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Illustrations printed by Messrs H. M. KIRKWOOD & SONS.

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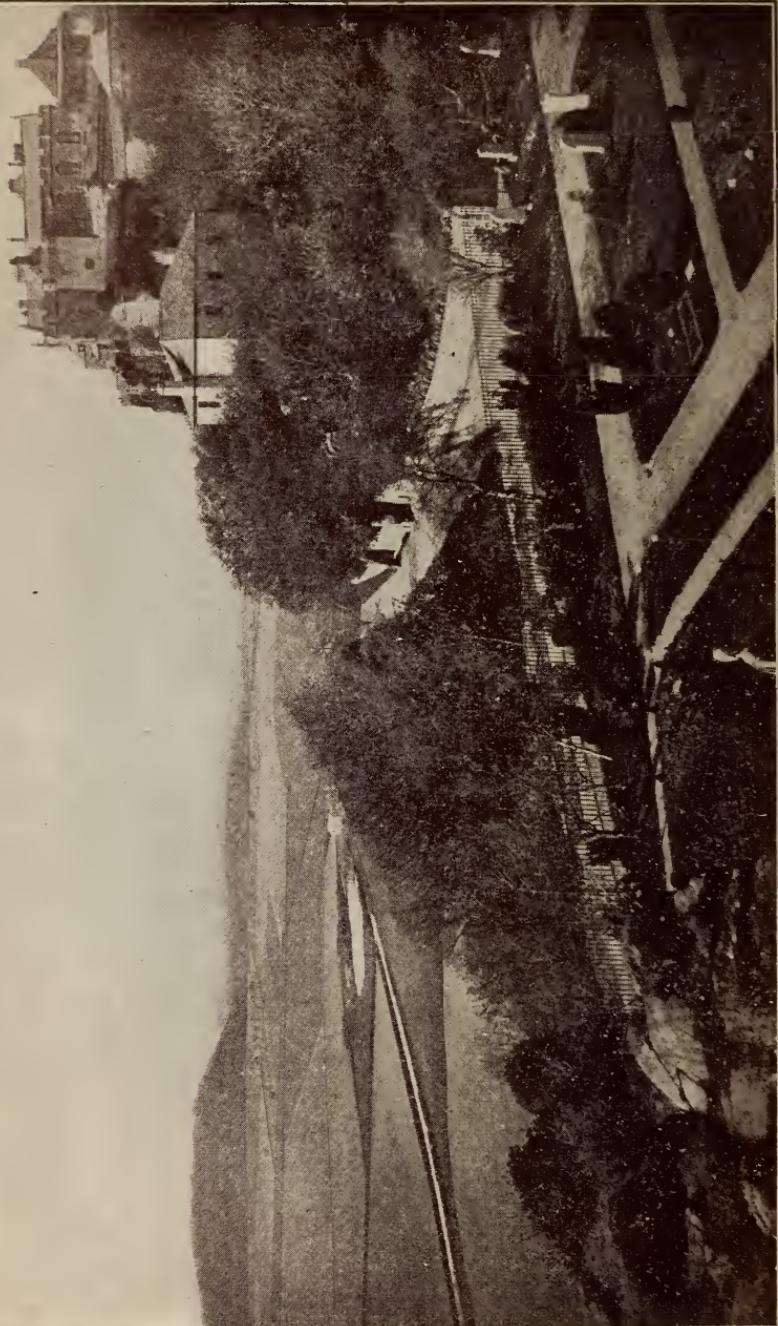
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INTRODUCTION.

BY A. F. HUTCHISON, M.A.

THIS book has been prepared and is published with the view of making more widely known the attractions of Stirling and its neighbourhood for the tourist and the visitor, and the advantages of the town as a place of permanent residence.

Accessibility.—Situated, as Stirling is, almost in the centre of Scotland, and in the direct line of communication between south and north, all the great railway systems may be said to converge at and pass through it. The Caledonian and North British Railways connect it with Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Perth, and, through those cities, with England and with the extreme north of Scotland. The east-going section of the North British communicates with Dunfermline, St. Andrews, and all the interesting parts of the “Kingdom of Fife,” as well as, by the Forth Bridge, with Edinburgh, and, by the Tay Bridge, with Dundee, and joins the East Coast lines to Aberdeen. The Forth and Clyde line connects the town with Aberfoyle and Loch Lomond, and the West Highlands generally; while the Callander and Oban Railway takes the visitor to the romantic scenery of the Trossachs, Loch Earn, Loch Tay, Loch Awe, and on to Oban—the centre for exploring the Western Highlands and Islands. The distance of the town from Glasgow is 29 miles, from Edinburgh 36, from Loch Lomond 30, and from Oban 84 miles.

Beauty of Scenery.—Thus readily accessible from all quarters, Stirling is in itself well worthy of the attention of the visitor, from the beauty of the scenery and the historical interest of the town and neighbourhood, as well as for the facilities—unequalled in Scotland—which it affords for visiting spots of picturesque and romantic beauty, and places celebrated in the history, legends, and literature of the country. It is not necessary to dwell at length on the magnificent landscape which spreads before the visitor to “the Rock” of Stirling. Every traveller has felt “the endless charm of this wonderful scene,” and many have described it in language more or less enthusiastic. This is how it is celebrated by the gentle essayist and poet, Alexander Smith:—“Eastward,” he says, “from the Castle ramparts stretches a great plain bounded on either side by mountains, and before you the vast fertility dies into distance flat as the ocean when winds are asleep. It is through this plain that the

Forth has drawn her glittering coils—a silvery entanglement of loops and links—a watery labyrinth—which Macneil has sung in no ignoble numbers, and which every summer the whole world flocks to see. Turn round, look in the opposite direction, and the aspect of the country has entirely changed. It undulates like a rolling sea. Heights swell up into the blackness of pines, and then sink away into valleys of fertile green. At your feet the Bridge of Allan sleeps in azure smoke—the most fashionable of all the Scottish spas—wherein, by hundreds of invalids, the last new novel is being diligently perused. Beyond are the classic woods of Keir ; and ten miles further, what see you ? A multitude of blue mountains climbing the heavens ! The heart leaps up to greet them—the ramparts of the land of romance, from the mouths of whose glens broke of old the foray of the freebooter, and, with a chief in front with banner and pibroch in the wind, the terror of the Highland war. Stirling, like a huge brooch, clasps Highlands and Lowlands together."

Historic and Antiquarian Interest.—Of the wealth of interest in and about the town for the enquirer into national, local, and social history, for the student of old Scottish ecclesiastical, domestic, and street architecture, and for the investigator into the past generally, the papers in this book will serve to give some idea. They are far, however, from exhausting that interest. In a book—prepared in the manner and for the purposes which have ruled the preparation of this one—it is obviously inadvisable to attempt to discuss, at the length which their importance requires, all the topics of interest which gather round the town and its ancient buildings, and impossible even completely to indicate them. But enough may have been done and said to show the stranger and the dweller within the gates the abounding interest, of a historic and antiquarian character, with which the town overflows.

Places of Interest in the Vicinity.—And if the town itself is interesting, scarcely less so are numerous places which lie all around, within an easy day's travel by rail, steamboat, and road. In fact, the tourist would do well to make Stirling his headquarters for some time, and from thence explore the many interesting scenes within his reach. He will find ample facilities. The hotels are numerous and excellent, or, if he prefers the retirement of private lodgings, these are easily procurable. Trains go in all directions, cars and 'buses cover the immediate neighbourhood, hiring is ample and moderate, and the roads are excellent for the cyclist or the sturdy pedestrian. Bannockburn, the Field of Sauchie, the Gillies Hill, Beaton's Mill, Cambuskenneth Abbey, the Field of Stirling, the Wallace Tower, Bridge of Allan, and Dunblane—with its Cathedral and its memories of

the Culdees—are all within a short distance and connected with the town by cars or other conveyance. The beautiful glens of the Ochils—Menstrie and Alva Glens, Castle Campbell Glen, Glen Devon, with the Rumbling Bridge and the Caldron Linn—are accessible by rail, and, on certain days of the week, by coach, and, besides their romantic beauty, are interesting to the botanist and geologist. A journey of sixteen miles, by rail or coach, opens up the quiet beauties of the Lake of Menteith and sweet Inchmahome. Another journey of twenty-one miles will take the visitor to Aberfoyle and Loch Ard to vivify his conceptions of the bold Rob Roy and the redoubtable Bailie Nicol Jarvie. Sixteen miles by rail and eight by coach takes him, through the whole scenery of the "Lady of the Lake," to the Trossachs and Loch Katrine, and Loch Lomond may be reached either this way or by taking another day and travelling by Forth and Clyde Railway to Balloch, and thence sailing up the whole glorious stretch of the lake. Other places easily reached in a day from Stirling are Strathyre and Balquhidder (with Rob Roy's grave), Loch Earn, Killin, and Loch Tay, and all the places of interest along the line to Oban. The historical student can readily visit, besides the battlefields that have been already mentioned, those of Sheriffmuir, Falkirk, and Kilsyth; while the antiquarian will find material for study and research in the Wall of Antoninus and the Roman Camps at Ardoch. These places of interest are mentioned merely by way of sample. There are many others which, if the visitor stays for some time, he will have no difficulty in discovering for himself.

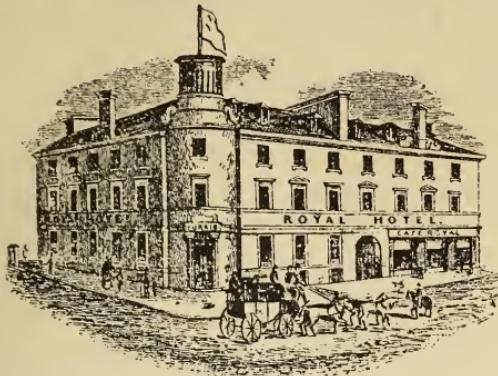
Residential Advantages.—As a place of permanent residence, Stirling has advantages which few provincial towns possess. Its proximity and easy access to Edinburgh and Glasgow keep it in close contact with the life of these cities; while, at the same time, it is in a remarkable degree self-contained. Supplies of every kind can be had from the numerous and enterprising business establishments in the town, which vie with those of the cities in the amplitude and excellence of their stores. Villa and other residences—many of them charming in situation and pleasing in architecture—abound, and fine sites for building are available. The water supply is abundant and of the best quality. The salubrity of the climate has long been recognised. The western mountain-barriers drain the clouds from the Atlantic of their moisture, while the east wind has lost much of its sting before reaching the town. The rock on which Stirling is built breaks up the breezes from all quarters, and causes a free circulation of air all round. Few places, or none, in the British Islands can be found where the mortality from consumption is lower.

The town also has a vigorous social life, and numerous organizations for religious, benevolent, educational, and recreative purposes. It has a fine picture gallery, free consulting library, and a most interesting and well-arranged local museum. Its schools take rank with the foremost in the country. The High School, a very ancient foundation, besides affording a classical and commercial education of the highest type, has completely equipped schools of Science and Art. The spacious King's Park gives an open recreation ground to all, where cricket, football, and other games may be freely played. In addition, the County Cricket Club has a fine playing ground at Williamfield, and the King's Park Football Club has its special grounds at Forthbank. The inevitable golf course is provided in the King's Park, and, although this course is laid out and upkept by the Stirling Golf Club, it is free to all comers. A very vigorous Amateur Boating and Swimming Club practises on the Forth, which, from its smooth waters and freedom from shallows and other interruptions, is peculiarly adapted for this species of athletic exercise. Were these and many other advantages both for young and old better known—and it is the purpose of this Handbook to make them so—Stirling ought to become a still more favourite place of residence than it has been in the past.

The Articles and their Writers.—The articles in this book are the work of various writers. Each of these is believed to have special acquaintance with the subject or subjects on which he writes, and he alone is responsible for the statements and the style of his articles. The Committee who allotted the various subjects made it their endeavour to prevent as far as possible overlapping in the matter. But it is obvious that in a series of articles on related subjects, prepared as these have been by writers working each independently of the others, absolute freedom from overlapping was impossible to secure. If cases of it are observed by the reader, he will take this as the explanation.

It is not intended that this book should interfere with the ordinary guide books. Several excellent works of this kind are issued by various publishers in the town, and to these the reader is referred for more minute details and instructions for viewing the town and neighbourhood, which it does not enter into the purpose of this more general Handbook to supply.

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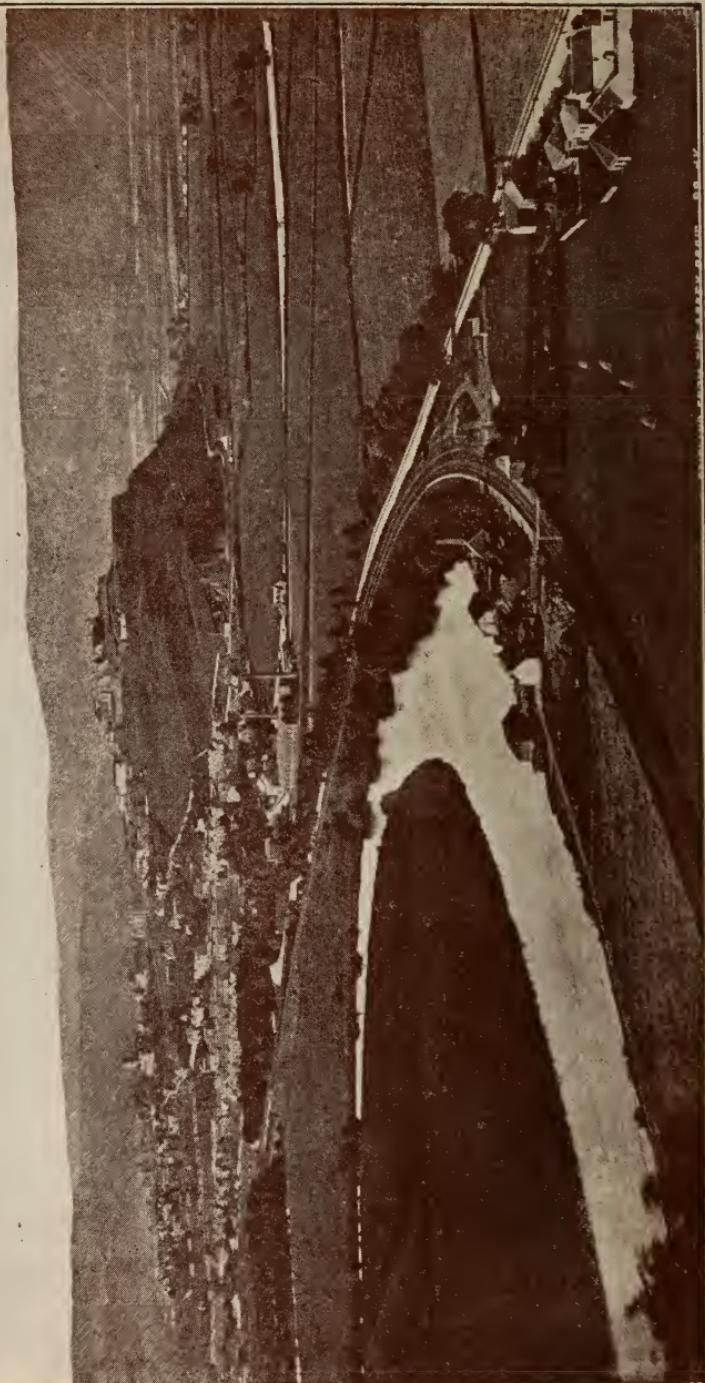
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STIRLING, FROM ABBEY CRAIG.



STIRLING FROM ABBEY CRAIG.

BY EX-PROVOST YELLOWLEES.

THIS view presents us with the aspect of Stirling towards the north, and sloping towards the east. In the foreground and to the extreme right we get two glimpses of the river Forth, meandering through its grassy haughs—Westhaugh, Winchelhaugh, Bridgehaugh, Queenshaugh—and affording excellent facilities for salmon fishing.

From the present point of view we may see in three directions how well Stirling is situated as a railway centre. The line that runs parallel to the nearest bend of the river takes passengers direct to Alloa, Dunfermline, and the coast towns of Fife; between the two visible banks of the river we see part of the main Caledonian Railway to Callander, Oban, Perth, and the north; while beyond the further link we can trace part of a line running direct to Loch Lomond, and connecting the Forth and the Clyde *via* Balloch.

The large vacant space shown to the north of the Castle, and within the precincts of the burgh, is occupied by the Gowan Hills, and is unenclosed Crown property. These hills may be truly described as classic ground. The eminence nearest us is the ancient Motehill—the place of assembly, of judgment, and of execution in days of yore. Here the Beheading Stone is set, and it was here that the Duke of Argyle, in 1715, previous to the battle of Sheriffmuir, placed a battery to command and guard the bridge.

On another eminence nearer the Castle there may still be seen, inscribed on a rock, initials construed to bear that the Second Roman Legion kept watch at that spot. The ridge nearest the Castle, and separated from it only by the Pass of Ballangeich, formed a suitable platform for the warlike engines, hurling stones, javelins and leaden balls, with which Edward I. bombarded the Castle in 1304. On the same ridge, in January, 1746, the Highlanders under Prince Charlie planted one of the batteries with which they unsuccessfully attempted to capture the Castle after they had secured the surrender of the town.

The built-on portion of the town shown in this view is for the most part that occupied by the industrial and middle classes, but near the sky-line some of the more important buildings may

be discerned, such as the High School, the Military Prison, Greyfriars' Church, and, dominating all, the Castle Buildings, which form the crowning glory of the ancient and royal Burgh.

The background visible beyond the town presents the uplands of Touch, Touchadam, and Sauchie—these abound in scenes of commanding extent and rare beauty.

The following excellent description of the scenery is taken from the late Rev. Dr. Rogers' "A Week at Bridge of Allan" (second edition):—"Here we feel elevated, as if by enchantment, in the midst of a fairy scene, a panorama of the most ennobling character. Around is a level plain, watered by the silvery courses of the river's Forth, Teith, and Allan, and guarded at almost every point by stupendous mountains. For miles on every side, every thing is picturesque, beautiful, or sublime, there being not one single feature to mar the loveliness of the landscape or detract from the poetry of the scene. Westward, in the plain, rise the insulated crags of Stirling Rock and Craigforth; the former surmounted by its venerable castle and ancient town, the latter clad by a profusion of foliage, adorning its modern mansion; while beyond are the lovely park of Blair-Drummond, and the dark heathy fronts of the hills of Touch and Kippen. Northwestward, the mighty crests of the mist-capped Grampians ascend in the distance, while in front, at the western termination of the Ochils, is snugly ensconced Bridge of Allan village; the princely mansion of Keir and house of Westerton resting on the shelving ground rising from the plain. On the north, in an elevated district, is Sheriffmuir's dark battlefield, and immediately beneath it, the sloping park of Airthrey, with its castle, lake, and summer-house. In the distant east rise the Saline Hills; onwards from the left stretches the rugged range of the Ochils, with the villages of Blair-Logie, Menstry, Alva, and Tillicoultry at its base, and Alva Park on its sloping front; while embosomed in trees, in the midst of the plain, are the snug mansions of Powis and Gogar, and the venerable house of Manor. On the south, seemingly in a peninsula formed by the winding of the Forth, are the ruins of Cambuskenneth Abbey, and a little farther distant several structures, each of which is worthy of the examination of the tourist."

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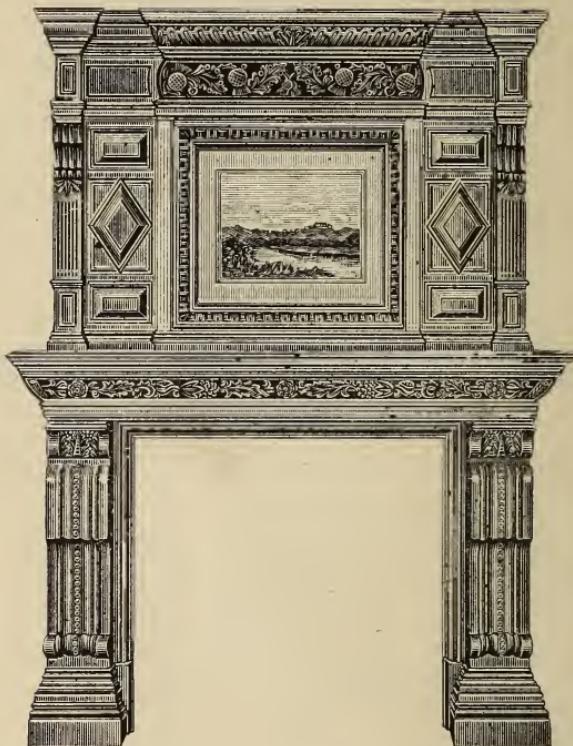
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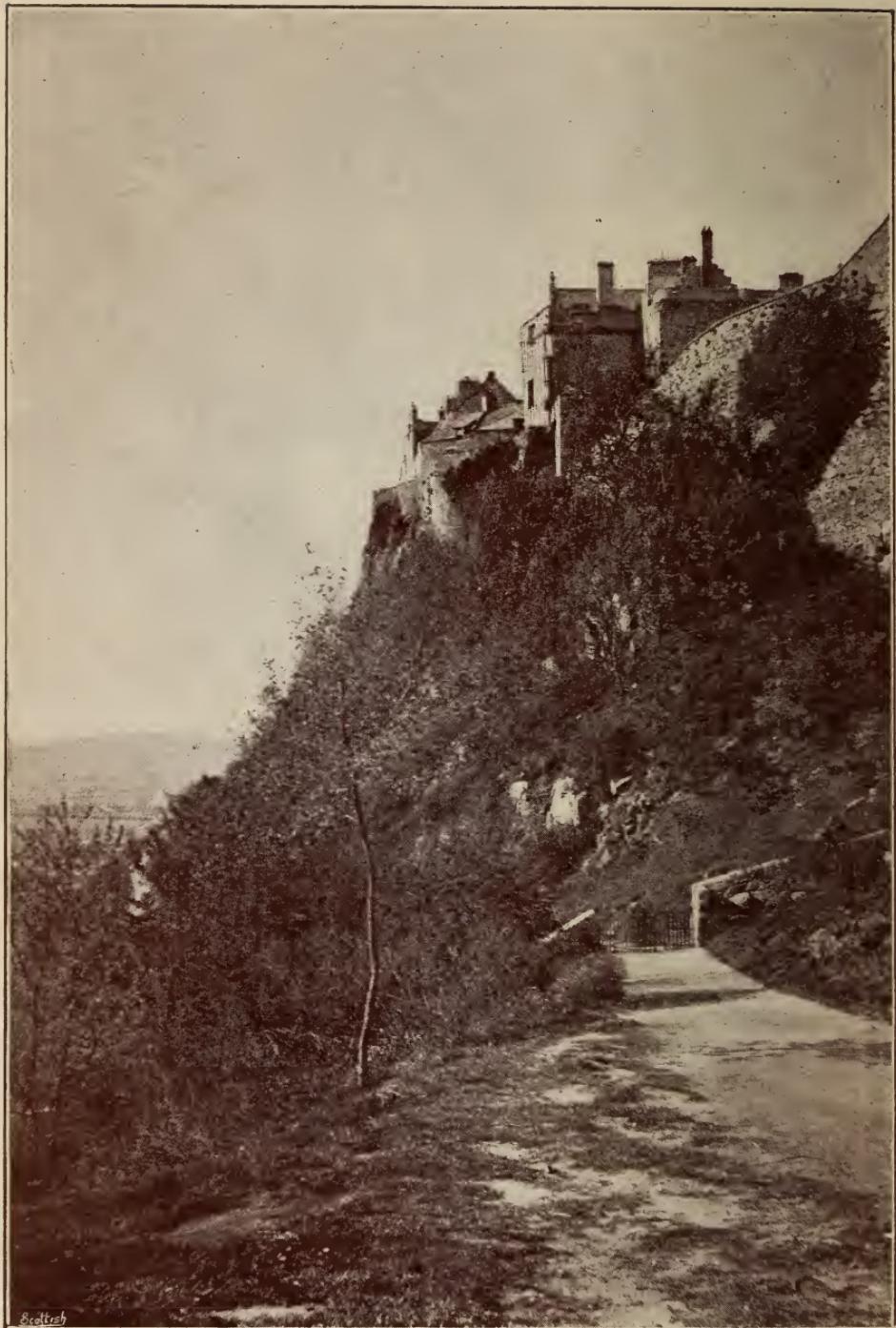
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STIRLING CASTLE, FROM BACK WALK.

STIRLING CASTLE FROM BACK WALK.

BY JAMES TODD, F.E.I.S., STIRLING.

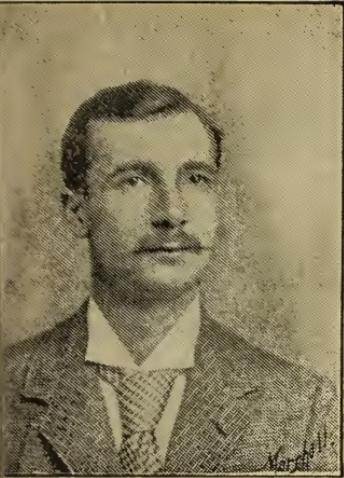
THE most interesting and important edifice in Stirling is the Castle crowning the precipitous extremity of the ridge on which the town is built, and forming the most conspicuous object to the surrounding country. The Esplanade in front of the entrance commands magnificent views of some of the fairest and most historic scenes in Scotland. On the north side of the Esplanade there is a massive statue of King Robert Bruce, erected in 1877. The patriot hero, who is looking towards Bannockburn, is represented as sheathing his sword in the moment of victory.

The visitor, who is fairly familiar with the map of Scotland, can hardly fail to understand the strategic importance of this ancient fortress, situated at the only crossing place between the two well-defined divisions of the country. The rocky eminence on which it stands rises 220 feet above the plain, terminating precipitously on the north-west side of the town in weather-worn columns of basalt, many of which show clear markings of glacial action during the "great ice age." Long before the dawn of history the commanding position would naturally suggest the erection of a stronghold. The Roman general, Agricola, is said to have erected fortifications on the rock, and the great military Roman road passed immediately beneath it. The semi-legendary St. Monenna, who died in 519, according to the Irish chroniclers, founded one of her seven churches in the Castle of "Strivelyne." In the ninth and tenth centuries it frequently figures in the half-real, half-mythical battles between the Northumbrian Saxons and the fierce, warlike Scots of the north. At first it seems to have consisted of only a single tower, probably similar to the Castle depicted on the burgh arms, but from time to time it received considerable additions, as it became a favourite residence of the early Scottish Kings.

In the twelfth century its history becomes more definite and authentic. In 1120, Alexander I. built a chapel in the Castle, and he died there in 1124. David I. is known to have lived in it, and William the Lion closed his long and chequered career within its walls. When Alexander III. died in 1286, Stirling becomes the focus of Scottish history. Edward I., after deposing John Balliol, invaded Scotland, marching on Stirling, which had been abandoned by the Scots. Before returning to England he left a strong garrison in the Castle. At the battle of Stirling Bridge, in 1297, Wallace inflicted a crushing defeat on the English, and the Castle was restored to the Scots. In the following year, Edward I. defeated Wallace in the battle of Falkirk, and the

Castle again was temporarily in the hands of the English. The Scots soon drove out the English and held the Castle, till in 1303 Edward I. again appeared in Scotland, carrying everything before him. Stirling was the last spot in Scotland to hold out, and the Castle sustained its longest and most memorable siege. The governor, William Oliphard or Olifant, could muster less than 200 men, and had opposed to him the ablest warrior of his time, with all the military resources of a warlike nation at his disposal. The siege began on the 22nd of April, and lasted for nineteen weeks. Thirteen engines, marvellous in their day for ingenuity of device and weight of metal, kept pounding away at the walls with little intermission, but still the heroic Olifant held out. One engine, the "War Wolfe," did great execution, partially breaching the walls, but the immediate presence of starvation, rather than the success of the assailants, compelled the garrison to surrender. Olifant and the leading defenders appeared before the conqueror, and, with ropes round their necks, performed the humiliating ceremony exacted at that time from prisoners of war. The governor was confined for four years in the Tower of London. Obtaining his release he returned to Scotland, and in 1329 died at Aberdalgie, where his monument may still be seen. Robert the Bruce was crowned in 1306, and Edward I. died in 1307. The Scottish fortresses were gradually recaptured, till in 1313 Stirling Castle alone remained in the hands of the English. The Scots, under Edward Bruce, laying siege to it, Moubrey, the governor, agreed to surrender, if not relieved before the Feast of St. John, June 24th, 1314. To save the Castle, Edward II. invaded Scotland at the head of an immense army, arriving near Stirling on June 23rd. The next day the decisive battle of Bannockburn was fought, and, according to agreement, the Castle was surrendered. During the minority of David Bruce it underwent several sieges. In 1339 it was retaken by the Scots, and never again changed masters for more than 300 years, although the English during that period often invaded the country.

Under the Stuart kings, Stirling Castle became the Windsor of Scotland, and the scene of many of the events which make up the wild and varied romance of Scottish history. James I., from its secure shelter, often dealt out sharp and swift justice to his intriguing and turbulent nobles. Below the Castle at the Mote Hill, the end of the Gowan Hill nearest the river, may still be seen the Beheading Stone, where the Regent Murdoch, his sons, and other relatives were executed in 1425. James II. was born in it as well as James V., and James VI. was educated there by the celebrated George Buchanan, whose room in the palace is still pointed out. James V., the "King of the Commons," made it his favourite residence; and, disguised as the "Gudeman of Ballanreich," was wont to steal out of it in quest of adventures, as well as information about the condition of the country.



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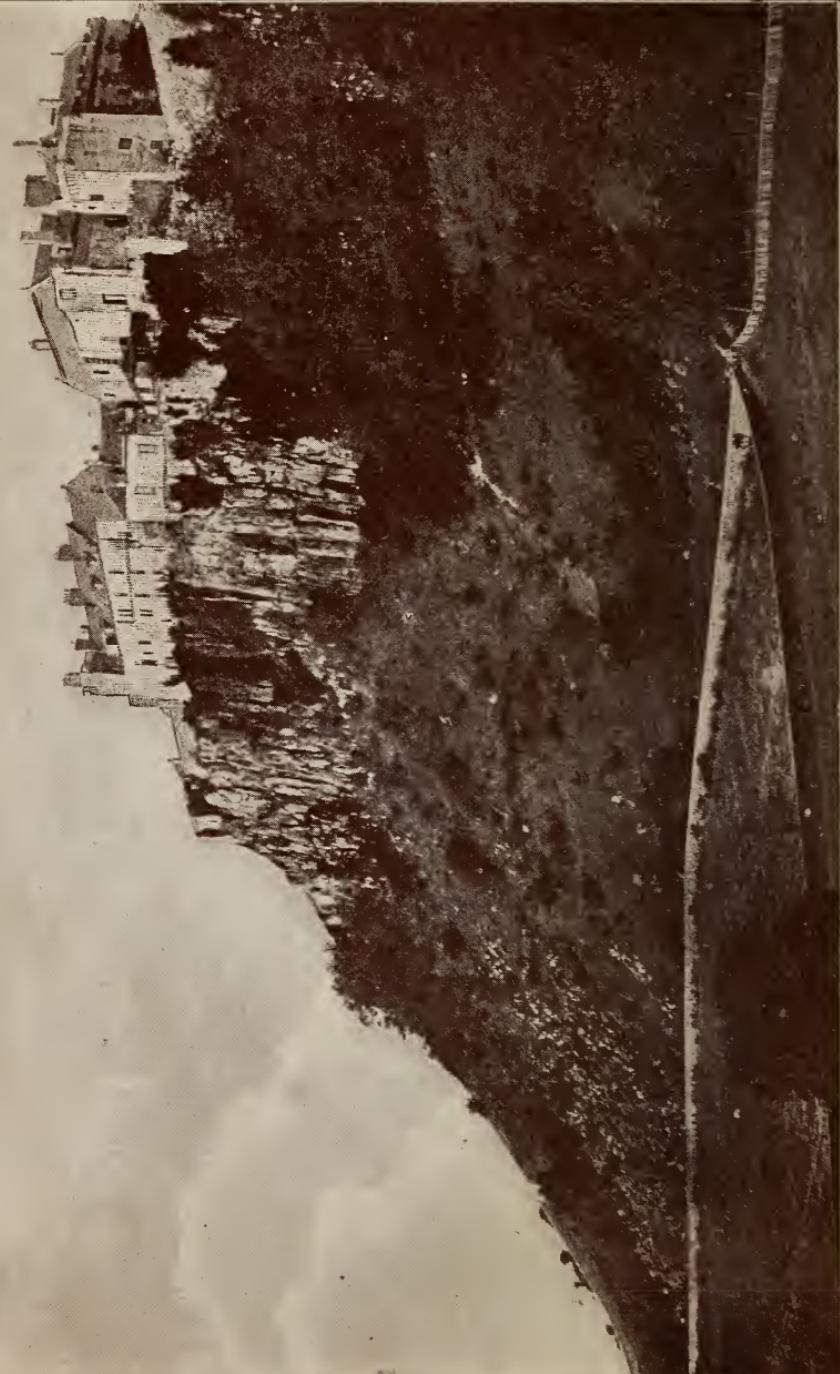
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STIRLING CASTLE, FROM THE SOUTH WEST.



