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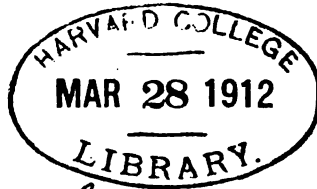
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# INDEX

TO

## FIRST VOLUME

---

### A.

- A (J.) on Forrissness, 123  
 — on the Gadle and the Garik, 108, 180  
 — on house at Peterhead where the Pretender slept, 161  
 — on Marischal College Motto, 159  
 A (M.) on surnames, 160  
 A (R.) on Lord Rectors' addresses, 77  
 — on Macadam, 61  
 A (T. J.) on leading apes, 92  
 A (U. S.) on Ferguson the astronomer, 140  
 Aberdaan, 107  
 Aberdeen Grammar School, 141, 164  
 Aberdeen 100 years ago, 31  
 Aberdeen Philosophical Society, 26, 97, 121, 139, 159, 184  
 Aberdeen, places near, 76, 108  
 Aberdeen Printers, 1620-1736, 151, 169, 189  
 Aberdeen University Arms, 171  
 Aberdeen Universities at Fraserburgh and Peterhead, 108  
 Aberdonian on Willie Godzman, 123  
 Abu (Tom) on Kant's Aberdeen connection, 122  
 Adame the Painter, 76  
 Advocates, Aberdeen, 91, 110  
 Advocates in Aberdeen, 42, 49, 68, 83, 98, 114, 134, 155, 173, 194  
 Advocates in Aberdeen: the Catanach Case, 129, 158  
 Advocates, Society of, 76, 93  
 Æsculapius on old names for drugs, 200  
 Alexander III., death of, 44, 77, 141, 160, 161  
 Alford, battle of, 184, 201  
 Anderson (J.) on the wreck of the Armada, 158  
 Anderson (P. J.) on Aberdeen Advocates, 129, 158  
 — on Aberdeen Universities at Fraserburgh and Peterhead, 108  
 — on Prof. Patrick Copland, 124  
 — on Downie's slaughter, 162  
 — on William Duff, 163  
 — on Lord Rectors' addresses, 59  
 — on Marischal College Motto, 179  
 — on Marischal College portraits, 14  
 — on the writings of Emeritus Prof. Martin, 108  
 — on the Murray Lectures at King's College, 135, 155  
 — on Scottish University studies, 34  
 "Ane by ane they gang awa'," different versions of, 91  
 Angus (George) on Tombstone of Sir Paul Menzies, 75  
 Argus on skeleton at King's College, 180  
 Armada, wrecks of vessels belonging to, 158  
 Artist on Ruskin on local architecture, 76

- Auchterrony, 76, 108  
 Auld Reekie, 180, 201  
 Aumbry at Monymusk, 187  
 Authors wanted, 60, 76, 141, 160

### B.

- B (E.) on a box of old vouchers, 173  
 B (J.) on camp near Donmouth, 78  
 — on place names, 122  
 B (J. M.) on the Castle Spectre, 143  
 — on Spittal, 76  
 — on tumulus in Berryden Road, 29  
 B (W.) on "love," 14  
 B (W., Keith) on oxengate, 182  
 Bain (Eben.) on Charles Whyt, 30  
 — on gold and silversmith trade, 77  
 Bain's (Eben.) Merchant and Craft Guilds, 125  
 Ballad, old ("Rosie Anderson"), 91  
 Baptismal Fonts, ancient, 180  
 Barbers' Society, 44  
 Barbour's tomb, 107  
 Belhelvie, trial for charming at, 120  
 — maker of parish communion cups, 44  
 Bible, preface to, 76, 123, 161  
 Bibliography of local [Aberdeen] periodical literature, 3, 20, 39, 53, 72, 85, 99, 115, 131, 147  
 Bibliography of Inverness newspapers and periodicals, 168, 191  
 Bibliography of the North-Eastern District of Scotland, 81  
 Bibliography of the West of Scotland, 184  
 Boddam, camp near, 60, 92  
 Bookcovers, notes on old, 36  
 Botanist on "The jewel print of your feet," 29  
 Bowie (A. F.) on "The hour when the stir" etc., 141  
 Box of old vouchers, 173  
 Boycott (O. M. M.) on John Hamilton, music-seller, 180  
 Brown (J. A. Haine) on West of Scotland bibliography, 184  
 Buchan, a ramble on the coast of, 25, 55, 74, 121, 177, 199  
 Buchan, wreck of Armada on the coast of, 158  
 Bulloch (J.) on S Fithack's Bell, Nigg, 29  
 Bulloch (J. Malcolm), on bibliography of local periodical literature, 3, 20, 39, 53, 72, 85, 99, 115, 131, 147  
 — on battle of Alford, 201  
 — on Byron, a plagiarist? 138  
 — on Stewart of Hisleside, 200



- Burial Registers, 27  
 Buttrie Willie Collie on local clubs and Lodges, 28  
 Byron, a plagiarist? 138
- C.
- C on "Cauld kail in Aberdeen" 2  
 — on genealogy of the Earls of Fife, 59  
 — on Legg, 28  
 — on Ord family, 201  
 — on Fasken, 201  
 — on Sanct Maquhiggins, 92  
 C (H. B.) on "the deil cam' o'er Jock Webster," 200  
 C (J.) on "Cow the bent" 143  
 — on old house at Kinaldie, 124  
 C (W. J.) on death of Alexander III, 160  
 — on a gipsy salutation, 160  
 — on murder of the Master of Caithness, 60  
 — on names of jelly fish, 160  
 Cadenhead (George), on Sculptured stone vase, 167  
 Cadenhead's (George) Family of Cadenhead, 62  
 Cairnvalage, 161, 180  
 Caithness, (Master of), his murder, 60  
 Caledonian Ocean, 180  
 Cameron (A. C.) on Gaelic place names, 181  
 — on Middletons of Aberdeen, 181  
 — on oxen gate, 182  
 — on parish of Neudos or Newdosk, 140  
 — on place name Gallery, 143  
 — on Spital, 142  
 Camps near Don Mouth & Boddam, 60, 78, 92  
 Carmichael (C.) on church of S. Vigeans, Forfarshire, 82  
 Carnie's (William) Waifs of Rhyme, 110  
 Cast of a worn inscription on stone, 160  
 Castle Spectre, 123, 143  
 Catanach Case, 129, 158  
 "Cauld Kail in Aberdeen," 2  
 Charming at Behelvie, trial for, 120  
 Christie (J.) on death of Alexander III, 161  
 — on the galley of Lorn, 106  
 — a new year rhymes, 163  
 — on Ogilvies of Culvie, 76  
 — on quarrying in last century, 75  
 Church Laws, anent, 22, 57  
 Clubs and Lodges, local, 14  
 Clyne (Norval) on the advocates in Aberdeen, 42, 49, 68, 83, 93, 98, 110, 114, 134, 155, 173, 194  
 Clyne's (Norval) Scottish Jacobites and their Poetry, 144  
 Cockburn (James) on Reivik, 76  
 Collector on old ballad, 91  
 Commoran, its meaning, 159, 162  
 Communion, the pulpit notice of, 179, 200  
 Copland (Prof. Patrick), 108, 124  
 Copland, the surname, 139, 162  
 Coupar-Angus, stone coffins found at, 140  
 "Cow the bent," 123, 143, 162, 180  
 Cowie Kirkyard, resurrection in, 75  
 Crag Scaler on Falcons at Finnan, 107  
 "Craigis in ye Jougis," meaning of, 31  
 Cramond (W.) on notes on old book covers, 36  
 — on curious discovery at Deskford, 43  
 Cramond's (William) Illegitimacy in Banffshire, 183

- Cramond's (W.) Inventory of Cullen Charters, 110  
 — Plundering of Cullen House, 144  
 Crawflower, the, 61, 78  
 Cruikshank, birthplace of, 44, 92
- D.
- D (C. D. H.) on Gallery, 161  
 — on the surname of Copland, 162  
 D (C. E.) on Gallery, 161  
 — on Spital, 161  
 D (G. N.) on hermitage at the Firhill Well, 139  
 D (P. H.) on camps near Don Mouth and Boddam, 92  
 — on the crawflower, 61  
 — on funerals, 122  
 — on the grole of the Garioch, 92, 123  
 — on Mormond, 60  
 — on surname Milne, 122  
 D (Q. E.) on Spittal, 109  
 D (T. T.) on Cairnvalage, 180  
 — on Spital, 142  
 D'Q (R.) on Joseph and John Robertson, 160  
 Dalgarno (J.) Notes on Leask, 10  
 — Ramble on coast of Buchan, 25, 55, 74, 121, 177, 199  
 Dalrymple (C. E.) on Queen Mary's portrait, 142, 175  
 — on Aumbry at Monymusk, 187  
 — on sculptured stone vase found at Westhall, 197  
 Davidson (John) on Andrew Logie of Loanhead, 65  
 — on new year rhymes, 140  
 — on pulpit notice of communion, 200  
 — on Society of Advocates, 76  
 Donmouth, camp near 60, 78, 92  
 Downie's Slaughtier, 139, 162  
 Druidic Circle, etc., near, Stonehaven, 76  
 Duff (William, M.A.) 140, 163  
 Duguid family, 139  
 Dunbar's (Bishop Gavin) remains, 107  
 Dyce, Stone Circle at, 65

## E

- East Church, Aberdeen, stone coffins at, 60  
 Edmond (J. P.) on the Aberdeen Printers, 151, 169, 189  
 Edzell Castle, Sculptures at, 150  
 Enid on a Gardeners' Society, 45  
 Epitaphs in St. Nicholas Church and Churchyard, 18, 38, 50, 69, 87, 101, 118, 133, 153, 172, 195  
 Esme on Adame the Painter, 76

## F

- F (A.) on the preface to the Bible, 123  
 F (C. R.) on battle of Alford, 184  
 "Fasken" or "Faskin," 180, 201  
 Ferryman on song in the "Heart of Midlothian," 27  
 Ferguson the Astronomer, 140  
 Ferguson (Jas. R.) on "Content sits basking," &c., 90  
 Ferguson (W.) on Old Deer, 9  
 — on old valuation of Old Deer, 42  
 Ferguson's (R. Menzies) Rambles in Far North, 94  
 Finnan, falcons at, 107, 122  
 Fife, genealogy of the Earls of, 59  
 Firhill Well, hermitage at, 139  
 Folk Riddles, 22

Forrisness, 123  
 Fraser's (James) Education Insurance Scheme, 183  
 Fullerton (J.) on Thomson's Recollections of a Spey-side Parish, 62  
 — on witchcraft, 106  
 Funerals, customs at, 122, 161, 180, 200

## G.

G on Professor Patrick Copland, 108  
 G (H.) on letter of John Leslie, Bishop of Ross, 59  
 G (J.) on Aberdaan, 107  
 — on place names, 45  
 — on Saint Machar, 91  
 Gadle and the Garik, 108, 124, 161, 180  
 Gaelic place names, 160, 181  
 Gallery, 122, 143, 161  
 Galley of Lorn, 106  
 Gallows Knowe. Deskford, 43  
 Gammack (James) on Aberdeen 100 years ago, 31  
 — on Edzell Castle Sculptures, 150  
 — on funerals, 161  
 — on the Gadle and the Garik, 161  
 — on local clubs, 14  
 — on glacier-marked stones, 28  
 — on grooves on boulders, 23  
 — on parish of Neudos, 164  
 — on patron saints, 162  
 — on places near Aberdeen, 76  
 — on S. Fittick of Nigg, 109  
 — on S. Fotinus of Torry, 109  
 — on S. Machar, 66  
 Gardeners, fraternity of True Blue, 45  
 Gerard (Helen C.) on "Cow the bent," 181  
 Gipsy salutation, 160, 181  
 Glacier-marked stone, 28, 46  
 Godsman (Willie), 123, 142  
 Gold and silversmith trade, 44, 60, 77  
 Gordon of Auchendolly, 179, 201  
 — of Gight, 45, 62  
 — (John of Kirkhill), 91, 141  
 Grain, denominations of, 91  
 Grammar School, Aberdeen, 141, 164  
 Grass of Parnassus, 79  
 Gregor (Walter) on Fergusson's Rambles in the Far North, 94  
 — on folk riddles, 22  
 — on legend of Portmalhomack, 13  
 — on origin of place names, 61  
 Grble, meaning of, 44, 77  
 Grole of the Garioch, 92, 108, 123  
 Grooves on boulders, 23  
 Guild of the Holy Cross, 27  
 Guy (Robt.) on the Ord Family, 179

## H.

H (C.P.) on Aberdeen Advocates, 91  
 — on Gordon of Gight, 62  
 — on old words, 139  
 H (J. A.) on church laws, 22, 57  
 — on oxengang, 160  
 — on resurrectionists at Nigg, 58  
 — on trial for charming at Belhelvie, 120  
 Hamilton (John) Edinburgh music seller, 180  
 Hutchison (Thos.) on the pretender at Peterhead, 180

## I.

Ignoramus on meaning of Grole, 44  
 Illogical Lady on "The jewel print of your feet," 29  
 Indenture of apprenticeship of Andrew Jamesone, 24  
 Inverness newspapers and periodicals, bibliography of, 168, 191  
 Irvine (James, of Drum) letter in favour of, 59  
 Irwyn (William de, 1st of Drum) his successor, 60

## J.

J on Charles Whyt, painter, 90  
 } on kirk seats, 12  
 } (A. W.) on Cowie Kirkyard, 75  
 } (M.) on goldsmith and silversmith trade, 78  
 } (W.) on Druidic Circle near Stonehaven, 76  
 J (W., A.) on maker of Belhelvie communion cups, 44  
 — on Coupar Angus, 140  
 — on Spittal, 161  
 — on gold and silversmith trade, 44, 60  
 — on John Mowat, 198  
 Jamesone (Andrew) indenture of his apprenticeship, 24  
 Jellyfish, names of, 160  
 Jill on the Crawford, 78  
 Jingle on "Ane by ane they gang awa'," 91

## K.

K on John Mowat, founder, 107  
 K (R.) on Spittal, 108  
 K (W. R.) on surnames, 182  
 — on the Gadle and the Garik, 124  
 — on Menzies family, 45  
 — Etymology of word "Love," 45  
 — "The jewel print of your feet," 45  
 — on places near Aberdeen, 108  
 — on old house in Kinaldie, 124  
 — on Spital, 123  
 — on "To bear off the bell," 143  
 Kant, his local connection, 121, 143  
 Kelly (William) on Midmar Castle, 113  
 — on S. Fithack's belfry, 5  
 Kemnay, 122  
 Kemnay, some notes on the history, of 104, 137, 176  
 Kemp (D. William) on Rosmarchæum, 44  
 Kinaldie, old house near, 108, 124  
 King's College, skeleton at, 180  
 King's (George) Species of Ficus of the Indo-Malayan and Chinese countries, 30  
 Kirk Seats, twa auld stories, 12

## L.

L on song in the "Heart of Midlothian," 61  
 L (A.) on death of Alexander III., 141  
 — on Spital, 141  
 L (C. S.) on ancient baptismal fonts, 180  
 — on author wanted, 160  
 — on a cast of worn inscription on stone, 160  
 — on Archdeacon Barbour's tomb, 107  
 — on Bishop Gavin Dunbar's remains, 107  
 — on the Castle Spectre, 123  
 — on Duguid family, 139  
 — on funerals, 180  
 — on Gaelic place names, 160  
 — on a Gipsy salutation, 182  
 — on Kemnay, 122  
 — on Megray Fair, 181

L (C.S.) on old house near Kinaldie, 108  
 — on patron saints, 162  
 — on place name, Gallery, 143  
 — on portrait of Queen Mary, 143  
 — on S. Fithack of Nigg, 109  
 — on S. Machar, 109  
 — on Stone effigies in S. Machar Cathedral, 104  
 L (H. W.) on "Cow the bent," 123  
 — on Gaelic plac. names, 181, 201  
 — on Macadam, 61  
 — on oxengate, 182, 201  
 L (J.) on "Cow the bent," 162  
 — on a gipsy salutation, 182  
 — on Macadam, 61  
 — on oxengate, 182  
 — on oy, 162  
 — on surnames, 182  
 L (J. G.) on Megray or Megram Fair, 160  
 — on the title of provost, 160  
 Laing (Alex.) on birthplace of George Cruikshank, 92  
 — (Jane) on local clubs and lodges, 28  
 — (Jeannie M.) on Kemnay, 104, 137, 176  
 — on Joseph and John Robertson, 200  
 Laing's (J. M.) Notes on Superstition & Folk Lore, 47  
 Leading apes, 92  
 Leask, parish of Slains, antiquarian notes on, 10  
 Legend of Portmalhomack, 13  
 Legg or Legge, surname, 28, 45  
 Leslie (John, Bishop of Ross) a letter of, 59  
 Logie (Andrew) of Loanhead, 65, 91  
 Lord Rectors, addresses by, 59, 77  
 Lorn, the Galley of, 106  
 "Love," meaning of billiard term, 14, 29, 45, 61

M.

M on "Fasken" or "Faskin," 180  
 — on the scoring term "love," 29  
 M (A. D.) on Macadam, 61  
 M (A. M.) on Aberdeen clubs and lodges, 28  
 — on burial registers, 27  
 — on Menzies family, 29  
 — on stone coffins, 60  
 M (H.) on prototype of Souter Johnnie, 77  
 M (J.) on "Cow the bent," 143  
 — on oxengate, 182  
 — on titles of provost, 183  
 — on willow pattern, 45  
 M (J. G.) on the Grole of the Garioch, 108  
 M (M. A.) on Andrew Logie of Loanhead, 91  
 — on tombstone of Sir Paul Menzies, 90  
 M' D (A.) on "To bear off the bell," 122  
 Macadam, the roadmaker, 44, 61  
 M'Bain's (J. M.) Arbroath: Past & Present, 144  
 Mackintosh, (W.) on Kant, 143  
 — on the Society of Ancient Scots, 140  
 — on Spital, 141  
 Maiden Stone, 110  
 Marchmont on the grole of the Garioch, 92  
 Marischal College motto, 139, 159, 179  
 Marischal College Portraits, 14  
 Marlow's "Faust," Aberdeen edition, 123  
 Martin (Emeritus Professor), his writings, 108  
 Martin (J.) on camps near Don Mouth & Boddam, 60  
 — on glacier marked stone, 46

Martin (J.) on origin of 'there's naething like leather,'  
 107  
 — on street lighting, 90  
 Mary (Queen) her portrait in Blairs College, 123, 142,  
 143, 175  
 Mason (C.) on William Duff, M.A., 140  
 Mayo (C. H.) on Gordon of Auchendolly, 179  
 Megray or Megram Fair, 160, 181  
 Menzies Family, 27, 45  
 Menzies (Sir Paul), tombstone of, 75, 90  
 Michie (J. G.) on new year rhymes, 163  
 Middletons of Aberdeen, 140, 181  
 Midmar Castle, 113  
 Milne (Alex. D.) on the scoring term 'love' 61  
 Milne (John) on Shakespeariana, 58  
 Milne, surname, 122  
 Milton, (Mass.) on Middletons of Aberdeen, 140  
 Moir (J.) on old words, 162  
 Moravian Churches, 183  
 Mormond on place names, 178  
 — on shinty game terms, 200  
 Mormond, white horse of, 60  
 Mowat (John), Founder, Old Aberdeen, 29, 107, 198  
 Munro (Alex. M.) on epitaphs &c. St Nicholas Church,  
 18, 38, 50, 69, 87, 101, 118, 133, 153, 172, 195  
 — on Aberdeen propinquity register, 6  
 — on title of provost, 183  
 Munro's (A. M.) Common Good of Aberdeen, 184, 202  
 Murray Lectures at King's College, 135, 155

## N.

N on the Gadle and the Garik, 124  
 Narrow Wynd, 14, 29  
 Nemo on "The hour when," &c., 76  
 Nepos, 139, 162  
 Neudos or Newdosk, parish of, 140, 164  
 New Spalding Club, 17, 90, 159, 184  
 New-Year rhymes, 140, 162  
 Nicol (James) printer, 151, 169  
 Nigg, Resurrectionists at, 58, 89  
 Nigg, S. Fithack of, 91, 109  
 Noble (John) on Inverness newspapers, 168, 191  
 Noll on meaning of Grole, 77

## O.

O (T. W.) on "the jewel print of your feet," 180  
 Ogilvie of Culvie, 76, 93  
 Old Deer, archaeological notes on, 9  
 — old valuation of parish, 42  
 Old name for drugs, 200  
 Old words, their meaning, 139, 162, 181  
 One Interested on John Gordon of Kirkhill, 91  
 "Orcauen" and "Gedanidie," 180  
 Ord Family, 179, 201  
 Oxengate, meaning of, 160, 182  
 Oy, meaning of, 139, 162

## P.

Patronymic on the surname Copland, 139  
 Personal Note, 187  
 Piper's News, 180  
 Pitnacaddell Psalms, 27  
 Place names, 45, 61, 122, 143, 178

Place names, Gaelic, 160, 181  
 Political state of Scotland in 1778, 28  
 Portmalmhock, legend of, 13  
 Pretender at Peterhead, 45, 161, 180  
 Printers, the Aberdeen, 162-173, 151, 169, 189  
 Propinquity Register of the Burgh of Aberdeen, 6  
 Provost, title of, 160, 183

Q.

Q on Independent Friends' Club, 28  
 Q on Marlow's "Faust," 123  
 Q (S. N.) on death of Alexander III. of Scotland, 77  
 Quarrying in last century, 75

R.

R on Aberdeen Grammar School, 141  
 R on Willie Godsmen, 142  
 R (A. McD.) on "Orcauen" and "Gedahidie," 180  
 — on surnames, 182  
 R (J.) on date of Thackeray's birth, 76  
 R (J., jr.) on Willie Godsmen, 142  
 R (W.) on John Gordon of Kirkhill, 141  
 Reader on "The jewel print of your feet," 77  
 Reek hens, 180  
 Reivik, 76  
 Resurrection in Cowie Kirkyard, 75  
 Resurrectionists at Nigg, 58, 89  
 Roadside Crosses, 45  
 Robertson (A. W.) on a bibliography of the North-Eastern district of Scotland, 81  
 Robertson's (Joseph) History of the Reformation in Aberdeen, 125  
 Robertson (Joseph and John), 160, 200  
 Robson (Jas.) on funerals, 200  
 Rosewell on Downie's slaughtering, 139  
 Rosie Anderson, 91  
 Rosmarchæum, 44  
 Ross (W. J. Calder) on Caledonian Ocean, 180  
 — on Auld Reekie, 201  
 — on old words, 181  
 — on oxengate, 183  
 — on Piper's News, 180  
 Rus in Urbis on Reek hens, 180  
 Ruskin on Local Architecture, 76

S.

S on Legg or Legge, 28  
 S (J.) on resurrectionists at Nigg, 89  
 — on roadside crosses, 45  
 S (J. W.) on Auld Reekie, 180  
 — on Gordon of Auchendolly, 201  
 S (W.) on a gipsy salutation, 181  
 — on S. Fithack of Nigg, 91  
 S Fithack of Nigg, history of, 91, 109  
 S Fithack's Nigg, belfry, 5  
 S Fotinus of Torry, 109  
 S Machar, genealogy, 91, 109  
 S Machar's Cathedral, stone effigies in, 104  
 S Machar, Patron Saint of Old Aberdeen, 66  
 S Maquhiggins, 92  
 S Nicholas Church and Churchyard, epitaphs in, 18, 38, 50, 69, 87, 101, 118, 133, 153, 172, 195  
 S Nicholas Church, stone effigies in, 104

S Nicholas Peal of Bells, 33  
 S Vigean's, Forfarshire, Church of, 82  
 Saints, patron, 139, 162  
 Scott (J. W.) on Souter Johnnie, 44  
 — on death of Alexander III., 44  
 — on surnames, 200  
 Scottish Notes and Queries, its object, 1, 187  
 Shakspeariana 'Merchant of Venice' 58  
 Shinty game terms, 200  
 Sim (G.) on Falcons at Finnan, 122  
 Skene's (W. F.) Family of Skene of Skene, 184  
 Society of Ancient Scots, 140  
 Song in the 'Heart of Midlothian,' 27, 61  
 Souter Johnnie, prototype of, 44, 77  
 Spital—derived from hospital? 123, 141, 142, 161, 164  
 — a misspelling? 76, 108, 109  
 Stage doctor, 44  
 Stalione on Downie's Slaughtering, 162  
 — on a gipsy salutation, 181  
 — on the Narrow Wynd, 29  
 Stalione e Torello on glacier-marked stone, 46  
 Stewart of Hisleside, 200  
 Stone circle at Dyce, Aberdeenshire, 65  
 Stone coffins at Coupar-Angus, 140  
 Stone coffins in East Church, Aberdeen, 60  
 — at Stonehaven, 15  
 Stone, Maiden, 110  
 Stone vase found at Westhall of Oyne, sculptured, 167, 197  
 Stonehaven, Druidic Circle, etc., near, 76  
 Stonehaven, discovery of stone coffins, 15  
 Street lighting, 90  
 Surnames, 160, 182, 200

## T.

T on Barbers' Society, 44  
 T on stage doctor, 44  
 T (J.) on "Cow the bent" 180  
 Taylor (W. L.) on Pitnacaddell Psalms, 27  
 Taylor's (William) Castles of Aberdeenshire, 46  
 Temple (W.) on successor to William de Irwyn, 60  
 Thackeray's birth, date of, 76  
 "The Deil cam' o'er Jock Webster," 200  
 "The hour when the stir and truth of dreams begin," 76, 141  
 "The jewel print of your feet," 14, 29, 45, 77, 180  
 "There's naething like leather," origin of the phrase, 107  
 Thumson's (James) Recollections of a Speyside Parish, 62  
 "To bear off the bell," meaning of, 122, 143  
 Trial for charming at Belhelvie, 120  
 Tumulus in Berryden, 15, 29

## U.

Universities, Aberdeen, at Fraserburgh and Peterhead, 108  
 University, Scottish, studies in the 17th century, 34

## W.

W on the pulpit notice of Communion, 179  
 W (A.) on S. Nicholas Peal of Bells, 33

W (W. H.) on patron saints, 139  
 Walker's (William) bards of Bon-Accord, 78  
 Whyt (Charles) painter, 14, 30, 56, 90  
 William the Lyon, portrait of, 31  
 Williams (A. M.) on preface to Bible, 161  
 Willow pattern, 45  
 Witchcraft, 106

## X.

X on William the Lyon's portrait, 31  
 Xerxes on passage in Tennyson, 14

## Z.

Zigzag on preface to Bible, 76  
 — on tumulus in Berryden, 15

## ILLUSTRATIONS.

✓ Belfry, Church of Nigg,.....to face page	5
✓ St. Nicholas Church, Aberdeen,.....	18
✓ The West Kirk Bell,.....	34
✓ Tombstone of St. Paul Menzies,.....	52
✓ Standing Stones of Dyce,.....	65
✓ Church of S. Vigeans, Arbroath,.....	82
✓ Dr. Liddel's Brass,.....	101
✓ Midmar Castle,.....	114
✓ Figure Panel, Garden Wall, Edzell Castle,.....	129
✓ Figure Panel, in N. Wall of Garden, Edzell Castle,.....	150
✓ Sculptured Stone Vase found at Westhill, Oyne,....	167
✓ Aumbry at Monymusk House,.....	188

# SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES

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## CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
NOTES:—	
Editorial, .....	1
Cauld Kail in Aberdeen, by C., .....	2
A Bibliography of Local Periodical Literature, by J. Malcolm Bulloch, .....	3
The Belfry of S. Fithack's (with Illustration), by William Kelly, .....	5
The Propinquity Register of the Burgh of Aberdeen, by Alex. M. Munro, .....	6
Archæological Notes on Old Deer, by W. Ferguson, .....	9
Antiquarian Notes on Leask, Parish of Slains, by James Dalgarno, .....	10
Twa Auld Stories about Kirk Seats, by J., ...	12
A Legend of Portmahomack, by Rev. Walter Gregor, Pitsligo, .....	13
Note from Stonehaven, .....	15
QUERIES:—	
Local Clubs and Lodges, by Dr. Gammack, ...	14
Meaning of the Billiard Term "Love," by W. B., .....	14
Passage from Tennyson's Maud, by Xerxes, ...	14
Tumulus or Mound in Berryden, Aberdeen, by Zigzag, .....	15
Marischal College Portraits, by P. J. Anderson, .....	14

ABERDEEN, JUNE, 1887.

THE object of *Scottish Notes and Queries* will be to establish literary relations between cultivated men and women.

Antiquaries, archæologists, artists, bibliographers, ecclesiologists, philologists, as well as scientists generally, may enjoy the give and take that these pages are designed to afford by freely communicating with each other on

those subjects most dear to them. If it should be argued that there is no lack now-a-days of such means of intercourse, we assent, with this demurrer, that within a very large area of us there is nothing quite analogous to what we aim at. Besides, it will be generally admitted that, for such purposes as ours, our daily journalism affords a somewhat doubtful medium — inconvenient and fugitive — for the embodiment of subject matter which ought to claim more than a mere passing interest.

Our title is comprehensive enough, but in a locality which counts itself traditionally rich in many departments of intellectual activity, and singularly rich in some, our *locale* is fortunate. And "the times are ripe," for, following the heritage of such names as Joseph Robertson, Cosmo Innes, John Hill Burton, and John Stuart, there is a large living constituency of those who have earned well-merited distinction in similar walks, as well as in philosophy, scholarship, criticism, and literary research, and a still larger school of young men who are in the thick of the fight, or but buckling on their armour. These are in turn environed by an ever-swelling chorus of enquiring, thoughtful readers, interested more or less in the topics germane to our main purpose, and to all these we freely open our friendly columns.

Outside these topics we shall have nothing to say, and shall have no opinions—neither religious nor political. Our regards will be chiefly towards the past,

"A link among the days, to knit  
The generations each to each,"

but our notion is, that no concern for either the past or the future is worthy unless it subserves present needs. On these lines we shall aim at the useful as well as the curious, and are quite willing that the measure of our usefulness be the measure of our survival.

We highly appreciate the sympathy of the valued few who have encouraged us thus far, and hopefully bespeak the support of a wider circle.

THE EDITOR.

### CAULD KAIL IN ABERDEEN.

A SONG, printed in 1776, begins—

“Cauld kail in Aberdeen  
And custocks in Strathbogie,  
And yet I fear they'll cook o'er soon,  
And never warm the cogie.”

Another song, perhaps more modern, but referred to by Burns as old, begins—

“There's cauld kail in Aberdeen  
And custocks in Strathbogie,  
Whare ilka lad maun hae his lass,  
But I maun hae my cogie.”

The first of these songs seems throughout its sixteen lines to be characterised by an incoherence and obscurity, such as may have arisen from its having been in the keeping of defective memories or in the hands of clumsy restorers. The second song, in all its forty lines, seems to have been either well preserved or very skilfully restored.

The first two lines of both songs have proved to possess a vitality which has enabled them to survive the songs themselves, and probably, over the world, there are millions of men who know these words but know nothing of the remainder of the lines.

“Cauld Kail in Aberdeen” has come to be a sort of proverb or catch-word, and a suitable salutation to an Aberdonian wherever he may be found. Unfortunately, however, it seems to have parted company with any application or meaning it may originally have had; or, if any meaning is attached to it, a sort of gentle sneer at the homely fare proper to Aberdeen in the olden time, seems to be attributed to it. I do not think that it originally inferred anything of this sort, but the contrary, whe-

ther it was a catch-word before the songs were composed, or whether it was first formulated in these songs.

Both in England and Scotland “Kail” seems from very ancient times to have been used as a metonymy for food generally, and good food too. Thus Harold, in answering some unreasonable pretensions of Canute the Great, says—“Does he alane ettle to eat all the kail of England”; and in the “Godly Sangs” it is said:—

“The Melrose monks ne'er wantit meal  
As lang 's their neighbours' lastit;  
The Monks o' Melrose made guid kail  
On Friday when they fastit.”

In more modern days the use of the word is illustrated in Burns's Earnest Cry and Prayer to the Scotch Representatives in the House of Commons, when he says—

“God bless your Honours a' your days  
Wi' soups o' kail and brats o' claes,”

and many other illustrations to the same effect; in particular we find that the “kail bell” was the familiar name for the call to dinner. “Kail” means primarily all the plants of the family, including curly kail and cabbage, or “bow kail,” but, as has been shown, it also means the cooked dishes, of which these plants formed a principal ingredient.

Whether any of the old cookery books tell how kail should be cooked I do not know, but Burns supplies the deficiency in his “Apostrophe to Scotch Drink” :—

“Whether thro' wimplin' worms thou jink,  
Or, richly brown, ream o'er the brink  
In glorious faem,”

where he sings—

“On thee aft Scotland chows her cood  
In souple scones, the wale o' food,  
Or tumblin' in the boilin' flood  
Wi' kail and beef,”

by which I humbly think that strong ale was poured into the boiling flood, before it was dished and served up.

Kail was a leading item also in the food of cattle. Hear Burns again in “The Ordination” —

“Now, auld Kilmarnock, cock thy tail,  
And toss thy horns fu' canty;  
Nae mair thoul't rowt out o'er the dale  
Because thy pasture 's scanty ;

For capfu's large o' gospel kail  
 Shall fill my crib in plenty,  
 And runts o' grace the pick and wale,  
 No gi'en by way o' dainty,  
 But ilka day."

Custocks and runts mean practically the same, namely, the stalks of the kail or cabbage plants. Some authorities say that the runt meant the entire stalk, and that the custock was the pith or core, but, according to my experience, a stalk was a custock whether it was in or out of the ground. As a cooked dish, however, I never heard them called runts. The custocks had a great deal of juicy sweetness to impart to the "boiling flood," and when thoroughly boiled they were handed round the circle at the kitchen fire, and being split up, the succulent core was eaten with salt and butter.

"Kail" then was a soup of the richest composition, and it is conceivable that "custocks" were as good as artichokes, so that neither of them were dishes of which Aberdeen or Strathbogie had need to be ashamed.

The quality of "cauld," however, requires examination, for those unacquainted with the subject are apt to class cauld kail with cold potatoes, pottage, or "sowens," for which nothing can be said in praise. Such classification, however, would be a great mistake, for, as a fact, cold kail, properly "exhibited," as the doctors say, that is, spread thickly on an oatmeal hannock, and well peppered, is a morsel no hungry man would despise. Therefore I say that originally the expression "cauld kail" may have been used to indicate an especially desirable dish, and could not have been used in a contemptuous sense.

There is room for another view of the matter. We are well acquainted with the sort of humour which leads a man when inviting his friends to a feast to minimise it, ostentatiously, calling a great spread a "family dinner," or "just a chop," or a luxurious supper, "an egg," or "a spelding;" and it is not improbable that, in the same view, the ancient Aberdonians may have at one time, and for a time, got into the habit of concluding their most hospitable invitations in the form of an offer of "cauld kail."

The song first quoted is too incoherent to be analysed, but the sentiment of the first stanza of the second song seems quite distinct. It means that Aberdeen with its cauld kail, and Strathbogie with its custocks, are comfortable and well off, and that the lads and lasses can marry when they like, but the writer was not to be content with mere plenty; he must have more than that—

"But I maun hae my cogie."

Having all these various considerations in view, I submit that the words forming the title of this note were used as an acknowledgment of the comfortable abundance and hospitable usages of Aberdeen and Strathbogie. I do not think that anything contrary to this conclusion can be drawn from the expression "cauld kail het again" as applied to an old sermon doing duty a second time. This phrase seems to me to savour of the present century, about the period of the nativity of the Free Church. I do not believe that any Scot of the Covenanting times would have likened a sermon he disapproved of to "cauld kail." "Cauld sowens," or "sautless pottage" are different.

Perhaps some one, versed in the literature of the Reformation, may be able to throw new light on this question.

C.

#### A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LOCAL PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

THAN periodical literature, no other form is at once so prolific and so ephemeral. Newspapers, magazines, reviews or journals, be they as brilliant as they may, are soon forgotten, destroyed, or lost. The daily newspaper fares worst. Every one knows that it contains the very materials from which history is made. Hundreds of thousands of readers look forward with mighty interest to their morning or evening paper, and yet, out of an edition of say twenty thousand, how many could be collected at the end of a week? Of a more handy size, and of greater permanent interest, the magazine runs a better chance of being preserved. We have all known the type of old gentleman whose ambition it was to preserve the *Gentleman's* or complete his



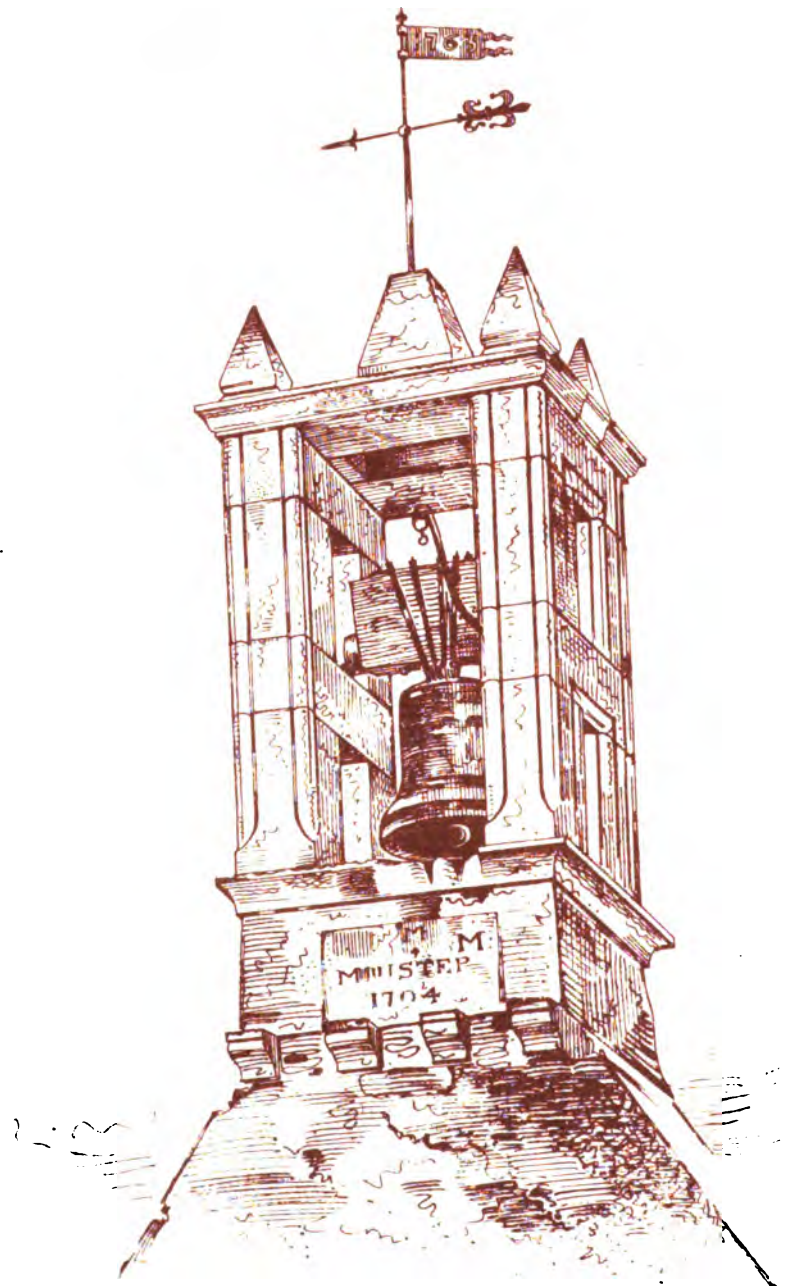
file of the *Scots Magazine*; and his modern counterpart, who, from a totally different point of view, preserves every item of local periodical literature he can lay his hands on, who binds them elegantly, and in a few years sells them at a ransom. But these are in the minority. In fact, it is to trading on his knowledge of how periodicals are destroyed that the latter solely owes his existence. Besides, this latter type has sprung up of very recent years, and there remains more than a hundred years of our periodical literature which has been very scantily preserved. It will thus be seen that the difficulty of making a complete bibliography of our local periodicals is immense. The following notes are an attempt in this direction, but they are necessarily incomplete. My best thanks are due to J. P. Edmond, Esq., but for whose ready assistance and large information these notes would have been very meagre indeed; as also to A. D. Morice, Esq., for access to his unique collection of local periodical publications. It is to be hoped that the readers of *Scottish Notes and Queries* may be able to add to the list or supplement the brief notes.

1623. Almanac. *A New Prognostication for the Year of our Lord God 1623. Being the third after Leap-Year. Serving most fillie for the Kingdome of Scotland and all partes of North Britlane, &c.* [Woodcut of large *Fleur de Lys.*] *Aberdene, Printed by Edward Raban, For David Melvill. 1623.* This is the first Aberdeen Almanac that is known, and although we have not direct trace of one every year after, yet there can be little doubt that there was not a break in the series, down to the days of Chalmers, by lineal descent as it were, through Brown, Forbes, Forbes the younger, and Nicol. Full particulars about these interesting Almanacs will be found in Mr. Edmond's *Aberdeen Printers*. In 1754 Francis Douglas issued an opposition Almanac to James Chalmers's.
1657. "*Weekly Diurnall*" is spoken of in this year, under date 29th July. From the Burgh Records we read—"The said day the counsell appoints a weekly diurnall to be sellit for the vse of the inhabitants, and John Forbes, stationer, to furnish the samen weekly, and appoints the deane of gild to pey the said John for the samen, wher-  
anent thir presents to be his warrant." (Extracts from the Records of the Burgh of Aberdeen, 1643—1747, p. 165.) In the Burgh Accounts we find the following entry:—"Item, peyit be the comptor to John Forbes, stationer, for fyften diornalls, at the magistrats ordor, four pund ten sh. (*Miscellany of the Spalding Club*, Vol. V.,

p. 181.) "Can this," asks Mr. Edmond (*Aberdeen Printers*, p. xxxv.), "have been the earliest newspaper published in Aberdeen?"

1745. "*News Schedules*" are mentioned as having been published by James Chalmers about this time. Writing in October, 1745, the Rev. James Bisset in his Diary (see *Miscellany of the Spalding Club*, Vol. 1, page 351), says that Chalmers had to flee for refusing to print any more of the rebels' declarations. "I am afraid," adds Bisset, "we shall have no more of his news schedules." Dr. Stuart in a foot-note, suggests that these were "probably handbills containing the news of the day." When they first appeared I cannot say, but it is not unlikely that they owed their existence to the interest in the '45 rising.
1746. They seem to have been revived, for in this year Chalmers issued a broadsheet with an account of the battle of Culloden.
1748. *Aberdeen Journal*. This is the first newspaper published north of the Forth. The first number, which was reprinted as a supplement to the *Aberdeen Journal* of January 12th, 1848, was called *The Aberdeen's Journal*, From Tuesday, December 29th, 1747, to Tuesday, January 5th, 1748. The imprint runs thus—"Printed and sold by James Chalmers and by Alexander Thomson, Bookseller. Subscriptions and Advertisements are taken in by James Leiper, Merchant, Alexander Thomson, Bookseller, and James Chalmers, Printer. Postages paid by the publishers." Beginning as a folio, price 2d., it has ranged to greater sizes, through all gradations of prices, from 2d. to 7d., from 7d. to ½d. in our own day, and from ½d. to 1d. Started by Chalmers, it was kept in that family for nearly one hundred and thirty years, and in 1876 it was acquired by the "Aberdeen and North of Scotland Newspaper and Printing Company Limited." On Friday, 25th August, 1876, the *Journal* became a daily paper, although the weekly edition still continues. The prospectus which the new Company issued, details the principles of the paper. "Holding fast by the distinct constitutional principles of Church and State, the conductors of the *Journal* will advocate whatever reforms may be found expedient in either, and on general questions they will speak out freely and without reserve, beyond such as is imposed by a sense of propriety, right feeling, and good taste." In 1884 a new limited liability company acquired the *Journal*, and this company still holds it. An interesting account of the *Journal* will be found in *The Selected Writings of John Ramsay, M.A., 1871.*
1752. *Aberdeen Intelligencer*. This weekly newspaper was started on 3rd of October, 1752, by Francis Douglas and William Murray. After running a few years it was, after the 22nd of February, 1757, incorporated with its more successful rival, the *Journal*.
1761. *The Aberdeen Magazine*. Started in the beginning of 1761. 8vo. This magazine appeared





~~Betty Bunch of Nigg~~  
William Kelly. del. 1887.

monthly till December from the press of Francis Douglas. Each number consists of 56 pages, and contains a good deal of interesting local gossip. It is the first magazine which appeared from the local press.

1770. In this year John Boyle is said to have published a weekly "which continued only for a year or two." But neither Wilson in his *Delineation of Aberdeen*, nor Ramsay, who evidently copies Wilson, names it. Was it called the *Intelligencer* (second)?
- 1785? *The Looking Glass* (?) I have seen a reference (I unfortunately forget where) to a paper of this name, but the date does not seem to be correct.
1786. *The Caledonian Magazine, or Aberdeen Repository*. Vol. I. [Motto.] Aberdeen: printed and sold by A. Leighton. From Friday, October 6, 1786, to Friday, October 5, 1787. 8vo. This is a totally different Magazine from the next publication of the same name.
1787. *The Northern Gazette; Literary Chronicle and Review*. Aberdeen: Printed by James Chalmers and Co. Numb. 1. Friday, April 6, 1787. Price Three Pence. 4to, 8 pp., to No. 39, Thursday, December 27, 1787. This paper has a newspaper-magazine character, most of the literary articles being copied from London periodicals of the period. While claiming a "high degree of impartiality" in politics, it smacks somewhat of the Tory, as became a magazine issued by the proprietors of the *Journal*. A series of letters runs through it, purporting to be the work of the editor, and signed by "Alexander the Corrector." Burdened by the hateful Stamp Duty, *The Northern Gazette*, like some of its successors, evaded the duty by becoming a monthly in the shape of *The Aberdeen Magazine*. For the discovery of this very rare periodical I have to thank my friend, Mr. Arthur King, Aberdeen.
1788. *The Aberdeen Magazine, Literary Chronicle and Review*. 8vo. January, 1788—December, 1791. Fortnightly, 32 pp. Printed by J. Chalmers & Co. Price 3d. 4 vols. The preface to vol. I states that "to support the Aberdeen Magazine on liberal, extended, and impartial principles is the open profession of the Editors." Besides some music and local gossip, it is a worthless production, characterised by the pomposity and sickly didactic writing of the period.
1788. *The Caledonian Magazine, or Aberdeen Repository*. Vol. I. for the year 1788. [Motto.] Aberdeen: Printed by A. Shirrefs, the Editor. Five volumes bring it down till 1790. It contains a good deal of local gossip, and especially the never failing "original poetry." The history of how there came to be two volume I.'s is given by Shirrefs in the preface to his *Caledonian Magazine*. Leighton, who took Shirrefs in as a partner in the first *Caledonian Magazine*, eloped, "his creditors seized his property, and a stop was put to the work." Shirrefs, finding that he was left with his erring partner's plant, resolved to

carry on the magazine. "He at first intended to have continued the *Caledonian Magazine*, but was afterwards persuaded to adopt the present plan as affording, at some expence, a more extensive field for literary knowledge and amusement." No. I. appeared in January, 1788. Price 6d. 8vo.

1796. *The Aberdeen Magazine or Universal Repository*. 8vo. June, 1796—1798. Monthly, 52 pp. 3 vols. Printed by Burnett & Rettie, Netherkirkgate. It contains, among other local matter, an "Old paper concerning Aberdeenshire clergy," and a Life of Dr. Liddel.
1802. *The Intruder*. To No. XXVI., Friday, Oct. 22, 1802. Price 1½d. 8vo. Printed by J. Burnett, Aberdeen. Written almost entirely by the late Charles Winchester.
1804. *The Inquirer, a periodical paper*. Published at Aberdeen, from December 5, 1804, to March 13, 1805. 8vo. Printed for Wm. Gordon by J. Burnett. Only 15 numbers were published of this weekly, 8 pp. each. It contains some Anti-quarian jottings, while retaining the character of a journal.
1806. *Aberdeen Chronicle*. No. I. Thursday, October 9, 1806. Printed by Alex. Aberdein and Co., Netherkirkgate, where, and at the shop of Burnett and Carlier, Head of Marischal Street, Orders, etc., and Letters may be addressed. The first number was gratis, and its opening remarks inform the public that the editors have "declared themselves uninfluenced by any Motives of Party, and that they shall at all Times study to promulgate Truth and that impartially." This weekly varied in price from 6d., 6½d., to 7d. Some years after its start it passed into the hands of "John Booth, jun., Chronicle Street." The last number appeared on Saturday, 25th August, 1832, the *Aberdeen Herald* succeeding it. "The arrangements connected with this change," says the farewell speech of the *Chronicle*, "have been made with our full concurrence."

J. MALCOLM BULLOCH.

(To be continued.)

## THE BELFRY, S. FITHACK'S, NIGG.

AN open stone belfry is a common and characteristic feature of our Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century churches.

The Nigg belfry is a good example of these picturesque 'bits'; but others, of as great interest, are to be found at Dyce, Inch, Tullynessle, Pitsligo, Drumoak, and Fetteresso. They belong to a period commencing at about 1620 and extending considerably over a century. In general structure and size they resemble each other closely, but in the design of the non-essential parts they

shew great variety and freedom. The individual character of each belfry is, to a great extent, obtained by the treatment of the roof. Here the fancy of the builders had free scope; and the results are, without exception, admirable.

These belfries are usually western; but at Nigg, with good reason, the belfry is placed on the eastern gable, towards the Bay. The long wrought-iron finial, the strongly defined north-point, and the quaint pennon give that nautical air which we feel a seaside church should have.

The pennon is dated 1763; and on the die of the belfry is inscribed—

[?] M  
 [?] ♦ M  
 MINISTER  
 1704

On the bell itself is the following inscription:—

IN U[S]UM ECCLESIÆ DE  
 NIGG  
 IOHN MOWAT OLD ABD.  
 ME FE 1759  
 SABATA PANGO  
 FUNRA PLANGO

The ornaments and lettering of the bell are sharp and well defined, and beautifully modelled. The topmost band consists of a series of fleur-de-lys; below is the inscription, which occupies a circumference and a half. The other half-circumference is filled with a running foliated ornament, somewhat like a Gothic cresting; below, a band of the same ornament, inverted, finishes the belt.

These letters and ornaments have probably been modelled or cast in wax, and affixed to the wax-finished mould of the bell with little brads or pins, which shew in the casting. In this respect the appearance of the new S. Nicholas' Bells is precisely similar. The diameter of the Nigg bell is 1' 5¼" at the rim,

and the pitch of its note about G. The profile and moulding, though of the usual type, want the refinement of the bells of M. van Aerschodt.

The bell is hung to the wooden stock by vertical iron bands, with eyes at the lower ends passed over hooked horizontal bars, which go through the north and south *double* ears of the crown, and at the top passed through the eyes of bars parallel to those below the stock, and fixed with screwed nuts. The Bells of S. Nicholas are now being hung to the oak beams in exactly the same way. The Nigg bell has, however, additional straps, similar to the others, passing through the east and west *single* ears of the crown of the bell.

Perhaps it may seem strange to compare the home-made bell of a ruinous seaboard church with the great bells of the city peal; but they are one and all examples of the Arts of the Middle Ages, which lingered on with us until the middle of last century, and which still survive, along with much else of the middle ages, in the Low Countries.\*

When we examine such things the middle ages seem to have overlapped and come very near us, and we regret that we have just missed being of them.

We should like to know something more of John Mowat and his foundry at Old Aberdeen.

WILLIAM KELLY.

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#### THE PROPINQUITY REGISTER OF THE BURGH OF ABERDEEN.

THIS Register, which is in the archives of the Burgh, consists of four books, and embraces a period of one hundred and sixty years, viz., from 1637 to 1797.

By means of a bundle of draft "briefs" and the Council Registers, however, this period can be greatly extended, as it would appear that previous to 1637 these attestations

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\* The new peal of bells is in many respects thoroughly mediæval. Perhaps the only thing about the bells which gives the impression of Revival, as distinct from *survival*, is the character of the lettering and running ornaments. But essentially, the bells, the bell frames, and the mechanism are mediæval.

of propinquity were engrossed in the Baillie Court books.\*

The title generally given to the Register is scarcely correct, for although the larger portion of the contents consists of entries recording propinquinities, yet there are others which have not the slightest connection with such matters. The books were evidently open for recording depositions made before the Magistrates from whatever cause.

An analysis of the contents goes to show that the entries in the Register may be appropriately divided under the following four heads:—

1. The requests made by applicants before the Magistrates for a "Birth Brieve," and the evidence of the witnesses they bring forward to support their claims. The method of procedure is well represented in the selection of extracts taken from the first volume of the Register and printed by the Spalding Club in the fifth volume of the Miscellany of that Club.
2. This class is intimately connected with the preceding, and relates to the official appointments of "actors, factors and doers" for parties in this country wishing to realise the effects of relatives dying abroad. These "procurators" are commissioned "to medle, intromitt with, uptacke and receive goods, gear and debts."
3. Depositions as to Shipping, which mainly consist of two classes of entries, the first relating to the loss of vessels or of damage to goods by stress of weather, and the second the evidence adduced as to the amount of ransom paid to the French privateers who had seized on some luckless merchantman journeying between Aberdeen and the various ports of the Continent.

As a specimen of this latter class take the following entry:—

"25 October, 1705.—In presence of Baillie Gordon compeared, John Burnet and Alexr. Charles, Merchants in Aberdeen, and being solemnly sworne: De-

pones that the ransome payed in France for the Ship the Anna of Pitenweem, wherof Alex. Dalyell is master, amounted to, when payed in France, to fyve thousand and nyntie four livers, and this is the truth as they shall anser to God, which is conform to the Factor's account sent in.

(Signed) JOHN BURNETT, Jr.  
ALEX. CHARLES."

4. Depositions made as to the quantities of salmon and pork cured, evidently made with reference to the duty imposed on the salt used in curing and packing these articles. These entries are confined to the latter volumes of the Register.

Besides these entries of the general character indicated above, there are many others of a special character scattered through the books, such as that recorded under date 3rd September, 1712. As this interesting piece of local history has never, so far as I am aware, appeared in print, I give the entry *in extenso*:—

"Compeared John Anderson and John Pratt, shyp-masters in Aberdeen, and John Smith, one of the Toune Officers of Aberdeen, and being solemnly sworn, deponed that upon Fridday last, in the forenoon, ther coming a ship out of the sea into the road of Aberdeen, with a flagg upon her toppmasthead, and fying a gunne, and she being discovered to be a French privateer. The deponents, by order of the Magistrats of Aberdeen, upon and of the foresaid signall, and the cessation of arms being proclaimed both for sea and land at London and France, went and called for one of the boats of Footie, in the suburbs of Aberdeen. And therein went aboard of the said privateer in the road of Aberdeen, haveing then her said flagg displayed upon the said topmast-head. And after they went aboard demanded of the Captain of the privateer what he wanted, seeing he hade putt out and made the foresaid signalls, who without answering anything except that it wes for his ransoms, ordered the deponents to his cabine, and told them they were his prisoners of warr, and would not permitt them to goe ashoar againe aboard of their own boat, except that they would ransome. And the deponents haveing told him severall tymes that they hade come aboard of him by order of the saids Magistrats, and upon the faith of the said signall, that therefor, and in respect of the cessation of arms as said is (a proclamation whereof by her Matie. Queen Anne they produced and delivered to him, and which he kept) They would not ransome. Yet, nevertheless, he told the deponents that he had no regard thereto, and would not suffer them to goe ashoar againe without they would ransome. So that he carried them to sea, and detained them untill the Sabbath day thereafter in the afternoon that the Deponents and Captain of the said privateer entered in a communing anent the said ransome, so that for ther liberation and urgent bussens ashoar they were

\* Shortly before this the record of admission of Burgesses of Guild and Trade, which had previously been kept in the Council Books, was transferred to a separate Register, which begins in 1632.

forced to agree with the Captain of the said privateer for one hundred and ten pund Sterling money of ransom, conform to the ransom brief subsect. by them and Lewis de Villay, Captain Commander of the said privateer, the Neptun of Calis, of four mounted guns, and about sixty men. And also Depons that they agreed with John Moorison, sailler in Alloway, who wes a ransomer aboard the said privateer, to be hostage for them for their ransome, and that thereafter, about ten o'clock at night, upon the said Sabbath day the said privateer putt the deponents ashore upon the Island of May in the South Firth; and the deponents heard the Captain of the said privateer desyre his boat's crew, who brought them ashore, to bring him off two shep off the said Island. And depons that they did see his said crew take four shep off the said Island, and carry them aboard. And that the said Island is the place where the Light Hous is in the entry to the Firth of Forth, otherways called the river of Edinburgh. And this is the truth."

Another special entry is that on the 17th July, 1652, when an English vessel, which had stranded on the sands at "Newburghe" was sold by public auction. The entry consists of an extract of the Admiralty Court, held in that place.

The mode of procedure adopted by a person wishing to obtain a "Bore Brief" was to make a statement before the Magistrates of their claim, and then call two or more witnesses, who are generally described as "honourable and famous men," to depone as to what they knew in the matter of the propinquity existing between the several parties.

Of the genealogical value of these "briefs" Cosmo Innes says,\* "They were used at first to deceive foreigners ignorant of Scotch pedigrees, and have been the fertile source of error at home, after length of time had rendered it difficult to correct their mis-statements. Deceitful as such documents usually are, they occasionally furnish the most valuable information of events near their own date, and which there could be no object in mis-stating." While these remarks apply in a more or less degree to several of the "briefs" in this register by far the greater number of the depositions are made in the personal knowledge of the parties testifying and consequently their value is such that the genealogist of the North-Eastern Counties cannot afford to overlook them.

The material value of the "birth brieve" was in some cases considerable, endowing as it did the holder with an official acknowledgment of his being next-of-kin to a deceased relative who by his commercial transactions in the Low Countries had left something worth succeeding to.

The statements made by the various witnesses are often highly interesting as proving the very close relations which existed between the various classes of the community, while they occasionally give us glimpses of facts which are instructive from a historical point of view. They tell us of the state of trade between this port and the Continent, they speak of the effects of the press-gang, and they shew us the "Scot-abroad" making his way in Sweden, the Low Countries, and the West Indies, as the successful merchant and the prosperous planter.

The form of the "birth brieve" was regulated in great measure by the nature of the claim set up by the party applying for it, but the following is a specimen form which was that granted in simple cases where the "brief" did not extend further than proving the applicant to be of honest parentage:—

"Know all men by these presents, particularly those whom it may concern .....  
 "That Mr. ....of.....appeared before  
 "us the Mayor, Aldermen, and Magistrates  
 "for the time being of the City of Aberdeen in  
 "Council assembled, and in name for vse and  
 "behoof of [James Gray], born in this our  
 "City of Aberdeen as appears by the Parish  
 "and Church Registers, on or about the.....  
 "day of.....16.....requested and sought  
 "of us a Certificate of the Birth and parentage  
 "of the said [James Gray], and for that purpose  
 "produced to Credible Witnesses vizt., N. N.,  
 "aged.....years, and N. N., aged.....years, or  
 "thereabouts both living and dwelling in the  
 "City of Aberdeen [here if you please may  
 "describe their professions or callings].  
 "Who upon Oath here before us declared and  
 "witnessed that to their perfect knowledge He  
 "the said [James Gray] afore-said was born  
 "and brought up of Christian, honest, and  
 "worthy parents in the State of Matrimony,  
 "true and legitimate, and noman's slave. His  
 "Father having been....., and his Mother

\*Sketches of Early Scotch History, p. 212.

".....so that no doubt can remain of such his honest Birth and unblameable parentage. In Testimony whereof wee can't refuse to Grant this our Authentick and Magisteriall Attestation, and the Great Seal of this City, sending Greeting, and recommending the said [James Gray] unto all men in full credit to pass into all places unhindered, and to be admitted in all Guilds, Imploys, Corporations, and Communitys, as one of honest birth and unblameable parentage. In Witness whereof wee have hereunto affixed our City Seal under the Subscription of our Town Clarke. Granted and done in Aberdeen, ye.....day of.....one thousand....."

It is to be observed that the above Certificate is said to be sealed with the Common Seal, while the earlier "briefs" bear to have been granted and sealed under the "privie" seal, or as it is sometimes called, the "secret" seal of the burgh.

ALEX. M. MUNRO.

#### ARCHÆOLOGICAL NOTES ON OLD DEER.

THE parish of Old Deer, lying some twenty to thirty miles to the North-East of Aberdeen, presents many very interesting archæological features. The village in which the church is situated, lies nearly in the centre of the parish, and some half-a-mile from it, beautifully placed on the banks of the Ugie, are the remains of the Cistercian Monastery of Deer. Beside the parish church are some vestiges of an older ecclesiastical building, which had stood probably on the site originally occupied by the earliest church structure of all, the mud-built cells of Columba, and his disciple, Dros-tan. These carry the reflective mind back very far, but there are other remains of frequent occurrence in the parish which go far beyond them in antiquity. A little beyond the Abbey ruins, which are on the left bank of the stream, there is an open space or common, on the right bank, called Aiky Brae, a name supposed to preserve the memory of a time when the whole slope was covered with a forest of oaks, in whose dark recesses the so-called Druids performed their religious

rites. About the beginning of the present century, the rough and uncultivated ground was of much greater extent than now, and towards the bottom of the hollow, near where the Railway passes, there were a number of Erd-houses, or earth dwellings, indicating the site of a village or settlement of early inhabitants, all traces of whom have now disappeared. From this hollow, Aiky Brae sloped upwards with a pretty rapid ascent and to a considerable height, and slightly to the South-West, separated by a slight depression, is the hill of Parkhouse, a rounded knoll, visible from great distances all round. On the apex of this high rising ground stands what till very lately was an almost perfect so-called Druidical Circle, known in common tongue as The Standing Stones. Several of the great monoliths still preserve their upright position, and several have fallen and lie as they fell. A low wall of small loose stones connects the standing stones, and on one side is a very ponderous stone, usually called The Altar. It rests on other large stones, and forms a great table, some seventeen feet in length. All around outside the circle there are small cairns or groups of stones, but the spot was many years ago planted with trees, and these are now so much grown, and so thick, as to prevent the *entourage* of the circle being easily made out. The circle itself is clear of trees, and when one comes on it, through the surrounding thicket, it has a weird and solemn aspect. Some years ago the enclosed area was carefully examined to a considerable depth, for the purpose of ascertaining whether it had ever been used as a place of sepulture, but no evidence of this was procured. The soil had clearly been unmoved. Excavations were made in some of the cairn-crowned spots outside, but no traces of burial were anywhere found. The old Druidical circle of Parkhouse is an interesting spot to visit on a fine summer day. As the visitor ascends the slope of Aiky Brae and looks back, a lovely view is obtained of the house of Pitfour, with the beautiful lake in front of it. The ruins of the Abbey lie below. To the right the dome of Aden is seen among the trees, and close to it the tower, and spire of the parish church (copied from the Cathedral at Dunblane) rises into the air.



There are many other similar relics in the parish, though none so complete as Park-house. Attention may be called to some of these in future issues of *Scottish Notes and Queries*.

W. FERGUSON.

#### ANTIQUARIAN NOTES ON LEASK, PARISH OF SLAINS.

THE old Chapel of Leask stands in the middle of a plantation of firs and alder. An ever-flowing rivulet, supplemented by a rill from the Chapel Well, half enclosing it from the south side, makes it altogether a pleasant picture. The original well was diverted from its site by a drain leading to the road towards Pitlurg House, the seat of Mr. Gordon of Parkhill and Dyce.

Tradition says the Chapel was erected in the Sixth or Seventh Century, but some Antiquaries have considered that perhaps the end of the Thirteenth or beginning of the Fourteenth Century would be nearer the date of its erection. It was dedicated to St. Adamnan of Iona, and is exactly of the same size, and stands in the same position, as the old Chapel of Forvie, from which it is distant four miles due north. The font is octagonal in shape and in fine preservation. It was removed many years ago to the manse garden, Slains. One gable has a fine Gothic arch, nearly entire. Upwards of thirty years ago some vandals stripped the walls of their coating of ivy, which has detracted very much from their former appearance. The walls are three feet thick, and are evidently built of rough, unhewn stones, as they have been gathered from the fields, with the exception of some sea-stone pavement of the same kind as that used in the construction of the tower of old Slains Castle, for the square work of doors, windows, bars, and wall presses or aumbries. There are a good many blocks of old red sandstone, still having a firm hold of the lime, which exhibit the effects of the frosts of many centuries.

In the Miscellany of the Spalding Club, Vol. II., page 261, there is published a curious bond of manrent:—"Witnessing me, Jhon Cheyne of Esselmont, till be bundyn

and oblist, and to be becumyn men and servand to my Lord of Erroll for all the days of myne lyf, myne allegeans acceptit allenarly to our Soverane Lord and Kyng. Dated at the Chapell of Lask, the IX. day of Septembir, the yer of God a thousand four hundredth nyntie and nine yeris. Befor thir witnesses, Wilyam Hay of Ardendracht, Mastir Alexander Cabell, Parson of Banchory, and Gylbert Hay."

We are indebted to the late General Gordon of Pitlurg, who inherited the antiquarian taste of his ancestors, for preserving this fine old ruin, by having it walled in and planted with trees. His servant, John Leith, used to relate many spectral stories about the Chapel and its surroundings, but the "shades of the departed" were for ever laid at rest after the General's orders were fully carried out. In laying out the ground John came upon a stone, partly dressed, measuring four feet long by two and a-half broad, with what he said was an *unreadable inscription*, which may be still within the walls.

The burial ground attached to the Chapel had extended considerably beyond its bounds, as more than once graves have been discovered on part of the adjoining farm when draining, and rich crops of corn and grass grow over the place where

"The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep."

Many generations have passed away since those who ministered to, or sat in judgment on their fellow-mortals, were buried within these walls, and their mouldering bones wasting within the narrow bounds.

It would be interesting to the archæologist to have the ground floor of the Chapel exposed, as we should probably thus learn the mode of sepulture adopted, and arrive at the probable age of the building.

The late Mr. Jervise, F.S.A. Scot., says:—"The surname of Leask, which is still common in Aberdeenshire, has probably been assumed from these lands, and possibly the ruins are those of a place of worship which had been built for the old lairds of Leask and their retainers." The old name of Leask, now Pitlurg, was first changed to "Gordon Lodge" about 160 years ago.

About a mile to the north-west from the

old Chapel is what is known by the name of the Poll-hill of Leask. On the highest point is a green mound, resembling a ship with the keel uppermost, and measuring upwards of 90 feet by 32. It terminates in a point at both sides. Dr. Wilson, in his "Pre-historic Annals," says—"This form of barrow, occasionally found in Scotland, probably owes its origin to the Northmen, who invaded and colonized our coasts at the close of the Pagan period." Be this as it may, an investigation of the contents of this long standing memorial, would no doubt prove its sepulchral character. The late General Gordon had this curious mound walled in, and planted with trees for its preservation. The site, which was a favourite haunt, he called his "Observatory." Contiguous to the Poll-hill there were numerous cairns and knolls, which were erased during cultivation, seventy years ago. Much that would have been of interest to the Archæologist, in the shape of urns, stone celts, and balls, were broken up, and used for road-making purposes. In proof of this, fragments of pottery and wrought stones have been exhumed in cutting the roads for the inlet of drains, and forming small bridges.

Upwards of sixty years ago there was another prominent mound on the farm of Bogbrae, known as the Elfin-knap, of which many weird stories are still told. It was demolished in the process of reclaiming part of the farm, and in clearing away the turf from the top and sides, four stone pillars, upwards of four feet high, supporting slabs of stone, serving the purpose of a roof, were discovered. A large stone battle-axe was found in the bottom, embedded among charcoal, probably the war-axe and ashes of the chief whose interment the mound had been raised to commemorate. During the months of March and April, 1877, five stone battle-axes and a stone ball were found in this neighbourhood, within a radius of a mile and a-half. Three of these were discovered by a lad on the farm of Bogbrae. He found the smallest one in a cairn of stones, carted from the farm to be broken into road metal, and believing that there might be more on the same ground, he searched for and got other two, and also a stone ball.

Sir John Lubbock, in his "Pre-historic Times," page 78, says—"Of the better qualities of rock suited for celt-making, the type of the felspathic extreme of the series of trap rocks is the pure felstone, of a pale blueish or grayish green." This quotation probably describes the kind of stone of which two of the above are formed. The third is perhaps composed of a kind of iron-stone. It is rudely fashioned, and may belong to the early stage of weapon manufacture. The site on which they were found is high, and about three-fourths of a mile west from the moss of Lochlundie. The soil is thin and has a rocky bottom. It has been under cultivation for some time, and the markings on two of the axes indicate that they have been in contact with the implements of husbandry. Curiously enough, about the same time another lad found a very peculiar axe of porphyry. About three-fourths of it is rugged and knotty, and well adapted for being inserted in a handle. It was found in a mossy hollow, where there is the indication of the former existence of a forest; but the weapon had been formed and wrought long anterior to the time when the poet sang, "Woodman, spare that tree"! The same lad found, in cutting a drain near to the moss of Lochlundie, a very finely formed axe, of a species of small-grained granite, which measures in length eleven inches, and weighs four and a-half pounds. Mr. Hay,\* Moss Farm, Leask, on hearing of this wonderful "find," contributed to it another fine axe, which had been in possession of the family for thirty years, thus making six found within a very limited range. There are not many districts within the same compass where so many ancient implements have been found.

The battle fields of Harlaw and Culloden have their relics turned up every now and then by the spade and the plough, in the shape of broken dirks, claymores, and flintlocks. The battle field of Leask, also, has its relics, and though unrecorded, these six axes and stone ball are probably memorials of warlike deeds enacted it may be more than twenty centuries ago.

J. DALGARNO.

\* Mr. Hay is in possession of a barbed arrow-head of pure agate, found in this locality. It is as sharp as a lancet.

### TWA AULD STORIES ABOUT KIRK SEATS.

IN old times there were no seats in the churches unless the worshippers brought them. By a request or petition to the Magistrates and Council, the inhabitants were allowed to build pews or dasks or table seats, while the public bodies, such as the Advocates or Lawyers, the Litsters, the Bakers, Hammermen, and other of those forming the Incorporated Trades were allowed to build lofts, for their own particular use as worshippers. This liberty, however, did not give them in the least a vested right to the space the seats, pews, or lofts occupied. At this period no seat-rents were exacted; the sitter who had built his seat sat rent free. In the course of time the Magistrates and Council saw the necessity of making a charge for the church seats. Of course there was opposition, principally by the Incorporated Trades. A Head Court of the Town was called for and held on the 15th February, 1701, at which the Magistrates made the proposal to farm "the hail dasks in both churches." This was protested against by William Douglass, Convener of the Trades, and by Mr. William Alexander of Auchmull. The Magistrates were advised to think over the matter, and report to next Head Court. This war of seat renting or stenting continued for nearly fifty years, and I think the Trades carried the case to the Court of Session. In the year 1741 they disposed all the seats, lofts, and dasks to the Magistrates, and agreed to pay the same as other people.

There is one case that shows the persistence of some people. In the year 1749 the Master of Kirkwork represented to the Council that Isobel Skene, a daughter of James Skene, Merchant in Aberdeen, had been the cause of great annoyance in the New Church (*i.e.*, the old East Church), and had been so for many years, and would not allow the people to whom the Master of Kirkwork had let the seats to possess them, as she held that they belonged to her, having probably been built by her father or grandfather. The Council, to prevent further disturbance with her, ordains the Master of Kirkwork to cause take out the seats to which the said Isobel

Skene pretends property, and to send them to her, and to cause build new seats in their room, which he is to rent as the other seats in the Church. And in respect the said Isobel Skene is *dull of hearing*, and also de-pauperit (a very poor person), appoints the Master of Kirkwork present and to come to provide her with a seat in the latron gratis.

In May, 1741, the Magistrates and Council thought "that it would adorn and beautify the New Church of the Burgh" if the lofts "therein were brought forward between the pillars on each side of the said church, and new lofts made where the same are wanting." This was done in consequence of the Traids having disposed to the Council "the hail seats and lofts erected at different times by the said Traids"; and there is little doubt they were of different designs, the expense to be paid out of the treasury charge, and Wm. Chrystal to execute the said work. This improvement caused them some trouble, as by the alteration of the lofts, from the fronts being brought further forward, it was found "the stool of repentance, as it formerly stood, was eclipsed from the pulpit by one of the lofts, so that there was a necessity of removing the said stool of repentance to another convenient place of the church, where the trespassers can be seen by the Minister." "The Magistrates, finding there was a void place betwixt the Sailors' Loft and west gavell of the New Church, they caused fix the stool of repentance there; and notwithstanding its being done by the Magistrates' authority, yet the Shipmasters had presumed (without making any proper remonstrance to the Magistrates or Council) to put up a large board on Saturday night last, before the stool of repentance, of purpose to eclipse the same from the view of the pulpit, as they themselves acknowledged, under pretence that they had an Act of Council for building their loft, and that the repentance stool could not be put up in that place." "The Magistrates find that the Act in favour of the sailors gives them a tolerance to erect a loft in the west end of the New Church for their accommodation, yet this gives them no property in the church"; that the Magistrates and Council may dispose of any void and open place in the church for any proper purpose they may think conveni-

ent; "and find that the Shipmasters putting up the foresaid large board at their own hand, with the design to eclipse the view of the stool of repentance from the pulpit, was a contempt of the Magistrates' authority and an insult on the dignity of the office." "The Shipmasters appear to take it as a great affront that it was put up in the foresaid place, so near their loft." The Council "considered it an affair of very little importance to make a division and keep up any heats in town about, therefore, in order to preserve peace and unanimity in town, and to avoid any debate about a matter of so small moment, the Council recommend the Magistrates to remove the stool of repentance, and to commune with the Ministers how far one stool of repentance is sufficient, which, if they agree to, then that none be put up in the said church, and that if they insist to have" one in the New Church, that it be put up in a place where it will be least offensive to the congregation. Provost Robertson and Alexander Aberdein dissented from the above Act, and in case of any process being commenced by the sailors with regard to the same, or the imprisonment of George Buchan, that the Magistrates may be only liable in damages and expense of the process, having acted without the concurring power of the Council, without which they could not legally act in the matter. The sailors gained their point, and the stool was relegated to the dark passage on the ground floor which passed from the south door to the north door at the west end of the church. Immediately above this passage was a loft, very dark; above this, at no great height, was the Sailors' Loft, which was well lighted, having above it a narrow strip of a loft near the roof, which was used by the sexton, Peter Carr, and the bell-ringers. The entry to it was from the bell-chamber. The entry to the first, as well as the Sailors' Loft was by a staircase at the south door of the church, as you entered on your left hand. A step or two up there was built into the wall "a holy-water stone," a drawing of which is in the Advocates' Library, among the interesting collection of drawings formed by Logan, the author of "The Scottish Gael."

J.

## A LEGEND OF PORTMALHOMACK.

THE following beautiful legend was told me not long ago by a native of Portmalhomack: In days long past, one morning early, a man, named Campbell, strayed down to the sea beach to the spot where the harbour now is. He saw a mermaid in the water. He gave pursuit and caught her. She struggled hard to get free, but her captor was too strong for her and held her fast. She then had recourse to pleading. Campbell at last consented to let her go on three conditions. The three conditions were:—

I. That there should never be a broken wave in the pool in which she was caught. II. That not one of his descendants should ever be drowned. III. That his descendants should always have plenty of this world's goods.

I. The pool in which the mermaid was caught is now the harbour of Portmalhomack, and it is a fact, according to observation, that a broken wave has never been seen in the harbour. No matter how high the wave may be, the moment it strikes the outside head of the pier it falls flat. II. So far as known not a single descendant of Campbell has been drowned, though many of them have followed the occupation of fisherman or sailor. A good many years ago a ship was wrecked in the Bay of Aberdeen, and all on board perished with the exception of one man, whose mother's name was Campbell, and a descendant of the Campbell who caught the mermaid. He was unable to swim, and had to float well nigh an hour before being picked up by the life-boat. III. Those who have sprung from Campbell have never been known to be in pinched circumstances, but have enjoyed a fair competence. One of them said to the mother of my informant, that when she changed a pound note, the silver seemed to grow in her purse.

I am making a collection of the Riddles that used to be common round the fireside as amusements during the winter evenings. Will those who know any kindly give me help? In writing them, give them as spoken, and always go on the supposition that I have not yet got them. Give the district from which they come.

WALTER GREGOR,  
PITSLIGO, FRASERBURGH.

## MARISCHAL COLLEGE PORTRAITS.

IN Marischal College Hall hangs a portrait of the founder of the College Library—Dr. Thomas Reid, "Secretary to his Majesty [James VI.] for the Latine Tongue," and grand-uncle to his more famous namesake. Reid died in 1624. From the College Accounts it appears that this portrait is a copy made in 1707 by Charles Whyt? Who was Charles Whyt, and where is, or was, the original painting which he copied?

When the Hall of old Marischal College was built, about 1700, there seems to have been a praiseworthy desire to adorn it with portraits of eminent alumni or benefactors; and several were painted or purchased, actually at the expense of the Senatus. The head of Robert Gordon of Straloch is one of Whyt's copies, as shown by his account (paid 8th August, 1707), which has been preserved:—

" Item, ffor painting of Strathloch's	<i>Lib. Sh.</i>
picture,.....	10 0
Item, ffor horse hyre to Strathloch,	0 16
Item, ffor horse hyre back to Strath-	
loch with the picture,.....	0 16"

The late Professor Knight, in his MS. "Marischal College Collections," (written about 1840,) gives many details regarding the College pictures. He speaks of other two portraits in the Hall as Whyt's work:—

Dr. Patrick Sibbald, Professor of Divinity, 1681-1697; and

Mr. Robert Low, Postmaster, Dantzic, a benefactor about 1700.

An unfortunate result of the neglect with which, till recently, the University pictures were treated, is that these two portraits have been allowed to drift into the group of "Unknowns." Their identification is much to be desired.

The Catalogue of Marischal College pictures given in the *University Calendar* is by no means accurate. Thus the fine head of Bishop William Forbes is not mentioned, though undoubtedly in Jameson's style; while the portrait of Bishop Patrick Forbes is erroneously attributed to that painter. Another unnamed picture can, there is every reason to believe, be identified as that of Dr. William Johnston, the first Professor of Mathematics. It, also, seems to be a genuine

Jamesone. A portrait of Bishop Patrick Scougal as a man of middle age, is entered as being one of his son Henry, who died in his 28th year.

P. J. ANDERSON.

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**Queries.**

NOTE.—*Each paragraph, containing one or more Queries, will receive a consecutive number, to which Correspondents may conveniently refer.*

[1.]—LOCAL CLUBS AND LODGES.—Can any of your correspondents give me information, or a clue for search, regarding a club that is said to have existed in Aberdeen about the end of last century? It was called the "Independent Friends Club." I am unable to give anything beyond the name, and even the terms of it I am unable to define.

[2.]—Will some of your local archaeologists favour us with a few notes upon the history of the many Societies and Lodges that seem to have flourished in Aberdeen about the beginning of this century? These belonged to the Masons, Gardeners, Barber and Wigmakers, &c. Where was the Narrow Wynd, which gave its name to one of these Societies? Who is now the official collector of the "Bishop's Rents?"

JAMES GAMMACK.

[3.]—MEANING OF THE BILLIARD TERM "LOVE."—"How does the game stand, marker?" "Fifteen, *love*." Can any of your philological friends explain the word *love*, as used by the billiard-marker? I have an egg in the nest which looks like the "real potato," but I shall not hatch it until some of your readers have time to cogitate. W. B.

[4.]—PASSAGE FROM TENNYSON'S "MAUD."—Can any of your readers explain the italicised words in the following verse from the lyric in Tennyson's "Maud," "Come into the garden, Maud"?

"From the meadow your walks have left so sweet,  
That, whenever a March-wind sighs,  
He sets the *jewel-print of your feet*  
In violets blue as your eyes,  
To the woody hollows in which we meet  
And the valleys of Paradise."

I have heard the "jewel-print of your feet" explained as the daisies which were trampled

down. But daisies are never violet, nor "blue as your eyes."

XERXES.

