, between the Rissian, which was the worst, and the Wurmian, which was the last Ice Age, *Caltha palustris* was living at West Withering, in Sussex. In late glacial times, during the retreat of the Wurmian ice sheet, there were deposits of peat at Hoxne, in Suffolk, and it was growing there also. There are Neolithic records of *Caltha* at Hailes, near Edinburgh, and also a Roman age record at Silchester, Hampshire.

Now, Dr Colman in his "Ice Ages" estimates the time occupied by the Ice Age as a whole (that is, including its four great advances as well as the long mild interglacial periods), as from 600,000 to 700,000 years. The time since then, that

is since the ice definitely retreated, is estimated by some authorities as 8000 years and by others as 13,000 years.

(I do not myself think that either of these figures can be considered proven.)

During all these years the Marsh Marigold has flourished in Britain !

From the early Chalk period until that of the Cromer Forest bed Europe enjoyed a warm, mild and wet climate, perhaps like that of Tennyson's Isles of Eden. There was just one interruption. During the early Eocene cold water from the Arctic Ocean penetrated southward over what is now the North Sea or German Ocean, and as far, nearly, as the Straits of Dover. The shellfish which formerly lived there became first small and starved looking, and then died out altogether. They were replaced by Arctic species.

At this time quite a considerable part of southern England and northern France was dry land. Yet the climate must have been wet and cold.

The ancestor of *Caltha* was in all probability a woody perennial shrub accustomed to a warm humid and comfortable climate. This " cold snap " may have been responsible for the appearance of the first Marsh Marigold.

If so it could escape the rigours of the Great Ice Age, for even in the worst phase of this devastating period England, south of the Thames valley, was not obliterated by boulder clay.

It is a tenable proposition, therefore, that the birth-time of *Caltha palustris* was the cold period of the Eocene. Ever since then it has clung to the frozen limit of vegetation and faithfully followed the wanderings of the Northern Ice.

It was this cold period of the Eocene that destroyed the domination of cold-blooded, gigantic Dragons and Reptiles, and gave the Mammals, including our ancestors, a chance to occupy and possess the earth.

REFERENCES.

- (1) LINTON, *Flora of Derbyshire*; TANSLEY, *Types of British Vegetation*.
- (2) KNUTH, *Biologie*; MULLER, *Fertilisation of Flowers*; SCOTT ELLIOT, *Flora of Dumfriesshire*.
- (3) GERTZ, *Botan. Notiz.*, p. 283, 1913 and 1914; JENSEN, *Botan. Central Blatt Band*, 128, 1914.
- (4) FALCK, *Svensk, Botan, Tids.*, 1912.
- (5) AUTHOR'S observations.
- (6) BURKILL, *Journal, Linnean Soc.*, No. 214, 1895.
- (7) REICHE, *Flora d. Chile*.
- (8) LEHMANN, *Botan. Central Blatt Band*, 125.
- (9) GUPPY, *Studies in Seeds and Fruits*.
- (10) KINDERMAN, *Botan. Central Blatt Tome*, 128.
- (11) OUDEMAN, *Enumeration, System, Fungi*; GROVE, *Brit. East Fungi*

British Records of Ledum Palustre, Linn.

By W. SEMPLE, ESQ., M.A., B.Sc., Ph.D.

Ledum palustre, L., belongs to the same tribe of the natural order Ericaceæ as that containing *Rhododendron* and *Azalea*. Like other genera of the tribe, it is highly narcotic, though not so poisonous as *Rhododendron*. It has been used in medicine as a narcotic, formerly appearing in the German Pharmacopeia, but now marked obsolete. In Canada an infusion of *Ledum* leaves has been used as a substitute for tea under the name of James's or Labrador Tea. The Mountain Tea of the Canadians is made from *Gualtheria*, a fragrant plant of the same order, but not of the same tribe. Its height varies from six inches to a yard. The leaves, which are reflexed at the margins and are hairy beneath, have a pleasant fragrance. The flowers have a conspicuous pink or white corolla and the inflorescence is a dense umbel-like corymb. Its distribution is general through northern Europe

Its occurrence in the British Isles was noted in 1825 by Sir Charles Giesecke, Professor of Mineralogy in Dublin University. While on a geological tour in Achill Island he took a sprig of it in fresh condition from the hat of a fisherman

who said that it grew near Achill Head ; but the occurrence of the plant in Achill Island has never been confirmed.

The first published reference to the occurrence of *Ledum* in Scotland is said to be in an old guide-book to Bridge of Allan, which I have not seen. The next published reference was in the Transactions of the Botanical Society : Edinburgh, 1860, Vol. VI., p. 137. Here Mr A. Buchan states that *Ledum* has been known for many years to exist in small quantity in a bog near Bridge of Allan. In 1877 Dr Paterson exhibited a large plant of *Ledum latifolium* [really *L. palustre*] which he had found in a natural moss near the Bridge of Allan, where he had first discovered it growing abundantly about forty years ago [i.e., in 1847 approx.]. At the same meeting Mr A. Buchan [of the previous reference] stated that he had met with it in the same locality twenty years ago [i.e., 1857]. In October, 1887, Mr Arthur Bennett, F.L.S., was informed by letter from Dr Paterson that his discovery of the plant had been made in the course of a geological walk with the late Principal Forbes, of St Andrews. In July, 1888, Mr Bennett directed a friend to the plant, who, having found it in a position described as very wild, sent specimens to Mr Bennett. The latter accordingly argues that, as the plant has survived for nearly fifty years (certain), it seems curious that no mention of it has been more generally made, as this is not the case of the survival from a one year's rubbish heap. Mr Bennett had had his attention first directed to the plant by Mr N. E. Brown, and he in turn had received his information and specimens from Miss N. Geddes. In her letter to Mr Brown she observes : " There would be 20 or 30 plants scattered through the bog," . . . " No one ever planted it there, as some of the old residents remember seeing the same plant some 30 years ago growing in the bog." Many specimens had been removed, but, although the bog was being reclaimed, a few plants remained. A good many plants of the *Ledum* grew in another bog a few miles distant.

The discovery connected with Miss Geddes's name was referred to by Prof. Thomas King at a meeting of the Natural History Society of Glasgow on 16th August, 1887. He

announced that *Ledum palustre*, L., had recently been discovered in the neighbourhood of Bridge of Allan, and that its identification had been confirmed by Sir J. D. Hooker and Mr James Ramsay. This communication evoked a paper by Mr Johnston Shearer, which was read to the Natural History Society of Glasgow on 29th April, 1890. Here is a synopsis of part of Mr Shearer's story :

In the spring of 1879 the Bridge of Allan School Board offered a prize for the best collection of wild flowers made by a scholar during the summer. Mr Robert Geddes, a very intelligent shoemaker, wishing his daughter [Miss N. Geddes already referred to] to win the prize, enlisted Mr Shearer's help in naming the species collected by himself and his children. Among the specimens was a piece of *Ledum* from Lecropt Moss, where Mr Shearer subsequently saw it growing in considerable quantity among the heather. As the plants were not in bloom, neither Mr Shearer nor Mr Croall, president of the Stirling Field Club, could identify it. So, concluding that it was an exotic, neither took further interest in the matter, although five years later a request came from an Edinburgh doctor for a supply of the plant for medicinal purposes, the only source of supply being the Arctic regions. The doctor enclosed a specimen of *Ledum*, and stated that he had been told that the plant grew in abundance under the walls of Stirling Castle.

On seeing Prof. King's paper [read 1887, published 1888], Mr Shearer surmised that Mr Geddes had sent a specimen to Hooker, and found that he had done so in name of his daughter. Hooker handed the specimen to Mr Arthur Bennett, F.L.S., who exhibited it at a meeting of the Royal Botanical Society of London. Mr Geddes had also shown the plant growing in quantity to Mr James Ramsay, who was satisfied that it must have been established there for a long time.

On a later visit Mr Shearer found only four bushes on Lecropt Moss owing to the depredations of Edinburgh University students on a botanical excursion. He was, however, informed by Geddes that *Ledum* was growing in

Blair Drummond Moss, on the opposite side of the River Teith. Moreover, a hawker who had observed a specimen of *Ledum* growing in Geddes's window informed Geddes that plenty of the same plant grew in the mosses up by the way of the Lake of Menteith, and Geddes himself, about five weeks ago, had seen about half-a-dozen bushes of it in flower on Flanders Moss, between Bucklyvie and Gartmore. Mr Shearer sent Geddes a map on which to mark the spot. On returning the map, Geddes wrote: "I am told that the *Ledum* occurs all through the Flanders Moss."

REFERENCES.

1. *Flora Loudiniensis*, Vol. V., t. 212 (1828).
2. *Flora of Perthshire*, p. 388, appendix (Perth, 1898); Francis Buchanan White.
3. *Trans. Bot. Soc., Edin.*, VI., p. 137 (1860); A. Buchan.
4. *Trans. Bot. Soc., Edin.*, XIII., p. xxiii. (1877); Dr Paterson.
5. *Proc. Nat. Hist. Soc., Glasgow*, New Series, Vol. II. p. xxxvi. (1886-1888); Prof. Thos. King (read 16th August, 1887).
6. *Annals Andersonian Naturalist Society*, I. (1893); *Flora of Stirling and Neighbourhood*—Johnston Shearer (read 5th September, 1889).
7. *Proc. Nat. Hist. Soc., Glasgow*, New Series, Vol. III., p. 251 (1889-1892); Johnston Shearer (read 29th April, 1890).
8. *Journal of Botany* (1894), pp. 274, 275; A. Bennett, F.L.S.

On the Occurrence of *Ledum palustre*, Linn, Near Dumfries.

By W. SEMPLE, ESQ., M.A., B.Sc., Ph.D.

In the summer of 1928 the Rev. Prebendary W. Clark Maxwell of Carruchan was shown by his son Noel a plant growing in Carruchan Moss, and he in turn had had it pointed out by the late Mr Hutchison, gamekeeper at Dalskairth. A specimen was sent to G. F. Scott Elliot, Esq. of Drumwhill, who had its species confirmed by the Edinburgh Herbarium as *Ledum palustre*, L. The discovery was very interesting, because this plant is very rare in Scotland, and some botanists refuse to recognise it as a native plant,

At Mr Scott Elliot's request, I consulted all the written sources of information I could find in Glasgow University Library, and also some Glasgow botanists who had been in touch with the discovery of the plant in the midlands of Scotland. The literary sources seemed to confirm the validity of the plant as a native of Scotland.

The character of the Moss where the plant has been found near Dumfries is such that one could readily believe that it might have existed there for years without discovery. No one except a sportsman is likely to visit the Moss, as clumps of Tussock Grass make a traverse very uncomfortable. Sporadic patches of very tall Bog Myrtle bushes show that the Moss has not been burned for many years. Moreover, the Bog Myrtle, though quite unlike *Ledum*, may camouflage the latter from a casual observer, except when it is in bloom, and that is early in the year when neither botanist nor sportsman is likely to be on the Moss.

Later, however, evidence turned up which shows that *Ledum palustre* may have been planted in Carruchan Moss. Mr William Clingan, formerly gardener in Carruchan, and his wife, who had not previously heard of the discovery of *Ledum* by the Rev. W. Clark Maxwell, informed me that they knew of a plant growing in the Moss which, they had been told, was planted in the Moss by an earlier Carruchan gardener, the late Mr Houlston, because it would not grow in the garden: also that Mr Houlston had marked the spot by a stake. Their information was that the late Mrs Maxwell, aunt of the Rev. W. Clark Maxwell, had given the plant to Mr Houlston. They did not know the name of the plant, but Mr Clingan's description tallied with that of *Ledum*, though at one time he had imagined it to be a shrubby *Veronica*.

Miss Jardine, Waterside of Troqueer, while not confirming the statements of Mr and Mrs Clingan in every detail, writes: "There was a plant came there, and Houlston was said to have planted it in the Moss and put in a stake; but it was never seen or heard of till now."

On the evidence, though professedly hearsay, of these

witnesses, one may conclude that the validity of *Ledum palustre* as a native of our province is meantime not proven.

11th January, 1929.

An Artificial Trout Loch in Galloway.

Chairman—Mr M. H. M'KERROW.

By G. H. WILLIAMS, ESQ., B.A., Oxon, Retired Judge,
Egyptian Native Tribunals.

A glance at the map of Galloway will show that it is well provided with rivers, lochs and burns, and anyone interested in trout fishing would naturally suppose that he might expect some heavy creels in such a delectable country. I can speak only from personal experience of the waters of the Stewartry, and with the exception of that of Loch Dee the natural trout fishing in these waters cannot be considered good.

Most of the lochs and the calm stretches of the River Dee are infested with one of the trout's most inveterate enemies, namely, the Pike. I can never understand why this fresh water shark was so esteemed by the Monks in the Mediæval period, and actually preserved and introduced by them into fresh waters. On more than one occasion I have attempted to eat it, and the result has always been a mouthful of small bones. Perhaps, as the Monks generally partook of this fish on Fridays, this was regarded by them as part of the penance, or at all events pleasure subtly blended with pain. If the Pike at present existing in the waters of Galloway were originally introduced by the Monks who inhabited this region in the past, such introduction has considerably marred the sport of the modern trout anglers. The natural wild trout of Galloway, with the notable exception of those of Loch Dee, seldom attain an average large size.

In Loch Skerrow I have caught some trout which I was informed were true Gallovidian specimens. They were short, thick, stocky fish with deep vermilion spots, and fought well. As trout have been introduced to this loch from hatcheries

for many years, and have most probably interbred with the original inhabitants, it would be difficult to prove the existence of a typical Galloway trout, though certainly, as far as I could judge, there were two distinct types in this loch. It is possible that a few fish may revert to a fixed type which, after all, has only become permanent through environment, just as, amongst birds, one occasionally sees a typical old English Pheasant with a dark neck and more deeply coloured plumage, as originally introduced to this country from the Black Sea littoral, amongst the prevailing white-necked birds introduced at a later date from China. I recently saw a very pure specimen of this old English Pheasant killed in Hampshire. In Galloway I have seen several killed on the Orchardton Estate.

As all anglers know, the size of trout depends on the food supply. When there are too many trout they tend to run small, and when there are too few they run larger, but become difficult to catch. I hope to show that a fair average weight can be achieved by regulating as far as possible the balance between fish and food. Speaking from personal experience, I should say that in water where fresh water shrimps and snails are abundant 150 trout to one acre of water is about the correct proportion.

Of course, the quantity and quality of the food must always be taken into account. I know of many lochs in Scotland where a greater number of fish to the acre thrive and grow well, the best known and rightly most famous being Loch Leven, where many thousands of trout are caught annually averaging close on 1 lb. In 1924, having experienced but indifferent sport during the course of four years' trout fishing in various waters of Galloway, I determined to try the possibilities of an artificial loch.

Having a good site, with a small, but never failing, burn, I decided that the first thing to do before going to any expense in constructing a dam was to explore the food supply of that burn. There were a few small trout in the burn, and the question was what they fed on.

On close examination I was pleased to find the fresh-

water shrimp, the freshwater snail, and the larva of the caddis fly. All these are first-class diet for trout. To anyone not acquainted with these creatures it may be as well to point out that the freshwater shrimp looks more like a large flea than a shrimp, and may be found by turning up some weed-covered stones in the burn and tearing off the weed, when the shrimp will be seen wriggling away to cover. It may be mentioned that the freshwater shrimp cannot live in any water in which there is lime.

The freshwater snail will also be found amongst the weeds, but requires a careful search.

The caddis fly larva hides itself in a collection of small twigs, stones, bits of grass, etc., and will generally be found where there is a gravel bottom in the burn. Caddis flies belong to the order Trichoptera, and there are several species of these flies which trout devour in the larval and pupal stages and as perfect insects.

The food question being settled to my satisfaction, the next problem was the construction of a dam. Being entirely ignorant on the matter, I enlisted the services of an expert. Luckily he discovered a clay bed not very far from the proposed site of the dam, which considerably facilitated its construction and lessened the expense. Here let me say that I would advise anyone intending the construction of a dam to commence the work in the summer, and not in the autumn, as I did. Interference by rain impedes progress, and in my case caused more expense by the burn flooding on one occasion and bursting the dam before it was completed.

Clay, well puddled, holds water as well as concrete, and is, of course, much cheaper. I was advised to have clay a yard broad through the centre of the dam, and to this day it is holding the water well. The rest of the dam can be built on to this centre core from soil near at hand.

A most important matter in the construction of an artificial loch is to have complete control of the water impounded. In my case this was accomplished by sinking a wooden box made of Baltic pine in the bed of the burn sufficiently large to take the whole burn at its normal level.

This runs under the dam. On the loch side an upright box is fixed into the lower box to reach the level to which the water will rise—in the case of my loch, 14 feet. In this upright box are two grooves with two sets of boards 8 inches wide. In the outer groove are two sliding iron grids to keep the trout in when the loch is emptied. These grids are each one yard in length, the remainder of the groove being completed with the 8 inch boards. The water is held up by the sliding boards in the inner groove, and may be raised or lowered 8 inches at a time. A fulcrum is necessary to pull up the lowest boards. The whole contrivance makes a cheap, simple and most efficient sluice. As it is entirely submerged, the woodwork, thus being preserved from the evil effects of wind and weather, lasts for many years.

The final operation is to have a good overflow made of concrete, and I strongly advise a subsidiary overflow at a higher level to take any spate. If possible it is advisable to allow the whole dam to settle for a month or so before putting in these overflows, otherwise subsidence of the soil under the concrete will lead to leakage later.

A dam should be sufficiently high to produce an average depth of from 7 to 8 feet of water over the greater portion of one's loch. If the depth is greater than this the fish do not rise well, and if too shallow weeds, which inevitably will appear, make fishing impossible.

Under natural conditions trout invariably discover hiding places, such as submerged roots of trees, holes in the bank, and behind stones and rocks. To provide "hides" and shelters for them I had constructed, with large stones, some twenty shelters about 4 feet high built up to form tunnels. On one occasion a friend of mine, having hooked a nice fish in deep water, could not understand why that fish suddenly dived down and became immovable. I knew. That fish had dived into his home.

As I said before, the number of trout to the acre of water must, as far as possible, be limited. Now the natural instinct of trout in the spawning season is to pair off and run up the burn. The female oviposits on a gravel bed, called a

redd, while the male fertilises the ova with his milt. As fish, especially if protected, are most prolific, this process, if allowed to continue without check, will eventually lead to one's loch being stocked with thousands of little fish which can never grow to any size, as the food supply is insufficient.

I know of many lochs where this condition prevails. To prevent this result I have constructed, at a point about 200 yards from where the burn enters the loch, a large iron grid. This had to be sufficiently large to take the burn in spate. Above it I placed a wire netting barrier to act as a filter to catch refuse coming down the burn. The trout spawn in this 200 yards stretch of running water. As there are only three redds, and as the males in the spawning season become extremely pugnacious, driving each other from the redds, the number of females allowed to spawn successfully should not be considerable. I have protected these redds with wire netting against one of the best anglers of small fish I know, viz., the Heron.

The water impounded in my loch covers about 3 acres of ground. I have kept a strict record of the number of fish turned into the loch and those taken out, together with their weights. During 1925, 1926, and 1927, 591 trout were turned into the loch in the proportion of two brown trout to one rainbow. These hand-reared trout were two years old when turned in, and averaged between 6 and 7 inches in length. I did not weigh them, but should estimate their weight as between 2 and 3 ounces each.

During the years 1925, 1926, 1927, and 1928, 500 trout have been caught, almost exclusively on the fly, weighing 275 pounds. Thus the average works out at a little under 9 ounces.

The best year was 1926, when the average attained 13 1-5th ounces. As any angler will know, this is a high average for a small loch. To a certain extent it was attained by selecting the best fish, one rod taking 10 trout, whose weights were 2 lb., 1 3/4 lb., 1 3/4 lbs., 1 1/2 lb., 1 1/2 lb., 1 1/2 lb., and four of 1 lb. each.

During the year 1928 the average dropped considerably,

the fish having become too numerous in spite of my efforts to restrict their spawning. I have consequently dried off the loch and killed numbers of fish, and I hope, by allowing the land to lie fallow, to increase the food supply again.

During the years the land has been flooded I have noted the following birds :

WILD DUCK.—These appear in small flocks all through the winter, and several pairs breed annually.

On close observation I have been much struck by the inferiority of the wild duck as a parent. She broods well, and generally hatches off well, and then seems to imagine the delicate little ducklings are as strong as she is, and can swim after her all day long without rest. As far as I can make out she kills her brood with over exercise. At any rate, of the broods I have watched during the last four years not more than two or three ducklings have survived.

TEAL.—These appear in small flocks throughout the winter, but so far have not nested.

WIDGEON.—These generally appear in pairs in the early spring.

TUFTED DUCK.—These appear all through the winter, sometimes singly, sometimes in pairs, but have not nested.

SWANS appear from time to time, and are a great nuisance, as they tear up from the bottom bunches of weed which are apt to float and choke the outlets.

CORMORANT.—This is a most unwelcome visitor. I have watched one catching trout as fast as he could, and in spite of careful stalking he always managed to avoid my gun. He and I played hide and seek for days. He always dived just as I thought I could kill him, till in desperation I fired at him a long way out, and he came to the conclusion that the fish were not worth the game, as he never returned.

Of the waders, I have noted the **HERON**, **CURLEW**, **REDSHANK**, **SANDPIPER**, and **SNIPE**.

I was glad to see the **KINGFISHER**, but he is chary of his visits.

COOTS and **MOORHENS** both nest on the loch.

The PIED WAGTAIL has discovered a cosy spot in the boat-house to rear her broods.

Although I have seen several species of GULLS flying over the loch, I have never seen any swimming on it, which seems rather curious.

SWALLOWS, of course, hawk flies over the loch's surface during the summer.

Eels have discovered the loch's existence, and as they could not possibly ascend the overflows they have travelled to the water overland.

The following water plants have made their appearance :

- Water Crowfoot (*Ranunculus aquatilis*).
- Lesser Spearwort (*Ranunculus Flammula*).
- Cuckoo-flower (*Cardamine pratensis*).
- Mare's-tail (*Hippuris vulgaris*).
- Water Milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*).
- Water Starwort (*Callitriche aquatica*).
- Bur-reed (*Sparganium ramosum*).
- Water Plantain (*Alisma Plantago*).
- Broad-leaved Pond-weed (*Potamogeton natans*).
- Slender Pond-weed (*Potamogeton pusillus*).

The seeds of some of these no doubt have been washed down the burn, but certainly not of all. How did these plants get there? I know not, unless the seeds were carried somehow by the various birds already noted. There is no water anywhere near from which the seeds could be blown by the wind.

I introduced Lakewort (*Littorella lacustris*), Water Lobelia (*Lobelia Dortmanna*), and Buck-bean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*). Of these only the Buck-bean lived and flourished.

In these days, with the ever-increasing army of anglers and the consequently increased difficulty of finding any water to fish, good angling water has become more valuable than land. An artificial loch, besides providing the fishing, adds beauty to the landscape, and may also give enjoyment in the way of boating, swimming, shooting, and, in the winter, curling and skating.

The Dovecote at Blackwood (Dumfriesshire).

By JOHN GLADSTONE.

1. SITUATION.—At Blackwood House, half-a-mile N.-W. of Auldgirith Station, and some 8 miles in the same direction from Dumfries, a dovecote with many features of unusual interest is to be found in a remarkably good state of preservation. Surmounting its roof is a weather vane in the shape of a pennon pierced with the initials W C C and the date 1778: this is probably the date in which W[illiam] C[opland] of C[olliston] completed the stables at Blackwood by building the dovecote.¹

2. DIMENSIONS.—The dovecote rises from the centre of a long range of stable buildings forming the E. side of a courtyard some 50 yards to the W. of Blackwood House. The height from the ground to the wall-head is 26 feet on the W.² and 29 feet 6 inches on the E. Externally the dovecote is a square of 24 feet; internally it is circular, with a diameter of 20 feet from wall to wall. This plan, circular inside and square outside, is most uncommon. Mr A. O. Cooke, who in his *Book of Dovecotes* notes the shape of 226 dovecotes,³ does not give a single instance of one built in this way.⁴ The Ancient Monuments Commission, however, record that at Salton (E. Lothian) there is a dovecote “apparently of late 18th century date,” which is square externally but circled internally.⁵ This is the only instance

¹ c.p. *Trans. D. and G. Nat. Hist. and Ant. Soc.*, 1921-1922, p. 213.

² The axis of the dovecote is actually N. 15 deg. E. In this paper the cardinal points of the compass are used for convenience.

³ A. O. Cooke, *A Book of Dovecotes* (Edinburgh: Foulis, 1920), pp. 289-293. This little book, which provides a good introduction to a vast subject, is unfortunately out of print. Mr Cooke, in a letter to my father (dated 18th December, 1926), informs him that it is unlikely that a second edition will be issued.

⁴ The dovecote at Piddletrenthide Manor (Dorset) is circular internally; but externally it is built with its first 6 feet from the ground octagonal, and the remaining 26 feet to the wall-head circular.

⁵ *7th Report of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments and Constructions (Scotland)*, Vol. VIII. (E. Lothian), p. 108.

we can find of a dovecote built on the same plan as that at Blackwood. It is possible, however, that other examples exist; dovecote hunting is a pastime in which Mr Cooke has as yet found few companions.

3. APPROACH.—Below the dovecote is a passage with a flight of 5 steps in the centre giving communication between Blackwood House and the stable courtyard, which is on a higher level. From this passage a stone stair goes up to a vaulted landing on the first floor lit by a window in the E. wall. On this floor is a small chamber 5 feet 2 inches long and 6 feet 7 inches wide which, as rows of hooks nailed to the walls show, was used as a larder. The dovecote is reached by a narrow wooden stair, which can be lifted and hung up from the inside of the dovecote. At the top a rectangular opening 3 feet $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 1 foot 7 inches is cut through the vault, which is here 1 foot $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. The original wooden covering for this trap-door, complete with lock and hinges, is still in use. It measures 4 feet 7 inches by 2 feet 3 inches, and is shown in Fig. 1 laid back on the floor of the dovecote. The sides of the trap opening are raised 6 inches above the floor level on all sides. Pigeon stealing was a common occurrence, but this double precaution seems hardly necessary at Blackwood, where the dovecote is so near the house.

4. "DUNGHOLE."—Some 2 feet 3 inches from the corner of the trap-door is an aperture 10 inches square cut obliquely through the vault which is here 2 feet 7 inches thick. Through it one looks down into a chamber (shown on Fig. 2) 3 feet wide, 10 feet long, and no less than 19 feet 6 inches deep. There is little doubt as to its purpose; it was built to receive the pigeons' excrement, a valuable commodity which could be put to many uses.⁶ This cleverly constructed

⁶ For the many uses of pigeons' dung, see *The Agricultural Report of Scotland* (1814), Vol. II., p. 545; Moore's *Columbarium*, ed. Tegetmeier (1879), p. 23; *Samuel Hartlib his Legacy of Husbandry* (1655), p. 225; Charles Waterton, *Essays on Natural History*, 2nd ed. (1857-1858), First Series, p. 246, and Third Series, p. 111; H. G. Graham, *Social Life of Scotland in the 18th Century*, p. 50.

apartment—which we shall call the “dunghole”—provided a satisfactory arrangement for disposing of the manure from the dovecote. The floor of the dunghole being on the ground level, the manure had merely to be shovelled through the hole up above and carted away from below.

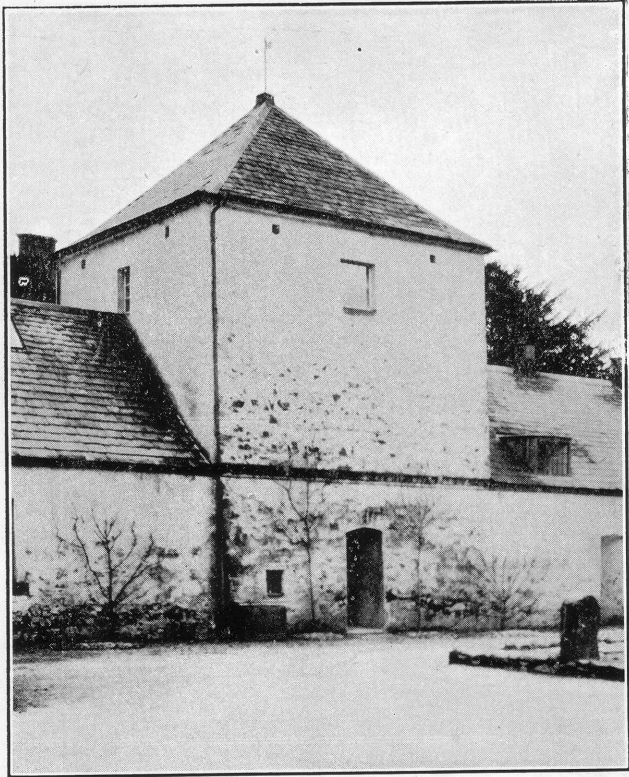
A string-course runs along the S. wall of the dunghole, 7 feet above the floor. This was a device frequently employed—usually on the outside walls of a dovecote—to prevent rats and other animals from making their way into a dovecote.⁷ Their easiest means of access to the dovecote at Blackwood was through the hole in the floor of the dovecote. A string-course round the walls of the dunghole would prevent any creature from climbing into the dovecote. Although the course is now only seen on the S. wall, undoubtedly at one time it ran all round the walls.

5. WINDOWS.—The dovecote is lit by 4 windows, one in each wall, 3 feet above the floor. The windows on the N. and S. walls are 3 feet 6 inches high and 2 feet 3 inches wide; those on the E. and W. sides were the same height, but $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches broader; the window in the E. wall has been altered and lowered in modern times. The thickness of the walls at the windows is 1 foot 8 inches; at the corners measured diagonally it is no less than 6 feet.

6. NEST-HOLES.—Every available inch of wall space is occupied by nest-holes, which number 539, and are arranged in 17 tiers running right round the building. Between the windows, however, nest-holes have been constructed above the 17th tier (see Fig. 5).

The nests are partitioned off from each other by pillars of brick rising from the floor to where the roof timbers strike the circle of the dovecote. The freestone slabs which are the floors of the nests project 4 inches from the brick pillars and form courses round the circle. These ledges, used as alighting places and “promenades,” are often found in 18th century dovecotes. The nest-holes are of what Mr Cooke calls “the L-shaped variety,” a form which is, he tells us,

⁷ J. Whitaker, *The Dovecotes of Nottinghamshire*, p. 23.



THE DOVECOT AT BLACKWOOD.

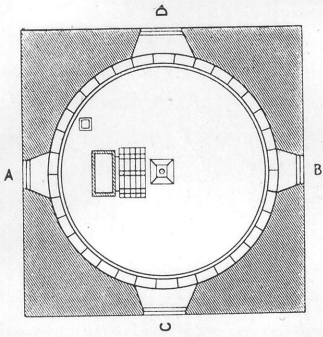


Fig. 1.
Floor Plan.

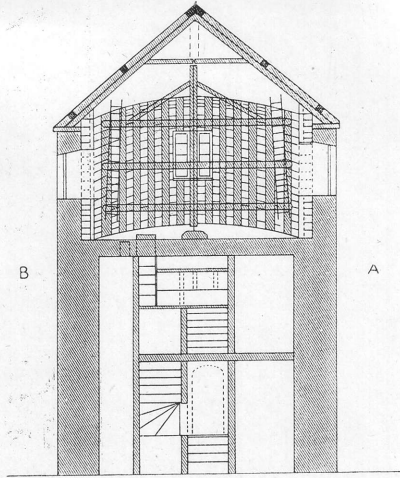


Fig. 2.
Cross Section on line A-B.

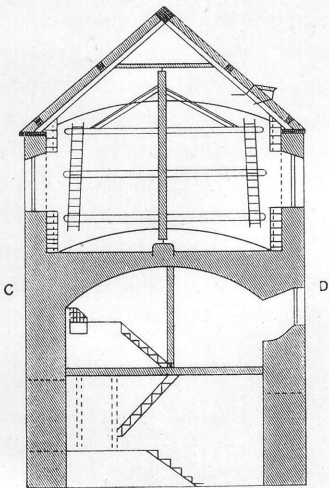


Fig. 3.
Cross Section on line C-D.

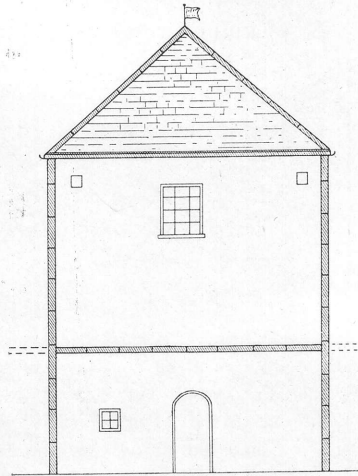


Fig. 4.
Elevation showing Side A-D.