STIRLING CASTLE.

(CONTINUED).

TWO Queen Regents, Margaret Tudor, widow of James IV., and Mary of Lorraine, the second wife of James V., spent much of their time in Stirling. Mary Stuart and her son, James VI., both spent their early years within its walls. During the stirring times of the Reformation, and the struggles between the King's men and the Queen's men, the Castle occupied almost as prominent a position as it had done during the war of independence.

When the Court removed to London in 1603, the Castle gradually declined as a royal residence, but again became of some importance as a fortress during the troublous times of the Revolution. In 1651 it was besieged and taken by General Monk. During Mar's Rebellion in 1715 it was held by the forces of the King under the Duke of Argyle, who effectually blocked the passage of the Forth, and suppressed the rising. In the "Forty-Five" the rebels marched to Stirling with the intention of seizing the Castle, but it was stoutly defended by Blakeney till relieved by the Duke of Cumberland.

The oldest existing buildings date from the 14th century. Entering from the Esplanade, the visitor crosses the drawbridge over a deep dry fosse; and, passing beneath two archways, reaches the original Entrance surmounted by the flag-staff. Passing under it he enters the *Lower Quadrangle*, on the left of which is the *Palace*, built by James V., and adorned with a profusion of grotesque statuary. The court in the centre is called the *Lions' Den*. The first floor contains a lofty and spacious suite of state rooms, and the floor above the residential rooms, now the officers' quarters. Through a low archway behind, we enter a battery overlooking the town, called the *Ladies' Look-Out*.

From here we can reach the *Upper Quadrangle*. On the right is the *Great Hall*, commonly called the *Parliament Hall*, attributed to James III. With the exception of Westminster Hall, it is the largest of any royal Castle in Britain, measuring 126 ft. by 36 ft. The roof has been renewed, but otherwise its general appearance remains unaltered. Since 1777, along with the Palace, it has been utilized as a barrack, and internally it has been considerably mutilated and defaced. In the vaults below, the Radical prisoners, Baird and Hardie, were confined previous to their execution in 1820. They were beheaded near the Market Cross with all the grim formalities, and not a little of the cruelty usually associated with barbarous times. To the west of the square is the *Douglas Room*, where James II. slew the Earl

of Douglas in 1452, because he refused to break his treasonable "band" with the northern Earls. The body was thrown from the window, and buried in the courtyard below. The end of the block containing this room was partially destroyed by fire in 1855, and its "restoration" was completed in a style entirely out of harmony with the surrounding buildings. The west side of the upper square is formed by the *Chapel Royal*, built by James VI. for the baptism of Prince Henry, his eldest son, in 1594. The Scottish Estates voted £100,000 for its erection. The ceiling was garnished with gold, and the walls were gorgeously adorned with pictures, sculpture, and other ornaments. The festivities connected with the ceremony were on a scale of unparalleled magnificence, comprising field sports, tournaments, masques, and tilting at the ring. A sumptuous banquet in the Great Hall followed.

Near the northern entrance, facing the *Ballangeich Road*, is the Mint, where bawbees, originally called babies, and half-babies, were coined by James V. in 1542. The erections between the original entrance and the present one were constructed in the reign of Queen Anne. The *Spur Battery* to the right and *Queen Anne's Battery* to the left of the present entrance belong to the same period.

The view from the Castle ramparts is unrivalled, both in natural beauty and in scenes of historic interest. The *Victoria Look-Out* (the name given to the spot whence the Queen and the Prince Consort admired the surroundings of Stirling in 1842), and *Queen Mary's Look-Out*, marked by the melancholy initials M. R. 1561, are both near the Douglas Room, and command the most extensive panorama. Stretching away to the west are the "varied realms of fair Menteith." In the background are the stately Grampians, Ben Voirlieh, Ben More, Ben Ledi, Benvenue, and Ben Lomond; in the foreground the level plain with the wooded rock of Craigforth. To the east stretches the long line of the green Ochils, dappled o'er with alternate patches of light and shade, and the Abbey Craig, whose wooded crest is crowned with the *Wallace Monument*. Below are the massive tower of *Cambuskenneth Abbey*, and the Forth winding its tortuous way through the fertile carse, its "links" forming many beautiful peninsulas. Luxuriant woods and numerous mansion houses lend an additional charm to the banks of the river as it gradually widens out into the Firth. On a clear day the Castle of Edinburgh and Arthur's Seat are distinctly seen. The associations that cluster round "Gray Stirling with her towers and town" appeal to the imagination of every one conversant with Scottish history. Within historic times six great battles—Stirling Bridge, Falkirk (1298), Bannockburn, Sauchieburn, Sheriffmuir, and Falkirk (1746)—were fought within sight of its hoary ramparts.



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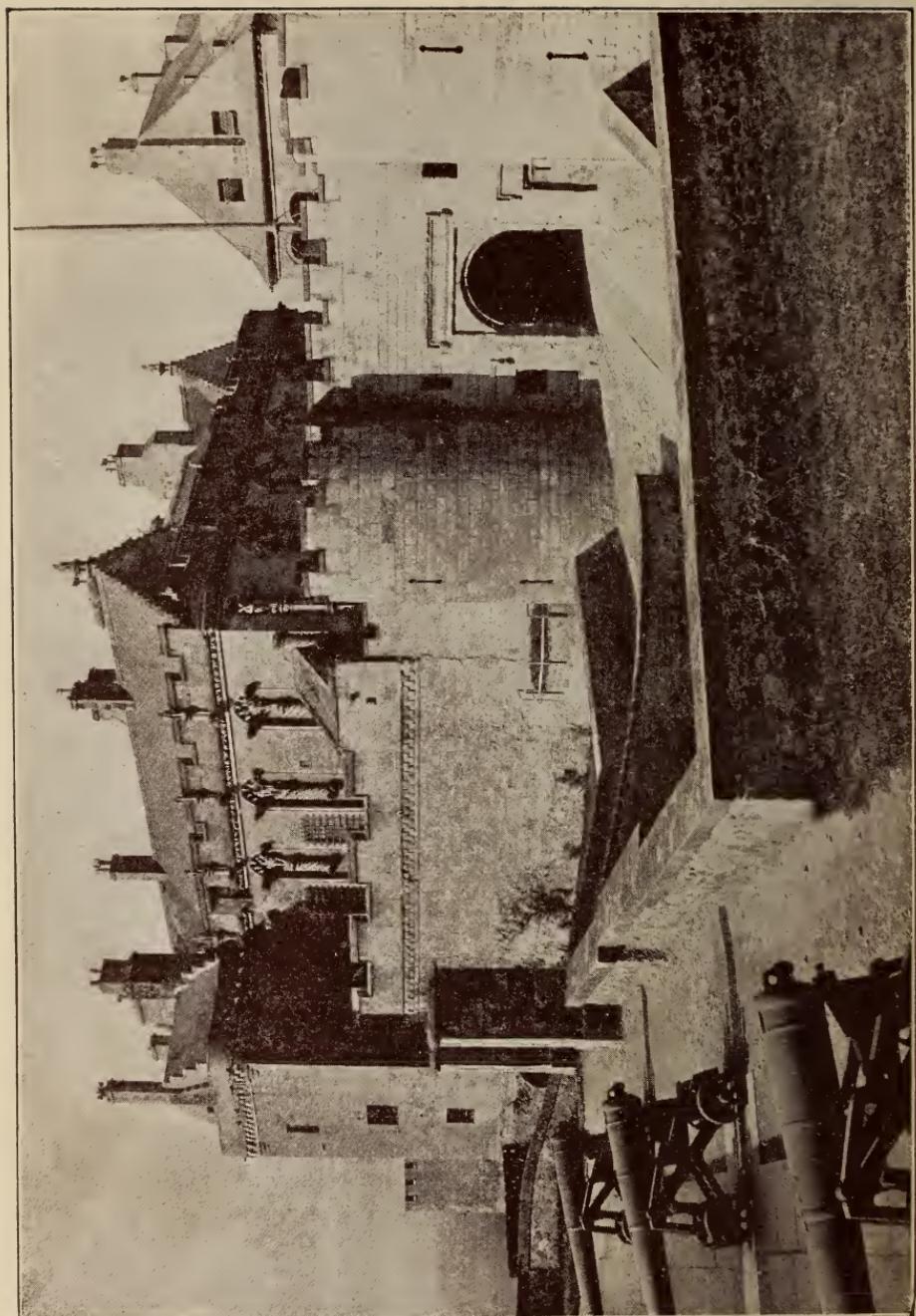
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ENTRANCE GATEWAY, STIRLING CASTLE.

ENTRANCE GATEWAY, STIRLING CASTLE.

BY J. W. SMALL, F.S.A. (Scot.)

THE old entrance gateway to the Castle—not the one you enter under, over the moat from the esplanade, nor the one a little further up with the Crown and A.R. carved on its keystone—but the next one, flanked by two round towers, and admitting you to the lower courtyard, is contemporaneous with the building of the Parliament Hall, and we know that it was erected by our Scottish King, James the Third, and probably was built by the same architect as did the Hall—Cochrane, the unfortunate favourite of the King, who was hanged along with some others over Lauder Bridge by the rebel lords. The present gateway is not now complete. Originally, it had two flanking towers, one at each side of the present ones, and these towers had been much higher than those remaining are at present. In old prints we see these ancient towers to this height, crowned with corbelled parapets, and pyramidal or conical roofs. This is a very fine example of military architecture of this period. There are vaulted chambers underneath, probably used as dungeons or prisons. Some of these are full of rubbish, and there is only one to which access can be got, that under the west tower; but the entrance is so narrow and dark, with a ten-feet drop, that I would not advise tourists to attempt its examination. The guides will readily point out this black hole to any anxious visitor. There are two built-up openings at either side of the centre entrance. These are not windows, as the general public might take them for, but side entrances or doorways. Originally, to gain admission to the Castle from the esplanade, you had to cross a wooden bridge; not a drawbridge as at present entrance, as there are no arrangements in the masonry of gateway for receiving the necessary apparatus to work one. This wooden bridge crossed a large ditch filled with water, and in case of a raid or attack upon the Castle, would be removed. You can see the marks of where the large iron gates had been, and the opening for the portcullis. Each of these three gateways had been provided with gate and portcullis, and the three gateways next the lower courtyard had had portcullises, but no gates. Should an enemy force the two outer iron gates, the inside ones could be lowered, and those inside would have a chance of keeping the enemy who had got inside at bay, or clearing them out,

as there is no stairway in these three entrances to the next storey. The ground floor rooms of the towers had been used as the guard-room, and their thick walls are pierced with loopholes for shooting through. How well Sir Walter Scott had noted the most of these things is shown by his reference to them in his "Lady of the Lake"—

"Ye towers ! within whose circuit dread
A Douglas by his sovereign bled."

Also—

"At dawn the towers of Stirling rang
With soldier step and weapon clang,
While drums, with rolling note, foretell
Relief to weary sentinel.
Through narrow loop and casement barr'd,
The sunbeams sought the Court of Guard."

The entrance to the first floor of the gateway towers had been from an outside stair in the lower courtyard, possibly on to the flanking battlemented wall to the west of the tower. The eight or nine courses of stonework on the top of towers and gateway are comparatively modern. The label moulding above the doorway, and the section of the mouldings round jambs, all indicate a building erected in the middle of the fifteenth century.

This old gateway could tell many a tale and reveal many a secret if stones could speak. Its own builder, James III., after his defeat and death at Sauchieburn, would be carried through its portals, in the midst of his mourning soldiery, and re-carried under them, to his burial at Cambuskenneth Abbey. His son, James IV., was born in the Castle, and lived here, and would have to enter by this same entrance.

At this gateway a dramatic scene took place in 1515 between Margaret Tudor and the Duke of Albany. An attempt to get possession of her children at Edinburgh was baffled by the Queen, but feeling she would be more secure at Stirling, she escaped to there. The Duke of Albany then appeared before the Castle with an army prepared to lay siege to it. Her worthless husband having practically deserted her, and having no wish to undergo the horrors and privations of a siege, she sent word to Albany that she was ready to give up her children. She presented herself at the gateway of the Castle along with them, one of them being the infant James V. Putting into his hands the massive keys of the fortress, she motioned to the child to give them to Albany, who kneeling took them, caressed the boy, and returned the children to the mother, on the condition that they were to remain at Stirling Castle.

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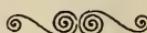
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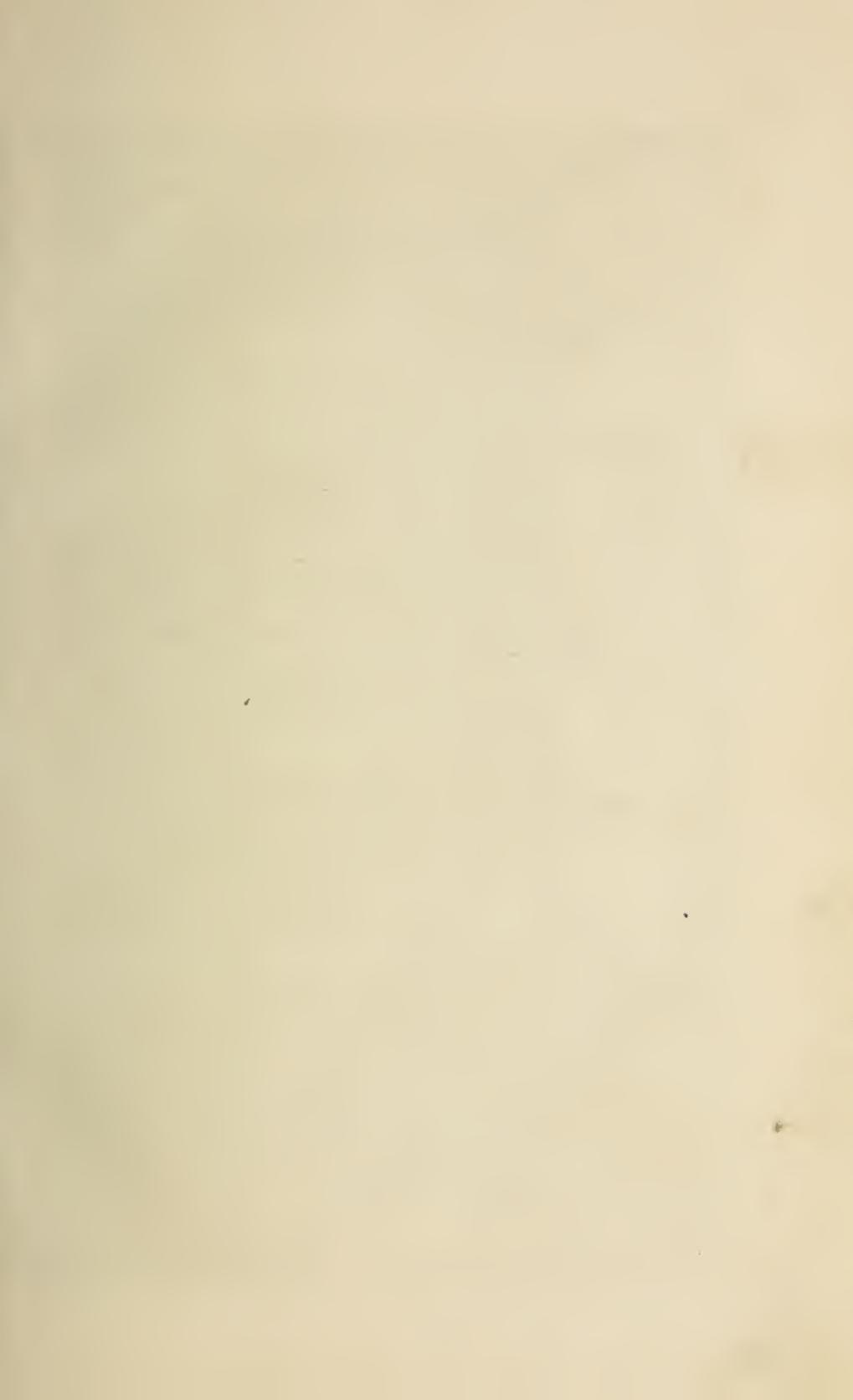


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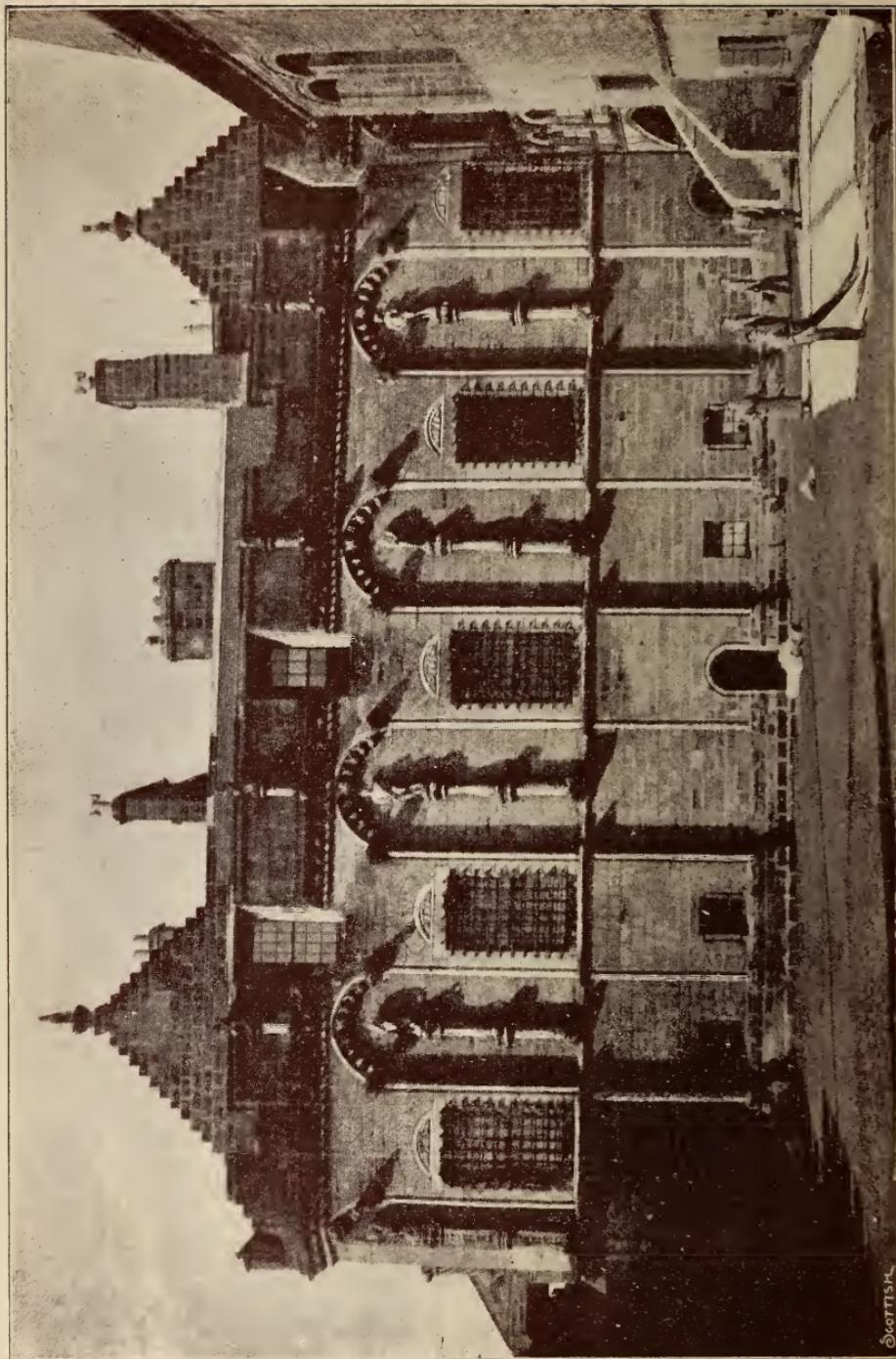


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THE PALACE, STIRLING CASTLE

SCOTTISH



THE PALACE, STIRLING CASTLE.

BY J. W. SMALL, F.S.A. (Scot.)

TO the west of the gateway is a corbelled and battlemented wall, connected with a square tower or donjon. This square tower is of an earlier date than the gateway. Its parapet is corbelled in a similar style to the enclosing walls, having corner turrets at top, with a saddle-backed roof, the crow steps of which are peculiar from their shape, being what one might call "gabled crow steps." This tower and wall, as well as the corbelled wall facing the north, I take to be of the time of James II.—1437-1460.

We now enter under the centre archway of gateway, and find ourselves in the lower courtyard of the ancient Castle of Stirling. The most prominent building that attracts our attention is the Palace of King James the Fifth. To the south you will notice the stairway leading up to what is called the Princes' Walk. This, do doubt, had led up to the battlements of the encircling walls, and also to the upper storeys of the gateway.

This Palace of James the Fifth is built in the form of a square, with an internal courtyard styled the Lions' Den, and incorporated into it on its south side is the square tower of James the Second's time, already referred to. It consists of three storeys in height, the ground flat being occupied by store rooms and other places of a like nature. The first floor is the principal one, and consisted of the dining rooms, reception rooms, withdrawing rooms, and other public and private apartments suitable to a royal residence; while the upper flat would contain the sleeping chambers of the royal household. The rooms in the first floor are large and airy, having windows of an exceptional size. The fireplaces are all of stone, and beautifully carved.

The whole of the seen fronts are divided into arcaded recesses and square piers, and has been carried out as a whole by one master mind, whether by James V. himself or his architect it is difficult to say, but I am of opinion His Majesty had a good deal to do with it. It is said that this style of work was common in France at the time that James V. visited it, and where he married his Queen, but I have no hesitation in saying the work was executed by Scottish hands.

The style of the Palace is what we call Renaissance. Just at the time when Gothic architecture was dying a natural death,

we see traces of the Gothic in cusped arches of the recesses, and in some of the mouldings, and the Renaissance is plainly visible in the Acanthus carved pillars supporting the carved figures, in the winged head carved in the cornice, and other details, and is probably one of the earliest examples which Scotland has of this period and style of architecture. Above each first-floor window is a carved tympanum bearing the royal initials, J. 5, on a tablet, supported by a conventionalized dolphin on each side.

The windows of the first floor are heavily barred with iron, and the visitor will notice the curious way they are intertwined, one-half going one way and the other half the other. It is said about these gratings in the windows, that they were supposed to have been executed for James the Sixth's protection, and a story is told of the blacksmith who did the work—a St. Ninians man—that he got no payment until after James the Sixth mounted the throne of England as James the First. The blacksmith went up to London with his account, and presented it to His Majesty, who authorised payment thereof. The account was made out in pounds Scots, and he got paid by the Treasury in London in pounds English, which gave him twelve times the amount he was entitled to. The douce old Scotsman said nothing, but took what he got and returned North, a wealthier man than he ever thought of.



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THE PALACE.

(CONTINUED).

THE visitor will notice the figure at the north-east corner of the Palace, just as you enter between it and the Parliament Hall, going to the upper courtyard.

This figure is set on the top of a beautifully-carved and moulded square pillar, and represents James the Fifth as the "Gudeman o' Ballangeich." He was so called from his hobby of dressing up as a gaberlunzie man, or beggar, and going through the country to see how matters were going on. Various stories are told of his escapades on these adventures, one of which is as follows :—"Once upon a time when he was feasting in Stirling, the King sent for some venison from the neighbouring hills. The deer was killed and put on horseback, to be transported to Stirling. Unluckily they had to pass the Castle gates of Arnprior, belonging to a chief of the Buchanans, who had a considerable number of guests with him. They were rather short of victuals, and the chief, hearing that so much good food was passing his way, appropriated it to his own use. Notwithstanding the protests of the King's men, who told Buchanan who it belonged to, he replied, "If James was King in Scotland, *he* was King in Kippen," the district in which his Castle lay. King James, on being told of what had occurred almost at his very door, took instant horse for Buchanan's Castle, but was refused admittance by the fierce-looking Highlander who kept guard, on the ground that the laird was at dinner, and could not be disturbed. He was at length prevailed upon to carry in this message—"The Gudeman o' Ballangeich is come to feast with the King of Kippen,"—which gained him instant admission, and, on entering, the Buchanan at once fell on his knees and asked His Majesty's forgiveness for his daring deed. We need not add that this was royally given, and the King sat down and feasted on his own venison in the hall of Arnprior Castle.

The statue, as said before, represents the King in his gaberlunzie costume. Over his head is the Royal Lion of Scotland holding a crown over the King's head, and a tablet with the royal initials, J. 5., similar to those over the windows.

It was from some of the rooms of this Palace that the "Stirling heads" were taken. These "Stirling heads" are a series of circular carved oaken work, with wreaths on the outside and heads inside, said to be of the King, Queen, and their contemporaries. They were originally used to decorate the ceiling of one of these public rooms. The ceiling, most probably, had been

divided into squares by oaken mouldings, and the circular heads were in each of the squares in the same manner as you see the ceilings in Queen Mary's apartments in Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh. These heads were taken down in 1777, and many of them were secured by the Governor of Stirling jail, and by him given away. Stirling Corporation secured some, and these can be seen now in the Smith Institute, Albert Place. In the same place you will also see some carved panels which had been used in wall panelling in this Palace. They are of quaint design, and entirely harmonise with the style of the stonework. Notice also a small door in the Douglas Room, which, without doubt, has also belonged to this Palace of James the Fifth. The initials of the Queen of James the Fifth are preserved in a dormer pediment which had occupied a place on this building, but which had at some subsequent period been taken down, and is now preserved in one of the corridors of the Palace. The initials are M. R., surmounted by a crown, and supported by acanthus foliage at each side. The top of the walls had been embattled with crow stepped gables, having as an apex stone a crown, on which is seated the Scottish Lion. The figures above the cornice represent military men, &c., of the period, such as crossbowmen, swordsmen, and others. The figures in the recesses are said to represent various court functionaries, but to my mind they are a striving after the renaissance of the ancient models of the classic period.

In this Palace James V. would mourn the loss of his first wife, Queen Magdalene of France, and when he again married Mary of Lorraine, the rooms would wear a gayer appearance, and resound to the music of the fife and harp, as it is said she kept a gay court within Stirling's Palace. Her daughter, the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots, was kept here until, for greater security, she was sent to Inchmahome along with her four Maries, and afterwards conveyed to France. On her return in 1562, she again inhabited the Palace, and on the first night she ran a narrow escape of being burned to death by an accident. Here she fell in love with Darnley, and could not conceal her passion for him from those around her, and here she was married to him. Here James VI. was baptised and brought up under the Earl of Mar, the hereditary keeper of the Castle, until he took over the government of the kingdom, his education being under the famous George Buchanan, and not less learned Peter Young. Here also he would bring his young bride, Anne of Denmark; and here his eldest son, Prince Henry, was born and baptised. He resided here till he took his departure to the rich pastures of the South, and with His Majesty's departure this Palace as a royal residence may be said to end.

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VIEW FROM STIRLING CASTLE.



THE VIEW FROM STIRLING CASTLE.

BY THE REV. D. D. ORMOND, F.S.A. (SCOT.)

WE will suppose the visitor takes his station at Queen Victoria's Look-Out. This is the spot from which Her Gracious Majesty viewed the panorama from Stirling Castle in 1842.

First of all look eastward. These are the softly-swelling Ochils you see. They have, in their contours, more of affinity with English hills than with Scotch. The Abbey Craig, with the Wallace Monument, forms a fine introduction to them ; while beyond the Ochils, blue with distance, are the hills that dip into Lochleven, and the Saline Hills, beyond which lies Dunfermline, the ancient depository of the body of King Robert Bruce, the hero of Bannockburn. Before you look at Bridge of Allan, the famous health resort, nestling under its finely-wooded hills, try to make out the windings of the Forth. You will find some difficulty ; you would need a map to help you. See the smiling farms almost encircled by the river, and call to mind the old saying—

“A link o' Forth
Is worth an earldom in the north.”

When your eye has rested for a moment on

“The lofty brow of ancient Keir,”

which the late Sir William Stirling-Maxwell, Bart., transformed into a veritable treasure-house of art and literature, then your glance may pass from the Braes of Doune to the massive form of Ben Voirlich, whose shape forcibly reminds one of Saddleback in the English Lake country. Stuck-a-chroin is the next big mountain ; Uam-var is the highest part of the ridge to the left of it ; then comes Ben Ledi, at the foot of which lies Callander.

If you are more fortunate in the matter of weather than Her Majesty was in 1842, you may see, a little to the right of Ben Ledi, the tops and shoulders of Stobinian and Ben More. As your eye passes along the rampart of the Western Grampians, the rugged outline of Ben Venue claims attention ; then come the “Three Cobblers,” which are situated at the head of Loch Long. The beautiful cone which seems to rise from the flat carse is “the lofty Benlomond,” famous in song and story.

The high table-land which next arrests the eye of the spectator is the ridge of the Touch and Gargunnock hills. To the

left appear the dark pine woods of the Gillies' Hill, from the slope of which the Castle of Polmaise gleams out.

The field of Bannockburn, whose name and fame are worldwide, is now observed. We have mentioned Bannockburn. That is by no means the only battlefield to be seen from Stirling Castle.

Sauchieburn is not far beyond it, and a sad reminiscence of the king's death that followed it, is also near us. James III. and his queen, the Princess Margaret, sleep near the ancient and massive tower of Cambuskenneth Abbey.

Falkirk field, where the generally victorious Wallace suffered defeat, is higher up in the landscape than Bannockburn.

Stirling Bridge, which gives its name to the battle fought near it in 1297, is quite obvious, the bridge which fell then having after many years been replaced by the beautiful old structure which has an honoured place among the "Historic Bridges" of Scotland.

Sheriffmuir, famous in the old rhyme as the field at which, or from which, everybody ran, occupies the north flank of the Ochils, behind Bridge of Allan and above Dunblane.

There are many towns and villages within range of the Castle heights ; we do not seek to enumerate them here. There are features of interest, too, near at hand, of which may be mentioned the King's Park, one of the best inland golfing greens in Scotland, and the King's Knot, or garden, which must have made a brave bloom in its day.

In the accompanying view the wooded eminence on the left-hand-side is Craigforth, the bridge hard by is the Drip Bridge, the mansion house above it is Blair Drummond. The water higher up the landscape is the Teith, which has come hither from Loch Katrine to join the Forth. Above that, again, may be obtained, if the leafage of the trees be not too full, a glimpse of Doune Castle, the stronghold of the Earls of Moray.

Many visitors from all lands have seen and praised the view from Stirling Castle. To a mind open to the appeals of nature and history it cannot fail to interest, it is so varied and extensive. Among the pleasant memories carried from Stirling by visitors, it may safely be said that some features of this panorama will abide. Such impressions become really valuable possessions. You can shut your eyes anywhere afterwards, and see them still.



