

Of the latter, in compliance with what has been often recommended*, and particularly by Lord Hailes, it is proposed to treat.

The Ancient Name of the Parish.

There are three villages in this parish, viz. Nether Liberton, Kirk Liberton, and Upper or Over Liberton. The name seems to be a corruption of Leperton or Lepertown, and implies that there had been an Hospital at or near it; but of this, at present, we have no traces nor any tradition concerning it. On this account, however, the lands of Upper or Over Liberton, in certain old writings, are called the lands of Spittleton †. For instance, Sir John Dalmahoy of that ilk, got a charter of the lands of Spittleton, “Terrarum de “Spittleton,” by which is understood Upper Liberton, “tam superioritatis quam proprietatis,” dated “in 1625 ‡.”

The Surname of Liberton.

Liberton, according to Hector Boecius, became a surname in the reign of Malcolm Canmore §. It is therefore to be presumed, that some

*An Account of the Parish of Liberton in Mid-Lothian, or
County of Edinburgh.*

By the Rev. Mr Thomas Whyte, Minister of that Parish.

Introduction.

There are two Parishes in Scotland which bear the name of Liberton; one in the upper ward of Clyddale, now united to that of Quothquan, and another in Mid-Lothian or county of Edinburgh.

Of

* Lord Hailes does not seem to applaud Mr Miln's description of Melrose as very correct, or as discovering any considerable merit; however, he wishes every minister of Scotland would do as much for the history of his parish. “The labour,” says his Lordship, “in composition, deserves not to be mentioned, and the expence of printing “would be defrayed by the sale of a very few copies. Every minister would thus, without expence, contribute to the foundation of a work, resembling that which Camden “improperly called Britannia.”—*Lord Hailes's Annals of Scotland, Vol. I. p. 305.* It was this which made the author undertake the following tract.

† Hospital, in our old language, has the appellation of Spittle.

‡ Chart. in Publicis Archivis.

§ Boec. Hist. p. 206. l. 21.

some of that surname possessed the lands of Liberton, and took their surname from them, though at this distance of time, we can give no distinct account of them. In the charters of St. David to the Abbey of Holy-rud-house, Thoraldus de Travernet, *i. e.* Tranent, and Macbet de Liberton, are mentioned as witnesses *. In a charter of the same King, by which he grants Clerchetune to the church of St. Mary de Hadintune, and the church of St. Andrew, Malbet de Liberton, probably the person just now named, is mentioned †. We find William de Liberton, a benefactor to the monastery of Newbottle, *anno* 1429 ‡. In the chartulary of Glasgow, we find Henry Liberton *de eodem* mentioned, *anno* 1476. In our old records of arms, the surname of Liberton bears, Vert. a Leopard's face, Or. Scarcely any of that surname are to be found at present. There were several of them in the parish in former times §. Mr Little of Liberton has for his crest, a Leopard's head, Or ||. And this may be considered as an intimation that he now possesses the lands formerly possessed by the Libertons of that ilk, or that he was connected in some manner with that family.

How Liberton is bounded.

Liberton is bounded by the West Kirk or St. Cuthbert's parish on the north and west; by Duddingston on the north east; by Musselburgh or Inveresk on the east; by Newton and Dalkeith on the south east; by Laswade on the south; and by Colinton on the south west.

The

* Dalrymple's Collections, p. 429.

† Anderson's Diplomata, P. XVI.

‡ Chartulary of Newbottle.

§ Session Records.

|| Nisbet's History, Vol. I. p. 143.

The Village of Kirk Liberton.

The village of Kirk Liberton, is about two miles to the south of Edinburgh, the metropolis. It is situated on a rising sloping ground, and has a commanding and noble prospect. Here is the church, called anciently *Capella de Liberton*. It is nearly in the center of the parish. It is upwards of three miles distant from the boundary of Inveresk or Musselburgh, and rather more than two from the western extremity at Pentland Hills. The farm house at the greatest distance from the church, is Sommerfide, which is less than a mile from Dalkeith. The main entry to the church is on the south, under a porch. The steeple, at the west end *, makes a decent and venerable appearance. The spire or cupola was formerly of wood; in August 1744 it was struck with lightning; it is now of stone. The bell here, as the inscription bears, was made by Henderfon and Ormiston, 1747. It is far superior to any in the neighbouring country parishes; but not at all like the former. The former was heard at Soutra-hill, no less than 16 miles distant.

The Church of Liberton.

There are two ailes on the south side of the church; the Stainhouse aile, and Gavin's aile. The ground story of the former is allotted for accommodating those who belong to the barony of Stainhouse. Above this the coalliers of Gilmerton, in 1728, were allowed to erect a gallery, upon condition of paying each year a trifling acknowledgment to the session. Gavin's aile is so called from Mr Gavin Nisbet, proprietor of Muirhouse, who built it before the year

1635.

* It is seventy feet high.

1631. Though it has a communication with the church, yet it was only used as a burying-place. Near the top of the gabel, is the armorial bearing of Nisbet of that ilk, with a mollet for a difference, and these initials around, M. G. N. The motto, "Veritas vincit." The date is 1632*.

At the east end of the church were what are called the Juggs, an instrument used for punishing those who committed offences either against church or state. The iron ring to which they were appended still remains.

There are three ailes on the north side of the church. The first towards the east belongs to Mr Baird of Newbyth, in which there is a very superb gallery jutting out towards the area, with an elegant apartment behind it. Below, is the burying place of the family, and seats

* Below this is a large quadrangular window, and below the window the following inscription, cut out in a large oblong stone.

"Mr. Gavinus Nisbetus, sibi et suis posteris, per actum Sessionis hujus Ecclesiae sepulchrum hic posuit 6. Novembris 1631. Vixit annos 70. Obiit 22. die mensis Junii 1637.

"Adam, primus homo, damnavit secula poma,
 "Abstulit at damnum filius ipse Dei;
 "Mors tua, Christe, mihi vita est, victoria regnum,
 "Labe mea morior, sanguine vivo tuo.
 "Unde superbit homo, cujus conceptio culpa
 "Nasci poena, labor vita, necesse mori
 "Nudus ut in mundum veni, sic nudus abibo,
 "Peccatis Christus sit medicina meis.
 "Vivus adhuc spero, moriturus forte sub horam;
 "Mors etenim certa est, funeris hora latet.

"Pulvis et umbra sumus. Vivit post funera virtus."

HOR.

seats for the tenants. This aile was built by Sir John Baird of Newbyth, in 1736, who caused the arms of the family to be finely cut out on the northern frontispiece.

The aile next to it, is that of Sir Alexander Gilmour of Craigmillar. It has an arched roof. It serves for the burying-place of the family, and to accommodate the tenants in their attendance on public worship. It has certainly been built in an early period; but at what time, I have not been informed.

And immediately adjoining to this, on the west, another aile was built, in 1724, upon the joint expences of Lord Somerville and Mr Thomas Rigg of Morton, Advocate. The upper story belongs to Lord Somerville, and the arms of the family are to be seen on the outside, at the entrance on the stair-head. The lower part is the property of Mr Rigg of Morton.

Niddry Marshal has a gallery on the east end of the church, erected by his predecessor, Sir John Wauchope, in 1640*.

Opposite to this, on the west, is the gallery of Mortonhall. The date of its erection 1670 †.

Besides Nether Liberton aile, Sir Alexander Gilmour has a large seat in the body of the church, long the property of the Prestons of Craigmillar, or of that ilk.

The burying-place of Lord Somerville is in the middle of the church, opposite to the pulpit. Above this, therefore, on the wall,

P p

are

* Session Records.

† Ibid.

are exhibited in stucco, the usual ensigns of mortality, and the armorial bearing of the family.

In a parallel line with this, is a large piece of board, in which are recorded, in very conspicuous characters, the several donations made to the poor of the parish. The largest of these was that bequeathed by Sir James Stewart of Goodtrees, Lord Advocate, who died in 1713. This was allowed to run up, and by means of it, without any assistance almost, from those who have landed property, the poor of the parish were supported in that memorably severe year, 1783.

The Church, or Capella de Liberton, very antient.

William, Persona de Liberton.

At what time the Church, or Capella de Liberton, as it was antiently called, was founded, I know not. It is probable that it was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, since there is a well in the neighbourhood which goes under her name, for it is called the Lady's well. Arnot, in his history of Edinburgh*, takes notice, that the chapel of Liberton with that of Corstorphin, belonged to the parish of St. Cuthberts, previous to the year 1124; that the chapel of Liberton was instituted before the usurpation of Macbeth, which happened in 1040; and that the donations in its favour by him, were confirmed by a charter from David I. This is evident from the chartulary of Edinburgh †. The chapel of Liberton is mentioned in the foundation charter of Holy-rud-house, or *Domus Sanctae Crucis*, in 1128: The words are, "et illa Capella de Libertune cum duabus bovatis ‡ terrae." And not only so, but the tithes and services due from the parish, are expressly recited, viz. "Triginta Car-

" rate

* Arnot's Hist. of Edinb. p. 5.
 † Oxfangs.

‡ Chart. of Edinb. Vol. iv. Box 6.

"rate de Busche, (i. e. Brush-wood) de Libertune, et decima Molen-
 "dini de Libertune*. In the chartulary of Kelfo, in a charter granted "a Bernardo de Hauden," in which certain lands, in "Vil-
 "la de Hauden," are bestowed on the church of Kelfo, and the monks serving God there, we find William, who is stiled "Persona
 "de Liberton," a witness along with the persons following, viz.
 "cum Symone Archidiacono; R. Abbate de Mailros; W. Priori de
 "Carra; H. Capelano Clerico Regis; Johanne Decano; Johanne
 "de Hanted." The charter, as the wont was in antient times, has
 no date; but from these words, "pro salute Dni mei Regis Willi,"
 we may justly infer that it was granted in the reign of William sur-
 named the Lyon. At that time, or rather before, "W. Persona de
 "Liberton" is mentioned as a witness in a final agreement betwixt
 the Abbot and Convent of Kelfo, "et inter Bernardum de Hauden,"
 along with these persons, viz. "cum Symone Archidiacono; Ri-
 "chardo (or rather Radulpho) Abbate de Mailros †; W. Prior de
 "Carran; H. Capellano Regis; Johanne de Hantedun."

If there was a parson, there must have been a parsonage, and a church or chapel. Hence, I think, we may certainly conclude, that the church or chapel of Liberton existed in the reign of William the Lyon, who died in 1214, or rather two centuries almost, before that epocha.

Sir Thomas Gray, Parson of Liberton.

Blind Harry tells us, that one Sir Thomas Gray was parson of Liberton, which is presumed to be Liberton in the county of Edinburgh,

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* Foundation Charter of Haly-rud-house.

† Radulph was Abbot of Melrose, anno 1194.—*Miln's Description of Melrose.* p. 17.

burgh, in the days of Sir William Wallace; that he, with Mr John Blair, was particularly assisting to that hero, upon a very critical emergency; and that afterwards both were engaged in compiling the history of his life in Latin*. This shews they were men of learning; and surely they could not be more honourably employed than in endeavouring so effectually to hand down to posterity the achievements of our greatest patriot. This was highly worthy of the clerical character. We are likewise told, that such was the connection between Sir William Wallace and Sir Thomas Gray, that he accompanied him in his second expedition to France †. On this account he must always be reputed, if the author is to be credited, his particular friend; and his name and memory revered in every age, by the real lovers of their country.

The Patronage of the Church of Liberton.

Sir John Maxwell, who was styled "Dominus de eodem," procured the patronage of the church of Liberton, with an acre of land contiguous to the church, but at what time we are not informed. These he bestowed on the monastery of Kilwinning, "pro salute anime sue, et Agnetis sponse sue, anno 1367 †." And this donation was ratified by a charter under the great seal of David II. in the year 1370 §. How long the patronage of Liberton, with the piece of ground just now named, continued in the possession of the Abbey of Kilwinning, we know not: But at length they devolved to that of Haly-rud-house, as appears from the erection charter of the see of Edinburgh, dated at Whitehall, September 29. 1633 ||.

We

* Blind Harry's Hist. of Wallace, latter part of the 1st chap. of the 5th book, Edinburgh edition, 1758.

† Ibidem, p. 341.

‡ Carta in Archivis-Regni.

§ Appendix to Nisbet's History, p. 151.

|| Keith's Account of the Scots Bishops, p. 28, &c.

We find Mr John Bothwell of Alhammer or White-kirk, first Lord Haly-rud-house, had the patronage, rectorship, and tithes of Liberton, with those of several other parishes, granted him by patent and charter at Whitehall, Dec. 20. 1607*. But his son was obliged to resign them, when a bishopric was erected at Edinburgh.

The Parson or Minister of Liberton one of the twelve Prebendaries.

From the Charter of Erection it appears, that the parson or minister of Liberton was constituted a member of the chapter, and one of the twelve prebendaries, without whose consent, together with that of the Dean, at least the greater part of them, nothing of any moment was to be determined with respect to the see. And it was ordained that this preferment should descend to his successors †.

Niddry-Marshall Conjoint Patron with the Crown.

Upon the establishment of Presbytery at the Revolution, the King was considered as patron of the church of Liberton, and has acted in that capacity ever since patronages were restored. He is likewise titular of the tithes of the parish. Mr Wauchope of Niddry-Marshall is patron of the chapel at Niddry-Marshall, as is evident from a charter under the great seal, granted Feb. 2. 1502, to Archibald Wauchope of Niddry-Marshall †. It was erected and largely endowed by his predecessors; and this was an evidence of the piety of the family. About the time of the reformation it was united to the chapel or church of Liberton with all its emoluments and revenues. For these

* Crawford's Peerage, p. 185. 186.

† Keith's Account of the Scots Bishops, p. 28. &c.

‡ See Appendix, No. 1. Chart. 2.

these reasons, it would appear, that Niddry-Marshall is conjunct patron of Liberton with the Crown, and has a right to present in his turn.

Church Lands or Vicar Acres.