[5.]—TUMULUS OR MOUND IN BERRYDEN, ABERDEEN.—The subject of my enquiry is a mound or hillock of very considerable dimensions, situated in a garden in Berryden Road. It is of oblong shape with rounded summit, and at one end is surmounted by what looks like a skeleton summer-house, constructed by the intersection of two arches built of bricks. These bricks are badly shaped, but bear evidence of some attempt having been made to mould them in the usual modern form. Most of them are more or less glazed, like our ordinary brown earthenware, and the vitreous covering seems to have protected them from the action of the weather. A small iron cross rises from the top of the arches. It is very much corroded, just enough of the horizontal bar being left to show that it had once been shaped like an arrow, and had probably done duty for a weathercock. Its worn condition is an evidence that the structure must have stood for a considerable time. At the other end of the ground a triangular pyramid is erected. It is not hewn from the solid, but is built with a red kind of quartz, containing a large quantity of mica, which glistens like silver in the sun. Its side, at the base, measures about four feet, and it is perhaps eight or nine feet in height. It stands on a pedestal of blue granite, whose side measures about seven feet. Close by, but lower down on the east side of the hill, there are the remains of what may have been a chapel or place of worship. An arched recess still exists intact; and, embedded among the vitrified bricks of which it consists, is a cross, distinguished from the surrounding wall by being formed of red quartz, like the pyramid just described. Immediately in front of this is a circular well-like formation, but, being filled with stones and rubbish, its depth does not appear. In front of this again is an arched doorway, about three feet wide and five or six feet high: if the accumulation of earth and stones were removed, it would doubtless be found to be considerably higher. A wall, still of brick, is continued from this northward, but it is hidden in ivy and earth, and cannot be traced. Enough, however, is seen

to shew that the building is carried into the hill, but without excavation nothing further can be ascertained. A slab, on which is sculptured a full representation of the Scottish arms, with the supporters, is set up against the wall. A well, whose environment has some pretensions to notice, exists not far distant, at the bottom of the hill. In pursuing investigations of this kind, it is not an unusual part of the method, to discover if possible the proverbial "oldest inhabitant," and elicit all the information he may possess on the subject. I believe I have done this, but with a very small and disappointing result. He never remembered it different, only it was in better condition. He had been told that the property at one time belonged to a wealthy gentleman, who, being of a fanciful turn, had taken advantage of the naturally picturesque situation and adorned it with the quaint structure whose appearance now attracts the attention of the curious passenger. This is all I have gleaned concerning the mound in Berryden; and I shall be glad to know, through your pages, if any more light, as to the origin and object of such a monument, can be thrown. The hill has an artificial appearance, but its large dimensions (although in England and on the Continent some tumuli are much more extensive) may probably weigh against any opinion of this kind.

ZIGZAG.

NOTE FROM STONEHAVEN.—Commenting on the recent discovery of stone coffins and remains at Stonehaven, Mr. Thomson, Sheriff Clerk Depute there, writes:—

"Such finds are common enough in the streets of both the new and the old towns of Stonehaven, this being at least the third within my own personal recollection. The type of grave is that of slabs, built in the form of a rough box, and if an entire human body had been deposited therein, the limbs must have been doubled up in a sitting or coiled position. This has led to the supposition that these are pre-Christian graves, possibly Pictish."

"The remains were found not far from the Cross, and I am aware that after sentence of death had been carried out there, the culprit's body was sometimes buried at the foot of the gallows. It is possible the remains may have been those of such criminals."

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# SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES

VOL. I.] No. 2.

JULY, 1887.

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## CONTENTS.

NOTES :—	PAGE.
New Spalding Club, by the Editor,.....	17
Epitaphs and Inscriptions in St. Nicholas Church and Churchyard ( <i>with Illustration</i> ), by Alex. M. Munro,.....	18
A Bibliography of Aberdeen Periodical Literature ( <i>Continued</i> ), by J. Malcolm Bulloch, ..	20
Folk Riddles, by Rev. Walter Gregor, Pit-sligo,.....	22
Anent Church Laws, by J. A. H.,.....	22
Grooves on Boulders, by Rev. James Gammack, LL.D.,.....	23
Indenture of Apprenticeship of Andrew Jamesone, by the Editor,.....	24
A Ramble on the East Coast of Buchan, by J. Dalgarno,.....	25
Aberdeen Philosophical Society,.....	26
Guild of the Holy Cross,.....	27
QUERIES :—	
6. The Menzies Family,.....	27
7. Burial Registers,.....	27
8. Pitnacaddell Psalms,.....	27
9. Song in "Heart of Midlothian,".....	27
11. Glacier-marked Stone in King St. Road, .	28
ANSWERS :—	
1. Local Clubs and Lodges,.....	28
2. The Narrow Wynd,.....	28
3. The Scoring Term "Love,".....	28
4. The jewel print of your feet,.....	29
Charles Whyt, Painter,.....	30
LITERATURE :—	
Dr. King's Species of Ficus,.....	30
NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS, .....	31
MISCELLANEOUS :—	
Portrait of William the Lyon,.....	31
Aberdeen a Hundred Years Ago,.....	31

ABERDEEN, JULY, 1887.

## NEW SPALDING CLUB.

WE are given to understand that a Report will shortly be issued to the members by the Committee on Topography and Archæology. It sets forth Topography and Folk Lore to have been the main objects of the Committee,

and very clearly describes the area covered by these terms. Under the former they considerate "a collection of the names of all places (within the bounds embraced by the Club), viz. :—Provinces, parishes, mountains, hills, moors, mosses, farms, fields, forests, caves, lakes, rivers, streams, wells, fords, bridges, roads, villages, churches, castles, old buildings, &c. Connected with many of these are legends and rhymes which should be carefully chronicled." Under the latter (Folk Lore) the branches are numerous. "Some of them are superstitions connected with great natural objects, as the heavenly bodies, the earth, the sea; with trees and plants; with animals; with goblins; with witches; leechcraft; magic and divination; customs, both festival and ceremonial, e.g., Christmas and New Year customs; birth, marriage, and burial customs; games of all kinds, with their rhymes, if any; nursery tales; ballads and songs; jingles, nursery rhymes and riddles; proverbs and sayings."

We gladly give currency to this formidable programme, in the hope that we may thus aid the Committee in their difficult but not insuperable task. We say difficult, because, unlike the *materia historia* of some of the other Committees, it is not ready made to their hands, and we say not insuperable, at once recollecting what has already been done by such men as Chambers in his charming *Nursery Rhymes of Scotland*, and Tyler in his exhaustive *Primitive Culture*, and that in the hands of such men as Dr. Walter Gregor and Mr. A. W. Robertson, M.A., of the Free Public Library, Aberdeen, the task will be



faced with courage, and we do not hesitate to believe will be carried to a successful issue. The committee "earnestly" appeals for the smallest scrap of information on any of these subjects, as of value. Each one who knows, it may be but a single rhyme or riddle, is asked to commit it to writing and send it to Dr. Gregor, Pitsligo, who is the Convener of the committee. Let no one think that his own quota will be too trifling or common to be communicated, and let no one forget the admonitory axiom, that what is everybody's business is nobody's. Folk Lore is emphatically a possession of the people, to whom we trust the appeal will not be in vain.

THE EDITOR.

## EPITAPHS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD.

### INTRODUCTORY.

It is rather a remarkable fact, that while the parish churches and churchyards in the North-East of Scotland have their histories recorded and their inscriptions preserved in the two valuable quartos, *Epitaphs and Inscriptions from the Burying Grounds of the North-East of Scotland*, by the late Mr. Andrew Jervise, the Kirk and Kirkyard of St. Nicholas should remain unique in having both almost wholly neglected. I believe that Mr. Jervise intended to embrace Aberdeen in his second volume, and that the late Mr. Andrew Gibb had some material prepared for a like object, when death brought the labours of both to a premature close.

From time to time partial attempts have been made, both to preserve the history and inscriptions of our Parish Church, but the efforts have never been sufficiently sustained, and the result consequently has been far from satisfactory. As regards the history of the Church, there is now a likelihood that we may soon have its ancient chartulary in our hands, and later on a complete history of our "paroch kirk,"—a history which will illustrate in a remarkable manner how close was the

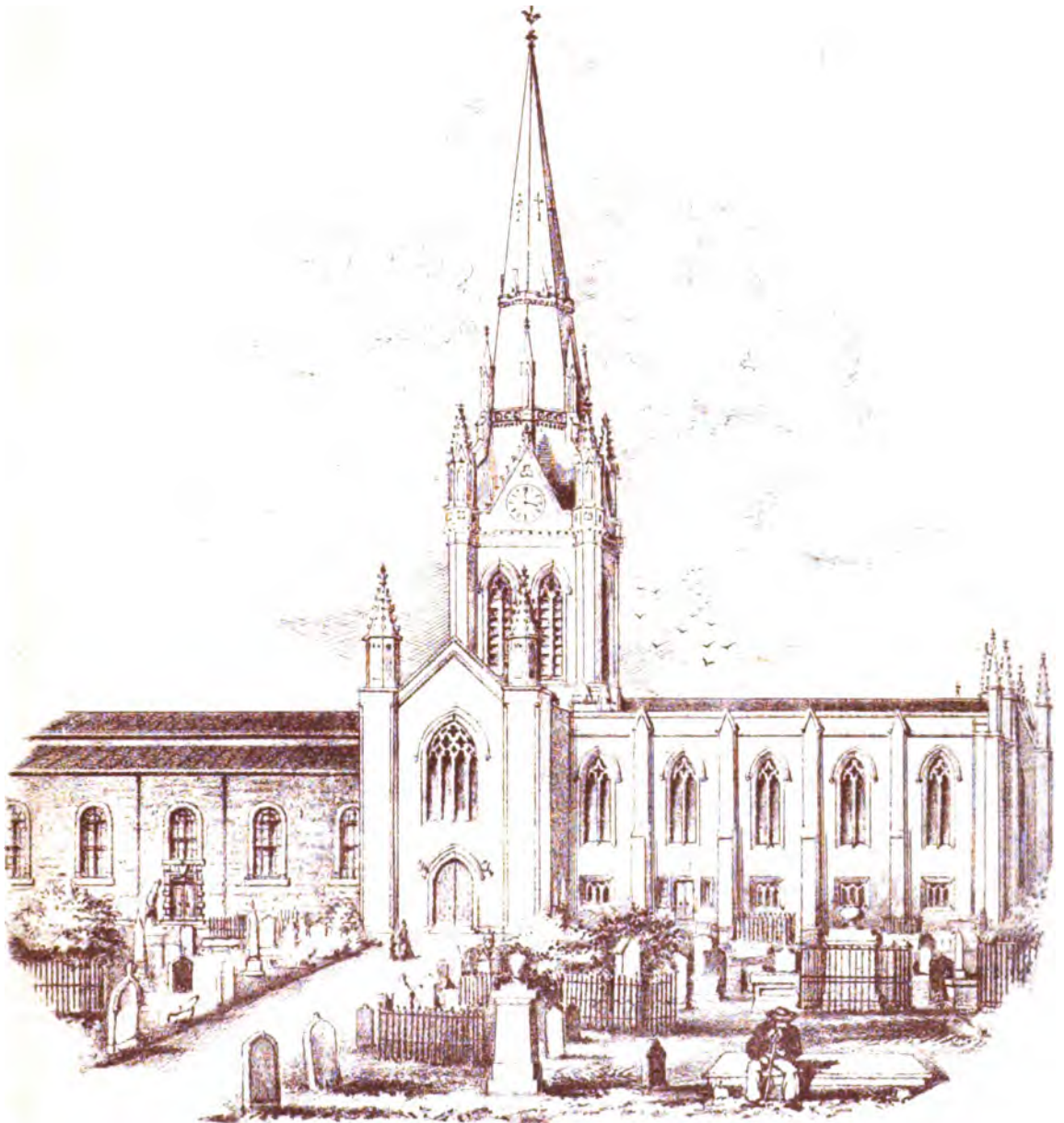
connection between Church and State in by-gone days, and what mutual benefits resulted from the close alliance.

Outside of this domain, however, there is a wide field for much interesting study in the epitaphs and inscriptions which abound in the church and the surrounding churchyard. The amount of attention that has been already bestowed in this direction is on the whole meagre, and the information obtained has been presented in such a way as makes it very inconvenient for reference.

*Menteith's Theatre of Mortality* contains some inscriptions taken from the church and churchyard, and is of peculiar value, from the fact that it preserves a few inscriptions which are not now extant.

The collection of *Menteith* with some additions is given in a *Collection of Epitaphs and Monumental Inscriptions, chiefly in Scotland*, published in 1834. Some inscriptions are also given in a MS. description of the Old East Church, written by John Logan, author of *The Scottish Gael*, and preserved in the Library of the Society of Advocates. Outside the histories of the City by Kennedy, Thom, Wilson, and Robertson, incidental references to the subject are made in a series of papers which appeared in the *Herald* during the summer of 1876, above the signature "R," in a paper on the Brasses within the church, by the late Mr. Gibb, preserved in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, Vol. XI., and in *Ye Paroch Kirk of Sanct Nicolas of Aberdene*, by Ex-Dean of Guild Walker, printed for private circulation in 1876. These about sum up all that has been done in illustrating the wealth of valuable and interesting inscriptions within the bounds of St. Nicholas Church and its churchyard, and it is needless to say that they do not much more than touch the fringe of what would require to be done to preserve the various inscriptions which are worthy of notice.

The ever-increasing interest that is being taken in genealogical matters, and more particularly the wasting energies of Time and neglect, call for the preservation, in some form or other, of these records which testify to the worth of those *honorabiles viri*, whose lives form the brightest and most interesting



ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, ABERDEEN.

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pictures in social life of the city during bygone centuries.

#### DUES AND REGULATIONS OF BURIALS.

On the authority of Parson Gordon we are informed that the erection of the old church, dedicated to the Patron Saint of the City, St. Nicholas, was begun in 1060, and there is proof that it was in existence in the 12th century. That peculiar value was attached to burial within the church the Burgh Records leave us in no doubt, and the zeal with which wealthy citizens dedicated chantries to their favourite saints was doubtless prompted in some measure by the fact, that the right of burial in front of the altar was generally conceded. The first mention in the Council Register regarding burial in the church is a minute of Head Court, held on 17th September, 1401,\* when the Council, with consent of the community, established the following fees for burial, viz. :—Boys under 5 years of age, 5/-; those between the ages of 7 and 15 years, 6/8; and all others, of whatever age, 10/-; but, continues the minute, boys dying possessed of property, *i.e.*, heirs of law, to be charged 10/-, notwithstanding their age.

From the Chartulary of St. Nicholas we know that the founders of the various chantries were generally buried in front of the respective altars where daily mass was celebrated for the souls of the departed. Although ample endowments had been left for this purpose, it would appear that the chaplains were rather remiss in performing their duties, and on more than one occasion we find the Council interfering and establishing statutes for the observance of their customary duties. But in 1458, the Council recognising their privilege to manage, passed the following quaint Act on the 9th October :—

Item the samyn dai the Alderman and a grete part of the gilde avisitly considering the gude observance and service that the vicar and chaplanys vphaldis and dois in the kirk and in hope of gude continuation has grauntit to the said vicar and chaplanys that continowis divyne service that they sall have thair laires quhen thair discesses free in quhat place of the kirk it plesis them to ly of thair devotion.

Unfortunately we are without information as to whether this offer of future reward had the

desired effect in increasing the devotions of the vicar and his chaplains,

The person in charge of the church and churchyard was the Sacrist, and the Acts passed for his guidance illustrate some ancient customs observed at interments.

The following is the ordinance anent the ringing of the church bells for the departed :

26 May, 1525.—Item it is statut and ordanit and for act perpetuall ratefeit and appreuit be the prouwest baillies and consal of this guid toune all in ane voce that fra thyn furth quhene thair hapins ane man of guid that hes borne office within the towne to decessis or of the consall of the toune deceiss the segister that beis for the tyme sall ring all that nicht and till his dirige, and salbe mess and sall haif thairfor vi s viii d. : and gif their dais ony substantious freman within this burght fra thyne furth that the said segistar sall ring his mening but thryse and at his dirage salbe mess and sall haif thairfor fywe s ; and when thair decessis ane craftsman within this burght the segster to ring bot to his sawill mess and to haif thairfor iij s ; and that thair haif for thair grauis iij s and that he haif for grauis making boyth in kirk and kirk yaird bot use and wont.

It would likewise appear that the mourners were called by the common bellman going through the streets of the town ; but when he became associated in this duty with the bellman of Old Aberdeen, the custom became a nuisance, and the Council intervened, and ordained that the town's bellman alone should warn mourners to interments.

In 1565 the dues for making graves were fixed at "xviij*d* for reche and honest folkis, and xij*d* of ye sobir folkis," the poor and indigent to be free from the casualties of baptisms, marriage, and burial ; and a few years later the price of burial within the church was fixed at 30/-, except in the case of those having foundations, or descended from them, who were to be free.

Some difficulty appears to have been experienced in collecting these dues, for in a minute of 3rd August, 1581, the sacrist is particularly cautioned not to disturb the pavement "w'out speciall command of ye maister of ye kirk wark or ane ballie in his absence and yat ye said maister of kirkwark or ballie givand comand yrto sall tak no cautioun nor sourtie for payment of ye said lair siluir bot onlie hand payment.

A. M. MUNRO.

(To be continued.)

\* Vol. I., p. 164.

† Vol. V., p. 808.

## A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LOCAL PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

(Continued from page 5.)

- 1815.** *The Caledonian Literary and Political Museum*. No. 2. Monday, April 24, 1815. Price 6d. Aberdeen: Printed for the Proprietors, and sold by all the Booksellers in Aberdeen. Orders, advertisements, communications, etc., are requested to be sent free of expence to the Editor, Public Library, Broad street. D. Chalmers and Co., Printers, Aberdeen. 8vo, 20 pp. in blue cover. This magazine is very rare, Mr. Morice's copy being probably unique. I have not seen No. 1.
- 1818.** *The Caledonian; or Donald's Letters to his Country-Folk on Borough Politics, Political Economy, etc., etc.* Aberdeen: Friday, April 17, 1818. Peterhead: Printed by P. Buchan, and sold by G. Mackay, North Street, Aberdeen. No. 1. Price One Penny. 8vo, 8 pp. No. 4 is simply entitled *The Caledonian*. Aberdeen, Friday, May 8, 1818. Was a fifth number published, as promised in No. 4?
- 1820.** *eccentric Magazine*. Aberdeen: Printed and sold by the Author [Alexander Laing]. 1820. Price One Shilling. 12mo. This magazine, and the two that follow, are well named, for eccentric they are, the work of a very eccentric man. They are a strange medley of odds and ends, jumbled only as Laing knew how to do.
- 1821.** *The Eccentric Magazine; a collection of Anecdotes, Epitaphs, Bon-mots, Conundrums, etc., etc., selected from reviews, magazines, and other publications. in prose and verse.* By Alexander Laing. [Motto.] Aberdeen: Printed for and sold by the Author, 1821. Price One Shilling. 12mo, 72 pp.
- 1821.** *The Lounger's Commonplace Book*, being the third and last number of the *Eccentric Magazine*. By Alexander Laing. [Motto.] Aberdeen: Printed by J. Booth, Chronicle Lane, and sold by the Author. 1822. 12mo, 72 pp. Price One Shilling.
- 1821.** *The Aberdeen Tide-Tables* commenced in 1821, and, according to *The Book of Bon-Accord*, were "published annually about the end of November under the title of *The Aberdeen, Dundee, Leith, and London Tide-Tables*. Their author, Mr. George Innes, watchmaker and astronomical calculator, Skene Street, is well known as a frequent contributor to the *Philosophical Magazine*, the *Edinburgh Philosophical Magazine*, and some German periodicals." After Innes, the *Tables* were conducted successively by Elgen, Gray, and Inglis. Inglis started an opposition set of *Tables* to Gray's, and ultimately swamped the other publication.
- 1824.** *A Directory for the City of Aberdeen and its Vicinity, 1824-5.* "Bon-Accord." Aberdeen: W. Gordon, Geo. Clarke, A. Stevenson, Tho. Spark, and D. Wyllie. Pp. 128. This is the first Aberdeen Directory that was published, and down to the present time the Directory has appeared yearly without a break.
- 1825.** *The Aberdeen Censor*. [Motto.] Vol. I. Aberdeen, Published by Lewis Smith, 78 Broad Street, 1825. Vol. II., 1826. 12mo. No. 1 appeared on Thursday, 3d March, 1825, and No. 19 (the last) in January, 1827. No 1 had 24 pp. and no imprint, but was printed in Edinburgh; and up to No. 13 it came out fortnightly. With No. 14, which began Vol. II., it was enlarged to 48 pp., and was published monthly. Imprint to Nos. 2-7, "J. Watt, Printer, Montrose," and at No. 6 it is stated that "the delay in publishing this Number is owing to the Printer, from unavoidable circumstances on his part." After this the printing was transferred to A. Allardice & Co., Printers, Edinburgh, who printed it to the last. This magazine, says the author of the *Bards of Bon-Accord*, was "the first decided hit in genuine home-bred periodical literature." There is a raciness and ability about it that is very rarely met with in the general run of local periodicals. The two most constant and leading writers were John Jaffray and William Ferguson. Jaffray, who was the last male descendant of the Jaffrays of Kingswells, became a licentiate of the Church, and afterwards Manager of the Free Church Schemes. Ferguson also became a licentiate of the Church, but spent his life as a schoolmaster. Among the other contributors were Alexander Milne Mowat, advocate; John Ferres, advocate; J. B. M'Combie, advocate; George D. Profeit, advocate; John Thom, advocate; Rev. John Longmuir; John Marshall, afterwards Episcopal Minister at Blairgowrie; John Dun, master at the Grammar School; R. Brown, reporter; and John Imlah.
- 1825.** *The North Briton: a Weekly Political and Commercial Journal*. "Party is the madness of Many for the gain of a Few." No. 1. Aberdeen, September 9th, 1825. Price 7d. Folio, 8 pp. Imprint to No. 1.—"This Paper is printed [sic] edited and printed by James Watt, 49 St. Nicholas Street, Aberdeen." To No. 3, Friday, September 23, 1825.
- 1826.** *The Aberdeen Star, a Weekly Literary, Political, and Commercial Journal*. No. 1. Aberdeen. Friday, January 6, 1826. Price 7d. Folio, 8 pp. Imprint to No. 50—"Aberdeen: Printed and published by Robert Cobban and Co., in Duthie's Court, 35 Guestrow, every Friday morning, at nine o'clock." To No. 60, February 23, 1827. *The Water Kelpie* attacked the *Star* very vigorously, as will be seen in the notice of that paper.
- 1826.** *The Northern Iris*. No. 1. March 20, 1826. Aberdeen: Published by Lewis Smith, 78 Broad Street, 1826. Price One Shilling. 8vo, 60 pp. Four numbers to July 10, 1826. The *Iris* was a magazine with some pretensions to real literary merit and criticism, but it does not seem to have been sufficiently appreciated to warrant its continuance.

1826. *The North Star* (?) Under date Oct., 1826, Professor Knight, in his MS. Collection, speaks of *The North Star*, a Radical newspaper, "partly conducted by W. Ferguson, Student of Divinity." I have nowhere else come across a paper of this name at the period. Did Professor Knight, usually so accurate, mean *The Aberdeen Star*, which was flourishing at the time, or *The Aberdeen Censor*, to which Wm. Ferguson, Student of Divinity, was a constant contributor?
1827. *The Water Kelpie*. No. 1. By Matthew Bramble, Jun., Esq. [Thomas Spark, Bookseller] commonly called Humphry Clinker. Aberdeen: Printed by J. Booth, Jun., Chronicle Court, for Thomas Spark, Castle Street, 1827. 8vo, 34 pp. One number only. Spark had written in 1826 a series of "Letters to Public Characters on the Proposed New Police Bill," severely criticising the Editor of *The Aberdeen Star*. The Editor, in turn, ridiculed the "Letters," calling the author "a bloated mass of self-conceit," and the irate bookseller retaliated with full force in *The Water Kelpie*, which is nothing more nor less than a violent attack on the *Star* from beginning to end.
1829. *Aberdeen Observer, a Commercial and Political Journal*. No. 1, Vol. I. Friday, March 27, 1829. Price 7d. Printed and published by John Davidson. A vignette of the Cross, which figured on the title, may be seen in the *Book of Bon-Accord*, p. 168. The preface states that "the Political Department will be conducted without regard to any Party whatever," but it was a Tory publication. In his article on Newspapers, John Ramsay makes "particular mention of the *Aberdeen Observer*, as having made much exertion to improve the art of reporting, and to stimulate the literary character of the local press. It stopped on the 8th September, 1837, and was replaced by the *Constitutional*. One of the editors was Wm. Duncan, and among the contributors was Dr. Joseph Robertson.
1830. *The Aberdeen Gleaner, selected from the most interesting and popular authors, viz., Scott, Byron, Moore, etc., etc.* Vol. I. Aberdeen: Printed and published by R. Edward and Co., 34 St. Nicholas Street. This is the title as given in the title page, but the title in every single number is simply *The Gleaner*. No. 1 appeared on March 4, 1830, price 1d. 12mo, 24 pp., to number 24, August 12, 1830. It was a weekly, "published every Thursday evening." How many numbers of Vol. II. were published?
1830. *The Aberdeen Independent; or Literary, Political, and Commercial Repository*. Vol. I., No. 1. August, 1830. Price 6d. 8vo, 32 pp. Imprint: "Published on the First day of every Month, by R. Cumming, 35 Guestrow. R. Cobban and Co., Printers, 35 Guestrow, Aberdeen." To No. 10, May, 1831. The preface shows its aim—"The want of a Periodical in Aberdeen, of a decidedly Liberal or Independent character, is regretted by all classes. . . . To supply as well as we can the desideratum to which we have

alluded, is the design of the *Independent*." Its Liberalism however was very narrow indeed, for its hatred of Dissent is shown in a very violent attack on *The Christian Investigator*, which it intends to "crush." Dissenters are "levellers," and the *Investigator* "one of the most contemptible, feeble, party-spirited productions that ever appeared." Its pages, which were very freely opened to correspondents, teem with dreary letters of discontented writers, with long arguments on doctrinal and other points, that now stamp it as intrinsically worthless.

1830. *The Christian Investigator*. 1830—1. Aberdeen: Published by George King. No. 1, Aug., 1830. Monthly, 36 pp. The preface to the volume speaks of the paper as "a great desideratum to the cause of Dissent in this neighbourhood." 11 numbers to July, 1831. The second volume began as a quarterly under the new title, *The Christian Investigator and Congregational Review*. November, 1831. 8vo, 84 pp. Only one number appeared, so far as I know. Was David Macallan the Editor, or did he write under the *nom de plume* of "Epenetus?"

1830. *The Popery Exposer: Being a Review of the Correspondence between the Rev. Dr. James Kidd of the Church of Scotland, and the Rev. Charles Fraser of the Church of Rome, etc., together with animadversions upon other pamphlets recently published in favour of Popery*. By a Minister of the Gospel. [Motto]. Aberdeen. George King, 36 St. Nicholas Street, 1831. Price 1/6. This work, although it can have had no intention of going on for long, may be rightly included as a periodical. No. 1 appeared in December 4, 1830. Price 2d., 8vo, 12pp., and nine numbers were published. The title of number 1 is *The Popish Exposer*, but the remaining eight numbers adopt *The Popery Exposer*. It may be mentioned in passing that a perfect little literature existed on this question, and the following periodical is part of it.

1830. *The Layman's Preservative against Popery*. By William Fergusson, A.M. Aberdeen: Geo. King, 36 St. Nicholas Street. 1831. No. 1 Wednesday, December 15, 1830. Price 3d; to No. 8, Saturday, April 2, 1831.

1830. *The Portfolio; or Selections from the best fugitive literature*. [Motto.] No. 1. December 25, 1830. Price 2d. Small 8vo, 16 pp. Imprint: "Printed by R. Cumming and Co., 34 St. Nicholas Street, Aberdeen;" and the notice to correspondents states that "the *Portfolio* will be published every Saturday, and may be had of George Stevenson, 23 Union Street; Niel M'Phie, at the Printing Office, 34 St. Nicholas Street; and of the Booksellers. This very scarce periodical is shabby looking, and badly printed, while its contributions are nearly all copied from other sources. I have seen only one number; did more appear?"

J. MALCOLM BULLOCH.

(To be continued.)

## FOLK RIDDLES.

HERE are a few specimens of the riddles I asked for in the last number of *Scottish Notes and Queries* :—

LONMAY.

Ten men's length,  
Ten men's strength,  
Ten men cudna tear it,  
But a little boy can carry it.

*A Rope.*

ABERDOUR.

What is't that's nae, an never 'll be ;  
Haud up yir han', an that ye'll see.

LONMAY.

Never wiz, nor never will be :  
Haud oot yir han', an that ye'll see.

*The fingers all of the same length.*

RATHEN,

As I geed ower the Brig o' Dee  
I met Uncle Tammie,  
Wi' a' the wardle on's back,  
Wazna he a clever mannie ?

*The Mole.*

Here is a Biblical one from Aberdour :—

Water was the door,  
Wood was the key ;  
The huntsmen were drowned,  
And the prey went away.

This riddle appears at an early date in at least two Greek forms, one of which is the work of a learned Greek of Constantinople, Michael Constantinus Psellus, born about 1020 A.D. It is expressed thus :—

Χύλου μὲν ἡ κλεις ἢ δὲ κυγκλις ὑδάτων  
Διέδρα λαγῶς καὶ κύων συνεσχέθη.

It is found in Latin as follows :—

Est sera aquis constans, reserat quam lignea clavis,  
Venator capitur, libera casse fera est.

An old German form is :—

Es ist ein starkes Wasserschloss,  
Welches ein hülzerner schlüssel aufschloss ;  
Der Jäger ist darin gefangen,  
Das Wildt ist dadurch gegangen.

Simrock gives it thus :—

Es ist ein starkes Wasserschloss.  
Das ein hölzerner Schlüssel erschloss.  
Der Jäger ward gefangen,  
Das Wild ist hindurchgegangen.

It appears in Holland as—

Den stok was de sloter  
Het water was de kist,  
Den jager verdronk  
Ende het wilt ontspronk.

*I.e.*, the stick was the key, the water was the kist, the hunter drowned, and the animal sprang away.

In Sweden it runs thus :—

Las af watten  
Nyckel af trä ;  
Diuren slapp udan,  
Jägarn blef fangen.

*I.e.*, lock of water, key of tree, the animal escaped away, the hunter was taken.

It is found in Finland in this form :—

Tré nytjyl o vatalas,  
Fären slapp, min jegarn fasna.

*I.e.*, tree key, and water-lock,  
Sheep came through, but the hunter stuck.

The subject of Folk-Riddles is full of interest, and, like most other subjects of Folklore, raises many questions which yet wait full solution. The one chief point at the present time is to gather the material that still exists, for it is to be feared that, before many years are passed, it will be lost.

From the last specimen given, it will be seen how far back in time some of the riddles go, and how widely spread they are. Some, *e.g.*, the Sphinx Riddle, and the one that is said to have caused the death of Homer, are very old, and widely spread. Some appear in almost every language in Europe, *e.g.*, the Coffin and Egg Riddles. I hope I have said enough to call forth many workers.

WALTER GREGOR.

## ANENT CHURCH LAWS.

THE following Rules and Regulations of Church Government in the respective parishes included in the bounds of the Presbytery of Aberdeen, whilst giving insight into the manners and customs of the people for nearly three centuries, demonstrate the anxiety and interest the Ministers and Members of Session had in their temporal as well as spiritual welfare. In the 17th and 18th centuries each Parish had its own peculiar Church Laws, though subject to the jurisdiction of the Presbytery :—

BELHELVIE.

13th January, 1623.—Quhilk day it was statut and ordaeint that everie Elder that was absent from the Session sal be rebookit and pay 6 pence. Also ordeint that no Browster within the Paroche sell any drink upon the Saboath Day before sermon to any parochiner nor after sermon but in suche necessarie quantities as may soberlie serve them at their ordinar repast under the penaltie enjoonit. And to mak their Publick repentance. And this Act to apply against the seller and drinker of the said drink.

26th January, 1623.—Ordeint that an Catalogue of names of the Parochiners be redd be the Reader on the Saboath dayes that absents be discovered and censurit.

9th February, 1623.—No persons to receipt ony strangers without ane lawfull testimoniall under the ordinar penaltie of five libs. and making thair repentance.

25th December, 1635.—Two sergeants be appointed for repelling stranger beggars. Intimation afterwards made that none should call these men by the disgraceful name of "sodgers."

22nd December, 1644.—Minister having in doctrine spoken against the superstitious observation of Dayes, did dissuade the people from the superstitious observation of the 25th of this month under the pain of Church censure to the transgressors.

#### DRUMOAK.

2nd September, 1688.—Old act of this parish revived, that whatsoever Elder and his wife should be found both absent from the church together (without a lawful excuse) shall for the first fault receive a sessional rebuke, for the second make an acknowledgment before the Session, and for the third fault be deprived of office. As also it being found scandalous and offensive that several persons had contracted marriage too soon after the death of their wives and husbands, it is enacted that hereafter no person, man or woman, shall be permitted to contract marriage till a quarter of a year expire after the decease of their respective spouses, unless they pay 4 libs.

16th April, 1699.—Complaint given in by the Elders against the generalities of the people, that they were become so unchristian and inhuman as would not so much as help to the churchyard with the dead bodies of poor persons who were daylie dying before them, being invited thereto. Which scandall and unchristianitie the Minister did sharply reprehend from pulpit, holding out the dangers from pestilence (which God in his mercy prevent), and warning that hereafter those refusing to attend a buriall when invited, should not only be liable to Church censure, but punishment before the Civill Magistrates.

28th Sept., 1701.—Prohibition intimated against all penny Bridells, as also all pyping and fiddling to be made use of at publick meetings under penalties.

29th April, 1750.—Salmon fishing on the Sabbath day strictly prohibited in all time coming.

#### SKENE.

25th May, 1684.—Ordeined that whosoever shall in future put their horses into the churchyard to graze should pay 20/- penalty.

31st January, 1686.—Intimation made that no masters nor parents should suffer their servants or children to play on the Lord's Day in the afternoon.

17th November, 1771.—Session considering it a gross profanation of the Lord's Day by peoples buying things in the Merchants' shops, Resolved that whosoever shall buy anything in these shops or anywhere else within the Parish upon the Sabbath day (except any necessary for a sick person for the corpse of a new decessat person), that Buyer and Seller shall be prosecuted, as Sabbath Breakers, by the Laws of the Land, both Civil and Ecclesiastic.

#### NIGG.

9th March, 1760.—Session considering the irregularity of some of the people in this place in their wanting to be contracted for marriage upon the Lord's Day, did unanimously agree that none should be contracted for the future on that day, neither should their purpose of marriage be published until their pledges were consigned and sufficient caution found.

27th October, 1799.—Act read ordaining all schoolmasters to take the oath of allegiance, and forbidding the people to put their children to School with any master who did not take the same.

2nd June 1811.—People earnestly recommended to abstain from sailing for pleasure on Sundays, or days appointed for public worship, or bathing on such days. and strictly prohibiting Fishermen and others from hiring or giving Boats for such purposes, else they would be prosecuted according to law.

23rd May 1811.—Warning given that all sturdy beggars, vagrants, and Fortune Tellers from other parishes will be apprehended and punished, the people being exhorted to extend Charity to their own poor only. At sametime intimation made that Badges would be supplied by the Session to deserving poor of the Parish.

J. A. H.

(To be continued.)

#### GROOVES ON BOULDERS.

WALKING along the road and keeping his eye open for all that is worth attention, the archæologist will scarcely spend an hour without finding some object worthy of thought. And it is curious to watch how the mind oscillates between observation, theory, hesitation, disbelief, and new theory. You pass a boulder by the wayside, and the eye falls upon some deep scratches or grooves. You settle at once in your mind that you have made a discovery, and you register a glacier-marked stone that has come from unknown regions in the mass of moving ice, and been used as a gouge to hollow out the glens, or has been a fixed gem for the passing glacier to polish. You philosophise and romance on the conditions of the ice age. A footpath next leads you up along the hillside, where an attempt has been made at cultivation, by the expenditure of a little capital and much labour: the fields, though small, are neat and well cultivated: they are not showing much vigour in growth, but they are well enclosed with dykes of well built boulders, and the small cattle on the grass are thriving if not sure prize takers. But again the eye falls on a deeply-grooved stone, and you are once again upon the alert. You look



at it and pass on, after making a note of it. But another soon presents itself, and you begin to feel perplexed. A closer scrutiny brings twenty scored stones to your notice, and you find the ice-age theory begin to thaw. But you are puzzled, and again pass on to "pastures new." With a high fence in front, capped with a luxuriance of yellow whin, you anticipate a rich find of druidical circles and primeval graves within the enclosure, and make bravely for the first opening, but are rewarded with nothing better than an old man and a boy with an old work-horse at work in the field. The grooving on the stone is a heavy burden on your mind, and you pursue the path as it skirts the rough ground. But a louder call to the horse recalls you from your reverie, and your mind accepts, almost as by revelation, the interpretation of the markings on the stones on the dyke. The stones have all been dug up from the ground, or at least have been dragged by the old man and the boy, with their horse, along the rough surface of the ground, and thus been grooved by the fixed stones they have been drawn roughly over. This bodes ill for the first glacier markings, but you are not to swear by hasty conclusions, and yet you do not feel satisfied with your scattered observations. Thus you walk on through hill and dale, and whatever you see seems always to fade before these stone-markings, that prove an irritating puzzle, which the mind will not abandon or unfold. Wearied with the day's excursion you turn homeward, prefer the straight road to the winding footpath, and leave the ruins in the "aul' kirkyard" for another day. But in turning a corner of the road your eye falls again upon the *grooves* that seem to have been thrown broadcast in your path all day. Thankful for an excuse to take a rest, you sit down upon the green turf and gaze upon the face of the sunk-fence and what is written thereon. The marks on the dark whinstone are deep and clear, but a peculiar character begins to show itself, and differentiates them from the scorings made by the glacier action. The force of the glacier overcomes at once all obstacles, and the lines are strong and steady. But the heaviest stone drawn across a field or patch of rough ground is essentially unstable, liable to change its direction any

moment. Hence the grooves are irregular, and may even turn at right angles, or show a deeper groove running across the face. Thus your opportunity for a fuller induction has allowed you to methodise your theories, and fix the result of your observations upon the stone markings: the lines seen in the morning were clearly made by the heavy grind of the glacier, and those seen throughout the day were the results of the improver clearing his fields of the earth-bound stones.

JAMES GAMMACK, LL.D.

#### INDENTURE OF APPRENTICESHIP OF ANDREW JAMESONE.

THE following is a copy of the Indenture of Apprenticeship of Andrew Jamesone, father of George Jamesone, from the Register of Contracts belonging to the Burgh, 1569—1575. Vol. I., p. 95. This document, just brought to light by Mr. A. M. Munro, is of interest as throwing some additional light on the Jamesone family. In it the painter's father, Andrew, is described as the natural son of the deceased William Jamesone, whose place as cautioner for the young apprentice is taken by Provost Gilbert Menzies of Cowlie. Apart from its personal interest, the terms of the deed present the following noticeable points:—The period of the apprenticeship is really nine years, — during seven of which the apprentice receives his board from his master, with whom he probably lives *en famille*. During the remaining other two years he receives in addition a very small fee. The apprentice was farther *bound* by the cautioner's deposit with the master of £10, rendered forfeit by any breach of the terms of the indenture. Bethleam may have been an excellent mason, and had doubtless made his *mark* on many a granite block, but he had not the "habit of the pen," for he was unable without aid to sign his own name. Perhaps some more light may be shed on this question of apprenticeships in olden times, by some of our friends.

Apud Abd. sexto die mensis augusti anno dni, 1573. The said day ye parteis under wretin constitit this contract under wretin subscryuit w<sup>t</sup> yair handis and desyirt ye same to be insert in the balzie contract buks of Abd<sup>n</sup> to be execut as effeiris of ye qlk contract ye tenor followis.

At Abirdene ye saxt day of August ye zeir of god m. v.<sup>c</sup> sevintie and thre zeiris. It is appoyntit contractit and finalie endit betuix ane hono<sup>bl</sup> man gilbert mengzes of cowlie on ye ane pt. and androa bethlem mason and freman of yis burt of Abd on ye uthier pt. in maneir following That is to say ye said gilbert has boundin and conductit androa Jamesoun sone naturall to vmq<sup>l</sup>. Wilzeam Jamesoun w<sup>t</sup> his awin consent and assent wt. ye said Andrew Bethleam as prenteis to him of ye masoin croft to serve him lolely treulie and obediētlie as becomis ane seruand to his maister for ye space of sevin zeiris next and immediatlle following ye dait of ther presents w<sup>t</sup> in ye quhilk space ye said androw Bethleam obleisis him fayfullie to schaw lerne and instruct ye said Andrew Jamesoun in ye haill poyntis of ye masoune croft as becumis ane gud maister to do unto his servand and sall find him meitt sufficientlie induring of ye said space. And ye said Andrew Jamesoun obleis him fayfullie to serf ye said Andrew bethlem for ye space off twa yeiris next and immediatlle following ye ischee & end of ye said sevin zeiris for meit & fee. The q<sup>l</sup> fee extendis zeirle ilk zeir of the said tua zeiris to ye sowme of sax merkis money forsaid. And ye said gilbert menzes of cowlie is becum cautionar & sourtie for ye remanying of ye said Andrew Jamesoun w<sup>t</sup> ye said Andrew bethleam ye space forsaid and alsua for his lawtie and gud service for ye quhilk cause ye said gilbert byndis and obligis him to resoume content and pay to ye said Andrew bethleam ye sowme often poundis vsuall money of Scotland. Thairof fyve poundis to be payit in hand at ye making heirot to said Andrew, And ye uthier fyve poundis in haill and compleit of ye forsaid sowme of ten poundis w<sup>in</sup> zeir and day eftir ye dait of ther presentis. In witness of ye quhilk baytht ye saidis perteis hes subscriuit zis present appoyntment & contract of prentischap wt zair handis day and zeir & place forsaid. Befor yir witness Alex. Chalmer Vilzeam Schand and master Thomas malysone wt uyeris dyuers sic subscribitur gilbert mengzeis of cowlie wt my hand Andrew bethleam w<sup>t</sup> my hand at ye pen led be maister Johnne Kennedy notar publict.

THE EDITOR.

### A RAMBLE ON THE EAST COAST OF BUCHAN.

HAVING heard much about the scenery and caves on the east coast of Buchan, I started from the Granite City by 'bus to Newburgh to spend my holidays in that direction. Arriving at 10 a.m., I got a guide to accompany me to the sand and benty hills of Forvie. We took our course by the road leading to the old churchyard at the inches, of which the greater part of the headstones told us that—

Tho' boreas' blasts and Neptune's waves  
Had tossed them to and fro,

that they were now lying safe at anchor. On

reaching the Granaries, one of the managers kindly gave us a boat—

To row us o'er the ferry.

Immediately on landing my guide took me to an embankment contiguous to the river, which he said was explored by Dr. Jamieson, F.S.A. Scot., Ellon, and was found to contain shells of all the kinds yet found in the Ythan, and that there had existed a settlement of people who used flint tools, and who lived chiefly on shell fish, and that this mound had been the kitchen midden. To the east of this there is a sheep walk leading through marshy ground, facing two high embankments and knolls of sand and bent. Ascending these we immediately come in sight of the old sea beach of Forvie, and though much covered with sand during the dreadful storm from the east in the month of December, 1875, the large, dark, water-worn boulders, streaked with quartz, have still a prominent appearance. My friend told me that he had often seen the beach free from the drift, and that pebbles and flints, polished by the action of sand, were to be had in thousands as smooth as glass, and that nothing but a similar gale from the west, making a counter-current, would make them bare again. To the east of the old beach there is a large ridge of sand forming a background. On ascending it we immediately came in sight of mountains of sand, without a particle of vegetation. Here and there we see the footprints of the pole-cat or weasel, but we search in vain for their covert. Round another point we disturb a colony of herons basking in the sun after their morning's sport in the river. Then we descend to a deep ravine, and in less than two minutes are out of the world in a desert of sand. Here we look in vain for a speck of earth, or any haunt for man or beast. Then we gradually retrace our steps, and on the way repeat the words of the poet—

Better dwell in the midst of alarms  
Than reign in this horrible place.

We now wend our way sea-ward bound for the "Auld Kirk." There we go over a mound! Then down, down! Then through sheep walks. Then again on rising ground, and here come upon a bevy of "hoodies," striving which will have the mastery over a

haunch of venison, heedless of the game laws. In a little we are at the old ruin. I was surprised to see so little to mark the remains of the old building, as there is only a little mason work to be seen of the west gable. This is accounted for by a salmon-house in the vicinity which was built with stones from the ruin upwards of forty years ago. I cannot do better than give its history, as related to me by my intelligent guide, who said:—The parish of Forvie is a place of great antiquity, and the remains of this old church cropping out of the sand are about eight hundred years old. It was dedicated to St. Adamnan, who was Abbot of Iona next but one after St. Columba. There is a tradition of a fearful hurricane of wind from the south, which lasted three days. Lives were lost, and the houses, which were probably but clay huts, except the church, priest's house, and mansion house, destroyed. There have been bones found in the sand near the church, showing that there had been a churchyard. This hurricane swept sand over the whole coast, but especially at Forvie; and on the 10th August, 1413, there was another hurricane, which choked the Don and Ythan, and blew up the sand along the coast from Aberdeen to Forvie. The sand having got a hold retained it, and continued encroaching northwards till the middle of last century. There has been no clergyman of Forvie parish since 1560. The parish was soon after that annexed to Slains.

A little to the east of the ruin, there is a green sward covering over an acre, probably the site of the churchyard or manse, or both, which seems to have escaped the "Mayden's Malysone."

JAMES DALGARNO.

(To be continued.)

#### ABERDEEN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

THIS Society usually makes an excursion in summer, and on Saturday, 25th June, visited Banff, improved railway arrangements rendering this somewhat distant locality more manageable within the brief period of one day. The party consisted of the President—Rev. J. M. Danson, M.A.—along with the Secretary, and about fifteen members, and

on reaching Banff they were joined by several local gentlemen, whose acquaintance with the objects and subjects of interest was of the utmost service.

By the kind permission of Lord Fife, and in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Hannay, his agent, the party were conducted over Duff House by Mr. Ramsay of the *Banffshire Journal*, and had an opportunity of inspecting the paintings. These are not only intrinsically very valuable, but their historical interest is not in any degree inferior. The mere enumeration of the principal names of the painters is sufficient to indicate this:—Jamesone, Gainsborough, Kneller, Hamilton, Cotes, Sir H. Raeburn, Zoffany, Reynolds, Sir F. Grant, Vandyke, Rubens, Snyders. There are also busts by William Brodie and Hamilton, a collection of ancient armour, and a beautiful cabinet of Dresden china, a present to Lord Fife from the King of Saxony.

The Geology and Botany of the district are varied and interesting, and so far as time permitted, the Rev. Dr. Milne of King-Edward was a very competent guide, and would have had more scope if the party could have visited Tarlair. As it was, they had a pleasant drive to the romantic and beautiful Bridge of Alvah, about two miles from Banff.

There are no important ruins to be studied in Banff, but there are a good many relics of great interest, and these, with the additional help of the Rev. Mr. Davidson and Rev. Mr. Chisholm, were seen to the best advantage. As interesting, historically, may be mentioned the ruins of a church erected in 1471, and the Old Castle, a very plain building, the birthplace of Archbishop Sharp.

The Museum, the scene of Thomas Edward's later labours, was also visited. It does not seem to have many visitors, as the dates in the keeper's book indicated; but it contains much worthy of notice, such as Edward's collection, a geological collection by Mr. John Horne of the Geological Survey, and relics of Ferguson, the Astronomer.

A Pieta (statuette of the Virgin and Dead Christ), dug up in the Old Church, is to be seen in the Museum; but as it is worthy of more lengthy notice, I will not farther refer to it meantime.—*Communicated.*

## GUILD OF THE HOLY CROSS

(S. MARGARET'S CHURCH, ABERDEEN).

THIS Society for working men meets every Monday for the following objects in turn :—1. Devotion ; 2. Music ; 3. Essay with Debate ; 4. Games. As during the summer months the members meet only once a month for devotion, it was suggested that the Saturday afternoons might be profitably devoted to excursions to local places of interest. On application to Mr. Walker, Ex-Dean of Guild, he readily undertook to conduct the members over the East and West Churches, and to interpret their history and antiquities. Accordingly, on the 25th June the Rev. Warden and some 24 members mustered in Drum's Aisle. It was most refreshing and a matter of some surprise to our Episcopalian friends to find a member of the National Church, not only acquainted with every stone and beam of the buildings remaining from pre-reformation times, but with a loving veneration for these relics of our forefathers' pious devotion. To see that his affection is catholic minded and practical, one has only to compare the restoration of the Aisle of the "Holy Bluid" (long known as Collison's) with that of Drum's Aisle. The Tomb of Provost Davidson, slain at Harlaw ; the mural inscription from the Geneva New Testament (first printed in 1557) ; the Irvine effigies and brass ; the ancient carved oak panels ; the ancient effigies of the Menzies of Pitfodels and their strange adventures ; Mary Jamesone's tapestries (by the way, the Warden remarked that the Bible story of Susanna was the earliest recorded instance of cross-examination of witnesses) ; the cut sandstone brought from Stonehaven in Malcolm Canmore's time ; the water-worn boulders brought on men's backs from the hills and fields round the city ; and numberless other interesting remains were all duly described and admired. The genial courtesy and deep antiquarian lore of the kindly guide were warmly acknowledged by the men, who thoroughly enjoyed this the first excursion of the season.—*Communicated.*

## Queries.

NOTE.—Each paragraph, containing one or more Queries, will receive a consecutive number, to which Correspondents may conveniently refer.

6. MENZIES FAMILY.—Where can I have access to a pedigree of this old Aberdeen family, who figure so largely in local history? A member of this family, Provost Sir Thos. Menzies of Cults, died at Wooller, on his return journey from London, in 1620, where he had been with the famous Ythan pearl, but enquiry has failed to prove that he was buried there. Can any of you readers enlighten me?

Any information relating to the Aldermen or Provosts of the Burgh would greatly oblige.

A. M. M.

7. BURIAL REGISTERS.—Are there any of the 17th century relating to Old Machar Cathedral and the Snow Churchyard extant?

A. M. M.

8. PITNACADELL PSALMS.—In Walker's *Craigdam and its Ministers* there is the following sentence—"The Rev. J. Forbes of Old Deer, surnamed 'Pitnacadell,' from a small estate of that name inherited by him, published a collection of Hymns, long known in the district as 'Pitnacadell Psalms.'" Will any reader inform me of the existence of a copy, or where it can be referred to?

W. L. TAYLOR, Peterhead.

9. SONG IN THE "HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN."—In the *Heart of Midlothian*, the Duke of Argyle, after taking farewell of Jeanie Deans, previous to her return to Scotland, is represented as having gone off "humming a stanza of the ballad which he is said to have composed :—

At the sight of Dumbarton once again  
I'll cock up my bonnet and march amain,  
With my claymore hanging down to my heel,  
To whang at the bannocks of barley meal."

The air is so lively that it makes one wish to get the other verses ; but though I have searched many collections of Scotch ballads I have never come across the one in question. Can it have been written by the author of the "Old play," from which Sir Walter quotes so liberally?

FERRYMAN.

10. LEGG OR LEGGE.—Can any of your readers say to what district of Scotland this surname belongs; or if to Scotland at all? I am acquainted with persons bearing it, natives of the North of Scotland, and also as far south as Shields, in England. S.

11. GLACIER MARKED STONE IN KING STREET ROAD.—In 1854 a glacier-marked stone used to stand in a wall that faced a sunk fence (I think) on the King Street Road on or near the site of the Militia Barracks. The late Professor Nicoll was careful to point it out to his students as he accompanied them on a Saturday's excursion into the country north of the Don. It was close to the road, and stood about three feet high. Can any of your readers say what became of it? I hope it was applied to no baser use than to be laid in the foundations of the Barracks.

JAMES GAMMACK, LL.D.

### Answers.

1. *The Political State of Scotland in 1788*, a volume published about three weeks ago by David Douglas, Edinburgh, contains references to "The Independent Friends' Club," and gives the names of some of the members, such as George Skene of Skene, Sir William Forbes of Craigievar, Mr. Burnett, Sheriff of Kincardine, Sir R. Burnett of Leys, Charles Hay, Advocate, Alex. Burnett of Strichen, &c.

Q.

2. LOCAL CLUBS AND LODGES.—Kennedy, in the 2nd vol. of his *Annals* gives a fair summary of the various Clubs existing at the beginning of this century. The Aberdeen Mason Lodge, No. 34, represents the Incorporation of Masons, who, along with the Wrights, and Coopers, received their Seal of Cause from the Magistrates in 1527. Unfortunately their records do not extend quite so far back, but they are complete from 1670. The Gardeners' Society is still an existing body, and proprietors of a lane at the head of Justice Street, called after them. The Barber and Wigmakers' Society has been defunct for some considerable time, and I am unaware where their records are, if extant. The last representative of another old Society, viz., the

Dyers, died the other day, and the Crown are likely now to come into possession.

The Narrow Wynd ran from the north-west corner of the Castlegate past the foot of Broad Street to the head of the Shiprow, and was in its day one of the busiest thoroughfares in the city.

The present collector, of part at least of the "Bishop's Rents," is the Crown.

A. M. M.

2. A society of students was in existence about the beginning of last century called the *Collegium Butterense*, which held its meetings in the little cosy tavern of Peter Butter, "near the gate of the mansion of the Earl of Erroll." There was an elaborate process to go through before you got admission, and diplomas were granted. All the details will be found in Chambers' *Domestic Annals of Scotland*, and also at great length in Watson's *Comic and Serious Scots Poems*, Part III. pp. 56-69.

The Shore Porters' Society is fully described in Mr. John Bulloch's *The Pynours, 1887*.

BUTTRIE WILLIE COLLIE.

2. I have in my possession a copy of the "Origin and Rules of the Gratis Sabbath Evening School Society in Aberdeen, instituted 1797." Also a Sermon preached in the West Church of Aberdeen, on Sabbath evening, September 20th, 1807, by the Rev. John Thomson, M.D., Minister of St. Clement's Chapel, Footdee, Aberdeen, on behalf of the said Society, and printed by request of the Society. The sermon is dedicated to the Reverend Principal Brown of Marischal College. Text, Exod. ii. 9. It appears that about 1807 there were 15 Schools belonging to the Society, and were in the following parts of the city and its suburbs, viz., one in each of the following places, Broad Street, Shiprow, Schoolhill, Gallowgate, Mounthooly, Spital, Woolmanhill, two in Gilcomston, two in Hardgate, one each in Footdee, North Street, Tanfield and Grandholm. There were also three or four schools taught in the country, from four to five miles from the town; and several in various parts of the county. There was an attendance of about 700 children. These schools opened for instruction at half-past

five on Sabbath evening, and continued till eight or half past eight.

JANE LAING.

Kemnay, 13th June, 1887.

2. THE NARROW WYND.—Regarding the locality of this Wynd, the author of *Aberdeen Fifty Years Ago*, 1868, says:—"Seventy years ago the south end of Broad Street led into an irregularly built lane, which from its *width* was called the Narrow Wynd. The west end of this lane led into the north end of the Shiprow, while the east end of it led into Castle Street at the north-west corner." It disappeared after the Improvements Act of 1801 was obtained, and a clearance of the houses round it took place.

Reference is made to the Narrow Wynd Society by Kennedy in his *Annals*, on page 175, Vol. II. (1818).

STALIONE.

3. THE SCORING TERM "LOVE."—The origin of the scoring term "love," which is not confined to billiards only, but to cards and to tennis, has been a crux to antiquaries for more than a hundred years. Mr. Magnusson connects it with an Icelandic word *lyf* (whit); another philologist with the old Scotch word *luff*, the hand. Thus *six luff* would mean six in hand. But the most sensible explanation I have seen, is that which makes it the very same word as love. In card-playing the term is "for love," meaning without gain of a mercenary nature, *for nothing*, as opposed to *for money*. It can be easily understood that if once established in card playing as nothing, "love" would as a scoring term in general come to stand for nothing.

M.

4. "THE JEWEL PRINT OF YOUR FEET."—I think this passage must refer to the sweet violet (*Viola odorata*) which is very common on English meadows, woods and banks, but very rare in Scotland. It is usually of a deep purple colour, and is abundant during the month of March, thus agreeing with the phrase in the poem, "whenever a March-wind sighs."

BOTANIST.

4. Any attempt to extract the essence of poetry can only prove to be more or less of a failure; either the essence will suffer, or the poetry. It were better not to analyse Tenny-

son's exquisite lyric; but as "Xerxes" is in search of suggestions as to the meaning of the phrase, "The jewel-print of your feet," what will he say to the following? Perhaps Maud wore shoes ornamented with diamond (paste of course) buckles. Perhaps the print of her feet assumed the shape of some jewel, of the ruby drop on an Indian Prince's fez, for instance. Seriously, the meaning is simple enough, namely, that wherever Maud stepped, Nature's jewels, blue violets, grew: not literally, of course, but metaphorically speaking. And therein lies the poetry.

AN ILLOGICAL LADY.

5. TUMULUS OR MOUND IN BERRYDEN ROAD.—The pseudo-antiquity of the buildings on the tumulus in Berryden Road, like Aiken Drum's Lang Ladle, has puzzled scores of people. The whole thing was the work of Leslie, a chemist, who lived in a villa at Clerkseat, towards the close of the last century. The "skeleton summer-house, constructed by the intersection of two arches built of brick," which puzzles "Zigzag," is nothing more than an imitation of King's College Tower-top, made from the refuse of a brick-kiln. The slab with the Scottish arms is a piece of real antiquity, having been part of the Exchequer of William the Lyon, in Exchequer Row. Leslie having purchased it for half-a-crown, stuck it into the arched building, and there it remains. Douglas, in his *East Coast of Scotland*, tells the whole story.

J. M. B.

S. FITHACK'S BELL, NIGG, page 6, June *S. N. & Q.*—I have found the following reference to Mowat's foundry, Old Aberdeen, in a MS. family history, written by my father. He says—"My Grandfather was born at Aberdeen in 1749, where my Great-grandfather had been working as a Journeyman Brass-founder, and I believe it was in the Aulton where he worked, and with one of the name of Mowat; but farther I cannot tell, only old John Bisset, who was long foreman tinsmith to Middleton Rettie, and who died a few years after I came north, knew of the Mowats, and I have seen old Bells and Brass Mortars with the name of Mowat, melted in Littlejohn Street" [Messrs. John Blaikie & Sons.] Incidentally it may be mentioned that bell-

founding was probably an ancient craft in Old Aberdeen. Douglas, in his *Description of the East Coast of Scotland*, (Let. XIV.) mentions that at least in the time of Charles II., one Gely, a German, lived there, and re-founded most of the bells in town. Douglas quotes this inscription on one of the Cathedral bells:—"Campanem hanc pro Franciscanorum olim fano denuo fundendam Abredonei curavit senatvs Abredonensis Anno Domini MCCI [sic] Albertus Gely fudt." What more likely than that the Mowats had taken up the trade in immediate succession to Gely?

J. BULLOCH.

#### CHARLES WHYT, PAINTER.

I SAW an inquiry in your first number of *Scottish Notes and Queries* anent Charles Whyt, painter, by Mr. P. J. Anderson. Perhaps the following extracts from Trades Hall Records may add a little to the sum of knowledge:—

1704.—Item to Charles Whyt for putting on the names on the Trades' board, £8 Scots.—*Shoemakers' Book*.

4th January, 1715.—The said day the Court granted warrand to William Anderson, present Master of Hospital, to agree with Charles Whyt, painter, anent renewing King William the Lyon his pictur as cheap as possible, always not exceeding forty shillings sterling.—*Convener Court Book*.

Patrik Whyt, Hookmaker, who was Deacon-Convener at intervals between 1690 to 1705, is said to be the father of the painter. Patrik presented a portrait of himself in 1690, to be hung in the hall. Artist said to be Charles Whyt.

Several other portraits presented to the hall about this time, and which bear no artist's name, are put down to Whyt, who did a good deal of work for the Trades, such as painting emblems and arms on large boards, and on their flags.

Jervise, in his *Inscriptions from Trinity Hall*, refers to Whyt as "an itinerant disciple of Apelles," but, as will be seen from the dates of the extracts given, he must have been a resident, and in all likelihood was a superior kind of house painter, with a facility for portrait painting. His "touching up" of King William's picture is not by any means an artistic performance.

I may add that there is mention of him in some of the other books, but I cannot lay my finger on the places at present.

EBEN. BAIN.

#### Literature.

*The Species of Ficus of the Indo-Malayan and Chinese Countries. Part I.—Palaeomorphe and Urostigma.* By GEORGE KING, M.B., LL.D., F.L.S., Superintendent of the Royal Garden, Calcutta. Calcutta, 1887.

WE notice this important monograph chiefly because it is the production of our talented townsman, Surgeon-Major King. It is a folio volume, consisting of about 80 pages of descriptive matter, accompanied by 86 lithographed plates illustrative of the varieties of the fig. The work has been most creditably printed at the Bengal Secretarial Press, and the plates, with very few exceptions, have all been drawn and lithographed by natives of India employed at the Howrah Garden, or students at the Government School of Art, Calcutta. Whether the plates are judged by their scientific accuracy, or by their artistic delineation, Dr. King is to be congratulated on having so intelligent collaborateurs. The presentations are done in chalk, and with an apparent fidelity that constitutes the series a veritable herbarium and trustworthy aid to the botanist in future identification.

As a result of the researches of botanists, from Linnæus downwards, the species *Ficus* has run up to the enormous total of nearly 600 varieties, but as somewhat loose definitions had crept in, Dr. King was induced by the personal encouragement of Sir Joseph Hooker to undertake the duty of monographer for the Indo-Malayan and Chinese varieties. And so far as the work goes, Dr. King will have completely justified the confidence reposed in him by one so eminent in botanical study. In the course of the author's investigations he was naturally led to study the mode in which the fig is fertilised, and in a brochure accompanying his *magnum opus*, Dr. King discusses the question of the fertilization of the *ficus hispida* as a "problem in vegetable physiology." As is well known, the fig is a hollow fleshy receptacle *within* which are closely imprisoned the unisexual flowers. In *hispida* Dr. King, simultaneously with Count Solms-Laubach, has made the interesting discovery that the figs which bear the male flowers also bear what he calls the

pseudo female flowers, which however are never fertilized, whilst the figs exclusively occupied by female flowers, and to which there is no apparent ingress, are almost always fertilized. To this as yet unsolved crux, much more difficult than that of the fertilization of orchids, has to be added the curious fact that in the ovaries of the pseudo-female flowers, "where one would expect to find an embryonic fig, there is either an empty space or the pupa of an intruding insect," a species of Blastophaga. This creature matures within the fig, from which there is no escape but by cutting its way through. It seems hard to believe—as that operation has to be again performed should it wish to enter another fig—that it is by its means that fertilization is accomplished.

We heartily congratulate Dr. King on this valuable addition to botanical science, a field to which he has most usefully devoted the best part of his life, and trust the Government may, with a wise generosity, continue willing to reproduce the scientific researches of such a capable officer.

---

### To Correspondents.

In replying to Query 3 in our last, several Correspondents, mistaking its drift, have explained the use of the term *love* as in billiards, lawn tennis, &c. These replies we do not print, since what is really wanted is an etymology of *love*, or a reason why that word should be put to such a use.

E.C.T.—To speak of putting folks' "Craigis in ye Jougis" does not mean to put their heads in jugs. It is a Scottish equivalent for putting their necks in the yokes. Craig for neck or throat is now nearly obsolete. 250 years ago Spalding was thoroughly understood when he tells that during the Troubles the dogs in Aberdeen were decorated with a blue ribbon round their craigs to spite the Covenanters. To-day a nurse consoles her infant charge for the disappointing, premature disappearance of a sweet in the mouth, that it has gone down *Craigies* Close. The survival of Jougis as a word has gone out with the use of the instrument as a mode of punishment. The jougis were attached by a chain to a church door or other public place, and consisted of an iron ring, usually made in two halves and fitted to a culprit's neck, like a pair of callipers, and locked. It was a simple kind of pillory much in vogue in times in which it must have figured as on the whole a mildly punitive instrument. Specimens of the jougis are still to be seen both in the collection of the Antiquary as well as in places where they were wont to be put to use.

### PORTRAIT OF WILLIAM THE LYON, IN THE TRADES HALL.

*To the Editor of Scottish Notes and Queries.*

SIR,—For many years I have known the pictures in the Trades Hall, and there is one that has always been placed in the worst light possible, not only in the present but in the old Hall—I allude to the portrait of King William the Lyon. Curious criticism has been made upon it, based most likely on the engraving and description given of it, about 1820, in the Transactions of the Antiquarian Society of Scotland, 1 vol., by General Hutchison. He calls it a "Fresco." As it is one of the finest pictures in the collection, I trust that the Members of the Crafts, who care for Art, will look after it, and get it hung in a better place than it has been for years bygone. It should be put in a light where it can be well seen. X.

---

### ABERDEEN A HUNDRED YEARS . AGO.

WHEN looking over the Almanacks of the closing years of last century and opening ones of the present, I was much interested in the views of life that many of the entries suggested. All the ministers in the town (in 1786) numbered only 15, and schoolmasters of all kinds (including those for dancing and fencing) only 20. The post despatched to London on Monday reached it on Saturday, and that which left for Inverness on Monday morning reached its destination on Tuesday afternoon. The chief means of communication with the south was "The Aberdeen and Edinburgh Fly," which "sets out from Mr. Smith's New Inn, Aberdeen, every Monday, &c., at 4 o'clock in the morning, arrives at Edinburgh next day to dinner. . . . Fare, £2 2s." It required twenty years to start the "Caravan to Montrose," and to Huntly, Banff, and Ellon. The Window Tax was in full force, and the weights and measures commonly used were the Dutch. The Provost was William Cruden, Esq., and "The Honourable THE CLUB" comprised the leading gentlemen in the county.

JAMES GAMMACK, LL.D.



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ABERDEEN.

# SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES

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AUGUST, 1887.

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## CONTENTS.

NOTES :—	PAGE
S. Nicholas Peal of Bells ( <i>with Illustration</i> ), by A. W., .....	33
Scottish University Studies in the Seventeenth Century, by P. J. Anderson,.....	34
Notes on Old Book Covers, by W. Cramond, 36	
Epitaphs and Inscriptions in S. Nicholas Church and Churchyard ( <i>Continued</i> ), by Alex. M. Munro, .....	38
A Bibliography of Aberdeen Periodical Litera- ture ( <i>Continued</i> ), by J. Malcolm Bulloch,...	39
Old Valuation of the Parish of Old Deer, by W. Ferguson,.....	42
The Advocates in Aberdeen, by Norval Clyne, 42	
QUERIES, .....	44
ANSWERS,.....	45
LITERATURE,.....	46
ADVERTISEMENTS,.....	48

ABERDEEN, AUGUST, 1887.

### S. NICHOLAS PEAL OF BELLS.

It is now nearly thirteen years since Aberdeen lost its old Peal of Bells. Silent for all these long years would every tower and steeple in the city have stood, but for our friends in Huntly Street, who very courteously rang their bells on Sundays, to suit other church-going folks than their own. We have now got another Peal of Bells, and would seek to forget the politico-ecclesiastical influences which kept us without bells for so long. It is worth remembering, however, that when, some five years ago, the initiation of peace in the Churches Committee on the Bell question began, it looked as if we should have had only five bells, if the tower of S. Nicholas was to have any other equipment than "a large bell, on which to strike the hours, which also shall serve as bell to the East and West Churches." The scandal of having adopted either of these methods of settling the dispute was, by a little judicious management, avoided,

and we have got, in the place of the Old Steeple, with its Bells and Clock, a Granite Spire, very much admired by many, and a Peal of thirty-seven fine Bells, which can be made to yield music for the admiration of all. We have no means of knowing what like that best of the old bells, S. Lawrence, was in 1351, when presented by Provost Leith, but the many fragments which remain afford some idea of the goodness of the recast of 1634. The beauty of the lettering, and the neatness of the moulding are very remarkable. For more than five hundred years this mellifluous bell's great waves of sound, spread themselves softly over the city—it was, indeed, a linked sweetness long drawn out; it soothed, and made one feel as if

It rang throughout the long, long past  
In sounds that came from far away,  
As if it caught, when it was cast,  
The tones of some diviner day.

In thinking of "Lowrie" we instinctively think of the inscription, and with regret think that nothing worth the name of an inscription is on any of the new bells. In a free rendering this is what was on our fine old monitor:

#### TRANSLATION.

In 1351, WILLIAM LEYTH, the Provost of Aberdeen, presented this Bell to the Church of Saint Nicholas of Aberdeen. Thereafter, a cleft having been made in it, at the expense of the community it was recast in the year 1634, while PAUL MENZIE, of Kinmundy, Knight, was Provost.

#### TO THE ONLY GOD BE GLORY.

MICHAEL BURGERHAYS made me, in the year of our Lord, 1634.

Lo, I the bell, do not proclaim the praise  
Of that which is unholy;  
I glorify the Creator,  
I draw away the fear of thunder,  
I mourn in solemn tones the departed,  
I tell of the recurrent rites of faith,  
I move the heart of the man that is joyful.  
Behold me, I am Lawrence!

During the reign of Provost Webster, the musical capacity of Lawrence, S. Nicholas, and Maria, was largely added to, and we then

bad, in the squat tower, beneath the grand old steeple, a fairly good peal of bells, Dr. Keith, Dr. Fraser, Mr. Rust, and Mr. Ramsay vieing with each other in efforts to make the music and the ringing perfect.

Mr. Ramsay was assiduous in this effort. He put himself in communication, by writing, with Denison, Ellacombe, Beckett, and others. He read and pondered all manner of writings on Campanology, and he toiled and worked in the belfry as ringer and teacher of others to ring. The writer recollects, one warm summer evening, waiting for Mr. Ramsay. Hot, and dusty and angry, he came down the belfry stair. He was waggishly saluted, in a tone of pity, with :

Those Evening Bells—those Evening Bells—  
How many a tale their music tells  
Of drunken ringers without art,  
Ringing to break John Ramsay's heart.

"That's nae that bad," said the hot and angry ringer; "they have been again at these monkey hammers, and that 'ill break the bells, besides my heart." Tastefully conducted change ringing Mr. Ramsay held to be the perfection of the music of the belfry. Well, well, Ramsay, Keith, Fraser, Rust, have joined the majority. The time-honoured landmark of a steeple, that trustworthy clock, and the bells, where are they? All, all, except those old familiar faces, are again at the City's service as before. How, then, are we to get the best service out of the bells?

In 1878, Mr. Haweis, who did much in the most disinterested way to guide us in the selection of bells, said—"The Antwerp bells in a carillon are not very well in tune, though there are many fine bells in each tower." Something is wrong, not with our bells, but with our hanging and our ringing. It may be, as some assert, that a far better arrangement can be made by removing to the Municipal Tower as many of the smaller bells as would be suitable for its bell chamber.

In its wisdom, some years ago, the Town Council, by a vote, took out of the handling of its Churches and Law Committee the Bell question. Under the guidance of a present Member of Parliament they discharged that Committee, and created the, since famous, "Bell Committee." The present Town Council, seeing where things are, have taken

this matter into their own hands, and, in all loyalty, the writer ventures to recommend to the collective wisdom of the whole house the propriety of re-establishing the old friendly relations with Mr. Haweis. Without loss of time get him to consult and advise as to what is best to be done with these very excellent bells. Properly placed and hung, they may yet be spoken of as the Exquisite Peal of the Jubilee Year.

Our Drawing represents a fragment of old Lowrie, and the bell presented by certain members of the West Parish Church.

A. W.

### SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY STUDIES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

IN the seventeenth century two attempts were made to bring into harmony the curricula of the different Scottish Universities, and on each occasion it was resolved that a common scheme of study should be drawn up and printed. I have failed to discover any copies of such prints, and shall be grateful for information regarding them. It is possible that the earlier ordinance did not produce any practical result; but there can be no doubt that when a like enactment was again passed, manuscript courses of study were actually prepared by all the Universities, and the extant evidence goes to prove that at least some of these were printed.<sup>1</sup> It is remarkable that little notice has hitherto been taken of these schemes. Our latest academic historian indeed formally indicates his intention to give no account of them.<sup>2</sup>

The circumstances attending the issue of the two ordinances were as follows:—

In 1645 the General Assembly of the Kirk, held at Edinburgh, approved an overture in these terms:—

"That at the time of every General Assembly the Commissioners directed thereto from all the Universities of this Kingdom, Meet and consult together for

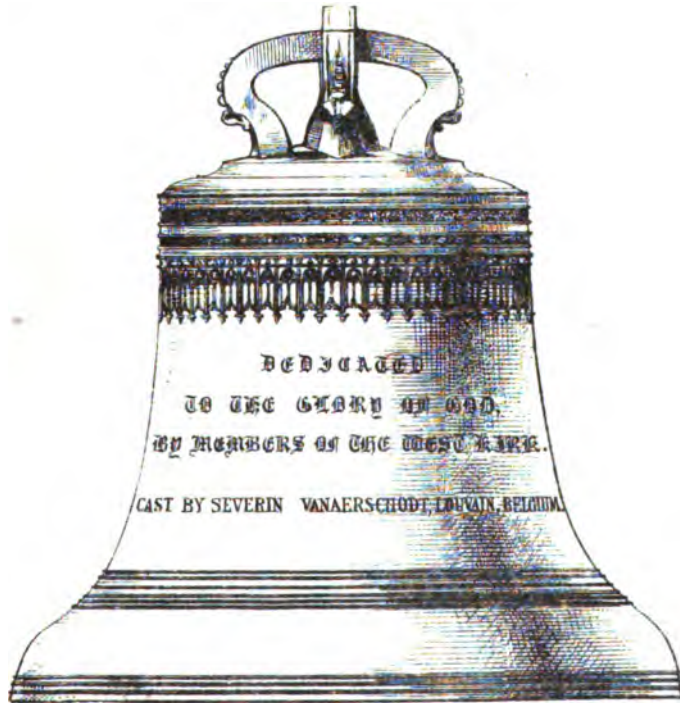
<sup>1</sup> "Spent wt Mr George Gordon and oyns about drawing and writing letters and papers concerning ye Debts due by ye Government to both Colledges for *l. s. d.* printed Courses, . . . . . 00 05 04."

Marischal College Procuratory Accounts for Session 1706. This entry has reference to the "gratificatione of fifty pounds sterling to each colledge at the compleating of the said work." v. infra.

<sup>2</sup> Sir Alexander Grant's *Story of the University of Edinburgh*. Vol. I. pref. p. xiii.



A Fragment of Old Lowrie



THE WEST KIRK BELL.



the establishment and advancement of Pietie, Learning, and good Order in the Schooles and Universities, and be careful that a correspondence be kept among the Universities, and so farre as is possible an Uniformitie in Doctrine and good Order."<sup>1</sup>

At a meeting of these Commissioners, convened August 28, 1647, in the Lower Council House—present: Masters Andrew Ramsay, John Adamson (for Edinburgh); John Strang, Robert Baillie (for Glasgow); Alexander Colville, Robert Blair (for St. Andrews); William Douglas (for Aberdeen):—

"It was fund necessar that ther be a cursus philosophicus drawin up be the four Universities and printed, to the end that the unprofitable and noxious paines in writing be shunned, and that each Universitie contribute thair travellis thairto, and it is to be thocht upon against the month of Merch ensewing, viz., that St. Androis tak the metaphysicks, that Glasgow tak the logicks, Aberdine the ethickis and mathematickis, and Edinburgh the physicks."<sup>2</sup>

From a subsequent minute of July 19, 1648, it appears that at that date no courses had as yet been submitted.

On July 4, 1690, the Scots Parliament appointed sixty-five Commissioners

"to meet and visite all Universities, Colledges, and Schoollis within the Kingdom, and to take tryall of the present professors . . . as likewise for ordering the saids Universities Colledges and Schoollis and the profession and manner of teaching therein."<sup>3</sup>

For five years little action seems to have been taken by the Commissioners, beyond the appointment of committees and the ejection of Doctors Monro and Strachan, Principal and Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh—Episcopalians and nonjurors.<sup>4</sup> But in 1695, in compliance with an order from the Privy Council, the Commissioners held many meetings, and until 1700 they continued to sit at intervals.

On August 1, 1695, the Commission

"having mett with delegates sent from the severall colledges, and heard them both *scripto et viva voce*, anent an uniforme printed course of philosophie to be

herafter taught, doe statut, enact, and ordaine that the ordinary custome of dictating and writing of notes in the classes be discharged from and after the month of October M vj: nyntie six yeares, and ordaines that in place therof there be a printed course or systeme of philosophie composed, to be taught in all the colledges; and the commission appoints the faculties of philosophie in the severall colledges to compile the said systeme, and for that end ordaines the said faculty of every colledge to meet and conveen, and to appoint one or mae of the regents of the said faculty to compile that part of the course appointed for each colledge share, and ordaines the persone or persones swa to be appointed to performe and doe their work that the facultie layes upon them, and if they refuse or faile in the performance thereof, the commission declares he or they shall *ipso facto* be *ex auctoritate* and deprived of their office. And farder the commission appoints the said systeme or course of philosophie to be composed by the faculties of the severall colledges conforme to the divisions following, viz.:—That the logicks and general metaphysicks be composed by the two colledges of St. Andrews, the generall and speciall ethickis by the colledge of Glasgow, the generall and speciall physicks by the two colledges of Aberdeen, and the pneumaticks or speciall metaphysicks by the colledge of Edinburgh; and appoints the faculty of each of the saids colledges to give in a scheme of what points and articles they are to treat of in each of their parts of the said work to the commission of parliament or their comittee against the first Weddensday of October nixt; and appoints the severall colledges to keep a correspondence among themselves during their writing of their severall parts of their work, and that they send parcells of their writings to each colledge, that the same may be revised, and that each of saids colledges be assistant to others for the better carrying on the said work; and the commission appoints a generall meeting of the hail colledges by their delegates to be at Edinburgh the first Weddensday of July nixt to come, at which tyme they are to ratifie the whole systeme and course of philosophie, which is hereby appointed to be in readines against the said day, and that they present the same to the said commission of parliament that the same may be approven and putt to the press against the first of August thereafter; and the commissione recomends to the faculties of the severall colledges that they be exact and diligent in composing the said systeme for the nation and their own credit with as much succinctness as can be; and for their encouragement the commission declares that they will write to the Secretary of State to interpose with his Majesty that he would be pleased to give a gratificatione of fifty pound sterling to each colledge at the compleating of the said work."<sup>5</sup>

The MS. scheme of the "General Physicks," drawn up by the Professors of Marischal College, is preserved in the General Register House; and the scheme of the "Special Physicks," as transmitted by King's College, in the

<sup>1</sup> Acts, &c., 1645. Session xiv. 7th February, post meridiem.

<sup>2</sup> In 1641 the King's College of Old Aberdeen had been united, by Royal Charter, with the more recently-founded Marischal College of Aberdeen, under the title of King Charles' University. The Act of Parliament ratifying this union of the Colledges fell, by its date, under the General Act Recissory, passed after the Restoration; but the style *Universitas Carolina* is found in use down to 1714.

<sup>3</sup> MS. Minutes in the Library of the University of Edinburgh.

<sup>4</sup> *The Acts of the Parliaments of Scotland*, vol. ix. p. 163.

<sup>5</sup> See a tract, *Presbyterian Inquisition as it was lately practised in Edinburgh*. London, 1691.

<sup>1</sup> MS. Minutes in H.M. General Register House, Edinburgh.

library of Edinburgh University. The former will be printed in the *Fasti Academiae Mariscallanae* to be issued by the New Spalding Club.

The subjoined extracts from the Marischal College Procuratory Accounts for Session 1696 prove that in that year drafts of the other Schemes were in circulation among the Universities, and throw some light on the method of "adjustment" employed:—

"Spent at Mrs. Robertsons's, adjusting the Glasgow Ethicks,	<i>l. s. d.</i>
	01 02 00
For ale, pypes, and tobacco to the old town mrs. when they were in ye Prinlls. Chamb. about ye Glasgow Ethicks,	00 08 00
Spent for dinner and supper in Mrs Robertsons's when the old town mrs. and wee adjusted our observes on the Glasgow Ethicks,	02 12 00
Spent when the mrs. of both colledges met to draw observes on the Edinburgh Pneumaticks,	00 12 00
When the Regents of both colledges were making observes on the St. Andrews Metaphisicks,	00 18 00
Spent with the old town Regents at drawing observes on the St. Andrews Metaphisicks at Mrs Robertsons's,	01 10 00
When the Subprincipal and Mr. Black came over to finish these observes,	00 07 00."

