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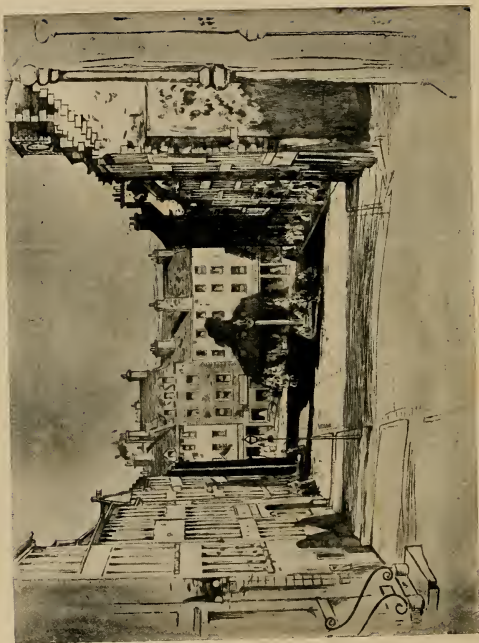
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Wm. Dwyer Dale

Author

August 30th 1904

AULD BIGGINS OF STIRLING,
ITS CLOSES, WYNDS,
AND NEEBOUR VILLAGES.



BROAD STREET, FROM MAR'S WORK.

AULD BIGGINS OF STIRLING,
ITS CLOSES, WYND,
AND NEEBOUR VILLAGES.

BY
WILLIAM DRYSDALE.



STIRLING:
ENEAS MACKAY, 43 MURRAY PLACE.

1904.

Printed at the
Stirling Observer Office.

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Adam, David, Pollokshields.
Aitken, Peter, Stirling.
Alexander, Colonel, Bridge of Allan.
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Henderson, George, Brisbane, Queensland.

Henderson, George, Stirling.

Henderson, Hugh, Stirling.

Henderson, John, Helensburgh.

Henderson, W., Glasgow.

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Hill, Robert A., Bridge of Allan.

- Hoggan, John, Stirling.
Holmes, Messrs., Glasgow.
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Jenkins, Alexander, Stirling.
Jenkins, Inspector Fred, Broad Street.
Jenkins, John, Stirling.
Johnstone, Miss, Stirling.

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King, Charles, Milton of Campsie.
King, Dean of Guild John, Stirling.
King, Thomas, Stirling.

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Lawson, Robert, Stirling.
Lawson, William, Stirling.
Learmouth, A., Stirling.
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Logie, D. W., Stirling.
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Morris, J. B., Ceylon.
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Murray, ex-Bailie John, Glasgow.
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- MacAree, John, Stirling.
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McKenzie, James, Stirling.
McKerracher, Daniel, Stirling.
McLauchlan, John, Dundee.
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McLintock, J. C., Alloa.
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McNicol, A., Jewett City, U.S.A.

Napier, Theodore, Edinburgh.
Neil, James, Stirling.
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Nicol, J. A. S., London.
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Nicol, William, London.

Oswald, Andrew, Stirling.

Paterson, J. Wilson, Airdrie.

Paterson, J. W., Glasgow.

Paterson, W. J. S., Glasgow.

Peebles, Alexander, Stirling.

Philp, Provost, Bridge of Allan.

Ralston, Miss Catherine Smith, Stirling.

Rattray, J., Dunedin, New Zealand.

Reid, Alan, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh

Reid, William, Stirling.

Reoch, Andrew, Buchlyvie.

Richardson, David, Stirling.

Robb, Henry, Stirling.

Roberts, Peter, Stirling.

Robertson, James, Rangoon.

Robertson, John, Perth.

Robson, Hugh, Stirling.

Ronald, ex-Bailie, Stirling.

Ross, William, Mesa, Arizona, U.S.A.

Sangster, Mrs. A., Stirling.

Sawers, John, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Saunders, Laurence J., Stirling.

Sconce, Colonel, Edinburgh.

Scott, Rev. Walter, Stirling.

Sempill, John D., Stirling.

Sempill, John H., Falkirk.

Shearer, John E., Stirling.

Shearer & Son, R. S., Stirling.

Shirra, James, Pollokshields.

Shirra, W. L., Stirling.

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Smith, J. R., Aberdeen.
Smith, J. B., Stirling.
Smith, R., Dundee.
Somerville, William, Stirling.
Speirs, Miss, Stirling.
Stevens, Henry, Stirling.
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Stirling, William, Glasgow.
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Thomson, Miss, Shielwalls.
Thomson, Provost, Stirling.
Traynor, William, Stirling.
Turnbull, Hugh S., Bridge of Allan.
- Valentine, James D., Stirling.
- Wallace, J. B., Springfield, U.S.A.
Wallace, John, Stirling.
Wallace, Peter, Stirling.
Wallace, William, Stirling.
Walls, Robert, Stirling.
Walker, Ronald, Stirling.

Watt, Rev. L. MacLean, Alloa.

Watt, Robert, Stirling.

Watson, Daniel, Stirling.

White, David G., Stirling.

Whyte, Robert, Stirling.

Williams, Rev. George, Thornhill.

Wilson, A., F.I.C., Stirling.

Wilson, Charles, Stirling.

Wilson, Colonel Alex., Bannockburn.

Wilson, Dr. Andrew, Stirling.

Wilson, E. L., Bannockburn.

Wilson, Major E. W., Bannockburn.

Wordie, John, Glasgow.

Wordie, Peter, Glasgow.

Wylie & Son, D., Aberdeen.

Yates, David, Stirling.

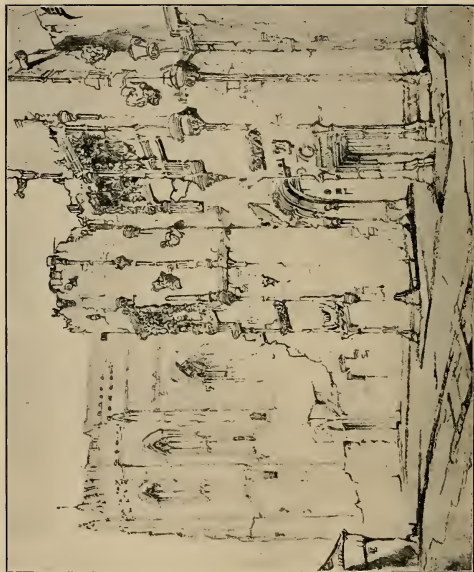
Yellowlees, ex-Provost Robert, Stirling.

Young, Alexander, Stirling.

Yuille, Rev. George, Stirling.



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MAR'S WORK AND EAST CHURCH.

INTRODUCTION.

MANY of the streets and buildings in Stirling, more particularly in the older parts, having within recent years undergone considerable change—so much so that only native inhabitants have conception of where some were situated, or how they looked, or can fully understand or appreciate the stories connected with them and their occupants—I have endeavoured in the following pages to present, in as succinct a manner as possible, some of the leading items of information bearing upon such, and these brief notes will, I trust, be found not only useful in themselves, but serve to preserve, in some degree at least, interest in our good old town.

In addition to the notes on the Auld Biggins of Stirling: its Streets, Wynds, and Closes, it has been deemed advisable to include illustrations of the more prominent and typical of these, from which still better understanding and appreciation of their appearance may be had, and this will doubtless be considered a by no means unimportant part of the book. The pictures of Neebour Villages will also, it is hoped, prove of interest, and the insertion of the portraits of Burgh and County Officials gives additional local bearing to the volume.

In the compilation I have been greatly aided by

several friends affording information on points of moment, and I am also indebted to the results of investigation made by ex-Bailie Ronald, Mr W. B. Cook, and Mr J. S. Fleming, F.S.A.; and, as in my former works of this nature, Mr Archd. Duncan has been especially helpful. In preparing the photographs, Messrs. Crowe & Rodgers, and also Mr Joseph Kenny, entered heartily into the work, and while to all I desire to express my thanks, I earnestly trust that the united efforts will meet with appreciation at the hands of Sons of the Rock, and others, both at home and abroad.

Yours Truly
Wm. Drysdale

BURGH OFFICIALS



PROVOST THOMSON, STIRLING.



DAVID B. MORRIS, ESQ., TOWN CLERK, STIRLING.

1750870

COUNTY OFFICIALS



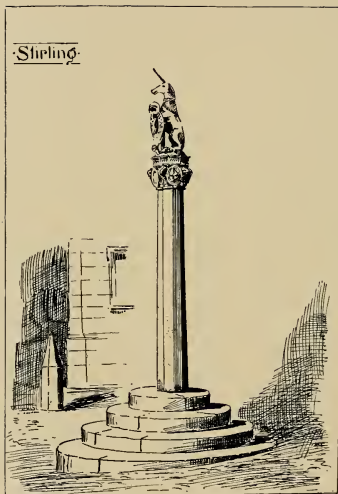
SHERIFF-PRINCIPAL J. M. LEES, A.M., LL.B.



SHERIFF-SUBSTITUTE J. R. BUNTINE, A.M., STIRLING.

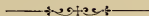


CHIEF-CONSTABLE JOHN D. SEMPILL, STIRLINGSHIRE.



MARKET CROSS.

AULD BIGGINS OF STIRLING.



THE MERCATE CROSS.

“**I**T was long,” says a writer on the subject, “before the cross became the formal and official sign of Christianity; but when crucifixion as a criminal punishment was abolished by Constantine, this gradually took place, and as such the three forms of its use which have existed for many centuries, and exist now, are (1) the public or private marking of the cross with a manual gesture, or the impressing of it on dedicated objects, known as the Sign of the Cross; (2) the material cross of marble, stone, metal, or wood, used for devotional purposes; from the large church-yard cross or village or market cross, through the smaller ones of church altars and chancel screens, to the little ‘pectoral crosses,’ originally the mark of an ecclesiastic, but now worn indiscriminately; (3) the crucifix, being the same cross bearing the Divine Figure.” The same writer says that “from the earliest times the cross has been used in all such ways as have been described. Constantine, for instance, set up large crosses in the public places of Constantinople.”

Diversity of opinion exists as to the date of the erection of the Mercate Cross of Stirling, although there appears to be good ground for going back to the time of William the Lion (1165-1214) as a period when it

existed, as a statute under his hand ordained certain merchandise to be presented at the "Mercate Croce;" and from the fact that Stirling was reckoned a burgh of importance, it is extremely probable that such an erection was early in evidence. Be that as it may, the Mercate Cross of Stirling is of very ancient date, and, by reason of the prominent part played by the burgh in Scottish history, both civil and ecclesiastical, not a few notable events have taken place at its base. Here the accession of monarchs was proclaimed, Acts of Parliament were promulgated, decrees announced, offenders publicly punished, and here also public rejoicings took place.

The Cross stood in the centre of Broad Street, which, on account of that circumstance, was the site of the public market for all sorts of commodities. About 1790, however, it appears that, by reason of the increased traffic in the street, the Cross was considered an obstruction, all the more so as it had got into a somewhat ruinous and dilapidated condition. The call for its removal became so urgent that, in 1792, the Town Council craved authority from the Court of Session to take it down, and to have it declared that the great stair leading to the Council Room and Tolbooth be the Mercate Cross and place of publication in all time coming. Before this petition was disposed of, one of the Lords of Justiciary, Lord Henderland, being in Stirling on circuit, had informally considered the matter, and, on his suggestion, which met with the approval of all concerned, the Cross was taken down, and a pillar erected at the edge of the foot pavement

directly in a line south from it, and this pillar (still standing) was to be held as if it were the Cross.

The present restored Mercate Cross, erected on the original site of its predecessor, the town owes to the liberality of Robert Yellowlees, Esq., who was Provost from 1882 till 1891. The only portion of the old Cross extant, so far as known, is the figure of the unicorn surmounting the pillar, and this, for some years, had its place in a niche over the entrance to the Town House in Broad Street.

THE BURGH GATES.

IN the street, immediately in front of the building shown as the site of the premises now occupied by Messrs Robertson & Macfarlane, Port Street, may be seen, blocked out in stone different from the others the words, "The Port Gate." Here stood the "Barrasyett," and the locality is known as Wolf Craig, the tradition being that here the incident occurred of a sentinel being aroused by the growl of a wolf, which was the means of averting threatened danger from an invading force, and led to the adoption of the wolf on the crag as the burgh arms.

The site of the New Port Gate is similarly marked in the causeway in the middle of King Street.

Another gate stood at the south end of the Old Bridge, and was known as the Bridge Port.

Still another gate, the Mary Wynd Port, stood somewhere in St. Mary's Wynd; and there was also a Friar Wynd Port.

ARMS OF THE BURGH OF STIRLING.

STIRLING has two coats of arms, only one of which, however, is registered in the Lyon Office, of date 25th April, 1849, as from a view of an impression of the town's seal. It is thus described—"Azure, on a mound or basement, a castle triple-towered, without windows, argent, masoned sable, the gates closed gules, surrounded with four oak-trees disposed in orle of the second, the interstices of the field being semée of stars of six rays of the last." This seal seems never to have been used, the familiar wolf on the crag continuing to be adopted, although of it the Lyon Office has no official knowledge.

The earliest known reference to the Ancient Seal is in a document in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, of date 1211, but there is ground for the belief that it was in use at a considerably earlier period. It is thus described—"A bridge of seven arches; from the centre one rises a large cross with the Saviour extended. Above on the dexter a star, and on the sinister a crescent. On the dexter side of the cross are three soldiers armed with bows and arrows, the foremost one discharging his arrow toward three soldiers on the sinister side of the cross, who are armed with spears, the foremost of whom is in the act of discharging." The inscription is as follows:—

SCOTI STANT HIC CRUCE TVTI
HIC ARMIS BRVTI.