The lands which lie west and south west from the church, were Church Lands, and termed Vicar Acres, in which, to the left, is a rising ground, that has the name of Kirk-cross, where probably, in ancient times, a cross stood. These are called Vicar Acres in Mr Little of Liberton's entail, and under that denomination were legally conveyed by Sir Adam Saunderson to John Carketill, and from him or his successors transferred to one of Mr Little's predecessors*. We find a charter of confirmation of Dame Janet Paterfon, relict of the deceased Alexander Lauder of Blyth, Knight, and John Carketill her nephew, of the lands of Upper or Over Liberton, dated 16th February 1533 †.

The Barony of Upper or Over Liberton.

Of all the several baronies in the parish, that of Upper or Over Liberton is next to the church, and encompasses it. On this barony is a good substantial house, situated at the side of a small rivulet, amidst planted trees and inclosures. Nigh this is the village, and what is called the Tower of Upper Liberton. It enjoys a most agreeable situation and commanding view. Its under story is arched. It has battlements quite round the roof. The entry to the principal apartment, was by a stair on the east, where there was a draw-bridge.

The

* Records of the Presbytery of Edinburgh.

† Records in the Laigh Parliament House, Edinburgh.

The barony of Upper Liberton is very conveniently situated, and lies close together, without any other lands intervening. The mansion house is just in the center. This barony is bounded on the west by the hills of Braid, which are really wild and romantic, but agreeable, from whence there is a most extensive prospect; and on the north by the rivulet called Braid's-burn, near which there is a well which has the appellation, as already observed, of the Lady's or Virgin Mary's well, famous for its large current, and the salubrity and lightness of its waters. Above this, of old, there was a wood, and therefore it is still called the Bank. It has now been cultivated for many years, and at present produces as good grain as any in the country. Here there is plenty of marl, and on the skirts of Braid's-hills plenty of the best materials for making roads.

The Dalmahoy of that ilk possessed Upper Liberton as early as the year 1453, and continued in possession of it, at least of a part of it, for almost two hundred years. Robert Dalmahoy, with consent of his wife Janet Robertson, granted a charter of certain lands in Upper Liberton to Thomas Liberton, burgess in Edinburgh, dated August 13th, 1455*. Alexander Dalmahoy, by a charter dated December 15th, 1587, granted a part of this barony to William Little †, burgess in Edinburgh ‡. The successors of this William Little, who were always much esteemed in the city, and had great influence, became at length proprietors of the whole barony of Upper Liberton. Mr Clement Little, Advocate, who was a son of this family, founded the College Library of Edinburgh §. The Winrams possessed a part of this barony before the Littles were proprietors of the

* Writings in the custody of Mr Little of Liberton.

† He was Provost, 1586 and 1591.—*Arnot's History of Edinburgh*.

‡ Records in the Laigh Parliament House, Edinburgh.

§ *Arnot's History of Edinburgh*, p. 414.

the whole*. It is called a Ten Pounds and One Merk Land, that is, Sixteen Merk Land †, according to the old valuation, made in the reign of Alexander III. ‡.

The Barony of Mortonhall.

South west from the Barony of Upper Liberton is that of Mortonhall. Almost on the boundary betwixt them, are two small tumuli, called Caer-Duff Knows. Caer is generally given to such places where the Romans resided, or left any pieces of workmanship §. There are several other tumuli near the house of Mortonhall, which owe likewise, it may be presumed, their original to the Romans.

East from Mortonhall are the two Kaims, in which there have been various fortifications. And these are the origin of the name; for Kaims, in our old language, signifies Camps or Fortifications.

At Mortonhall is an elegant and very commodious house built by the present proprietor. It was finished in 1769. The sycamore, opposite to the principal entry and vestibule, is most beautiful while in blossom, and a great ornament to the building. The house is surrounded with a variety of stately trees. The sycamores and elms are particularly distinguished. The new house is nearly on that side where the old house stood, which is a small eminence or rising ground. Here, in more antient times, was a fort or strong hold, and, according to the then mode, was encompassed with water, and the

* Register of Entails, Edinburgh.

† Register of Entails, Edinburgh.

§ Caers, in the old language, signifies Castles.

† L. 0:17:9½ Sterling.

the entry to it was by a draw-bridge. The garden was formerly on the south side of the house, but now on the west, and, agreeable to the present fashion, at some distance from the house, with a circular pond in the middle. It is of an oblong form, well laid out, and the walls on all hands covered with fruit trees.

On the south side of the hills of Braid, which exhibits a most picturesque view, a variety of wild scenery, and many agreeable walks, is a hollow called Elve's or Elf's Kirk, denoting the place where the fairies assembled. The fairies were considered to be the same as the nymphs of the groves and hills, celebrated so much of old by the poets. It was a prevailing opinion among our ancestors, in the days of Paganism, that fairy women, or beautiful girls of a diminutive size clothed in green, with loose dishevelled hair, frequented certain sequestered places, and at certain times conversed with men*. Here is a pretty natural pond; and here probably in antient times have been a great many deer. Hence the farm of Buck-staine has its appellation. At some distance below this, near Mortonhall, is a piece of ground called Kilmorton. This serves to inform us, that on this spot was a Cella or religious house; but there is no tradition that I know concerning it, nor any remains of it to be seen.

Directly west of Mortonhall, and overtopping the house and plantations, is Galach-law †. From thence is a very extensive prospect, and for this reason affords a most noble situation for a Belvidere. Here, as the name imports, were held, of old, Courts of Justice. In

Q9

1630,

* Shaw's History of Murray, p. 245, 246.

† Galach, in Gaelic, signifies valour, fortitude. Probably Galach-law had its appellation in the days of the Romans.

1650, before the battle of Dunbar, Galach-law became famous for the encampment of Oliver Cromwell's army, which consisted, as Mr Hume relates, of no less than 16,000 men*. The very places where the tents were pitched, are still visible. A little to the north or north west of this, is a small quadrangular rampart, in which Oliver and his principal officers encamped for a considerable time; and on this account it still goes under the name of Oliver's Camp. The rest of the troops were stationed in the fields adjoining.

Mortonhall, from what has been observed already, must have been a place of considerable note, even so early as the times of the Romans. It was possessed by Sir Oliver Sinclair of Roslin, November 1486, as appears from a charter granted to him by James III.; and, for a long time after, it continued in that family. It then belonged to the barony of Pentland. After the Sinclairs of Roslin, one Mr Alexander Ellis, for a short time, was proprietor of it †. John Trotter, male representative of Trotter of Catchel-raw and Charterhall, purchased it before the year 1641, and became first Baron of Mortonhall. As he was a younger brother, he was bred a merchant, and in that line acquired a large fortune. He was extremely active and assiduous in business; and such was his modesty, that, though he had frequent opportunities, he would never accept of any public office either in town or country. He was good and pious, and his charity must have been most extensive, as appears from his donations to the college of Edinburgh, and other foundations. He lived to the age of eighty eight ‡. The present Laird of Mortonhall is his lineal male descendant, is the seventh Baron of Mortonhall,

* Hume's History, Volume II. p. 24.

† Session Records.

‡ Douglas's Baronage, p. 206.

hall, and of the tenth generation of the family of Trotter of Catchel-raw*.

The Lands of Morton.

West from Mortonhall are the lands of Morton. The house of Morton is but indifferent, but the plantations around it are considerable, and the prospect most agreeable and extensive. The Belvidere here is mightily well situated. Morton is at a due distance from Pentland hills, which contribute much to form a charming landscape.

North west from Morton is a rampart of a circular or rather of an oval form, intersected by the turnpike road.

It is entire on the Morton side, but not so on the others. It has not been one of the Roman camps, for they were always quadrangular, but a Roman town. The Roman military way from Burnswark hill to the north, issued into two branches at the town of Biggar. The left hand branch went to Cear-stairs and Cambus-Nethan, to the famous wall between the two friths of Forth and Clyde, and at length was carried as far as the Roman arms penetrated: The other branch proceeded by Linton to the Roman Town just now mentioned, and from thence was directed to Cramond, where the Romans had an important station, and where certain of their ships always attended for furnishing them with provisions. Another military road came from Tiviotdale, or perhaps from the celebrated wall which the Emperor Hadrian erected between Caer-Lyle and New-castle upon Tyne, and led to this town.

* Douglas's Baronage, p. 208.

For these reasons, therefore, this town must have made an important figure before the Castle of Edinburgh, so greatly famed for antiquity, existed, and consequently long before there was any appearance of the adjoining city, which is now so flourishing and extensive, and which has been so much admired on account of the height and grandure of its buildings.

From this Roman town probably Morton or Moretown had its appellation; for *more*, in the Celtic or Gaelic language, signifies *great* or *large*; that is, the great or large city.

In the neighbourhood of this, but further south west, on the grounds of Comiston, were found, on forming the public road, under large heaps of stones, various sepulchral stone inclosures, in which were deposited urns with dead men's ashes, and divers warlike weapons used by the Romans. These large heaps of stones, of which some still remain, are called the Cat-stones; that is, the Battle-stones.

A little north west from this, is a stone obelisk; of above ten feet high, larger by a great deal than any in this country, erected probably in memory of some great Roman, who had fallen in battle; or else in memory of some remarkable victory, obtained by the Romans over the antient Britons, Picts; or Caledonians. It has the appellation of the Caiy-stone*.

And let it be observed, that the road here for near a mile is exactly cut out in the very line of the old Roman military way; and this was done on purpose by the direction of the late Sir John Clerk of Pennycuick,

* Maitland's History of Edinburgh, p. 507.

Pennycuick, one of his Majesty's Barons of Exchequer, that most learned Antiquary. In levelling this road of late, were discovered several stone coffins, with human bones.

Morton, therefore, in the days of the Romans, must have been of great account. Sir Oliver Sinclair of Roslin possessed it at the same time he possessed Mortonhall, and his successors for a long period were proprietors of both*. William Rigg, a Cadet of the family of Rigg of Caerberry, had the property of Morton in 1630 †. His son Thomas sold it to the Porterfields of Comiston. And from them his son Mr Thomas Rigg, Advocate, purchased it in the end of last or beginning of the present century. He was father of Mr Rigg late of Morton, who, on account of his succession to the estate of Gamelshiel, prefixed Home to his original surname. The present proprietor is Mr Peter Rigg of Downfield, the male representative of the family.

The Barony of Brownhill.

South east from Morton are the ruins of the house of Brownhill, once a place of strength. It is situated in a morass; it was surrounded with water, and the access to it was only by a draw-bridge. There is a good deal of uncultivated ground around it; and no wonder, the expence of draining and putting it into order would far exceed any profits that might thence arise. However, the barony of Brownhill in former times was of considerable value. Straiton-hall, Straiton Mill, Bourdeaux, and Phantasy, belonged unto it.

In

* Chart. in Publicis Archivis.

† Records in the Tithe Office, Edinburgh.

In the mains of Bourdeaux there is abundance of lime-stone. Here, what is called a draw-kill, was erected some years ago, and goes on prosperously.

The barony of Brownhill was possessed by the ancestors of Sir John Henderfon of Fordel, from the year 1508, until the civil wars in the reign of Charles I. as appears from a charter in the public records. But it is evident they were proprietors of it after this period; for the family of Newbyth purchased it from Sir John Henderfon of Fordel, since the year 1709*, and they are still in possession of it.

The Lands of Straiton.

South east from the ruins of Brownhill, is the village of Straiton. Here is a well called the Ladie's Well, and therefore probably, in antient times, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Some remains of the mansion house still appear. And, on a rising ground to the north west of the village, one should think that there have been fortifications for some purpose or other.

There was a family of Straiton of that ilk in the north country, and they had a charter from David I. †. Probably there was a family here of the same appellation; and it is presumed, that a great many of that surname in the south country are descended from it. It is certain that the predecessors of William Straiton, late tenant in Straiton, were of old proprietors of at least a part of it ‡. The ancestors of Sir John Henderfon of Fordel possessed Straiton as early,
and

* Register of Entails, Edinburgh.

† Nisbet's Heraldry, Volume I. p. 63.

‡ Records in the Tithe Office, Edinburgh.

and for as long a time, as they did the barony of Brownhill*. In 1666, Robert Denham is mentioned under the title of Fiar † of Straiton, whose father John Denham was proprietor of Muirhouse ‡. In the predecessor of Mr Johnstone of Straiton purchased Straiton from Robert Denham just now mentioned. Mr Sivewright of South-house is superior of Straiton, and a certain sum is allowed him upon the accession of every new vassal §.

North from Straiton is the village of Bourdeaux, so called, perhaps, by some of the French who attended Queen Mary in her return to Scotland in 1561, and who happened to take up their residence here. In this village are several feus ¶ held of the family of Newbyth.

The Barony of South-house.

North east from the village of Bourdeaux, is the barony of South-house. Here are the ruins of an old stately mansion house, a large garden, and very good ground around it. It is bounded all along on the south east by the rivulet which runs through Bourdeaux, and this makes it the more agreeable, and greatly enriches the pasture.

Who possessed South-house in more antient times, I have not learned. The Bowmans were proprietors of it from 1625 until
1638,

* Chart. in Publicis Archivis.

† He was called Fiar, who was to succeed to his Father's heritage, without being obliged to enter as heir.

‡ Session Records.

§ Register of Entails, Edinburgh.

¶ Feus is a Scottish law term, which signifies Fees or Tenures, by which certain lands or tenements are held of a Superior.

1638, and the Robertsons in 1645 and 1646*. In 1671, as appears from the inscription on the gate, William Stodart, who had married Elizabeth Whyte, daughter of ——— Whyte merchant in Edinburgh, had the property of it. They had an only daughter, who was married to Fullerton of Kinnader, who sold it to the grand uncle of the present Mr Sivewright of South-house. He had the title of Sivewright of Meggatland, and acquired a large fortune.

The Lands of Muirhouse.