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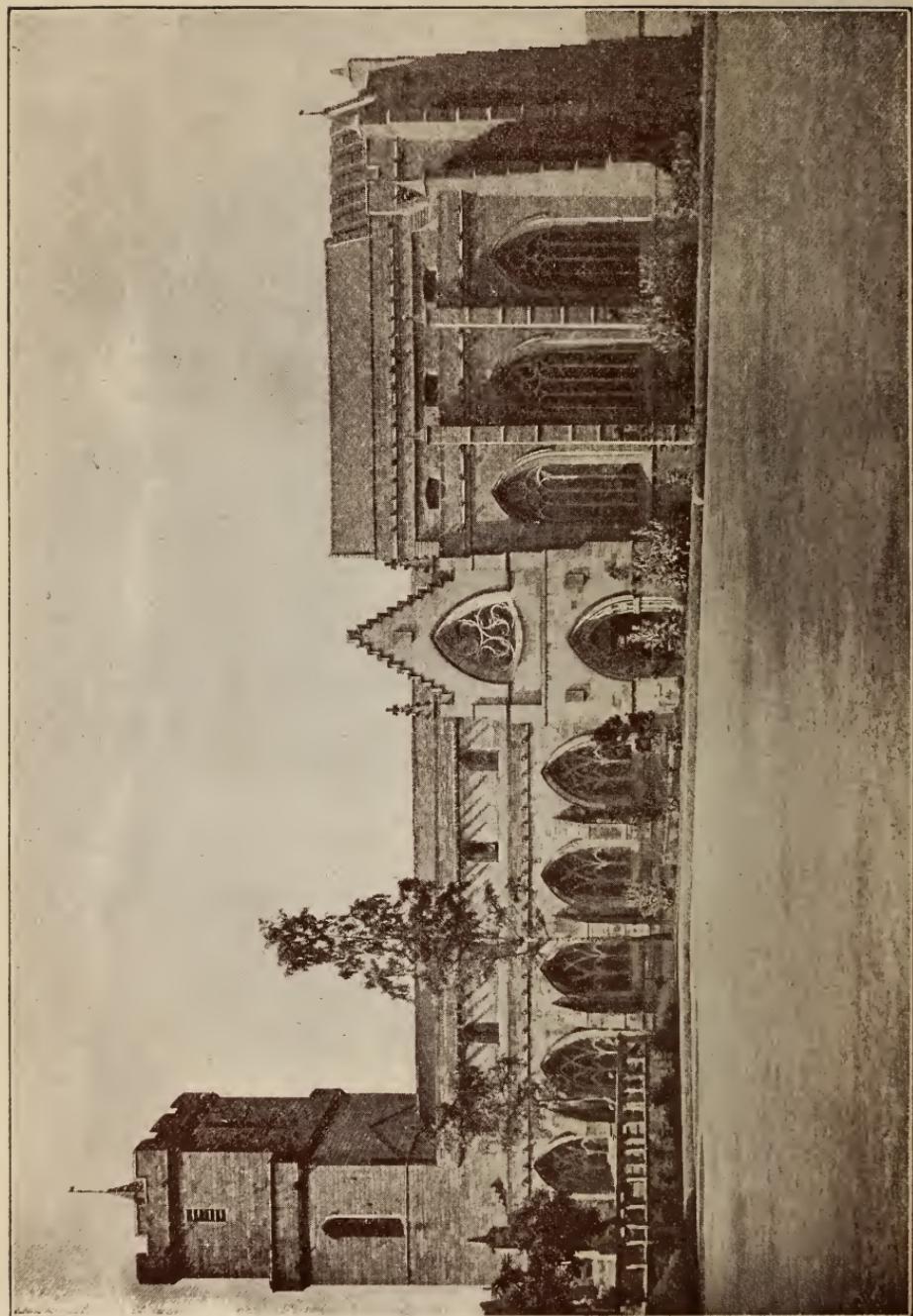
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THE PARISH CHURCH, STIRLING.



THE PARISH CHURCH.

BY EX-BAILIE JAMES RONALD.

THIS church dates from 1129-30, at which time David I., by Charter, granted and gave it to Dunfermline Abbey. Between 1371 and 1390, Robert II. founded within it an altar to the Holy Cross, probably at the same time dedicating the church itself to the Holy Cross. From this date down to the Reformation it was known as "the Parish Church of the Holy Cross of the Burgh of Stirling." The West portion is the oldest, and when erected was a complete church in itself, containing the bell tower, nave, north and south aisles, and a small choir or chancel. The nave is five bays in length, with buttresses, of which only two on the north side and two on the south are original. The east and west bays of the north aisle, also the east bay of the south aisle, were subsequently extended, and formed into chapels. The chapel at the north-west corner is traditionally known as Queen Margaret's Chapel. This arises from the carvings of the rose and thistle which appear on the arch at the entrance to the chapel, symbolizing the union of the two kingdoms, by the marriage of Queen Margaret and James IV. The chapel at the north-east, which is still entire, has been known for centuries as the "Garden Aisle," it having come into possession of the Forresters of Garden at the Reformation. The ancient door to this chapel is now built up, but on the lintel over it, the raised letters "D. F." are still to be seen. The chapel on the south side, adjoining the present entrance, anciently known as the "Bowey's Ile," was acquired in 1618 by Spittal's Hospital. It was then in a ruinous condition, but the Hospital rebuilt it, and in 1632 sold it to the Earl of Stirling as a burying place. The Earl died at London in 1640, and his body having been embalmed, was conveyed by sea to Stirling, and interred in this chapel. From this date it is known as the Earl of Stirling's Aisle. The ancient church had three doors—the great west door or main entrance entered at the tower, the south door was in the second west bay of the south aisle, and the north door was in the second west bay of the north aisle. During certain alterations in 1820, these doors were built up, but the formation of their lower parts can still be seen. A great difference of opinion exists as to the age of the present building. The town of Stirling was burnt, and the church along with it, in 1406. In the Chamberlain's accounts for 1414 appears the following item:—"He (the Chamberlain) does not charge himself for the issues of an ayre (an itinerant court) held at Stirling because it was granted to the work of the burned parish church." There can be no doubt it was restored at this time, but we think there are good grounds for believing that portions of an earlier church exist within this building.

With the dawn of the sixteenth century, the necessity arose for increased accommodation in the church. Consequently, in 1507, an agreement was entered into between James Beaton, Abbot of Dunfermline, and the Town Council of Stirling, to enlarge the church by building at the east end "ane gude and sufficient quier." This included what is known as the East Church. About the same period the upper half of the tower was built. When this was completed, the church would be open from tower to apse, and a magnificent building it must have been, extending in length about 208 feet, and in breadth over walls about 62 feet. The church, thus enlarged and completed, was well fitted to be the place of coronation of Mary, Queen of Scots. The ceremony was performed here on Sunday, 9th September, 1543, the occasion being celebrated with great rejoicings. Again, on 29th July, 1567, it was the scene of the coronation of James VI. After the ceremony, the Earl of Mar lifted the infant King from the throne, and carried him back to his nursery in the Castle. While destruction reigned at the time of the Reformation among the other ecclesiastical buildings within the burgh, it is pleasing to know that no structural damage was done to the Parish Church. When matters settled down, and the new order of things was introduced, the congregation used only the choir or east portion as their church. It was called the "inner kirk," and the nave or west portion was called the "outer kirk." With the exception of a few years during the Commonwealth, when the church was divided into two and a partition wall erected, the nave or West Church remained unoccupied for 170 years. In 1731, the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine was appointed third minister, and he occupied the west portion for some nine or ten years. During his incumbency the church was put in order, the area was occupied with seats, and lofts and galleries were erected. After Mr Erskine's secession it was again unoccupied, unless at intervals for very short periods, until 1817. In that year Mr. Gillespie Graham, architect, was employed to put the West Church in order for worship, which he did at a cost of £1400. The transept was erected by Mr. Rochead, architect, in 1867. The East Church was altered and restored to its present form by Mr. James Collie, architect, in 1869. For many centuries the church was used as a place of burial. In 1586, Margaret Stewart, grand-daughter of James V., was buried in the apse or chancel. The Cowane family burying ground was in the north aisle of the West Church, where in all probability rest the remains of John Cowane, the benefactor of the Merchant Guild, and the founder of the Hospital which bears his name. If space permitted, many other notable names might be mentioned. Enough has been said to prove that this fine old building, which has for more than five centuries been mixed up with the burgh's history, is surely worth being carefully preserved.

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GUILD HALL, OR COWANE'S HOSPITAL.

GUILD HALL, OR COWANE'S HOSPITAL.

BY WILLIAM L. SHIRRA.

JOHN COWANE, the founder of the Hospital which bears his name, was a prosperous merchant who, in the early part of the seventeenth century, was for more than twenty years one of the most prominent figures in the public life of Stirling. He was a member of the Merchant Guild, the oldest and the most influential of the ancient Incorporations of the burgh, and he took an active share in the business of that body. He was nine times chosen Dean of Guild, and held that office at his death in the end of 1633. On his deathbed he directed his brother Alexander, his heir and executor, to bestow out of his estate the sum of "fortie thousand merks for building and erecting of ane Hospitall or Almous-hous, to be callit in all tyme cumyng Cowane's Hospitall, and for entertenying and sustenyng thereintill of the number of twelf decayed Gild breither."

In 1637, Alexander Cowane entered into a contract with the Magistrates and Council, transferring to them lands, bonds, and money to the amount specified, to be held by them in trust for the execution of his brother's bequest.

The Council at once proceeded to erect the Hospital, which was finished in 1643; but, so far as can be ascertained, no appointments to the benefit of residence in the house were made until more than twenty years after. This state of things appears to have been due to the independent spirit of the "decayed Gild breither," who, even in poverty, preferred a life of liberty and association with their families and friends, to the rigid discipline and semi-monastic rules of the Almous-hous. For a period of about thirty years, appointments to the Hospital were made from time to time, but before the year 1700, residence in the house was discontinued, and a system of out-door pensions was established, which has continued to the present day.

What is now the large hall of the Hospital was originally in two flats, the upper one having been intended as the dormitory of the inmates. After the almsmen had ceased to reside in the house, these large rooms were used as schools, and for various public purposes. In 1852, the two were thrown into one by the removal of the dividing floor, and the hall then assumed its present appearance.

Cowane's Hospital has acquired the name of the Guild Hall from its being the official meeting-place of the Merchant Guild. The Guild Supper, held here yearly at the Feast of St. Michael, is an institution whose age is to be reckoned by centuries, and it

forms a link between the present generation of Guild Brethren and their predecessors in times long prior to the Reformation.

The Guild Hall is open to visitors, and contains a number of relics of Old Stirling, which are well worthy of inspection. On the walls are portraits of a number of gentlemen who in past years held the office of Dean of Guild of Stirling.

The exterior of the Hospital has undergone little change since its first erection, and with its low doorways, its small windows, its crow-stepped gables, its walls embellished with inscriptions and appropriate scriptural quotations, and its general quaint old-world air, it is an interesting example of the public buildings of a bygone age.

In a niche in the belfry tower, above the central door, is a statue of the founder in the costume of a well-to-do burgess of the time of Charles the First. The statue is not without merit as a work of art ; but its main value, to a Stirling man at least, is that it represents the worthy benefactor of his native town, in his habit as he lived.

On the east side of the Hospital is a spacious paved terrace, with a massive stone balustrade, which forms a striking feature in the general view of the building. From this terrace a time-worn moss-grown stair descends to the bowling green, formed in 1661, and believed to be among the oldest public greens in Scotland. Beyond the bowling green is a little old-fashioned Dutch garden ; the severely formal arrangement of the paths and flower plots, and the closely-clipped bushes, trimmed into stiff conventional shapes, are reproductions of a style which must have been familiar to Cowane and his contemporaries in their frequent visits to Campvere, and the Scottish staple ports in the Low Countries ; so that this little garden may be regarded as a pleasant memorial of the intercourse between Stirling and Holland, which existed at the time the Hospital was built.

The money left by Cowane was invested in lands in the neighbourhood of the town. These have much increased in value, and now produce an annual revenue of upwards of £4000—nearly twice as much as the whole original capital. A large part of this income has, by recent legislation, been diverted to schemes of secondary and technical education, and the amount available for the purposes of the original trust has been correspondingly reduced. Last year (1896) the Patrons of the Hospital distributed a sum of £855 among 79 pensioners—necessitous and deserving Guild Brethren and their dependant female relatives. These are all elderly persons who have seen better days, and now in their declining years they have the burdens of life made easier for them, and the eventime of their days made brighter, by the munificent charity of that large-hearted and generous Son of the Rock, John Cowane.

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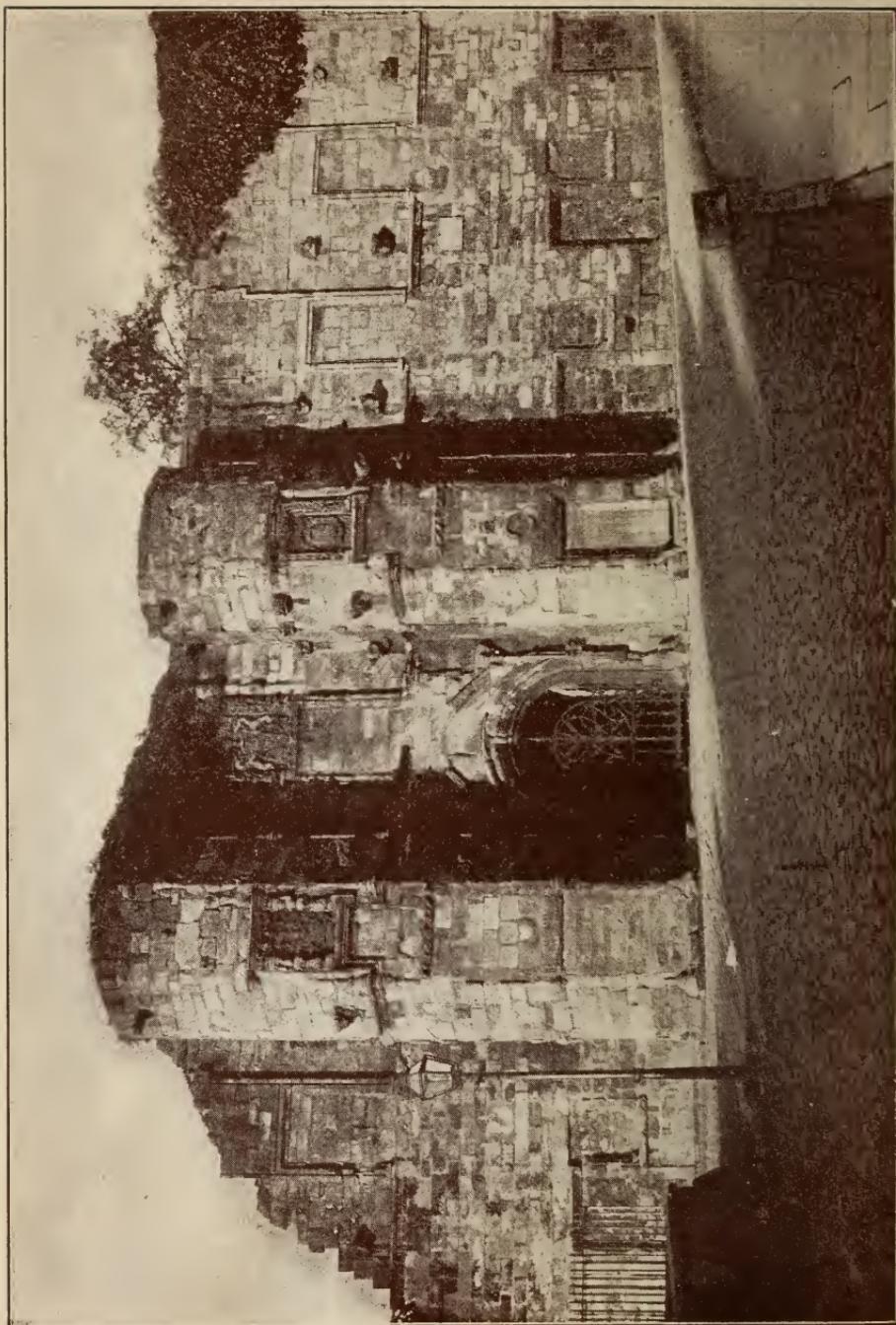
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EARL OF MAR'S LODGING, STIRLING.

RUINS OF THE EARL OF MAR'S LODGING.

BY JOHN HONEYMAN, R.S.A.

THIS fragment of a stately town mansion of the olden time is still the most interesting piece of domestic architecture in Stirling, except the Palace in the Castle, which in a few respects it resembles. It is unlike any other Scottish building of its class, and it seems probable that it may have been designed by some one trained under the French architect employed by James V. At first sight its appearance is not prepossessing. Turned towards the north-east, the sun seldom lights up its blinded and disfigured face, and it requires careful examination of the best preserved parts to appreciate its architectural merits. The facade has been symmetrical, dignified, and refined, and the details at once ornate and elegant. It seems to have more affinity to the Gothic style than to the Jacobean Renaissance. Yet we find in it nothing to support the popular tradition that it was built of stones taken from Cambuskenneth Abbey. Certainly no carved or moulded stones from the Abbey have been used unaltered. All such details have been carefully designed and executed for the position they occupy. The inner walls have been finished in the same costly style as the exterior, but all that now remains is a portion of the front wall and the vaulted basement. The octagonal towers at each side of the central gateway have doors in front, and contained stairs leading to the upper floors, but it is probable that the principal entrance to the first floor was in the courtyard behind, to which the centre passage led. This passage has no openings at either side, and the archway in the back wall has had no door. The basement seems to have been entirely isolated from the rest of the building, and it has this remarkable peculiarity, that at the end of each vault (three on each side) is placed in the front wall a door and a window separated only by a pier 18 inches broad. These openings facing a principal street irresistibly suggest the idea of shops! They are now built up, but may be seen in our illustration. Panels over the doors in the front of the towers and over the archway in the courtyard bear the following quaint inscriptions, still legible—

THE · MOIR · I · STAND · ON · OPPIN · HITHT
 MY · FAULTIS · MOIR · SVRJECT · AR · TO · SITHT.
 I · PRAY · AL · LVIKARIS · ON · THIS · LVGING
 VITH · GENTIL · E · TO · GIF · THEIR · IVGING.
 ESSPY · SPEIK · FVRTH · AND · SPAIR · NOTHT
 CONSIDDIR · VEIL · I · CAIR · NOTHT.

The building had a frontage of 120 feet, and appears to have stood exactly in the centre of an enclosure extending from the Church to a point about 32 feet north from the gable.

The history of this remarkable edifice is obscure. Significant references in various extant documents seem to warrant the following brief statement. The house was commenced by the Regent Mar about 1567, and was almost, if not altogether, completed before his death in 1572. It was afterwards occupied, and apparently possessed by his widow, Dame Isobell Murray, Countess of Mar* and subsequently by his son, the seventh Earl, who for a time filled the office of Lord High Treasurer, and who died at Stirling in 1634, presumably in his own house. During the Commonwealth the fortunes of the Mar family, who maintained their allegiance to the Stuarts, rapidly declined. Owing to fines and other exactions, one estate after another had to be sold, till little was left to them but the lordship of Alloa, and their misfortunes culminated during the Rebellion of 1715. For many years their noble mansion remained unoccupied and neglected. So little was it valued that in 1733 the Town Council obtained a lease of it and the garden attached on condition that they should uphold the roof in good repair. It was then converted into a "workhouse"—not a workhouse in the modern English sense, but a place where vagrants and vagabonds were compelled to work. It continued to be occupied in this way till it was so seriously injured during the Rebellion of 1745 that the Town Council, who had not come under any obligation to maintain the walls, were obliged to find a house of correction elsewhere. Thus deserted, the building soon became ruinous, but in 1760, when visited by that observant traveller, Pococke, it was still so complete as to excite his admiration, and he describes it as "a magnificent building, though in the bad taste of the time of James V."+ About 20 years after Pococke's visit, however, in 1782, the Town Council, on the ground that the tenement "called Mar's Work" was ruinous and uninhabitable, decided that it should be taken down. Fortunately for some reason—probably that suggested by Billings, namely, to screen Broad Street from the north-west blast—they left the portion which still remains. It is worthy of notice that the building was never called Mar's Work till after its conversion into a workhouse, when it had become the abode of the very dregs of society. In the older records it is always called the Earl of Mar's House, or Lodging. Would it not be well to re-associate the name with the brighter memories of the past, and let what remains be known in future as "the ruins of the Earl of Mar's Lodging?"

* Extracts from the Records of the Royal Burgh of Stirling, 1529-1666, p. 84.

+ Publications of the Scottish History Society, vol. I., p. 294.

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BROAD STREET, STIRLING.

BROAD STREET, STIRLING.

BY J. S. FLEMING, F.S.A. (SCOT.)

BRoad Street, anciently named "Hiegait," and afterwards High Street, was once the market and chief place of business. Here were the Tolbooth, the "Mercat Cross" (recently restored to its original site), and the Tron. It was here also the weekly markets and annual fairs were held, stances being allotted to the various trades, whose wares were exposed on "staiks" or stalls. During the sixteenth century, this spacious street contained the "ludgings," or mansions, of the noblemen and Church dignitaries attached to the Court during the Royal residence in the Castle. The principal municipal officials had also their residences in the High Street.

By an order of the Magistrates in 1671, many of the old and ruinous buildings were destroyed, but several worthy of notice still remain. The double-gabled crow-stepped building opposite the old Burgh Buildings was the property, in 1529, of Mr James Kirk, Commissioner to the Earl of Argyll, and is notable for the old English style of its windows in the back court. The immediately adjoining house on the east is a fine example of the classical Netherland architecture of the sixteenth century, is crow-gabled to the front, and has a colossal sphinx-like female head as its terminal stone. It was erected, as the date bears, in 1671, by James Norie, then Town Clerk, whose initials, along with those of his wife, and several Latin mottoes, may be seen inscribed over the windows.

In the court entered by the pend in the next house is a superior "ludging," with three dormer windows. The front tenement is a still older building, probably erected by Provost Robert Stevenson in 1656.

The immediately eastmost house, with its two elegant dormer windows, is a central attraction from its apparent antiquity of architecture and Latin inscriptions. It was the "ludging" of Lord Elphinstone in 1546, and was afterwards acquired by Sir John Paterson. Considerable alterations were made on the house in 1715. It bears the initials I. B., K. M., and a fine old sun-dial. It subsequently was owned and occupied by an eccentric individual, Sir John Dinely, one of the Poor Knights of Windsor, locally known as John Baronet.

The crow-stepped gabled house to the east of the last was originally the property of Sir William Alexander, "Chaplain and Servitor to the Earl of Argyll," and an ancestor of William, first Earl of Stirling. The large tenement adjoining was erected by the Town Council in 1719 as an hostelry, on the site of an ancient house acquired from Forrester of Garden, and appears in the Town Records as "The Town's New House."

The two very old tenements, partly in St. Mary's Wynd and partly in Broad Street, were the ancient lodgings of the Forresters of Logie, a most influential family, members of which held the office of Provost almost consecutively for above a century. The manorial ornamental character of the buildings is best seen from St. Mary's Wynd, and in the adjoining pend of the Town's New House. They give evidence of the former grandeur of their occupants and merit special attention.

The closes at the foot of Broad Street also contain some interesting houses. In the old mansion-house of Glassingall, the rooms are finely panelled, and a large painting of Stirling Castle, about 1750, forms a panel over the fireplace of the principal room.

One of the houses fronting the street has a tablet inserted bearing the following inscription:—"Darnley House, the Nursery of James VI. and of his son Prince Henry." There is, however, no evidence to support the statement here made. The house was the property of Alexander Erskine of Canglour, whose son Thomas, Earl of Kellie, sold it to Janet Kilbowie, who converted it into a tavern which became a noted rendezvous of the Magistrates and Town Council, as shown by the Burgh Treasurer's accounts.

On the south side of Broad Street is the Tolbooth, with steeple or campanile tower. The old Tolbooth was erected about 1473, on a site acquired by the Town Council from Malcolm, son of Robert, Lord le Fleming. It was partially rebuilt in 1563, and from its dangerous condition was taken down and again rebuilt, with the addition of the Council Chamber and steeple, in 1702. The old curfew bell, which has a fine tone, was recast in Holland in 1669.

The adjoining house may be noted for its old turret stair, and its two sculptured dormer windows in the roof, surmounted by a crescent and a fleur-de-lis respectively. On the pediments are the date 1601 and the inscriptions *Deo Gloria*—"Glory to God," and *Benedicam Dominum Omni Tempore*—"I will bless the Lord at all times."

In connection with this street may be included the "Old Coffee House" at the head of the first close entering Bow Street. It was at one time a hostelry of great importance, and still retains in its public room traces of its former grandeur. It has an historical interest as having been the lodging place of Prince Charles in January, 1746, during the few weeks his army was bombarding Stirling Castle. An old townsman, and a former owner of the place, has stated that he had it from the lips of a lady who died some fifty years ago at an advanced age, that she recollects, when a child, seeing two soldiers guarding the close mouth, and of being held up by her father to see the Prince himself coming out of the close attended by his bodyguard of two Highlanders.

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27 DUMBARTON ROAD, STIRLING.





MARTYRS' MONUMENT, STIRLING.

THE WIGTOWN MARTYRS.

BY ROBERT DAWSON.

THE strong will and ready tact of the Tudor sovereigns kept the conflicting elements of English national life under control even when the spirit of the Reformation was wafting to our shores the living seed of the Word, which grew in many a good soil, and flourishing, ripened after many evil days.

With the Tudor dynasty passed away the feeling of national security, when the Scots became the fellow-subjects of the English on the accession of the Stuarts to the English throne. Inheriting absolute power in the English Church and State, the Stuarts were stimulated to acquire a similar arbitrary sway in Scotland. Both lands together were then divided into three great religious parties. Favouring Episcopalians as best suited to his purpose, the King resolved with their assistance to uproot Presbyterianism and firmly establish Episcopalianism in Presbyterian Scotland. With characteristic fervour and determination, this the Scots bitterly resented and opposed. In England, at the Restoration, Charles II. succeeded without a struggle to all the dangerous prerogatives of arbitrary power which, in his father's case, it had cost the nation so much blood and treasure to curtail and abolish. The Scottish spirit he resolved to subdue and enslave. Through Test and Abjuration oaths, he invaded the domain and stormed and polluted the shrine of conscience itself. By Acts of Parliament, decrees of Council, resolutions of Synod ; by renegades, spies, dragoons ; by imprisonment, fine, banishment ; with rods, thumbkins, boots, gallows, water—and God knows what—he did his vile best to win or destroy both body and soul.

Margaret and Agnes Wilson, the daughters of Gilbert Wilson, farmer, Glenvernock, about thirteen miles from the town of Wigtown, were about eighteen and thirteen years of age respectively, when legal proceedings were taken against them for "disorderliness," or withdrawing from the services of the established Episcopalian Church.

By an Act of Council, dated 11th October, 1666, and *passed in obedience to a royal letter*, masters were made answerable for their families and servants, and landlords were required to take bonds from their tenants in order to secure the regular attendance of the latter at the parish church, and to prevent them from attending "conventicles."

In a list of withdrawers from public worship, subscribed by "James Colhoun," curate of Penninghame parish, we find among others the names of the three children of Gilbert Wilson, Glenvernock : Margaret, Thomas, and Agnes.

By the "Five Mile Act" no "outed" Presbyterian minister could approach a corporate town with safety nearer than five miles. As a matter of fact, therefore, many religious meetings or conventicles were held on the moors and hill sides, and attended by thousands, who were liable to be shot, cut down, and scattered to the winds by the ever watchful dragoons. Many such meetings the young Wilsons had attended; so that the parental roof could be no longer a safe shelter for them. By a law as fixed as that by which the needle trembles to the pole, their hearts by faith were drawn in prayer to their only refuge—"To whom, Lord, can we go but unto Thee: Thou hast the words of eternal life?" "Master, 'we' will follow Thee whithersoever Thou goest, 'drawing strength and encouragement even from Thy faithful warning': The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man hath not where to lay His head." Hand in hand, through staggering fens, and shivering o'er the storm-swept moor, they fled to sheltering rock or cave among their wild native hills. There they lived and wandered as best they could, till February of 1685—the month in which the arch-enemy, Charles II., died—when Margaret and Agnes ventured to leave their wild retreats and secretly visit Wigtown, while Thomas, their brother, kept watch on the approaches to the hills.

Unfortunately, all their caution was in vain; for the poor girls were discovered, captured, and cast into prison. On the 13th of April, 1685, they, along with a woman of over sixty years of age, were brought to the bar of a Justiciary Court at Wigtown, and charged with rebellion at Bothwell Bridge and Airds Moss, and with attendance at some twenty field and twenty house conventicles.

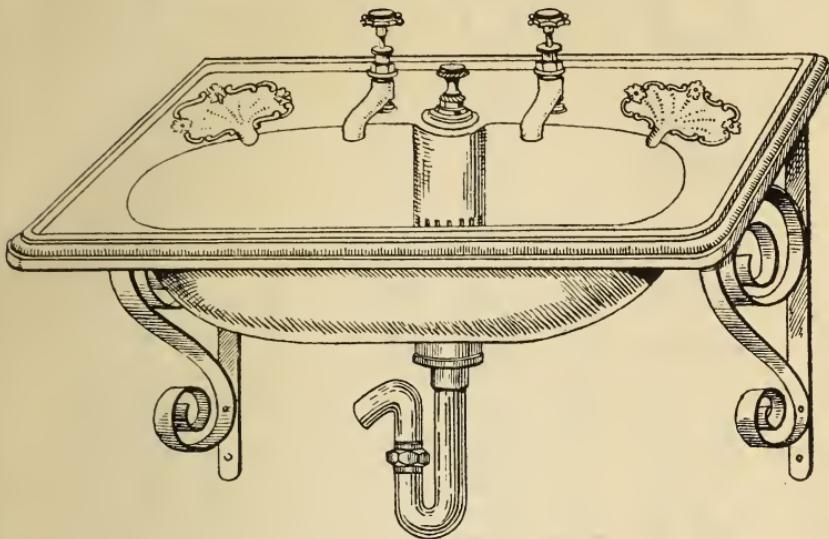
The charge of rebellion was evidently absurd, and it was baseless; for none of the three had ever been within twenty miles of Bothwell Bridge or Airds Moss. All the same, *they were pronounced guilty, and condemned to be tied to stakes fixed in the sand within tide-mark, and there to stand till the flood overflowed and drowned them.*

Agnes, however, being under fourteen years, was soon afterwards released, on payment of a bond by her father to produce her when called for. Margaret, on the other hand, though repeatedly urged by her friends to take the abjuration oath and conform, refused to have liberty at such a price, and *continued steadfast in her refusal to the end.*

Accordingly, on the 11th day of May, 1685, Margaret Wilson and Margaret M'Lachlan were led forth to execution, which was carried out strictly in terms of their sentence.

Looking away from the shocking details of the tragedy, to the witness to the truth borne by those two noble martyrs, we see beyond, under the golden altar which is before the throne, the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held.