It may be noted that the method of "adjustment" indicated is by no means confined to the "schemes." The following is a fair sample of the annual entry in the college accounts relative to the Bursary competition:—

"Item, att the burs theme, givn to Mrs. Robertsons for fyve chopins of sack, &c., to the Principls chamber,	<i>l. s. d.</i>
	05 09 06
Item, att the same tyme, for ail, claret, and suggar bisket,	02 11 08
Item, for ane quarter lb. of tobaco, ane dozen of double pyps, seven candles, four of them being a pound, ane great loaf, two load of peets,	01 05 10
Item, for two sheet of paper,	00 00 06."

In our University of Aberdeen the "burs theme," or Version, still plays almost as important a part as it did in Marischal College two hundred years ago; but in these degenerate days the Committee of Senatus who allot marks to the candidates are content, it is rumoured, to sustain their energies on tea.

P. J. ANDERSON.

## NOTES ON OLD BOOK COVERS.

THE covers of an old book will always repay inspection, and the stray jottings they often contain may be found of interest even centuries after the time they were written.

The Protocol Book of George Duncanson (1541-44), who was a Notary Public, resident in Banff or Cullen, is formed of an old, probably pre-Reformation, parchment, cut down to suit the size of the book, and containing a portion of the Mass of the Dead, written in Old English characters in black and red. The writing is still quite legible. The original cover of the book seems to have been formed of sheets of paper like a Sketching Tablet, and on these appear passages from the Sixth Book of the *Æneid*, bearing the signature, and apparently in the handwriting, of Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty.

The Protocol Book of James Inglis, N. P., Cullen (1588), has for its cover an old parchment Sasine deed, and on leaves which may have formed the original cover is the following:—

Now followis ye auld latine verses prophesying of this present zeir anno 1588 zeris:—

Post mille expletos a partu virginis annos  
Et post quingentos rursus ab orbe . . .  
Octogesimos octauos mirabilis annus, &c.

Quhilk turnit in our languag menit thus:—

Quhen fyfitein hunderit zeris ar past  
Auchtie and aucht sall cum at ye last  
Eftir ye bertht of Cryst our Lord  
Quhilk zeir as vyismen dois recorde  
Grit vo and vinder sall appere  
The vekkit varld sall end yt zeir  
Or ellis all thingis turn upsell down  
And cum to grett confucion.

Another leaf of the same book contains "Ane almanaik for xx zeris to cum" (but only seven years are given), showing in separate columns for the years 1590 to 1596 inclusive, 'the yeris of our Lord,' 'the epact,' 'the dominical letter,' 'pax day,' 'vitsunday,' 'the first day of lent,' and 'the golden number.'

It is well known that the earliest English almanacs were printed in Holland, on small sheets, which are occasionally found preserved, pasted on the covers of old books.

Inglis's Protocol Book also gives the following startling "Nouellis out of Callebria that laillie did appere of ane starne:—

Be it kend till all men that in ye zere of God <sup>IMVC</sup> four score and aucht zeris | quhen ye mone is in ye singe of equarius | thar epprocht gritt danger to ye hail varld || for sua | Mr | Johne Dolotha | ane maist cunningy austronomer being movit to his maist faciale ressonis feris nocht to efferme ye samyng | so sayis he | The sone sall suffer ane eclipse nere on to ye head of the Dragone | and yt fra four houris in ye mornyng tyill nyne | and yis Eclipse obscuring of ye haill salbe horrible | not only sall it bring ane grett deid vpone ye behaldars yairof Bot also to yame yat luikis meist scharplie to it sall gaddir perpetuell blindness. Mr John Dolotha foresees grett speatts of vattir to to yat same zere ye xx day Nov<sup>r</sup> | on the day of ye ascentioun of our Lord Jesus thair salbe ane deluge of vattris | suche as was in ye dayis of Noye | bot it sall indure bot for thre dayis only | no'ye less it sall distroye all howsis and low pleges amangis the seiktis of ye Kyrk of Turkis and ye heretoks sall conspyre agains ye pepill of God and sundry devilis agains yam in ye zere of God foirsaid | and about ye doig dayes callit ye caniculler dayes thair salbe ane greit infection ye pestylence plage that almaist it salbe impossible w<sup>r</sup> vords to decler the samyng. Thair salbe ane change and extreme ourthrow of ye sectis of ye kyrk. The Mahomettis sall leif his Kingdome and conspyre aboue ye turkis | quhar yai sall haif greit vere and hwge exill and sack to haif reising of ye Crestianes rather yaim of his awin folk. Heirefter greit zerdquakis sall arryse and ye frutts of ye erd sall lose yair vontit vertewes and zeld not perfyit forme. Last on Sant Bartholomius day hewin and zerd sall mowe quherby ye maist part of mankynd salbe strekin wt. suddane deytht and throucht fere salbe taken away.

A Cullen Court book, of date 1616, has a cover of the Sketching Tablet type, and one of the sheets that form it is a letter signed, "Your lvffing obedienit vyf, Liliis Lady O[gilvie]" and addressed to her "hono<sup>r</sup> and lvffing husband," from "Balìa chastell the xx of Agvst 1609." Legal deeds in Latin make up the rest of these covers.

William Lesly's Protocol Book (1586) has as its cover a parchment folio, containing part of the Mass of S. John the Evangelist, beautifully written and coloured in red and blue, and still in as good preservation as when it perhaps formed part of the service books of the old Collegiate Church of Cullen.

Burgess oaths of ancient form and date are often found written on the inside of covers for ready reference. There is one in the Cullen Burgh Records, of date 1631, and a much older form in the Records of Banff, (probably one of the oldest forms known to be in existence,) running thus:—"Ye sall stob and staik, big and belte w<sup>n</sup> this burgh according to your power," &c.

The monograms and devices of the N.P.'s are also often met with. The remarks they frequently add are not such as would naturally occur to many notaries of the present day, e.g., "In te Jesu spes mea recumbit." "Et hoc opus incipio in nomine Jesu Christi crucifixi filii Dei optimi maximi," &c.

Sometimes the remarks are of a less serious turn, such as "Tomie Allardyce his famus accompts."

A stray entry made by William Lesly, on the cover of his Protocol Book, has served to fix the date of the foundation of Cullen House: "Upon ye xx day of Marche 1600 yeiris the Lairdis hous in Culane was begun and the grund cassin."

Here follow a few notes made by James Winchester, Town Clerk of Banff in the middle of the Seventeenth Century, on the cover of his Council Minute Book:—

Upon the xxvi day of July 1633 being fryday in the morning James Maister of Ogilvye eldest lawfull sone to James Mr. of Ogilvye was borne in the place of Banff and was baptized within the Kirk yrof wpon the sext day of August following.

6 Octobris 1633 being Sunday ane bark pertaining to Magnus Ferne ane Wastlandman perischit in the roid of Banff qrin was meikill merchand gear.

[Strange to say, a monument, evidently of foreign workmanship, to the memory of Magnus Ferne, is still to be seen in Banff Churchyard in good preservation.]

4 Jan. 1638. Mr. Wm. Sharp Shereff Clerk of Banff depairtit this lyiff and was buried in the Kirk of Banff wpon the 6 of Janr. 1638.

15 Janr. 1638. Margaret Kennedye spous to Thomas Scherund deplit. this lyiff and was buried under hir awin desk in the kirk.

On the cover of a MS. History of the Episcopal Church of Banff, in the possession of Rev. J. Davidson, Banff, is the following, written about fifty years ago, which may interest some readers:—

"*Tradition Extraordinary.*—There is now living in the vicinity of this city (Aberdeen) a gentleman who can boast personal acquaintance with an individual who had seen and conversed with another who had actually been present at the Battle of Flodden Field. Marvellous as this may appear it is nevertheless true. The gentleman to whom we allude was personally acquainted with the celebrated Peter Garden of Auchterless, who died in 1775, at the reputed age of 131, although there is reason to believe he was several years older. Peter in his younger years was servant to Garden of Troup, whom he accompanied on a journey through the North of England, where he saw



and conversed with the famous Henry Jenkins, who died in 1670, at the age of 169. Jenkins was born in 1501, and was of course 12 years of age at the battle of Flodden Field, and on that memorable occasion he bore arrows to an English nobleman, whom he served in the capacity of page. One reason for thinking that Peter Garden was older than he is reported to have been is this:—There are still living individuals who knew Peter, and to whom he used to boast that he had served under Montrose, and been present at the fight of Fyvie. He used to say he was then a *gay loun*, and page to Ogilvie of Forglen. He had a vivid recollection of the encounter and of the personal appearance of Montrose. The battle of Fyvie was fought in 1644, and supposing that Peter was then between 10 and 12 years old, he must have been at least 141 years when he died."

W. CRAMOND.

### EPITAPHS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD.

DUES AND REGULATIONS OF BURIALS—*Continued.*

(*Continued from page 19.*)

NOT only were the dues difficult to obtain, but the constant raising of the pavement of the Church for burials had not improved the condition of the floor. On 29th March, 1585, therefore, the Council "haueing consideratioun that the payment of the fluir of thair parochie kirk is oft tymes opinit and brokin threw the buriall, to the gryt expenssis of the reformatioun thairof, and also of the desyr and supplicatioun of dyuers personis quha desyris the bodies of thair departit freindis to be bureit in the said kirk, swa that throw the multitude of deid bodeis bureit thairin few places is to be fund thairintill but grein grauis, albeit the kirkyard be ane honorabill place of buriall gif thai wald content thairwitht." Therefore, the minute continues, the rates for burial within the Church are in future to be as follows:—For persons past the age of twenty years three pounds, and for "bairnis" twenty shillings, but this without prejudice to "preuilegit personis" having rights to foundations.

The next minute has likewise reference to a grievance connected with burials in the Church. On the 10th February, 1590,\* it was found that the form of "funerallie and Buriallie within this burt in bearing of gym-

phiounis (arms draped with black cloth) before persones departit, hinging vp thair-  
of in the kirk as monuments and about the pilleris and wallis of the kirk and hanging up of Blak Claythis" was unknown in all the reformed kirks since the Reformation, and that the practice was an inconvenient one, seeing all and sundry had begun to follow the example set by "Princes and gryt personages." it was therefore "thocht meit and expedient statute and ordanit that in tyme comming thair salbe no sic gumphiones armes nor blak claythis borne afoir persones departit quhilkis sall happin to be bureit within the parochie kirk of this burt nor hung up in the samen the tyme of thair buriall, nor thair-  
effer, except it be at the buriall of sic persones as ar erlis, lordis, and men of hech rank and estate, or sic as hee borne the office of Prouestrie of this burt and nane vtheris." One of the reasons which moved the Council to interfere in the matter was the consideration that the superfluous expenses "micht be bestowit on ye hospitall of this burt and aid of the puiir." It was in consequence of this Act that, at the burial of the Constable of Aberdeen, Kennedy of Kermuck, in November following, licence had to be obtained from the Council to use black clothes and arms, so that the "order usit within the burgh" might be observed. The custom of using "blak claythes" at funerals did not fall altogether into abeyance, for at a meeting of Council, held on the 23rd February, 1614, £84 was\* authorised to be paid for "ane Mortclaith of blak Weluet freingiet with silk lynit with Buckasie and haueing two mort heidis braidirit thairon in quhyte satine, and bereand this reason, Memento Mori. The vther this reasone, Spes altera vite." The charge for this handsome mortcloth was £4 to burgesses and 10 merks to gentlemen not burgesses, and the cloth not to be lent out of town. A second mortcloth of black cloth, for the use of the poorer burgesses, and eight mourning cloaks, the charge for which was 10s. each for twenty-four hours' use, completed the wardrobe of the Master of Kirkwork.

The General Assembly's Act of 1643, forbidding burials in churches where the people

\* Council Register, Vol. XXXIII., p. 994.

\* Council Register, Vol. XLVI., p. 597.

worshipped, was adopted by the Council in 1647,\* after which all interments were to take place in the south and north sides of the kirkyard. The charge on the south side was £10 for adults, £5 between the ages of 14 and 20 years, and for bairns under 14 years £3 if buried with a "kist," and 30s. without a "kist." The above charges were for burgeses, while strangers, their wives and children, had to pay 40 merks, and gentlemen £20. The Council also resolved to set apart the north side of the churchyard for the poor, an ordinance which still remains in force, and has been acted on for the past 240 years.

The prohibition thus adopted against burial in the church was one which does not appear to have been very strictly enforced, for although it may have prevented new lairs being opened, interments in old graves took place much as formerly.

In 1666 the Council passed an Act prohibiting any defunct persons being buried in "wanscot or oackin" coffins under a penalty of £40 Scots; and a few years later they ordained that all interments, either in the church or churchyard, should take place between sunrise and sunset. The necessity for the latter Act, the penalty for the contravention of which was 300 merks Scots, appears to have arisen from the burial of the Laird of Drum's daughter, on the 22nd April, 1670, between ten and eleven o'clock at night, when certain superstitious ceremonies were performed, presumably not without interruption, for it is particularly noted that two persons were wounded. The superstitious ceremonies may have consisted in the burning of incense, for which the Master of Kirkwork was, in 1705, authorised to charge £4 Scots if the ceremony was performed in the church, and 40s. when in the churchyard.

The last minute I shall refer to here is one dated 21st March, 1705, † and refers to a very old custom, which had gradually, however, come to be an abuse, and so it became necessary for the Council to enact and ordain, "that in all tyme comeing noe beddall about the Churches shall accept of or seek any kind

of bread, drink, or brandie at making of graves. Which if they doe ther places are heirby declared vacant."

ALEX. M. MUNRO.

(To be continued.)

## A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LOCAL PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

(Continued from page 21.)

- 1831? *The Protestant Vindicator*. Aberdeen? In its Literary Notices, *The Christian Investigator*, (Dec., 1830 p. 216), says—"A new weekly periodical is about to be started, to be entitled "*The Protestant Vindicator*." Was this an Aberdeen paper, as we are led to suppose, all the other literary items being local publications, and did it ever appear?
- 1831? *Aberdeen Spectacle*? Speaking of Aberdeen periodicals, the *Aberdeen Medical Magazine* (p. 21) says—"The Aberdeen public is composed of a shrewd but susceptible people, unwilling to throw away their cash on trash of *Censors*, and *Magazines*, and *Spectacles*, and *Lancets*." The *Spectacle* was probably prior to 1831, the date of the *Lancet*.
1831. *The Aberdeen Magazine*. No. 1, January, 1831. Lewis Smith. 8vo, about 60 pp. To No. 24, December, 1832. This magazine is far and away the ablest that has ever issued from the Aberdeen press. There is a rare ability about its articles, and the articles themselves are all well selected, many being of an antiquarian nature. Among its most frequent and clever contributors we may number John Hill Burton, Joseph Robertson, Francis Clerihew, Dr. Kilgour, Rev. William Lillie, Dr. John Ogilvie, John Ramsay, and Rev. J. B. Pratt. James Pennycook Brown was poet in chief, and John Ogilvie, the future lexicographer, his assistant. It is remarkable that one of the first criticisms on Tennyson appeared in *The Aberdeen Magazine*, and it recognised the young poet's genius:—"We know of few of the young poets of our day who have a fairer chance for distinction." (Vol. II., 225.) *Selections from the Aberdeen Magazine* was published in 1878 by Lewis Smith, and the cream of the magazine is presented in permanent form.
1831. *The Aberdeen Lancet*. No. 1, April, 1831. Price 6d. 8vo, 20 pp., in blue cover. Printed and published by R. Cobban and Co., 35 Duthie's Court, Guestrow. The preface states that "a society of young gentlemen, residing in Aberdeen, are desirous of introducing to the notice of their professional brethren in the north, an instrument constructed on similar principles [to the *London Lancet*]." *The Aberdeen Magazine* sarcastically dubs it "that very clever, respectable, and gentlemanly periodical."
- 1832? *Trumpeter*? *The Aberdeen Shaver*, (p. 93,) says—"We understand it is in contemplation to

\* Council Register, Vol. LIII., pp. 118-120.

† Council Register, Vol. LVIII., p. 5.

- start another paper in Aberdeen, to be called "The Trades' Paper," on Radical principles. We are afraid it will not do. For example, the "TRUMPETER" was started here about two years ago, when the great outcry about Reform was at its height, with a circulation of from 950 to 1000 copies weekly; but behold the downcome—its number being (August, 1834) from 400 to 500 weekly!" Was this a *bond fide* paper, or a nickname for a contemporary, probably the *Herald*?
1832. *The Aberdeen Pirate, and Highland Plunderer*. No. 1, February 14th, 1832. Price One Penny. 8 pp., small 8vo. Imprint:—"Printed and published every Tuesday by Edward & Co., 21 Back Wynd, Aberdeen; and may be had of all Booksellers." The opening remarks to the public of this horribly printed little venture, state that "our system of plunder and piracy shall be select, . . . valuable; choice things from every quarter, whether in cyclopaedia, . . . family library, magazine, review, newspaper, or pamphlet of four pages and upwards." I have never seen more than the first number, which is now exceeding rare.
1832. *The Squib*. No. 1, Vol. I. Monday, March 12, 1832. Price 1d. 4to, 4 pp. Imprint:—"Aberdeen: Printed and Published by R. Cobban and Co., 35 Guestrow." One number. The preface opens with—"To those who are not aware, we beg to intimate that, through the medium of the *Aberdeen Journal*, we respectfully requested those having claims against us to send in their accounts for settlement. We also requested all persons who have been 'too long indebted to us' to call and settle their respective accounts, otherwise they might depend on their names being published in *The Squib*, price One Penny." "It is well known," says *The Aberdeen Shaver*, (p. 3), "that Messrs. Cobban & Co. had many debts paid them to prevent exposure." *The Squib* is the first of that numerous brood of so-called comic papers that have from time to time graced local journalism.
1832. *The Aberdeen Herald, and General Advertiser for the Counties of Aberdeen, Banff, and Kincardine*. No. 1, Saturday, September 1, 1832. Price 7d. Imprint:—"Printed and Published by George Cornwall, at the establishment of the Aberdeen Herald, 22 Broad Street, Aberdeen." "The chief object of *The Herald* will be to obtain a cheap, efficient and patriotic system of government," is the promise of No. 1. It was edited successively by John Power, James Adam, and Archibald Gillies; while among its sub-editors were Dr. J. H. Wilson, William Forsyth, and William Carnie. After November 11th, 1876, *the Herald* and the *Weekly Free Press* were united into the paper now known as *The Herald and Weekly Free Press*. The *Statistical Account*, in describing the *Herald*, states that "the principles which it advocates are partly those of the Voluntaries and partly *infidel* in their character." This latter statement was repudiated by the pro-

prietors of the *Herald*, and the *Statistical Account* retracted it. Its best known editor perhaps is James Adam, who died in 1862. More than any of its contemporaries *The Herald* successfully fulfilled the object for which *The Aberdeen Gleaner* had been started, to afford amateur writers, especially of verse, "an opportunity of presenting their labours to their fellow townsmen." From the morning (January 2nd, 1841) when Thom's first poem appeared in its pages, until it ceased, *The Herald* was the most popular nursery for the flights of young poets and minor rhymsters.

1832. *The Aberdeen Pirate. Being a Weekly Miscellany, Intended to Profit and Amuse the Public*. No. 1? July? 4to, 4 pp.? No. 11. Published every Saturday. September 8, 1832. Imprint: "Printed and published by R. Edward and Co., 6 Castle Street; and may be had of all Booksellers." At No. 33 imprint changes to "Aberdeen: Printed by J. Anderson and Co., 5 Long Acre." No. 62, September 5, 1833, appears to have been the last number; but under the simple title of *The Pirate* we find two supplements, one on Thursday, October 31, 1833, and the other on November 28, 1833, both price 1d. How comes there to be these Supplements?
1832. *The Scots Champion and Aberdeen Free Press*. No. 1, October 11. Aberdeen, 1832. Price 3½d. 8vo, 24 pp., with blue wrapper. Imprint: "Aberdeen: Printed and published, 1832, monthly, by John Watt, No. 8, Henderson's Court, Broad Street." This paper was strongly Radical in politics, describing itself as "patriotic and free." Only one number was published.
1832. *The Theatrical Reporter*. No. 1, Saturday, December 1, 1832. One Halfpenny. "Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Shakespeare*. Imprint: "Watt, Printer, Aberdeen." 4to, single leaf, printed on one side only.
1833. *The Aberdeen Mirror, a Weekly Miscellany*. No. 1, Thursday, September 12, 1833. Price 1d. Imprint: "Aberdeen: Printed by J. Anderson and Co., 5 Long Acre." 4to, 4 pp. *The Mirror* seems to have been a continuation of *The Pirate*, for they are of the same size, published on succeeding weeks (September 5 and September 12, 1834), and an article begun in the one is continued in the other. On the 19th September, 1834, *The Shaver* appeared. There can be little doubt that *The Pirate*, *The Mirror*, and *The Shaver* were one and the same papers under different titles. Mr. A. D. Morice suggests that "the explanation probably is, that the Stamp Office having threatened proceedings, *The Pirate* became *The Mirror*—and the Stamp Office having again interfered, *The Mirror* became *The Shaver*, and a monthly paper, and so not a newspaper."
1833. *The Aberdeen Shaver, a new Monthly Miscellany*. No. 1, Thursday, September 19, 1833. Price 2d. 8vo, 8 pp. Imprint—"Aberdeen: Printed by J. Anderson and Co., 5 Long Acre." At No. 7 the title is enlarged. A woodcut,

representing a barber shaving a gentleman, with the quotation of Falstaff beneath it—"Tis my vocation, Hal—every man must labour in his vocation," is placed below the title. On the left hand we read—"Shaving perpetrated here on the most approved principles;" and on the right, "Ladies' Matters trimmed with precision and dispatch." At No. 15 and at No. 18 the woodcuts, though still representing a barber, are quite different from the first. At No. 49 the imprint changes to "Aberdeen: Printed by George Leith and Co., 5 Long Acre." The outside heading on No. 54 is simply *The Shaver*, and this same number is numbered 1, and paged 1, 2, 3, etc. The pagination after this number is very much muddled. *The Shaver* continued up to No. 64, April, 1832. Scandalous and immoral as much of the matter of *The Shaver* was—neither law nor public opinion would tolerate nowadays—it was conducted on the whole with some ability, and it was fairly well printed. Case after case was brought against it for libel, and the proprietors had invariably to pay dearly for their scurrilous "razor cuts." The crowning case was that by which Alexander Milne, Lime and Grain Merchant, got a decision against the proprietors for £150. At this point the proprietorship, nominally at least, changed hands, and with the change came a decided falling off both in scurrility and ability. The paper dwindled for 15 numbers, coming to an end at No. 64. In one of the literary notices it is announced—"there will be published, with all convenient speed, in one vol., 12mo, 1s. 6d., a full and accurate account of all the Trials against *The Pirate*, *The Mirror*, and *The Shaver*, with a Portrait of each of the Pursuers; with all the Speeches and Replis at length, both written and verbal, with Notes, Critical and Explanatory. Also, many Anecdotes relating to the Trials will be given, for the amusement of the public." (See *The Shaver*, May, 1834, p. 63.) It claimed in its palmier days a circulation greater "than all the three Aberdeen Newspapers put together!" According to the author of *The Bards of Bon-Accord*, Alex. Gordon, who wrote under the *nom-de-plume* of "The Planter," and also Archibald Inglis Watson, contributed poetry to *The Shaver*. For one piece, indeed, Gordon was dismissed from his clerkship at Grandholm Works.

1833. *The Aberdeen Voluntary Churchman* for 1834. Aberdeen: Printed by John Davidson and Co, 65 Broad Street. Published by G. King, 36 St. Nicholas Street. 1834. No. 1, November, 1833. Price 2d. 8vo, 16 pp.; 26 numbers to December, 1835.

1833. *The Aberdeen Gleaner, a Literary and Scientific Miscellany*. No. 1, Thursday, December 26, 1833. Price 2d. Imprint: "Aberdeen: Printed by J. Anderson and Co., 5 Long Acre." 8vo, 16 pp. One number only. As its name indicates, the *Gleaner* was partly filled with selections. It started with the philanthropic purpose of affording "our native writers, both of prose and

verse, an opportunity of presenting their labours to their fellow townsmen;" but these "native writers" do not seem to have appreciated the patronage.

1833. *The Aberdeen Citizen*. Under date Jan. 9, 1834, *The Aberdeen Shaver*, in one of its "razor cuts," says—"Died here, in the second number of its age, 'The Aberdeen Citizen,' deeply lamented by the small circle of its friends." Beyond this reference I have never heard of nor seen the paper.

1834. *The Artisan*. No. 1, March? 1834. 4to? 4 pp? This paper changed its name to *The Aberdeen Monitor*.

1834. *Letter of Marque*. [Motto.] No. 1, Aberdeen, February, 1834. Price 2d. 4to, 8 pp. Imprint: "Aberdeen: Printed and Sold by J. Watt, 9 Guestrow;" and at No. 3 the imprint changes to "Printed by John Davidson & Co., sold by A. Mitchell, 20 Upperkirkgate." To No. 6, July, 1834, *The Letter of Marque* was edited by John Ramsay, and was a thoroughly respectable periodical, partly devoted to subjects of elegant literature and popular science, and partly to matters of local interest. According to the promise in the opening number, it was "as much as possible an Aberdeen production," containing sketches and portraits of well known citizens, and much interesting matter connected with city affairs.

1834. *The Trades' Paper* is spoken of in *The Aberdeen Shaver* (September, 1834) as a paper on Radical principles about to be started in Aberdeen. Was it ever started, or did the *Shaver's* remarks nip it in the bud?

1834. *Aberdeen Medical Magazine*. No. 1, December, 1834, Vol. 1., 8vo, 28 pp. Imprint: "John Davidson and Co., Printers, 65 Broad Street, Aberdeen, for Samuel Maclean, 8 Union Street." To No. 4, March, 1835. The editorial in No. 1 states that "our first great object indeed is to redeem the character of the Medical Profession in the North . . . encouragement of Medical literature. To the Students of Medicine we hope our periodical will be particularly acceptable, their interests we shall always advocate."

1834. *The Aberdeen Monitor*. "I seek no recompense—I fear no consequences. Fortified by that proved integrity which disdains to triumph or to yield, I will advocate the rights of man." No. 1. Aberdeen, August, 1834. Price Twopence. 4to, 8 pp. Imprint—"Aberdeen: Printed and sold by J. Watt, No. 9, Guestrow." A note states that, at the suggestion of a number of Friends, we have substituted the title *The Aberdeen Monitor* in place of *The Artisan*, the former being thought a more appropriate title to our publication." *The Aberdeen Monitor* was a political paper of Radical principles. No. 1 begins at p. 17. Monthly, to No. 2, September, 1834.

J. MALCOLM BULLOCH.

(To be continued.)

### OLD VALUATION OF THE PARISH OF OLD DEER.

LOOKING over some old papers the other day I came on a valuation of the parish of Old Deer, made out to show the proportion payable by the different proprietors for erecting a school in the year 1775, and other matters in 1777, which may be of interest. It is as follows:—

“Valuation of Old Deer Parish, 1775, with the severall Proportions payable from the Lands for the Building the School, at the Rate of 3 farthings on each Shilling Sterling of valued Rent, or 15 pennies Scots on each £1 Scots.

	Scots Money.	Sterling.	Ster.
Lands of Pitfour, £1075	£1611	£134	£8
Clackria, £536 3s.	3 0 0	5 3	7 10
Skilmarno . . . . .	96 0 0	8 0 0	0 10 0
Fetterangus and lands in Banffshire	1000 0 0	83 6 8	5 4 2
Lands of Kinmundie . . . . .	800 0 0	91 13 4	5 14 7
Lands of Coynach . . . . .	300 0 0		
Deer, Aden, Riffie, Burntbrae, and Clochan (Troup's lands) . . . . .	773 13 4	64 9 5 9-12	4 0 7
Anochy and Elrick, £400 Crichtie, £320 . . . . .	720 0 0	60 0 0	3 15 0
Little Clochan and Dens . . . . .	483 18 4	56 19 8	3 11 3
Knock . . . . .	200 0 0		
Bruzie Lands . . . . .	363 0 0	30 5 2	1 17 10
Skelmuir's Lands . . . . .	700 0 0	58 6 8	3 12 11
Nethermuir . . . . .	60 0 0	5 0 0	0 6 3
Schivas Lands . . . . .	20 0 0	1 13 4	0 2 1
	£7127 14 8	£593 19 6 ½	£37 2 6

“OLD DEER, October 17, 1777.—At a meeting of the Heritors of Deer—present, James Ferguson, Pitfour; James Ferguson, Kinmundie; Alexander Russel, Moncoffer; decreed for a new Isle and Reparations of Roof and Lofte of the Kirk of Deer, The Heritors to pay their proportions of £100 the one half presently. The oy: half at Martinmas. The first proportion paid on 20th October for Kinmundie is £17. 14s. 8d., an equal sum at Martinmas is £15. 9s. 4d., as the full proportion of the £100 from the Lands of Kinmundie and Coynach, and which affects these lands at the rate

of £1. 8s. 1½d. for each hunder pound Scots of valued rent.

New Kirk.

If valued at £500 Sterling

Kdy proportion is £77. 6s. 8d.

If at £600 it will be £92. 16s.”

The above curious document relates first to the erection of an aisle for the family of Keith and repair of the old Church. Some ten years after the above dates, that church was taken down and the presently existing church erected. Part of the old church remains in the burying-ground of the Fergusons of Kinmundy and probably also in that of Pitfour. The aisle stood near the present tower, and is marked by the tombstone of the Keiths there. The present church was erected in 1788, and it would be curious to know whether it cost the £500 or the £600 of the above estimate for the “New Kirk.” It was restored a few years ago at a cost of about £1500.

WM. FERGUSON.

### THE ADVOCATES IN ABERDEEN.

WILLIAM KENNEDY, author of the *Annals of Aberdeen*, was a Member of the Society of Advocates, and in 1806 held the office of Treasurer. The minutes of the annual general meeting in that year state that he “delivered to the meeting the Matriculation Book, in which were entered the names of the Members of the Society from the year 1549 to this period, made up from such records in this city and other authentic documents as he had access to, specifying the date of their admission, deaths, and other particulars, so far as his research could enable him to go.” Passing over, at present, the question whether there was, so early as the 16th century, any “Society” of Aberdeen Advocates, the list drawn up by Kennedy, although incomplete and imperfect, may be accepted as correct so far as it goes. One name is distinguished in a fashion curiously inconsistent with the character of a legal practitioner. It is that of *Patrick Cheyne*, entered as “admitted” in 1570. In the same year he, along with two other persons, had a quarrel and a fight with William Annand and another, and Annand was killed. We learn these particulars from

a venerable parchment writ, in the possession of the present Society, being a Respite granted by the Crown, of date January 16, 1588, and apparently a renewal of a previous writ of the same nature. It runs thus :—

“James, be the grace of God, King of Scottis, To all and sindrie oure Justices, Sheriffs, Stewartis, Justice Clerkis, Crownars and thair deputis, Provistes, Aldermen, and Bailleis of our burrows, and all utheris our officiaris, leigis and subdittis, quhomeit efferis, quhais knowledge thir our lettres sal com gretting. Wit ye us of our speciall grace and mercie, to have respitt and be thir our lettres in the law and by the law speciallie respittes Mr. Patrick Chene, *Advocat in our burgh of Abirdene*, Alexander Gardin of Blackfurde, and Johnne Chene, sone to Robert Chene in Caldwellis, for airt and pairt of the slaughtir of umquhil Williame Annand, and mutilation of Patrick Annand, in Clayhills, committit in the moneth of

the yeir of God fifteen hundred threscoir ten yeiris, upoun foirthocht fellony or suddantie, and for all action or cryme that may be imput to thaim thairthrou, and that may follow thairupoun, To be onhurt, unharmit, unattachit, unarreistit, unfollowit, unpersewit, unsomminit, unvexit, and undisturbit, in thair persones, landis or guidis thairfor be you or ony of you, our officiaris, liegis and subdittis foirsaidis, during the tyme of thir our lettres; Quhairfore we charge straitlie and commandis you all and sindrie our officiaris liegis and subdittis foirsaidis that nane of you tak upoun hand to do or attempt onything incontrair or breking of thir our lettres of speciall respitt during all the tyme thair of, under all hiest pane charge and offence that ye and ilkane of you may commit and inryn against our majesties in that pairt thir our lettres of speciall respitt for the space of nyntene yeiris incommin efter the day and dait of the samyn, but only revocation to indure, because the said cryme was committit lang befor our last Act of Parliament maid against the granting of respittis or remissionis for slaughteris to be committit efter the dait of the said Act, and als our thesaurer his sene quhair the pairtis is assythit. Gevin under our privie seill at Halierud-hous, the sextene day of Januare, the yeir of God

jm v fourescoir aucht yeirs, and of our reigne the twentie twa yeir.

Per signaturam manu S D N Regis subscriptam.”

The terms of the Act referred to in the Respite, given below, will explain some things in the writ.\*

NORVAL CLYNE.

**CURIOUS DISCOVERY.**—A reader of the old records of the burgh of Cullen alighted the other day on a stray slip of paper with the official sentence passed by the Sheriff of the county for the execution of a man on the Clunehill of Deskford for stealing a cow. The memory of such an event had died away almost entirely in the district, but on examining a knoll, known as the “Gallows Knowe,” two slight mounds appeared at a distance of five yards apart. These were dug into, and in one, at a depth of eighteen inches, was found the bones of the man who was hanged, and in the other, at a depth of 3 feet, the stone supports on which the gibbet rested. C.

\* Act No. 136, of the eighth Parliament of King James the sixth, 22nd May, 1584 :—

“The Kings Majestie considering that slaughters, fire-raisinges, and uthers odious crimes, hes bene sa commounly committed, throw all parts of this Realme, and a great part of the occasion theirof supposed to be the ready granting of his Hienes respettes, and remissiones to the committers theirof, upon in-opportune-suittes maid to his Majestie theirof: His Heines remembering how greivous sick slaughters, fire-raisinges, and uthers odious crimes ar in Gods sight, and how offensive to the Estate of the commoun weill of his Realme, followand the gude and lovable example of his maist noble Progenitours in like case, at the instant request of his three Estaites, assembled in this present Parliament : And for the better eschewing of trespasses, and enormities against the safetie of his Lieges, and commoun profite of his Realme, of his special grace and favour, hes granted, and in the worde of a King promitted to close his hands, and cease fra granting of onie respettes, or remissiones, for ony maner of slaughters, fire raising, or ony uther odious crimes, that sall happen to be committed, for the space of three zeires nixt-to-come, after the dait hereof: that in the meanetime his Realme may be put in peace and rule, and his Lieges live in suretie. And gif ony remissiones beis given or granted for auld actiones, that it sall be exprimed and provided in the same that the trespassse wes committed before this present Parliament, and that his Hienes and his Thesaurer hes sene quhair the partie is assithed : and gif the contrare beis found, the remission or respet to be of nane availle.”

## Queries.

NOTE.—Each paragraph, containing one or more Queries, will receive a consecutive number, to which Correspondents may conveniently refer.

12. BIRTHPLACE OF GEORGE CRUIKSHANK, THE CARICATURIST.—Can any reader give the parentage and birthplace of George Cruikshank, the Caricaturist? An Inverurie tradition places his grandfather there in the first years of the century.

JOHN DAVIDSON, D.D.

[In Blanchard Jerrold's *Life of George Cruikshank* he says that George was "the son of Isaac Cruikshank, a struggling Scotch artist;" and in a foot-note to page 22, Vol. I.—"The Cruikshanks belonged to Aberdeenshire, where they are still a numerous sept. Probably some branches of them may be found in the Poll Book of Aberdeenshire." Cruikshank's widow is still alive, but it is scarcely likely that she knows the exact family cradle, else she would have communicated it to the biographer of her husband, whose father, he vaguely says, "was the son of a Lowlander."—ED.]

13. MACADAM, THE ROADMAKER.—It is believed in Inverurie, on the testimony of one who lived there fifty years ago, that the turnpike from Aberdeen to Inverurie was made by the famous Macadam, whose name has long been attached to the turnpike style of highroad. Can any one give some account of the celebrated roadmaker? An excise officer, named Gilbert Macadam, was resident in Inverurie some years after the time when that road, the most expensive of all the turnpikes, was constructed.

JOHN DAVIDSON, D.D.

14. MAKER OF BELHELVIE PARISH COMMUNION CUPS, 1636.—I would be glad to receive any information regarding the maker of Belhelvie Parish Church Communion Cups dated 1636 and 1637, whose marks are "A L," with a vase, being the Arms of Old Aberdeen. What was his name and where about in the Aulton was his workshop? Besides these two cups, is anything else of his known to exist?

W. A. J.

15. GOLD AND SILVER-SMITH TRADE, OLD ABERDEEN.—Is anything known regarding the condition of the Gold and Silver-smith Trade in the Aulton previous to 1819?

W. A. J.

16. DEATH OF ALEXANDER III. OF SCOTLAND.—At what exact spot was it that the fatal accident occurred? Tradition, local belief, and most historians say he was thrown from the top of the cliff near Burntisland. I have heard that his horse stumbled on the path at the foot of the hill. Perhaps some of the readers of *Scot. N. & Q.* can put me right, and cite authorities.

J. W. SCOTT.

17. SOUTER JOHNNIE.—Who is generally supposed to have been the prototype of this worthy? Shairp says one John Davidson, who is buried in Kirkoswald Kirkyard. When rusticating in the Land of Burns this year I had the grave of John Laughlan pointed out to me in Alloway Kirkyard as the Souter's last resting-place. I am aware that the identity of Tam's drouthy cronie has not been placed beyond dispute, but am anxious to know which of the many claimants receives the most general support. Seven cities, we are told, contended for "Homer dead," and the worthy Souter seems not without a similar share of "public patronage."

J. W. SCOTT.

18. ROSMARCHÆUM.—In an old tattered geographical work of the 17th century occurs the following:—"Dun Robin Castle, the seat sometimes of the Earls of Sutherland. *Rosmarchæum* of old." I should be glad of any proof of this said *older* name

D. WILLIAM KEMP.

Trinity, Edinburgh.

19. THE BARBERS' SOCIETY.—Can any of your readers tell me who was the last or remanent member of this Society? What came of its funds?

T.

20. "A STAGE DOCTOR."—In the Trades Records there occurs the following entry:—"1743. To Philips, the Stage Doctor, for cutting the excrescence off John Smith's nose, and spent with him, £14 17s."—*Trades Hospital Accounts*. What was a stage doctor? Can any of your readers tell me anything about this Philips?

T.

21. MEANING OF GROLL OR GROLE.—There is a popular rhyme which says—

The groll of the Geerie, [Garioch]  
The bowmen o' Mar,  
Upon the hill o' Bennachie  
The grole wan the war.

What is the meaning of groll or grole?

IGNORAMUS.

22. ROAD-SIDE CROSSES.—I observed recently in the *Church Times* attention directed to the proposed restoration, or erection of Road-Side Crosses in England. The writer there indicates, that at the Reformation there were upwards of 5000 of these Crosses, most of which, however, the Vandalism of Puritanism has laid low. Charing Cross—which is a corruption of “*chère reine*”—was one of these, and was so named after Eleanor, Queen of Edward I. Can any of your learned readers tell me (1) how Scotland was provided in the matter of Road-side Crosses? (2) what of these are still standing? and (3) if any work describing them has ever been published?

J. S.

23. ORIGIN OF PLACE-NAMES.—I am desirous of learning whether the impression left on my mind after reading the newspaper account of the last report of the New Spalding Club's proceedings, as to the method of investigating the above subject, is erroneous. I think the report stated that the Rev. W. Grigor (who has charge of this department) had been sending round queries to various people with the view of collecting information, but I do not recollect whether the report stated that the Rev. W. Grigor intended also to treat the matter historically—that is, by finding out from such documentary evidence as we possess the earliest *written* form of the names of Celtic origin. I believe this method the only one likely to lead to satisfactory results. I shall, therefore, feel obliged if you, or any of your readers, will inform me what is the precise plan of inquiring into the origin and history of the Place-names of the North which is now being carried out?

J. G.

24. GORDON OF GICHT.—In a quarrel a Gordon of Gicht was killed at the Bridge of Old Deer. Can any one give a full account of the occurrence?

25. THE PRETENDER AT PETERHEAD.—In 1715 James the Pretender landed at Peterhead and spent some time there. Can the house in which he stayed be identified now?

26. THE WILLOW PATTERN.—Where is to be found the earliest account of the story depicted on the willow pattern plate?

King-Edward.

J. M.

### Answers.

2. LOCAL SOCIETY.—The “Fraternity of True Blue Gardeners of Aberdeen,” which was flourishing exactly one hundred years ago, and held its meetings in the Old Gardeners' Hall, Castle Street, does not seem to have been a mere benefit society, the members of which were of any trade. It encouraged flower growing among its members, and annually gave medals for the best plants. It had an insignia of office.

ENID.

3. LOVE.—The etymology of the word “love” is from the Anglo-Saxon verb “loif” or “loff,” to love.

4. “THE JEWEL PRINT OF YOUR FEET.”—Though it is a vain attempt to assign a real meaning to every combination of sounding words in the writings of Tennyson, and of other poets whom I might name, I think the meaning of “The jewel print of your feet” is more easily discoverable than that of many other so-called poetic sentences. It is to my mind evident that the word “jewel” in this case is equivalent to *dear* or *precious*.

6. MENZIES FAMILY.—A. M. M., p. 27, *S. N. & Q.*, will find in “The Succinct Survey of the famous City of Aberdeen,” by ΦΙΛΟΠΟΛΙΤΕΙΟΥΣ; published by Jno. Forbes, Aberdeen, 1685, “A Catalogue of these who have been Provosts in Aberdeen whereof any record may be had either by scrolls, charters, or infestments, before or since the burning of the said city.” This list commences in the year 1310, and comes down to 1676. Sir Thomas Menzies, who “vitam obiit in mense Septembris 1620, in suo itinere in rediundo ab Anglia,” was Provost from 1615.

W. R. K.

10. LEGG.—It may interest “S.” to learn that the earliest reference to this name in the older records of Banffshire is probably in 1588, when William Leg, in Newmyll, gave his son “his portione naturall, Thre oxin, viz., ane of them ane brovin hornit ox, and ane



uther qhyt fetit ox." The name is not of frequent occurrence in this part, but we find another member of the family—Patrick Leg, in Scordach—figuring in the Court Books, 22nd February, 1648, and this is part of his "dittay":—"Item thow Patrick Leg art indyttit and accusit haldin and reput as ane commoun theiff and ane notorious theiff without fang and in fang vnder ane evill name and fame lyveing the lyff against the law of God and man." He was condemned "to be brunt on the scheik w' ane key and be banished out of this cuntrey betuix Spey and Devoren and nevir to cum in thir feildes againe." If the family of Legg was of any standing in former times, "S." may consult with advantage the excellent indices in the Register of the Great Seal and similar publications. The Stent Rolls found among the records of most burghs give lists of almost all the inhabitants from an early period. It will give some idea of the rarity of the name Legge in the northern part of Banffshire (the name Cruickshank has been common from the earliest recorded times to the present day,) when it is mentioned that out of 1731 monuments within seven churchyards in the Presbytery of Fordyce the name Legg only occurs on two. C.

II. GLACIER-MARKED STONE IN KING ST. ROAD.—The stone to which Dr. Gammack refers was not used in the foundation of the Militia Barracks, but lay up till some months ago at the new gateway of St. Peter's Cemetery, at the corner of Merkland Road. It has been removed to the Duthie Park, and is now preserved among other antiquarian relics.

STALIONE E TORELLO.

II. I have seen the glacier-marked stone in King Street. There were several such boulders laid bare when the road was levelled at this point some forty years ago. I saw last year a large boulder lying on pathway beside the gate of the Spital Burying Ground. On my return to Aberdeen this year it had been removed. The best example in or about Aberdeen of glacial action is in this locality. Taking our position at the end of Love Lane, where it enters King Street, and looking towards the sea, mark the valley running down to the ocean, and widening out to an extensive plain immediately north of the Broad

Hill. That is the course of a huge glacier that had rested originally on the Spital Hill. The fragments of the granite boulders may be seen in the fields there.

London.

J. MARTIN.

### Literature.

*Castles of Aberdeenshire: Historical and Descriptive Notices. Partly Reprinted from Sir Andrew Leith Hay's "Castellated Architecture of Aberdeenshire." With Pen and Ink Drawings by WILLIAM TAYLOR. Aberdeen: D. Wyllie & Son. 1887. [Pp. 162, 11 × 8½ ins.]*

ABERDEENSHIRE is a county second to none in Scotland in its richness in baronial residences, referable more especially to the beginning of the 17th century. "Castle building, or castle adorning, was in high fashion" about that period, says Cosmo Innes, and, he adds, "strangely it fixed on Aberdeenshire as its favourite field, . . . where castle mansions still exist to teach our presumptuous age a lesson of humility." We do not share in that writer's astonishment at the fact, for a moment's reflection shows the predisposing cause to be that the district has been from immemorial times the habitat of a notable group of great families, including the Comyns, the Gordons, the Forbeses, the Frasers, the Hays, the Farquharsons, with their congeners—all vieing with each other in the race for distinction and precedence. It is a tribute alike to the instinct of self-preservation and the worthy emulation of the septs named, that to erect a noble roof-tree should have been considered as *facile princeps* the duty of the head of the house. The social influence of the dwelling was duly appreciated, and if in some instances there was extravagance in the application of the theory, there is no extravagance so pardonable in the family economy as that which finds expression in the scale and quality of its home.

This book, an old friend with a new face, is a laudable effort to preserve by description and delineation, not all, but the more important castles of Aberdeenshire, and embodies much that is traditionally, historically, and architecturally valuable that we would

not willingly let die. With the graceful and generally accurate text of the work of the gallant knight of Leith-hall, as the confessed base of operations, Mr. Charles E. Dalrymple, aided by Mr. C. S. Leslie of Balquhain, Mr. Patrick H. Chalmers, advocate; Colonel Ross-King of Tertowie, and Rev. Dr. Milne, Fyvie, has extended the lines and enhanced the worth of that valuable and now scarce production, and has brought the latest lights to bear on the histories and genealogies of the various families. These literary sketches, extending from one to a dozen pages, according to the importance of the subject, are chastely expressed compendia of facts at once interesting and instructive.

As regards the illustrations, a series of 42 pen and ink tinted lithographs has replaced the chalk lithographs of the original work, taken from Sir Andrew's original drawings. There may be differences of taste and opinion as to the two sets of prints, but there can be little doubt as to the more realistic character of the present set. They are of somewhat unequal merit, but are as a whole creditable specimens of the art. The excellency of many of the plates (*e. g.*, Craigston, Castle Fraser, Craigievar, Leith-hall, Invercauld, Druminnor, and Tolquhon, with the fireplace and tower-door of Huntly Castle) brings them within such measurable distance of genuine etchings, as to induce us to suggest to Mr. Taylor that he might with great advantage take to the dry point. If the artist has a fault, it is in an elaboration of his work, beyond what lithography, with all its risks of imperfect transferring and printing, can legitimately be expected to reproduce without loss of artistic feeling. On copper his love of minutiae might be indulged to any extent, with not more risk in the mechanical and chemical after processes, combined with enormous gain of "impressions from the plate." A few figures on Mr. Taylor's prints would have enlivened and given scale to his work.

As to the typography, it is not hypercritical to say that the nicely legible text is somewhat marred by the block letter titles and often inartistic tailpieces of the articles. *Sans-serifs* do not fit with our modern notions of fine book-work. We also think the editor was scarcely justified in issuing this important

work without an index. Indexes cost little, but are worth much to readers and consulters of books. With these demurrers, we think "Castles in Aberdeenshire" will share in its lineal ancestor's undoubted popularity, and will continue to be valued by the antiquary, the genealogist, the architect, and the general reader, as a faithful rescript of the interesting subjects of which it treats.—ED.

*Notes on Superstition and Folk-Lore.* By JEANNIE M. LAING. [Pp. 107.] Introduction by D. H. EDWARDS, F.R.H.S., F.A.S. [Pp. 15.] Brechin, 1885. [6¼ × 4 ins.]

THIS little book is an evidence of a wide spreading conviction that the days of Superstition at least are numbered, and Miss Laing, with true literary instinct, has set herself to fix on the printed page as many Superstitions and items of Folk-Lore as possible before we quite lose grip of them. The sources of information from which the materials have been drawn are the incidental references to such topics culled by the author in the course of wide reading, as well as the oral traditions and practices—not to be found in any of the books—but stratified here for the first time as the result of the author's industry and observation. There are perhaps few intelligent readers who will not be able to add some stones to the cairn which Miss Laing has raised; and now that the New Spalding Club have wisely consented to become the conservators of our floating Folk-Lore, contributions, recalling Dr. Gregor's recent appeal, will be willingly received. Miss Laing has the habit of the pen, and her pages read well. We wish we could add that adequate care had been exercised in the simple editing, and taste in the printing of the work.—ED.

\*.\* Several communications, in type, unavoidably left over.

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## CONTENTS.

NOTES:—	PAGE
The Advocates in Aberdeen, No. 2, by Norval Clyne,.....	49
Epitaphs and Inscriptions in S. Nicholas Church and Churchyard ( <i>Continued</i> ), by Alex. M. Munro,.....	50
A Bibliography of Aberdeen Periodical Literature ( <i>Continued</i> ), by J. Malcolm Bulloch,...	53
A Ramble on the East Coast of Buchan, by J. Dalgarno,.....	55
Charles Whyt, or White, Painter, by J.,.....	56
Anent Church Laws, by J. A. H.,.....	57
Shakespeariana, by John Milne, LL.D., ...	58
Resurrectionists at Nigg, by J. A. H.,.....	58
Genealogy of the Earls of Fife, by C.,.....	59
Letter of John Leslie, Bishop of Ross, to the Governor of the Spanish Netherlands, in favour of James Irvine of Drum, by H. G.,	59
QUERIES,.....	59
ANSWERS,.....	61
LITERATURE,.....	62

### ABERDEEN, SEPTEMBER, 1887.

THIS month's illustration is from a drawing by the late Andrew Gibb, F.S.A., Scot.

We beg to announce that our first number having gone out of print we have been compelled to get it up again, and it may now be had through the publishers and booksellers. As we can hardly be expected to incur such an expense with succeeding numbers, our friends will best secure completeness to their series, by entering their names as regular subscribers.

## THE ADVOCATES IN ABERDEEN. No. 2.

WHAT led to the quarrel in 1570, in which the newly admitted advocate, Patrick Cheyne, took part, and William Annand was unhappily slain, and which party had the right of it, we have no means of knowing. The Respite obtained from the Crown was by its express terms broad enough to cover "forethought felony," as well as "on suddenie," but we may reasonably assume the milder charge. Possibly, as in the case of other fatal quarrels of the period—

Late at e'en, drinking the wine,  
And ere they paid the lawin',  
They set a combat them between,  
To fecht it in the dawin'.

Patrick Cheyne died on 5th October, 1602.

In Kennedy's list nothing notable occurs for many years until we come to the names of *Alexander Reid* and *Robert Reid*, both "killed at the conflict at Crabstone by the army under the Marquis of Montrose," on 13th September, 1644. Alexander Reid was a son of William Reid, designed "of Barra," also an advocate, and Robert was probably of the same family. The conflict was caused by the refusal of the magistrates of Aberdeen to surrender the town on the summons of the Marquis, the King's Lieutenant, commanding a force manifestly superior to any that the town could bring against it; yet the townsmen stoutly maintained the battle for two hours before taking to flight. John Spalding, in his *Memorials of the Troubles in Scotland, &c.*,<sup>1</sup> referring to the refusal of the magistrates to surrender, says:—"Whereupon followed blood and hership both, and many honest men brocht to their graves through the evil counsel and wicked governance of thir malignant magistrates, sic as Maister Alexander Reid, advocate, Mr. Robert Reid, advocate," and ninety-six others, whose names are given, chiefly trades-people; the chronicler adding—"Thir persons were no Covenanters, but harlit out sore against their wills to fight against the King's Lieutenant." It is likely that the Reids were not the only advocates engaged in the Crabstone conflict, but that others of their professional brethren, whether "against their wills" or not, were in arms on the same side.

The Reids of Barra, in Bourtie, were of some note in the county, and obtained a baronetcy.\*

<sup>1</sup> Spalding Club edition, vol. 2, p. 410.

\* See *Inverurie and the Earldom of the Garioch*. By the Rev. John Davidson, D.D. (Edinburgh, D. Douglas) p. 419.

John Spalding, the namefather now of two Clubs—the old Spalding Club and the New, is, according to Dr. John Stuart's Preface to the club edition of the *Memorialls*—"generally supposed to have been Clerk of the Consistorial Court of the Diocese of Aberdeen. At the time when he lived the business of the Commissariat was established in a chamber within the Cathedral at Old Aberdeen; but when the civil jurisdiction, which had formerly been vested in the Bishop, had passed into other hands, the duties of the commissary were no longer performed in the Cathedral, and his office was ultimately settled in a house in the Castle Street of the Burgh of Aberdeen. Here, in the 30th of October, 1721, the records of the Commissariat were destroyed by an accidental fire, and with them the means of ascertaining any particulars as to the period of Spalding's official services as Clerk of the establishment." In Gordon's *History of the Gordons*, 1727, quoted by Dr. Stuart, it is said—"He was a lawyer, an Advocate in Aberdeen." James Man, master of the Poor's Hospital, Aberdeen, writing in 1741 (Introduction to his projected memoirs of Scottish Affairs, printed in the Spalding Club Ed. of James Gordon's *History of Scots Affairs*, vol. 1) supposes him "to have been a son of Alexander Spalding and Christian Harvey, who were married in 1608, and resided in Old Aberdeen, where 'tis certain our author lived, who has been a lawyer by profession." On examining Kennedy's list of Advocates we find *Alexander Spalding*, admitted in 1609, but the name of John Spalding does not appear. The impression left by the perusal of his *Memorialls* is, that while no doubt an adept at legal forms connected with his special duties, he was too much of a gossip to be fitted for the practice of the law as a Procurator of Court.

NORVAL CLYNE.

### EPITAPHS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD.

#### THE OLD OR WEST CHURCH.

(Continued from page 39.)

ON entering the church by the west or principal door, the first monument which attracts

attention is a large and exceedingly handsome marble tomb, executed by J. Bacon, R.A., in 1791. The monument, which is to the memory of the first wife of Alexander Allardyce of Dunnottar, stands on the left hand side of the doorway. The design represents two female figures with a pedestal between them, upon which rests a vase, having sculptured upon it a wreath of flowers and the arms of Allardyce parted per pale from those of Baxter. The figure to the right is Benevolence, represented by the heraldic device of the pelican in her piety; that on the left, Piety, holding an open book with the text Micah vi. 8 inscribed upon it.

On the pedestal there is the following inscription:—

Sacred | to the Memory of | ANN, | the wife of |  
ALEXANDER ALLARDYCE | of *Dunnottar* | and  
Daughter of | ALEXANDER BAXTER | of *Glassel*.  
| She was married the 7th of August, 1786, | gave  
Birth to her Son | ALEXANDER BAXTER AL-  
LARDYCE | the 23rd of July | and departed this  
Life, at *Aberdeen* | the 1st of August, 1787 | Aged  
28 years.

Near the foot of the tomb there is a medallion representing the dying wife comforting her husband and child, by pointing upwards to the place of their reunion. Below this is the following:—

As a Tribute justly due | To the *Eminent Virtues*, |  
*Gentle Manners* | And | *Personal Accomplishments* |  
of a most amiable Woman, | Her disconsolate Hus-  
band dedicates this monument.

The burial place of the Allardyces is in the churchyard immediately before the south door of the West Church. Here on a black marble table stone is inscribed:—

HERE IS INTERRED | ANN | Daughter of  
ALEXANDER BAXTER, *Esq.* | of *Glassel* | The  
Wife of | ALEXANDER ALLARDYCE, *Esq.* | of  
Dunnottar | She was married the 7th August, 1786 |  
Gave birth to her Son | ALEXANDER BAXTER  
ALLARDYCE | the 23rd July, and departed this life  
| the 1st August, 1787 | Aged 28 years. | ALEX-  
ANDER BAXTER ALLARDYCE | Died at Ken-  
sington the 4th day of May, 1794, in the | Seventh  
Year of his Age and is here interred | Also | ALEX-  
ANDER ALLARDYCE *Esq.* of Dunnottar | and  
Representative of this district of Boroughs, in | two  
successive Parliaments | who died at Dunnottar, the  
1st November 1801, Aged 58. | Also here are interred  
the remains of | HANNAH | Daughter of ALEX-  
ANDER INNES Esquire of Breda & Cowie | the  
second wife of | the above ALEXANDER ALLAR-  
DYCE, *Esq.* | Who died the 22d day of August 1833,  
aged 64 years.

Alexander Allardyce was the eldest son of James Allardyce, burgess, and Jean Jopp, sister of Provost Jopp, and represented the Aberdeen District of Burghs from 1792 till his death. The issue of the second marriage was a daughter, Eleanor, who married Archibald Earl of Cassillis, and became the mother of Archibald, 2nd Marquis of Ailsa.

On the right hand side of the doorway there is a mural monument on the wall, in the form of a sail stretched across an anchor, and bearing to have been executed by Westmacott, Jr., London, to the memory of one whose extensive benevolence is worthy of remembrance :—

In Memory | of John Cushnie, Shipmaster in Aberdeen | who died 4th May 1801, aged 72 years | To the honesty and plainness of a Seaman Mr. Cushnie united | a generous and benevolent Heart. For many years with a narrow income | he yet found means to employ a portion of it in the exercise of Charity : | a more affluent fortune occasioned no other change in his original | habits than an extension of his liberality: Modest, reserved, and | unostentatious, his charities were only made known by those who | were the objects of them. Having bestowed in his lifetime large | sums in relieving the distresses of the Poor, particularly during | the calamitous season of 1799 and 1800, he has left to posterity | the example of EXTENSIVE BENEVOLENCE. For having neither | Family nor near relation, he bequeathed the greater part of his | fortune among the various Charitable Institutions in this City | and neighbourhood as follows :—

The Society of Shipmasters of Aberdeen for their Poor, . . . . .	£500
Said Society for the necessitous Poor and decayed White fishers of Footdee, . . . . .	200
The Master of the Guild Brethren's Hospital of Aberdeen, <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	500
The Managers of the Infirmary of Aberdeen, . . . . .	300
Said Managers for the Lunatic Hospital, . . . . .	500
Said Managers for the Dispensaries, £200 each, . . . . .	400
The Managers of the Poor's Hospital, . . . . .	500
Said Managers for the Coal Fund, . . . . .	400
Said Managers for the Sunday Schools, . . . . .	400
The Master of the Trades Hospital, . . . . .	200
The Narrowind Society, . . . . .	300
The Shiprow Society, . . . . .	200
The Society of Workmen or Porters, plying on the Quay, . . . . .	100
The Magistrates of Old Aberdeen, for the Poor of that Town, . . . . .	200
The Master of Kirk Work of Aberdeen, <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	200

<sup>1</sup> Burdened with an annuity of £10, payable to Peter Gordon, Saddler, during his life.—*Hospital Accounts.*

<sup>2</sup> "Donation on condition that the Mr. of Kirkwork and his successors in office take particular charge and preserve in constant repair and order the tombstone and burial place of Mr. Cushnie's father and mother, in the churchyard of Aberdeen, in which burial place he is by his own direction interred."—*Kirk and Bridge Works Accounts.*

The Managers of Mr. Thain's Schools, . . . . .	200
The Managers of the Public Kitchen, . . . . .	100
And to his Executors, in trust for the Managers of any Fund to be established in Aberdeen for the support of decayed Women Servants, . . . . .	200
Sterling, . . . . .	£5400

Mr. Cushnie is interred beside his father and mother in the churchyard, and the spot is marked by two lair stones, upon each of which is the following inscription :—

Here rest in Hope of a blessed Resurrection | The Bodies of | ISOBEL BOYES | Spouse of PATRICK CUSHNIE, Merchant | Who died 11th March 1735, Aged 48 Years | PATRICK CUSHNIE | Who died 6th April 1745 Aged 57 years | ALEXANDER CUSHNIE | Their Son Merchant | Who died 11th July 1762, Aged 36 years | MARGARET ARTHUR | Spouse of PETER CUSHNIE | Their Son Merchant | Who died 6th June 1792, Aged 70 years | Her Husband had to lament | The loss of an affectionate Wife | With whom he [lived] happily for 40 year | PETER CUSHNIE | Who died on the 4th day of July 1798 | Aged 77 years.

Passing into the church and taking the passage to the right we come on a group of stones lying on the floor, in the south-west corner. The first is a large slab, the inscription on which is in wonderful preservation :—

HERE LYES UNDER THE HOPE OF A BLISSSED RESVRRECTION WALTER ROBERTSON LATE BAILLIE OF ABERDEEN WHO DEPARTED THE 9 OF FEB: 1703 & OF HIS AGE 80  
HERE ALSO LYES CATHERIN | IACK SPOUS TO WALTER | ROBERTSON BAILLIE OF ABD | WHO DEPARTED THE 10 | OF JANUARY 1677 | AS ALSO IANET BISSET | HIS SECOND SPOUS WHO | DEPARTED THE 19 OF DER | 1679 AND IEAN MORISON | HIS THIRD SPOUS WHO DE | PARTED THE 24 OF FEBR | 1682.

This stone, like many another, appears to have been prepared during the lifetime of the parties commemorated, the date of death and age, both of the Baillie and his first wife, having been evidently cut at a later date than the rest of the inscription referring to them.

The next tomb belongs also to a member of the same family :—

HERE LYES CHRISTIAN KEMP | RELICT OF ALEXR | ROBERTSON | BAILIE IN ABD. WHO DEPARTED | THIS LIFE THE 23 DAY OF DECR | 1702 AND OF HIR AGE THE 94 YEAR.

This stone, like the last, appears to have been laid down during the lifetime of Baillie Robertson, and the traces of lettering round

the margin probably refer to him, but the inscription is almost entirely obliterated. Robertson was elected a Baillie for the last time at the Michaelmas election in 1660.

The next stone in this group is a handsome slab of black marble, with an inscription to one of our famous chief magistrates, Sir Thomas Menzies. On the top of the stone a shield had borne the knight's arms, but the charging is effaced. Then follows this Latin inscription :—

D. O. M. | S. | ET MEMORIÆ | PAVLI MINESII A  
KYNMUNDY EQVESTR | ORD VIRI QVI NOBIL FAMIL  
EDITVS HIC VITAM EGIT DVODECIES CONCORD CI- |  
VIVM SVFRAG ELECTVS PRÆFECTVR | VRBIS TOT ANN  
TENVIT MITI INGE | NIO COMITATE MORVM OMNIBVS |  
CHARVS VNICO EQVVE CONCORDI CO- | NVIGIO  
FOELIX IAM OCTVAGENARIVS [I]N SPE[M BE]AT RES-  
SVRECT[IONIS] MORT | EXVVI DEPOSVIT M[E]N[SE]  
DECEM[BRIS] | MDCXLI

[Sacred to Almighty God and to the memory of Paul Menzies of Kinmundy, Knight—who, descended from a noble family, spent his life here; being twelve times elected by the unanimous vote of the citizens, held the chief magistracy of the city for as many years, endeared to all by his mild disposition and the courtesy of his manners; once married and happy in that marriage, at the age of eighty, in the month of December, 1641, laid down his mortal remains in hope of a happy resurrection.]

There are traces quite distinct, though now illegible, of a longer inscription having been originally on the stone, but the remaining part has been worn off by the feet of generations of worshippers passing over it. Menzies, from whom the parts within brackets of the upper portion of the inscription have been taken, has happily preserved what is now gone of the lower portion. It was as follows :—

*Alexander filius & heres optimo parenti F. C. Sub hoc etiam saxo quiescunt ossa Barbaræ Gordonæ, ejusdem Alexandri conjugis, quæ vita obiit 4.º Cal. Nov. anno MD. CLVII.*

[Alexander, his son and heir, caused this monument to be erected to the best of parents. Under this stone also rest the bones of Barbara Gordon, spouse to the said Alexander, who went from life 29th [19th] October, 1657.]

The stone shows that it had once been adorned with a large inlaid brass border, but

<sup>1</sup> I have to acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. P. J. Anderson for his kindness in furnishing translations to this and many of the other Latin inscriptions within the church and churchyard.

<sup>2</sup> This must be a mistake for 14, as the Mr. of Kirkwork's Accounts show that on Oct. 23, 1657, "Mr. Alexander Meingzeis wyff of Kinmundie bureit in the kirk."

when or by whom it was removed we have failed to learn. Sir Paul Menzies, for whom this elegant tombstone was laid down, was a member of the powerful family of Pitfoddels, having been the second son of Provost Thomas Menzies of Durn. He was admitted as a Burgess of Guild on 22nd November, 1588.

This old family in the main stem adhered strongly to the old faith, but it appears to have been otherwise with some of the younger branches, for so early as 1611 we find Paul Menzies, baillie, named as one of the "sermon catchers," or those who caused "the people to resort to the sermones," and in 1620 he was appointed an elder of St. Nicholas Church.

At the Michaelmas election of 1623 Menzies was chosen Provost, and held the civic chair, with a short break of three months—Oct.-Dec. 1634—till the Michaelmas election, 1635.

During the early years of his provostship little of interest is recorded, but through the Kirkwork Accounts we get a glimpse of his sorrowing household, when on 20 Dec. 1623, and again on 16 March, 1629, "Paul Menzes prouest bureit ane berne."

At the Council Meeting on 15 May, 1633,\* the Provost and Baillie Patrick Leslie were nominated Commissioners to the ensuing Parliament, and to attend the coronation of Charles I., which was to take place in Edinburgh during the following month; and that they might proceed south in a manner befitting such an ancient and honourable burgh as Aberdeen, the sum of 3000 merks [£166 13s. 4d.] was voted to defray their expenses. The following items from the Guildry Accounts ending Michaelmas, 1633, show how part of the vote was spent :—

<i>Item</i> , for furnitor to the touns fitmantill of silk, small pesments, buccassie, and some welwet that wanted to outsed conforme to the merchants particular compt .....	Scots. £113 10 10
<i>Item</i> , to George Bruce for furnishing of the brydill bitt, stirupe ernes, ledder to the harnessing, and workmanship conform to his particular compt.....	80 8 4
<i>Item</i> , to his man for his drink siluer.....	2 0 0

\* Session Records, vol. 1, p. 77.

† Council Register, vol. lii. p. 113.



D O M

S

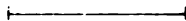
ET MEMORIE

PAVLI MINESII A KYNMVNDY EQVESTR  
ORD VIRI QVINOBIL FAMIL EDITVSHIC  
VITAM EGIT DVODECIES CONCORD CI  
VIVM SVFRAG ELECTVS PRÆFECTVR  
VRBIS TOT ANN TENVIT MITI INGE  
NIO COMITATE MORVM OMNIBVS  
CHARVS VNICO EOQVE CONCORDI CO  
NIVGIO FOELIX IAM OCTVAGENARIVS  
IN SPOMETAT RESVRECTVS MORT  
EXVVI DEPOSVIT N DECEM  
M DC XLI

LEX FILIUS

SV... SCVNT  
OS... IIVSDIM  
ALE... IS... AVTAA  
I XIV... IM... II

RE



ANDR. GIBB & CO. LITHRS  
2, QUEEN ST. ABERD.

TOMBSTONE OF SIR PAUL MENZIES.  
St Nicholas Church, Aberdeen.





At the meeting on 14th August, when the Provost made his report to the Council as Commissioner to the late Parliament, the Clerk has entered in the sederunt *Sir Paul Menzies*, for the outlay by the town had not been in vain, their Provost being one of the 54 gentlemen knighted by Charles during his stay in Scotland.

It was either on receipt of the news that Menzies had been knighted, or while carrying out the local programme to celebrate the coronation on the 19th June, that the mishap occurred to Old Lowrie which necessitated it being sent to Flanders to be recast. The celebrations, as detailed in the Council minute, were such as to leave no doubt as to the loyalty of Bon-Accord; while, on the other hand, if carried out in their entirety, they were more than sufficient to account for the fracturing of Lowrie:—"The baillies and counsall ordanit that the haill bellis to be rung, baill fyres to be set on be everie man befor his awin hous, the croce to be hung with tapestrie, twa punsheouns of wyne, with the spycery in great [abundance], to be brocht and spent thairat, the tuelf peice of ordinance on the Castelhill to be shot," and the time between to be spent in "shooting of muskatis and burning of poulder."

In August, 1639, Menzies, now an old man, had to mourn the loss of his eldest son John, who was drowned while crossing the North Esk. Spalding, who narrates the incident, says that his body was brought home to Aberdeen, "and vpon the 22nd day of August, wes bureit with volie of muscat insted of funerall sermon as wes wont to be givin, and many teires sched for his vntymlic death, being a brave youth of singular expectation."

According to the same authority, the Provost himself died in his own house in Aberdeen on Saturday, 18th December, 1641, and was honourably buried in the Church on the Monday following. His widow, who survived him for over eight years, died early in March, 1650. Although no direct evidence has been discovered that he influenced Raban to set up his press in Aberdeen, it seems agreed that Menzies was a liberal patron of literature

and the fine arts. His portrait, by his friend Jamesone, adorns the Hall of Marischal College, and bears to have been executed in 1620, when he was 67. He would consequently have been 88 years of age at his death in 1641.

ALEX. M. MUNRO.

(To be continued.)

## A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LOCAL PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

(Continued from page 41.)

1834. *The Quissing-Glass*. No. 1, Aberdeen, Dec., 1834. 2d. 4to, 8 pp. Imprint: "Aberdeen: Printed for the Proprietors by John Watt, to whose care Communications for the Editor (post paid) may be addressed." 3 numbers, all? The preface states that the promoters "have no very definite object in view. They mean to touch on every thing. Not every thing at once, or in one number, but every thing as it occurs which is calculated to amuse." Contributed to by John Ramsay, who through its pages indulged "freely in teasing Aberdeen writers and readers." *The Quissing-Glass* was a respectable paper, Radical in politics. It exposed several University jobs, among others the sinecures of Drs. Skene and Bannerman.
1835. *The Aberdeen Advertiser*. No. 1, (Month?) 1835. Printed and published weekly at 49 Upperkirkgate. This paper was the project of Thomas Bannerman, of Banner Mill, his brother Alexander, M.P. for the city, supplying the political material. It was a Liberal paper, the object of which was to promote University Reform, in which Bannerman took a very lively interest. The editor was William Anderson, author of *Landscape Lyrics*, the sub-editor and reporter being Mr. (now Dr.) J. H. Wilson. It is said that it "was fairly well written, was got up with some care, and the printing was highly creditable to Mr. Wm. Bennet." The prospectus of *The Advertiser* announced that it would "infuse new life into the Aberdeen Press." *The Observer* dubbed it the "infusion." It struggled for some time but in the collapse of the University Bill—proposing the union of King's and Marischal College—which Bannerman had introduced, it collapsed, in the autumn of 1835. Dr. Wilson writes me, "the circulation never was above three hundred and fifty, it only averaged a score, so that the venture was a heavy loss to somebody."
1835. *The Budget, well stuff'd with screeds of prose and rhyme of course*. No. 1, Tuesday, December 29th, 1835. Price 1d. 8vo, 8pp. Imprint, "Aberdeen: Printed and published once a fortnight by J. Watt, 9 Guestrow." "Our chief object," says the introduction, "is to awaken the seemingly dormant faculties of our townsmen, many of whom we know devote their leisure hours to literary pursuits." One number, all?

<sup>1</sup> Council Reg., vol. lii., p. 115.

<sup>2</sup> Troubles, vol. 1, p. 230.

<sup>3</sup> Bulloch's *Jamesone*, p. 123.

- 1836.** *The Aberdeen University Magazine.* January—August, 1836. Aberdeen: P. Gray, 78 Broad Street. 8vo, 16 pp. Fortnightly, price 4d. 16 Nos. to August 24, 1836. This magazine was mainly taken up with University Reform. It opposed the scheme for the union of the two Universities, bringing up the stale old arguments that were regularly trotted out whenever the proposal was mooted. The publisher, Peter Gray, who died in January of this year in London, at the age of 80, was just the very man to publish an academic magazine. His mathematical ability in certain intricate and difficult calculations was recognised by De Morgan, as about the highest he had ever seen. When the Northern Assurance Company was started in the same year as this magazine, Gray's attention was drawn to actuarial science, and throughout his long life he devoted much study to this science, and became one of its greatest authorities. His contributions to mathematical literature are very numerous, and he was a member of several scientific societies.
- 1837.** *The Aberdeen New Shaver.* No. 1, July, 1837. Price 2d. 4to, 8pp. Imprint to No 1, "Aberdeen: William Edward, Jun. & Co., 35 Broad Street;" to No. 2, "Printed and published monthly by R. Edward & Co., 3 Back Wynd, Aberdeen"; to No. 3, "Aberdeen: Printed at the New Shaver Office, No. 5 Back Wynd, by R. & W. Edward and Company, Printers;" at No. 13 the address is changed to "5 Flourmill Brae." No. 2 was published in August, 1838, more than a year after No. 1, and it appeared regularly thereafter till its death in July, 1840, to No. 25. Badly printed, and miserably edited, *The New Shaver* is a far less able production than the paper from which it took its name. One of the printers, Edward, was editor, and in fact writer-in-chief.
- 1837?** *The Pedestrian.* No. 1, Donside. 12mo, 6 pp. No title page. Signed Macrobins [Joseph Robertson, 1837?]
- 1837.** *The Aberdeen Constitutional; and Advertiser for the Counties of Aberdeen, Banff, and Kincardine.* Vol. I., No. 1. Saturday, September 16, 1837. Price 4½d. It was printed and published successively by John Davidson, George Cornwall, and William Bennett. "The great object, then, for which this Publication has been set in foot," says the prefatory remarks, "is to advocate Conservative Principles." It was edited successively by Robert Cruickshank, Dr. R. Shelton Mackenzie, and Dr. Joseph Robertson, in whose hands it became a rather formidable rival to *The Herald*, and Mr. J. Forbes Robertson was at one time sub-editor, and Mr. James Bruce was also on the staff. The *New Statistical Account* (p. 100) states the original object of the projectors of *The Constitutional* was "to promote a better tone of thinking and feeling among the people by establishing a paper whose characteristic should rather be its Christian principle than its political partisanship. [A hit is implied at a contemporary which was supposed to advocate so-
- called "infidel" principles] In this attempt, however, they were unsuccessful, and the paper is accordingly merely a Conservative Journal, which in Church politics favours the moderate party. Its weekly circulation is about 900." It was the property of a Joint Stock Company. When "it drew its last breath," on the morning of July 26, 1844, the *Herald* announced the fact within black borders, with jubilant heart.
- 1838.** *Aberdeen Argus.* A prospectus in *The Aberdeen Shaver* (of January, 1838) states that the publisher of *The Shaver* had determined to start early in March a Radical paper, entitled the *Aberdeen Argus*, to be published on Tuesdays. Did it ever appear?
- 1838.** *Aberdeen Universities' Magazine.* No. 1, November, 1838. Price 6d. 24 pp., 8vo. Imprint, "Printed at the Constitutional Office, 42 Castle Street, by G. Cornwall." Lewis Smith published it. We learn from *The Constitutional* that "the *Universities' Magazine* expired a few hours after its birth," and the critic goes on with truth to say, that it "may take its place among the long list of ostentatious failures."
- 1839.** *Aberdeen Patriot.* *The Aberdeen Shaver* (p. 461) says, "it is our painful duty to record that the first instance of mortality which took place in Aberdeen during the present year [1839] was that of the *Aberdeen Patriot*, at the tender age of two months."
- 1839.** *The Northern Vindicator.* Aberdeen? *The New Shaver* (p. 93) speaks of *The Northern Vindicator*. It was evidently a Radical paper. Is anything known of its existence?
- 1839.** *The Aberdeen Teetotaler and North of Scotland Abstinence Advocate.* Published under the patronage of and for the benefit of the funds of the Aberdeen Total Abstinence Society. No. 1, May, 1839, 4to, 8pp, monthly. Imprint, "Printed at the Aberdeen Herald Office, by John Finlayson." Four Nos. all published?
- 1840?** *The Examiner.* This was an unsuccessful venture of Mr. Thomas Spark, bookseller, author of the *Water Kelpie*. Only one number was published.
- 1840.** *Aberdeen Monthly Circular, devoted to Literature, Politics, and Domestic Intelligence.* No. 1, June, 1840. Price 1d, 4 pp., folio. The second number was enlarged to 12 pp., and the price raised to 2d. The last number returned to same size and price as No. 1. The imprint gives James Daniel as the printer, and James Strachan as publisher. It was published on the first day of every month, and continued till 1841—fourteen numbers in all. With James Bruce as editor, the *Monthly Circular* was characterised by smart writing. Bruce contributed the famous articles on the Aberdeen Pulpit and Universities, which afterwards were published separately in pamphlet form. The opening address indicates its principles—"This paper will advocate Liberal principles, without being connected with party—opposing equally the bad measures of Whigs and Tories."

1840. *Random Recollections, or Miscellaneous Observations upon Men and Manners.* No. 1, July 24, 1840. [Price 2d.] Imprint: "Printed by J. Daniel, at the Columbian Press, 48 Castle Street, Aberdeen." 12mo, 12 pp. "It is plainly stated in our title what is the nature of our work; and we need only add, that our lines shall be bold, and the features well marked and true to life." This periodical, a violent opponent of that "*waspish set of 'Chartist Teetotalers,'*" does not seem to have had a great position; nor was it sanguine of success. A note on the last page leads us to understand that it was hawked through the country like a chap book.

J. MALCOLM BULLOCH.

(*To be continued.*)

### A RAMBLE ON THE EAST COAST OF BUCHAN.

(*Continued from page 26.*)

DESCENDING a ravine opposite to the gable of the Church, we found the well of S. Ninian running over the precipice, as it has done for many centuries.

Next morning we started from the mouth of the Ythan, and ascended a mountain of sand, which is said to be everflowing in all weathers. The morning being clear, we have a fine survey of the beautiful landscape from the south-west, while at a nearer range we see the highly cultivated farms in the vicinity of the busy village of Newburgh, which, by the by, appears to be built on a reclaimed marsh. Before leaving this prominent site, we sketch the fine old ruin of Knockha, the ancient seat of the lairds of Udny. Then we descend eastward and in a little time we have a view of the old beach of Forvie from the sea. A few minutes walk onward and we reach a very large ledge of rock almost perpendicular, over which a beautiful spring spends itself into the sea by a fall of two hundred feet. Over every ledge almost from the top to the bottom there is a beautiful crop of cresses rooted in the fissures of the rock. On descending a ravine to have a view of this grand sight from the beach, we noticed the presence of the primroses and the grass of Parnassus in all their beauty. Nearly opposite to the centre of this precipice there is a large table-shaped block of rock, which is covered at high water. It was upon this rock table at "half sea" that Tammas Robertson, Fisher-

man, saw and spoke with a mermaid,<sup>1</sup> one misty morning in May, 1836, and that even Jenny his wife, with all her endearments, was never able to extract a word that passed between Tammas and the mermaid, save this, that he would not meet with a watery grave. This was truly verified, as Tammas never after this interview with her ladyship ventured to sea in *foul* weather. A little further on we have turreted-shaped hills of sand, clad with waving bent, which we climb for sight-seeing, and are immediately in view of a wild waste of heath and grass, with here and there little knolls of sand. Descending again with a run we are soon at the crescent-shaped "Hawklal'" Bay, the fashionable resort of pleasure seekers, who come from all points of the compass to bathe and drink of its mineral waters. After having wandered miles for part of two days "mong thistle, bente, and sande," we find it a relief to come in sight of cultivation, and the habitation of man. And here we cease scaling precipices and sand hills, and take the beaten path-way leading to the village of Collieston, and are soon in sight of the Coast Guard Station and Watch-house, built on an elevation above the sea. Then rounding the bay of Port Thuddan we arrive at the village, and passing a row of irregularly built houses we come to the Red-house at a corner, which was built of red clay in the year 1756. It was famous for its custom in the palmy days of smuggling. The buildings adjoining this ancient ale-house, though more modern, are much more dilapidated. Within two minutes' walk from this we come in sight of Primrose Cottage, which was the seat of the late Mrs. James Hay, the lady founder of The "Bruce-Hay Girls' School." It is finely walled in and sheltered from the cold easterly gales from the sea.

