

PARISH OF CREICH.

PRESBYTERY OF CUPAR, SYNOD OF FIFE.

THE REV. ALEXANDER LAWSON, MINISTER.

L—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name of the parish has been written in these different ways, *Creigh, Creich, Creche, Crich, and Criesch*; but in the Session records, is almost invariably written *Creich*. The parish very probably received this appellation from the farm of Creich, in the centre of which the old church and the burying-ground are situated, and where the manse also was at one time placed. The word is generally thought to be derived from the Gaelic word *Craigich*, signifying *rocky or craggy ground*,—a description applicable to the appearance of the parish, especially of the grounds of the farm of Creich.

Extent and Boundaries.—The parish is of an irregular figure. It extends in length from north to south about 3 miles, and varies from 1 mile to nearly 2 miles in breadth, the greatest breadth being in the middle, and the least in the north. It is bounded on the north by the parish of Flisk; on the south, by the parishes of Moonzie and Monimail; on the east, by those of Kilmany and Balmerino; and on the west, by those of Abdie and Dunbog.

Topographical Appearances.—The parish presents great inequalities of surface. It consists of hills, which are part of the Ochil range, of various sizes and forms, the highest not appearing to exceed 550 feet above the level of the sea. Of these, some are cultivated to the top, others are partly covered with thriving plantations, which add much to the beauty of the surrounding country; while several still exhibit a rocky and rugged aspect, and produce little else than heath and furze. Were these last tastefully and judiciously planted with varieties of wood, the ground, which now generally affords but a scanty supply of pasture, would be more profitably occupied, the climate would be improved, and few places would display more varied and beautiful scenery. The sides of most of the hills and the lower grounds are fertile and well cul-

tivated. The soil of the former is a thin sharp gravelly loam, that of the latter is deeper, and is in some places moss, in others clay, but in general a black loam.

Small streams run through the intervening valleys, and, uniting near to the village of Luthrie, form the Motray, a rivulet which, continuing its course through the parishes of Kilmany and Leuchars, falls into the Eden at the inner bridge.

From the summit of the Black Craig, and also from that of the Green Craig, both of which hills are near to the ruins of the old church, may be had one of the most extensive and delightful views in Scotland, comprehending the estuary of the Tay, the Carse of Gowrie, so famed for its richness and beauty, and the Sidlaw and Grampian mountains on the north; the town of Dundee, and the fertile country onwards to the neighbourhood of Arbroath on the north-east; and on the west, part of Strathearn, the finely varied hills about Perth, with Benledi, Benlawers, &c. in the distance.

Climate.—The climate is dry and healthful. In the lower parts of the parish, it is mild and pleasant, but on the higher grounds, it is rather cold and bracing. As a proof of its salubrity, there are many instances of longevity among the inhabitants. The late minister, Dr Greenlaw, who had almost completed the sixtieth year of his incumbency when he died, lived to the age of ninety-four, and he continued so vigorous as to visit his parish during the last year of his life. His wife attained nearly the same advanced age.

Geology.—I am indebted to my friend, Dr Fleming of King's College, Aberdeen, for the following account of the geology of the parish. The rocks of this parish may be considered as constituting a portion of the trap formation of the Ochils, a hilly ridge extending from the neighbourhood of Stirling to Ferryport-on-Craig, at the mouth of the Tay. The parish may be viewed, on the great scale, as consisting of a bed of amygdaloid, which stretches in an easterly direction, dipping towards the south at an angle seldom exceeding twenty degrees. The basis of the amygdaloid is in general a claystone, sometimes a compact felspar, and, in a few instances, greenstone. It contains, in its cells, calcareous spar, quartz, chlorite and agate; the last mineral, under the name of pebble, is collected for sale by several individuals of the parish, and specimens of great size and beauty have frequently been obtained. Subordinate to the amygdaloid occur lengthened masses of other rocks, some of which may be regarded as rather uncommon; in particular, there is a bed of clinkstone tra-

versing the northern extremity of the parish, of great value for many practical purposes. It occurs in columnar concretions, usually termed basaltic pillars, in consequence of which it is easily quarried. It is readily dressed to any given form, splits easily in a direction across the columns, emits a striking ringing sound, especially when in thin slabs, and is of a uniformly dark colour. It resists the action of the weather, constituting an extremely durable building material. Where it has suffered by atmospheric influence it exhibits a laminar or stratified structure, a circumstance from which it is natural to conclude that it is a sedimentary rock. When used as road metal it is easily broken, being somewhat brittle, though it resists the bruising effects of wheels, and is thus valuable on account of its durability. It forms the hills of Craigen-crune, Blackcraig, Greencraig, Craigsimmy, Craiglug, Lochy-hill, and the Blackcraig of Carphin,—the same bed extending westward through the parishes of Abdie and Flisk, constituting the heights of Norman's Law and Glenduckie. In consequence of this rock decomposing slowly, its soil is scanty, and does not appear so favourable to vegetation as that which is produced by the amygdaloid in which it is imbedded.

Occupying a similar position in the amygdaloid masses of compact felspar, may be observed a considerable portion of one of these rocks, as exposed to view at the north-west side of Lochyhill, constituting a range of columns apparently underlying the clinkstone of which the hill in general is composed. The rock is more or less porphyritic, and, when injured by atmospheric influence, it splits in various directions, forming irregular angular blocks. At the north side of the Blackcraig of Carphin, there is a bed of gray sandstone, which may be traced a few hundred yards at the base of the hill, and apparently imbedded in the amygdaloid, and in the immediate vicinity of the clinkstone. A quarry was opened in this rock a few years ago, and building materials of considerable value were obtained. The sandstone occurs in thick beds, with interposed layers of slate clay, and the whole, according to the present section, covered with slate clay or camstone. It is similar in its relations and character to a sandstone which occurs at Birkhill, about two miles to the eastward, and is considered as the equivalent of the Kingoody stone, so extensively quarried to the westward of Dundee, and on the north side of the estuary of the Tay. The amygdaloid is traversed by numerous small veins of calcareous spar, quartz, agate and jasper. Veins, however, of a greater size, and such as

are denominated *dikes*, may be observed, though not in abundance. One vein of compact felspar, in the direction of the dip, may be observed at the Broomhill. It is quarried for road metal, being greatly superior in durability to the amygdaloid with which it is surrounded. Another mass of felspar traversing the amygdaloid in a south-easterly direction, on the *Sheep walk hill*, of Carphin, may be observed.