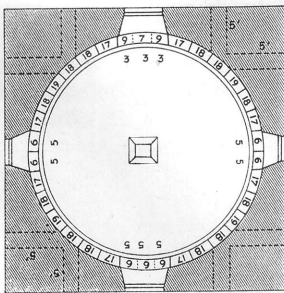


Fig. 5.
Floor Plan showing numbers
of Nest Holes in each column
and openings.

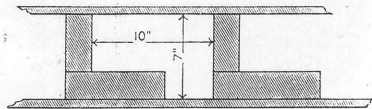


Fig. 6.
Plan of a Nest Hole.

“practically unknown N. of the Tweed.”⁸ The opening to each nest-hole is 10 inches wide and 7 inches high; the space behind which extends to the left—and not as usual to the right—measures 11 inches by 1 foot 5 inches (see Fig. 6).

7. ENTRANCES.—On the E. side of the roof is an aperture in the modern sarking replacing an older opening, shown in Fig. 3. It has an opening of 6 inches outside and 15 inches inside. A shutter which can be manipulated from below by a string is attached; the opening could thus be closed when pigeon catching was in progress.

The pigeons had another means of access to the dovecote. Some 5 feet from each corner of the dovecote there are 2 openings 7 inches high and 10 inches broad, which, running at right angles to each other, reach the interior at 4 points in the 11th tier of nests. Five feet is a most unusual length for the main openings of a dovecote.⁹ The 8 holes, which reach the interior in the 12th tier of nests, are shown in the elevation (Fig. 4). They are not counted in the number of nest-holes in Fig. 5, but their position in each column is indicated.

8. POTENCE.—Before describing the potence at Blackwood, I shall quote Mr Cooke’s remarks on their construction and purpose. “The vital portion,” he writes, “was a massive beam or *arbre*, secured in an upright position in the centre of the dovecote by being pivoted into socket holes placed in the floor and roof respectively. In these socket

⁸ A. O. Cooke, *op. cit.*, p. 244.

⁹ There are 8 columns between the openings in the N. and S. walls, and 7 between those in the E. and W. walls of nests and on the diameter of this circle. This is caused by the fact that the E. and W. walls (the outside walls) slope slightly inwards, while the interior walls are upright. In order that windows could be placed in the centre of the walls and that the length of the openings should all be equal, this arrangement had to be made. The builder of the dovecote must have decided beforehand on the dimensions of his nest-holes and fitted in the rest accordingly. The dovecote is a remarkably clever piece of planning; to construct a circular dovecote—complete with nest-holes, potence, trap-door, and dunghole—above a block of square buildings is a task which has never been attempted elsewhere.

holes the beam revolved freely at a touch. Jutting horizontally from the beam were several arms, technically known as the *potences* or "gallows," though the term gradually came to mean the mechanism as a whole. The arms were not in the same vertical plane, but placed in such a position with regard to each other that the ladder they supported had a gentle slope. This ladder, being at the ends farthest from the central beam, allowed a person standing on it to search the upper nests for young birds. Without descending he could, by gripping the tiers of nests, cause the beam and ladder to revolve, and so move round the house. Sometimes one ladder only was employed; but not infrequently the arms projected on either side of the beam, each end carrying a ladder. This seems a questionable advantage; it allowed two persons to work together, but unless their rate of progress coincided with the time saved it must have been small."

The "massive beam" at Blackwood has a diameter of 9 inches and is 13 feet high. The lower pivot of the beam is placed in a block of freestone 10 inches square, which in turn rests on another block 2 feet square. The upper pivot was intended to revolve in one of the cross beams of the roof, but is now an inch or two out of position; consequently the whole *potence* is inclined to one side, so that one ladder clears the projecting ledges by 10 inches and the other by 7 inches. Three beams on either side of the upright have been placed at a distance of 2 feet 10 inches from each other. The arms are all 6 inches wide, 2 inches thick, and 16 inches long. At either end is a sloping ladder of 13 rungs, spaced 8 inches apart. The ladders, which are 9 feet 1 inch long, are inclined at an angle of 67 degrees, and clear the floor by 2 feet 3 inches. A small piece of wood was placed from the top of each ladder to the top of the central beam to give additional support to the structure. One of these has now been broken away. One hardly expects to find a *potence* in so small a dovecote; a 2-laddered *potence*, usually found only in the largest dovecotes, is still more surprising.

Since a *potence* was always made of wood, in many dovecotes it has been pulled down or has fallen down. The

Blackwood potence, however, is complete, except for the small piece of wood I have mentioned; it is, moreover, in excellent working order, and still "revolves freely at a touch." It is constructed of red pine wood, and is painted grey.

9. ROOF.—The pyramidal tiled roof of the dovecote—the rise of which is 8 feet—rests on 8 main beams of red pine wood, 4 of which ascend from the corners of the wall-head and 4 from above the windows. These and other beams in the roof probably date from 1778, when the dovecote was built. The sarking appears to be modern; broken and missing slates were replaced in 1923 by Mr R. G. D. Thomas, of Southwick.

10. MATERIAL.—The dovecote, like the block of buildings in which it stands, is built of rubble with red freestone dressings. The whole has been whitewashed. The floor and the base of the nest-holes are of red freestone. The divisions between the nests are of contemporary hand-made bricks, measuring 9 inches by 4 inches by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

11. CONDITION OF STRUCTURE.—The dovecote is in an excellent state of preservation and repair. Mr R. G. D. Thomas, of Southwick, who owned Blackwood from 1923 to 1926, made the roof sound and glazed the windows to keep out owls and other birds. Mr Thomas W. Kennedy, the present owner, is fully aware of the unique interest of his dovecote, and as long as he owns Blackwood we need have no fears for its future.

12. FOOD LOCKERS.—On the last landing before the stair reaches the floor of the dovecote 2 large wooden lockers with sloping lids are placed against the base of the vault. Each measures 3 feet 3 inches by 1 foot 3 inches deep. These lockers—which were almost certainly put in to contain the pigeons' food—are remarkable, as they are not usually found elsewhere as part of the equipment of a dovecote.

13. CONCLUSION.—This leads me on to suggest a reason for the fact that no dovecote or ruins of a dovecote was found by the *Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments* in the counties of Dumfries and Wigtown or in the

Stewartry of Kirkcudbright; and that since 1707 the only dove-cote—excluding, of course, wooden erections (as at Kirkconnell, Kirkcudbright)—which appears to have been built in these three counties is at Blackwood.¹⁰

Dove-cotes, as Mr Cooke points out,¹¹ were “very little built in pastoral parts, as a good supply of grain was absolutely needed for the birds.” Very little corn was grown in Dumfriesshire and in Galloway; any pigeons, therefore, that were kept would have to be fed.¹² Hence we can explain the presence of the food lockers at Blackwood and the absence of dove-cotes in our country.

Yet we have at Blackwood, as I have attempted to show, one of the most remarkable dove-cotes dating from the 18th century in Great Britain; while the fact that it is the only one to be found in Dumfriesshire or in Galloway makes it all the more interesting to our Society.

14. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.—It remains for me to thank Mr Thomas W. Kennedy of Blackwood for allowing me access to his dove-cote; Mr Andrew J. F. Montagu for helping me with measurements; and finally, Mr Nicol Ker, Courthill, Keir, who has most kindly drawn the accompanying plans and given invaluable assistance in the preparation of this paper.

¹⁰ Since writing this paper Mr Hornel has informed me that there is a dove-cote near Kirkcudbright. See also Dr Singer's *Agriculture of Dumfriesshire* (Edinburgh, 1812, p. 386).

¹¹ In a letter to my father, dated 15th December, 1926.

¹² The keeping of pigeons went out with the introduction of turnips. Lairds and farmers had formerly killed off their cattle in November, and had lived on salted meat till spring came round again. Pigeons, which could be killed at any time, provided a welcome change of food. The introduction of root crops meant that cattle could be fed and killed during the winter, thus obviating the necessity of providing an alternative source of food. At the beginning of the 19th century, too, poultry, which have done more than anything to oust the pigeon as a food, were beginning to be kept in Scotland.

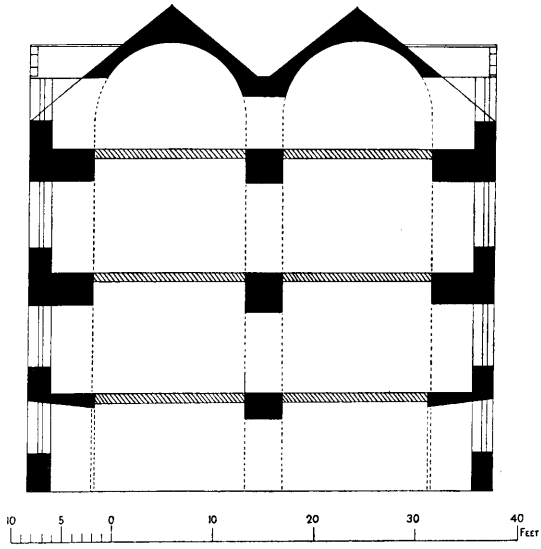


Fig. 1.
Cross Section on line A-B

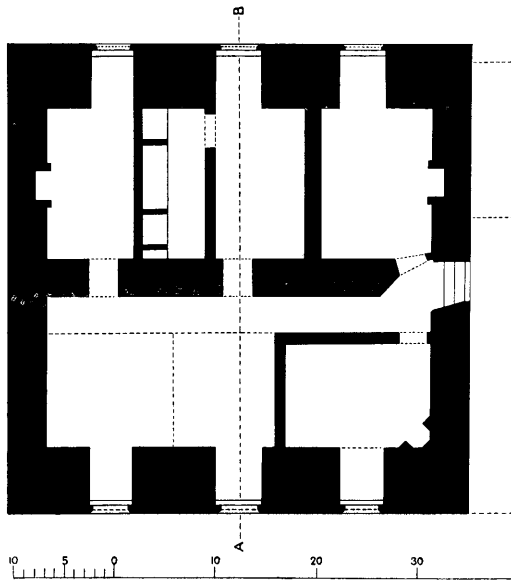


Fig. 2. Basement

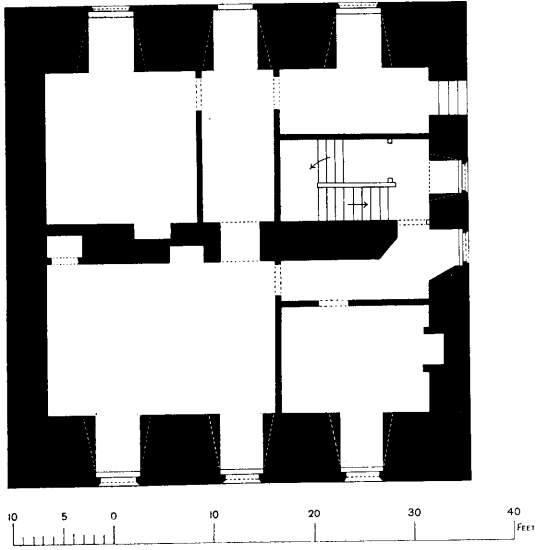


Fig. 3. Ground Floor.

[NOTE.—In Figs. 3, 4, and 5 the Stairs are shown going downward as indicated by the arrows.]

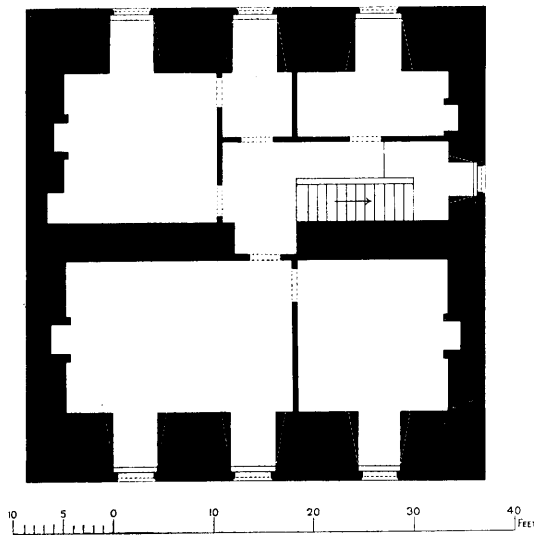


Fig. 4. First Floor

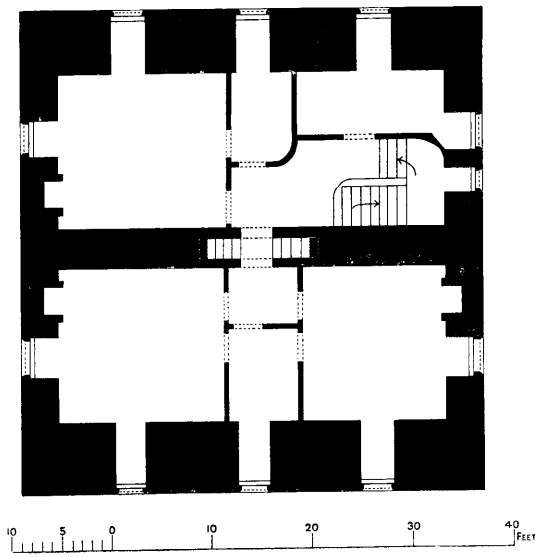


Fig. 5. Second Floor

The Kirkpatricks at Capenoch (1727-1846).

By JOHN GLADSTONE.

I.

I propose to give a short account of the family of Kirkpatrick of Closeburn from 1727 to 1846; the years in which they possessed the estate of Capenoch. I have inserted some paragraphs on Capenoch house, and have concluded my paper with a note on the Capenoch estate in 1845. Much work has been done on the early history of the family of Kirkpatrick of Closeburn by members of the Society and others. I need only refer to Mr Reid's paper in the *Transactions* of the Society,¹ and, for the intermediate period, to such an authority as Burke's *Peerage*. My apology for this paper is a belief that the history of the gradual disappearance of an important family is as interesting as that of its rise; and, when that family has been connected with the county for six centuries, facts relative to the last century of its stay deserve at least to be put on record.

Capenoch came into the possession of the Kirkpatrick family as a result of a marriage between Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, the third Baronet of Closeburn, and Susanna (or Susan) Grierson, the only surviving daughter of James Grierson of Capenoch by his third wife Catherine Sharp.² James Grierson, like the majority of Nithsdale lairds at the end of the seventeenth century, had been no friend to the reformed Kirk. When in 1692 the Kirk Session of Keir had censured his moral conduct he had felt himself strong

¹ *Transactions*, Vol. 13, Third Series, 1925-6, p. 120 *seq.*

² She was the widow of James Grierson of Barjarg (d. 1704), whose heiress by her m. Charles Erskine. Thus Barjarg and Capenoch passed respectively into the Erskine and Kirkpatrick families from the Griersons. Through her the Kirkpatricks obtained Hoddom. She was a sister of General Matthew Sharpe, the last proprietor of that family. On his death Hoddom was left to her great-great-nephew, Charles Sharpe Kirkpatrick, son of William Kirkpatrick of Ailsland, M.P., who had married Jean Erskine, Catherine Sharp's granddaughter.

enough to disregard their threats. On 31st January, 1693, William Waugh, an elder, had reported to the Kirk Session that he "had spoken with the laird of Capenoch but had received no polite answer"; consequently another elder, Thomas Harkness, was "appointed to go to him."³ Whether his mission was successful or not we do not know, but it was not till 4th September, 1697, that Capenoch "appeared before the congregation three several Lord's dayes and was publickly rebuked."⁴ In 1693 and 1696 Capenoch had stood cautioner to his cousin, the notorious Grier of Lag.⁵ In 1715, however, he accompanied Ferguson of Craigdarroch and Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, the future father-in-law of his daughter, when in 1715 they raised forces at "Keir-moss" in support of the Government.⁶ He was dead by 1727, but his wife was alive at the time of her daughter's marriage. She was buried in Keir Kirkyard with her first husband, John Grierson of Barjarg.

Both Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick and Susanna Grierson had extensive landed property in Nithsdale, which their marriage contract,⁷ dated 25th October, 1727, sets forth at length. Sir Thomas,⁸ besides his ancestral Closeburn estate, possessed the lands of Brighburgh (Barburgh), Auchinleck, and Ellisland; Susanna Grierson was the owner of the 6 merkland of Breacoch (Braco) "sometime in the parish of Holywood, now in the parish of Keir"; the £5 land of Shaws of Dalgarno and Fisherland with the tower and fortalice of Shaws,⁹ in the Barony of Lag and parish of Dalgarno; "and the 6 merkland of Capenoch, sometime in the parish of Holywood,

³ *The Session Book of Keir*, 31st Jan., 1693.

⁴ *The Session Book of Keir*, 4th Sept., 1697.

⁵ Lieutenant-Colonel Fergusson, *The Laird of Lag* (1886), pp. 102, 103, 241.

⁶ Peter Rae, *History of the Rebellion* (ed. 1746), p. 230.

⁷ Preserved in the Capenoch charter chest.

⁸ On 23rd November, 1725, Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick was enrolled as a student at Padua University in Italy.

⁹ Here is another tower to add to the list given in the *Report of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments*.

now in the parish of Keir." On the back of the contract is the following note :

4th November, 1727, betwixt 10 and 11 befornoon Sir Tho : gave infest [sic] to his lady *properys* [sic] *manibus*. Wit. Tho : ffinnan in Land (Lann), Andrew Deser, Ja : Dunlop servt to Sir Tho : and Ro Hunter servt to C : S : (Catherine Sharp) Lady Cap :

The contract provided that, should she survive her husband, Lady Kirkpatrick was to receive an annuity of 3000 merks scots "together with the third part of the household plenishing, furniture, table and bedlinning" belonging to her husband at the time of his decease; silver plate was expressly excepted from this list of goods Lady Kirkpatrick was to share. For twenty years Sir Thomas and Lady Kirkpatrick lived at Closeburn House, which was built in 1685 partly from the materials of the old place, the tower of which remains to-day. The new house, however, only stood some 60 years; on the night of 29th August, 1748, the hall was burnt to the ground and all the family papers, portraits and plate were destroyed in the fire.¹⁰

This was a tragedy from which, as we shall see, the family of Closeburn never recovered: the house was not rebuilt, and Sir Thomas repaired and went to live in the tower which his ancestors had built at the end of the 14th century.¹¹

In October, 1771, Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick died, and was succeeded by his second son James, who took the management of the Closeburn lime-works into his own hands and made great improvements on his estate. It is said that he not only gave his tenants lime for their land, but also had to pay them to put it on. But by 1783 he was in debt—it is said as a consequence of his father's extravagance, especially in his attempts to get his brother William a seat in Parliament—

¹⁰ C. T. Ramage, *Drumlanrig and the Douglasses*, p. 210; R. M. F. Watson, *Closeburn*, p. 64.

¹¹ Grose's *Antiquities of Scotland*, i., p. 152.

and, in order to meet the importunate demands of his creditors, was forced to sell Closeburn.¹²

I can find but two records of the old house of Capenoch being occupied after "Lady Capenoch's" death. On 9th August, 1741, the Moderator represented to the Session of Keir that "Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick and his lady, who this summer stayed at Capenoch, considering the great straits the poor were in gave him two guineas for the use of the poor." In the same year Sir Thomas gave a further £25.¹³ In 1748 John Brown was "tenant in Capenoch," but whether he was living in the old house we do not know. It is probable that the buildings became unoccupied and gradually fell into disrepair. To-day only the foundations of a "small rectangular tower with a courtyard attached to it" remain;¹⁴ while the position of the garden—Charles Cooper, "gardener to Capenoch," is mentioned in 1709¹⁵—can still be seen.

It is said that, after the sale of Closeburn, there was some doubt as to whether the family should move to Shaws or to Capenoch, as the latter plan entailed building a house. Sir James decided to move to Capenoch, and stayed at Shaws while his new house was being built.¹⁶

II.

Capenoch house, built soon after 1783,¹⁷ is one of the latest examples in the county of an important house planned

¹² C. T. Ramage, *op. cit.*, p. 211. The 6 merkland of Capenoch was exposed for sale at the same time, the upset price being £5000, but was probably withdrawn at the last moment. (Document in Capenoch charter chest.) See, too, *Dumfries and Galloway Courier and Herald*, 6th Feb., 1924.

¹³ *The Session Book of Keir*, 9th Aug., 1741. [The disastrous dearth of 1740-1 is well described in H. G. Graham's *Social Life in Scotland in the 18th Century*, p. 170.] *Ibid.*, 4th Sept., 1748.

¹⁴ *Report of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments*, p. 120.

¹⁵ *The Session Book of Keir*, 27th March, 1709.

¹⁶ W. Kirkpatrick *in litt.*, 10th Nov., 1912; J. G. Kirkpatrick *in litt.* 22nd March, 1913.

¹⁷ My father's transcript of W. F. Hunter Arundell of Barjarg's MS. Pedigrees, p. 48.



SIR THOMAS KIRKPATRICK OF CLOSEBURN,
3RD BARONET.

(b. 1704; d. 1771.)

[Owned Capenoch 1727—1771].

(From a portrait in the possession of Miss Lumsden. The original
was destroyed in the fire at Closeburn House, 1748.)



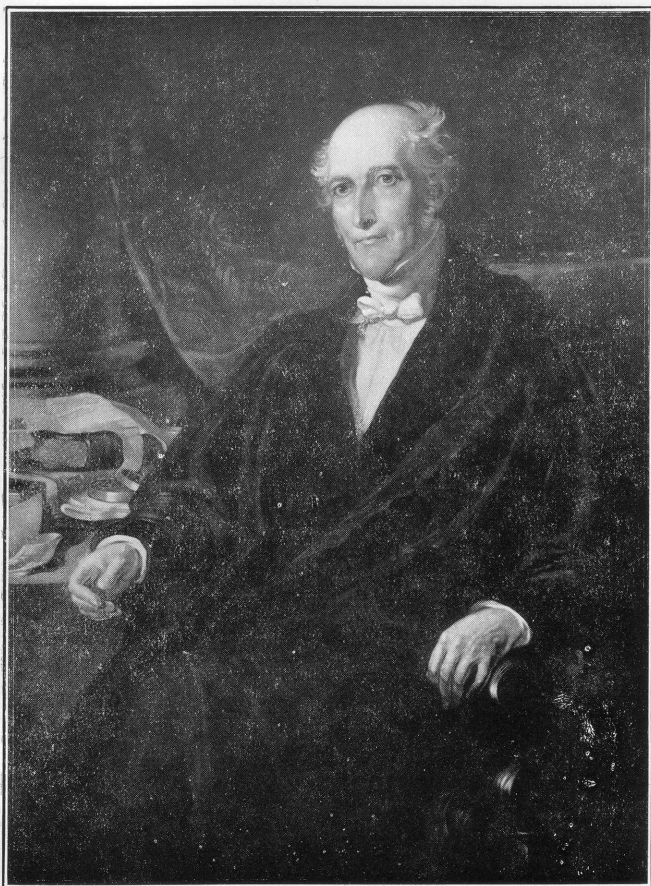
SIR JAMES KIRKPATRICK OF CLOSEBURN,
4TH BARONET.

(b. ; d. 1804.)

[Owned Capenoch 1771—1804].

Built the present house of Capenoch, c. 1783.

(From a contemporary miniature in the possession of
Col. Kirkpatrick of Knockhill.)



SIR THOMAS KIRKPATRICK OF CLOSEBURN,
5TH BARONET.

(b. 1777; d. 1844.)

[Owned Capenoch 1804—1844.]

(From the portrait by Sir William Allan, P.R.A., in the
Sheriff Court Room, Dumfries.)

and built by local workmen with local ideas and local methods. We have only to look at Dalswinton, Terregles and Closeburn Hall¹⁸ to see that in the South of Scotland at the end of the 18th century an English style of building was ousting the local adaptations of the keep. We have perhaps in Capenoch a clue to how house building would have developed in the South of Scotland had that district remained impervious to English influences.

The house was 46 feet square outside and 38 feet by 33 feet 6 inches inside the walls. It was divided into two rectangles of equal size by a partition wall 3 feet 6 inches thick. Each of these rectangles was crowned by a vaulted roof of span 15 feet and rise 7 feet 6 inches. The vaults rest on the partition wall and on the east and west walls of the house. These are 6 feet 6 inches thick at the base and 6 feet 3 inches thick above the first floor—an abnormal thickness in so late a building. The north and south walls, through which the chimneys ascend, are 3 feet 6 inches thick. Above the half underground basement there are 3 floors, including the vaulted top storey. The wooden floors are suspended by iron clamps from massive oak beams whose ends are built into the east and west walls, and are supported by 3 transverse beams on either side of the dividing wall. The stairs are of a type common in 18th century buildings. The windows, with the exception of 4 in the top storey, and those lighting the stair, are all in the 6 feet 3 inches thick wall, there being 3 on either side of the partition wall, thus making 6 on each floor. When the house was altered in 1848, the wall was cut away on the inside of the windows so that more light could be obtained. The entrance doorway on the middle of the west wall of the house was reached by a short flight of steps.

The house was built of rough whinstones, probably obtained from the old house of Capenoch, with facings of local sandstone. It was harled over with a pink coloured

¹⁸ *Robert Riddell's Addenda to the Statistical Account of Scotland*, i. (1791), pp. 28, 29.

plaster, a little of which was spared in 1848, when the house was refaced with a light pink sandstone known as "Capenoch stone." The distinctive character of the house was removed by the alterations effected in 1848 and 1854 for James Grierson and T. S. Gladstone respectively by Mr James Bryce. The additions, which were on the north and south sides, were in what has been called the "Scottish Baronial style," since an imaginary "Baronial Castle" was the model of this school of mid-Victorian architects. To-day we can but trace the outside walls of the old house and distinguish the stone-set windows of the older portions of the house, though some rooms in the interior are much as they were left by the Kirkpatricks.

The accompanying plans were drawn by Mr Nicol Ker, Courthill, Keir, to whom I am indebted for assistance in this section of my paper. A section of the house and plans of each floor—which we hope need little comment—are given.

If the reader will compare the section of Closeburn Castle (in the *Report of the Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Dumfriesshire*, p. 31), with that of Capenoch he will, if he removes the two lower stories of Closeburn Castle, detect a certain similarity both in the construction of the vault and the placing of the windows. It will be remembered that Sir James Kirkpatrick had lived in the castle before he built Capenoch; it is not impossible that he derived some inspiration in the construction of Capenoch from the tower which his ancestors had built in the 14th century.

We have not been able to discover whether the vault at Capenoch was crowned by a wooden roof—the present timber roof dates from the alteration of 1848—or by a covering of stone tiles as at Closeburn Castle. We know that a roof of Gateleybrig stone slabs was put on Closeburn Castle soon after 1748, when Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick came to live there after the house had been burnt down;¹⁹ and it is probable that the same method was adopted at Capenoch. Mr W. Kirkpatrick informs me that Capenoch was vaulted because of the scarcity of timber at the time; it is hardly

¹⁹ Francis Grose, *The Antiquities of Scotland* (1797), i., p. 153,

likely that Sir James would have gone to the expense of providing a timber roof above the vault when stone was so easily accessible.²⁰

III.

Sir James Kirkpatrick, who had married a Miss Jardine,²¹ said to have been a dairymaid,²² lived some twenty years in the house he had built. They had a family of four daughters and two sons—his heir Thomas (b. 1777), Roger (b. 1779), who *m* Liliias, *d* of Robert Anderson of Stroquhan, Susan, who died an octogenarian in Scarbraehead House nearby,²³ Isabella, Jean and Mary. With them at Capenoch lived Sir James' younger brother, William Kirkpatrick (d. 1824), whose son John had gone out to Greece and had become Chief Judge of the Ionian Islands.²⁴

On May 23rd, 1803, Sir James Kirkpatrick made a trust disposition in favour of his eldest son.²⁵ A passage in this document makes pathetic reading now that the family has left Capenoch and that the wishes expressed by the writer have not been fulfilled. Sir James directed that his wife was to receive an annuity of £80 sterling; his four daughters £100 between them with £20 added on the death of their mother; that his son Roger was to have his tack of the farm of Garroch and £500 sterling, and that his "brother William is to continue to live in the family with board and cloathing." He continues as follows: "By this time (i.e., when the annuities have been paid) my son Thomas will find

²⁰ W. Kirkpatrick *in litt.*, 10th Nov., 1912. The American War of Independence (1776 to 1783) had caused a shortage of timber in Great Britain.

²¹ Trust disposition of 23rd May, 1803.

²² Information from Mr J. G. Kirkpatrick.

²³ Scarbraehead House was demolished to gratify, it is said, my great-grandfather's desire not to see any house from the windows of his own!—a not uncommon mid-Victorian fancy. Miss Susan Kirkpatrick was a friend of Kirkpatrick MacMillan, the inventor of the bicycle, who lived not far from Scarbraehead.

²⁴ *Burke's Peerage*, 1903, p. 873. From 1814 to 1864 the Ionian Islands belonged to Great Britain.

²⁵ Preserved in the Capenoch charter chest.

himself but a poor Laird, but Tom will remember that I have expended more upon him, on his education and since, than on all my other children put together: not that I grudge it, for he deserves all I have done (I love him, I love them all—they are all good, and I only have to regret that I cannot do more for them.) He ought nevertheless to think of this and he will find it reasonable to allow them a share, and by selling a part of Capenoch and well managing what remains, he may still be able to wrestle through, till by his own industry and application to business his circumstances become better, which I trust will soon be the case. My will is, too, that my son Thomas have all the law books of which he has not already copies, and the rest of the books divided into three parcels, as equal in value, of which the lasses are to have one, my wife having it in her power to select out of the whole such as she shall have a fancy for.”

Sir James Kirkpatrick died at Capenoch a year later on 7th June, 1804, and was succeeded in the title by his son Thomas. He was entered as a boarder at Wallace Hall School on 2nd July, 1783, and left in December, 1791; a stay of 8 years 5 months and 20 days which cost his father £179 15s 11d. He was admitted advocate 23rd June, 1798, when only just of age; he continued in his profession and at length became Sheriff of Dumfriesshire. His portrait, by Sir William Allan, P.R.A., hangs in the Sheriff Court Room at Dumfries. In 1807 it was rumoured that he was to be made a Lord of Session, but nothing seems to have come of the proposal.²⁹ In 1827 he was Preses of the General Annual

²⁶ *Burke's Peerage*, 1903, p. 873.

²⁷ Information kindly supplied by Mr H. F. Menzies, Rector of Wallace Hall Academy.

²⁸ *Lodge's Peerage*, 1908, p. 1117.

²⁹ On this occasion Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, Sir Thomas' brother-in-law, wrote to his sister, Miss Isabella Sharpe:—“It is reported that Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick is to be made a lord of Session, which I shall believe when I see it: I do not yet despair of our dignity, principally (I fear) because I am not of a despairing temper.” (C. K. Sharpe's *Correspondence*, i., p. 318.)

Meeting of Commissioners of Supply for Dumfriesshire.³⁰ During the Napoleonic War he was Captain of the Keir³¹ and Tynron Company of Volunteers; he presented a medal to be shot for at Capenoch on 20th April, 1804; the medal was won by James Sloan, of Tynron, and is still in the possession of his family.³² Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick married his second cousin Jane, *d* of Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe of Hoddom and sister of the well-known antiquary.³³ They had four daughters and two sons, of whom the elder, James Kirkpatrick, died in 1826. Charles Sharpe wrote as follows to Sir Walter Scott: “. . . We have all had a great shock to-day by the unexpected intelligence of the death of my nephew, James Kirkpatrick, who was a very promising and amiable boy, the darling of his poor father. He was a midshipman, and died of a fever, very far from comfort and from his family. My nieces had come to Edinburgh with Sir Thomas to taste a little gaiety, to which they have not been much accustomed, so they have had a double blow, poor things, in the irrevocable mischance.”³⁴ On his brother's death, the younger son, Charles Sharpe Kirkpatrick, who was born in May, 1811, became his father's heir. He married in 1838 Miss Helen Kirk, a daughter of Thomas Kirk, the

³⁰ *Valuation Roll of the County of Dumfries*, 1827, p. 1.

³¹ Capenoch is in the parish of Keir. On 10th March, 1823, Allan Cunningham wrote to C. K. Sharpe:—“ . . . I am a fellow parishioner with the Kirkpatricks. I am a Keir man; and I was once, too, their fellow soldier. It is now some eighteen years ago since I looked into the faces of Thomas and Roger and was pleased to think I could trace some of the heroism and mildness of the tutelal heroes of Nithsdale.” (C. K. Sharpe's *Correspondence*, ii., p. 332.)

³² *The N.R.A. Journal*, Oct., 1923, p. 219.