To the right of this we have now a full view of the village of Collieston proper. There is a semicircular range of beach, extending to a quarter of a mile, which is sheltered from the east and south-west by green cliffs, upwards of 400 feet above the sea level. The houses are built in all positions, commencing from the beach, ledge upon ledge, many feet up-

<sup>1</sup> Peter Buchan says that the scene of "Clerk Colville, or the Mermaid," is laid at Slaish, on the east coast of Buchan, which is indented in many places by the sea with immense chasms.

wards, in admirable confusion. We now make our transit through the village, and pass the manse and infants' school on our way to the churchyard, where we see the old aisle, the burial place of the Erroll family. On consulting Spalding (I. 25) we find that "upon Saturday the 16th July, 1631, the high and mighty lord, Francis Earl of Erroll, in his own place of the bounds, departed this life. The funeral took place 'vpon the nicht.' The Earl's body was 'convoyet quyetlie with his awin domestiks and countrie friendis, and with torche licht,' it being his lordship's wish 'to be bureit quyetlie, and sic expenssis as sould be wairit prodigallie vpon his buriall' were ordered to be given to the poor. This was truly a nobleman of a great and courageous spirit, who had great troubles in his time, which he stoutly and honourably still carried, and now in favour died in peace with God and man, a loyal subject to the King, to the great grief of his kin and friends."

There is no tombstone to Earl Francis, but there is one of Iona marble to the Countess Mary and her husband, which bears a Latin inscription. We give it in English:—"Under this tombstone are laid not gold and silver, nor treasures of any kind, but the bodies of a most affectionate pair, Mary, Countess of Erroll, and Alexander Hay of Dalgaty, who lived in wedlock peacefully and lovingly for twenty-seven years, and who desired to be buried side by side; and they earnestly entreat that this stone may not be removed, nor their remains be disturbed, but that they may be suffered to rest together in the Lord until he shall summon them to the happy resurrection unto life, to which they look forward, trusting in the mercy of God, and the merits of the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ."

J. DALGARNO.

### CHARLES WHYT, OR WHITE, PAINTER.

I SUBJOIN a list of some of the work done by the above painter. In the books of the Town Council, as well as those belonging to the Trades, the two names are indifferently used, sometimes the one and sometimes the other. In your last number you had an extract from the book of the Shoemaker Craft, in the year

1704. "In the year 1709, July 9th. The said day the Town Councall appoynted the hail Mortifications to be extended on broads, and each Mortification to have a broad & extend them thereon, and recomends to the Magistrats to agree with Charles Whyt, painter, for drawing the saids"—Mortifications as above. The Guildry of the present day have to thank the late Baillie John Fraser for having caused these Mortification Boards to be repainted and hung up in the lobby of the new Town buildings.

In the year 1712 Whyt is employed by the Master of the Trades Hospital, and paid by him the sum of £3 12s. "for Guilding the wain [the vane] of the Church." This would be Trinity Chapel.

The next entry, 1714, in the Trades book, is the sum of £5 11s. 6d., "payed to Charles White, painter, for colouring and painting the Trinity Chapel steeple, per discharged accot."

We now come to the entry in the Convener Court Book, 4th January, 1715, when the Mr. of Trades Hospitall, Deacon Anderson, Tailor, is instructed to agree with Charles Whyt, painter, anent renewing King William the Lyon his picture, "always not exceeding fiftie shillings sterling. Jo. Deans, Clk."

The next entry is from the Master of Hospital's Account Book, the same year as above:

<i>Item.</i> To Charles White, painter, for drawing King William the Lyon his picture,	£33 6 8
<i>Item.</i> At agreeing with him and setting up the picture,	0 12 0

We now give some of the criticisms on this picture. The first is an extract from the letter of Lieutenant-General Hutton to the Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, accompanying a copy of a portrait of William the Lyon, King of Scotland, presented to the Society. The Society engraved the drawing, which may be seen in the third volume of the Transactions, plate x., and the General's letter will be found in the same volume, at page 298; it is dated London, 22nd October, 1821. The General mentions the fact of the agreement with "Charles White, a painter, to repair it for a sum not exceeding fifty shillings, which was accordingly done, with the exception of the face, which the artist who copied the picture in-

formed me has been fortunately left untouched." We now come to the climax of the General's letter—"It is painted in fresco"!! This is accounted for by the artist who was employed by General Hutton not having handled the picture; if he had done so, he would have seen that it was painted on canvas, and it was hung in the south-east corner of the old Hall. My late friend, Mr. Andrew Jervise, could not have examined the picture critically, indeed it was in the dark corner of the present Hall, at the north-west end, and could not be well seen. He was right as to the contract—"As cheap as possible, not exceeding 50s. sterling." The writer has reason to think that some remarks made on this picture, in the last vol. of the *Aberdeen Herald*, were the means of its being placed under the hands of Mr. John Hay, to be put in better order. Since it was relined and varnished it has turned out to be a first-rate picture, and worthy of a better place than it occupies.

In the Treasurer's Book of the Town Council there is in the charge for Mortcloths, 1752 :—

Jan. 11th. Relict of Charles White, painter, £5 0 0

It would very likely be seen if Charles was the son of Deacon Convener White by referring to the books of the Hammermen Incorporation as to his entry into that trade. And, at the same time, it would be interesting if a list of the portraits mentioned by Mr P. J. Anderson, at page 4, as having been painted by Charles Whyt, or any others that may have come from his brush, could be compiled.

J.

## ANENT CHURCH LAWS.

(Continued from page 23.)

### BANCHORY-DEVENICK.

13th July, 1729.—Congregation advertised to beware of meeting in crowds on the Sabbath day, particularly upon the waterside, and likewise to beware of fishing late upon Saturday's night. Also to avoid drinking on the Sabbath day to excess, and in great companies, and of going in throngs to the seaside for diversion : with certification.

7th March, 1731.—Minister warned the young persons in the parish to beware of night meetings in their neighbours' houses, under pretence of mirth and drawing valentines.

7th June, 1732.—Session considering the great disorder occasioned by the multitude of dogs in time

of worship, did agree to employ Alexander Counts to keep them out, and allow him threepence every Lord's day out of the collections for the same.

19th March, 1738.—Minister again exhorted the congregation to the faithful observation of the Sabbath day, and especially the Salmon Fishers, and advertised them, that he himself, together with some of the Session, according to a former appointment, were to watch this night at the water until 12 o'clock to see if any would be so wicked as to fish before that time.

11th November, 1827.—Raffles strictly prohibited being held within this parish in all time coming.

27th September, 1839.—Shooting at marriages prohibited.

### PETERCULTER.

1698.—The breakers and violators of God's commands and Ecclesiastick Laws, all Hereticks, Apostats, and Schismatics, Atheists, Idolators, Papists, Quakers, &c., (within the Parish) who forsake God and follow the Devil, directly or indirectly, as Witches, Conjurors, Charmers, Juglars, Fortune-tellers, &c. All profane and scandalous hypocritical and superstitious persons, Blasphemers, Cursers, Swearers, Forswearers, and Perjurors, impenitent, obstinate, contumacious, and incorrigible sinners, irreligious and grossly ignorant creatures, who profane or contemn God's name and ordinances, and carry irreverently in time of God's worship, who tempt and provoke God and others, who contemn, mock and scorn, and are disobedient and obstinate to Parents, Civil or Ecclesiastick, as Magistrats, Ministers, &c., who are cruell and revengeful, strive, strick, and fight with, defile and pollute, steal, rob, and oppress, detract, revile and slander, cheat, lye and backbite, raise and bear false reports on and witness against and blot the good name, credit, and repute of, or envy their neighbours, and covet what is theirs; who forge Testificates, &c., who commit sins and scandalls against, or omit duties and offices to God, themselves, or their neighbours, who neglect and contemn God's worship, its means, manner and season, and do not preserve and maintain their own and neighbours' respect and credit, life and charity, livelihood, and estate, good name and fame, and are undutiful and injurious to Magistrates, Ministers, Elders, Husbands, Wives, Parents, Children, Masters, Servants, Relations, Superiors, Inferiors or Equals; who contemn and despise God's ordinances and Sacraments, Providences and Works, Christ's Offices and Members, Church Government and discipline, the Spirit's Grace and wages, who neglect Prayers, singing of Psalms, Catechising and conference, and follow their own inventions in God's service, who do not remember and keep holy by reading, praying and religious exercises, or break the Lord's day by sinful words or works, idleness or unnecessary recreations and employments, working (works of necessity and charity and mercy excepted), travelling or doing what should or may be done on other days viz:—buying and selling, borrowing or lending, craving and paying debts, taking tacks, feeing servants, making bargains, merchandising, trading, fishing, fleshing, threshing, grinding, or the like servill works. Who spend their time and talents, health and wealth, by idleness or

lothfulness in their callings, infrugality or prodigality, false weights or measures, gaining, pledging and drinking unnecessarily or unseasonably (now refreshment being sometimes necessary on the Lord's day, sometime is allowed therefor, but if they stay in the change house after the ringing of the bell, or take more than what refreshes them, then they and the Innkeepers shall be censured and fyned according to the nature of their sin and scandal) all the foresaid Persons (if anie be in this Parish) shall not only be censured but also fyned and punished according to the nature and quality of the Persons and Parties offending and offended, of the offence and crime and its circumstances, and they are to be dealt with privately and publickly, and to satisfy before the Session or Congregation, Presbytery, or any other Church Judicature as is usual, and being censured as is requisite till they pay their penalties and satisfy the Church for their scandal, they shall be enrolled and read to be such, and if they continue or be contumacious, they shall not be admitted to the Holy Communion, but shall be charged before the Judges and Judicatures competent; and to make the same effectual according to the laudable laws of this Kingdom in Church and State, the Session give power to the Minister to make a Session Bailie (if need be) or empower any of their number to prosecute the same, and shall pay his necessary and instructed charges and expenses for that end.

J. A. H.

### SHAKSPEARIANA.

**MERCHANT OF VENICE.**—Shylock, addressing Tubal, says:—"I would my daughter were dead at my feet, and the jewels in her ear! Would she were hearsed at my foot, the ducats in her coffin!" Hearsing a dead body is a Roman Catholic ceremony, not a Jewish. Here, in French, means a harrow, and the term is applied to an arrangement of spikes like the teeth of a harrow, on which are stuck candles. A body to be hearsed is carried in a coffin to a church where stages or herses of lighted candles are placed at the head, foot, and sides of the coffin.

In Portia's speech to Shylock, she says—"We do pray for mercy; and that same prayer doth teach us all to render the deeds of mercy." The allusion here no doubt is to the Lord's Prayer, which Shylock, being a Jew, would not be familiar with; though some of its petitions were in use before the birth of Christ.

When Lorenzo says to Jessica—"Lorenzo, and thy love," he used 'love' in the active sense of 'lover.' When Jessica replies—"My love indeed, for who love I so much," she speaks as if she supposed Lorenzo had used 'love' in the passive sense of 'beloved.'

When she goes on to say—"And now who knows but you, Lorenzo, whether I am yours?" she applies to 'love' as did Lorenzo the active meaning of 'lover.' This is not a mere conceit of Jessica's, but it is quite a common thing with Shakespeare to use love with this twofold meaning. So Milton's 'true love, nightingale,' means, the nightingale, true lover.

King-Edward.

JOHN MILNE.

### RESURRECTIONISTS AT NIGG.

THE old Churchyard at Nigg, from its proximity to Aberdeen and quiet situation near the bay of Nigg, was, during the first half of the present century, frequently subjected to midnight visits of the terrorising body snatchers. For long it was believed that only the lowest orders of society engaged in the revolting work of exhuming and carrying off dead bodies to be sold for dissecting purposes; but facts, which came to light from time to time, showed that men of influence and position, with the most sordid motives, were not above lending themselves to it. The following extracts from the Parish Registers throw some light on the matter:—

"December 25th, 1808.—The Minister informed the Session that on the night between Thursday the 22nd, and Friday the 23rd last, the corpse of Janet Young, (Mrs —) an aged woman from Aberdeen, who had been buried on the 22nd, was taken up and carried away—broken pieces of the lid of the coffin, tatters of grave linen, and marks of blood left by the grave. The relatives of the deceased were now in quest of the body. The Session resolved to wait a little the event of their endeavours to find out this daring and alarming thing, which might have very bad consequences in the minds of the people, and to do every thing in their power to prevent such conduct."

"February 12th, 1809.—The Minister stated that the body of Mrs — had been found. Those who had taken it out of the grave had been obliged, from apprehension of being detected, to put it for a time in the sand on the north side of the Bay of Nigg, from whence they had been unable, on account of the search and out-look made by relatives, to remove it. A late storm of the sea had raised and carried it to the south side of the bay, where it had been found, and afterwards decently interred. The person principally concerned in taking up the body was found to be a forward, impudent, not well behaved young man, a student-in-physic, who had been obliged to flee from the country. So much trouble and expense to his father, so much vexation to the woman's relations, and such resentment of the world had taken place, with fear of the consequences of such conduct, that no

apprehension was entertained of any thing like it being again attempted."

The Resurrectionists, however, continued their nefarious work, but in 1816 we find that Mr. Gibb, superintendent of the Aberdeen Harbour Works, "in order to allay the public excitement," presented a massive dressed stone to the Kirk Session "for the purpose of being laid above the coffin of each newly buried person." This proved a considerable impediment to the "snatchers," but it was not till the passing of the Act entitling unclaimed bodies to be given for the purpose of dissection that this parish was freed from these reckless and unwelcome visitors. J. A. H.

#### GENEALOGY OF THE EARLS OF FIFE.—

"1649. Adam and James Duffs sones lawfull to umq<sup>d</sup> Adam Duff in Cluniebeg," &c. These words, alighted on the other day by a reader in the old Sheriff Court Books of Banff, set to rest a long-continued discussion. The present writer has previously proved, in the *Genealogist* and elsewhere, that the line of descent of the Earls of Fife from the ancient family of Muldavatt, as given in Baird's *Memoirs of the Duffs*, and in almost all the Peerage books, was untenable, from difficulties on the female side. The father of Adam Duff in Cluniebeg is given by Baird as John Duff of Muldavatt, but in the proved descent, as stated lately, "beyond Adam it was impossible to go." However, this has now been shown to be possible. The preceding extract is interesting for two reasons—(1) it carries the true descent of the Earls of Fife a step farther back than has hitherto been done; and (2) it shows that the family had its origin in Cluniebeg, in the parish of Mortlach, and not in Muldavatt, near Cullen, as usually asserted.

C.

LETTER OF JOHN LESLIE, BISHOP OF ROSS, TO THE GOVERNOR OF THE SPANISH NETHERLANDS, IN FAVOUR OF JAMES IRVINE OF DRUM.—I beg to send you, for preservation in *Scottish Notes and Queries*, a copy of the original Latin text of an interesting document relative to the history of a well known family in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen, which I discovered about ten years ago in the Archives of the State at Brussels:—

Ser<sup>m</sup> Princeps,

Jacobus Iruyngius, Scotus, Eques Ordinis Divi Johannis Hierosolimitani mihi abhinc annis quadraginta notus habet jamdiu litem in Brabantia Senatu adversus quosdam hereticos Scotos usurpatores bonorum ejusdem Ordinis in Scotia Regno; quæ lis revera (ut mihi satis exploratum est) hactenus perambulavit in tenebris. Ejus causa Tuam Celsitudinem rogandam obnixè duxi, ut aliquem vel aliquos ex suis constituat qui hujusce Militis rationes audiant et ad Tuam Celsitudinem referant; ut ejusdem gratia et autoritate brevius istud negotium (ut æquum est) conficiatur. Premitur enim is Miles magna rerum angustia, quum a multis jam annis apud suos omnibus quas domi haberet facultatibus exutus sit ob suam in sancta fide Catholica Apostolica et Romana constantiam: Et nullius unquam Principis munificentia hactenus sublevatus fuerit, præterquam Pii Quinti Pontificis Maximi qui cum ad istum Ordinem evexit, et Ser<sup>m</sup> Mariæ Scotorum Reginae, quæ eum in bonis literis educavit Lutetia Parisiorum. Quum itaque vehementer optem idque justissimis de causis, brevi inopie ejusdem Irvingi succurri, non possum non iterum Tuam Ser<sup>m</sup> Celsitudinem summa animi intentione rogare ut ejus justas rationes jubeat audiri, et sua autoritate foveri statimque juvari:—Dignumque sua virtute Celsitudo Vestra ea in re prestatib. Quam Deus Opt. Max. Catholico Catholicorumque Regi atque universæ Reipublicæ Christianæ diu incolumem victoremque in dies conservet.—Bruxell: sexto Kalendas Junii, 1596.

Ser<sup>m</sup> Celsitudinis Vestrae

Devotissimus Servus et Orator

JO. EPŪS ROSSENSIS, Scotus.

[From the Archives of the State, Rue de la Paille, Brussels.]

H. G.

## Queries.

NOTE.—Each paragraph, containing one or more Queries, will receive a consecutive number, to which Correspondents may conveniently refer.

27. ADDRESSES BY LORD RECTORS.—When did the custom of printing the annual Rectorial Address at Marischal College begin? I have seen the following:—

- 1850. Earl of Airlie. D. Wyllie & Son.
  - 1858. Earl Stanhope. D. Wyllie & Son.
  - 1854. Colonel W. H. Sykes. M.P. *Herald Office*.
  - 1853. Earl of Carlisle. D. Wyllie & Son.
  - 1851. Earl of Eglinton. D. Wyllie & Son.
  - 1849. Sheriff J. T. Gordon. D. Wyllie & Son.
  - 1848. Lord Robertson. Lewis Smith & Son.
  - 1839. J. C. Colquhoun, M.P. W. Collins & Co., Glasgow.
  - 1835. John Abercromby, M.D. A. Brown & Co.
- Can any reader of *Scottish Notes and Queries* give information as to prints of addresses by—
- 1855. A. H. Layard, M.P.
  - 1845. Archibald Alison, M.P.
  - 1843. Marquis of Breadalbane.
  - 1842. Sir John Herschel.
  - 1841. Sir James Macgrigor, Bart., M.D.



1840. Sir George Sinclair, Bart., M.P.  
 1838. Lord Brougham.  
 1837. Lord Lyndhurst.  
 1834. Alexander Bannerman, M.P.  
 1833. Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.  
 1832. Sir Michael Bruce, Bart.  
 1831. Earl of Erroll.

In 1856, 1852, 1850, 1846, and 1836, re-elections occurred. Were Addresses delivered in these years? Three Sessions are undoubtedly blank, as, owing to a division of the Nations no election took place. The names of the equally favoured candidates are not given in the *Calendar* lists, and it may be interesting to note here that they were—

1857. Mr. Lyard and the Earl of Elgin.  
 1847. The Earl of Rosse and Mr. T. B. Macaulay.  
 1844. The Marquis of Breadalbane and the Marquis of Bute.

The last Rectorial Address of King's College, by John Inglis, Dean of Faculty (now Lord Justice General), was published by Blackwood in 1857. I have met with none of earlier date. Of the seven Rectors since the union of the Colleges—Lord Barcaple, Earl Russell, Mr. Grant Duff (twice), Mr. Huxley, Mr. Forster, the Earl of Rosebery, and Dr. Bain (twice)—the last two, at least, have printed their Inaugural Addresses in a separate form (Edinburgh: David Douglas, 1880. Aberdeen: A. Brown & Co., 1882). Dr. Bain's appears also in his *Practical Essays*.

P. J. ANDERSON.

**28. GOLD AND SILVER-SMITH TRADE.**—In the reign of James II., A.D. 1457, a statute was passed for "the reformation of gold and silver wrought by Goldsmiths, and to eschew the deceiving done to the King's lieges, there shall be ordained in each Burgh where Goldsmiths work, one understanding and cunning man of good conscience who shall be deacon of the craft; . . . the goldsmith shall take his work to the deacon of the craft that he may examine if it be fine, no worse than 20 grains (gold), and silver 10 grains fair, and the deacon shall set his mark thereto together with the goldsmiths; and where there is no goldsmith but one in the town, he shall show that work, tokened with his own mark, to the head officers of the town, which shall have a mark in like manner ordained therfor, and shall be set to the said work." In 1473, "it was enacted by the Lords of the Articles" that henceforth there be in each burgh of the realm where goldsmiths are, one deacon and one searcher of the craft; that each goldsmith's work be marked with his own mark, the deacon's mark, and the mark of the town. In 1489, another statute to the same effect was passed. Chaffers on hall marks. I shall be glad to know if there were gold- and silver-smiths in Aberdeen (Old and New) at the above early dates, and if they recognised those laws. Were they incorporated apart from the Hammermen? If not, what members of that trade were Hammermen? When was the first deacon appointed, and who appointed him, to test the silver? Who succeeded him, and when did this office cease to exist? as I find that at the early part of the century (previous to 1819) there was no one attested the quality.

W. A. J.

**29. CAMPS NEAR DON MOUTH AND BODDAM.**—In my wanderings about Aberdeen I came upon the evident marks of an encampment on the hollow adjoining the sand-hills, north of the mouth of the Don. Can any one inform me if there had been any camp of military men, mentioned in any Aberdeen history as holding an encampment here? I have observed similar vestiges of prehistoric habitations on the margin of a loch near Boddam, and I have dug up near them flint arrow-heads. The site of this encampment north of the Don might be examined by any one interested in the matter.

London.

JAS. MARTIN.

**30. MURDER OF THE MASTER OF CAITHNESS.**—I find in Calder's *Civil and Traditional History of Caithness* an account of the murder of the Master of Caithness, at Castle Girnigoe, under peculiarly savage circumstances. The plan adopted was to deprive him of food for five days and then to furnish him with salt beef. He was thereafter refused water and died of raging thirst. The editor of the second edition of the *History* throws discredit on the story. There is a similiar tradition related in Dr. Sam. Johnson's *Tour of the Western Isles*, the *locus* and *dramatis personae* alone being changed. As far as may be judged the dates of these two events are almost identical—the end of the sixteenth century. Can anyone throw light on these incidents? Perhaps they may only be localised forms of one common event.

John O'Groats.

W. J. C.

**31. SUCCESSOR OF WILLIAM DE IRWYN, 1ST OF DRUM.**—In the first edition of *Burke's Baronage* (1834) the successor of William de Irwyn, the 1st of Drum, is said to be Alexander. In the edition of 1871, Sir Thomas de Irwyn is said to be the successor of the said William de Irwyn. Could any of your readers say what chartulary or other evidence there is for this name?

W. TEMPLE.

**32. STONE COFFINS.**—When the old East Church, Aberdeen, was taken down in 1836 two stone coffins and a part of a third one were discovered. I am aware of the broken lid which lies in the sill of one of the windows of the West Church. Ramsay says one *ought* to be in Marischal College, but I understand there is no such relic there. Can any one say what become of them?

A. M. M.

**33. Who is the author of the lines—**

"Content sits basking on the cheek of toil."

Is it Sheridan?

Glasgow.

JAS. R. FERGUSON.

**34. MORMOND.**—"There is a representation of the white horse in a state of excitement on one of the brown heather hills of Morin, in Banffshire, N.B., 600 feet above the level of the ocean, and looking one-half in a S.E. direction. It is cut out of the turf, and occupies the space of half an acre. As the sub-soil is black, the figure is filled with white felspar stones, to give it the sacred colour, so that it can be seen ten miles off. The horse held a place in Irish mythology, and was sacred to the sun." This very

curious paragraph is from *The History of Paganism in Caledonia*, by Thomas Wise, M.D., 1884. A footnote refers to Pratt's *Buchan*, so it must be the Mormond horse that is meant. Is there any authentic account of this horse, or popular story connected with it? Pratt has nothing. P. H. D.

### 35. THE CRAWFLOWER.—

" . . . The crawflower's early bell,  
Decks Gleniffer's dewy dell."

What is the crawflower? What is its northern popular name? P. H. D.

## Answers.

3. THE SCORING TERM "LOVE."—I observe an answer to the query in your first number as to the origin of this term; but neither of the alternative suggestions seems to me satisfactory. I venture, with considerable confidence, to suggest that the word "Love," used both in billiards and lawn tennis, when no score had been made, is simply the French "l'œuf," the egg. My reasons for this opinion are:—1. The other English terms used in billiards—the older of the two—are, in several instances, derived from the French. Billiard, Fr. billard; cue, Fr. queue; pool, Fr. poule (hen), used where all the balls, the whole nest of eggs, come into play. 2. The word "l'œuf"—the egg—might well be the figurative expression for a score amounting to nothing, generally represented by a round O, not unlike an egg. 3. If, as I have been informed, "no score" in another game—cricket—is named "a duck's egg," there is here a reverting in English to the original meaning of the French "l'œuf," which markers and others spell and pronounce "love." ALEX. D. MILNE.

9. SONG IN THE "HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN."—The stanza quoted in the *Heart of Midlothian* is not in any version of "Argyll is my Name" that I have seen, and perhaps Sir Walter wrote it himself. "Ferryman" will find the song in most collections, ex. gr. *The Songs of Scotland Chronologically Arranged*. Alison & Croll, Glasgow, 1872, p. 127. L.

13. MACADAM, THE ROADMAKER.—The following account of Macadam is given in Irving's *Book of Eminent Scotsmen*:—

"MACADAM, JOHN, LONDON, Improver of Roads, son of John, of Ayr, where he was born. Educated at Maybole School, and taken out with his father to America about 1762; returning to Scotland, J. L. Macadam resides for some time in the neighbourhood of Moffat, and afterwards at Sauchrie, Ayrshire; removes next to Falmouth in connection with an appointment as Government Agent for victualling the navy; incited by the condition of the Ayrshire roads to inquire minutely into their construction, he follows up the subject in England, and in 1815 is made Surveyor-General of the Bristol section of highways; here he introduced so many palpable improvements, and gave such weighty evidence in the matter before a Committee of the House of Commons, that the leading streets in all the great cities, as well as long

turnpike roads, soon came to be "Macadamised;" received from Government, in two grants, the sum of £10,000; declined the honour of knighthood, conferred on his second son, Sir James Nicoll Macadam, General Surveyor of Metropolitan Turnpike Roads. Died at Moffat, aged 80. Published *Practical Essay on the Repair and Preservation of Public Roads*, 1816. Born Sept. 21, 1756. Died Nov. 26, 1836."

Notices of Macadam are also to be found in Chambers's *Encyclopædia* and the *English Cyclopædia*, and an account of his method is given in the article "Roads" in the current edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, where it is said that "the name of Macadam often characterises roads on which all his precepts are disregarded." There is an allusion to him in Miss Martineau's *History of the Peace*, vol. iv., Bohn's Library, and in Mr. Spencer Walpole's more recent *History of England*, vol. i., p. 88, mention being made of Macadam's saying that "no stone should be laid on a road which was not small enough to enter a man's mouth." Mr. Walpole acknowledges his indebtedness to Mr. Smiles' work on "Telford" for most of his account of roadmaking in England, and possibly Smiles' work may contain an account of Macadam. R. A.

Macadam, the roadmaker, was a son of the laird of Craigengillan, at the port of Cairnsmuir of Carsphairn, in Kirkcudbrightshire. Burns's lines to Macadam of Craigengillan—either the father or the grandfather of the maker—are well known. H. W. L.

Macadam was twice married, and had by his first wife, whom he married in New York, three sons and three daughters. His second wife, whom he married in 1827, survived him, but had no family.

Kemnay.

J. L.

I am informed by a friend who knows, that, if Macadam is not buried in the Church-yard of Carsphairn, there is in it an enclosed burial place, with his name inscribed. His memory is preserved in the district, as a local celebrity, and if Dr. Davidson would write to Rev. Mr. Thomson, minister of the Old Church, Arbroath, or to the Minister of Carsphairn, either would probably put the Doctor in the way getting the information asked for. A. D. M.

23. ORIGIN OF PLACE-NAMES.—In answer to this Query I have to say, that the historical method is to be followed. It is the only method that will lead to anything like satisfactory results. To carry out the work will take a very great deal of labour, and will require many volunteers—volunteers in collecting the present names with such traditions and rhymes as still linger round them, and volunteers to read and make extracts from both printed and MS. sources, with exact references. Take a simple example:—

Pitsligo (present spelling, pronounced by old people Pitsleego).

Pitsligo, 1715 (MS. Cess Book, Boyndlie House).

Pethslege, 1588 (*Descrittione del Regno di Scotia, di Petruccio Ubaldino*, p. 58. Reprint of Banatyne Club. Edinburgh, 1829).

Petslegie in Buquhan (*Historie of Scotland*, by Father James Dalrymple, vol. I., p. 61, l. 10. Ed. S. T. S.)

Petslego, about 1536 (*The History and Chronicles of Scotland*, by Bellenden, Vol. I., *Cosmographic*, Chap. Fourteenth. Reprint, Edin., 1821).

Pethslege, about 1527 (*Scotorum Historia* Boethius, f. 8, 100. Ed. Par., 1574).

Petslego, 1494 (*Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland*, Vol. I., p. 220).

What form the work will take, whether that of a Gazetteer, with all the words arranged alphabetically, or under parishes, must be a matter for future and careful deliberation. Readers, from this short statement, will see how much is to be done. We want workers, and many of them too, and unless we get them the proposed work will come to very little. Who will volunteer? I may state that I had in contemplation the formation of a Topographical Society for Scotland, when the Geographical Society was formed, one part of whose work is understood to be the Topography of Scotland. Will the members of that Society come forward?  
WALTER GREGOR.

24. GORDON OF GIGHT.—You ask for a full account of the quarrel in which Gordon of Gight (or Gight) was murdered at the Bridge of Old Deer. I know nothing about that occurrence, but there was another incident to which your correspondent may refer. You will find in the *Historical Account of the Family of Fraser*, by John Anderson, 1825, page 175, a narrative of the murder at the Bridge of Deer (incorrectly printed Bridge of Dee) of Thomas Fraser of Knockie by Gordon of Gight. The quarrel arose, on the death of William Chalmers of Strichen, by his widow, Isabel Forbes, (of the Corsindae family,) endeavouring to maintain possession of these estates (Strichen) and keep out the rightful heirs, who were the representatives of George Chalmers, brother of William. The widow called in the assistance of Thomas Fraser of Knockie (whom she subsequently married), and the Chalmers' family had recourse to Gordon of Gight. Fraser and Gordon "met at Old Deer in the hope of effecting a compromise; but the overtures of either party meeting with contempt, Gordon in a rage followed after Fraser, and coming behind him at the Bridge of Deer (misprinted Dee), laid him dead with one blow of his two-handed sword." Such is Anderson's account of the occurrence, and, as he gives his authorities, it may perhaps be correct. Is it possible that this is the event to which your correspondent refers? It took place prior to 1594, as Gordon was killed at the Battle of Glenlivet.  
C. P. H.

### Literature.

*The Family of Cadenhead.* By GEORGE CADENHEAD, Advocate in Aberdeen. Aberdeen: J. & J. P. Edmond & Spark, 1887. [Pp. xix., 57, 8½ by 5¾ in.] 125 copies printed.

THIS little book gives additional proof that the subject of Genealogy is about to receive

deservedly increased attention. To the general reader the Introduction, which occupies a fourth part of the whole, will be read with most interest. There, the author with becoming caution, but with much forensic skill, satisfactorily works out the history of the origin of the family name, which "seems to have had a territorial origin." It is to Ettrick Forest in Selkirkshire that he conducts the reader, to point out the Caldun or Cadon Water, a tributary of the Tweed, as the stream that named the adjacent properties of Cadonlee and Cadonhead, from which last this family name is derived, through the relationship or identity of the first unknown bearers of it with the property so called. Mr. Cadenhead, in discussing the etymology of Caldun, inclines to think it a derivative of the Gaelic *Coille*, a wood, and *Dun*, a hill.

The first person found bearing the name is William de Caldanhed, a monk of Newbattle, who in 1467 was Treasurer to the Abbey. How the family acquired a footing in the north, and localized itself in Kincardineshire and in the various parishes to the north and south of the lower reaches of the Dee, are all carefully set out, aided by a sketch map of the district.

In the body of the work every legitimate and available source of information has been made to yield its quota of *facts* as to the family history. In this respect it will form, if rather a bald, yet a reliable and tentative repository of much interest to the connexions. The book is perfectly free from the snobbish vanity of loosely seeking to prove a "lang pedigree," and its contents bear evident trace of being acquired by patient and long research, and the proper use which the author has made of his undoubted opportunities as a lawyer, with the antiquarian bias, and of being well digested (maugre the few corrections noted in the Introduction), before committal to their present form. In many respects a model, the book is no less so in its material get up and general appearance.  
ED.

*Recollections of a Speyside Parish Fifty years ago, and Miscellaneous Poems.* By JAMES THOMSON. Elgin: Moray and Nairn Newspaper Company, Limited, 1887.

Mr. THOMSON, a Speyside "loon" who

crossed the Border in 1849, and since then has been head-gardener to William Rawson, Esq., of Shawdon Hall, near Alnwick, has sent me an early copy of these *Recollections*, which I have dipped into with much interest. Its pictures of rural life and manners, folk lore, and "characters" of the countryside, are graphically told, and fascinating. I should here mention that this is not Mr. Thomson's first venture in the walks of literature, he having published, in 1871, a volume entitled *Northumbria, the Captive Chief, and other Poems*, which within a few years thereafter had reached a third edition. Aberlour is fortunate in having such an author to preserve in all their simplicity the sights and scenes and characters of long ago, alas fast disappearing. I have pleasure, therefore, in quoting the following extract from a chapter—taken at random from the twenty-two equally well-written chapters which go to make up this interesting book:—

ROTHES CASTLE.

It will be admitted by every one that has stood upon the site of the old Castle of Rothes, that for situation and surrounding scenery it is not surpassed by any of the old Castles in the North. The antiquary has searched in vain the musty records of the past to find the date of its first erection. Tradition is also silent on the subject. In 1238 Eva de Mortach was Domina de Rothes. In 1263 she made a grant of her Lands in Inverlochty to the Cathedral of Moray. In that year Haco, the aged King of Norway, made his last invasion upon these islands. He came with a large and powerful fleet to the Firth of Clyde, and a number of his men landed at Largs, where they were routed and driven back by a Scottish host. In October of the same year, the dreaded Haco died in Orkney.

It may be inferred from the natural surroundings of the Castle of Rothes, that the spot where it stood would be occupied, in one form or other, from the very earliest times. Possibly a wooden structure was first erected upon the hill, as we know erections of this description were common in Moray.

Beautiful as the view from the Castle hill is at the present day, it was even more romantic when the heiress of Inverlochty made over her lands to the Cathedral of Moray. At that time the surrounding hills were clothed by natural woods, abounding in game of all sorts, and the Spey was famous for its abundance of salmon. The wolf had his lair in "The Downies" and prowled around the Concock, close to the Castle gates.

Around the grey ruins of many of the old castles of Scotland there linger stories of the dark deeds done within their ancient walls in the days of raid and rapine. It would have been strange if the old Castle of Rothes

had no tale of the past to tell. In my early boyhood, the story of Jenny Hossack had a powerful fascination for my young mind. Tradition says that Jenny Hossack was foster-mother to the only child of a lord of Rothes Castle. So faithfully did she fulfil her trust that she never left her side until the day of her untimely death.

The author has evidently a most retentive memory and a happy knack of hitting things off as they appeared to him half-a-century ago.

J. FULLERTON.

\* \* Several communications, in type, unavoidably left over.

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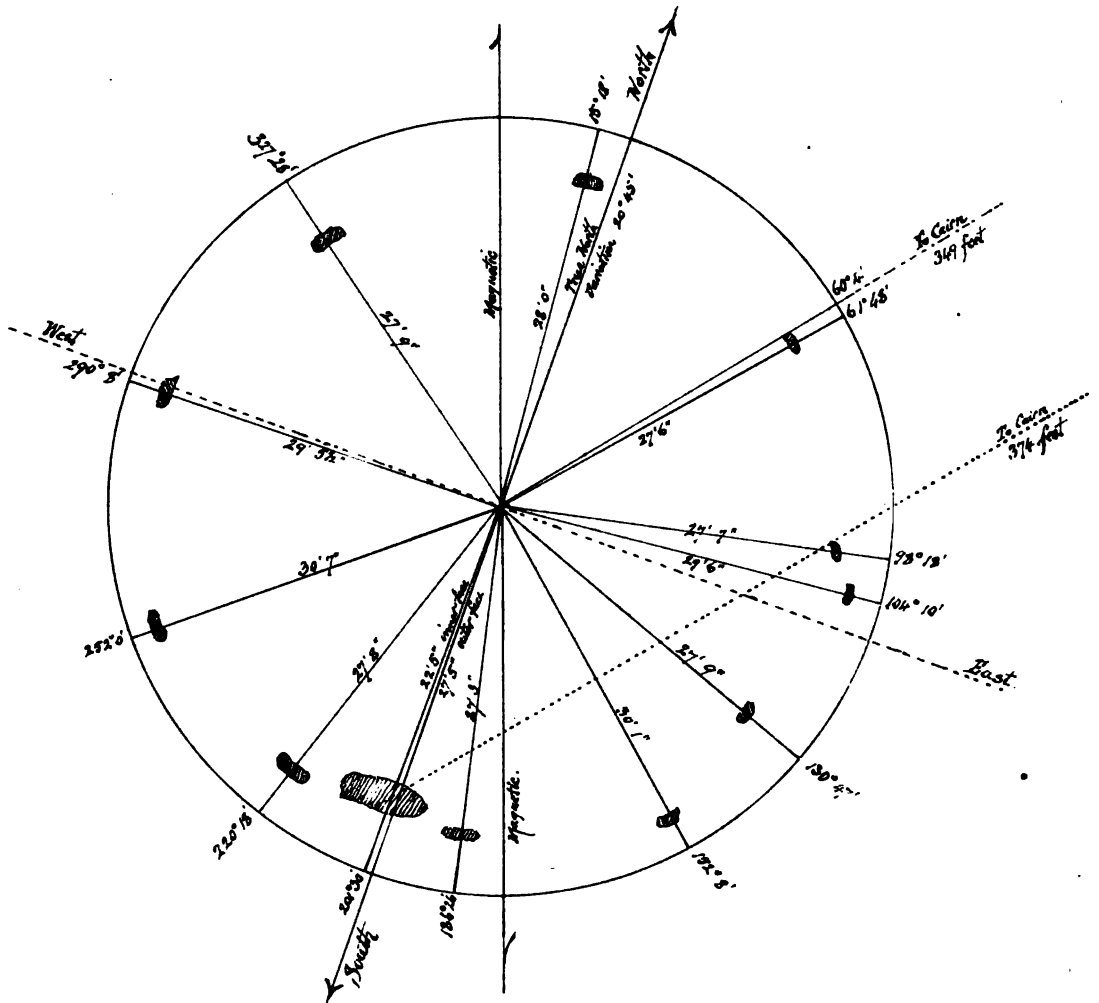
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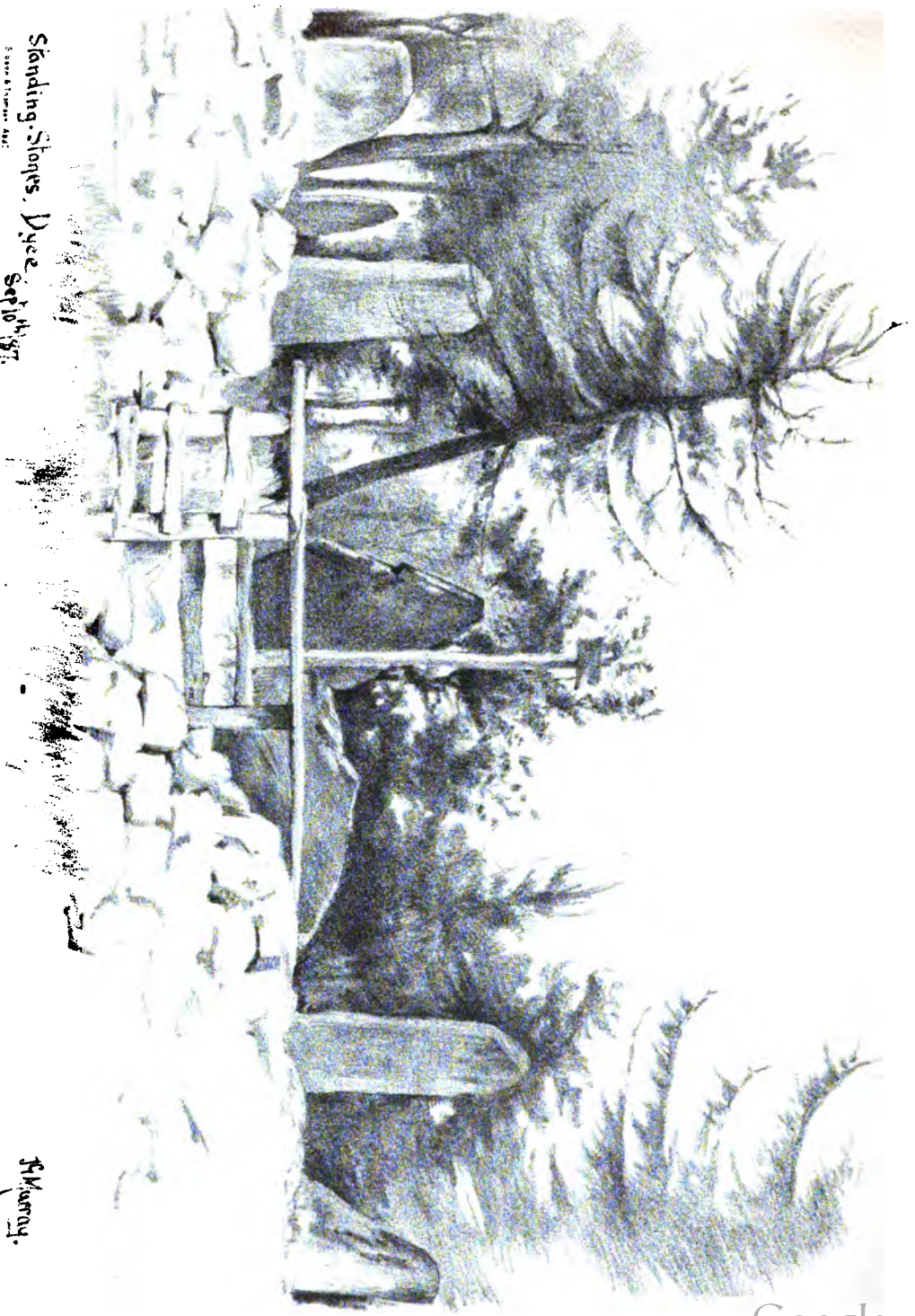
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# Diagram of Standing-Stones. Dyce.



Standing Stones, Dyce, Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1877.  
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# SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES

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## CONTENTS.

NOTES :—	Page.
Stone Circle at Dyce, Aberdeenshire (Illustration),.....	65
Andrew Logie of Loanhead, Advocate in Aberdeen,.....	—
S. Machar, Patron Saint of Old Aberdeen,.....	66
The Advocates in Aberdeen, No. 3,.....	68
Epitaphs and Inscriptions in S. Nicholas Church and Churchyard, Aberdeen (Continued),.....	69
A Bibliography of Aberdeen Periodical Literature (Continued), by J. Malcolm Bulloch,.....	72
A Ramble on the East Coast of Buchan—Kennedy the Smuggler (Continued),.....	74
Tombstone of Sir Paul Menzies,.....	75
QUERIES :—	
Ogilvies of Culvie—Preface to Bible—Society of Advocates—Reivik—Adame the Painter—Places near Aberdeen—Ruskin on Local Architecture—Druidic Circles near Stonehaven—Date of Thackeray's Birth—Spittal—The hour when the stir and truth of dreams begin,.....	76
ANSWERS :—	
The jewel print of your feet—Death of Alexander III. of Scotland—Prototype of Souter Johnnie—Meaning of Grole—Addresses by Lord Rectors—Gold and Silver-smith Trade—Camp near Donmouth—The Crowsfoot,.....	77
LITERATURE,.....	78

ABERDEEN, OCTOBER, 1887.

## STONE CIRCLE AT DYCE, ABERDEENSHIRE.

OUR illustration this month consists of a sketch and diagram of this interesting object of antiquity. It is situated on a low spur of Tyrebagger Hill, near the centre of the parish, at an elevation of 500 feet above the sea level. It lies about 1½ miles W.N.W. of the railway station, and gives the name of Standing Stones to the farm on which it stands. The *New Statistical Account* gives the number of stones composing the circle to be ten, whereas the correct number is twelve. They vary in size from nine feet high to a third of that, and stand erect on a low mound, the centre of the circle being saucered.<sup>1</sup> Every effort is made to protect the circle from injury. A careful survey was made last year, a copy of which

<sup>1</sup> The large "Altar Stone," if once erect, has fallen forward, or if formerly occupying a horizontal position, has tilted over to one side, and now occupies a sloping position. When struck with a stone or hammer it emits a metallic sound.

has been kindly placed at our disposal by Mr. Stewart, Dyce Station. The measurements noted on the diagram are on the scale of 16 feet to the inch. The centre of the circle is in Lat. 57° 12' 34½" N., and Long. 2° 13' 59½" W. In the neighbourhood there stood, until last year, two large cairns, when one of them was demolished. They are understood to have had some connexion with the circle. We are indebted to Mr. J. G. Murray for the sketch.

## ANDREW LOGIE OF LOANHEAD, ADVOCATE IN ABERDEEN.

ANDREW LOGIE was the grandson of Andrew Logie, Minister of Rayne from 1624 to 1643, and again from 1662 till his death. Being a staunch Royalist and a formidable polemic, he was deposed during the rule of the Covenant for alleged heresy, but as the Rayne people would not subscribe that document, he continued their minister until the Restoration brought his politics into power again, and restored himself to the position of parish minister. His son, Captain John Logie, was beheaded along with John Gordon of Haddo, in July, 1644, in the cause of Charles I. The minister had another son, George, the father of Andrew Logie, advocate, whether older or younger than John does not appear. He was proprietor of Loanhead and Muirhillock, a third part of the lands of Bonnetoun, in the parish of Rayne, extending to three ploughs, and possessing a manor house.

On 19th January, 1693, Andrew Logie, with special advice and consent of his father, George Logie of Loanhead, entered into a contract of marriage with Anna Patone, with consent of Isabella Keith, relict of the late Master Alexander Patone of Kinaldie, by which he became bound to infest her in Loanhead as described, and also in certain



property in Netherkirkgate, Aberdeen, described as follows:—Tenement of land, high and laigh, with the closs, privileges, and pertinents of the same, with the little house on the south side of the same tenement, which hath the entry from the street. All of old belonging to Mr. Robert Dun, thereafter to Patrick Dun of Tartie, thereafter to Mr. John Menzies, thereafter to Margaret, Ann, and Barbara Menzies, his daughters, thereafter to Thomas Forbes, advocate, thereafter to William Hay of Balbithan, thereafter to said Andrew Logie, lying without the Netherkirkgate Port of Aberdeen, betwixt the land sometime of James Forbes, thereafter of his heirs, now belonging to Thomas Mercer and the Litster's Hospital of Aberdeen at the West, the tenement of James Carnegie at the South or South-west, and the King's common High Street at the East and North-east. Also that other fore and back tenement of land with the yards and pertinents lying on the other side of the Netherkirkgate, opposite to the said first mentioned tenement, and betwixt the lands and yards sometime of Mr. Gilbert Ross, thereafter of—, and now of Alexander Henderson and the heirs of Alexander Man (or Mair), flesher at the West, the land sometime of Robert Paterson, thereafter of Alex. Forbes of Lochermick, and now of his heirs, and the common vennel of the said burgh at the East, the King's common High Street at the South, and the back vennel or road from upper or flour mill of the said burgh at the North.

These descriptions seem to fix the place of the Port eastward of M'Combie's Court, which itself would be a remainder of a highway from the Port down St. Katharine's Hill to the Green. The second property evidently was immediately west of Flourmill Lane, and extended to Flourmill Brae, a small tenement occupying a corner of the space where lane and brae met.

The following names appear in the marriage contract:—John Stewart of Ordens; Robert Cook, writer, servitor to Mr. Alexander Thomson, advocate, Aberdeen; Mr. Walter Cochrane of Dumbreck, Provost of Aberdeen; Sir Alexander Bannerman of Elsick, Knight Baronet; James Keith of Tilliegonny; Alexander Gellie of Blackford; Thomas Hay,

Sheriff Clerk of Aberdeen; James Moncrieff, Collector of their Majesties' Customs there; James Gordon, merchant in the said burgh; Thomas Forbes, advocate there; Alexander Patton. Witnesses to the sasine following were Alexander Ross of Rathmaes; Patrick Ross of Kinbrone; John Littlejohn and Lewis Forbes, servitors to the said Andrew Logie. James Smith, Notary, *Fidelis esto*.

Andrew Logie had two sons, William, who left a widow without issue, and George, who disappeared abroad, and a daughter Mary, his heiress, who in 1715 was married to William Wemyss, merchant in Inverness, afterwards laird of Craighall in Kennethmont.

JOHN DAVIDSON, D.D.

#### S. MACHAR, PATRON SAINT OF OLD ABERDEEN.

THE life of the patron of Old Aberdeen must always be an interesting subject, and the charm in writing it is enhanced by its acknowledged difficulty. Boethius (*Hist. Scot.*, l. ix., f. 184), only names his "Machorius Episcopus" among the other illustrious men who lived in the reign of King Soluathius. But Dempster (*Hist. Eccl. Gent. Scot.*, No. 839) is more circumstantial, though his facts are probably derived from his own too vivid imagination. He first quotes an anonymous writer, who speaks of "S. Machorius, religiosus et pius Muthlaci [*sic*] Episcopus": then he refers at length to Boethius, and regrets the absence of the Saint's name from the Roman Martyrology, "ut multi alii, malo Scotiæ fato, absunt": he ascribes to him, according to his wont, the writings *Ad populares Scotos*, lib. 1: *De Pictorum Excidio*, lib. 1, and says he lived in 880, with his festival now at 12th Nov. The later Scottish annalists have generally stood by this tradition,<sup>1</sup> which however is meagre and worthless, though Camerarius fills it out as much as possible for the honour of Aberdeen (see *View of Dioc. Aberd.* pp. 137-8). I refer to it here because it is home-born, and therefore sometimes relied on.

The entry in the *Martyrology of Aberdeen*, at Nov. 12, points our enquiries to another

<sup>1</sup> King's *Kalendar* changes the date to 887, and Keith calls him Bishop of Moray.

quarter: "Depositio S. Cuthberti Episcopi Turonis civitatis Gallie: depositio S. Mauricii ejusdem civitatis archiepiscopi qui apud Scotos Machorius nominatur apud Hybernicos vero Mochrumma." (Bp. Forbes, *Kalendar*, p. 136.) The lections in the *Breviary of Aberdeen*, at Nov. 12, give little aid, as they make first only a very general, and then a more detailed, statement of his virtues and miracles. But they say that his name at first was Mocumma, and that he studied under S. Columba, whom he accompanied to Iona, where he served God for many years. They say nothing of any Scottish mission beyond Iona, and there is no allusion to Aberdeen, except in the rubrics: the name given is Mauritius or Macharius,<sup>1</sup> and the passages to be read are of the usual unhistorical character. But they point to Ireland as his home, his father being Syacanus, an Irish chieftain, his mother Synchena, and his baptizer S. Colman, of which name, however, there were many saints in Ireland.

Acting, then, under the guidance of the *Breviary*, and *Martyrology of Aberdeen*, we turn to the Lives of S. Columba, and in Colgan's Fifth Life, that by O'Donell (Lib. iii., c. 23, sq.), we find a full account, from his boyhood, of Mochonna, Macharius, or Mauritius, son of Fiachna and Finchoemia, who was brought up by a prince of Connaught, and then joined the company of S. Columba. When in Iona he was too good to be popular, but the food poisoned for him by his companions formed good nourishment to him: when he required to write at night, his hand shone that he might see to continue his work. To relieve the monastery of this object of jealousy, S. Columba resolved to send Mochonna away with twelve companions to evangelise the Picts: "in quem finem, accersitum, Episcopum consecrari fecit," because S. Columba himself was only a presbyter. On sending him away he gave Mochonna the charge to go forward, until he came to the bank of a river which formed a curve in its course like the crook of his crozier, and there he was to find

the site for his church. There, accordingly, on the river's bank he built his church, turned a monster into stone, performed many miracles, converted the people and built for them many churches, uprooted paganism, and overthrew its idols. Then he accompanied S. Columba to Rome, where he obtained from Pope Gregory the more Latin name of Mauritius, and was postulated to the vacant see of Tours. Turning asidethither, as he was returning to Scotland, he was addressed by the chief men of the city and pleaded with, by gifts of gold and silver, to point out the resting-place of their former prelate, S. Martin. He consented on condition that he received whatever was found in the tomb with the body, and he thus obtained possession of S. Martin's Missal. But he was also induced to accept the see, and he ruled for three years and a half, until his death took place there in the odour of sanctity and in the refreshment of heavenly visitations.

In the Life of S. Columba there is unfortunately no allusion made to the place among the Picts where the proper curve on the river was found and the church built by the saint, but the inference we commonly draw, though we have no distinct authority for it, is that our Cathedral itself was the honoured spot. On comparing the lections in the *Breviary* with the passages in the Life of S. Columba, there is sufficient agreement to warrant the belief that the former were based on the latter, and this is confirmed by the closing words of the lections: "Sanctum virum gignit ibernia, educavit illum albania, ejus corpus in reverencia turonensis tenet ecclesia, cujus preces et patrocinia nos perducant ad celi gaudia." From other sources we know that this Life was compiled at the very close of the 15th century, and Bishop Elphinstone's *Breviary* was printed only a very few years into the 16th. If there was no closer connection between O'Donell and the collectors of legendary material for the *Breviary*, there was an apparent suitability in the chapters of the Life for a profitable selection to appear in the *Breviary*, and already in the 12th century we find (*Reg. Episc. Aberd.* I. 8 sq.) the charters confirming grants "deo et beate marie et beato Machorio." Into the source from which O'Donell drew his information, we have no means of entering, and we have as

<sup>1</sup> If I say that we find him called Macarius, Machar, Machare, Macharius, Machor, Machorius, Mauritius, Mocharius, Mochonna, Mochorius, Mochrumma, Mochumma, Mocumma, Moris, Morys, Moryse, Muritus, and also Conna, Dochonna, and Tochonna, it may well be thought that, for etymological and orthographical purposes, the vowels in those days were of no value, and the consonants of very little!

little regarding its real connection with the foundation at Old Aberdeen. But here we meet with no small complication, as the legend of S. Machar, ascribed to Barbour, (who is said to have lived in the 14th century), follows closely the Irish story, though it calls him "hye patrone of Aberdene," and adopts the parents' names as they appear in the *Breviary*: it associates S. Machar with S. Devenic and S. Ternan, and leaves us again to infer that his church was at Old Aberdeen. (*Altenglische Legenden*, pp. 189-208). The legend thus savours of an age that is posterior to Barbour's, and requires some explanation for our acceptance of it as his work. The familiar name of S. Machar we probably owe to Adam King, or some other annalist, but Dr. Reeves fixes at once the connection by acting on former suggestions and identifying S. Machar with S. Columba's companion, one of the twelve, Tochannu Mocuifir-cetea (*S. Adamnan*, pp. 264, 289, 299, 325), who again may have been either of the two Mochonnas placed in the Irish Calendars at March 8. The Bollandists (see especially *Acta Sanctorum*, Oct. 28, xii., p. 419) make several attempts at identifying the Irish saints and connecting them with Scotland and the Pictish evangelists. Haddan and Stubbs (*Documentary Annals*, II., pt. i., p. 107) place the date of their S. Mochonna or Machar as between 563 and 596, that is, during the missionary life of S. Columba, and thus they follow Dr. Reeves. Even Dr. Reeves, however, seems to jump to the conclusion rather than to prove it, and perhaps in the last resort it may be a useful discipline for us to realise how very little we *know* regarding even S. Machar of the Aulton Kirk.

JAMES GAMMACK, LL.D.

## THE ADVOCATES IN ABERDEEN.

No. 3.

IN last month's issue allusion is made to the accidental fire in 1721, which destroyed the records of the Commissariat. Well was it for Clerk Spalding that such a calamity did not happen in his time, for it would have been the old Chronicler's crowning "trouble,"—"pitiful to see"!—and might have broken his heart. We have no doubt lost much infor-

mation, interesting not only to the legal profession in Aberdeen but to others. To the same calamitous event reference is made in the earliest Minute Book extant in the possession of the Society of Advocates; all previous books of the sort having met the same fate as the public records. The following is a minute on the subject:—

"Att Aberdeen the Twenty fifth day of January I m vii c and twenty two years. In presence of Mr Robert Paterson, Commissar of Aberdeen and Members of Court subscribing.

"The said day the said Commissar and members Considering that by the fatal accident of Fire which happened in the Commissar Clerk's office upon the Thirty first day of October last by past, the hail records and papers therein were burnt and consumed, particularly the principal Register containing the Acts anent admission of Procurators and the compositions payable by them, with the dues payable by writers and apprentices, together with the Forme of process observed before the Court at Aberdeen; And also considering that several of the members of court had exact copies thereof, which were transcribed by the Commissar Clerk's servant upon the Thirty one preceding pages of this book, at the desire of the members of court, for supplying the said Acts and Forme of process which were burnt as said is. Therefore the said Commissary and Members of Court subscribing Have Ratified, homologat and approven, and by these presents Ratifie, Homologat and Approve, the hail forgoing Acts contained in this book, with the Forme of process, written upon the preceding Thirty one pages, and Declares this present Record thereof to be as valid, sufficient and effectual to all intents and purposes as the principal Register which was burnt as said is. And be thir presents Ratifies and approves the admissions of the Procurators before the said Commissar court, whose admissions are extant in the Sheriff court books."

The Acts of Court, of which copies were thus supplied, range in date from 30th July, 1685, when we find *James Scougal*, an Advocate in Aberdeen, presiding as Commissary at a meeting of "the Members of Court." He was a son of Patrick Scougal, Bishop of Aberdeen, whose monument stands in the nave of the old Cathedral, and brother of Henry Scougal, the well known divine and author. James Scougal was subsequently, on 8th June, 1687, admitted a Member of the Edinburgh Faculty, without trial, having presented a petition to the Lords of Session, stating "that he had served seven years as Commissar of Aberdeen, and in that time had applied himself to the study of the municipal and civil laws; and that he did not suppose

himself qualified to undergo the usual trial, yet he might be qualified to serve as an ordinary Advocate"—a singularly modest estimate of his own abilities! He perhaps felt that his previous experience had not made him sufficiently familiar with questions of heritable right, which did not fall within the jurisdiction of the local Court. He was afterwards appointed one of the Commissaries of Edinburgh, nominated an Ordinary Lord of Session, and took his seat, 9th June, 1696, by the title of Lord Whitehill.<sup>1</sup>

NORVAL CLYNE.

### EPITAPHS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD.

THE OLD OR WEST CHURCH.

(Continued from page 53.)

THE following two inscriptions, cut on old lair stones, are in excellent preservation:—

[ 1 ]

HIC REQUIESCUNT | MAGISTER ALEX<sup>r</sup>.  
DAVIDSON DE CARN | BROGIE JVRISCON-  
SVLTVS QUI OBIT 26<sup>o</sup> | APRILIS. A. D.  
M. DCLXVI. | ET MAGISTER ALEX<sup>r</sup> DAVID-  
SON DE NEVTOVN—JVRISCONSULTVS FI-  
LIVS EIUS MORIENS 2<sup>o</sup> | APRILIS. A. Æ. C  
M. DCLXXXV.

HI RESURRECTIONEM . AD . VITAM .  
PRÆSTOLANTVR.

[Here rest Mr. Alexander Davidson of Carnbrogie, Advocate, who died 26th April, anno domini 1666. And Mr. Alexander Davidson of Newton, Advocate, his son, who died 2nd April, in the year of the Christian era 1685.

They await the resurrection to life.

Among the earliest notices of Carnbrogie is that made in a charter<sup>2</sup> by Alexander II. to the Abbey of Arbroath in 1234, where in enumerating the lands of Tarves the davach of "Cairnbrogyn" is included.

It was this Alexander Davidson who is mentioned by Spalding as "ane good honest man of the Kingis," and as having been plundered by Mr. James Baird of 300 merks, although from a subsequent statement it would appear that his total loss was 450 merks. He was son to Mr. Thomas Davidson,<sup>3</sup> and

was received as a Guild brother on the 27th October, 1578.

William Davidson of Newton, grandson of the second Alexander here commemorated, was Provost of Aberdeen from 1760 to 1762.

[ 2 ]

HERE LYES ALEXANDER KING, LITS-  
TER | BURGES OF ABERDEEN, WHO DE-  
CEASED | THE 4TH DAY OF IANUARY 1703  
YEARS | AS ALSO MARJORY LUMSDEN :  
HIS | SPOUSE, WHO DECEASED THE 14TH  
DAY | OF IUNE THE SD. YEAR.

AND CHARLES HAY, LAWFULL SON TO  
| THOMAS HAY, SHERRIFF CLERK IN  
ABER | DEEN WHO DECEASED THE

It is difficult to account for the fact that the date to the last entry was never filled in, if, as we suppose, his father and brothers survived him, for it is more than probable that it is to Charles Hay that the following entry in the Kirk Work Accounts refers, "October, 1690. Shirreff Clerk's son in the Kirk." The Hays appear to have had more than one burial place in St. Nicholas, for Thomas, a brother of Charles, was buried in Drum's Aisle, on the 26th December, 1700.

Thomas Hay appears as Sheriff Clerk, or acting depute, in 1687, and continued in office till about 1736. On the 28th Nov., 1688, he was admitted to the freedom of the burgh, along with his eldest son, Colin, and William Hay, Procurator-Fiscal. He was latterly assisted in the office by another son Alexander, who became joint clerk in 1709, and held office till his death, which must have occurred previous to 1724. On the 8th June of that year there compeared in the Burgh Court of Aberdeen, Mr. James Irvine, Sheriff Clerk of Kincardine, and William Hay, writer, who on oath deponed that Isobell Hay, the spouse of Thomas Shand of Craig, was the only "lawful daughter and child in life of Mr. Thomas Hay, Sherreff Clerk of Aberdeen, procreat betwixt him and the deceast Isobell Irvine, his spouse." They also made statements that in their belief the said Isobell was "habit and repute" the daughter of Stephen Irving, late Baillie of Dumfries, and his wife Bessie M'Kitrick<sup>1</sup>.

The last stone in this group is very much broken, and the greater part of the inscription defaced. Round the margin there is VIS

<sup>1</sup> Brunton and Haig's *Senators of the College of Justice*, p. 466.

<sup>2</sup> Collections for the Shires, p. 336.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Davidson, admitted burges 4 Oct., 1538. Council Reg., xvi., p. 3.

<sup>1</sup> Reg. of Propinquities, vol. II.

HONORABEL PERSONE..... DAY OF M..... 1628  
AND MARGARET ROLLAND HIS SPOVS WHA  
DEPAIRED.....

In the centre there is, AND BEATRIX  
OGYLVIE..... | TO ALEXANDER SETOVN..... |  
MEDDEN WHA DEPAIRED..... | ..... DAY OF  
FEBRVARY ANNO...

There are two shields on the stone, the one at the top evidently being the Setoun and Rolland arms impaled. The charging in the first division has been entirely worn off, but the second division shows unmistakable evidences of the Rolland arms, three galleys under sail between a fess cheque.

The initials on each side of the top shield are I.S. M.R., and evidently refer to the "honorable persone" of the inscription, James Seton, who was interred on the 27th March, 1628, and his spouse, Margaret Rolland. Nothing can be made of the lower shield, but as the initials A.S. B.O., attached to this shield refer to Alexander Seton and Beatrix Ogilvie, it was in all probability charged with their arms.

The James Seton<sup>1</sup> here mentioned was the youngest son of William Seton of Meldrum, and was first styled of Bourtie, but on acquiring Pitmedden in 1619 he assumed that as his designation. It was on him that Dr. Arthur Johnston wrote the epitaph:—

*Tumulus Jacobi Setoni Pitmeddeni.*

"Quem tegit hic cespes, fastu Setonus honores  
"Divitias luxu posse carere docet."

[Seton, whom this turf covers, teaches that honour can exist without happiness, riches without enjoyment.]

His wife, Margaret Rolland, was the granddaughter of William Rolland, master of the Mint in Aberdeen during the reign of James V. On her decease, in February, 1622, she left 200 merks, (£ 11 2s. 2d.) to the Poor of Aberdeen, and on the 3rd July of the same year before the "Provost, Baillies, and Councill, compeiret James Settoun of Pitmedden, burges of this burght, and tauld doune and delyuerit befor thame in redie gold the soume of twa hundredth merkis, usuall Scottis money, left in legacie be umquhill Margrat Rolland, his Spous, to the commoun pair of this burght."<sup>2</sup>

This worthy couple had an only son, Alexander, who with his wife, Beatrix Ogilvie,

daughter of Sir Walter Ogilvie of Dunlugus, are also mentioned on the stone. They had a large family of eight daughters, and one son, the well known "Bonny John Seton." Near the foot of the stone under review, and evidently cut at a later date than the rest of the inscription, are the initials and date, I.S. 16'39, commemorative doubtless of "Bonny John," who fell at the early age of 29, at the battle of the Bridge of Dee (19th June) while advancing with the Royal Standard in his hand.

"Some rode upon the black and gray,  
And some rode on the broun :  
But the Bonny John Seton  
Lay gaspin' on the ground.

"They took from him his armour clear,  
His sword, likewise his shield,  
Yea, they left him naked there  
Upon the open field."

He was buried, however, on the following day, in St. Nicholas Church as Spalding<sup>1</sup> relates, "by his oune freindis with lamentation." He is said to have been shot through the heart while riding with Aboyne by the side of the river, and his descendants in consequence have in the middle of the three crescents for Seton a man's heart proper dropping blood.

Bonny John was married to Elizabeth, a daughter of Sir Samuel Johnston of Elphinstone, and left two infant sons, James and Alexander. They were placed by the authority of Charles under the guardianship of their kinsman, the Earl of Winton, and entered his family on the marriage of their mother with the Earl of Hartfell, the ancestor of the Marquis of Annandale.

James, on completing his education, went abroad, and did not return till the Restoration, when he obtained a command in the English fleet, and was present at several engagements against the Dutch. In the attack of the Dutch on the English fleet at Chatham, in 1667, he received so severe wounds as to cause his death in London shortly afterwards. Having died without issue he was succeeded by his brother, Alexander, who had become an Advocate at the Scotch Bar, and been knighted by Charles II. in 1664, appointed a Lord of Session in October, 1677, and of Justiciary, July, 1682, assuming the title of

<sup>1</sup> Collections for the Shires, p. 359.

<sup>2</sup> Council Register vol. L. p. 331.

<sup>1</sup> Troubles—Spalding Club, vol. I. p. 212.

Lord Pitmedden. He was created a baronet of Nova Scotia on 15th January, 1684, and represented the County of Aberdeen in the Scots Parliament during 1681-2 and 1685-6. He died at an advanced age in 1719, leaving issue by his wife, Margaret, daughter of William Lauder, a Clerk of Session.

On the wall in this corner of the church there are four mural tablets inscribed as follows:—

## [ 1 ]

Thomae Earle | filio Thomae Earle armigeri Liverpoolensis | natu minori | florentissimae spei adolescenti | philosophiae una cum fratre natu majore | in Academia Marischallana Studioso | bonis omnibus praesertim praeceptoribus | ob egregium animi candorem | in studiis diligentiam insignesque | progressus | carissimo | dira eheu ! XVIII aetatis anno febris | quadriduo abrepto | in coemeterio | locum signante lapide | sepulto | qui obiit XXVIII Januarii | anno M.DCCCVI | hocce monumentum | Pater posuit moerens.

Tu qui mente pia lustras monumenta silentum  
Siste gradum quaeso verbaque pauca lege  
Me praeceptis rapuit primaevae flore juventae  
Lethum nec potuit solvere justa parens  
Qualis habendus ego dicant quis cognitus essem  
Qui fatis omnes ingemuere meis  
Praecipue vero mortem mihi reddidit acerbum  
Planetus quo resonat tota paternae domus  
O Pater ! O Mater ! fletus compscite vestros  
Exitus hic vitae est vita beata mihi !

[In memory of Thomas Earle—younger son of Thomas Earle, Esquire, of Liverpool, a youth of brilliant promise, studying philosophy together with his elder brother at the Marischal College, beloved by all the good, especially by his teachers, for his surpassing integrity, his diligence in study and his marked progress therein, cut off, alas, in the 18th year of his age, by a fell intermittent fever, and buried in this Cemetery, where a stone marks the spot, having died on the 28th of January, 1806—this monument is erected by a sorrowing father.

O stay thy step, who with compassionate mind  
Scannest the records of the silent : stay,  
I thee beseech, and learn my life's brief lay.  
Me in my bloom death headward, all unkind,  
Rapt, nor could parent my just ransom pay.  
What I were writ let my dear comrades say,  
Who with one voice lamented me tear-blind.  
Yet this most bitter made death's cup, of all,  
The wail that echoed through my father's hall.  
O sire ! O mother ! Now your hot tears bind.  
Life's morning breaketh when death's shadows fall.

G.]

## [ 2 ]

IN MEMORY OF THE REV. JAMES FORSYTH,  
D.D. | MINISTER OF WEST PARISH FOR 36 YEARS.  
| HE DIED 29TH JANUARY, 1879.

Verse—II Tim. iv. 7, 8.

Dr. Forsyth, pastor of the West Church

from 1843 till his death, was a native of Glasgow, and was ordained in 1827, his first charge being Inveresk, Musselburgh. At the Disruption he accepted the call to the West Parish, which had become vacant through the demission of Dr. A. D. Davidson, and by his energy soon refilled the church, which was at a low ebb when he was inducted. He took a very active part in the transaction of the business of the various public boards of which he was a member, while for over a quarter of a century he was Patron of the Incorporated Trades. His portrait, painted by Cassie, adorns Trinity Hall, as a tribute of the respect in which he was held. Several years before his death he received the degree of D.D. from the University of Glasgow. He was twice married, his first wife being a Miss Brown of Musselburgh, by whom he had a family of four sons and a daughter; and his second, a daughter of the Rev. Alexander Simpson of Strichen. Dr. Forsyth was at his death in his 83rd year, and had been retired for several years from the active ministration of the pastorship.

## [ 3 ]

1849.

This tablet is erected by his surviving sons, | in memory of | ANDREW DAVIDSON, Advocate, Aberdeen | who was born at Bridge of Dee, on 13 October, 1754 | and died at Aberdeen, on 28 Sept. 1826. | His remains are interred in the old burying ground of Maryculter | Also in memory of his children |

FREDERICK BOOTH, who died in infancy, in 1806.

NATHANIEL FORBES, who died in Aberdeen, 1819, aged 14.

ANDREW, who died in Java, 1831, aged 32.

RICHARD RICH MILFORD, who died at Singapore, 1831, aged 22.

JOHN, who died in Java, 1841, aged 49.

BARBARA, who died in Edinburgh, 1844, aged 41.

CHARLES FORBES, who died in Edinburgh on 8th March, 1853, aged 53 years.

JONATHAN died at Mauritius in 1854, aged 57 years.

ANN died in Edinburgh in 1855, aged 61 years.

GORDON FORBES died in N.S.W., 17th October, 1865, aged 58.

DANIEL MITCHELL died at Yately, Hampshire, 30th July, 1877, aged 64.

SOPHIA died at Portobello, 21st July, 1885, aged 83.

Also in memory of their Mother | BARBARA FORBES, Widow of the above ANDREW DAVIDSON | who was born in Aberdeen on 11th November, 1768, died in | Edinburgh, 27th August, 1852, and is buried in this churchyard.

## [ 4 ]

To the Armory of | WILLIAM DUNCAN, A.M. | PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY IN KING'S

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY, ABERDEEN | FORMERLY MASTER FOR A PERIOD OF TWENTY EIGHT YEARS OF THE PUBLIC | WRITING AND MATHEMATICAL SCHOOL OF THIS CITY | FROM WHICH HE WAS TRANSLATED TO THE UNIVERSITY IN 1803 | BORN 28TH APRIL 1749—DIED 20TH JULY 1815.

*Erected as a Tribute of Gratitude for his eminent Services as a TEACHER | and of Respect for his amiable Character as a MAN | by a few of his PUPILS of that School.*

ALEX. M. MUNRO.

(To be Continued.)

## A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LOCAL PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

(Continued from page 55.)

1841. *Aberdeen Spectator and Monthly Advertiser*. No. 1. Published monthly. July 1, 1841. Price 2d. Folio. 8 Nos. to February, 1842. No. 5 reduced to 1d. The preface states that "in short we shall at all times be wide awake and prepared to expose trickery and deceit wherever we find it,—from the highest city functionary to the lowest there shall be no possible chance of escape."

1841. *Aberdeen Monthly Magazine*. No. 1. Aberdeen, December, 1841. Vol. I., 8vo. Printed for William Russel, bookseller, Broad Street. To No. 3, February, 1842. This periodical was taken up with prominent city questions of the day. Thus, an article on the great hat case brought down a storm of opposition on its head. This now forgotten case was, in the words of this magazine, "a great 'national question' between Baillie James Forbes and Councillor Alexander Torrie, touching a certain hat which the latter accused the former of taking away with him, or, in other words, stealing, and wearing upon his wise head, in defiance of the claims of justice, the rights of man, and the eighth commandment."

1842. *The Banner*. "There are no politics like those which the Scriptures teach."—Milton. No. 1. Vol. I., Aberdeen, May 2, 1840. Ended May 30, 1851. Cornwall and then Hutchison were at different times its printers. This paper, the property of a Joint Stock Company, was started to promote the Non-intrusion principles. In 1844 the original proprietors sold it, and Mr. David Mitchell, advocate, was the secretary for the shareholders. Although weekly, now and then a supplement or bi-weekly number came out. Its editors were in succession, George Troup, Professor Masson, and Dr. Longmuir.

1842. *The John Knox*. [Portrait of Knox and Motto.] No. 1, May, 1842. Price 1d. 8vo, 8 pp. Imprint:—"Published on the third Wednesday of every month, and to be had of G. Davidson, Bookseller, 1 King Street; C. Panton, Bookseller, 78 Broad Street, Aberdeen; C. Ziegler, Bookseller, South Bridge, Edinburgh;" while the printer of almost the whole series was W. Cruickshank, "at Greyfriars School Press." Was there a No. 15 of the first series? Two editions of

Nos. 1 and 2 were published. At No. 14 the title reads "Vol. II., No. 14," and yet this month is paged continuously with No. 13. A new series was begun in July, 1843, with the commencement of the Free Church. Were there more than 5 Nos? *The John Knox* was the organ of the Non-intrusion party in the great Disruption struggle.

1843. *The Aberdeen Review*. Printed by George Mackay, 61 Broad Street. This was a Radical and Dissenting Newspaper, edited by John Mitchell, author of *Poems, Radical Rhymes, Tales*, 1840, and *The Wreath of Temperance*, 1842. Its career was short.

1845. *Scottish Farmer and Gardeners' Journal*. No. 1, June 1, 1845. In 1846 it was first published twice in the month and then every Friday, price 5d, at 27 North Bridge, Edinburgh; 188 Tron-gate, Glasgow; and 43 Union Street, Aberdeen, the proprietors being Edward Ravenscroft and John Avery. Mr. James Robb was at one time editor, and Dr. William Alexander contributed to its pages. This paper was alive in 1847. Did it merge into *The North British Agriculturist*?

1846. *North of Scotland Family Journal*. Preliminary Number. Aberdeen, August 4, 1846, Folio, 8 pp. Illustrated. Imprint, "Printed by Edward Ravenscroft, residing in Aberdeen, at the Office of D. Chalmers & Co., Adelphi. Published every alternate Tuesday by the said Edward Ravenscroft, at 43 Union Street." The preliminary number was really No. 1, and it was reprinted to suit the size of No. 2, which changed its title to *Family Journal for the North of Scotland*, Friday, Sept. 18, 1846, price 6d., 16 pp. To No. 12, March 6, 1847. A new series began in May, 1847, royal 8vo, with the title *The Family Journal for the North of Scotland*, Illustrated. Fifteen Nos. appeared, to July, 1847. The address in No. 2, 1st series, states that the Paper was designed "pro bono domestico, for the domestic good or the benefit especially of families. It is our purpose to produce a publication which, combining the attractions of the miscellanea of the newspaper, with the literature of the artistic information, and embellishments of the Magazine—in short, blending the profitable with the pleasant, *utile dulci*." The articles are good and varied, many being contributed by Dr. John Christie, Professor Macgillivray, Thomas Spark, bookseller, and A. Mercer, author of *The History of Dunfermline*. This Magazine is especially valuable as furnishing pictures and portraits of local buildings and persons of note of the period. It was a very spirited attempt to found an illustrated paper in the north, and that, too, at a time when wood engraving was far more expensive than it is now. This paper is the only Aberdeen periodical that has been exclusively and so copiously illustrated with wood cuts.

1846. *The Phonographic Bagatelle*. Mr. A. S. Cook informs me that a magazine of this name was con-

ducted solely by ladies, when a phonographic society was started in Aberdeen in 1846. Who was the editor?

1846? *King's College Miscellany*. [Motto.] No. 1, 1846 (?), 8vo, 16 pp. Price 2d. To No. 4. Aberdeen: Saturday, January 23, 1847. Imprint, "G. Cornwall, printer, Aberdeen." This is a very poor specimen of an academic periodical, with hardly a spark of anything about it that would have insured success.

1847? *Ursa Major, or The Northern Bear*. "Bear and For-bear." I have seen only the prospectus of this paper. It is a well-printed well-written announcement, evidently the work of a wag. *Ursa Major* was to be a weekly miscellany, price 2d.; the first number to be issued on Saturday, the 9th October [1847?], from the Office, Crown Court, 43 Union Street. "It may be observed that the conductor or Editor thereof is A. Bear—a name that he hath justly earned by exhibiting both in his character and conduct a conformable conglomeration of those superlative good properties for which Bruin is so noticeable—and that he has a lovely and beloved partner Ursa, whom you shall behold anon, and whom he often calls by the endearing diminutive of Ursula." Whoever Bruin was, the numerous classical quotations, and the whole tenor of the prospectus, show that he was an educated man. *Ursa Major* claims to be of no "set, clique, or party;" it is to be as "an Amuser, or as a Caterer, for the entertainment and edification of the Public." "Bruin's brochure will appear under every advantage as to typographic accuracy and beauty, adorned with the most curious cuts, the most funny and fantastic figures; the most grotesque letterings, and the most delectable sculptures." Judging from the typography of the prospectus, and the beautiful little woodcut that adorns the opening letter, and the composition of the prospectus, *Ursa Major* would have been a very well got up magazine. Did any numbers appear? It seems to have been a project of the energetic Ravenscroft, and probably followed up the *Family Journal*, which had stopped in July, 1847.

1847. *North of Scotland Gazette*. Aberdeen, 1847. This was a Liberal paper, edited by Dr. J. H. Wilson, the chief leader writers besides the editor being William M'Combie and David Macallan. When Wilson left for England, about 1848, the two other gentlemen became its editors, and Mr. Wm. Carmie its reporter and sub-editor. The *Gazette* stopped on Friday, April 28, 1853, and on the following Friday the *Free Press* took its place.

1849. *The Aberdeen Universities' Magazine*. Dec., 1849. April, 1850. [Motto.] Aberdeen, Published by John A. Wilson, Bookseller, 20 Upperkirkgate, 1850. Large 8vo, 32 pp. Price 5d. Issued in cover with views of King's and Marischal Colleges, surmounted by a fancy coat of arms. Peter Bayne, Principal Donaldson (who was one of the editors), Professor Blackie, Prof. David

Thomson, W. Cadenhead, Alex. Grant, John M'Donald, James Moir, Paul M'Gillivray, and Tulloch were among its contributors. This able magazine, one of the very best that has been published by Aberdeen students, was distinctly a Marischal College production, and the great ability displayed in its pages raised the jealousy of the King's College men.