The greenstone dike, which has been denominated the great Flisk vein, and which may be traced from the neighbourhood of Newburgh on the west, enters this parish at Carphin wood. After having traversed the clinkstone of Norman's Law, it passes on in an easterly direction through the amygdaloid, until it is lost in the neighbourhood of the new church of Creich, though it appears to be related to the greenstone of Drumnod, &c. to the eastward.

In consequence of the dip of the strata being to the south, the steep sides of the hills in the parish face the north. From the great inequality of the composition of the amygdaloid, it has resisted in a very unequal manner the decomposing influence of the atmosphere, and hence the surface of the parish is exceedingly uneven. The harder rocks occupy the eminences, and exhibit an irregular outline, while the prevailing softer amygdaloid gives to the hills composed of it a more rounded and even surface.

The rock cover or *tirring* is in general derived from a decomposition of the rocks, though, in a few instances, it is diluvium. Gravelly diluvium occurs, though in no great quantity, at Luthrie. Clay diluvium forms the subsoil to the west of Balyarrow mire. By the partial filling of a valley, and interrupting the progress of the natural drainage, this diluvium has formed by its deposition the barrier of a lake.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Individuals—Alexander Henderson.—The Rev. Alexander Henderson, who acted so prominent a part in favour of Presbyterianism, during the reigns of James the Sixth and Charles the First, was a native of this parish. He was born in 1582 or 1583, as appears from his monumental inscription in the Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh. His birth is not inserted in any of the registers of the parish, in possession of the kirk-session, as none of them extends farther back than 1668. In a minute of session, however, of date 5th October 1702, it is mentioned, *inter alia*, that "There was a bond of 2000 merks secured upon the lands of Creich, which Mr Alexander Henderson, late minister of Luchars, and afterwards

of Edinburgh, had mortifyd for the encouragement of a schoolmaster in the parish. The said Mr Alexander being born in the town of Luthrie." After having been educated at the University of St Andrews, where he acquired considerable literary reputation, and where he became a Professor and also Questor of the Faculty of Arts, he was presented by Archbishop Gladstones, about the year 1612, to the church and parish of Leuchars, of which he continued the minister for many years. Though at the period of his induction he was attached to Episcopacy, he soon embraced and steadily maintained Presbyterian principles.

From his great talents, learning, piety, prudence, and integrity, he obtained a leading part in the management of ecclesiastical affairs, and was elected Moderator of the General Assembly on three different trying occasions, as being the best qualified for the office. In the memorable Assembly at Glasgow, in 1638, he was Moderator when Episcopacy was abjured, and Presbyterianism restored to its original purity. Presbyteries were then directed by that Court to erect a school in every landward parish, and the plan of the parish school, which combines education with religious instruction, and which has been productive of the most important advantages to Scotland, is said to have been devised by Henderson. He was ever desirous to promote education, and, as a proof of the encouragement he gave to it, he was made a burgher of Dundee, in 1632, for his good services to the schools in that town; and he bequeathed not only 2000 merks for the maintenance of a school in this parish, but also mortified a house, garden, croft, two acres of land, and L. 4, 10s. 6d. Sterling for the benefit of a schoolmaster in the parish of Leuchars. At the Glasgow Assembly it was agreed to translate him from Leuchars to Edinburgh. When one of the ministers of that city, being a great encourager of learning, he had the honour of being chosen the first Rector of the Edinburgh University, in January 1640, and of being annually re-elected Rector till the time of his death. He had, moreover, the merit of being the first in proposing, and of having a considerable share in framing, our Confession of Faith, our Larger and Shorter Catechisms, our Directory of Church Government and Worship, and also of improving the metrical version of the Psalms which is still used in our Churches. In all matters of public importance he was consulted by the most influential statesmen; and even King Charles I., who had a great respect for his character,

and a high opinion of his learning and abilities, knowing his desire to have Presbyterianism established throughout the British dominions, entered into a correspondence with him regarding the comparative merits of Episcopal and Presbyterian modes of church government, but was not induced to agree to the abolition of Episcopacy in England.

Henderson was a man of amiable dispositions, naturally averse to violence, and desirous to unite the friends of true religion; and he was possessed of a sound discriminating judgment, which, while it led him to endeavour to prevent those ruinous excesses to which "some fiery spirits" of his own party would have carried them, led him also, where necessary, to adopt strong measures in order to remove grievances, and to accomplish a reformation.

He was an enlightened, able, and temperate defender of Presbyterianism, and so continued to the last moment of his life.* His death, which took place in 1646, was deeply regretted as a great loss to the Church and to the kingdom. Principal Baillie pronounced a high eulogium on his character in the General Assembly of 1647: and the Presbyterians, in general, honoured his memory by every expression of their esteem and regard.†

Family of Bethune of Creich.—The first proprietor of Creich of the name of Bethune was David, second son of John Bethune, Laird of Balfour, and of Marjory Boswell, daughter of the Laird of Balmuto. He was highly esteemed by King James IV., who created him Great Treasurer of Scotland, and Keeper of the Palace of Falkland. "He conquest and acquired the lands of Creich from the Littles or Liddels, in 1502." He was married to — Duddingston, daughter to the Laird of Sandford in Fife. Janet, their elder daughter, from whom many of the chief nobility and gentry in Scotland are descended, was married, first, to Sir Robert Livingston of East Wemyss, and after his death to James, the first Earl of Arran of the Hamiltons, and nephew to King James III. Of the issue of this latter marriage was James, Earl of Arran, who was also Duke of Chatelherault, and Regent of the kingdom. Mary, the younger daughter, was married to Lord Lyle.—Sir John Bethune, the second proprietor of Creich, succeeded his father, and was married to Janet Hay, daughter of John Hay, provost of Dundee, and niece of the Laird of Naugh-

* See Acts of General Assembly, 7th August 1646.