The reverse, or counter seal, is thus described—"The front of a castle, at each side are branches of foliage, and scattered round the top and sides are five stars and two roses." The inscription is as follows:—

CONTINET HOC IN SE NEMVS ET CASTRVN STRIVELINSE.

A good deal of surmise has been indulged in both as to the origin and meaning of the mottoes.

The seal in use is heraldically described thus--
"Argent, upon the top of a rock a wolf couchant guardant among bushes, in base a stream, all proper," with the following motto:—

STERLINI OPIDUM.

It is believed this seal has been in use since about 1585, the earliest mention of it, however, being in the Kirk Session Records, in 1624, "the Maisteris of the said Hospitall" being ordained "to cause hew upoun ane meitt and commodious plaice theirof the townis armis viz. the 'Wolff upone ane Craig.'"

ARMS OF COUNTY COUNCIL, STIRLING.

LETTERS Patent, of date 29th September, 1890, grant licence and authority to the County Council and their successors in office to bear and use on a seal or otherwise for official purposes connected with the said County, the following armorial, viz., "Azure on a saltire between two caltraps in chief and base, and as many spur rowells in the flanks, argent, a lion rampant, gules, armed and langued of the first."

ARGYLL LUDGING,

CASTLE WYND.

FROM the dates on this house, it appears to have been built about the year 1632 by Sir William Alexander of Menstrie, afterwards Earl of Stirling. The property came into the hands of the Earl of Argyll (hence the name Argyll Ludging), who made considerable additions to it. It continued in possession of that family well on in the eighteenth century, and, after passing through several hands, it was sold by Mr. M'Gregor of Balhaldie to a company of gentlemen in Stirling; and in 1791 the Crown purchased it and converted it into a military hospital.

The earlier parts of the building, those erected by the Earl of Stirling, are of a much more handsome and permanent character than those added by the Argyll family, whose crest, the boar's head, may be seen over the doorways and windows of the portion erected by the Marquis in 1674. Some of this latter portion has been unoccupied for a number of years, and has been allowed to fall into a somewhat dilapidated condition; while the operations of the military authorities, in adapting the building to the necessary requirements of its present use, have defaced some of the ornamentation, both internal and external, as well as otherwise altered its appearance. Notwithstanding this, however, the building is looked upon as one of the finest

of its kind in Scotland, and is certainly one of the most complete, as it is one of the oldest and most interesting, of "the auld biggins of Stirling."

Here, in 1650, Charles II. resided when endeavouring to regain the Crown lost by his father, and here it was that the Marquis of Argyll remonstrated with Charles on his conduct, which was flagrantly lewd, he spending a great part of his time in drinking, and favouring malignants. Charles seemed serious, and even shed tears; and the Marquis, charitably entertaining the most favourable opinion of the character and professions of Charles, was disposed to congratulate himself upon his success. But the Marchioness put a very different construction on the adventure, and believed Charles to be both insincere and vindictive; that it was not safe to remonstrate with him; that the tears were "crocodile tears," and that what the Marquis had done would cost him his head. Nor was she mistaken. When several noblemen from Scotland went to London, in 1660, to congratulate His Majesty upon his accession, the Marquis sent his eldest son, Lord Lorn, but did not then proceed himself. But no sooner did Argyll arrive at Whitehall (on the 8th of July), than, "with an angry stamp of the foot," Charles gave orders for his imprisonment. He was hurried to the Tower, and kept close prisoner till towards the end of the year, when he was sent to Edinburgh, to be tried before the Scottish Parliament for high treason. He defended himself with great spirit, but was condemned; and, although, on the 1st of January, 1651, Argyll had placed the crown on

Charles' head at Scone, the sentence was allowed to take effect, Argyll being executed on 27th May, 1661.


James VII., Charles' brother, when Duke of York, also resided in Argyll Ludging in 1681, when he was presented with the freedom of the burgh of Stirling. The Duke of Argyll held a council of war here in 1715; and here, also, in 1746, the Duke of Cumberland resided till the bridge over the Forth was repaired, so that he could resume his pursuit of the Highland Army.

“PENNY MILLAR'S SLAP.”

THE narrow passage leading from the Esplanade to Upper Castlehill and Ballangeich is supposed to have received the above name from one Millar, who resided there, and was for a long time tacksman of the petty (or penny) customs of the burgh. Here lived “Granny” Duncan, who attended the political martyrs, Baird and Hardie, while in the Castle awaiting execution, and was a great favourite with them. It is said she was in the habit of making porridge for them, and was thus enabled to carry in letters from friends. The plan she took was to allow the porridge to cool, turn them out, lay the letter on the bottom, and replace the food. Granny attended the two men to the place of execution. She died at the age of 96.

OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

ESPLANADE.

LTHOUGH not an "auld biggin'" in the general acceptation of the term, this building is well entitled to be included amongst such, were it for no other reason than that, up till the advent of the High School in 1854, it was the chief seat of learning in the burgh. The earliest notice of a Grammar School in Stirling is under date 1173, and continuously from that date such was carried on with, apparently, considerable success, by reason of the authorities bestowing not a little attention on its affairs, and a succession of "apt and qualifeit doctouris" having been appointed to the oversight. Of headmasters whose names will occur to older inhabitants may be noted Dr. Doig, a friend of Burns, who wrote of him as "a queerish figure, and something of a pedant;" Dr. Munro, an accomplished Classical and Oriental scholar, of whom it was said that "he had an intimate knowledge of a dozen languages, could read twenty, and had a smattering of forty;" and Dr. Donaldson, the last Rector of the Grammar School, now Principal of St. Andrews University. Since the opening of the High School, the building has been occupied as stores by the Stirlingshire Militia.

MAR'S WORK.

THE EARL OF MAR'S LUDGING.

THIS old building, looking down Broad Street, is an object of much interest, both on account of its massive, though now somewhat ruinous, appearance, and the quaint figures, inscriptions, and other adornments which enrich its facade. Built, about 1570, by John Erskine, sixth Earl of Mar (who subsequently became Regent of Scotland during the minority of James VI., and died towards the end of 1572), it does not appear to have been occupied to any great extent by the family, although it continued to be used down till the time of the Rebellion in 1715, the eleventh Earl, who headed that rising, making it his abode for a few years previous to that event.

Various accounts have been given concerning the building, one being that its erection was with stones taken from the Abbey of Cambuskenneth, that a curse had been pronounced upon the Earl for so doing, and that the building was not wholly completed. Another is that, at the death of her husband, the Countess ceased to reside in Stirling; but this is not compatible with the statement in the "Memoirs of Sir James Melville of Halhill," who, speaking of the guardians of the boy-king at Stirling, says, "The twa abbots [Cambuskenneth and Dryburgh] were wyse and

modest ; my Lady Mar was wyse and schairp, and held [i.e., kept] the King in great aw ; and sa did Mester George Buchwhennen." The "Records of the Burgh of Stirling" also bear that the Countess possessed the property, and presumably resided there in 1592. Having all along manifested strong leanings towards the Stuarts, the Mar family seems to have greatly declined, and the building appears to have been allowed to fall into a state of decay. In 1733 it comes into prominence, when the Town Council obtain a lease of it, "high and laigh, with the closs and well, for payment of a blench duty yearly, and also of the yaird belonging thereto, att the rent of thirty pound Scots yearly, with the gardeners house going alongst withit, providing the counceill be only oblidged to uphold and maintain the rooff of the lodging but not the walls ; . . . and that in order that the counceill may cause turn the said lodging into a workhouse, or for any other use the counceill may think fitt." In 1715, £51 were paid for "60 dealls and some trees goten to repair Marrs house to lodge souldiers of the armie in ;" and in 1746 the forces under Prince Charles Edward, "had broken ground between the church at Stirling and a large house called Mar's work, for erecting a battery there against the castle." It would appear that the building received so much damage at this time that it became ruinous, and the Council vacated it altogether ; and in 1782 suggested its being taken down, and this was done, the front part alone being left intact, probably, it has been suggested, as a protection from the north-west winds.

As already noted, not a little of the present-day interest which attaches to the building is by reason of the carved figures, inscriptions, and other ornamentation with which it is embellished, the arms of the Earl and his Countess on the towers, and the Royal arms over the archway, together with initial letters, and quite a number of sculptured figures and curious emblems, something akin to those observable on the Palace in the Castle. But perhaps the most interesting parts are those bearing the following quaint inscriptions, that over the doorway of the north tower more particularly proclaiming a useful admonition:—

THE MOIR I STAND ON OPPIN HITHT
MY FAVLTIS MOIR SVBIECT AR TO SITHT.

Over the doorway of the south tower—

I PRAY AL LVIKARIS ON THIS LVGING
VITH GENTIL E TO GIF THAIR IVGING.

Over the interior of the main entrance—

ESSPY * SPEIK * FVRTH * AND * SPAIR * NOTHT
CONSIDDIR * VEIL * I * CAIR * NOTHT.

Various meanings have been attached to these inscriptions, as well as reasons assigned for their being placed on the building, but, of course, these are merely conjectural.

COWANE'S HOSPITAL, OR GUILD HALL.

THIS Hospital was founded by John Cowane, merchant in Stirling, and nine times Dean of Guild, in the beginning of the seventeenth century. He left forty thousand merks for the endowment of an Hospital or Almshouse for the sustaining of twelve decayed "Gild breither." Finished in 1643, it was some time before occupants could be got for it, owing to the independent spirit of the decayed merchants, but by the beginning of the eighteenth century outdoor pensioners were established, and this still continues, there being now both males and females on the roll.

The Guild Hall was for long the principal place for public meetings and concerts, and a very successful school was also conducted here for a time by Mr. and Mrs. Fraser. At the visitation by cholera, in 1832, the hall was used as a hospital for the sick. The statue over the doorway is that of the founder, in cavalier dress of the time of Charles I., which long received the name of "Staney Breeks," and generations of the young folks of Stirling have been hounded with the statement that regularly on Hogmanay night, when "Staney Breeks" heard the clock strike twelve, he came down and danced a hornpipe. The Hospital, which was in two storeys, has been altered to form a handsome single apartment, and is used as the meeting-place of the Guildry. It has a large, stained-

glass memorial window in the east end, and the walls are adorned with portraits of bygone Deans.

To the right of the picture is seen the entrance to a lane which runs between the hall and the Churchyard to the Back Walk. By this passage Munro entered in 1648, when he surprised the Marquis of Argyle, and drove his followers across the bridge, where a great many were slain or drowned.

To the left is the Guild Hall bowling-green and Dutch garden, the latter said to be, in some respects, one of the finest of its kind in the kingdom, the terrace, with stone balustrade, adding considerably to the quaint appearance.

POWDER HOUSE, BACK WALK.

THIS building, with dome-shaped roof, picturesquely situated on the old town wall, immediately behind Allan's School, was erected for the purpose of storing gunpowder belonging to the merchants in town. The last of these who occupied it for that purpose was the late Mr. William Graham, when his business premises were at the corner of Baker Street and Bank Street.

EAST AND WEST CHURCHES.

IT is generally admitted that the oldest building in Stirling—with the exception of the Castle—is what is known as the West Parish Church, which comes into prominence about 1129 as the Church of the Holy Cross (or Holy Rood), and having connection with the Abbey of Dunfermline. In 1406 a serious fire occurred in Stirling, the town being almost entirely destroyed, the Parish Church also suffering to some extent. 1414 is set down (by ex-Bailie Ronald, who has devoted much time and attention to investigation into the history of the church) as the date of the restoration and re-building and the building of the tower, and 1507 as that of the erection of the choir, or East Church, the different periods mentioned accounting for the diversity of style in architecture. The church was divided in 1656. In the ancient church the main door was situated in the western end of the building, and was built up when the present large window was put in, in 1731, “for the further enlightenment of the church,” and a doorway on the south was the principal entrance until 1818. The present doorway in the transept was made in 1867, and two years later considerable restoration work was carried out in the East Church. Something like a score of altars to as many saints found place in the West Church, which

formed the nave of the building, while there were three aisles or chapels attached to the church. Both in the West and East Churches, although the styles of architecture are widely different, the masonry and decorative stonework are especially fine, notably the vaulted roof, the pillars, and groining.

The building was not much used by Royalty, there being a Chapel Royal in the Castle, but, nevertheless, there was a King's Loft or Seat, and there are accounts of several notable events having taken place within its walls. In 1567, James VI., an infant of about a year old, was crowned in the East Church, John Knox preaching on the occasion. He also preached here in 1559, and his pulpit is still shown in the Guild Hall.

Of notable clergymen we may mention James Guthrie, 1649-1661, in which latter year he was executed in Edinburgh; Alexander Hamilton, 1726-1738, who, as a youth, took down Mr. Guthrie's head from the Netherbow Port in Edinburgh, where it had been exposed for twenty-eight years; Ebenezer Erskine, 1731-1740, father of the Secession Church; and John Russell, 1800-1817, the "Black" Russell of Burns' "Holy Fair."

CAMERONIAN KIRK,

CRAIGS.