³³ C. K. Sharpe's *Correspondence*, i., p. 129. C. K. Sharpe writes to his mother:—“ . . . that Jane's marriage is declared at last. . . . May the Lord help them: for of the help of man they are destitute. . . . ”

³⁴ Sir Walter Scott replied a few days later:—“ . . . I am truly sorry for your family disaster, but as we live on, we survive those we have most reluctance to part with.” (C. K. Sharpe's *Correspondence*, ii., pp. 369, 389.)

millar at Keir;³⁵ an action which is said not only to have diverted a legacy from his uncle, General Matthew Sharpe of Hoddum, which would have revived the fortunes of the family, but also to have broken his father's heart. When Sir Thomas died at Capenoch in 1844, his son found that there was so much debt on the estate that there was no other course open to him but to sell Capenoch.³⁶ The property was sold in 1846 to James Grierson (afterwards of Dalgonar) for £20,520, a sum of money which was only just sufficient for Sir Charles to pay off the mortgages on the estate and the debts contracted by his father. Capenoch was resold 4 years later for £19,500 to my great-grandfather, Thomas Steuart Gladstone, of Liverpool, who had considered excessive the price paid in 1846.³⁷

³⁵ A. de L. Kirkpatrick, *op. cit.*, p. 43.

³⁶ These are set forth at length in a document preserved in the Capenoch charter chest.

³⁷ A plan of the Capenoch estate, made in 1845, a year before Sir Charles Kirkpatrick sold the estate, illustrates an interesting point with regard to Nithsdale farming 80 years ago. The 1207 acres—of which 383 were arable—on Capenoch were cultivated in 1845 by eleven farmers or crofters. Their holdings were 70 acres, 66 acres (with 20 pasture), 47 acres, 23 acres, 15 acres, 12 acres (with, however, 558 acres of pasture attached), 10 acres, 7 acres, and 3 acres. The "home-farm" comprised 100 acres arable, besides 78 pasture and 82 woodland. The same area (1207 acres) is now cultivated by two farmers, while another has added the pasture farm of 570 acres to his holding. It is probable, however, that, owing to the substitution of workmen in the pay of the laird—such as gamekeepers, gardeners, and woodmen—for men eking out a bare subsistence from the produce of the land, that the population living on the estate is much the same to-day as it was 80 years ago. I may add here that in Courthill, the 7 acre croft, Kirkpatrick MacMillan, the inventor of the bicycle, lived until 1877, when on January 26th John MacMillan, his son and heir, renounced his tack of Courthill in favour of my great-grandfather.

1st February, 1929.

Chairman—The PRESIDENT.

Some Burns Items.*

By Mr ROBERT HENDERSON.

[Mr Henderson exhibited and spoke on some rare Burns items in his possession, including a copy of "The Jolly Beggars," dated Glasgow, 1816, the only copy known; an engraved portrait, after the Nasmyth painting, by Walker and Cousins, 1830, showing a curious "error"—the date of the poet's death in the impression being 1797; a silhouette portrait which has not been recorded (see plate and note which follow). He also read from a holograph letter by Dr. Currie an interesting account of his visit to Mrs Burns in Dumfries in 1804.]

The Silhouette is of particular interest—one of only four known, and as, happily, they all agree in the delineation of the features of the Poet it cannot be other than affirmed that they present a true portrait.

When in Edinburgh Burns sat to John Miers, the "Prince of Silhouettists," and a copy is in The National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh, marked 1787; another copy, slightly damaged, is in Kelvingrove Museum, Glasgow. The Burns-Begg Silhouette, in all probability done by Houghton, of Edinburgh, is in the Burns Cottage, Alloway.

The Silhouette exhibited has on the back, in a contemporary hand, "Profile of Robert Burns, by George Bruce."

Houghton and Bruce were in partnership in Edinburgh, and were pupils of Miers.

Gilbert Burns, writing to the Poet's friend, Geo. Thomson (of "The Original Scottish Airs") spoke of a small black profile done by a Mr Houghton, which showed the features pretty exactly delineated, and later he said that Mr Kerr, one of the Magistrates of Dumfries, had a black profile by another artist, which he thought very like, and he was familiar with the living face.

* Note on silhouette not previously recorded.

All the Silhouettes agree in the extraordinary length of the skull, and the lips which are parted, the upper one projecting. Mrs Burns Begg said that Burns was a far bigger man than his Portraits showed, and so far as a bust may do so the Silhouette shows the bigger and rougher man.

It has not been determined, but if the Silhouette referred to possessed by Mr Kerr, Dumfries, as by another artist, was by George Bruce—as seems likely, for no other than the three names have been recorded—the testimony as to the likeness is important.

A Play and Revels in 16th Century Dumfries.

By G. W. SHIRLEY.

I.—Sir Harry Merser and his Play.

An interesting portion of the field of Scottish history was adequately explored, these last few years, by Miss Anna J. Mill, who published the results of her research recently under the title, "Mediaeval Plays in Scotland."* Miss Mill searched state, burgh, trade and ecclesiastical records for material, and has produced such that, scanty and obscure though it is, it yet throws much light on the indulgence by the people of Scotland in playacting and revelry before ministerial disapproval frowned them out of existence. Further, her informative introduction must always place students of our drama under a debt of obligation. In the following paper I am indebted to Miss Mill for nearly all the material used, but on the other hand Miss Mill is not to be held responsible for the deductions and interpretations thereof which sometimes coincide, but at other times diverge from or run beyond her own.

The Dumfries Burgh Court Books, between 1532 and 1570, contain seven brief references to these popular pastimes, but these, in themselves, are not illuminating. It is only when they are considered in conjunction with information gathered by Miss Mill from other towns that we are able to

* St. Andrews University Publications, No. xxiv.; Blackwood, Edinburgh, 1927.

understand, in a measure, their significance. One cannot, of course, affirm that what took place in one burgh took place in another and, indeed, nothing is clearer than the extent of the variations in practice between the various towns, but, nonetheless, there remains that considerable similarity in the manners of any age and country, and it may be that an exceptional feature present in one district may throw light on the origins, motives and tendencies of the whole.

It must be remembered, too, that the great bulk of the material that has been preserved on this subject is of post-Reformation date. It is during the period of decay, of suppression, of ecclesiastical censure, therefore, that it is presented to us, and due correction of bias must be reserved in our minds. Within twelve years in Aberdeen an institution which had existed immemorially for "halding of the gud toun in glaidness and blythnes" became "na thing vther bot a plane seditioun and wproar." From the reprobations of a later, unfriendly age we can only approximately estimate the character of the institution during the period when it was accepted wholeheartedly and uncritically by the people.

The first of the Dumfries entries is as follows :

31st July, 1532.—Iohne Mertin is maid burgess and sourn thairto and frely gevin to Shir hary merser for the play of gude fryday and vitsonday payand xl d to sanct mychellis werk bort Iohn merting.

This means that Sir Harry Merser, a priest, had been responsible as author or producer, or both, of a play on Good Friday and the succeeding Whit Sunday, and that the Burgh Court awarded him for his work the burgess fee of John Mertin, who had still to pay, in addition, forty pence to the fund for the upkeep of St Michael's Church (or it may be for the spice and wine used there in the Sacrament, the words, usually appended, being here omitted), and that his pledge or security was John Merting (perhaps the new burgess himself).

This entry recording the production of a play by a priest on Good Friday and Whitsunday under the patronage of the Town Council is described by Miss Mill as unique. At Aber-

deen, Perth, Lanark, Haddington, Dundee and Edinburgh there is evidence, more or less definite, that liturgical or miracle plays, under Council patronage, were performed as part of the Corpus Christi processions, the furnishings and expenses being supplied by the Crafts. The earliest reference is from Aberdeen in 1440. It is with regard to other church festivals that the Dumfries reference is unique, the records "preserving an almost unbroken silence on the matter."

The paucity of the entry makes determination of the type of play produced by Sir Harry positively impossible. Only by reference elsewhere can we conjecture something of its character. What were called "Clerk plays" seem to have been fairly common, and it was probably one of these. Sir Edmund Chambers regards them as "a variant of the miracle play," but the term seems to include such as these, and also other themes taken not only from Biblical and hagiological but from classical sources. The terms "mystery" and "miracle" applied to plays are not found in Scottish records, and the name seems to have embraced any kind of play which might be written by a clerkly person—priests and schoolmasters. Besides the familiar subjects of the miracle plays—the Creation, the Fall, the Nativity, the Passion, etc., a play on the Martyrdom of St Erasmus was performed at Perth in 1511 as part of the Corpus Christi function. Doubtless it would be deemed nowadays Grand Guignol in character as evidenced by the presence of "The cord drawer" and "The thre tormentouris." We have records of clerk plays at Ayr in 1534-5 and 1541, at Perth in 1546, where a hat-maker, John Walcar, was made a burgess freely because of the pleasure he had given the community in making and playing "gemmys, ferchis and clerk playis in tymes bygane," and they also were produced in Edinburgh in June, 1553, and on Uphaly Day, 1554-5. Knox gives us interesting, detailed information about such a play at Stirling sometime prior to 1538 which, like that at Dumfries, was played on a Good Friday. He is worth quoting in full: "Ane Black freir, called Frear Kyllour, sett furth the Historye of Christis Passioun in forme of a play, quhilk he boith preached and

practised opinie in Striveling, the King him self being present, upoun a Good Friday in the mornynge: In the which, all thingis war so levely expressed, that the verry sempill people understood and confessed, that as the Preastis and obstinat Pharisyes persuaded the people to refuse Christ Jesus, and caused Pilat to condampne him, so did the Bischoppes, and men called Religious, blynd the people and perswaid Princes and Judgeis to persecute sick as professis Jesus Christ his blessed Evangell.

This plane speaking so enflamed the hartes of all that bare the beastis mark, that thei ceassed nott, till that the said Frear Kyllour [and others] all togetther war cruelly murdered in one fyre, the last day of Februar in the zeir of [God] 1538."

Some years later at Dundee James Wedderburne "composed," says Calderwood, in the "forme of a tragedie the beheading of Johne the Baptist . . . wherin he carped roughlie the abusses and corruptiouns of the Papists"; he also "compiled the Historie of Dyonisius the Tyranne, in forme of a comedie, . . . wherin he likewise nipped the Papists." Sir David Lyndsay's "Satire of the Thrie Estatis," a virulent attack on the corruption of the clergy, was played in Edinburgh at Greenside in 1554 and at Cupar, Fife. The text of this is the only one of all these productions that has come down to us. Knox himself saw a play at St Andrews in 1542 by Mr John Davidson, an ardent reformer, "wherin, according to Mr Knox doctrin, the Castle of Edinbruche was beseiged, takin, and the Captain with an or twa with him, hangit in effigie."

These references are all prior to the Reformation, but there are several after its accomplishment. Thus the scholars of the Grammar School of St Andrews in 1574 proposed to perform "the comede mentionat in Sanct Lucas Euuangel of the forlorn son." The story of the Prodigal Son is an obviously attractive theme and popular, as Miss Mill shows, on the Continent. In this case the source of information is the Kirk Session records, Maister Patrick Auchinlek supplicating for licence to perform the play. This was granted

conditionally on the play meeting the approval of four censors. It apparently did not do so, for they "dischargeit the maister to play the samin."

We have still later evidence of dramatic activity, all from Church records, at Dalkeith Castle, Perth, Dunfermline, St Andrews, Elgin, and at two small villages near Dunblane, Muthill and Strageath. The Schoolmasters of these, John Wod and John Brown, were summoned by the Presbytery of Stirling for "abwsing of the Sabboth day in playing clark playis thairon." Wod was immediately penitent, but Brown, the author of the piece, was required to produce the register (or script) of the play for examination. It was found to contain "oft tymis thairin mekill baning and swering sum badrie and filthie baning the said Johne Broun beand present quha denyit nocht the sam." The Presbytery prescribed for him a thesis in Latin: "Is it lesum to play clark playis on the sabboth day or nocht And qwethir gif it be lesum or nocht to mak clark plays on any part of the scriptur." Unfortunately the Presbytery thereafter appear interested only in the quality of the Schoolmaster's Latin.

In 1576 the General Assembly absolutely forbad the performance at Dunfermline of a non-canonical play on the Sunday, and in 1582 the Dalkeith Presbytery dealt with Mr Andro Alane, who had produced a play at Dalkeith Castle without licence. At St Andrews on 1st March, 1595-6, "Jhone Ros, maister of the sang scole, maist humlie, with all reverence on his kneis befor the Sessioun, askit God mercy and the kirk forgifnes for his negligens, and for his using and playing of an comode and play in St Leonardis College."

The popularity of these plays is well attested by the indignation of Wishart at Haddington in 1564. "I have heard of thee, Hadingtoun, that in thee wold have bein at ane vaine Clerk play two or three thowsand people; and now to hear the messinger of the Eternall God, of all thy toune nor parishe can not be nombred a hundreth personis."

When well in the saddle the reformed Church of Scotland conveniently forgot the services the earlier dramatist

reformers—such as Friar Kyllour of Stirling, James Wedderburn of Dundee, Sir David Lyndsay, and John Davidson of St Andrews—had rendered to it, and in face of an unpleasant rivalry dealt out to playwright and to players its utmost rigour. In March, 1574-5, it promulgated an act to the effect “ That no Clerk playes, comedies or tragedies be made of the Canonick Scripture, allswell new as old, neither on the Sabbath day nor worke day in tyme comeing ” and “ that, for other playes, comedies, tragedies and vthers profane playes ” they were to be considered by Presbyteries before performance and might not be played in any case on the Sabbath. A little later it presented an article to the Regent seeking the abolition of all holy days but the Sabbath and for punishment of all who kept Yule and other festivals by ceremonies, banqueting, plays, etc., and an Act of Parliament to these effects followed in 1581. We know that the result was the mortification of the drama in Scotland for a couple of centuries. The churchmen made a desert and called it a harvest field of God.

With these examples from other burghs, especially the earlier ones, before us we have a somewhat clearer idea of what the character of Sir Harry Merser's play may have been. With regard to Sir Harry himself, a matter about which Miss Mill was not concerned, but which is of interest to us, we have been able to glean some further information.

Sir Harry Merser was chaplain of Our Lady Service in the parish church of Dumfries. Early in October, 1519, Sir Herbert M'Brayr, chaplain, having for the time a plea of the right of the service between himself and “ Sir Hare marsair,” appeared at the Burgh Court, and at the request of the alderman, baillies and community, “ in waye of concord ” gave over his rights into the town's hands, for which and for his services he was granted five merks and was promised the first service that happened to fall vacant in the Kirk which was in the town's gift, “ the said Shir herbert makand hym able in the meyn tym to sing and saye in the queyr among the laiff of the sangsters of the qweyr.”

In the following February Sir Harry was made a burghess.
viii. Feb., 1519/20. — The samin daye Sh^r hare
mersar chepellane of o^r lade alter is maid fre and
suorn therto payand xl d to sanct mychaelis werk the
spice and the wyn.

The next entry is a curious one. Certain lands known as "Our Lady Place and Yards" formed an endowment of the altarage. These the chaplain let and appeared before the Court to prove that his tenant as part rent had promised him the loan of a horse each year of the three years of the tack, on which to ride to Glasgow or Edinburgh or where he pleased for twenty days.

It is unnecessary to follow the matter in its details; the outcome seems to have been that the tenant, Tom M'Kennan, was ordained to pay Sir Harry ten shillings of silver for the first two years in lieu of the loan of the horse and to lend him, in the third year, a horse for thirteen days.

In the meantime, however, one Tom Muirhead asserted that he had the tack of these lands for the year preceding M'Kennan's entry, and sued the latter for wrongously intruding with the grass and certain plums of the plum trees of the yard. This M'Kennan denied, and it is of the nature of things that we know no more about it, but instead that Tom M'Kennan was amerced by the Court for the wrongous withholding of three shillings of annual rent for a bark hole. This was a hole in which leather was tanned, and Barkarland retains the name for us.

The loan of the horse was not, however, the sole payment in kind required by Sir Harry for Our Lady Place. This time Mrs M'Kennan appears on the scene :

10th July, 1521.—The qlk daye it is assignit to thom
M'Kennane wiff tyll acquitt hir wy^b hir owne hand
at the nixt cort that scho promittit not to Sh^r hare
mersar, chepellane of o^r lady alter iij sarks at the
settin of o^r lady place and zards to thom M'Kennane
hir husband and that ilk zeir of thre zers ane sark.

There is no more about this business, but we have gleaned some information about priestly methods of domestic economy and summer holidays,

In May, 1522, we find Sir Harry becoming joint tenant with four other priests in certain common lands, and in January, 1524-5, with the curate, the parish clerk and four other priests he signed an agreement with the Burgh Council to keep the service in the parish church and quire, and " to vphald at messis of note fundit or to be fundit " in the Kirk on condition that the casualties and ameracements falling in the said parish Kirk were divided equally between them.

On 24th July, 1532, a week before the extract quoted by Miss Mill, we have what is clearly a preliminary entry :

24th July, 1532.—The qlk daye the inquest ordenis Sh^r hare merser to hawe ane burgess the first that is maid w^t all prewalegis sa that the guttone pleiss the man and that he be ane vnfreman and na burgess air nor fremanis vife.

This means that the heir of a freeman or of the wife of a freeman being admitted to burgesship on lower terms than an unfreeman the largest burgess fee possible was to be given to Sir Harry. Were the date not so long after Whitsunday one might have pleasingly conceived the Council filled with enthusiasm over Sir Harry's production hastening to do him honour. As it is, however, it only looks as if it were the somewhat tardy payment of expenses incurred.

On 2nd October, 1532, Herbert Gledstanis was chosen " maister of o^r lady lycht for a yer " to enter " apon Sanct stevin day in zule nixt to cum." Apparently Sir Harry had been holding this office, for he was ordained " to leff the said lycht als gude bai^t in the heirss and in the heirssis that stude on athir syde of o^r lady w^t the Irns of the samin and syklik w^t the money qlk the said Sh^r hary ressaut the day he tuk deliuerance of the samin failzeing he do the samin he to be summoned and compellit therto on the tounis coist be the officiall and his commissers."

The " heirssis " were triangular frameworks with spikes, like the ancient harrow from which they took the name, on which the candles used in the service were fixed. It looks as if Sir Harry's integrity had been impugned and as if the Council feared resistance,

Be that as it may, the next scrap of information reveals Sir Harry in several more pleasing lights :

8th May, 1533.—Quo die patrik huntar is maid ffree burgess and suorn therto payand v merkis to the common pursse and xl d to sanct michell werk qlk is ffrely gevin to Sh^r hary merschell for the makin off ane bennar to the toun and for the makin of the calm stanis and to amend the myllburn brig and for gude sheruice done and to be done.

The banner which Sir Harry made was doubtless for some procession, perhaps the Corpus Christi celebrations, and the cauld stones would be for casting leaden tokens for the use of the burgh poor, as we shall see later on. The milnburn brig carried St Michael's Street across the Mill burn. Sir Harry begins to appear as a man of many parts, and this is further evidenced by the next entry :

— March, 1533-4.—Quo die William M'byrne son to William M'byrne in conhay^t is maid fre burgess and suorn therto frely gevin to Sh^r hary merser chaplane for the makin off the glasin wyndoks in o^r lady Ile, the wyndok of Sanct Andro alter, the wyndoks of sanct cristofer alter and sall mak and renew the ij wyndoks of o^r lady pyete alter the tane half of the saids twa wyndoks of his awne cost and expenss the gude toun to mak the cost of the tother halff of the saids twa wyndoks plege for the samin Adam Wallass burges of o^r said burghe.

To be a producer of plays, a maker of banners, a worker in lead, a bridgebuilder and a glasier is no small record of accomplishments. Indeed, the probability is that Sir Harry had these things more at heart than his priestly duties, for on 7th October, 1535, we find the following :

7th October, 1535.—The inquest abon writtin ffyndis that our lady sheruice sanct ninian sheruice and pareche clerk schip ar vacand in the tounis hands and that becaus [] the chaplanis ministrants of the samin hais not obsheruit nor keipit d[iuyn]e sheruice. . . .

This is no less in modern parlance than a lockout. The entry, besides being very involved, is much torn, but the upshot was that the Court appointed the alderman and baillies and "certane of the best and worthiest off nychbors of the toun" as arbitrators—how familiar the term!—to meet the defaulting priests on the following Sunday and if the latter were willing to observe the conditions of the former agreement of 1522 to readmit them to office and if they were not to admit other chaplains and give them the profits and benefits. Whoever were admitted were to provide among them "ane matyn to be said amang thaim ilk day be vij hors ilk chaplain the owlk abovt." And they discharged all other chaplains "off ony feall of money to be gevin to thaim exceptand the sangsters [of the] quer alanerly."

Sir Harry, at any rate, was not dismissed, for the next reference to him on 7th December, 1536, describes him as "chapelen of o^r lady seruice." In this entry Sir Harry appears to have been making claim to the rental of a property pertaining to the service in which one Herbert Maxwell dwelt, and Herbert protested that "quhat the gud toun vrocht^e in all suld not turne him nor his wive to na preiudice."

The next entry refers again to the caulm stones :

21st April, 1536-7.—Quo die the inquest ordanis Sh^r haire to haif x ss for the taikens and cawmstanis maid to the puyr folkis at the tonis command efter the tenor of o^r souerane lordis lettres.

The reference to our Sovereign Lord's letters is doubtless to the Act of Parliament of 1535. "For the staunching of Masterfull Beggaris" which confined beggars to their native parishes for support and decreed the issue of tokens that they might be identified.

The next reference to our ingenious priest shows him again rebuffed by fortune or pursued by malice :

2nd May, 1537.—Quo die the hail hous hes wardit that quhen Sh^r hare merser hais ony complaints of his awin ado in judgment that he geiff the samin in a bill and forthir that he haue na woce in jugement nor be procurator for na persoun in tyme to cum and

that be [causs] is fundin in his conueying w^tout ony resson.

What was found in the document Sir Harry as procurator had prepared which caused this sharp treatment merciful time has obliterated. Doubtless some malversation, but at any rate it enables us to add practice in the law to Harry's accomplishments. It is, however, pleasant, in our final entry, to leave Sir Harry triumphant over that same Herbert Gledstones, who five years previously replaced him as Master of Our Lady's Light.

30th May, 1537.—Quo die herbert gledstainis is condampnit in [the soume of] iij ss to be payit till Sh^r hary mersar for his annuell [rent] of ane zard lyand at sinklar wennele qlk the said herbert occupiis instantly zerly awand to o^r lady sheruice.

Sinclair's vennel is an old name for Bank Street, more commonly known as the Stinking Vennel, but there was also a Sinclair's vennel on the other side of the water.

Unfortunately the volume containing these records comes to an end in the month following the above, and I was not able to discover any other records until 1564. By that time Sir Harry Merser has vanished from the scene. These little records of his days and activities rescue an accomplished individual from undeserved oblivion, and bring before us something of the order of worship and of the furniture for many centuries familiar in St Michael's Church. As it is we know more about Sir Harry than about any of the hundreds of priests who in their day and generation administered their ghostly office at Dumfries.

II.—The Easter Revels of Robin Hood and Little John.

The remaining entries in the Court Books quoted by Miss Mill all refer to the popular revels at Easter, the chief leaders of which were known here as Robin Hood and Little John. We may give them profitably all together here.

9th October, 1534.—Quo die Iok wilsoun and wille thomsoun ar maid fre burges and suorn thairto frely gevin till Robin hude and litill Iohne quhilk was

chosin at pasche last was ather of thaim payand
xl d to Sanct [michellis] werk the spice and wyne.

27th April, 1536.—Quo die the Inquest ordanis and
deliueris the fredom of ij sufficient men choissin be
the gud toun to be gewin to robert [hude] and litill
Iohne swa that thai be maid in the tolbuyth afor the
baillies ane or ma payand sanct mychellis werk and
clerkfe and officeris [fee].

14th June, 1536.—Quo die Iohne pawtonson is maid
fre burgess and suorn thairto gevin to Robin hude
and little Iohne payand xl d.

21st April, 1537.—Quo die symeon crokchet is maid
fre burgess and suorn thairto frelie gevin to Robin
hude and litill Iohne.

17th June, 1570.—The quhilk day the provest ballies
and counsale ordanis herbert ranyng elder to be
payit for his taffiteis resaut fra hym at paische
lxx zeris of the first of the fredomes to be rasis to
the vse of robert huyd quhilk extendis to
pundis and allevin lis xjs money of this realm quhilk
salbe admytit to tham in thair comptis be this
present.

3rd November, 1570.—The quhilk day the person of
the counsale present fyndis that thom trustre
incurrit dissobedience at pasche lxx zeris in safar
as he vald nocht obbaye And accept on hym the
office of robert huyd and litill Iohn be resson of the
samin he is decernit to pay of his expenses lyik as
Archibald velsche vsit in that office and to vnderly
the chargeis for his dissobedience as efferis and
resave the fredoum of ane condigne burgess and etc.

dettis award be the commond.

Item to bessie cunyngham for the rest to
pass playis x ss

Item to James vallace at the pasche playis
and for his raleiff v lis x ss

To summarise these entries : in 1534, by the familiar
process of utilizing new burgess fees, payment to the extent

of two of these is made to the unnamed performers of the parts of Robin Hood and Little John, who had been chosen at the Easter previous; in April, 1536, it is agreed to make a similar payment, but in June only one is recorded as having been made. Similarly in 1537 one burgesse fee only is given. There is then a long silence. The records are practically continuous from 1564, but no mention of the play is made. Interest centres on the 1570 entries. In June it is arranged that Herbert Ranying elder, whose initials, as bailie, are on the "A'Loreburn" stone on the Midsteeple, is to be paid £11 11s for "taffeteis"—plain-wove glossy silk—doubtless for a banner, which had been used by Robin Hood that year. From the last entry—the last reference in our records to Robin Hood—it appears that Tom Trustre, chosen for the office, had refused to carry it out. He was decerned to pay the expenses of the office as Archibald Welsh had done before him, and to receive the usual payment of a burgesse fee. Of Archibald Welsh we know that he was a smith or, at any rate, had a forge near the top of the Soutargate Brae, and that he was a member of the Council in 1570. Of Thomas Trustre all we know is that he lent 20/- to pay the costs of the hagbutters and pikemen who went to the Blackshaw to repel Scrope in April, 1570. His refusal was probably due to a religious scruple. The final entries show that two other people received payment in connection with the function, Bessie Cunningham, who was the wife of John Bell, and evidently kept an alehouse, 10/-; and James Wallace, the considerable sum of £5 10/-. He also was a member of Council, and had been a bailie. In 1570 he acted as collector of taxes, and signed the "Band of Drumfries" in that year. The addendum "for his relief" may have something to do with his collectorship.

These entries in 1570 denoting that the Council still patronised and made payments towards the function are of particular interest, because as far back as 1555 an Act of Parliament had been passed specifically forbidding the choosing of such performers under penalty to the acceptors of the office of banishment, and to the choosers of loss of burgeship for five years.

Although these entries only specifically bear evidence of performance in four separate years between 1534 and 1570, there is no reason to suppose that the affair was so intermittent, and the statement with regard to Archibald Welsh that he had "usit" the office bears this out. Apart from that reference we have no other evidence of his activities. As we shall see, the play was essentially a folk festivity, and would re-appear as regularly in season as the guisers or as "peevers" and spinning tops.

No one has favoured us with a description of the play of Robin Hood and Little John, and it is only by recourse to the material provided by Miss Mill that we can get any notion of its character. Out of her assiduous gatherings we shall endeavour to enlighten ourselves.

Does it not seem curious that the names Robin Hood and Little John, so essentially English, and settled round the popular outlaw of Sherwood Forest, should be found flourishing throughout Scotland? For it is not only at Dumfries they appear as such, but at Aberdeen, Ayr, Cranstoun, Dalkeith, Dundee, Edinburgh, Haddington, Lasswade, Linton, Peebles ("My lord Robin Hood"), Perth, St Andrews, and in the State records. But though these were the most common designations there were several others. In Aberdeen we have, in 1508, the specific statement: "Robin huyd and litill Johne quhilk was callit in zeris bipast Abbot and priour of Bonacord." The latter names were, in fact, not displaced in that City, and we have there also the variants "Abbot and prior of Concord" and "Lords of Bonacord." Still another name there given "Abbatis out of ressoun" introduces us to a series of variants, such as "The Abbot of Unreason" (Alloway, Arbuthnot, Borthwick, Dalkeith, Fintry, Inverness, Haddington, Stirling, and Court records). Edinburgh comes with a subtle gibe, the "Abbot of Narent," or "Abbat of na Rent," which, latinised, becomes "Abbot de Narentia," quite an Anthony Hope touch. Perhaps Arbroath's "My Lord of Rason" was an even subtler jest. Edinburgh also calls him "The Lord of Inobedience," Pitcairn has the "Lord of Misrule," and Peebles the "Abbot of Unrest."

These names are indicative of character. Both satire of the church and outstanding functions of the players appear in them. Never was known an Abbot without rents. Unrest and inobedience and unreason, these were cherished and exalted once in a way, however much normally in disrepute, because they carried with them some precious remnants of freedom, some lightening of the weight of superiority that bore on the people so heavily. Burns's assertion that "freedom and whisky gang thegither" has the same element. The point of the ecclesiastical sarcasm passed, however, with the Reformation, and Robin Hood and Little John tend to replace the older names.

At Edinburgh Robin Hood is once (1558) designated "Kyng of May," the occasion being a venturesome frolic when he was accused of "vp hinging of ane baner to the cok of the stepill," but there are many indications to show that in such a title we touch the heart of his significance. Thus in the same city in 1496 is a reference to "that day at we brocht hayme summyr." At Aberdeen (from which town we derive much information, and which evidently made a great occasion of the festival which coincided with that of their patron, Saint Nicolas), in 1562, the bellman was accused and punished for going through the town with the handbell summoning all "to pas to the wood to bring in symmer vpoun the first Sondag of Maij." In the earliest reference discovered by Miss Mill the significance is also clear. This is at St Andrews University in 1432. The old practice of the masters and scholars of bringing in the May or Summer (*importando mayum seu estatem*), which they did by riding on horseback in procession from the country disguised in fancy dress as kings, potentates or emperors, with their arms and the ensignia of royalty, is then condemned as useless, unprofitable, and dangerous to both teachers and pupils.

Alexander Scott (1525-1584?) has a clear regretful reference to the same feature.

" In May quhen men zied, everich one
 W^t Robene Hoid and Littill Johne
 To bring in bowis and birkin bobbynis
 Now all sic game is fastlingis gone
 Bot gif it be amangis clovin Robbnyis."

Under whatever names the chief characters flourished the spirit was the same, and is manifest of ancient pre-Christian rites. Consciously or unconsciously the participants bore into town with their "bowis and birkin bobbynis," the fertilising spirit that so clearly betrayed itself in wood and field.

Sir Edmund Chambers suggests a French source for the name Robin Hood, which may be derived from the Robin of the French pastorelle. It is notable, at any rate, as distinguishing the Scots game from the English that Maid Marian is not found in Scotland, whereas Sir Edmund states she is inseparable from the English versions. Of Queens of the May we hear occasionally, notably at both Ayr and Edinburgh in 1506, but that is the nearest we come to the Maid.

The garments worn by the participants are also suitable. In 1508 at Aberdeen the Council ordered "that ale personis that ar abill within this burgh salbe reddy with thar arrayment maid in grene and zalow, bowis Arrowis, brassis and all vther convenient thingis according thairto to pass with Robyne hvyd and little lohne" under pain of a forty shilling fine. Again (1535) all the young able men were to have "thair grein cottis and agit men honest cottis." In 1522 the youths were to be "honestlie horsit with thair watter clokis." At Haddington (1532, 1539) "play coittis" were provided which had to be returned "vnspwlt" and to be kept in the "common kyst."

We gather that there was "taburne playing on pype or fedill" (Aberdeen, 1562); trumps and sweshes (drums), banners and ensigns to accompany the procession. The Aberdeen Council in 1553 found there had been "sumpteous and superfleous banketing," and because successive Lords of Bonacord vied with each other in the extravagance of their feating they restricted these to three, the "principall and gud institutioun" being "in halding of the guid toun in glaidness and blythnes with danssis, farssis, playis and gamis." In 1553-4 the Lords of Bonacord were charged to pay 7/3, the residue of an account, to a woman who, at their command, had made a "banket in hir awin howss."

Nor does drink seem to have been lacking. At Aberdeen in 1507 and in 1553 wine is to be paid for by the Lords of Bonacord, and in 1552 one of them, Patrik Menzes, charged the other, Thomas Nicholsons, with non-payment of his share of the cost of a last of beer (£16 16/-) and of six barrels of beer (£6 7/-), the one being put in Thomas's cellar "and disponit be him as he thocht guid," and the other "was rinnin in my howss at the said thomas command and myn." In that city also a curious incident occurred in 1539. Two Lords of Bonacord appeared before the Court and stated that they had "drank in thomas brechynis hous certain beir," for which they had offered payment, but he refused to accept it. They again offered payment at Court, but he again refused, so "thai protestit that the payment thair of turne thaim to [na] preiudice." Thus early it may be seen were Aberdonians puzzled and suspicious when given anything for nothing, even a dram.