1850. *Magnet*. "Wisdom is to the mind what health is to the body." No. 1. January, 1850. Vol. 1. [Price One Penny.] Post 8vo, 8 pp. Imprint, "Aberdeen: Published monthly under the direction of the Aberdeen Union Mutual Improvement Society. A Durno, Printer, 40 Gallowgate, Aberdeen." Nos. 2-6, printed by Daniel, are entitled *The Magnet*, and they are opened with a rather boastful preface, which promised that the Magazine would be "diversified by choice pieces of poetry, gems of thought, &c." *The Magnet* is not a sparkling production, nor were its readers at the end of a year, in the words of the over-sanguine promoters, "in the possession of a neat, handsome post octavo volume," for at the sixth number—June, 1850—it ceased to exist.

1850? *The Aberdeen Advertiser*? About this time Alexander Stevenson, bookseller, published an advertising sheet. It did not live long. Did it merge into *The Northern Advertiser*?

1852. *The Chameleon*. [Motto.] No. 1. Aberdeen, January 1, 1852. Price 3d. 4to, 8 pp. Imprint, "Aberdeen: Published by John Sutherland, 3 Gallowgate." At No. 4 the imprint changes to, "Aberdeen: Printed and Published by J. Daniel & Co., 46 and 48 Castle Street." After No. 7 it became an 8vo, and all the preceding numbers, with the exception of No. 1, were reprinted in 8vo form. In all twenty-four numbers have been published at irregular intervals, the last appearing in September, 1882. Price 2d. The introductory note in No. 1 says, "Chameleon-like, we mean to vegetate on insects which, while annoying to others, afford sustenance to ourselves." Written by different people, *The Chameleon* is very unequal in point of literary and other merit, some of the later numbers descending to pure buffoonery, or to the scandalous scurrility of *The Shaver*. No. 7—Provost Blaikie's Dinner to the Town Council—one of the ablest of the series, had been circulated in manuscript by the author among his friends, when to his astonishment it immediately appeared as a *Chameleon*.

1853. *The Aberdeen Free Press and North of Scotland Review. A General Advertiser for Aberdeen and the Northern Counties*. No. 1, Aberdeen. *Agriculture, Commerce, Literature; Free Institutions and Responsible Government*. May 6, 1853. Price 4½d. Imprint—"Printed and Published at the Office, Concert Court, Broad Street, by Arthur King, residing at Burn Court, 44 Upperkirkgate, Aberdeen." The title of the paper has varied at different periods. At No. 105



of the Friday issue it became *The Aberdeen Free Press, Peterhead, Fraserburgh, and Buchan News, and North of Scotland Advertiser*. At No. 460, of Friday issue, the same title occurs, but the arms of Bon-Accord are introduced. At No. 216, of Tuesday issue, the title was changed to *The Aberdeen Free Press and North of Scotland Advertiser*. On Saturday, May 4, 1872, it became a daily with the new title *The Aberdeen Daily Free Press*, while on July 1, 1874, its present title, *The Daily Free Press*, was adopted. At No. 216 of Tuesday issue, the imprint changed to "Printed and published for the proprietors, at the office of the *Free Press*, Concert Court, Broad Street, Aberdeen, by Alexander Marr, residing," &c. *The Free Press*, started by David Macallan, Wm. M'Combie, and George and Arthur King, is the direct successor of the *North of Scotland Gazette*.

J. MALCOLM BULLOCH.

(To be continued.)

## A RAMBLE ON THE EAST COAST OF BUCHAN.

KENNEDY THE SMUGGLER.

(Continued from page 56.)

WE concluded our last paper at the tombstone of the Countess Mary and her husband—and we now give a glimpse of how the Presbytery of Ellon put off the marches of the glebe of Slains upwards of 280 years ago, which we copy from the original manuscript:—

At Slains, the 23rd May, 1605. Convened the Brethren of the Presbytery of Ellon, with Mr. David Rait, Principal of the College of Auld Aberdeen; Mr. William Neilson, Min<sup>r</sup>. at Logie, Fintray; Mr. Archibald Rait, Min<sup>r</sup>. at Kintore, for visitation of the Kirk of Slaines, and designation of the Glebe thereof: The said day the Brethren above mentioned being accompanied with some of the parishioners of Slains, viz.—William Smith in Slains, John Scott there, William Bodie there, James Gray, Bomatetheil; Thomas Gibson, in Brogan; William Sim, in Slaines; and Thomas Wildgoose, in Clochtow. They designed the bounds, whereupon the vicar had his manse and yard to be the Minister's Toft and yard. Thereafter passed to the land occupied by the Minister, and measured the samen, and therewith also the bounds of an Toft and yard which he had lately bigged on the lands aforesaid, and found the samen to extend to twenty-two score falls and a half fall: and seeing the samen made not sufficient Glebe passed to two butts lying on the east side of the Kirk, and measured the samen easterly from the north-east neuk of the Kirkyard directly to the burn, and from there to the burn on the south and the Kirkyard dyke, and said Toft on the west, extending to thirty-eight falls, thence passed to the east side of the old Glebe, as lying most com-

modious and contiguous to the said old Glebe and Manse, and marched and marked and annexed with the auld Glebe thereof an piece of land extending to six falls half fall, extending on the dale marchit by ane dyke, and upon the east and north by stanes and pots casten, and this done day and yeir aforesaid before witnesses, Mr. James Beidy, son of John Beidy in Slains; Alexander Thomson, in Brogan; Alexander Bisset, Servitor to the said Mr. David Rait, requesting the Lords of His Majesty's Council and Session to letters of horning on said designation to bruik passes and defend the samen against all deidly opposition, and to remain in the register of the Presbytery.

Nearly opposite to the "bell door" of the Church there is a headstone, among others, of Philip Kennedy, the smuggler who was killed by Anderson, the Exciseman, on 19th December, 1798, aged 38. Philip had on that night secured 16 ankers of Holland gin at the shore of Cransdale, Collieston, and employed women to carry it off in creels to the hiding place on his farm at Ward, a distance of 3 miles, while he and his brother John went off to protect the property from two gaugers and a tidewaiter, who were on the way to Collieston, from having made a seizure of gin at Sandend, Cruden. The Kennedys had scarcely gone a mile when they came in contact with them, two of whom were armed with cutlasses. They had not exchanged many words when a desperate struggle ensued. Philip with his oak cudgel, in which there was sunk a lump of lead, warded off the cutlass and tripped up two of them, and held them down in his giant grasp, calling on his brother to secure the other. John was in combat with the other gauger, and in parrying off the cutlass with his stick got a severe cut on the forehead, piercing through his thick bonnet, the blood flowing over his eyes and face rendering him helpless. After wounding the brother, the gauger roared out to Philip to let go his grasp, or he would sever his head from his body; but he still kept his hold. Anderson then, uttering an oath, brandished his weapon, and with one fell stroke laid open the head of poor Kennedy. He immediately started to his feet, and shouted out "murder." Although severely wounded he walked the distance of three quarters of a mile to the farm of Kirkton, and seating himself heavily on a chair in the kitchen said—"If a' hed been as true as

me the prize wud hae been safe, an' I wudna hae been bleedin to death," after which he expired with a groan.

It was said a finer broad-shouldered stalwart chiel never entered the Kirk of Slains, and that he was always known among his fellows on the Kirk road by his uniform home-spun blue suit, staff in hand, and broad blue bonnet with red nap. He might have been useful in the sphere in which he moved for other fifty years, but for the wiles and deceit of two informers, under pay, who betrayed him into the clutches of the gaugers.

The skull of Philip Kennedy has been repeatedly turned up in excavating the graves of others of the name buried in the same spot. It is known by the cut of the gauger's weapon. His brother, John, who died in 1842, bore the mark of the cutlass as long as he lived.

J. DALGARNO.

#### QUARRYING—LAST CENTURY.

THE following letter will give an idea of the price allowed for quarried stones in the middle of last century. I discovered it in an old copy of "Josephus," which belonged to my great-grandfather, wherein it had been pasted on the back of a plan of the Temple of Jerusalem:—

FRASERSBURGH, 10 March, 1755.

Alex: Forbes and John Ord.

I acknowledge the Receipt of your letter of this day's date concerning your offer to Quarry three hundred and sixty peice of Read stone out of ye Millstone Quarrey of Achmeddon, and Bring ye same upon your own charges from ye sd Quarrey to the harbour of Achmeddon. That you are to make ye half of ye sd number of stones of ye following dimention, viz., four foot Long and Betwixt ten and twelve inches thick, and Betwixt twelve and fifteen inches Deep, full at Both ends, and the oyr half of ye sd number nothing less than two foot and one half long, and of equall thickness and Deepness wt ye former number. So in Caise you Quarrey ye said Stones being of sufficient Substance Bring them about to ye harbour of Achmeddon, and have them in Readiness for being brought about to this harbour betwixt and the tyme mentt in your Letter to me. I oblige my Self to pay to you Nine Shilling Scots for each pice of ye sd Stone long and Short over head, and that wtin fourty Eight hours after ye Last of ye sd Stones are brought from ye Quarrey to ye harbour of Achmedden ye number and dimention being to be referred to ye Report of Geo. Mores, masson in frasersburgh, and that under ye faille of Eighty pounds Scots by and attour ye punct-

ual paytt, So accept of this Answer, and Let nothing hinder ye Work, and I am

Your Humble Servant,

AND. P. RITCHIE.

For Alexander Forbes, masson in Peterhead, and Jo. Ord, masson in Crive.

Here follows a short note that the above minute was implemented by the seventh day of May, 1755.

Aberfeldy.

J. CHRISTIE.

TOMBSTONE OF SIR PAUL MENZIES.—On looking at your sketch I fancy that traces of the blazen may be discovered. The arms are *Argent*, and chief *gules*. The same coat is carried by the family of Worsley of Hovingham in Yorkshire, baronets.

St. Andrews, N. B.

GEORGE ANGUS.

NOTE ABOUT COWIE KIRKYARD.—On reading the article on "Resurrectionists at Nigg," it brought to my remembrance a story told by a near relative concerned in it about Cowie Kirkyard, which is situate near the seaside in a rather secluded position. A parishioner had been buried, and it was necessary to set a watch for a few nights. My friend volunteered to be one of a watch party of six, all armed with guns. About two or three o'clock in the morning it was whispered that something was wrong, and very soon they were all wide awake. Something black appeared to be moving, and then stood still. There was a hurried debate what had best be done. They agreed to fire. A heavy thud followed the reports, and the black thing disappeared. Great consternation! A man shot! A short silence followed. Then the oldest man of the party said, "Weel, lads, we maun see what damage we've deen; he's maybe only wounded." My friend went up with the others, his lower limbs in a rather shaky condition, not knowing what was to happen. But what was their surprise to find—not a man—but an inoffensive gravestone knocked over and broken. They spent no more time in the Kirkyard, and as they made for home, they met some Coastguard men advancing in alarm. They had seen the flash of the guns, and supposed it was a signal from some ship in distress. When informed as to the cause of the shot there was a hearty laugh all round.

A. W.

## Queries.

NOTE.—Each paragraph, containing one or more Queries, will receive a consecutive number, to which Correspondents may conveniently refer.

36. OGILVIES OF CULVIE.—The Lands of Culvie were conveyed to Alex. Ogilvie, in 1756, by Alex. Innes, in whose family they had been for long. I should be obliged if any of your readers can give me any information regarding this Ogilvie and his "forbears." In *Banff and Neighbourhood*, published by Bremner, reference is made to a James Ogilvie of Culphin, who put up an entry door to the old church of Boyndie, and "who was an elder at this place forty-six years by past, at the present year of God, 1723." "This Ogilvie," to quote further from the same source, "was afterwards designed of Culvie in Marnoch." This does not coincide with the information given above, which I believe to be correct, as it is taken from a copy Inventory of the lands conveyed by Alex. Innes in 1756.

Aberfeldy.

J. CHRISTIE.

37. PREFACE TO BIBLE.—The translators of the Bible wrote a "Preface to the Reader," which is rarely, if ever, printed now. I daresay it would be new to many of your readers, and I would be glad to see it reproduced in your columns. A curious thing in it is their acknowledgment of having suppressed the true meaning of some passages in the original, and made use of certain words instead, by the *express command of the King (James VI.)*. Such a confession, voluntarily made, should surely annihilate any lingering belief in the inspiration and infallibility which is so tenaciously held by a certain class to have been the peculiar attributes of the translators, and it is in itself a strong argument in favour of the "Revised Version." A complete list of these *wifful* mistakes would be interesting, but if this is not easily obtainable, perhaps some of your learned readers could point out one or two of the most notorious of these garbled interpretations.

ZIGZAG.

38. SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES.—The Society of Advocates in Aberdeen appears in the *Aberdeen Almanac* of 1793 or thereabout as "Society of Procurators in Aberdeen, incorporated by Royal Charter." Was it the original designation, or a new title assumed for a time, for in 1810 the term advocate appears in the *Almanac*, and the name had been for centuries that used to Aberdeen lawyers?

JOHN DAVIDSON, D.D.

39. REIVIK.—In the south of Scotland the word "reivik" is very frequently used thus. A person looking at a piece of cloth, if not satisfied with it on account of its being too thin, will cast it aside and say, "It's as thin as a reivik," or, "Oh, it's a perfit reivik." Could any of your readers say what is a "reivik." My own impression is that it is another name for a cheese cloth, as I have heard the expression, "It's awfu' thin, it's nae better than cheese clout."

Selkirk.

JAMES COCKBURN.

40. ADAME THE PAINTER.—At page 199 of the *Second Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts*, specimens are given of entries in an account book of George, third Earl of Winton. From these I select the two following, which occur apparently in 1628:—"Item gewine to Adame the painter for my Lord Erroll, my Lady Hay, and James Maxwells portraits, 86 lib 13s. 4d." "Item gewine to Adame the painter for my oun portraitte gewine to my sister 40 lib." The point of interest lies in "Adame the painter," about whom any information will be acceptable.

ESME.

41. PLACES NEAR ABERDEEN.—In the days of King Robert the Bruce John Crab, or Johannes de Crab, was burgess in Aberdeen, and a man of considerable landed property throughout Scotland (Robertson, *Index of Missing Charters*). He held charters upon such lands as "Prescoly, Granden, and Auchmolen, and Auchterrony," and in the gift of "sundry lands and annuals" was not unmindful of the Carmelite Friars in Aberdeen at his death, probably in Robert II.'s reign. Among other properties that he held by royal charter were "the lands called the Pudleplace [or, Puddleplace], where the cock-stool stood." Can any of our friends say where these lands in Aberdeen were; why they were so named; and what the cock-stool was? Again, if in the first-named places we recognise the present Persley, Grandholm, and Auchmull, where is Auchterrony?

JAMES GAMMACK, LL.D.

42. RUSKIN ON LOCAL ARCHITECTURE.—In which of his works has Ruskin expressed himself on local architecture?

ARTIST.

43. DRUIDIC CIRCLE, &c., NEAR STONEHAVEN.—There is, or was a few years ago, a small stone circle on a hill a few miles from Stonehaven, a short distance east from the Slug Road, and also some stones, seven or eight feet high—named "The Langstones." There were also clearly defined marks of a large trench and embankment on same hill, as if it had been fortified. Any account of the above would be much appreciated.

W. J.

44. DATE OF THACKERAY'S BIRTH.—Is there any doubt about the exact date of Thackeray's birth? Trollope gives it as the 18th July, 1811, but a recent Calendar makes it out to be the 19th May.

J. R.

45. SPITTAL—A MISSPELLING?—Is not the word *Spittal*, as used of a place, a misspelling? *Spital* is the correct form, as Spitalfields (London), and *spittle* is also used. "A spittle or hospitall for poor folkes diseased; a spittle, hospitall, or lazar house for lepers." (*Baret, Alvearic, 1580*). What authority is there for *spittal*?

J. M. B.

46. "THE HOUR, WHEN THE STIR AND TRUTH OF DREAMS BEGIN."—What poet speaks of "The Hour, when the stir and truth of dreams begin." I fear I have not given the *ipsisima verba* of the line, but I do not think there is any considerable error. I had hoped to spot the passage in Shakespeare, but Mary Cowden Clark says "No."

NEMO.

## Answers.

4. "THE JEWEL PRINT OF YOUR FEET."—I have noticed several attempts in *S. N. & Q.* to explain this. The following parallel passage, quoted in *Longman's Magazine* (Sept., 1887) seems to me to explain it:—"And the daisies which she crushed in passing looked dark against her feet, the girl was so white."—(*Cantefable d'Aucassin et Nicolette 12\*\**)

READER.

16. DEATH OF ALEXANDER III. OF SCOTLAND.—Sir Walter Scott (*Tales of a Grandfather*) is very minute on this point. While not sure whether the King's horse started or stumbled, he remarks that "the people of the country still point out the very spot where it happened, and which is called the King's Crag," on the coast between Burntisland and Kinghorn. Such a recent authority as the *Dictionary of National Biography* gives the same account.

S. N. Q.

17. PROTOTYPE OF SOUTER JOHNNIE.—The best authorities, I think, point to John Davidson as the prototype of the immortal Souter. It seems beyond dispute that Douglas Graham, who lived at Shanter, between Turnberry and Colzean, was the original of Tam, and Chambers (*Life and Works of Burns*, Vol. III., p. 161) says that he was frequently accompanied to Ayr, every market day, "by a shoemaking neighbour, John Davidson, who dealt a little in leather."

H. M.

21. MEANING OF GROLE.—This word, according to Jamieson, is "another word for porridge, Aberd. merely a corr. of *Cruel*, a term used in some counties in the same sense."

NOLL.

27. ADDRESSES BY LORD RECTORS.—Mr. Grant Duff's Inaugural Address in 1867 was published by Edmonston & Douglas. It was probably republished in his *Miscellanies: Political and Literary*, Mr. Huxley's address in 1874, if not published separately or in a magazine, appears in his volume, *Science and Culture and other Essays*.

R. A.

28. GOLD AND SILVERSMITH TRADE.—The gold and silversmiths in Aberdeen were never at any time sufficiently numerous to enable them to form an incorporation. They have all along been associated with the Hammerman Trade, which embraces a number of handicrafts in which the use of the hammer is a predominant feature. Occasionally the Hammermen selected a Goldsmith to be their deacon, but he exercised no special functions beyond what were exercised by any other member of this Trade chosen for the office. In consequence of there being no separate incorporation of Gold and Silversmiths, the Act of 1457 was never put in force in Aberdeen; but to meet the want of a deacon with power to examine gold and silver work in the town, the Council appointed a Goldsmith who happened to be deacon of the Hammermen at the time, to be "tryar of gold and silver." The appointment was made in the following terms:—

7 November, 1649.—The said day the Counsall, taking to thair consideration the insufficiency of silver wark maid within this burgh, have nominat and appointit, and be the tennour hereof, nominatis and appointis William Andersone, goldsmyth, to be tryar of all gold and silver wark to be maid within the said burgh for the year to cum, and being sufficient and markit with the prob, to put on the towne's mark, and for that effect nominatis and appointis the said William Andersone, keeper of the towne's mark for this present year; the said William Andersone being personallie present, acceptit the said office, and gave aith *de fidei administratione*, and obliet him that all wark that sould pass his mark and the towne's mark sall be elewin pennie fyne; and if thair be ony wark fund of less walew markit as said is, he sall be lyable for the samen according to the ordinar rait.—*Council Register*, Vol. LIIII., p. 243.

I have been unable to discover if any other appointments were made; but I subjoin a list of goldsmiths and watchmakers who were deacons of the Hammermen Trade, from about the time that the appointment of a "tryar" of gold and silver was made by the Council which may assist "W. A. J." in his researches:—

1617.	Hen. Anderson,	goldsmith.
1620.	do.	do.
1622.	do.	do.
1633.	do.	do.
1636.	William Andersone,	do.
1645.	do.	do.
1648.	do.	do.
1649.	Thomas Moncur,	do.
1652.	William Andersone,	do.
1654.	William Christie,	do.
1655.	William Andersone,	do.
1656.	William Christie,	do.
1658.	do.	do.
1660.	do.	do.
1661.	do.	do.
1662.	Walter Melvill,	do.
1666.	William Christie,	do.
1668.	do.	do.
1669.	do.	do.
1670.	do.	do.
1673.	William Scott,	do.
1674.	Alex. Galloway,	do.
1677.	do.	do.
1678.	William Scott,	do.
1685.	do.	do.
1713.	William Lindsay,	do.
1720.	George Walker,	do.
1723.	John Walker,	do.
1734.	James Abercrombie,	watchmaker.
1735.	do.	do.
1738.	do.	do.
1743.	George Cooper,	goldsmith.
1744.	Alexander Forbes,	do.
1750.	James Abercrombie,	watchmaker.
1751.	do.	do.
1761.	Colane Allan,	goldsmith.
1763.	do.	do.
1764.	do.	do.
1767.	do.	do.

1777.	Hugh Gordon,	watchmaker.
1784.	John Leslie,	goldsmith,
1785.	do. do.	do.
1786.	James Smith,	do.
1795.	Charles Lunan,	watchmaker.
1800.	George Angus,	do.
1802.	John Leslie,	goldsmith.
1804.	John Barron,	watchmaker.
1807.	do. do.	do.
1809.	do. do.	do.
1812.	do. do.	do.
1815.	George Booth,	watchmaker.
1816.	do. do.	do.
1823.	William Spark,	do.

The Hammerman Trade took no concern in the trying of gold and silver; at least there is no mention of their doing so in their minutes. E. BAIN.

From an entry in *Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland* we find mention of a jeweller in Aberdeen. The King was spending his Yule in Aberdeen, and we read "Item [April 13, 1498] to William, goldsmith, of Abirdene, for ane relik maid to the King of xxxij. vnce, xxj. li., vj s, viij d." M. J.

29. CAMP NEAR DONMOUTH.—Some confirmation of the probable existence of a Camp at Donmouth may be found in *Douglas's Description of the East Coast of Scotland*, p. 183, where he refers to a tradition of a conflict in that vicinity between the Scots and the Danes during one of the irruptions of the latter. He maintains that Scotstown and Danestown, names of neighbouring localities, indicate the sites of the respective armies at the time of the battle. Another and more recent tradition exists that the camp was formed either by the soldiery or local militia of the quarter in the beginning of the century, during the height of the scare of invasion of the island by Napoleon. This latter should not be difficult to verify. J. B.

35. THE CRAWFLOWER.—Crawflower is the Scotch for crowflower, the buttercup or ranunculus, so called from its leaf being like the foot of a crow. JILL.

## Literature.

*The Bards of Bon-Accord, 1375—1860.* By William Walker. Aberdeen: J. & J. P. Edmond and Spark. [Pp. x., 673, 8½ × 5½ ins.]

It was a fine instinct that induced our literary forefathers to preface their books with "The Author's Apology." If we had not ceased to use the courteous formula, the author of this bulky volume could have established its *raison d'être* in a pithy apology. It might have been argued that Aberdeen is the cradle of Scottish poetry, inasmuch as it was the home, if not the birthplace, of John Barbour, the Author of *The Brus*,—that the poetic succession has been unbroken, if not always distinguished—and that till now nothing like a comprehensive estimate has been made of the poetical estate to which Mr. Walker has served his readers heirs, or, writing more correctly, given them a

novodamus. Few authors could say so convincingly—this book was wanted.

The plan of the book has been to give in chronological order biographical and critical sketches of the Bards born in or closely identified with Bon-Accord and Bon-Accordshire, with characteristic specimens of their work. Besides this, the book has been made to stand justly related to the civil and ecclesiastical, political and social history, as well as to the literature of the various periods, by the skilful inweaving of a mass of materials which bespeaks the author to be a man of large resources and wide research. The biographical notices are of unequal merit, arising no doubt from the greater or less difficulty in obtaining information, but as a whole they are instructive and generally accurate, and must have involved a large amount of labour to collate. It is, however, in the department of criticism that the author shows to greatest advantage. In entire sympathy with the poetic genius, the poetic merits and demerits of the bards are sharply differentiated by canons of criticism which are defined very clearly. And, whilst it would be too much to expect on such a wide field that we should agree with the author in his estimate of the life and work of the bards and "bardings of a day," whom he handles, no one can fail to respect the masterly reasonings which have led him to his conclusions. The spirit of the book is excellent, and is as free of egotism as it is replete with a liberality and charity to many members of a class who have need that one should be blind to their failings and kind to their faults.

Mr. Walker's task has been self-imposed, one done in the love of it, but none the less a public service. He has been a pen, the modest plea of all true authorship, in the reader's hand, and we venture to think that his pages will be read with the deepest interest alike for the subject as for the high literary finish of its style as a whole, and for the singular beauty and choiceness of many passages, which it would be a pleasure to quote if space permitted. From the nature of the work a great temptation existed to betray its compiler into a sameness of treatment, which has however been entirely overcome, and one reads and will turn again to the racy, if sometimes colloquial pages, with a charming sense of freshness and variety. A chief value of the work will be its preservation of many names fast passing into an oblivion, not altogether merited. By the way, the question has been asked, on what ground has Lord Byron's name been omitted from this Pantheon? and truth to say we cannot tell, for his inclusion seems, for various reasons, quite as justifiable as that of many who have here taken a new lease of literary fame.

It was impossible that a few errors would not creep into a volume covering such an area. We note for example, page 116, that the Earl of Buchan is said to have commanded the rebels at the battle of Cromdale. This is a mistake. There were two Buchans in the field, brothers; but of the Jacobite house of Auchmacey. Major-General Buchan commanded the rebels at Cromdale, and was opposed by Lieutenant-Colonel Buchan, who had previously joined the Government party. Others noted might have been, with advantage, swept into a nerrata.

The book is a veritable poets' corner, and should serve as a model for similiar undertakings elsewhere. With one acceptable exception, the body of the work omits all living poets. In the appendix, however, the subject is brought down to to-day, although in a less exhaustive form. A voluminous Bibliography, and an excellent Index accompany the volume, which will infallibly take rank as a local classic. Mr. Walker must be congratulated warmly on making such an honourable *debut* in literary activity.

*Grass of Parnassus from the Bents o' Buchan.*  
Peterhead: David Scott, 1887. [Pp. x, 96, 11 by 8½ in.]

No greater enterprise in "the making of books" has been shewn for a long time than in this handsome volume, issued to aid "the Building Fund in connection with St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Peterhead." The contents, all published for the first time, and with a few exceptions, written expressly for the book, are as excellent as they are varied. Hugh Macmillan discourses delightfully on the Grass of Parnassus, which gives its name to the book. George Macdonald is at his best in one of his quaint Scotch lilt. "Shirley" charms us with an article on "The Heughs of Buchan Forty Years Ago," and a whole lot of other well-known writers, including Mrs. Craik, Mrs. Hunt, Miss Yonge, Professor Blackie, and others, have done their best to make the book a success. Artistically it is no less a complete success. Mr. J. G. Murray's clever pencil is at its best in a series of old Aberdeenshire Castles, and he has found able colleagues in Mr. Russell Gowans, Mr. Arthur Clyne, Mr. John Mitchell, and others. Mr. Charles Keene contributes a pageful of unpublished scraps from one of his sketch books. A number of unpublished letters of Hogg, Thom, and Skinner, an article on "A Famous Spa," the Castles, and many other interesting local items make the book of more than usual interest to the antiquarian.

THE EDITOR.

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## CONTENTS.

NOTES :—	Page.
A Bibliography of the North-Eastern District of Scotland, .. .. .	81
The Church of S. Vigean's, Arbroath, with Illustration, ..	82
The Advocates in Aberdeen, No. 4, .. .. .	83
A Bibliography of Aberdeen Periodical Literature ( <i>Continued</i> ), .. .. .	85
Epitaphs and Inscriptions in S. Nicholas Church and Churchyard, Aberdeen ( <i>Continued</i> ), .. .. .	87
Ressurrectionists at Nigg, .. .. .	89
<b>MINOR NOTES :—</b>	
New Spalding Club—Street Lighting—Charles White, Painter—Tombstone of Sir Paul Menzies—Andrew Logie of Loanhead, Aberdeen—John Mowat, Founder, Old Aberdeen, .. .. .	90
<b>QUERIES :—</b>	
Denominations of Grain—S. Fithack's of Nigg—Ane by ane they geng awa'—Saint Machar—Old Ballad—Aberdeen Advocates—John Gordon of Kirkhill—Leading Apes—Sanct Maquhiggins, .. .. .	91
<b>ANSWERS :—</b>	
Birthplace of George Cruikshank—The Grole of the Garioch—Cam's near Don Mouth and Boddam—The Ogilvies of Culvie—Society of Advocates, .. .. .	92
<b>LITERATURE,</b> .. .. .	94

ABERDEEN, NOVEMBER, 1887.

## A BIBLIOGRAPHY

OF THE

### NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICT OF SCOTLAND

As already hinted at in the columns of *S. N. & Q.*, and explicitly set forth in a Memorandum lately issued by the New Spalding Club, it has been proposed that in the publications contemplated by the latter should be included a Bibliography of the district covered by the Club, that is to say, the North-Eastern Counties of Scotland. In connection with this may be taken the fact, that the formation of a collection which shall be as representative as possible of local literature, is one of the laudable aims of the Aberdeen Public Library, already sufficiently recognised as to have secured for it as a nucleus several valuable gifts. For the benefit of those who may not have seen the Memorandum just referred to, and who may yet be interested in its object, it may be well here to recapitulate some of its main points.

The primary object of the New Spalding

Club being "to promote the study of the History of the North-Eastern Counties of Scotland," it would seem to be a corollary of its establishment that an effort should be made to obtain as complete a record and collection as possible of literary remains in any way fitted to throw light on that object. Practically this means that not only should works whose existence is already known be carefully examined and described, but that a determined effort should be made to get satisfactory light on some at present shrouded with mist, and to unearth others which have lain long buried. It also means that, with regard to the literature of the present and of comparatively recent days, we should unitedly endeavour to avoid the error made in the past, and save as much as we can, while the documents are still with us, for the future students of local history.

For the readers of *S. N. & Q.*, at least, it were superfluous to advance any arguments in support of a project which must at once commend itself to them by its interest and utility. What is more to the point is to get them to give an active sympathy and co-operation in its execution. This, if the proposed work is to be brought to anything like a satisfactory issue, must be forthcoming, and that in no stinted measure. As Librarian of the Public Library of Aberdeen, I have had the task of compiling the work laid upon me, but, from the heavy and continuous strain of my daily duties, it is one that in the main will have to be restricted to that of examining and collating the results gleaned by others. Even so, however, the labour involved will be quite sufficient surely to satisfy the keenest appetite for close hard work.

As to the form in which help may most acceptably be given, it may generally be said that whatever the willing mind prompts to do in the matter is sure to be welcome. To be more specific, however, one may say that, short of the actual presentation to the Public Library of any article proper to the scheme,



which is surely the most satisfactory help of all, as securing not only a faithful description of the article in question, but its safe preservation for all time, the most acceptable aid is furnished by the transmission of documents on loan, so that a bibliographic description may be made of them from actual inspection. When for any reason this transmission cannot take place, an intimation where documents, &c., can be examined is desirable, when at the earliest opportunity advantage will be taken of the privilege offered. There remains the expedient of sending a brief note (author, short title and date will generally be enough) of any work thought worthy of notice, which will be a sufficient hint to the compiler for further inquiry, if such is desirable. As to the kind of material wanted, that, it should be remembered, includes not only books and pamphlets printed or published in the district, but also those of which the authors belong to the district, though their works may have been published elsewhere. It also includes such publications as playbills, programmes of public ceremonies, civic and political squibs, and similar productions, which are generally held to have only an ephemeral interest, but are nevertheless valuable for the light they throw on the ideas, manners and life in which they have their birth.

A. W. ROBERTSON.

#### THE CHURCH OF S. VIGEANS, FORFARSHIRE.

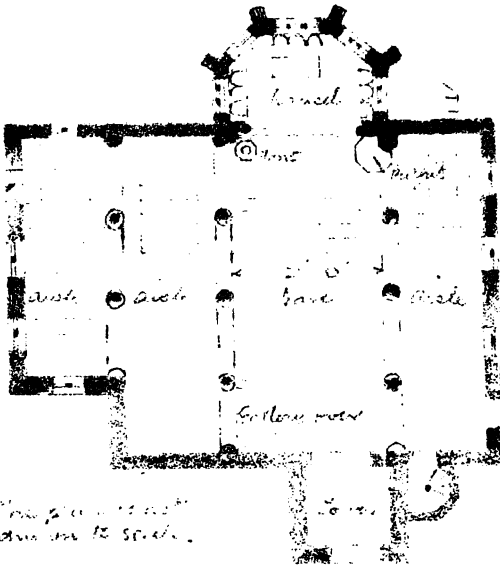
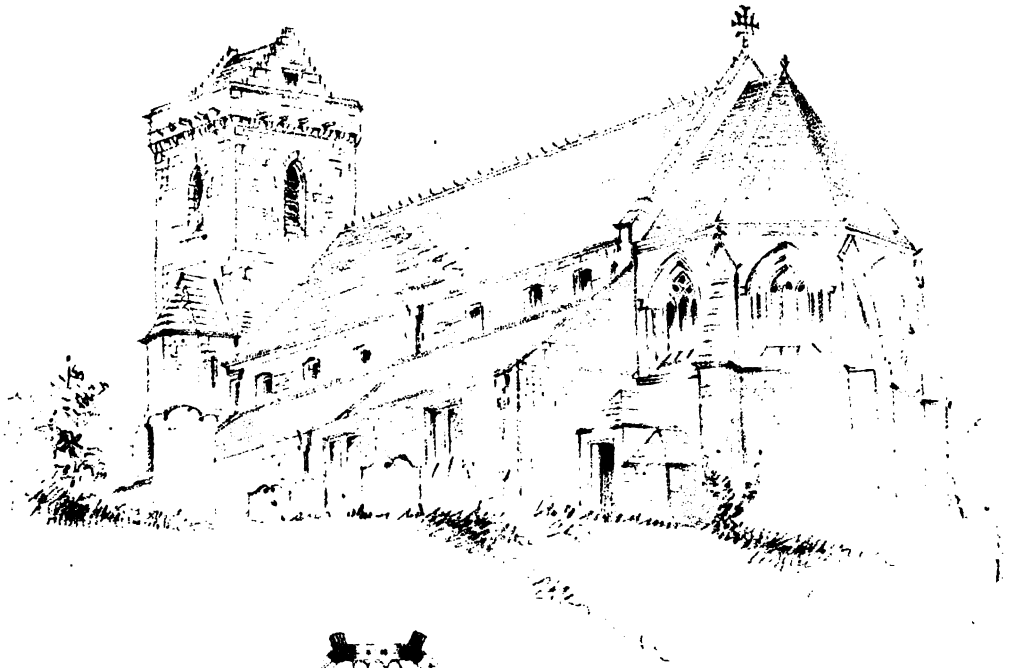
OF the few ancient parish churches still in use in Scotland, there is perhaps none more interesting than that of S. Vigeans, near Arbroath. Although in the present building, after a process of adding to, rebuilding, and altering, through a period of over six centuries, its pious founder would fail to recognise the church of his dedication, yet it still preserves in a large measure its ancient character, as well as an additional interest from the traces of the work of the various periods which we find throughout its structure.

The origin of the name S. Vigeans, while there seems to be some reason for identifying it with that of the Irish S. Fechin, is doubtful, but the early establishment of a Christian, if not, indeed of a still earlier pagan settlement,

on the site of the present church, is testified by the large number of Celtic remains, which have made the place a well known hunting ground to antiquaries. The church, surrounded by its graveyard, is very picturesquely situated on a knoll about a mile to the North of the town of Arbroath. Its position is similar to that of many of our oldest churches, among them that of S. Palladius, Fordoun, and the old church of Birnie, where the original Norman building still serves as the parish church, and it is not improbable that these mounds, selected as the sites of the first Christian churches, may, as 'fairy dunes,' have had older associations with the religious rites of pagan times.

In the old parish of S. Vigeans grew up the Abbey of Arbroath, which was founded in 1178, and of which the older church afterwards became a pertinent. After the Reformation, however, the cure of the Burgh of Arbroath reverted to the minister of S. Vigeans, until the parish of Arbroath was erected between 1580 and 1590.

The present building consists of a nave of four bays, with a double aisle on the North and a single aisle on the South side, an octagonal chancel slightly narrower than the nave, and a square western tower, the lower part of which forms an entrance porch to the nave. Of the original Norman building there are no traces beyond a few mouldings and ornaments, only some of which, however, are *in situ*, the others being built into the later walling. The nave arcade, which consists of low segmental arches, supported on circular piers with moulded capitals, along with the walls of North aisle and lower part of tower, appear to be of the same date, and are probably all that remains of the building consecrated by Bishop de Bernham in 1242. Five of the old consecration crosses are still to be seen on the walls. This building was restored in the early part of the present century, and with what thoroughness of "restoration" we may judge from an old engraving which shows the South aisle lit by large semicircular windows of the then orthodox type. It was "restored," however, in 1872, under the direction of Dr. R. Rowand Anderson, when the chancel and outer North aisle were added, and the tower finished with a quaint saddle-



*St. Vincent's  
Alnwick  
1872*

*The windows over the  
on N. side were added at  
restoration in 1872.*

*Note: The plan is not  
drawn on the scale.*

*Antonia Smith  
[illegible]*



back roof, which, with the apsidal East end, adds so much to the picturesqueness of the exterior. The windows, except those of the upper part of the tower, date from this restoration. There is thus little to be seen externally of the old work, but the new parts have so much the spirit of the later Scotch Gothic, that, but for the freshness of the stone, one might almost take them to be of mediæval date.

The interior, with its double aisles and low arcades, is quaint and pleasing, and in arrangement very simple and complete. The pulpit is placed at the South end, the font at the North end of the chancel steps, and in a gallery over the West end of the nave is placed the organ and choir seats.

The energy of the present incumbent, the Rev. W. Duke, with whom lies much of the credit of the success of the last restoration, has procured for his church many munificent gifts, such as the fine organ, the Munich glass in the chancel windows, the embroidered frontal, and a handsome service of silver communion plate, richly chased with Celtic scroll work and ornaments, copied from many of the stones found about the church. The only old plate belonging to the church are two cups, bearing, besides the name of the donor, the arms of the incumbent at the time, and the date 1667.

A marble tablet in the North aisle, bears the following inscription in Latin:—"Sir Peter Young, of Seaton, Knight-bachelor, councillor and almoner to the most serene and most potent King, James the Sixth, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland; on account of his learning, prudence, and elegance of manners, dearly beloved by his King at home, by the citizens, and by foreigners. He was celebrated among kings and princes, to whom he discharged the duties of ambassador. He waits here in hope of a blessed resurrection. He died 7th January, in the year 1628, and of his age 83." This was the Master Peter Young, best known through the "Fortunes of Nigel," who, along with George Buchanan, held the office of joint almoner and pedagogue to our Sovereign Lord King James the Sixth, and whose "unsparing inflections" on poor Mungo Malagrowthier appalled the very soul of the royal delinquent.

His later acknowledgment of his old friend and tutor may not have been without some remembrance of his more compromising nature, as contrasted with that of Master Buchanan, under whose Spartan rule the Lord's Anointed suffered for his own vagaries in "travelling through his grammar and prosody," and the office of "whipping-boy" became a sinecure.

C. CARMICHAEL.

## THE ADVOCATES IN ABERDEEN.

No. 4.

THE Aberdeen Lawyers, alone of all the provincial legal bodies in Scotland, have for centuries, and at least from 1549, when Kennedy's list commences, been styled Advocates, or "Advocates in Aberdeen." Of this fact a learned friend, who is a recognised authority in such matters, suggests the following explanation. Even before the institution of the College of Justice by King James V. in 1532, Edinburgh was the seat of the great Ecclesiastical Court of the Archdeacon of the Lothians, and those who practised there were Advocates. Aberdeen and its legal practitioners were in a somewhat similar position relatively to the rest of Scotland. It was the only large town which was at once a County town and the seat of a Bishop. Perth and Dundee were not Episcopal sees; Dundee was not a County town. Glasgow was the seat of a Bishop, but Lanark was the County town.

The minute of the meeting on 30th July, 1685, at which Commissary Scougal presided, refers to the Members of Court as a "Society." How long before 1685, and under what regulations the local procurators had so associated themselves, does not appear. It may be, as assumed by Kennedy, that such a Society existed in 1549. The Aberdeen Advocates had all along a bond of union constituted by their being practitioners before the same Court, with exclusive right to practise within the Diocese. They acknowledged, and in co-operation with the Commissaries (who were generally members of their own body), endeavoured to fulfil, their duty of maintaining the efficient administration of the law.

At the meeting last referred to, they resolved to provide, in a permanent shape, for

the more immediate interests of themselves individually and of their families. Previously, as is probable, they had met, by special contribution, claims for pecuniary aid as such from time to time arose. On 30th July, 1685, "the Commissar and Members of Court, having taken to their serious consideration how necessary and convenient it is to have ane contribution stocked for such of the said Society, their Relicts or Orphans, as shall happen to be depauperat, with unanimous consent, made ane offer of a voluntar contribution as follows :—We the Commissar foresaid to give twenty merks Scots money; the Clerk and Procurators, ilk ane of them, ten merks; to be paid in for the end above written to John Pedder, Clerk Depute, Collector appointed for that effect, that it might be lent out to some responsible persons, and that the same may bear annual rent; and likewise the Commissary foresaid was satisfied to pay Five pounds Scots at the rising of each Session, and the Clerk and each Procurator half a Rix dollar at the rising of each Session, for the same use; no part of the foresaid money, principal or annual rent, to be disposed of without consent of the major part of the Members of the foresaid Court, the Commissar being always one of their number."\* At the same meeting it was enacted that he that intends to enter procurator before the said Court "must have recourse to the eldest procurator for the time being, who is hereby empowered to call a meeting of the rest of the procurators, that they may receive his Petition, and consider whether it be fitt to give their consent thereto;" and "that no stranger who has not been bred with some Member of the foresaid Court for some considerable time, shall be admitted a procurator till they undergo such ane examen and tryall as the Commissar and the remanent members of the said Court shall think fitt, and that the said strangers so entering shall pay, for the use of the poor aforesaid, Two hundred pounds Scots; and that no stranger be ad-

mitted if any one of the procurators oppose the same. If any who has served a Member of the foresaid Court for any considerable time desire to enter procurator, and shall undergo a tryall as said is, he is to pay Fourty pounds Scots to the poor; and if he enters without a tryall upon bill he is to pay One hundred merks." It "was enacted by unanimous consent, that no person be recommended but those who are of known integrity, honesty and skill." "Every Prentice and servant, Writers to Clerks or procurators, shall pay Ten merks at their entry for the use of the poor above written." Persons privileged by license from the Members of Court to use a procurator's name on giving in summonses, "shall pay Ten merks at their entry for the said license, for the use above specified, and fourteen shillings each session."

We have here the beginnings of the Capital Stock of the Advocates' Society, which now amounts to about £85,000 sterling.

The minute of a subsequent meeting, on 29th November, 1689, bears that "the Commissar and the procurators of the Commissary Court of Aberdeen, taking to their consideration that there are few or no young men attending or serving about the said Court, who are endeavouring to qualifie or breed themselves to be procurators before the same, and that the occasion thereof proceeds chiefly from the discouragement they meet with by appointing of several strangers procurators before the said Court, who have not been bred about the same, for Two hundred pounds of composition paid by them—Whereas they that are educat about this Court pay a considerable Prentice fee and a composition at their admission: Therefore, for the further encouragement of young men to breed themselves about this Court, which certainly capacitates them the better to goe about business and actions before the same (seeing strangers cannot in two or three years understand the formes and practice of this Court), the said Commissary and procurators undersubscribing doe appoint that no stranger that has not been bred about the Court shall be admitted till they undergoe such ane examen and tryall as the Commissary and Members of Court shall think fitt, and pay Five hundred Merks of composition for the uses specified

\* The value of the rix-dollar, as appears from the accounts of the Collector of the "Contribute Money," was Three pounds Scots. It is scarcely necessary to note here the value in Sterling money of the old Scots currency: A shilling Scots = 1d.; a merk =  $1/1\frac{1}{2}$ ; a pound =  $1/8$ .

in the preceding acts insert in this book, and that no stranger shall be admitted if any procurator oppose the same."

We may be permitted to doubt whether the state of matters complained of was solely or chiefly owing to the cause assigned. The Revolution had taken place, and the immediate effect of it must have been to introduce much uncertainty as to the future of institutions relating to the administration of the laws, civil and ecclesiastical, and especially the latter. The Scottish Parliament, moreover, had, on 22nd July, 1689, passed an Act "abolishing Prelacy." The disestablishment of Episcopacy had become a political necessity owing to the refusal of the Scottish Bishops to transfer to William of Orange their allegiance to King James and his son. Such a measure was not called for by the country generally, but its enactment by the party in power did apparently inflict or threaten a heavy blow on the very existence of Courts founded on prelatial principles, and would greatly discourage young men from qualifying themselves for the practice of consistorial law.\* The apprehended results, however, did not follow. The "Diocese" continued to be the territorial limit of jurisdiction, and the Aberdeen Advocates flourished as Diocesan practitioners, exercising as a Court the privilege of admitting procurators after trial as to their knowledge of municipal law, styles of writs, and form of process, and of enacting Rules for Court procedure, which they did with much minuteness.

\* "The Bishops, as powers of the State, came to an end in 1689, and one would have thought that in a Presbyterian country their Courts would soon have followed; but their Courts existed in full vigour to the beginning of the present century, when at last their jurisdiction was transferred, partly to the Court of Session and partly to the Sheriff Courts. Even so late as 1876 the transference of jurisdiction was in form incomplete. In certain actions the Sheriff till then assumed the style and title of Commissary, and even yet he sometimes uses, for certain pieces of business, a seal decorated with the episcopal mitre."—*Sheriff Dove Wilson's Practice of the Sheriff Courts of Scotland in Civil Causes*, 3d ed., p. 17.

NORVAL CLYNE.

#### A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LOCAL PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

1854. *The Aberdeen University Magazine*. [Motto.] April. Aberdeen: A. & R. Milne, Union

Buildings. 1854. Price 6d. 32 pp., four numbers to July, 1854. It was contributed to by Principal Geddes and Mr. Norval Clyne; and two parodies from this able Magazine have been republished in Hamilton's *Parodies*. Peter Moir Clark, afterwards tutor in Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, was the editor.

1854. *The Tyro: A Miscellany of the Aberdeen Young Men's Literary Union*. [Motto.] No. 1. April, 1854. Aberdeen: Published at the rooms of the Literary Union, 4 Queen Street. Price 1/- 8vo., 48 pp. No. 2 was published in July, 1854, by A. & R. Milne, Union Buildings.

1854. *The Aberdeen Magazine*. No. 1. October, 1854. Price 6d. Aberdeen: A. & R. Milne, Union Buildings, 1854. 8vo., 32 pp. Of this, the fifth *Aberdeen Magazine*, only four numbers were published. At No. 3 the publishers change to A. Brown & Co., Union Street, Aberdeen.

1855. *The Penny Free Press and Northern Advertiser*. No. 1, Vol. I. Tuesday. *Life, Literature, Business and Politics*. Aberdeen, June 26, 1855. Folio, 4 pp. Imprint—"Printed and Published at the Office, Concert Court, Broad Street, by Arthur King, residing at No. 1 Caroline Place, Aberdeen." To No. 36, February 26, 1856. This paper is of great interest, as the first penny newspaper in Aberdeen, being the outcome of the alteration in the Newspaper Stamp Laws. Mr. David Macallan, though not editor, took a great deal of interest in it. "Fearlessly to speak the truth—to point out the right—to portray life in order to elevate it—to warn, to encourage, to instruct, to entertain—such it appears to us are the duties and the task of a good family paper. Such will be our aim—Excelsior." Such was the aim of the paper according to the words of the opening leader, and it was faithfully carried out during the whole course of the paper's existence. There is a strong literary touch about it that would make it worthier of remembrance than many of its more pretentious successors. Its success was very considerable, the circulation rising as high as 3000 copies. The failing health of Mr. Macallan was, I believe, the cause of its discontinuance before it had got fully established.

1856. *Northern Advertiser*. Guaranteed weekly circulation, 5500. No. 7. (Circulated free in all towns and villages in the North of Scotland.) Aberdeen, Tuesday, April 29, 1856. Gratis. Imprint—"Printed and Published for the Proprietors by William Bennet, 42 Castle Street, Aberdeen." Started by George Adams, it began as a fortnightly, published and printed at an Office in Belmont Street. It then died, and after a lapse of about six months was taken up by Mr. Al. Yeats, Accountant, and printed weekly by Bennet. Did the numbering begin from the second start? About 1857, John Avery bought the concern, and his firm has carried it on ever since. A bi-weekly issue, during the months of February and March, began on February 6th, 1880, while on the first Friday of February, 1884, the permanent bi-weekly issue was started.

1857. *The Student: a Literary Magazine*. Session 1857-58. Aberdeen: Robert Walker, 92 Broad Street. 1858. No. 1. Saturday, November 14, 1857. Price 3d. 18 pp., 8vo, afterwards reduced to 16 pp. Ten numbers were published fortnightly to Saturday, March 20, 1858. One of the Editors, the late Dr. William Sutherland, contributed largely to this clever magazine. Among other contributors were W. R. Duguid, son of the Minister of Glass; Henry Clark, afterwards of the Bengal Civil Service; Dr. Angus M'Donald, Dr. Erskine Burnett Grant, R.N., the late Alexander Lindsay, Indian Army; and Dr. Robert Lindsay.
1858. *The Aberdeen Citizen*. Published on the first Saturday of every month. No. 1. Saturday, October 2, 1858. Price 2d. Large 8vo, 16 pp. Imprint, "Aberdeen: Printed by G. Rennie, 64 Broad Street." To No. 12. Saturday, Sept. 3, 1859. It is very strange that this Magazine has become very rare. Dr. John Christie was the editor, while Mr. W. W. Lindsay was one of the contributors.
1859. *The Aberdeen Water-Cure Journal and Family Guide to Health*. Edited by the Rev. Alexander Munro, Loch-head, Aberdeen. Vol. I. London: Partridge & Co. Aberdeen: G. Davidson, 1859. No. 1 appeared in January, 1859, price 3d., 8vo, monthly, till No. 11 in December, and No. 12 on 15th December, 1859. Although the name at once shows its object, the opening article details it with more particularity. "It may be said to present itself at the request of a considerable number of intelligent persons scattered over the Kingdom, who during late years have complained to the writer of the want of a Water-Cure Guide such as would embrace the principles and details which had been laid before them in lectures, conversations, &c." It thus appears to have been the first journal of its kind in this country.
1860. *Phonographic Luminary*. This paper was conducted by Mr. John Neil, a young man from Glasgow, who taught shorthand in Aberdeen.
1860. *The Northern Examiner, an Advocate and Record of Social and General Reform*. Published on the First Saturday of every month. No. 1, May, 1860. Price 1d. Aberdeen: James Craighead & Co., 17 Guestrow. 8vo, 16 pp. "This journal," says the preface, "will devote itself chiefly to the discussion of questions bearing on the social and general improvement of the people, with a special regard to the North-Eastern District of Scotland." It was edited by Mr. A. S. Cook, and contributed to by Dr. W. Alexander, the late Mr. James Valentine, Mr. W. W. Lindsay, and others. No. 6 (the last) brings it down to October, 1860.
1861. *The Scottish Miscellany, an Ecclesiastical and Literary Magazine for Members of the Church in Scotland*. No. 1, Vol. I., January 1, 1861, to No. 3, March 1, 1861. 28 pp., 4to, price 6d. Extremely like *Notes and Queries* in size and general appearance, this amusing magazine is far more than a merely religious paper. To the ecclesiologist and the general antiquary it is extremely interesting, its articles being mainly of an antiquarian nature. A series of articles on "Our Churches," including St. Andrews and St. John's (Aberdeen), and St. Mary's (Inverurie), are highly interesting to Churchmen. Edited by the Rev. Frederick G. Lee it advocated very High Church principles.
1861. *People's Journal*. The first local imprint on this paper appears on No. 171. Saturday, April 6th, 1861. Price 1d.
1861. *Aberdeen Saturday Post and Northern Counties' Chronicle*. No. 1, July 28, 1861. Price 1½d. Printed and published weekly by J. Smith. Folio. To No. 14, October 26, 1861. This paper had a very beautiful heading, in which a view of the town from the Cross, looking up Union Street, figures prominently. At a later date *The Aberdeen Guardian* adopted a similar heading. Either from its character, or the combination of letters of the first three words (A. S. P.), it used to be called the ASP. Was it not edited by John Spark?
1862. *The Phonographic Notebook*, conducted by Wm. Farquhar. Vols. I., II. Nos. 1 to 3. [Aberdeen, 1862-64.] 16mo.
1864. *The Scottish Guardian*. Volume the First. Aberdeen, February to December, 1864. Aberdeen, A. Brown & Co., 77 Union Street, 1864. 8vo, 56 pp. Price 6d. 3 vols., to Jan., 1867. Like so many other religious periodicals this paper was really an Edinburgh paper, separate editions of which, with local news, were published to various congregations. It was edited by the Rev. John Gibson Cazenove, Vice-Provost of Milport.
1864. *The Christian Apologist and Ecclesiastical Observer. A monthly Theological and Literary Magazine*. [Motto.] A. & R. Milne. March, 1886, 8vo, 20 pp. Price 3d. This was a Free Church organ, got up in opposition to *The Union Review, a Magazine of Catholic Literature and Art*, which was edited by the Rev. F. G. Lee of St. Mary's.
1864. *Aberdeen Weekly News*. No. 1, December 10, 1864. 4 pp., price 1d. It was not until No. 33 that the Aberdeen imprint appeared—"Aberdeen: Published every Saturday morning at Market Street, by Robert Walker, Bookseller." This paper, although it has a local title, is not an Aberdeen periodical, but simply the Aberdeen edition of the Dundee *Weekly News*.
1864. *The Book World: a Guide to Bookbuyers*. Published monthly, price Twopence, by A. & R. Milne, Booksellers, etc., 199 Union Street, Aberdeen. Large 8vo, 16 pp. 1864. This was not a local publication at all, but simply one having a local firm's name printed on it.

J. MALCOLM BULLOCH.

(To be continued.)

EPITAPHS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN  
ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH AND  
CHURCHYARD.

THE OLD OR WEST CHURCH.

(Continued from page 72.)

THE remaining tablets on the wall are six in number, and their inscriptions are as follows :

[1]

THIS TABLET IS ERECTED BY MRS SOPHIA FORBES, OF SLOANE STREET, LONDON | TO THE MEMORY OF HER HUSBAND | LIEUT.-GENERAL NATHANIEL FORBES OF THE HON<sup>BLE</sup>. E. I. C. S. | AND OF AUCHERNACH AND DUNNOTTAR. | HE WAS THE ELDEST SON OF CHARLES FORBES, ESQ<sup>RE</sup> OF AUCHERNACH | AND DIED IN LONDON, ON THE 16TH OF AUGUST 1851.

ALSO TO THE MEMORY OF | HIS ONLY SON CHARLES, CAPTAIN IN H. M. 56TH REGT. OF FOOT, | WHO DIED IN LONDON, ON THE 7TH OF FEBRUARY 1825 | AND WAS BURIED IN THE CHURCHYARD | OF ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, | IN THE PARISH OF CHELSEA, LONDON.

[2]

In the Burying Ground near this Place | are interred the Remains of | PATRICK COPLAND, LL.D. | Who was Professor of Natural Philosophy | In the Marischal College and University | of Aberdeen : | Where he taught with much reputation | During a period of nearly Fifty years. | He was born in 1749, | and died the 10th of November 1822.

ERECTED BY HIS WIDOW AND FAMILY.

Dr. Copland taught in the Marischal College with great reputation and success for upwards of fifty years. He had an uncommon facility in communicating knowledge, while his enthusiasm in everything connected with his own department of science was only equalled by the interest which he took in every public improvement. As a Professor of Natural Philosophy he united the important qualifications of great perspicuity in explaining the principles of the science, and great skill in managing the apparatus necessary for illustrating his lectures, which were for the most part delivered *viva voce* and in an easy and familiar manner.

[3]

In Memory of | GEORGE ANGUS | born at the Manse of Botriphnie 12 Oct: 1794 | Entered the Bengal Medical Service 1815 | retired as | Superintending Surgeon, Cawnpore 1855 | died at Aberdeen 7 April 1872 | aged 78 | for twelve years an elder of this church. | his remains | are interred in the family grave Botriphnie. | a good man and much beloved : | a generous friend to the poor and | to all who needed help. | Erected by a few officers of the | Bengal Medical service as a tribute of | esteem and affectionate regard.

1 Aberdeen Chronicle.

Dr. Angus was the son of the Rev. Alexander Angus, minister of Botriphnie, and his spouse Katharine Mair, who both lived to very long age, the former dying in 1829, in his 85th year, and the latter in 1836, in her 86th year. Dr. Angus received his education at the parish school of Botriphnie and Marischal College, Aberdeen, but completed his medical studies in London. He went out to India and joined the Bengal Medical Service, and in 1826 was promoted to the rank of Surgeon, receiving the appointment of garrison surgeon to the important military station of Allahabad. He retired from the service in 1854 with the rank of Superintending Surgeon. Dr. Angus was never married.

The next tablet is to the memory of four sons of the Rev. Dr. George Gordon, who was Minister of the second charge of St. Nicholas from 1793 till his death on 5th Dec., 1811.

[4]

Sacred to the Memory of | WILLIAM GORDON, ESQ. Advocate | who departed this life 4 April 1856, aged 60 | and of his brothers | LIEUT. JOHN GORDON, of the Bombay Artillery, | who died on service in the Persian Gulf, August 1809, aged 19. | ALEXANDER GORDON, ESQ. M.D. | a skilful physician and gallant soldier : Surgeon to the residency | at Satara, who died of cholera in the midst of over-exertions | for the relief of his fellow creatures, 2nd May 1819, aged 33. | GEORGE GORDON, ESQ. M.D., | Superintending Surgeon in the Bombay establishment, who worn out by climate and much hard service, | returned to die in Aberdeen 4 May 1832 aged 43.

All four were men devoted to their duty in every relation | of life, and, with permission of their surviving relatives | this memento is placed in this church of their native city | by an old comrade and affectionate friend.

[5]

In memory of | ALEXANDER CROMBIE, ESQ. OF PHESDO | Advocate in Aberdeen | who departed this life on the 21st of November 1832 | aged 66 years | The singular worth of the deceased can be duly estimated by those only | who had the happiness to know him | By them his virtues, and his kind offices, will be long and gratefully remembered | In his professional character | he was distinguished by a sound judgment, and incorruptible integrity ; | in his general intercourse, by affability of manners, and benevolence of heart. | In him the rich ever found an able and honest counsellor ; | the Poor a kind and compassionate friend.

“ Cui pudor et Justitiæ soror  
Incorrupta fides, nudaque veritas,  
Quando ullum invenient parem ?”



["Where shall be found the man of woman born  
That in desert might be esteemed his peer,—  
Sincere as he, and resolutely just,  
So high of heart, and all so absolute of trust?"]

"The just shall be had in everlasting remembrance."

Mr. Crombie was proprietor of the estates of Phesdo and Thornton, in the Mearns, and married 12th August, 1799, Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Alexander Duthie, who died 6th February, 1837. Having died childless, Mr. Crombie was succeeded by his cousin german Dr. Crombie, whose eldest son, Alexander Crombie, W.S., is still laird of Thornton. The estate of Phesdo now belongs to Sir T. Gladstone of Fasque, having been purchased by the late Sir John Gladstone. A marble tablet within the church of Fordoun commemorates Mr. Crombie's benevolence to the poor of the parish. Mr. Crombie on all occasions "shewed himself an intelligent country gentleman, an upright magistrate, and an honourable man. In private life he was distinguished by great sensibility of heart, affability of manners, and an enlarged benevolence which won him the esteem and love of all who knew him."

[6]

M.S | GULIELMI LAURENTII BROWN S.T.P. | Collegio Mariscallano apud Abredonenses praecepti | longe eruditissimi | gente Scoti natalibus Batavi | qui Trajecti ad Rhenum VII. ID. Jan. anno M.DCCLV natus | Abredoniae v. ID Mai. anno M.DCCCXXX mortuus est | summumque sui desiderium piis omnibus | et doctis reliquit.

[Sacred to the memory of William Lawrence Brown, Doctor of Divinity, Principal of the Marischal College of Aberdeen, a man of the widest erudition, a Scot by descent, but a native of Holland, who, born at Utrecht, 7th January, 1755, died at Aberdeen, 11th May, 1830, to the profound grief of all the good and the learned.]

Dr. Brown<sup>2</sup> was the second son of the Rev. William Brown, minister of the Established Church at Utrecht, and afterwards (1757-1791) Professor of Church History at St. Andrews. Although born in Utrecht, Dr. Brown prosecuted his academical studies at St. Andrews, where he took his degree of A.M. in 1777, and was licenced 29th Oct., 1772. His uncle, the Rev. Robert Brown, who had succeeded to the charge of Utrecht, having died in the beginning of the same

year, he received and accepted a unanimous call, and was introduced to his congregation upon the 22nd March, 1778. As an eloquent pastor, and as Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Moral Philosophy in the University of Utrecht, he was greatly admired. On the invasion of Holland by the French, "in the madness of their revolutionary career," he was forced to return to this country, but through the recommendation of Lord Auckland, at one time Ambassador to the Dutch Court, the influence of Dr. Moore, Archbishop of Canterbury, was enlisted on his behalf, and through his influence Brown was appointed coadjutor and successor to Dr. Campbell, as Principal and Professor of Divinity in Marischal College. He was admitted a minister of the West Parish on the 12th August, 1795, and Dr. Campbell having died during the following year, he succeeded to the Principalship. He was appointed one of the Deans of the Chapel Royal on 4th March, 1800, and Dean of the Most Ancient Order of the Thistle on 4th October, 1803. He married Ann Elizabeth Bouen, born 11th June, 1764, died 2nd September, 1842, and had issue five sons and three daughters. His son, Robert James, was Professor of Greek in Marischal College. Dr. Brown was a most voluminous writer; his principal efforts, however, were the essays which obtained for him in three separate years the medal of the Teylerian Society of Haarlem, and his *Essay on the Existence of a Supreme Creator*, which obtained the Burnett prize of £1250. A pretty full list of his works is given in the *Fasti Ecclesiae*, vol. iv., p. 476.

On the floor, at the north east corner of the church, a large block marble tombstone, elaborately carved, bears the following inscription:— . . . ORG ÆDIE, MERCHANT BURGERS OF ABD. . . . 3 OF OCTR. 1657 & IEALS BVRNET HIS SPOVS WHO DIED YE 5 NOV., 1663. The centre of the stone is divided into two panels, the upper one of which had at one time been charged with arms, but these have been entirely defaced, the only traces left being the helmet surmounting the shield, and the initials G. Æ. and I. B. The lower panel is filled in with a device, viz., a human skull and a cross. The decoration or mantelling surrounding these panels is

<sup>1</sup> Sir Theodore Martin's translation of Horace, Book I, Ode 24.

<sup>2</sup> *Aberdeen Journal*, November, 1832.

<sup>3</sup> *Caledonian Mercury*. *Steven's History of the Scottish Church at Rotterdam*, 1833.

executed in a bold free manner, and takes the form of leaves and ropes with large tassels at the ends. At the four corners small shields are placed; the upper two bear the following letters and date: A. Æ. C. G. 1604, and D. Æ. I. F. 1644; but the corresponding two at the foot are blank, and appear to have never been filled up.

It will be seen that this stone was laid down by George Ædie as a family stone, he having filled up the first two shields with the initials of his forbears, though his descendants do not appear to have taken advantage of the space reserved for them.

The initials of the first shield refer to Andrew Ædie and his wife Christian Guthrie. He followed the calling of a maltman, and was interred in the church on the 5th April, 1604. The initials on the second shield refer to David Ædie and his spouse, the second son of Andrew; the elder brother, Thomas, must have died before 12th April, 1591, when David was admitted a Guild Brother, and described as the eldest son (*i.e.*, in life) of "Andro Aidy." On his father's death he inherited two properties in the Green, under reservation of the life-rent of one of the tenements for his mother's use. On this property he built a new house in 1633, which still stands at the foot of the stairs leading from Union Street, though such are the changes in the Green, that the property at one time formed the corner house of Ædie's Wynd. Until within recent years the attic windows were adorned with sculptured stones, which clearly showed David Ædie's connection with the house. The west window had his arms—'a shield charged with three cross crosslets and a star of five points in the centre, on each side the initials D. Æ. and the date, 1633, below.

The middle window had a monogram containing the whole letters of his name, while the East window bore a shield having impaled the Ædie and Burnett arms and the date 1633. To his house was attached the barn where Peter Williamson and other unfortunate youths were confined previous to being shipped to the American Plantations.

David Ædie appears to have been twice

married, for in a declaration before Baillie Mollesone, 10th March, 1670, his wife is stated to have been Cathren, a daughter of Thomas Burnet of Brathniss, but while this agrees with the arms on the house, it does not suit the initials on the shield, which we can hardly suppose to be incorrect. He was a strong Covenanter, and "was out" at the Justice Mills when the townsmen opposed the entrance of the great Montrose, 13th September, 1644; and Spalding tells us that on that occasion, besides 98 persons killed who were "no Covenanters, thair was also slayne of covenanters diuerss and sindrie vtheris persones sic as—David Adie, burges." David had at least two sons, George who with his wife Jeals Burnett is commemorated on the stone, and Alexander, who in 1670 was carrying on business as a merchant in Dantzic. The surname of Ædie was quite common in Aberdeen during the 17th century. One of the regents in Marischal College in 1644 was Mr. William Aidy, and Mary Jamesone, the daughter of the painter, married for her third husband Baillie George Ædie. The four pieces of tapestry which hang in the church are looked upon as the work of this lady.

ALEX. M. MUNRO.

(To be continued.)

### RESURRECTIONISTS AT NIGG.

THE extracts from the parish registers which appeared in your September number under this heading recal an incident which must now be known to very few people, and it may not, therefore, be uninteresting to add the following few additional particulars:—To judge by the way the name is quoted from the register—"Janet Young (Mrs. —)"—it is presumed that her late husband's name had not been inserted. It is known, however, that she was the widow of a Shipmaster in Aberdeen, of the name of Spark, and that she was the stepmother of the late Thomas Spark, for many years treasurer of the Royal Infirmary. At the time of her death, which happened in a house in the Shiprow, she was about ninety years of age. When the funeral took place the corpse, along with the relatives and friends of the deceased, was conveyed across the river Dee to Torry in the

1 Note by the late Mr. Andrew Gibb.

ferry boat, and it was observed that two young men, not belonging to the funeral party, also crossed in the same boat, and were seen in the vicinity of the churchyard when the company were leaving. This, however, did not give rise to comment until word reached the deceased's friends the following day of what had occurred, and it transpired, afterwards, that at least one of the two was engaged in the nefarious business. It was believed at the time that the resurrectionists had been interrupted by the barking and approach of a dog belonging to the parish minister, for the grave was only partly filled up, while a spade, with the name "Rae" carved on the handle, had been left behind in the hurry. Somehow it was discovered that the spade belonged to the father of the medical student, whose name was "Rae," and who fled the country. His accomplice or accomplices, however, were never found out. On recovery of the corpse it was conveyed to the Old Church of Nigg, where it lay safely protected until the relations had time to provide grave linen and a new coffin; and many of those present at the funeral again assembled at the grave to witness the re-interment of the remains.

J. S.

NEW SPALDING CLUB.—The first annual meeting of the New Spalding Club was held in the Advocates' Hall, Aberdeen, on the 27th ult. The Earl of Aberdeen, the President, occupied the chair. There was a fair attendance of members. Mr. P. J. Anderson, the Secretary, read the annual report, which dealt exhaustively with the work actually accomplished by the Club during the year, through the agency of the six sub-committees carrying on as many distinct branches of operation. The first books to be shortly issued are *The Chartulary of St. Nicholas Church, Aberdeen*, edited by the Rev. James Cooper, and *Memorials of the Family of Skene*, by Wm. F. Skene, LL.D. Eleven other works were detailed, to be issued in succession to these, all of them being in a certain state of forwardness. Besides these, mention was made of other works that might be overtaken. The Treasurer, Mr. P. H. Chalmers, submitted a financial statement, which showed a credit balance of £339 7s. 2d.

The President, in moving the adoption of the reports, characterized them as most encouraging, and congratulated the Club on its having received the consent of Her Majesty as its Patron; and on its popularity, for not only had the proposed limit of 500 members been speedily reached, but there was a long queue of applicants for admission. Mr. Ferguson of Kinmundy seconded. *Inter alia*, it was resolved to add the Rev. John Woodward, Montrose, Mr. Wm. Cramond, M.A., Cullen, and Mr. J. F. White, LL.D., to the Council.

STREET LIGHTING.—On looking over some old manuscripts belonging to a near relative of mine, I came upon the following:—

Public Lamps first used in Aberdeen,	1721
Number of Lamps in 1742,	49
" " 1794,	108
" " 1811,	700
" " 1830,	1000

How many are there now? We, the older inhabitants of Aberdeen, can well remember the time before gas was introduced into our "braif town," when our streets were lighted with oil lamps, and what they wanted in lucidity they had in their duality, viz., two lights to each lantern. These were set aglow by "Leeries" (lamplighters), who carried a long torch and a short ladder. These were our "lights of other days," and much we thought of them.

J. MARTIN.

CHARLES WHYT OR WHITE, PAINTER.—In the Council Register, 20th Dec., 1736, the Council recommended to the Magistrates to grant warrant to the Master of Kirk and Bridge Works for paying Ten Pounds Scots money, out of the Bridge of Dee charge, to Jane Menzies, relict of Charles White, painter, as a supplie to her, she being an old tenant's daughter. And in the next vol. 61, 10th Dec., 1741, we find:—The said day the Magistrates and Council granted warrant to the Master of Kirk and Bridge Works to pay to Jane Menzies, relict of Charles White, painter, the sum of Twenty-six Pounds Scots money, as a supplie to her out of the Bridge of Dee Charge, she being an old tenant's daughter, probably on the lands of Capraston (Hilton).

J.

TOMBSTONE OF SIR PAUL MENZIES.—The arms of Sir Paul, as depicted on the canvas

of his picture in Marischal College are *ermine* and chief *gules*, those of the Menzies of Pitfoddels, and it is apparently this coat that the artist has cut on the tombstone. The arms mentioned by Mr. Angus (p. 75) were, I believe, borne by the Menzies of Ennoch.

A. M. M.

ANDREW LOGIE OF LOANHEAD.—One of the properties mentioned as conveyed in the marriage contract of Andrew Logie and Anne Patone, as referred to by Dr. Davidson on page 66, was the tenement now so well known as Wallace Nook. The "neuk" was built in the beginning of the 17th century, by Sir R. Keith of Benholm, whose coat of arms, sadly mutilated, can still be seen on the building. The proprietors subsequent to Logie were William Wemyss of Craighall and James Abernethy, merchant.

A. M. M.

## Queries.

NOTE.—Each paragraph, containing one or more Queries, will receive a consecutive number, to which Correspondents may conveniently refer.

47. DENOMINATIONS OF GRAIN.—Can any one explain the meanings of the denominations of grain and meal that are given in the Fiars lists in the Aberdeen Almanacs about 1800? Great Oats, Brocked Oats, Small Oats, Bear, Ware Bear, Farm or Market Bear, White Meal, Farm Meal. Ware Bear was high priced. Was the ground manured with sea ware? The straw of Brocked Oats was priced. The item occurs also in Kincardineshire lists and in the Stirling Fiars. Brocked was probably our brock or broken rakings.

JOHN DAVIDSON, D.D.

48. ST. FITHACK OF NIGG.—Your account of the ancient bell of Nigg refers to the church there as St. Fithack's. What is known of this Saint? In the Statistical Account of the Parish he is called St. Fittick, which is rendered into Latin "Sanctus Fitticus," and mention is made of a hermitage bearing his name having stood in the Bay of Nigg. Will any one acquainted with the locality explain as to this? In Walcot's *Scotichronicon* the dedication of Nigg in the Mearns is given as "SS. Fithun and Fiacre." Nigg in Ross also is there given as "S. Fiacre," and it seems likely that here, as in other cases, the author's want of local knowledge has led him astray. S. Fiacre is evidently the Irish Saint Fiachra, known in France as St. Fiacre. Is he the same as Fithac or Fittick? Who is St. Fithun?

Edinburgh.

W. S.

49. "ANE BY ANE THEY GANG AWA'."—Everybody knows George MacDonald's beautiful lilt (in *Alec Forbes*, chap. LXXXII.), "Ane by ane they gang awa'." Three verses occur in the novel, but I have heard a fourth one to this effect :—

"Aye whan ane lays down the cup  
Ane ahint maun tak' it up,  
Syn'e thegither they will sup."

The second verse also I have heard emended thus :—

"Aye when ane is ta'en frae ane  
Ane is left ahint to maen;  
Bide a wee, they'll smile again."

Can any of the readers of *S. N. & Q.* tell me if these are the author's additions and emendations, or whether they are the work of the literary tamperer?

JINGLE.

50. SAINT MACHAR.—The founders of the Great Church in Aberdeen dedicated their building to St. Nicholas, an Oriental saint. May not the founders of the Aulton Kirk have dedicated theirs to St. Machar, also an Oriental saint? There are in Ghent a St. Nicholas' Kirk and a St. Machar's Kirk. No doubt the people of the North-East of Scotland had relations with Iona, and through Iona with Ireland, but they had also relations with Flanders and the Low Countries. These saints were popular at the period. May not the founders of St. Nicholas and St. Machar have built these Churches in their honour, although they had no connection with the actual founding. In the proper Breviary of Ghent there is a life of St. Machar, "*Re et nomine Beatus*," Machar being a Greek word, signifying happy or fortunate. He was a noble Armenian, nephew of the elder Machar, Patriarch of the Church of Antioch, baptized by him and his successor in the patriarchal see. After a time he resigned his crozier to preach the Gospel to the Saracens. From Palestine he came to Germany, sojourned in Bavaria, Cologne, and Cambray, and lastly in Ghent, where he was welcomed by Erembold, Abbot of St. Baaf's. He rendered great service to the people during the Great Plague, and foretold that he would be the last to die of it, as actually occurred, in the year 1012. The difficulty is to connect this St. Machar with the Aulton Kirk. Another may furnish the connecting link. The difficulty exists also with the Irish St. Machar, Machorius or Macchonna.

Ghent.

J. G.

51. OLD BALLAD.—Can any of your readers say where the old ballad of "Rosie Anderson" can be found?

COLLECTOR.

52. ABERDEEN ADVOCATES.—As a small contribution towards the interesting information you have been giving in recent numbers regarding the early members of the legal profession in Aberdeen, I may point out that in the records of the Privy Council of Scotland, under date 14th April, 1585, there is allusion to Mr. Robert Paip, "Advocat in Abirdene." I should like to know the earliest date at which the term "Advocate" was applied to lawyers in Aberdeen.

C. P. H.

53. JOHN GORDON OF KIRKHILL.—I have been told there was a John Gordon, laird of Kirkhill, in Aberdeenshire, during the Rebellion either of 1715 or 1745, and that he lost his estate owing to his connection with the rising. Could you inform me if he had

any daughters, and, if so, whom they married? Can their descendants be traced? ONE INTERESTED.

54. LEADING APES.—In one of the *Ingoldsby Legends*—"Bloudie Jacke of Shrewsberrie"—are these lines:—

"So they say she is now leading apes,  
Bloude Jacke!  
And mends Bachelors' small clothes below:  
The story is old, and has often been told,  
But I cannot believe it is so—

Depend on't the tale is 'No! No!  
No! No!  
'No Go.'

In *Much Ado about Nothing*, in *The Taming of the Shrew*, in *The Gipsies Metamorphosed*, in *The London Prodigal*, the same story is alluded to. This occupation of old maids in the next world seems a standing joke with the dramatists. I have, however, failed to find any explanation of its origin. The Commentators don't help much. Malone, Steevens, Dyce, Staunton have the same fault as the farmer's claret—"you don't get no forrarder." The first says what any one might know, and the others quote him. I have a vague recollection of seeing the required information somewhere at one time, but have never been able to lay hands on it again. Can any reader help?  
Aberchirder.  
T. J. A.

55. SANCT MAQUHIGGINS.—In a Perambulation of the Boundaries of the Burgh of Cullen in 1656 reference is made to Sanct Maquhiggins' Well at Findochty, in the parish of Rathven. What Saint is here referred to? It may be observed that the parish church was dedicated to S. Peter. It should also be mentioned that the Town Clerk who records the Perambulation appears to have been possessed of more than the average intelligence of the time, and thus that the name is given as nearly correct as was then possible. Bishop Forbes, in his *Kalendars*, refers to a Saint Makuolokus, or Macwolock, or Voloc, the correct form of the name being difficult to determine. The *Breviary of Aberdeen* records that Volocus the Bishop (some 400 years after Christ) flourished with remarkable miracles in the northern part of the country, and that he chose for himself a place of dwelling among the high rocks. If high rocks were a source of attraction to the Saint he could not have been happier than on the coast of Banffshire. It is already known that his name—the name of Volcus, or Wallach, or Wala,—is associated with Glass and Mar.  
C.

### Answers.

12. BIRTHPLACE OF GEORGE CRUIKSHANK.—About twenty years ago I had the honour to be introduced to the veteran caricaturist, at a festal meeting connected with Scottish literature. Recognising me as a Scot, he at once said, in that quick manner which seemed natural to him—"I'm a Scotsman." On asking him what place he came from, meaning of what place he was a native, he immediately answered, "Perth." I remarked that there were not many of

his name in that city. He at once rejoined, with a twinkle in his eye, as if in joke—"Ah! but we changed our name at the Forty-five." He must have left Perth as a mere infant, for on my telling him that the surroundings of Perth were very beautiful, he said, "I've never been to see it; but my wife and I are going some day soon." He died soon after, and never made out his visit to Perth. Other conversation followed, which shewed that he knew Scottish manners and customs, for though he was then upwards of eighty years of age, he said, that instead of speaking (he was down for a speech), 'he would dance Hoolichan with any of them.'

Newburgh on Tay.

ALEX. LAING.

21. THE GROLE OF THE GARIOCH.—Another version of the rhyme has the *Gule* of the Garioch, and this, I think, is the correct form. About twelve years ago, in *Notes and Queries*, London, I hazarded an explanation, which was received with some favour at the time. I have not my note now before me, but the following is the substance of it:—As at the present time we find one county or district, in fear of some form of cattle plague, shutting its door, as it were, in the face of its neighbour, so at the time referred to in the rhyme Mar had boycotted the Garioch in the matter of the importation of corn. This step had been taken on account of the prevalence of *Gule* among the corn in the latter district. The Bowman, the typical farmer, is represented as standing on Bennachie—on the boundary between the districts, and using all means in his power to prevent the introduction of the infected grain into his own district; but in vain, "the Gule wan the war," that is, gained the victory. What then is the Gule? The Gule or Gweel (gold) is the corn-marigold—a plant, beautiful to the eye of the lover of Nature's colouring, but sadly out of place in the eye of the agriculturist. This same plant, or weed if you please, is also mentioned in another north country rhyme, quoted by the Earl of Aberdeen in a recent speech at Elgin:—

"The Gule, the Gordon, and the hoodie-craw  
Are the three worst enemies that Moray ever saw."

The reporter's spelling of the word "*ghule*" however, seems to indicate that he did not understand what was meant by the term. It is strongly suggestive of the *ghoul* of *The Arabian Nights*.  
P. H. D.

The word Groll or Grool signifies small stones or gravel, in some places called grush. The rhyme would seem to refer to a battle between men armed with slings and stones opposed to men armed with bows and arrows. The hill of Bennachie is covered with small stones. If this is correct the age of the rhyme must be great. Grull means stones broken small, Groll means a kind of moss beaten into peat. Grole, Porridge, or Gruel.  
MARCHMONT.