UNTIL the Rev. D. D. Ormond, Craigs United Free Church, Stirling, in 1897 published the historical account of his church and its ministers, under the title of "A Kirk and a College in the Craigs of Stirling," comparatively few people were aware of the interesting associations which gathered round this building. Erected in 1783, at a cost of £284 9s 8d, in 1803 its first minister, the Rev. John M'Millan (whose tombstone may be seen in the Old Churchyard of Stirling) accepted the position of Professor of Theology to the Reformed Presbyterian Synod in Scotland, at a salary of "£30, or a sum as near it as possible," and the College was begun in the Session-house at the east end of the church, and continued until Mr. M'Millan's death in 1819. The second minister was the Rev. William Stevenson (1827-1848); the third the Rev. William Binnie, D.D. (1849-1875), first chairman of Stirling Burgh School Board, and subsequently Professor of Church History in the Free Church College, Aberdeen; and the fourth the Rev. D. D. Ormond (since 1876), who has also been chairman of the School Board, and, since 1892, clerk to Stirling Free Church Presbytery.

ERSKINE CHURCH.

THE first church erected here was built by those who adhered to the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine when he was deposed from the pastorate of the West Church of Stirling, in 1740, and stood about the spot where the memorial monument over Mr. Erskine's remains now is.

The foundation-stone of the present church was laid in 1824 by Mr. Allan Johnstone, architect (who was the first to take off, in 1821, feus in what is now Queen Street), the ministers at the time being the Rev. Dr Smart and (as colleague and successor) the Rev. David Stewart.

Erskine Church (termed "the Backrow Kirk") as a Secession one was most influential, and first the United Presbyterian congregation at Bannockburn, in 1839; next, that at Bridge of Allan, in 1848; and again, in 1885, Allan Park congregation, Stirling, were formed mainly from its membership.

During the course of the ecclesiastical proceedings which led up to the deposition of Mr. Erskine, and the formation of the Secession Church, the Town Council, Guildry, Seven Incorporated Trades, and "haill other corporations in the burgh," in 1733 made strong representation to the General Assembly as to their satisfaction with Mr. Erskine and his ministerial work; and again, in 1738, the Council appointed five of its

number "to go to Perth and give Mr. Erskine what countenance and assistance they can."

At the time of the Jacobite Rebellion, in 1746, Mr. Erskine took an active part in the defence of the town, and raised two companies of volunteers therefor from amongst his congregation.

The memorial monument to Erskine in the foreground of the picture was erected in 1859 by members of the congregation and friends, at a cost of about £600. The congregation also purchased a tenement which stood above the entrance to the church—at one time the residence of the Earl of Linlithgow, and, later, of Ebenezer Erskine—its removal, besides greatly improving the street, opening up the grounds and view of the church and monument.


A statue of Mr. Erskine stands in Stirling Cemetery.

OLD SOUTH UNITED FREE CHURCH.

ERECTED about 1802, this building, recently acquired by the Burgh School Board for the purposes of the High School, belonged, prior to the Disruption in 1843, to a congregation of Old Light Seceders, under the pastorate of the Rev. William Mackray. That gentleman having accepted a call, the church was sold to the congregation worshipping with the Rev. Alexander Leitch in the Guild Hall, and the project for the erection of a Free Church in Queen

Street was abandoned. On 26th November, 1843, it was taken possession of, designated the South Free Church, and occupied until the autumn of 1902, when the congregation removed to the former North Free Church in Murray Place, vacated by the congregation worshipping there on taking possession of the Peter Memorial Church, in Park Terrace.

EPISCOPAL CHURCHES.

N account of the Penal Laws against Episcopacy being in force, the meeting-house in Stirling was shut up by authority of the Town Council in 1746, and for many years public worship was in abeyance. By and bye, however, the law was relaxed, and service was held in the building in Spittal Street now occupied by Mr. Sangster, china merchant, the premises (down a flight of steps, and lighted only on the Baker Street side) being entered by the doorway on the right of the picture.

Later, as noted in the reference to Sir John Dinely's House, Broad Street, the Episcopal meeting-house was in that building, the room in which service was held being only some 30 feet in length, and divided into compartments holding not more than five persons each, the law forbidding more than that number assembling for worship.

TOLBOOTH,
BROAD STREET.

THE Town House, with Steeple, built in 1701, is a prominent feature in Broad Street, and was, till within recent years, occupied as the Justiciary Court-room. The Sheriff Court-room and Council Chambers were on the first floor, and underneath was the Town Clerk's Office, now occupied as that of the Burgh Police. The Justiciary Court-room is now the Burgh Police Court-room, the Sheriff Court-room the Parish Council Office, and the Council Chambers the Parish Council meeting-place. Stirling, up till about a quarter of a century ago, was very badly off for concert and lecture halls, and the Court-room was often utilised as such. On the walls were at that time suspended the old oak carvings (known as the Stirling Castle Heads) removed from the Palace in the Castle; there were also fine portraits of George II. and his Queen, presented to the Town Council by the then Member of Parliament; also a portrait of George I. These have all now been removed. Amongst the trials which have taken place in this hall, perhaps the most notable was that which occurred on the 13th and 14th July, 1820, of the two unfortunate men, Andrew Hardie and John Baird, for high treason, and as leaders of the rebellious rising at Bonnymuir, both being condemned to death, hanged, and afterwards beheaded in front of the Court-House.

HOUSE ADJOINING TOWN HOUSE,

33 BROAD STREET.

THIS old house, which appears to have undergone considerable alteration, the original front being covered by fresh building, has no known history, but to all appearance must have been of some consequence in its best days. The following Latin inscriptions are carved on the windows on the roof:—

BENEDICAM DOMINUM OMNI TEMPORE

("I will bless the Lord at all times.")

DEO GLORIA

("Glory to God.")

This house will still be remembered by many as a very busy place on market-days, when Broad Street was the business part of the town, Mr James Burden (father of Mr. John Burden, Troy, U.S.A., who takes great interest in his native town) carrying on a large business here as brewer and spirit dealer.

TOWN CLERK NORIE'S HOUSE,

34 BROAD STREET.

BUILT, in 1671, by James Norie, who was Town Clerk of Stirling, and highly esteemed by his fellow-townsmen. Situated almost opposite the old Tolbooth, on the front the following is inscribed—

Top Flat—J R 1671 A L

Second Flat—J N SOLI DEO GLORIA A R

First Flat—ARBOR VITE SAPIENTIA


("Wisdom is the tree of life.")

MURUS AHENEUS BONA CONSCIENTIA

("A good conscience is a brazen wall.")

SIR JOHN DINELY'S HOUSE,

18 BROAD STREET.

N the right of the photo. of house in Broad Street, in which, at one time, the Scottish Episcopal Church congregation held worship, is seen part of a very interesting house, Sir John Dinely, one of the "Poor Knights of Windsor," having had his residence here.

Sir John (a descendant of a good Worcestershire family, a baronetcy having been granted to one of them in 1707) was born about 1728, and died in 1808. The family being reduced to poverty through the estates having been forfeited to the Crown on the execution of Sir John's father for the murder of his brother, Sir John Dinely Goodyere Dinely, Bart. of Burghhope and Charleton, Sir John was thrown on his own resources, studied medicine, and for some time practised as a physician. To recover the lost family estates was his day dream, and, thinking it an easier and better way to fortune, laid himself out to get a wealthy wife. Being unsuccessful in England, he crossed the border and came to Glasgow, but, alas for Sir John, the Glasgow ladies were as fickle or as wary as the southern ones, and he bade "the city" good-bye, and took up residence in Stirling, purchasing the property referred to. Sir John, having dropped his title, assumed the name of "John Barronet," and after a time was entered as a Guild brother. Sir John took great pride in his residence, and on the roof laid out a garden with a pond for goldfish, and here, in summer, sat viewing the busy scene on the principal street immediately below.

The following is a copy of Sir John's matrimonial advertisement, taken from the "European Magazine and London Review" for August, 1788:—

"Sir John Dinely, Bart. of Charlton, near Worcester, and of Henly Castle, near Malvern Wells, engages to execute a marriage settlement of £192,000 value on any lady of three hundred guineas fortune, who will

accept of Sir John for a husband, although such lady should be with child by her former husband.—Sufficient satisfaction may be had by seeing Sir John, who is a Guild brother of Stirling, Scotland, or by directing letters there, post paid, for his printed marriage offers.”

Sir John, some time after, sold his property, and left Stirling, but returned again in very poor circumstances, and, on his applying to the Guildry, received a weekly sum of two shillings and sixpence. In respect to appearance, Dr. Rogers tells that, “Arrayed in a costume consisting of velvet vest, satin breeches, and silk stockings, with a scarlet cloak thrown over to conceal their faded and tattered aspect, his feet generally protected by a pair of high timber pattens, and his hat and wig secured to his head by a large cotton handkerchief tied under his chin, he sauntered daily along the Back Walk, paying his courteous devoir to every female who would good-humouredly address him. As none of the sex was too young for his admiration, a train of very young misses was not unfrequently attending him, listening to his sighs and smiling at his foibles. He knew each beauty of the district by name, and kept a catalogue, in which their names were entered according to his estimate of their charms.” Sir John left Stirling in 1792, and resided the rest of his days at Windsor.

PROVOST FORMAN
AND
PROVOST ANDERSON'S SHOPS,
10 AND 12 BROAD STREET.

THIS picture shows the nature of the premises our forefathers deemed, up to the middle of last century, sufficient for carrying on successful trade. Broad Street was then the business part of the town, and middle-aged people can readily recall the stir and bustle which took place there on market days. The Town and Sheriff Clerk's Offices, the Stamp Office, and that of the Registrar, were here, as well as a good many writers' offices, the shops being tenanted by well-to-do people. The one on the right of the pend was occupied by Messrs D. & J. MacEwen & Co., Port Street, from 1804 until 1894, as a grocery warehouse, and in that to the left Provost Forman carried on a large bookselling trade, having his dwelling-house in the flat above; and William Anderson, an eccentric Provost of the Burgh, had his bookselling premises next door.

PROVOST WRIGHT'S ("TAMMY A'THING") SHOP.

THE shop to the right of the close, No. 23 Broad Street, was, at the beginning of last century, occupied by Provost Thomas Wright ("Tammy A'Thing"), merchant, the name being given him on account of the number of commodities he sold. He was father of the late Misses Wright, of Clifford Park, and a most successful man of business. Up an outside stair in the backyard adjoining, Mr. Hill, grandfather of the present Mr. Hill, writer, had his offices, which premises afterwards became the Library and Museum of the Stirling School of Arts. In the front property the registrar of births, deaths, and marriages, Mr. Adam Steel, had his office for many years.

THE HANGMAN'S HOUSE.

IN bygone days an official of some importance was the public executioner, or, as he was named in Stirling, the Staffman, presumably from his being furnished with a staff of office. The appointment was for life, with free house, clothing, a weekly allowance

or "fiall," special fees, and a "caup" (or bowl) of corn each market day, and absence from the town without leave was a capital offence. Adjoining the lower side of the old Justiciary buildings in St. John Street stands the house allotted as the residence of this functionary, the close (leading into Broad Street) being known as "the Hangman's Close. The building, with crow-stepped gable facing the street, has a very quaint appearance, and examination of its details will reveal various indications of its ancient character.

THE STIRLING BANK, STAMP OFFICE, AND ODDFELLOWS' HALL.

THIS old building, at the corner of Broad Street and St. Mary's Wynd, formerly belonged to the Forresters of Logie, and was built about the middle of the sixteenth century, continuing in the family down to 1658. The Stirling Bank, up to its failure in 1826, had its premises in the first flat facing Broad Street, with entrance from St. Mary's Wynd; the Stamp Office was also for some time located here. Facing St. Mary's Wynd a portion of the more modern buildings was long used by the Oddfellows as their place of meeting. On the street flat, under the hall, two old shops still remain, one of which was long occupied by a race of barbers and perruqueirs, one of whom was father of the late Mr. John Maxwell, banker.

GLASSINGALL HOUSE,

30 BOW STREET.

THE pictures give front and back views of house which belonged to Mr. Smith of Glassingall, uncle of Mr. Thomas Stuart Smith, founder of the Smith Institute. Mr. Thomas Stuart Smith, who inherited the property, followed the profession of an artist, and from 1836 to 1849 resided in Italy for the purpose of study. His uncle, who had generously provided him an annual allowance, died in the latter year, leaving no will, and Thomas's father being dead, the property fell to the Crown, Thomas being illegitimate. With the aid of Professor Owen, who had been a friend of his father, and knew the relationship, a petition presented to the Crown authorities was successful, and the estates, &c., became his property. Mr. Smith, after disposing of his Scotch properties, took up residence in London, where he spent the remainder of his life in painting and acquiring pictures. He died very suddenly at Avignon, in France, on 31st December, 1869.

DARNLEY HOUSE,

FRONT AND BACK.

DARNLEY HOUSE, at foot of Broad Street, is said to have been the nursery of James VI. and his son, Prince Henry, but this is thought to be incorrect, as the Royal nursery was within the Castle. The property at one time belonged to the Erskines of Mar, who were hereditary keepers of the Castle, and had also charge of the heirs of the Scottish Throne from James V. down to Prince Henry. It was afterwards sold by Thomas, Earl of Kellie, to Janet Kilbowie, who, between 1650 and 1660, conducted a successful tavern and a meeting-place for municipal festivities, as is evidenced by the following entries in the Burgh Records:—

October, 1650.—Item, to Jonet Kilbowie
for dinner to the proveist and balyeis
at the Latter fair, £17 6 0

Again, under date September, 1651, there appears—

Item, depursit to Jonet Kilbowie,
which wes spent the tyme of the
capitulation (to General Monk in
the previous August) by and attour
quhat is specifeit in the former
count at the said capitulation, £10 11 4

April, 1652.—Item, for thrie quarts
claret frae Jonet Kilbowie, 7 4 0

November, 1655.—Item, the provest, baillies, and conveneris meting with James Sterling, at Jonnet Kil- bowyes, about the excise, spent, ...	3 18 8
September, 1656.—Item, spent be the provest, dean of gild, and utheris, in Jonnet Kilboweyis, that nicht the judges sould have come bot cam not,	3 3 4

In the beginning of last century the Bank of Scotland had offices on the first flat, and on their going down town, the Sheriff Clerk entered into possession of the premises, which were continued as his office until removal to the County Buildings.