† For a full and impartial account of this eminent individual, see Dr Aiton's "Life and Times of Alexander Henderson."

ton, by whom he had four sons and seven daughters.* Janet, their eldest daughter, who was married, first, to the Laird of Cranstoun, second, to the Laird of Craigmillar, and third, to Sir Walter Scott of Buccleuch, Senior, to the last of whom she had four daughters—is celebrated in the Lay of the Last Minstrel for her bold and adventurous spirit, her great influence, and for the popular belief of her mysterious endowments. A copy of a letter of her's to the Queen Regent Mary of Guise is published in the Miscellany of the Maitland Club. All the other daughters of Sir John Bethune were respectably married. His eldest son, David, who inherited the estate of Creich, having died a bachelor in 1539, was succeeded by his brother, Robert, the fourth proprietor of the name of Bethune. He was page to Queen Mary, and accompanied her to France, where she was married to the Dauphin. On her return to Scotland in 1561, he was made Master of the Household, Heritable Steward of Fife, and Keeper of the Palace of Falkland. He married a French lady, Joanna Renwall or Gryssoner, a maid of honour to the Queen, by whom he had two sons and eight daughters. Mary,† their eldest daughter, is well known as having been one of the Queen's four *Maries*, and is celebrated by Buchanan in his *Valentiniana* :

Ad Mariam Betonam, pridie Regalium Reginam sorte ductam.
 Regno animus tibi dignus erat, tibi regia virtus ;
 Et poterant formam sceptrum decere tuam.
 Fortuna erubuit sua munera sola deesse,
 Quæ tibi nunc plena dat cumulata manu.
 Cumque tibi immunem dederit livoris honorem,
 Non satis est tardam visa luisse moram,
 Ni Regina, orbis longe dignissima scepro,
 Gauderet regno læta subesse tuo.

Mr Macdonald of the Register-House has printed a copy of her contract of marriage with Alexander Ogilvie of the Boyne, in the Miscellany of the Maitland Club, Vol. 1st. It is remarkable for its being subscribed not only by Queen Mary and Henry Darnley as parties, but by the Earls of Huntly, Argyll, Bothwell, Murray, Angus, and Atholl, as cautioners for the bridegroom, by Ogilvie himself as Boyne, and by Mary Bethune, many personages who are represented in history as having been generally hostile to one another.—David Bethune, the eldest son of Robert, succeeded him

* "It is observed and reported as a truth," says Martine, "that the race and people of Balfour were always black, and not beautiful and fair, but that ever after the Laird of Creich married this Janet Hay, the Bethunes of Creich have ever been yellow-haired for the most part, and of beautiful countenances."—Martin's Genealogical Coll. MS. Adv. Lib.

† There is an original Portrait of this Mary Bethune in full-court dress, in Balfour House, in Fife.

as fifth proprietor of Creich, and married Euphan P. B. Leslie, daughter of the Earl of Rothes, by whom he had an only child, a female, but, being desirous that the estate of Creich should continue to be possessed only by those of the name of Bethune, he disposed it to his brother, James, parson of Roxburgh, who became in consequence the sixth proprietor.* He married, first, Helen Leslie, heiress of Kinnaird, and after her death, Margaret Wemyss, eldest daughter of David Wemyss of that ilk, from whom it is said the Earls of Wemyss are descended. Their eldest son and grandson succeeded to the property as the seventh and eighth proprietors. The latter was married to Lady Margaret Cunninghame, daughter of the Earl of Glencairn: but she having no family, and his brother William having no male children, he disposed the whole estate of Creich,† being about 80 chalders of victual, to James Bethune, then fiar of Balfour, under the burden of 80,000 or 90,000 merks, reserving to himself the liferent of the most part, and to his Lady the liferent of 32 chalders of victual. Lamont, in his Diary of Fife, mentions that this Laird of Creich, soon after disposing the property, died at his dwelling-house at Denbough, on 4th March 1660, and was interred at Creich church.

Family of Seton of Parbroath.—The first proprietor of Parbroath of the name of Seton was John, fourth son of the famous Alexander Seton, Governor of Berwick. He became proprietor of the lands of Parbroath by marrying Elizabeth Ramsay, heiress thereof. Their son, Alexander, was father of Sir Gilbert Seton of Parbroath, from whom the lineal succession continued till the reign of James VI.

Family of Baillie.—The Baillies of this parish were descended from the *first* of the family of Baillie of Carphin, in the upper ward of Lanarkshire. He was second son of Sir William Baillie of Lamington, and of the eldest daughter and heiress of the celebrated Sir William Wallace, the brave defender of Scotland.‡ The descent of Baillie of Lamington has been traced as far back as to John Baliol, father of John Baliol, King of Scotland. The name was changed from Baliol to Baillie.§

* "At this time the fortune of Creich tailzied to the second son of the House of Balfour, failing heirs male of Mr James Bethune." See Martin's Gen. Col. M88.

† The barony of Creich comprehended the lands of Dunbog, Contrahills, and Creich. See Registrum Mag. Sigilli lxxxix. 128.

‡ See Nisbet's Heraldry, Vol. ii App. p. 137. Nisbet, in his Heraldry, informs us that the barony of Luthrie and Kinsliffe previously belonged to Kinloch of Kinloch in Collieston parish.

§ See Parish of Gladsmuir.

From the session records, it appears that the family of Baillie were in possession of Balmeadowside and Parbroath in 1668. They subsequently purchased the estate of Luthrie, which at that time comprehended the present lands of Luthrie, East Luthrie, and Carphin. After having for some time retained possession of all these different estates, they sold Parbroath to John, the second Earl of Hopetoun, grandfather of George William Hope, Esq. M. P. the present proprietor. In 1780, they sold Balmeadowside to D. Wallace, Esq., and East Luthrie to Thomas Tod, Esq. The eldest son of the former, and the only son of the latter, now inherit the respective properties. Carphin was sold to Miss Halkerston of Rathillet, great grand-aunt to C. B. Raitt, Esq. the present proprietor.

The late Colonel Alexander Baillie of Luthrie, who was patron of the parish, and Barrack-Master-General of Scotland, died without issue in 1814, and his widow, Mrs Euphan Hamilton or Baillie, who was daughter and heiress of Mrs Bethia Hamilton of Wishaw, continued in possession of the present estate of Luthrie till the 17th September 1823, when she died. A handsome marble monument is erected to their memory in the new church. The estate of Luthrie was, soon after the death of Mrs Baillie, sold to Charles Hill, Esq. whose eldest son is now the proprietor.