South east from South-house, and immediately adjoining to it, on the other side of the rivulet, is Muirhouse. It was possessed, as already observed, by the Nisbets. Afterwards, in 1655, it became the property of the Denhams. Next, a few years before the Revolution, it devolved to the Humes†; from whom the late Baron of Mortonhall purchased it. It has a valuable lime quarry‡. The Gilmerton coal-seam runs through it. It is all in a manner inclosed. The grounds which lie northwest towards the rivulet are accounted rich and fertile.

The Barony of Gilmerton.

Almost directly east from Muirhouse, are the inclosures, the gardens, the mansion house, and the village of Gilmerton. The mansion house has a most excellent site, and is favoured with a most charming and delightful prospect on all hands. The like is hardly to be seen any where. What is called the Long Walk on the south side of the house, is peculiarly pleasant. At the east end of it there

is

* Session Records.

† Ibidem.

‡ See Appendix, No. 2.

is a large arch, and above it a balcony, in order to enlarge and improve the view. It must be acknowledged that there are not so many plantations nor so much improvement as could be wished; and the reason is, because the family does not reside there, but at Newbyth in East Lothian.

The village is larger by far than any in the parish. It contains 755 souls*. In it are a great many feus, held of the family of Newbyth. It has a wide street running from west to east, and that street is intersected by another at right angles, at the eastern extremity.

The Cave at Gilmerton.

Here is a famous cave dug out of a rock, by one George Paterfon a smith. It was finished in 1724, after five years hard labour; as appears from the inscription on one of the chimney heads. In this cave are several apartments, several beds, a spacious table with a large punch bowl, all cut out of the rock in the nicest manner. Here there was a forge, with a well and washing-house. Here there were several windows which communicated light from above. The author of this extraordinary piece of workmanship, after he had finished it, lived in it for a long time with his family, and prosecuted his business as a smith. He died in it about the year 1735. He was a feuer or feodary, and consequently the cave he formed and embellished so much, and the garden above it, was his own property; and his posterity enjoyed it for some time after his decease. His

R r

cave

* See Appendix No. III.

cave for many years was deemed as a great curiosity, and visited by all the people of fashion*.

The Barony of Gilmerton.

The barony of Gilmerton is extensive, and contains much fertile ground, particularly towards the south, in that farm called the Grange, which is completely inclosed, properly divided, and well laid out.

Gilmerton has long been famous for lime and coal †. The coal-work was carried on here so early as the year 1627 ‡. A fire engine has within these few years been erected, and it is hoped that it will continue to answer expectation, and be a blessing to the neighbouring city, which has so great a demand for coal. At present 54 coalliers are employed, besides miners, and those who are called Reads-men.

William de Morville §, Constable of Scotland, granted the lands of Gilmarstone

* Pennycuik the poet, among his works, has left us an inscription on the cave, and it runs thus :

“ Upon the earth, thrives villainy and woe,
 “ But happiness and I do dwell below ;
 “ My hands hew'd out this rock into a cell,
 “ Wherein, from din of life, I safely dwell.
 “ On Jacob's pillow nightly lies my head,
 “ My house when living, and my grave when dead.
 “ Inscribe upon it, when I'm dead and gone,
 “ I liv'd and died within my mother's womb.”

† See Appendix, No. II.

‡ Session Records.

§ He died Anno 1198.—*Chronicle of Melrose.*

Gilmarstone in Mid Lothian, “ Eudalpo filio Uthredi, &c. ante annum 1165.” And in that year King Malcolm died*.

Afterwards the Herrises possessed Gilmerton, and continued proprietors of it, at least a part of it, until April 2. 1503, as appears from a charter of that date to Patrick Herris, “ Super terris de Gilmour-toun †.”

Sir Walter de Somerveile, “ Dominus de Linton et Carnwath,” by marrying Giles, only surviving daughter and heiress of Sir John Herris of Gilmerton, procured the half of the lands of Gilmerton. This happened in 1375 ‡. They continued for many years in the family of Somerveile.

I find a charter to Archibald Wauchope de Niedry-Merchell,
 R r 2 “ Super

* Chartulary of Glasgow.

† Records in the Laigh Parliament House, Edinburgh.

Anecdote of Sir John Herris of Gilmerton.

There is a remarkable anecdote handed down to us concerning one of that family, Sir John Herris of Gilmerton. He understood, that a daughter of his had a criminal intrigue with a monk of Newbottle ; and when he was assured that they had made an assignation to meet in a certain house at Grange, being a gentleman of impetuous passions, he caused immediately set fire to the house ; and thus both his daughter and the monk perished miserably in the flames. This gave so much offence to the clergy, whose power at that time was mighty, that with the greatest difficulty, after all his interest and that of his friends, he obtained a pardon. And, when he did obtain it, it was upon condition of this very disagreeable penance, that he should stand for a year, every Sunday and holy-day, in sack cloth and bare-footed, at the principal door of the chapel of St. Catherines. This event happened in the reign of Robert II.—*M. S. Penes Lord Somerveile.*

* *Nisbet's Heraldry*, Vol. I. p. 104.

"Super duabus terris husbandiis jacen. in dominio de Gilmerton," dated "27th Mar. 1503*." I find a charter, dated the same year, to James Ramsay of Quithill, "Super dimedietate terrarum de Gylmortoun †." And also a charter of confirmation, "Gilberto Wauchop ville de Gilmerton," dated "Dec. 15. 1504 ‡."

Soon after this, the Crichtons of Cranston-Riddale came to the possession of Gilmerton, or obtained a part of it. David Crichton in 1622 possessed Gilmerton; and this appears from a sepulchral stone in the burying aisle of the family at the church of Liberton.

In 1630, we find one Mungo Short possessing a small tenement in Gilmerton §.

Sir John Baird of Newbyth, descended of a younger son of Baird of Auchmeddan ||, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, purchased Gilmerton about the year 1667 from the Crichtons, who were likewise proprietors of Lugton. This we find from the parochial records.

According to the old valuation, the town and lands of Gilmerton are considered as a ten pound land †, and the Mains or Messuage of Gilmerton as a ten merk land ++.

The

* Records in the Laigh Parliament House, Edinburgh.

† Ibidem.

‡ Ibidem.

§ Records in the Tithe Office Edinburgh.

|| Nisbet's Heraldry, Vol. I. p. 314.

‡ L. 0 : 16 : 8 Sterling.

++ L. 0 : 11 : 1½ Sterling. — Register of Entails, Edinburgh.

The Barony of Drum.

East from Gilmerton is Drum, the seat of Lord Somerville, and for this reason called Somerville-House. Drum signifies a rising ground, the back or ridge of a hill, and the situation of the place sufficiently justifies the appellation. Here the forest of Drumfelch, which denotes a large hill amidst other little hills, began, and reached almost to Haly-rud house. This forest was much frequented in ancient times by our kings and great men for the sake of hunting*. At Drum, in a former period, was a venerable old house, built in 1585 by Hugh, seventh Lord Somerville, who married Eleanor third daughter of George, fifth Lord Seton. The initials of their names are cyphered in a stone above the gate you first meet with on the left hand. On another stone, in the western end of the western wing, are cut out the arms of Somerville impaled with those of Seton. Both these stones were taken from the old house and placed where we now see them.

The situation of the new house is a little east from that of the old. The front looks to the south, and presents a most agreeable landscape. It is all of ashler work, and makes a fine appearance. There is no such house in the parish. Here the armorial bearing of the late Lord Somerville, who built the house, is cut out in a splendid manner in the upper part, impaled with those of his first lady. Immediately above this, are three vases of an exquisite choice. Along the whole front, is an handsome balustrade. The main stair, of late erected, is noble, and consequently not unworthy of the edifice. The vestibule is elegant, ornamented with a statue as big as the life, and other

* Maitland's History of Edinburgh, page 507.

other decorations. In the drawing-room, in the dining-room, and other appartments, which are most richly furnished, are a great many pictures done by the most eminent masters.

At the head of the stair leading to the dining-room, is exhibited in stucco a coat of arms, consisting of three leopard's heads, two and one; and for supporters, two hounds; and around all, the following inscription: "Sig. Gulielmi Somervil, Dom. de Kernewid, 1141." This was the armorial bearing of William de Kernewid, that is de Carnwath, predecessor of Lord Somerville. It was taken from the original in the college of Glasgow. Leopards were carried by William Duke of Normandy, conqueror of England*. And this verifies what is commonly reported, that the Somervilles accompanied that prince in his English expedition, and came to Scotland in the reign of St. David, and became proprietors of Carnwath in Clydsdale, and Linton in Tiviotdale. Leopard's heads, two and one, constituted the armorial bearing of the Somervilles before the holy wars: But, after they engaged and returned, they assumed, as they justly might, the cross crozlets, and they still retain them.

The gardens are on the west side, at some distance from the house. There is a large piece of water stored with different kinds of fish. The pleasure grounds are extensive, the plantations flourishing. There are a great many stately oaks and sycamores. The beeches, however, are the most numerous, and make the best appearance. A variety of fine walks, a variety of vistas, and avenues, present themselves on all hands. One is always entertained with some new object. At the end of the great avenue leading to the house, is the old cross of Edinburgh. It was removed hither in 1756. It was
unluckily

* Nisbet's Heraldry, Volume I. page 300.

unluckily broken in taking it down; but now we can scarcely observe that any damage had been done to it. It is of one stone above 20 feet high and 18 inches in diameter, of an octagonal form, and ornamented with thistles, the antient badge and ensign of Scotland. The avenue, parallel to the principal front of the house, is bounded by a dovecot of an antique figure, on the east, and by three Gothic arches, the one large, and the two other of a lesser size, on the west. The avenue opposite to the north front of the house is terminated by an antient like structure, on the very summit of a hill, which is seen at a great distance, and adds great solemnity and grandeur to the whole. Danderhall, and what is done there, present a noble view to the drawing-room and the appartments on that hand.

The barony of Drum was at first possessed by the Herrises, but from them, with the half of Gilmerton, it came to the family of Lord Somerville, as already observed, by Sir Walter de Somerville, *Dom. de Linton et Carnwath*, his marrying Giles, only surviving daughter and heiress of Sir John Herris, *anno* 1375.

This barony is completely inclosed and properly divided. It contained of old a great many villages, Drum-town, Drum-holm, Drum-muir, Awalls, Norman-knows, and Tod-hills. It was famous for a coallery, and no doubt much coal as well as lime stone may still be found, since the water which so much obstructed the work is now drained, by means of those levels which have been made of late on the north east side.

The Barony of Goodtrees, now Moredun.

North west from Drum is Goodtrees, now called Moredun. It was antiently possessed by the Herrises. Afterwards it came to the family of Lord Somerville, by the marriage before mentioned, together

ther with Drum and the half of Gilmerton. Next it belonged to the Maccullochs*. It became at length the property of the Stewarts, by the marriage of Marrion, only daughter and heiress of David Macculloch, of Goodtrees, and widow of Sir John Elliot Advocate, with Sir James Stewart of Kirkfield and Coltness, Knight, a merchant in Edinburgh and Lord Provost of that city *anno* 1649, and again in 1659; but he was dismissed at the Restoration on account of his adherence to the Covenant. Sir James was second son of James Stewart Baron of Allanton, the eighth generation in descent from Sir John Stewart of Bonkyll, who was killed at the battle of Falkirk *anno* 1298, and was second son of Alexander, sixth Lord High Stewart of Scotland. Sir James Stewart of Coltness, Goodtrees, and Westheil, Baronet, great-grand-son of the above Sir James of Kirkfield, in 1755 sold it to Mr M'Kenzie of Delvin. And from him Baron Stewart Moncrief purchased it in 1769, who gave it the appellation of Moredun.

The house, which is neat and commodious, with the most part of the plantations around it, were, soon after the Revolution, reared up by Sir James Stewart of Goodtrees, who was Lord Advocate from 1692 until 1713, one year excepted †, and who had a principal hand in all the transactions of that very important period. The situation of the house resembles those in France. The gardens and plantations are to the south. It fronts and is open to the north, with a full view of Edinburgh, the adjacent country, and the Frith of Forth, and a large extent of the hills in Fife and Perthshire. The house is most neatly furnished, and greatly ornamented by the present proprietor, Baron Stewart Moncrief.

Almost

* Session Records.

† Ibidem.

Almost opposite to the principal entry and vestibule, is a very pretty yew tree. An avenue of limes runs parallel to the house on the north side, makes a very showy appearance in summer, and affords an agreeable covered walk.

In the garden next to the house, is a green-house newly erected. Around this garden is a large gravel walk, with a green terrace to the south, in which, from a certain station, there is a view of the Castle of Craig-Millar, of the Castle of Edinburgh, and of the Tower and Fortalice of Upper Liberton. On the west corner, parallel to the house, is a beautiful artificial mount, on which are two stately and majestic elms. In the garden south of this, are two hot-houses; the eastern one for pine apples, and that on the west for vines. On the south west corner, without the wall, is another hot-house for pine apples. In the garden east from this, adjoining to the north wall of the other garden, is a hot-house no less than two hundred and fifty six feet in length, for peaches and nectarines. And south east from this, in the same garden, is another hot-house, but much smaller, for early vines.—Here peaches, and nectarines, and various other rich fruits appear earlier, and in greater perfection, than any where else. The fruit trees upon the walls are very exuberant, and make a most splendid appearance in the season: Nothing can possibly exceed it. The greatest order is observed with respect to the gardens, and every thing is directed and managed with the utmost exactness and propriety. Strangers greatly admire them, and so doth every person of taste who visits them.

Around the inclosure, which is considerably extensive on the north side of the avenue which runs parallel to the house, is a gravel walk, with various covered seats at proper distances. On each side is a shrubbery, which is very agreeable, and has a fine aspect. On the east side of this inclosure, upon the wall, are excellent wall fruits.

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The field likewise is diversified by two sunk fences, by various stately trees in different places, as if they had fallen accidentally from the hand of Nature; and, in the lower part, is intersected by a beautiful winding rivulet. Over it is a handsome timber bridge. On both sides of the rivulet, is a good deal of pleasure-ground, which contains a great many charming walks, and a variety of other embellishments. Here is a Chinese temple. Here are diverse statues, which are very elegant, and considered as master-pieces of the kind.—In viewing even this spot at a distance, one must be agreeably entertained.