42 Anne Street, Edinburgh.

29. CAMPS NEAR DON MOUTH AND BODDAM.—A few weeks ago, with two friends, I visited one of the places referred to by Mr. Martin,—the Den of Boddam, and here give Mr. Peter Buchan's description of the same as something of a literary curiosity:—

"A romantic and solitary glen makes its appearance, whose sides are composed of almost naked rock, fringed with creeping ivy, and interspersed with the yellow flowers of the early broom, alternately strewn with furze, whose prickly branches prevent the daring offender from robbing it of its golden bloom. On the edge of the glen is a number of pits, sufficiently large to contain three or four persons, where tradition says the Picts resided, but of this there are no certain accounts. More probably they have been entrenchments in the time of the Danes, where people hid themselves and their portable property. The place, indeed, is well adapted to that purpose, being at a considerable distance from any public road or habitation, and encompassed with a morass, which was not passable but by those who were well acquainted with it." From this description I expected to find a glen of a much wilder character than the reality. It may fairly be described as solitary, but the romance, the ivy, the broom, the furze, the naked rocks, and surrounding morass have all vanished—at any rate they did not obtrude themselves upon our enquiring eyes. The rolling ridge forming the south side of the valley is almost completely covered with heather, while its northern slope is occupied with corn fields. The *burnie* of Boddam runs through a marshy tract in the bottom of the glen, and forms the small lake (or rather *dam*), mentioned by Mr. M. But for the impression of loneliness which it conveys to the eye, the scene, as a scene, might be described as decidedly uninteresting. It will be seen, however, from what has been quoted, that this glen has an interest of a different character. It is archæologically interesting for three things—its pits, its flints, and an annual custom observed by the Boddamites. I do not think that the word *encampment* used by Mr. M., and the word *entrenchment* used by Mr. B., are at all applicable to the appearances presented by the pits. These words are too suggestive of offence and defence to agree with the facts. In truth, the situation is not particularly suited for either. We were inclined to believe that the pits were the foundations of Pictish huts, if not of an earlier race. They are seen along a considerable space of the southern slope, but from the evidence of the present dwellers on the cultivated lands on the north, a line of similar pits extended along that slope also, and this circumstance certainly explodes the notion of encampment or entrenchment. Whatever the originators of the pits were by race, there is good reason for the belief that they belonged to the stone age, for the floors and the immediate vicinity are thickly strewn with chips of flint on both sides of the glen, and as Mr. Martin notes flint arrow heads are found, as are also other forms of stone implements. We had not the good fortune to find any, but in one of the neighbouring houses we saw a collection of such articles. We, however, found several good specimens of lapstones used by the flint chippers. These are generally of a rounded, oval character, and present a roughened circular indentation on the upper surface, where the point of the flint undergoing the chipping process had rested. From all the appearances presented we are strongly inclined to think that this locality was simply a settlement or factory of

flint implement makers—the materials for the craft lying broadcast over the whole district on the upper ridges. Thousands of chips are to be found everywhere here, around the pits, or lurking under the heather, but it must be admitted that some of these, perhaps a good many, are due to the hammer of the geologist, for, on breaking the flints, impressions of shells and plants are frequently found all along the sides of the glen. The third curious fact, the annual custom of the people of Boddam, referred to above, consists in this:—On New Year's Day the fishermen of that village, man and boy, flock up to the little lake mentioned, for the purpose of sailing toy or model ships and boats. About three years ago there was an account of this proceeding given in one of the Aberdeen papers, but, as far as I remember, without any attempt to throw light on the origin of the curious practice. Perhaps some of the readers of *S. N. & Q.* may be able to give a rational explanation of it. P. H. D.

36. THE OGILVIES OF CULVIE.—Though I cannot answer the query under this head fully, I can give one or two notes which may be of use to your correspondent. Alexander Ogilvie purchased, in 1751, the estate of Clunie, in the parish of Marnoch, from the Rev. Alexander Chalmers, Minister of that parish. In an inventory of the titles of Clunie, made up at a more recent date, the disposition by the Rev. Alex. Chalmers is said to have been in favour of "Alexander Ogilvie in Wester Culphin, now of Culvie." I have also before me a letter from Principal John Chalmers of King's College—(son of the Rev. Alex. Chalmers of Clunie, and grandson of the Rev. Hugh Chalmers, formerly Minister of Marnoch)—regarding the titles of the estate, dated in 1755, addressed to "Alexander Ogilvie of Clunie at Culphin, to the care of the Postmaster at Banff." Perhaps these notes may interest your correspondent. C. P. H.

38. SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES.—Three Royal Charters of Incorporation are held by this Society. The first, dated 7th January, 1774, is in favour of "The President and Society of Procurators in Aberdeen;" part of the preamble being that "owing to the loss of all their writings and acts, which were destroyed when the chambers of the Commissary were burned in 1719 [1721], they are unable with certainty to investigate the original Constitution or nature of the Society, so that their property and other business cannot be securely administered." The inaccuracies in this preamble show that those acting for the Society at the time had strangely overlooked the information contained in the Society's own records not destroyed by the fire. The second charter, dated 20th February, 1799, is in favour of "The President and Society of Advocates in Aberdeen," part of the preamble being that "inconveniencies have arisen from the circumstance that the name and title of the Society in the said Charter do not agree with the name and title by which the members of the said Society have been for nearly two hundred years hitherto known and designed in the Supreme Courts and other Courts of Record in the kingdom, namely, Advocates in Aberdeen." The third Charter, dated 13th May, 1862, is in favour of "The Society of Advocates in Aberdeen.

NORVAL CLYNE.

## Literature.

*Rambles in the Far North.* By R. MENZIES FER-  
GUSSON, M.A. Second Edition. Alex. Gardiner,  
Paisley. [Pp. xii.—266, 7½ × 5 ins.]

MUCH has been written on the Orkney and Shetland islands, and a good deal regarding the language, manners, customs and beliefs of the inhabitants of both groups, as well as regarding their antiquities, has been given to the world. It will hardly be denied when it is asserted that very much yet remains to be collected of the fast disappearing words and beliefs, and of the changing manners and customs. One who rescues from oblivion however little of a people's modes of living and belief, deserves the gratitude of all who make man their study. Mr. Fergusson has contributed a book on these islands, confining himself chiefly to the Orkneys. He spent some months among them, and he has given the knowledge he has acquired of them—knowledge partly from books and partly from his own observation. He gives descriptions of scenery, he treats of antiquities, he has glances at history, and he discourses most pleasantly on manners, customs and beliefs. It is in the last point his book is of most value, and it is to be regretted he did not confine himself more to this last point, instead of making quotations from authors that are quite accessible to most readers. There are indications that the author could have produced a book full of matter new to most. However, every author has his own way of doing his work, and Mr. Fergusson has given a book well written, and full of most interesting information. It may be remarked that many of the beliefs he mentions are met with along the north of the mainland, and, if we mistake not, still find a home in Denmark and Scandinavia. There may be a little want of orderly arrangement in the book, and a map would have been a great help. There are a table of contents and a fairly full index, both of which add to the value of the book.

WALTER GREGOR.

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## CONTENTS.

NOTES :—	Page.
Aberdeen Philosophical Society, . . . . .	97
The Advocates in Aberdeen, No. 5, . . . . .	98
Epitaphs and Inscriptions in S. Nicholas Church and Churchyard, Aberdeen ( <i>Continued</i> ), . . . . .	101
A Bibliography of Aberdeen Periodical Literature ( <i>Continued</i> ), . . . . .	99
Stone Effigies in S. Machar's Cathedral and S. Nicholas' Church, . . . . .	104
Some Notes on the History of Kennay, . . . . .	104
Witchcraft, . . . . .	106
The Galley of Lorn . . . . .	106
MINOR NOTES :—	
Origin of the Phrase "There's naething like leather"—Falcon's at Finnan, Aberdaan, . . . . .	107
QUERIES :—	
Archdeacon Barbour's Tomb—Bishop Gavin Dunbar's Remains—Old House near Kinaldie—The Gadle and the Garik—Writings of Emeritus Professor Martin, LL.D.—The Aberdeen Universities at Fraserburgh and Peterhead—Professor Patrick Copland . . . . .	107
ANSWERS :—	
The Grole of the Garioch—Places near Aberdeen—Spittal—A Misspelling?—S. Fittick of Nigg—S. Fotinus of Torry—S. Machar—Aberdeen Advocates, . . . . .	108
LITERATURE, . . . . .	109

ABERDEEN, DECEMBER, 1887.

## ABERDEEN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

AT the November meeting of this Society, Professor George Pirie, of the Aberdeen University, contributed a paper on the *Principles and Value of Weather Forecasts*, as applied to Western Europe, and based on daily telegrams from 59 different stations in that area, sent to the Government Meteorological Office in London, as to the state, at the same hour, of the barometer, thermometer, wind (direction and force), rain, sky, &c. The following are the main points discussed in the paper, which was illustrated by charts and diagrams :—

The scientific forecasting of the weather, only possible as yet for the very limited period of a day, is based on the *discovery* that the atmosphere moves over the earth's surface in whorls or vortices of different heights, as shown by the barometer, in different parts; and on the *invention* of depicting the whorls on *synoptic charts* by *isobars* or lines, each line drawn through places at which the baro-

meter reading is the same at the same hour. The whorls are called *cyclones* or storms when, by a rapid fall of the barometer, violent winds circulate round and slightly incline towards a centre, and when there is a regular decrease of atmospheric pressure in the disturbed mass of air from the circumference to the centre, where there is a calm. For every tenth of an inch difference of barometric pressure between the circumference and centre an isobar is drawn, and the differences of pressure between the lines are called *gradients*. The whorls are called *anticyclones* when the opposite conditions prevail, as they do in calm and settled weather, instead of those in disturbed and stormy. The barometer is high within the included mass of comparatively quiet air, and highest in its centre, while the winds, if any, are light and have a centrifugal tendency. The masses of air included in these two species of whorls are sometimes many hundreds of miles in horizontal diameter, and they progress at various rates over the earth's surface. Those experienced in Western Europe mostly come from the Atlantic, and generally move N.E. or E.

The basis of Modern Meteorology as a science, or as a means of prediction, is *Buy Ballot's Law*, viz., that, if an observer at any place stands with his back to the wind, the barometer is always lower on his left hand than on his right in the N. Hemisphere, the reverse being the case in the S. This law results from the way in which the mobile light atmosphere is affected by the earth's daily rotation on its axis. It explains the different directions of the wind in different parts of a cyclone, and guides the sailor caught in one to the safest course to try to steer.

As to how cyclones arise, Professor Pirie considers that there is most truth in the *condensation of vapour theory* producing a partial vacuum in a certain mass of air, and a spiral inrush of surrounding air.

The Forecasts of the Weather issued from London are as yet attempted only for the

next 24 hours, with reference to the direction and force of the wind, a change of temperature, and the probability of rain. The predictions are based on the data given in the Synoptic Weather Chart just constructed from telegrams, and on their connection with those on previous charts, and with the forecaster's accumulated knowledge of Meteorology. It must be recollected that cyclones are presaged by high moving cirrus or cirrostratus clouds and by solar and lunar halos, and that the appearance of these phenomena soon after a forecast has been issued may make it erroneous. Only 1 in 7 of the forecasts issued from London fail, while predicted gales are almost always sure to come; hence the value to fishermen and sailors, intending to go to sea, of warnings of storm forecasts sent to British ports by telegraph.

On the Atlantic Ocean, between the West Indies and the Spanish and North African coasts, there is a great area on which the atmospheric pressure is permanently high. Now the Atlantic is the great birthplace of the storms which ravage Western Europe, and the area of high pressure may have something to do with them. The much-talked-of American storms, *i.e.*, those which really begin on that continent and move E. or N.E., very rarely reach our coasts before dying out.—*Communicated.*

## THE ADVOCATES IN ABERDEEN.

### No. 5.

TOLERATION of religious differences was not a virtue generally recognised at the period of the Revolution, and was certainly not practised by the ecclesiastical authorities who then got their turn of power, and an Act of the British Parliament became necessary for the protection of the clergy and members of the disestablished church. Accordingly, on 3rd March, 1712, there was passed "An Act to prevent the disturbing those of the Episcopal Communion in that part of Great Britain called Scotland in the exercise of their religious worship." The Act provided that the Episcopal Clergy, as well as the ministers of the Established Church, should take the oath of allegiance to Queen Anne, and should during Divine Service pray for the Queen by

name, the Princess Sophia of Hanover, and all the Royal Family. The Episcopalians in Aberdeen who were not opposed to the condition thus annexed to the Toleration Act set about building a place of worship to be served by ministers qualified in terms of it. To this subject the two following minutes of meeting of the Society of Advocates refer:—

Att Aberdeen, the seventeenth day of March, 17 hundred and twenty one yeirs.

The said day the Comissar, Shirref and members of the courts at Aberdeen being convened in a full meeting at the rising of this winter session, and the mater aftermentioned being put to a vote, The hail Members present, Except those who disented in manner undermentioned, Heirly order and impower Alexander Gordon, Advocat in Aberdeen, their factor for their contribute money, To Pay to Robert Catanach or James Gordon, Armely, Merchants in Aberdeen, or any of them. Ten Guinys, or one hundred twenty-six pounds Scots money, towards the building of the Episcopall meeting house of Aberdeen, that is presently Building for accommodating the Episcopall congregation of the said Brugh that are deprived of a convenient place for Publict worship; and this contribute is granted upon provision that the said Society shall have the choise of a convenient place in the said meeting house for building a seat or Loaft for their use; and the said James Gordon or Robert Catanach, with the managers of the building of the said meeting house, or any two of said managers, are to grant receipt for this sum, oblidging them to procure the convenience of the seat or Loaft abovementioned, for which this shall be warrand. Given under their hands date foresaid. From which order and warrand Captain Francis Forbes, Sherif Substitute of Aberdeen, Mr. Alexander Thomson of Portlethen, and James Udney, Advocate in Aberdeen, dissented, protested, and took instruments as on a paper apart.

(Signed by Commissary Paterson and ten Procurators.)

If those who dissented did so because it was proposed to trench upon the funds contributed for objects of a different nature, the terms of the next minute must have removed their objections:—

At Aberdeen, the sixth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and twenty-one yeirs. The said day the Comissar and members of Court subscribing, doe hereby unanimously resolve and agree that there be a seat or loaft built for them upon their own charge in the Episcopall meeting house at Aberdeen, in the north Gallarie thereof, below the Cupulo, opposite to the big south door, upon four pillars of the said Gallarie; And doe order and appoint John Hay, Advocat in Aberdeen, their present Collector of their Contribute money, To pay to Alexander Jaffray of Kingswells, whom they hereby name manager and overseer of the said loaft, the hail charge and expense both for the timber and workmanship thereof; And that out of

such sumes belonging to the said contribute money as the said John Hay was appointed to uplift at the term of Martinmas last, conform to the precept to be drawn on the said John Hay by the Committee afternamed, or any two of them. And the said members of court being careful that their common stock of contribute money suffer no loss or prejudice hereby. They doe Statute and appoint the money they use to spend at their publick meetings twice in the year at the rise of each Session, to be a fund for making up what of the principal sume and annualrents of the said stock shall be disbursed or expended for putting up of the said loft, And do hereby Discharge the saids publick meetings ay and untill the expense of the said loft be compleatly payed and made up.—And for a further securitie anent the premisses, each of the members of court subscribing doe hereby bind and oblige them To pay to the said John Hay and his successors in office, Collectors of the said Contribute money, Three pounds Scots money at the rise of each Session yearly ay and untill the haill charge and expense of the fore-said loft be payed and made up, including principall sumes as well as annualrents. And the saids members do hereby name George Keith, Patrick Smith, and Thomas Burnet, Advocates in Aberdeen, as a Committee of their number to see to the application of the said money anent the loft;—And to compt and clear with the said Alexander Jaffray thereanent. And the members of the court appoint that none be received or admitted a member of their Society untill he sign this Act. (Signed by the Commissary and twenty others.)

The "Meeting House" referred to was S. Paul's Chapel, taken down some years ago and replaced by a new church on the same site, in connection with the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Of a date later than the minute of meeting last quoted is the following, having reference to the Old, or West, Church of Aberdeen:—

At Aberdeen, the Tenth day of August one thousand seven hundred and twenty-four years. The said day the Commissar and Members of the Commissar Court of Aberdeenshire subscribing, Considering that the Faculty have no Seat or Loft in any of the High Churches of the said Burgh, and being resolved to apply to the Town Council for liberty to erect a seat in the Old Church, They therefore Enact and Ordain that a Petition be given to the Town Council in name of the whole Society, Craveing liberty for erecting a Seat in a convenient place in the said Church, and the Charge thereof to be borrowed out of the Contribute money, and to be repaid in the same manner as the Loft already built for the Society in the meeting house. And for ane Additional Fund for repaying the charges of the Loft already built, and the Seat or Loft to be built in the High Church, They Enact and Ordain that for the future all Entertainment and Feasting given the Society by Entrant Procurators be discharged as unnecessary, And that in place of the sd. Entertainment each Entrant Procurator for the future shall (beside his ordinary Composition) Pay the sume of Sixty pound Scots money, to be applied towards the

defraying the Charge of the foresaid Lofts or Seats built and to be built, in the first place, and thereafter to accresse to the stock of the Contribute money, or otherways to be Disposed of as the Society shall think fitt. (Signed by the Commissary and sixteen others.)

It was creditable to the Society of Advocates that they should be thus careful to secure religious privileges for the members of their body. They already possessed accommodation in the Greyfriars or College Kirk. In 1743 the materials of the loft in the old West Church were removed from that ruinous edifice to the "Lawyers' Loft" in the College Kirk.

NORVAL CLYNE.

### A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LOCAL PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

(Continued from page 86.)

1861. *The Aberdeen Sanitary Reformer and Family Guide to Health.* Edited by the Rev. Alexander Munro, Loch-head, Aberdeen. Aberdeen: G. Cornwall & Sons; and L. & J. Smith, 1861-2. 2 vols. 8vo. After the style of the *Water Cure Journal*, it treats hydropathy as the one great balm of Gilead in the preservation of health.
- 1864? *Church of S. Andrew [Magazine].* Aberdeen: A. D., 1864? D. Wyllie & Son, 167 Union St., Aberdeen. Price 2d. 8vo, 24 pp., illustrated. Like so many other Church periodicals, this Magazine can hardly claim to be local. It is only the ornamental outside cover, with local matter printed on the inside that brings it under this bibliography. The inside pages were supplied and a cover was printed for the various congregations. The object of *St. Andrew's Magazine*, perhaps I should say of the local cover, was "to give a clergyman a channel to communicate with his congregation, through which he may speak of matters not befitting the pulpit." To March, 1872?
1864. *The Aberdeen University Calendar for the year 1864-65.* Printed by John Avery, and published by D. Wyllie & Son. Aberdeen, 1864. 8vo. This calendar is in two distinct parts, each pagged by itself. The first part, says the introductory note, "contains an account of the Constitution of the University, and general information respecting Degrees, Bursaries, and the Course of Study in the different Faculties. The second part contains the names of the office-bearers and such information as refers only to one particular session. The second part only will be printed annually." This arrangement has since been abandoned, and the Calendar now appears as a complete whole.
1865. *The Bazaar Gazette, Unlimited.* No. 1, Thursday, April 20, 1865. Folio, 4 pp. Imprint:—"Aberdeen, Printed for the Proprietors by Wm. Bennett, at his Printing Office, 42 Castle Street.

- Thursday, April 20, 1865." One number, got up "for the purpose of erecting New Boys', Girls', Infants' Schools in connection with the Episcopal Church of St. Andrews." This imitation newspaper can hardly claim a place in this bibliography. It was edited by the Rev. F. L. M. Anderson. It is sparkling with wit, and one strange note, in a prominent position, gravely informs us that "the printing of the *Gazette* was commenced at half-past 12 o'clock on Wednesday night and was finished at a quarter past 12 on Thursday morning."
1868. *The Scottish Witness*. A Monthly Magazine, advocating the cause of the Church of Scotland. Aberdeen: A. Brown & Co. [1868.] 8vo. No. 1—13.
1869. *The Aberdeen Guardian and Northern Counties' Chronicle*. No. 1, Saturday, September 11, 1869. Price, 1d. Large folio. The preface intimates that "it will be the main object with *The Guardian* to foster public spirit—to make the public business, municipal and national, the means of intellectual and moral education." Imprint, "Printed and Published by John Duffus (residing at 31 Victoria Street West), at the Office, Exchange Court, Union Street, every Saturday morning." It was edited by Mr. William Webster. To No. 14, Dec. 11, 1869.
1870. *The Ladies' Journal for Aberdeen and the North of Scotland*. No. 1, Saturday, August 6, 1870. Price, 1d. Folio. Imprint, "Printed by Arthur King, residing at No. 3 Ann Place, Aberdeen, at Clark's Court, top of Broad Street, and published by the said Arthur King at 46 Marischal Street every Saturday morning." It was edited by the Rev. Fred. W. B. Bouverie, Incumbent of St. Pauls. How long did it last?
1870. *The North Star, and General Advertiser for Aberdeen and the Vicinity*. Published in Aberdeen every afternoon at four o'clock, and circulated immediately thereafter throughout the surrounding district. No. 1, Friday, October 7, 1870. Price, One Half-penny. Folio, 4 pp. Imprint, "Aberdeen: Printed for the Proprietors by G. Cornwall & Sons, at their Printing Office, 54 Castle Street, and published every afternoon at 13 Adelphi;" at 70, the imprint changes to "Printed for the Proprietors, by John Duffus, at Exchange Court Printing Office;" and at 170, it is "Printed for the Proprietors, at Exchange Court Printing Office, and published every morning at 13 Adelphi." 178 numbers published to Wednesday, May 3, 1871. *The North Star*, which was edited by Mr. William Muir, has the honour of having been the first Evening and the first Halfpenny Newspaper in Aberdeen. It was Liberal in politics, as also in its borrowing from contemporaries. It was once compared to the moon, because it "shone with borrowed light."
1872. *The Medical Students' Shaver*. No. 1, January, 1872. Price, Twopence. 8vo, 16 pp. No Imprint. Two editions were published. *The Shaver* is one continuous article in three scenes, and is interesting only to Students. No name figures so much in its pages as that of "Mr. 4bass Moir," and the time is not too far gone to distinguish who is meant. Only one number was published.
1872. *The Aberdeen Medical Student*. No. I, Wednesday, November 6, 1872. Price 3d. 4to, 12 pp. Published fortnightly by Robert Walker. 20 Nos. all? Among the contributors were Dr. Maitland Moir, Dr. A. Ogston, Professor J. W. H. Traill, and John Scott, M.A. A number of illustrations and plates enhanced the value of this vigorous medical journal. The Rectorial Edition, published on Wednesday, December 4, 1872, which purported to be an extra number of this paper, was a pure skit, the work of Dr. R. J. Morice and Dr. Shand.
1873. *The Aberdeen University Gazette*. No. 1, Friday, November 28, 1873. Price, 3d. 4to, 12 pp. Published by James Mackay, fortnightly. 9 Nos. There is a preponderance of articles of purely medical interest—the paper having in fact sprung from the ashes of *The Aberdeen Medical Student*. Issued in a blue cover. A Rectorial Edition was published in 1875.
1873. "*Our Magazine*," a Monthly Collection of Papers, contributed by the Members of Our Society. Vols. I., II. Aberdeen, 1874 [1873], 1875. 8vo.
- 1875? *Aberdeen Illustrated Magazine*. 8vo, 4 pp. Price 2d. 12 Nos.? Monthly, 1875? The pictures were supplied by Messrs. Cassell & Co., while W. & W. Lindsay printed local matter.
1876. *The Castle Spectre*. No. 1, 21st October, 1876. 8vo, 4 pp. Imprint: "Printed and published by A. D. Forbes, 6 Mackie Place, Aberdeen." The second number changes to 4to size, November 25, 1876, and the imprint to "Printed and published by the Mackie Place Co., 6 Mackie Place." At the 70th number the imprint becomes "Printed and published by the Galleries (late Mackie Place) Co., Galleries, Aberdeen." At 78 it is stated that "*The Castle Spectre* is sent, post free, to all Postal Union countries for 1/6 per annum." It is paged continuously from 1 onwards to present time, and appears monthly. No. 1 was reprinted in 4to size to match the rest. 4 pp., and sometimes with a single leaf supplement. A title page was printed for the first volume. We are wont to look across the Atlantic for novelties in journalism, but we have to look no further than our own town for as unique a novelty as ever appeared. The prefatory remarks of this extraordinary publication give a clue to its name, in a style which is preëminently after the manner of the paper:—"We are the dwellers in that house in the neighbourhood of Skene Street, known to the 'oldest inhabitant' as the Haunted House, to younger inhabitants as the Castle, and to the Post Office as No. 6 Mackie Place." Set up, printed and distributed by Mr. Forbes and his family, it is irreproachable from a typographical



SVB SPE BEATÆ RESVRRECTIONIS

OBIT XVII. DECEMBR. ANNO DOMINI M. DC. XIII. ETATIS SVÆ LI



HIC QUIESCIT D. DVNCANVS LIDDELVS DOCTOR MEDICVS. IO. LIDDELI CIVIS ABRÉDON. FILIVS.

ETERNÆ MEMORIÆ  
 DDVNCANI LIDDELI DOCT.  
 MEDICI, QVEM VIRTVS NASCEN-  
 TEM EXCEPIT, RECONDITA IN  
 MEDICINA ET OMNIBVS PHILOSO-  
 PHIE AC MATHESQS PARTIBVS  
 PERITIA NATVM EXCOLVIT. LI-  
 BERALITAS SVPRÆ EQVALES EX-  
 TVLIT: CVI ANNVVM STIPENDI-  
 VM DEBET PVBLICVS MATHESQS  
 IN ACADEMIA ABRÉDONENSIS  
 PROFESSOR VICTVMQ. EIVSDEM  
 ACADEMIÆ SEX ALVMI.  
 FAMA POSTHVMA MERITORVM PERPETVA TESTIS.

M. H. D. C. Q.

IO. LIDDELI CIVIS ABRÉDON. FILIVS.

DR LIDDEL'S BRASS.  
St Nicholas Church, Aberdeen

point of view; while the startling frankness and originality of many of its articles come as a surprise to jaded journal readers. The woodcuts in the earlier numbers were the work of Miss Burton, eldest daughter of the late J. Hill Burton. *The Castle Spectre* has contributed its quota to fiction, the first novel it gave to the world, "The Grahams' First Governess," having been the joint production—Besant-Rice fashion—of Miss Struthers and Miss Mary A. Forbes; but latterly the Diatessaron of Mr. Forbes has swamped the lighter fancies of his young staff. The Spectre threatens to vanish after he has finished his Diatessaron, "leaving behind him an odour, but whether of sulphur or sanctity, it is for others to say." His work, he says, "is done. Why should he not vanish? and most people will answer, as echo is said to do, but doesn't, Why not?" But I, for my part, answer, Why do? Like many another thing begun in pure fun, *The Castle Spectre* has gradually become an enterprise of downright earnestness.

1876. *Bon-Accord Rhymes and Ballads*. Aberdeen: George Middleton, Skene Square. 8vo. [Price One Penny.] No. 1 [1876.] 4 Nos. have appeared at irregular intervals.

1877. *The Occasional, a Leaflet issued when necessary*. No. 1. 4 pp. No date [1877], no pagination, no imprint. This was a purely Town Council skit, which it has not been found "necessary" to issue more than once.

1877. *The Academic*. No. 1, January 12, 1877. Price 2d. 8vo, 16 pp. weekly, to February 23, 1877. Published by Alex. Murray, 216 Union Street. The following are the names of some of the contributors:—Rev. W. Allardyce of Rithie-may, Rev. C. Mackie of Drumoak, Dr. Theodore Thomson, P. J. Beveridge, W. Keith Leask, H. M. Selbie. A new series was published next session, to which the title is—*The Academic: A weekly periodical, containing philosophical discussions, biographies, fiction, and poetry*. Conducted by the Students of the Aberdeen University. Aberdeen: Alexander Murray, 216 Union Street, 1877. No. 1, December 7, 1877. Price 2d. 16 pp., 8 Nos.

1879. *Aberdeen Evening Express*. No. 1. Aberdeen, Monday, January 20, 1879. Price One Half-penny. Imprint: "Printed and Published by the Aberdeen and North of Scotland Newspaper and printing Company (Limited), at their Offices, 28 and 29 Adelphi Court, Union Street, Aberdeen." The editors have been Messrs. John Begg, W. D. Ross, and W. Skea.

## EPITAPHS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD.

THE OLD OR WEST CHURCH.

(Continued from page 89.)

ATTACHED to one of the pillars in the south-west corner of the church there is a very interesting monumental brass to the memory of

Dr. Duncan Liddel. The original position of the brass cannot now be determined, but we know that it was fixed in the pavement of the church above Liddel's grave, and that when the old West Church fell into disrepair (1732-50), it was taken up and placed for safety in St. Mary's Chapel, then, and for long before, a convenient store for materials required in repairing the church. Here it lay until its existence was forgotten, and it was only when the Chapel came to be used for a different purpose that the Liddel brass was discovered and placed in its present position. The brass measures 5 feet 5 inches by 2 feet 10 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and contains a finely engraved portrait of Liddel, which occupies the upper panel of the plate, while the following latin inscription is arranged round the margin and on the lower half:—

SVB SPE BEATÆ RESVRRECTIONIS HIC QVIESCIT  
D. DVNCANVS LIDDELVS DOCTOR MEDICVS, JO.  
LIDDELI CIVIS ABREDON. FILIVS. OBIT XVII.  
DECEMBR. ANNO DOMINI M.DC.XIII. ÆTATIS SVÆ  
LII.

ÆTERNÆ MEMORIÆ | D DVNCANI LIDDELI DOCT.  
| MEDICI, QVEM VIRTVS NASCEN- | TEM EXCEPIT,  
RECONDITA IN | MEDICINA ET OMNIBVS PHILOSO- |  
PHIÆ AC MATHESQS PARTIBVS | PERITIA NATVM  
EXCOLVIT, LI- | BERALITAS SVpra ÆQVALES EX- |  
TVLIT: CVI ANNVM STIPENDI- | VM DEBET PVBLICVS  
MATHESQS | IN ACADEMIA ABREDONENSI | PRO-  
FESSOR, VICTVMQ. EIVSDEM | ACADEMIÆ SEX ALVM-  
NI; | FAMA POSTHVMA MERITORVM PERPETVA  
TESTIS | M. H. D. C. Q.

[Here rests, in hope of a happy resurrection, Duncan Liddel, Doctor of Medicine, son of John Liddel, citizen of Aberdeen. He died 17th December, 1613, in the 52nd year of his age.

To the eternal memory of Duncan Liddel, Doctor of Medicine—whom virtue took possession of at his birth; whom, as he grew up, profound skill in medicine and in all departments of Philosophy and Mathematics, adorned, and generosity exalted above his contemporaries; to whom the public professor of Mathematics in the College of Aberdeen owes his yearly salary, and six students of the same College owe their maintenance—posthumous Fame, the permanent attester of merit, has dedicated and consecrated this monument.]

Dr. Liddel' was the son of John Liddel, burghess of Aberdeen, and was born there in 1561, receiving his education at the Grammar School and King's College. He had early conceived a desire to visit the Continent, and at the age of 18 he left Aberdeen for Dantzic.

1 Dr. Stuart's *Life of Liddel*. Bruce's *Eminent Men of Aberdeen*.



His studies took him from time to time to Frankfort on-the-Oder, Rostock and Breslau but in 1591 he settled finally at Helmstadt, in North Germany, where he acquired distinction in teaching mathematics, both as first and second professor of the science, in the Julian College, established there by Julius, Duke of Brunswick. In 1596 Liddel received the degree of M.D., was admitted into the faculty of medicine, and began publicly to teach physic. Shortly afterwards he received the appointment of first physician to the Court of Brunswick, and appears to have had a very lucrative practice among the principal families attached to the Court. At various times he held the office of Dean of the Faculties of physic and philosophy, as also in 1604 that of pro-rector of the University.

A desire to spend the remainder of his days in his native country induced Liddel to return home in 1607. Little is known of his life during the next five years, but we can imagine him busy in the preparation for the press of his two last works, the *Ars Medica*, published at Hamburgh in 1608, with a dedication to King James, and a treatise on fevers, published in 1610, with a dedication to the Prince of Wales. Both these works, as well as some thesis published while at Helmstadt, obtained a European reputation in their day. On the 12th July, 1612, while in Edinburgh, he executed a deed of gift, in which he bequeathed the lands of Pitmedden "for the reward and maintenance" of poor scholars at the Colleges of his native city. Liddel declares that the gift was made "with the desire of giving a good example in steiring vp others to the lyke good." This benefaction is commemorated on one of the Mortification "brods" in the vestibule of the Town House as follows:—

"1613. Mr. Duncan Liddel, Doctor in phisick, son to John Liddel, burges of Abd. mortified perpetually for mantinance of six poore Bursers in the Marischal Colledge of Abd. (being burges sons of the said burgh) his lands of Pitmedden & salmond fishing therof Stock & teind The free rent wherof is 80 bolls of victuall half meil half malt wherof ther is allotted to every burser 14 bolls half meil half malt And 15 bolls half meil half malt to one of the saids bursers who shall teach the elements of Mathematicks for two years after his lauriation The saids lands he Purchased

1 Deed of Mortification.

for this use and gave the right of Patronage and presentation of the saids Bursers to the Provost Baillies & Counsell of Aberdeen Anno 1613."

Eight days before his death, by a second instrument, he confirmed his former gift, and likewise made provision for endowing a chair of Mathematics at Marischal College, by directing that a sum of 6000 merks should be set aside and invested for that purpose. He likewise bequeathed to the same College his library and mathematical instruments, which were to be augmented by the surplus yearly revenue of the 6000 merks already referred to. In this latter deed he directed that two monuments should be erected by his executors, one on the lands of Pitmedden, the inscription for which he gives,<sup>1</sup> and the other "within the Kirk of New Aberdeen, As Mr. Thomas Nicholson [executor] and the Counsell of Aberdeen, shall think expedient."<sup>2</sup>

Dr. Liddel died on the 17th December, 1613, in the 52nd year of his age, unmarried, and besides the benefactions mentioned above, he made suitable provision for his brother John, a cooper to trade, and his sister Jean.

For some reason or other his executors, who were the Magistrates and Thomas Nicholson, appear to have taken no steps for the erection of the monument in the church for some considerable time after Liddel's death. The first mention of the matter is the minute of Council, dated 2nd September, 1618:—

"2 Sept. 1618. The Counsell ordanis that as abe-foir Johne Liddell to erect and put vpe the monuments of vmqll Doctor Liddell his broyer both in Petmedden and in S. Nicholas Kirk and also to caus lay on his grave ane lair staine decentlie hewin be the sicht of the Maister of kirkwark with all possibill diligence conforme to the mynd and tennor of the said defunctis letter will."<sup>3</sup>

From this it will be seen that the whole matter was referred to Dr. Liddel's brother, and from subsequent entries in the Council Register he appears to have carried out the commission alone.

It is perhaps useless now to speculate who suggested that the monument should take

<sup>1</sup> "Anno a Nato Christo 1614. Autoritate Regis ordinisque Regni hujus villam Agrosque de Pitmedden sex alumniis Literarum Studiois in Academia Abredonensi Dicavit confirmavit que Duncanus Liddelius, Medicinæ Doctor."—MSS. Reg. of Mortifications, pp. 129-30.

<sup>2</sup> Deed of Mortification.

<sup>3</sup> Council Register, vol. xlviii., p. 507.

the form of a brass with a portrait of the deceased, but while ready to admit that there may be some ground for the position taken up by the late Mr. Andrew Gibb, in his communication to the Society of Antiquaries,<sup>1</sup> that the suggestion of the brass came from Aberdeen, we do not think he presents a strong case that Jamesone "furnished the complete design for it." According to the latest light thrown on Jamesone's life we know that it was impossible for him, as Mr. Gibb suggests, to have met Liddel on the Continent, as he was dead before the painter visited Antwerp, and so the material for a sketch, if done by Jamesone, must have been made between the years 1607-13. The earliest acknowledged portrait by the painter is dated 1620, and although there may not be much in the objection taken by Mr. Bulloch<sup>2</sup> as to the *position* of the subject, as the engraver would in all probability have reversed the sketch, yet we think the general style, and the nature of the accessories introduced, entirely foreign to the composition of any of Jamesone's known works. An engraving by Beugo of the portrait on the brass is attached to the sketch of Liddel's life, published in 1790, by Professor John Stuart of Inchbreck; while the illustration of the brass which accompanies this paper is from the pencil of the late Mr. Andrew Gibb.

There is, however, documentary evidence which indirectly proves that the painter had no hand in designing the brass, for in the following interesting account of expenses<sup>3</sup> incurred by John Liddel in connection with the monument, no mention is made of any fee having been paid for the design, an item which, if done separately from the workmanship, we would naturally expect to find stated among the minute details of this account, and which we make bold to say, would have been allowed to Jamesone, had he been the designer. The only influence which we can suggest that may have weighed with Liddel's executors in fixing upon a brass for the monument, was the fact that there were already two monumental brasses in the church, viz., the well

known Irvine brass, and another to town clerk John Kennedy, which latter has unfortunately disappeared since the rebuilding of the church.

The compt off the pleitt off bress bocht and transportit be Johne Liddell from Antverp to Abd. as followis—for the buriall place of his brother Doctor Liddell.

Item the said pleitt off bress veyng	
219 lb at 17 sjs ye pund is . . . . .	31lb 6d flemis
Item mair payit Jaspert brydegrowme	
citizen in Antverp for workmanschip	
yroff . . . . .	50 lbs
Mair giffin to him in buntey 2 kinkins'	
salmond . . . . .	3 lbs
Mair for transportingesame out of Mach-	
lein customis thair & the charges of	
the craftsman wrocht the pleitt his	
going thair and backcuming be vagone	30s
Mair for the pass & custume yroff in Ant-	
verp & Lille . . . . .	40s
Mair for fraucht yroff and my awin pas-	
sadge to middilbur <sup>t</sup> . . . . .	16s 8d
Mair for careing betuixt Middilbur <sup>t</sup> and	
Campher . . . . .	3s 4d
Mair Lost in difference off silver betuixt	
zelandis and brabantis money on curie	
albertus 4stsye peice qlk will extend to	3 lb 5s
Mair for my charges thrie voadges out-	
vart and hamvart extending to . . . . .	30 lbs
<hr/>	
S <sup>a</sup> in all . . . . .	121 lbs 15s 6d
<hr/>	
Quhilk extendis in Schottis money as I payit my self	
for the same at 14 nobles is . . . . .	825 lb 8s 6d
Mair for twa zeiris proffeitt of 1000	
merkis yroff . . . . .	133 lb 6s 8d
Mair for sinking the same in ye steane	
& Laying yroff to Alexander Wyisman	10 lbs
<hr/>	
S <sup>a</sup> off all . . . . .	995 lb 15s

On the 28th June, 1622,<sup>2</sup> John Liddel acknowledges receipt of 1400 merks in full of the above account, and from this it would appear that the Council, while allowing all the items entered as outlay, had reduced the "twa zeiris"<sup>3</sup> interest to one half of the sum charged.

There are two interesting points to be gleaned from the account which contribute towards the settlement of the question as to who was the designer of the brass. The first of these is, that John Liddel found it necessary to go three times to Antwerp, and from this fact a natural sequence suggests itself as follows:—That he went first to Antwerp to

<sup>1</sup> Vol. XI., p. 450.

<sup>2</sup> George Jamesone, the Scottish Vandyck.

<sup>3</sup> Inventory of Writs of the Burgh of Aberdeen, P. 3.

<sup>1</sup> "KINKEN. A small barrel, a keg, a kilderkin. This measure, I am informed, is in Aberdeen equivalent to a peck."—*Jamieson's Etymological Dictionary of the Scottish Language.*

<sup>2</sup> Council Register, vol L. p. 326.

obtain a design, carrying with him in all probability a miniature of his brother, and returned home to obtain the approbation of the executors. The second voyage became necessary, so that the design might be placed in the hands of the engraver, with the suggestions of the executors; while the last voyage was undoubtedly undertaken, as the account shews, for the purpose of bringing home the finished brass. The second point is that now, for the first time, the engraver's name is known, and it has become possible to obtain information regarding him. Through the courtesy of the Burgomaster of Antwerp the following particulars have been gleaned regarding the engraver: Gaspard Bruydegoms, the engraver of the brass, was attaché to the mint at Antwerp in the beginning of the seventeenth century. He married Anne Jonghelinck, daughter of Gaspard Jonghelinck, warden of the mint, and a grand-daughter of the engraver sculptor, Jacques Jonghelinck, who designed and executed the tomb of Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, at Bruges. From this information it will be seen that Bruydegoms was a metal engraver, who was able to command a good price for his work, and in all likelihood perfectly capable to have designed as well as executed such a work as the Liddel brass.

ALEX. M. MUNRO.

#### THE STONE EFFIGIES IN S. MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL AND S. NICHOLAS CHURCH.

ALLOW me to draw the attention of Ecclesiologists to these beautiful but neglected specimens of Mediæval art. There are two of Canons in rich chasubles and amusse (or fur-hooded cape), and a very curious stone tablet, with inscription and effigy, of another Canon, his feet trampling on the devil, on the wall of the South aisle of the Cathedral. It would be well if the inscriptions could be read. That on the monument at the West end of the North aisle can be easily made out, except some words that no one, from

<sup>1</sup> He received £53 Flemish or £7 11s. 5d. English. As a contrast, we may mention that at the same period the Scottish Vandeyck was executing commissions of half length portraits at £1 2s. 6d.

Orem's time till now, seems able to read. The wall monument in the South aisle is much more indistinct as to the inscription.

The once rich marble effigy of Bishop Gavin Dunbar was smashed long ago, and a Canon's effigy put on the slab.

In S. Nicholas the effigies are well worth attention. The costumes on that in the South Transept are very rich, and among the finest I know of in Scotland. One cannot help wondering that architectural pupils and students seldom, if ever, seem to examine or measure our ancient architectural buildings or monuments. But perhaps one should not be surprised at this, considering "the way we live now."  
C. S. L.

#### SOME NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF KEMNAY.

IT is believed that in long bygone days a string of lakes, starting from the foot of Benachie, poured their waters into one another all the way down till they reached the sea, about Don mouth. At that time, it is conjectured, the Don and Ury flowed at a level thirty or forty feet higher than at present. Probably those large blocks of stone, on the farms of Wellbush, in Kemnay, Greatstone, across the river, and other places, may have been drifted into their present positions, by the action of the glaciers, in those remote ages. The legendary lore of the district, however, has awarded them a more weird and romantic origin. The Enemy of Mankind, they say, was surveying the lands of the Garioch from the *Mither Tap*, when his eye fell on the Kirk of Kemnay, where laboured a very holy and devoted minister. His malignity was stirred up against that valiant soldier of the cross, and he threw the boulders, one after another, with the intention of destroying both church and priest. But his wicked designs were providentially frustrated. The stones missed their aim and lie peacefully where they fell.

We do not learn from history when Kemnay first became the dwelling place of man, but we have every reason to believe, that long before the Christian era it had been a populous district. Remains of the Stone Age, in the shape of flint arrow-heads, used by the

ancient inhabitants as weapons of war and in the chase, have been found all over the parish.

From the earliest records of the lands and parish of Kemnay, we find that they belonged in the 14th century to the Church of Kinkell, which at an earlier period was the property of the Knights Templars—a branch of the Crusaders. But as we glance back along the ages that intervene since credible history first began to take tangible shape from out the mists of antiquity, we find that the civil history of the Garioch begins to be clearly defined during the reign of Malcolm Canmore, and his good queen, Margaret Atheling, whose marriage brought the neighbouring family of Leslie of Balquhain on the stage of history.

The turning point of King Robert Bruce's fortunes was intimately connected with this district. A little farther down Donside, within the confines of Kemnay parish, is still to be seen Bruce's Howe and Cave; and Campfield is said to have been the bivouacking place of his army the night before the battle of Inverurie, a contest which led up by a series of victories to the great triumph of Bannockburn. When peace was restored Bruce bestowed Halfforest on Sir R. Keith, the Marischal.

The battle of Harlaw had its origin in a dispute between the Duke of Albany, Regent of the kingdom, and Donald, Lord of the Isles, in regard to the succession of the Earldom of Ross. The Kemnay people, under the command of Sir Robert Melville of Glenberrie and Kemnay, Sheriff of the Mearns, supported Mar.

The subsequent history of this Laird of Kemnay is tragical, and shews the barbarity of the times. In his office of Sheriff, Sir Robert had been unpopular. Some harsh measures of his had been reported to the Regent, and Albany, who detested trouble, allowed to escape from his lips the impatient words, "Sorra gin the Shirra were sodden and suppit in bree." The sentence was speedily put into execution by the enemies of the Sheriff, who actually boiled him, and even partook of the horrid banquet. Three generations later the heiress of the hapless "Shirra" married Sir William Douglas, second son of Archibald, sixth Earl of Angus ("Bell the Cat"). In 1688 the estate of Kemnay

was purchased by Thomas Burnett, ancestor of the present proprietor. The first Douglas of Kemnay perished on the field of Flodden. His son, Sir Archibald, knighted by James V., having been in the south, returned and took a notarial instrument as to the state of the house, when the contents were found to be a table in the hall, two beds in one chamber, with a little table before each bed, an old door lying in the chamber, and in the wine cellar one gantrees!

Sir William Douglas, the most illustrious in rank of all the lairds of Kemnay, was with Mary Queen of Scots in her progress through Scotland when she visited Balquhain in 1562, and fought in her behalf in the battle of Corrichie. In 1588 he became 9th Earl of Angus. He died in 1591, in his 59th year. His two sons were active Covenanters.

During the "Troubles" in Scotland, the meal ginals of Kemnay House were plundered again and again. "The Covenanting army," says one historian, "left Inverury somewhat full handed, having plundered the ginals of 22 score bolls of meal which they were unable to carry away, and sold cheaply at 6/8 the boll."

The trials for witchcraft in the 17th century are a dark blot on the history of our country, and Kemnay seems to have been quite a stronghold of witches, for long after the executions ceased there were, it is said, 19 witches in Craigearn<sup>1</sup> at one time. The then Laird of Kemnay had by some means incurred their ill-will, for, as the story goes, having occasion to pass through Craigearn one day with his servant he was sorely perplexed how to accomplish this without falling under their evil influence. He, however, remembered to have heard it said that they could only "cast their cantrips" when face to face with their victims, and also that they had a great fear of gunpowder. So the laird took his gun along with him, and fired a shot as he and his man entered the village to *drive* the witches indoors, and another about the middle of the place to *keep* them indoors, and so they got through.

<sup>1</sup> An old hamlet in the parish, which seems to have been at one time a place of some importance. In the 17th century it is said to have possessed a church dedicated to St. Bride, in which the Minister of Kemnay occasionally officiated.

The fate of the witches was tragical. They were "drowned in a *riddle*," in a pond in Craigearn, afterwards known as "the witches pool." In the records of witchcraft we find that witches often used a *riddle* by way of a boat, their supernatural powers enabling them to keep the rather leaky vessel afloat. By what means 19 witches were got into a *riddle*, tradition is silent. It is but right to say, that a more credible if less sensational tradition survives, affirming that they were not drowned at all, but died one by one from natural causes.

JEANNIE M. LAING.

### WITCHCRAFT.

I COPY the following trial for witchcraft from a MS. volume I have handled lately, entitled "Curious Tryals from the ancient records of Justiciary," &c. The handwriting is beautiful but of no great antiquity, for the paper bears the water-mark "1815," and the contents may be the rescript of some existing work copied into this common-place book.

The witch is one Allison or Ailie Pearson, in Lyrehill of Grangemuir, the last name being that of places common to Ayrshire and Fifeshire. The indictment is very long, and is dated 28th May, 1588, being two years earlier than the first trials for witchcraft in Aberdeen. It goes on to say that the

"Assyze [did] convict her of the using of Sorcerie, specially in the vision and form of ane Mr. William Simpson, her cousin, and moder's Brother, who she affirms was a great scholar and Doctor of Medicine, who healed her of her diseases when she was 12 years of age, having lost the power of her side, and having a familiarity with him for divers years, dealing with charms and abusing the common people by her arts of witchcraft thir diverse years bypast. Item, for haunting and repairing with the good neighbour and Queen of Elfland thir diverse years by past, as she had confessed, and that she had friends in that Court which were of her own bluid, who had guid acquaintance of the Queen of Elfland, which might have helped her, but she was whiles well and whiles ill, sometimes with them and other times away frae them, and that she would be in her bed haill and fraill and would not wytt where she would be the morn, and that she saw not the Queen thir seven yeir, and that she was sevcn yeir ill-handed in the Court of Elfland; that however she had good friends there, and that it was the guid neighbours that healed her under God, and that she was coming and going to St. Andrews to hail folks thir many years. Item, convict of the said art of witchcraft in swa far as she confest that the said Mr. William Simpson, who was her Guidsir Son, born in

Stirling, who was the King's Smith, who when about eight years of age was taken away by an Egyptian to Egypt, which Egyptian was a Gyant, where he remained twelve years and then came home. Item, that she being in Grangemuir with some other folk, she being sick, she lay down, and when alone there came a man to her, clad in green, who said to her, if she would be faithful he would do her good, but she being feared cried out, but nobody came to her, so she said if he cam in God's name and for the guid of her Soul it was well, but he gaed away; that he appeared to her another time like a Lustie man, and many men and women with him, that seeing him she signed herself and prayed, and past with them and saw them maken merrie with pypes and good cheer and time, and that she was carried with them, and that when she telled any of them things she was sairly tormented by them, and that the first time she gide with them she got a sair straik frae ane of them which took all the posture of her syde frae her and left an ill fared mark in her syde. Item, that she saw the guid neighbours make their saws with pans and fyes, and that they gathered the herbs before the sun was up, and that they cam very fearful to her sometimes and clait very sore, which made her cry, and threatened they would use her worse than before, and at last they took away the power of her hail side frae her, which made her ly money weeks; sometimes they would come and sitt by her and promised she would never want if she would be faithful, but if she would speak or tell of them they would murder her, and that Mr. William Simpson is with them, who heal her and tell't her all things; that he was a young man not six years older than herself, and that he would appear to her before the Court comes; that he told her he was carried away by them and he bid her sign herself—that she be not taken away, for the Teind of them are taken to Hell every year. Item, that the said Mr. William told her what were fitt to cure every disease, and how to use them, and particularly told that the Bishop of St. Andrews laboured under sundry diseases, such as the ripples, trembling fever, flux, &c., and bade her make a saw and anoint several parts of his body therewith, and gave directions for making a possit, which she made and gave him."

In this case there is neither pleading nor proof, and although Allice Pearson is convicted, I do not see her sentence upon her guilt.

J. FULLERTON.

### THE GALLEY OF LORN.

In the ninth Parliament of James I., held at Perth, 6th March, 1429, it was enacted that "All Barronnes and Lords havand lands and "Lordshippes near the sea in the *West*, and "on the *North* parts and namelie for-anent "the Iles, that they have Galayes, that is to "say, ilk foure markes worth of lande ane "aire. And that this till understande of them "that are not feft before of Galayes. For

“they that are feft before sall keepe and up-  
 “halde the Galayes, that they are feft of  
 “before, and halden to susteine be their  
 “aulde infestment. And that the saids Ga-  
 “layes be maid and reparrelled be *Maij* cum  
 “a twelfe-moneth, under the paine of ane  
 “marke to be raised to the Kingis use of ilk  
 “air. And the landes and Lord-schippes,  
 “quhat ever they be, strikand endlang the  
 “coastsyde, and inward in the land, sex mile  
 “sall contribute to the reparation and the  
 “sustentation of the saids Galayes.”

In the armorial bearings of several western families a galley forms a conspicuous charge on the escutcheon, and such a representation, fully equipped with sails and oars, is displayed on the shield of the noble house of Breadalbane. Sir Colin Campbell, first Laird of Glenorchy (1432), and known as the Black Knight of Rhodes, was four times married, his first wife being a daughter of Walter Stewart of Albany. His second wife, Janet Stewart, was the eldest of the three daughters of William Stewart, Lord of Lorn, who bestowed as tocher upon Sir Colin the “auchtene markland of the Bray off Lorne.” Sir Colin, by virtue of his wife, on the death of her father succeeded to the “hail superioritie of the Lordschip of Lorne” and first Thrid thereof, extending to tua “hundreth and fyftie marklandis.” Thus by marriage Sir Colin came to be possessed of lands of considerable extent near the sea in the west, and his Galley, which may have figured on his shield when he went to the Holy Land, is still before us, black on a silvery ocean, on the arms of his descendants.

Kenmore.

J. CHRISTIE.

ORIGIN OF THE PHRASE “THERE’S NAE-  
 THING LIKE LEATHER.”—This phrase is of  
 world-wide celebrity. Few, however, know  
 its author and origin. About forty years ago  
 there was a public character in Aberdeen,  
 well known for his thorough honesty and  
 straitforwardness. He was well known as  
 “Auld Clyne the Souter.” He was a great  
 politician, and a member of the Police Board.  
 and in his speeches there, spoke Aberdeen  
 Doric pure and undiluted. At a meeting of the  
 Board regarding some improvement about the

Water works, then at the Bridge of Dee, the  
 question arose what material should be used,  
 when Auld Clyne said, “O, sirs, there’s nae-  
 thing like leather.” This saying had a double  
 meaning, for William Clyne had made money  
 by selling leather. William was a man of  
 great wit and good sense.

Aberdeen.

J. MARTIN.

FALCONS AT FINNAN.—According to *The  
 Book of Bon-Accord*, the rocks in the neigh-  
 bourhood of Finnan were famous for the fal-  
 cons which built on them. “In 1580, Alex-  
 ander Menzies, son of the Provost of Aber-  
 deen, was charged with the preservation of a  
 nest on the Craig of Findoun, for the service  
 of the King, James VI.” It is an interesting  
 fact, not hitherto noted, that a pair of ger-  
 falcons, known as Red Mantles, still build  
 on rocks at Finnan. Last year four of the  
 young falcons were caught by some fisher-  
 men, two being kept by the captors and two  
 being sold to a well known nobleman.

CRAG SCALER.

JOHN MOWAT, FOUNDER, OLD ABERDEEN.—  
 The following extract is from an “Accompt  
 of Debursements from October 1764 to Octo-  
 1765,” kept by James Downey, Steward to  
 Francis Farquharson (“Ffran : s. arqrsn”)  
 of Haughton :—

1764.

Decemr. 19. To John Mowat, founder in  
 Old Aberdeen, for Casting  
 and Stocking a Bell, . . . £1 0 5

The bell is still in use at Haughton. K.

ABERDAAN.—The people of Ghent spell  
 Aberdeen, Aberdaan, which is used to mean  
 pickled cod, not the dried cod, which is called  
*stokvisch*, but that which is preserved in brine.

J. G.

## Queries.

NOTE.—Each paragraph, containing one or more  
 Queries, will receive a consecutive number, to  
 which Correspondents may conveniently refer.

56. ARCHDEACON BARBOUR'S TOMB.—Does any-  
 body know where this celebrated Ecclesiastic and Poet  
 was buried? Doubtless in S. Machar's Cathedral,  
 but in what spot? A proper tomb he probably had  
 also. Alas! where is it now? C. S. L.

57. BISHOP GAVIN DUNBAR'S REMAINS.—It is  
 said that the Bishop's remains were found, perfectly

preserved, in the 17th century. Does anybody know what became of them? The vault, of fine ashlar freestone, is now clean and empty, as I was told a few years ago by the Sexton, who said he had seen it open.

C. S. L.

58. OLD HOUSE NEAR KINALDIE.—There is an old, but not ruinous, building at Kinaldie, close to the railway. Is it the remains of one of the chapels that S. Machar erected? It looks very like it, and stands by itself in a field at a little distance from the house.

C. S. L.

59. THE GADLE AND THE GARIK.—Can any one explain the meaning of the names "the Gadle," and "the Garik"? They appear in a document of 1774, and refer to localities.

London.

J. A.

60. WRITINGS OF EMERITUS PROFESSOR MARTIN, LL.D.—Have any of Dr. Martin's writings been published, other than the following?

*Notes on the Foundation and History of Marischal College.* Aberdeen, 1849.

*Is Man Responsible for his Belief?* Aberdeen, 1849.

*The Bible in its Relations to the Present Age.*

Aberdeen, 1851.

*British Infidelity: Its Aspects and Prospects.*

Edinburgh, 1852.

*On the Nature and Objects of the Argument of Butler in his "Analogy of Religion."* Aberdeen, 1855.

*Moral Evidence and its Relation to Religion*

Aberdeen, 1868.

P. J. ANDERSON.

61. THE ABERDEEN UNIVERSITIES AT FRASERBURGH AND PETERHEAD.—"Spalden says . . . the winter following [1648] the two Colleges removed out of Town; the King's from Old Aberdeen to Fraserburgh, and the Marischal's from New Aberdeen to Peterhead; where they sat all that Winter."—Gordon's *History of the Family of Gordon*, Vol. II., p. 534.—The passage quoted by Gordon does not occur in the extant portion of the "Trubles," and I can find no allusion to this exodus in the records of either King's or Marischal College. Is any other reference to the subject known to exist? The context in Gordon's *History* shows the cause of the removal to have been the prevalence of the Plague at Aberdeen. The holding of College classes for one session at Fraserburgh must not be confounded with the erection of a University there by Sir Alexander Fraser, some fifty years before. See *Notes and Queries* for 4th September, 1886.

P. J. ANDERSON.

62. PROFESSOR PATRICK COPLAND.—The just tribute to Professor Patrick Copland (p. 87), prompts the query—On what occasion did Edward Ellice speak of him in such-like terms as "the man who more fully opened the eyes of the student to this world than any teacher he had ever met?" Such at least is the view all along held of Dr. Copland by one who, exactly seventy years ago, was in his class, of sixty-six. Among them were two embryo Knight-Provosts of

Aberdeen,—Anderson and Blaikie. Dr. Copland's tall handsome figure and military gait failed not to be observed abroad, while, combined with the great powers of his mind, they secured attention and respect in the class-room.

G.

## Answers.

21. THE GROLE OF THE GARIOCH.—

"The *guele*, the Gordon, and the hoodie crow

Are the three worst faes Moray ever saw."

The above is the proper, because original, form of the distich referred to in *S. N. & Q.*, No. 6. The *guele* is a Saxonized form of the Gaelic *Sgeallac*, Wild Mustard, a most noxious weed, which in some localities becomes so rank as to choke the corn crop altogether. The elision of the letter *s*, when it stands before a consonant at the beginning of a word, is almost universal in the transformation of a Gaelic word into English or Scotch. It is often assumed, even in Gaelic derivations where it is wanting in the stem word, e.g. Meachran, *n*; Smeachranachd deriv. adj. In fact, the *s* in such a position is a non-essential letter. Now, omitting the initial *s* and the Gaelic termination *ae* or *lae*, we have the Anglicised form *geal*, which, spelt phonetically, would be as near as possible, *Guele*. This, I think, is the true derivation of the word; but, whatever the derivation be, there is no doubt that the word means wild mustard. P. H. D. states that Mar at one time boycotted the Garioch, under the fear that the seeds of this dreaded weed should be imported thence in any corn that might come from that fertile but infected district. The Garioch had quite as much need to put an embargo on seeds transported from Mar, as the following veritable story sufficiently testifies:—Charles M'Rorie, a tenant on the Abergeldie estate, in Mar, about the beginning of the present century, perceiving the similarity between the skulac or gule seed and that of the turnip (the latter being then recently introduced into the country and not very familiar to the farmers), resolved to turn an honest penny by dressing his gule seed, of which he had by far too large a quantity for his own use, and selling it to the farmers in the Garioch for turnip seed. He was successful in his first venture, but it is not to be supposed that the enterprise was equally prosperous in after years.

J. G. M.

41. PLACES NEAR ABERDEEN.—I believe that the "Auchterrony" mentioned by Dr. Gammack in connection with Prescoly, Granden, and Auchmolen, (all which he no doubt interprets correctly,) is identical with *Auchronie* in the adjacent parish of Kinellar. As to his query regarding the meaning of "cockstool," it is evidently the *cuckstule* or *cucking-stool* of former days; sometimes called the *tumbrell*.

W. R.-K.

45. SPITTAL—A MISSPELLING?—"Spittal" is undoubtedly a misspelling, or rather an example how our forefathers spelt at their own sweet will. There can be no doubt that it comes from hospital. It is worthy of note that the town on the Drave, in the

Hungarian monarchy, is spelt Spittal, while the town in Switzerland is spelt with the one *t*, Spital.

R. K.

45. In a legal process about the properties held by Moir of Stoneywood, printed about the end of the last century I think, the spelling used is Spithill. I give it more as an orthographic curiosity or a printer's blunder than as throwing any light on the query. No doubt there is a hill at Spital, but is this a condition of all the other known Spitals? If, as I think, the word is derived from the *Hospital* for lepers in that quarter, that word has simply become decapitated into 'Spital'. In the same way Lazarus Lane, in the vicinity of the Elgin Cathedral, is probably a corruption of Lazar House.

Q. E. D.

48. S. FITTICK OF NIGG.—In the beginning of the 17th century Camerarius, both in his *Kalendar* at December 26, and in his work *De Scotorum fortitudine*, pp. 168 sq., has a notice of S. Mofutacus or Monfutacus and the famous church that was dedicated to him not far from Torry. At the same time he has an account of S. Fiacrius at Aug. 29. A charter, of date 1563, refers to the fishings, &c., "intra limites vulgariter vocatos Sancti Moffettes Bay prope dictas terras de Nig." (*Illust. of Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 252). In 1658 Dr. Forbes was returned as heir to his father, William Forbes of Cottoune, in certain properties in the parish of Nigg, including fishings "within the bounds of the said lands called Saint Muffets-bay," and "all unit into the tennendrie of Kirkhill." Another service of heirs took place in 1693, and included the lands "commonly called St. Muffotsbay, near the lands of Torie." But in the beginning of the 16th century, if we may safely assign the *Litany of Dunkeld* to that date, we find a S. Futtach invoked among the confessors and monks: this is probably the same person as appears afterwards with the honorific prefix to his name in the list of Camerarius. The notices in the Statistical Accounts are curious. The *Old Statistical Account* says the church was anciently called St. Fiacer Church, and the bay was St. Fitticks Bay: the *New Statistical Account* says—"The Bay of Nigg was formerly called San Fittick's (Sanctus Fitticus,) and the church St. Fittick's Church." It would be specially interesting to know where the writer, the Rev. A. Thom, had found this special terminology. In maps said to be drawn from seventeenth century tracings, we find the Church of Nigg marked as "St. Fiacre," and this would show the tradition at that time. The legend of S. Fiacre of Meaux is sufficiently well known, and he is duly commemorated as a native of Scotland in most of the Scotch Kalendars at August 29 or 30, but though they call him son of Eugenius IV. King of Scotland, and give a graphic account of his attack of leprosy when the deputation was sent to recall him to Scotland (*Boethius Scot. Hist.*, lib. ix., f. 173), they do not mention any Scotch dedication. We have no means of explaining the matter as it stands regarding Nigg, except by either supposing the presence of some other church in the neighbourhood, or accepting the identity of the name

under different forms, with the record of the connecting link gone amissing. It is evident that Camerarius did not consider Fiacre and Mofutacus the same person, and that view we owe solely to the editor of the *View of the Diocese of Aberdeen*, (in *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 252); as the author had said, "Nigg has for its tutelar S. Fiacre, son of Eugenius IV.," &c. We can hardly imagine how Fiacre or Fiacrius could have been softened down to Fitticus, Mofutacus, Mofette, Muffot, or Musset; while, on the other hand, these latter forms are all sufficiently similar, and may only vary with the illegibility of the original manuscripts. I know of no old documents that calls S. Fiacrius patron of Nigg, but the *Martyrology of Aberdeen* suggests S. Fotinus.

JAMES GAMMACK, LL.D.

S. FOTINUS OF TORRY.—In the *Aberdeen Breviary* (*Prop. Sanct. ff. xxiii. iv.*) there are lections on the feast of S. Fotinus, Bishop and Martyr, and it is easily seen that the story is that of Pothinus, Bishop of Lyons. At his church ("a Dee fluvii conspectu in ipsius honore basilica constructa est,") many miracles were wrought, but it does not appear from the *Breviary* whether the church stood at Torry on the south, or at Fuddy on the north side of the Dee. The *Register of Arbroath*, however, informs us of the formation of Torry into a burgh of barony by James IV. in 1495: this was in honour of S. Thomas the blessed Martyr, and S. Fotinus, patron of the villa of Torry, and for the convenience and hospitality of all travellers going across the Mounth. This interprets the entry in the *Martyrology of Aberdeen* at December 23, "Ipsodie Sancti Fotine episcopi et martyris apud Neyg Sancti Andree diocesis." Setting aside the Anglicised Footdee, one cannot help tracing a connection between S. Fotinus and Fuddy, and perhaps S. Mofutacus.

JAMES GAMMACK, LL.D.

48. S. FITHACK OF NIGG.—S. Fiacre is generally considered = S. Fithack. S. Fithun I do not know, perhaps = the Irish S. Fintan. 17 Feb: If information is desired as to our old Saints I recommend Alban Butler's *Lives*, which is not a rare book, also Challenor's *Britannia Sancta*. C. S. L.

50. S. MACHAR.—In the *Civil and Ecclesiastical History of Scotland*, by the learned Rev. Thomas Innes, Spalding Club edition, p. 193, we read as follows:—"Among others of those sent by S. Columba as missionaries from Iona was the holy Bishop S. Machar, first preacher of the Gospel at Aberdeen. His Life is given in the Breviary of Aberdeen, and was annually read in that Church on his Feast, 12th November. S. Machar was of noble Irish parentage, and at first named Machonna, also Mauritius, but commonly Machar, and having been ordained a Priest, and afterwards consecrated a Bishop, was sent with twelve disciples to preach the Gospel in the northern Pictish provinces, S. Columba admonishing him to settle and erect a church upon the brink of a river where its windings formed the figure of a bishop's crozier. S. Machar went on preaching till he came to the brink of the river Don, near its entry to the sea, at a place where the river makes that figure, U'



flumen Præsulis instar baculi intrat mare, Mauritius cœpit habitare—*Breviar.*: Aberdon, 12th Nov., and there he built a church, which still bears his name. It is reported S. Machar went afterwards to Rome in the time of Gregory the Great. On his return he stopped at Tours, in France, where he died, and is buried in S. Martin's Church." It seems not unlikely that the missionaries came down the Don, and were the original cause of the various chapels, of which the remains are still to be seen on the river banks—probably the spots where they preached and baptised.

C. S. L.

52. ABERDEEN ADVOCATES. — *Robert Paisp*, admitted in 1581, is 33 in the list compiled by Kennedy, and so often referred to in *Scottish Notes & Queries*. That list commences with 1549. How long before that date the Aberdeen lawyers are styled Advocates cannot now be determined; but see page 83 of last No.

NORVAL CLYNE.

#### ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT.

THE MAIDEN STONE.—(To T. G. R.)—You will find this subject thoroughly discussed in Dr. Longmuir's *The Maydyn Stane of Bennachie*. 1869; *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, 1856-67; Dr. Davidson's *Earldom of the Garioch*, 1878; and Ferguson's *Guide to the Great North of Scotland Railway*, 1881; &c.

#### Literature.

*Inventory of the Charters, Burgh Court Books, Books of Sasines, &c., belonging to the Burgh of Cullen.*

Drawn up by WM. CRAMOND, A.M. 1887.

Banff. [Pamphlet, pp. 12, 7¼ by 5 ins.]

IT is safe to say that this brochure affords another proof that Mr. Cramond's zeal, which nowhere outruns his intelligence, is quite equal to his opportunities. Of the Royal Charters of Cullen, Mr. Cramond says, "All have been lost." Even the certified copy of the original charter of 1455 was believed to be lost, until, thanks doubtless to the diligent hand of the compiler, "it was recovered the other day in a press in the Council Chamber, among a quantity of old letters." The original is here given, accompanied by a translation, adding to the interest of the little book.—ED.

*Waifs of Rhyme.* [By WILLIAM CARNIE.] Aberdeen: J. & J. P. Edmond & Spark. 1887.

[Pp. 62, 7¾ by 4¾ in.]

MR. CARNIE has been long and favourably known as a local poet. With this impression we opened this book with much interest, but it was with some regret that we laid it down—regret that the author had not been well advised in the selection of pieces by which he has chosen to represent himself in this permanent form. The title of this tiny tome goes a long way to disarm criticism, and we frankly admit that, although the volume as a whole is a somewhat "careless ordered garden," it is partially redeemed by a few gems both in Scotch and English. *The Laird of Morkeu* has been limned with deftness, and the spirited character of *Cricket, Bat and Ball*, and *With the Fleet*, does not leave much to be desired. We are pleased to observe that the edition has been very quickly disposed of.—ED.

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It is not a mere dry record that is given. The author's style throughout is flexible and easy, and his narrative is not lacking either in force or graphic power.—*Free Press*.

The chapter on Life and Work in Iona is particularly interesting.—*Literary World*.

Mr. Leal's book will be found full of interest.—*Church Times*.

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# SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES

VOL. I.] No. II.

APRIL, 1888.

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## CONTENTS.

NOTES :—	Page
Sculptured Stone Vase found at Westhall of Oyne, Aberdeenshire, <i>illustrated</i> , .. .. .	167
Bibliography of Inverness Newspapers and Periodicals, .. .. .	168
The Aberdeen Printers, .. .. .	169
Epitaphs and Inscriptions, .. .. .	172
The Advocates in Aberdeen, No. 9, .. .. .	173
A Box of Old Vouchers, .. .. .	173
Portrait of Queen Mary at Blair's College, .. .. .	175
Some Notes on Kemnay, .. .. .	176
A Ramble on the East Coast of Buchan, .. .. .	177
Notes on Place Names, .. .. .	178
QUERIES :—	
The Pulpit Notice of Communion—Gordon of Auchendolly—Ord Family—Marischal College Motto—Caledonian Ocean—Piper's News—Faaken or Faskin—Ancient Baptismal Fonts—John Hamilton, Music-seller in Edinburgh—Skeleton at King's College—"Orcauen" and "Gedanidie"—Reek Hens, .. .. .	179
ANSWERS, .. .. .	180
LITERATURE, .. .. .	183

ABERDEEN, APRIL, 1888.

## SCULPTURED STONE VASE FOUND AT WESTHALL OF OYNE, ABERDEENSHIRE.

THE vessel, of which drawings are given in this issue of *S. N. & Q.*, is twenty inches in height and twenty inches at its greatest diameter, and weighs about a hundredweight and a half. It is of sandstone, hard of texture, and of a grayish white colour. Rusty spots appear on it, indicating that small nuggets of iron-ore are mixed through its substance. It has now only one lug or ear or handle, but has originally had two, one having been broken off and lost at a period now unknown. The lip is carefully smoothed for some inches inward, but the cavity lower down has been very roughly hollowed out, apparently with a pointed tool. The smoothness and accuracy of the round of the lip suggests that it was intended to receive a close-fitting basin. A hole perforated through the bottom was recently made to allow water to escape and to prevent the accident of its being split by frost. The smaller drawing shows the front aspect of a countenance human or bovine, which appears on two of its sides. The other carvings indicate garlands or vine branches, bearing bunches of fruit. The protuberances over the brows of the faces somewhat suggest

horns, but instead of being pointed the carving suggests a "frilled" edge as it might be of a wing.

Its history is as follows :—Between 1770 and 1805, Mr. Thomas Gray, who was tenant of the Home Farm of Westhall, in the parish of Oyne, under General Horn of Logie Elphinstone, having occasion to drain or clear out an old pond, found this vessel embedded in the mud, and it has been carefully preserved since then in the possession of Mr. Gray's descendants, first by his grand-daughter, Mrs. Thomas Sangster, and thereafter by its present owner, Mrs. George Cadenhead. Some years ago, its existence having become known to the late Bishop Forbes of Brechin, he caused it to be examined and sketched, and it is understood that he was advised that it was of pre-Christian and Pagan, probably Roman, origin. For some years past it has been deposited in Gray's Art School in Aberdeen, where it will probably remain, unless its archeological merits should call for its being removed to some more suitable place.

As for the missing lug, there are indications of white lead having been used to join on either the original or a substituted lug. When this was done is unknown, or has been forgotten.

The perfect and graceful design both of the form and carvings indicate that its maker was possessed of manual skill and a perfect perception of what he had in his mind to produce, or that he had a model before him.

It may be added, that the ponderous and robust character of the vessel seem to indicate that it had not been intended for domestic ornament, but rather that its original habitat had been in the open air.

The modern history of Westhall is that it belonged to the Church and Diocese of Aberdeen from the thirteenth century, and to the family of Horn from the Revolution. The Parish of Oyne and neighbourhood is rich in Runic monuments.

The peculiarity of the particles of iron-ore in the stone of which this vase is made may give a clue to where it was brought from. At present they are brown and rusty, but when the stone was freshly cut, it had probably shewn only groups of particles of silver-like pyrites here and there in its substance.

Perhaps some one seeing these illustrations may be able to say where anything similar is to

be found, and so help to explain how such an article should have been found in the mud at Westhall.  
GEO. CADENHEAD.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY OF INVERNESS NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

THE locale of the Bibliography of Periodical Literature is changed this month to Inverness. The compiler, Mr. Noble, Bookseller, Inverness, enjoys excellent opportunities for personal knowledge of the subject, and has been kindly aided with information by Mr. Charles Fraser-Mackintosh, M.P., and Sir Henry C. Macandrew, Inverness. The articles will thus form a reliable trilogy as it were, and serve to deepen the interest in this not unimportant branch of literature. Mr. Noble will gratefully receive any item of information bearing on the subject.—ED.

1807. *The Inverness Journal and Northern Advertiser*, 4 pages, double crown folio, price sixpence, a weekly newspaper, was the first printed in Inverness. The first number was issued in August of this year, by John Young, Printer and Bookseller. Mr. Young was publisher of several works in Gaelic and English. A fair specimen of his capabilities as a printer, and reflecting credit on his press, is the edition of *Poems, chiefly in the Scottish Language*, by Dr. Robert Couper of Keith, 2 vols., post 8vo, Inverness, 1804. Dr. Couper is author of another work, well known to Aberdeen collectors, *The Tourifications of Malachi Meldrum*, issued from the Aberdeen press. Mr. Young also published a very handsome edition of *Ossian's Poems*, Macpherson's translation. Mr. Young is said to have conducted the *Journal* himself for a little time, but early in its career the editorial chair was taken by David Carey, a native of Arbroath, who discharged the duties for nearly five years. Carey was an author of considerable versatility and ability—a poet, novelist, and successful pamphleteer. While in Inverness he published a volume of poems, printed by Mr. Young, *Craig Phadric, Visions of Sensibility, with Legendary Tales and Occasional Pieces*, 8vo. Inverness, 1810. This volume is now chiefly valuable for the notes to the piece *Craig Phadric*, containing as they do much information on the early history of Inverness. In connection with the *Journal* it may be mentioned that a younger son of Mr. Young's, Murdo Young, was long editor, and latterly proprietor, of the *London Sun* and *True Sun* newspapers. The *Journal*, about 1814, changed hands, for the numbers of that year bear the imprint that it was "published for himself and the other proprietors by James Beaton." In a few years thereafter the imprint bore as published for the proprietors by James Fraser. It was understood at that time the proprietor was really the late Lachlan Mackintosh of Raigmore, who continued the *Journal* till

his death in 1845. Raigmore had under him as sub-editors at various periods in succession, James Beaton, David (?) Stalker, and Donald Macdonald. Mr. Stalker was sub-editor at the time of a celebrated local assault case, arising out of an article which had appeared in the *Journal*, reflecting on several townsmen. The late Sheriff George Cameron of Dingwall, at that time a writer in Inverness, was put on his trial for horse-whipping the proprietor, Raigmore. Henry Cockburn (afterwards Lord Cockburn) appeared for the defence, and in his address to the jury played on the name of the sub-editor, Stalker—"that he was put forward as a stalking horse," as the writer of the offensive article. Another story connected with the same trial I have heard told by the foreman of the jury (a deceased county gentleman) that, without leaving the jury-box, he had turned round, and consulted with his fellow-jurymen for a minute, when suddenly, before some jurymen had quite made up their minds, announced that the jury by a majority found the defender not guilty. On Raigmore's death in 1845 the *Journal* was stopped for a time, but was resumed in 1846 by Donald Macdonald, but continued to be published for about two years only, when it finally ceased at his death.

1817. *The Inverness Courier, and General Advertiser for the Counties of Inverness, Ross, Moray, Nairn, Cromarty, Sutherland and Caithness*, was commenced on 4th December, 1817, and continued to be issued as a weekly newspaper from that date till August, 1880. It was then published three times a week till the end of 1885, and since the latter date it has been published twice a week. It still flourishes. The first editor was Mr. John Johnstone, husband of Mrs. Johnstone, who conducted *The Edinburgh Tales*, and authoress of *Clan Albyn*, a novel, and other works. Mrs. Johnstone contributed to the columns of the *Courier* while it was under her husband's management. Before the appointment of the late Dr. Robert Carruthers as editor, the late Mr. James Suter superintended the original matter that appeared in the *Courier*, and in its columns first appeared (1822) *The Memorabilia of Inverness*, recently reprinted in a small volume (1887) from its pages by D. Macdonald, Inverness. In 1828 Dr. Carruthers became editor, and afterwards sole proprietor. He continued to edit it till his death in 1878. He was succeeded by his son, the late Walter Carruthers, who died in 1885, and he again was succeeded by its present editor, Mr. James Barron. The London Letter of the *Courier* was for many years a feature of some note for its excellence. The first writer of this weekly budget of London Gossip in Politics, Literature, etc., was Mr. Roderick Reach, sometime a solicitor in Inverness, and who in his later years took up his residence in London, when he began contributing his weekly letter. On his death it was continued by his son, Angus Bethune Reach, one of the writers to *Punch*, and a prolific contributor to the comic and lighter literature of his time.

The late Shirley Brooks, editor of *Punch*, contributed the London letter for a year or two during the illness and till the death of Mr. Angus B. Reach.

**1836.** *The Inverness Herald.* A Weekly Newspaper. Commenced on the 15th December, 1836, and "Printed for the Proprietors by Duncan Davidson." Strongly Conservative, and ultra Protestant in Church and State. At its first start it was edited solely by the late Rev. Alexander Clark, at the time Minister of the Second Charge, Inverness. Mr. Clark was a steady contributor to the columns of the *Herald* during its ten years life, but he passed over the editorship very soon to the Rev. Simon Fraser, a probationer of the Church of Scotland, who was in time succeeded by the Rev. Donald Munro, also a probationer of the Kirk, who resigned the conducting of the *Herald* on his receiving the charge of a Presbyterian congregation at Alnwick, in Northumberland. The last editor was Mr. Charles Bond, who conducted the paper till it was discontinued in July, 1846. Mr. Bond came to Inverness from Hastings, in Sussex. He had published a small volume of Poems in that town, circa, 183(?) , entitled, *Coronalis, a Poem designed as a Memorial of the Coronation of Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria.* While acting editor of the *Herald*, at Inverness, he edited *The Reminiscences of a Clachnacuddin Nonagenarian.* Inverness, 1842. The "Nonagenarian" became afterwards well known as "The Inverness Centenarian." Bond's little work, *The Reminiscences*, became in course of a few years rather a scarce book, and when copies appeared in local sales, sold at a good price. It was republished last year (1887).

**1839-40.** *The Clachnacuddin Record.* A Weekly crown folio sheet of 4 pages of local news, and literature. I write of this periodical from recollection only. It had a brief existence—about 20 months, probably—1839-40. In 1851, turning over the old periodical stock of a local bookseller, I came on two different numbers. My recollection of its date of publication is confirmed by a townsman who in his early days had been employed in the *Herald* office, and who at that time, on nights of publication, gave a hand, both at case and press, to the printer and proprietor of the *Record.* John Maclean, the printer, was well known to the older generation of Invernessians. He had a small jobbing office in a court off the High Street, now built over by the Caledonian Banking Coy.'s offices. He was familiarly known as "Clach," derived either from his newspaper, or more probably as an Inverness boy, from the ancient stone which forms the palladium of the Burgh—"Clachnacuddin," or the "Stone of the Tubs." Curiously enough, he is not the last connected with the Inverness press who has borne this designation, as at this very time (1888) the redoubtable editor of another local newspaper is known by the popular cognomen, "Clach." After the cessation of the *Clachnacuddin Record*, Maclean gave up his jobbing office, and passed

a few years of Bohemian life about Inverness, living on some little means he possessed. During these purposeless years of his life he made his old fellow "Comp." his banker, as he could not always trust himself with the possession of his means, and in applying for any sum he needed, he always passed this characteristic cheque—"To the Agent of the Caledonian (Canal) Bank. Pay to the Editor of the *Clachnacuddin Record* the sum of—." (Signed) John Maclean, Editor." The latter years of his life John Maclean spent as a compositor on the "night shift" of a Glasgow newspaper. He died rather suddenly, a few years ago, in the Western City. Alas! poor Clach! thou wert deserving of a worthier end—the last we saw of thy open, jovial, highland face was among the gathering of a few Inverness boys in the city where he died.