Land-owners, and the names of their properties in the parish, with their valued rents, are as follows :

Land-owners.	Properties.	Valued Rent Scots.
Andrew Wallace,	Balmeadowside,	L. 475 5 5
Charles Hill, Esq.	Luthrie,	447 9 4
Charles B. Raitt, Esq.	Carphin, including W. Kinsleith,	492 4 11
George William Hope of Rankel- lour, M. P.	Parbroath,	423 7 11
David Gillespie, Esq. of Kirkton,	Creich,	858 0 0
George Tod, Esq.	E. Luthrie,	306 19 1
John Miller, Esq.	E. Kinsleith,	179 0 0
James Nairne of Clermont, Esq. W. S.	Skilmervie,	31 18 4
	Brunton feus,	19 0 0

Total valued rent of the parish, L. 2668 0 0

Ministers of the parish from the Reformation in 1560, to the present time, (see Baxter's Catalogue of Ministers in Synod of Fife.)
 Mr Thomas Drummond 1563. James Cavie, reader, 1567.
 Mr Robert Paterson 1567. Mr Andrew Bennet, admitted February 1583-4. Mr John Killoch, vicar, admitted August 1585.
 Mr Thomas Baxter admitted 1590. Mr Alexander Strachan, 1604, banished by King James 1606. Mr David Kinnear, 1617.
 Mr Andrew Bennet, admitted 1617, conformed to presbytery

1638, died 1651. Vacant from 1651 to 1654. Mr John Alexander, translated from Cults, December 1654, conformed to Episcopacy 1662. Mr James Seaton admitted, outed 1689; vacant from 1689 to 1693. Mr John Law admitted December 1693, died, June 9th 1694. Mr David Pitcairn, admitted August 27th 1695, transported to Forres 1700. Mr James Henry, admitted 1702, transported to Kinghorn 1717. Mr James Bruce, ordained 10th March 1719, died 1746. Mr Francis Adams, ordained December 1747, died August 1754. Dr Greenlaw, ordained May 8th 1755, died 1815; present incumbent, ordained September 1815.

Parochial Registers.—The date of the earliest entry is 1668. Marriages and baptisms appear, with a few exceptions, to have been recorded with regularity from 1668 to the present time, and births have frequently, but not always, been inserted. For many years past, births have been always entered along with the baptisms. There is a register of burials, along with baptisms and marriages, from 1st October 1783, to 1st October 1794, after which time the registering of burials was discontinued, seemingly in consequence of the Government tax on births, marriages, and burials, ceasing at that time by act of Parliament to be uplifted. A register of those who die in the parish has been regularly kept since 1817. The registers of births, marriages, and deaths, have, for the last twenty years, been kept according to a plan recommended by the presbytery to the different parishes within their bounds. They are annually inspected by the committee of presbytery appointed for the examination of the schools, and have uniformly been commended for their distinctness and accuracy.

Antiquities.—Ancient Circles of Stones.—In the spring of the year 1816, while some workmen were employed in trenching a piece of ground a little to the south-west of the manse, they came to a number of stones, about eight or ten inches below the surface, placed in a regular form. The part of the country in which these regularly arranged stones were situated, is very uneven. Three ridges of hills, extending in different directions, terminate on the west in Norman's Law, the most elevated ground in the north of Fife. On the south side of the most northern of these ridges, and about midway between the top of one of the hills and a small rivulet which flows along the strath, there is a lateral shelf, upon which these stones were discovered. This northern ridge extends in a direction from east to west.

From the workmen frequently meeting with stones of all sizes

in the course of trenching, unfortunately the regular arrangement of those above-mentioned was not attended to, until two carved stones were cast up, with the figures upon each very entire. This circumstance naturally led to an examination of all the stones, to a consideration of the manner in which they were originally placed, and to an attention to those which yet remained untouched. Upon examination, no other figured stone appeared; but, what was remarkable, many of those taken up were sandstone, while the hill on which they were placed, and all the hills in the neighbourhood, are whinstone rock. Those which remained untouched were set on end, and so arranged as to form two arches of concentric circles. So far as could be judged at the time of discovery, the whole erect stones, which were, in general, from a foot and a half to two feet and a half high, were so placed as to make up two figures of a circular, or, perhaps, more nearly of an elliptical form, the one contained within the other. In the centre was a cylindrical stone pillar of the same height with the rest, and near to it were the carved stones.

It is to be regretted that most of the stones were taken up before their number, their regular arrangement, and individual position, were ascertained. This good effect, however, resulted from the discovery of this structure, that it induced some workmen, who were soon after ploughing a field about five or six hundred yards due east of the place above described, to conclude, when their ploughs repeatedly struck against some stones, that they had come to something similar to what had been so recently discovered at so short a distance, and to pay particular attention to preserve every stone in its original position. They accordingly proceeded to remove all the earth with the greatest care, and their expectations of finding another curiosity were soon completely realized. Upon acquainting the present incumbent with the circumstance, he went and carefully examined the situation of this structure: attended to its form and arrangement; then took the dimensions of its different circles, and the stones of which they were composed. Its situation, like that of the former, was a lateral flat on the south side of the same ridge of hills, and also at an equal distance from the summit and the stream below.

In the centre was placed, in an upright position, a cylindrical sandstone, one foot two inches high, and having the diameter of its base one foot. Around this stone, as a centre, at the distance of three feet, were sixteen other stones, placed also in an up-

right position, and in the form of a circle. The stones of which it was composed were of various sizes, from fifteen to twenty inches in height; from eight to eighteen in breadth, and from four to nine in thickness. Due south of the centre, and between it and the inner circle, there were placed in a horizontal position, two stones containing hieroglyphics in *alto relievo*, very entire. The remaining space between the centre and the circle was laid with pavement. At the distance of seven feet and a half from the same central pillar, there was another circle of stones, thirty-two in number, placed in an upright position, and very much resembling those of the inner circle. The stones in both circles were placed close together. Between the circles there was neither pavement nor stone of any description. Neither were perfect circles, the diameter of one, from north to south, being fifteen feet one inch, while its diameter from east to west was only fourteen feet nine inches; in the same manner, the diameter of the other, from east to west, was five feet ten inches, while from north to south it was six feet one inch.

It is curious to observe, that many of the stones here found, like those discovered the year before, were sandstone, while none of the same kind can be got nearer than a quarry at Cupar moor, which is seven miles distant.

At the distance of a few yards on the south, there were also discovered under ground two curious whinstones; one resembles in shape the frustum of a cone, with a small projection at the greater end, through which is a round hole. From this, at the distance of nine inches, and also near the base, is a slit two and a half inches in length, and extending inwards about an inch and a half; on the side directly opposite to this slit, part of the stone is broken off. The perpendicular height of the frustum is seven inches, the diameter of the small end is seven and a half inches, and the diameter of the greater end is eleven. At the top or small end of the stone, there is an excavation, around which is a margin of rather more than half an inch in breadth. From this cavity, which is five inches in depth, and capable of containing a quart, there is a round hole reaching to the bottom of the stone.