In the barony of Moredun there was formerly a noted coallery. There were several small villages, such as Couch-a-brae-head, Burnside, and Parkend, of which at present there are no vestiges, and a great many inhabitants.

Dame Marion Macculloch, spouse of Sir James Stewart of Kirkfield, and step-mother of Lord Advocate, mortified 500 merks *, for educating some poor scholars †. It is presumed these poor scholars should belong to the barony. The interest of the above sum is paid annually to the schoolmaster of the parish, from the lands of Goodtrees, formerly called Kirkfield, now Moredun.

The Barony of Stainhouse.

Contiguous to the barony of Moredun, is that of Stainhouse. It was antiently possessed by the Melvills. We find John Melvill, who was of the family of Carnbie, resigns it in July 7. 1500, in favour of John

* L. 27 : 15 : 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling.

† Records of Kirk Session.

John first Lord Ross of Halkhead *. About the year 1740, George Lord Ross did parcel it out into several feudal tenures. What was due on these feudal tenures and the superiority, were purchased by the late Lord Somerville, before the year 1760, from the heirs of the last Lord Ross. The feodaries or feuers, like others who have landed property, are subjected to every parochial taxation.

The North Kaimies of old belonged to this barony, as did St. Katherines. The latter consists just of 40 acres, sufficiently inclosed, and divided into different fields. From 1711 until 1714, it was the property of one Alexander Brown †. Mr Crawford of Auchinames possessed it for many years. The late proprietor was Mr Stewart from Jamaica. The present, Mr Hume from East Florida. He is superior of North Kaimies and Burnhead, called Westfield. In both he has the property of coal and limestone.

St. Katherines, Balm-Well, and Chapel.

At St. Katherines is a famous well. Oily substances of a black colour are continually floating on the surface. These are called Petroleum. Remove as many of them as you please, still the same quantity, it has been observed, remains. It is called the Balm-Well of St. Katherine. It was much frequented in antient times, and considered as a sovereign remedy for several cutaneous distempers. It owes its origin, it is said, to a miracle in this manner: St. Katherine had a commission from St. Margaret, consort of Malcolm Canmore, to bring a quantity of oil from Mount Sinai. In this very place, she happened, by some accident or other, to lose a few drops of it, and, on her

S f 2

earnest

* In Archivis Familiae de Ross.

† Session Records.

earnest supplication, the well appeared as just now described. When King James VI. was in Scotland, in 1617, he went to visit it; and ordered that it should be fenced in with stones from bottom to top, and that a door and stair case should be made for it, that people might have the more easy access unto the oily substances which floated always above, and which were deemed of so much importance. The Royal command being immediately obeyed, the well was greatly adorned, and continued so until the year 1650, when Cromwell's soldiers not only defaced it, but almost totally destroyed it. It was repaired, indeed, after the Restoration, but it did not appear to such advantage as before.

Hard by this well a chapel was erected, and dedicated to St. Margaret. St. Katherine was buried in the chapel, and the place where her bones lie is still pointed out unto strangers. Some persons yet alive remember to have seen the chapel; and it was observed, that he who pulled it down was ever afterwards unprosperous. The ground around it was consecrated for burying. It is considered as the most antient place of worship in the parish. After the nunnery at the Sheens was founded, the nuns there made an annual solemn procession to this chapel and well, in honour of St. Katherine*.

A little

* The account which Boecius gives of the well and chapel of St. Katherine, is in the following words:

“ Ab hoc oppido,” Edinburgo, “ plus minus duobus passuum millibus, fons cui olei guttae innatant, scatturit ea vi, ut si nihil inde collegeris, nihilo plus confluat; quantumvis autem abstuleris nihilo minus remaneat. Natam esse aiunt effuso illic oleo Divae Catharinae, quod ad Divam Margaritam, ex Monte Sinai adferebatur. Fidem rei faciunt, Fonti nomen Divae Catharinae inditum, atque in ejusdem honorem facellum juxta, Divae Margaritae jussu aedificatum. Valet hoc oleum contra varias cutis scabrics.”

—*Boec. Hist. p. 6. lin. 42—48.*

A little east from St. Katherine's, is a rising ground called Priest-Hill, which, with some acres adjoining, formerly belonged to the barony of Goodtrees.

Southfield.

East from this is Southfield, the property of Mr. Miller of Dalwinton. It scarcely amounts to twenty acres. It is completely inclosed, and laid out with great taste. The house is neat, and rendered exceedingly commodious by the additions lately made.

The garden, the plantations, and pleasure grounds, merit the utmost applause. This every one must be sensible of, who visits them.

All the fine improvements here have been accomplished in a very few years. Southfield was a mere piece of outfield ground, belonging to the barony of Stainhouse.

Stainhouse.

Adjoining to Southfield, is the village of Stainhouse, on both sides of the rivulet, consisting of a great number of inhabitants. On the north east side is a fine garden, where, a few years ago, there were only the marks and traces of a lime stone quarry.

Greenend.

North east from Stainhouse, is the village of Greenend, in which a decent house was lately built, overlooking the pleasure ground of Moredun. Contiguous to this is the house of Greenpark, which likewise enjoys a very agreeable site.

Craigs.

Craigs.

And hard by Greenend, on the north east, are the inclosures and plantations of Mr Peter Inglis, merchant in Edinburgh. The garden evidences much taste. It is in the form of a crescent, and all around abounds with fruit trees of the finest kinds. A handsome and elegant house is just now rearing up. It fronts to the south east. It has a very splendid portico, with a balcony above it. On each side of the portico is a large Venetian window. Here certainly is a fine situation for a house. The prospect of the castle and city of Edinburgh is most delightful, and so is that to the eastern coast. The ground to the south, which is bounded by an agreeable rivulet, is rich and fertile, and the several plantations appear in good order and very prosperous.

All the improvements here, as well as at Southfield, are but of a very late date. The most part of the ground, though all inclosed, was rocky and almost useless.

Nellfield.

West from the Craigs, the place now described, is Nellfield. Here is a most agreeable, extensive, and variegated prospect. The house is good. The garden is properly laid out, produces the best sorts of fruits, and is always in good order. There are a good many trees, considering the small extent of the ground; for it consists only of ten acres. It is completely inclosed.

Kirklands.

On the north east extremity of the Craigs, are what are called the
Kirklands.

Kirklands. These were certainly church lands, and belonged to the chapel or church of Liberton. Their extent is not much above five acres. Of late they constituted part of the barony of Goodtrees.

The Barony of Craig-Millar and Nether Liberton.

Contiguous to Kirklands, is the barony of Craig-Millar and Nether Liberton. The antient mansion house was at Craig-Millar, called by Lesly and Buchannan *Crag-Millarium*. Its etymology is from a Gaelic original, for *Craig-moil-ard* signifies "a rock, bare and high, "running out into a plain." And with this the situation properly corresponds.

Castle of Craig-Millar.

This was of old a noted castle. It is of a square form, and consists of a variety of apartments. The great hall is large and splendid, and well lighted, considering the mode of antient times. Here, on the east end, are blazoned the arms of Cockburn of Ormiston, Congalton of that ilk, Moubray of Barnbogle, and Otterburn of Redford. With these antient families, the Prestons, who were so long proprietors of Craig-Millar, were nearly connected. On the south side of this hall, is what is called the drawing-room, which is a handsome enough apartment. It overlooks the orchard and adjacent fields.

Below this, in the orchard, was a well, which is now almost filled with rubbish; from thence the water was conveyed into the castle by means of a machine. The stair by which you ascend into the great hall, is large and commodious; and indeed none of the stairs can be said to be of difficult access, as is the case in many other old fabrics. The roof is still covered with square stones, and there is a
gentle

gentle tapering towards the top. It has been surrounded on all sides with battlements and parapets, and these remain as yet pretty entire. Here we have a most extensive view on all hands. Nothing can possibly exceed it.

It fronts to the north; and over one of the doors is carved in stone a press and a barrel or ton, in allusion to the name of Preston. A Barmkyn or thick rampart wall thirty feet high, with parapets and turrets or watch houses, encompasses it. The inner court is of considerable extent: On the west end of which, is a very large building consisting of several very stately apartments. It was built in 1661 by Sir John Gilmour, Lord President of the Court of Session, and for some time was the mansion house of the family. The outer court is large and spacious; the entry to it is from the east. On the west side of this court was erected a Protestant Presbyterian meeting house, upon the indulgence granted by James VII. On the east was the chapel, and the font and other sacred appendices are still to be seen; but is now converted into a stable.

There is no evidence for ascertaining when this very magnificent castle was built; but the Barmkyn or rampart wall, as appears from the inscription on the gate, was built in 1427.

Here John Earl of Marr, a younger brother of James III. was confined in 1477*. For some time it was the residence of James V. during his minority, when he left Edinburgh castle on account of the plague; and in this castle the Queen Dowager his mother had, by favour of Lord Erskine his constant attendant and guardian, frequent interviews with him, whilst the Duke of Albany the governor,

* Ferrerius, fol. 391.—Lefl. Hist. p. 307.

vernor, was in France*. It was taken, was much demolished, and a great deal of it burned, according to Pitcottie †, by the English in 1543.

Here Queen Mary chose to reside, as much as she possibly could, after her return from France, in 1561. On that account her French servants took up their residence in the neighbouring village, which, from that circumstance, had the appellation of Little France: And the name is still retained. There is a room in the castle which goes under the name of Queen Mary, for it is said she slept in it; and it is always shown to strangers. It is situated immediately under the fourth east turret, and has a fire place. But it is not much above seven feet long and five broad, and therefore it could not have been a bed-room.

The orchard is on the south side, and immediately adjoining to the castle. It consists of two acres. It was once certainly of great value. Now there are only a few old fruit trees in it.

On the west of the orchard, is a pond in the form of the letter P, in allusion probably to the surname of the Prestons, who possessed it so long. It has a row of trees on both sides. There are two small islands in the south west part of it. In each of these a hawthorn tree has been planted. Opposite to the pond, a handsome stair-case leads down from what was formerly the bowling green.

West from this is a small inclosure with trees around it. On the rising ground directly west from this, is some old planting, with the vestiges of a large road, and trenches on every hand. On each side of the castle are tufts of young trees.

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* Lefl. Hist. p. 368.

Pitcottie, p. 330.

The whole farm of Craig-Millar is in a manner inclosed. The ground in general is fertile, especially towards the eastern extremity. Most of the grain which it produces, yields a high price. The meadow on the south of Craig-Millar must in former times have been very pleasant, for it reached from Little France to Niddry-Marshall. A great deal of this is at present in tillage, and is much more beneficial to the farmer than if it had continued in its natural state.

In the hill of Craig-Millar there are several quarries of fine free-stone, and they may be supposed to add considerably to the yearly income of the proprietor; since they are so near Edinburgh, and since the buildings there are still going on in a very rapid manner.

Craig-Millar antiently belonged to the Craig-Millars of that ilk; for it appears from Haddington's Collections, that there was a charter of mortification in the reign of Alexander II. *anno* 1212, "A Willielmo, filio Henrici de Craig-Millar," by which he gives in pure and perpetual alms to the church and monastery of Dumfermling "Quendam toftum terre in Craig-Millar, in aufrali parte que ducit de villa de Niddrief, ad ecclesiam de Liberton, quem Henricus de Edmonfton de me tenet."

Craig-Millar afterwards became the property of John de Capella. Who this John de Capella was, is uncertain. Perhaps he had the appellation of John de Capella from the chapel or church of Liberton. But, whoever he was, Sir Symon de Preston purchased it from him in 1374*. The family of Preston, as is evident from the public records, distinguished themselves long before this period. After this, they had the title often of Craig-Millar, sometimes of Gourton,

* Chart. in Rotulis Roberti II.

ton, as well as of Preston of that ilk. In the reign of James II. William of Prestoun of Gourton, as he is stiled, had travelled far, and been at much pains and expence in procuring the arm bone of St. Giles, which he generously bestowed on the church of St. Giles at Edinburgh. For these reasons, on his decease, the Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh engaged to build over his sepulchre an aile, to have his crest cut out in a conspicuous manner, with a motto, intimating what he had done with so much zeal and fidelity for the church; and to cause his armorial bearing, engraven on marble, to be put up in three different places of the aile. Besides, it was expressly ordered, that his male representative should have the honour in all future processions, to bear this relict*. This was a singular grant which the family of Preston enjoyed, and they retained possession of it until the Reformation. The arms of the Prestons are not only in the aile just now mentioned, but in several other places of the church of St. Giles, which shows they have been great benefactors to it. A son of the above William of Prestoun of Gourton, called also William, was a member of the parliament that met at Edinburgh June 1. 1478. He is stiled "Dominus de Craig-Millar †." The Prestons continued in possession of Craig-Millar almost three hundred years; and during that period they maintained an eminent character, were distinguished by many public marks of respect, and had great influence in the neighbouring city.

August 24. 1565, Sir Symon Preston of Craig-Millar and of that ilk, was recommended by Queen Mary, with her husband Darnley, as a proper person to be elected provost of Edinburgh. The recommendation was successful, and the preferment immediately took

T t 2

place.

* See Appendix, No. II.

† Records of Parliament.

place*. We find him Provost of Edinburgh in 1567, and that the Queen lodged in his house in town the fatal night she left the army at Caer-Berry hill †. At the same time he was a member of the privy council ‡. And, as Provost, he represented the city in the Parliament held at Edinburgh, the 5th December 1567 §. He subscribed the association which was entered into that year ||.

At Craig-Millar, the arms of the Prestons are on the outer gate, on the inner gate, on the gate that leads to the bowling green, on the turret adjoining to it, and on the east front above a small door. Above their arms, on the inner gate, are the arms of Scotland, probably to show that the castle belonged to the King in time of war, or during any tumults and commotions. Sir Charles Preston of Valleyfield, is the lineal male representative of the Prestons of Craig-Millar, or of that ilk.