**1845-46.** *Inverness and Northern Agriculturist.* A Monthly Journal. Published at the *Courier* office, Inverness, by Robert Carruthers. A demy 4to sheet. About 18 numbers were issued. Entirely devoted to articles on Agriculture. Sheep Farming, and kindred subjects. Among its chief contributors were the late James Baillie Fraser of Reelig, the celebrated Persian traveller, and the late Kenneth Murray of Geanies. The latter, on the discontinuance of the *Agriculturist*, continued his monthly article on Agriculture, &c., to the columns of the *Inverness Courier* till his death.

JOHN NOBLE.

(To be continued.)

## THE ABERDEEN PRINTERS.

EDWARD RABAN TO JAMES NICOL.

1620-1736.

(Continued from p. 153.)

I MUST now return to the work mentioned at the commencement of my last paper, and which is in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh. The title is as follows:—[Small oblong ornament along top.] | The Popes | New Years | Gifts, Anno 1622. | Containing | A Discoverie | Of the Abuses of the Romane Clergie. | Written first in Latine, by sundrie | Authors of their owne Profession : | And now translated into English, by G. L. | Roma diu titubans longis erroribus acta | Coronet, & mundi definit esse caput. | 1622 | [date within oblong ornament, with rose and thistle on either side]. Printed at Saint Andrewes, By | Edward Raban, Dwelling in the | Kirke-Wynde, At the Signe of | The A.B.C. The work is a quarto, printed in roman letter. The collation is 4 ll + A—D<sup>4</sup>. The first and last leaves are wanting, probably they were blank, l2, Title, verso, "Psalme Lxviii., verse 1, God will arise," &c., ll3—4 [pp. 4], "The Printer to the Pope, and the rest of the Romane Clergie," A 1—D 3, "The Pope's New Year. 1622."



In the work described by me in the *Aberdeen Printers*, p. 2, as printed by Raban at St. Andrews in 1620, the printing office is stated to be situated "in the South-street of the Citie," but in the book just noticed it is "in the Kirke-Wynde." In the latter office he retains "The Signe of The A.B.C." which he adopted in Edinburgh, but which he abandoned for that of "The Townes Armes" on coming to Aberdeen.

It is in the address of "The Printer to the Pope" that the autobiographical scraps concerning Raban are found, and these to a certain extent fill up the gap between the time of his serving as a soldier in the Low Countries, and that of his first appearance in Scotland as a printer. It will be observed that he says he was a stranger in Scotland, and that he had lived many years amongst those whom he addresses. Now the presumption is that, in 1620, he came to Edinburgh direct from the Continent, and this to a certain extent would account for his ignorance as to whether his uncle, Peter Raban, the Parson of Melton-Mowbray, was alive when he wrote his "Resolution against Drunkenness," from which I quoted so largely in my former paper.

Raban writes as follows:—

"Yet I trust the jangling of my Presse shall be heard a great way, even from Sainct-Andrewes in Scotland, to Rome in Italie: eyther to convert confound, or at least disturbe your selfe and confederates. Now, it may bee asked by some of ours and marvelled at by some of yours, why I should presume in such homelie wise to dedicate this mine unlearned Epistle, unto such a learned and holy Patron? But indeede there are manie occasions which mooue me thereunto, of the which, because I will not be tedious, I shall incert here only a few: First, Because I my self am a stranger in this Soyle, and having many years frequented amongst you, there may be perhaps some Atheists amongst our selves, who suspect mee to bee a Papist. And againe there may bee perchance some amongst you who hoped that I was on your side, & expected my societie. But let this suffice to certifie every mans opinion concerning my Religion: for as well the Papist as the Atheist, the Arminian as the Annabaptist, &c. I detest as the Devil himselfe, who is all their Author. But yet before I leaue, I must tell your Hole-liness what were the first occasions, even from mine Infancie, why I could not settle my fancie in your Religion: After that I had served the worthis Estates of Holland, full ten years in their tedious Warres, I resolved to travell farther, and see fashions: then I tooke my journey from Ryneberke, towards Colonia Agrippina: and then forward to Mentz, Frankford, Worms, Frankendale, Spiere, Straes-

burgh, &c. where I founde companie who were bowne to visite the holie Citie of Rome, and I resolved to goe with them: but when wee came to the Alpes, I was constrained to turne backe againe, with certaine English Gentlemen, who came from Rome: and because their Guide was dead by the way they hyred me, and I convoyed them through all Germanie, even to Hamburg, visiting all the faire Cities, and the Churches as we went. And when we came into a Papish Church, it was delicately decored, with faire Images, and burning Torches and Lampes at noone dayes: but the Lutherians were nothing so braue: as for the Calvinists, they durst not preach within three mile of any Towne. Then againe I behelde the Papish Priest, he ate and drunke the Sacramentall Bread and Wyne him selfe alone, and gaue the people nothing, till all was done, & then hee came, and sprinkled them with water: but the Lutherians were better fellows, the Priest gaue every one as much as he tooke himselfe: and the Calvinists dealed it amongst themselves. . . . Thus I most humbly take my leave, at this time, beseeching you all favourablie to accept this my New Yeares Gift, even with as good will as I send it you: expecting none other recompence, but that you put in practise. And so fare yee well: Sent from Scotland, out of my Typographical Muse, at Sainct Andrewes, unto the Citie of Rome, in Italie. The first of Ianuarie 1622. Yours to bee commanded, In the Lord Iesus,

EDUARDUS RABANUS,  
Anglo Britannus, Gente Germanus."

It may be useful to glance at one or two circumstances which are in a measure explained by these recent discoveries. In my sketch of the life of the printer I wrote—"Whether Raban resigned, or was ejected from his office of printer to the Town and University, still remains unsolved." Now, if we consider that in 1600 he must have been a man of from 20 to 25 years of age, at the lowest estimate he would have been an aged man in 1649, when his successor was appointed. This fact, together with the honourable burial which he received in 1658, points to our first printer having resigned his office on account of advanced age, rather than to his having been supplanted for misconduct or for holding opinions not in favour with the ruling powers.

I shall now enumerate the books printed by Raban in Aberdeen, so far as they are additions, corrections, or amplifications of those described in the *Aberdeen Printers*.—

1623.

CATECHESIS. Catechesis | Religionis | Christianæ:  
| Quæ in Ecclesiis et Scholis Palatinatus sub | Fre-  
derico III. Electore tradebatur | Marc. VIII. | Qui  
erubuerit me, & sermones meos, in generatione | hac

adulteria & peccatrice: hunc erubescet etiam | filius hominis, cum venerit in gloria Patris sui, cum sanctis Angelis. | [Woodcut of the Fox.]

Aberdonie, Excudit Eduardus Rabanus, | Impensis Davidis Melvill, 1623. |

8°. A—C in eights. A1 Title, verso blank, A2—C2, pp. 4-36 (p. 4 is on A2<sup>b</sup>) Catechesis; C 3—8, pp. 38-48 (p. 38 is on C3<sup>b</sup>) Preces.

This is an earlier edition of the work than that noticed in the *A. P.*, pp. 59-60, which is dated 1637, and is also from the press of Raban.

*Cathedral Library, Lincoln.*

## 1626.

PSALMS. The | Psalms | Of David | In Metre, | According as they are | sung in the Church | of Scotland. | Ephes. 5. 18.19. [Quoted]. [Woodcut of David enthroned and playing the harp.]

Imprinted at Aberdene, by | Edward Raban, for Da- | vid Melvill. 1626. |

12° A—H in sixes. *Collation.* A1<sup>a</sup> Title within woodcut border, A1<sup>b</sup> The Argument, A2—H2<sup>a</sup> The Psalms, H2<sup>a</sup>—3<sup>b</sup> The Lord's Prayer—The Believe—The ten Commandments—The song of Marie—The song of Simeon, &c., in metre, H 4—6 Sundry Prayers. The type is small; there are two columns to the page, and the paper is thin.

*Glasgow University Library.*

*Communicated by John Young, Jun. Esq.*

## 1628.

LYNDSAY, *Sir David.* The | Workes | Of The | Famous, and vworthis Knight, | Sir David Lindesay | Of The Movnt, | alias Lion, King of | Armes. | Truelie corrected, and vindicated from the former | Errours, and now justly printed according to the | Author's true Copie: with sundrie thinges | adjoynd here-vnto agayne, which | absurdie were omitted in the | Impressions printed | here-to-fore. | Iob VII. | Militia est vita Hominis super Terram. | Vivet etiam post funera virtus. |

Aberdene, | ¶ Imprinted by Edward Raban, for | David Melvill. 1628. |

8°. Black letter; title and contents in roman characters. A—X<sup>a</sup>. A1<sup>a</sup> Title, A1<sup>b</sup> Contents, A2—X8 pp. 4-336 (p. 4 on A2<sup>b</sup>.) The Works. With paging, catchwords, and signatures. See the *A. P.*, pp. 28-29.

*Huth Library.*

## 1630.

BEVIS of Hampton. The Historie of | Sir Bevis of South- | Hampton. |

Printed in Aberdene | by Edvard Raban, For | David Melvill. 1630. |

8°. Black letter. A—I<sup>a</sup>. A1<sup>a</sup> Title, A1<sup>b</sup> rude woodcut of Lion rampant, A2—I8 pp. 4-143 (p. 4 on A2<sup>b</sup>) The Historie. With paging, catchwords, and signatures. See the *A. P.*, pp. 32-33.

*Huth Library.*

## 1631.

CRAIG, *Alexander.* The | Pilgrime | And Here- | mite, | In forme of a Dialogue, | By Master Alex- | ander Craig. | [Largest woodcut of the Fox.]

Imprinted in Aberdene, By Edward | Raban, for David Melvill. 1631. |

4°. Black letter. ¶<sup>a</sup>, A—D<sup>a</sup>. ¶1<sup>a</sup> Title, ¶1<sup>b</sup> blank, ¶ 2 pp. [2] "To The Right Honov- | rable, Wyse, And Ver- | tuouslie disposed Gentleman, | William Forbes of Tolqvhon. |" Epistle Dedicatorie, in italic type, signed Robert Skene. A—D4<sup>a</sup> The Pilgrime and Heremite. D4<sup>b</sup>, Woodcut of a harp, with "Orpheus Fiddle", in largest black letter, above the woodcut. There is no paging, but there are catchwords and signatures. Signature B is wanting in the only copy known. See the *A. P.*, p. 37.

*Britwell.*

NEW TESTAMENT. 38 leaves, not numbered, being sigs. Nn 2—Rr 7; they comprise the text from the middle of James i. 25, "but a doer of the worke", to the end of Revelation on Rr 7<sup>b</sup>, at the foot of which is the imprint:—

Imprinted in ABERDENE, by  
EDWARD RABAN, 1631.

It is the Royal Version, in black letter (except the summaries prefixed to the chapters, which are in roman,) with 36-37 lines to the page.

Calculating from the signatures of this surviving portion, there can be no doubt that it is a fragment of the New Testament merely, and not of the whole Bible. See the *A. P.*, p. 197.

*Glasgow University Library.*

*Communicated by John Young, Jun., Esq.*

## 1639.

GUILD, *William.* To the Nobilitie, Gentrie, | Burrowes, Ministers, and | others of this late Combi- | nation in Covenant, | A Friendly and | Faythfull Ad- | vice; | That the Event of this Great Con- | vention, June 6, may through | God's Blessing, tend to His | Glorie, and the Peace | both of Chvrch and | King- | dome. | By Doctor William Guild, sworne Chaplaine | to His Sacred Majestie, and Mi- | nister in Aber- | denne. |

Printed in Aeerdene, (*sic*) by Edward Raban, 1639. | With speciall Commandement. |

4°. A and B, 2 leaves each. A1<sup>a</sup> Title, 1<sup>b</sup> Woodcut of Aberdeen Arms, A2<sup>a</sup>—B2<sup>a</sup> pp. 4-7 (p. 4 is on A2<sup>b</sup>) A Friendly Advice, B2<sup>b</sup> is blank. See the *A. P.*, p. 71.

*Free Church College Library, Aberdeen,  
Thomson Collection.*

## 1649.

GUILD, *William.* The Old Roman Catholik—Two additional leaves at end of Glasgow Univ. copy, forming "A Table of the Controversies contained in this Treatise", followed by a short list of Errata. See the *A. P.*, pp. 80-81.

*Communicated by John Young, Jun., Esq.*

J. P. EDMOND.

62 Bon-Accord Street, Aberdeen.

(To be continued.)

Messrs. D. Wyllie & Son have just issued a representation of the Aberdeen University Arms and Motto [9 × 11 in.] It is well executed in chromo lithography, and will form a desirable object with the many who are interested in this now venerable Alma Mater.—ED.

EPITAPHS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN  
ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH AND  
CHURCHYARD.

DRUM'S AISLE.

(Continued from page 155.)

IMMEDIATELY above the south entrance to the West Church there is a very large monument with the following inscription relating to members of the Gregory family:—

Juxta hunc parietem | conduntur reliquiae | Elizabethae | filiae Gulielmi xiii. domini Forbes | conjugis amatae Joannis Gregory M.D., R.S.S. | primo in Collegio Regis Aberdonensi | postea in academia Edinburgensi | medicinae professoris meritissimi | medici regii apud Scotos primarii | foeminae lectissimae | forma ingenio virtute pietate | praestantis | suis quam maxime carae | civibus flebilis | quae annum agens xxxiii | obiit puerpera iii Cal. Oct. A.D. M.DCCLXI. Hic quoque filius ejus | Jacobus Gregory M.D. Reg. Soc. Edin. Soc. | medicinae academia Edinburgensi professor | et medicus regius apud Scotos primarius | qui puer moeroris adhuc nescius | justa persolverat matri carissimae | post annos LII jam senex et malorum non ignarus | gaudens tamen cum conjuge et liberis | hos fines et urbem revisere natalem | astantibus quatuor ex filiis | et flentium amicorum corona | eadem moerens persolvit justa | filiae suae natu maximae Jane Macleod | suavissimae puellae summæ spei | patris deliciis matris animæ dimidio | acerba morte raptæ anno ætatis VIII | VI Cal. Sept. A.D. M.D.CCCXIII.

ΘΝΗΤΑ ΤΑ ΤΩΝ ΘΝΗΤΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΝΤΑ  
ΠΑΡΕΠΧΕΤΑΙ ΗΜΑΣ  
ΗΝ ΔΕ ΜΗ ΑΛΛ ΗΜΕΙΣ ΑΥΤΑ ΠΑΡΕΠΧΟΜΕΘΑ.

[Near this wall are interred the remains of Elizabeth, daughter of William, 13th Lord Forbes, the beloved wife of John Gregory, M.D., F.R.S., a distinguished Professor of Medicine, first in King's College, Aberdeen, afterwards in the University of Edinburgh, His Majesty's principal physician in Scotland—a woman most admirable, excelling in beauty, in intellect, in virtue, in piety; to her own friends most dear, by her fellow citizens lamented; who died in childbed in her thirty-third year, 29th Sept., 1761. Here also her son James Gregory, M.D., F.R.S.E., Professor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh, and His Majesty's principal physician in Scotland—who when a boy, as yet a stranger to sorrow, had paid the just dues to his beloved mother—after fifty-two years, now an old man, and not unacquainted with misfortunes, but glad to revisit with his wife and children this district and his native city, surrounded by four of his sons and a circle of weeping friends, did sorrowing pay the same just dues to his eldest daughter Jane Macleod, a child most winsome, of highest promise, her father's delight, her mother's other soul, by cruel death snatched away in the eighth year of her age, 27th August, 1813.

“Mortal the things are of mortals, and all from us quickly are passing;  
Or, if this be not so, we sure are passing from them.”]

John Gregory was the third member of this distinguished Aberdeen family who held the professorial Chair of Physic in King's College. His father, James, son of the inventor of the reflecting telescope, and Mary Jamesone, held the appointment from 1725-31; his brother James, from 1731 to October, 1755; and, on the latter's death, John received the appointment, which he held till 1764, when he resigned. Two years later, he was elected Professor of Physic in the University of Edinburgh, in which he was succeeded at his death (10th February, 1773), by his eldest son. James, whose eldest daughter is commemorated on the tablet, held the Professorship till his death in 1821. Sir Walter Scott, in his introduction to *Rob Roy*, informs us that the noted freebooter claimed kinship with the Gregories, who originally belonged to the clan Macgregor, and, on one occasion, enjoyed the hospitality of the Professor for several days. Before leaving, Rob, wishing to return in some measure the kindness he had received at his cousin's hand, addressed him with reference to his son James, then about eight or nine years of age, as follows:—“My dear kinsman, I have been thinking what I could do to shew my sense of your hospitality. Now, here you have a fine spirited boy of a son, whom you are ruining by cramming him with your useless book-learning; and I am determined, by way of manifesting my great good will to you and yours, to take him with me and make a man of him.” It is needless to say that this kind (sic) offer was not accepted, although the declining was a matter of great delicacy, and that James pursued his book-learning with such success that he was appointed his father's successor, as already noted.

On the west wall of the Aisle, there is a large board which formerly hung in the old session-house, on which is painted a list of the names of the various donors who left gifts or mortified money for the kirk and the poor of the parish. The list is too long to give here *in extenso*, but it may be stated that the dates of the gifts range from 1616 to 1792, and are seventy-four in number.

There is likewise preserved in the Aisle some very good specimens of the black-oak sittings of the old church in use at the time when the congregation had to supply seats for themselves. One of these is a six-seated form, along the back of which is the following inscription:—THIS . SEAT . APOINTED . FOR . THE . BAXTERIS . AND . ERECTED . BE . THAM . 1607, and in the six panels forming the back are the initials D. G. I. I. I. L. D. K. V. A. I. G. From the fact that the existing books of the Baker Trade do not begin till 1632 it is difficult to trace the names of the parties whose initials are here

given, but from a list of Deacons prefixed to the first minute book of the trade there is every reason to suppose that the initials I. L. refer to John Lumsden, Deacon on several occasions from 1594—1616, and that D. K. is David Kempt, elected Deacon on four occasions between 1601—9.

Another, with five panels has, in the centre panel, below a knight's helmet and mantelling, a shield, ermine, with a stag's head between two mullets in chief with the motto "Concordia vincit," and below this the initials W. C. The remaining panels, with one exception, which has the initials I. W. twice repeated, are filled in with carved ornamentation. Carved on the back of a chair, are the names of John Peire, John Etershank, Alex. Charles, denoting that the seat was the common property of all three, as was doubtless the case with other two seats, having carved on them the initials E. B. I. F. and I. C. K. M. I. M. respectively. ALEX. M. MUNRO.

### THE ADVOCATES IN ABERDEEN.

#### No. 9.

AMONG the "Duties of Procurators" specially recognized by the Aberdeen Advocates (see last No.) was that of relieving "the distressed and oppressed." A notable instance of the fulfilment of this duty occurred in 1781, and is the subject of the following letters, (translated from the French,) addressed to "S<sup>r</sup>. George Forbes, Avocat, a Aberdeen, en Ecosse," by Frederick the Second, (the Great,) King of Prussia, and his Ambassador at the British Court. They refer to the exertions of Mr. Forbes on behalf of a Prussian shipmaster and his crew.

#### I. FROM THE KING.

I duly received the letter which you wrote me the sixth of October, and see by its contents that one of my subjects named Tonges Rolofs Jansen, an inhabitant of my province of East Friesland, while trading with his ship in Merchandize not prohibited to a neutral owner, has been taken and carried into Aberdeen, and illtreated by a Scotch Privateer contrary to the general law of nations, and that he has not been able to obtain his release, nor satisfaction, nor Justice, notwithstanding all your exertions on his behalf. I have been (and indeed you had reason to believe I would be) very much concerned to hear of such manifest injustice done to one of my subjects, altho' of no high rank; but I am not the less sensible of your generous proceeding; and I am really affected to find, that a stranger, as you are to me, should have taken in hand, without any private view, the defence of oppressed innocence against the injustice of your own Country. I therefore hasten to return you my thanks, and express to you my grateful acknowledgment, as well as the esteem and the particular value which I entertain of such uncommon virtue. If a man of a

similar way of thinking stood in need of any other reward, it would be a pleasure to me, and my duty, to bestow it on him. I have not delayed the communication of your letter to my Minister at London, the Count Lusi; and have given him positive orders to make the strongest representations to His Britannic Majesty's Ministers, to get at last the releasement of the unfortunate Jansen and his men; and to obtain full and speedy justice for him. I expect it the more, as I have taken the most equitable measures, by publishing two Declarations, of which a printed copy is enclosed, that my Subjects, during the course of the present war, shall only carry on an innocent Commerce, entirely conformable to the Law of Nations, and no ways prejudicial to any of the belligerent powers; making use only of the liberty natural and customary to neutral countries. As to the rest I recommend the unfortunate Jansen to your further assistance, and I pray God to have you in His holy keeping.

(Signed) FREDERIC.

Berlin, 17th November, 1781.

#### 2. FROM THE PRUSSIAN AMBASSADOR.

Sir, it is with sincere pleasure that I execute the orders of the King my Master in sending you inclosed his answer to your Letter. I am fully persuaded that he himself will tell you how much he is sensible of your generous proceedings. The interest which he takes in the concerns of the meanest of his subjects, and his love of Justice, must have made him admire that noble manner of thinking which you have manifested in the affair of poor Jansen. I would willingly tell you, Sir, the effect it made on me; I would also offer you my services; but to the thanks and applause of a Great King, who is such a judge of merit, I dare not add anything. Only it is necessary for my own satisfaction, that I conclude with assuring you how entirely and sincerely, I shall always be, with much esteem,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,  
(Signed) COMTE LUSI.

London, 4th December, 1781.

P.S.—I am well convinced that you will finish your business, by employing the means which I have pointed out to you by the Consul Mr. Fridag, to make the Pirate pay all the Expenses and Damages, in order that the Vessel may proceed on her voyage.

At a General Meeting of the Advocates, on 31st January, 1783, it was resolved that these letters should be preserved among the records of the Society, "as honourable to Mr. Forbes," and translations engrossed in the Sederunt Book. The exertions of Mr. Forbes were ultimately successful.

NORVAL CLYNE.

### A BOX OF OLD VOUCHERS.

"I'm sure there can be nothing to interest you there," remarked a somewhat prosaic friend to me as I was turning over a quantity of old vouchers and accounts in a box in Trades Hall the other day. "You would be surprised," I re-

marked. "Just wait a little and I will give you as much insight into the kind of houses our forefathers lived in two hundred years ago, and their mode of life, as you will get from reading the whole *Statistical Account of Scotland*." I checked my friend's incredulity as to the value of the "orra papers," as he termed them, by playing the pawn of Curiosity. "You are a carpenter, and I have no doubt you would like to know the kind of repairs that were made on houses in the Shiprow and Netherkirkgate about two hundred years ago." To this he readily assented, and from the rather forbidding writing we soon spelt out the following items:—

Item for mending of Issobell Mills hous, for clay and warkmanship.....	£0 12 4*
Item for sex hundreth divots for mending of Thomas and Issobell Milles houses, at 9s. the 100, is.....	2 14 0
Item payet the workmen for on laying of the divots and dressing of both houses is	1 12 0
Item I coft from James Andersone burgess ane portisch daill for ane dor heid to Ellspet Shand hir hous.....	1 6 8
Item payet to Alexander Charells, wricht, for macking of the said dor heid.....	0 12 0
Item payet for sex hundreth divats to Thomas Lumsden his hous and four hundreth to Elspet Robertstone hir hous, at 9s. the hundreth.....	4 10 0
Item payet to Thomas Lumsden for on laying of them on his hous & his w <sup>th</sup> prods is	1 12 4
Item for ane Tabell to Alex. Charells to Thomas Mill peinator macker his hous is	6 13 4
Item for biging of ane dyck to the hospital payet be me to James Mathewson with fyve men with him the 14th day of March 1654.....	4 0 0
Item payet be me to Thomas Smith for twelff gaing of salt fail with fyve horses is.....	3 0 0
Item for ane singel tre to the said hous (Robert Wilson's) ten shilling scottis...	0 10 0
Item given to Georg Mill for thycking of the said hous and his said servand.....	3 6 0
Item two thousand divots for Repairing of Walter Wary his hous at 9s. the 100...	9 0 0
Item for prods.....	1 4 0
Item given to Georg Mill and his men for thycking of the said hous.....	4 0 0
Item for 4 gaing of hedder for riging cheaff to the said hous.....	0 12 0
Mair for 4 disone of shirals for riging of the said hous.....	0 12 0

By this time my friend had become thoroughly interested, and some of his comments were highly amusing. "There's been little work for slaters in those days, that's plain. 'Divots' and 'timmer prods' seem to have been more common than Portdinnerick and slate nails, that's clear. The houses must have been little but

'thackit biggins,' such as you will get in the Highlands of Scotland now, and," he concluded with a sigh, "the men were easy paid in those olden days." We then read on:—

Item given to Alexander Moir, smith, for macking of ane pair of bands and mending of the locks of Thomas Lumsden his hous.....	£0 14 0
Item given to Androw Straquhen, glaser, for mending of Thomas Mills hous.....	£1 4 0
Item given Alexander Charells, wricht, for macking of ane doubl bell dor to the guard hous.....	1 10 0
Item given to Alexander Moir, smith, for ane pair of bands.....	1 6 8
Item given to Alexander Georg, elder, for ane lock to the said dor.....	0 16 0
Item ane hundreth plentorn nails.....	0 12 0
Item ane dosen of doubell plentorn nails....	0 2 0
Item for tacking the filth out of the said hous	0 4 0
Item payed for laying of Elspet Robertstone's hous hir chairges with morter and stones and workmen's chairges.....	1 0 0

Here also are a few items that will give some idea of what lawyers' charges were about the middle of the seventeenth century (1653-4):—

Item payet to William Chalmer the clerk for writing ane pet <sup>o</sup> to Walter Darg his hous.....	£1 10 0
Item for getting of Infestment of Walter Darg his hous given to the town clerk is	0 13 8
Item given the town's officier at that tyme..	0 12 0
Item spent with Bailey Colison and the town's clerk at the said infestment.....	1 7 0
Item payet to the town's clerk for four seissings.....	20 0 0
Item given to his man Alex. Bruce for his paines.....	3 0 0
Item desbursed in David Sinclair's hous at the tacking the infestment with the founder (Dr. Guild) bailey Colisone, and the town's clerk being present with Alex. Williamstone and Alexandar's clerk.....	3 10 0
Mair given the officiers.....	1 10 0

To finish up, let me read you an account of what a Convener's dinner cost in 1742":—

*Account of the charge and entertainment at the Election of the Convener:—*

1742.

Nov. 6. To 7 chopins Rum at 14d. p. chopin.....	£4 18 0
To one bottle Lemon Juse.....	1 4 0
To 2 lbs. shougar.....	0 16 0
To 3 dosen pypes.....	0 9 0
To ½ lib. Tobacco.....	0 10 0
To 4 doz. bottles alle.....	3 12 0
To 5 libs. candle.....	1 5 0
To bread.....	0 19 6
To George Mille for meat.....	3 12 6
To two bottles of shiry.....	1 10 0

£18 16 0

\* All the amounts quoted represent Scots money.

My friend and I then parted, after a frank admission on his part that old vouchers were not so uninteresting after all, a verdict in which most readers of *S. N. & Q.* will perhaps agree.

Aberdeen.

E. B.

◆

### PORTRAIT OF QUEEN MARY AT BLAIRS COLLEGE

ALMOST simultaneously with the issue of the February number of *S. N. & Q.* there appeared in the columns of the *Times* the following very interesting letter from Mr. George Scharf, the Director of the National Portrait Gallery, South Kensington. I would suggest it is well worthy of preservation in the pages of a periodical published in that part of the Kingdom which can boast the possession of what is undoubtedly one of the most interesting, as well as most authentic, portraits of the Queen of Scots.

I found, after reading my last communication in your columns that I had omitted to mention the portrait at Cobham-hall, which Mr. Scharf had called attention to, some years ago, in an admirable paper on the proved genuine portraits of Queen Mary, which he read before the Antiquarian Society of London.

C. E. DALRYMPLE.

Sir,—The approaching anniversary of the death of Mary Queen of Scots may be the most appropriate time to request your powerful aid in recovering a missing portrait of that unfortunate Queen, apparently a large full length, with a representation of her execution in the background.

According to a description that has been preserved of it, the painting bears affinity to three compositions already known of Mary in the dress in which she went to execution, and which may be regarded as memorial pictures. The first of these is in the Royal collection at Windsor Castle, where it was seen and described by Dr. Forzoni in 1684; the second at Blair's College formerly at Douai, in the Scots College, to which it had been bequeathed in 1620 by Elizabeth Curle; and the third at Cobham-hall, the seat of the Earl of Darnley, where it appears in an inventory dated 1672. The picture now inquired for had been in the possession of the Earl of Godolphin, and was last seen in 1803.

The following extracts supply all that is known of the composition and history of the picture:—

A writer, signing himself "D. H.," in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for June, 1807, page 535, states that about two years previously a whole length portrait of Mary Queen of Scots in the dress which she wore at her execution was sold by Mr. Christie in the collection of pictures belonging to the Earl of Godolphin. But the writer does not give any information respecting the purchaser, or express any desire to know what had become of the painting.

He proceeds, however, to describe the portrait in all its details, having, no doubt, examined it very closely, and begins by a quotation from the often-

repeated account of the Queen's dress and execution sent from Fotheringay, to Lord Burghley, printed in the *History of Fotheringay*, from the Harleian manuscripts, 290. This, he states, perfectly accords with the picture in question.

He then describes the interesting accessories, without appearing to be aware of the existence of other pictures like it. He gives all the inscriptions *in extenso*, and they correspond exactly with those on the other memorial pictures.

He next adds, also from his own careful observation, the following very interesting description of the distant figures and the execution. After noticing "the arms and supporters of Scotland" which occupy the upper left hand corner of the canvas, he proceeds:—

Under these, in the midway, a representation of her execution. The Queen kneeling at the block, on a short low scaffold and cushion, in her petticoat and kirtle and the Corpus Christi cloth pinned corner wise, which one of her women had done up fast in the caul of her head. Over her an executioner (in a black jacket and long white apron) lifts up a short battle axe or halbert, like the longer ones held by the guards; behind the two commissioners, the Earl of Kent and Shrewsbury, each holding white staves. Before her stands Dean Fletcher reading the service in a book, and six gentlemen behind him. Over this scene in capitals "Aula Fodringham." Behind the Queen two larger figures of her women, one having her hands folded on her breast and (the other) in her hand an handkerchief."

In all these pictures the number and action of the figures connected with the execution are varied. The Cobham picture contains the greatest number of figures—six persons stand behind the one with a book, and there are more guards holding halberds. In the Windsor and Blairs pictures not more than four persons stand behind the man with a book or paper. The latter figure, which in the Cobham picture is that of a young man in a cloak in a falling band, appears to be in the act of writing. In the Windsor one it is that of an elderly man, with pointed beard and full ruff, holding forth a paper with a warrant, his head being in profile to the left, looking direct at the executioner. The two earls carry short staves, like truncheons, and connected with them is another dignitary, probably the lieutenant of the county, holding a roll. The Dean of Peterborough, Fletcher, may in all the pictures be recognized as a venerable man, in gray beard and hair, looking upwards, with his hands raised in supplication. He wears a small collar in contrast to all the rest, who wear large round ruffs, including the guards. The kneeling figure of Mary, with the white handkerchief round her head, wears a pink bodice, and her skirt or petticoat is black and richly-patterned, corresponding with the skirt of the large central figure.

The names of the two women are seen only in the Blairs picture, and they appear over their heads in conspicuously large white characters. In the Cobham picture, between the coat of arms and the distant figures, is a large arch, giving the effect of the execution taking place in a distant apartment.

In the Blairs picture the shield of arms and the supporters, with the pendant collar of St. Andrew, are on a larger scale and occupy a wider space.

The levels of the heads of the distant figures in the three pictures vary. In the Windsor one they are strangely high, so much so that the words *Aula Fodringham* are intersected by the base of the Ayla

crucifix held in Mary's right hand, and by the head of the executioner's uplifted axe.

The very large, round, wheel-like ruff which the Queen here wears is not seen in any other of her authentic portraits. It appears to be the first of a fashion which continued for a long time, and prevailed late in Holland, as we see in some of Rembrandt's finest portraits, both male and female.

The writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* gives no indication of the size of the picture, and the very moderate price at which it was sold at Christie's would lead to a doubt whether the picture was on the same scale as the others.

I have been favoured by Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods with the particulars of the sale, giving the exact date, and showing that a longer period had elapsed after the sale than the writer "D. H.," in 1807, had imagined. The following are the particulars from the King-street catalogue:—"Lord Godolphin's Sale, June 6, 1803.—Lot 60.—The portrait of the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots, whole length, a very curious picture. Sold for £5 5s. to Woodburn."

Pictures of that class, it will be remembered, did not at that period command high prices. The subject was a gloomy one, and, if it equalled the Windsor or Cobham pictures in size, would only be suited to a large hall, chapel, or public building. Mr. Woodburn, the purchaser, was a distinguished collector and picture dealer, having large transactions on the Continent, and it is quite possible that the Godolphin picture has found a resting-place abroad. But if at all within reach I feel confident that, if you will kindly give insertion to this letter, the vast circulation and influence of *The Times* will prove the best means of leading to discovery.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
GEORGE SCHARF.

National Portrait Gallery, Jan. 30.

P.S.—Having treated of the latest portrait of Queen Mary (for I regard as spurious all pictures of the severed head on a charger), I would ask your leave at some future opportunity to make a few observations on the earlier portraits of the Queen, especially with a view to calling attention to a Scottish portrait which has not, as it seems to me, hitherto received sufficient consideration.

#### SOME NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF KEMNAY.

THE Earl of Angus died in 1591, in the 95th (not 59th, as in No. 7) year of his age. He was buried in the family vault of the lairds of Glenberrie, which formed the chancel end of the old kirk of that parish. His monument, erected by his widow, the Countess Egedia, is highly ornamented, and bears a Latin inscription. The Countess was a daughter of Graham of Morphie. His eldest daughter, Margaret, was married to William Forbes of Monymusk; the second, Elisabeth, to Sir Alexander Gordon of Cluny; the youngest, Sarah, to Robert Strachan, younger of Thornton.

The Earl of Angus' second son, Robert, carried on the Kemnay and Glenberrie line. Sir Robert's son, William, was created a baronet of Nova Scotia, and was the last Douglas of Kemnay. Five generations of Douglasses owned Kemnay and Glenberrie in succession. Sir William's sister was married to Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, one of whose descendants became heir in 1688.

In 1624 Sir William disposed Kemnay to Sir Thomas Crombie. Sir Thomas held the office of Sheriff of Aberdeenshire in 1633-4. He suffered severely as an anti-Covenanter. Spalding says—"Diverse companies of lowlanders were sent out to plunder and spoilzie the place of Kemnay, pertaining some time to umquhile Sir Thomas Crombie, a faithful servant to Huntly and to his name, where they brake up gates and doors, gat 6000 merks of money, destroyed the haill plenishing, plundering the girnals and ground vigorously. Towards the end of 1639. Sir Thomas makes his way to the King." The same historian records that in June, 1640, Thos. Crombie, being absent in England, his place of Kemnay is taken in, his girnals broken up, and store of victuals taken out and parted among the soldiers. Sir Thomas was a liberal benefactor to various objects in the "braif toon." Sir Thomas died about 1644. A few years afterwards the estate was sold to Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie, whose son retained it until 1682.

Sir George Nicolson bought Kemnay in 1682. He was the son of an Aberdeen merchant, and was called to the Scottish bar in 1661. He was made a Judge of Session in 1682, taking the title of Lord Kemnay from his newly acquired property. Some interesting notices of Sir George's family appears in *S. N. & Q.*, No. 8. Sir George Nicolson sold Kemnay in 1688 to Thomas Burnett, second son of James Burnett of Craigmyle. James Burnett and other members of the family were supporters of the Covenant.

There is a tradition that when Mr. Burnett, the first of Kemnay, came in 1688 to see the property, which had been purchased for him by a friend, he was greatly disappointed with it. His visit was paid at a very inauspicious time. A rapid thaw, after a violent snow-storm, had converted the then undrained fields into an expanse of water. He had ascended an eminence from whence a good view was to be obtained. The sight, however, made him shed tears. He exclaimed bitterly, "Alas! I have thrown my money into a pool of water." Moreover, it may be here added, that, in any circumstances, Kemnay House must have then looked very desolate, it being simply a castle on a small knoll in the midst of a peat moss. This first laird did not

take up his residence in the parish. He died the same year, and his widow did not long survive him.

Thomas Burnett was succeeded by a son of the same name, who distinguished himself in the literary and political history of the day. He was a man distinguished for his learning and talents, and eminent for his Christian character, being a friend of the great Leibnitz, with whom he resided for a time at Hanover in Germany. In consequence of his political opinions he was at one time imprisoned in the Bastille. Some of his manuscripts are still at Kemnay House. But it is to George Burnett, first Provost of Inverurie, born in 1714, that the honour is due of having improved the estate of Kemnay. He was an active, energetic man, and an enthusiastic agricultural improver. He is said to have been the first farmer in the county of Aberdeen to grow turnips in the field. He drained and improved 130 acres, of which between 90 and 100 were moor and marsh. Nor was this an easy task, for the ground was full of stones, many of which were so large that they had to be blown up by gunpowder. He may be said to have made the grounds of Kemnay House, which under his care became the most beautiful in Scotland.

Lord Kames, in his *Gentleman Farmer*, 1776, notices that "at the seat of Mr. Burnett of Kemnay there is a kitchen garden, a flower garden, and a wilderness of trees, indigenous and exotic, all in a peat moss." The "wilderness" is composed of thriving wood and shrubs, and is a delightful place in summer. The avenue of beech trees, which leads by a gentle ascent to the house from the gate nearest to the railway station, is still unequalled in the district, though it has been much altered in modern times. This same George Burnett, in addition to his labours as an agriculturist, planted trees and hedge rows on a very extensive scale, interested himself in county business and local politics, and altogether appears to have been a model landlord. He is said to have met with considerable opposition from some of his tenants and neighbours, who were determined opponents of every species of culture not sanctioned by use and wont. But by patience and perseverance these were at length brought to acknowledge the superiority of his system and adopt it as their own. There is no reliable information as to when Kemnay House was first built, but it is thought the foundation and lower apartments date from about the time of Henry VII. The principal portion was built by Sir T. Crombie. In 1830 extensive alterations were made upon the building. The Eastern wing was taken down, rebuilt, and modern windows inserted. Part of the in-

side, also, was subjected to a similar revolution. In the dining room, was a "concealment," entered from the inside of the very ample chimney, which was removed, and the space added to the size of the apartment. A beautiful cornice, representing classical scenes, and many other objects of interest, were ruthlessly sacrificed to the then spirit of modern improvement. A fragment of the cornice is still preserved at Kemnay House. The present front entrance has a porch dated 1833. The former entrance, now shut up, faced the north, and led by a stone stair to the upper rooms. The house contains a "haunted room." In a turret chamber, reached by a narrow, circular stair, a man committed suicide about two centuries ago, and the place has ever since borne an evil reputation.

Kemnay.

JEANIE M. LAING.

#### A RAMBLE ON THE EAST COAST OF BUCHAN.

(Continued from page 121.)

WE now take leave of St. Catharine's Dub, passing over many ledges of rock and boulders, to the old Castle of Slains, the ancient seat of the Earls of Buchan and the Erroll family, the distance to which from our starting place is said to be a mile. We spent upwards of an hour by the way, enraptured with the variety of the coast scenery, now digging out more plants for future study; then descending hundreds of feet to the sea-beach to gather water-worn jaspers and pebbles, and drink from a beautiful spring emitted from a fountain over a huge precipice covered with lime incrustation and cresses. On ascending we are soon in sight of the hoary tower of the Castle. Rounding another point, we come upon a beautiful level green, supported by a huge pillar of rock projecting over the sea; and here we put to flight a large peregrine falcon (*falco peregrinus*) in the act of devouring its prey. This fine bird was shot some time after by a fisherman, and was presented to the University Museum, Aberdeen, where it is in excellent preservation. There was a flight of a bird of "the same feather," but certainly under different circumstances, happened in the reign of Kenneth III. of Scotland, in the year 980. It took a circuit of seven or eight miles long and five broad on the lands between Tay and Erroll, and thus brought broad acres to the Hays as something of a compensation for defeating the Danes and ridding our country of a foreign yoke.

In nearing the site of the Castle, which stands on a high rock jutting into the sea, we found that the path led us to an entrance into it from the north, called the "Castle Walk," and another path step by step from a high eminence down to the beach to the south side. We took this route with the intention of sketching the tower, which we did, and explored the part of the debris opposite to the ruin, and found something of the long past in the shape of a perforated slate of the thickness of common Caithness pavement, beside oyster shells and the decayed bones of the ox and dog.



Taking a look from the beach, a little to the east of the tower, we observed part of a broken down wall, in which there is an opening, and on examining the precipice minutely, on the way upward, we observed some mason work cropping out among the grass, and came to the conclusion that there had been a secret passage extending three hundred feet from the buildings to the sea. The work of demolition has left the tower with only two sides. The walls are seven feet eight inches thick and seventy feet high. On the south side there is an opening which had been constructed as a passage, and at the top there are the remains of a wall-press of dressed freestone, which is much wasted with the frost and storms of centuries. When travelling in and around this gigantic mass of run-work we felt a *dowf* sound, and left the site with the impression that there are still "dungeons dark and strong" at its foundation. In a line towards the sea from the tower there are some newly-built houses, forming part of a street, the corners of which are adorned with chiselled blocks of Byth and Arbroath freestone. One of these stones shows an incision for double bolts, which had done service as part of a gateway to the Castle. The villagers have shown good taste in bringing these long-hidden relics to light, and thus preserving them to interest the tourist and antiquary.

According to Tytler, the historian, King Robert the Bruce encamped for sometime in a strong position in Slains. He came north in A. D. 1308, striving to free the country from the English yoke, and defeated the Earl of Buchan and the Comyns, who were in alliance with England.

William of Erroll was a faithful adherent of King Robert at this time and was created by him Lord High Constable of Scotland, and granted to him at the same time the lands of Slains. 286 years after this the Castle was doomed to destruction for the part that Francis, the eighth Earl, took in the Huntly rebellion.

"His Tower, that us'd with torches blaze  
To shine sae far at night,  
Seem'd now as black as mourning weed—  
Nae marvel sair he sich'd."

King James VI. came with his army to Aberdeen on 15th October, 1594, and demolished Slains Castle, and rode there to effect that in person. In the ancient account of Aberdeen there is a charge of 213 lbs of money for twenty "stane weycht" of powder, for the downcasting of Slains and Strathbogie.

To the north of the village there is a fine sloping green, extending to about an acre, which seems to have been under high cultivation, and in this we were not mistaken, as one of the villagers informed us that the green in question formed the Castle Garden, and pointed out the site where the lodge was and the foundation of the gateway, which he said was nearly entire 80 years ago. He mentioned too that in the summer of 1839 there was excavated a dressed stone, measuring about 80 inches in length by 40 inches broad, with some quaint carvings, and bearing the date 1168, which was by desire of the late William George, 17th Earl of Erroll, boated to Slains Castle, Cruden. The probability is that this stone bears the date of the old Castle. Mr. Phillips also showed us the site where the Castle Pond had been, and told us

of a curious "find," in the shape of a household trencher, which was got in the month of July, 1857, by a labourer draining the marsh. The form reminded him of the pewter plate of sixty years ago, though the metal seemed slightly different, being, so far as he could make out, a sort of prepared tin; and that it had belonged to the Erroll family at one time he had no doubt. The arms—the famous yoke of oxen with the initials V. H.—distinctly impressed, were on one side, and the opposite side had also borne a stamp of some sort, which probably represented a coronet or some sort of flower; and the date of the salver may be about 1510-20. The plate is in possession of the Earl of Erroll. Mr. Phillips, our informant, has old coins in his possession found about the ruins. The last one he found is a sou of Louis XIII. of France, of date 1630, with his head in profile on one side, and the arms of France on the other.

J. DALGARNO.

(To be continued.)

#### NOTES ON PLACE NAMES.

*Aulmanithie*, the name of a creek among the rocks at *Roanheads*, about 80 yards distant from the entrance to the North Harbour, Peterhead. It is a safe entrance for boats at all tides, even in gales. It is a safer place to take by boats than the entrance crossing the bar at the harbour. Within the little haven there is accommodation only for a few boats, but the safe quality of its entrance in stormy weather is well known to the fishermen in *Roanheads*. The name as here given is somewhat puzzling, and I humbly beg to suggest my own idea of its meaning, which may be the means of drawing the attention of others to the subject, and in this way gain the true significance of the word. In some papers and old plans connected with and illustrating the harbours and town of Peterhead, I have noticed the place referred to, named *Aber-nethy Creek*. This name conveys no explanation, and has evidently been given by some one unable to make more of it. My own suggestion about the name at least conveys a feasible meaning of the word, with only a slight alteration, such as is often necessary when dealing with old local names of places. *Aulmanithie* is simply and literally the *Aulman's hythe*, or *Auldman's haven*. In the Buchan vernacular the *d* in *ould* is always omitted, and amongst the fisher folks the aspirate *h* is dropt, precisely as is done by an ill-educated Cockney. *Hythe* is old Saxon for haven or harbour.

*Geddel*. This word, which is used by the folks of Peterhead as descriptive of the commony on the north side of the town, and which has long been worse than Greek to every one in respect to its meaning, may now, I think, be explained easily. Coming by chance lately across an explanation of the Celtic word *Geddhail*, a small

commonly attached to a village where the cows are put out to grass, suggested to me at the time the long-sought-for meaning of *Geddel* or the *Geddelbraes* of Peterhead, which from beyond local memory had been used as the grazing place for town's cows. Some fifty years ago the town had its town-herd, but that occupation or office has ceased to be. The older inhabitants easily remember the time when the herd-boys passed through the town blowing the cow-horn, and in this way giving intimation to the cowkeepers to put out their cows and stirks. The herds were paid by the owners of the stock, a small sum being given for each animal cared for. The rocks or reef running out from the land at the Giddlebraes is known to fishermen as the Giddels. It is from this point the Norway telegraph cable was laid some years ago.

A large boulder lying at Roanheads above high water mark has been long known as the *Cat-stane*, which may be a corruption of *Cattastane*. *Cairn Catta*, within three miles of the town, is an extensive collection of stones, and like other cairns in the county has a prehistoric interest. It has never been searched, and is well worth the attention of the archæologist.

The name *Craig Ewan*, given to the granite rock north of Ugie, I take to be a corruption of *Craig Ugan*, the Craig of Ugie.

Other local names of Celtic origin in and about Peterhead have, I think, been explained satisfactorily, as *Quensie*, a little strath, the old name given by all Peterheadians to *Keith Inch*. Every native of the place, after being to Keith Inch, says—"I've been over the *Quensie*," the word over conveying the real meaning of the word *Quensie* unknown to him. This peculiarity of speech marks the townsman and those who have been long resident in the place.

*The Garron*, the Roughhead, is highly expressive; *Baubygown*, a corruption of Balgowan, the narrow passage; *Craignabo*, the cow's rock; *Ive*, is elf or oof.

*Dundonie*, *Dunbeith*, *Collielaw*, *Collieburn*, *Cairntrodlie*, *The Stanyhillock*, require explanation.

MORMOND.

## Queries.

99. THE PULPIT NOTICE OF COMMUNION.—With the disappearance of the spring and autumn fast-days in Aberdeen there will no longer be heard from our city Parish Church pulpits the words that—"When about to celebrate the Communion of the Lord's Supper, it is the constant and laudable practice of this Church to set apart a day for that purpose, for fasting, humiliation, and prayer. The Session of this Church, therefore, do, with the concurrence of the Magistrates, set apart Wednesday, the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_, etc., etc. My question to you, Mr. Editor, then is, can you, or any

of your contributors, say which of the city fathers wrote that notice? It has been, to my personal knowledge, used in the church to which I belong for 60 years. To many members of that church, and to very many more, the grand Johnsonian style and earnest devotional feeling of the document has made it have an interest almost deep enough for devotion.

W.

100. GORDON OF AUCHENDOLLY.—In the *Sherborne Journal* (Dorset), of July 21st, 1809, occurs the following announcement:—"Tuesday se'nnight was married, Robert Gordon, esq. of Auchendolly, in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, North Britain, and of Lewcoton, Dorset, to Elizabeth Anne, only daughter of Charles Westley Cox, esq. of Kemble House, Wilts." I shall be glad to know to what family Robert Gordon belonged. His father, Wm. Gordon, who died 1802, aged 44, married Anna, sister and heiress of Sir Stephen Naish, Knt., of Bristol, and of Leweston, through whom he became possessed of the Leweston estate.

C. H. MAYO.

101. ORD FAMILY.—Can any of your correspondents give any information as to the origin or history of this family in the North of Scotland. The name has been well known in the border counties of England and Scotland for many centuries, and it would be interesting to know if any connection existed between the two branches. The name occurs in connection with Cullen, in a small brochure issued from the *Banffshire Journal* office in 1880, entitled *Annals of Cullen, being Extracts from Records relating to the Affairs of the Royal Burgh of Cullen, 960-1870*, wherein reference is made to James Ord, Bailie of Cullen in 1702, and John Ord of Findochtie, both of whom sold their respective properties of Rosewood (in 1702), and Findochtie (in 1724) to the Earl of Findlater. From *Genealogical Collections concerning the Surname of Baird*, London, 1870, I find that, prior to 1700, Wm. Baird, "Thesaurer" of Cullen, married Helen Ord; and that an Alexander Ord was "Bailzie" in Cullen on or before 1736. In *The Plundering of Cullen House*, compiled by Mr. Wm. Cramond, A.M., recently published, I find that John Ord of Findochty, Bailie of Cullen, is a witness to the intimation of the Petition of the Earl of Findlater for protection, on 23rd August, 1747. Then in p. 74 of this periodical a letter is printed, dated Fraserburgh, 10th March, 1755, accepting an offer by Alex. Forbes and John Ord, to quarry stone from the Millstone Quarry of Auchmedden. From the *Abbreviates of General Services* in Scotland, it appears that, in February, 1696, Christiana Ord, wife of Walter Graham, "fabri aararii, burgensis Vicicanonicorum," was served heiress of Lawrence Ord, "mercatoro burgensis in Burgo Vicicanonicorum" her father. Any further information on the subject would be welcome.

ROBT. GUY.

The Wern, Pollokshaws, N.B.

102. MARISCHAL COLLEGE MOTTO.—"It is well known that the motto, 'They haif said, qubat say thay,' was placed there by the founder, George, fifth Earl Marischal." (P. 159). Will "J. A." kindly favour me with his authority for this statement?

P. J. ANDERSON.

103. CALEDONIAN OCEAN.—In the *Dictionary of Arts and Sciences* (London, 1764,) there occurs the following:—"Cathness, the most northerly county of Scotland, having the Caledonian Ocean on the north, east, and south-east, and the shire of Sutherland on the south and west." Are there any other instances of this name being applied to the North Sea, and when was it disused?

Edinburgh.

W. J. CALDER ROSS.

104. PIPER'S NEWS.—Why is old news (if such a combination may be allowed) so called?

Edinburgh.

W. J. CALDER ROSS.

105. AULD REEKIE.—I have an indistinct recollection of having read, many years ago, that this epithet is derived from the German, and alludes, not to the all-prevailing reek, but to the height and compactness of the houses:—

"Piled deep and massy, close and high,  
Mine own romantic town!"

I have been unable to trace this origin in the German language. Can any of your readers?

Edinburgh.

J. W. S.

106. "FASKEN" OR "FASKIN."—Can any of your readers give me explanation of this surname, which has existed in Banffshire for over 300 years, and has been spelt in some half-dozen ways? M.

107. ANCIENT BAPTISMAL FONTS.—Wanted to know where any still exist in Scotland. (*N.E.* district especially).

C. S. L.

108. JOHN HAMILTON, MUSIC-SELLER IN EDINBURGH, COMPOSER AND VERSIFIER, OR. 1814.—Can anyone kindly inform me who owns the copyright of his poems? Is it the descendant or a publisher, and what is the present address of such owner?

O. M. M. BOYCOTT.

84 Earl's Court Rd., Kensington, W.

109. SKELETON AT KING'S COLLEGE.—Is there any truth in the tradition heard in boyhood that at King's College, Old Aberdeen, there is, in a cupboard, a skeleton which seizes the arm of the unintiated who opens the door? What book or books give the best popular account of the Aberdeen University?

Dundee.

ARGUS.

110. "ORCAUEN" AND "GEDANIDIE."—Can any of your readers, who are subscribers to the *New Spalding Club*, give information as to the names "Orcauen" and "Gedanidie," which occur in Letter No. 9, page 164, of the volume just issued?

Lerwick.

A. MCD. R.

111. REEK HENS.—In my young days, it was a practice with the tenants to give to the laird at stated, possibly rent, terms what were called *Reek Hens*. I should like to know the history of this peculiar tribute, if it is still in vogue as a general Scottish custom, and the meaning of the phrase. My own experience is of an upland Donside parish.

RUS IN URBIS.

## Answers.

4. PASSAGE FROM TENNYSON'S "MAUD".—

"He sets the jewel print of your feet  
In violets blue as your eyes."

Some correspondence has taken place concerning this passage from Tennyson's *Maud*. Will you allow me another suggestion? "The jewel print of your feet" simply means the *impression of your feet*, the poet borrowing the figure, *jewel print*, from the use of the signet ring with its engraved jewel. A parallel passage occurs in Butler's *Hudibras* (Part II. Canto I.)

"Where'er you tread, your foot shall set  
The primrose and the violet."

Woodside.

T. W. O.

25. THE PRETENDER AT PETERHEAD.—Regarding the house in Peterhead in which slept "King James," as our Jacobite forefathers called him. James (1715) slept one night there, not in Thomas Arbuthnot's house but in the house of his son-in-law Captain Park. Baillie Arbuthnot's grand-daughter, Miss Ferguson, used to tell us, her grand-nephews and nieces, all about the event. The house was taken down and rebuilt by Mr. Annand. Thos. Arbuthnot, who was Earl Marischal's "Baron Baillie," had James proclaimed King in Broad Street, for which he had to hide himself from being taken by the red-coats. His son, Thos. Arbuthnot, was a Lieutenant at Culloden (1746) in Prince Charlie's army. He also had narrow escapes from being taken prisoner before he got away from Peterhead in a vessel.

THOS. HUTCHISON.

16 Albert Street, Aberdeen.

59. THE GADLE AND THE GARIK.—In my query of December last, I ought to have stated that these names appear in an agreement between the Merchant Maiden Hospital of Edinburgh and the Feuars of Peterhead, respecting the division of the Commonties of the Town in 1774, when defining the boundaries of the lands. The agreement is printed in the appendix to *The Historical Account of Peterhead*, by Jas. Arbuthnot, for 1815, pp. 90-91.

J. A.

C.E.D., p. 161.—Cairnvalage, General Wade's form of the name Cairnwall, seems to be Carn a' bhealach = the cairn of the pass.

Edin.

W. T. D.

63. FUNERALS.—Do Scotch Presbyterian notions oppose the use of *Hand Biers* instead of Trestles or shoulder bearing? Biers are certainly more convenient, and, in England, are generally used for short distances. A wheeled hier has lately come into use, which dispenses with a hearse. Every Parish Church had formerly its hand bier.

C. S. L.

69. "COW THE BENT."—The phrase—"Cow the Bent"—as it occurs in the herd-boy's rhyme, quoted in February number, judging from its connection, would appear to be a corruption of "gae the bent," which, according to Jamieson, is used to mean—

provide for your safety—flee from danger. In other words, if the herd

“Lat them (the nowt) ate woutan stint,”  
or, without stint, he would better look out for his safety from punishment—Gae the bent, or Go the bent.  
J. T.

69. “To Cow,” as used in Buchan, is changed in Kincardine and Forfar shires to a substantive form more especially. It was common for playmates, when they wished to vie with each other, to make a game of “Cûrdies”—“Koordies.” The challenger said, “I’ll gie you a kordie,” and then performed some difficult kind of gymnastic exercise, such as leaping from the unrailled side of a stair at its highest step, or standing on one foot in the middle of a stream on a small stone, or walking on the top of a paling. The unsuccessful recipient of such a challenge was “koordied” at once, if she failed in the first attempt; but, if she continued to equal her challenger, the game became a tie, by mutual consent, and *no coward made*.  
Blair Devenick, Cults. HELEN C. GERARD.

76. OLD WORDS.—OY.—The word “oy” is common at the present day in the provincial dialect of Caithness, where it signifies a “grandchild,” the name being applied to males and females indifferently. Sir Walter Scott has “oe” (*Heart of Midlothian*), and “oye” (*Redgumstlet*). It would thus seem that there are three comparatively modern spellings at least. At one time, the word was current in Midlothian; for Poet Fergusson has it in the *Farmer’s Ingle*:—

“an’ saw  
Her ain spun cleedin’ on her darling oye,  
Careless tho’ death should mak’ the feast her foy;”  
and Allan Ramsay, in *Christ’s Kirk on the Green*—

“Auld Bessy, in her red coat braw,  
Came wi’ her ain oe Nanny.”

There can be no doubt, too, that a remnant of the word survives in such patronymics as O’Connell and O’Neill. EME.—The fifth edition of *Johnson’s Dictionary* has “eme (*eam* Saxon) unkle” and refers to Spencer. In the course of my reading the other evening, I lighted upon the following illustration of the use of the word in Wyntoun’s *Original Chronicle of Scotland*:—

“The fantasy thus of his dreme  
Moved hym mast to sla hys eme,  
As he dyd all furth in dede,  
As befor yhe herd me rede,  
And Dame Grwok hys emys wyff  
Tuk and led wyth hyr hys lyff,  
And held hyr bathe his wyff and queyne.”  
(Vol. ii., bk. vi., chap. 18.)

Edinburgh.

W. J. CALDER ROSS.

86. MIDDLETONS OF ABERDEEN.—Whether Baillie George Middleton (1574) was any relation to Alex. M., Principal of King’s College (1662), I cannot say; but Principal George M., (1684,) was the son of Alexander. Robert Middleton, of Caldham, Marykirk, who was slain in his own house by Montrose’s soldiers in 1645, had by his wife, Catherine Strachan of Thornton, four sons—(1.) John, who fought on the

side of the Covenanters at the Bridge of Dee, and afterwards became Earl Middleton, of Fettercairn; (2.) Alexander, who was successively minister of Rayne, of Old Aberdeen, Professor of Moral Philosophy and Sub-principal (1642), and Principal (1662). He married, in 1642, Margaret Gordon, of Keithock’s Mill, and had a son George, born 25th February, 1645, who succeeded his father as Principal in 1684. (3.) Francis; and (4.) Andrew, who acquired Balbegno Castle and lands in 1690. A great grandson of Alex. M., was a General John Middleton, of Seaton, Old Aberdeen, who received from King George I. a charter of the lands of Fettercairn, and his son, a George Middleton, advocate, married Lady Jane Grey, daughter of the Earl of Stamford. For further information, see *Biscoe’s Earls of Middleton*, which I have not at present beside me.

A. C. CAMERON, LL.D.

89. GAELIC PLACE NAMES.—*Fetter*, as in Fetternear, Fetteresso, and Fettercairn, is the same as *Fether*, *Fother*, and *Otter*, and means a jutting land or promontory. Two place names in the Mearns are Fordoun = *Fortherdoun*, and Dunottar = *Dunfother*; both descriptive of their positions and alike in meaning, although thus transposed.

A. C. CAMERON, LL.D.

89. C. S. L. will find the information he wants in Dr. Skene’s *Four Eminent Books of Wales*. Dr. S. there explains that the Gaelic *Fothuir* (usually contracted into *For*, e.g., *Forveiot* = *Fothuirtabaicht*, becomes also (though N. of the Esk only) *Fetter*, e.g., *Fetteresso*—*Fothuirsach*. *For* is one of Dr. Skene’s test words for Pictish districts. H. W. L.

91. MEGRAY, OR MEGRAM FAIR.—If J. G. L. would give the quotation from the old paper, and the day on which the Fair is held at Stonehaven, it will assist enquiry. C. S. L.

93. A GIPSY SALUTATION.—W. J. C. was misinformed when he was told that the salutation, “Peace be here,” is peculiar to the Gipsy tribe; for it is common in several districts of the Highlands and the Gaelic-speaking portions of Caithness. There are many Gaelic equivalents, the most common being—“Beannachd an so,” which, being literally translated, is—“Blessing here,” but, more idiomatic, “Peace be here.” More pretentious individuals, however, extend the saying to—“Biodh sith ‘san tigh so,” which, literally translated, is—“Peace be in this house,” uttered as soon as the house is entered. There seems to me to be no doubt that this form of benediction is merely a modification of Chrtst’s salutation when appearing to his assembled disciples at Jerusalem, after the resurrection, which, in the hands of the Romish priests, became “Pax vobiscum.”  
Edinburgh. W. S.

93. I do not think that the salutation, “Peace be here,” is confined to gipsies and vagrants. I know that in Easter Ross, at least, the practice of saying—“Sith a ‘vi ‘sho” (Peace be here), when entering a house, is a common one among the people. It is, like many other old customs, not so universal now as it once was.  
STALION.

93. In Pratt's *Buchan*, we read—"The domestic salutations are frequently of a simple and primitive character. It is no uncommon thing for a person on entering the house of another to say—"Peace be here!" to which the reply is—"You are welcome!" or, on his coming upon one employed in his lawful calling, to say, in the broad Buchan dialect—"Guid speed the wark!" the rejoinder to which is—"Thank ye; I wish ye weel!" J. L.

93. "Peace be here" was the salutation of the early Christians, and shows that the tinker preserved the traditions of the first missionaries. It is still used in some parts of the Continent, and nearer home, too, for that matter. C. S. L.

94. SURNAMES. — Though surnames began to be used in England in the reign of William the Conqueror (or perhaps a little earlier), they were not adopted in Scotland until the time of David 1st. None are to be found among the witnesses to the charters of the Scottish Edgar, nor do any appear in those of Alexander 1st, and there is no doubt that the beginning of the twelfth century was about the date of their first introduction into North Britain. They did not however become general until towards the latter end of the thirteenth century, and even at that date married women had not begun to use their husband's surnames, but retained their own. Among the Gaelic population, paternal surnames, and such as were derived from trades and occupations, chiefly prevailed; while those of the Saxon, Flemish, and Norman settlers were more generally assumed from their lands; though in both cases exceptions may be met with. W. R. K.

94. The Surname, as distinguished from the Christian name, has by some been regarded as a modification of *sire-name*, or name received from the father; but a more satisfactory explanation seems to be to connect it with Latin *super-nomen*, i.e. *the name over and above*, or *in addition to*, the other. There never has been a time when any baptized man has not had a Christian name, but when the modern system of personal nomenclature was adopted, it is impossible to state with any degree of certainty. Surnames were, it is believed, introduced into Britain by the Norman adventurers, but were for long confined to the upper classes. Some writers trace their origin in Scotland to the time of Malcolm Canmore in the 11th century, but there is no reason to suppose they became general, at least in the north of Scotland, earlier than the 13th century. It is interesting to note that so late as 1465 we find this enactment in the Irish Statutes, 5 Edwd. IV. chap. 3—"That every Irishman that dwells betwixt or amongst Englishmen, in the counties of Dublin, Myeth, Uriel or Louth, and Kildare, should take upon him an English surname of one *town*, as Sutton, Chester, Trim, Skryne, Cork, Kinsale; or *colour*, as White, Black, Brown; *Art* or *Science*, as Smith, Carpenter; or *Office*, as Cook, Butler; and that he and his issue should use such name, under the penalty of forfeiting of their goods yearly." Lerwick.

Lerwick.

A. McD. R.

94. Surnames began to be used in Scotland at the commencement of the 12th century, and became general before the close of the 13th century. The surnames adopted by the Celtic inhabitants were either patronymics, as M'Donald, or descriptive, as Duff (black) Roy (red.) The Saxon, Norman, and Flemish, for the most part, assumed their surnames from their lands. Riddel and Corbet are the two oldest surnames that can be traced in the cartularies of Scotland.—*Caledonia*, v. 1, p. 771.

J. L.

95. OXENGANG. — "Every proprietor of an ox being bound, according to Wynton, to plough an ox-gang of land, the measure first taking its name in this monarch's (Alexander III.) reign. The Scottish *Davoch*—literally, 'the pasturage'—containing 416 Scottish acres, was divided into four *plough-lands*, each sub-divided into eight *oxgangs* of thirteen acres. Two oxgangs, or twenty-six acres, made a *husband-land*, which was thus the fourth part of a plough-land, or 'a quarter-holding.'"—*Scotland under her Early Kings*, by E. W. Robertson. "The bovat, or ox-gang of land, according to Spelman and Ducange, contained eighteen acres; a carucate contained eight bovates; and eight carucates made up a knight's fee; but that the same measures obtained in Scotland cannot be confidently asserted. Indeed, we know that they varied even in England, and that a deed quoted in Dugdale's *Monasticon* makes the bovat contain only ten acres; whilst Skene, upon no certain authority, limits it to thirteen."—Tytler's *History of Scotland*. J. M.

95. One oxgate, 13 Scotch acres: 4 oxgates, or 52 Scotch acres, is a one pound land; 8 oxgates, 104 Scotch acres, a forty shilling land; 32 oxgates, or 416 acres, one davoch. Some time ago, the only way of valuing land was by its extent. A husbandman was one who had half an oxgate, or six Scotch acres, where plough and scythe could gang. This was called a 'Husband-land.' Half an acre was also allowed for house and garden. This was called 'a Toft' of land.

Keith.

W. B.

95. The Monks divided their lands into *carucates*, *bovates* or *oxgates*, *husband-lands*, *roads*, &c. The *davoch* (Gaelic *damh*, ox; and *ach*, field) is an obsolete term, formerly used in the Highlands of Scotland and supposed to be equal in extent with the *carucate*, *ploughgate*, or eight *oxengangs*. An old Act of the Scottish Parliament extended the *davoch* to four *carucates* or thirty-two *oxengangs*, equal to 416 Scots acres, or one *oxgang* to 13 acres, or 16 $\frac{2}{3}$  Imperial.

A. C. CAMERON, LL. D.

95. Every proprietor of 104 acres, *i.e.*, every man who could till an acre, or a boll's sowing, for each week in the year, and had as much lying in natural grass for his cattle in summer, was entitled to vote for M. P., and his land was valued at 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ —*vide* Agricultural Survey, 1811. J. L.

95. "VIII. bovatæ jaciunt carucatam, XIII. acra jaciunt bovatom." So given in the Rentals of the Priory of Coldingham, cir. 1295. (Raine's *Corres-*

*pondence, &c., of the Priory, lxxxv.* Published by Surtees Society.) Whether the Mersc Standard of the 13th century was the same as the Mearns Measurement of the 16th is another question. H. W. L.

95. Barclay's *Dictionary* gives "oxgang" as being equivalent to twenty acres.

Edinburgh.

W. J. CALDER ROSS.

96. THE TITLE OF PROVOST.—Alderman, burgh greff, Mayor and Provost, are the various terms which seem to have been in use in Scotland to denominate the chief civil magistrate in burghs. The first three terms are used in the statutes known as the *Leges Burgorum*, which if not framed earlier than David I.'s reign, were undoubtedly gathered and methodised by him. Law LXX of these statutes and law XXXVIII of the "Laws of the Gild," promulgated by Berwick in 1249, prescribe the method of election. The Latin word almost invariably used is *prepositus*, but the meaning attached to the expression as shown by contemporary translation was "borow greff," "aldirman" or mayor. In Aberdeen the word used in the minutes of election up to about 1446 was *aldermanus* when the term *prepositus* was introduced, although in English minutes the designation applied to the chief magistrate was alderman. This phrase was in use up to the beginning of the sixteenth century when Provost began to be used. The position of the Provost in early times was much what it is to-day, except that in most cases he acted as treasurer of the burgh, with the baillies as collectors of the revenue.

ALEX. M. MUNRO.

96.—"At this period the constitution of the towns and burghs in Scotland appears to have been nearly the same as in the sister country. Berwick was governed by a mayor, whose annual allowance for his charges of office was £10, a sum equivalent to more than £400 of our present money. Under this superior officer were four provosts, or *prepositi*. At the same period, Perth, Stirling, Roxburgh, and Jedburgh were each governed by an alderman, who appears to have been the chief magistrate; Glasgow by three provosts; Haddington by one officer under the same name; whilst the inferior burghs of Peebles and Montrose, of Linlithgow, Inverkeithing, and Elgin were placed under the superintendence of one or more magistrates called baillies. These magistrates all appear as early as the year 1296; and, it seems probable, were introduced into Scotland by David I., whose enlightened partiality to English institutions has already been noticed in this history."—*Tytler's History of Scotland*.

J. M.

## Literature.

*Short Sketches of the work carried on by the Ancient Protestant Episcopal Moravian Church, (or "Unitas Fratrum," ) in Lancashire, Cheshire, the Midlands and Scotland, from 1740.* Goodall and Suddick, Leeds, 1888. [Pp. 48. 9½ in. by 7¼ in.] With a Supplement for Northampton. [14 pp.]

THESE pamphlets contain much interesting information regarding the rise and decline of this primitive

and self-denying body of Christians in England and Scotland from the days of Count Zinzendorf till our own times. Although the period embraced is still within a century and a half, the research must have been conducted by a loving (if anonymous) hand, to have gleaned so much from comparatively obscure sources. The appearance of the United Brethren in Scotland dates from 1739, but although they gained the goodwill of some people of distinction, such as the Duke of Argyll, (who was even anxious that they should form a settlement on his estates,) and Lord Grange, they do not seem to have been very favourably received. They confined their efforts chiefly to itinerant preaching, and their area to the S. W. of Scotland. James Montgomery, the poet, whose father was minister of the Moravian Church at Irvine, was himself a member of the community. Not the least interesting part of this publication are 20 plates, in direct photo-lithography, containing "104 rough pen and ink sketches" of Moravian Chapels, Preaching-Houses and Educational Establishments, past and present. They are all careful, many of them really artistic, whilst some are over-elaborate. Altogether, this monograph of the Herrnhutters ought to commend itself to many, and the cost, 3s. 6d., is certainly not prohibitive.—ED.

*Illegitimacy in Banffshire, Facts, Figures, and Opinions,* by WM. CRAMOND, A.M., Cullen. Banff, 1888. [pp. 74. 7 by 4½ in.]

THIS is a most sad chapter on human transgression, dictated obviously by Mr. Cramond's well known antiquarian bias, but brought home to our times. A large mass of statistics has been collated and tabulated with the ulterior object of presenting a clear view of the extent of the evil, and of the classes most infected with the deplorable taint of moral impurity. In the widely drawn consensus of opinions that Mr. Cramond has with much care gathered to bear on the subject, both as to cause and cure, nothing is so clear and so disheartening as the pen-unanimity with which the writers aver the obliteration of the moral sense on this question in the district dealt with. Should any one wish to have the true meaning of the awful word demoralized burnt into the mind, this little book will serve his purpose. The subject is boldly, but delicately handled, as becomes a well meant effort to remedy a great evil, and remove a standing reproach. If the author succeeds even partially it will be where public instructors and teachers of righteousness have by their own confession failed wholly.—ED.

*Education Insurance Scheme.* By JAMES FRASER. Aberdeen: L. Smith & Son, &c. [Pamphlet, 22 pp.]

THE subject-matter of this tractate contains the substance of the author's evidence before the Scottish Education Enquiry Committee, and now made public at their request. Many startling facts are brought out as to the failure of the Compulsory system to bring our juvenile population under educational training. The author, by an ingenious application of the insur-

ance principle so much in vogue with the working classes, seeks by small weekly premiums, begun to be paid as soon as the child is born, and ceasing when he is of school age, say five, to reverse the present method in converting the parent or guardian into a compulsory officer, by insisting on getting full value for his child's paid up premiums. There is a great idea in the little book, and we see no standing obstacle to its being adopted in a more or less modified form, or by local option, till it shall have passed its experimental stage. The subject is sure to attract wide attention, and the author's earnestness is without doubt.—ED.

THE New Spalding Club, has just issued *Memorials of the Family of Skene of Skene*, edited by Dr. Wm. F. Skene, H. M., Historiographer for Scotland. It is but natural that an unusual degree of interest should be felt in this the first-born volume of the Club, as it will fall to be regarded as, in its material features, typical of the unborn. The size of the volume is the familiar 4to of the late Spalding Club, and externally it has in its smooth cloth binding a pleasant and tasteful look. Internally, the tone and quality of the paper (Dutch hand-made) are all that one could wish, but we are disposed to think that its substance might with advantage have been increased to the extent of 5 or 6 lbs per ream. Variableness in thickness is a constant feature in hand-mades, and unless care is exercised in setting aside sheets that are faultily thin the beauty of the work is marred by inequalities of texture. A number of illustrations accompany the volume, which is to be succeeded shortly by *The Chartulary of St. Nicholas Church, Aberdeen*, edited by the Rev. James Cooper.—ED.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I am at present engaged upon a *Bibliography of the West of Scotland and the Isles North of the Mull of Cantyre* for publication in a book on the Outer Hebrides. I have roughly calculated at present over 600 titles, and have ransacked the MSS. in the British Museum, and also for titles from the MSS. in the Advocates' Library. Can any of your Aberdeen correspondents assist me to any titles of MSS. relating to any part of the West of Scotland which may be preserved in the libraries, public or private, of Aberdeen?

I see with interest Mr. J. Malcolm Bulloch's *Bibliography of Local Periodical Literature*, and hope he will also give a still further Local Biography.

Also, is there in existence *anywhere* an authentic portrait, or daguerreotype, or silhouette even, of the late Professor W. MacGillivray? I may say I have hitherto vainly tried to trace any such likeness; and am anxious to leave no stone unturned if there remains a possibility of its existence, as I wish to reproduce it if found in the book referred to, which Mr. Buckley and I are engaged upon.

As I leave home in May—1st May—replies will be gratefully received as soon as possible.

Yours, &c.,

Dunipace, Larbert.

J. A. HAINE BROWN.

#### ABERDEEN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

A MEETING was held, under the presidency of Rev. J. M. Danson, on the 6th ult., when a paper was read by Mr. Moir, Rector of the Grammar School. The subject was "Sir William Wallace: a Critical Study of his Biographer, Blind Harry," and Mr. Moir's object was to give the results of four or five years' study which he had bestowed on the writings of Blind Harry, whilst preparing a new edition of them, now in the press. From a historical point of view Mr. Moir was not disposed to place implicit trust in Harry's narrative. Writing as he did, about 200 years after the events he describes, and labouring under the disability of blindness, Mr. Moir held the exaggerations, anachronisms and absurdities of the poem sufficiently accounted for, but in the process its historical *bona fides* greatly impaired. Still the work was phenomenal and had a certain value, in its language, and in the pictures of life and manners, albeit probably those of the minstrel's own times. In support of these views Mr. Moir collated Wallace's life as best known by us, with Blind Harry's narrative. A discussion ensued, in which ex-Dean Walker, Mr. George Cadenhead, Mr. J. P. Edmond, Dr. Wm. Alexander, and Mr. Kemlo took part.

A second meeting was held on the 19th—Mr. Moir occupied the President's chair. The business of the evening was a paper read by Dr. William Alexander on "The Making of Aberdeenshire." As one who had long and carefully studied the history of the development of the agricultural resources of the county, the lecturer advanced a detailed array of facts and figures illustrative of the subject in its many bearings. Although Aberdeenshire is sixth in actual extent, it is by a long way the premier county of Scotland in respect of acreage under cultivation. Much valuable light was thrown on the various methods adopted by the improvers of the land, the question of the laws regulating the rent of land, the vast importance of roads and means of transit as a source of wealth, by allowing the transfer of commodities, and also on the social condition of the country people from the lawless middle ages, when neither life nor property was worth a day's purchase, down to our own fortunate times, when ample security is had for both. Dr. John Duguid Milne, Mr. Ranald Macdonald, Mr. Findlater, Mr. John Keith, Dr. James Gammack, Dr. Ogilvie Will, and the Chairman, all added some interest to the discussion which followed. Dr. Alexander replied to most of the points taken up.—*Communicated.*

We understand that Messrs. D. Wyllie & Son will shortly publish a work entitled *The Common Good of the City of Aberdeen, 1319-1887*, by Mr. Alex. M. Munro, whose name is sufficient to vouch for the accuracy of anything relating to the history of the city.

112. BATTLE OF ALFORD, IN JULY, 1645.—Can any of your readers oblige me by stating whether there are any local traditions concerning this battle, or concerning Montrose's campaign in the north in 1645? Are there any locally-compiled published accounts of the battle in guide-books or otherwise? Unpublished anecdotes or incidents would be esteemed. [This came too late for its proper place.] C. R. F.

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Mann's Edition of Buchanan's History, Aberdeen, 1762 .....	4 0	Beresford's Bibliosophia, or Book Wisdom .....	10 0
Hamilton's Life of Sir William Wallace, Aberdeen, 1774 .....	6 0	Clark's Marciario, edited by W. H. Logan .....	5 6
Hamilton's Life of Sir William Wallace, and Hervey's Life of Bruce, Aberdeen, 1786 .....	10 0	Dibdin's Library Companion; 2nd edition .....	8 6
Cloud of Witnesses, Aberdeen, 1778 .....	3 6	Smiles' Life of a Scotch Naturalist .....	7 6
Ross's Helenore, 2nd edition, Aberdeen, 1778, .....	3 6	Memoirs of Sir James Melvil of Hal-hill, 1683 .....	7 6
Lessons in Reading, Aberdeen, 1780 .....	1 6	Pagitt's Christianographie, 1636 .....	10 0
Pamphlets on Burgh Reform, Aberdeen, 1785-7 .....	2 6	Queen's Journal of our Life in the Highlands, 1st Ed. .....	10 6
Papers relating to Union of the Colleges, Aberdeen 1787 .....	3 0	Timbs' Notabilia, or Curious and Amusing Facts .....	3 6
Orem's Old Aberdeen, Aberdeen, 1791, .....	12 6	Trewe and Feythfull Hystorie of Radapanthus, <i>rare</i> .....	15 0
Spalding's History of the Troubles, 2 vols., Aberdeen, 1792 .....	7 6	Blackie's <i>Æschylus</i> , 2 vols. .....	7 6
Barclay's Callirhoe, or the Well of Spa, Aberdeen, 1794 .....	2 6	Hone's Apocryphal New Testament .....	4 0
Couper's Malachi Meldrum, 2 vols. in 1, Aberdeen, 1803 .....	3 0	Fraser's Magazine, vols. 45-60, per vol. .....	1 6
Paterson's Belief in Witchcraft, Aberdeen, 1815 .....	6 0	D'Is aeli's Flim-Flams, 3 vols. .....	15 0
Cadenhead's Flights of Fancy, Aberdeen, 1853 .....	6 0	Burton's Book-Hunter, 2nd edition .....	15 0
Walker's How we Manage at our Board, Aberdeen, 1881 .....	0 6	History of Art in Egypt, 2 vols. .....	25 0
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Bulloch's Aberdeen 300 years ago, <i>la. paper</i> , Aberdeen, 1884 .....	2 6	" in Phœnicia and Cyprus, 2 vols. .....	25 0
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Maidment's Scottish Pasquils .....	7 6	" Hilda .....	5 9
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Byron's Poetical Works, 10 vols., 1854 .....	30 0	Hamerton's Human Intercourse .....	4 6
Penny Cyclopædia, 29 vols., cloth .....	30 0	Mrs. Haywood's Wife to be Lett .....	2 6
Trial of Malcolm Gillespie, Aberdeen, 1827 .....	5 0	Heath's Chronicle of the Late War, 1676 .....	5 6
Brand's Popular Antiquities, 1810 .....	4 0	Gosse's Evenings at the Microscope .....	5 0
		Innes's Law of Creeds in Scotland .....	6 0
		Latham's English Language .....	3 0

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J. & J. P. EDMOND & SPARK,  
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ABERDEEN.