Features of the procession and revels varied. The principal characters are usually only two, but at Linton, where the play was given as late as 1610, there appear to have been four, Robin Hood, Little John, the Sheriff, and the "Lord," though the last, from the confused state of the records, cannot positively be asserted. There are references at Dundee (1521) to payment "to the biggene of the buttis"; at Edinburgh (1500) to payment for gunpowder on the occasion of the "proclamyne of the summer bringin haym"; while at Aberdeen (1523) the Lords of Bonacord were chosen "to be maisters of thair artillery," and a few years earlier the participants were ordered to carry bows and arrows. These may indicate that archery or shooting contests took place, but it is more important to note that weapons, traditionally, were borne. At Edinburgh (1579) it might be that a cat hunt through the Burgh mills was indulged in, the people being forbidden to "assist the defence or pursute of ony catt hoillis within this burgh common mylnes." We may gather something of the spirit of the day from "Peebles to the Play" and "Christ's Kirk on the Green." At Peebles horse races were held, and it is probable that the races held in Dumfries

“ every first Tuesday of May ” were a survival of these sports. In 1662 the Dumfries Town Council provided a silver bell to be run for “ by the work horses of the burgh according to the ancient custom.” This was known as the muck-men’s bell. Football, too, was sometimes part of the amusement.

In most places the revels seem to have lasted only for a day, the appointments being made in April or May, but in both Aberdeen and Edinburgh there are indications that the principals had a more extended reign. In August, 1492, at Aberdeen, the Abbot of Bonacord, requiring payment of his fee, was answered that “ thai coud fynde nay way to pay him quhil he had shervit it furtht the zere.” In 1531 the Lords of Bonacord were chosen “ to do plesour and blythnes to the toun in this sessoun of Symmer.” At Edinburgh in 1518 the Earl of Arran wrote the Town Council desiring them to excuse Maister Frances Boithwell from the office of Little John, he having been chosen “ for this yeir . . . for to mak sportis and jocositeis in the toun ” on the grounds that he was a man to be used in higher and graver matters, and was to pass beyond sea.

More notable than these features is the character of the privileges granted by common consent to Robin Hood. For the time being he held absolute rule. Herein is the significance of the terms Abbots of Unreason, Inobedience, and Misrule. Knox refers to a friar who made a sermon on “ the Abbot Unreassone, unto whome and whose lawis he compared the prelattis of that age; for thei war subdewid to no lawis, no moir then was the Abbote of Unreassoun.” Aberdeen provides (1523) a definite order. The Council “ ordainit al maner of zong able men within this toun duelland to riss and obey to thame quhen thai ar requirit efter the ald rit and vse of the said burgh gevand thame power to correk and puneiss thair dissobearis at thair awin hand.” This appears to be something more than the usual order requiring the inhabitants to attend under pain of fine. In 1538 two men who had “ strublitt the lords of bonacord and this gud toun in stoping of dansing and plesour dewisit ” were condemned to appear

within the quier of St Nicholas Church in the time of hymns, bareheaded, and carrying a pound weight wax candle, there on their knees to beseeke the Provost in the town's name to forgive them and ask his good offices to secure the forgiveness of the Lords of Bonacord. And in 1542 another man was fined because his wife had called the Lords "commond beggaris and skaffaris thair meltyd (meal-tide = condition) bot small for all thair cuttit out hoyss."

One can understand that such privileges, sanctioning boisterous and ludicrous horseplay of a good natured character, might easily be extended to throw ridicule or obloquy on any one unfortunate enough to have become unpopular in the community. Evidence of such affairs would seldom be recorded, but as shown by the Lord High Treasurer's Accounts, James IVth ordered a payment (1496) to be made to Gilberte Brade "for spilling of his hous in Striuiling to the Abbot of Vnreson," evidently compensation for some abuse. In 1504 payment is made to "the barbour [who] helit Paules hed quhen he wes hurt with the Abbot of Unresoun," and in the following year a sum is given to "Alexander Kers to lous the Kingis stope quhilk wes tane quhen he wes Abbot of Unreason." A somewhat similar entry occurs as late as 1575 at Inverness, when a woman complained that a great pan had been taken from her "quhen John Robertson was Lord Abbot." This, it was stated, had been poinded and delivered to the Lord Abbot, but the Court ordered its restoration or its value to be paid to her. It would seem, then, that Robin Hood's powers ran to attaching goods, perhaps preceded by a mock trial.

The most serious, and at the same time entertaining, outrage is that experienced by William Langlands at Borthwick. In 1547 Cardinal Beaton, having ex-communicated the Lord Borthwick for contumacy, Langlands was sent with injunctions to the curate of the parish to have the ex-communication proclaimed in the church. While executing his mission there appeared on the scene the person commonly called the Abbot of Unreason, with his accomplices, who took him from the church to the mill dam and made him "lope in

the watter." When he had "loppin in" the Abbot said he was not wet enough or deep enough, and "keist him doune in the watter be the shulderis." They then dragged him out and took him to the church and gave him a glass of wine and "raif the letters and mulit the samyn amangis the wyne" and made him drink the wine and eat the letters, the Abbot saying, "gif ony maa come thair, sa lang as he war lord, thai sulde gang the said gait." For this offence ex-communication was pronounced against the Abbot. The incident may be ascribed, perhaps, to the stirrings that resulted in the Reformation.

Whether these processions of people clad in gay garments, bearing branches of trees, accoutrements and banners, headed by the King of May and his buffoon attendant, indulging in playing drums, fiddles and trumpets, singing and dancing, pausing for buffoonery, drinks and merry jests commonly developed so far as to embody dramatic representations en route is uncertain. Dunbar provides us with a proclamation by a dwarf who recounts his pedigree, invokes blessings on his hearers, and closes with a request for a drink. This is variously entitled, "Ane little Interlude of the Droichis part of the play" and "Heir followis the Maner of the Crying of ane Play," and that is the sole fragment of manuscript of these popular revels that has come to us. It demonstrates, at least, a recitation in verse. The only other indication, apart from the mention, at Linton, of four characters instead of the usual two, is at Samuelston, in the Presbytery of Haddington. There, for several years, until at least 1603, the Presbytery complained of people gathering, on the first Sunday of May, to see a play called "The Trik" or "The Trik of Samelstoun." This seems really to have been some kind of a play, "the haille countrie convening to it with sweshe (drum) and ensigne." It is the only name of a May play that has survived and, alas, no more of it than the name.

One can understand that such gatherings as we have depicted might easily get out of hand, and Miss Mill probably is correct in her suggestion that this is why we find that the Town Councils frequently nominated their own members to

take the principal parts. At Ayr successive Town Treasurers played Robin Hood and Little John, while at Aberdeen, as early as 1445, for " stancheing of diuerss enormyteis done in tyme bigane be the abbotis of this burgh " the Council appointed no less dignities than the " Aldirman for the tyme and a balyhe " to " supple that faute." It was also sometimes difficult to get people to accept the offices; the case of Tom Trustre at Dumfries is a late example, for as early as 1531, at Aberdeen, the functions were accepted only after threats and under protest, and in 1539 and 1550 there was also difficulty. At Haddington, in 1536, three persons were fined for refusing the office, and the unwillingness to undertake it was so great that in 1539 the bailies deliberated with an assize of twenty-five burgesses whether it was expedient to have an Abbot of Unreason. A minority of eight voted against it, and a list of four nominees was made. In the following year a leet of eight names was prepared, and in 1552 the Council curtly minuted that it " hes dischargit all abbotis of vnressoun in tyme cumyng." By this date it is probable that religious scruples were militating against the acceptance of office, but doubtless there were other considerations at earlier times, such as uncongeniality, sacrifice of dignity, inconvenience, and expence. In 1555 came the Act of Parliament prohibiting the choosing of any person " Robert Hude, Lyttle Johne, Abbot of vnressoun, or Queen of May." No reason for the abolition of the revels is given in the Act, and no immediate result in its passing is recorded. But five years later the position was different. The country had definitely adopted a reformed religion, and dispersion of the professors and annexation of the establishments and funds of the old order were proceeding. If doubtful adherence to law and order was incident to the May revels prior to this event the tendency was increased by it. The old familiar restraints had been abolished, and so had the old familiar resources of the poor, little as these might have become, while the new order had hardly yet secured its yoke on the neck of the people. In the records of Dumfries, at least, there is in the early years of the century lack of evidence of

the disorders, petty quarrels, scandalizings, riots and abuses, occasionally rising to murders, which plentifully fill the later years, and one would infer from these alone that a deep social unsettlement had taken place. It is probable, however, that the Act of Parliament was passed at the instigation of the reforming element, and more to secure observance of the Sabbath than from fear of social upheaval. Whenever an effort was made, however, to enforce the Act the resentment created gave reason for the latter. It is an old familiar method of government, and real fear of sedition became the ultimate cause of the suppression of the May revels.

Actual tumult does not occur until 1561. Then the Edinburgh Council, on April 23rd, referring to the punishment threatened in God's word upon breakers of the Sabbath, and also to the fear of temporal punishment contained in their Sovereign's Acts, "vpoun the vsurparris of sic vane pastymes" forbade the "prentissis and seruandis of merchanttis and craftsmen and vtheris within this burgh" to make their intended "convocation and assemblie efter the auld wikit maner of Robene Hude." In spite of this prohibition, however, the craftsmen assembled, marched from the Nether Bow to the Castle Hill with "displayit baner in armour and wappinnis" and held the town until evening. Many prosecutions resulted, and one, James Killone, a cordiner, nearly became a martyr for the cause. He was condemned "for the coming in the toune of Edinburgh and playing with Robene Hud" to be hanged. There was great popular indignation, and the deacons of craft, fearing serious trouble, entreated the bailie and John Knox, as minister of the parish, to intervene. Knox, however, "wald doe nathing bot have him hanged." So on 21st July the craftsmen rose in rebellion, broke down the gibbet, shut up the magistrates, opened the Tolbooth and rescued Killone and other prisoners. The magistrates, having freed themselves, assailed the mob, who resisted with firearms. Finally the Constable of the Castle intervened and made peace, and the magistrates and Knox had to be content with the modified correctives of church discipline for the offenders.

From this time onwards, "under colour of Robene Hude's play," sedition and tumult are the ostensible reasons for its abolition. Aberdeen is informed in 1565 that the institution which in 1553 was for "halding of the gud toun in glaidnes and blythnes with dansis, farssis, playis and gamis" is now "Tending as appeiris to na thing vther bot a plane seditioun and wproar and wiith tyme to aspure vnto farther Licentious libertie gif thair temerarius attemptatis be nocht quiklie repressit." Soon we have no references to it save as a "vane business," an "auld superstitioun and insolencie," an "ongodly pastyme," and its participators are "wikit enemies to all gud order," its merrymaking is "filthy and wngodly singing about the Mayis." Even Christmas carols were not exempt, and at Errol, in 1593, "It is ordanit that carrelleris in all tym cuming be punissit as fornicatouris."

Here and there into the early decades of the 17th century the revels reappeared: James VI. was regaled with them at Dirleton Castle in 1585, and in 1623 Father Hay records that at Roslin Castle, where the gypsies were protected, they gathered there every year and acted several plays in May and June. "There are two towers," he concludes, "which were allowed them for their residence, the one called Robene Hood, the other Little John."

So passed the gallant outlaw, lover of the green wood, despoiler of the rich, protector of the poor and his merry Sancho Panza, Little John, to the care of a people which surely of all most embodies his "unconquerable soul."

These gathered fragments, I trust, do somewhat clothe the bare entries we have found in the Dumfries Burgh Court Books.

8th May, 1929.

Chairman—The PRESIDENT.

Miss E. V. Baxter gave a very interesting lecture on "Bird-watching and Bird-nesting," illustrated by lantern slides.

17th April, 1929.

Chairman—Dr. SEMPLE.

Fragments From Old Kirkconnel.

By REV. C. FORBES CHARLESON.

“ Who builds a church to God, and not to Fame,
Will never mark the marble with his Name.”

—*Pope.*

The distinctive mark of an early British church was the cross, either on the building itself or close by, and every churchyard had its emblem of the Faith, the symbol of salvation, the pledge of future happiness, under whose protection Christians were safe from all assaults of evil. So important was the cross that if the Bishop or missionary had not the customary staff or cross, he would cut two twigs from the nearest tree, form them into a cross, and fix it in the ground where he was to preach the Gospel, and where afterwards the church would be built. This was usually done not far from a spring or well, for there, with the fresh waters of baptism, the converts were initiated into Holy Church. Old Kirkconnel was the original Church-town of St. Conal. The name given to the locality was composed of the name of the patron-saint, with the Celtic Cill or Kil prefixed. Mr Tom Wilson, of Sanquhar, has drawn attention to the fact that Timothy Pont's Map of Nidisdale, which, although not printed till 1662, was drawn about 1612, shows no signs of any village where Kirkconnel is now, but “ Kirconnel,” with the mark of the Kirk-town, $\frac{\pm}{\square}$, is prominent near Glenaylmer. When the first Church of St. Conal was planted no one knows. If the saint died about A.D. 612, as is commonly held, he was contemporary with St. Columba and St. Kentigern. In the sixth century, South of the Clyde and Forth was peopled on the west by the Britons of Strathclyde and the Niduardi Picts of Galloway; the latter, according to Professor Watson, were descendants of the Irish Picts from the Cruithnean part of Ulster, facing Galloway—not the real

Picts, the early tribes of the north of Scotland, but foreigners, and treated as serfs by the Britons, or at best as rent-paying vassals ("History of Celtic Place-Names of Scotland," 175 seq.). Skene states that the term Niduari is a word evidently formed from the root Nid, which can only mean the river Nith, forming the eastern boundary of Galloway, and which separated it in the lower part of its course from the Strathclyde kingdom (I. 133). Upper Nithsdale was in the kingdom of Strathclyde, which extended from Alcluith (Dumbarton, the Dun or Fort of the Britons) to the Derwent in Cumberland. About the year 400 St. Ninian had introduced Christianity among the Britons and Picts of Galloway, but they seem to have apostatised into a half-paganism, fostered by their bards who recalled the old tradition of the race before they had been Christianised under the Roman dominion (Ib., 157). In the sixth century St. Kentigern, on his return from Wales, whither the enmity of Marken, the Cumbrian prince, had driven him, fixed his see for eight years at Hoddam. Although the legend of St. Kentigern has been subjected to much criticism, there can be no reasonable doubt that within his sphere of labour paganism had been struggling for its old supremacy, and the saint had probably to flee from Glasgow; and further, that during this crucial period Rhydderch Hael ("bountiful") "qui in Petra Cloitha regnavit" (Adamnan XV.) consolidated the British power, and St. Kentigern was the great religious leader whose genius restored the fragments of Ninianic Christianity, for the struggle ended in the triumph of the Faith (V. W. G. Collingwood: "The Early Church in Dumfriesshire," 1924). St. Conal was probably an Irish disciple of St. Kentigern. We may conclude, therefore, that the Christian Church had an ascendancy in Dumfriesshire towards the close of the sixth century, and that St. Conal, whether or not he had his seat in Dercongall (or Darcungal), Congal's oak-copse, which became the Abbey of Holywood in the twelfth century, founded by John, Lord of Kirkconnel, was either the first to plant his staff at the mouth of Glenaylmer, near the junction of three hill-streams which finally run into the Nith, or was

held in after years in such reverence and repute because of his holy life and widespread work south and west of Glasgow, that some pious member of a ruling family in Upper Nithsdale built the first church and dedicated it to St. Conal. It is worthy of notice that Chalmers in his "Caledonia" (V. 174) mentions that "a small piece of land lying in this parish (Kirkconnel), which is enjoyed under a charter of 1444, for the payment of one shilling Scots money to the minister officiating at the altar of the Blessed Virgin, still pays this petty charge to the established minister of Kirkconnel (S.A.X. 453). Unfortunately the land and the altar and the shilling are gone.

The church of St. Conal belonged to Holywood Abbey (the Dercongal of an earlier time), the Abbot of which held the rectorial revenues, and a vicarage was established for the service of the church. In 1275 a valuation of benefices was drawn up, known as Bagimont's Roll, which continued in force as the guide of ecclesiastical taxation until the Reformation: in the form in which this Roll has come down to us from the reign of James the Fifth, the vicarage of Kirkconnel, in the deanery of Nith, was taxed £5 6s 8d (Scots), being one-tenth of the ecclesiastical revenue of the parish. At the epoch of the Reformation the rectorial revenues were held by Lord Crichton, of Sanquhar, for the payment of £20 yearly to the abbot and monks of Holywood. In a rental of the Abbey, given by Thomas Campbell, the last abbot, about 1570, he complains that the rent of £20 a year for the revenues of the church of Kirkconnel had been withheld by Lord Sanquhar for fifteen years past (MS. Rental Book, Fo. 100). The church lands, extending to forty shilling lands of the old extent, passed into lay hands about the time of the Reformation (Inquisit. Speciales, 110). After the Reformation the patronage and titles of the church of Kirkconnel, with the other property of Holywood Abbey, were vested in the King by the General Annexation Act, and were granted in 1618 to John Murray, Knight of Carden, Lochmaben (Acta Parl. IV., 575, 665). In 1625 King Charles the First granted Lord John Murray, Earl of Annandale, among

other gifts, the greater and lesser tithes of the rectories and vicarages of Tynron and Kirkconnel; also to the ministers of said churches the stipends mentioned in the earlier infeftments. For the tithes of the said lands of D. Wil. Greirson the tithes and advowson of Tynron and Kirkconnel, 10 shillings in white ferm [that is, grain, wheat, meal, etc.]; part of the devorie [duty payable from land] contained in the charter of erection of the barony of Holywode (Reg. of Great Seal, 1620-1633 (Rolls Series), No. 826, pp. 299, 301). In the reign of Charles the Second the patronage of Kirkconnel was transferred to the Duke of Queensberry. On the death of William, Duke of Queensberry, in 1810, the patronage went to the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry.

The romantic story of how the present church came to be built in 1729 need not detain us here. Two things, however, should be noted: (1) At the last restoration and extension (1896) four carved stones were built into the outer wall of the Apse, and though there is no record of their origin, there is no doubt that they were brought from the ruins of the ancient church at "Old Kirkconnel": reference to them will be made later; (2) a massive, badly weathered cross base (not of local stone) of the eleventh century, found in the north boundary wall of the west glebe, near the highest point of the field, was set up in the church for preservation, and is now used as part of the Font. It is about 40 inches high, 27 by 21 inches in section at the base. On the top is a socket hole, 17 inches by 9, and about 5 inches deep, no doubt for the shaft of a cross. On one of the narrower sides at the bottom of a panel near the base are three loops of the lower end of a pattern of interlaced work, and on the other narrower side are two oval inter-linked loops. Mr W. G. Collingwood has very kindly supplied the following note: "The great cross-base in the church is certainly of the eleventh century, because the 'duplex' figures on it can hardly be of any other period." (For illustrations and descriptions V. (1) "The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland," by J. Romilly Allen, Edinburgh, 1903; and (2) Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society

Transactions, Third Series, Vol. XII.—article by Mr W. G. Collingwood, “ Studies in the Early Church of Dumfriesshire and its Monuments ”).

Of the old church of St. Conal, situated about two miles from the present village of Kirkconnel, under the shadow of the Kirklands Hill (1670 feet), and close by the mouth of the deep defile of Glenaylmer, little is left to remind one of St. Conal, or the early pioneers of the Christian faith. If the old saint planted his staff or cross in this region, and gave baptism from what is pointed out as St. Conal's Well, which still sings into the sunlight near the foot of the hill, there is every likelihood that several churches have been erected on the sacred site, and though we have no written record of the Christian past of the parish, we have been privileged to unearth and collect many fragments of carved stones, which, could they speak, as they may to the patient lover, would tell out many bits of the story of the thousand silent years that passed between the time of our patron saint and that of Samuel Mowat, curate of Kirkconnel, who was deprived in 1681 for declining the Test Act. No successor was appointed, the church was closed, and gradually fell into decay and ruin, or was ruthlessly despoiled by the hands of ignorant men. For about fifty years “ the hungry sheep looked up and were not fed,” when in sheer desperation the parishioners, early in the eighteenth century, demanded the “ replanting ” of their church and parish. In 1729 the present church of St. Conal was erected “ a good mile ” from the old church, and the notable Peter Rae was translated from Kirkbride to Kirkconnel in 1732. From that time even the ancient churchyard at “ Old Kirkconnel ” was only occasionally used for burial purposes, and the ruined church became a quarry for dyke and barn and farmhouse, the old foundations sleeping on, the subject only of tradition. During the incumbency of the Rev. John William M'Vicker (1892-98) the above-mentioned carved stones were recovered and found sanctuary. Early in the summer of 1926 the present incumbent, along with several loyal churchmen, undertook to excavate the grassy mound which covered the old foundations. They had

nothing to guide them beyond the orientation of the oblong mound, which had a dip towards the centre. They decided to begin operations where it was conjectured the south door or porch had been. Two veteran ash trees, gnarled and hollowed with age, stood sentinel on the north and south sides of the dip, grimly challenging the advance. A few hours' use of the pick and spade revealed the door-space (39 inches broad), two of the original steps being found in position, much worn and rounded at edges, leading down into the church. Having gained the floor level, and about a three feet face of inside wall extending along the south side for about twenty feet, and then turning north, still keeping the level of the bottom door-step, they cleared the way across to the north wall, which was also found to be three feet high, and worked towards the west. As they neared the west wall they unearthed rough boulders from beneath the floor-level, lying irregularly, but apparently originally forming two sides of a squared division of the church in the north-west corner, the other two sides of the square being formed by parts of the north and west walls. These boulders may have been foundation stones of an arched Baptistery, or some other enclosure or chamber within the church, half-way across from the south door. No vestige of any other door or window came to sight, only some fragments of moulded corner stones, which might be remains of windows, or doorways, or arches; the work of destruction and robbery had been complete.

The west end of the church was now cleared, and the workers pushed on eastwards, when their progress was arrested by the unearthing of four interesting fragments:—

- I. A fractured slab of yellow-grey sandstone, 18 inches by $14\frac{1}{2}$ by $5\frac{1}{2}$. Mr W. G. Collingwood describes it as "Head of a grave-slab, plain rectangular cross in relief. The outer rim of the wheel is bevelled off in the middle of the four quadrants. Close dating of such slabs is difficult, but perhaps thirteenth century."
- II. Taken to be a holy-water stoup, of rough red sandstone, 19 inches by 17 by 8, diameter of cup 9 inches, depth $2\frac{1}{2}$. Mr Collingwood says: "It is too massive and clumsy

for a holy-water stoup and more like a mortar. There were two uses for mortars (under that name): one was for pounding incense, etc., the other for holding wax and a wick. Then cresset-stones with many smaller cups for this purpose are well known, but this might be an example of the larger, single lamp-stone of any period in pre-Reformation times."

- III. Fragment of a cross-shaft, of reddish-grey sandstone, 16 inches in height, $13\frac{1}{2}$ broad at base, 12 at top, and $6\frac{1}{2}$ in thickness. Mr Collingwood's description is: "Part of a cross-shaft with patterns like that of Penpont headstone and shaft, which are of late eleventh century: the figures on side *a* are of the 'duplex,' to be seen on the Kirkconnel cross-base, and the whole design is late and debased, though the cutting is apparently advanced. Side *d* much defaced, had ornament of the character of side *b*. Sides *b* and *d* are rather narrow to fit the great base, but they may have widened in their lower parts; indeed, if produced four feet downwards this shaft would be large enough to fit the socket of the great base; the stone as a whole is the most massive of the fragments. From this, as well as from the occurrence of the 'duplex,' I incline to connect the great base and this fragment together as remains of a great cross of the late eleventh century": (V. Plate VIII.).
- IV. A cross-arm-head, of marled grey sandstone; end of arm measuring $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, fractured end 6 inches, from fracture to end 6 inches, and 5 inches thick. Later on another fragment with spiral ornament was found near the east wall; it is of grey sandstone, 8 inches in height, 12 broad at base, 10 at top, and about 5 inches thick, with rounded edges. Mr Collingwood connects this spiral fragment with the cross-arm first mentioned. He says: "Part of a cross shaft, which also seems to indicate the influence of Hoddam and the same surviving traditions from pre-Danish art. The scroll is too stiff to be of the ninth century, and the other sides of the shaft bear only the plain groove mouldings which are

characteristic of the early eleventh century, in the Northumbrian districts, where they occur freely. At Closeburn and Wamphray there are scrolls on stones that cannot be earlier than the tenth century, and this cross shaft I should date to about A.D. 1000. [The former fragment] is an arm of a cross-head, of which the restoration is obvious. It appears to be of a somewhat different material from that of the shaft, but cross-heads were frequently made separate from the shafts, because they required a wide stone, and the shafts needed only a long post or stope of stone. Before the revival of church-building in stone, which did not occur in these parts until after the coming of the Normans, there was no quarrying, and cross carvers used such pieces as they could pick off the land. The head was socketed or dowelled to the shaft, and as most crosses were painted, the difference in colour, if any, was not noticeable. This head would not only fit the shaft, but it bears the same groove-mouldings, and it seems probable that the two were joined as suggested in the drawing. Free-armed heads were still used into the eleventh century. The Thornhill Cross (perhaps tenth century) must have been of this character. And as this cutting seems to be advanced the date is likely to be a little after A.D. 1000. It may be remarked that the panel, on which is the scroll, terminates at the foot; underneath it, there was perhaps a panel for an inscription or some other motive." (V. Plate III.)

Hundreds of barrow loads of broken stones and rubbish were minutely examined before being rolled away. One tiny bit of stained glass was thus recovered, and two early Scottish coins. Stones of any size were carefully laid aside to be built into a cairn outside the west wall when the whole interior of the church was cleaned out. After a few days of very hard labour the diggers became greatly engrossed in their task, the stones were magically transformed into precious stones, every eye trained to detect any peculiar feature or trace of ornamentation.

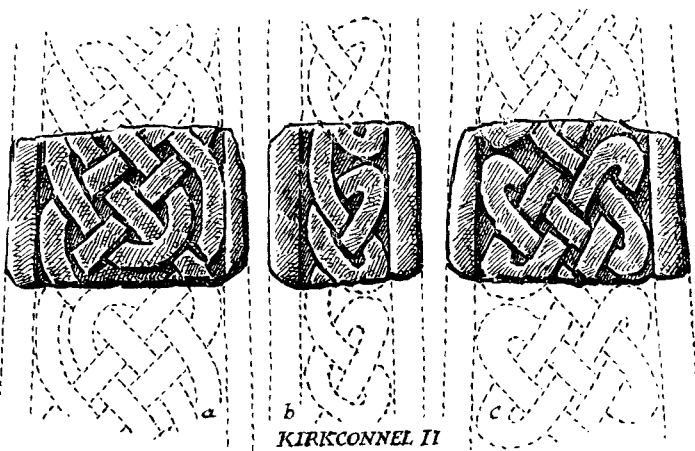
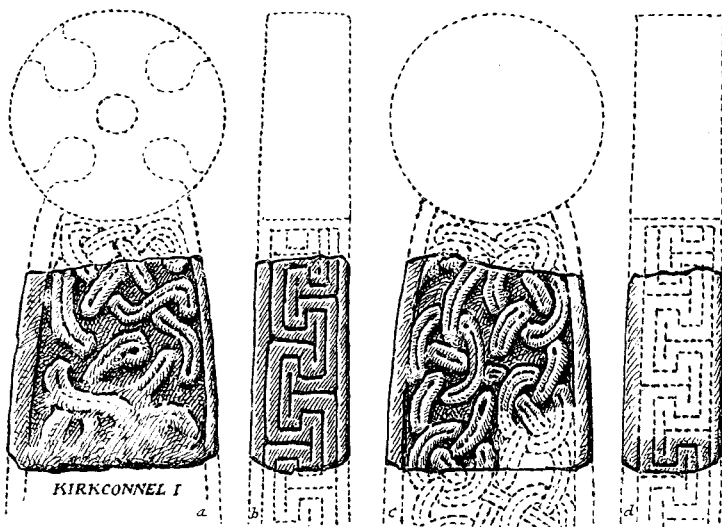
“ The saints take pleasure in her stones,
Her very dust to them is dear.”

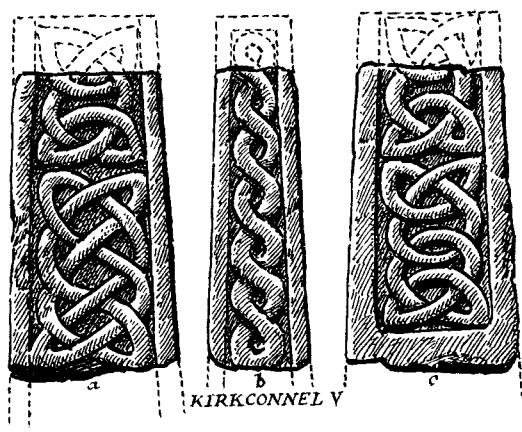
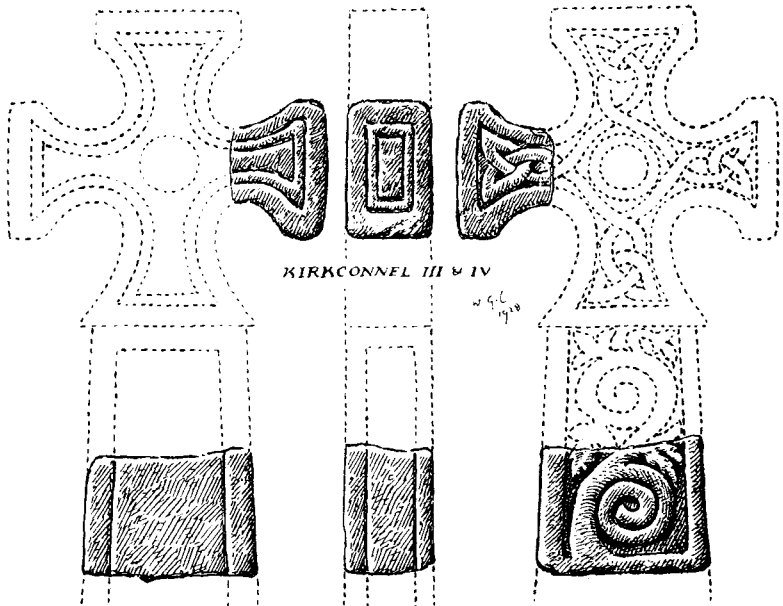
Day by day the ancient spirit of the holy ground seemed to take possession of them, every spadeful was scrutinised lest something more refined than fine gold might be lurking within the mass. On one occasion when their leader was engaged examining some heaps in the north-west corner, he heard an unmistakable cry of surprise coming from one of the parties about 30 feet east of him, and hastening forward he found they had uncovered a complete grave-slab, of grey sandstone, with a floriated cross within a disc, five feet long, 4 inches thick, diameter of disc $19\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Unfortunately, though most carefully handled, it broke in two, flaking badly. Early carvers were not usually experts in quarrying. The writer understands that such crosses with fleur-de-lis terminals within a disc are common in ancient burying grounds in Ireland, marking the graves of priests. The Kirkconnel stone has no inscription, and may mark the resting place of a local priest of the thirteenth century. Mr Collingwood's note is: “ Head of a grave-slab; early floriated cross in relief, probably thirteenth century.”

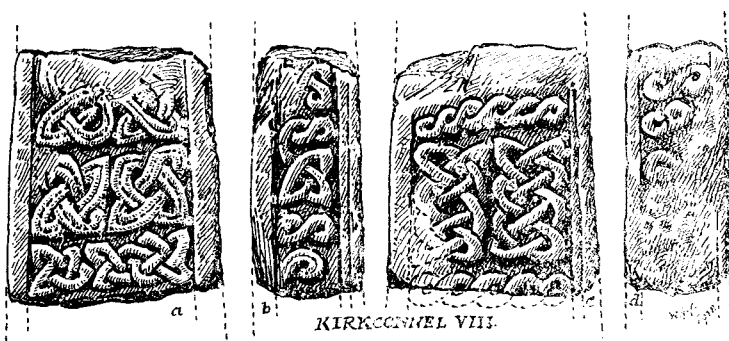
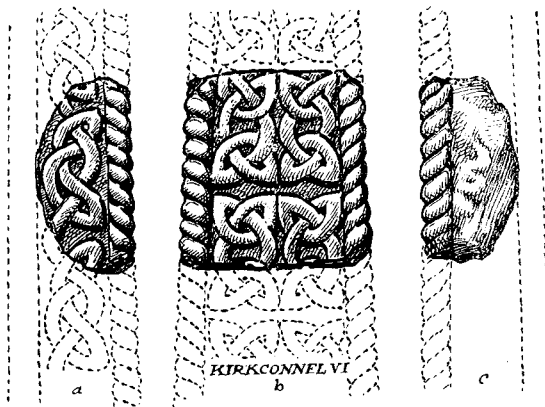
On the left of this slab was another, the only one found with an inscription. When discovered it was in three fragments, but all lying in place. It is of red sandstone, over 5 feet long by 21 inches by 5. Great interest was taken in this massive slab, chiefly, perhaps, because of its puzzling inscription. Mr Collingwood describes it as: “ Three fragments giving the whole of the grave-slab, bearing a plain rectangular cross on Calvary steps; on one side the shears, and on the other a figure too defaced to be recognised: it looks something like a sword, but cannot at present be explained. The inscription reads [HIC] JACET MARIOTA, followed by a much defaced line which cannot be made out satisfactorily. Who Mariota was, and her date, must be left undecided for the present.” Unfortunately Mr Collingwood had not seen the stone: only photographs and a rubbing were sent to him. The writer is of opinion that the defaced figure on the sinister side of the cross is a sword: the globular

pommel is distinct to the eye, and also the guard with unusually bent ends. If Mariota is rightly read, this is a lady's slab, and how is the presence of the sword to be explained?