Craig-Millar, about the time of the Restoration, came to the family of Gilmour. Two sons of that family distinguished themselves greatly by their assiduity and abilities in the law line. One of them, Sir John, before mentioned, was advanced to be Lord President of the Court of Session; and the other, Andrew, became an eminent counsellor at law, and had also the honour of knighthood. The President had a number of children, was connected with the best families in Scotland, was much regarded in the character of a Judge, and, with respect to affairs of State, might justly be said to be at the helm; for he was always consulted, and his counsels were much respected.

* Keith's Appendix, p. 106.

† Keith's Hist. p. 402, 409, 410.

‡ Whitaker, Vol. I. p. 297.

§ Anderson's Coll. Vol. II. p. 229.

|| Ibidem, p. 134.

spected*. Sir Alexander Gilmour is the lineal male representative of the family. He represented the county in two Parliaments, as his father, Sir Charles, did before him. Sir Charles died whilst he was member of Parliament, at Montpellier in France, *anno* 1750.

The Inch.

The family of Gilmour, who resided first at Craig-Millar, came afterwards to reside at the Inch, which signifies an island: And indeed it well deserves that name. It was antiently encompassed with water, and the entry to it was by a draw-bridge. And sometimes, after very great rains, all the grounds around the house are covered with water, and on that account all access to it is obstructed †. The Inch Place is called the King's Inch; and it belonged to the Abbey of Haly-rud-house, as appears from a charter granted in the fourteenth year

* The character of these two brothers, while at the bar, we have from the celebrated Sir George M'Kenzie, their contemporary, in the following words: "Gilmoriorum senior sine ullo juris civilis auxilio doctissimus, raro miraculo, dici poterat; ingenio que suo praxin, fori Scotici juri etiam Romano aequabat. Illum jura potius ponere quam de jure respondere dixisses; eique appropinquabant clientes tanquam judici potius quam advocato. Quasi alter etiam Hercules nodosa, et nulla arte propolita clava, adversarios prostravit; sine rhetorica eloquens, sine literis doctus.

"Gilmoriorum junior vigore potius quam studio orabat. Ille dicendi modum genio suo adeo consonum educavit, ut quid natura, quid ars dictasset, vix distingui poterat: Qua natura enim produxit adeo polita erant, ut arte limata viderentur. Ingenii hujus arbiter non tyrannus, nunc senatoria gravitate dictabat, nunc comica faceta ludebat, nunc amplissimam materiam paucis exhauriebat, nunc sterilem insperata foecunditate dictabat. Quasi omnia iis licerent, qui omnia possunt! Nemo plus ingenio suo imperavit, nemo plus indulxit; junioribus advocatis innata generositate semper favens, eorum laudibus supra omnes est evehctus, pecunia contemptor, famae avarus."—*Nicolson's Scottish Historical Library*, p. 369, 370.

† This was the case in 1760. And by this means the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages suffered greatly.

year of James II. *. The house here, were it kept in good order is far from being inconsiderable. It is not in the least damp, though it stands low. On the top of a part of the main roof, just above the principal door, is a balcony from which you have an agreeable view of the adjacent country and city. But the design of it was not solely for a prospect, but to enable the proprietor to defend himself more effectually, and ward off the assaults of his enemies. The oldest date here is 1617, and this is above the door just now mentioned. There is another date, viz. 1634, above a window in the lower part of the house, with certain initials, which denote that the Winrams possessed it. These Winrams were descended of the Winrams of Woolston or Wiston in Clydesdale. They seemed to be zealous during the civil wars on the side of the covenanters. It is strange then, that they should have been so attached to James, VII. and followed his fortune at the Revolution! They not only possessed the Inch house, and the fields adjoining to it, but the greater part, if not the whole, of the lands of Nether Liberton. They were likewise, as already observed, proprietors of a part of Upper or Over Liberton.

The garden at the Inch lies on the east side of the house. It consists of two acres, and is finely fenced on all hands by a high wall. The principal avenue is of limes, and looks well. There are a good many old stately trees, consisting mostly of ashes, elms, and sycamores. There are only a few oaks.

West from the principal avenue, is a rising ground called the King's hill. It was formerly planted with firs, which were demolished on the windy Saturday 1739. On this account it goes frequently under the name of the Fir-hill. The grass here is rich, as

* Records in the Laigh Parliament House, Edinburgh.

is always the case where firs have grown. There was a design to have the main avenue cut through this hill. The work was begun, but never executed.

There are several good inclosures around the Inch, and, as they are near the city, are generally let out to great advantage.

Bridgend.

East from the Inch, is the village of Bridgend, where James V. erected a hunting house. It was situated in the forest of Drumselch, so famous, as already noticed, for hunting. The initials of his name, the arms of Scotland, and betwixt them, the sketch of a huge edifice, all neatly cut out in stone, were to be seen a few years ago on the gate. They are now placed above the door of a farm house lately built. Adjoining to this hunting house, which shows the piety of our antient monarch, was a handsome chapel. A niche, in which stood the statue of some saint, and other sacred appurtenances, are still to be seen in it; but this chapel, like that at Craig-Millar, is converted into a stable.

————— Quid intactum nefasti
Liquimus?

HOR.

Nether Liberton.

West from the Inch, is the village of Nether Liberton, consisting of many inhabitants. On a rocky rising ground in the middle of the town, is erected a decent cross. Here is a mill certainly the oldest in the parish, the tithes of which, as already observed, were bestowed by St. David on the Abbey of Haly-rud-house.

Robert

Robert the Bruce, in the twentieth year of his reign, grants to the monastery of the Blackfriars in Edinburgh, six merks *, and enjoins them to be paid out of his mill of Nether Liberton †.

The rivulet Braids burn, runs through the village, and consequently the inhabitants must be well supplied with the best of water.

The Burrow Moor.

West from Nether Liberton, is the Burrow Moor, famous of old for the rendezvous of our armies, when we were to engage in war. Here James IV. in 1513, reviewed his troops before they set out for the fatal field of Flouden †.

On this moor, in the reign of David II. Randolph Earl of Murray defeated the young Earl of Namur and his brother, who led a gallant train of knights, and their followers, and were marching to Edinburgh in order to join Edward III. and the English army quartered at that time in Perth. On this moor also, April 30. 1571, a party belonging to Lennox the Regent, and commanded by two of his Captains, Hume and Ramsay, defeated a detachment sent from the Castle by Grange to pursue them, besides a number of volunteers of the first rank, from the city, who had espoused their cause §. There were two engagements: The first happened at the Powburn, the
boundary

* L. o : 6 : 8 Sterling.

† Spottiswood on Religious Houses, p. 270. Keith's edition.

‡ Maitland's History of Edinburgh, page 178.

§ Lennox's party, according to some Historians, consisted of 120 foot, and 30 horsemen; Grange's, of 150 musketeers, and 50 pikemen. Among the volunteers on Grange's side, were the Earl of Huntly, the Lords Hume, Coldinghame, and Kilwinning, each of them attended by two horsemen.

boundary betwixt Liberton and the West Kirk, or St. Cuthbert's parish. Grange's men had no chance. They were soon driven back, with considerable loss, as far as the Kirk of the Field, within the liberties of the city: But, being joined by a great number of citizens in arms, they obliged the two captains to make a retreat. They immediately pursued them, and continued to do so with great forwardness, until they faced about at a rising ground in the muir called Loufie Law. They could not possibly maintain their ground. They were shamefully discomfited a second time, and obliged to shelter themselves in the city, with double the loss they had formerly sustained. The rencounter was commonly called the Battle of Loufie Law. And, small and inconsiderable as it was, it introduced a vigorous war betwixt the two factions, which, without intermission, continued for two full years *.

The Burrow Moor, where the scenes just now mentioned happened, is at present well cultivated, and of much value. At that time it was full of aged oaks: And it is observed, that the timber of which all the wooden houses in Edinburgh were built was taken from thence †. The durability of the timber has been greatly admired, and often taken notice of in high strains of panygeric.

The Burrow Moor belonged to the Nuns of the Siens ‡. They had a charter of confirmation granted them by James V. in 1516. The title of the charter runs thus: "Charta confirmationis Sorrorum Sanctae Katharinae de Senis super moram Edinburgi."

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* Crawford of Drumfoyle's Memoirs, page 177. 178.

† Maitland's History of Edinburgh.

‡ So called from St. Katharine of Sienna, an Italian. Spottiswood on Religious houses, page 280. Keith's edition.

The barony of Nether Liberton and Craig-Millar is certainly the most profitable and commodious barony in the whole parish. It is in the neighbourhood of the metropolis; and by this means manure may be obtained without any great expence. It is almost all inclosed, and contains a great deal of very good ground. It is, indeed, intersected by four very public roads, which, no doubt, is an inconvenience. But, although it extends from Blackford hill to the boundaries of Niddry-Marshall, yet no other proprietor comes in to interrupt it. The situation affords the greatest variety of product and of prospect; and, for this reason, it may be considered as a pleasant, as well as a most advantageous barony. It was, however, formerly far more extensive; for Craig Lockhart, Peffer Mill, Cairntous, a great many lands in Corstorphin, and divers other tenements, belonged unto it.

But, let it be observed, before finishing what we have to say concerning this barony, that Sir William Ramsay of Dalhousie had a grant from David II. of the lands of Nether Liberton, by a charter dated the 24th of October, in the year 1369*. How long he, or his successors, continued in these lands we know not. Probably one or other of them sold them to the Winrams. It is commonly said, that some of the Peacock's who possessed Nether Liberton so long as tenants, and flourished once so much in that capacity, were proprietors of at least a part of it.

The lands of Craig-Millar hold blench of the Crown for a penny † only, to be paid at a certain term each year, if demanded on the ground, in acknowledgement of the superiority, 'nomine Albae firmae ‡.'

Camron.

* Chart. in Archivis Regis Davidis II.

† One-twelfth of a penny Sterling.

‡ Register of Entails, Edinburgh.

Camron.

North from the Inch are the lands of Camron, so called from their situation on a crooked rivulet; for *Camron*, in Gaelic, denotes a crooked stream. They are now completely inclosed, and properly divided. They once belonged to the Prestons of Craig-Millar; next to Sir James Hamilton, a second son of the family of Haddington*; afterwards to Sir Robert Murray †; from whom Sir James Dick of Prestonfield purchased them before the Revolution. He was the eldest son of Alexander of Heugh, fourth son of Sir William Dick of Braid, Bart. who was the richest subject in Scotland in his time. He was a merchant in Edinburgh, and was Lord Provost of that city in the years 1638 and 1639. His ships traded to the Baltick, the Mediterranean, and to the coasts of Holland, France, Spain, and Portugal; but he was ruined by the Covenanters, to whom he advanced large sums of money, which were never repaid; and he died in prison for debt, at Westminster, the 19th of December 1655. In his petitions to the parliament for repayment, he set forth his great poverty and necessity; but the *members*, believing that he was possessed of the secret of the *philosopher's stone!* replied, that they knew his necessity, and that he was able to eat *pye-crust* when others could only get *plain bread*.

Sir William Dick had issue five sons, viz. 1. John, who died before his father. 2. Sir Andrew of Craighouse. 3. William of Grange. Their male lines are extinct. 4. Alexander, whose son James was a merchant in Edinburgh. By his success in trade he acquired the extensive barony of Corstorphin, the barony of Prestonfield, and the

U u 2

lands

* Scotstarvet's Staggering State, page 71.

† Session Records.

lands of Camron and Clermiston. He was knighted the 2d of March 1677, by King Charles II. with whom he was in great favour. He was Lord Provost of Edinburgh in the years 1682 and 1683, and was created a Baronet of Scotland, by patent dated the 22d of March 1707, with destination, failing the heirs male of his own body, "*haec redibus masculis de corpore Dominae Janetæ Dick, secundum talliam statui de Prestonfield hætenus factam.*"—He died *anno* 1728, in his 85th year, leaving his only daughter, Janet, his heiress, who was married to Sir William Cuninghame of Caprington, Baronet, to whom she had three sons, viz. 1. Sir John Cuninghame, who succeeded his father in the estate and title of Caprington. 2. Sir William Dick, who succeeded to the estates of Prestonfield, &c. and to his grandfather's title of Baronet, in terms of the patent and entail; but he dying without issue, *anno* 1746, was succeeded by his immediate younger brother, 3. Sir Alexander Dick, then settled in England as a physician, and practising with a celebrity and success worthy an *élève* of the illustrious *Boerhaave*. On his succession to the family honours, he relinquished the profession of medicine, and retired, with patriotism and dignity, to his estate of Prestonfield, near Edinburgh, where he lived in the constant exertion of all his faculties, for the promotion of the happiness and prosperity of his family, his friends, and his country. He was, by repeated unanimous elections, seven years successively President of the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh, an honour to which none has since attained; and at all the public meetings of the county and city, &c. the respect and weight of Sir Alexander's character had a just and conspicuous influence. His benevolence of heart, his hospitality, and public spirit, accompanied with the gentlest and most amiable manners, improved by travel, by an elegant classical knowledge, and by an extensive correspondence with many of the most learned and eminent characters of the age, continued undiminished throughout the course of a long and useful life, which he spent universally esteemed and

and beloved, and finished, without pain, universally regretted, on the 10th November 1785, in the 83d year of his age.

Quando heu ullum inveniemus parem!

He left behind him two daughters, Janet and Anne, by his first lady, Janet, eldest daughter of Alexander Dick representative of Craighouse. By his second lady, Mary, eldest daughter of David Butler, Esq; of Pembrokehire, he had three sons, viz. 1. Sir William, his successor. 2. John, bred to the study of the law. And, 3. Robert Keith. And three daughters, 1. Elizabeth. 2. Mary. And, 3. Margaret.

The fifth son of Sir William Dick of Braid was Lewis; whose heir male and representative is Sir John Dick, Bart. comptroller of the army accounts.