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# SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES

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MAY, 1888.

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## CONTENTS.

NOTES :—	Page
The Aumbry at Monymusk, <i>Illustrated</i> , .. ..	187
The Aberdeen Printers, .. ..	189
Bibliography of Inverness Newspapers and Periodicals, .. ..	191
The Advocates in Aberdeen, No. 10, .. ..	194
Epitaphs and Inscriptions in St. Nicholas Church and Churchyard, Aberdeen, .. ..	195
The Sculptured Stone Vase found at Westhall, .. ..	197
John Mowat, .. ..	198
A Ramble on the East Coast of Buchan, .. ..	199
QUERIES :—	
“The Diel cam o’er Jock Webster”—Old Names for Drugs—Stewart of Hisleside—Shinty Game Terms, .. ..	200
ANSWERS :—	
Funerals—Surnames—The Pulpit Notice of Communion—Gordon of Auchendolly—Ord Family—Auld Reekie—Fasken—Battle of Alford, .. ..	200
LITERATURE :—	
Munro’s Common Good of the City of Aberdeen, .. ..	202

ABERDEEN, MAY, 1888.

## PERSONAL NOTE.

THE close of our first year’s work warrants a few words about ourselves, and we are pleased to note that the experiment has in most respects justified itself. Our anticipations of a friendly reception have not been deceived. Pleasant things have been said of us, both in the public Press and privately, to encourage us to go on. We are grateful for this, and especially do we owe the numerous contributors of notes and queries who, for love, have so ably helped to invest our columns with real interest. Many articles have appeared that will, we trust, be found to be of permanent value. One complaint, and a just one, has been urged against us, and that is that we are too local in character. We have felt this; but whilst we have cultivated every prospect of *de*-localizing ourselves, we cannot and would not desire wholly to divest ourselves of a degree of local interest. Indeed it is to such provincial publications that we look for the embodying of information that would be otherwise neglected and eventually lost. We had to begin somewhere, but to judge by the way our little Argus is feeling its way about, we anti-

pate a growing breadth of interest-area for our subject matter. The fact of our having had to reprint the first three numbers, and to enlarge several late numbers, are far more pleasing proofs of growing favour than of financial results. We start on our new voyage with more confidence than last, feeling assured of having gained the ear of an appreciative and sympathetic auditory.

We have been urged on various hands to a more frequent issue—fortnightly at least—as a period not too long to permit the interest to flag, and not too short to admit of well considered replies. We think, however, that this proposal may stand aside probably for a year. The only alteration we intend to make is to keep at least 16 pages of literary matter free from the intrusion of advertisements. On this new footing we invite the renewal of old and the addition of new subscribers, for the ensuing year.

THE EDITOR.

## THE AUMBRY AT MONYMUSK.

IN trying to fix the date of this small but interesting architectural feature, it may be well to say a few words as to the progress of the lands of Monymusk and their possessors from the time of their first mention in our records.

They are said to have been granted by King Malcolm in the eleventh century to the Priory—afterwards Bishopric—of St. Andrews, but, later, we find a Priory existing at Monymusk itself, and endowed with ample territory for its maintenance, of which the barony of Monymusk formed an important part. Towards the end of the thirteenth century, a family, taking its name from the lands, appears in the records, holding, of course, from the Prior as over-lord, but its last male representative, Sir John Monymusk of that ilk, died before the year 1400. After this there is not, I believe, any distinct evidence that the land was held by any family, continuously, as vassals of the Priory, until the year 1549, when the Prior David and his coadjutor made over

the manor of Monymusk and its pertinents by charter to Duncan Forbes (called in the deed "magister") and his wife Agnes Gray, for a rent, to be paid (a rather unusual thing) in money only, viz., consideration of a sum of money down, and a yearly rent—24 pounds Scots for the manor or mains (manerie) and 13 ducats (solidorum) and 4 pence (denariorum) for the other lands, with certain reservations by the Prior, in consideration of the fact that "the place and monastery, called Priory of Monymusk, now stands uninhabited and ruined. . . also as no residence or house fit for present habitation exists in propinquity to the said Monastery—that the ruinous edifices should be rebuilt, and, also for the increasing of the revenue of the said Monastery," &c., &c. (See the Charters, printed in Collection for the shires of Aberdeen, *sub voce* "Religious Houses," p. 179 *et infra*). The charter states that the Priory had already received considerable sums from Duncan, besides valuable services in the conduct of their affairs.

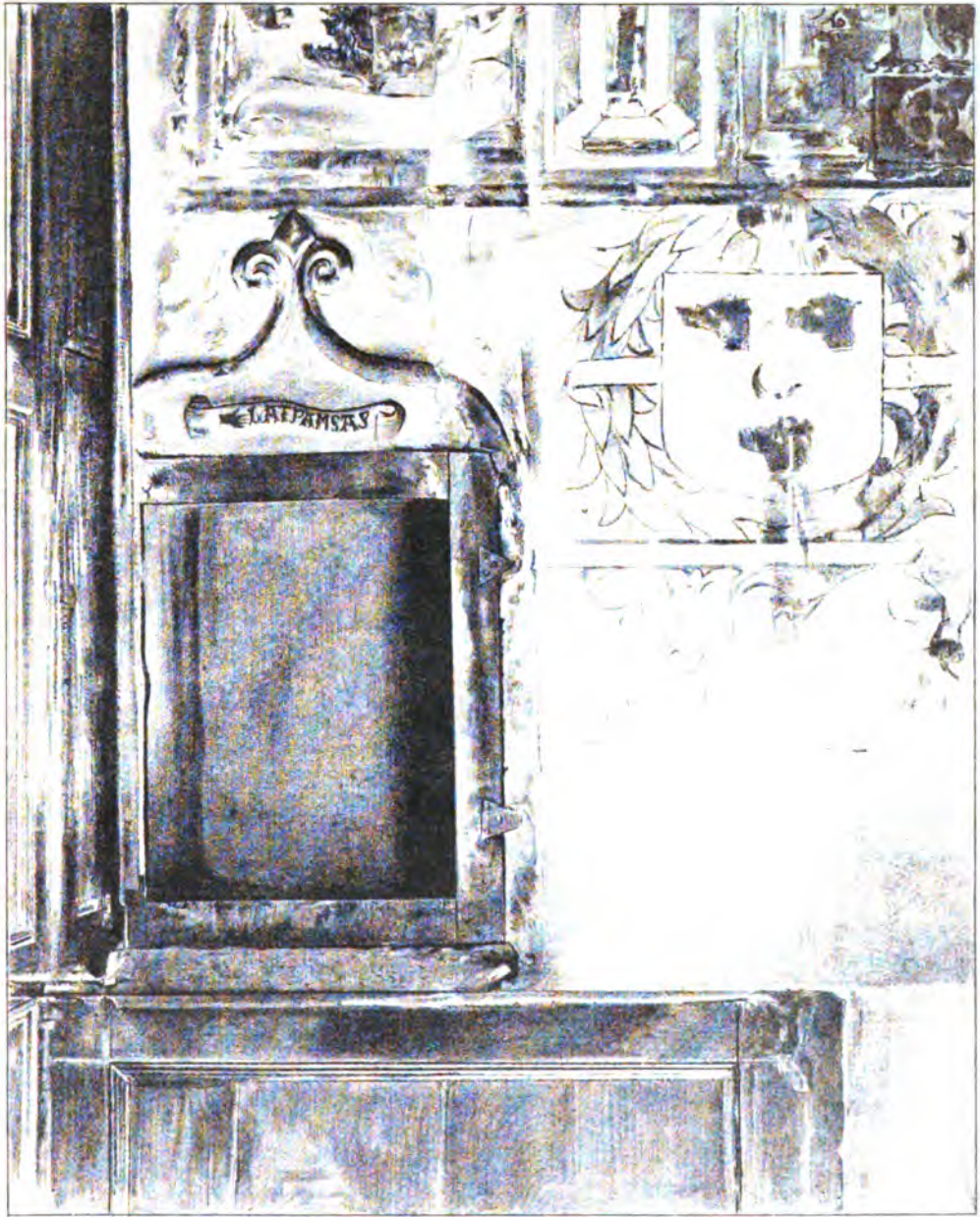
This evidence disposes of the tradition that "this Priory was seized by Duncan, son to [William] Forbes of Corsinda, who, it seems, built the manour of Monimusk out of the stones of this Monastery, and founded the family of Forbes of Monimusk, baronet." There were some half truths in the legend, but tradition, as is too often the case, had distorted and falsified the facts. Duncan Forbes died in 1587, and it was his son and successor, William Forbes, who had a charter from "Robert, Commendator off Monymusk," of "the whole ruined houses and buildings of the said Monastery," with some ground adjoining them, which had been reserved by the Prior in the sale to Duncan Forbes. If, then, the Castle of Monymusk was built entirely from the materials of the ruined Priory buildings it must certainly have been the work of William Forbes, the second laird. There is nothing in the state of the architecture to make this impossible, and it is worthy of remark that, in the charter to Duncan Forbes and Agnes Gray, there is no mention of any "tower or fortalice," while in the charter by the Canons, confirming that of the Prior and Coadjutor, and which is in the vernacular, they speak only of "our landis off the Manis of Munymosk, with their pendiclis and pertinents." We have no direct evidence from other sources that Duncan Forbes built at Monymusk, but I confess that I think it likely that he did, and that William had carried on his father's work.

On the same wall in which the Aumbry is placed are a series of heraldic decorations, which are interesting, and may help a little towards probabilities. Over the fireplace in the centre,

the place of honour is assigned to the arms of Agnes Gray (daughter of Baillie William Gray of Aberdeen, one of the Grays of Schives), with her initials. Higher up, on the right, are those of her husband, with the initials M. D. F. (Magister Duncan Forbes). To the left of the fireplace, between it and the Aumbry, which is in the corner, are the Forbes arms again, being those of William Forbes, son of Duncan and Agnes, which are balanced on the other side of the fireplace by those of his wife, a daughter of the Earl of Angus. Above the Aumbry is a Shield bearing the arms of England and France, quarterly, which appears to have been painted over another coat. These last are on the same line (I think) as those of Mr. Duncan Forbes. There are the remains of an inscription in large letters above the arms of Agnes Gray, which probably read "God Save the King," or something similar. I think it probable that the Royal arms of Scotland had been over it, but the upper part of the painting has been so obliterated, partly, no doubt, in putting up the plaster cornice in the last century, that it is impossible to make out what had been there, while the cornice covers a considerable depth of wall. It is believed that Agnes Gray brought her husband a considerable fortune, and this is probable from the way in which her name occurs in the charter of sale, and also from the prominent position which her arms occupy amid the heraldic decorations. The date which is incorporated with them is 1618, but it seems to me that the painting, in some of its details, is of different dates, and that it is possible the arms of Agnes Gray were placed there by her husband. If this were so, then the placing of the "aumbry" would be referable to Duncan Forbes, assuming that there was no ruinous building there before his time, which had been built on by him. But there is a feature connected with the "aumbry" which makes it likely that it is not now as it was originally. The four stones which enclose the opening, that is the lintel, the jambs, and the stone crossing below the jambs, are of quite a different character and appearance from the ogee-shaped and floriated stone which tops the whole, and the narrow stones outside of those which I am describing, and which are evidently the original sides, &c., of the "aumbry." As regards the Aumbry itself, I would venture to suggest three possible origins, and hope that they may draw remarks from some of your readers more competent to pronounce judgment:—

First,—That Duncan Forbes and Agnes Gray built the earlier part of the castle and put in the aumbry,—reason for the motto thereon unknown.

Second,—That their son, William, having purchased the materials of the ruined priory, built



AUMBRY AT MONYMUSK HOUSE

W. Jolly & Sons, Auct.



the main castle and put in the aumbry, possibly brought from the priory, and the motto added.

Third,—That the painting on the walls was first done by William, 2nd Laird, who, Douglas says, “died before 1618”—(*Baronage*, p. 40,—but gives no authority)—when he built the house, and was possibly done up afresh and date added by William, 3rd Laird and 1st Baronet, in 1618, who may have re-lined the aumbry. There is another view of the thing which *might* be taken, that, as there is no indication of *hinges* to the aumbry, it seems to have been intended, latterly, at least, after the fitting in of the four stones above mentioned, to be open. Could it therefore have been used by the Forbeses as a niche for a crucifix, an image of the Virgin, or such like? The motto would then have a meaning. I do not know whether there is any record of the Forbeses of Monymusk being dealt with by the Presbytery,—but I remember that, in the *Life of George Lesley, Capuchin*, called “Archangel,” there is mention of a chapel in the *Castle of Monymusk*, where that veracious biography tells us that Lesley lived with his mother. As, however, that lady was wife to the Laird of *Balquhain*, there seems some confusion not quite explainable.

The year 1618 saw much building and remodelling in the district, at Castle Fraser, Drum, Craigievar, &c., and to this date I would venture to ascribe the high square turret at Monymusk, intended for a view not for defence. I hope some one versed in old alphabetical character will give an opinion as to the date of those of the inscription—“Latyamsay.” I have, I fear, forgotten a good deal,—but I think they might well go back to the year 1500, and the “ogee” might be earlier.

C. E. DALRYMPLE.

### THE ABERDEEN PRINTERS.

EDWARD RABAN TO JAMES NICOL.

1620-1736.

(Continued from p. 171.)

JAMES BROWN.

1650.

REASONS OF A Fast, | Appoynted by the Commission | of the Generall Assemblie: | To bee kept through all the Kirks of this | Kingdom, on the Lords Day; | December 22. 1650. |  
4°. No titlepage. A—D°. pp. 1-15, last verso is blank.

In a volume of Pamphlets which formerly belonged to Andrew Cant, his name being on many of them. From the Whitefoord Mackenzie library.

A. D. Morice, Esq.

THESES, 1649-50. See *A. P.*, p. 83. For James Cromie, read James Browne. This correction removes all difficulty from the extract given at the above reference.

JOHN FORBES, AND JOHN FORBES, YOUNGER.

In the *A. P.*, p. lv., the return made by Forbes, for the Poll Tax of 1696, is given. The under-noted is for the year 1699, from the original document in the possession of Mr. A. M. Munro.

“John Forbes printer in Aber. hath no fortoune but for printing presses printing letters books and othr household plenishing betuix 500 marks scots and 5000 thousand

hath a wife and 5 children

hath ane servant lass who gets 14 marks yeirly

JOHN FORBES”

[Docket] “Poll | John Forbes | Printer | 1699 | 5”

1662.

COVENANT, General Demands, &c. See *A. P.*, pp. 101, 103-104, 215-216. Professor Robert Forbes’s Petition at the last reference, led to the passing of an Act of Parliament, 12 and 13 Charles II. Cap. 365.

FORBES, *John*. Cantus, | Songs and Fancies. | To Thre, Foure, or | Five Partes, | both apt for Voices | and Viols. | With a briefe Introduc- | tion of Musick, As is taught in the Mu- | sick-Schole of Aber- | dene by T. D. Mr. | of Musick. |

Aberdene | Printed by Iohn Forbes, and are to be sold at his | Shop. Anno Dom. M, DC, LXII. |

Oblong 4° 2 ll. + ¶, ¶¶, ¶¶¶, ¶¶¶¶, A-Bb, two leaves each. 1<sup>a</sup> Title, within quaint woodcut border, as in 2nd and 3rd editions. 1<sup>b</sup>, Bon-Accord Arms with w. G., one letter on each side. 2—¶1<sup>a</sup> pp. [3]. Dedication to Provost William Gray, and to the Baillies and Councillors of Aberdeen. Signed Iohn Forbes. ¶1<sup>b</sup> Woodcut of hand. ¶2<sup>a</sup> The Scale of the Gam. ¶2<sup>b</sup>—¶¶¶ 2<sup>b</sup> pp. [13]. Treatise on Music. A—Bb2 Cantus. The last two pages, and part of the third from end, are occupied with a Table. There is no paging. There are 61 songs in all in this edition. See *A. P.*, p. 101. *Britwell.*

1663.

PROGRAMS for a Master to the Grammar School, ordered to be printed.

Aberdeen Council Register, vol. liv. p. 424.

1666.

PSALM Tunes. [Psalmes Tunes to four voices.] Obl. 4°. Eight leaves. 1<sup>a</sup> I Old Common Tune, 1<sup>b</sup> II Kings Tune, 2<sup>a</sup> III Dukes Tune, 2<sup>b</sup> IV English Tune, 3<sup>a</sup> V French Tune, 3<sup>b</sup> VI London Tune, 4<sup>a</sup> VII Stilt Tune, 4<sup>b</sup> VIII Dumfermling Tune, 5<sup>a</sup> IX Dundie Tune, 5<sup>b</sup> X Abbay Tune, 6<sup>a</sup> XI Martyrs Tune, 6<sup>b</sup> XII Elgine Tune, 7<sup>a</sup> Bon-Accord Tune, 7<sup>b</sup> Psal. XXV. I lift mine heart to thee [Tribble Counter], 8<sup>a</sup> Psal. XXV. [Tenor Bassus], 8<sup>b</sup> [Arms of the City of Aberdeen] “Aberdene, Printed by Iohn Forbes, | and are to be sold at his Shop, 1666. | ” underneath the woodcut.

There is no titlepage, and there is neither paging, catchwords, or signatures. See *A. P.* p. 107. David Laing’s copy, now at

*Britwell.*

1669.

PROGRAMS for a Master to the Grammar School, ordered to be printed.

Aberdeen Council Register, vol. lv. p. 178.

1674.

ALMANAC. A New | Prognostication, | For this Year of our Redemption, 1674. | Being the second after Leap-Year. | Wherein is containd fully, the whole State | of the Year, (according to custom.) | Serving most fitly for the whole Kingdom of Scotland, but especially for the Meridian and Latitude of the honorable City of Aberdeen, | whose Lat. is 57 degr. 12 min. Long. 22 d. 30. m. | Set forth by an Ancient and expert Mathematician.

[Arms of the City of Aberdeen, with initials R F one letter on each side. Along the side of the woodcut—]

For this year.—No Almanacks are from Aberdeen, But where there Armes are to be seen :

It having been our Badge of Old Of Loyaltie, and Bon-Accord.

[At foot of the page—]

Printed in Aberdeen, by Iohn Forbes younger, 1674. |

Octavo. A fragment, consisting of one leaf ; recto, title-page as above, verso "The Vulgar Notes for this year," and "A Chronology of some remarkable Battells."

A. D. Morice, Esq.

1675.

QUAKERISM Canvassed, &c. See A.P. p. 120.

From the last paragraph on p. 134 of "Quakerism Canvassed," it appears that the work was not printed at Aberdeen. "We shall conclude with the Reason, why this small treatise came no sooner abroad ; it is not any defect on our part, who, as the Printers with whom we dealt and also several other Gentlemen who were privy to our transactions, can declare, offered them long since to the Press, yea, and within lesse then eight dayes after the Q[ua]kers published their counterfeit Narration, we offered them to the Printer at Aberdeen : but the real cause is the many difficulties we have met with at the Press, being forced to Print at a great distance, and for a long time to exchange Letters with our printers there, before we could bargain with them."

1679.

PROGRAMS for a Master to the Grammar School, ordered to be printed.

Aberdeen Council Register, vol. lvi. p. 418.

1681.

FORBES, John. Festival | Songs | Or, Certain | Hymns, | Adopted to the principall | Christian Solemnities, of, | Christmas, the Passion, | Easter, the Ascension | and Pentecost. | Whereunto are adjoined | some Lines of a | Letany. | By Iohn Forbes | Printer to the famous Ci- | ty of Bon-Accord, | and University. |

Printed by the | Author, 1681. |

Octavo, printed in black, italic, and roman letter, with paging, catchwords, and signatures A—C<sup>a</sup>. Col-lation :—A1<sup>a</sup>, woodcut ornament with signature letter A in centre ; A1<sup>b</sup>, Arms of the City of Aberdeen, with the verses underneath—"Apelles, staring long," &c. ; A2<sup>a</sup>, Title within a rich architectural border, at foot of the page signed A2 ; verso blank, A 3-4 pp. 6—8 (p. 6 is on A3<sup>b</sup>). To the Christian Reader, signed Iohn Forbes. B1—C4 pp. 9—24, the hymns. For an account of this work, see "Bards of Bon-Accord," by William Walker, p. 642.

From the Whitefoord Mackenzie Library, and be- lieved to be unique.

A. D. Morice, Esq.

1682.

PROGRAMS for a Master to the Grammar School, ordered to be printed.

Aberdeen, Council Register, vol. lvi. p. 656.

1686.

BURNET, Thomas. Thesis.

"Thomas Burnet, professor of philosophy, pub- lished a Thesis at Aberdeen in 1686."

Edinburgh Academical Annual for 1840.

TABLE of Customs. A. P. p. 125. The order to print is minuted in Council Register, vol. lvi. p. 400.

TABLE of Dues. See A. P. p. 222. The order to print is minuted in Council Register, vol. lvi. p. 404.

1687.

ALMANAC. Vox Uranie, | Or, | Aberdeen's true Astral Gazet : | And Nevv | Prognostication, | For the Year of our Lord, 1687. | Calculated exactly from Mr. Iohn Gadbury's Ephemerides and the best Tables, (with approbation) for the Use | of this An- cient Kingdom of Scotland : | cum Aliis Necessariis. | [Woodcut of the Arms of the City of Aberdeen, with the following two lines running along the right hand side of the cut.]

O King of Kings ! preserve Our Gracious King, | And let His Kingdoms flourish in His Reign. | [Underneath the cut] Printed in Aberdeen by Iohn Forbes, Printer to that | Famous City and Kings- University, cum privilegio. |

Octavo, eight leaves, 1<sup>a</sup> Title, 1<sup>b</sup> Moveable Feasts &c, 2-3 wanting, 4<sup>a</sup> Termly Quarters, Head-Courts, Dismall Days, &c. 4<sup>b</sup> Tyde-Table, 5-8<sup>a</sup> Notes for each month, &c, 8<sup>b</sup> Advertisements of Fairs.

The tract closes with this announcement :—"As for the rest of the Fairs in the Kingdom of Scotland, they are all printed into a book by themselves, with the *Iewes Everlasting Almanack*, or *Countrie-Mans Guid*, according to their several shyes, which are to be sold by our noble Chapmen for 16d. F:16N817S quod FORBES. God save the KING."

See A. P. p. 137.

J. C. Ogilvie-Forbes, Esq. of Boyndlie.

1689.

HIS MAJESTY'S SPEECH. His Majesty's | Most Gracious | Speech. | In the House of Lords, To the Lords and Commons Assembled at Westminster | the Eighteenth Day of February, 1688. |

[At foot] Reprinted in the Year. 1689. |

Folio. Broadsheet, 1 leaf verso blank. No place or printer's name, but Aberdeen, Iohn Forbes, Yr.

Earl of Erroll,

Slains Castle.

PROCLAMATION. A Proclamation | For Adjourning the Parliament from the eighth of October next, to the twentieth of December thereafter. |

Folio. Broadside, 1 leaf verso blank, no place or printer's name, but Aberdeen, Iohn Forbes, Yr.

Earl of Erroll,

Slains Castle.

1692.

ALMANAC. Vox Uranie, | Or, Aberdeen's true Astral Gazet, | And New | Prognostication, | For the

Year of our Lord, 1692. | Being Bisextile or Leap Year. |

Now, when the Year doth Leap,  
Beware of Shrews and Sheep.

Exactly calculated according to Art, for the Meridian of the famous City of Aberdeen, | whose Latitude is 57 deg. 10 min. serving in | general for the use of this Ancient King- | dom of Scotland. | Ps. LXXII. | [Woodcut of David, enthroned, playing the harp.]

Lord give thy Judgements to  
the King ;  
therein instruct Him well ;  
And with his Royal Princely Queen  
Lord let thy Justice dwell.  
That They may govern uprightly,  
and rule these Lands aright ;  
And so defend with Equity,  
the Poor which have no Might.

O Lord of Hosts, look down upon these Lands,  
And still preserve Us, from our En'mies Hands.

Printed in Aberdeen by John Forbes, | Printer to the City and University. |

Octavo, eight leaves. | 1<sup>a</sup> Title, 1<sup>b</sup>-2<sup>a</sup> Notes of the moveable Feasts, Eclipses, and Seasons. 2<sup>b</sup>-3<sup>a</sup> Termly Quarters, Head Courts, and Computation of Time. 3<sup>b</sup> "The Anatomie of Man's Bodie, as the parts thereof are said to be governed by the twelve Cœlestial Signs of the Zodiack," with a woodcut 4<sup>a</sup> Tide table. 4<sup>b</sup>-7<sup>b</sup> Notes on the Months, 8<sup>a</sup> New Fairs, 8<sup>b</sup> "An Ancient Prediction, for the year 1692" in verse. At the foot of the page "Finis quod Forbes, | God Save King William and Queen Mary. | Post Bellum Pax, Amen." | A. D. Morice, Esq.

1699.

PROGRAMS for a Master to the Grammar School, ordered to be printed.

Aberdeen Council Register, vol. lvii. p. 457.

1700.

PROGRAM for Grammar School, ordered to be printed 23d Oct. 1700.

Aberdeen Council Register, vol. lvii. p. 756.

KEITH FAMILY. "A short relation of the origin of the Keiths in Scotland, with a list of the predecessors of the present earl Marischal of that Kingdome, being ane abstract of the history of that noble family, Anno Domini 1690.

Aberdeen, X die Aprilis, An. Dom. 1700."

Chambers's *Eminent Scotsmen*, 1st Ed. iii. 295, note.

1700.

[RECEIPT for Subsidy Tax.] "At Aberdeen the day of 170 years, . . . [End] from Whitsunday 1699, to Whitsunday 1700 years. I say, Received by" Slip of paper, oblong, measuring 8 x 2½ inches. Printed on one side.

1703.

ALMANAC. Gloria Deo in Excelsis. | Good News from the Stars. 1703. | Or, Aberdeen's New | Prognostication | . . .

Aberdeen . . . John Forbes . . . |

Library of Society of Antiquaries, Scotland.

J. P. EDMOND.

62 Bon-Accord Street, Aberdeen.

(To be continued.)

## BIBLIOGRAPHY OF INVERNESS NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

(Continued from page 169.)

1849. *The Inverness Advertiser*, *Ross-shire Chronicle*, and *General Gazette for the Counties of Elgin, Nairn, Cromarty, Sutherland, Caithness, and the Isles*. Price 4½d., stamped. A weekly newspaper of 8 pages double crown folio. The first number was issued on 19th June, 1849, bearing imprint—"Printed every Tuesday Morning, by Gavin Tait, and published by him for the Proprietor, James M'Cosh." Mr. M'Cosh came to Inverness from Dundee, where he had conducted the *Northern Warder*. He was well known on the Evangelical side of the Non-intrusion controversy. *The Wheat and the Chaff*, a pamphlet which he published at the Disruption, exposing the flaming profession as Non-intrusionists of many of those who remained in the Church of Scotland, is well known to collectors. The success of the *Advertiser* was great, but Mr. M'Cosh lived only for a few months after its start. On his death it was carried on by his representatives, the editorship being undertaken temporarily by Mr. Thomas Mulock, father of the late Mrs. Craik, authoress of *John Halifax, Gentleman*, and numerous other works. Mr. Mulock had first brought himself into notice in the North by a series of letters and articles which appeared in the *Advertiser* on Highland evictions. These articles were afterwards reprinted (1850) under the title *The Western Highlands and Islands of Scotland Socially Considered with reference to Proprietors and People*. Those fond of pursuing researches into the byeways of literature will find an interesting notice of Thomas Mulock, as founder of a new religious sect, in *Tait's Edinburgh Magazine* (circa 1844),—his rough treatment by a mob of students at Oxford, and his attempts to propagate his peculiar views in the Pottery districts. I think the paper was written by William Howitt. In 1850 the *Advertiser* was purchased from the relatives of Mr. M'Cosh by the late George France of Silverwells, Inverness, the number of 8th October of that year being the first with his name as proprietor. He had successively as editors Mr. Dundas Scott, a translator of several works from the French; Mr. Robert Gossip, now connected with the newspaper press in Glasgow; and latterly Mr. J. B. Gillies, now a printer, and town councillor of Edinburgh. In November, 1855, the plant and copyright of the *Advertiser* was bought by the late Ebenezer Forsyth, who before coming to Inverness had connection with several newspapers in Edinburgh. For upwards of a year after this purchase the *Advertiser* was edited by Mr. Donald MacLennan, now a Barrister in London, when Mr. Forsyth took the reins of office, and retained the same till his death, in May, 1873. He was succeeded by his son, W. Banks Forsyth, who conducted the paper till it was discontinued in December, 1885, when the copyright was purchased by the pro-



prietors of the *Inverness Courier*. The *Advertiser*, it may be noted, was issued from its commencement on 19th June, 1849, till 3rd February, 1860, as a weekly paper. From this last date till 16th September, 1882, as a tri-weekly (Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday). The Saturday issue was numbered independently, and in this day's publication, it may be mentioned, first appeared the valuable *Antiquarian Notes* of Mr. Fraser-Mackintosh, M.P., which ultimately developed into a large volume with this title, printed in 1865. Another volume, reprinted from serial articles which appeared in this day's publication, was the *Notes on Shakespeare*, by the editor, Mr. Forsyth. The *Advertiser* from 22nd September, 1882, till it stopped, on 25th December, 1885, was resumed as a weekly.

1853. *Caraid nan Gaidheal: or the Highland Friend for the Highlands and Islands of Scotland*. A Monthly Magazine of 16 demy 8vo pages, with printed cover, price 6d. No. 1. was published in July, 1853, by Gavin Tait, printer, 76, Church Street (the same office as at which the *Advertiser* was printed), and sold by K. Douglas, W. Smith, C. Keith, and D. Fraser, Inverness. The proprietor and editor of this short-lived periodical was James Ross, a working journeyman shoemaker with an employer in Castle Street, Inverness. He furnishes one more example of many contributors to literature of the sons of St. Crispin, and the "pursuit of knowledge under difficulties." Mr. Ross afterwards became manager of the Reformatory, Inverness. The contents of *The Highland Friend*, No. 1., are about three-fourths printed in the Gaelic language: the articles are of a moral and religious character. One of the articles in English by the Editor—*Familiar Words across the Counter*—is really lessons to a beginner in Gaelic. The instructions, if not useful to the learner, are, at least, both novel and amusing to the reader. Mr. Ross thus curiously set forth his aim in starting *Caraid nan Gaidheal* in his address "To our Readers" on cover. While he admits that various publications in Gaelic have been published in the south of Scotland, but the whole of them had only a short reign, he claims for his periodical—"This is the first of its kind ever attempted in the Highlands." "Inverness" (he continues) "is a little spoken of as a favourable place for new speculations, but we will not say much in case our own reign may be far shorter than any of the above. By what wonderful means do we think to succeed. Is it by our superior talents, etc.? No. Is it by trying to work wonders in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation? No. Is it by attempting to knock down all opposition, as a butcher unmercifully does an ox? No; for, strange to say, there is no opposition; but if we dig deep till we find the 'gold,' we shall, undoubtedly, share the same fate with the California MILLER (sic) ? Miner." So much for the editor's style! *The Highland Friend* was fated to live a much shorter life than even its southern

predecessors. No. 1 was published; No. 2 never saw the light of publication.

- 1855-59. *Inverness Times and North of Scotland General Advertiser*. A weekly newspaper of 4 pages, double crown folio, printed and published by Charles Merrilees and Son, 2 Church Street, and latterly at 45 High Street. At its first start three pages of the paper were printed in London. The front page, printed in Inverness, contained advertisements, local news, with prose and poetical contributions. About eighteen months after its commencement two pages were printed in Inverness. Its editing for a time was haphazard—chiefly by Mr. Merrilees, junior, while in 1857-59 the chief contributors were two or three young men, members of a local Debating Society, who at the time were strongly infected with "*Cacathes Scribendi*." These aspirants got up the local leaders, tales, poems, and even a novel that ran for some months. The latter was contributed by the chief of the trio. It was done with considerable power, and while appearing it was with some amusement to those who were in the "know" that the hero in course of moving incidents by "flood and field" was landed in the great Metropolis, "near where the shadow of St. Paul's throws itself across the way"—a city in which the author had then never been. Years after, one of these young men, on his first visit to the great city, made his way purposely to St. Paul's in search of the spot where Mac's hero was so suddenly transplanted. As might be expected from young men fresh from the inspiration of Plutarch, and the oratorical displays at the Inverness Literary and Debating Society, the leaders were strongly flavoured with a dash of Radicalism. Twice or thrice a week meetings were held, where articles, correspondence, etc., were considered and decided on. These meetings still live green in the memories of two at least of the contributors, who, though separated by nearly twenty years' wanderings in two hemispheres, some three years ago had, on the banks of the Ness, an opportunity of renewing with much glee a talk over the lucubrations at these symposiums and their connection with "The Times" in earlier years. In the summer of 1859 the publishers got into difficulties financially, and the "Time(s) was no more!"

- 1856-58. *The Inverness Reformer*. A weekly newspaper of 4 pages, double demy folio, price 2d. Like its contemporary *The Times*, as already mentioned, the *Reformer* was only partially printed in Inverness—the front page only—three pages coming from London. The imprint, however, bore as "printed for the proprietor, by John Reid, 9 Church Street, Inverness." The ostensible Editor of the *Reformer* was the late Kennedy M'Nab. In the original prospectus, now before me, the principles on which the *Reformer* was started are set forth as "thoroughly independent of all local influence. It will take the Liberal or rather Ultra-Liberal side in politics.

It will advocate extension of the suffrage, vote by ballot, shortening the duration of Parliament, etc.; the union of the Free and United Presbyterian Churches, as the sure and effectual means of overthrowing the Establishment, as an *Establishment*, and with it all religious endowments." Abstract reports of the Town Council were only to be given, unless any comedies or farces are enacted in the Town Hall, when full reports will be given and the Actors mercilessly ridiculed and satirised." It was not long before the *Reformer* and its editor were in a sea of troubles, legal and financial, and the publication was frequently interrupted and delayed, until finally the editor was laid up by the heels, the result of an action, and the paper was stopped, at least for a time (1857.) The *Reformer* was probably unique in Scottish journalism—its violent personal attacks on prominent public men—its satirical notes on the peculiarities and angularities of quiet and inoffensive citizens, who were easily recognised through the thin veil of anonymity thrown over them—even the very family circle was invaded—and to many the *Reformer* became intolerable and looked on as a nuisance to be put down. I have heard an irascible citizen at this period, who was asked if he had read, it express himself—"Read it, Sir!—No, Sir! I would not touch it with the tongs!" He, however, was hardly an unprejudiced witness—he figured in the columns of that morning's issue of the *Reformer*. As above stated, the attacks on public men laid the editor open to several actions, and in course of the processes, the sheets of the *Reformer*, received from London, were several times arrested at the Railway Station. As showing the sonorous Junian hand of the editor's writing, I may quote from a handbill issued by him on one of these occasions. It is dated 24th Nov., 1856, with M'Nab's name as Editor of *Reformer* at bottom. The bill is headed—*The Lawyers of Inverness.—Notice to the Public.*—The arrestment is denounced as a regular combined attempt on the part of a number of members of the bar to crush *The Reformer*. "The Editor has a little story to tell his legal friends:—"Once upon a time an indignant Irish orator in the Parliament at College Green, was venting his wrath against some one, when a cry got up to take down his words. His answer was 'Stop a little and I'll give you something worth taking down' and then went on ten times worse than before. Now, we tell the lawyers, stop a little and we'll give you something worth stopping the *Reformer* for. Let them look out for the next number. We pledge ourselves to shiver their reputation to atoms by telling the *Truth*. Even the threat of "giving wood engravings of not a few of them, in proper attitudes," did not save the persecuted *Reformer* at this time. After several months' suspension it, however, reappeared. To give a favourite quotation of the Editor's—"It springs again like a Phoenix from its ashes," and he promises "it will be regularly continued. Legal oppression will not put it down." It had now become more a magazine, a weekly periodical of 16 pages,

8vo, entitled *Macnab's Inverness Reformer and Review*, No. 1 appearing on Friday, 5th March, 1858, price 2d, and "printed for the Proprietors by Kennedy Macnab, Ramsay & Co., 13 Petty Street, Inverness." The sheet was really printed in Edinburgh. It was but short lived. Whether from the failure of the sinews of war, or that the soothing effect of the discipline the editor had undergone had helped to tone down the acerbity of his pen, the paper ceased to sell up to the paying point, and at the third number of the new issue it came to an end—wood engravings nevertheless. The last number is dated 19th March, 1858. It contains a woodcut portrait of Alex. Campbell of Monzie, then a candidate for the representation of the Inverness Burghs in Parliament. Another cut in this number is intended for a portrait of an unpopular factor in a Northern Isle. The Inverness bar escaped being portrayed in the "PROPER ATTITUDES."

1857-58. *Merrilees' Pictorial Monthly Magazine of Instruction and General Entertainment*. Demy 8vo, with printed cover, price 2d. The early numbers extend to 20 pages, but ultimately enlarged to 24 pages. Of these at first only 4 pages, and on extension 8 pages, were printed by the publishers, Charles Merrilees & Son, at the *Times* office, 45 High Street. Sixteen pages, with woodcuts throughout all the numbers, was a sheet issued by Cassell of London. The original papers printed in this periodical contained contributions by C. H. Morine, late professor of music, Inverness, Mr. Findlay, Reelig, etc., but the majority of articles were contributed by the same trio as in the *Times* Newspaper, published by this firm. A series of articles on events in the Early History of Inverness, short tales and poems, were their chief contributions to its pages. The periodical was only short lived, about 9 or 10 numbers. The last, now before me, is dated MARCH, 1858. A curious circumstance in connection with the printing office, and as showing how sometimes most valuable historical documents disappear, may be here mentioned. This place, a year or two preceding had formed part of the chambers of the Town Clerk for the time being. At his death a quantity of papers connected with the Burgh were stored in an underground cellar. When the premises were relet, they had been overlooked or forgotten on the removal of the other effects. One day a visitor to the printing office, looking at a small hand-press which a boy was working at, discovered that the tympan, of vellum or parchment, had some old writing on it, and asking the party in charge as to it, was told with a chuckle that "they did not require to purchase tympan now," as the P. D. of the establishment had discovered a find, and was making use of papers in the cellar for lighting his fire, etc. The visitor warned them of the seriousness of what they were doing, as well as the Vandalism they were guilty of.

JOHN NOBLE.

(To be continued.)

## THE ADVOCATES IN ABERDEEN.

No. 10.

THE subjoined excerpts from the Society's Minute Book refer to circumstances of much public importance at the time, and not without interest now.

## NORVAL CLYNE.

At a General Meeting of the Society of Procurators in Aberdeen, held within the house of Joseph Mitchell, Vintner in Aberdeen, upon the eight day of November 1782. Sederunt—Mr. Gordon of Craig, President; Alex. Innes, Sen.; John Durno, Ar. Dingwall Fordyce, John Marshall, Alex. Bean, Thomas Duncan, James Thomson, William Smith, James Strachan, Charles Tait, Hary Lumsden, George Forbes, James Watson, John Innes, John Ross, William Burnett.

The President laid before the Meeting an application addressed to him from the Lord Provost of Aberdeen mentioning the unfortunate State of the Town and Country, and the situation of the Crop which in general remains in the fields uncut, And the present scarcity of meal thereby arising, And that a subscription was commenced among all ranks and Individuals, Societies, and Corporations for importation of Grain wherever it can be found either at home or abroad, for which purpose people were despatched Southward to purchase Grain, and Commissions were likewise sent abroad, And the Lord Provost concludes his Letter by asking the aid of the Society of Procurators. The Society having considered the said letter are unanimously of opinion and resolve that they ought to give a liberal Contribution in this extraordinary season of calamity and distress for so laudable a purpose as the life and support of themselves, their fellow citizens, and the inhabitants of the town and Country, And therefore, over and above the subscriptions already made by the members of the Society as individuals, the Meeting hereby recommend to and empower Mr. Gordon of Craig the President of the Society to subscribe One Hundred Guineas to be paid by the Treasurer from the funds of the Society for the purpose mentioned in the Letter from the Provost of Aberdeen. But as they consider the funds belonging to the Society as a Sacred Deposit under their Care for charitable purposes only, they hereby declare that the Contribution now ordered shall never be urged as a precedent for any future encroachment except upon such occasions of Urgent and General Distress as the present, which calls upon every member of society for charitable aid.

(Signed) JOHN GORDON.

At Aberdeen the 14th day of February, 1798, at a General Meeting of the Society, called by the President. Present:—Dr. Dawney (the President) Messrs. Gordon of Craig, Carnegie, William Burnett, John Davidson, Hary Lumsden, William Copland, Alexander Sheriffs, A. Davidson, P. Ferguson, C. Bannerman, C. Gordon, J. Duncan, William Carnegie, R. Morice, W. Kennedy, Charles Tait, John Watson, John Low, T. Burnet, W. Adam,

William Stirling, D. Hutcheon, F. Gordon, James Thomson.

The President stated to the Meeting that he had thought it his duty to submit to the consideration of the Society the expediency of their showing their loyalty and public spirit in the present crisis of affairs, by contributing collectively towards the exigencies of Government of which so many Corporations in this kingdom as well as individuals have already set the laudable example. He presumed that the propriety of the measure admitted of no question, And therefore moved that the Meeting would proceed to determine, first, the quantum of the contribution, and secondly, the means of raising it in a manner the most equal and least burdensome to the Society, but so as to avoid any encroachment upon the public funds, which he was humbly of opinion ought to be applied solely for the charitable purposes of the Society's institution. The Meeting after maturely considering the foregoing motion, unanimously resolved that there should be a contribution from the Society for the above purpose of One Hundred Guineas, to be in the meantime borrowed from the funds and repaid by an addition of Ten Shillings per annum to the present contribution of the Members until the debt is extinguished, and that the Library Contribution shall cease.

They authorise the Treasurer accordingly, and to remit the money how soon he finds similar contributions are in the course of being remitted. The present Resolution to be put in execution at the sight of the Committee of Funds.

(Signed) AL. DAUNEY.

At a General Meeting of the Society of Advocates in Aberdeen held at Aberdeen the seventeenth of February, 1798. Present:—Dr. Dauneay, Messrs. Charles Bannerman, James Thomson; W. Adam, R. Morice, T. Burnet, Andrew Jopp, John Low, D. Hutcheon, W. Jamieson, T. Duncan, Hugh Hutcheon, Al. Sheriffs, Kennedy, C. Gordon, F. Gordon, Al. Carnegie, Hary Lumsden, W. Carnegie, A. Webster, A. Thom, D. Davidson, W. Stirling.

The President stated that in consequence of a notification from the Magistrates yesterday, it had been suggested that the sum to be given by the Society towards the expences of Government should be added to the subscriptions of the Citizens at large, in which view what was ordered at last meeting was by many of the Members thought inadequate, he therefore, at the desire of Six Members of the Society, had called this Meeting that they might give such directions as they judged proper.

The Meeting having resumed the consideration of this business, and being satisfied of the expediency of making a liberal contribution, unanimously resolved that One Hundred Guineas should be added to the former subscription of the Society, and to be raised in the same manner as the hundred Guineas mentioned in last Sederunt, and they authorised the President to subscribe the said sum of two hundred Guineas in name of the Society accordingly.

(Signed) AL. DAUNEY.

EPITAPHS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN  
ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH AND  
CHURCHYARD.

COLLISON'S AISLE.

THE north Aisle of the old parish church of St. Nicholas was known in pre-Reformation times as the Aisle of the Holy Blood. In the Kirk and Bridge Work Accounts after that date it is almost invariably referred to simply as the "north yle," but at what period it came to be named after the Collison family I am unable to say. John Collison, who was Provost in 1594, in consideration that his ancestral burying place was within the Aisle, repaired the greater part of it including the beautiful window, a good specimen of the Early Pointed Period.

The Collisons were a very old burgh family, and members of it had at various times held important civic offices, and on two occasions, viz., in 1521 and 1594, they occupied the chair. The rounded arch at the north-east corner of the Aisle marks their place of sepulchre, and the recess in which the effigies of Provost John Collison (1521) and his lady should lie is presently occupied with that of Provost Robert Davidson, whose place of interment was likewise in this Aisle before the altar of St. Ann<sup>1</sup>, a spot now wholly conjectural. The story is told<sup>2</sup> that when certain alterations were made on the Aisle in 1811 Davidson's tombstone was placed for preservation with its face downwards at the spot where it then lay, which would presumably have marked the site of St. Ann's altar. When the operations took place for the restoration of the Aisle, after the disastrous fire of 1874, search was made for this tombstone, but without success. The result of the restoration of 1876 has been to bring back this ancient remnant of the old church to something like its former self, and though much more might have been done with advantage, yet we must rest thankful for the vast improvement that has taken place in the appearance of the Aisle since 1874. As the oldest part of the fabric of the Church of St. Nicholas is it but natural that we should look here for the earliest monuments, and by a curious chance five of the oldest monumental stones, formerly in the East Church, have now found an appropriate resting place on the west wall of this Aisle.

The first stone, which is cut in high relief, contains under a helmet a coat of arms—a fess between three martlets in chief, and three holly leaves banded in base, with the initials A. C., and below

ANDREAS CVLLE[N] | PREPOSITUS. ABD.  
[Andrew Cullen, Provost of Aberdeen.]

This record, though brief, is still enough to enable us to say that the monument was erected for Andrew Cullen, Provost at Michaelmas, 1506, and again in 1535. The Cullens are one of those families whose actions bulk largely in the history of the infant burgh, but we are indebted for much of what we know of the family to the fact that Walter Cullen, Vicar and Reader of Aberdeen, and a grandson of Provost Cullen, took a particular pride in recording<sup>1</sup> its importance as testified to by the number and honourableness of the many civic offices which had been filled by members of the family.

Provost Cullen was the second son of Robert Cullen, baillie, and his elder brother John had previously held the civic chair for one year from Michaelmas, 1491. The calling of the provost, like the majority of the burgesses of distinction of his day, was that of a merchant, and from Halyburton's Ledger we learn that he carried on a pretty considerable trade with the Low Countries. His exports are chiefly wool and salmon, the staple articles of export at that period, and in return he received such commodities as "gyngar, pippet, cloyes, massis, fin ssucur, saip," &c. The returns, however, on some occasions were not so large as they might have been, for an entry in the Ledger explains the low price obtained for some of the salmon by the fact that they were "something lopy," *i.e.*, soft. His two sons, Walter and Andrew, have also left their mark on the page of local history the former being a Baillie in 1531, and the father of the future Vicar, while the latter, from being Parson of Fetterneir, died Vicar of St. Nicholas Church, in which office he was succeeded by his nephew Walter.

Provost Cullen, on the authority of his grandson, departed this life on the 27th day of January, 1540-1, or probably 1541-2.

The next stone, besides being better preserved, is a much more ambitious effort of the sculptor's chisel, and consists of two panels, the first containing, under a knight's helmet, a shield bearing the Menzies arms—ermine a chief, and flanked by the initials T.M. The second panel has the initials M.R., and on a shield the Menzies arms, impaled with those of the Reids of Pitfodells—quarterly, 1st and 4th [Reid], a chevron between two mullets in chief, and a cross crosslet, fitché in base, 2nd and 3rd [Stewart] a fess checky. The latter shield is surmounted by a dove with outspread wings, and above, the motto, NIHIL AMANTE DVRVM. [Nothing is hard for one who loves.] On the upper ledge of the monument there is cut—M.R.S. IVS. DEO, and on the ledge forming the base, SPERA IN DEO ET IPSE FACIET. [Trust in God and He will perform.] This elaborate stone had, doubtless, formed part

<sup>1</sup> Chartulary of St. Nicholas, folio 6  
<sup>2</sup> Selected Writings of John Ramsay, p. 211.

<sup>1</sup> Chronicle of Aberdeen—Miscellany of Spalding Club, Vol. ii.

of a monument to the memory of Thomas Menzies of Pitfoddels, and his spouse, Marione Reid, the missing portion of which has long since disappeared.

The Thomas Menzies whose initials appear on the stone was the eldest son of Provost Gilbert Menzies of Findon—"Banison Gib"—and Marjorie Chalmer, his wife. His influence for over half-a-century in all matters connected with local, as well as national affairs, marks him out as being a man of more than ordinary parts. His father, who was a pretty large money-lender, had a heavy wadset over the estate of Pitfoddels, and it seems an arrangement had been come to between the laird, Provost Alexander Reid, and "Gib," whereby the former's only daughter, Marione, should wed the latter's eldest son. Reid died while his daughter was a minor, and his widow does not appear to have favoured the proposed union, and considerable litigation took place in the local courts over the custody of the young heiress, and the matter was only finally settled by Menzies producing the King's letter in his favour, granting him the ward and marriage of Marione, in terms of the previous arrangement with Reid.

On the 12th January, 1520-1, the marriage ceremony was performed, and the estate of Pitfoddels passed into the hands of the Menzies, and gave the family their designation for more than three centuries. At Michaelmas, 1525, Menzies was elected Provost, and during the next fifty years he held the chair for the long period of forty years, only demitting the office to allow some member of his family to enjoy it for a short period. To recount the history of his régime would be to enumerate all the stirring events which led to the downfall of the old church, and to record the many difficulties which attended the establishment of the new faith. He was on several occasions chosen to represent the burgh in Parliament; in 1538 he acted as Marischal Depute of Scotland; and in 1543 he was Comptroller of the royal household, an office which he seems to have held for several years. Shortly before this, viz., on 5th November, 1543<sup>1</sup> he obtained a renewal of a former grant, erecting the lands of Pitfoddels into a free barony, with the Castlehill of Middleton of Pitfoddels as principal message.

The Chronicle of Aberdeen, under date 20th September, 1551, records that, after a wedded life of 29 years, "Marione Reid, spouse to Thomas Menzies, prouest of Aberdeen, departitt." From the same authority we learn that Menzies married as his second wife, Elizabeth Forbes, by whom he was survived, for the Provost died about December, 1576, while the following entry records his second wife's death :

"Elisabeth Forbes, Lady Towe, and spouse to Thomas Menzies of Petfodellis, prouest, departitt 12 Janur. 1584-5."

The third stone has been placed immediately below that of the Menzies, so that they now present the appearance of being one monument instead of two, as they really are. The inscription, so far as legible, reads—

PROUDUS ET HONORABILIS VIR ALEXANDER DE CAMERA | DE MURTHILL PREPOSITUS HUIUS BURGII DE ABERDENE QUI | OBIT VIII DIE MENSIS OCTOBRIS ANNO DNI. | M<sup>o</sup>CCCC<sup>o</sup>LXIII . . . . .  
[ . . . . . a prudent and honourable man, Alexander Chalmers of Murthill, provost of this burgh of Aberdeen, who died on the eighth day of October, A.D. 1463. . . . . ]

A part of the inscription, consisting apparently of five words, is not given, as I have been unable to transcribe them, nor can I find that better success has attended the endeavours of others, since the words are omitted in the various renderings of the inscription which I have seen.

Menteith, in his *Theater of Mortality*, gives the date of the inscription as 1413, and this has been faithfully copied by subsequent writers who have noticed the inscription, although the fact is, that the figure taken for x is really a combination of l and x, and must stand for lx, as there was no Provost Alexander Chalmer before 1443.

Alexander Chalmer was the son of Provost Thomas Chalmer of Murthill and his spouse Elizabeth Blinshill, and grandson of William Chalmer of Findon, whose election as alderman, in 1398, is the earliest municipal minute on record of an election connected with the Scotch burghs, Alexander was elected to the civic chair on two occasions, viz., at Michaelmas, 1443, and 1446. Murthill, the estate from which the family took its designation, was originally in the possession of the Bishops of Aberdeen, but, in 1388,<sup>1</sup> Bishop Adam, in consideration of a yearly payment of ten merks, granted the barony for life in favour of William of Findon. The assedation was renewed to Thomas Chalmer, his son, in 1402, by Bishop Gilbert, and for several generations the family retained possession on payment of the yearly tack duty. The Provost was succeeded by his son Alexander, who likewise held the office of Provost for several years.

The next stone, like Cullen's monument, is a sculptured stone with a coat of arms, the charging on which has almost been entirely defaced, but from what is left it appears to have been a fess charged with three martlets between mullets in chief and a chevron in base. Above the knight's helmet, there is the following inscription :—

DNO. IOHNS. RUD<sup>o</sup>FURD DE TARLAN | DE PREPOSITUS DE ABDN.

[Sir John Rutherford of Tarland, Provost of Aberdeen.]

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., vol. lli., p. 658.

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Epic. Aberdon, vol. i., p. 183.

Rutherford was elected Provost at Michaelmas 1483, and thereafter every alternate year till 1492, and again from 1496 to 1500. In 1490, a complaint was made to James IV. by certain burgesses that Rutherford was too often Provost, but the answer received put an end to any hope of redress, for the king in his reply desired to be informed of the grounds of their complaint against "*his friend Sir John*." It is scarcely to be supposed that any complaint was forthcoming after a request couched in such terms. During the period of his Provostship and afterwards, we find him representing the burgh in Parliament, and in 1513 he was one of the Commissioners who were allowed 40 merks for their expenses, which seems a moderate enough charge when we learn that the Commissioners on that occasion had ten horsemen in their train. In 1485, he had a charter under the Great Seal<sup>1</sup> of the lands of East town and Tarland in Cromar, extending to the annual rent of £20, but ten years later,<sup>2</sup> he resigned the lands of Tarland in favour of Alexander Irvine of Drum. Rutherford gave in his adhesion to the powerful Gordon party, and, on 8th December, 1490, he granted a bond of manrent, obliging himself "to be bundyne and stratlie oblist . . . in the stratist stile of obligation tile ane nobill and mychtie lorde, Alexander lorde Gordon."<sup>3</sup>

The date of his death is not recorded on the stone, but from various circumstances I am inclined to think he died about 1520.

ALEX. M. MUNRO.

(To be continued.)

### THE SCULPTURED STONE VASE FOUND AT WESTHALL.

THERE can be no doubt that this vase, so accurately described by Mr. Cadenhead, found in one of the fish-ponds at Westhall, had been among the ornamental objects which were placed in the pleasure-grounds there, when they were laid out in the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th century.

Mr. John Horn, the then proprietor (son of the Rev. James Horne, Vicar of Elgin, who purchased the lands of Westhall and Pitmedden in 1681), having been educated in Holland and at Paris, acquired a taste for the formal and grandiose style of laying out gardens and pleasure-grounds, so much the fashion in the time of Louis XIV.; a taste, indeed, which became general throughout Western Europe. He determined to lay out Westhall in this way, and, to judge by the original plans, which still exist,

and by the description handed down by those of a former generation, as also by the remains that could still be traced fifty or sixty years ago, he was very successful in his design. He planted several long-extending avenues, with formal groves intermixed, mostly of beech, which the fine soil caused to grow rapidly and attain a great size. He formed many alleys, bordered with clipped hedges of yew and holly,—with which, also, he marked out a "wilderness,"—and these he embellished with statues, vases, sun-dials, &c. Two large fish-ponds were also made,—and are still to be traced, a few hundred yards north from the Mansion House.

Unfortunately this expenditure of taste, care, and expense was fated, in only two generations, to come to naught, from circumstances which cannot well be said to have been avoidable. Mr. John Horn's only child, a daughter, heiress to his property, married, in 1714, an Edinburgh advocate, afterwards a judge, who lived much at his place near Edinburgh. She died, comparatively young, and her son, Colonel Robert Dalrymple Horn (afterwards "General Horn"), who succeeded to the estates at her death, having married the heiress of Logie Elphinstone, adopted that place as the family residence, when in the North. He was, however, much away on service, and his wife, also, having died young, he lived latterly a good deal in or near Edinburgh.

These details are given to shew how Westhall came to fall into a state of neglect, which in no long time changed its appearance greatly, although in some ways increasing its beauty. For though the walks grew up with grass and the gardens relapsed into a state of nature—all but the limited space required by the tenant of the home-farm, who occupied the old Castle, yet the wild luxuriance of the evergreens, which grew to a great size, and the stately avenues of noble trees, as in a century they became, made Westhall a very beautiful and interesting place, even in its decay, increased by the quaint picturesqueness of the battlemented house, embowered among the masses of foliage.

Absence and neglect, no doubt, hastened also the ruin of the ornamental objects, the vases, dials, &c., which embellished the pleasure-grounds; but the statues may claim a nook in local history. Being made of lead they were looked on as a prize by the followers of Lord Lewis Gordon, in "the '45," (not the less so, perhaps, that the family in possession were Whigs, and in the service of the Elector of Hanover), who carried some of them off to melt them down into bullets. It was not for some decades later, however, that the place was allowed to fall into decay, but by 1780-90, it was far gone. Everything had gradually disappeared that savoured of orna-

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., vol. ii., p. 340.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 476.

<sup>3</sup> Miscell. Spalding Club., vol. iv., p. 186.

ment, and no doubt this vase had been wrecked like the rest.

As regards its design, the artistic stone-workers of our Augustan age adopted, or adapted, classical and Renaissance patterns, and their designs often possess considerable grace and beauty, though not of course of the highest order.

Mr. Cadenhead's remark, that the material of which the vase is composed might "give a clue to where it was brought from," is a valuable one. An experienced geologist might throw light on this point, and give an idea whether it is of British or Continental origin.

C. E. DALRYMPLE.

### JOHN MOWAT.

IN No. 1 of *S. N. & Q.*, an article and illustration appeared, by Mr. Kelly, on the Belfry of S. Fithack's, Nigg. Information regarding the founder of the bell, John Mowat, Old Aberdeen, was asked. The following extracts relating to him are taken from the Trades' Records of Old Aberdeen:—

The Court of the Hammermen trade of Old Aberdeen, holdene within the Councill house of the sd. city, upon the fourteenth day of August, Seventeen Hundred and Seventeen years. Present—Alex. Sinclair Skinner, yr., Deacon, Adam Thomson, Town Clerk of the sd. city, Clerk, and William Anderson, Officer.

The said day compeared John Mowat, Blacksmith, and gave in a bill disyreing to be admitted freeman of Trade, and payed unto the Boxmaster Fourtie Shillings Scots therewith. Which being read, the Deacon, forsd. Masters, and haill other members accepted thereof, and appointed him to make for ane essay ane iron lock for ane door, three bridged, to open on both sydes with ane key, conform to order of work, being two brass works at least. And appoints William Smith, elder, and Andrew Smith, Blacksmith, his essay masters, and the Deacon overseer, and appoynts the essay to be readie against the twenty-sixth day of October next, to come under the failzie of ten pounds Scots money, ffor the hail which performance John Sluthers, Merch. in Old Aberdeen became Caur., and the sd. John Mowat obliedged him to free, relieve, and skaitless keep his sd. Caur. of the proymss, and of all that may follow thereon.

+ S JOHN MOWATT.

31 October, 1717.—The said day compeared John Mowatt, Blacksmith, and gave in his essay, being ane iron lock, three bridged, opening on both sydes with ane key, all conform to order of work, which essay being tried and sighted, not only by the Deacon and essay masters, and also by the haill trade, and being found sufficient, the haill members of trade did declare the said John Mowat member in the said incorporation, and did ordain him to pay to the Boxmaster Sixteen pounds Scots for Composition and Dinner, which he instantly payed, and he and his Caur. were discharged, etc., etc.

1 November, 1729.—The Deacons and Masters of the Hammermen, and Wrights, and Coopers of Old Aberdeen having seen the accmpts of the publick management . . . . until the said trades were divided by a grant from His Majesty, King George the Second . . . . found the sd accs just, fair, and true . . . . [Signed by] John Mowat [and seven others.]

This Book, and the other Books belonging to the Hammermen of Old Aberdeen before the were divided, are to be lodged the one year in the hands of the Wrights and Coupers, and the other year in the hands of the Deacon of the Hammermen in all tyme coming, they being lodged in the hands of the Deacon of the Wrights and Coupers from this tyme to the next election, in witness whereof thir pa. are subyt by us, John Mowate, Deacon of the Hammermen, and Patrick Cristall, Deacon of the Wrights and Coupers, at Old Abdn. the Eighteenth day of Apryle, seventeen hundred and thirtie years, and both parties are to have access to the sd books upon Receipt. John Mowat, Deacon; Pat. Cristall, Deacon.

It is lykways agreed be both parties that whatever papers are in the Box are to be divided equally betwix both, and both parties are to have access to the same upon a Receipt. John Mowat, Pat. Cristall.

List of some persons employed by John Mowat who payed their entry monie a merk.

6 Nov., 1718.—Robert Mowat and Alex. Booth, Jurneymen.

25 June, 1720.—Wm. Gray, Servant.

25 June, 1720.—Alexander Grubb, Servant.

21 Oct. 1721.—John Lucas, Jurneymen.

Sept. 23, 1724.—Samvoll Henderson, Servant; Donald Mackenzie, Servant; William Tam, Servant; John Lumsdall, Prentise.

26 October, 1724.—James Dumber, Watchmaker, Servant to John Mowat, Blacksmith, payed a merk of entry money.

4 May, 1725.—Alex Hardie, Jurneymen.

Miss Noble, Ellishill, Rosemount, has an eight day (grandfather's) clock in oak case with arched brass dial, inscribed John Mowat, Old Aberdeen, No. 55, on dial name plate.

The writer has a weight timepiece, with a round engraved brass dial, named across the centre, "John Mowatt, Old Abd. No. 102."

This timepiece is said to have been in the Cathedral previous to the alterations, but as there are strong reasons for doubting the statement, the writer will be glad to learn whether any one remembers seeing such a thing. Until lately it was in the hands of a private person in the Aulton.

The bell in the Parish Church of Kildrummie is said to have been made by John Mowat.

Query.—When and where was this worthy born? In what part of the Aulton was his shop or shops? He is said to have died in 1771. Is this known to be correct? Where was he buried?

W. A. J.

## A RAMBLE ON THE EAST COAST OF BUCHAN.

*(Continued from page 178.)*

WE now enter the fishing village of Old Slains Castle from the north. To the right there is a steep green mound, tapering to a point, evidently artificially shaped, which may have been formed in the days of old for the double purposes of raising a beacon to guide the distressed mariner, and a summons, aided by a blast from the green horn of the chief of the castle, to his vassals to repulse, it may be, a greater tyrant than the one they served. These were the times when, if a poor vassal made an attempt to assert his rights, his lord and master would give imperative orders to have him gibbeted in the first place, and drowned after. Passing through the village, we came upon two young fishermen excavating materials for house-building purposes. They had just unearthed some very fine specimens of dressed stones, with only one piece wanting to make a complete arch. In clearing away the *debris* from what had been an archway, they came upon a large square of fixed stone pavement, finely jointed, at the farthest corner of which two slabs were incised for fixing wooden pillars. This may indicate that the structure might have been a wine cellar or meat safe. In raising the pavement in question, they came upon large pieces of charcoal at the foundation, showing that the castle had been demolished by fire. Prior to 1820, there was a secret vault in connection with the castle built into a precipice facing the "Blin'-man" rock, narrow at the entrance, but extending to a pretty large chamber, which was a receptacle for Holland gin and French brandy, and Jeems Cormack visited the "Stores" every day before or after his voyage. One morning he missed a parcel of French embroidered silk, and an anker of gin. He knew where it was, and told his wife that he was going to get it restored and to belabour the deprecator. His wife said—"Oh, na, Jeems, dinn pit on yer han's: Johnny 'ill be punisht for't in anither warl." Jeems said—"Na, na, 'oman, I'll belabour him *here*. I dinna wunt 'im to be punisht for't in the *ill place*."

To the north of the village we have a picturesque view of the Castle bay, resorted to annually by pleasure-seeking parties. It is sheltered from the west and north with grassy cliffs, some of which are almost perpendicular, ranging from two hundred and fifty to three hundred feet above the level of the sea. In this neighbourhood there is a large current of spring water, which for magnitude and purity is perhaps unsurpassed in Aberdeenshire, spending itself in the sea. The beach is semi-circular, extending to about three-fourths of a mile, and is beautified with pebbles, rounded and polished by the action of water. At the termination of the beach to the east, there is a huge block of rock, reminding one of rude mason work, called "Jan's Crag," and here we ascended to have a look at three "barrows," or raised circles, indicating ancient sepulture. They were opened seventy years ago, but without finding any traces of bones or ashes. According to Dr. Pratt's *Buchan*, they were also exhumed by General Moore and party, in 1858, with the same result. The likelihood is that they had been

despoiled of their contents anterior to the dates mentioned. Dr. Wilson, in his *Pre-historic Annals*, says that these species of "barrows" belong to a comparatively late era, and their correspondence to some of the most common sepulchral memorials of Norway and Sweden suggests the probability of a Scandinavian origin.

Taking leave of these interesting memorials, we ascend by a rugged valley to climb a steep, green cliff, approaching to perpendicularity, about four hundred feet high, where we have a very extensive view, both by sea and land. Then down to the footpaths leading to the "Dripping Cave," and after many windings we come in sight of an old landslip which happened in the winter of 1828. For years it remained scarcely accessible, till opened by some parties on a scientific research. The footprints found on the marshy descent indicate the approach to the cave, and on alighting on a grassy platform we are struck with the appearance of a stream of water, which is strongly charged with calcareous matter, falling over a precipice, and covering the rocks with a limey incrustation. Here we prepare light for the darkness before us, and crawl in a stooping posture for a few yards, holding on to the slimy walls, till the light begins to show headroom. Then we walk through the rugged archways, the water percolating from above all the way to the termination, at which there is a "rocky altar," containing burnt wood and the embers of paper, for the lighting up of the cells. This cave differs from "Cave Arthur" in that it occurs in limestone. We are told that at one time the stalactites were continuous from top to bottom, and that they had been removed for the manufacture of lime, and that there is a creek a little to the east of the cave, called the "Limekilns," and that James Millar, one of the inhabitants of the lands of Clochtow,<sup>1</sup> is described in the *Poll Book* of date 1656 as "lymer," meaning a lime burner. On the way out from this wonderful sunless cave, we descant on the milk-white stalactites incrustated on the rocks, ledge upon ledge from the top to the bottom, the whole plutonic scene of rugged arches and gloomy passages, goblin-like imagery, the slimy cells, and constant drippings, and came to the conclusion that our exploration of the "Dripping Cave" was an incident that we could not readily forget. The walk of a few minutes over boulders brings us to another cave, facing the sea, known as the "Tinkers' Cave." It is resorted to annually by tin-plate workers and basket makers, and more than once they have been stormed out by an easterly gale. The remains of burnt wood and paling wire bespoke the freebooting propensities of these wandering arabs. Taking our stand on the pebbly beach in the neighbourhood of this cave, we look back to the grey tower of old Slains Castle, somewhat enlivened by a hamlet of fishermen's cottages. This romantic background, combined with the bold, jutting rocks, and precipitous green cliffs, is a sight which the poet and painter may long linger over unwearied.

Ascending the ravine, we pass a "cast-away sailor boy's grave," overgrown with cowslips and sea daisies.

J. DALGARNO.

<sup>1</sup> Clach-dhu, black-rock.



## Queries.

NOTE.—Each paragraph, containing one or more Queries, will receive a consecutive number, to which Correspondents may conveniently refer.

112. "THE DEIL CAM O'ER JOCK WEBSTER."—I have found this phrase several times in Sir Walter Scott—twice at least in *The Antiquary*, and once or twice elsewhere. Can any one say as to its meaning, and if it is still current in any part of Scotland?

St. Stephen's Club, London. H. B. C.

113. OLD NAMES FOR DRUGS.—What are *Lapis Contia* and *Perrosen*, names for chemicals or drugs, found in old books? I have heard country people speak of "Burgander pik," and "Oxycroton," as an excellent cure for colds. What is "Oxycroton"?

ÆSCULAPIUS.

114. STEWART OF HISLESIDE.—Is anything known of this family, who held Hisleside in Douglas, Lanarkshire, about the middle of the 17th century? Did it merge into the Baillie family the ancestors of John Hunter?

J. MALCOLM BULLOCH.

115. SHINTY GAME TERMS.—The game known over Scotland as Shinty was in my youth known to the boys on the coast of Buchan as Cutesoo. Can any one suggest a derivation for this word? I think it must be French, between whom and the Scotch at one time their existed very intimate political and commercial relations. Another word which was always used when playing the game, may, I think, be easily traced to its French original. When the ball, or *scuddie*, as it used to be named, got into a ditch or other place where a free stroke could not be given, anyone was at liberty to cry out "*Hiperell*." If the chance of getting a fair *lick* was hopeless, the one who cried out took up the ball, and asked if it was to be a high *lick* or a low? If the answer by the opposite side was *high lick*, the ball was thrown up, all engaged in the game watching a chance for a stroke. Am I right in supposing that *Appareil* (Fr.), meaning show, display, is the word corrupted into *Hiperell*?

MORMOND.

## Answers.

63. FUNERALS.—On making inquiries as to the use of chairs at funerals as trestles for the coffin, I was told that the chairs are thrown over whenever the coffin is lifted, and are allowed to lie as they fall until after sunset. In some places, the chairs are removed after the funeral party has left the house; but, in all cases, both chairs must be thrown over. The reason given for this overthrowing of the chairs was, that if a person sat on the chairs which had been used, before sunset, it foreboded that the chairs would be used for a similar purpose at no distant date.

Lerwick.

JAS. ROBSON.

90. JOSEPH ROBERTSON AND JOHN ROBERTSON.—Joseph Robertson's grandfather and John Robertson's grandmother were brother and sister, children of Robertson of Shiel, Leochel-Cushnie. The sister married a man of the name of Yule, and their daughter married a man Robertson, and had issue the John

Robertson mentioned above. Thus, Joseph Robertson and John Robertson were second cousins through Joseph's father and John's mother, their fathers being no relation. Joseph Robertson was the third of the same name.

Kemnay.

JEANIE M. LAING.

94. SURNAMES.—According to Cosmo Innes, surnames became general in France about A.D. 1000. They were introduced into England by the Normans at the time of the Conquest, half a century later. In Scotland, they did not come into general use until the twelfth century, or even a much later period. In the Highlands, indeed, the members of several of the clans, according to the same authority, had no fixed name until near the beginning of the eighteenth century. In 1465, an Act of the Parliament of Ireland (*Statute 5, Edward IV., c. 3*) enacted—"That any Irishman, dwelling betwixt or among Englishmen, in the counties of Dublin, Myeth, Uriel, and Vuldare, should go like to one Englishman in apparel, . . . and should take to him an English surname of a town, as Sutton, Chester, Tryne; . . . or colour, as White, Blacke, Browne; or arte or science, as Smith, or Carpenter; or office, as Cooke or Butler; and that he and his issue shall use this name under payne of forfeiting of his goodes yearly till the premises be done." At first, it was only the powerful Norman baron or Saxon thane who aspired to the dignity of an hereditary cognomen; gradually—as far as the middle and lower classes were concerned, very gradually—in order to prevent confusion, and in compliance with the custom which, in course of time, recognised the necessity for every man having a fixed family name, those titles, which originally merely distinguished individuals, became permanent and hereditary. So slow was the process, however, that a period of nearly five hundred years elapsed from the time of their introduction until the lowest stratum of society had been reached. A short list of works dealing with this interesting subject may be of service to "M. A.," and will, perhaps, render similar queries unnecessary:—*Concerning some Scotch Surnames* (a lecture by Prof. Cosmo Innes), Edinburgh, 1860. It covers the whole ground, and is an excellent and entertaining introduction to the subject. *Surnames in England and Wales, Cornhill Mag.*, vol. 17, 1868. *The Teutonic Name-system*, by Robert Ferguson; London, 1864. *Lower's Patronymica Britannica* is a very valuable contribution, and a standard work on the subject. *Personal and Family Names*, by H. A. Long; London, 1883. It gives the meaning of many thousands of names, including all periods and countries. Much original matter, and many curious fugitive members of the large family of British surnames, which comprises some 35,000 or 40,000 distinct appellations, will be found in the volumes of *Notes & Queries* (London). In a series of (three) articles contributed to the *North British Advertiser* (and dated respectively Oct. 31st, Nov. 7th, and Dec. 7th, 1885), the present writer gave a popular sketch of the origin, history, meanings, and varieties of British surnames.

Edinburgh.

J. W. SCOTT.

99. THE PULPIT NOTICE OF COMMUNION.—The late Dr. James Forsyth believed that the Pulpit Notice

of Communion used in the churches of Aberdeen was composed by one of his predecessors in the West Kirk—Principal Campbell. JOHN DAVIDSON, D.D.

100. GORDON OF AUCHENDOLLY.—Little is known of this family beyond the fact that they branched from the Gordons of Earlston, and, through them, claim descent from the Lochinvar stem. James Gordon, owner of Auchendolly, c. 1690, was succeeded by Robert Gordon, c. 1720. His son, Dr. Alexander Gordon, was in turn succeeded by William Gordon, whose son, Robert, married, in 1809, Elizabeth Cox. He sold the family property, and it is now owned by Archibald Hume, who married, in 1865, Agnes Walker of Miteside in Cumberland. S. S.

101. ORD FAMILY.—“Andrew de Ord had the lands of Ord in this parish (Banff), a part of the thanedom, by grant from Robert the Bruce, dated 3rd Jan., and 21st year of his reign. They continued in possession nearly three hundred years, when about 1590 they exchanged Ord for Finachty, with the family of Deskford.” From MS. of William Rose of Montcoffer, in the Advocates' Library, Aberdeen. In the Charter-room of Cullen House is an “Inventory of the writes of the Tenendry of Ord, comprehending the Newtown and Oldtown of Ord, Mill of Ord, &c., the earliest of which writs is a charter of alienation by Elizabeth Ord, portioner, of that ilk, to George Ogilvie of Dunlugus, of the Newtown of Ord, &c., 1580. Alexander Ord, apparent of Findochty, is referred to in 1594. In 1617 Alexander Ord of Findochty resigned the lands of Ord in favour of George Ogilvie of Dunlugus. As a detailed list of the Cullen House charters will shortly be deposited in the Library of the New Spalding Club, it is unnecessary to furnish further particulars. From vol. v. of *Register of the Privy Council of Scotland*, it appears that in 1596 Alexander Ord of that ilk, and Walter Ord in Banff, wrongfully raised letters against Walter Currou of Inchedrou and others. Among several Cautions by the Ords that appear in the same volume, is one of date 1594 by Alexander Ord of that ilk, for Walter Ord, burgess of Banff, Thomas Ord in Findochty, &c., not to harm William Gordon of Craig. In the Sheriff Court Books of Banff reference is made, in the year 1622, to Alexander Ord of Findochtie and his brother John, and in the year 1676 appear William Ord elder of Findochtie, William Ord younger, and his spouse Jean Keith. John Ord, Bailie of Cullen, can scarcely be said to have his name associated with pleasant memories from the part he took in the “Sweeping Charter,” 1748. There is a tombstone in the Churchyard of Cullen, erected by John Ord in 1744, and there are four tombstones to Ords in Banff Churchyard. The name is now comparatively rare in this locality.

Cullen.

C.

105. AULD REEKIE.—Though not a direct answer to the question as put, let me quote the following from the late James Grant's *Old and New Edinburgh*. “Auld Reekie,” a *soubriquet* which, though attributed to James VI., the afore-named writer [Chambers] affirms cannot be traced beyond the reign of Charles II., and assigns it to an old Fifeshire gentleman, Durham of Largo, who regulated the hour

of family worship and his children's bedtime as he saw the smoke of evening gather over the summits of the venerable city.”—Vol. III., p. 122. Sir Walter Scott evidently considered the appellation of “Auld Reekie” due to the smoke which was continually hanging over the city, as witness the following speech of Adam Woodcock, the falconer, as he and Roland Græme came in sight of the capital:—“Yonder stands Auld Reekie—you may see the smoke hover over her at twenty miles' distance, as the goss-hawk hangs over a plump of young wild ducks.”—*The Abbot*, ch. xvii. W. J. CALDER ROSS.

106. FASKEN.—This name is probably derived from Farskane (pronounced Fasken), a small estate in the neighbourhood of Cullen. It was formerly a place of some importance, a church existed there for some centuries subsequent to 1236. The site of the church and churchyard is still to be seen. Faskine is also a locality in Old Monkland, Lanarkshire. The surname Fasken is of rare occurrence in the N. E. counties. It will perhaps not be easy to give much information additional to what is found under “Inveikething” in Mr. Jervise's *Epitaphs in the N. E. of Scotland*. The association of the name with the locality is prior to all existing records, for since the Reformation Farskane has been held only by Hays, Ogilvies, Gordons, and the Seafeld family.

Cullen.

C.

112. BATTLE OF ALFORD.—The bibliography of this battle is pretty extensive, but it includes no local guide books. Of course, Mark Napier's books on Montrose and the Covenanted struggle are the great sources of information on the subject. A capital account of the battle from the opposite camp is to be found in King's admirable *Covenanters in the North*, 1846. The *Statistical Account* is dumb on the subject, while a patched up set of shreds is given in Smith's *New History of Aberdeenshire*, 1875. *The Thistle of Scotland* contains the ballad of the battle, reprinted with notes in Child's *English & Scotch Ballads*, vol. 8. A slight description is also given in the poem *Dom*, 1655. Spalding tantalizingly breaks his narrative just a month before the battle. Local tradition has found a good deal to say about the battle, although, as usual, it is totally unreliable. Many years ago, a man in armour sitting on a horse was found preserved in a moss, and tradition at once called him Lord George Gordon, but that unfortunate young nobleman was duly interred beside the bones of his fathers in Old Machar Cathedral, a few days after the battle.

J. MALCOLM BULLOCH.

In answer 89 (H. W. L.'s), in last number, for *Eminent read Ancient*; and, in answer 95 (H. W. L.'s), for *jaciant read faciant*.

Several articles in type unavoidably postponed till our next.

Title and Index to Vol. I. of S. N. & Q. now ready, and may be had from the Publishers, price 3d. The June number commences a new volume. Subscribers desirous of continuing are requested to remit the amount for the year 1888-89.

### Literature.

*The Common Good of the City of Aberdeen, 1319-1887.*  
A Historical Sketch by ALEXANDER M. MUNRO.  
Aberdeen: D. Wyllie & Son, 1888. [Pp. 75,  
7 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 5 ins.]

THIS is a plain narrative of the Corporation, Treasury or Common Good Funds, which are the various expressions now used to denote what is left of the ancient patrimony of the burgh, and the additional property which has, from time to time, been acquired through its agency. The expiscation of this somewhat intricate subject could not have fallen into better hands. Mr. Munro is a most careful archæologist, understands his subject fully, and expresses himself with perspicuity. To say that this little book, which was much wanted, requires to be studied with care, is no reflection on the author's lucidness so much as a proof of the recondite nature of the subject. We are sure that it will be read with the interest that attaches to every compendium of facts brought together with intelligent care. An appendix contains an interesting rescript of the "Rentall," "Fewmaillis," and "Annualis within the townne," with the corresponding "Discharge." There is also a most useful map of the Royalty and Freedom boundaries. Good taste marks the printing and get up of the book.

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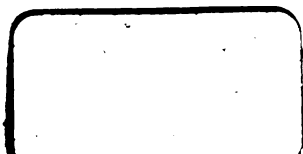
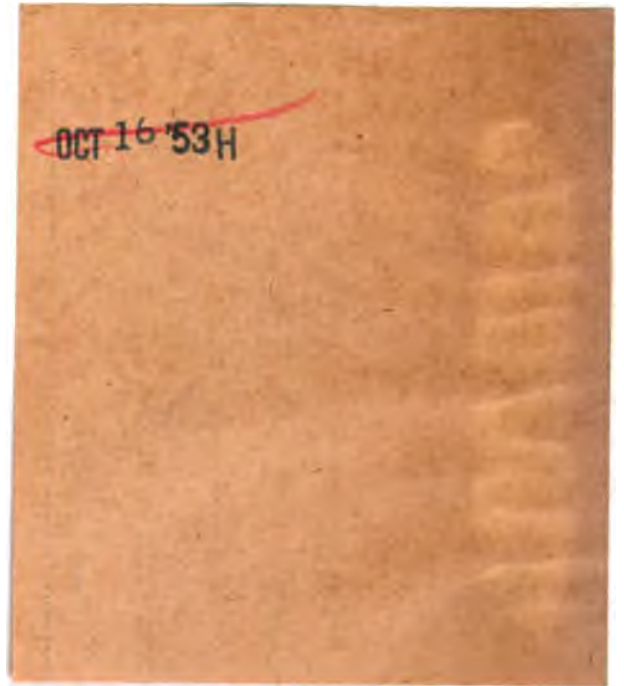
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