Immediately east of these two grave-slabs a considerable difficulty was encountered. So far satisfactory progress had been made: the men had behind them the west wall and about thirty-seven feet of the north and south walls, and all between practically cleared: now they were up against what seemed to be the foundations of the east wall, though there were still some thirty feet of the mound to be removed. They found that across the whole breadth of the church at this point ran two rows of stone steps, some out of place and broken, but undoubtedly marking an inside division of the church. What was this division? Was it the old foundation of an east wall of an earlier church? If so, the above two recumbent slabs marked graves close to the right side of the Altar. How came the lady Mariota to be buried in a place usually reserved in early times for bishops or priests of holy fame, unless Mariota was in holy orders as suggested by the shears, if they mean tonsure? She probably was of some importance, and may have taken orders in her widowhood, and the other slab might mark the grave of the priest of the time. Many such curious thoughts passed through the mind of the writer. The soil immediately beyond the top row of steps was to all appearance virginal, and about twelve inches above the floor level of the church. The conclusion arrived at was that these stones were the steps up into the Sanctuary. This came as a revelation to the explorers, and that day they worked on till sunset, buoyed up not only with great expectations of important finds, but also with hot tea and scones from the Manse. Beyond the chancel steps, which they restored more or less to their original position, was a kerb of hewn stones on the flat of the mound, enclosing the grave of a child of William Kennedy, at one time tenant of the Kirklands farm. It had not been disturbed for over forty years. The kerb was now removed and replaced after the levelling down was completed, though, perhaps, to save awkward questions in the







future it might have been better had it been removed altogether from the interior of the church. However, it is well to have this noted.

On the south side of the kerb was found a beautiful fragment of dark grey sandstone, measuring $19\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, breadth at base 11 inches, at top 9 inches, thickness at foot $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and at top 5 inches. One narrow side is strapped, the other badly defaced. Mr Collingwood's note on this stone is: "Part of a cross-shaft (differing from No. III. in its more advanced chiselling, for the straps are rounded and the ground is well cut away, though the outlines are hacked in the style prevalent in the tenth and early eleventh centuries). The design is later than that of No. III., and the figures on side *c* are especially eleventh century in character. As this section of the shaft is so slender, and as the patterns would terminate simultaneously at the top, it is perhaps the upper end or neck of the whole shaft, upon which the head rested. The pattern was cut up with horizontal bands, as seen on side *c*, so that further restoration of the design downwards would be mere guess work. And the date is, I think, first quarter of the eleventh century." (V., Plate V.)

When the east wall was uncovered and the whole chancel cleared, the leader, with his happy band around him, cried out, "Deo gratias!" The building lies east and west: total length about 65 feet inside the walls, and $18\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad; the chancel, $26\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, and occupying the whole breadth of the church; the masonry of the walls is solid and compact, of squared rough-hewn freestone.

Along the whole length of the *inside* south wall, well up to the chancel steps, many human skulls and bones were unearthed, carefully and minutely collected, and reburied outside the walls. Along the north wall not a single bone was dug up. After the complete clearing out of the church interior an examination was made of the north side of the graveyard: no tombstone nor any trace of a grave was found. Up to about the middle of the sixteenth century only bodies of baptised Christians received burial within a Christian graveyard, and belief in the evil repute of the north side was

general all over Great Britain; the north side, being unconsecrated ground, was reserved for the burial of unbaptised children, ex-communicated persons, and suicides. The bones found along the south inside wall appeared to be dumped in by some considerate grave-digger, who, when re-opening tombs for new interments, had a happy thought of thus concealing within the old church the relics of former burials, probably before the roof of the church collapsed. The excavation showed that only two graves had been made within the church, evidenced by the two recumbent stones mentioned above, one with the floriated cross, and the other with the "Mariota" inscription. Fortunately the collapse or spoliation of roof and walls took place before the interior was disfigured by modern tombstones, which would have made the recent engrossing work much more difficult, if not impossible, though it is interesting to find a grain of satisfaction in the neglect and degradation of this one-time shrine of the Holy.

While the work of excavation was going on members of the exploring party volunteered to repair the churchyard wall, as the Kirk Session of Kirkconnel has now the custody of this ancient burying-place. At the instigation of successive ministers of the parish during the past forty years and more, the late John Sharpe, of the Vennel—the name given to a farm-dairy close at hand—not only kept this wall in good repair, and the graveyard itself in good order, but also supplied a new basin for St. Conal's Well. So deep was his interest in the ancient and holy ground that he more than once arranged with the present minister that his own grave should be just outside the east wall of the old church, but now his body lies with that of his faithful wife to the right of the porch of the present church. In 1926 the repair of the graveyard wall was admirably done, and led to the discovery of many fragments of carved stones built into it. It is likely that part of the wall was built with stones from the old church, and though a very careful scrutiny was made, ornamented stones may still be concealed within it, broken up and chiselled to fit a gap or form a coping. During the second

week of this year (1929) the writer was visiting at the Vennel, when the shepherd's daughter gleefully took him out to see a stone which her brothers had found in the bed of a tiny stream a few yards from the house, and which had fallen, no doubt, from the dry-stone dyke bordering on the burn. It proved to be a fragment of red sandstone cut down for building purposes, measuring 14 inches by 10 by 4, retaining part of a fan-armed cross in a circle; beneath which, and replacing the usual cross-stem, is a sword. Mr Collingwood, who has only seen a photograph, says it looks like thirteenth or fourteenth century work, at a rough guess. Stuart, in his "Sculptured Stones of Scotland," gives a plate of a Lindisfarne stone, the lower part of which bears a striking resemblance to this fragment: it has the sword with the *complete* fan-armed cross, while above the cross are three inter-linked circles surmounted by another fan-armed cross. The Kirkconnel stone has been severely broken down for building purposes, and may have formed part of a cross-shaft like the Lindisfarne one. In his notes on the Lindisfarne fragments, Stuart says they were probably in connection with the church erected between that of St. Finan, built in 652, and that of the priory, founded in 1093 or 1098 (Vol. II., Plates XXVI. and LXXXII, and p. 19).

Why did not the hammers fall from the despoilers' hands? Why did they so blindly build on this low hill-ground with stones so precious? We do not grudge to sheep and cattle fences of boulders from the hill, or the glen, or the stream, but we do grudge them, for they have not eyes to see things of beauty and of priceless worth, a fence of stone decorated by the hands and inspiration of those who prayed and worshipped and toiled to enshrine the spirit of loveliness in holy places, that we, poor pilgrims, might lift up our hearts as we pass on our way towards the hills.

In the graveyard wall the following carved stones were found:

- I. A fragment, of grey sandstone, 10 inches high, $15\frac{1}{2}$ at base, 14 at top, and 9 thick, fractured top and bottom. Mr Collingwood's note is: "Part of a cross-shaft with

plaits of rather more regular form. Side *b* shows the line of Carrick bends common in Cumberland in the tenth century. The design of *a* and *c* is not common in the Viking age, but seems to be a survival of the pre-Danish style, which survival can be traced at Hoddam, whence the carver of this cross may have come. That it is not of the ninth century is shown by the hacked cutting of the flat straps, and I think that it ought to be dated round about A.D. 1000, perhaps earlier." (V., Plate II.)

- II. A fractured grave slab, of reddish-grey sandstone, fan-armed cross within a circle, with the usual two lines for shaft; back chiselled to form cope for wall; measuring 25 inches long by 18 broad by 10 inches thick on top, chiselled down to 8½. Mr Collingwood's brief note is: "Head of a grave-slab. Within a circle a cross in relief with expanding arms formed by radii, like the 'resting-crosses of the thirteenth century.'"
- III. A beautiful fragment, of reddish-grey sandstone, back chiselled to form cope; 12 inches high, 12½ broad at base, 11 at top, 4 inches thick at top, originally probably 6 inches thick. Mr Collingwood says of this stone: "Fragment of a cross-shaft with cabled edging. The pattern on side *b* is like that of the stone in Closeburn Church. On side *a* is a rather irregular double-looped knot, and the restoration suggests the breadth of that face as about 8 inches. Side *c* is too defaced to restore, but the traces indicate something not unlike side *a*. The Closeburn stone, I think, of the middle of the eleventh century, which is probably the date of this one." (V., Plate VI.)
- IV. Fragment, of reddish-grey sandstone, 13½ inches high, 14 broad at base, 11½ broad at top, and 6½ thick. Mr Collingwood has made a most interesting restoration, and he describes it as a "Fragment of cross-shaft in the style and possibly by the hand of the carver of the rune-inscribed cross at Whithorn Museum, which I date to the middle of the 10th century ("Early Crosses of

Galloway," fig. 14). It has the same 'stepped plait' or interlacing made of separate and terminated pieces of strap, found also in Cumberland, but not usual in pre-Norman work out of Cumberland and Galloway. It has the same irregularity of design, and on one side *c* the rings in the plan which denote the tenth century: some of the strands have three members, others two, showing a certain carelessness common to the period. On side *b* is the TLT pattern of the tenth century, and the remaining marks on side *d* appear to be parts of a similar pattern. If this shaft was of the Whithorn school, it possibly had a head of disc-face form like the cross at Whithorn and that in St. Ninian's cave. The entasis seen on sides *a* and *c* suggests that it was not tall: probably about 3 feet 6 inches high altogether. Date about 950." (V., Plate I.)

One curious stone, found lying in the churchyard near the old church, has been known to the writer for about twenty years. It is complete, of reddish-grey sandstone, not defaced in any way; the right side, 8 inches thick, slopes underneath to $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches on the left side; length of left side $29\frac{1}{2}$ inches, of right $22\frac{1}{2}$; breadth about 19 inches; right side bevelled towards hollow, with right angle cuts at both ends; hollow or basin 19 inches long, breadth $11\frac{1}{2}$, and depth $1\frac{1}{2}$; outlet on left $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and $2\frac{1}{2}$ broad. It was taken to be, perhaps, a piscina, but Mr Collingwood says: "The trough is no doubt a kind of piscina, but it is not deep enough to be used in the ordinary way. I suppose it was set at the back of a recess in the wall, and the stone then formed a sink, on which a basin could be set and into which it could be emptied; but I do not know of a parallel in stance, nor of the date at which such a sink was in fashion."

During the reconstruction of the present parish church of St. Conal in 1896, the Rev. J. W. M'Vicker found near the old church the four carved stones already mentioned, which he built into the outside wall of the apse. Unfortunately he left no record regarding them, but in 1899, three years later, the present minister was informed by eye-

witnesses that they had seen the stone "lying about" the old church before Mr M'Vicker had them removed to their present position. They are

- I. An open book surmounted by a canopy.
- II. A cherub with outstretched wings.
- III. and IV. Two carved capitals.

Mr Collingwood, to whom photographs were sent, has communicated the following letter regarding them: "I have heard from my son, R. G. Collingwood, M.A., F.S.A., of Pembroke College, Oxford, who may be quoted as agreeing with the opinion of Mr A. W. Clapham, F.S.A., one of the leading authorities on medieval architecture, who says of the Kirkconnel capitals: 'I think they are probably 16th or early 17th century work. They have quite the appearance of a rather crude Scottish Renaissance work, and they may well have come from a neighbouring house, or even from an ecclesiastical building of that period. To my thinking they are either too good or not good enough for genuine Roman work, and in any case it is rather a far cry from Birrens to Kirkconnel.' Mr R. C. Reid thinks that Holywood Abbey was not in a position to rebuild the church or chancel, as Mr Collingwood suggested, shortly before the Reformation. These four stones, without historical support, are not enough to prove a sixteenth century restoration. They may have come from some other building. But even if the two capitals are Roman, which is unlikely, the other two cannot be part of a pre-Renaissance fabric, and we must leave attempt at explanation for the present."

The seven stones so wonderfully restored by Mr Collingwood, along with his plate of the Kirkconnel great cross-base, give (to quote his final conclusion) "Seven monuments of pre-Norman age, and indicate the existence of a church or chapel at Kirkconnel from at least A.D. 950 or thereabouts. At that date, as the connection of the designs with Whithorn suggests, the church of Candida Casa had some influence here; or at least the Whithorn carver was brought to do the work. Later on Candida Casa was in temporary eclipse, but the monuments at Hoddam show that a church, or at any

rate a churchyard, was in existence there; and from that source it seems probable that the monumental art of Dumfriesshire, in the late tenth and in the eleventh centuries, was derived."

While acknowledging his great debt to Mr Collingwood, the writer would venture to add that the exploration of the old church has been fruitful in this: the seven monuments suggest that a chapel, probably wooden, existed at the foot of Glenaylmer from the middle of the tenth century; that in the 12th century, or perhaps a little later, a stone church was built, possibly by Holywood, and that the recently excavated walls are probably of a still later foundation. Three puzzles remain: (1) Who and when was Mariota? (2) What is the figure on the sinister side of Mariota's cross? (3) What about these four stones, of which two are quite late? The fragments have told something of their story: they have reconstructed a pre-Norman chapel at Kirkconnel—and a quite important chapel too.

Perhaps the writer may be allowed to explain how these notes came to be written. Coming homewards over the hills one roseate summer evening, now many years ago, he strayed into the old churchyard of St. Conal at the foot of Glenaylmer and sat down tired and weary on one of the altar tombstones. There was no breath of wind, no cry of bird, to disturb the tender, green resting-place of the dead: it was mid-summer, and with him, too, it was mid-summer, at least the spring was over and gone, and perhaps on that account he was more deeply touched by the grey lichen on the weathered stones, and the awe of solemn quiet creeping like ghostly shadows along the corridors of his soul. He felt as if everything around him was saturated with human tears, and a depression as of some haunting, half-remembered story rested upon him like a cloud, blotting out sight, and starting a pain in his mind. He rose from his seat, walked towards the mound of the old church, uncertain of his purpose, and as he neared it the depression deepened and the pain increased. He loved the ancient days, the glamour of the olden time, the faith, the activities, the humour and the pathos, the joy and

laughter, of those who had been there before him; he heard again the voices of the worshippers, the prayers and praises of those kneeling before the Presence of the Eternal, like breaking waves on some far-off shore, and he knelt as before a shrine. Long after that eventful evening he found himself one glorious summer morning one of a happy band whose hearts he had touched with his own spirit, and in whose hands were the tools which were to uncover the foundations of St. Conal's ancient church. The end of the summer of 1926 saw the work completed so far as was intended that season. The joy of the toil was joy indeed, the joy of a long-neglected duty done, of a reparation long over-due, and when the fragments of carved stones were recovered and safely brought to the present church for preservation the workers felt they had done part-penance for the shame of past years. But they kept no record.

The next stage was the visit of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Antiquarian Society in the summer of 1928, when Mr R. C. Reid, of Ruthwell, Mr G. W. Shirley, Mr Tom. Wilson, and others expressed their appreciation of what had been done so quietly, and bluntly demanded a written report.

The final stage was reached when Mr Reid introduced the writer to Mr W. G. Collingwood, the learned author of "Northumbrian Crosses in the Pre-Norman Age," a monument of research, scholarship and workmanship. Photographs of the recovered Kirkconnel stones, taken by Conal Charleson, B.A., B.M. (Oxon.), and brief notes of the old church and of the fragments were submitted to Mr Collingwood, who immediately took the matter up with his well-known zeal and patience, presented the writer with critical notes and illustrations, and gave him encouragement to put on record the story of the exploration of "Old Kirkconnel." To be associated with such a master was too great an honour for a humble and unknown individual to refuse.

His thanks are also due to Miss L. R. Andrews, the honorary secretary of the Antiquarian Society, for her gracious helpfulness in the way of books.

All inaccuracies, wrong judgments, and errors of any kind are the writer's own, for which he tenders apologies, and claims not pardon but kindly correction.

C. FORBES CHARLESON.

The Manse of Kirkconnel,
Easter Monday, 1929.

Rainfall Records for the South-Western Counties for the Year 1928.

SUPPLIED BY THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, EDINBURGH.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
DUMFRIESSHIRE.													
Ruthwell, Comlongon Castle	7.46	3.37	3.86	1.26	1.64	6.30	3.71	7.45	2.26	7.27	5.19	3.88	53.65
Mouswald, Schoolhouse	9.65	4.06	6.62	1.54	2.55	7.34	4.14	8.49	2.80	9.03	6.48	4.72	67.42
Dumfries, Crichton Royal Inst.	8.75	3.39	4.89	1.33	1.70	6.12	3.19	6.60	2.13	7.61	4.91	3.41	54.53
Carnsateoch	7.64	3.46	4.59	1.57	1.78	6.62	3.32	6.63	2.22	8.34	5.75	3.58	55.90
Montvale, Glencrosh	11.24	4.70	5.93	2.40	1.58	7.04	2.45	7.45	2.82	10.12	7.63	5.44	69.00
Dalton, Maxwellton House	10.45	4.20	5.71	1.06	1.36	5.46	1.68	5.74	1.89	8.43	5.60	2.86	55.44
Dalton, Whitecroft	9.27	3.40	5.14	1.30	1.70	7.08	4.44	7.46	2.27	7.53	5.67	4.52	59.83
Lockerbie, Kirkwood	9.64	4.23	5.94	1.18	1.62	7.07	4.30	8.24	2.79	8.50	6.33	4.72	65.06
Lockerbie, Castlemlik	10.91	4.33	4.83	0.79	1.17	5.62	4.34	8.33	2.88	8.55	6.53	4.62	62.46
Lochnaben, Esthwaite	9.35	3.65	5.10	0.80	1.80	7.19	3.82	8.09	2.36	8.63	5.94	3.78	60.56
Eaglesfield, Springkell Gdns.	9.38	4.08	5.11	1.27	1.51	6.72	3.63	7.92	2.37	8.50	5.57	4.41	60.47
Canonbie, Byreburnfoot	11.38	3.94	5.26	1.20	1.33	7.25	5.06	10.35	3.23	7.44	5.93	3.65	64.27
" Irvine House	12.70	5.90	4.75	1.13	1.63	7.50	4.62	8.62	2.75	7.75	7.73	5.00	67.00
Langholm, Drove Road	14.65	6.15	6.61	1.46	2.07	8.06	5.41	9.28	4.39	7.54	7.88	5.17	74.01
Ewea	13.08	7.27	7.11	1.46	1.73	7.66	4.61	9.66	3.46	9.66	9.00	5.85	80.91
Eskdalemuir Observatory	15.37	8.59	6.71	1.78	1.54	7.37	5.24	9.48	4.37	11.80	8.85	5.90	87.50

RAINFALL RECORDS FOR THE SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES 139

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
WIGTOWN.													
Loch Ryan Lighthouse	3.81	2.96	4.65	2.07	1.74	4.42	2.54	4.89	2.28	7.68	7.58	4.53	53.65
Logan House	6.62	3.34	4.16	2.33	1.23	5.36	3.83	3.68	2.11	7.90	6.55	4.44	52.40
Corsewall	7.60	2.68	5.30	1.78	1.78	3.99	2.65	3.65	3.45	7.93	6.73	5.21	52.70
Whithorn (Physgill)	7.04	3.40	4.37	1.38	2.19	5.71	3.16	4.38	1.90	8.30	6.31	3.68	51.82
(Ghasserton)	7.63	3.47	4.62	1.36	1.49	4.35	3.24	4.65	1.91	9.35	6.86	4.03	54.56
Port-William (Monreith)	7.75	3.33	5.44	1.85	2.28	5.31	3.25	4.41	1.89	9.71	7.13	4.50	56.85
Stoneykirk (Ardwell House)	7.05	3.34	4.73	2.38	1.44	5.47	1.60	3.51	2.12	7.79	6.52	4.44	50.39
Garliestown (Galloway House)	8.19	3.45	5.96	1.87	2.04	4.42	3.52	5.91	2.56	9.99	8.37	5.25	61.53
Kirkcowan (Craighlaw)	11.57	4.17	4.73	2.03	1.70	5.66	3.13	6.30	2.73	9.55	9.26	5.33	66.16
KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.													
Borgue (Knockbrex)	9.20	3.46	5.12	1.47	1.87	6.23	3.60	5.85	2.15	8.05	7.78	4.24	50.00
Little Ross Lighthouse	6.05	2.33	4.23	1.15	1.31	5.12	2.89	5.77	2.76	6.58	5.26	2.70	46.65
Mossdale (Hensol)	13.53	4.80	7.31	2.21	1.82	7.03	3.11	9.42	3.38	12.08	10.10	5.91	80.70
Dalry (Glendaroch)	16.53	5.23	7.23	2.31	1.93	6.37	2.34	8.41	2.40	11.08	8.88	5.84	75.58
" (Garroch)	18.06	6.56	8.59	2.82	2.07	7.58	2.95	8.66	3.16	11.48	11.02	7.42	88.84
" (Forrest Lodge)	18.06	6.59	7.59	3.86	0.90	7.69	2.53	7.34	4.21	12.36	12.94	8.50	93.30
Carsphairn (Shiel)	15.14	6.99	8.35	2.89	1.61	9.66	3.40	9.13	4.21	13.29	13.71	8.41	99.79
" (Knockgray)	13.32	5.31	7.96	1.99	1.57	6.52	2.16	7.39	2.63	11.37	9.16	6.23	76.41
Auchencairn (Torr House)	12.87	4.35	4.70	2.10	1.97	7.31	4.53	7.25	3.65	10.02	8.77	4.89	72.11
Dalbeattie (Kirkennan)	12.21	3.64	5.87	1.75	2.28	6.38	3.48	6.43	2.72	9.83	8.29	5.34	68.73
" (Drumstinchall)	10.30	3.84	4.91	1.72	2.23	6.96	4.08	6.92	3.82	9.53	7.27	4.93	66.51
Dumfries (Gargen)	11.33	5.17	5.96	1.91	2.10	7.36	3.97	6.87	3.81	9.35	6.87	4.48	63.61
Lochnuton (Dumfries W. W.)	10.99	4.66	5.36	2.03	2.01	7.30	4.09	7.35	3.24	10.11	7.28	4.70	69.12
Dumfries (Lincluden House)	9.54	3.63	5.10	1.49	1.73	6.27	2.98	7.06	2.30	8.31	5.29	3.28	56.88

Field Meetings.

1st June, 1929.

The Carrick District.

The Society opened its summer programme with a field day in the Carrick district of Ayrshire. The company, numbering about 40, were favoured with excellent weather until the return journey was commenced, when there was heavy rain. The interest of the excursion was considerably increased by the provision of detailed notes on the itinerary, which enabled the members to identify the places of interest all along the route.

The company passed through Nithsdale on to the Cumnocks, Ochiltree, and Coylton to Ayr. The cars were parked at the Academy, and a short walk brought the party to the Tower of St. John's Church, where Mr P. A. Thomson, town clerk, spoke on the subject of "Ayr's Place in History," and described St. John's Church and Cromwell's Fort in the absence of Mr James A. Morris, A.R.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.

The journey was continued past Greenan Castle and the Deil's Dyke to Dunure Castle, where the speaker was Mr D. E. Edward, F.L.A. Farther along the coast was passed the farm of Dunure Mains, famous for its pedigree Clydesdale horses, Culzean Castle, the seat of the Marquess of Ailsa, and away ahead could be seen Turnberry Lighthouse, near which stood the castle in which Robert the Bruce was born.

On the way to Crossraguel Abbey a halt was called at Maybole, where the principal objects of interest are Kennedy's Castle, which has been restored and added to, the so-called house of John Knox, the Auld College, and Blairquhan Town House. The Rev. Alexander Williamson, M.A., dealt with the history of Maybole and these famous landmarks. Crossraguel Abbey was afterwards visited, and here the speaker was Mr James Gillespie, of H.M. Office of Works. Time did not permit of a visit to Baltersan Castle. The route back into Ayr was via the New Brig o' Doon and the district which

gave Burns birth. Particular interest was provided in Alloway's Auld Churchyard, where is the burial place of the Poet's father, and in the old church with its memories of the Dance of the Witches.

On arrival at the Belleisle estate of the Corporation of Ayr tea was served through the kindness of Mr Thomson, Mr Morris, and Mr W. A. F. Hepburn, executive education officer for Ayrshire, who formerly held a similar appointment in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright. These gentlemen were cordially thanked for all their generosity on the motion of Mr W. R. Gourlay of Kenbank.

A short halt was made on the homeward journey at Alloway, and the party visited Burns's Cottage.

13th July, 1929.

Little Clyde, Wanlockhead, and Durisdeer.

The second of the season's field days of the Society took place in glorious weather. The Roman Camp on Little Clyde farm, just north of Beattock Summit, where a paper was read from Mr R. G. Collingwood, one of the foremost authorities on Roman remains in Britain, was the first objective; thence via Leadhills the journey was continued to Wanlockhead, where the process of lead mining was explained by Mr W. Mitchell, the mine manager, and others, and where also much else of interest was seen; thence again, via the Mennock Pass, the party proceeded to Durisdeer, where they were addressed by Dr T. Harper, the parish minister; Mr R. C. Reid, and Mr G. W. Shirley. Thereafter the homeward journey was made by Thornhill, where a stop was made for tea.

Leaving the Ewart Library at 10 a.m., the party, in one charabanc and several private cars, made their way via St. Arne's Bridge to Little Clyde farm. The Roman Camp was reached shortly after 11 a.m., and a most interesting and illuminating paper, sent by Mr R. G. Collingwood, recounting its story was read.

Expressing thanks to Mr Collingwood for his paper, Mr Reid said that they were much indebted to him, and he (Mr

Reid) had already written him to that effect in name of the Society. He himself doubted the estimated extent of the area. He knew what a twenty acre field was, and he did not think the area of the camp was so extensive. At the same time he would not put himself forward as an authority against Mr Collingwood. The only way by which they could gain more information about the camp would be by excavation, and if this was arranged Mr Collingwood had promised to superintend the operations, while he himself would organise the labour. Any excavations must be in the nature of a gamble, as the camp was only a temporary one, but it might be possible in the ditch to come across a coin or a pot or some other relic which might help to date the camp. There was also a well marked road, perhaps of Roman origin, running southward from the camp into Annandale, which it might be well worth the efforts of that Society to trace.

The party then journeyed on to Wanlockhead, halting just above Leadhills for a picnic lunch.

At the lead mines the company were met by Mr William Mitchell, the manager. The Wanlockhead mines are the only lead mines now being worked in Scotland, and are of great age. Giving a brief history of them, Mr Mitchell said they were discovered, or perhaps re-discovered, by Cornelius Hardskins, a German, during the minority of James VI., when Germans were employed in that district searching for gold. Probably the first people to work the mines were the monks of Newbattle in 1239, but the earliest records showed that the mines were opened in 1680 by Sir James Stampfield, who worked them fairly successfully till 1691. In connection with the hunting for gold, Mr Mitchell referred his hearers to the book on the subject, "God's Treasure House in Scotland," by the Rev. J. Moir Porteous, in which it was said that Sir Bevis Bulmer, Master of the Mint under Queen Elizabeth, with the concurrence of the Scottish monarch, employed about 300 men in that work in the neighbourhood of Wanlockhead and Leadhills for several years during summer, and that metal to the extent of £100,000 was collected. Many banks of sand and gravel cast up then are still

to be seen on the banks of several streams, and are still known as Bulmer's banks. The search, it is said, became unprofitable when the wages of workmen exceeded 4d per day. A mine cut a considerable distance into one of the hills close by the Wanlock stream was supposed to have been cut in search of gold, and there were still those who believed there was a gold reef somewhere in the district. Gold was still searched for and found by the miners in their spare time, and not many years ago a nugget of uncommon size was found by Mr Wilson of the Geological Survey. Some excellent specimens were in the Royal Scottish Museum. Gold was generally found at the bottom of the glens, in a granular form, disseminated amongst rocks, and mixed with sand and gravel.

Following Sir James Stampfield, Mr Matthew Wilson worked the mines from 1691 to 1710; then from 1710 to 1721 a company for smelting down lead with pit coal, probably the London Lead Company, worked the mines. Until 1903, when the railway was opened, all the coal and timber was carted from Mennock and Elvanfoot, each about seven miles away, with horses and carts, and the lead had to be carted there too. From 1721 there were more companies than one operating in Wanlockhead at the same time. These were the Friendly or Quaker Company and the Smelting Company. Latterly these joined together, and were succeeded in 1734 by Alexander and William Telfer. In 1775 the whole field of Wanlockhead was taken over by Ronald Crawford, Meason and Company. This company, which in the end was owned by a former Marquess of Bute, worked the mines till 1842, when the then Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry took the mines into his own hands, and worked them until November, 1906. In the latter year the present Wanlockhead Lead Mining Company took them over.

Mr Mitchell said the various companies had met with varying success. Lead could not be surveyed like coal, and the yield was uncertain. The veins were not steady in their content, the ore being found in pockets. There were times when the mines yielded much, and times when they yielded

little. Success had been fairly steady till 1832; then, according to the records, "Free Trade" brought down the price to £11 10s per ton. Before this time steam engines had been largely used for pumping. A cylinder of one of these, of 4 feet 6 inches bore, probably by Boulton and Watt, and said to be the second one erected in Scotland, was subsequently examined. The low price of lead, and probably the poverty of the yield, led to the disuse of the steam engines, and the introduction of an ingenious contrivance worked by water gravity. Mr Mitchell had a model of this, and commenting on it and on the methods of mining of the old companies, he said they knew everything that was known to-day, and were only handicapped by the want of modern machinery and appliances, particularly pumps for getting rid of water. As a further instance of their skill, Mr Mitchell spoke of a tunnel that was driven by these old engineers from the Wanlock to the Mennock valleys to bring in the water supply that was still used for the working of the mine. It was 1266 yards in length, was commenced in 1763, and finished 11 years later. Some of the able engineers who worked with Messrs Ronald Crawford, Meason and Company were Smeaton of Eddystone-Lighthouse fame, Symington, who built the first steam boat, also the Taylors, who were connected with Symington's enterprise. Meason himself left a very interesting MSS history of Wanlockhead.

At the mine shaft the members of the Antiquarian Society saw parties of men arriving at the surface up a shaft which Mr Mitchell said was 293 fathoms deep, or 400 feet below sea level from where they stood. To go deeper was about all that modern mining had achieved, and they could do that because of the better pumps. The shaft looked remarkably small, measuring only 2 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 6 inches, and it was hardly credible that ponies of up to 12 hands high were got down it, but such was the case, when their legs were tied up to their body. The lead ore came up in a cage underneath that occupied by the men, and automatically tipped into grizzlies or screens where the stones were picked out by boys. Mr Mitchell proceeded here to give a detailed account of the processes by which the lead was separated from the ore.

Time did not permit of a visit to the smelting plant situated about a mile further down the Wanlock valley, but Mr Mitchell explained its nature. The system, he said, had one disadvantage, and that was that a large percentage of ore was carried away in fumes, but they had a good system of condensing by taking the fumes through miles of flue round the hillside and spraying them with water into settling tanks. By this they recovered a large proportion of the lead, and very little escaped through the stack at the top. Up to 1910 the lead was desilverised. There was about 11 per cent. of silver in the ore. But owing to the then low price of silver and the scarcity of labour it was found more advantageous to sell the silver lead to silver refiners, who had more up-to-date plants. The company were shown pigs of lead bearing the well-known brand, "Queensberry."

Mention was made by Mr Mitchell, the mine manager, of the adit or tunnel that was suggested during the war from Enterkinfoot to the mines—a distance of six miles. This would have intersected the veins in the Wanlockhead mine at the 160 fathom level, and would have been of much use in giving fresh ground, as well as draining off water. Similar schemes, not so big as this one, had been planned before, but owing chiefly to their expense none of them has been carried out. The estimated cost of the tunnel to Enterkinfoot was £150,000.

Mr Shirley gave some remarks on the written record in his possession of a journey made by Sir James Hope, the founder of the Hopetoun family, who then owned the Lead-hills Mines. This journey was taken with the purpose of discovering what processes were in operation on the Continent for mining lead, and the record contained some interesting sidelights on those times. His chief claim to fame seems to be that he imported the four-wheeled waggon from the Continent.

The offices of the mining company are in an old and commodious house pleasantly situated on the hillside above the dressing plant. The house was once that used by the mine managers, and was built for John Taylor, whose brother

went as tutor to the children of Patrick Miller of Dalswinton. Smollet, the novelist, married a daughter of Taylor, and wrote one of his novels in that house. The names Clinker, Random and others common in his novels are still common in Wanlockhead. Numerous plans by Taylor, Symington, Wells and other managers were inspected and admired for their neatness and accuracy, but what interested the ladies of the party most was the inspection they were allowed to make of the rest of the house, which is retained by the Duke of Buccleuch as a shooting lodge, and contains much old furniture, bed and table linen, china, etc., that took their fancy.