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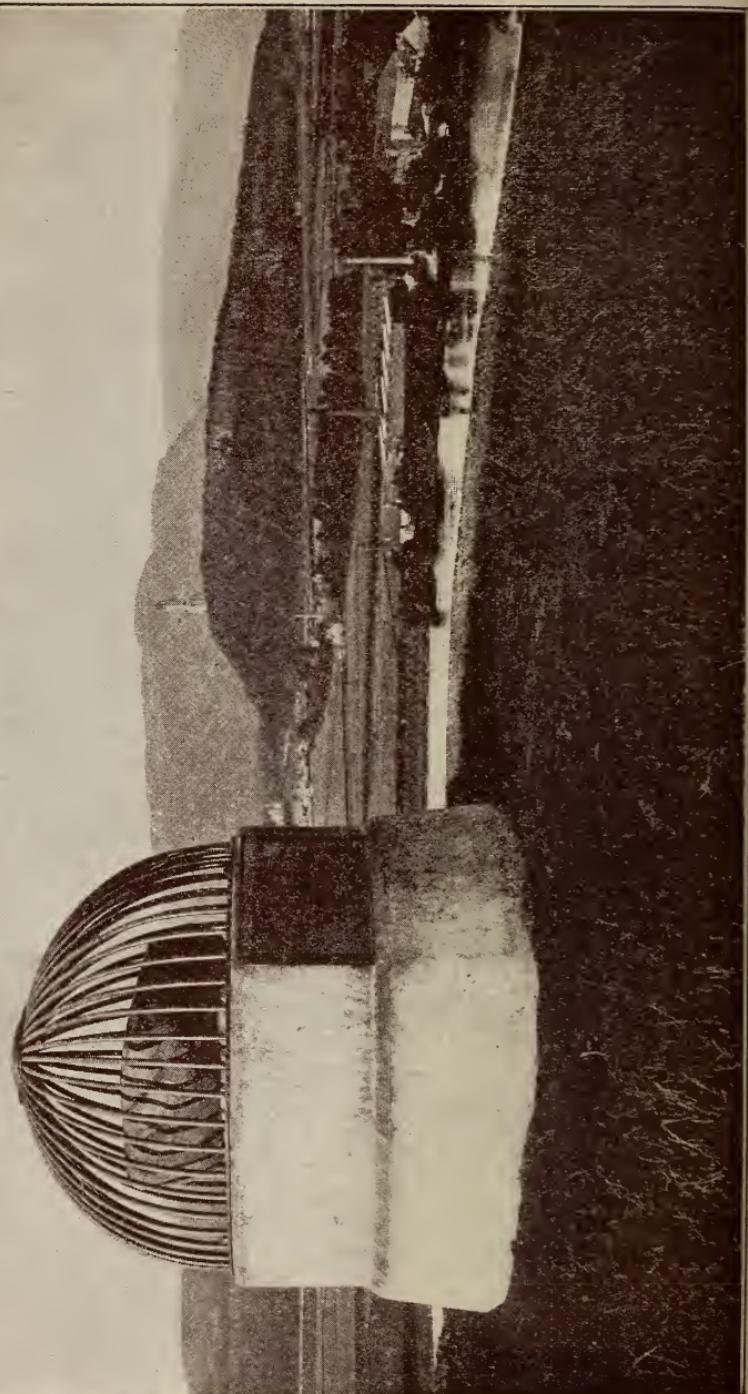
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THE BEHADING STONE, STIRLING.



THE BEHEADING STONE.

BY JOHN DREW, M.D.

THE visitor, having found his way to the Heading or Mote Hill, the northernmost spur of the Gowan Hills, overlooking the fertile valley of the winding Forth, sees in the distance the noble Grampian range of mountains obscuring the horizon ; and nearer the spot on which he stands, beholds the massive Ochils and the Abbey Craig with its imposing Wallace Tower, which serve to complete the outline of a picture of natural beauty difficult to surpass.

This eminence was once the scene of Roman fortification, and on careful inspection of the mound, evidence of broken-down mason work, at present overgrown with grass, is visible. Probably, a rare antiquarian find will reward excavation here. Subsequent to the Roman occupation it became a place for the administration of justice, and judicial execution, and hence was known as the Mote, and also as the Heading Hill.

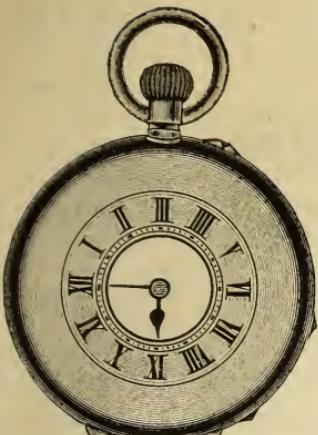
On searching the records of history on the subject of the executions conducted here, we find that the official documents have been destroyed which might have given reliable information, but we are warranted to some extent at least in inferring that the executions were carried out on a block of wood resting on the stone, which has come to be known as the Heading Stone. As will be observed, it is now enclosed in a circular iron cage, and rests on a round pedestal of concrete. On the 23rd of September, 1887, this ancient relic of feudal law was formally handed over to the custody of the municipal authorities by the local Archaeological Society. It is somewhat round in shape, and measures 31 in. by 31 in. At one end it has a thickness of 10 in., which gradually rises to a height of 15 in. at the opposite extremity. Over all it is highly polished by the action of natural forces ; and in its upper and lower sides a number of holes have been made by the tools of man. These holes would enable a wooden block to be fixed to the stone. One of its sides is hollowed out in its extreme length, measuring 18 in. by 2 in. Conjecture has assigned this part as the place on which would rest the breast of the victim, when on kneeling he placed his head on the block. There may also be observed on the upper surface a number of marks running diagonally across the stone.

Tradition is very strong in supporting the assertion that the stone was used to support a wooden block for conducting executions, and when we come to examine history on the subject, we find that many executions actually did take place on this historic spot. It was here that the noble family of Albany was made to

suffer death on the block. This tragic event happened in the time of James I. of Scotland. The monarch had just returned from prolonged captivity in England. Born of strong character, he had acquired much experience of men and affairs, and was well qualified to govern in a time of unrest throughout the State. In accordance with hereditary right, Murdoch, Duke of Albany, the late governor of the kingdom, placed the King in the royal seat on being crowned at Scone. Alexander Stewart, the younger son of the Duke of Albany, was knighted on the occasion. The King, shortly afterwards, convoked his first Parliament. It was found that unbridled licentiousness and contempt for the laws were only too common under the government of Albany and his son, and the knowledge of this state of anarchy and rapine had such an effect on the King that he exclaimed, "Let God but grant me life, and there shall not be a spot in my dominions where the key shall not keep the castle, and the furze bush the cow, though I myself should lead the life of a dog to accomplish it."

The power of the Crown was soon made manifest to the nation. At a second Parliament held at Perth, Duke Murdoch and Lord Alexander Stewart were arrested, along with twenty-six of the principal nobles and barons. Walter Stewart, Albany's eldest son, and the Earl of Lennox, and also Sir Robert Graham, had by this time been lodged in prison; and even the wife of Albany was made a prisoner. On the 24th day of May, 1424, the trial of the chief prisoners began. The Court was held in the Palace of Stirling, and the King in due form presided as supreme judge of his people. The jury was composed of twenty-one of the principal nobles and barons, and the proceedings were conducted with great solemnity and pomp. Walter Stewart was found guilty on a charge of robbery, and condemned to death. His execution was carried out on the Heading Hill on the same day of his trial. On the following day, the Duke of Albany, his second son, Alexander, and his father-in-law, the Earl of Lennox, were tried before the same jury. Albany was found guilty of treason, and sentenced to death by execution. The nature of the charge made against Alexander Stewart and the Earl of Lennox is unknown; but on them also the capital sentence was enforced. The condemned noblemen, immediately after trial, were taken under a strong guard to the Heading Hill, and on that fatal spot were put to death by the axe of the executioner.

The immense estates belonging to Albany and the Earl of Lennox were forfeited to the Crown. Sir James Stewart, the youngest son of the Duke of Albany, managed to avoid arrest, and ultimately found an asylum in Ireland. It has also been asserted that Sir Robert Graham and some of his associates in the murder of the King, were executed in 1436 on the same spot.



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BRUCE STATUE, STIRLING.

THE BRUCE STATUE.

BY WILLIAM CHRISTIE.

THE Bruce Monument, Castle Esplanade, was erected by subscriptions received from Scotsmen residing all over their native land, and from the officers and men of our Highland regiments. Money likewise came in for the erection from Scots in America, Australia, and New Zealand. The sculptor selected for the statue was the late Mr. Currie, Darnick, Melrose, whose design was to represent King Robert, with all kingliness, as a knight of the highest rank, clad in the fighting armour of the period, and in the act of sheathing his sword after the victory. The figure is nearly 11 feet high, and is looking in the direction of Bannockburn. The centre block of the pedestal has in front the Scottish shield, with the lion rampant in deep relief. On the western face is the inscription :—"King Robert the Bruce : June 24th, 1314"—the date of the battle of Bannockburn. The stone of the figure and the blocks of the pedestal are from the same quarry, Fairloans, Northumberland. On Saturday, 24th November, 1877, in the presence of the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council, detachments of the 21st North British Fusiliers, and the 91st Highlanders from the Castle, and an immense crowd of spectators who had gathered together from different parts of Scotland to witness the imposing ceremony, Lady Alexander, of Westerton, Bridge of Allan, from an adjacent platform unveiled the statue. When the sheet that enveloped the King fell away, the hero of Bannockburn stood out in bold relief, the face expressing conscious dignity, and the whole figure manly bearing and great courage, the enthusiasm of the vast assemblage burst into loud cheers, which were followed by a royal salute of cannon from the ramparts of the Castle. In the evening a banquet was held in the town, where patriotic and heart-stirring speeches were delivered in honour of this memorable occasion.



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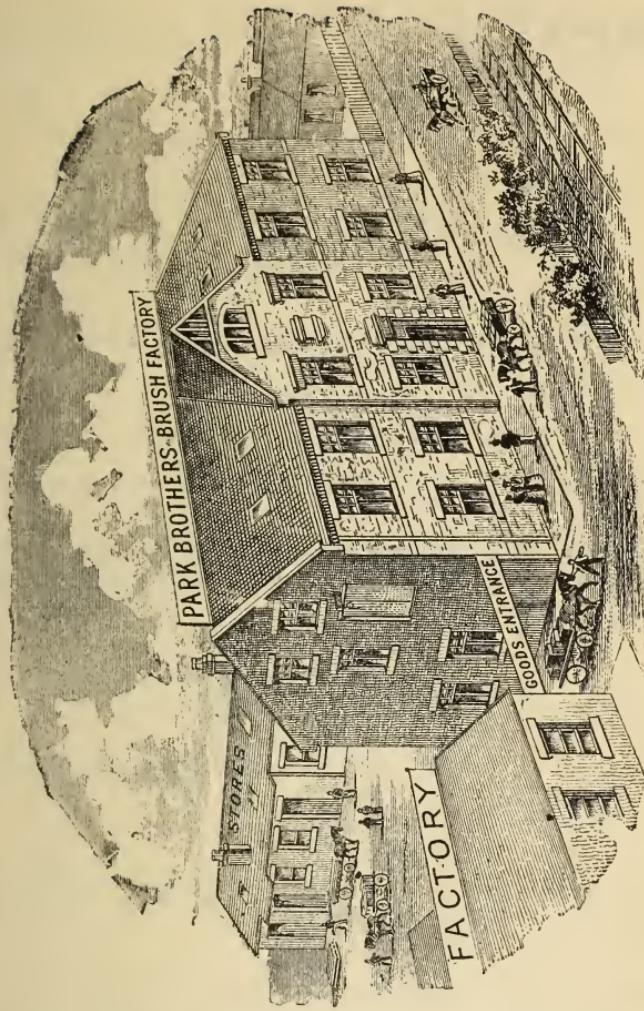
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KING STREET, STIRLING.

KING STREET, STIRLING.

BY J. W. DRUMMOND, J.P.

KING STREET was part of the old Hie Gait or High Street of Stirling, and before it received its present name was known as Quality Street. Until Murray Place was opened in the present century, it formed the main thoroughfare of the Burgh. It was then the main thoroughfare, not of the Burgh only, but was part of the only continuous highway from the south to the north of Scotland. It was not until after the beginning of this century, however, that it became an important business street, the centre of civic life even within the memory of those now living having been further up the hill.

The building on the right at the foot of the street, now occupied by the British Linen Bank, was erected for the Stirling Tract Enterprise by the late Mr. Peter Drummond, and was sold to the Bank when the increase in the circulation of the publications made larger premises necessary. The sculpture adorning it, including the carved heads of distinguished Reformers which form the key-stones of the lower tier of windows, was the gift of his brother, Mr. William Drummond, who also presented to the town the statue of Wallace and the porch of the Council Chambers at the head of the street.

Above the Golden Lion Hotel is the site of one of the Burgh Gates, known as the New Port, conjectured by Bailie Ronald to have been built about the middle of the sixteenth century, and removed in the eighteenth. The spot is marked by a different colour and arrangement of the causeway blocks.

The greater part of the building with the Gothic spire at the head of the street is used as the Council Chamber and Burgh Offices. It was opened in 1817 as a subscription library and reading room, and was then dignified by the name of the Athenæum.

To the left of the Council Chambers is the opening to the Corn Exchange, in which the weekly grain market is held. Before the railways relieved the roads of the market traffic, the Corn Exchange yard used to be filled with carts on Fridays, and those which were unable to get accommodation there were permitted to line the streets, the horses being meanwhile stabled.

... By Special



Appointment. . .

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Alexander Murdoch.



Saddler and Harness Maker
to the Queen, . . .

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Hugh Ferguson & Son,

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Agents for "K" Boots
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Dr. Jaeger's Sanitary
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Boots and Shoes.

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Special attention given to the Manufacture of

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Ladies' and Gent.'s Boots, Shoes, and
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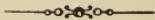


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*High-Class Glover, Hosier, and
Ladies' Complete Outfitter.*



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Should do their Shopping at

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High-Class Costumier, . . .

*Mantlemaker, Milliner, and
General Warehouseman. . .*



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All Goods are marked in Plain Figures at Keenest Possible Prices.

NO DISCOUNT ALLOWED.



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21 KING STREET, STIRLING.



MURRAY PLACE (SOUTH), STIRLING.

MURRAY PLACE, STIRLING.

BY REV. DR. J. KERR CAMPBELL, F.E.I.S.

MURRAY PLACE is commercially one of the best parts of Stirling. All the buildings, though moderate in size, are handsome in design, and substantially built.

They are comparatively modern. Many of the inhabitants now living can remember when Murray Place was only a narrow lane leading to the orchards which existed where the railway station now is, especially the goods department. It was in the year 1843 that the street was named Murray Place, in honour of the late Mr. William Murray of Polmaise; and at the same time Maxwell Place was named in honour of Mrs. Murray.

We will suppose the tourist or the stranger to Stirling to have come up from the railway station, and to have turned into the town in front of the Station Hotel. Immediately beyond the hotel stands the Baptist Chapel, of which for many years the Rev. Dr. Culross, late Principal of Bristol Baptist College, was minister. The present minister is the Rev. Mr. Yuille. Next to the Chapel stands the North Parish Church, or the church of the third charge of the Parish of Stirling. The building is after the Norman style of architecture. It was built some time before the Disruption in 1843, and cost upwards of £4000, nearly one-half of that sum having been raised by public subscription before the church was opened for worship in 1842. It was opened by the late Rev. Dr. Beith, who, with the majority of his people, left the Church of Scotland in 1843. The building accommodates 1200 persons. Within recent time it has been considerably altered and improved. The present incumbent is the Rev. D. P. M'Lees, transferred from Woodside, Aberdeen, in 1895.

Beyond the church, occupied by the Railway as a coal dépôt, is the place long known as the May Day Yard. It was here that Ramsay of Barnton built his stables for the stage coach horses prior to the opening of the railway between Glasgow and the north of Scotland. Whether the terms May Day Yard specially refer to the opening of Mr. Ramsay's stables on the first day of May, or to the observance of certain May Day customs on ground there belonging at one time to the Dominican Friars, the writer has not been able to ascertain. It is possible that the May Day pole may have been erected there annually for ages anterior to the running of the stage coaches. To the

right we see the building which was called the Union Hall, and which for many years was the only public hall in Stirling. It is now occupied as a bonded store. Adjoining the store are the coachbuilding works of Mr. Thomson.

Turning right about and facing Murray Place, we see the publishing offices of the *People's Journal*. Walking along Murray Place, we see the building which was formerly occupied as the County Club, beneath which are the drapery stores of Messrs. Fearnside & M'Donald. Immediately opposite are very fine buildings erected in 1893 by the late enterprising Councillor William Crawford. We come now to the chief building in our panoramic view—a building known in Stirling and neighbourhood for many years as Mr Peter Drummond's Tract Depôt. The building is now occupied by the British Linen Company's Bank. This building is not only one of the most handsome and substantially-built structures in the City of the Rock, but in its connection with Mr. Drummond's Tract Enterprise, it is of more than ordinary interest. The late Mr. Peter Drummond was not only a good man, but he had the courage of his convictions. He was not what the Bishop of Liverpool calls "a jelly-fish Christian." It is said that he unconsciously originated the Stirling Tract Enterprise by publishing a tract on Sabbath desecration. This was in the month of August, 1848, the year when the Scottish Central Railway was opened from Greenhill to Perth. Ten thousand copies of this tract were printed and distributed among the Sabbath breakers in Cambuskenneth gardens and elsewhere, and within three months one hundred thousand copies were in demand. So gratifying were the results, that Mr. Drummond resolved to continue the good work. He leased as his place of business, if I mistake not, the premises immediately opposite, occupied by M'Lachlan & Brown, and there continued the work till the year 1862. That year the beautiful building to which I refer was opened, and Mr. Drummond's large staff of workers with their work were transferred to it. Above the main doorway, near the top, we see two angelic figures, and in the centre a sparkling pearl, representing, it may be dimly, the messengers of the Gospel and the "Pearl of Great Price." The uppermost bust on the King Street side of the building represents Guthrie, the martyr; next is John Knox, then Luther; and on the Murray Place side of the building are the busts of Zuingle, Wickliffe, Whitfield, and Chalmers. On the opposite side of the street, in Murray Place, is the Waverley Hotel, under the management of Mr. M'Alpine.



M'Alpine's Waverley Temperance Hotel.

(Formerly CARMICHAEL'S),

MURRAY PLACE, STIRLING.

ESTABLISHED OVER FIFTY YEARS.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL FOR FAMILIES,
TOURISTS, AND COMMERCIAL GENTLEMEN.

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Restaurant, in connection with Hotel.

— TRAMWAY CARS for WALLACE MONUMENT, BRIDGE OF ALLAN,
and 'BUSES for FIELD OF BANNOCKBURN, start from the Door.

LADIES' TEA ROOM.

MODERATE CHARGES.

— THREE MINUTES FROM STATION.



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OF SIR WILLIAM WALLACE, ROYAL ARMS
OF SCOTLAND, NEW INITIAL WARE, DIAMOND
JUBILEE WARE; also SOUVENIRS with VIEWS of the
CASTLE and WALLACE MONUMENT.

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Station.

Glass and China from the Best Makers.

The Fashionable Resort of Stirling.

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Popular Drapery Warehouse,

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NEW GOODS arriving daily from all the Leading Markets
and Centres of Fashion.

We cannot be surpassed for a Good Article at a Moderate
Price.

IF YOU WANT ANYTHING IN

General Drapery, Millinery, or Dressmaking,

DON'T FORGET TO CALL AT

23 AND 25 MURRAY PLACE, STIRLING.



MURRAY PLACE (NORTH), STIRLING.

MURRAY PLACE.

(CONTINUED).

IN attempting to describe this beautiful picture, I shall take my stand beside the photographic apparatus where it was adjusted near Messrs. Cook & Wylie's printing and publishing establishment, opposite Bailie Macewen's, or Macewen Brothers', magnificent block of buildings in Barnton Street. The large building to the right of where I stand is the Royal Hotel, for many years the property and under the active management of the late Mr. Campbell, and now the property of Mr. Currie, and under his active management. On the opposite side of the street, in Maxwell Place, stands the new Post Office. It is a substantial and commodious building. In design, construction, and ornamentation, it is not what I and others would have desiderated for a residential town like Stirling. It is not quite in harmony with other buildings, or the amenities of the locality. It was opened for public business on the 24th of May, 1895. It is said to have cost £6000. Immediately adjoining the Post Office is the National Bank of Scotland. This building was erected in 1855. The style is called "a floreated Italian style." It is otherwise ornate and very substantial. It stands on the site of the "Old White House," which for many years was the home of the keeper of the orchard. The White House may also have been the residence of the sexton of the church and keeper of the cemetery, which existed in that locality. Part of the ground behind the Bank and the other houses, was used as a burial ground, and part as an orchard and flower garden. The convent, which stood on the ground behind the Post Office, is said to have been founded by Alexander II. in A.D. 1233, and the church connected with the convent is said to have been the only place of worship in Stirling for nearly three hundred years. The Friars' Wynd, on the other side of the street, leading down from what was known in olden times as the "Meal Market"—afterwards, as the Athenæum, and now as the Council Chambers,—indicates the locality of the Dominican convent and church.

On the opposite side of the street stands the Commercial Bank of Scotland. It is a large and handsome structure. It is built on the site of what was known as the "Eagle Inn." Immediately beyond, on the same side, stands the Congregational Chapel, a somewhat unpretentious building—rather a contrast to other buildings in its neighbourhood. The present minister of the chapel is the Rev. William Blair, a gentleman much beloved by his people, and deservedly respected in the community.

Adjoining the Congregational Chapel is the North Free Church. This handsome structure, with its tall and beautiful spire, is the third church or building occupied by the congregation since about the time of the Disruption in 1843. When they left the North Established Church they worshipped in the Corn Exchange, and afterwards in a brick building erected behind the Baptist Chapel. In the year 1852, under the leading and ministrations of the late Rev. Dr. Beith, they entered into possession of their present place of worship. The Stirling Drummond family, of whom perhaps the late Mr. Peter Drummond was best known, have all been connected with this church. The late Mr. Henry Drummond, sire of the more widely-known son, the late Professor Henry Drummond, was an elder of the congregation, and his son, Mr. James W. Drummond, now acts as clerk to the Kirk Session, under his brother-in-law, the Rev. John Chalmers, M.A., the devoted and much-respected minister of the congregation. The cost of the building was £5000. This sum was considerably augmented by the cost of a suitable hall and other necessary adjuncts.

Beyond the Free Church, on the same side, stands the Douglas Hotel, which forms part of Crawford's Arcade. The hotel and Mr. Thomson's drapery shops are built on the site of a house long known as the "Ark" public-house. The Arcade entrance leads from Murray Place to King Street.

On the opposite side of the street from the Arcade, and at the right-hand corner coming up the Station Road, stands the new County Club. It is a substantial but somewhat curious structure. The design or style of the building is not easily determined. The roof part of it reminds me of buildings I have seen in Switzerland. Some one has characterized it as Ionic! What matters it? There it is, erected on the site of the demolished Queen's Hotel, which was originally the property and residence of the late Dr. Moodie. Above the main doorway may be seen a representation of the new County seal. This seal had to be obtained under the Local Government (Scotland) Act, and is said to be a beautiful and artistic production.



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LADIES' TAILORS, . . .
MILITARY OUTFITTERS,
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HAIRDRESSING.

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COTTAGE PIANOS (Iron Framed, Check Action), from 15 Guineas.

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Large Stock of Music and Songs. Parcels sent on Approval.

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Address,
5 Quires for 2/-.

Finest Ivory
Visiting Cards,
50 for 1/6.

45 Murray Place,
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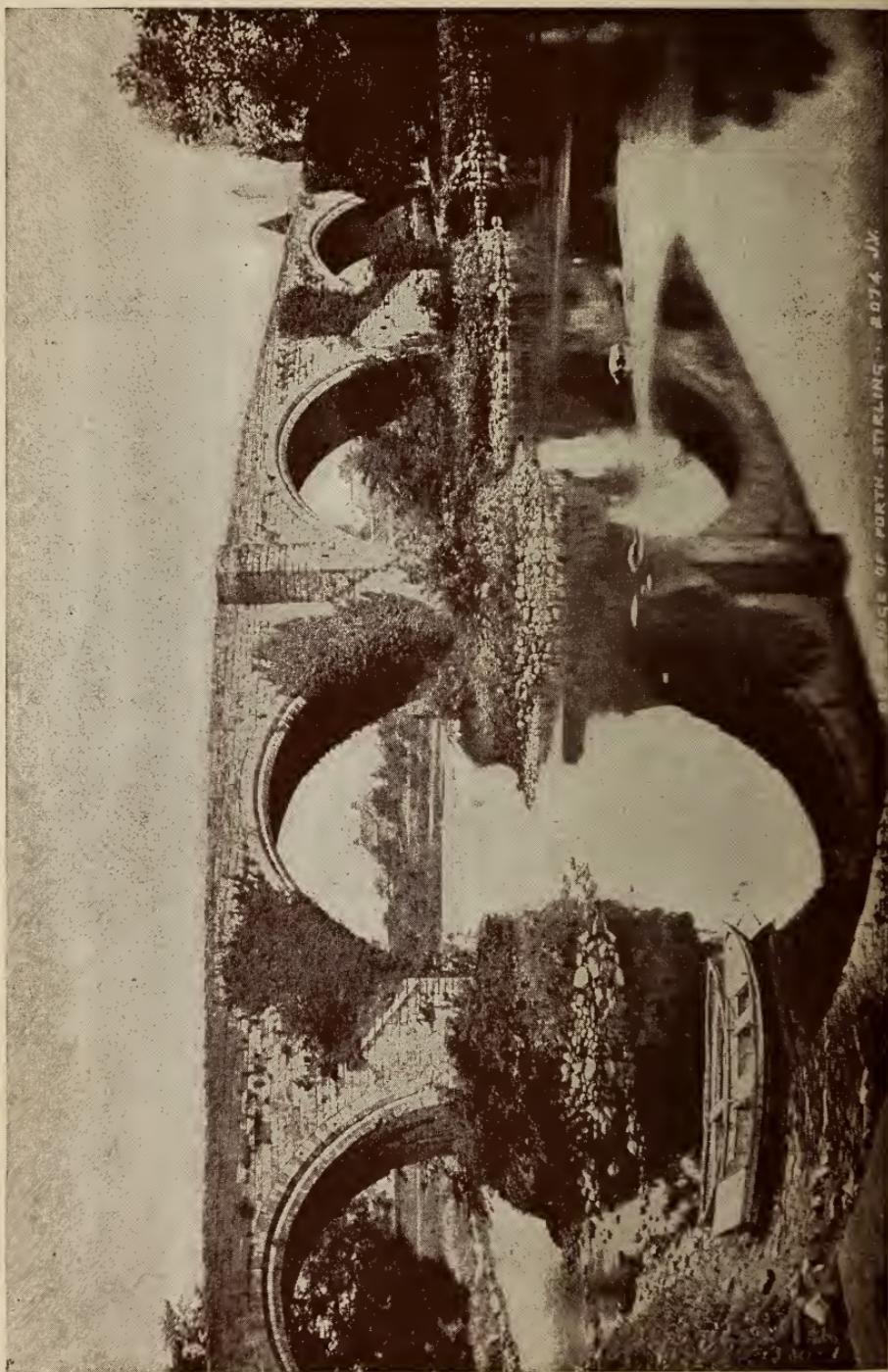
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THE OLD BRIDGE, STIRLING.

THE OLD BRIDGE, STIRLING.

THE OLD BRIDGE, STIRLING.

THE OLD BRIDGE, STIRLING.

THE OLD BRIDGE.

BY EX-BAILIE JAMES RONALD.

THE Old Bridge of Stirling is without doubt one of the oldest and most interesting erections of the kind north of the Tweed. It is older than the existing buildings of the Castle, and, with the single exception of the west portion of the Parish Church, the oldest building of any kind within the burgh. We believe Stirling owes much of its early importance and prosperity to the fact that for nearly four centuries the bridge was the only highway of communication between the south and north of Scotland. There are numerous indications through the centuries that our forefathers appreciated its importance, and we have no doubt that often, in the words of Prince Henry, they invoked

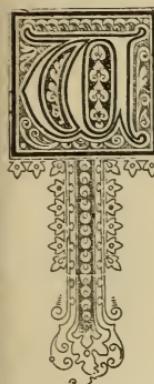
"God's blessing on the architects who build
The bridges o'er swift rivers and abysses—
Before impassable to human feet ;
No less than on the builders of cathedrals,
Whose massive walls are bridges thrown across
The dark and terrible abyss of death."

Dating as it does in its erection from the beginning of the fifteenth century, it has now been nearly five hundred years in existence. Sir Robert Sibbald, in his "Fife and Kinross, 1710," styles it "a stately bridge of hewn stone, consisting of four large arches, with an iron gate upon it, laid over the Forth from the south to the north." And Robert Chambers, in his "Picture of Stirling, 1830," characterises it as "by far the most noted structure of the kind in Scotland." For us it possesses a point of still greater interest, in the extreme probability that it occupies and is built upon the site of a still more ancient bridge. In support of this statement, we find that when the ancient bridge ceased to be of service, soon after the battle of Stirling in 1297, a ferry-boat was introduced to carry people and goods across the river at Winchelhaugh Park. Had the bridge been at Kildean, one would naturally expect the ferry to be there; but no, it is found in close proximity to the old bridge. This ferry continued in full operation till the bridge was rebuilt between the years 1400 and 1415. We ascribe its erection to Robert Duke of Albany, Earl of Fife and Menteith. The bridge is built of hewn stone, consisting of four arches nearly semi-circular in form, and each having different spans. The piers are strong and massive, being additionally strengthened by V-shaped triangular abutments or cutwaters. A massive hewn stone archway was erected where the present pillars stand, at the north end of the bridge. On this archway was hung a gate. It was constructed of iron, strong and massive, and at the same time ornamental, bearing as it did

upon its front the arms of the town—to wit, “the wolf upon the craig.” A similar archway existed at the south end, but it had no gate. The picture in the Council Chamber, which formed one of the panels over the door of the old Council Chambers in Broad Street, represents the bridge as it appeared previous to 1745. The south archway was taken down when the arch of the bridge was cut in 1745, and the present pillars were erected on the completion of the broken arch in 1749. The north archway remained till 1749, when the exigencies of trade required it to be widened and enlarged. This involved the removal of the iron gate. Some time after the iron gate was sold by public roup, and realised the sum of 109 lib. 4s. Scots money. After its removal a wooden gate was erected, which continued to be used for fifty years. But the old order was changing, giving place to new, and the wooden gate in its turn was swept away on the advent of stage and mail coaches.

From the fact that the bridge formed the only passage over the river Forth from the date of its erection down to 1769, when the bridges of Drip and Frew were erected, it can be easily conceived that it would occupy a most important and conspicuous position in history, and be the silent witness of many notable scenes and events. From the frequency of Parliaments held at Perth during the reign of James I., royal cavalcades would be constantly passing, and many a gay scene be witnessed. It comes into prominence with the escape of James V. from the Palace of Falkland, and from the restraint in which he was held by the Earl of Angus and others. In May, 1528, the King, having disguised himself, mounted with his two servants, and galloped during the whole night. At daybreak he reached the bridge of Stirling. It was defended by a gate, which the King, after passing through, ordered to be closed and carefully watched. At the Reformation, in 1559, the Queen Regent was impatient to throw a French garrison into Stirling, to possess herself of its bridge, which was the only one over the Forth. But the Earl of Argyll and Lord James Steuart, apprised of her intention, presented themselves at Stirling and thus forestalled the Queen Regent. It comes into prominence at the Rebellion of 1745, when the south arch was cut by Major General Blakeney to prevent the Highland army entering the town. The arch was rebuilt at the expense of the Government in 1749. In the interval the town was compelled to resume the communication by means of ferry-boats. With the close of the Rebellion the narrative of the bridge in history comes to an end. From 1745 down to the completion of the new bridge in 1833, its record is peaceful, busy, and prosperous; and from Martinmas, 1834, when it was closed against traffic, down to the present, it has enjoyed a well-merited rest. No one will grudge it that rest after long centuries spent in the public service.

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Always in Splendid Condition.

WHISKIES, Well Matured.

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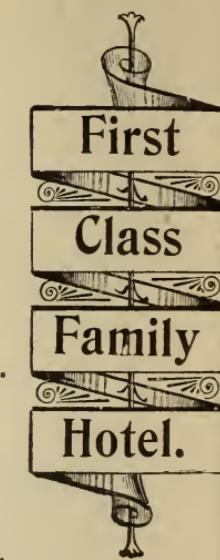
Robert Thomson,

BUTCHER,

29 Port Street,

And Main Street,
Bannockburn.

STIRLING.



RIVER FORTH AT STIRLING.



THE RIVER FORTH AT STIRLING.

BY WILLIAM DRYSDALE.

NOT the least of the numerous attractions of Stirling is the river Forth (famous alike for its history and beauty), which flows in its many turnings through the plain below. Its remarkable mazes will be better understood when it is stated that from Stirling Bridge to Alloa the distance is about 17 miles, while between the two places as the crow flies it is under 5 miles. These windings make boating a very pleasant recreation, and for this there is a gentlemen's Amateur Rowing Club, with a large membership, well equipped with racing and pleasure boats. Gentlemen residing in Stirling for some time may be admitted members on payment of a very reasonable sum.