The other stone is much broken. Its shape appears to have originally much resembled that of the former. Its present perpendicular height is seven inches, the diameter of the greater end is eleven, and that of the small end nine. Like the former, it has a hole in the side near to the base, and reaching about three

inches inwards. It has also a cavity at the top, and a perforation extending from the cavity to the bottom. The perforation in this stone is four inches in depth, exactly double the depth of the perforation on the other.

The above described monument was allowed to remain for ten days in its original form for public inspection, but as some people, from a love of mischief, or from an expectation of finding hidden treasure, were beginning to lift and injure some of the stones, and as no method of preserving them in safety in their original situation could be easily adopted, it was considered necessary to remove them. They were taken up in presence of a concourse of people who had assembled to gratify their curiosity, when underneath one of the carved stones, were found burned human bones and charcoal. George Tod, Esq. of Luthrie, on whose property these ancient circles were discovered, with much civility presented them to the present incumbent, and they are now placed precisely in their original form in a wood behind the manse, a good subject for the examination of the antiquary. Figures of them are given in the Edinburgh Magazine, December 1817.

It has been supposed by some, that these ancient circles were small Druidical temples or rather oratories for families, that the excavated stones were meant for containing holy water, which the Druids, as well as the Greeks, the Jews, and other ancient nations were accustomed to use, and that the burned bones were the remains of the sacrifices here offered. It has been supposed by others, with seemingly greater probability, among whom is Huddleston, the learned Editor of Toland's History of the Druids, that these are sepulchral monuments, and that the hieroglyphics on the stones are sepulchral inscriptions—that one of these, which is the figure of a spade, is an emblem of mortality, and as such is still seen on tombstones; that the figure of a pair of shoes, and of a shield turned upside down, may naturally signify that the owner has no farther use for them, and may remind one of the reversing of arms at a soldier's funeral; that the circular figures may represent rings, which have often been found in sepulchral monuments; that the circular figure with perforated knobs may represent an antique vase with *gutta lachrymales*; that the cross inscribed in a circle may represent the wheel of some ancient carriage, while the figure to the left may represent the body of the machine disjoined from it, as if no more required. The stones found near to the above structure may have been entirely unconnected with it.*

* See Edinburgh Magazine, December 1817, and April 1818.

Ancient Fort.—On the Greenraig, a little to the eastward of the manse, are two concentric circles of rough stones, at no great distance from each other, which extend round the hill, near to its summit, except on the north side, where it is precipitous.

Some have supposed that they are the remains of an ancient camp of the Danes, which had two lines of circumvallation; that when the Danes invaded the country for plunder, they here deposited their spoils, until they found it necessary, from being attacked by the natives, to remove their pillage to their boats in the Tay. Others have supposed, that they are the remains of a fort erected by the natives, for the purpose of defending themselves and their property against the predatory incursions of the Danes or other enemies.

An ancient quern was lately found here by some workmen when employed in trenching, and was kindly presented to the present incumbent by Mr Mitchell, tenant of the farm on which it was discovered.

Urns, &c.—Besides the two jars mentioned in the former Statistical Account, as having been found in a rising ground near to the manse, two urns were discovered many years ago a little to the west of the present house of Parbroath, and two stone coffins a little to the east of it. Urns have also been found on the lands of Balmeadowside. All these were deposited on knolls, and contained human bones; but nothing worthy of notice is remembered regarding them.*

Creich Castle, the ancient residence of the Bethunes, is now a ruin. It is 47 feet in length, by 39 in breadth, and three stories high, with a court-yard on the west. Within this court-yard the present farm-house is situate. The castle has been a place of very con-

* Since the above was written there was discovered, on the 8th of February 1839, when digging a grave within the old church of Creich, a few inches under the pavement, a grave-stone, 6 feet 7 inches in length, 2 feet 8 inches in breadth, and 4 inches in thickness. On the top of the stone are carved two figures,—one of a man in a complete coat of mail, and another of a lady in a long embroidered robe. Above the figures are canopies of tabernacle work, finely designed. Upon two shields are emblazoned the arms of the families of Barclay and Douglas. This stone was found lying partly within and partly in front of a niche, on the top of which are the Barclay arms. On the outer edge of the stone, which is bevelled, is the following inscription, in old English characters. Two of the words, which are a little defaced, are omitted:
HIC JACET DAVID BARCLAY DE.....DNS DE.....QUI OBIIT DIE MESIS.....
ANNO DII. M^{mo}.CCCC.

HIC JACET HELENA DE DOUGLAS UXOR PREDICTY QUI OBIIT XXIX DIE MESIS
JANUARIJ ANNO DII. M^oCCCCXXI.

The figures, although not in relief, are executed with great freedom and artist-like skill, and the lettering of the inscription is done with a correctness and beauty that could scarcely be equalled at the present time. From there being hollows cut in the stone for the faces and hands, it appears that these had been inserted in metal.

There was a French copper coin, much defaced, found a few inches under the old grave-stone.

siderable strength. It was defended on the south-east by a mo-rass, which has lately been drained, and on the other sides by strong outworks, part of which has been taken down. It bears no date to mark its age. The proprietor, a few years ago, very judiciously upheld its ruined walls by a repair, clothed them with ivy, and near to them planted some trees for shelter and ornament. It is said that, at a short distance from the castle and a little to the north of the church, formerly stood a brewery, to which was attached a ploughgate of land, denominated *Pitfigies*.

The old Parish Church, where divine service was performed so late as the 9th December 1832, is surrounded by the burying-ground and in the immediate vicinity of the castle. In the interior of one of the walls are two niches, on the top of one of which is a coat of arms, which appears to be that of the Barclays of Collairnie, who were, at a very early period, proprietors of Kinsleith, in this parish, and who sold that portion called Easter Kinsleith, in 1727, to James Miller, Esq. the great grandfather of the present proprietor.

Ancient House of Parbroath.—Of this house or castle, which belonged to the family of Seton, nothing now remains to mark the site save part of an arch surrounded by a few old trees, which has been carefully preserved by desire of the late Earl of Hopetoun. It stands near to the place where the road between the Forth and Tay ferries crosses the road from Cupar to Newburgh. The house is said to have been surrounded by a moat, over which there was a draw-bridge, and the park in which they were situated is still called the Castlefield. There is a tradition that one of the late farm-buildings at Parbroath, which was long used as a barn, had at one time been a chapel, and that at it, and at the church of Creich, divine service was performed on alternate Sabbaths. In confirmation of a chapel having been here, it may be stated, that, a few years ago, when the foundation of a wall was dug up close by the site of the old barn, some graves were discovered, which probably formed part of the burying-ground connected with the chapel.