From there most of the party went to the house of Mr Robert Brown, who has given several papers before the Antiquarian Society, and whose home would be better termed the museum of Wanlockhead. Mr Brown's hobby is mineralogy, and in addition to a very fine collection of specimens that would grace any of our city museums, he has much else of note.

A visit was also made to the library, the second of its kind to be formed in Scotland, and after viewing the books, the drum said to have come from Waterloo, the original flag of the village, and the old toll bar board, Mr Gourlay expressed the thanks of the Society to Mr Mitchell, Mr Brown, and others who had been so attentive. The party then went on its way via Mennock Pass to Durisdeer.

On arrival at Durisdeer the party were met by the Rev. Dr. T. Harper, minister of the parish, and papers were read by Mr R. C. Reid and by Mr Shirley. Dr Harper also gave a short address. Mr Shirley spoke on Durisdeer and the literary men of the 18th century, and pointed out a close association of the district with that period. Mr Reid dealt with the history of Durisdeer Castle, the site of which is on the farm of Castlehill.

Dr Harper, speaking about the old church, said that while the cruciform part of the church was built in 1669, there was an older part. The walls in that part were about twice as thick. The church formerly had a steeple 90 feet high. The

manse, which was built in 1763, formerly stood at Enoch. It was built from the stone of that castle to which Mr Reid had referred. The silver communion cups were made in 1620 by George Robertson, silversmith in Edinburgh. There were one or two old pewter flagons still preserved which were used at the communion before the silver ones. He did not know how old they were, and he did not think anyone did. There was a list of the ministers from 1567 to the present day, but he did not think any of them attained great fame either ecclesiastically or politically. One of them, Alexander Strang, who was inducted in 1658, caused trouble to the authorities in the Covenanting times. He was summoned before the Privy Council on the charge of keeping conventicles. He denied the charge; so they could do nothing. He was put out of his parish in 1662, but returned with the peace in 1689. There was one interesting minister, Thomas Tod, who came to the parish in 1700, and died in 1742. The parish was still drawing a legacy from a bequest of his. He left 2000 merks to the poor of the parish and for a school at Townhead, Birleyhill. The famous Peter Rae, minister of Kirkconnel, was one of his executors. The legacy at the present time amounted to £2 or £3 a year. One half went to the poor of the parish. Unfortunately the other half went to the Education Authority.

Dr Harper said that there was only one grave of a Covenanting martyr in the churchyard, so far as he knew. It was that of Daniel M^cMichael, who lived in a cottage up the Glen. In the beginning of 1685 he was in bed with fever. Some of his friends who were scouting round learned that dragoons were approaching, and they took him out of his bed and down the Glen towards Wanlockhead. Seeing, however, they could not escape the dragoons, they left him, and he was captured and shot on the spot at Dalveen. In the vault in the church there were thirteen or fourteen lead coffins containing the remains of members of the Queensberry family. One of them was Henry Douglas, Earl of Drumlanrig, who died in October, 1754. He had been married to Lady Elizabeth Hope. They spent a few weeks in Scotland, and they were

making their way to England. The Earl was riding before the carriages when his own pistol went off and killed him. He was then in his 32nd year. His wife was broken-hearted, and died two years later, and was also buried in the vault.

On the motion of Mr J. M'Burnie, Sheriff Clerk, votes of thanks were passed to Mr Reid, Mr Shirley, and Dr Harper.

5th September, 1929.

Orchardton and Dungarry.

For the last meeting of the season the Society turned out in force, almost a hundred gathering at Orchardton Old Tower in splendid weather.

An interesting paper on the history of the Old Tower had been prepared by Mr W. R. Gourlay, Kenbank, Dalry, but owing to another engagement he was prevented from taking part in the outing, and the paper was read by Mr Shirley.

The party afterwards proceeded to Dungarry Camp by way of Gelston and Netherlinkens. A steep climb up the slopes of Ben Tudor was somewhat of an ordeal owing to the heat, but the magnificent view seawards and back to the Carsphairn hills was an ample reward. Mr R. C. Reid, having delivered his address under the shelter of a rock, the Society regained the cars and proceeded via Auchencairn to Orchardton House, where they were entertained to tea by Mr and Mrs Herries Maxwell. After tea about an hour was spent wandering round the beautiful policies of Orchardton and inspecting some of the beautiful pictures and furniture within the house. An aumbry built into the wall at the head of the entrance stairs aroused considerable interest. It is not known where it came from. Before leaving Mr J. H. Bell, on behalf of the Society, returned thanks to their hosts for all the kindness and hospitality shown to them.

Orchardton Tower, Parish of Buittle, Kirkcudbright.

By W. R. GOURLAY, F.S.A.Scot.

It is difficult fully to appreciate a building unless we can associate it in our minds with the lives of the people who lived in it. Therefore I will begin this account of Orchardton Tower with a short history of the three families who have been connected with the property.

The family of Cairns lived here for 150 years, from 1456 to 1600. The family of Maxwell owned the property for over 150 years, from 1600 to 1778, and they were followed by the family of Douglas, who are now in possession.

The "Cairns," from which the first of these families took their name, are situated in the parish of Midcaldor, in Midlothian. The first member of the family directly connected with Galloway was Provost of Lincluden from about 1408 to 1422. His tomb was discovered during the excavation of the Abbey site, conducted under the guidance of this Society in 1882.

Two brothers of the Provost held important offices at the Royal Court. John was "custumar" (what we would call to-day Chief Collector of Customs) at Linlithgow, and William was Constable of Linlithgow Castle. John developed abilities as a military engineer and builder, and in 1372 he was given the contract for the building of King David's Tower in Edinburgh Castle. This tower was considered at the time a masterpiece of fortification and absolutely impregnable. It was the most striking feature of the castle until its destruction by artillery in 1573.

John Cairns was succeeded in his office by his nephew, John the Second, and the Provost of Lincluden appointed this same nephew heir to his extensive properties in Galloway. John the Second appears to have made his home in Galloway, but the place of his residence is not known. He was succeeded as Collector of Customs by his son, John the Third. In 1456 (probably the date of his father's death) John the Third left Linlithgow and went to live in Galloway.

The power of the Douglasses, Lords of Galloway, was

overthrown in 1452, when Earl William was murdered by the King in Stirling Castle. Their stronghold of Threave was taken in 1455, and the Lordship of Galloway was annexed to the Crown by an Act of 1456. The King rewarded with grants from the forfeited estates those who had assisted him to overthrow the Douglasses.

In these days this part of the county was known as Irisbuitte. The name no longer exists, but there is an entry, dated 1614, in the Exchequer Rolls, which reads: "Lands of Orchardton otherwise called Irisbuitte." The name means "the part of Buitte jutting out towards the sea," and its significance is plain to those who know the geography of the parish.

In 1456 John Cairns had sasine of the lands of Irisbuitte by the sealed mandate of the King, so it is probable that he received these lands in return for services rendered in connection with the overthrow of the Douglasses.

This John Cairns erected the Castle of Orchardton with its massive tower shortly after 1456, and made it his home till his death in 1493. He was succeeded by his son William, who married a daughter of Agnew of Lochnaw. His mother-in-law was a sister of Gordon of Lochinvar. These details show why this William's son (William the Younger) came to be present when Lochinvar and Agnew slaughtered M'Lellan of Bomby in the High Street of Edinburgh in 1527-1528. William the Elder died in 1555 and his son died three years later. The lands were partitioned amongst the three daughters. Alexander Kirkpatrick, the son of the eldest daughter, sold his share (which included the Castle) in 1616 to Robert Maxwell, a nephew of Lord Maxwell. Robert Maxwell's family had already (about 1600) purchased the share of the youngest daughter from her son, Edward Maxwell of Drumcoltran, and in 1640 Sir Robert Maxwell purchased the remaining share, and thus became the owner of the re-united property.

Sir Robert Maxwell of Orchardton (he was created a baronet in 1663) married Marion, the only child of the first

Lord Kirkcudbright. He died in 1681, and left two sons—Robert (the second Baronet), and Thomas, who married the heiress of Gelston. As Robert's son, George (the third baronet), died without heirs, the title and property descended to Thomas's son, Robert, who succeeded in 1719.

I will give the history of Sir Robert Maxwell, 4th Baronet, and his heirs at greater length, because his will led to a case well known in Scottish annals, and also because the romantic circumstances connected with the succession of Robert, the 7th Baronet, are stated by Mackenzie to have given Sir Walter Scott the idea of the plot of "Guy Mannering."

Sir Robert Maxwell, as I have said, did not succeed until 1719. In 1680 he had married Barbara, daughter of George Maxwell of Munches. To them a son, George, was born in 1682. In 1697 (when George was 15) his father married a second time, and in this marriage settlement it was stipulated that all property acquired after the second marriage should be settled on the issue of the second wife. In 1700 a son, Mungo, was born. Mungo was therefore 18 years younger than his half brother. Then in 1719 the father succeeded his cousin in the Orchardton property. Under the marriage settlement Orchardton would devolve upon Mungo. In 1723 the father declared himself a Protestant, but his two sons, who were then 40 and 23 years of age respectively, remained true to the Roman Catholic faith. Their father executed a trust deed in 1727 disinheriting his sons and settling all his estates (that is both Gelston and Orchardton) on the heirs male of Mungo provided the heir was a Protestant, and failing this *on the nearest Protestant heir*.

The old man died two years later. The brothers came to an agreement whereby they set aside their father's will, and Sir George (he had become 5th Baronet on his father's death) succeeded to two-thirds of the Orchardton estate, including the Castle, while Mungo received certain lands both of Orchardton and of Gelston, including Glenshinnoch, where he probably lived. Mungo seems to have been a

recluse, and Sir George probably managed the whole of the property and paid Mungo the proceeds of his share.

At this time (shortly before the agreement to set aside the father's will) a son was born to Mungo. This boy, at the age of seven, was sent to Douai in France to be brought up in the famous R.C. College where his father had been a student before him. Sir George's own son, Thomas, was at this time 22 years of age, and he *had been brought up not in his father's faith but as a Protestant.*

Mungo apparently did not keep in touch with his son at Douai. The boy tried to escape from the College, and his second attempt was successful. At the age of 15 he enlisted in a French regiment. He was present both at Dettingen and at Fountenoy. He obtained a French commission, and landed with Lord John Drummond in Scotland in November, 1745. He was wounded at Culloden, and after many hardships was taken prisoner near Dumfries. Sheriff Goldie discovered the existence of the French commission, and treated the young man as a prisoner of war. The name, Robert Maxwell, naturally attracted attention. He was recognised as Mungo's son, and was acknowledged later by his mother, who went to visit him on several occasions in Dumfries jail.

About this time, 1746, Sir George Maxwell, 5th Baronet, died, and was succeeded in the property by his son, the protestant Sir Thomas, cousin of the young man in the jail. No question regarding the succession seems to have arisen at the time. Sir Thomas, if he thought of the matter at all, must have known that the agreement setting aside his grandfather's will, when the heir under the will was a few months old, could not be legal, but he no doubt felt secure in the fact that Mungo's son (the boy in jail) was a Roman Catholic, and that he himself would succeed as the nearest Protestant heir of his grandfather. As such he was entitled not only to his own lands but also to the lands of his uncle, Mungo.

The young prisoner of war was allowed out on parole, and appears to have visited his home at Glenshinnoch. In

1749 he returned to his military career in France, having been exchanged as a prisoner of war. He took leave the following year and paid a visit to Scotland, but from 1750 to 1753 he served in France. About this time he appears to have learned something of the terms of his grandfather's will, and to have had it suggested that if he would declare himself a Protestant he could claim the Orchardton estate. He returned to Scotland, and made his demand to his cousin, Sir Thomas, "at the door of Orchardton Castle." Sir Thomas and his family not unnaturally resented this proceeding. The young Robert Maxwell thereupon resigned his French commission, declared himself a Protestant, and the lawsuit began in 1756. Sir Thomas died in 1761, and the claimant in ordinary course became Sir Robert Maxwell, 7th Baronet of Orchardton. He obtained possession of the estate, and soon after built the new mansion at Glenshinnoch (the present Orchardton House), but he was not confirmed in his title until the final decision in the House of Lords in his favour in 1771.

Those who have the plot of "Guy Mannering" in mind will wonder what all this has to do with the case of Harry Bertram, but it must be remembered that it was not the facts that were known to Sir Walter Scott but the romantic account of them told him by Joseph Train, and the accounts of the case which are found in Mackenzie and in M'Kerlie give some idea of how far rumour got from the truth.

Sir Robert Maxwell became involved in the Ayr bank failure, and was ruined. The estate was sold in 1785, and came into the possession of James Douglas, brother of Sir William Douglas, founder of Castle-Douglas, in whose family it still remains.

The remarkable round tower and the ruined walls at its base are all that remain of the Castle of Orchardton built by John Cairns soon after he obtained the estate of Irisbuittle in 1456. The Castle was occupied by the Cairns family until 1558, when William the younger died. It is not likely that his daughter, Margaret, lived here, as she had her own

home, but it seems probable that Sir Robert Maxwell, the first Baronet of Orchardton, made it his residence, at least for a time, although he is known to have resided also at his wife's home in Kirkcudbright. It was probably the home of his son and grandson. Sir Robert, the 4th Baronet, lived at Gelston, but from the records of the trial it appears that his grandson, Sir Thomas, was living at Orchardton in 1754, for it is recorded that the claimant made his demand for the estates to his uncle "at the door of Orchardton Castle." The Castle therefore appears to have been used as a residence by Sir Thomas, and in that case probably also by Sir Robert, the 7th Baronet, while the new mansion at Orchardton (built on the site of his mother's home of Glenshinnoch) was being constructed, that is until 1765 or thereabouts.

The Tower is unique in Galloway, and (Mr Lawlor adds) almost so in all Britain. The circular form has troubled archæologists. Joseph Train in his *History of the Isle of Man* writes: "The Tower of Orchardton is a fine specimen of Danish Rath." Dr. Trotter notes that Dr. Charlton considered it a specimen of the Bassle houses of the old Scottish lairds. Mr Lawlor regarded the Tower "as a massive circular Peell at the end of the main building." The fifth report describes the plan of the Tower as "most unusual, being circular in form, but in other respects closely resembling the arrangement to be found in the smaller castles of the 15th century." Since the publication of the report the remains of the enclosing walls have been excavated.

No one has been able to account satisfactorily for the unusable feature, the round Tower. That it was regarded as remarkable from a very early date may be inferred from the fact that the Cairns of Orchardton added a round tower to their crest and showed the usual "Martlet" perched on its top.

In 1912 ancient foundations, thought by some to be those of the once famous King David's Tower of Edinburgh Castle, were discovered under the Half-Moon Battery, and it was found that the Battery was built upon the stump of an old circular foundation. I had thought it possible that John

Cairns had his great uncle's famous work in his mind (and perhaps his plans in his hand) when he built Orchardton Tower. I have since been informed, however, that these old foundations are attributed to the Regent Morton subsequent to the destruction of King David's Tower in 1573, and that King David's Tower was not circular in form.

The circular form of Orchardton Tower therefore remains a mystery. Viewed from within, the Tower in other respects closely resembles the arrangement to be found in the small castles of the 15th century. The best example of these in this neighbourhood is the Castle of Cardoness. In the present case, however, there is a basement, which has an entrance from outside. It consists of a small barrel-vaulted chamber, oblong, not round. The in-goes on the two sides admitting light and air are fully eight feet in depth owing to the curve of the exterior wall. Mr Lawlor suggests that this chamber was a dungeon, entered by means of a trap door under a flag in the floor of the first storey. He suggests that this is proved by an examination of the masonry round the entrance doorway, which he considered of recent date. When I visited the Tower I did not examine this point, nor did I look for indications of an ancient trap door.

The present entrance is by an outside stairway on the east, but the present doorway would seem to have been originally a window. The original entrance was perhaps the window now closed up with iron stanchions. Below this window the recent excavations have disclosed part of a winding staircase, but from the curve of the stair it does not appear that this led directly to the Tower entrance. It seems more probable that at one time the Tower was entered by means of this door *directly from the Castle*, and that the winding stair led up from the cellars to the Castle.

On the west side, near the fireplace, are the remains of an ambry, with a pointed archway infilled with trefoil cusping. A circular piscina with a drain is worked on the sill, which the writer of the Fifth Report thought indicated the use of this apartment as a chapel. Judging by the

mouldings and construction of the arch head (cut out of two separate stones and meeting in a straight joint at the apex), he considered the work to be nearly contemporaneous with similar work at Cardoness. As Cardoness dates from the latter part of the 15th century, this conjecture would fit in with the known date on the Tower. A chapel in such a position is unusual. When Mr Reid and I examined the ambry we doubted whether there had ever been any egress for water from the hole, and a further examination led us to form the opinion that the carved freestone facing had been added as an ornament to a recess in the wall similar to the recess on the floor above. The ledge of the ambry would appear to have been struck off in order to make it flush with the stone work of the wall. If the carved corbel by the entrance to the stairway on the other side of the chamber (which, it has been suggested, is a lamp stand) be examined, it, too, will be found to have the appearance of having been inserted into the masonry at a later date, and possibly to have been the lower part of the same piscina.

The second and third floors were supported by beams. On the right of the door leading from the staircase to the second storey chamber there is a garde robe, which contains what in these far-off days would have been described as "modern conveniences."

The winding staircase (protected by a small guardroom in the thickness of the wall) communicates directly from this level to the two upper floors, and terminates in a cape house leading to the parapet walk round the top of the walls. This parapet is supported by moulded corbels, which may be seen from the outside.

The ruins of the rectangular Castle adjoining the Tower have been excavated since the Commission's report was published in 1914. I have not been able to procure any notes on these excavations. The foundations are massive, and seem intended to support a considerable structure. Nothing but the ruins of the cellars or storerooms remain, but the plan of the walls (especially where they approach

nearest to the circular wall of the Tower) indicate that the Tower was an independent structure. Mr Lawlor considered that the masonry of the rectangular structure was older than that of the Tower. This would indicate that the Douglasses had a stronghold on this site before the days of the Cairns, a suggestion which for several reasons does not seem probable. It seems to me more probable that the Tower was built first, and that (not long after) the Castle was built adjoining, and in consequence an alteration was made in the means of entrance, the first floor of the Tower being utilised as the entrance hall of the Castle and decorated as such. A more prolonged examination than I was able to give, and more knowledge of 15th century castle building than I possess, is necessary to tackle the problems which these foundations raise.

Orchardton Tower was evidently regarded as a remarkable structure when it was built about 1456, and the state of its preservation, for which we have to thank a long line of owners, renders it to-day one of the most interesting of the ancient constructions in Galloway.

SOURCES.

1. *The Fifth Report and Inventory of Monuments*, 1914.
2. M'Kerlie's *Lands and their Owners*, 1879.
3. *Mackenzie's History of Galloway*, 1841.
4. *East Galloway Sketches*; Trotter, 1901.
5. *History of the Family of Cairnes or Cairns*; Lawlor, 1906.

Dungarry Fort.

By MR R. C. REID.

Towards the southern end of the ridge of hills behind Bengairn House lie two hill forts of a type quite uncommon in this southern district. Both are placed on the summit of a ridge with wide views seaward and inland, and though Suie Fort, about a mile to the south-west, is the best preserved, Dungarry is in one respect more characteristic in type, for it dominates a pass leading from the Rerrick coastland into

the interior. The rocky knoll on which it stands is 750 feet above sea level and 200 feet above the pass below it. Around the summit of this knoll lies a vast mass of jumbled stones from 20 to 30 feet in breadth, being the ruins of what must once have been an imposing wall, some 10 to 12 feet thick, and perhaps 7 to 10 feet high. The base of the original structure may perhaps be seen for a short distance on the north-north-west interior, but it can give us little idea of what the fort looked like in its original form. But if one can judge from a small section of its sister fort of Suie, large, mostly rectangular, stones were used for the facing, whilst the ill-shaped, the small and the odd stones, were used for the core. Upon the ruins of this wall has been erected a dry-built wall of modern construction, doubtless to form a shelter for sheep. Even that, too, is dilapidated. In one place, in north-north-west, the builders of this modern wall have apparently uncovered a piece of the original wall, the level top of which may indicate its width. The entrance through this wall on the north-west is now about 8 feet wide, but may have been considerably less, as there are no signs now of any jamb stones. Outside this wall has been a second wall of slighter dimensions—to judge by the remains—distant from the inner one some 12-24 feet. It follows the edge of the steep, natural slope. On the north-east side a third wall emerges from the second to enclose a fairly level space at a lower level, which may have been used as a refuge for cattle, the hillside beyond it being almost precipitous. A much smaller annexe, the stone wall of which would seem to have been pillaged, protruded from the gate of the outer wall. The fort is purely a dry-built stone structure, oblong in shape, without any signs of entrenchment. And here I should end. But having brought you up this toilsome hillside, I feel that something more may be expected from me than a mere description of a jumble of fallen stones. No one can fail to ask themselves to what period does this site belong; who built it, and what manner of folk used it as a habitation, or at least a retreat in times of danger. To those questions scientific archæology returns no answer. Not till several such

forts have been excavated can anything definite be known about them. But by a study of their distribution and numeration some provisional working hypothesis can tentatively be assumed. Such forts can be seen in abundance in Argyllshire and the North-West of Scotland. Dumfriesshire, with its 143 forts and 77 enclosures, contains not a single example. Both Wigtownshire and Kirkcudbrightshire contain about half-a-dozen apiece. We are therefore entitled to conjecture that the people who erected and used this fort never entered Dumfriesshire. Let us follow up this clue and see where it leads us. First let us eliminate some known factors. Burnswark shows us that in Agricola's time its summit was used by the Britons of Strathclyde. That summit bears no resemblance to Dungarry. It has a rampart of earth and stone. But Dr Watson has pointed out that on philological grounds these same Britons must at that period have been inhabiting Galloway. St Ninian, we know, was a Briton who returned to preach Christianity to his own people, fellow-Britons. If, therefore, Burnswark was a typical fort of the Britons, Dungarry could not have been built by them.

After the departure of the Romans, about 400 A.D., the Picts are believed to have invaded Galloway. They were certainly in Galloway 100 years later, as the rock sculpture at Anwoth establishes. Little is known of their history, nothing of their language, nor has any type of fort in the Lowlands been identified with them. Though the Picts of Galloway are mentioned by several mediæval chroniclers, they could have been but few in number as settlers here, else they would have left some imprint behind them other than at Anwoth. Whatever was the extent and character of Pictish sway in Galloway, the greater part of the Province was under Anglian dominance in the 7th century, when there were Anglian Bishops at Whithorn. The Angles did not live at such bleak altitudes as Dungarry. They dwelt in homesteads, probably fortified, in the valleys. So as builders of this fort we may rule them out.

But early in the 8th century (after A.D. 736), the Gaelic Kingdom in Argyllshire was wasted and subjugated by the

Northern Picts, and many of these Scots emigrated to Galloway (Skene's *Celtic Scotland*, I., 291), where they obtained such a foothold that in course of time their Gaelic language superseded the earlier speech of the Britons. As late as the 17th century Gaelic was freely spoken in Galloway. These Gaelic-speaking Scots would bring with them their customs, and would naturally erect forts according to their northern pattern. Many of those northern forts have been excavated, and it is interesting to note some parallels with this site. Structurally they are for the most part made with large facing stones on both the interior and exterior sides of the walls, the stones between the wall faces being rather small, thus presenting an appearance of two strong walls with stones thrown in promiscuously between them. The doorways are about 3 feet wide, low, narrow, and often covered with a flagstone. Occasionally they contain mural chambers, as is suspected in a site like this in Wigtownshire. In their thickness the walls of these northern forts range from 10-14 feet. Nowhere do their walls stand at the original height, which is believed not to have exceeded 10 feet. Topographically they are almost always situated on high ground, often guarding a pass through the lower hills, with a clear view seawards in one direction and towards low land or a valley in the other direction. Their favourite elevation is 700-800 feet. Proximity to water can rarely have been a consideration.

Lastly, we must not forget this place name. If any reliance can be placed on the science of etymology, Dungarry is a purely Gaelic place name—Dun garidh, the fort of the rough place. It follows then from this argument that Dungarry may be an 8th century structure, erected by Gaelic-speaking Scots. That is the hypothesis; but it must be remembered that excavation might show it to belong to a very different period, and be a very forcible and salutary reminder that it is hazardous to attempt an explanation without having first ascertained all the possible facts.

An archæologist without his spade is like a flounder out of water.

The Roman Camp at Little Clyde.

By R. G. COLLINGWOOD, M.A., F.S.A.

Whenever a Roman army on the march stopped for the night it made a camp. This was done according to definite and invariable rules. First of all came the choice of a site. It should be fairly level, but not so level as to be badly drained, for a wet camp is an abomination. It should be in a place where a good view of the surrounding country can be had, and not overlooked at close range by positions that can be occupied by the enemy. It should be handy for the road, and well supplied with water. And so forth. Then the camp must be laid out on the ground by skilled surveyors, who first lay out a network of lines crossing one another at right angles, at definite distances apart, to form the streets, and then fill in the blocks thus formed with tents—the general's tent in the middle, the administrative and officers' quarters round about, and the soldiers occupying the rest of the space. Every tent occupied a space ten feet square, and every tent had its own place in the scheme. And all round the camp was a defence against sudden attack, consisting of an earthen rampart with a palisade on the top, and a ditch. This defence was interrupted at various points by gateways, of which there were generally either four or six, according to the size of the camp. Each gateway consisted of a break in the line of rampart and ditch, and this break was always defended in one of two ways: either by a *titulus* or traverse, a short isolated length of rampart and ditch placed in front of it, or else by a *clavicula*, a curved arm of rampart and ditch projecting either forwards or backwards so as to prevent people from coming in at the gate without turning a corner and so exposing themselves to attack by unperceived defenders.

At one time there must have been enormous numbers of Roman camps in Britain. The digging of the ditch and piling of the rampart for a camp was such a short and easy job, in proportion to the number of men available for doing it, that commanding officers can have had little cause to use old camps over again, however often they came back to the

same ground. And the result is that where we find any Roman camps at all we often find quite a considerable number of them on the same plot of ground, a camping ground that has been used over and over again by different armies at different times. In other places we find just one camp, suggesting that a Roman army once camped there and no more.

Considering what a number of Roman camps there must once have been in this country, there are now very few. The reason is that they are light earthworks, easily destroyed by the plough; and that is what has happened to the vast majority of them. They survive only in places that have been little cultivated or not cultivated at all. And some which are now completely gone are known from the writings of men who saw them long ago, before the plough had done with them. Of these early writers the most important is General Roy, who made a great survey of the military antiquities of the Romans in Britain, dealing almost entirely with the northern part of Britain, in the middle of the eighteenth century. Strangely enough, however, Roy did not know of the camp at which we are now standing. It was first claimed as Roman, I believe, by Dr Christison, who gives an account of it, and calls it a Roman camp, in his invaluable work on *Early Fortifications in Scotland* (pp. 63, 68, 89). But Christison failed to notice the only evidence on which we are justified in saying that the camp is certainly Roman. This evidence consists of the entrances. Christison says (p. 89) that there are no characteristic entrances. He is wrong; there are two; they were first seen, so far as I know, by Mr O. G. S. Crawford, Archæology Officer to the Ordnance Survey, and editor of the journal "Antiquity," who wrote to me in October, 1924, after visiting the site, "the camp at Little Clyde is Roman and fairly perfect," adding a plan on which he showed two entrances in the north side with the characteristic traverse or *titulus* of the Roman camp.

The camp measures 1480 by 980 feet, that is to say, its area is 21 acres inside the defences. This would accommodate an army of 10,000 to 12,000 men according to the figures

given in the Roman military text books. The rampart is still a foot or two high and from 12 to 15 feet wide, and the ditch is from six to eight feet wide—good average measurements for this class of earthwork. What, then, can we say about the military and historical meaning of the camp?

The Romans had two roads into Scotland. One started at Corbridge on the Tyne, and went north over the Cheviots to Jedburgh and Melrose, passing the great Roman fort at Newstead, and so proceeding to the Firth of Forth near Edinburgh. The other began at Carlisle, and goes up the Annan and down the Clyde. Now these two roads were not equally used by the Romans. Along the eastern road we find about half a dozen permanent forts and a great number of temporary camps. Along the western road there are only two permanent forts, at Birrens and Castledykes near Carstairs, and very few temporary camps. There are the famous camps on Burnswark, not quite the ordinary type of marching camp, but something more solid, suitable for their purpose as siege works. Then there is a camp just outside Lockerbie, which you pass through when you take the train from Lockerbie to Dumfries. This, so far as one can now judge, was in size and form almost exactly like the one at which we are looking to-day. Then there was another, again exactly similar in size and shape, at Cleghorn near Carstairs. These three camps, Torwood Moor, Little Clyde, and Cleghorn, are each about 20 miles distant from its next neighbour, and divide the hundred miles between Carlisle and the Antonine Wall into five almost exactly equal stages. Mr S. N. Miller, of Glasgow University, has pointed out in his book on Balmuildy that there seems to have been a road from the south which divided into two branches, reaching the Antonine Wall at Balmuildy and Castlecary respectively. The division of these two branches occurred close to our third and last camp.

Now these three camps are isolated works, in the sense that they are the only Roman marching-camps on their sites. This is in strong contrast with the camps on the eastern road, for here we constantly find the same sites occupied by several

camps, one on the top of another, showing that Roman armies have often passed that way. It looks as if the western road had been traversed by a Roman army only once—an army of some 10,000 men, marching swiftly through the country, and covering 20 miles a day. Anything more would be mere guesswork. What was this force—a force of perhaps one legion and its attached auxiliaries—and what was the occasion on which it carried out this forced march between the Solway and the Clyde? We shall never know, unless someone by careful and scientific digging in one of the three camps—preferably, I think, this camp—finds objects which date the period of its occupation. Until that happens, we are left with the vision of a Roman host, hurrying through these hills over a lonely and untrodden road, whither bound and on what business we cannot say.

Durisddeer.

By MR R. C. REID.

Some years ago there appeared in our *Transactions* an account of the Barony of Durisddeer,¹ which was so full that little new detail has come to light since. To-day we can only recapitulate, fill in some omissions, and add a few picturesque touches.

We catch our first glimpse of the parish at the close of the 13th century, but it must have been an inhabited centre long before then. For standing at the entrance to the Well Path it commanded what must have been the principal highway through the Lowther hills. This highway was the shorter cut through the hills from Crawford and Edinburgh to Galloway and Dumfries, and the fact that the village lies astride of its exit from the hills indicates its claim to an antiquity greater than the Dalveen or other passes. A strategic point, it was guarded by a castle, of which only the site remains, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile west of the church. At the time of the erection of the castle the barony, which was far more extensive than the later day barony, belonged to Sir Wm. de

¹ *Transactions*, 1920-21, p. 192.

Lindesay, a great feudal baron of the Scottish Crown, who also held lands in northern England. He was a true Anglo-Norman descended from a Walter de Lindsay in the reign of the saintly King David; the family derived its name from the manor of Lindsay in Lincolnshire, though they claim the Lords of Limesay, near Rouen, as their forebears. Sir William's chief seat was at Ercildun in Roxburghshire, the home in later times of Thomas the Rhymer, and it is very doubtful if Durisdeer ever saw much of him, but the castle erected by him or his immediate forebears must have always been a grim reminder to the humble inhabitants of the village that clustered round this church site, of the power of the great Justiciar of Lothian, the brother-in-law of King John de Baliol. He was killed in Wales in 1283. His only child, a daughter, had married a continental potentate, Sir Ingelram de Gynes, who leased the castle and lands to Sir John de Soulis, who in turn transferred his lease to Sir Walter de Connigsburghe in 1303. It was probably during the occupancy of Sir John de Soulis that Wallace raided Dumfriesshire in 1297 in order to raise the siege of Sanquhar Castle. Descending from Crawford mure, probably by the Dalveen to avoid detection by the occupants of Durisdeer Castle, he attacked the English forces returning from Sanquhar and defeated them at Dalswinton.² Wallace does not seem to have attacked this castle.³ That was left to Bruce after the assassination of Comyn in 1306. Unlike Dumfries and Dalswinton, Durisdeer Castle was not destroyed by Bruce, for it was recaptured by the English, munitioned, and left in charge of Robert Bell. After Bannockburn King Robert the Bruce granted Durisdeer to Sir Alex. de Menzies, the head of a great Perthshire family. It was during their ownership that Edward III. overran Dumfriesshire, and in 1335 he restored Durisdeer to Sir Ingelram's son, then residing at his castle of de Coucy in France. The fluctuations of war soon restored the barony

² *Ibid.*, 1923-24, p. 21.