The cruises both above and below the boathouse are very enjoyable, the upper reach being the favourite. Leaving the boathouse, the boat passes immediately under the North British and Caledonian Railway bridges, the New Bridge leading to the north, then the old historical Bridge of Stirling, described elsewhere in this book. After passing the bridge, a delightful stretch of water of about three miles is reached, ending at the Cruive Dykes. On the way the Wallace Monument is seen to the right; then the ford of Kildean is crossed, the site of the famous battle of Stirling Bridge; after a nice spin, the mouth of the Allan water is arrived at, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Bridge of Allan; half-a-mile further the Cruive Dykes are reached, where the whole waters of Forth and Teith fall a distance of about ten feet. The scenery at this place is delightful. There is a wooded island just below the fall where picnics are held. A few hours can be spent here with pleasure. Craigforth can be visited from here—a very pretty wooded craig with residence nestling at the foot. It is said that the Carron Iron Company at one time offered a large sum for this craig, as it is composed of ironstone. If they had succeeded, it would have taken away what is considered a very curious feature in the landscape—"a craig in a carse." The cruise may be continued on the Forth above the Dykes for a good many miles.

The trip from Stirling to Alloa is made by leaving the boathouse at the turn of the tide. On leaving, the run is nearly straight to the foot of the Abbey Craig, above which towers the Monument; then turning, and after winding for a number of

miles, it again returns within a short distance of the Craig. A very enjoyable pull is then made, passing Old Polmaise, the late residence of Colonel Murray. Cambus, famous for its whiskey and ale, at the mouth of the Black Devon, is next arrived at. Thence passing the railway bridge, Alloa is gained, where a few hours can be spent. The famous Alloa yarn is made here. There are also extensive bottle-works, and shipbuilding. The return can be made with the flow of tide.

Rod fishing is also a favourite pastime, the Forth salmon being famed. Boats, with attendance, on the restricted waters, can be had for any length of time, by arrangement with the lessee. There is also a large extent of unrestricted water where visitors may enjoy the rod at any lawful time.

The scenery all around is good, and parties can spend any length of time, with great benefit to themselves, in the healthful recreations of boating and fishing.

The Edinburgh and Stirling steamers ply between Stirling and Leith in the summer, when pleasant excursions may be made, by leaving in the morning by steamer to Leith, and returning either by rail or boat. There are many interesting places passed on the route downwards, including the bonnie woods of Dunmore, Kincardine, Culross, Grangemouth (a large shipping port, and entrance to the Forth and Clyde Canal), Bo'ness, Queensferry (with the famous Forth Bridge), with many Castles and country houses belonging to well-known noblemen and gentlemen.



T. Gentles & Son, Established 1872.

SADDLERS,

TAKE this opportunity of thanking their friends and patrons for the liberal support accorded them during the past twenty-six years in Stirling, and hope, by strict attention to business, to merit an increased share of public patronage.

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31 PORT STREET, STIRLING

(Immediately adjoining Messrs Kinross & Sons' Carriage Works).

ROBERT MENZIES & CO.,

Cash Grocers,

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W. J. MOORE, CHEMIST,

 **24 Murray Place, Stirling.**



HAVING had large experience in every department of his business, in Dispensing and Compounding of Physicians' prescriptions and Pharmaceutical preparations, every facility is given in his Laboratory for the faithful execution and preparation of all work entrusted to his care, under personal superintendence and qualified Assistants.

All Drugs and Chemicals used in this Establishment are of the Best Quality, and are carefully selected and obtained from the most reliable sources.

All PATENT MEDICINES and PROPRIETARY ARTICLES sold at Store Prices (for Nett Cash only).

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Established nearly

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THE PEOPLE'S BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURERS.



WE have a very Large Stock of BOOTS, SHOES and SLIPPERS ; all Classes and Styles, at prices that cannot be beat. All kinds of Boots and Shoes made to Order. REPAIRS done on the shortest notice by First-Class Workmen.



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The Antique and Modern Furniture Hall.

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Large and Varied Stock of

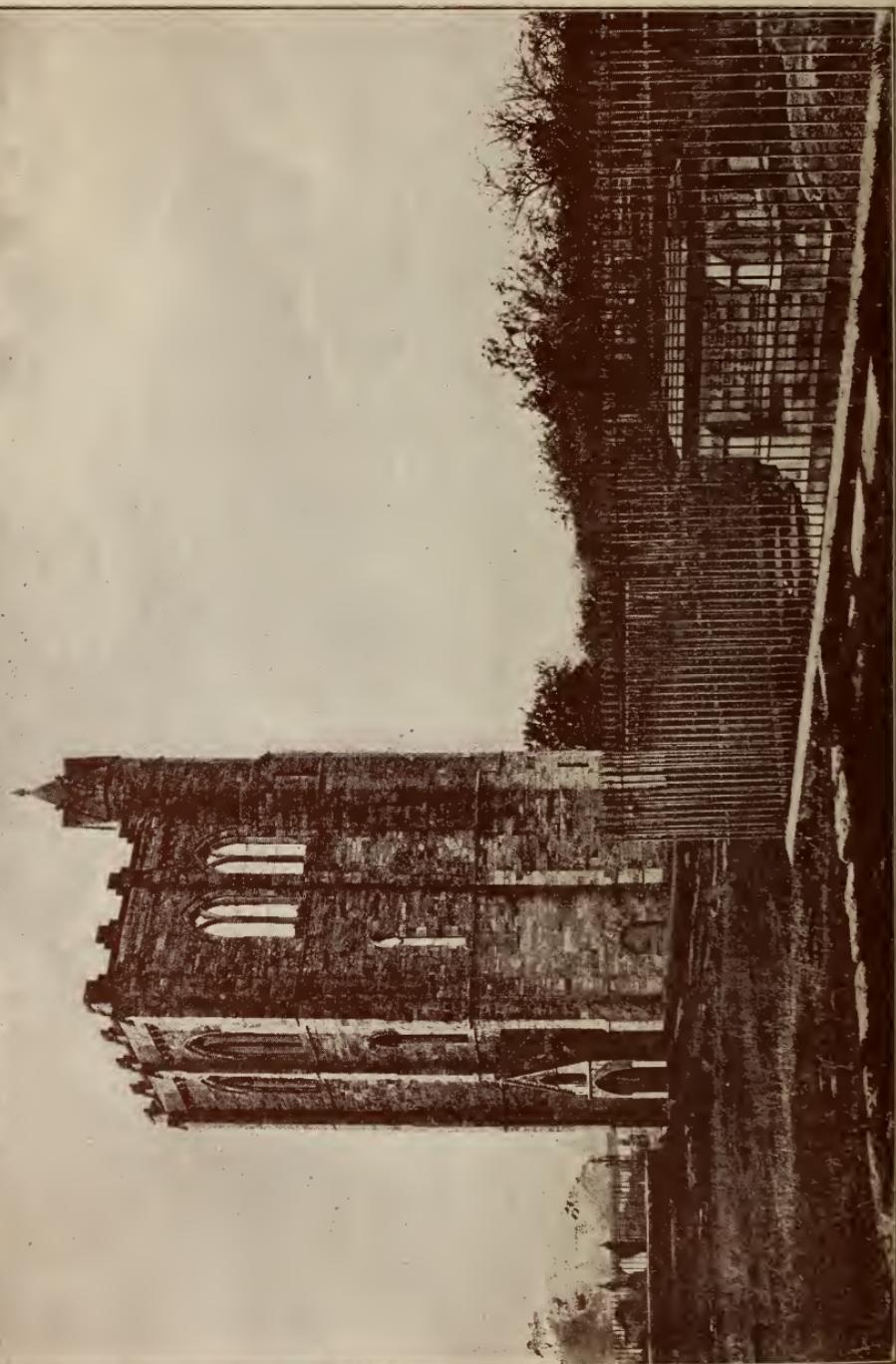
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Family Baker and Confectioner,

34 PORT STREET, & 69 KING STREET,

STIRLING.



CAMBUSKENNETH.

TOWER OF CAMBUSKENNETH ABBEY, AND TOMB OF JAMES III.

BY ALEXANDER MOYES.

THE Tower of Cambuskenneth Abbey is all that now remains of what was an important and extensive ecclesiastical building. It stands on the northern side of the River Forth, in one of the many crooks formed by that winding river. From Stirling it can be reached in a short time by crossing the river at the Ferry.

The buildings seem to have been of great extent. Some idea of this may be formed from the foundations, which were carefully traced and laid open about the year 1864.

The Abbey was founded in 1147 by David I., and was endowed by him and some of his successors with extensive lands and other property in different parts of the kingdom. It was appropriated for the Monks of the Order of St. Augustine, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. For about fifty years after its foundation the Church was called St. Mary's of Stirling in all charters relating to it. In 1201, however, the name was changed into the Church of St. Mary's of Cambuskenneth. It flourished for four centuries, and during that time it was frequently the scene of transactions of national importance. It was here at the Feast of St. Barnabas, 1304, that the secret agreement was made between Robert of Bruce and William Lamberton, Bishop of St. Andrews, which decided the former to rise in rebellion against the English power in Scotland. Here, too, was held the first of representative Parliaments. For in the Parliament summoned to the Abbey by King Robert the Bruce, in 1326, Burgesses and Freeholders took part in the deliberations for the first time. So frequently were Parliaments held in this Abbey that one of the buildings came to be known as the Parliament Hall. Its foundations are still to be seen a little apart from the main building.

Of the original building of the 12th century, probably nothing now remains but the foundations. In 1385, the Abbey was pillaged and set on fire by Richard II. of England. The revenues of the Abbey at that time would scarcely admit of the extensive repairs necessary to restore it. The buildings seen now—the Tower and the doorway—are in all likelihood parts of a second Church erected about the end of the 15th

century. At the Reformation this Abbey, like many others, was plundered and demolished, probably in 1559. Three years afterwards, Queen Mary, by charter, granted the Abbey and all the lands of Cambuskenneth to the Erskine family. Later, the Earl of Mar took from the ruined Abbey much of the material required for the building of his house in Broad Street in Stirling, and very probably it furnished the building materials for the older houses in the village of Cambuskenneth.

Amongst the privileges granted by the Pope early in the history of the Abbey, was the right of free burial to such as from feelings of devotion should desire to be interred within that sanctuary. The successive Abbots and Monks of the Abbey were no doubt buried there. But the most distinguished persons of whose burial we have any record, were James III. and his Queen, Margaret of Denmark. Queen Margaret died at Stirling, and was buried near the High Altar of the Abbey in February, 1487. In June, 1488, King James was assassinated at Milton, about two miles south from Stirling, when fleeing from the battlefield at Sauchieburn. His funeral obsequies were solemnly performed at Cambuskenneth on 25th June, 1488, and his body laid to rest beside his Queen near the High Altar.

In 1864, extensive excavations were made, and the foundations of the nave, transept, chancel, and chapter-house were laid open. While the excavators were at work, they discovered the burial-place of King James and his Queen. The bodies were carefully re-interred, and by command of Queen Victoria, a tombstone was erected to mark their last resting-place.



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NATIONAL WALLACE MONUMENT, STIRLING.

THE WALLACE MONUMENT.

BY JOHN MACFARLANE.

THE Wallace Monument and its site are so well described in a small volume published in 1861, when the foundation stone was laid by His Grace the Duke of Athole, Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland, that we cannot do better than quote from it :—

" In our estimation," writes the Rev. Dr. Rogers, who was one of the leading spirits in the movement, " it would be impossible to find a situation in all respects more suited for a national monument, or better adapted for a memorial cairn to the national hero. Abbey Craig is geographically in the centre of Scotland ; it is likewise the centre of the Scottish battle-ground for civil and religious liberty. It overlooks the field of Stirling Bridge, where Wallace obtained his greatest victory ; and the monument will surmount the spot where he is believed to have stood while surveying the legions of England crossing the bridge, in their path to destruction. This spot, the highest point of the Craig, is 360 feet above the level of the river Forth. Around is a scene of picturesque and ennobling character. A plain of the richest variety of landscape, and teeming with fertility, is guarded on the north and south by undulating hill ridges and pastoral heights, and bounded on the distant east and west by magnificent mountain ranges. Westward the stupendous Grampians, crested by the lofty Ben Lomond, raise their majestic forms against the horizon. Eastward, the view terminates on the sloping hills of Cleish and Saline. The scene beneath is singularly enchanting. It has certainly never been contemplated by the poet or painter without emotion. Every point is replete with interest. The most fastidious scenery-hunter would be gratified with such a combination of hill and dale, wood and water, ancient ruin and modern villa, landward culture and heathy sterility. On the west is Craigforth, foliage-clad, and standing forth in isolated majesty. There, a little to the north-west, is 'the lofty brow of ancient Keir,' celebrated by a poet, the seat of a poet, and the most poetical in its decorations of all Scottish country seats. Bridge of Allan, just two miles distant, ensconced under the umbrageous shelter of the wooded Ochils, is a picture of cleanliness and comfort. The undulating Ochil heights, 'ever beauteous, ever new,' extend their picturesque masses far to the north-east. Immediately beneath the Craig, and on the sloping

base of the Ochils, is Airthrey Castle, with its fine park and lake, once the seat of the noble Robert Haldane, now of the ennobled family of Abercromby. Villages fringe the base of the Ochils, far as the eye can reach, and the silvery Forth reposes, serpent-like, in the centre of the plain, having on both its banks a succession of elegant country seats. On a peninsula formed by the river, stands the hoary tower of Cambuskenneth, rejoicing in its seven centuries of age. Southward a few miles are seen the Gillies' Hill and the district of Bannockburn. The associations of the place," adds Dr. Rogers, "surpass even the glories of the prospect. Around is the conflict ground of Caledonian freedom, while the Craig seems a high altar, reared by Nature's hand, and consecrated a memorial of the nation's victories. In Airthrey Park was fought the engagement which gave the Scots supremacy over the ancient Picts.

"On the Craig's summit might have been heard the shout of victory raised by the army of Bruce after the glorious achievement at Bannockburn. At Sheriffmuir, on the north, one bloody day terminated the first attempt of the House of Stuart to regain possession of a throne forfeited by crime. Stirling and its Castle are fraught with reminiscences of stirring deeds. Every spot on the plain has been the scene of contention, and the present beauty of the prospect has doubtless been enhanced by carnage, which once imparted to the district an aspect of desolation."



National Wallace Monument.

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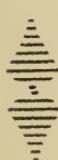
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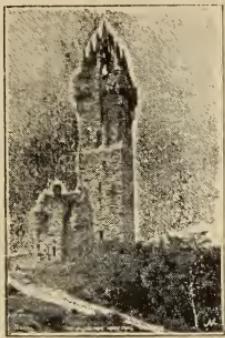
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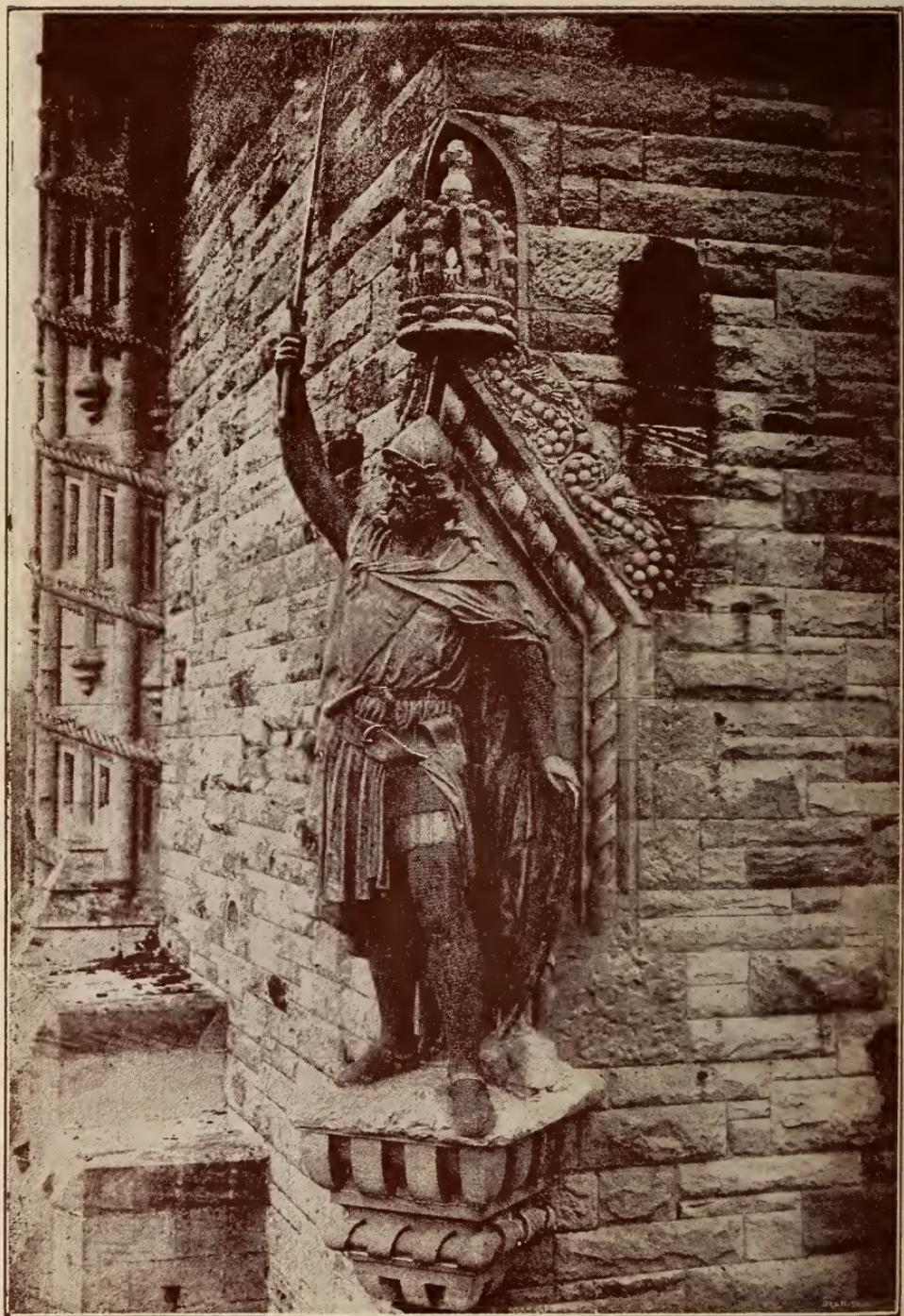
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WALLACE STATUE, NATIONAL WALLACE MONUMENT.

THE WALLACE MONUMENT.

(CONTINUED).

“THE design of the Monument is from the pencil of Mr. J. T. Rochead of Glasgow, a gentleman well and favourably known in his profession. It consists of what may be termed a Scottish baronial tower, two hundred feet high, and thirty-six feet square. The walls are massive, being fifteen feet thick at the base, and graduating from five to six feet at the top. At the east side of the Tower is a house for the person in charge of the Monument. An open court-yard, entered by a massive circular-arched gateway, having bold mouldings, separates the main building from the keeper's dwelling. Above the gateway are the heraldic arms of Sir William Wallace. Passing through the gateway into a stone-arched passage, a series of steps lead to an open octagonal winding staircase, projecting from the south-west angle of the Tower, and running up nearly its entire height. Arrowlet slits or lights pierce the walls of the staircase at intervals, almost to the summit of the square tower, and imitation ropework, with moulded angles, bind the walls externally. The staircase forms the approach to several spacious and lofty halls, designed for the reception of visitors, and the display of armour and other antiquarian relics illustrative of early national history. An imperial open crown of stone forms the apex of the Monument. This coronal top is upwards of fifty feet high, and is built of pure white sandstone. It comprises eight arms, from the angles and sides, all converging and abutting on the centre upon an open newel staircase, and forming a series of flying buttresses, broadly ribbed, having the spandrels filled in with open tracery. Crocketed pinnacles surmount the outer flanks of the buttresses, and some very effective sky lines are obtained by the openings of the crown.”

All patriotic Scotsmen should make it a point to visit Abbey Craig. Since the Tower was erected, a colossal statue, in bronze, of Wallace in the act of wielding his sword, has been placed in the niche in the south corner. In the third hall there are now handsome busts of King Robert the Bruce, Hugh Miller, George Buchanan, Thomas Chalmers, D.D., D.C.L., Adam Smith, Robert Burns, Robert Tannahill, David Livingstone, John Knox, James Watt, William Murdoch, Sir Walter Scott, and Thomas Carlyle. The chief attraction, however, is the sword of Sir William Wallace—

“That sword which seemed fit for archangel to wield,
But was light in his terrible hand.”

On the top landing of the Tower the visitor will find on each side a map of the country, describing the various points of interest which may be seen from this eminence. The court-yard contains a bust of the Rev. Dr. Rogers.

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SMITH INSTITUTE, STIRLING.

THE SMITH INSTITUTE.

BY THE REV. D. D. ORMOND, F.S.A. (SCOT.)

UNDER the imposing height on which Stirling Castle stands, and at the west end of Albert Place, is situated the Smith Institute. Stirling is indebted for the building, and for a considerable portion of its contents, to a bequest by the late Thomas Stuart Smith, Esq., of Glassingall, Perthshire, who died at Avignon, France, in 1869.

Mr. Smith was an artist by nature. Under the fostering care and help of his uncle—the laird of Glassingall—he had abundant opportunities of developing his gifts especially under the sunny skies, and among the art treasures of Italy.

Mr. Smith's bequest has provided, according to his intention, a Picture Gallery, a Museum, and a Reading Room.

THE PICTURE GALLERY is divided into two portions, one for the display of works in oils, and the smaller one for the exhibition of water-colours. In the great gallery are to be found numerous examples from the brush of Mr. Smith himself, many of them glowing with warm southern sunlight, and all distinguished by the artist's passion for colour. Besides these, and also the gift of the founder, there are examples of such artists as John Philip, R.A., Sir George Harvey, P.R.S.A., Danby, Sam Bough, Maris, Danbigny; while in the water-colour collection J. D. Harding, William Hunt, David Cox, Elijah Walton, and many others are well represented. From the date of the opening of the Institute by the late Sir William Stirling Maxwell, Bart., in 1874, exhibitions (generally at intervals of three years) have been held under the auspices of the Stirling Fine Art Association. These have been eminently successful in carrying out Mr. Smith's intention of fostering the love of art in the midlands of Scotland. Kind donors have this year (1897) made a beginning in adding works by such artists as John Linnell, senr., Smart, R.S.A., Campbell Noble, R.S.A., and Rattray, A.R.S.A., to the permanent collection. It is hoped that in the future such a lead will be followed up, so that the spacious galleries may contain in time a large, representative, and interesting collection of art-work. Meantime, the catalogue contains between three and four hundred entries.

THE MUSEUM, which is entered from the right-hand side of the vestibule, contains an excellent gathering illustrative of various departments of natural history. It is specially strong on

the side of ornithology and fossil botany. Not to dwell on such interesting exhibits as the Stirling Jug; the portrait and chair of James Guthrie, the martyr (1661); the old jougs and stocks, which are of special local importance—the accomplished Curator has got together and arranged methodically many articles illustrative of the life and social customs of former days. Lighting, baking, spinning, weaving, curling, etc., are thus graphically set forth, instructing us about the past and making us thankful for the present. The exhibit of church tokens is very noteworthy. Nearly all the Parish Churches of Scotland are represented, and the specimens in use in other denominations are numerous and well selected. The Museum will amply repay a visit by the varied interest and instruction it affords.

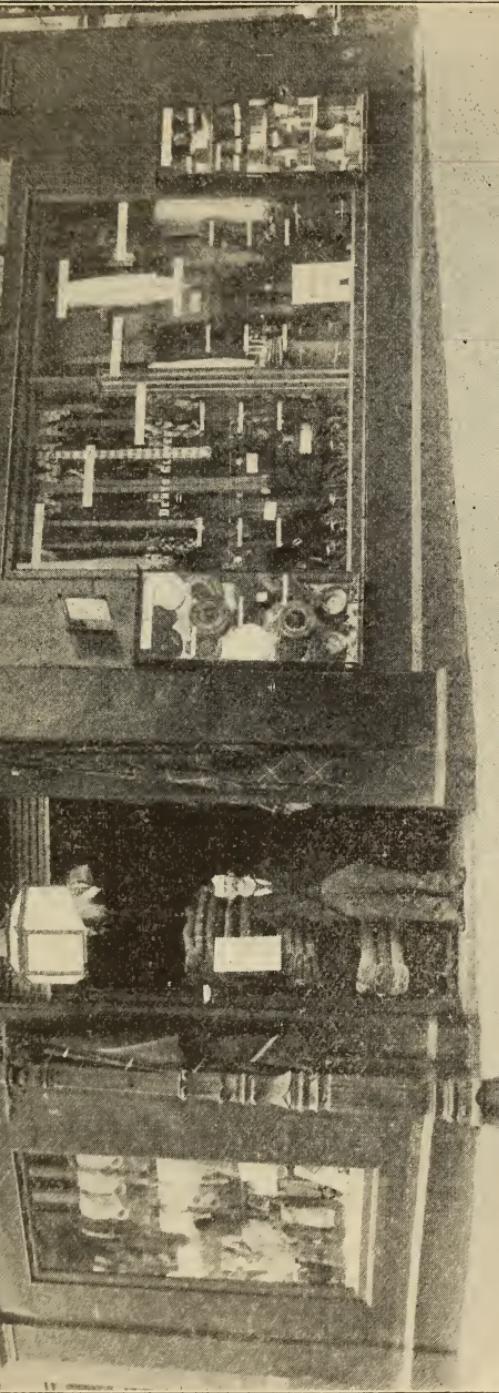
THE READING ROOM, which is free to the public, is entered by the door to the immediate left of the entrance. It contains some thousands of volumes, which formerly belonged to the Macfarlane and Stirling Libraries, with some additions. The books are not lent out; they can only be consulted on the premises. So well to the front in other respects, Stirling still waits the appearance of some munificent donor, or the rise of such public spirit, as will provide the "City of the Rock" with a Free Library. Newspapers and magazines are to be found on the tables. This department is well taken advantage of. Had it been nearer the town, the Institute would doubtless have been a greater benefit to all classes than it has proved. But it has its place and its influence. Many here appreciate it, and visitors should see it.



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[See next page.]

"THE GARB OF OLD GAUL."



AT the time of the Roman Invasion, the Highlands of Scotland were inhabited by about 21 aboriginal tribes or clans. They were a strong, hardy race, and their skill in times of war may be judged by the fact that they were able to resist successfully the otherwise all-powerful arms of Rome. Each clan wore a distinctive dress of bright-coloured checked material called tartan, the dyes for which were obtained from native herbs, and in addition to that in ordinary use, they possessed others of different design and colouring for dress and hunting. In later years, many of the Lowland families also adopted a distinctive dress, so that now there are about 230 different names in the list of the tartans of the clans and families of Scotland.

In the days of hand-loom weaving, the manufacturing of tartans was extensively carried on in Stirling, but the advent of the power loom has made that a thing of the past so far as the town is concerned. The making of woollen tartans of all kinds, Scotch tweeds and shawls, still forms, however, one of the leading industries of the district in the large mills at Bannockburn and the Hillfoots.

Tourists and visitors to Stirling will find at the Warehouse of Messrs. HUGH GAVIN & SON many interesting Souvenirs of Scotland. Clan Tartan Silk Goods in Handkerchiefs, Belts, Ties, and Sashes, can be had in great profusion, while in Woollen Goods they have an extensive variety of Reversible Tartan Travelling Rugs, Scotch Plaids, Shawls, and Dress Materials. The firm have several specialities, one being a beautiful guinea Travelling Rug with reversible Tartans of Bruce and Wallace and Douglas and Bruce—a fitting memento of the heroes of Scotland. Another, is a shilling Tartan Needle-case, with local views and a good assortment of those British-made needles which are so much appreciated by foreign tourists. Here tourists may purchase the complete Highland Costume (ready-made or to order) in the most correct style, with Sporran, Skean Dhu, and Dirk. They have also specimens of many other native industries, such as Novelties in Tartan Woodwork with local views, Scotch Tweeds for Tailor-made Gowns, Hand-knit Knickerbocker Stockings made of the best Scotch yarns; also, Scotch Bonnets and Tam o' Shanters, and last, but not least, all kinds of Hand-knit Goods from the far-off Shetland Islands, comprising Fine Lace Shawls, Heavy Wrap Shawls, Underwear, Gloves, Stockings, &c., &c. HUGH GAVIN & SON, 1 King Street, Stirling.

[See previous page.]

ST. NINIAN'S TOWER.



ST. NINIANS STEEPLE.

BY REV. J. M. ROBERTSON, M.A.

THE eventful past of the Scottish nation is reflected in the antiquities of St. Ninians. The original church, still popularly termed "the Aisle," stood in the midst of the churchyard, where its ruins, the present burial place of the proprietors of Touch, remain. It must have been a very ancient place of Christian worship, as it is mentioned in some of the earliest charters of Cambuskenneth Abbey, which absorbed the tithes of the parish, and it was termed Eccles, or ecelesia, *the church par excellence*. Round its walls were posted the troops of Randolph, Earl of Moray, by order of King Robert the Bruce, on the eve of the battle of Bannockburn, with the view of intercepting any flank movement of the English towards the relief of the garrison of Stirling. Barbour, writing seventy years after the event, says—

"Therefore to his nephew bade he
The Earl of Moray, with his mengie,
Beside the Kirk to keep the way
That no man pass that gate away."

The movement had been almost executed when the successful skirmish at Newhouse took place which became so auspicious for the decisive conflict next day. St. Ninians being exposed by its situation to frequent visits from military forces in times of warfare, the armies usually rested in the neighbourhood of the church. In 1585, as Calderwood relates, the Lords opposed to the Earl of Arran "marching to Stirling, put themselves to order of battle at the church called St. Ninians, half-a-mile or so distant, till nightfall, when they entered Stirling by a back way without resistance." The local ecclesiastical records contain abundant reference to the ongoing of soldiers belonging to one or the other of the many armed bands which either passed through or remained for a time in the village. The end of the church came on the 1st February, 1746. The army of Prince Charles had laid siege to Stirling, and had defeated General Hawley's forces near Falkirk, when it was compelled hastily to retreat before the advance of the Duke of Cumberland. The contemporary register of the Kirk Session refers to the catastrophe that ensued as follows:—"13 Feb., 1746.—Which day the beadle was interrogate what of the utensils were left after the late burning of the Church, which happened on the first of

this month of February by the blowing up of the powder magazine that was lodged in the Church belonging to the Rebel army, and by which the death of a considerable number of the inhabitants and others was occasioned. He replied the trams of the Litter were safe, as also the big mortcloths, but represented that the Highlandmen had carried off one of the little mortcloths and the pulpit-cloth." Curiously enough, the tower appears to have sustained little or no injury. It is a comparatively recent structure, having been built in 1733 contiguous to the church, in room of a former steeple or bellhouse, which occasionally served as a place of confinement for offenders, and the site of which is now occupied by the Auchenbowie burial place. The existing Parish Church was erected after the destruction of the earlier edifice by the heritors, who sold the remaining materials for £10. The minister of the day, Mr. James Mackie, subsequently minister of St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, and Moderator of the General Assembly, was commissioned by the Kirk Session to proceed to London and petition the King for help. He managed with difficulty to collect £400 from "the great folks," but the money was required for the support of an assistant and of the numerous poor, and the parish still awaits a church whose external appearance would correspond with that of its predecessor, lost in the hazards of civil war. The separation of church and tower—like a similar disjunction at Utrecht, in Holland—with the ruined aisle intervening, never fails to excite the tourist's curiosity, and to bring the results of national strife vividly before him. The village of St. Ninians itself—once proudly denominated "the town of St. Ninians," and holding its annual fair at Brock's Brae, beside the Borestone—clustered primarily round the church, and was called the Kirktown, a name surviving in the "Calton," a row of thatched cottages on the roadside. The oldest date still visible on the houses of the present village is 1627.