QUEEN MARY'S PALACE,

ST. MARY'S WYND.

ALTHOUGH this building has been known by this designation, there is no evidence in support of the title; and it has now been conclusively proved to have been the mansion or "ludging" of John Cowane, founder of Cowane's Hospital. It is now but the shadow of what it appears in the photo.

MOIR OF LECKIE'S HOUSE.

THIS house, immediately in rear of Darnley House, Bow Street, is said to have been at one time the town residence of the Moirs of Leckie, Gargunock. A story used to be told that a Dr. Graham, who resided here, had been medical attendant to one of the Moirs, who happened to have no heir, and that the doctor, having attended so well to his patient, he, being very old, and believing he had been kept alive through Dr. Graham's skill, in gratitude left him the estate. Whatever truth, if any, there is in the story, the Moirs of Leckie always bear, in addition, the name of Graham, and the court in which the house stands, has always been known as Graham's Court. Miss Wilson, a member of one of the county families, died here about 1858, and amongst her papers was found a commission granted by Prince Charlie to one of her forefolds.

The house is believed to be built on the site of William Bell's tavern or hostelry, the scene of the following interesting historical event:—

“When Secretary Maitland of Lethington came to Stirling, on 4th September, 1566, at night he did lie at Willie Bell's, and on the morrow Queen Mary came to the Secretary, and there did dine with him, and remained a good part of the afternoon with him, and liked him very well. The Queen then returned to the Castle of Stirling.”


It was here also Darnley lodged when estranged from the Queen.

“THE COFFEE HOUSE,”

BOW STREET.

THE building at No. 14 Bow Street, known by the name of “The Coffee House,” was for a long period the principal hostelry in the town, and greatly frequented, not only by travellers between north and south, but by country people on market days, as well as being used as a meeting-place by the townsfolk up till about 1840. Not a few of the wags of the day made “The Coffee House” their rendezvous, and concocted their ploys—which were by no means uncommon, as, in those days, when there was not the bustle or hurry in business to which we are now accustomed, newspapers were few, and, indeed, there was but little of a public nature wherewith the inhabitants occupied their time and attention. “The Coffee House” was in existence as far back as 1745, and in January, 1746, was occupied by Royalty, “Bonnie Prince Charlie” making it his headquarters during his siege of the Castle. At that time it was occupied by one Hexboy, and for a long period one Macpherson was proprietor, he being succeeded by Andrew Kerr, a leader among local practical jokers. On Andrew removing to Port Street, to an hostelry which stood where Mr D. R. Carson has recently erected a handsome building, “The Coffee House” was transformed into a school, which was carried on for some years by a Mr. Callander.

THE OLD MINT.

NTIL 1871, when it was demolished, the building in the foreground of the picture was popularly known as "The Mint," the tradition being that here the Scottish coinage was struck. That money was coined in Stirling admits of no doubt, the Castle being the place of manufacture in early times. In the fifteenth century one Alexander Tod was appointed "Moneyer to his Majesty," and he provided both gold and silver coins, his place of business being, however, unknown, although it may have been in the house under notice. About the middle of the sixteenth century the issue of copper coins known as "babies" and "half babies" was made from Stirling, the copper being believed to be obtained from the mine at Airthrey, and this coinage may have been the origin of the word "bawbee."

BOTHWELL HALL, ST. JOHN STREET.

THE building in the foreground of picture has long been termed Bothwell Hall (vulgarly Bogle Ha'), being popularly believed that it was the residence of the Earl of Bothwell.

Almost immediately in front of this building stood, up till 1824, the old "Manse of Stirling," converted, about two hundred years previously, into such from the ancient "Almshouse," supposed to have been erected by Colonel Edmond, son of a baker in Stirling, and who had served in Flanders under Maurice, Prince of Orange, with the Scots Regiment.

THE TRADES' HALL.

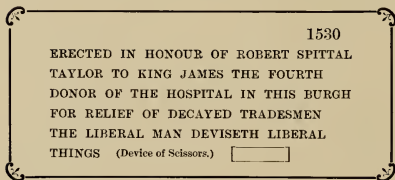
SPITTAL'S (OR NETHER) HOSPITAL.

ROBERT SPITTAL, founder of the Hospital in Stirling known by his name, was tailor to King James IV., and bequeathed certain lands in trust to the Town Council, for—it is believed, there being no deed now in existence—behoof of decayed members of the Seven Incorporated Trades. The Incorporation is the oldest in Stirling, and it is generally accepted that the intention of the donor was that the beneficiaries should reside in the house, and wear

a distinctive livery; but this has been long departed from, and weekly alimint is now dispensed to necessitous persons, both male and female.

The exact site of the hospital has been ascertained to have been on the south side of Irvine Place, now part of the property belonging to ex-Bailie Lawson. It was known as the Nether Hospital, Cowane's (the Guild Hall) being termed the Over Hospital.

The Seven Incorporated Trades built, in 1751, the Trades Hall (shown in the illustration) in Spittal Square, on a narrow strip of vacant ground, formerly used for recreation and sport, at the head of the old Greyfriars Garden, now the site of the High School. An inscription on the outer wall is as follows:—

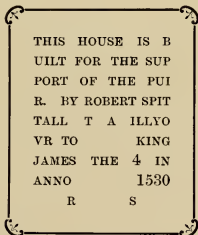


There is also an inscription within the house, which, after stating his benefactions, adds, "He likewise gave part of his wealth for building useful bridges in this neighbourhood." Amongst these may be mentioned the Old Bridge at Bannockburn, and the Bridge of Teith, near Doune.

ROBERT SPITTAL'S HOUSE,

82 SPITTAL STREET.

ROBERT SPITTAL, the founder of Spittal's Hospital, acquired this property from James Schaw of Sauchie. The property was greatly altered a number of years ago. A tower, similar in appearance to the one in the house above (Old Episcopal Church), stood at its lower end, and was used as a public-house—(Mary Gray's)—not a very reputable place. It stood immediately facing Cowane's Yard, and was much frequented by fleshers from the neighbouring slaughter-house, and also by the soldiers of the garrison. A tablet in front of the house bears the following inscription:—



There is also a device of a pair of scissors on the lower portion of the inscription.

THREE HOUSES IN BAKER STREET.

THE three houses in this picture have lately been taken down and replaced by a splendid range of houses and shops. In the upper house Sir John Jaffrey, the Birmingham millionaire, was born, his mother occupying the shop on the ground flat, notable for the pies and porter sold therein. On the front of this house the following inscription was inserted—

HEIR . I . FORBEARE

MY . NAME . OR . ARMES . TO . FIX

LEAST . I . OR . MYNE

SHOWLD . SELL . THESE . STONES . AND . STICKS.

The first flat of the lower house (No. 17 at the time of demolition) was occupied by Mr. Stirling, a noted watch and clock maker about the middle of last century, and not a few timepieces bearing his name on the dial are still to be seen. In the same house, at a later period, died "Ponté" (a Mr. Ferguson), who was for some time M.P. for Pontefract. He had brought himself to beggary through betting, and, having been found in a pitiable condition at the limekilns at the Shore, some gentlemen interested themselves on his behalf, and had his wants cared for. Sheriff-Substitute Sir John Hay, Bart., was in the habit of calling on "Ponté" when he got too feeble to leave the house.

CHAPLAIN-GENERAL GLEIG'S HOUSE, 81 BAKER STREET.

THE Rev. George Gleig, appointed to the charge of the Episcopal congregation in 1787, resided in the building shown in the foreground of the picture until 1802, when he removed to a house he purchased in Upper Bridge Street. Mr. Gleig was consecrated Bishop of Brechin in 1808, and in 1816 was chosen Primus, continuing in office until shortly before his death in 1840.

One of his sons, the Rev. George Robert Gleig, was born in the house in Baker Street in 1796. After some soldiering abroad, he retired on half-pay, completed his studies at Oxford, and in 1844 was appointed Chaplain of Chelsea Hospital, and in 1846 Chaplain-General to the Forces.

OLD HOUSES IN SPITAL STREET.

THE old houses shown in the photo. have been recently removed, substantial modern buildings taking their place. Nothing of any particular interest is known concerning them, but "Old Boys" will recollect that fifty or sixty years ago it was here they got "peeries," which were turned out in great numbers by "old Balfour." The house to the right—still remaining—has been used for many purposes, serving, in turn, as a meeting-place for the Roman

Catholics and other religious bodies, the printing office of the "Stirling Journal," and "Tammy" Adams' school-room.

The north side of this street was of old called the "Middilraw," and the south side the "Bakraw," but since 1793 it has been known as Spittal Street, the most appropriate name it could get, because it was in this street that Robert Spittal had his residence.

THE CORN EXCHANGE

WAS built in 1838, the foundation-stone being laid on 5th July by Provost Galbraith amid a salvo of guns from the Castle, the day being also that of the Coronation of Queen Victoria. The Exchange was for many years the only place of any size where public gatherings could be held, and here some of the first orators of the day held forth. Here also many happy days were spent by both town and country people, when the railways had less power in taking people away early from town. On fair days the Exchange was crowded from end to end with country lads and lasses engaged in dancing, for which they paid a penny a reel; but other halls being built, the Exchange has been practically forsaken, except for sales by auction and paltry entertainments. The weekly corn market still continues to be held in the portion left, but is woefully curtailed nowadays, purchasing from sample being mostly in vogue.

PORT STREET HOUSES.

GREAT improvement has been effected here by the removal of the range of old buildings and erection of a splendid block of houses and shops. The two shops on the right of the picture were at one time conjoined, the premises forming the tavern of Andrew Kerr, "an awfu' man," as he has been spoken of, being up to every sort of prank, and a leader in the perpetration of practical jokes, at that time of daily occurrence, the townspeople having but little else to amuse them, and on that account ready to do anything to occasion a laugh at the expense of their neighbours. Andrew's was one of the "howffs" where the "wits" congregated, and many a "plisky" was concocted there. The Kerse Mill Store, a famed place for oat-meal and like domestic commodities, stood about the centre of the range.

THE FLESHERS' TAVERN.

THIS old house, of somewhat unique build, is situated about the middle of the south side of St. John Street. It was for some time thought to have belonged to the Earls of Linlithgow, but this has been found to be a mistake, as the house belonging to that family stood on the upper side of the entry to Erskine Church, and which, before its removal in 1859, was used as stores for the Stirlingshire Militia.

Before the Fleshmarket was erected at Cowane's Yard, in 1782, a row of six or seven wooden sheds, called "stocks," extended down the middle of the "Back Raw," or St. John Street, where the freeman fleshers slaughtered and sold their meat. In the winter some of them killed at their own doors, on the south side of the street, under the wooden foreshot of the houses. The country fleshers stood in the open street, along the side of the houses on the north side, where they put up their flakes on market days, these flakes being taken down when the market was over, and stored until next required. Through this market the Martyr Guthrie was passing when the fleshers, by reason of his animadversions upon their mode of life, putting their dogs on him, chased him down Spittal Street into the Vennel Close, where, being pushed from a door where he sought protection, he fell, and the supposed marks of his blood were shown up to recent years.


The Fleshers' Tavern was taken notice of by the English artist, Linley Sambourne, who made a sketch of it for his "Highland Tour."

THE COMMERCIAL INN,


PORT STREET.

THE building, of which this inn forms a part, is a very old one, and, by reason of the somewhat dilapidated condition into which it has fallen in the march of improvement which has been going on around, has long been an eyesore to the inhabitants. Recently, however, it has come into the market, and ere long it will doubtless be removed, and a building put in its place worthy of the situation, and thus still further enhance Port Street in the matter of handsome shops. The Inn has been a well-known place of resort from early in the last century, and among its occupants were Duncan M'Ara, a cheery Highlander, who had it in the forties as the Railway Hotel and Coffee-House, and did a large business in horse-hiring and posting. Before coming here, Duncan was landlord of the Eagle Inn in Murray Place, the site of which is now occupied by the Commercial Bank. He was succeeded by James Grant, who was the first to place omnibuses (in 1850) on the route between Stirling and Bridge of Allan. His widow continued the hotel until her death, when Miss Langmuir succeeded her, conducting the house for thirty-seven years, until May, 1903, when she allowed the license to lapse, and retired, and now the premises are being occupied as a temperance hotel.

BEES' BINK INN,
BAKER STREET.

T No. 60 Baker Street, on the left-hand side of the court, stood "The Bink," properly, the Bees' Bink Tavern, a place greatly frequented by Stirling people in the first half of last century. It was for a long time in the possession of Mr. Murdoch, father of the late Mr. Murdoch, Cliffside, and was one of the numerous places in Stirling where tittle-tattle and scandal-mongering was carried on, and practical jokes concocted. The Post Office for some time occupied premises in the same court.

GIBB'S INN,
33 ST. MARY'S WYND.

P till about 1780 this was the principal hotel in Stirling, and coaches going north and south passed this way, the route for all vehicular traffic being through Quality Street (King Street), Bakers' Wynd (Baker Street), The Bow, St. Mary's Wynd, Lower Bridge Street, and across the Old Bridge, or vice-versa.

CASTLE WYND.