I find, from the chartulary of Kelso, that Easter Duddingston, which belonged to that monastery, had a servitude on the lands of Camron for peats. And, indeed, certain traces of moss still appear in several places of the garden at Common Myre. And let it be observed, for the encouragement of improvement, that what was only waste ground, and considered almost as useless thirty or forty years ago, is now a fine garden, and abounds in all kinds of vegetable productions. This sufficiently verifies what the poet has asserted,

"Labor omnia vincit."—Virg. Geor. i. 145.

The large inclosure at Camron, which is called the Cellar Park, because a cellar was once kept in it for the selling of liquor, is accounted the oldest laid down grass in the parish, and affords exceeding

ing good pasture. Here the vestiges of certain fortifications are very conspicuous. They begin at the rivulet. They run on the west of the house through the Cellar Park; and, after intersecting the public road, run about a furlong to the north; and from thence run east to the lake at Duddingston. In this lake were found, of late, various warlike weapons of brass, and human bones, which were presented by the late Sir Alexander Dick, the proprietor, to the Antiquarian Society of Edinburgh. The water at Camron is particularly fine. The grounds are intersected by the rivulet, which has the name of Clear-burn. It arises from the hill above Craig-Lockhart, and runs by Egypt and Blackford.

At Camron, in 1770, was built a neat, and very convenient house. It fronts to the east: And opposite to the front, is a pond, in the form of a crescent. The site of the new house is much higher than that of the old, and consequently favoured with a more extensive view.

Peffer-Mill.

East from Camron are the lands of Peffer-Mill. *Peffer*, in Gaelic, means an artificial *cut*. Here, probably, the rivulet was cut for some purpose or other; and this seems to be the reason of the appellation *Peffer*. These lands consist of the acres belonging to the mill, and what is called the King's Meadow. The latter certainly appertained to the King, whose name it bears, and who had a favourite hunting house at Bridgend. It lies on both sides of the rivulet, which, from Braid, runs by Nether Liberton. It is very fertile. No doubt, when it continued in its natural state, it exhibited a mighty fine prospect. The house at Peffer-Mill is stronger, and much thicker in the walls, than modern houses, and plainly shews the taste of the last century. It was built in 1636, by one Edgar, whose arms, impaled with those
of

of his wife, are still to be seen above the principal door, with the following inscription: "*Quod vult dat Deus. Dum spiro, spero.*" The house of Peffer-Mill, although in a manner encompassed with water, is far from being damp. The rivulet which passes the house pervades the whole improvements of Lord Abercorn; and, by a variety of modes, is made to increase the beauty of the place. It issues into the sea at the Feegot * whins.

At Peffer-Mill is a bleachfield for gauze and thread, which employs a great many hands.

The lands of Peffer-Mill thrive best in a dry season; and this is not the case with the country around. They are inclosed. They belonged, as before observed, to the estate of Craig-Millar and Nether Liberton. Sir Alexander Gilmour still continues superior, and has a considerable allowance upon the entry of every new vassal. Edgar, before mentioned, purchased them from the predecessors of Sir Alexander Gilmour. They came next to the Osburns, after that to the Alexanders, and from them to Dr Neilson. The present proprietor is Major George Ramsay of Whitehill.

There is a feu, or feudal tenure, belonging to Peffer-Mill, which contains a house and a garden. It is called Red-house, from one Dr Red, who was the first feu or feodary, who built the house, and planned and executed the garden.

Cairn-tous, or Kairn-tous.

East from Peffer-Mill is the farm of Cairn-tous. It derives its etymology from a Gaelic original. *Cairn*, or *Kairn*, in that language,
is

* *Feegot* is an Anglo-Saxon word, which signifies a cow's ditch.

is applied to a rocky rising ground, and *tous* signifies the beginning. Cairn, or Kairn-tous, that is, the beginning of the rocky rising ground. And this etymology seems to be just, as it borders on Craig-Millar. It was sold about 1741 to Mr James Davidson of Halltree. It is all well inclosed, and properly divided and subdivided. It is reckoned very good ground.

The Barony of Niddry-Marshall.

East from Cairn-tous is the barony and house of Niddry-Marshall. *Niddry*, in Gaelic, signifies the *King's Champion*, and denotes that it once was the place of his residence *. It received the appellation of Niddry-Marshall from the Wauchopes, who, in ancient times, were guardians of part of the south borders of Scotland, and hence were denominated Marshals †. By this means it was distinguished from Niddry in East Lothian, called Lang-Niddry, and from Niddry-Seton in West Lothian, which, two centuries ago, was the property of the Setons.

Niddry-house, which exhibits a venerable appearance, was begun by Sir Francis Wauchope of Niddry-Marshall, and finished by his son, Sir John, according to the mode of the preceding age. The initials of the names of both, with those of their ladies, are still to be seen on the south side of the house; and betwixt these initials, the date 1636 is inserted. There is a handsome scale stair, by which you ascend into the west part of the house. Above this is a battlement, intended, no doubt, as a means of defence, as well as for a view. The drawing-room below is large and splendid. It is well
lighted

* *Niadh*, in Gaelic, signifies Champion; *Ri*, *Riogh*, signifies a King.—Shaw's Gaelic Dictionary.

† By information of Lord Hailes.

lighted from the south, and ornamented with a variety of family pictures. On the north-east, a wing was built by the late laird, and joined by a colonade to the main house, which makes a very important addition, and renders the whole much more commodious.

The house fronts to the north. From thence is opened a large avenue, which has the eastern Lomond-law for its object. The principal entry to the house is from the west; and it receives great advantage, in point of prospect, from the plantations on that hand, and from the farm house lately erected, which is far superior to any thing of the like kind in the neighbourhood.

The Chapel of Niddry-Marshall.

The Chapel, called *Capella de Nudry-Merschale*, stood at the west end of the house. Nothing at present remains of it, but what is used for the burying place of the family; the entry to which is now much ornamented, but in a very decent manner. It was built, as appears from an inscription on the inside, by Robert Wauchope of Niddry-Merschale, 1387. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and, as is expressed in the original charter, "in honorem sancte crucis." It held of Haly-rud-house. The clergyman who officiated here in 1502, was stiled "Dominus Willielmus Werok," and, besides other possessions and emoluments, had a manse, an acre of ground for a glebe, the privilege of having two cows fed in the common pasture, and twelve merks * paid him yearly, at the two usual terms, from the lands of Pylmuir, in the parish of Currie, which, with Revelrig, at that time, and until of late, belonged to the barony of Niddry-Marshall †.

X x

The

* L. 0:13:3 Sterling.

† See Appendix, No I. Chart. 2.—This chapel was destroyed by a mob from Edinburgh, after they had demolished the royal chapel of Holyroodhouse, anno 1688.

The garden, which is extensive, and still further to be extended, is situated on the east and west of the house. A great many improvements have of late been made. The adjoining rivulet, and what hath been done there, add great beauty unto the whole.

The burying place of the inhabitants of Niddry-Marshall lies on the south-west of the garden. It was formerly around the chapel. The alteration only took place in 1685.

On the south of the inclosures is a large avenue; the prospect from which is bounded, on the one hand, by North Berwick Law, and the other by the eastern summit of Pentland-hills, above Swanston. From this avenue another is cut out, at right angles, to the north, which fronts Inchkeith, where a royal fort was erected in the reign of Queen Mary; and the ruins of it still appear, even at this distance.

The pleasure grounds here are sufficiently extensive. A great many single trees are planted through the inclosures, and form an agreeable variety. There are a great many sycamores and ashes. The largest tree in the parish is a sycamore, on the north-east side of the house, on the western bank of the rivulet*. The stately ash, in the main entry to the house, makes a grand figure. Opposite to it is an opening in the garden wall, made on purpose for a view of it.

The old village of Niddry-Marshall was situated on the east and west of the house, on both sides of the rivulet. The public road passed through it. It contained a great many inhabitants †. The chief villages now are the Mill-town, and what is called Hunter's-hall,

* It is just fourteen feet and seven inches in circumference, a yard above the surface.

† It contained three hundred families, three breweries, and fourteen houses which sold liquor.

hall, where they who are engaged in the colliery reside, and where a fire engine is erecting, which, it is hoped, will be successful. A few years ago there were fifty colliers; at present only five or six. So early as the 1700, the colliery here was considerable, as appears from the books.

Not many years ago, in the grounds belonging to the North Mains, were found, in different places, sepulchral stone inclosures, with human bones of a very large size.

It appeared, that the feet had been deposited towards the south. And this circumstance must be a sufficient proof of the antiquity of the thing: For, ever since Christianity prevailed among us, the heads of such as were buried have been placed towards the west, and the feet towards the east.

This barony is not very extensive, but the ground is fertile. It is mostly inclosed, and in many places sufficiently drained; and this is of great advantage, since the situation is rather low, and the soil for the most part wet and marshy.

East from the house and plantations, and on the north side of the public road, is a rising ground, or tumulus, called the Law Know, where, in more early times, judgment was dispensed, and where, probably, certain acknowledgments were made, by those who held of the baron or family. It is of a circular form: And this is the case with all places of the same kind. For they were considered as emblems of the sun, that great object of Druidical worship. On such eminences as this, the ancient Druids, who had the supreme direction of all civil and ecclesiastical matters, sat as judges, enacted laws, and presided in the worship of their several divinities*.

X x 2

Niddry,

* Shaw's History of Murray, page 243.—247.

Niddry, seemingly, in more antient times, was possessed by the Niddries of that Ilk. So late as October 20th 1363, one of that family had a part of it, as appears from a charter of confirmation of the same date, granted by David II. "ad Henricum de Niedre, de certis partibus de Niedre Marshall." The Heriots were once proprietors of Niddry-Marshal, at least of a part of it; for they had the title of Niddry-Marshal assigned to them. And this appears from a charter granted by Archibald Earl of Douglas, of the lands of Tra-broun, to John Heriot, who is called "filius et heres dilecti con-faederati nostri Jacobi de Heriot de Nudrie Mariscal." The charter is confirmed by Archibald Douglas, Earl of Wigton, Lord Efdale, in 1423. The witnesses are, James Douglas, his brother, and William Seton, son and heir of John Lord Seton. It is likewise confirmed by James I. in the 19th year of his reign*.

When, or at what period, the Wauchopes became proprietors of Niddry-Marshal I know not. It is certain they have been in possession of it upwards of four hundred years. They came to Scotland, some say from England, others affirm, with greater probability, they came from France, about the year 1062, in the reign of Malcolm Canmore. They took up their residence first in Wauchope-dale, in the parish of Hobkirk, and county of Roxburgh. Whilst they continued there, they made an eminent figure, and were preferred, as already observed, to be guardians and marshals of a part of the fouth borders; and from them the water of Wauchope, Wauchope, and Wauchope-dale, had their respective appellations †. There is, in the charter chest of Cuming of Culter ‡, a transumpt of a charter granted by Alexander II. to Robert Wauchope, of diverse lands, "testibus Alexandro Cuming Comite de Buchane, Roberto de Rofs
" intitulado

* Nisbet's Heraldry, vol. 1. pag. 46.—47.

† Ibid. pag. 84.

‡ See Appendix, No. I. Chart. 1.

"intitulato de Suelis, Roberto de Ellemers, Bernardo de Upellais, et Willielmo Olifand apud Vukilbrugh, sexto decimo die Octobris, anno regni nostri Scotorum, tricesimo tertio." From this Robert, or one of his predecessors, are descended, in a lineal male line, the lairds of Niddry-Marshal, the principal family of the name*. It is strange, then, they should not have had supporters to their armorial bearing, as is the case with respect to the chiefs of other families. They are certainly, in justice, entitled to them.

Several sons of this family distinguished themselves greatly by feats of arms, and arrived at the highest preferments in the military line †. This was the case, not to mention other instances, with respect to the Generals John and Francis Wauchopes, who followed the fortune of their master, James VII. at the revolution. They had very high commands both in the French and Spanish service, and all along maintained them with great honour and reputation. They were brothers, but as different as possibly could be in their respective fates. John, the eldest, though he was in as many engagements, and in as much danger, as any officer of his rank, yet he never received a wound, or lost a drop of blood, until he was killed in the war of Catalonia, where he commanded the foot. But the other had the misfortune to be wounded almost in every battle, and sometimes in a dangerous manner; but, after all, died in his bed, Governour of Kayleart in Sardinia, in the Spanish service ‡. Others of this family obtained great fame in the learned world.

Of this family was Dr Robert Wauchope, Archbishop of Armagh, and Primate of all Ireland. Although he had the misfortune to be born

* Mackenzie's Lives of the Scottish Writers, vol. 2. page 184.

† Nisbet's Heraldry, vol. 1. page 84.

‡ Account of the family of Riddel of that Ilk, in Nisbet's Heraldry, vol. 2. Appendix, page 308.

born blind, yet he arrived at an amazing pitch of learning. He taught divinity in the University of Paris, with the greatest success and applause. He was employed in the most important transactions of the age; and in all of them acquitted himself in a very surprising manner. "Nam non solum," as Bishop Leslie expresses it, "fuis honori, sed exteris admirationi fuit." And so zealous was he in the discharge of his sacred function, that, when he visited his diocese, he preached no less than three or four times each day, by an interpreter, to such as did not understand English. And, indeed, great crowds, on every occasion, attended him *.

Of this family, likewise, was George Wauchope, Professor of Civil Law in the University of Caen in Normandy. Thither he had been sent by his parents, as soon as they observed his genius. He made amazing progress in his studies. He in a short time became a master; and, though a young man, acquired the greatest glory by teaching. During this he published two treatises, concerning the ancient people of Rome, which were much admired at that period for their language and sentiment, and are still read with pleasure. He flourished much about the same time with the Archbishop †.

It is well known that this family contributed much, and was very active for the Reformation. Gilbert Wauchope of Niddry-Marshall was a member of the parliament that met at Edinburgh in August 1560, in which the reformed religion was at first established ‡. The laird of Niddry-Marshall was a member of the parliament that was held at Edinburgh October 20. 1519 ||, in which a great many good laws, that served to promote a further reformation, were enacted.