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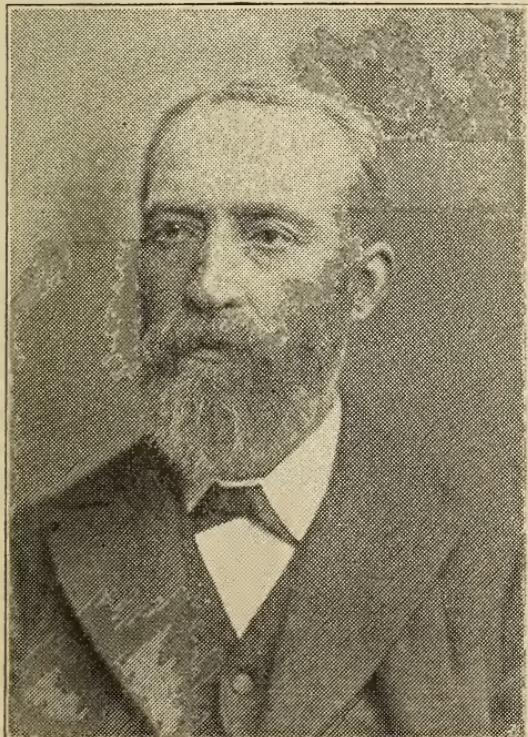
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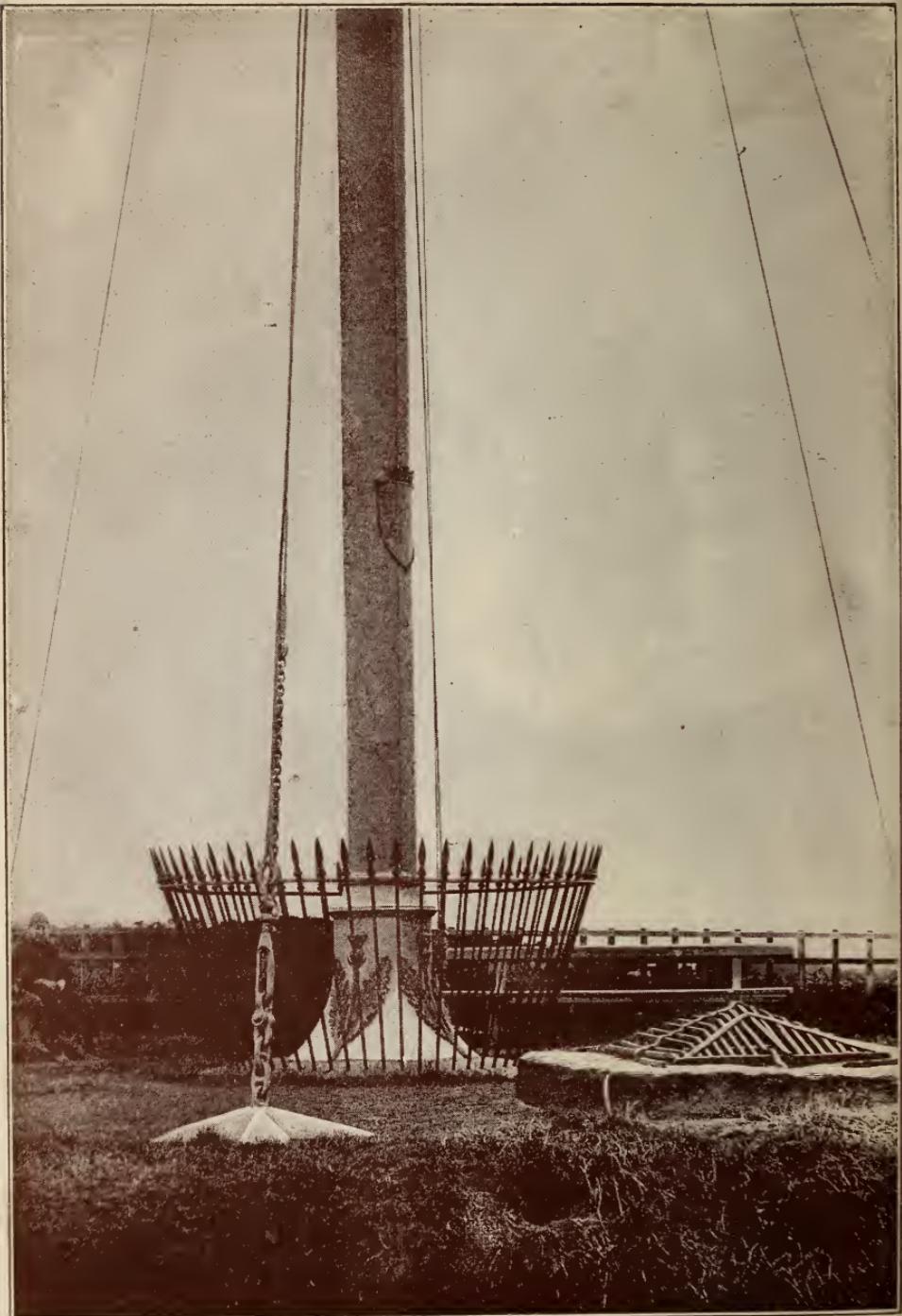
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THE BORESTONE (FIELD OF BANNOCKBURN).

THE BORESTONE.

BY REV. D. SMITH, M.A.

THE visitor to the Borestone from Stirling passes through a scene of great historic interest. At Randolphfield, the day before the battle of Bannockburn, Randolph, Earl of Moray, met and defeated a party of English under Sir Robert Clifford, who was making a surprise march to relieve Stirling Castle. A few steps further on, the Regent Lennox was killed in 1571, in a skirmish between the adherents of James VI. and those of his mother, Queen Mary. Soon we enter the ancient village of St. Ninians, whose sole antiquity is an old church steeple, standing by itself in the churchyard. In 1746, Prince Charles stored his gunpowder in the St. Ninians Parish Church, and when he had to make a hasty flight on the approach of the Duke of Cumberland, the powder exploded, and the church was blown to pieces, but the steeple escaped.

Immediately beyond St. Ninians is the famous Borestone, where tradition says Bruce fixed his standard at the Battle of Bannockburn. Apart from the historic interest of the spot, it is well worth a visit were it only for the extensive view which it commands. Standing at the Borestone, our backs to the flagstaff, we see the Ochil and Saline Hills; to the left the Grampians: to the right the low, wooded hill of Sauchie, where the battle of that name was fought in 1488; and when we turn and face the flagstaff, we see the Gillies' Hill and the Castle and city of Stirling.

At Milton, a short distance from the Borestone, stands a little house called Beaton's Mill, in which tradition says James III. was murdered immediately after the Battle of Sauchie. On the day of the battle, the miller's wife, filling her pitcher at a spring by the roadside, was startled by the sudden appearance of an armed horseman. Alarmed, she dropped her pitcher; the horse shied, and threw its rider, who was none other than the King. He was badly hurt, and the miller and his wife carried him into their house, and laid him on their humble bed, where his pursuers soon found and killed him with their daggers. The house, though no longer used as a mill, was evidently so used at one time; and on the opposite side of the road is a well, which is doubtless the one from which the woman was drawing water when the King suddenly appeared. James III. was buried at Cambuskenneth, where his grave may still be seen.

What attracts the visitor to the Borestone, however, is the view it commands of one of the world's famous battlefields. It was here that in June, 1314, King Robert Bruce with his small army defeated Edward II. with his 100,000 Englishmen. Since then the face of the country has considerably changed through the draining of a bog which lay in the hollow, into which we look when we stand with the flagstaff on the right, and through which the Bannock Burn flows. When drained, there were two bogs—Milton and Halbert bogs—but probably at the time of the battle the two were one. Edward's object was to reach Stirling Castle, which was held by one of his captains. The road to Stirling lay through Milton, at the extremity of the bog to the left. Beyond that, towards the Forth, the banks of the Bannock Burn are precipitous, and the Carse in the 14th century was marshy and covered with brushwood. Bruce made the road through Milton impassable by digging pits across it, and the English were forced to seek a passage between the other end of the bog and the foot of the Gillies' Hill. There the great battle was fought and won. The little Scottish army withstood the onset of the English like a rock, and just as the latter were beginning to waver, Bruce's camp followers, who had been concealed in a hollow of the Gillies' Hill, suddenly appeared, and struck dismay into the hearts of the English soldiers, who turned and fled. The rout was complete. Thirty thousand of Edward's followers lay dead on the battlefield, while immense booty fell into the hands of the Scots, which is said to have enriched the country for many a day.

Tradition still loves to associate certain localities in the neighbourhood with the battle—the field where Edward stood and witnessed the battle; Coxit Hill, from which Bruce directed the fight; the Bloody Fauld, where a party of the flying English made their last stand; Ingram's Crook, where an English knight of that name was found concealed after the battle; and even the spot where De Bohun was slain by the Scottish king the day before the battle.

The flagstaff was erected by the Oddfellows of Dumbarion in 1870, and the Borestone was covered with an iron grating to protect it from tourists, who would have carried it away piecemeal.

The whole district is redolent of the battle, and is also of great natural beauty. Should the visitor go further, at Torwood he will find the remains of the ancient Caledonian Forest; from Upper Canglour he will obtain a magnificent view of the Firth of Forth, passing on the way the Howietoun Fishery, which owes its existence to the ability and enterprise of Sir James Gibson Maitland, Bart.; and a short walk or drive by Murrayshall will take him through beautiful scenery to the Scottish heather.

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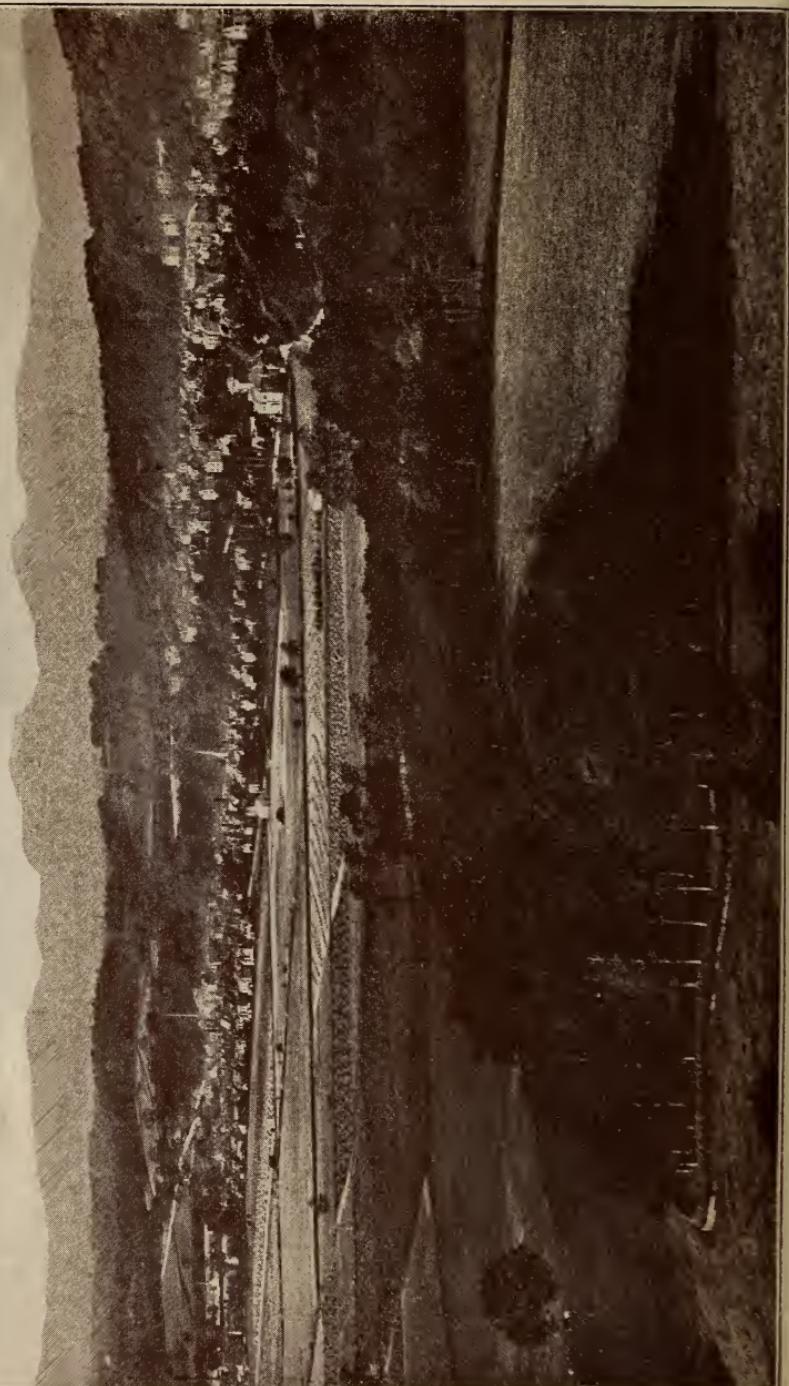
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BRIDGE OF AYAN



BRIDGE OF ALLAN.

BY REV. R. MENZIES FERGUSSON, M.A.

BRIDGE OF ALLAN, now a fashionable watering-place, lies about three miles north of Stirling, and, as may be seen from the accompanying illustration, is most picturesquely situated upon the left bank of the celebrated Allan Water. At the beginning of the century it was only a small hamlet in the western part of the parish of Logie ; but since then it has developed into a flourishing burgh, including the village of Keirfield on the other bank of the river. "The Bridge," as it is sometimes familiarly called, occupies one of the most sheltered and lovely positions in the whole of Scotland, and is environed by a district full of beauty and teeming with romance. The western spurs of the green Ochil hills protect the town from northern and eastern winds, and its mild winter climate has made it a very suitable place of residence for delicate people, retired Anglo-Indians, and others who have been used to warmer climates.

Little progress was indicated in 1827, when Mr Robert Chambers, in his "Picture of Scotland," describes it as "a confusion of straw-roofed cottages and rich massy trees ; possessed of a bridge and a mill, together with kail-yards, beeskeps, colleys, callants, and old inns." To-day the scene is changed, and the straw-roofed cottages have been replaced by numerous streets of elegant villas, surrounded by forest trees and ornamental shrubs. The town is naturally divided into two sections—a lower and upper. As viewed from Stirling Castle, it resembles a long letter V lying upon its side. The lower portion stands on alluvial ground adjacent to the river, while the upper occupies an elevated terrace or old sea-beach, the intervening declivity being adorned by trees, shrubs, and shady public walks. There is a considerable number of handsome and well-appointed private residences, many of those on the hill being specially attractive. A large proportion of lodging-houses provide suitable accommodation for the influx of visitors during the seasons. There are also five hotels, and a commodious and well-arranged Hydropathic establishment, which are all well adapted to meet the requirements of tourists and temporary sojourners.

Bridge of Allan was created a police burgh in 1870, with one senior and two junior magistrates and eight councillors. There is a branch of the Union Bank ; a Post Office, with telegraph, savings bank, and postal order department ; a telephone call-office ; a Club-house, situated beside the Wells ; and a large number of excellent and well-managed shops. The greater part of

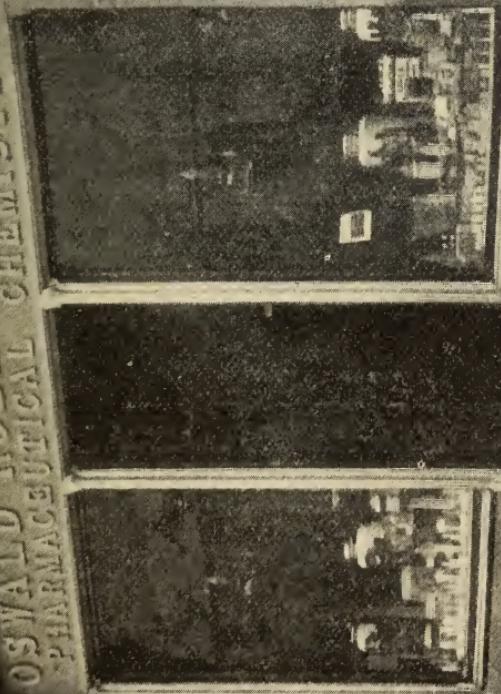
the burgh was created into a *quoad sacra* parish in 1868, and the Parish Church is commodious. There are also an elegant Free Church, built in 1853; a new United Presbyterian Church, rebuilt in 1895; and a Scottish Episcopal Church.

Among the most attractive features of this watering-place, however, are the many lovely walks through the woods of Westerton and Airthrey, round by Sunnylew on the north-west, up the Wharry Glen; along past Logie Manse and Blawlowan on the east, towards the old ruined Church of Logie; and up behind the peak of Demyat to the battlefield of Sheriffmuir. From the road leading past the farm of Drumbrae, a magnificent view of the valley of Menteith and the western Grampians may be obtained.

It is on account of the Airthrey Mineral Springs, however, that Bridge of Allan is deservedly famous. This mineral water has been for long distinguished as a specific for derangements of the stomach and liver, and skin and chest diseases, rheumatism, gout, sciatica, and nerve affections, and, for more than a century, crowds of visitors have resorted hither, from all parts, to enjoy the mild air and equable atmosphere, drink its healing waters, and benefit by its mineral-water baths. Through the existence of these mineral springs, Bridge of Allan has developed into the Queen of Scottish Spas, and the efficacy of the water is as great as ever. The principal quality is saline. The most important constituent, according to the analysis of Mr Andrew Wilson, F.I.C., is magnesic bromide, which is equivalent to 27·9 of bromine per million. In the Cheltenham spring, the corresponding figure is 23·2; in the Weisbaden spring, 3·0; and Aix la Chapeille, 2·7. On 13th June, 1893, these springs were incorporated, under the Companies' Acts, as "The Bridge of Allan Mineral Wells Company, Limited," under the chairmanship of Donald Graham, Esq., C.I.E., of Airthrey.

The amusements of visitors are provided for in a fine public tennis court, a very good golf-course, near the Fairy Knowe, two well-kept bowling greens, and in winter, skating and curling are enjoyed on Airthrey Loch, which the proprietor generously throws open to the public. The picturesque grounds of Airthrey Castle are open to visitors on Thursdays, Keir House on Fridays, while the Wallace Monument on the Abbey Craig, within easy walking distance, is open every lawful day. There is a good train service from both Bridge of Allan and Causewayhead stations, and tramway cars run between Stirling and Bridge of Allan every half-hour during the winter months, and every twenty minutes in summer; but during the busy season this is increased to every quarter of an hour. The cost of hiring is reasonable, and as the distance from Glasgow and Edinburgh is just about an hour's railway journey, it has become a favourite residence for many business men. It is an ideal place in which to spend a holiday.

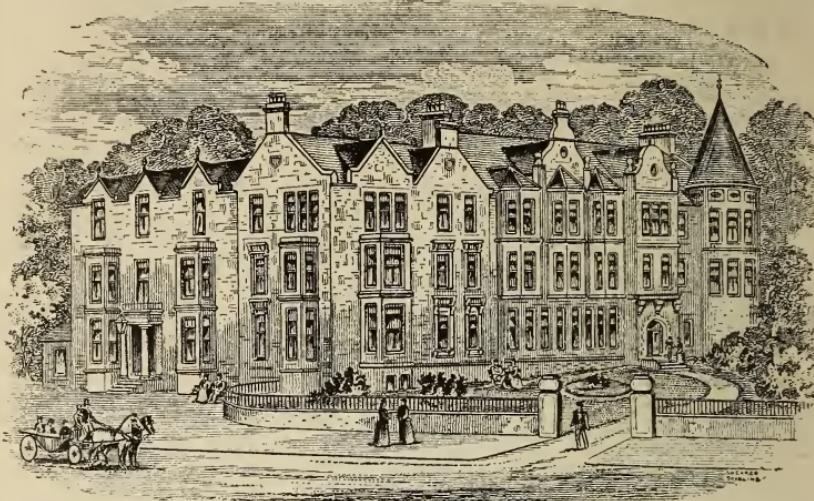
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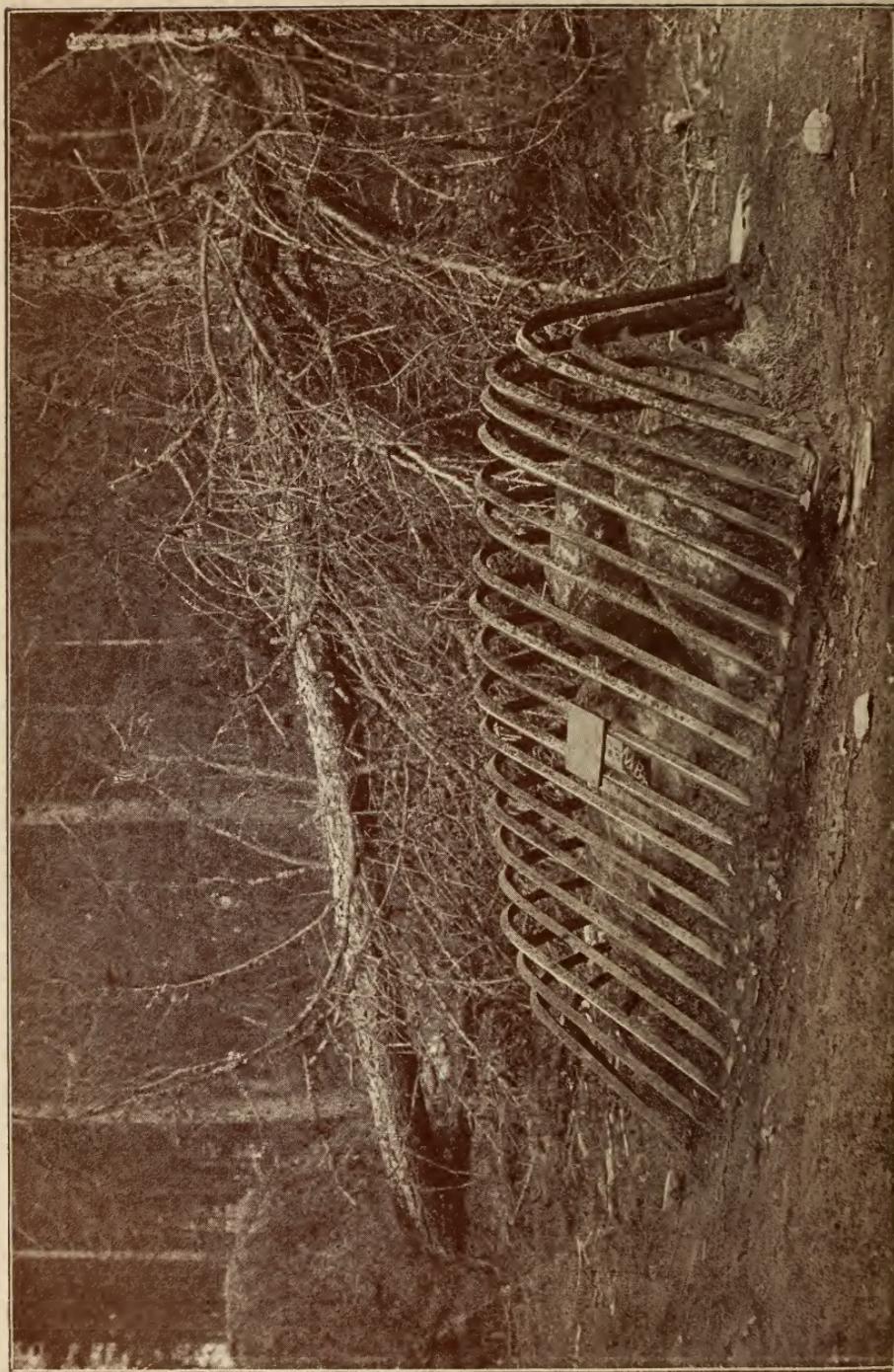
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GATHERING STONE, SHERIFFMUIR.

SHERIFFMUIR.

BY J. C. SMITH, M.A. (EDIN.), B.A. (OXON.)

EVEN apart from its historic associations, the field of Sheriffmuir (so called from the wapenshaws of which it was once the scene) is well worth visiting. It lies high on the slopes of the "hills ayont Dunblane;" the air is bracing with the breath of wood and heather; the distance from Stirling is not inconvenient, and the route now to be suggested affords an excursion of great variety, and at successive points commands a series of beautiful and striking views.

It is best to walk from Stirling ($6\frac{1}{2}$ miles), lunch at the inn on Sheriffmuir, and return *via* Dunblane. This route enables us to take the Battle Stone on the way. Leaving the town by Wallace Street, we follow the tramway line over the bridge, pass Causewayhead and the Wallace Monument, and keep on towards Bridge of Allan, still guided by the tram line, till, within half-a-mile of that village, we have passed the lodge and gate of Airthrey. Here we turn to the right. A twenty minutes' walk brings us to the heights, which command a fine view of Demyat to the right, with the Monument and the Castle further back. This is the best point from which to commence the ascent of Demyat. For Sheriffmuir, however, we follow the road. A pleasant walk of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles brings us to the inn, famous for its tidiness, its tea, its home-baked scones, and the friendly hospitality of its proprietors. On leaving the inn, we turn to the right, till we reach a small clump of wood, through which a footpath leads to the Battle Stone. Tablets affixed to the trees now obviate the need of further direction. The Battle Stone itself is covered with an iron grating (see illustration), and bears a brass plate with inscription. Returning, we once more follow the guidance of the tablets, and are set in the way of Dunblane. Just before we reach it, above the farm of Dykedale, we enjoy one of the finest views of Dunblane, with the old Cathedral tower in the foreground, and the hills and moors behind. If time permits, the traveller may walk through the quaint old village, and visit the beautifully restored Cathedral. Train or walk back to Stirling.

The strategical importance of Stirling has been recognised since the days of Hadrian. The battle of Sheriffmuir gave one more proof of it, and one last instance of the saying that "Forth bridles the wild Highlandman." It was to effect the passage of the Forth—not, indeed, at Stirling Bridge, which Major-General Wetham held with a considerable force,

but probably at the Fords of Frew—that Mar advanced from Perth on the 14th of November, 1715. If he could pass the Forth, he hoped to be able to make a junction with the Jacobites who had risen in the north of England. But on the day when he moved from Perth, Argyle advanced from Stirling to bar his progress, and posted himself at Sheriffmuir, with his left flank resting on Dunblane. On the 15th, Mar advanced from Auchterarder; for a night the armies lay over against each other; the battle was fought on the 16th. Every one knows the issue, or non-issue, of the famous fight—

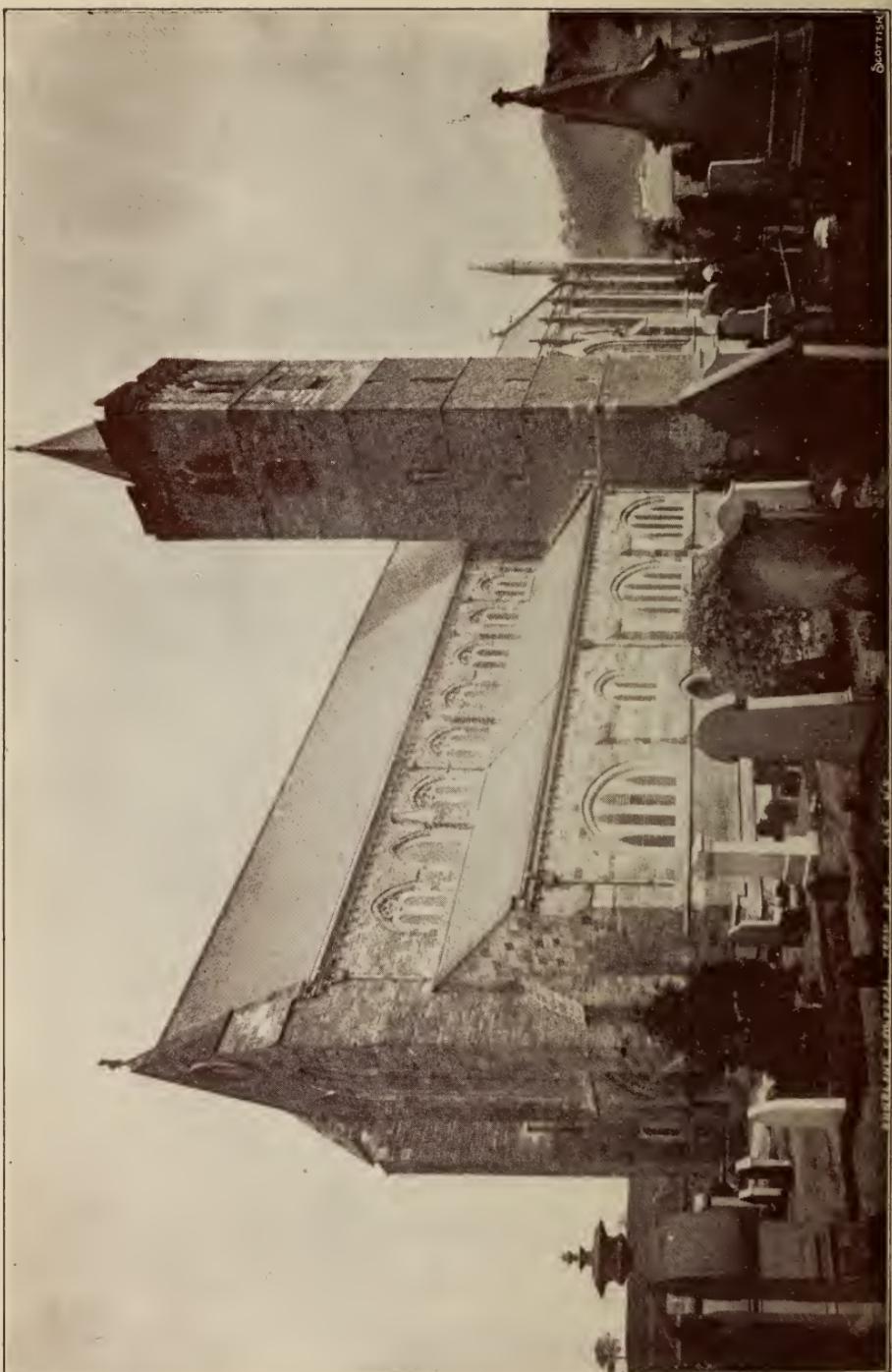
“ Some say that we wan,
And some say that they wan,
And some say that nane wan ava, man.”

On the right the Jacobites swept the redcoats before them, and Wetham never drew rein till he was safely over Stirling Bridge. But on the other wing Argyle beat the insurgents back to the Allan. Whoever won the battle, the Royalists reaped the fruits of victory. Argyle held the field; the Forth was not crossed; on the same day the English rebels were crushed at Preston, and Mar’s forces presently melted away.

The battle of Sheriffmuir is doubly interesting to Stirling people from the presence at it of a hero who made the Stirling district the scene of many exploits. The Jacobites were guided through Perthshire by no less a person than Rob Roy. The outlaw probably cared no more for King James than for King George; it is certain that his sympathies, such as they were, were with his patron Argyle; and when the fight began he showed his love of fair play by keeping out of it. To quote again from the old ballad—

“ Rob Roy stood at watch
On a hill for to catch
The booty, for aught that I saw, man,
And never advanced
From the place he was stanced
Till nae mair to do was at a’, man.”





Scotpix

DUNBLANE CATHEDRAL

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DUNBLANE CATHEDRAL.

BY GEORGE LOWSON, M.A., B.Sc.

SIX miles north from Stirling, on the great railway line to Perth, Aberdeen, and Inverness, stands the antique Cathedral City of Dunblane, which may be said in every way to be renewing its youth, for the old thatched houses which lined its narrow street have in recent years disappeared, the street has widened out to double its former width, on every side the town is expanding, a great fashionable and much-frequented Hydropathic crowns the rising ground behind, and within the last few years the princely munificence of Mrs. Wallace of Glassingall, and the wise knowledge and trained artistic and archæological tastes of Dr. Rowand Anderson, have restored to Scotland and to the world the beauty and the sweet-ness of a Cathedral which, if small and, as some would say, insignificant, is charming in its simplicity, and superlatively pleasing in its want of ostentation.

It is said that the site was first occupied by a fraternity of Culdees, established here in the latter half of the sixth century by St. Blane, who lived and died and was buried at Dunblane. The Culdees lingered on here later than in most other places in Scotland, and do not seem to have disappeared till the thirteenth century. The Cathedral seems to have been founded by King David I.—the “Soir Sanct for the Crown”—in 1140, but it made slow progress towards completion, and a letter from the Pope in 1240 speaks of it then lying bare and roofless. The nave was built during the episcopacy of Bishop Clement, which lasted from 1233 to 1257, and later on Bishop Ochiltree (1429-1448), and the first Bishop Chisholm (1481-1527), enlarged and beautified the edifice. To the latter Bishop are due the upper two storeys of the tower, on the southern parapet of which his arms are still to be seen.