AS may well be imagined, from its proximity to the Castle, this street formed one of the principal parts of the town during the residence of Royalty, some of the buildings still remaining, although in a state of greater or less decay, bearing witness to the fact. On the right hand side on the way up to the Castle stands Argyll Ludging (elsewhere dealt with), built by Sir William Alexander of Menstrie, afterwards Earl of Stirling. It passed into the hands of the Earl of Argyll, and for over a century has been occupied as a military hospital. On the left side of the street, and looking down Broad Street, are the ruins of the Earl of Mar's Ludging, popularly known as Mar's Work (also spoken of in another article). Immediately opposite Argyll Ludging there stood, until about the year 1838, a house which was at one time the residence of the celebrated George Buchanan, scholar and historian, and Preceptor to King James VI. This house was of the quaint, picturesque character common to the period, and projected into the street, having a round stair, with turret.

The Castle Wynd was the scene of a deadly encounter, on the 17th March, 1578, between the followers of John, Lord Glamis, a nobleman who held the office of Chancellor of Scotland, and those of David, Earl of Crawford. No collision took place between the noblemen themselves, but, unfortunately, two fellows, who were in their respective retinues, quarrelled and began to fight, on which a pistol was fired, the ball passing through Lord Glamis' head.

BROAD STREET,

CALLED "Quenis Gait" in the time of Queen Mary, anciently the Highgait or High Street, was for centuries the principal street of the burgh. When Stirling was an abode of the Court, Broad Street dwellings appear to have been chiefly occupied by noblemen and county gentlemen. Though the ruined lodging of the Earl of Mar, at the head of the street, is the only one which has survived the ravages of time in any shape, yet the situations of the houses occupied by the Earls of Morton, Glencairn, and Lennox are still pointed out, while some of those of the county gentlemen still exist, though in altered form.

After the departure of royalty, and down to comparatively recent times, this street maintained its pre-eminence. The presence of the Municipal Buildings, Sheriff and Justiciary Courts, the Markets and the Market Cross, with the Tron or Weigh-house, all contributed to make it a scene of great bustle and activity difficult of realisation at the present day.

Under their respective headings, brief notices concerning several of the more notable houses, business premises, closes, etc., in the street will be found.

BOW STREET, AND "BELGEBRIG."

THE buildings situated at the foot of St. John Street, where it joins Bow Street (shown in the picture entitled, Corner of St. John and Bow Streets), are amongst the oldest in the town, and the shops in the latter were occupied by some of the leading citizens. That presently known as Number 1 has for several generations been occupied as a watch and clock-maker's, the first occupant in that line of whom we have definite account being one Redpath, who, on his removal hither, from premises (demolished in 1852) situated at the corner of Jail Wynd and Broad Street, was told by many of his friends that he was making a great mistake in removing so far down the town. Redpath's premises, both here and in Broad Street, formed a favourite rendezvous for a section of the citizens who indulged in retailing the gossip and tittle-tattle of the day. Sandy ("Watchy") Grant, an apprentice of Redpath, succeeded him, and for a long period of years carried on a remunerative business; and he, in turn, was succeeded by one of his apprentices, Mr. James Thomson. The late Sir George Harvey, P.R.S.A., before entering fully upon his artistic career, was apprenticed with Mr. M'Laren, bookseller, whose shop was situated at No. 5 Bow Street.


“BELGEBRIG.”

At the point to which we refer, the junction of Bow Street and St. John Street, stood, it is believed, what was known as “Belgebrig,” concerning which Mr. W. B. Cook, who has made investigation into the matter, writes—“Belgebrig was an arched building by means of which access was had from Baker Street, then, like the Bow and south side of Broad Street, part of the Mydal Raw, to the upper part of the Bakraw, and, in fact, occupied the same position—as it served the same purpose—as the wide stair which led up to St. John Street when the house traditionally known as the Old Mint was still standing, and there was no road between Baker Street and Spittal Street.”


ST. JOHN STREET

HAS had a variety of names: in the fifteenth century we find it called the “Southgait,” also the “Bakraw;” later, the “Fleshmarket,” but since 1793 it has been known as St. John Street.

BAKER STREET,

F old called "Baxter's Wynd," in the eighteenth century "Baker's Wynd," and now Baker Street, had a few noted old houses, such as that of Forrester of Denovan, now in ruins, adjoining the Boys' Industrial School; the Laird of Craigengelt's (acquired by the Weavers' Incorporation, and bearing the Weavers coat of arms), now a public-house, No. 29. It had formerly only one opening to Spittal Street, called the "Ladie Vennel," now Vennel Close. In 1757 a new street, called the "Bank Open," now Bank Street, was formed, at which time it was called the "new street between Baxter's Wynd and the Bakraw."

KING STREET,

E find called Quality Street in 1798, which name was continued till 1820, when it was called King Street, in honour of the accession of George IV. Within comparatively recent years several outside stairs, projecting to the roadway, were to be met with in this street, while the closes were very narrow.

MURRAY PLACE

IS a modern street, formed about 1842, and in 1843 named in honour of the Laird of Polmaise, William Murray, Esq., who had a good deal to do with its formation. Previous to that time there was only a narrow lane from what is now the foot of Friars Street, passing along by an orchard called Spring Gardens, to the Burgh Mill, now the Gas Work. From its proximity to the Railway Station, it has become one of the most important parts of the burgh.

ORCHARD PLACE

DERIVES its name from an orchard which stood on its eastern side, known as "the Trench Orchard," from its proximity to a trench, or sluiceway, which formed part of the town's defence at this point. On 27th November, 1675, it is recorded that the Town Council "Ordained ane dyk to be biggit with stone and lyme frae the towne wall downe wher the old trinch stands at the Burrowmylne."

From Orchard Place extended "the Dirt Raw," the southern end of which still exists in the lane emerging

into Port Street at Messrs. Kinross & Sons' works. At this point also the Town's Burn crosses Port Street, flowing down the lane on its way to the "Dirten Tide," as the Burgh Mill Dam was termed. This dam, which extended from the foot of Thistle Street to near the entrance to Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser & Co.'s mart, was a filthy pool, along the lower side of which ran a flagged, unfenced footway, not only dangerous, but very offensive from the accumulation of rubbish which found its way into the dam, and partially led to its removal. As far back as 1739 complaint concerning it was made, and on the 30th June of that year "The councill considering that, by reason of the inhabitants throwing in redd, rubbish, or nastiness, into or so near by the syvours or run channells in the town as that the same when rain happens is thereby carried into the Burrow-milln damb, that damb requires oftner to be casten than otherways it would; . . . the council therefore appoint a bank to be put through the toun by touck of drum prohibiteing and dischargeing the throwing down any redd as aforesaid, under pain of ten pound."

On the north side of Thistle Street stands a block of buildings erected by the Scottish Central Railway Company as offices, the hall at the lower end—now the Ambulance Hall—being the Directors' Board-room. The name, May-Day Yard, has for long been borne by the locality, but for what reason is not clear.

THE HANGMAN'S CLOSE,

28 BROAD STREET.

THE Hangman's Close—so named from its adjoining the house formerly occupied by the burgh executioner, immediately below the old Justiciary Buildings—connects Broad Street and St. John Street, and in it the late Mr. James Burden had a brewery. W—— C——, a well-known townsman, tells the following anecdote. A man named Tennant, who was executed in Broad Street, was buried in the courtyard of the Old Jail, near a wall, on the other side of which was the well which supplied the brewery. W—— C——, then a little boy, was passing the shop of Bailie Steel (a noted practical joker), in Bow Street, when he was called in by the Bailie, and asked to go up to Burden's and get two bottles of ale, and to be sure to ask for "Tennant's Best." Off goes Willie, gets Mr. Burden himself, and delivers his order. "Ay," says Mr. B——, "and wha sent ye, Willie?" "Bailie Steel," says Willie. "Oh, I was thinking sae," and then the brewer made as if he would lay violent hands on the messenger. Mr. C—— said he then got one of the frights of his life; was out of the brewery, down the street, and into his father's shop in Bow Street in a "jiffy," and was ever after wary of any message he went, especially for Bailie Steel.

THE LONG CLOSE,

20 BROAD STREET.

THIS Close, situated in a very old part of Stirling, leads to St. Mary's Wynd. At the Broad Street end entrance was had on the one side to Sir John Dinely's house, and on the other to the flat at one time occupied by the Stirling congregation of the Scottish Episcopal Church. At the St. Mary's Wynd end stands what was Gibb's Inn, at one time the principal hotel in Stirling.

BOWIE'S COURT,

ST. MARY'S WYND.

BOWIE'S Court and House (now removed to make way for a new and better opening into Irvine Place, or what was known by old folks as the "Back-o'-Toon") was entered from St. Mary's Wynd by an archway (shown in picture), the court being enclosed by houses and high walls. There is nothing of interest known in connection with the buildings, except that they were erected in 1626 by James Bowie, Sergeant of His Majesty's Cellars, who was admitted a burghess of the town on 17th July, 1617.

VENNEL CLOSE,

73 BAKER STREET.

THIS open way between Baker Street and Spittal Street is one of the oldest portions of Stirling.

There is little known about it, but the story of the "Martyr" Guthrie and the butchers of Stirling brings it into note. Here, however, was the printing office of Randall, father of the late Mr. Randolph, of Randolph & Elder, the celebrated Clyde engineers; here, also, "The Stirling Observer" was for some time printed. The shop in Baker Street below the entry was occupied at one time by "Ragman Johnnie," a poem on whom is given by R. M. Stupart in "The Bard of Strilia."

THE REV. JAMES GUTHRIE AND THE
STIRLING BUTCHERS.

An old tradition in the town was that at the time of the Reformation—or, more properly, during the time of the Episcopacy—Mr. James Guthrie, one of the ministers of Stirling, for refusing to read the liturgy, was attacked by the Corporation of Butchers, and almost stoned to death; and a stone for a time was shown in the Vennel Close on which some of his blood was said to have been spilt. He escaped their hands, to fall a more distinguished victim to the tyranny of the times. He foretold that no butcher should ever thrive in Stirling, and the towns-people maintained

that up to the end of last century no flesher ever did good. In the Rev. Ralph Erskine's elegaic ode on Mr. Hamilton, one of the ministers of the City of Edinburgh (and afterwards of the Parish Church of Stirling), who, regardless of his life, mounted the city port and carried away the head of Mr. Guthrie and buried it, occurs this verse—

“O, Stirling, Stirling, thou hast been the seat
Of famous martyrs and confessors great;
Some thou hast stoned, by thy fierce butcherous hive,
Which never since have had a day to thrive.”

Another version of the story as to the “ban” on the fleshers is as follows:—“An early Protestant martyr, having been stoned out of the town, retired to die in a field by the way-side at some distance from the South Port, and was attacked, in these his last moments, by a rapacious butcher's wife in Stirling, who endeavoured to rob him of his clothes, and, finally, it is said, succeeded. The St. Stephen of Stirling vented, with his dying breath, a malediction upon the Incorporation to which the husband of his persecutrix belonged, and ever since that time the butchers of Stirling have never done well. There are now (1827) actually no butchers in the town, and for one to set up within its walls would be looked upon as madness. The market is supplied by men who dwell in the villages around. Of course, we need not point out to the reader that a sufficient natural cause thus exists why a flesher practising his trade within the town cannot succeed, and never will do so, so long as any faith is placed in the prophecy of the martyr.”

SHORE ROAD LEVEL CROSSING.

FOR a long period this crossing was a source of trouble and annoyance, by reason of the delays to traffic, the gates being closed when shunting operations were taking place, and while foot passengers might betake themselves to the overbridge, lorries, carts, and other vehicles were at times kept waiting much longer than was consonant with the good temper of the drivers. Added to this were the great risks run by pedestrians, not a few narrow escapes from serious injury having taken place. As is generally the case, a considerable period elapsed ere the roadway was diverted and the present graduated roadway formed, the project being accelerated by a fatal accident occurring.

THE SHORE.

VISITORS, more especially those from shipping ports and coast towns, are apt to poke fun at the inhabitants of Stirling concerning the harbour, which has been locally known as The Shore for a considerable period. The breadth of the river is

by no means great, and its depth nowadays, even at high water, is considerably less than formerly, owing to the withdrawal of water from the feeders for the purposes of Glasgow. About forty years ago steamers plied between Stirling and Granton daily; now they are but rarely to be seen, the lowness of the river occasioning considerably greater danger in navigating the numerous bends. Although the shipping trade of Stirling has never been very extensive, it is surprising how many vessels, principally from the Baltic and Scandinavian ports, are brought up to the Shore over the fords and shoals, wood, oilcake, and salt being the principal consignments.

Shipbuilding was at one time carried on at the Shore, vessels of a good size having been built there by Mr. Johnstone, shipbuilder, who, in 1852 launched "The Stirling," of over 500 tons; and in 1856 the "William Mitchell," of 1000 tons.

The sandbanks opposite the jetty were at one time a favourite place for the spawning of sperlings, which, about forty years ago, were taken out by the dip net in thousands, and sold in the town at from sixpence to eightpence the long hundred (120), and so plentiful were they on one occasion that they were disposed of at fourpence per hundred. The Abbey folks, dipping water at the piers, got them occasionally in their stoups.

CAMBUSKENNETH ABBEY.