Upon

* Lesl. Hist. lib. x. p. 489.

† Mackenzie's Lives of the Scottish Writers, vol. 2. p. 241. 242.

‡ Keith's History, page 147.

|| Wight's Inquiry.

Upon the 27th of December 1591, Archibald Wauchope, junior, of Niddry-Marshall, along with Francis Stewart Earl of Bothwell, James Douglas of Spot, Archibald Douglas, son to William Earl of Morton, and Mr John Colvil of Strawed, made an attack on the palace of Haly-rud-house, under the silence of the night. They had about forty or fifty followers. They got into the outer court by a private passage: Then they seized the janitor of the inner gate, and forcibly deprived him of the keys. There was not, however, a great deal of mischief done. They soon returned by the same way they came. The Duke of Lennox was supposed, and upon good grounds, to be privy to this very bold enterprise. Eight of these engaged on this occasion were apprehended the very next day *. Mr Wauchope escaped with the rest, and soon received his Majesty's pardon, as he was very young, and supposed to be under the influence of Bothwell, who was the ring leader, and had contrived, and pushed on, the undertaking, out of resentment to Maitland, the Chancellor. And, had not the Chancellor that night made his elopement, undoubtedly he would have fallen a sacrifice to his enemies.

Sir John Wauchope of Niddry-Marshall, grandson, it is presumed, of Archibald just now mentioned, was engaged on the side of the Covenanters during the civil wars, and attended the Marquis of Argyll in several of his expeditions †. He was an elder of the church, and, by the General Assembly that met at Edinburgh, July 12. 1648, appointed a member of their commission, to whom very important matters were recommended and intrusted ‡. He appeared, on every occasion, a zealous assertor of presbyterian church government: He considered it as best suited to the genius and state of Scotland. Notwithstanding all this, he was a great friend of Charles II. and, in the most

* Moyes's Memoirs, page 179. 180.

† Guthrie's Memoirs.

‡ Acts of the General Assembly, printed 1682. pag. 433.

most prudent manner, employed all his interest and influence for his restoration. Upon his decease, the family, after all the zeal and activity of their ancestors for the Reformation, became Roman Catholics; but this change, as it was owing to an accidental circumstance, did not continue long.

The Rencounter at Niddry-Edge.

In the neighbourhood of Niddry-Marshall, on the south, at a place called Niddry-Edge, Alexander Lord Hume was defeated by the Earl of Bothwell, whom we had occasion just now to mention. Each of them had a considerable number of followers. This rencounter happened in April 1594. It was called the Raid of Greenside*, and was long remembered by the common people.

In less civilized times, the inhabitants of Niddry-Marshall, as was the case through the whole kingdom, had frequent skirmishes with those of Edmonston: In one of which, it is said, that the latter forcibly seized the bell belonging to the chapel of the other, carried it off, and placed it in the chapel of Edmonstone, where it still remains.

Brunstaine, sometimes called Little Gilmerton.

North-east from Niddry-Marshall is Brunstaine, sometimes called Little Gilmerton, but for what reason I know not: But from this quarter there is no access to it, as formerly, though it is in the parish of Liberton. The only entry to it now is from the Duddingston side, along a spacious avenue. The house is large, and contains various elegant apartments. The main part of it was built by John, Earl,

* Maitland's History of Scotland.

Earl, and afterwards Duke of Lauderdale, in 1639, as appears from the date, and his coat of arms impaled with those of his lady, which directly present themselves when you enter. From time to time, divers additions were made to the house.

Around the house there are many old trees. The garden, which contains more than three acres, is on the east, and at some distance from the house. It is encompassed with a high wall. It is of an oblong form. In it are still a great many fruit trees. A fine walk reaches from west to east. Towards the eastern extremity, is a pond on each hand. At the further end of the south pond, on an artificial mount, is a summer-house. Above the door is neatly carved the armorial bearing of Fletcher of Salton. On the north side of the garden is a pretty circular mount, about the circumference of which there has been a broad gravel walk. It was formerly surrounded with water; and there could be no access to it, except by a boat or a bridge.

The lands of Brunstaine are not extensive, but are perfectly well inclosed, and properly divided. The north-west park is bisected by a rivulet; and this rivulet, by the height and verdure of its banks, makes a fine appearance. Here, formerly, were a great many houses and cottages, and a great many inhabitants. Here, formerly, were barracks, but now not the smallest vestiges of any of them remain. Nigh where they were, on the side of the rivulet that is next to Duddingston, a fire-engine is erected, and is successful.

At present, and for many years past, all the grounds about Brunstaine have been applied to pasturage. There are many deer; and these noble creatures thrive well, and, in good weather, afford spectators much pleasure by their feeding, and bounding about with their young.

It is probable that Brunstaine was once the property of the Wau-chopes of Niddry-Marshall, and constituted a part of their barony. In the middle of the last century it was possessed by the family of Lauderdale, next by Sir John Hume, and afterwards by Andrew Fletcher of Milton and Salton, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, and for some time Lord Justice Clerk: And, from the heirs of Lord Milton, the Earl of Abercorn purchased it in 1778, or 1779.

Having thus given an account of the several baronies and proprietors of Liberton, I proceed next to those of the clerical order.

The Ministers of Liberton.

I have had no information concerning any that acted in that capacity before the Reformation, excepting the three before mentioned, William, styled Persona de Liberton, Sir Thomas Gray, and William Werok, the clergyman who officiated at the chapel of Niddry-Marshall.

1. The first minister we find, after the Reformation, at Liberton was Mr Thomas Cranston. His stipend was only two hundred merks *. He entered to his stipend Lammas 1569. Here he was but a very short while. He was translated to Peebles Whitsunday 1570. It appears, that the church of Liberton, at that time, belonged to Haly-rud-houfe. Before Mr Cranston came to Liberton, he was minister of Borthwick †.

2. The

* Two hundred merks; or eleven pounds two shillings and twopence eight-twelfths Sterling, at that period, would have procured eight times as much of the necessaries of life as the same sum would do at present: So that Mr Thomas Cranston's stipend may be considered as equivalent to one of eighty-eight pounds seventeen shillings and ninepence eight-twelfths Sterling, in these days.

† MS. in the Advocates Library, Edinburgh.

2. The next was Mr John Davidfon. He was minister here in 1581, 1582, 1583, and 1584. He was a great high-flyer; a sanguine champion for Presbytery in its most rigorous sense; and therefore, on every occasion, inveighed with much virulency against the King and court. He intimated, in his pulpit, the sentence of excommunication against Montgomery Archbishop of Glasgow, because he would not renounce the office, to which he had been so lately advanced *. In 1584, from an idea that he would be forcibly seized, as being concerned in the attack which had been lately made on the town and castle of Stirling, he first absconded, and afterwards fled, before any formal charge was brought against him †. It is doubted whether he returned to his function at Liberton: For we find him minister of Prestonpans, or Saltpans, in 1596 ‡. In both places he was accounted a prophet, or extraordinary person, by the ignorant and more bigotted sort. He is even mentioned by Fleming, in his Treatise concerning the Fulfilling of the Scriptures, as a saint, and as a person of a particular and eminent character. He aspired to be a minister of Edinburgh, and was greatly chagrined upon the disappointment ||. He wanted much to be reconciled to the King, whom he had so often offended. On this account he waited on him as he passed Prestonpans, in his way to England, in 1603; but he was most miserably disappointed; for his Majesty took not the least notice of him.

3. Mr John Adamson was minister of Liberton in 1616, when the southern gate of the church-yard was erected. He was a member of the General Assembly, which met that year at Aberdeen. He was one of the committee who were appointed to draw up a form of liturgy, and a proper catechism for children, and the lower rank.

Y y 2

* Spottiswood's History.

‡ Calderwood's History.

† Moyse's Memoirs, page 90.

|| Spottiswood's History.

rank *. How long he continued clergyman at Liberton I cannot tell: But from thence he was translated to Edinburgh, and afterwards made Principal of the College. He was a member of the General Assembly that convened at Glasgow November 21. 1638, and at that time was Principal of the College of Edinburgh †. He was accounted a man of learning. His name is still to be seen on the manse or parsonage-house, but the date is obscure.

4. Mr John Cranston was minister of Liberton in 1625, 1626, and 1627 †.

5. Mr Andrew Learmonth was minister of Liberton from 1629 until 1636 §. We find him, December 1. 1630, appearing before the Commissioners of the Tithes, and, in reply to certain queries exhibited by them, giving an account of his stipend, which consisted just of seventeen bolls of barley, sixteen bolls and a half boll of wheat, five chalders and four bolls of oats, and two hundred merks of vicarage ||. On this occasion he declared, he never made any year of his money stipend a hundred pounds **.

6. Mr Archibald Newton was ordained minister of Duddingston, and continued there four years. He was translated to Liberton May 19. 1639 ††. During his administration, the covenant was renewed at Liberton in a solemn manner, and subscribed by all ranks ††. He died June 2. 1657 |||.

7. Mr

* Calderwood's History.

† Stevenson's History, vol. 2. page 475.

‡ Records of the Kirk Session.

§ Ibid. || L. 11 : 2 : 2½ Sterl.

** L. 8 : 6 : 8 Sterling.—Records in the Tithe Office, Edinburgh.

†† Records of the Kirk Session.

‡‡ Ibid.

||| We have a short account of his parentage, life, and character, from the inscription on the monument that was erected to his memory in the church-yard of Liberton. It is as follows:

“ Reverendus

7. Mr Andrew Cant was admitted minister of Liberton, March 10. 1659 *. April 9. 1673, he had a presentation to be minister of the College Church of Edinburgh, from the Provost and Magistrates of the city: In consequence of which, the translation took place the 13th July immediately following †. April 12. 1683, he was Principal of the College of Edinburgh ‡.

8. October 14. 1674, Mr Ninian Paterfon, a native of Glasgow, was ordained minister of Liberton. A riot happened at his ordination. On that account, the Privy Council ordered the principal persons concerned in it to be pillored in Edinburgh and at Liberton ||. He served the cure at least for five years §. He distinguished himself greatly by his genius in Latin poetry. He wrote eight books of Epigrams, and paraphrased no less than fifty of the Psalms of David. They are accounted elegant **.

9. To

“ Reverendus dominus Archibaldus Newtonus, honestis parentibus, et liberali institutione domi felix; postea imbelli corpufculo, carceris squalore ac malis apud purioris religionis hostes foris, attrito in patriam redux ingenio et eloquentia sic claruit ut primum Duddingstoniae annos 4, et deinde 18 Libertoniae Pastor utrobique in tuo gregis amore, religionis et Regii dignitatis constans assertor. Anima tandem 2 Junii 1657 in coelos migravit, et corporis exuvias in piorum resurrectionem hic recondi voluit.”

* Records of Kirk Sess. † Records of Edinburgh. ‡ Records of Kirk Sess.

|| Woodrow's History, vol. 1. page 382. § Records of the Kirk Session.

** John Baird of Newbyth, afterwards Sir John, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, who had a considerable landed property in the parish, in praise of his performances, has composed the following epigram:

Johannes Baird de Newbaith Niniano Paterfono S,
Perlegi eximios oculis animoque libellos,
Ingenii admirans flumina sacra tui.
Judice me, vigilem redolent operosa lucernam
Sparfa, et odoratis pictaque cuncta rosis.
Ut qui succedens doctis penetralibus hospes,
Aonidumque hortos, Hesperidumque putet.

In

9. To Mr Ninian Paterfon succeeded Mr Robert Farquhar, who, April 12. 1683, was translated to Liberton from Cullen in Boyne. He died in March 1687*.

10. To Mr Robert Farquhar succeeded Mr Alexander Cuming, who continued for a few months after the Revolution. He preached his farewell sermon May 19. 1689 †.

11. Mr James Webster had for some time officiated in the meeting-house at Craig-Millar, erected upon the indulgence of James VII. Sunday May 29. 1689, he preached his first sermon in the church of Liberton, as minister of the parish ‡. He was soon translated to White-kirk in East Lothian, and from thence to Edinburgh.

12. To Mr Webster succeeded Mr Gideon Jaque, who came from Ireland. He was minister of Liberton, October 16. 1692 ||. Here he did not continue many years. He went to England.

13. Mr Samuel Semple was ordained minister of Liberton, August 31. 1697. He possessed the charge upwards of 44 years. He died January 7. 1742.

14. Dr John Jardine, July 30. 1741, was ordained assistant and successor to Mr Semple, by a mandate from the King. On the 6th of December 1750, he was translated to Lady Yester's Church in Edinburgh.

15. Mr

In these eulogiums, Sir John is joined by several others of the poetic tribe, who flourished at that time.—Poetarum Scotorum Musae Sacrae, P. xiv. xv. xvi. xvii. de Doctis quibusdam Variorum Testimonia.

* Records of the Kirk Session.

† Ibid.

‡ Ibid.

|| Ibid.

15. Mr David Moubray, May 28. 1751. was translated from Currie to Liberton. Here he served the cure only four months and a few days, as appears from the stately monument erected to his memory.

16. Mr Thomas Whyte was ordained minister of Liberton, August 20. 1752. He is the sixth incumbent from the Revolution, and the sixteenth from the Reformation.

The Stipend of Liberton.

The stipend of Liberton is just twenty-one bolls, three firlots, and two pecks and a half of wheat, fifty bolls of barley, sixty-three bolls of oats, and L. 23 : 11 : 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling of money, or vicarage*. There has been no augmentation since the year 1710. At that time an addition was granted of L. 10 Sterling, which had the appellation of Prebend's Fee; and it was allocated on the estate of Newbyth. Nothing is allowed for communion elements. The glebe is very inconsiderable: More than the half of it is almost a mile from the manse or parsonage-house. This is a great inconvenience, and attended with much expence.

The Tithes of Liberton.

The total of the tithes of Liberton, according to the valuation made in 1630, amounted to fifty-two chalders, three bolls, three firlots, three-fourths of a peck, and one-fifth of the fourth part of a peck of victual †. If this was the valuation of the tithes of the parish in that period, certainly their real valuation at present, were they entire, must be ten times as much.