³ Blind Harry, however, says that Wallace slew the three captains of Durisdeer, Enoch, and Tibbers castles.

to the Menzies family, who in 1374 transferred it to Sir Robert Stewart of Durisdeer, who was slain at the battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. His descendants, the Stewarts of Rossyth, owned the superiority of Durisdeer till 1675, when it was sold to the Earl of Queensberry. The Stewarts feued out the lands of the barony, the principal feuars being the Menzies of Castlehill and the Douglasses of Dalvene. Both these feus were acquired by Drumlanrig in 1678 and 1633 respectively

The site of the castle was on Castlehill farm. The Commissioners for Ancient Monuments note that it is 500 yards from the Farm House, and make no attempt to describe it. We may shrewdly suspect that they never visited it. Like some members of this Society who went there the other day, the Commissioners were probably told at the farm that there was nothing to see. Instead of 500 yards we had to walk over a quarter of a mile, and found an ideal site for an earthwork castle. It is now covered with trees, and has many of the characteristics of a Mote, but a little work with a spade, which perhaps may be attempted this autumn, should soon clear up the nature of the earthworks. There are no visible signs of masonry anywhere, but one small find was made. A member of the party kicked up amidst the leaves an old leaden bullet of the type used in military muskets two centuries or more ago. It weighs $3\frac{1}{2}$ ounces, and though no significance can be attached to it it certainly encourages further exploration. It is probable that we have here the mote of the Lindsay family. No bailey court can be identified, but it looks as if the earthworks have been reconstructed at some time.⁴

But the principal object of interest in Durisdeer is its church. It has been stated that the church was built in 1699.⁵ That certainly is the date on a sundial built into its

⁴ Rae in his MS. History says that Castlehill farmhouse was built from the old town (not necessarily the castle), "the stones of which were transported to a more accessible place where they now stand."

⁵ *Historical Monuments Commission Report*,

walls, and it is obvious that architecturally it must be of the same date as Drumlanrig Castle, which is known to have been built between 1679 and 1689.⁶ And when we find in this kirkyard a tombstone of the Lukup family, one of whom was master of the works at Drumlanrig at that date, we may safely accept that date. Exteriorly everything points to a completely new church having been built then, but I think there can only have been a reconstruction.⁷ Its cruciform lay-out is a purely pre-Reformation conception. Its foundations, and perhaps part of its walls, are ancient, but the windows and the external facing and decoration are all late 17th century. To the same period must belong the tower, though the piers on which it is built, and the gloomy cellars adjoining, perhaps belong to an earlier structure. Corroboration for this view can be seen in the floor level, which must be several feet above the old church floor, now represented by the level of the vestry. It is clear, too, that there were 2 or more steps leading up from the old floor level into the north transept, the top step being just visible at the edge of the floorboards. Indeed, an investigation below the present floorboards might provide some interesting data. The earlier church, we know, possessed a side chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, founded by the Menzies family in 1472, and used by them after the Reformation as a burial place. These side chapels were usually placed in a transept, and in post-Reformation times were often walled up and turned into private burial grounds. That, we know, happened at Durisdeer, where occurred that shocking case of wilful disinterment in 1607 described at length in our *Transactions*. A partition was actually erected here in 1650 to cut off the Menzies' aisle from the rest of the church. I suggest that the northern transept represents the Menzies' aisle, and that within it the Menzies family of Enoch buried

⁶ Ramage, p. 7.

⁷ Rae, referring to the Castle close, says:—"One of these houses on the north-west end of the close was standing entire in 1718, when the stones of it were taken to help re-build the Church of Durisdeer."

their dead. Enoch was acquired by the Douglasses of Drumlanrig in 1703. With the purchase would go the rights of burial here, and I think we may assume that the Duke of Queensberry, who, with his wife, was buried here in 1711, was interred on the same spot where a hundred years before the corpse of the infant child of Adam Menzies of Enoch was so ruthlessly dug up twice and cast on a dung hill. But the most curious part of this edifice is its west end, which incorporates a purely unecclesiastical range of apartments which appear to be much older than 1699. An addition of this nature to a church is quite unique in our district, though you may recollect having seen a parallel in Cumberland two years ago at Brough-on-Sands. There the addition was at the east end behind the altar, and was originally the priest's dwelling. Perhaps the origin of these buildings at Durisdeer may have been somewhat similar, if they are as old as I fancy they are.

In the reconstructed church of 1699 they were for long used as a village school, and after their disuse for that purpose the windows, no longer needed, must have been built up. It is on record that one of the basement rooms, now a coal cellar, was used as a temporary prison for Covenanters.

Of the incumbents of the pre-Reformation Church very few names have been recovered.⁸ Only one of them became of note in church history. Andrew Muirhead, frequently referred to as Andrew of Durisdeer, was a canon of Lincluden, and a scion of a family of small lairds within the parish. He held a number of livings, but it is by no means certain that he held Durisdeer. He was dean of Aberdeen, a sub-dean of Glasgow, and held the church of Kirkandrews. For a while he was procurator at Rome for the Scottish

⁸ 1394—John de Cader, vicar of Dorisoer (*Papal Petitions*, I., 589). 1395—Vacated by John of Merton (*ibid.*, 583). 1406—Wm. de Meldiemast (*ibid.*, 624). Pre 1505—James Silver (Ramage, p. 109). 1505—Schir John Rankine (*ibid.*). 1505—Schir Wm. Silver (*ibid.*). 1524—Robert Clerk, rector of Durisdeer (*Reg. Ep. Glas.*, 492, etc.) Pre 1570—Mr John Hamilton. 1570—Mr Peter Young.

Crown, and was even sent back to Scotland as Papal Nuncio. He was accordingly marked out for promotion, which came in 1455, when he was provided to the Bishopric of Glasgow. It is on record that he paid into the Papal Exchequer the sum of 2500 gold florins within a few weeks of his provision. At that time he was only in minor orders, so perhaps this payment was made to overlook any irregularities in his elevation. He was frequently employed in affairs of State, a commissioner to treat for truce with England in 1463, and ambassador to Denmark in 1468 to arrange a Royal marriage. In 1471 he founded St. Nicolas' Hospital at Glasgow, and died two years later. He is the only prominent ecclesiastic connected with Durisdeer.

It has been stated that the church had been gifted in the reign of Robert I. to the Bishops of Glasgow,⁹ and that in the 14th century it was turned into a prebend of Glasgow, but we have no means of verifying this. It is also not certain that this church was dedicated to St. Cuthbert. There is one incident connected with this church which deserves mention, because it casts an interesting sidelight on life in Reformation times. It arose from a quarrel between two cousins, Sir Wm. Douglas of Hawick, heir apparent to Drumlanrig, and Hugh Douglas of Dalvene. It ended in blows on an August day in 1565, and Dalvene was slain. Life in those days was held cheaply. The workings of the criminal law were dilatory, weak and inefficient. The more important an offender was, the more easily could he often escape justice. So a practice had grown up of arranging "assythement" or compensation, which was amicably adjusted between the heads of the respective families. The settlement was embodied in what were known as "Letters of Slains," which were issued by the family of the slain man to the murderer, acknowledging the satisfaction and renouncing all action against him and his friends. If the murderer was a man of importance he sometimes sought the further safeguard of exhibiting these Letters of Slains to the Crown, and on payment of a suitable fee obtaining a

⁹ Chalmers's *Caledonia*.

Crown remission for the crime. Such at least was what happened in this case, but not till just ten years had elapsed. During that interval the murderer, Sir Wm. Douglas of Hawick, had died, so the settlement provided that the "surviving accomplices"—whose names are not known to us—should present themselves one Sunday during service, at prayer time, at the Kirk of Durisdeer, and, holding a naked sword by the point, should offer it as a token of repentance to these members of the Dalvene family, who should be present, restoring at the same time to them the goods of the murdered man which they had taken. Then followed the inevitable reference to the cash consolatium—the aged father of the murderer had to pay 500 merks to the sons and daughters of the dead Dalvene, and inasmuch as the living of Mouswald, of which Drumlanrig was the patron, was then vacant, to present to that benefice the second son of the murdered man.¹⁰

To only one other object of interest in Durisdeer is there need to make allusion. Just behind the church lies the entrance to the Pass, up which runs an ancient track known as the Wellpath. About a mile up the path, in the Kirk Burn Glen, is an irregular rectangular fort with round corners some 82 by 72 feet. It is locally known as a Roman fort, and the Wellpath has been described as a Roman road. It is not always easy to trace such ascriptions to their source, but in this case it is clear whence this Roman designation has come. Mr Peter Rae, minister at Kirkbride, was the first person to make this suggestion. In his MS. History he says: "This walpath was the Ancient Roman way from Nithsdale towards Biggar. I have seen several miles of the Roman causeway standing through Crawford Muir." This, however, was not the only fanciful Roman identification of Rae, who covered Upper Nithsdale with Roman roads and camps. He is known to have been a correspondent of Alexander Gordoun, who stayed with him at Kirkbryde, and accepted some, but by no means all, of his identifications. Modern archæology, however, looks coldly on such wholesale

¹⁰ *Douglas of Morton*, p. 17.

theorising, and we cannot accept the Wellpath as Roman. Roman roads have certain definite characteristics. They were not built in the first instance for commerce, industry, or social intercourse, though trade later must have flowed along them. They were essentially military, and were only used by Roman armies and their relieving drafts, and by the Imperial Post. Though on the Continent they are to be found as wide as 30 feet, in northern England, near the wall, and in Scotland, the average width was nearer 12 feet. They are usually found with a definite curbstone edge, outside which they are ditched on both sides. They prefer the high ground to the low, are noted for immense stretches of mathematical straightness, and prefer angles to curves. Their surface differed according to the materials available, often cobbled, sometimes beaten gravel, and occasionally broken stones like a macadamised road. Above all they possessed the camber so dear to the modern road surveyor. But they had yet another important characteristic. They were not like our modern lanes which join up with other roads and often end nowhere. They had a very definite aim. They went from one place to another, from one camp to another camp. Rae seems to have realised this distinction, for he says the road ran from the Roman camp at Tibbers to Biggar. But Tibbers has been excavated. It was a mediæval castle, not a Roman camp. We know exactly when it was built. Even had it started from a Roman camp it must have cut through the Roman road up Annandale to the Antonine Wall, somewhere near Elvanfoot; and at this juncture we would expect to find a Roman camp. But the only known Roman camp in the vicinity is 5 miles back at Little Clyde. There is no record of any section of the Wellpath having been excavated, but it is unlikely to show any Roman characteristic. Both Wellpath and Kirkburn fort belong to other periods. The Wellpath must be a mediæval track going up from Durisdeer, perhaps to Biggar and Edinburgh in one direction and to the Nith Valley and Galloway in the other. Down it the pilgrims to Whithorn may well have come, but there is not a shred of evidence to show that ever a Roman legionary trod this path.

Durisddeer and the Literary Men of the Eighteenth Century.

By G. W. SHIRLEY.

It may seem to verge on the ridiculous for one standing here in Durisddeer Church to have his thoughts irresistibly conveyed to the very centre of English eighteenth century literary life. In these surroundings, so naturally associated with the wild lawlessness of the Douglasses, Menzieses, and such like and with the sufferings and steadfastness of the Covenanters, to think of John Gay and the "Beggar's Opera," of the mordant Swift and "Gulliver's Travels," of Pope and the "Dunciad," of neat Matthew Prior, of Walpole and Strawberry Hill and "The Castle of Otranto" of Thomson, Young, and Whitehead, the poets, does not seem quite natural. Yet here is dust that will forever be associated with them, that knew them all, that they celebrated in their verses—a great beauty, one of the most celebrated women of her day, whose eccentricity rendered her famous in the world of fashion, while her wit and kindness of heart won for her the friendship and admiration of the principal men of letters of her time.

Lady Catherine Hyde, to be known later—and forever—from a verse by Horace Walpole, as "Prior's Kitty," was the second daughter of Henry, Earl of Clarendon and Rochester, and his wife, Jane Leveson Gower, herself a famous beauty. She was thus a grandchild of the great Lord Chancellor, the historian of the Rebellion. In her 19th year, on 20th March, 1720, she married Charles, the 3rd Duke of Queensberry and 2nd of Dover, and in consequence of that and of a surfeit of cherries of which she died at Saville Row on 17th July, 1777, she lies here and links this remote spot with the genius, brilliance, and society of England 200 years ago. It is a piquant and too commonly ignored conjunction.

It is of more interest to the writer, at least, than all the reams about this lady's father-in-law, James, the 2nd Duke of Queensberry, who was the greatest man in Scotland in his day and the most hated. Though in his youth he had under

Claverhouse taken no small part in harrying the Covenanters, he was the first Scottish noble to join Prince William, and it was he who negotiated the Union of the Parliaments, for which he received due reward in the Dukedom of Dover. It was he also who had erected to his Duchess, Mary Boyle, granddaughter of the Earl of Burlington and Cork, this prodigious catafalque in which he gazes down upon his Lady from a superior couch, while the tears on the faces of the cherubs remain frozen and fall not; the only possible comment on which is that one would fain find folks recognise the badness of the Duke's politics as clearly as they do that of his taste in sepulture. His literary patronage was extended to the poet, Nicholas Rowe.

Kitty's husband, in contrast to her father-in-law, is usually dismissed by biographers in a few lines. He was interested in quite other things than politics. In the delightful Kitty, for instance, in poets, and in building roads. The Pillar in Queensberry Square at Dumfries to his memory was subscribed for by the Commissioners of Supply for the County—the predecessors of the County Council—in recognition of his building at his own cost the road from Thornhill to Ayrshire. Originally the Pillar was to have been erected at a point on the road itself, but the Duke died before the inscription was cut, and thus we have it as a memorial to his life. The 3rd Duke earned locally the title of “the good Duke Charles.” To Thomson, the poet, he was “Worthy Queensberry”; to Smollett “one of those few noblemen whose goodness of heart does honour to human nature.” Virtue is notoriously dull, but it is almost impossible to think that the Duchess could ever have allowed the Duke to become dull. She loved gaiety and gave many balls and masquerades, and these were the more amusing as one never knew what odd freak of fancy might overtake her. If this, on the one hand, strained the forbearance of her friends, it, on the other, drew them together for fear they missed anything extraordinary. Hear Horace Walpole describe one of her masquerades: “There were not above one hundred persons; the dresses pretty; the Duchess as mad as you remember her. She had stuck up orders about dancing, as you see at

public bowling greens; turned half the company out at twelve, kept those she liked to supper; and in short contrived to do an agreeable thing in the rudest manner imaginable; besides having dressed her husband in Scotch plaid, which just now [1748] is one of the things in the world that is reckoned most offensive—but you know we are all mad, so good night.” She never gave meat suppers, so it was not for the viands that her guests crowded to her entertainments, indeed it is on record that it was a grievance with some of her guests that they had to be content with half an apple puff and a little wine and water. She would scream when she saw anyone eating from his knife, and Gay warns Swift, with whom it was a habit, to take care to put his fork “to all its proper uses, and suffer nobody for the future to put their knives in their mouths.”

To the day of her death she insisted on dressing herself in the style in vogue when she was a young girl. “If you have heard,” she writes to Dean Swift, “of my figure abroad it is no more than I have done on both sides of my ears, as the saying is. I did not cut and curl my hair like a sheep’s head or wear one of their trolloping sacks, and yet, by not doing so, I did give some offence.” She had a fancy also for idyllic costumes, appearing now as shepherdess or peasant, and again as milkmaid, in which character Charles Jervas depicts her with hazel eyes and dark brown hair. At St. James’s she appeared on one occasion in a costume of red flannel and carried it off despite Walpole’s disgust, but at Bath in the Pump Room Beau Brummel tore off her favourite white apron, and exclaiming, “None but Abigails wore white aprons,” flung it amidst the waiting gentlewomen. To him she yielded. Bolingbroke called her “*Sa Singularité*,” and Walpole with more than his usual sarcasm refers to her oftenest as mad and once as “an out-pensioner of Bedlam.” There were those who agreed with him, but after all, as Austin Dobson writes, though high-spirited and whimsical, “those who praise her praise her unreservedly. Her character was unblemished. She was truthful; she was honest; she was not a flatterer. And she was certainly fear-

less." Flattered from her youth, Thackeray calls her "the admired young beauty of the Court of Queen Anne," and to Prior she was "Kitty, beautiful and young." Her loveliness was a platitude which men blush at (wrote the lugubrious Young of the "Night Thoughts").

"If they by chance blurt out, ere well aware
A swan is white, or Queensberry is fair."

We can agree with Austin Dobson's summation "that there is in reality little more in what is related of her than might be expected of one who, at once a spoiled child, a beauty and a woman of parts, deliberately revolted against the tyrannous conventionalities of her time."

In the list of subscribers to Gay's poems of 1720 the names of the Duke and Duchess of Queensberry appear, and henceforward they were the poet's kindest friends and patrons. "If I had been their nearest relation and nearest friend," Gay wrote "[they] could not have treated me with more constant attendance [during a recent serious illness], and they continue the same to me." He was constantly their guest, and the Duchess imperiously carried him about with her on visits and tours. Thackeray has admirably depicted Gay's life of ease at Amesbury under the Ducal patronage. "With these kindly lordly folks, a real Duke and Duchess, as delightful as those who harboured Don Quixote, and loved that dear old Sancho, Gay lived, and was lapped in cotton, and had his plate of chicken, and his saucer of cream, and frisked, and barked, and wheezed and grew fat, and so ended," and Pope was envious: "How comes it," he asks, "that providence has been so unkind to me (who am a greater object of compassion than any fat man alive) that I am forced to drink wine, while you riot in water prepar'd with oranges by the hand of the Duchess of Queensberry? That I am condemned to live by a highway-side like an old Patriarch receiving all guests, where my Portico (as Virgil has it) *Mane salutantum totis vomit aedibus undam*, while you are wrapt in Idalian groves, sprinkled with rose-water, and live in burrage, balm, and burnet up to the chin, with the Duchess of Queensberry?"

That I am doomed to the drudgery of dining at Court with the ladies-in-waiting at Windsor, while you are happily banished with the Duchess of Queensberry."

Banished she was, and this was the manner of it. In 1728 Gay's opera, "Polly," was refused a licence. George II., at the instigation of Sir Robert Walpole, who thought Gay had libelled him, had given express instructions regarding it, and the Duke thereupon quarrelled with him and threw up his appointments of Vice-Admiral for Scotland and Privy Councillor and attached himself to the Prince of Wales. The question became a party affair. "The unoffensive John Gay," wrote Dr. Arbuthnot, "is now become one of the obstructions to the peace of Europe, the terror of ministers. . . . He has got several turned out of their places; the greatest ornament of the Court banished from it for his sake; another great lady in danger of being chaffé likewise. . . . He is the darling of the city." The Duchess of Marlborough offered £100 for a single printed copy of the piece, and Kitty, the Duchess, for soliciting subscriptions within the very precincts of St. James's, was dismissed the Court. She took her congé in a very saucy and characteristic letter to King George. "The command was very agreeable to her, as she had never gone to Court for her own diversion, but to bestow civility on the King and Queen."

Gay was the guest of the Queensberrys from this time almost to his death. In their company he was in Scotland during the month of May, 1729, and was, doubtless, at Drumlanrig. The most interesting feature of their association was the joint correspondence that sprang up between Gay and the Duchess and Dr. Jonathan Swift. From invitations in postscripts to visit them—"I would fain have you come," writes the Duchess. "I can't say you'll be welcome; for I don't know you and perhaps I shall not like you; but if I do not (unless you are a very vain person), you shall know my thoughts as soon as I do myself," to which challenge the Dean rose like a trout to a fly. "Madame," he wrote at the foot of a page, "My beginning thus low

is meant as a mark of respect, like receiving your Grace at the bottom of the Stairs"—the correspondence grew in intimacy and remained always piquant. They played a game of rallying and impertinent contradiction which amused them and may still amuse us, but it is not until after Gay's sudden death in December, 1732, that we gather what such frivolling meant to them. The Dean wrote thus to Pope:—"If you are acquainted with the Duchess of Queensberry, I desire you will present her my most humble service. I think she is a greater loser by the death of a friend than either of us. She seems a lady of excellent sense and spirit. I had often postscripts from her in our friend's letters to me: and her part was sometimes longer than his, and they made up a great part of the little happiness I could have here. This was the more generous, because I never saw her since she was a girl of five years old, nor did I envy Mr Gay for anything so much as being the domestic friend to such a lady."

That her Grace's loss was justly estimated by the Dean can be read in her letter. "Whilst I had that very sincere good friend," she says, "I could sometimes lay open all my rambling thoughts, and he and I would often view and dissect them, but now they come and go, and I seldom find out whether they be right or wrong or if there be anything in them. Poor man! he was most truly everything you say of him. I have lost, in him, the usefulest limb of my mind. That is an odd expression; but I cannot explain my notion otherwise." We get in that kindly revelation of friendship an insight into the Duchess's attractiveness, which is heightened by the wit of her unforgettable "odd expression." It is perhaps in these letters that we can come, wit and beauty being so fragile, as near to her Grace as we now may.

The Queensberrys erected in Westminster Abbey the handsome monument to Gay with its characteristic flippant couplet from his own pen—

"Life is a jest and all things show it;
I thought so once, but now I know it."

They attended to his financial affairs, launched the opera he had embarked upon, did all they might for their little poet.

Nor must we forget that the Duke graciously entertained at Drumlanrig, where "His Grace keeps open house and lives with great splendour," Mr Matthew and Mrs Tabitha Bramble and all their party, "with above twenty other guests with all their servants and horses," and that the Duchess "was equally gracious and took our ladies under her immediate protection."

It is to Horace Walpole, despite the many contemptuous things he said of the Duchess, for her whims irritated him, that we owe the most famous testimony to her charms, one, too, which, written in her old age, links with the most notable compliment paid her in youth. Matthew Prior, on Kitty being first allowed when a girl of 18 to appear in public at the Play-House in Drury Lane, had paid tribute to her in "The Female Phaeton" :—

Thus Kitty, beautiful and young
And wild as colt untam'd,
Bespoke the Fair from whence she sprung,
With little Rage inflam'd.

Inflam'd with rage at sad restraint
Which wise Mamma ordain'd,
And sorely vext to play the Saint
Whilst Wit and Beauty reign'd.

"Shall I thumb Holy Books, confin'd
With Abigails, forsaken?
Kitty's for other things design'd
Or I am much mistaken.

"Must Lady Jenny* frisk about
And visit with her Cousins?
At Balls must she make all the Rout
And bring home hearts in dozens?"

"What has she better, pray, than I?
What hidden charms to boast?
That all Mankind for her shou'd die
Whilst I am scarce a Toast,"

* Her sister Jane, the "blooming *Hide*, with Eyes so rare," of Gay, was already married to the Earl of Essex.

“ Dearest Mamma, for once let me
 Unchain'd my Fortune try:
 I'll have my Earl as well as she
 Or know the reason why!”

“ I'll soon with Jenny's pride quit score
 Make all her lovers fall;
 They'll grieve I was not loos'd before,
 She, I was loos'd at all.”

Fondness prevail'd: Mamma gave way.
 Kitty at heart's desire
 Obtain'd the Chariot for a Day
 And set the world on Fire!

To these lines, when the Duchess, at the age of 72, still preserved her beauty so that “ one should sooner take her for a young beauty of an old-fashioned century than for an antiquated goddess of her age,” Horace Walpole added the following quartette:—

“ To many a Kitty, Love his car
 Would for a day engage;
 But Prior's Kitty, ever young,
 Obtain'd it for an age.”

This must rank as one of the prettiest compliments ever paid to an old lady.

“ But beauty vanishes; beauty passes,
 However rare—rare it be.”

And the cherries were only the immediate instruments of mortality, nor could there anywhere be found a thing fresher or sweeter to bring a period to such a life.

Thus it is that Durisdeer Church brings to our vision so many of the great who thronged the eighteenth century.

Abstract of Accounts

For year ending 30th September, 1929.

I.—ON ACCOUNT OF CAPITAL.

Sum invested at close of last Account ...	£393	7	6
Four Life Members' Subscription ...		20	15 0
			£414 2 6

II.—ON ACCOUNT OF REVENUE.

CHARGE.

Balance brought forward from last year ...	£0	3	2
Annual Subscriptions ...		134	15 0
Life Members' Subscription ...		20	15 0
Interest on Investments ...		16	15 1
Donations ...		4	10 0
Sale of <i>Transactions</i> ...		0	5 0
Miscellaneous ...		5	5 3
			182 8 6

DISCHARGE.

Rent and Insurance ...	£13	6	0
Books bought ...		2	4 0
Stationery and Advertising ...		16	17 5
Miscellaneous ...		6	12 7
Transferred to Branch I. ...		20	15 0
Transferred to Branch II. ...		4	10 0
			64 5 0
			£118 3 6

III.—DONATIONS TOWARDS PUBLICATIONS.

Sum at close of last Account ...	£84	2	0
Donations during the year ...		4	10 0
			£88 12 0

M. H. M'KERROW, Hon. Treasurer.

Presentations.

19th October, 1928.—Mr Wm. Mitchell, manager of the Mines, Wanlockhead, presented two stones. The larger, an oblong, irregular stone with a groove round the upper end and cross grooves, was thought to be a loom weight. The smaller was a circular flat stone with two artificial depressions on the upper side, the depressions being conveniently situated for fingers holding the stone. It was surmised to be a smoothing stone.

16th November, 1928.—Mr J. M. Corrie sent a Gatehouse halfpenny.

Exhibits.

19th October, 1928.—Mr Edward O'Neill, 3 Chapel Street, Dumfries—Sent a brass disc with Masonic signs.

Mr J. R. Smith, 9 Miller Street, Kirkcudbright—Sent a coin picked up in a garden in Kirkcudbright. It was identified by Mr Jas. Davidson as a testoon of Queen Mary before her marriage.

16th November, 1928.—Dr. Semple—Two pieces of vitreous matter found at Tynron Doon, underneath the fort. Also a flat stone, part of a quern, found near the same place. Both found by Mr Wm. Wilson, of Tynron.

7th December, 1928.—Mrs Stewart, Shambellie, sent the following specimens, either in flower or fruit:—*Veronica carnea*; *Veronica Autumn Glory*; *Schizostylis coccinea* (var. Mrs Heggarty); *Garnya elliptica*; *Andromeda tetragonum*; *Andromeda floribunda*; *Erigeron philadelphicus*; *Helleborus orientalis* (var. St. Bryde); *Colchicum* (from Macedonia); *Dymphytum cordifolius*; *Viburnum tinus*; *Parochitus communis*; *Anchusa mysotidifolia*.

Mr Shirley—Token bearing the inscription, "P.M.Co. 1788." Round the margin on the face the words, "We promise to pay the . . ." On the reverse either a monk's or a female's head. On the edge, "Demand in London, Liverpool, or Anglesey." The coin was picked up in Troqueer Road.

11th January, 1929.—Mr G. F. Scott Elliot—Aztec rattle, and three photographs of Mexican pyramids.

Mr G. H. Williams—Collection of exotic butterflies.

1st February, 1929.—Mr Robert Henderson—Collection of Burns material, see Page 95.

12th April, 1929. — Mr G. F. Scott Elliot — Specimen of *Pellia Epiphylla* in flower.

List of Members of the Society

LIFE MEMBERS.

- Allan, J. Francis, M.D., F.R.S., Ed., Lincluden, 33 Cromwell Road, Teddington, Middlesex.
 Bedford, Her Grace the Duchess. Woburn Abbey, Woburn.
 Buccleuch, His Grace Duke of, Bowhill, Selkirk.
 Buccleuch, Her Grace the Duchess of, Bowhill, Selkirk.
 Carruthers, Dr. G. J. R. 4 Melville Street, Edinburgh.
 Dalkeith, Earl of, Eildon Hall, St. Boswells, Berwickshire.
 Duff, T. L. Bank of Scotland Buildings, 24 George Square, Glasgow.
 Easterbrook, Dr. C. C. Crichton House, Dumfries.
 Fraser, Thomas. Maxwell Knowe, Dalbeattie.
 Ferguson, Mr J. A. Burrance of Courance, by Lockerbie.
 Ferguson, Mrs J. A. Burrance of Courance, by Lockerbie.
 Gladstone, Hugh S. of Capenoch, Thornhill.
 Gladstone, Mrs. of Capenoch, Thornhill.
 Gladstone, Robert, M.A., B.C.L., The Atheneum, Church Street, Liverpool.
 Gladstone, John. Capenoch, Thornhill.
 Glendyne, Lord, Branch Hill Lodge, Hampstead.
 Heriot, Sir W. Maitland. C.B.E., of Whitecroft, Ruthwell.
 Hornel, A. E. of Broughton House, Kirkcudbright.
 Irving, William. Bonshaw, Dumfries.
 Kennedy, T. W. Blackwood, Auldgirith.
 Landale, David. Dalswinton, Auldgirith.
 Lang, John of Lannhall, Tynron, Thornhill.
 McCall, Major Wm. of Caitloch, Moniaive.
 McLeod, Sir J. Lorne. 25 Albany Street, Edinburgh.
 McMillan, Rev. W. W. St. Leonard's Manse, Dunfermline.
 MacRae, Mrs R. Stenhouse, Thornhill.
 Maxwell, Wm. J. Herries, of Orchardton, Castle-Douglas.
 Matthews, T. Berkley, Waterhall, Langholm.
 Muir, James, Appleby, Whithorn.
 Pickering, R. Y. of Conheath, Dumfries.
 Pickering, Mrs of Conheath, Dumfries.
 Paterson, R. Jardine of Balgray, Lockerbie.
 Spencer, J. J. Warmanbie, Annan.
 Spencer, Colonel C. L., C.B.E., D.S.O., Warmanbie, Annan.
 Spencer, Miss, Warmanbie, Annan.
 Stevenson, Alex. Closeburn Castle, Thornhill.
 Thomas, R. G. D. Southwick House, Dumfries.
 Thomson, Miss N. M. Carlingwark, Castle-Douglas.
 Younger, Sir William, Auchan Castle, Moffat.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

- Arnott, S. F.R.H.S., Loveland, Castle-Douglas Road, Maxwelltown.
 Black, Dr. George F. New York Public Library.
 Carruthers, Wm. F.R.S., 14 Vermont Road, Norwood, S.E.10.
 Collingwood, W. G. Lanehead, Coniston, Lancs.
 Shirley, G. W. Ewart Public Library, Dumfries.
 Shirley, Mrs, Lanerick, Kingholm Road, Dumfries.
 Wilson, Jos. The Hawthorns, 3 Westpark Road, Kew Gardens, London.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

	Date of Election.
Adams, Percy, Woore Manor, Shropshire	22/2/18
Affleck, Dr. Cunningham, R.M.S., St. Alban's, Rutland Square, Edinburgh	9/6/26
Aloock, Mrs. Lochanlea, Ardwall Road, Dumfries	19/10/28
Allan, John, Veterinary Surgeon, Castle-Douglas	26/9/26
Anderson, Rev. R. S. G. Inch U.F. Manse, Castle- Kennedy	19/4/26
Andrews, Miss, Education Offices, Dumfries	13/6/25
Armstrong, Dr. E. County Buildings, Dumfries	23/4/26
Armstrong, Robert, Stanley Villa, Dumfries	31/11/19
Ballantyne, J. D., 6 The Mall, Faversham, Kent	15/10/20
Barker, John, Uplands, Dumfries	23/9/05
Bartholomew, J. of Glenorchard, Torrance, Glasgow...	21/10/10
Bedford, His Grace the Duke of, Woburn Abbey, Woburn	7/2/08
Beith, Donald, 14 Bridge Street, Manchester	11/11/27
Bell, Mrs J. H. Seaforth, Annan	12/3/20
Biggar, Miss E. Corbieton, Castle-Douglas	10/3/26
Biggar, Miss M. Corbieton, Castle-Douglas	10/3/26
Birrell, Adam, Park Crescent, Creetown	25/6/25
Black, William, St. Margaret's, Maxwell Street, Max- welltown	12/11/20
Blacklock, J. E. Dock Park House, Dumfries	8/5/96
Bowie, J. M. Crofthill, Maxwelltown	15/12/05
Brand, J. G. Huntingdon, Dumfries	14/6/27
Brook, Lieut.-Colonel Charles, of Kinmount, Annan ...	12/4/12
Brown, Joseph, Loreburn Park, Dumfries	15/10/20
Browne, Sir James Crichton, Crindau, Dumfries	3/9/92
Bryden, James, Dunelm, Dalbeattie Road, Dumfries...	12/4/29
Bryson, Dr. Thornhill	17/7/26
Burnett, Dr. T. R. Education Offices, Dumfries	15/10/20
Caird, Mrs Henryson, of Cassenary, Creetown	31/1/27
Campbell, Very Rev. J. M. D.D., St. Michael's Manse, Dumfries	15/12/07
Carruthers, J. J. 26 The Green, Southwick-on-Weir, Sunderland	/10/09
Carruthers, Lieut.-Colonel F. J. Dormont, Lockerbie ...	29/11/12
Carruthers, A. Stanley, Chartlands, Purley Oaks Road, Sunderstead, Surrey	4/6/26
Cassillis, The Earl, c/o E. A. & F. Hunter, 7 York Place, Edinburgh	12/4/12
Charteris, Brig.-General, Waterside, Ecclefechan	13/4/26
Cochrane, Miss, Moatbrae, Dumfries	18/7/29
College of Herald, c/o G. Woods Wollaston, Richmond Herald College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.	30/3/26
Cormack, David, Solicitor, Lockerbie	21/2/13
Corrie, John, F.S.A.Scot., Burnbank, Moniaive	6/8/87
Corrie, J. M. F.S.A.Scot., Ancient Monuments Com- mission, 122 George Street, Edinburgh	4/10/07
Cossar, Thomas, Craignea, Maxwelltown	15/5/14
Cotts, Sir Wm. Mitchell, 13 St. Helen's Place, London.	
Cuthbertson, Wm. Beldcraig, Annan	12/3/20
Crabbe, Major, Duncow, Dumfries.	
Crombie, W. F. Beaumont, Edinburgh Road	20/4/26