THE Abbey of Cambuskenneth (Field of Kenneth), founded in 1147 by David I., and dedicated to St. Mary, was for a lengthy period of considerable importance amongst the ecclesiastical houses in Scotland, and several notable gatherings affecting the weal of the nation were held within its walls. By reason of its immense wealth, together with the importance attaching to it from its connection with Stirling, one of the principal Keys of the Kingdom, the Abbey was subjected on several occasions to attack by marauding English hosts, when much valuable property was taken away. Its final overthrow, however, seems to have been brought about at the time of the Reformation, when it was in possession of the Mar family, and tradition has it that the stones, besides being appropriated for the erection of the building at the top of Broad Street, Stirling, known as Mar's Work, were taken for dykes in the neighbourhood. The most important portions remaining are the Tower, 70 feet in height, restored by the Patrons of Cowane's Hospital (proprietors of the lands since 1709), and the old doorway, forming the entrance to the churchyard. During excavations in 1864, by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the burial-place of King James III. (slain at Beaton's Mill, Milton, at the Battle of

Sauchieburn) and his Queen, Margaret of Denmark, was discovered, and their remains were carefully re-interred, over the spot a memorial stone being erected by command of Queen Victoria.

The Village of Cambuskenneth was for a long period inhabited by salmon-fishers, and a considerable trade was also carried on in shawl and tartan weaving. The village has also a local reputation for fruit-growing.

WESTER LIVILANDS HOUSE.

THIS mansion house, rebuilt a few years ago by Mr. James W. Drummond, seedsman, who recently acquired it, occupies a site on an eminence overlooking the extensive Carse of Stirling, the view being bounded by the Ochil Hills. The date 1629 was cut on the walls of the old house, and a number of very old trees are to be met with in the grounds. There were traces, both within and around the house, of occupation as a religious dwelling, and discovery, in what was supposed to be an oratory, or chapel, of panel paintings of the Ten Sibyls, with verses in black letter below each. "The Sibyls," says Lord Lindsay in his work, "Christian Art," "called after their respective birthplaces"—(Cumæ, Persica, Libica, Delphica,

Elispontica, etc.)—"are supposed to have prophesied of Christ; they are constantly associated with the Prophets, Apostles, and Evangelists in painting and sculpture, and even chapels were occasionally dedicated to them."

During Cromwell's siege of Stirling Castle, General Monk resided in Wester Livilands House, and in the "Burgh Records," under date August, 1651, appears the following:—"Item, for tuo quarts wyne, ane dossone pyps and a pund of tobacco and tuo glasses sent by the balyeis to Leivtenent-general Monk to the Leivilands." There have also been some unsupported traditions as to Prince Charlie having had his headquarters at Livilands.

ST. NINIANS.

THE parish of St. Ninians extends over a wide tract of country, and abuts on no fewer than thirteen other parishes, as well as very nearly encloses that of Stirling. The origin of the name, St. Ninians, is a moot point, it having been asserted that it arose from Ninian, a Culdee saint, who was Bishop of Galloway about the middle of the fifth century, but there is no indication of his having had any connection with the

district. Another Ninian, also Bishop of Galloway, was Dean of the Chapel Royal in Stirling in 1459. The ancient name of the parish was Egglis, or Eccles, "the Church," a bull of Pope Celestine III., of date May, 1195, stating that the "Church of Egglis, with its chapels of Dunipace and Leithbert (Larbert), and all its other chapels and oratories, and all other pertinents," had been granted by Robert, sixteenth Bishop of St. Andrews, to the Abbey of Cambuskenneth. The village was known as Kirktown down to 1724.

In 1746 the Jacobites made use of the Parish Church as a powder magazine, and on 1st February it was blown up, the steeple remaining intact. The present church was erected in 1750. Many of the buildings in the village, with crow-stepped gables, indicative of great age, are adorned with emblems and old dates, and up till about forty years ago the staple trade of the village was hand nail-making, the ring of the hammer on the anvil being heard in quite a large number of the houses. A feature of the village was the narrowness of the roadway, as well as the dip in the centre near the northern end; but this has been improved upon recently by the formation of a new and level road.

TORBREX.

NOTWITHSTANDING its proximity to Stirling (being now almost wholly included in the extended Royal Burgh) this little village does not appear to have had much intercourse with its larger neighbour in bygone times, although it is believed that, were search made in the title-deeds and other papers having reference to the lands of Torbrex, some items of interest might be forthcoming. Situated in a somewhat sequestered locality—its south-western end abutting on the road leading between St. Ninians and Cambusbarron—the village consists of twenty-five houses (five of these being outwith the Burgh boundary), some of which afford evidence of considerable age, while a few others are in a ruinous condition.

One house, of a more pretentious nature than any other in the village, and presently occupied by Mr. Chapman, nurseryman, had, previous to his occupancy, a court-yard in front, stanchioned windows, and has still a crested and initialed tablet inserted in the wall, showing that the proprietors were of some note. It is stated that on alterations being at one time made on the house, "some carved work, and an old chimney mantelpiece were taken to Polmaise House," the property belonging to the Murray family.

This house has been styled "Torbrex Mansion," and as the "Stirling Burgh Records" speak of a Baron Torbrecks having, in May, 1652, lent a horse to the

authorities, there is every probability that this house formed the baronial residence of the person so named.

Local tradition has it that here also "Bonnie Prince Charlie" spent a portion of his time while in the neighbourhood of Stirling, the family of Walkinshaw, whose acquaintance the Prince had made in Rome, residing in Torbrex Mansion.

It is certain, however, that, in March, 1746, a number of Hessian troops, who accompanied the Prince of Hesse while in Stirling with the Duke of Cumberland, were quartered at Torbrex, coal and candle (paid for by Stirling Town Council) being furnished by James Watson, St. Ninians, and James Wands, Torbrex.

In 1715, one "James Neish, in Torbrex, who had been with the Highland armie," was, by Justice of Peace order, put in ward in Stirling Tolbooth.

CAMBUSBARRON.

IN recent times this village has undergone considerable change, and that more particularly by reason of the closing of the large spinning and weaving factory, with other accessories, known as Parkvale and Hayford Mills, which gave employment to nearly one thousand hands, no fewer than 13 sets of carding-

engines and 530 power-looms being in use, and upwards of £19,000 paid annually in wages.

Cambusbarron has a history dating back for several centuries, and it is generally believed that at a part of the higher village, known as Chapel Croft, stood a place of worship, in which tradition has it that Robert the Bruce partook of the sacrament on the eve of the Battle of Bannockburn. In excavating for the foundation of dwelling-houses at the spot some years ago a quantity of human bones was unearthed, which pointed to the existence of a burying-ground. The proprietor of the land, the late Dr. John Saunders Muschet, of Birkhill, set afoot a project for the erection of a "Bruce Memorial Chapel" thereon, and had plans prepared, but little more was done.

In the immediate neighbourhood stood the "Chapel Well," formerly known as "Christ's Well," and here the superstitious were wont to pass in pilgrimage for water to help afflicted members of their families, for which offence ordinance was made that they "mak publick repentance the next Sondag in lining claithis." Several other wells in the locality were believed to possess healing virtues, and at the North End of Cambusbarron is the farm of St. Thomas' Well, where there is a considerable flow of clear, cool water, but history is silent concerning it as a sacred resort, although attempts have been made to identify it with "Christ's Holy Well."

THE RAPLOCH.


NESTLING under the highest part of Stirling Castle rock, the village of Raploch enjoys an excellent situation, its southern end being spoken of as the most sheltered around Stirling. For many years the majority of the inhabitants were engaged in connection with weaving, and the male portion also vied with each other in the matter of cottage gardening, some of the front plots to the houses being especially pleasurable to behold. After the decay of handloom weaving, quite a different class occupied the village, which went locally by the name of "Little Ireland" for a time, and the dirt and squalor were proverbial. Now, however, with the introduction of gas and water, considerable improvement has taken place. It may be noted that Dougal Graham, Skellat Bellman of Glasgow, the author of a rhyming account of the Rebellion in 1745, which was extremely popular, upwards of twenty editions being called for, and also author of a great number of the chap-books so common amongst the peasantry, was a native of Raploch.

GARGUNNOCK.

THE village of Gargunnoch nestles at the foot of the hills of that name, six miles from Stirling.

The hills rise abruptly some 1500 feet, and almost hide the sun from the villagers during the short days of winter, but they command a view of the valley of the Forth and Teith, as extensive and beautiful as can be seen in almost any part of the world. Various causes conspire towards rendering the village specially healthy. Up till about the middle of last century, weaving and shoemaking were flourishing industries, and politics were keenly discussed. Previous to the Disruption, in 1843, there was only the Parish Church in the village, and Dissenters, of whom there were a goodly number, walked to Stirling, attending service in the "Backraw" (Erskine U.P. Church). The only place of any antiquarian notoriety is "The Peel," a small fort, said to have been built by the English to guard the fordable part of the river Forth in the vicinity. But little of it now remains, the stones having been removed from time to time for building and road-making purposes. A moat surrounded the Peel. Another landmark is the "Keir Hill," occupying a position on a peninsula, and believed to be the home of the fairies.

KIPPEN.

“T o’ the worl’, an’ in tae Kippen” has long been a phrase in local speech, the allusion being to the secluded character of the village ; while the title of “the Kingdom of Kippen” has been in use since the days of James V., the “Gudeman of Ballangeich,” when John Buchanan of Arnprior intercepted a party of the King’s servants on their way to Stirling, and relieved them of some venison, stating, when remonstrated with, that if their master was King of Scotland, he was King of Kippen.

The village, on an eminence overlooking the valleys of the Forth and Teith, is looked upon as one of the healthiest in the neighbourhood, the air being very bracing, while of late years modern improvements have conduced to making it a charming holiday resort. The erection of the parish dates back to 1238, when it formed a canonry of the Cathedral Church of Dunblane. During Covenanting times most of the parishioners espoused that cause, the more notable personage being James Ure, of Shirlarton, whose lands were declared forfeited by reason of his activity at Bothwell Bridge, and a reward of £100 offered for his capture, dead or alive. A secluded dell goes by the name of “The Preaching Howe.”

Remains of several keirs, or forts, exist in the parish,

together with what are believed to be brochs, and a number of Roman relics have been found, chiefly in what was known as the Moss of Kippen. A yew tree at Arngomery, said to be over 500 years old, and admitted to be the finest in Britain both for symmetry and general appearance, is $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet in girth at the ground, has a circumference outside the branches of 235 feet, and it is computed that a party of 160 might easily dine under the branches unobserved from the outside.

Rob Roy was an occasional visitor to the locality, one of his exploits being what is known as "the herriship of Kippen." His son, Rob Oig, concerned in the forcible abduction of Jean Key, of Edinbelly, a wealthy young heiress, was executed in Edinburgh.

The Ford of Frew, the most accessible in the upper reaches of the Forth, is associated more particularly with the movements to and from the north of Prince Charlie.

BUCHLYVIE.


THE Barony of Buchlyvie has long been famed in song and story, and formed one of the eleven into which the parish of Kippen was divided. The village, believed to have been founded, in 1680, by Sir Andrew Graham, second son of the Marquis of Montrose, occupies an eminence commanding a wide expanse of carse land, the horizon being shut in by the Bens of the Grampian range. The population numbers fully 300, and there are Established and United Free Churches. The United Free Church is an old building, having been built in 1751 by the congregation of Associate Seceders.

The immediate locality is very rich in historical associations. "The Fairy Knowe," a knoll measuring some 350 feet in circumference, popularly acknowledged as the site of an ancient Druidical place of worship, is on the farm of Mains, to the east of the village; and, close by, there is pointed out the site of the residence of the Baron of Buchlyvie.

Ballochneck, at one time the property of Lennie, the author of "Lennie's Grammar," is about a mile to the west; and "The Muckle Spoot," a waterfall of forty feet, and more than usually wide, is in the vicinity.

Several keirs, or mounds, generally supposed to be forts, or points of observation, are in the neighbourhood, which has also been rendered famous by the forays and exploits of Roy Roy.

CAUSEWAYHEAD.

S its name indicates, this village stands at the head of the "Lang Calsay," so named on account of the roadway from the Old Bridge outwards being laid with stones for better passage through the marsh of royal and priestly processions to and from the Castle and Cambuskenneth Abbey. Mention now and again in local records is made concerning the "calsie," which seems to have been long in existence, and the following extract may be deemed a not uninteresting one:—

"18 June, 1726.—The provost, baillies, and town council of the said burgh, having considered the proposall . . . for making the Long Calsie from the bridge to the end of the said calsie a sufficient road, so far as not already channelled, by laying two foots of calsie att least on each side of the calsie or road with great stones, and laying the rest thereof with stones flatt, two or three inches lower than the calsie on the sides, and covering the same with gravell and sand, and furnishing all materialls and workmanship thereto, and to uphold and leave the same in sufficient condition for the space and att the end of fourty years from and after the finishing of the said work, and to find sufficient caution for doing thereof."

About 1804 the causeway was re-lifted, the road widened, the ditches on either side filled in, and laid with broken stones.

BLAIRLOGIE.

THIS truly rural and warmly-sheltered village was, prior to the popularity of Bridge of Allan being assured, much frequented by invalids, for whose benefit a number of goats were kept. Apple orchards were also at one time very numerous. The United Free Church was one of the earliest erected by the United Presbyterian body, but the most notable building is Blair Castle, or "The Blair," dating back to 1513, and at one time the seat of the Spittal family. The internal arrangements seem to suggest its erection as a place of safety, secret doors and stairs being found. Not a few valuable pieces of antique oak furniture are still in the house, which is also surrounded by very old trees. Castle Law, a spur of the Ochils, is immediately behind, and on this traces of an ancient fort, believed to be Pictish, may be outlined. Warrock Glen separates Castle Law from Demyat, the "Hill of Good Prospect," 1375 feet, a favourite spot for excursions.