The part which actual violence at the time of the Reformation played in the destruction of our ecclesiastical buildings in Scotland has still to be accurately determined, but it appears the buildings had already suffered considerably from revenues sadly diminished by illegal gifts, and that in June of 1559 the altars and images were violently “reformed”—that is, destroyed—by an excited multitude from Perth, who were led by the Duke of Argyle and Lord James Stewart, who was later on known as the Earl of Moray. The great agent of destruction, however, seems to have been the poverty and consequent neglect which followed. The nave stood roofless from shortly after the Reformation till the recent restoration, begun in 1888 and

completed in 1893, and it is more than wonderful that, after three and a half centuries of exposure to wind and weather, it was still possible to preserve the building. The choir was kept roofed and was used continuously as a place of worship by the National Church, first Episcopalian and afterwards Presbyterian, till the whole building, after leaving Dr. Rowand Anderson's hands, was once more restored to the uses for which it was intended.

The Cathedral is indeed a wonderful study, and a marvellous illustration of that essential permanence in the midst of change, which marks so many things in this world. In the nave, at its north-west corner, stands a weathered and worn cross-slab, one of a numerous class which abounds over the north-east of Scotland. It must, at latest, belong to about the end of the tenth century—it is probably of a considerably earlier date—and it suggests if it does not certainly speak of the Culdee occupation. The four lower storeys of the tower are early Norman work, and are supposed to belong to the twelfth century, while the fact that the wall of the nave is simply made to abut on and does not even run parallel with the walls of the tower, shows that the nave belongs to a later time.

Recumbent effigies of two bishops lie, one in the choir close to the great eastern window, and another, which has been shockingly mis-used, under the window of what does duty for the south transept. Another monument is said to commemorate and represent an Earl and Countess of Strathearn, but the warrior's shield—if it ever showed his bearings—now tells no tale of noble lineage. In the floor of the choir, in front of where the altar had once stood, there are three great slabs of blue limestone, the matrices of brasses, unfortunately, long since disappeared. These are said to mark the resting-place of Lady Margaret Drummond and her sisters who, for reasons intelligible to those who study and understand state-craft, were poisoned because James IV. had married, or was about to marry, the Lady Margaret.

The Cathedral is rich in the possession of pre-Reformation furniture—the stalls, canopied and uncanopied, of the Chapter. These are adorned with interesting and curious carving.

The new pulpit in itself presents an epitome of the interesting ecclesiastical history of Scotland and Dunblane. Besides being adorned with panels showing the usual sacred emblems and the symbols of the passion, it is further ornamented with statuettes, which recall the phases of man's ever-changing opinions on matters ecclesiastical—St. Blane, King David I., Bishop Clement, an Earl of Strathearn, John Knox, Bishop Leighton, Principal Carstairs—while round the canopy overhead, partly as commentary, partly as reproof and warning, is inscribed the words—“Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever.”

FILTERS, STIRLING WATERWORKS.



THE WATER SUPPLY OF STIRLING.

BY A. M'LUCKIE, C.E.

THE Stirling Waterworks are situated on the Touch hills, about four miles to the south-west of Stirling. The water is collected into three main reservoirs from the streams and springs within the collecting area, which extends to about 1300 acres. The total capacity of all the reservoirs, settling pond, filters, and clear-water basins is about 190,000,000 gallons.

The two lower reservoirs (Nos. 1 and 2) forming the original works contained together about 18,000,000 gallons, and were constructed about the year 1845, under the late Mr. Thom, C.E., of Greenock. These two reservoirs served the town until the year 1866, when reservoir No. 3 was opened. The capacity of reservoir No. 3 is about 45,000,000 gallons, and was constructed under the late Mr. Francis Mackison, C.E., Stirling, at a cost of about £9100. Owing to the ever-increasing demand, and the extension of the district supplied, the storage capacity of the reservoirs again proved insufficient, and in the end of the dry season of 1880, after the water had been cut off the most of the public works and only an intermittent supply granted for a few hours daily for domestic use, the water was reduced to about three days supply in the reservoirs, when the weather changed and rescued the Commissioners from a serious dilemma.

At this time the Commissioners—Provost Anderson being then Chairman—resolved and obtained powers to construct a fourth reservoir, called reservoir No. 4. This is the last constructed, and is the largest of the series of reservoirs in connection with the Stirling water supply. It is situated in the valley of the Touch burn, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles above the filters, and is about 900 feet above the mean level of the sea. It is nearly half-a-mile long, averages 400 feet broad, and contains when full 122,000,000 gallons. It was partly constructed under the late Mr. Francis Mackison, C.E., Stirling, and completed by his successor, Mr. Andrew M'Luckie, who was appointed engineer by the Commissioners. The embankment is 1030 feet long, 350 feet broad at the base, and is 74 feet high in the centre, above the original ground. 160,000 cubic yards, or about 200,000 tons of earth, clay, and pitching were used in the construction of the embankment, and

notwithstanding the great height, no settlement was perceptible after completion. This reservoir was opened on the 26th May, 1885, by Provost Yellowlees, and since the opening there has been no scarcity of water within the district supplied.

The storage capacity of the reservoirs having proved sufficient for the time being, and the quality of the water being excellent, the Commissioners resolved to endeavour to improve the colour of the water, and to remove any sediment which it contained, by means of filtration, and so render the water more pleasing to the eye. For this purpose they applied to Parliament for powers to construct a series of filters, clear-water basins, and other works; and the Act of Parliament having received the royal assent, the works were thereafter proceeded with.

The filter works were commenced in the spring of 1894, and completed in the spring of 1896, and consist principally of a settling pond, four filter beds, and two clear-water basins. The four filter beds are each 76 feet by 52 feet, and 7 feet deep. The walls are constructed of Portland cement concrete, backed with clay puddle, and faced with white enamelled firebrick. The sand through which the water is filtered was partly obtained from Loch Sunnart on the west coast, partly from the east coast, and partly from Oporto in Spain. It is all of excellent quality for the purpose, and was all thoroughly washed and cleansed in sand-washing machines specially fitted up for the purpose, and for afterwards washing the sand from time to time as required.

After the water is filtered, it is stored in the pure-water basins, which occupy the site of the original distributing or No. 1 reservoir. Two of these basins have been constructed, each measuring 100 feet in diameter and 17 feet deep, and contain 760,000 gallons each when full to the overflow level. The walls are formed of concrete faced on the inside with white enamelled firebrick. From these basins—which are situated at a height of 450 feet above the mean sea level—the water is conveyed into the town by two main pipes, one of them 12 inches and the other 8 inches in diameter. Immediately below the clear-water basins a meter-house is erected, through which the main pipes pass. Two Deacon meters are fitted on the mains in the meter-house for the purpose of registering the quantity of water passing into the town.

An attendant's house has been erected in connection with the filters, and a hall for the convenience of the Committee when inspecting the works.

The filter works were opened on the 23rd April, 1896, by Provost Kinross, in presence of a large and representative company. They have proved a great success, and the beneficial results have been highly appreciated by the community.

The contractor for the works was the late Mr. Alexander Gall, of Alloa, his son, Mr. William R. Gall, acting as principal manager; and the manner in which the contract has been completed is another proof of the good and conscientious manner in which Mr. Gall executed all his undertakings.

The estimated cost of the filter works—including piping supplied by Messrs. R. Laidlaw & Son, of Glasgow; valves, head stocks, and sieves, supplied by the Glenfield Company, Kilmarnock; enclosing the ground with stone walls, re-making the road of access, and building attendant's house, &c., but exclusive of Parliamentary and law charges, was £13,300, and the actual cost was £13,600.

To commemorate the opening of the filters, a bronze shield has been fixed on a large boulder between the two clear-water basins, and bears the following inscription:—

To commemorate the opening of the Filters in connection with the
Stirling Waterworks, by Provost Kinross, 23rd April, 1896.

M'Luckie & Walker,
Engineers.

Alex. Gall, senr.,
Contractor.

A visit to the filters would well repay the visitor. The view from the grounds when the air is clear is very extensive and varied, embracing the valley of the Forth, Firth of Forth, the Forth Bridge, the Ochils, Braes of Doune, and the Grampians.



WILLIAM TEMPLETON,

TOBACCONIST,

85 PORT STREET,

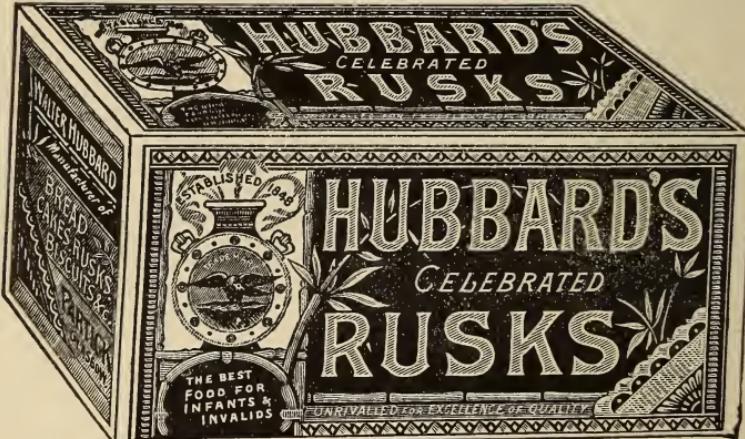
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DOUNE CASTLE.

DOUNE CASTLE.

BY STEWART A. ROBERTSON, M.A.

FROM the earliest times, the gentle knoll which rises where the waters of the burn of Ardoch mingle with those of the Teith seems to have been crowned with a fortress. Its situation of security strengthened for its lords—the Earls of Menteith—their tenure and their rule of the wild lands that stretched westwards from its walls. From this famous and uncertain line these possessions passed by the marriage of Margaret, Countess of Menteith, with Robert, first Duke of Albany. This resolute noble, clearly outlined for us by Scott in “The Fair Maid of Perth,” ruled Scotland for his own interests in the reign of his gentle brother, Robert III., and maintained with a somewhat less certain grasp his supremacy over the rough Scottish barons during the imprisonment in England of the Poet King, James I. Murdoch, second Duke of Albany, succeeded on the death of his father, in 1419, to his powers as Regent, and to him tradition ascribes the building of Doune Castle, though it is manifest that much of the pile, as it at present stands, is of later date.

When James I., tardily set free from English captivity, returned with his late-won Queen, “the fairest and the freshest youngè flower,” to take up the task of “making the key keep the castle and the bracken bush the cow,” it was at his cousin, Murdoch, that he first struck in his efforts to break the power of the nobles, whose relentless feuds made the Scotland of the time a place of wailing and a desert. An unvarying tradition records that Murdoch was beheaded on the Heading Hill of Stirling, that thence he might see, as he passed to death, the towers of his own Castle of Doune. The estates of Murdoch were confiscated, and the Castle of Doune became an appanage of the Crown. In the reigns of James II., James III., and James IV., it served as a dower-house for the Queen Consort. Mary of Gueldres, Margaret of Denmark, and Margaret Tudor—successive Queens of Scotland—resided for longer or shorter periods in the Castle, whose proximity to Stirling and pleasant situation made it a very desirable residence. Thus the pomp and pride of royalty were frequent in the courts whose silence now is so seldom broken, and a not too daring fancy may question from which window the Knight of Snowdoun looked forth ere the merry train trooped out upon that chase with which the “Lady of the Lake” so finely opens.

The Castle reverted in 1528 to the line of its old possessors, when Margaret, "Quene of Scotland, coniunct fear of the landis and lordschip of Menteith," granted it to James Stewart, great-grandson of Duke Murdoch, "because we have gret confidens and traist in the said James, oure servitour." The benefits of this queenly confidence were inherited by Sir James Stewart of Doune, who was accused as accessory to the murder of Rizzio. A Queen Mary's Room is as certain to be found in every Scottish Castle as a white horse in a picture by Wouverman, and Doune Castle no more than others lacks this appanage of romance. How that unfortunate Queen would have been received if she had visited Doune is somewhat uncertain, as, though we find the Castle besieged, and in three days taken, by the Regent Lennox in 1570, Sir James Stewart was raised to the peerage under the title of Lord Doune by King James VI. His son married, in 1580, the Lady Elizabeth, the daughter of "the Good Regent," and thereby gained the higher title of Earl of Moray. It was the venerating care of their descendant, the fourteenth Earl of Moray, that assured to future times the preservation of a pile whose annals touch at so many points the history of the nation. But the Lady Elizabeth, who had in youth wept over a murdered father, saw her wedded life ended in gloom in 1592, when her husband, whose handsome face won for him the name of "The Bonnie Earl o' Moray," was murdered by the Earl of Huntly at Donibristle. The old ballad which laments his fate closes thus—

"O lang, lang will his lady
Look owe the Castle Doune,
Ere she see the Earl o' Moray
Come sounding thro' the toun."

James VI. himself was suspected of being jealous of the Earl, and with James, whom general opinion regards as hesitating and uncertain, the desire blossomed ever rapidly into the deed. Thus we find him imprisoning in the Castle of Doune, the Provost and Magistrates of Montrose, who had dared to choose as Provost some other than the person named in the King's mandate. It was at Doune Castle again that, in the same reign, Archibald, Earl of Argyle, was commissioned to offer terms of pardon to the wild Macgregors after the horrors of Glenfruin, terms which required, under pain of death, the abandonment of the name of Macgregor. Doune's last concern with the campaigns of armies was in the Highland rising of 1745. The Castle was garrisoned for Prince Charlie by Macgregors, Macdonalds, and Stewarts of Appin, and was of considerable strategical importance, as it commanded the Bridge of Teith, and so kept free the route to the Fords of Frew, by which the Highlanders crossed the Forth. More interesting to all perhaps now, is the recollection

that Sir Walter Scott makes Doune Castle the place of detention of Edward Waverley, while that impetuous youth still hesitated to don the white cockade. Sir Walter, when on visits to Cambusmore, often climbed "the bannered towers of Doune," and speaks thus in the notes to *Waverley* :—"This noble ruin is dear to my recollection from associations which have been long and painfully broken." The flag of the Stewarts floated over Doune during "the rush to Derby," and the Castle became, on the return of the clansmen, the prison of the captives taken in the defeat inflicted on General Hawley at Falkirk. Among the prisoners was John Home, author of the once famous tragedy of "Douglas," who, with some other students of the University of Edinburgh, had joined the Hanoverian forces. But these stragglers from academic calm lay not long in ward, for they made a rope of their blankets—true, it broke, but the rope always *does* break in a romantic story—and lowered themselves down the walls. One, an Englishman named Barrow, fell from the rope, dislocated one of his ankles, broke several ribs, and undoubtedly sadly hampered the retreat to the safe side of the Forth. If Home had expanded his Doune Castle adventures into a drama or romance, the world would now be more pleased, though thereby Norval had remained unrevealed upon the Grampian hills.

But the days of the romance of Doune are ended ; even its Trysts, from which Scott sent forth his Highland Drover, are among forgotten things, and the pulsings of city life pass near its Castle walls. Yet to those who care to climb Lord Kilpont's stair, or to mount aloft to the rugged battlements, romance seems never remote, nor a misguiding dream. For from Uam Var that leads the eye to climb Ben Ledi, or from the smiling Teith that hurries towards the rock of Stirling, blue in the distance, or from the moor and meadow that the hills of Menteith, and the loftier peaks beyond, engirdle as with a rampart, there come memories of the past that make the future ; and the shadows of the future are flecked with the brightness of the past.



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LAKE OF MONTREUIL

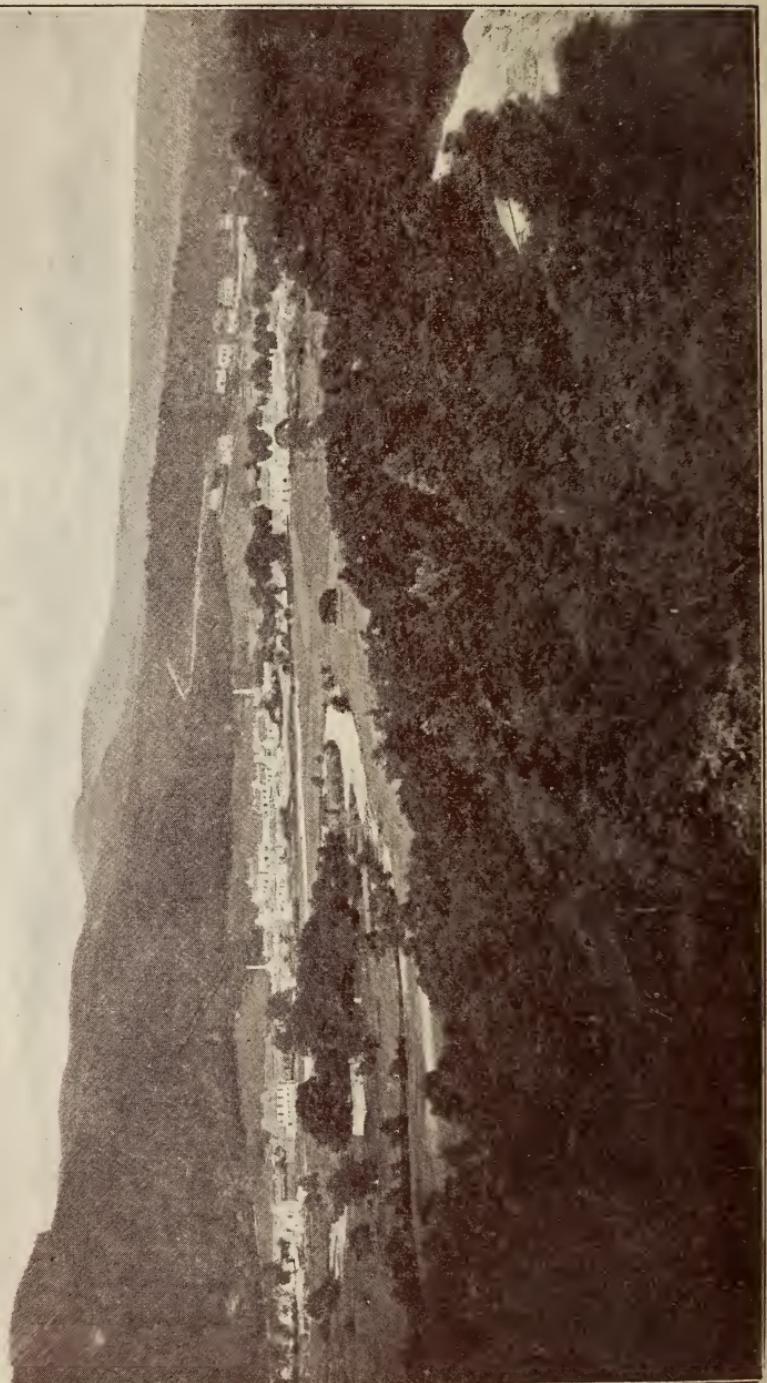
THE LAKE OF MENTEITH.

BY STEWART A. ROBERTSON, M.A

MENTEITH has been called a land of shadows, and its lake, set in fair woods, is magical with the charm of soft shadows and passing gleams. In its loveliness of calm, its serenity of seclusion, it seems to speak the last word of peace to those who press beyond its quiescent shores to the stormy beauties of the Highlands. Yet the thrill of historic action has penetrated not rarely to this home of ancient peace, and its islands of Talla and Inchmahome have touched the destinies of the nation. The larger island, Inchmahome, "the Isle of Rest," was from early times occupied by Augustinian monks, but it was in 1238 that Walter Comyn, Earl of Menteith, founded and endowed a Priory upon the island. From the style of the architecture, the church evidently belongs to the middle of the thirteenth century, and many of its details, its lofty lancet windows without tracery, the north aisle of its choir, perhaps used as a sacristy, display features similar to those of the Cathedral of Dunblane. The nave is 75 feet in length, and has a north aisle connected with it by four arches, two of which are still standing, and reveal early pointed work of an exquisite symmetry. The west doorway is also very fine, and is in fair preservation. Two ambries and an arch of the sedilia are to be seen in the south wall of the choir, beyond which is the chapter-house, vaulted with a semi-circular tunnel-vault, over which there is a room in the roof. The chapter-house has a good east window, and there is the usual stone seat all round. The cloisters and cloister garth were situated to the south of the nave, where the corbels for the cloister roof still remain. The refectory probably ran along the south side of the cloisters, but most of the monastic buildings are destroyed save the kitchen, whose fire-place and windows are well preserved. Near the kitchen a stair-case which led to the dormitory may be traced. But the buildings seem strangely confused, owing to the chapter-house having been used as a mausoleum by the Earls of Menteith and Airth, and an approach towards it, constructed between two high walls, erected from the materials of the demolished monastic buildings. In this enclosure was laid the body of Lord Kilpont, son of the Earl of Menteith and Airth, who was assassinated by Stewart of Ardvoirlrich in the camp of Montrose at Collace in 1644. On this tale of sudden onslaught, whose premeditation is still uncertain, Scott founded

the "Legend of Montrose." Lord Kilpont's father, the Earl of Menteith and Airth, was then a state prisoner in his own castle on Inch Talla, where his life of long struggle, in which seekers for romance may find realities stranger than their dreams, soon afterwards came to an end. They were a luckless race those Earls of Menteith who built their castle of Talla with the stones of the priory of Inchmahome, and the eighth Earl carried their fortunes still further down the steep slope of adversity. Yet the power of other restraints than the waters that girdle Inch Talla is surely suggested by the legally-drawn contract which he executed with his wife that "he shall have full freedom and libertie to goe about his affairs to Edinburgh, or any place elsewhere thereanent." In the choir are the indistinguishable graves of Drummonds, Grahams, Stewarts, and Comyns. The finest monument is that of Walter Stewart, fifth Earl of Menteith, and his Countess. He is said to have fought in 1263 at the battle of Largs, to have been one of the witnesses at the marriage of the Princess Margaret with Eric of Norway, and to have followed the banner of Louis of France to the Crusade. But the most moving historical association of the Priory is with the childhood of Mary Stewart. To the security of its remoteness the child-queen was transferred from Stirling in 1547, that she might be beyond the clutches of Henry VIII. of England, then prosecuting his plans for her marriage with his son by the rough wooing of a burnt Edinburgh and the shattered aisles of Melrose. Poet and painter alike have delighted to set in vision before us the peaceful days in Inchmahome of that life thereafter so stormy. To those whom these "old, unhappy, far-off things" touch, the sense of pathos will be quick as they walk by the stag-headed chestnuts that shadowed the playing of the child-queen and her Maries. There shall they seem still to hear the resonance of such storms as lay prostrate in the place of their power, alike the monarchs of the soil and the supremacies of man. Such thoughts are stirred more deeply by the sight of the little Queen's garden, or, as it is sometimes called, Queen Mary's Bower, an oval space enclosed by a double row of boxwood, the plants being about 14 feet high. Here, as children will do, the little queen and her Maries planted a garden, and their innocent hands fondled the short greenery of the box-plants that are now so tall. At the north side of the island is an artificial mound on which was probably built an early stronghold. Tradition, however, enwrapping it as the ivy veils the ruins, calls it the nun's walk, and tells a tragic tale of forgotten vows and broken faith. For even the Isle of Rest soothes not the restless heart, and the calm of the lake of shadows is less deep than the calm of despair.

CALLANDER, FROM THE WEST.



C A L L A N D E R.

BY JOHN JAMIESON, F.E.I.S.

CALLANDER, which lies sixteen miles north-west of Stirling, has singularly picturesque surroundings. It is reached by the railway from Stirling, and is the terminus of the Oban line. The tourist, when at Stirling, will have seen on the western horizon Ben Ledi, Ben Lomond, Ben Vorlich, and other peaks of the Grampians. Now he finds himself under the shadow of Ben Ledi. All around him is fine mountain scenery, and the Teith—

“Which, daughter of three mighty lakes,
From Vennacher in silver breaks”—

flows with a rapid current past the town. The main street contains all the chief buildings. The old Parish Church has been entirely rebuilt and enlarged. The finely proportioned spire enhances considerably its architectural beauty. The Free Church of Scotland, the United Presbyterian Church, and the Episcopal Church, have places of worship, and there is a Mission Hall. The town has two banks, a Post and Telegraph Office, and a Public Hall. Recently an institution for higher education has been established, called the M'Laren High School. It is endowed by money left by the late Mr. M'Laren for educational purposes. There is also a Public School and a Boarding-House for young gentlemen, to supply the educational requirements of the district. The town is well supplied with water. The gravitation water supply is taken from the River Leny at a point about half-a-mile from Loch Lubnaig. There are a number of hotels to suit the convenience of all classes. In addition to these, board can be obtained in many establishments. The principal hotel is the Dreadnought. The original portion is said to have been built by the chief of the Clan M'Nab, and there is to be seen their motto—“Na cuireadh ni air bith eagal oribh”—*i.e.*, Fear nothing or dread nought. Some pretty villas have been erected in the town. Many of these are let during the summer season to parties wishing to enjoy the invigorating and health-giving qualities of the town. The numerous and large shops seem as well fitted to supply the necessities of the residents as those of the larger Scottish towns.

Visitors flock to Callander during the summer season. Many come from the other side of the Atlantic, attracted by the beautiful Highland character of the surrounding district. The tourist can make from here many interesting excursions. The Port of Menteith and Aberfoyle, the Pass of Leny, Loch Lubnaig, and Strathyre, are not far distant, while the Braes of Balquhidder

and the grave of Rob Roy would provide an interesting visit to the land of the Macgregors. Visitors should not leave Callander without seeing the Falls of Bracklinn, which may be reached by a short walk from the town. Helen Douglas, speaking of Rhoderick Dhu, says—

“I grant him brave,
But wild as Bracklinn’s thundering wave.”

These falls, although not on a large scale, have in their vicinity hazel copses and rocky gorges which charm the lover of the beautiful in nature. The visitor passes on the way the heights of Uam-Var, referred to in the “Lady of the Lake” :—

“Less loud the sound of sylvan war
Disturbed the heights of Uam-Var,
And roused the cavern where ‘tis told
A giant made his den of old.”

There are a number of earthworks near Callander which are believed to have been made by the Romans during their occupation of Britain. These are the Roman Camp, the remains of Bochastle, and the old fort on Doun Mohr. Sir Walter Scott, in the “Lady of the Lake,” says :—

“Sweeps through the deep and ceaseless mines
Of Bochastle the mouldering lines,
Where Rome, the empress of the world,
Of yore her eagle wings unfurled.”

Should the visitor wish to enjoy the sport of angling, ample opportunity will be found for either loch or river fishing. Lochs Vennacher and Lubnaig, which are among the best salmon and trout lochs in Scotland, are free to all. Many streams are also free. Fishing can be had in the Teith on payment of a small fee.

The Callander Recreation Company, Limited, take care that visitors will be able to make the time spent in the town pass as pleasantly as possible. They have laid out a golf course which is beautifully situated on the road to the Falls of Bracklinn. Lawn tennis courts have been made in the west end of the town. In connection with the Dreadnought Hotel there is a bowling green. The roads in the vicinity are very suitable for cycling. Callander is a good centre for the devotees of the wheel. The town has had the honour of being visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria on the occasion of her opening the Glasgow Waterworks in 1869. She stayed at that time at Invertrossachs House, the lovely Highland home of G. Addison Cox, Esq.

Gaelic was generally spoken in Callander forty years ago, but it has now almost entirely disappeared. Although the Gaelic language is fast disappearing, there is an annual Highland gathering which is patronised by the most famous of the Scottish athletes. It is interesting to know that in 1763 a number of soldiers, who had fought in the German war, were, on returning to this country, settled here by the Government.

THE TROSSACHS.



THE TROSSACHS.

BY JOHN JAMIESON, F.E.I.S.

THE four-in-hand coach for the Trossachs leaves the Callander Railway Station, and at a distance of about a mile from the town the driver at the old toll-house takes the road to the left, and after crossing the Leny, begins to ascend a slight incline on the south-eastern side of Ben Ledi. This is Bochastle Heath, and looking round we have a beautiful panoramic view of Callander and the surrounding district. On our right we are attracted by a curious boulder, apparently nicely balanced on the side of Ben Ledi (the Hill of God.) This is known as Samson's stone, from a tradition that it was thrown by Samson from the top of Ben Lawers to the top of Ben Ledi, and rolled to its present position. The next hill is Doun Mohr, where there are earth-works believed to be the remains of a fort of Roman origin. Soon Loch Vennacher is seen. Before reaching the Loch we come to Coilantogle Ford, where the combat took place between Fitz-James and Rhoderick Dhu.

“ And here his course the chieftain stayed,
 Threw down his target and his plaid,
 And to the Lowland warrior said—
 ‘ Bold Saxon ! To his promise just,
 Vich-Alpine has discharged his trust.
 This murderous chief, this ruthless man,
 This head of a rebellious clan,
 Hath led thee safe, through watch and ward,
 Far past Clan Alpine’s outmost guard.
 Now, man to man, and steel to steel,
 A chieftain’s vengeance thou shalt feel.
 See, here, all vantageless I stand,
 Armed, like thyself, with single brand ;
 For this is Coilantogle Ford,
 And thou must keep thee with thy sword.’ ”

After driving along the shores of Loch Vennacher we come to Lanrick Mead—

“ The muster place is Lanrick Mead,
 Speed forth the signal, Clansmen, speed ! ”
 “ The band arrived on Lanrick height,
 Where mustered, in the vale below,
 Clan Alpine’s men in martial show.”

After proceeding for some distance among the hills clothed in Scottish heath, we reach the Brig of Turk, which consists of a number of white-washed cottages.

“ For twice that day from shore to shore
 The gallant stag swam stoutly o'er,
 Few were the stragglers following far
 That reached the Lake of Vennachar.
 And when the Brig of Turk was won
 The headmost horseman rode alone.”

Now we enter a richly-wooded part of the road, and our coach runs by the side of Loch Achray.

"So swept the tumult and affray
Along the margin of Achray ;
Alas ! thou lonely lake that e'er
Thy banks should echo sounds of fear."

In a short time the coach stops at the Trossachs Hotel. On the site of this hotel, not so very long ago, stood a little farm house, thatched with bracken. When in 1810 the "Lady of the Lake" was published, many came to view the scenes so graphically pictured, and the farmer had to accommodate many visitors to the now famous district as best he could in his humble dwelling. The farmhouse was transformed into an inn, and now we have the handsome building known as the Trossachs Hotel. In the hotel there is a post and telegraph office. Visitors on stopping here can obtain an excellent luncheon before resuming their journey. The land rises in terraces behind the hotel, and terminates in the mighty Ben Aan, 1149 feet high. Many prefer to walk from the Trossachs Hotel, in order to enjoy with leisure what may be called the Trossachs proper. The road now leads through a dark and wooded gorge, overshadowed by Ben Venue and Ben Aan. It was from this particular part that the Trossachs, which signifies "Bristled Land," took its name. Formerly the gorge had to be entered by "a sort of ladder composed of the branches and roots of trees," but now a good road has been constructed. Nature lavishes on it all her beauties in rich profusion.

"Here eglantines embalmed the air,
Hawthorn and hazel mingled there ;
The primrose pale, and violet flower,
Found in each cliff a narrow bower.
Fox-glove and night-shade, side by side,
Emblems of punishment and pride,
Grouped their dark hues with every stain,
The weather beaten crags retain.
With boughs that quaked at every breath,
Grey birch and aspen wept beneath ;
Aloft the ash and warrior oak
Cast anchor in the rifted rock ;
And higher yet the pine tree hung."

It was in this gorge that the exhausted steed of Fitz-James lay down to die—

"Woe worth the chase, woe worth the day,
That cost thy life, my gallant grey."

Soon we reach Loch Katrine, where the steamboat "Rob Roy" will perhaps be seen ready to take passengers to Stronachlacher, a distance of about eight miles. Now we behold the "Silver Strand," with which all are enchanted, while on the bosom of the loch is seen the lovely Ellen's Isle.

ABERFOYLE.



A B E R F O Y L E.

BY THE REV. GEORGE WILLIAMS, THORNHILL.

IT has been conjectured—(one is never quite safe in handling Gaelic roots without conjecturing a great deal)—that the name, Aberfoyle, has to do with the junction of the two streams, the Avondhu and the Duchray, which here unite to form the Forth. A hamlet situated near the forking might be called an Aber—something or other. It is refreshing to think that no amount of cocksureness about the origin of the name can add aught to the beauty of the place so named.