It is not unlikely that this chapel may have been the capella belonging to the parish of Creich, mentioned by Sibbald in his *History of Fife*.

III.—POPULATION.

The population in 1755 was	375	
1791	306,	of these were 184 males, 172 females.
1811	394	
1821	403	
1831	419,	of these were 193 males, 226 females.
1896	425	

It is stated in the last Statistical Account, that the diminution of one-fifth of the population which had taken place in the thirty-five years preceding 1790, was probably owing to one village being allowed to go to decay, to the union of farms, and the use of two horse ploughs. Since that time, several additional houses have been built in the other villages, and some are occupied by numerous families, which may account for the increase.

There is often a very considerable difference between the population of one year and that of another, arising from the changes of farm-servants and others, some of whom have numerous families.

The number of the population residing in villages is	-	-	296
the country,	-	-	187
The average annual of births for the last ten years is	-	-	13½
deaths,	-	-	6½
marriage proclamations,	-	-	6½

This last is the average of all who are proclaimed in the parish, whether at the time of a proclamation both parties are resident or only one.

The total number of illegitimate births for the last ten years is 3.

There are eight proprietors of land in the parish of the yearly value of more than L. 50. Of these, four are resident, and farm their own properties.

	In 1833.	In 1881.
Number of families,	94	85
Inhabited houses,	79	74
Uninhabited houses,	9	2
Number of families chiefly employed in agriculture	45	38
in trade, manufactures, &c.*	43	43
all others,	6	6

There is no insane person in the parish, but there is one who may be considered fatuous.

Prevailing Amusements.—The favourite amusement in this parish is curling. Many of the landed proprietors, almost the whole tenantry in the neighbourhood, and others of different professions, resort to the ice on Balyarrow, and enjoy this innocent, healthful, and invigorating exercise. The Balyarrow Curling Club is said to be the oldest in the north of Fife.

Character and Habits of the People.—They are industrious, peaceable, and orderly in their habits. They enjoy in a reasonable degree the advantages of society, and are civil and obliging. They live comfortably without extravagance, and are contented with their situation. In their food and in their man-

* There are in the parish, including masters, journeyman, and apprentices, 7 wrights, 2 sawyers, 8 masons, 1 blacksmith, 1 saddler, 11 shoemakers, 5 tailors, 2 bakers, 2 brewers, 2 grocers.

ner of dress, there is no peculiarity. On the Sabbath, they appear in church in their best attire, which is neat, respectable, and becoming. They show a regard for religious institutions and instruction; and may, in general, be considered an intelligent, moral, and religious people.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—From answers to my inquiries by the different proprietors and tenants, I am enabled to state that the number of standard imperial acres in the parish is 2324; that of these 1803 are cultivated; that 276 remain constantly waste or in pasture; that scarcely any could with a profitable application of capital be added to the cultivated land; that 41 acres are occupied by roads, houses, farm-steadings, barn-yards, church-yard, and burying-ground; and that the remaining 204 are under plantation.

Woods.—The trees are chiefly Scotch, larch, and spruce firs, in the larger plantations intermixed with several kinds of hard-wood. In one of smaller extent, and in some belts and clumps of planting, they are chiefly hard-wood; and in the grounds about Luthrie House there are some fine old elms, planes, and horse-chestnuts, &c. A few years ago a plantation of Scotch fir of fifteen imperial acres, on the north-east extremity of the farm of Creich, and last year about nine acres of a plantation on Luthrie, were cut down and sold,—the trees having come to full maturity at the age of seventy years. The ground on which they grew has been trenched, and is now bearing excellent crops.

Rent.—Many of the proprietors farm their own properties; but a fair average rent of the arable land in the parish is considered by good judges to be L. 2, 2s. per Scots acre, or L. 1, 13s. 3½d. per imperial acre, and of the uncultivated ground to be 5s. per Scots acre, or about 4s. per imperial acre. According to this estimate, the rent of the parish is L. 3056, 14s. 2d. The average rent of grazing is at the rate of L. 3 for an ox; L. 3, 10s. for a cow; 12s. for a ewe or full-grown sheep for the year; and L. 5 for a mare and foal.

Rate of Wages.—Unmarried ploughmen receive each from L. 10 to L. 12 in money, and six bolls and half of oatmeal, Dutch weight, annually, and a Scotch pint of milk daily, as it comes from the cow. They are lodged in bothies. Married ploughmen receive each annually about L. 10, 10s., the same quantity of meal and milk, a free house and garden, the driving of their coals, and about 27 falls of ground for planting potatoes. This small por-

tion of ground generally produces as many potatoes as afford a sufficient supply for the family, and enable them to feed a pig. The foreman or principal servant receives in addition to the above from L. 1 to L. 3, and all the milk of a cow, instead of a pint of milk per day. Men employed as day-labourers receive each generally 1s. 6d. per day in summer, and 1s. 4d. in winter. Women when employed in the fields get each 8d. per day of nine hours work, but when taking up potatoes they receive 1s. per day and their dinner. Female domestic servants receive about L. 6 per annum. Shearers are paid for cutting and binding, wheat 4½d. a threave, and for barley and oats 3½d. a threave. When the crops of grain are cut by the acre, the sum given per acre is 12s. Masons receive generally from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. per day of ten hours without victuals. The rate of mason work is, for Galloway dikes from 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per rood of 36 square yards; for close dry stone dikes 10s. 6d.; for stone and lime dikes, from 16s. to L. 1; for rubble building, from L. 1, 8s. to L. 1, 12s. Smiths usually contract to do the work of the farmer by the pair of horses at L. 2 annually. This includes their shoeing, and keeping ploughs, harrows, grapes, and forks in good repair. Carpenters receive from 1s. 10d. to 2s. per day of ten hours and their victuals, or from 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. without victuals. The price of wood is, ash, 2s. per cubic foot, Scotch fir, 10d., larch fir, 1s. 2d., and elm, 2s.