TULLIBODY CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD.

THE village of Tullibody (Tirlbothy, Tillibotherny, Tullibothly, Tullebotherin) is one of the oldest in the Kingdom, and in the earliest records is known as Dumbodenum or Dumbodevin, which is said to mean "The hill with the prayer-house or church upon it," although it is easy to render the latter word as meaning "The church hill above the Devon." The church is believed to have been founded towards the close of the fourth century, and the oldest portion of the present building dates back to 1149. In 1170 it became a vicarage of Cambuskenneth Abbey, and in 1600 Tullibody was united to Alloa Parish, and shortly after fell into disuse and disrepair. In 1760 Laird Abercromby rebuilt the Kirk, and the present roof dates back to 1824, and the bell to 1838.

Apart from its antiquity, the most remarkable thing about Tullibody Kirk is the number and character of its mural tablets, the Abercromby Family specially being thus kept in evidence. The more notable is to the memory of the Hero of Alexandria, General Sir Ralph Abercromby, to whom the army owed more than to any other general between Marlborough and Wellington. Born in Menstrie House in 1734, the future general was educated first at Alloa, his father's

intention being to make him a lawyer, but a soldier he would be. When he began his active military career, inefficiency and disorganisation characterised the troops, but under his careful efforts matters greatly improved. His tactics at Aboukir brought about the evacuation of Egypt by the French, India was secured, and thus Abercromby may be said to have been the saviour of our Empire in the East. The gallant General died from the effects of a spent ball at the Battle of Alexandria, 21st March, 1801, and was buried at Malta, where a simple monument marks his grave. Tullibody House being the ancestral home of the family, and from whence he departed on his last campaign, a memorial tablet was erected in the church.

Another tablet is to the memory of Robert Anderson, merchant in St. Lucar, born in the Green of Tullibody, and died at Lisbon in 1712, leaving £50 to the poor of Alloa. After recording these facts, the tablet concludes thus—

“His birth and burial being so remote,
It was a wonder that he left to us a groat,
He left no children of his proper seed,
But left his means adopted sons to feed.
The triumphant trophies of his charity
Run parallel to all eternity.”

The legend of “The Maiden Stane” of Tullibody has attracted not a few to the church and burying-ground. A stone coffin stands near what is now the back of the church, and was erected in 1450 to the

memory of Martha Wishart, daughter of the Laird of Myreton. Tradition has it that this young lady fell in love with the priest, Peter Beaton, but as the laws of the Church would not allow marriage, the priest broke the unpleasant news to her, with the result of breaking her heart and hurrying her prematurely to death. On her deathbed the lady instructed her friends to bury her remains in a stone coffin, and to place it near the door of the church, so that the false lover going out and in to Mass could not fail to see it and remember. But the priest was equal to the occasion, and at once had the doorway closed up, and a new one made at the south end.

“In solid stone—a lasting tomb—
Not buried in earth’s mouldy womb,
But placed above and at the door
Which opened to the sacred floor,
That every time the priest went there,
To offer his unhallowed prayer,
His eye might rest—his foot might tread
On injured Martha’s lowly bed.”

BRIDGE OF TEITH.

ROBERT SPITTAL, one of the Spittals of Spittalton, near Thornhill, and founder of the Hospital in Stirling bearing his name, erected this bridge in 1535, as, according to tradition, a punishment for the ferryman having refused to take him across at a time when he had nothing to pay his fare with. About forty years ago the bridge was widened and repaired, and the following is the inscription on a tablet on the eastern side:—

“IN . GOD . IS . AL . MI . TRAST . QOD . SPITTEL . THE .
X . DA . OF . SEPTEMBER . IN . THE . ZEIR . OF . GOD .
I . M . VE . XXX . V . ZEIRIS . FONDIT . WES . THIS .
BRIG . BE . ROBERT . SPITTEL . TAILZOR . TO . YE .
MAIST . NOBLE . PRECES . MARGARET . — . NG .
LAMES . YE . FEIRD . OF . ALMIS.”

The inscription is placed on either side of a shield, which bears a device resembling a spread eagle, or, it may be, two crescents, and a pair of scissors, indicative of Spittal's occupation. On separate shields are the armorial bearings both of Scotland and England. Bridges at Bannockburn and Tullibody were also erected through the munificence of Spittal.

Charming views are obtained from the bridge, both up and down the river, and at the south end of the bridge stands the Bridge of Teith United Free Church, erected in 1832.

GARTINCABER TOWER.

THIS tower was erected about 1799 by the late Mr. Wm. Murdoch, grandfather of the present proprietor, and was simply built for the wide and beautiful view it commands on every side. It occupies the highest point of the valley in the neighbourhood, and is also said to be the centre point of Scotland east and west. Visitors are made very welcome to the key of the Tower, which lies at Gartincaber Lodge.

GARTINCABER LIME AVENUE.

This avenue, now numbering 91 trees, was planted in the year 1747 by an ancestor of the present proprietor. He had spent three years in France, where lime or linden trees are common, and where, very probably, he had seen similar avenues to the one he planted at Gartincaber. The present avenue, especially in the leafy month of June, is exceedingly pretty. It is nearly 600 feet in length. The trees are about 75 feet in height, and form an arch as perfect as that of any cathedral. The great gale of 1893 failed to throw down a single tree in this avenue, which was a cause of much thankfulness, not only to the family, but throughout the neighbourhood, where the avenue is a prominent landmark.

THORNHILL.

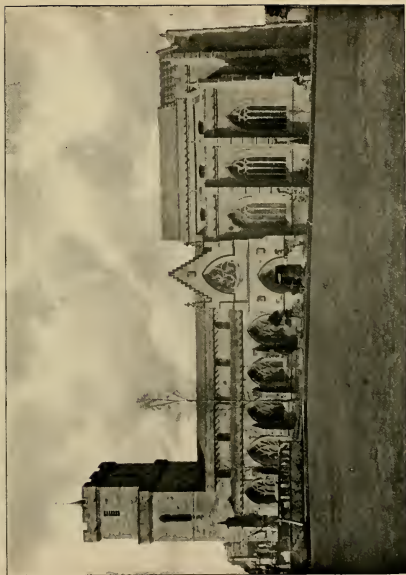
THIS village, about eleven miles to the west of Stirling, stands along the summit of an elevated ridge, and overlooks a wide level plain to the south and south-east, chiefly carse land, with a stretch of moss to the south-west, through which the Forth passes. The village, with a population of about 400, was formerly noted for the number of its whisky stills and public-houses, but has of late years greatly improved in appearance by the modernising of the houses. Norrieston, as the eastern end is called, has a long and interesting ecclesiastical history. Gabriel Norrie of Norrieston, over two centuries ago, granted ground for a church and churchyard, a specified district to be formed into a parish, but not till 1878 were matters fully settled. The present Parish Church, opened in March, 1880, is a handsome edifice, with stained-glass windows. There is also a United Free Church, two halls, two hotels, and two streets.

BY SAME AUTHOR.

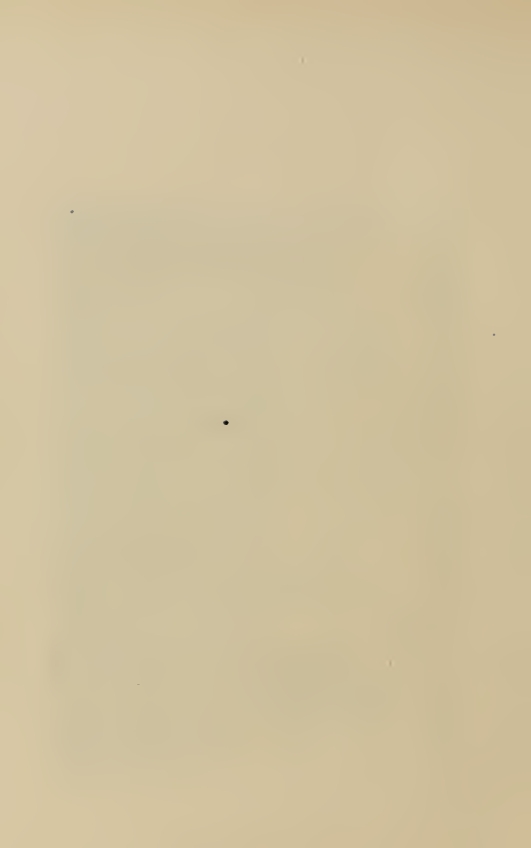
OLD FACES, OLD PLACES, AND OLD STORIES
OF STIRLING (out of print—Second-Hand
copies sometimes procurable—commissions
for same received by Eneas Mackay, Book-
seller, Stirling).

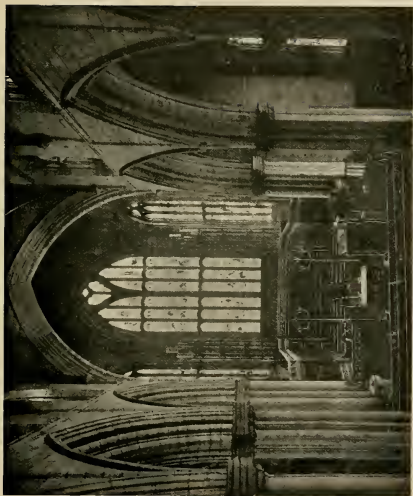
OLD FACES, OLD PLACES, AND OLD STORIES
OF STIRLING (Second Series), 7/6.

CHURCHES



EAST AND WEST CHURCHES.





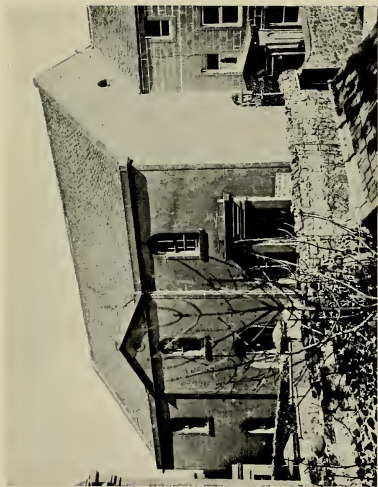
INTERIOR OF EAST CHURCH.



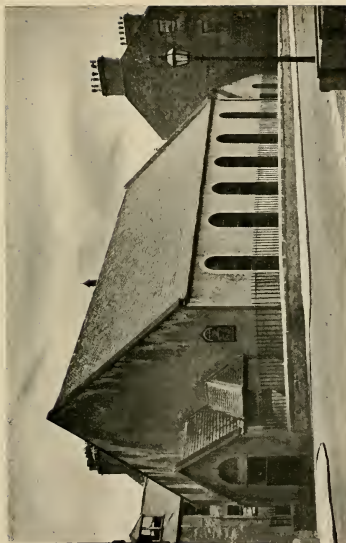
INTERIOR OF WEST CHURCH.



ERSKINE CHURCH, STIRLING.



SOUTH CHURCH, STIRLING.



CAMERONIAN KIRK, CRAIGS.



OLD EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SPITAL STREET.



OLD EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BARNTON STREET.

AULD BIGGINS



STIRLING CASTLE.



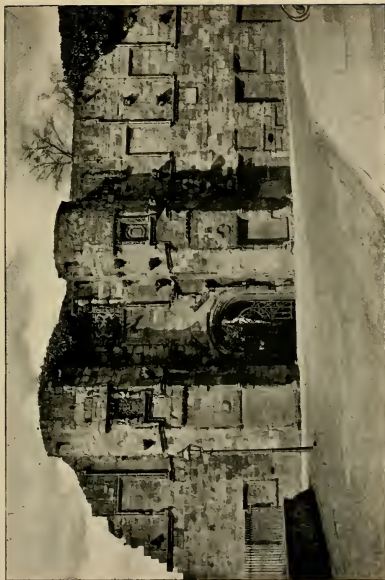
OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL, ESPLANADE.



ARGYLE LUDGING—EXTERIOR.



ARGYLE LUDGING—INTERIOR.



MAR'S WORK.



BOTHWELL HALL, ST. JOHN STREET.



HANGMAN'S HOUSE, ST. JOHN STREET.



TOLBOOTH, BROAD STREET.



TOWN CLERK NORRIE'S HOUSE, BROAD STREET.



SIR JOHN DINGLEY'S HOUSE, BROAD STREET.



PROVOST FORMAN'S SHOP, BROAD STREET.



PROVOST FORMAN'S HOUSE (BACK VIEW), BROAD STREET.



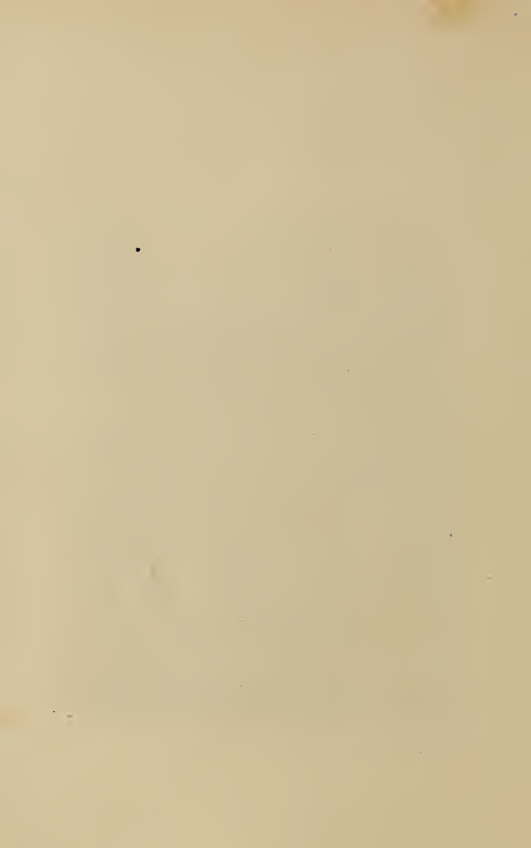
PROVOST WRIGHT'S SHOP, BROAD STREET.