Dalrymple, Hon. Hew, 24 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh.	
Davidson, James, F.S.A.Scot., Summerville, Dumfries...	3/11/76
Dickson, W. E. G. C. Station Hotel, Dumfries	25/10/18
Dickson, Miss, Victoria Road, Maxwelltown.	
Dickson, C. W. Friars' Carse, Auldgrith	12/4/12
Dickson, T. Cannon Street Buildings, 20 Abchurch Lane, London	28/1/26
Dickson, Brig.-General W. E. R. The Isle, Holywood...	29/3/26
Dinwiddie, Robert, Larkfield, Dumfries	9/3/83
Dinwiddie, W. Craigelvin, Moffat Road, Dumfries ...	12/11/20
Dobie, K. Ingleston, Annan Road, Dumfries	20/5/26
Douglas-Brown, Rev. W. H., St. John's Manse, Newton-Stewart	20/3/26
Douglas, Mrs J. A. G. Medhurst, Rae Street, Dumfries	14/7/26
Downie, Miss, Violet Bank, Annan	12/3/20
Drummond, J. G. Bank House, Maxwelltown	17/11/05
Dubs, Major C. I. A. Craigdarroch, Moniaive	22/7/26
Duncan, J. Bryce, Newlands, Dumfries	20/12/07
Duncan, Mrs, Newlands, Dumfries	20/12/07
Duncan, Walter, Newlands, Dumfries	26/4/26
Dyer, Henry, Rosebank Lodge, Dumfries	23/11/17
Dyer, Provost, Stranraer	7/7/24
Dykes, Tom, Dentist, Annan	/26
Elliot, G. F. Scott, F.R.G.S., Drumwhill, Mossdale	4/3/87
Fergusson, D., Solicitor, Buccleuch Street, Dumfries...	29/3/12
Fergusson, Mrs, Buccleuch Street, Dumfries	29/3/12
Fleming, D. Hay, LL.D., 4 Chamberlain Road, Edinburgh	13/2/14
Fleming, C. J. Inspector of Schools, Greenlaw, Castle-Douglas	6/1/26
Flett, James, Hillhead, Bankend Road, Dumfries	19/1/12
Forman, Rev. A. Craigielands, Beattock	18/10/29
Fraser, Robert, Lochmaben Public School.	
Fulton, Rev. J. Wylie, Manse of Keir, Thornhill	8/4/26
Faed, Mrs, The Bungalow, New-Galloway	/26
Galbraith, Charles, The Barony, Dumfries	12/4/12
Galbraith, Mrs, The Barony, Dumfries	12/4/12
Galbraith, Mrs James, Lochanhead House, Dumfries ...	5/4/26
Geddes, R. Brooke Street, Dumfries	20, 10/09
Geddes, James, Birkhill, Dumfries	22/5/26
Gibson, John, Elliceville, Dumfries	23/11/17
Gibson, J. Ewing, 92 West Regent Street, Glasgow	12/4/12
Gibson, R., Road Surveyor, Auchengool House, Kirkcudbright	19/10/28
Gillespie, Wm., Solicitor, Castle-Douglas	14/5/92
Gillett, Arnold, of Crawfordton, Moniaive	28/11/27
Gladstone, Miss J. c/o The Manager, National Provincial Bank, Westminster Branch, 6 Victoria Street, London	3/11/11
Glaister, Professor John, M.D., F.R.S.E., D.Ph., Glasgow University	12/4/12
Gordon, Miss, Kenmure Terrace, Maxwelltown	14/9/07
Gordon, W. Victoria Road, Maxwelltown	12/4/12
Gourlay, W. R., C.S.I., C.I.E., F.R.G.S., Kenbank, Dalry	/25
Gordon, J. G. F.E.S., Corsemalzie, Whauphill, Wigtownshire	20/1/11
Graham, W. F. Mossknowe, Kirkpatrick-Fleming	12/4/12

Graham, James, Westmains, Collin	10/9/25
Grierson, R. A. Town Clerk, Dumfries	15/3/07
Grierson, T. Glebe Street, Dumfries.	
Grieve, Dr., Rockcliffe, by Dalbeattie	13/7/26
Grove, Wm. Carzield, Dumfries	30/7/26
Halliday, T. A. Parkhurst, Dumfries	26/1/06
Halliday, Mrs, Parkhurst, Dumfries	26/1/06
Halliday, W. J. Esthwaite, Lochmaben	6/4/36
Hall, Charles J. 211 Bexley Road, Northumberland	
Heath, Erith, Kent	24/10/19
Hannan, Col. James M. Hillside, Lockerbie	13/1/26
Hannay, Andrew, Lochend, Stranraer	19/3/26
Hannay, Wm. Corswall Mill, Kirkcolm, Wigtown-	
shire	19/3/26
Harkness, Edward, Fernlea, Langholm	/25
Haslam, Oliver, Cairngill, Colvend, near Dalbeattie ...	15/11/27
Hastie, D. H. Victoria Terrace, Dumfries	24/2/06
Henderson, James, Claremont, Dumfries	9/8/05
Henderson, Mrs, Claremont, Dumfries	27/1/27
Henderson, Robert, 1 North Park, Moffat	29/7/27
Henderson, Thomas, Solicitor, Lockerbie	17/10/02
Henderson, Miss E. L. Rosebank, Drummore, Wigtown-	
shire	12/6/09
Herries, D. C. St. Julian's, Seven Oaks, Kent	23/4/15
Herries, Lieut.-Colonel W. D. Young, of Spottes, Dal-	
beattie.	
Hewison, Rev. J. King, D.D., Kingsmede, Thornhill ...	12/4/12
Hornel, Miss, Broughton House, Kirkcudbright.	
Hunter-Arundell, H. W. F. of Barjarg, Dumfries	29/11/12
Hunter, David, Lincluden, Dumfries	17/10/13
Hunter, Dr. Joseph, M.P., 25 Old Queen Street, West-	
minster	24/6/05
Hunter, Dr., St. Catherine's, Linlithgow	12/4/12
Hunter, T. S. Woodford, Dumfries	12/4/12
Hunter, Thomas M., Solicitor, Stranraer	5/4/26
Hunter, Miss G. 23 Victoria Park, Lockerbie	3/6/26
Irving, John A. West Fell, Corbridge-on-Tyne	7/12/06
Irving, George, Bank of Scotland, Lasswade.	
Irving, W. Fergusson, Bryn Llywn, Corwen, North	
Wales	7/2/08
Jardine, Mrs Cunningham, of Jardine, Lockerbie	5/4/26
Jardine, Major Wm., Applegarth, Sir Lowry's Pass, Cape	
of Good Hope	17/6/11
Jenkins, Ross T., National Bank of Scotland, Stranraer	
12/4/12	
Jesson, B., Rowallan, Newton-Stewart	3/4/26
Johnson-Ferguson, Sir J. E., Bart., of Springkell, Eccle-	
fechan	20/5/96
Johnson-Ferguson, Lieut.-Colonel A., Luckington Court,	
Chippenham, Wilts.	9/9/05
Johnston, Dr. S. E. Burnbank, Penpont	12/4/12
Johnstone, F. A. 56 Queen's Gate, London, S.W.	11/4/11
Johnstone, James, Solicitor, Well Street, Moffat	26/3/26
Johnston, Lieut.-Colonel, of Linwood, Stranraer	7/7/22
Johnstone, Miss, Mouswald Place, Ruthwell	27/5/26
Johnstone, Miss J. 89 Camperdown Road, Scotstoun,	
Glasgow	1/6/26
Kennedy, R. F. The Gill, Thornhill	30/5/26
Kidd, Mrs, 15 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh	14/11/13
Kirkpatrick, J. G. 2 Belford Park, Edinburgh	14/11/13

Kirkpatrick, Rev. R. S. Yarrow Manse, Selkirk	17/2/96
Kirkpatrick, R., Knockhill, Ecclefechan	14/9/26
Knowles, Rev. Wm. The Manse, Dalton, Lockerbie	10/7/26
Laurie, Colonel Sir C. E. R. Bart., D.S.O., Maxwellton House, Thornhill	20/1/11
Lepper, R. S. Elsinore, Crawfordburn, Co. Down	25/10/18
Little, Murray, Town Clerk, Annan	12/4/12
Little, James, Commercial Bank, Dalbeattie	12/4/12
Lowe, Rev. J. Anderson, The Manse, Southwick	1/29
Lupton, Thomas, Solicitor, Stirling	12/4/12
Lusk, H. D. Larchville, Annan	25/4/08
Malcolm, Mrs. Stewart Hall, Dumfries	12/11/20
M'Allister, Miss, 4 Cresswell Avenue, Dumfries	7/7/24
M'Allister, Miss I. 4 Cresswell Avenue, Dumfries	7/7/24
Macara, G. F. High Street, Moniaive	11/5/26
M'Burnie, John, The Garth, Dumfries	21/11/08
M'Burnie, Mrs. The Garth, Dumfries	29/11/12
M'Candlish, A. C. Claunch, Sorbie, Wigtownshire	18/10/29
M'Cargo, James, Kirkpatrick-Durham	24/4/96
M'Caskie, Dr., 14 Onslow Square, London, S.W.7	24/9/17
M'Conchie, W. Ruddicot, Stranraer	13/3/26
M'Connel, J. I. of Hetland, Ruthwell, R.S.O.	26/4/12
M'Connel, E. W. J. Staveley Vicarage, Kendal	25/1/27
M'Comick, Andrew, Solicitor, Newton-Stewart	3/11/05
M'Douall, Kenneth, of Logan, Stranraer	12/4/12
M'Dougal, J. W. Solicitor, Dumfries	10/10/24
M'Donald, James, Hecklegarth, Annan	21/8/28
M'Donald, John, Glenower, Pleasance Avenue, Maxwell- town	22/10/27
M'Donald, J. Bell. Rammerscales, Hightae, Lockerbie ...	9/9/29
MacDonnel, W. H. Dumcrieff, Moffat	26/11/27
M'Gowan, Bertram, Linwood, Dumfries	26/10/00
M'Harrie, Stair, of Broadstone, Stranraer	7/7/24
M'Hardy, Rev. Father, St. Cuthbert's Presbytery, Kirk- cudbright	15/7/26
Macharg, W. S. 16 Berkley Street, Glasgow	16/10/14
M'Jarrow, D. Town Clerk, Lockerbie	22/2/06
Mackay, Mrs. Benreay, Nithbank, Dumfries	1/7/27
M'Kay, Kenneth, Roseland, Maxwelltown	21/1/27
M'Kay, Miss, The Ben, Newall Terrace, Dumfries.	
Mackenzie, W. Dalziel, of Fawley Court, Henley-on- Thames	28/6/26
M'Kerlie, Miss E. M. 5 Albany Place, Dumfries	23/11/17
M'Kerrow, M. H. F.S.A.Scot., Solicitor, Dumfries	19/1/00
M'Kinley, Hugh, 1 Queensberry Terrace, Maxwelltown	23/11/17
MacMaster, T. 190 Grange Loan, Edinburgh	13/3/26
M'Queen, James, of Crofts, Dalbeattie	12/4/12
M'Millan, J. J., of Glencrosh, Moniaive.	
Maclaren, J. Stewart, Hartfell House, Moffat	18/10/29
Mair, A. Ravenshill, Lockerbie	25/6/26
Maitland, Mrs. of Cumston, Kirkcudbright	4/7/26
Maxwell, Colonel A. B. 6 Montpelier Grove, Chelten- ham	10/9/25
Maxwell, Sir Herbert, Bart., of Monreith, Wigtown ...	7/10/92
Maxwell, B. B. 32 Drummond Place, Edinburgh	16/2/12
Maxwell, Hon. John, Tarquah, Maxwelltown	20/1/05
Maxwell, Miss Margaret, Grennan, Rockcliffe, by Dal- beattie	10/9/25
Maxwell, Robert, Solicitor, Dumfries	3/11/11

Maxwell, Wellwood, Kirkennan, Dalbeattie	5/11/86
Melville, G. 17 Napier Avenue, Hurlingham, London ...	3/11/26
Menzies, N. F. D. of Newtonairds, Dumfries	25/10/12
Millar, R. Pairman, S.S.C., 50 Queen Street, Edinburgh	14/9/08
Miller, Frank, Cumberland House, Annan	3/9/86
Miller, Thomas, Victoria Avenue, Maxwelltown	11/1/29
Milligan, J. P. Burnock, Dumfries	17/10/05
Milne-Home, J. H. Irvine House, Canonbie	19/1/12
Moffat, Mrs A. Garwald, Langholm	25/5/26
Molteno, P. A. 10 Palace Court, London, W.C.	12/4/12
Monteith, Mrs, Glenluart, Moniaive	30/11/27
Montgomery, L. H. High Street, Dumfries	10/1/27
Mitchell Library, per the City Chamberlain, Glasgow ...	4/10/26
Morton, A. S. Solicitor, Newton-Stewart	23/4/15
Morrison, Miss, The Carlton, Dumfries	17/6/26
Murray, Mrs, of Murraythwaite, Ecclefechan	29/7/05
Munn, Dr. Gordon, of Croys, Dalbeattie	24/11/27
Murchie, James, 76 Victoria Street, Newton-Stewart	28
Neilson, J. c/o Robert Barbour, 176 West George Street, Glasgow	13/3/96
New York Public Library (per Messrs Stevens & Brown, 4 Trafalgar Square).	
Nicol, Mrs, Powfoot, Cummertrees	7/12/28
Nicholson, Alan, 23 Moffat Road, Dumfries	29
Niven, John F. Mahaar, Kirkcolm, Wigtownshire	19/3/26
O'Reilly, Mrs, 47 Powis Square, Bayswater, London, W. 11	10/10/24
Paterson, D. Solicitor, Clyde House, Greenock	14/4/12
Paterson, J. J. of Brocklehurst, Dumfries	26/4/12
Paton, Rev. Henry, Elmswood, Peebles	21/11/08
Penman, Mrs, Mile Ash, Dumfries	17/10/05
Penman, Maxwell, Castle-Douglas	10/9/26
Rankin, Alex. Marchville, Thornhill	17/5/26
Reid, R. C. Cleuchbrae, Ruthwell	18/11/07
Ramage, Wm. St. George's Buildings, Dumfries	28/1/27
Reid, James, Braehead Terrace, Maxwelltown	15/10/20
Reid, Mrs, Braehead Terrace, Maxwelltown	15/10/20
Ritchie, Dr. J. County Buildings, Dumfries	26/4/12
Robson, John, County Buildings, Dumfries	25/9/95
Robson, George, Terregles Street, Maxwelltown	17/11/11
Robertson, Dr., County Buildings, Dumfries	15/10/20
Robertson, Rev. Canon, The Rectory, Dumfries	7/11/24
Robinson, Samuel, 6 Kirkowens Street, Dumfries	19/10/28
Rose, C. R. of Fourmerkland, Lockerbie	29/5/26
Ross, James, 10 Midmar Gardens, Edinburgh	12/3/26
Russell, George, of Newton, Dumfries	12/4/12
Rusk, J. M. 6 Rutland Square, Edinburgh	13/6/25
Selby, Dr. M'D. Portwilliam, Wigtownshire	12/4/12
Semple, Dr., Mile Ash, Dumfries	12/6/01
Sloan, R. J. J. Skivo, Edinburgh Road, Dumfries	21/11/19
Smart, J. T. W. Catherine Street, Dumfries	18/12/08
Smellie, James, Glenairlie, Park Road, Maxwelltown	29
Smith, A. Cameron, Springfield, Dalmuir, Dumbarton- shire	24/1/19
Shaw, Eben, Southfield, Wigtown	24/4/26
Sproat, William, Balfarn, Kirkinner, Wigtownshire ...	12/3/26
St. Vigeans, Lord, 33 Moray Place, Edinburgh	17/7/26
Spragge, Mrs, Denbie, Lockerbie	17/7/26
Stewart, Captain William, Shambellie, Newabbey	21/12/06

Stewart, Sir Ed. M ^c Taggart, Bart., of Ardwall, Wig- townshire	12/4/12
Stewart, Admiral Johnston, Glasserton, Whithorn.	
Stewart, W. R. F.S.A.Scot., Merrick, Dalmellington, Ayrshire.	
Stevenson, John, Commercial Bank, Dumfries.	
Steen, Rev. J. C. Manse of Dryfesdale, Lockerbie	/29
Stobie, Mrs Peter, Beechwood, Nithbank, Dumfries	12/28
Sturrock, A. R. Boat Green, Gatehouse	19/10/28
Syms, R. Hardy, F.S.I., L.R.I.B., M.T.P.I., 3 Grays Inn Place, London, W.C.1	16/7/27
Somerville, Hugh, George Street School, Dumfries ...	10/10/24
Swiney, General, Arbigland, Kirkbean	/28
Turner, Alexander, Chemist, Buccleuch Street, Dumfries	17/10/05
Taylor, James, The Academy, Kirkcudbright	7/6/26
Wallace, Sir Matthew, Bart., of Terreglestown, Dum- fries	11/3/98
Waddell, G. B. Bridge-of-Urr, Kirkcudbrightshire	25/9/26
Wallace, Prof. Robert, c/o Mrs M ^c Call, 11 Bruntsfield Crescent, Edinburgh	12/4/12
Wallace, S. Williamson, Kelton, Dumfries	26/4/12
Walker, George G. M. Murrington, Dumfries	24/1/26
Walker, Miss M. B. Greenwich and Deptford Hospital, S.E.10	12/3/26
Walker, J. L., Schoolhouse, Southwick	28/12/27
Walmsley, Prof., Anatomy Dept., Queen's University, Belfast	7/4/29
Watson, Robert, Kirkdale School, Kirkcudbright.	
Waugh, William, Palaceknowe, Beattock.	
Weir, Rev. H. G. Mullo, The Manse, Dalry, Kirkcud- brightshire.	
Whitelaw, J. W. Solicitor, Dumfries	6/11/85
Wightman, J. 2 Franklin Place, Maxwelltown	18/12/07
Will, James, W.S., Irish Street, Dumfries	10/10/24
Wilson, Miss A. Aldersyde, Rotchell Park, Maxwelltown.	
Wilson, Tom, Blawearie, Sanquhar	12/6/28
Wilson, Robert, Solicitor, Sanquhar.	
Young, E. Denholm, 15 Rutland Street, Edinburgh ...	12/4/12
Young, J. F. Schoolhouse, Mouswald	11/11/21
Younger, W. R. Auchan Castle, Moffat	16/11/28

INDEX.

- Agricola 159
 Alcluth, Dumbarton 120
 Allen, J. R. 122
 Annual General Meeting 9
 Antonine wall 163, 171
 Anwoth 159
 Arbuthnot, Dr. 176
 Assythement 169
 Auchengeith 31
 Bagimont's Roll 121
 Balmuldy 163
 Bank Street, Dumfries 106
 Barleymen 46
 Baron Courts 12
 — qualification queried 35
 Beau Brummel 174
 Bell, Robert 165
 Birds: Coot, 76; cormorant, 76; curlew,
 76; heron, 76; kingfisher, 76; moor-
 hen, 76; old English pheasant in
 Galloway, 72; redshank, 76; sand-
 piper, 76; snipe, 76; swans, 76;
 teal, 76; tufted duck, 76; widgeon,
 76; wild duck 76
 Biggar 171
 Birrens 163
 Blackwood dovecote 78
 Bogrie 54
 Bolingbroke, Henry 174
 Boon work 14
 Bramble, Matthew and Tabitha 178
 Bronze chisel 54
 — from Dumfries 56
 — from Dunragit 56
 — from Glentroot 56
 Brown, Robert 146
 Brough-on-Sands 168
 Bruce, George 95
 Bruce, Robert 165
 Buccleuch, Duke of 122
 Bulmer, Sir Bevis 142
 Burlawmen 16, 26, 27, 31, 38
 — fines for disobeying decrees of .. 38
 Burns, Robert 48, 95
 Burnswark 159, 163
 Byrlaw Courts 17
 Cairngill 50
 Cairns, John 149, 153
 Cairns, William 149
 Cairngill 51
 Caltha palustris, 57; age, 65, 64;
 germination, 62; habitat, 57; range,
 63, 57; seeds, 62; variability in
 number of carpels, 60; variability
 in number of sepals, 59; variability
 in number of stamens 60, 61
 Campbell, Thomas, Abbot of Holy-
 wood 121
 Candida Casa 134
 Capenoch, 93; House built, 88; Laird
 of 86
 Cardoness Castle 155, 156
 Caerlaverock, Caerlaverock, 15, 20, 27, 47
 — baillie petitioned as to fishing
 rights 42
 — danger of wood fire 40
 Carrick district 140
 — bends 132
 Castlecary 163
 Castledykes, Carstairs 163
 Castlehill 166
 Chambers, Sir Edmund 111
 Charleson, Conal 136
 Charleson, C. Forbes 119
 Christison, Early Fortifications in Scot-
 land 162
 Cinerary urns, 52, 53; peculiar to British
 Isles 52
 Clapham, A. W. 134
 Cleghorn 163
 Closeburn, 126; castle, 90; church, 132;
 house burnt down 87
 Cluden, Clouden, Clowdan, 26, 31, 34, 44
 — mills 24
 Collingwood, R. G. 134, 141, 161
 Collingwood, W. G. 120
 Columba, St. 119
 Conal, St. 120
 Contumacy, 41; fines for 47
 Cooke, A. O. 78, 80, 81
 Corrie, J. M. 50
 Covenanters 168, 173
 Craigdhu 53
 Crawford 19
 Crawford, O. G. S. 162
 Crichton, Lord, of Sanquhar 121
 Dalswinton 165
 Dalveen 164, 165
 Deil's Dyke 50, 54
 Dempster 20

- Dercongal 120, 121
 Derwent, Cumberland 120
 Dobson, Austin 174, 175
 Douglas of Dalveen 166
 Douglas, Hugh 169, 170
 Douglas, Sir William 169, 170
 Drama:
 — canonical plays forbidden, 101, 102, 103
 — clerk plays 98
 — non-canonical plays forbidden on Sunday 100
 — payment of expenses of 108
 — players nominated by Town Council 115
 — Post-Reformation censure of 97
 — Robin Hood 109, 113, 118
 Drumlanrig 166
 Drumlanrig Castle 167
 Drumsleet 48
 Dumfries Burgh Court Books 96
 Duncow 15, 19, 20, 26, 49
 Dungarry, Dungaridh 148, 157, 160
 Durisdeer 141, 164, 172
 Durisdeer Castle 165
 Edward, D. E. 140
 Elliot, G. F. Scott 57
 Elvanfoot 171
 Enclosings 15, 26
 Enoch 168
 Ercildun 165
 Fish: Pike and trout in Galloway 71
 Furr, Breaking fourth, 15; fine for ploughing fourth 36
 Gaelic spoken in Galloway 160
 Gay, John 172, 174, 175, 176
 Genoch 52
 Gillespie, James 140
 Gladstone, John 78, 85
 Gladstone, T. S. 94
 Glenaylmer 120, 135
 Gordoun, Alexander 170
 Gourlay, W. R. 149
 Greenhill 53
 Greirson, D. Wil. 122
 Greystone urn 54
 Grierson, James 94
 Harper, T. 141, 146
 Henderson, Robert 96
 Heritable jurisdictions 13
 Hill forts 157
 Hoddam 120, 125, 132, 134
 Hollywood, Hallywood, Hollywood, Holywode 20-49, 122, 135
 Holywood Abbey 120, 121, 134
 Hope, Sir James 145
 Houghton, Mr 95
 Hyde, Lady Catherine 172
 Irisbuitte 150
 Jervas, Charles 174
 Johnston, John, of the Coitts 19
 Kennedy, William 128
 Kentigern, St. 119, 120
 Kindly tenants 18
 King David's Tower 155
 Kirkbride 123
 Kirkburn fort, 171; glen 170
 Kirkconnel 119, 122
 Kirkgunzeon, Kirkguneon, Kirkgunyan, 14, 20, 28, 36, 39, 40, 41, 45
 Kirklands 128
 Kirkpatricks at Capenoch 85
 — Charles Sharpe 93
 — James 93
 — Sir James, 4th Bt. 87, 90, 91
 — Sir Thomas, 3rd Bt. 85
 — Sir Thomas, 5th Bt. 92, 93
 — William 91
 Knaveshtp 19, 32
 Ledum palustre, 66; in Achill Island, 67; in Bridge of Allan, 67; in Carruchan Moss 69
 Lincluden 48
 Lindsay, Sir Wm. de 165
 Lindsarne stone 131
 Lindsay family mote 166
 List of members, 1928-9 180
 Little Clyde, 141, 171; Roman camp. 161
 Lochar Moss, 15; fire on 40
 Lochrutton 20, 29
 Lockerbie, Roman fort 163
 Lukup tombstone 167
 M'Michael, Daniel 147
 MacMillan, Kirkpatrick 94
 M'Vicker, John William 123, 133
 March dykes, 15; settled 27
 Mariota 127, 128, 130, 135
 Maxwell, Robert, built Orchardton House, Glenshinnoch 153
 — declared Protestant 153
 Maxwell, Thomas 152
 — taken prisoner near Dumfries 152
 — wounded at Culloden 152
 Maxwell, Sir George 151
 Maxwell, Sir Robert 150
 Menzies family 167
 — of Castlehill 166
 — Sir Alex. de 165
 Merser, Sir Harry 96, 101
 Miers, John 95
 Mill, Anna J. 96
 Mill of the barony 14, 16
 Miller, S. N. 163
 Mitchell, William 141
 Mossmen 16, 38
 Mote 166
 Mouswald 170
 Mowat, Samuel 123
 Muirhead, Andrew 168

- Miltures 13, 19, 32
 Murray, John, Knight of Carden .. 121
 Murray, John, Earl of Annandale .. 121
 Newton-on-Ayr 19
 Nidisdale 119
 Niduari, 120; Picts 119
 Nithsdale 119, 120, 159
 Orchardton 148
 — castle 150, 151
 — old tower 148, 149, 154
 Penpont 125
 Picts 159
 Pigeons 83
 Plants: Broad-leaved pondweed, 77; Bur-
 reed, 77; Caltha Palustris, 57;
 Water crowfoot, 77; Cuckooflower,
 77; Ledum palustre, 66; Lesser
 spearwort, 77; Mare's tail, 77; Slen-
 der pondweed, 77; Water milfoil, 77;
 Water plantain, 77; Water star-
 wort 77
 Pope, Alexander 172, 175
 Porteous, J. M. 142
 Pottery incense cup 51
 Prehistoric burial sites 52
 Price of grain 50
 Prior, Matthew 172, 175, 178
 Queensberry, Earl of 166
 — Charles, 3rd Duke of .. 172, 173, 175
 — James, 2nd Duke of 172
 — William, Duke of 122
 Rae, Peter 123, 170
 Rainfall records 138
 Reid, R. C. .. 85, 134, 136, 141, 157, 164
 Rhydderch Hael 120
 Roman fort, 170; roads 165, 170, 171
 Rotation of crops 15
 Rowe, Nicholas 173
 Roy, General 162
 Rumbut 16
 St. Conal, 119, 123, 136; St. Conal's Well,
 123; St. Conal, Chalmers' Cale-
 donia 121
 St. Ninian's cave cross 135
 Sanquhar castle 165
 Scott, Alexander 110
 Semple, W. 66
 Settness 19, 20, 32
 Sharpe, John 130
 Shirley, G. W. 9, 96, 136, 141, 172
 Sinclair's Vennel, Dumfries 106
 Smith, A. Cameron 12
 Smollet, T. G. 146
 Stewart, Sir Robert 166
 Strang, Alexander 147
 Strathelyde, 159; Britons 119
 Suie Fort 157
 Swift, Jonathan 172, 174, 176
 Taylor, John 145
 Terregles 20, 30, 35, 39
 Thackeray, W. M. 175
 Thomas the Rhymer 165
 Thomson, James 172
 Thomson, P. A. 140
 Thornhill Cross 126
 Tibbers 171
 Timber, fine for cutting 37, 47
 Tod, Thomas 147
 Torwood Moor 163
 Tynron 122
 Vennel farm, Kirkconnel 130
 Wallace, William 165
 Walpole, Horace .. 172, 173, 174, 178, 179
 Walpole, Sir Robert 176
 Wamphray 126
 Wanlockhead, 141; mines, 142; gold
 found at, 143; MS. history of .. 144
 Watson, W. J. 119, 159
 Well Path, Durisdeer 164, 170
 Wester Bucklyvie 53
 Whinnyligate 53
 Whitehead, William 172
 Whithorn, 159, 171; Museum cross,
 132, 134
 Williams, G. H. 71
 Williamson, Alexander 140
 Wilson, Tom 119, 136
 Wooden plough 15
 Young, Edward 172, 175

Publications of the Society.

Transactions and Journal of Proceedings:—(a) 1862-3, 7s 6d; (b) 1863-4, *out of print*; (c) 1864-5, *out of print*; (d) 1865-6, *out of print*; (e) 1866-7, *out of print*; (f) 1867-8, *out of print*; New Series (1) 1876-8, *out of print*; (2) 1878-80, *out of print*; (3) 1880-3, *out of print*; (4) 1883-6, 5s; (5) 1886-7, 5s; (6) 1887-90, 7s 6d; (7) 1890-1, 3s; (8) 1891-2, *out of print*; (9) 1892-3, 7s 6d; (10) 1893-4, 7s 6d; (11) 1894-5, *out of print*; (12) 1895-6, 5s; (13) 1896-7, 5s; (14) 1897-8, 5s; (15) 1898-9, 5s; (16) 1899-1900, 5s; (17, pts. 1 and 2) 1900-2, 3s 6d; (17, pt. 3), 1902-3, 2s 6d; (17, pt. 4), 1903-4, 2s 6d; (17, pt. 5), 1904-5, 5s; (18) 1905-6, 7s 6d; (19) 1906-7, 5s; (20) 1907-8, 5s; (21) 1908-9, 5s; (22) 1909-10, 5s; (23) 1910-11, 7s 6d; (24) 1911-12, 10s 6d; Third Series (i.) 1912-13, 10s 6d; (ii.) 1913-14, 7s 6d; (iii.) 1914-15, 7s 6d; (iv.) 1915-16, 5s; (v.) 1916-18, *out of print*; (vi.) 1918-19, 7s 6d; (vii.) 1919-20, 10s 6d; (viii.) 1920-21, 10s 6d; (ix.) 1921-22, 10s 6d; (x.) 1922-23, 10s 6d; (xi.) 1923-24, 10s 6d; (xii.) 1924-25, 10s 6d; (xiii.) 1925-26, 10s 6d; (xiv.) 1926-28, 10s 6d; (xv.) 1928-29, 10s 6d.

A List of the Flowering Plants of Dumfriesshire and Kirkcudbrightshire, by James M'Andrew, 1882, *out of print*.

Birrens and its Antiquities, with an Account of Recent Excavations and their Results, by Dr James Macdonald and Mr James Barbour, 1897, 3s 6d.

Communion Tokens, with a Catalogue of those of Dumfriesshire, by the Rev. H. A. Whitelaw, 1911, 7s 6d.

History of the Dumfries Post Office, by J. M. Corrie, 1912, 5s.

The History of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, by H. S. Gladstone, 1913, 3s 6d

The Ruthwell Cross, by W. G. Collingwood, profusely illustrated, 1917, 3s 6d.

Records of the Western Marches, Vol. I., "Edgar's History of Dumfries, 1746," edited with illustrations and ten pedigree charts, by R. C. Reid, 1916, 12s 6d.

Notes on the Birds of Dumfriesshire, by Hugh S. Gladstone, 1923, 10s.

A Bibliography of the Parish of Annan, by Frank Miller, F.S.A. Scot., 5s.

Mr M. H. M'Kerrow, 43 Buccleuch Street, Dumfries, will answer enquiries regarding the above, and may be able to supply numbers out of print.