Prices.—The price of different articles manufactured in the parish for the purposes of rural economy is, a two-horse cart with iron axle completely mounted, L. 10; a single horse cart do. L. 9; an iron two-horse plough, L. 3, 15s; do. with iron swingle-trees, L. 4, 10s; an iron grubber for drilled crops, L. 3, 3s; an iron drill harrow, L. 1, 10s; a pair of iron common harrows fully mounted with rider and swingle-trees of iron, L. 2, 10s; a pair of wooden common harrows, fully mounted with rider and swingle-trees of wood, L. 1, 14s. The wooden harrows in the parish are gradually giving place to those of iron, and iron ploughs are universally in use. There are in the parish eight thrashing machines worked by horses, every farm having one. The flail is entirely laid aside, except by those who have less than twelve acres of ground.

Live-Stock.—The cattle are generally of the old Fife breed, which is greatly preferred by all the rearers of stock in the parish, except by one individual, who thinks more highly of the improved short horns or Teeswater, and whose lands, from being rich and well sheltered, are well adapted for them. The number of milk cows

in the parish is 70, and the number of cattle of all ages, including cows, is 346. The cattle are generally sold when fat, about three years of age. No particular attention is paid to the breed of horses. The number of horses of all ages is about 106. There are at present in the parish 13 scores of sheep. No decided preference is given to any particular breed. They are generally bought when young in the month of August, and sold when fat in the month of June of the following year.

Husbandry.—The most improved mode of husbandry is practised. A rotation of six is in general observed in cropping, viz. 1. summer fallow, potatoes, or turnips well manured; 2. wheat, the land half-manured; 3. barley, sown with perennial rye-grass; 4. grass; 5. grass; 6. oats. On very rich land there is frequently a rotation of four or five having one year's grass. On inferior land wheat is seldom sown; barley, with grass seeds, follows the turnips and potatoes. The turnips are manured with bone dust, and one-half is eaten on the field by sheep. Three crops of grass are frequently taken. In mossy ground, oats are sown with grass seeds in preference to barley. Where the green crop has been potatoes in one rotation, it is turnips in the next, so that the land may produce the same kind of crop as seldom as possible. When the half of the turnips is to be eaten on the field by sheep, all the two alternate rows are previously carted home for feeding cattle, and the remainder left for the sheep. When the turnips are not eaten on the field by sheep, another method has been practised within these few years of cutting off the shaws (leaves), and immediately ploughing them down in the ground. The good effects of adopting this method have been fully shewn by the excellence of the succeeding crop. The turnips which are usually raised in the parish are globe, to be used first, yellow next, and Swedes, which are least apt to be injured by the frost, last. The potatoes which are most generally raised are the Perth red. Many of them are exported for the London market, where this kind is in the greatest demand. The price given here, which is very much regulated by the price in London, varies from 5s. to 14s. per boll of five cwt.

It may be worthy of notice, that when, in the autumn of 1836, a severe frost, which set in early, and continued long, prevented the potato crop from being taken up in safety, George Tod, Esq. of Luthrie in this parish, allowed most of his potatoes to remain in the ground all winter, and took them up in the spring con-

paratively little injured. They were in consequence eagerly sought after for seed, and in due time produced an abundant crop. The weight of the different kinds of grain in the parish is as follows: Barley from 52 to 56 imperial pounds per bushel, average 53; wheat from 60 to 66, average 63; oats from 40 to 45, average 42.

Raw Produce.—

Wheat,	221	Imperial acres at $3\frac{1}{4}$ quarters, at 46s. per quarter,	L. 1779	1	0
Barley,	299	- - - - - $4\frac{1}{2}$ - - - - - 27s.	1816	8	6
Oats,	892	- - - - - $5\frac{1}{2}$ - - - - - 21s.	2263	16	0
Pense,	22	- - - - - $2\frac{1}{4}$ - - - - - 23s. 6d.	64	12	6
Potatoes,	149	at 27 bolls of 5 cwts. each at 9s.	1810	7	0
Turnips,	155	at L. 5, 10s. per imperial acre,	852	10	0
Hay,	170	at 160 stoncs per imperial acre at 8d.	906	13	4
Pasture,	371	at L. 2 per imperial acre,	742	0	0
Permanent pasture,	276	at 4s. per imperial acre,	55	4	0
Thinning of wood,	204	- - - - -	20	0	0
Fallow,	24	- - - - -			
Roads, &c.	41	- - - - -			
Total imperial acres, 2324			L. 10,310 12 4		

The above is calculated by the average of the fair prices for the last seven years, but the grain in this parish, being better than the average of the county, may be considered as 1s. per quarter of more value.

The greater part of the parish is inclosed partly with hedges and partly with stone dikes. More inclosures are in progress, and, from the present disposition of the proprietors and tenants, it is probable that all the grounds in the parish will be inclosed at no distant period.

The common duration of leases is nineteen years; a period which meets with general approbation, unless where great improvements are to be made upon a farm, when it should be longer, to afford time to the farmer to reap the benefit of what he has expended on improvements.

Farm-Buildings.—The farm-houses are generally good, and the steadings are suitable and commodious. Since the former Statistical Account was published, at least 200 imperial acres of waste land have been brought by draining, trenching, and liming, into a state of high cultivation, and to produce excellent crops. There has been draining also to a considerable extent in lands which have long been under the plough, and the results have been very beneficial. The late Mr William Reid, tenant of Parbroath, who was highly esteemed as a skilful agriculturist and an intelligent upright

man, practised on his farm, upwards of twenty years ago, the present approved mode of furrow-draining, with great success. More draining is necessary, and the farmers, who are well aware of its advantages, are carrying it on in the most approved and judicious manner. Deep ploughing is resorted to, in order to renew the soil, and to get it cleared of stones.

Quarries.—There is an excellent quarry of basaltic clinkstone on East Luthrie, the property of George Tod, Esq. with stones from which many of the houses in the parish and neighbourhood have been built. On Carphin, the property of C. B. Raitt, Esq. there is a gray sandstone quarry. Particulars regarding these quarries are stated in the account of the Geology of the parish.