Aberfoyle is still known as “The Clachan,” although it might now with greater propriety be called a suburb of Glasgow, whose wealth has made it the handsome village it is. The worthy dignitary of Glasgow who could not expect the accommodations of the Sautmarket in the Clachan of Aberfoyle would now see enough to draw out of him the exclamation of Dominie Sampson, “Prodigious!” “The chiefs and grit men” might yet be found birling at the usquebaugh in by there; but, however “ramstam we gang on them,” we are in no danger of getting the broken head or the tasting of the cauld dirk which Andrew Fairservice spoke about. We shall ever find the good folks of Craiguchty—the old name of the ground on which Aberfoyle now stands—willing to make our visit both a pleasure and a profit, a pleasure to us and a profit to themselves.

On a late visit to this interesting village, our attention was drawn to the weapon which the Bailie so dexterously used in the inn at the Clachan. We too rashly expressed a doubt as to the genuineness of the implement, hinting that the Magistrate might have made use of some other coulter. We shall never again express our doubts on this point in Aberfoyle at least, for the obliging guide was, in the first place, evidently hurt in his feelings by our scepticism, and, in the second place, he made toilsome efforts to hurt *our* feelings by the use of strongly sulphurous Saxon words, mixed with equally strong, finely rolling Gaelic (we “have the Gaelic” so far as to understand such words—we had been in the Highlands before.) Perhaps it might be wise and kind to advise the tourist to Aberfoyle to believe that the coulter he sees in the tree near the Hotel is the genuine article referred to in “Rob Roy.”

The famous Rob Roy was intimately connected with this district. His paternal acres, and other acres of which he took

more than a paternal care, are in close proximity to Aberfoyle. Hence you may hear the people having the good luck to be born and brought up in the locality proudly declare, "this is the Rob Roy country" or "this is the Macgregor country." When Rob was in the flesh he was feared rather than admired. He has to thank Wordsworth and Scott for his current credit. Mr. Cunningham Grahame of Gartmore, who knows intimately about robbers and robbing, judging from his writings, has pleasantly called Rob "an unofficial local Chancellor of the Exchequer who did his work thoroughly." Any attempt to sift fact from fiction in the case of Rob Roy Macgregor would be as needless, and perhaps dangerous, as to decide whether the coulter we saw was the veritable weapon of the Bailie.

The district is closely associated with some of our ancient superstitions. The Rev. R. Kirk, translated from Balquhidder to Aberfoyle, who completed the first metrical version of the Gaelic Psalms in 1684, and who had written an "Essay on the Nature and Action of the Elves, Faunes, or Fairies or the Lyke," was, it is said, translated from Aberfoyle to Fairyland one day as he was quietly walking on a height near his manse. Mr. Cunningham Grahame, in "Notes on the District of Menteith," assures us that "a man might easy travel far and fare much worse than have his dwelling in the Fairy Hill." Notwithstanding this traditional translation, there is a gravestone in Aberfoyle Churchyard marking his supposed resting place, and handing down the fame of his Gaelic scholarship, *linguae Hibernicæ lumen*.

Aberfoyle has been happy in the poets it has inspired. Not to mention Sir Walter Scott, *facile princeps*, we have Dr. Richardson, the son of a former minister, who was Professor of Latin in Glasgow University, and a great Shakesperean scholar. He wrote a "Farewell to Aberfoyle," beginning—

"To thee my filial bosom beats,
On thee may heaven indulgent smile ;
And glad thy innocent retreats,
And bless thee, lovely Aberfoyle."

William Glen, the author of "A Wee Bird cam' to oor Ha' Door," wrote a spirited song, called, "Mary of Sweet Aberfoyle." Several local songs owe their origin to a visit paid to Ledard, in 1821, by Thomas Atkinson and David Robertson, booksellers in Glasgow.

Dr. Graham, who wrote the well-known "Sketches of Perthshire," was for forty-eight years minister of this parish. In his "Statistical Account," written almost exactly a century ago, he tells us that his parish was a remarkably healthy one, which we can well believe, and he gives as proof the fact that there were seven or eight persons above eighty years of age alive in the district, one man had recently died aged 97, and

the acting grave digger was 101. It must be remembered there was no registration of births, deaths, and marriages in these times. Mr. Graham tells us that he preaches English in the forenoon, and Gaelic, "which is chiefly in use," in the afternoon. The names of farms and fields in Aberfoyle parish resemble a page from Mr. Kirk's Psalter, which we forbear to quote.

The accompanying photograph shows the principal buildings of the village and the now comfortable road winding across the hills to the Trossachs. The slate quarries, to which we owe so much of our temporal comfort, are well worth a visit from us did time permit.

Here your guide leaves you with a hearty "fare fa' ye and good-bye."



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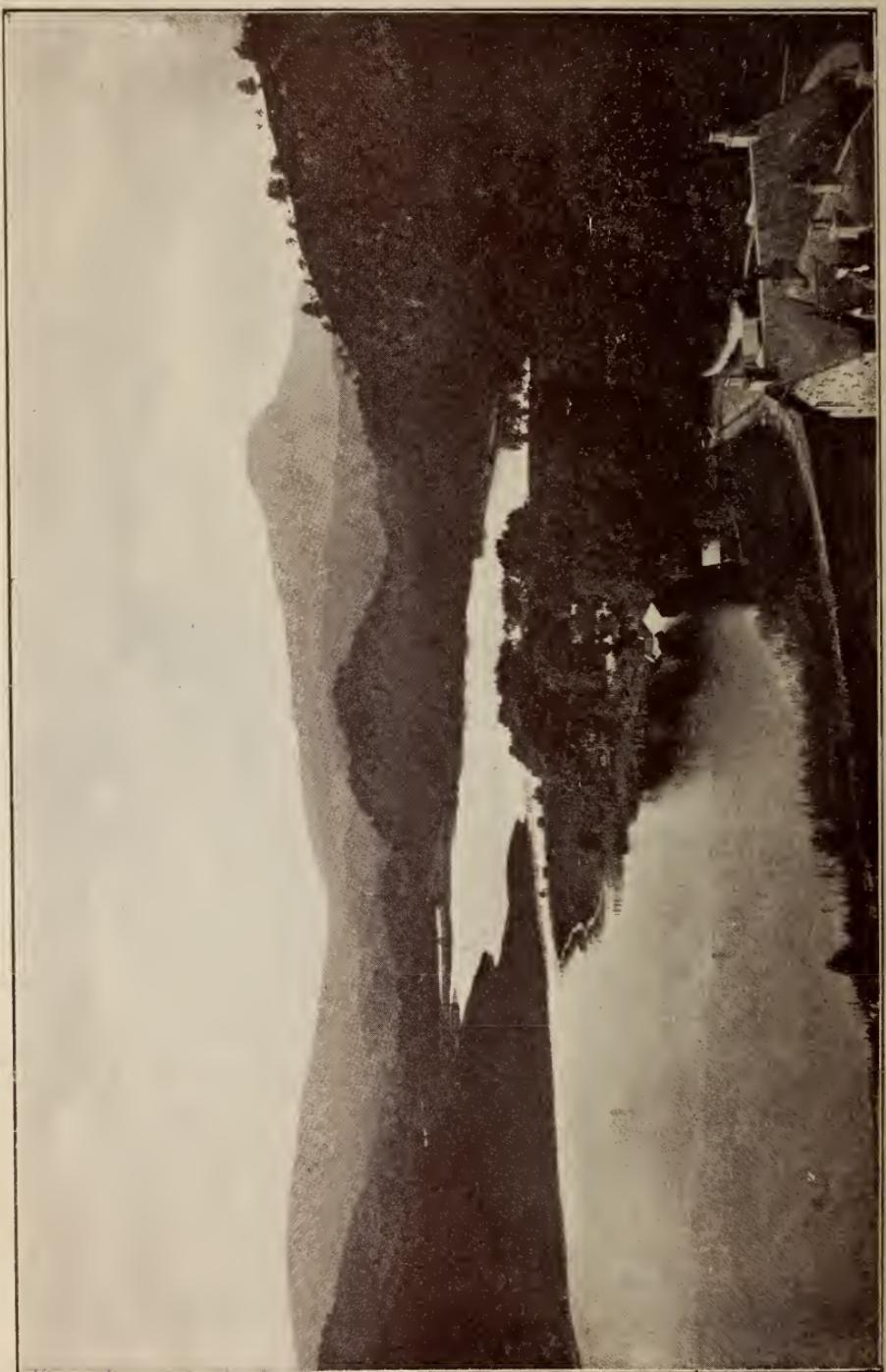
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LOCH ARD.



LOCH ARD.

BY WILLIAM DRYSDALE.

THIS one of the most beautiful of our Highland lochs, lies about two miles from the Clachan of Aberfoyle. The lower lake, about a mile in length, is very narrow at the beginning, but widens out to a breadth of half a mile. The braes to the right are covered wth oak trees nearly to the summit. This is the famous pass of Aberfoyle, renowned in Sir Walter Scott's novel of "Rob Roy," where Helen Macgregor encountered Captain Thornton. Here, also, a party of Cromwell's army, attempting to pass to the north, were repulsed by the Highlanders under the Earl of Glencairn and Graham of Duchray.

About a mile further, the visitor arrives at the upper and larger portion of the loch, which is separated from the lower one by a narrow stream. The loch here stretches to about three miles in length and about a mile and a half in breadth. There are a number of small rocky islands, which enhance the view. One of these islands, situated at the upper part of the loch, is Elean Gorm, and at the southern side an island with ruins is called Duke Murdoch's Castle, Murdoch, Duke of Albany, Regent of Scotland during the captivity of James First in England, having erected it as a place of refuge should he be exposed to danger on the return of James. It is said that he was arrested here, taken to Stirling Castle, and executed on the Beheading Hill in 1425.

To the north-west, Ben Lomond is seen rising in a gentle slope to a height of 3192 ft., while to the north-east, Ben Venue rises to 2393 ft. The mountain stream, Corryghlas, falls into Loch Ard, forming the beautiful Falls of Ledard, the meeting-place of Captain Waverley and Flora MacIvor. The water at first falls in an unbroken sheet of 12 ft., then it dashes over a height of nearly 50 ft. A rock near the foot of the cascade, from 30 to 50 ft. high, gives a distinct echo, repeating a few words twice, and a gnarled oak trunk over-hanging it is pointed out as the "ragged thorn, which, catching hold of the skirts of Bailie Nicol Jarvie's riding coat, supported him in mid air, not unlike to the sign of the Golden Fleece."

On the way the visitor passes the following houses—The Glashart, Loch Ard Lodge, Ledard, Kinlochard, and Coulegarton. A nice drive can be taken, passing Loch Chon, about

two miles further on, and it can be continued to Stronachlacher Hotel, about $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Aberfoyle, where the steamer can be had daily in the summer season to the Trossachs and Callander, or, by turning to the left, Inversnaid, on Loch Lomond, is reached, where steamers can be had for Balloch.

Good fishing can be had as early as March, Loch Ard being one of the earliest trout-fishing lochs in Scotland. The trout are of fine quality, averaging three-quarters of a pound. Fly-fishing is the only lure allowed on the loch, which makes it a greater attraction to sportsmen. Boats, boatmen, and permission to fish can be had at the Hotel, Aberfoyle.





CASTLE CAMPBELL.

DOLLAR GLEN AND CASTLE CAMPBELL.

BY GEORGE LOWSON, M.A., B.Sc.

ONE of the most pleasant of outings to be had from Stirling is got by taking train to Dollar Station and visiting the pretty little town of Dollar, with its large and handsome and efficient school, the glen behind it—weird and beautiful, awful and enchanting—and the gaunt, grim, ruined fortalice which stands at its top, out of the world as it were, yet close to it, cut off by the rocks and the streams from our everyday life, and set above it in what now-a-days looks like a veritable Land of Beulah.

The many streams which leave the Ochils cut for themselves narrow glens, or rather gorges, in the volcanic rock. These gorges abound in waterfalls, and are clad with alders, oaks, and mountain-ashes, while the dripping rocks are draped with many lovely ferns—the lady fern, the beech fern, the oak fern, the hart's-tongue, and the filmy fern being all found, some of them in great abundance. The rarer kinds have, however, of late years become scarce even in these favoured glens, on account of the rapacity of the unthinking visitor; and it is a pleasure to think that the plants which now remain are quite safe, since to acquire them is alike too difficult and too dangerous an undertaking. Of all the gorges which the streams have cut in the southern face of the Ochils, Dollar Glen is the most impressive and the best worthy of a visit. It is only in recent years that it has become possible to explore the wonders of this fairyland. A path was cut along the steep face of the enclosing cliffs, bridges were thrown across the streams, and sights which were either absolutely inaccessible, or which could be reached only by the most agile and venturesome, have now been made open to all. Entering the glen we pass under the thick shade of trees, and catch at intervals glimpses of the wild rushing waters below, where the impetuous stream dashes over its contracted, precipitous, and boulder-strewn bed. At no great distance up the gorge, we come to the meeting-place of the two streams—"Care" and "Sorrow"—which by their junction form the burn of "Dolour." As we turn to the left and walk over the long bridge through The Pass, the black rocks and the inky-hued water underneath—on which no sun can ever shine—bring to mind the inscription which Dante found over the entrance of the nether world,

"All hope abandon, ye who enter here." Few places can be more suggestive of gloom and despair. At the end of the long bridge we see the curious fissure in the rock called Kemp's Score. If one were daring enough it would be possible to climb up this Score and so arrive at the Castle above ; and the tradition is that down this Score ran a flight of steps to enable the defenders of the Castle, when necessity arose, to procure water from the stream below.

Passing upwards to the left of the Score, and close to the stream, the scene quickly brightens, and the sun-lit waterfalls of Lower and Upper Sochie tend to chase away with their merry laughter and babbling glee the gloomy thoughts with which the Pass and the Score had filled our minds. Turning to the right, a few steps bring us to the green in front of the Castle. The great planes or sycamores which adorn the grassy sward are commonly graced with swings, but tradition — ever quick-tongued, and keen-eyed for the picturesque — loves to hint of the times when men were swung from the branches in different fashion.

Little seems to be known of the early history of this most picturesquely-situated fortress. It seems to have come into the possession of Colin, First Earl of Argyle, through his wife, Isabella Stewart, daughter of John, Lord of Lorne, in the year 1465, and it is recorded that in the year 1489, "Oure soverane Lord (*i.e.*, James IV.) of his riale autorite, at the desire and supplicacioun of Colin, Erle of Ergile, Lord Campbele and Lorne, has chengeit the name of the castell quhilk was callit the Gloume, and ordinis the same castell to be callit in tyme to cum Campbele."

Probably because it was so safely set, the Castle is seldom named in history. The reformer Knox visited the Earl of Argyle here in 1556, and doubtless many great matters concerning the commonweal were gravely discussed.

In January, 1563, Mary Queen of Scots graced with her presence the marriage, at Castle Campbell, of Lady Margaret, a sister of the Earl of Argyle, to Sir James Stewart of Doune. But within three years, when Moray, Argyle, and others had risen in rebellion on account of her marriage with Darnley, she set herself and her husband at the head of her loyal subjects and forcibly seized the stronghold in the course of her *pacification* of the country.

Castle Campbell was completely destroyed about eighty years later. In 1645, during the wars waged by the great Marquis of Montrose on behalf of the Stewarts he so loyally served, and while he was marching from his victory at Alford to the still more decisive battle of Kilsyth, between Stirling and Glasgow, he took Castle Campbell and gave it to the flames.

The destruction was in large part an act of vengeance of a section of Montrose's followers—the Ogilvies—for the destruction of their stronghold, Fortar Castle, in Glen Isla, in Forfarshire, which had been taken and burned in circumstances of peculiar cruelty, rehearsed in the well-known ballad, “The Bonnie House o' Airlie.”

Since then the Castle, although it remained in the hands of the noble family of Argyle till the year 1805, has stood a dismantled ruin, although the great keep still stands entire; and one regrets that something should not be done in a wise way to recall here, as at Doune Castle, the semblance of old-world noble dwellings, and to restore the setting of many a princely pageant.



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“THE CLEAR WINDING DEVON.”

BY GEORGE LOWSON, M.A., B.Sc.

IN the heart of the beautiful grass-grown southern Ochils, a few miles to the east of the battlefield of Sheriffmuir, rises the river Devon, which flows at first eastward through the charming pastoral solitudes of Glendevon, and, having turned southwards to escape from its native hills, then westwards parallel to its former course till, having travelled for somewhat more than thirty miles from its source it joins the Forth a little above Alloa, at a point little more than five miles distant from where it took its rise.

The Devon is one of the best known of lowland Scottish streams. It owes its fame partly to our national singer, Burns, some of whose deathless lyrics celebrate the beauty of our stream, while they embalm the memory of one of the poet's many loves. But apart from this, the charm of the loneliness, and loveliness, and restfulness of its upper reaches, and the romantic beauty through which it flows lower down, are quite enough to secure for it a place, not in the recollection only, but also in the affection of the wanderer to whom the fair spots of earth—*be owned by whom they may*—are a great and goodly heritage.

The best known though hardly the most delightful part of the course of the Devon is comprised within a short space of little more than two miles, stretching from its sudden bend to the westward, which has been already mentioned and is well named the Crook of Devon. Here the stream forces its way through a deep and narrow gorge lined with cliffs almost black in hue. The narrowness and the blackness combine to give an aspect of grandeur and sublimity which is very striking when first seen, and is not readily forgot.

The tourist may easily visit this delightful place by taking train from Stirling to Rumbling Bridge Station. Entering the grounds at the Rumbling Bridge Hotel, and seeking his way as far up the stream as possible, he comes to “The Devil's Mill,” a waterfall which gets its name from the likeness its noise bears to the falling of water on a mill-wheel, and from the fact that it works steadily on and pays no heed even to Sunday. For about a quarter of a mile after this the water is dashed and buffeted and churned between the enclosing wooded cliffs, which, covered with ferns and other moisture-loving plants, are overhung with loveliest greenery. The banks are threaded with walks which cleverly lead to all the points of vantage whence peeps of the surging foam-flecked stream—now wildly dashing, like an Arethusa, over a precipice, now lying exhausted, sullen and still, at its base—may be seen. A set of steps has recently been

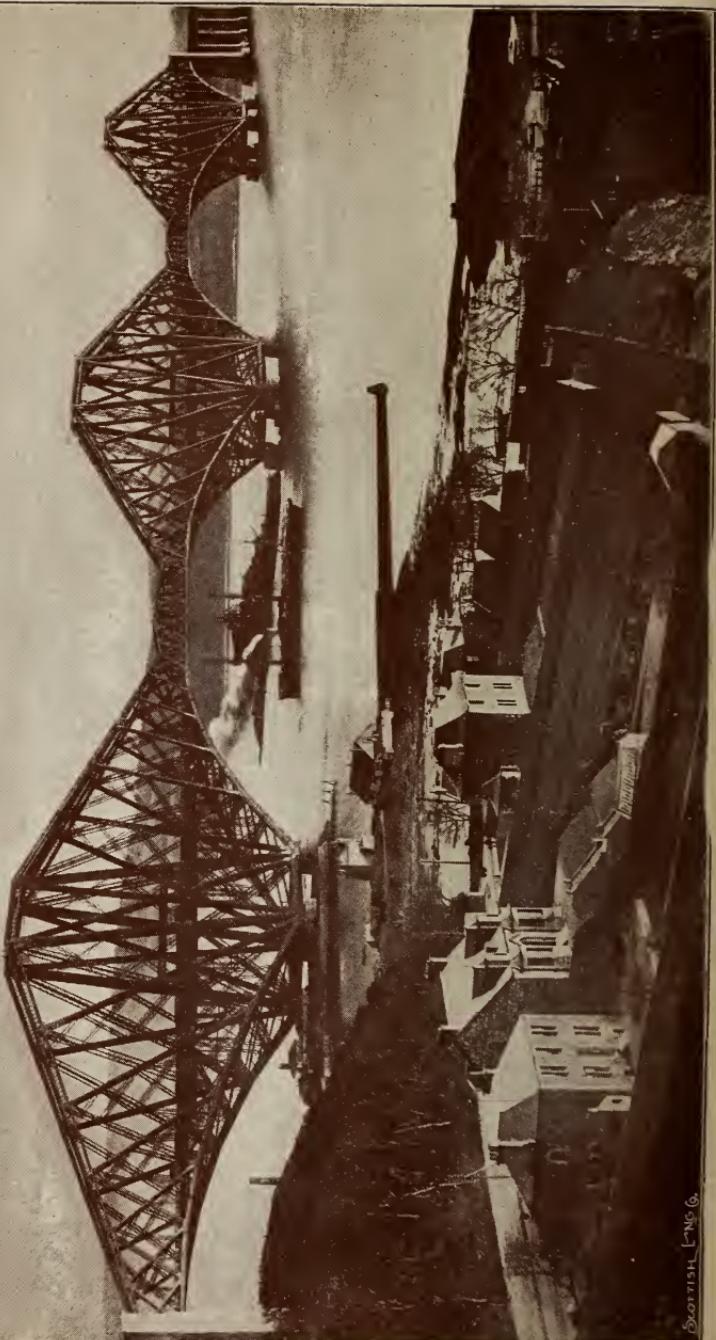
formed to give access to a cave or grotto in the face of the overhanging cliff. This was for some time, in the end of 1745, the hiding-place of a Jacobite, Hector Maceachin by name, who had been imprisoned in Castle Campbell, but escaped by the help of his sweetheart, Hannah Haig.

A little lower down is the famous Rumbling Bridge shown in our illustration. The lower arch was built in 1713 by William Gray, a native of the neighbouring parish of Saline. It is about 90 feet above the water, has a span of 22 feet and a width of 12 feet, and now-a-days the crossing of it would be looked upon as somewhat of a feat, seeing that it was never provided with parapets. It was, however, used by foot and horse passengers, by day and by night, for upwards of a century. The new bridge was built directly above the former arch—which was not removed—at a height above the water of 120 feet. The bridge derives its name from the hollow rumbling noise made by the stream as it forces its way beneath and between the opposing rocks. On looking down, one cannot help shuddering, the whole scene is so gloomy and gruesome ; and it is a welcome relief to lift the eyes and look away down stream into the open where, should the sun chance to be shining, the cliffs, though grey with age, look kindly with the bright light of heaven.

From its giant struggle, the river escapes and sets out on the peaceful half-mile journey to its mad leap over the cliff at the Cauldron Linn to what is almost the level of the sea. Here it flows broad, placid, and clear as crystal, between banks beautifully wooded and brightly starred in their season with the summer-heralding primrose and the wind-tossed anemone. But, following the path on the left bank of the stream, ere long we hear the rush and the roar of the waterfall, and soon the stream gathers itself together as the rocks close in around, and the last wild terrible struggle begins. The water has worn out in the rock curious pot-holes, and in these, which communicate under the surface, it seethes, and boils, and bubbles as in some terrible cauldron like that in which Macbeth's witches brewed their devils' broth. Escaping at length from these cauldrons, the river plunges sheer over the edge of the cliff, and dashes itself to spray amid the broken fragments of rock some fifty feet below. The visitor should seek the path to the right, and so find his way to the bottom. The white waters seen against the black basaltic cliffs, which rise around the fall to a total height of about 100 feet, form a sight which well repays the toil necessary to regain the top. The stream has no further wild adventures. It flows for a little through a beautifully wooded glen, and then, finding its way into the almost level carse-land, it glides still and slow, past mill and coal-field, which despoil it of its crystal beauty, till it loses itself in the waters of the Forth, 2000 feet lower down than it began its life.

THE FORTH BRIDGE.

Scotish Eng Co



THE FORTH BRIDGE.

BY SIR WILLIAM ARROL, M.P.

SO much has already been written upon the Forth Bridge and the difficulties experienced in its construction, that it is almost impossible at the present day to describe the structure with any pretensions to originality.

It is also particularly difficult for anyone who during the construction of the bridge has, day after day, watched its gradual growth, to realise what effect the structure has upon those who see it for the first time.

Probably the ordinary visitor to Queensferry is chiefly impressed with the magnitude of the work as a whole, its great height especially causing astonishment, but to engineers and others conversant with the problems connected in bridging a river like the Forth, the two large openings of 1700 feet each are the features of greatest interest, for in no instance had it hitherto been attempted to bridge over a distance of well nigh one-third of a mile without any intermediate supports.

No better illustration to express the comparative size of the bridge in this respect, and that of the next largest railway bridge in the country, can be found than that given by Sir B. Baker in the lecture he read before the British Association in 1882, when he pointed out that the following simple rule-of-three sum:—"As a Grenadier Guardsman is to a new born infant, so is the Forth Bridge to the largest railway bridge yet built in these islands"—is sufficient to convey a very clear idea of the magnitude of the undertaking. Then, again, the question of cost is one of much interest, and requires more than a mere expression in figures to be easily realised. In walking over the bridge, therefore, it should be remembered that the portion included in each successive step cost about £2000 before it was completely finished.

That a large amount of labour was involved in carrying out a work of this nature will be readily understood. During the busiest times as many as 5000 men were employed every week, and although the work of each varied very considerably, it was only by the combined efforts of all engaged that the structure was ultimately completed. From the highest to the lowest, each had their duties to perform, and there never was a want of willing hands to undertake any task, however

hazardous. As a matter of fact, one of the chief difficulties of those in control was to endeavour to make the men appreciate that they should exercise more caution in working 300 feet above the ground than when they were standing on *terra firma*.

To provide for the variations of temperature, or, in other words, for the expansion and contraction of a structure like the Forth Bridge, necessitates much consideration, since owing to the large spans, very considerable movements occur. The average range of temperature in this country between summer and winter may be taken to be about 60 deg. Fahr., and the expansion and contraction due to this variation, although insignificant in many cases, cannot be neglected in bridges and similar structures of any size. For instance, the rails that are laid along the lines between Edinburgh and London are nearly a quarter of a mile longer in warm weather than they are in cold weather. Consequently, the total length of the Forth Bridge being rather more than 8000 feet, a movement of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet has to be provided for.

The dimensions and particulars given below are those which, we think, will be found to be of most general interest :—

Total length—Upwards of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Largest spans—1700 feet each.

Height of structure above high water—360 feet.

Amount of steel in bridge—About 52,000 tons.

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HALF-DAY EXCURSIONS.

The figures in brackets indicate number of miles from Stirling (road measurement).

1. Dunblane (6) by rail, for Dunblane Cathedral.
 2. Doune (8) by rail, for Doune Castle.
 3. Greenloaning (12) by rail, for Roman Camp at Ardoch.
 4. Menstrie ($4\frac{1}{2}$) by rail, for Menstrie Glen.
 5. Alva (7) by rail, for Alva Glen.
 6. Dollar (12) by rail, for Castle Campbell.
 7. Demyat Hill—1375 feet. Tram car to Sheriffmuir Road, Bridge of Allan, thence short walk.
 8. Keir, Rail or tram car to Bridge of Allan, thence short walk (grounds open every Friday, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.)
-

DAY EXCURSIONS.

1. Callander (16), by rail, for Loch Vennachar, Loch Achray, Trossachs (26), Loch Katrine, Pass of Leny, Loch Lubnaig, Bracklinn Falls.
 2. Lochearnhead (30), by rail, for Loch Earn, Braes of Balquhidder, and Rob Roy's Grave.
 3. Loch Tay (37), by rail to Killin Station, thence sail to head of Loch.
 4. Loch Awe and Kilchurn Castle (64) by rail, to Loch Awe Station, thence sail to head of Loch.
 5. Lake of Menteith (15 $\frac{1}{2}$), by rail to Port of Menteith Station.
 6. Loch Ard (21 $\frac{1}{2}$), by rail to Aberfoyle Station (19 $\frac{1}{2}$).
 7. Loch Lomond (30), by rail to Balloch Station, thence sail to head of Loch.
 8. Rumbling Bridge (17), by rail to Rumbling Bridge Station.
 9. Perth (34), by rail via Dunblane, or via Glenfarg.
 10. Loch Leven (24), by rail to Kinross Station.
 11. Oban (86), by rail, via Callander and Pass of Blander.
 12. Fort William (96), by rail to Crianlarich, thence via Rannoch.
 13. Edinburgh (35), by rail via Forth Bridge or via Linlithgow.
 14. Glasgow (26 $\frac{1}{2}$) by rail via Larbert.
 15. Ayr (59), by rail to Glasgow, thence to Ayr for Burns' Cottage and Monument.
 16. Ben Cleuch—2363 feet—Rail to Alva (7) for ascent.
 17. Ben Ledi, 2875 feet, rail to Callander (16), thence walk—2 hours for ascent.
 18. Ben Lomond, 3192 feet, rail to Balloch (30), thence steamer to Rowardennan —2 hours for ascent.
 19. Ben Lawers, 3964 feet, rail to Killin (37) thence steamer to Lawers—3 hours for ascent.
 20. Ben Cruachan, 3689 feet, rail to Taynuilt (65) 3 hours for ascent.
-

ONE DAY CIRCULAR TOURS.

1. Stirling to Callander, Loch Vennachar, Loch Achray, Trossachs, Loch Katrine, Loch Drankie, Loch Ard, and Aberfoyle to Stirling.
2. Stirling to Trossachs, Loch Katrine, Loch Lomond, and Balloch to Stirling.
3. Stirling to Trossachs, Loch Katrine, Loch Lomond, Loch Long, and Glasgow to Stirling.
4. Stirling to Lochearnhead (for Loch Earn), St. Fillans, Comrie and Crieff to Stirling.
5. Stirling to Killin and Loch Tay. Kenmore, Aberfeldy, and Perth to Stirling.
6. Stirling to Perth, Dundee (for Tay Bridge), St. Andrews, and Fife to Stirling.
7. Stirling to Edinburgh by rail via Forth Bridge, returning by steamer via Forth Bridge to Stirling.

COACHING TOURS.

1. From Stirling, by Hillfoots round Ochils, through Gleneagles, returning by Blackford and Dunblane to Stirling.
2. From Stirling, by Blair Drummond to Doune, returning by Dunblane and Bridge of Allan to Stirling.
3. From Stirling by Thornhill to Lake of Menteith, returning by Kippen and Gargunnock to Stirling.
4. From Stirling, round Fintry Hills by Denny, Carron Bridge, Kirk o' Muir to Fintry, returning by Kippen to Stirling.
5. From Stirling, by Hillfoots and Dollar to Rumbling Bridge, returning by Blairgore and Alloa to Stirling.
6. From Stirling, by St. Ninians and Bannockburn to East Plean, returning by Dunmore Potteries to Stirling.

STEAMER EXCURSIONS.

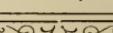
FORTH BRIDGE AND EDINBURGH.—When tide permits a saloon steamer sails from Stirling Pier down windings of Forth to Alloa, thence through Forth Bridge to Leith (for Edinburgh), returning same day.

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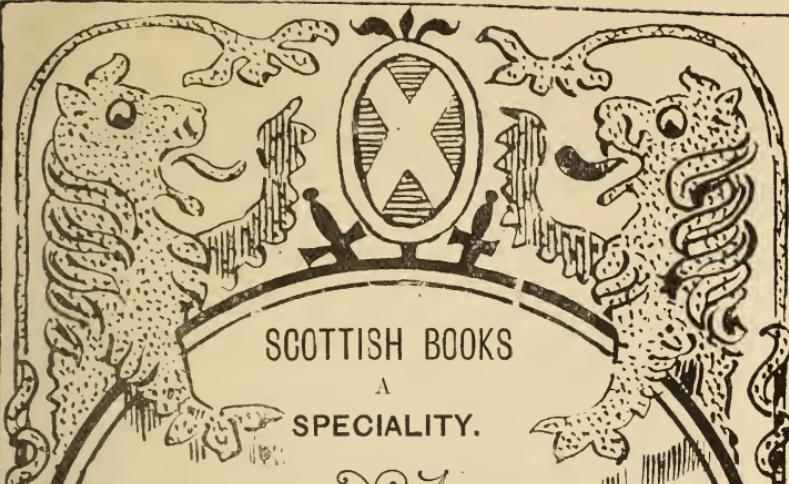
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