GLASSINGALL HOUSE (FRONT VIEW), BROAD STREET.



GLASSINGALL HOUSE (BACK VIEW), BROAD STREET.





DARNLEY HOUSE, BOW STREET.



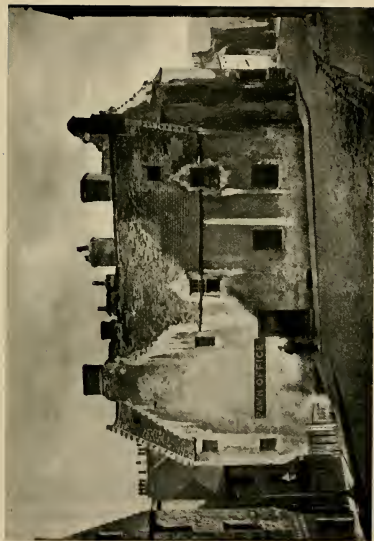
MOIR OF LECKIE'S HOUSE, BOW STREET.



MOIR OF LECKIE'S HOUSE—BACK VIEW.



QUEEN MARY'S PALACE, ST. MARY'S WYND.



OLD MINT AND SPITAL STREET.



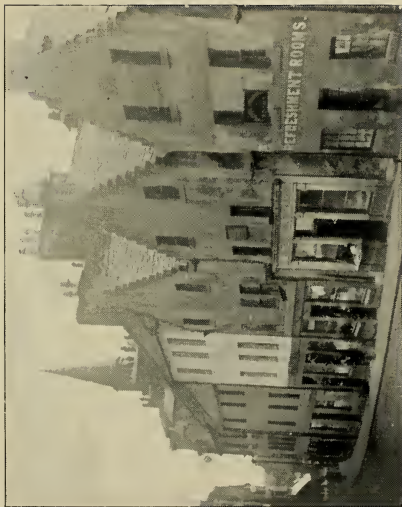
SPITTAL'S HOUSE, SPITTAL STREET.



OLD HOUSES, SPITAL STREET.



CHAPLAIN-GENERAL GLEIG'S HOUSE, BAKER STREET.



OLD BUILDINGS, BAKER STREET, STIRLING.

(Site now occupied by Messrs. Lawsons', Ltd., new premises.)



OLD BUILDING, PORT STREET, CORNER OF DUMBARTON ROAD, STIRLING.

(Site now occupied by Messrs. D. & J. MacEwen & Co.'s new premises.)



OLD BUILDING, PORT STREET, CORNER OF DUMBARTON ROAD, STIRLING.

(Site now occupied by Messrs. Robertson & Macfarlane's premises.)

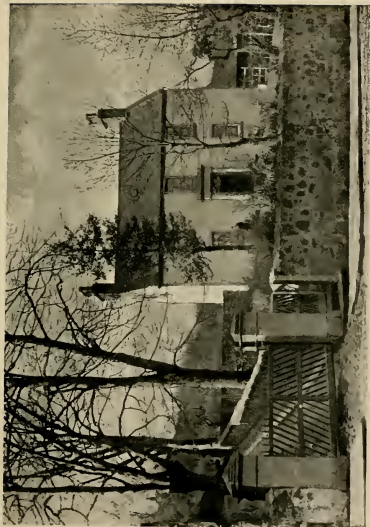


OLD BUILDINGS, PORT STREET, STIRLING.

(Site now occupied by extensive modern premises.)



SNOWDON HOUSE.



DR. LUCAS'S HOUSE, UPPER BRIDGE STREET.



WESTER LIVILANDS HOUSE.



WESTER LIVILANDS HOUSE—BACK VIEW.



DOORWAY—HIGH SCHOOL.



DOORWAY—TRADES HALL.



DOORWAY—ST. MARY'S WYND.

INNS



COFFEE HOUSE, BOW STREET.



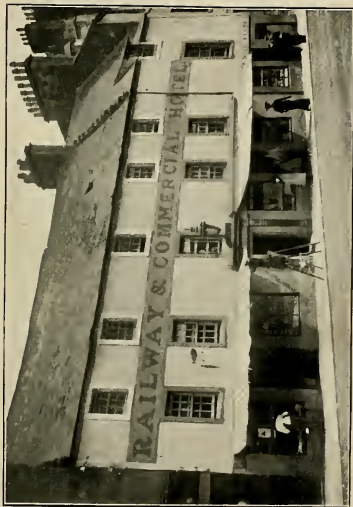
FLESHERS' TAVERN, ST. JOHN STREET.



GIBB'S INN, ST. MARY'S WYND.



BEES' BINK INN, BAKER STREET.



RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL HOTEL, STIRLING.



CORN-EXCHANGE HOTEL.

CLOSES



HANGMAN'S CLOSE, BROAD STREET.



THE LONG CLOSE, BROAD STREET.



CLOSE, LEADING TO GLASSINGALL HOUSE.





GRAHAM'S COURT, BOW STREET.

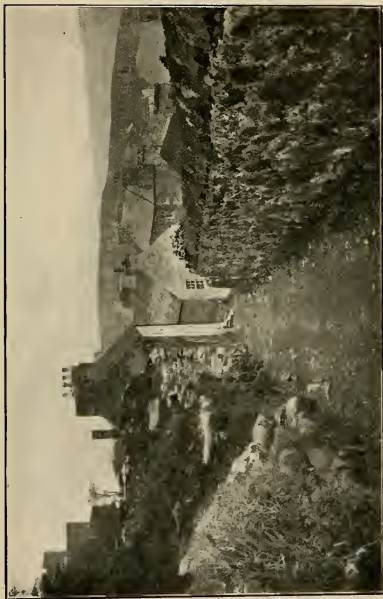


BOWIE'S COURT, ST. MARY'S WYND.



VENNEL CLOSE, BAKER STREET.

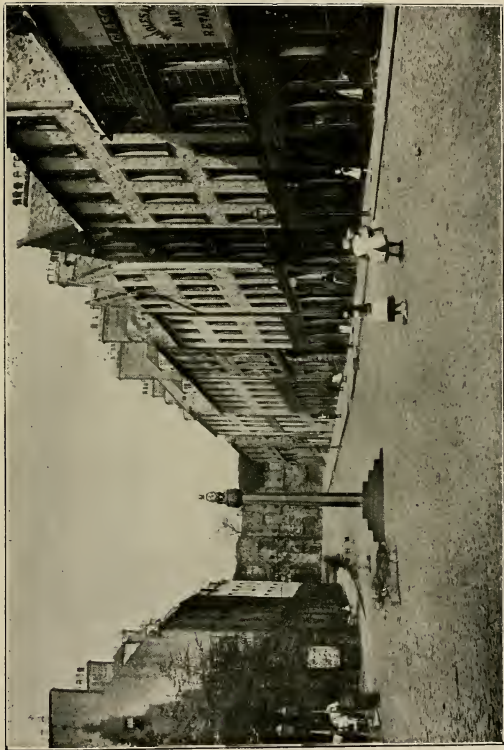
STREETS



PENNY MILLAR'S SLAP, CASTLE HILL.



CASTLE WYND.



BROAD STREET, STIRLING.



BROAD STREET AND ST. MARY'S WYND.



CORNER OF ST. JOHN AND BOW STREETS.



BAKER STREET.



KING STREET, STIRLING.



MURRAY PLACE, STIRLING (LOOKING NORTH).



MURRAY PLACE, STIRLING (LOOKING SOUTH).



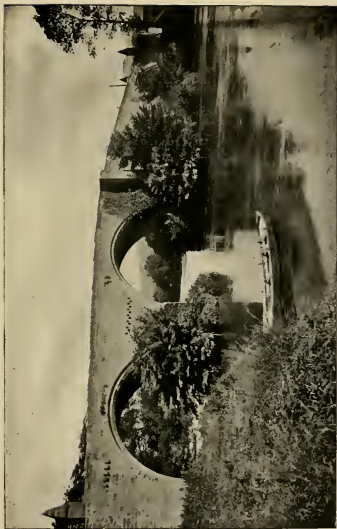
STIRLING STATION.



BACK WALK AND COWANE'S HOSPITAL.



HIGH SCHOOL, FROM SPITTAL STREET.



OLD BRIDGE.



DRIP BRIDGE.

NEEBOUR VILLAGES



OLD COTTAGE, CARSE OF STIRLING.



"AULD BIGGIN," CAMBUSKENNETH ABBEY.



ABBAY TOWER AND TOMB OF JAMES III.



THE DOVE-COT.



CAMBUSKENNETH ABBEY.

OLD DOORWAY.



ST. NINIANS.



ST. NINIANS OLD CHURCH STEEPLE.



MILTON.



Place where James III.'s Horse Stumbled.



House wherein James III. was Assassinated.

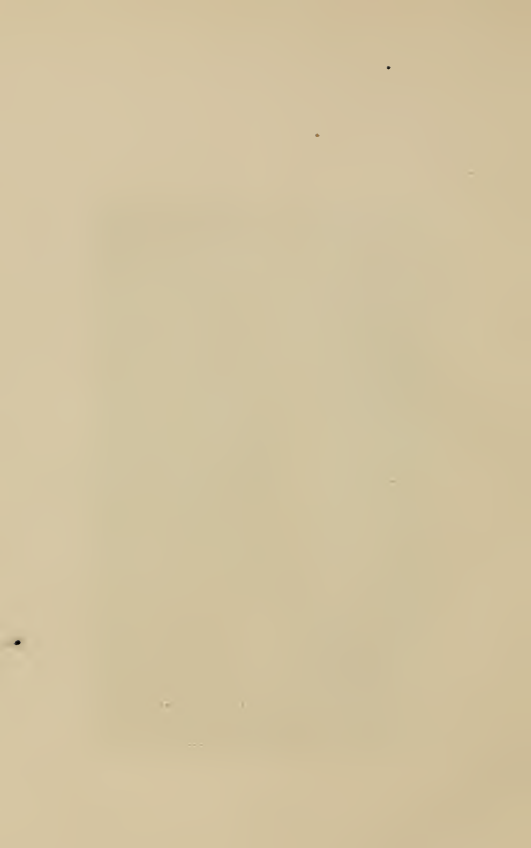
WHINS OF MILTON.



BANNOCKBURN.



RAPLOCH.





CAMBUSARRON.





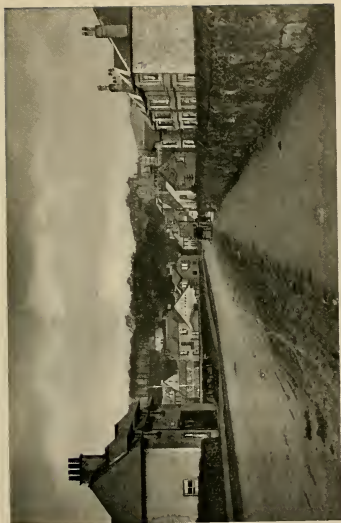
GARGUNNOCK.



KIPPIN.



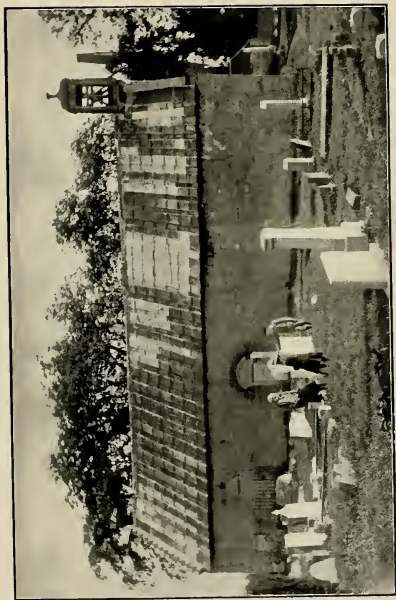
BUCHLYVIE—LOOKING EAST.



CAUSEWAYHEAD.



BLAIRLOGIE.



TULLIBODY PARISH CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD.





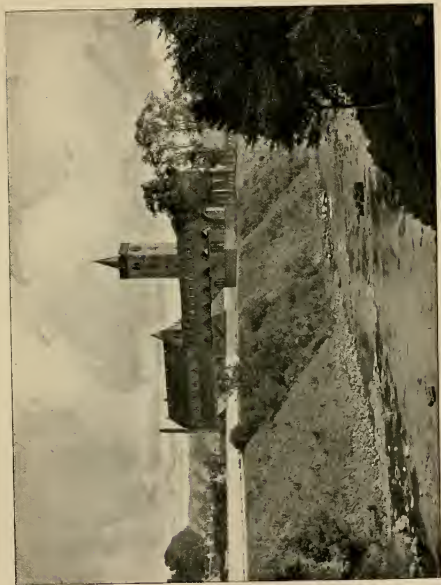
RIVER ALLAN.



BRIDGE OF ALLAN.



OLD INN, BRIDGE OF ALLAN.



DUNBLANE CATHEDRAL—BEFORE RESTORATION.



DUNBLANE CATHEDRAL—RESTORED.



DOUNE CASTLE (RESTORED).



BRIDGE OF TEITH AND U.F. CHURCH, DOUNE.



GARTINCABER TOWER, DOUNE.



THORNHILL, PEMBUKESHIRE.

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