Manufactures.—The chief branch of manufacture is hand-loom weaving. Osnaburghs, brown and plain white sheetings, and dollas of almost all qualities, are worked here. Two resident manufacturers, and some resident agents of manufacturers in Cupar and Newburgh, give employment to all the weavers in the parish, and to many in the neighbourhood. The average quantity of cloth woven by them annually, as I am informed by one of the manufacturers after a careful examination, is 177,200 yards, the value of which is L. 5293, 6s. 8d. Of this quantity, 84,000 yards are woven by the weavers employed by the resident manufacturers, the value of which is L. 2916, 13s. 4d., and the sum given for weaving which, is about L. 612, 10s. The price of all the weaving at 1½d. per yard is L. 1292, 1s. 8d. The number of weavers of all ages in the parish is 39, of whom 27 are males and 12 are females, and there are 19 winders all females. The average income of each of the weavers is about 7s. per week throughout the year; good hands from 9s. to 10s. They work about fourteen hours per day. A winder receives 6d. per day when employed, but the employment is not constant. Since the introduction of machinery the spinning-wheel has been almost entirely laid aside, as no adequate remuneration for labour can be procured by it. There is but one in operation in the parish, and that one only occasionally.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—There is no market-town in the parish. The nearest is Cupar, which is distant from the centre of the parish about five miles.

Villages.—There are two villages, Luthrie and Brunton, which are pleasantly situated, and at the distance of a mile from each other. The former contains a population of 145, and the latter

of 91. The inhabitants are chiefly weavers and other handicraft tradesmen. In the village of Luthrie are a brewery, a bakehouse, a small public-house, a meal-mill, and a barley-mill.

Means of Communication.—There is a regular communication with Cupar, which is the nearest post-town, on Thursdays and Saturdays, and with Dundee, on Fridays, by carriers of small parcels. A turnpike road, between the ferries of Pettycur and Newport, passes through the parish on the south, and along by its southern boundary about a mile and a half, and the turnpike from Cupar to Perth intersects it on the south-west. A statute labour road leads on from the ferry turnpike through the parish eastward to Balmerino, and another leads off from it at Luthrie westwards, and on through the barony of Balenbreich to Newburgh. The length of the former in the parish is 2 miles 450 yards, and of the latter 1 mile 160 yards.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church, which is a new and handsome edifice, was first opened for public worship on the 16th December 1832. It is situated on a small eminence above the village of Luthrie, near to the greater part of the population, and not above two miles from the most distant. It was built to contain 252 sittings. These were divided among the heritors according to their valued rents, and the division was sanctioned by the sheriff. The heritors, after having accommodated themselves with seats, gave those which remained free to their tenants, servants, and others. It would have been desirable, however, had a considerable portion of the sittings been set apart for the public; for although there would be a sufficiency of accommodation were every seat well filled, yet some individuals are unable to procure sittings, and there is a natural dislike to intrude into the seats which have previously been obtained by others.

Legacy.—The late Mr George Davidson, schoolmaster of the parish, who died in 1745, bequeathed the sum of 450 merks Scots to the Session for the purpose of purchasing communion cups; and two handsome plain silver cups, which were bought with that sum, are now used at the communion service.

A stable has been erected near the church for the horses of those who choose to ride, or to come to church in their conveyances, and a gig-house has been built for the accommodation of the minister.

The manse and offices were built in 1816, and are suitable and commodious. They are pleasantly situated, but at an extremity

of the parish, and at the distance of a mile from the church. The glebe consists of about $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres of thin sharp soil, and its yearly value is about L. 8. The stipend consists of 1 boll, 3 firloths, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ lippies, wheat; 8 bolls, 3 firloths, 2 pecks barley; 3 bolls, 1 firloth, $3\frac{1}{2}$ lippies meal; 6 bolls, 1 firloth, 2 pecks, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lippies oats; and L. 209, 15s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in money.

There is no Dissenting chapel in the parish. The number of families belonging to the Established Church is 84, and the number of individuals of all ages belonging to the Established Church is 380. The number of families of Dissenters is 10. The number of individuals of all ages of Dissenters is 45. Divine service at the Established Church is generally well attended. The number of communicants at the Established Church, taking the average of the last seven years, is 198.

This parish has contributed liberally for religious and charitable purposes.

Education.—The parochial school is the only one in the parish. The usual branches of education are taught in it, and in a manner which reflects credit upon Mr Miller, the present schoolmaster, as being an able, diligent, and successful teacher. The school is generally attended in the winter months by about 65, and in the summer by about 50. The fees per quarter for English reading are 2s., and for writing, arithmetic, English grammar, geography, and mathematics, 6d. each additional, and for Latin 5s. The children usually enter school at from four to six years of age, and leave it at from ten to thirteen. The people in general are alive to the benefits of education, and parents, in particular, are very desirous to procure a good education for their families. When, from poverty, any are unable to do so, the session is always ready to assist them, and there is none in the parish above eight years of age who cannot read. The schoolmaster has the legal accommodations of a dwelling-house, school-room, and garden. He has the maximum salary, school fees amounting to about L. 18 per annum, and the yearly interest of L. 2000 merks Scots.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving regular parochial aid is 5. They receive according to their circumstances, each usually from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per week, and each family a cart-load of coals at the beginning of winter. Occasional aid is always afforded to a few, and to some there is given merely a cart-load of coals during the year. The tenants and resident proprietors give the driving of all the coals gratis.

The parochial funds from which the wants of the poor are supplied consist of collections at church, amounting annually on an average of the last five years, to L. 12, 1s. 1d.; of proclamation fees, to 13s. 9½d.; of mortcloth fees, L. 1, 2s. 3d.; and of rent of land and houses, and interest of money,* to L. 20, 5s. 10d.; in all, L. 34, 2s. 11½d. There exists among the poor in general a laudable spirit of independence, which renders them reluctant to apply for parochial aid, and the acceptance of which they consider as degrading.

Alehouses.—There is only one in the parish, which is evidently necessary and quite sufficient for the accommodation of the public.

Fuel.—The common fuel is coal, which is partly driven from the pits at Balbirnie and Orr Bridge, a distance of from eleven to thirteen miles from the centre of the parish, and partly from Balmerino, a distance of five miles, whither it is imported from Newcastle and Alloa.

The price at Balmerino of English coals is from 4s. 6d. to 5s. 9d. per boll of 42 stones, or six cwt. and of Scotch coals at about 6s. per boll of 56 stones or 8 cwt. The present price of coals at Balbirnie is 1s. 6d. per load of 18 stones, and at Orr Bridge is 1s. 3d. per load of 28 stones. Many of the poorer classes use considerable quantities of wood for fuel, which they get from the neighbouring plantations.

* Of this money, L. 100 Sterling were bequeathed for behoof of the poor by the late Colonel and Mrs Baillie of Luthrie, and L. 50 by the late David Gillespie, Esq. of Kirkton.

November 1838.