The

* See Appendix. No. V.

† Ibid. No. VI.

The Schoolmaster's Salary.

The schoolmaster of Liberton has a legal salary. It is about two hundred merks *. He has besides forty merks yearly from the session, as session-clerk †; and twenty-five merks, as was noticed, from the lands of Moredun ‡. To be sure, the perquisites of such a parish as Liberton must be considerable; and there is always a chance for a good school; but still the encouragement cannot be said to be great, as the value of things, of late, is so very much altered.

Besides the public, there are private schools in different places of the parish, for teaching English, arithmetic, and writing. He that teaches at Nether Liberton has a free house, and a small annual salary from the family of Craig-Millar. He is obliged to teach, *gratis*, the poor children belonging to the barony.

Number of Souls in Liberton Parish.

The parish of Liberton is large ||, and more populous than any other country parish in the presbytery, the parish of St. Cuthbert's, or West Kirk, excepted. It contains three thousand four hundred and

* Eleven pounds two shillings and twopence eight-twelfths Sterling.

† Two pounds four shillings and fivepence four-twelfths Sterling.

‡ One pound seven shillings and ninepence four-twelfths Sterling.

|| It appears from levying the tax imposed by act of parliament for maintaining and repairing the several bye-roads, that there are ninety-two plowgates in the parish: Now, a plowgate is supposed to contain forty-five statute acres. According to this computation, the arable ground amounts to 4140 statute acres. What is planted is not subjected to the tax; and, certainly, there must be a great number of acres that come under that denomination. This we must be convinced of, when we consider the plantations, already mentioned, around the gentlemen's houses.

and fifty-seven souls *. The inhabitants seem to be on the increase, on account of the lime-works, and the colliery, at Gilmerton. But still there are but few sectaries. A great many, it is to be regretted, are luke-warm, and indifferent, or rather seem to have no religion at all.

Christenings, Burials, and Marriages.

In Liberton, each year, at a medium, there are a hundred and eight christenings, eighty-eight burials, and twenty marriages †.

Funds for Supporting the Poor.

No doubt there must be a great many poor in such a large district as that of Liberton; but the funds for supporting them are far from being inconsiderable. For many years past, the collections, at a medium, have amounted to forty-two pounds Sterling *per annum*; the mort-cloths to twenty-two pounds; the seats in the church belonging to the poor, eight pounds ten shillings; the rents of the houses and gardens belonging to the poor, thirteen pounds seven shillings and fourpence. But for these houses and gardens there is paid every year, to Mr Little of Liberton, a small feu, or feudal duty ‡. It must be acknowledged, not a great deal can be made of properties of this kind, so many reparations are deemed necessary: To all which, we may add the feu, or feudal duty, paid annually for the colliers gallery, which is only three shillings and fourpence Sterling. The whole, then, Mr Little's feu, or feudal duty, subtracted, amounts, at a medium, to eighty-four pounds sixteen shillings and

Z z eight-

* See Appendix, No. III.

† Ibid. No. VII.

‡ It consists of one boll and one peck of barley, two hens, at eight pence each, and eight merks §.

§ Eight shillings and tenpence eight-twelfths Sterling.

eight pence Sterling. Each year it is expended. Besides this, five pounds Sterling, the interest of what Mr Watson, clerk to the signet, left, is yearly distributed to the distressed and languishing, in terms of the will.

But, further, forty pounds Sterling is bestowed every Christmas, by the direction of those who have landed property, on certain poor labourers, whose work is mostly without doors, and who, on that account, may be prevented, or retarded in working, by the severity and inclemency of the season. By the destination of the donor, none are to have more than five pounds Sterling, and none less than fifty shillings *per annum*. The magistrates of Edinburgh are appointed the trustees; and every year, before Christmas, a list of the several persons, their age, and sex, who are deemed proper objects of this charity, is presented unto them. This was the donation of one Commodore Alexander Horn, who, it is said, was a native of Nether Liberton. He rose, from a very low situation, to the rank of a Commodore. He always remembered the place of his nativity; and chose by this method to evidence it. He felt, with Ovid,

Nescio qua natale solum dulcedine cunctos

Ducit, et immemores non finit esse sui.

Ov. Ep. lib. i. lin. 35. 36.

Nothing could be more laudable than this conduct of the Commodore; and, for this reason, every well disposed person must approve of him, and revere his memory.

Such are the funds which the parish of Liberton have for supporting those that are disabled from working. And, certainly, there is no place in which the poorer sort, who are able, or inclined to work, meet with more encouragement. Not to mention the draw-

kill

kill at Bourdeaux; not to mention the collieries; not to mention those who are employed at the public roads, or those whom the farmers are obliged continually to employ, the quarries, the lime-kills, afford work to great numbers; and many also earn their bread by driving carts, and by this means live decently, and become independent*. And the late very rapid increase of the city of Edinburgh greatly increases the encouragement of all.

There are no rivers in the parish: There are only two rivulets of any note. The northern one rises at Pentland-hills, and from thence runs by Dreghorn, Redford, Braid, Nether Liberton, Peffer-Mill, and at length, after various windings, as has been already observed, through the inclosures of Lord Abercorn, pays its tribute to the Frith at the Feegot Whins. The other, also, takes its origin from Pentland-hills, holds its course by the morafs above Straiton-Mill, by Bourdeaux, Stainhouse, Little France, Niddry-Marshall, and afterwards discharges itself into the sea at Magdalene-bridge, below Brunstaine. These rivulets, small as they are, supply no less than eight mills, besides the bleachfield at Peffer-Mill. The plain betwixt the Dams and Nether Liberton would afford a fine site for a bleachfield. The water there is particularly good; and it would be just a due distance from the metropolis.

Liberton

* There are no fewer than one hundred and thirty-one in the parish, whose bread, and that of their families, depend mainly on the driving of carts. They have of late entered into a Society, and observe an annual procession. There are not nearly so many in any other line of occupation. For instance, only about thirty farmers of any note; twelve smiths; fourteen masons; seventeen weavers; twelve taylor.—A great many of the females are employed in washing of clothes, and find their advantage in it. This is particularly the case at Nether Liberton, Liberton-Dams, Bourdeaux, Broken-bridge, and Stainhouse, where they are favoured with the best of water.

Liberton Parish Fruitful.

The grounds of Liberton, in general, independent of the advantages of manure from the city, are as fruitful as any in the neighbourhood, and some of them more so; an instance of which we have in 1597. One in Liberton, called Douglas, even in that early period, did sow ten pecks of barley, and had in return thirty-one threaves; and each threave produced a boll and a peck*.

Liberton a Healthy Situation.

Liberton was always accounted a very healthful situation. It is invariably reported, that it was not in the least infected with the plague, the last time it appeared in Scotland, in 1645. This was imputed to the influence of the lime and lime-kills. A great many have arrived, and still arrive, at very great ages. Some years ago, agues prevailed very much in the barony of Niddry-Marshall, but not at present. The water and damp, which it is supposed occasioned them, are now removed by means of the coal-work. The children, in the main, are strong and well made, and very seldom affected with the itch, and such like eruptions, which so often appear in other places.

Obelisks still remaining.

There are still four obelisks remaining in the parish. One of them stands a little west from the burying-place of the barony of Niddry-Marshall: Another of them west from the hill of Craig-Millar, on the eastern part of the minister's glebe; and this is by far the largest, and most entire. It is called the Standing-Stane. A third stands at the

* Birrel's Diary.

the village of Nether Liberton; and the fourth, on the rising ground south-west from Morton-Hall. Under these obelisks, probably, have been buried certain eminent personages; or else, they have been erected to perpetuate some very signal occurrences.

The Oldest Surnames.

The oldest surnames in the parish are, the Veitches, Ewarts, Herriots, Tweedies, Peacocks, Werocks, Grays, Straitons, Richardsons, Blaikies, Handysides, Etchifons, and Mitchells. The Mitchells, it is said, have possessed the farm of Morton, at least a part of it, for some centuries. It is certain that they have been tenants there as far back as our parochial records reach; but these extend no further than the year 1624.

The Valuation, and Present Rent.

The valuation of the whole parish is just L. 13,685 : 6 : 8*. More than three-fourths of this valuation are entailed †. The yearly rent, it may be justly presumed, were all the lands let, would amount to L. 10,000 Sterling, besides some feudal tenures, or feus, and other casual and accidental profits. The last valuation was made in 1649, and was considered at that time as the real rent of the lands; and by this the land-tax, and most of the other public burdens, have been levied. We see, then, how rents have increased, and what mighty alterations less than a century and a half have produced.

The Character of the Inhabitants of Liberton.

After this account of the several baronies in Liberton, and of those who have the landed property; after this account of the clergy, and other

* L. 1140 : 10 : 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterl.—Append. No. VIII.

† Ibid. No. IX.

other particulars with respect to the parish, it must certainly be thought proper to mention somewhat of the character of the parishioners. The upper part of them are sober, regular, exemplary, and always have shewn a particular regard to the interests of the poor. The lower sort are often noisy and clamorous, and are rather of violent passions, but soon pacified and appeased. Their morals, in general, are not so unexceptionable as could be wished; and no wonder, when they live in the neighbourhood of such a city as Edinburgh. It has been universally observed, and with this observation I shall conclude, that large cities never fail to corrupt and debauch the generality of the surrounding inhabitants:

“*Nam mala vicini pecoris contagia laedunt.*”—Virgil.

Or, as the Apostle Paul expresses it, from an ancient poet,

“*Evil communications corrupt good manners.*”—1st Cor. xv. 33.

A P P E N D I X.

No. I.

C H A R T. I.

Charta Alexandri Regis Scotorum Roberto de Walnchop, filio Allani de Walnchop.*

ALEXANDER, Dei gratia Rex Scotorum, omnibus probis hominibus totius terrae suae speciatim: Sciant presentes de futuro nos dedisse, concessisse,

* In the custody of Mr Wauchope of Niddry-Marshall.

concessisse, et hac nostra charta confirmasse Roberto de Walnchop, filio Allani de Walnchop, pro homagio et servicio suo, terram de Tulmaeboy per has divisas, viz. de Blan-Macogamger versus terram Episcopi Sanctiandreae de Glascul, et sic usque ad lacum de Benter, et de eodem laeu usque ad Tuboinfby, et sic usque Starnamoneth, intrando et exeundo per viam de Starnamoneth, et per medium forostum nostrum usque Burin, et illam piscariam de Burin, quam bondi nostri habere solebant, dum eadem terra fuit in manu nostra, et sic ex alia parte de Starnamoneth usque Pulnacoy, et sic per viam siccam de Pulnacoy, usque Rinolum (Rivolum) de Paforyn, et sic in aquilonari parte ejusdem Rinoli (Rivoli) ascendendo per viam siccam usque Kolnakrants, et sic de Kolnakrants usque ad terram de Gerinto qua est Allani histiar.

Dedimus et concessimus, et hac nostra charta confirmamus eidem Roberto de Wanchop (Wauchop) terras de Culter et de Aroboyk per has divisas, viz. de Camriflick usque Tethnabrodath, et de Tethnabrodath usque in Rinolum (Rivolum) de Cardani, et sic ascendendo usque ad Spelancus Ulpin versus terram Episcopi de Aberdeen, tenendi (tenen.) et habendi (haben.) eidem Roberto Wanchop (Wauchop) et haeredibus suis de nobis, et haeredibus nostris in feudo et haereditate per divisas praedictas, cum omnibus aliis justis et pertinentiis in Bosco et plano, in terris et aquis, in pratis et pascuis, in mossis et marosis, in stagnis et molendinis, cum focco et sacco, cum furca et ossa, cum Thol et Thom et infaganther, et cum omnibus aliis ad praedictas terras justis pertinentibus, libere, quiete, plenarie et honorifice, faciendo nobis et haeredibus nostris tertiam partem servitii unius militis et exercituum Scoticorum quantum pertinet ad praedictas terras. Testibus Alexandro Cuming Comite de Buchane, Roberto de Ros intitulo de Suelis, Roberto de Ellemers, Bernardo de Upellars (Upellais), et Willielmo Olifand apud Vukilbrugh, sexto decimo die Octobris, anno reg. nostri Scotorum tricesimo tertio.

Tenet

Tenet hoc transumptum cum originali carta in praesentia Dominorum Consilii pro tribunali sedentium producta, lecta, inspecta et diligenter examinata, non cancellata suspecta aut vitiata

et concordantia eadem, et de mandata Doctorum Dominorum Consilii in hanc publicam transcripti formam, propter vetustatem et fragilitatem originalis chartae reducta et confecta, praedicto publico, ut moris est rite, et legitime primitus posthabiti ut talis, et tanta fides huic transumpto temporibus affuturis adhibeatur, qualis cuilibet chartae originali est adhibenda, per me Gavinum Episcopum Aberdonae Clericum Rotularum ac Concilii supremi Domini nostri Regis, sub meis signo et subscriptione manu aliena.

Sic subscribitur

GAVINUS DUNBAR.

CHART. II.

Carta admortizationis facta per Archibaldum Wauchope de Nudrie Mercheale.*

JACOBUS, Dei gratia Rex Scotorum : Omnibus probis hominibus totius terre sue, clericis et laicis, salutem. Sciatis, nos quand. cartam foundationis et donationis factam per dilectum nostrum Archibaldum Wauchop de Nudry Merschale, cum consensu et assensu Euphamie Skowgale ejus sponse, in laudem et honorem Dei omnipotentis, gloriosissime Virginis Marie, matris sue, Sancte Crucis, et omnium Sanctorum, de uno annuo reddito duodecim mercarum et de una terra et una crosta terre arabilis subscript. ad sustentationem
unius

* Great Seal, B. 13. No. 590.

unius Capellani in divina celebranti, et in perpetuum celebraturo ad magnum altare capelle per ipsum Archibaldum, in honorem Sancte Crucis, infra villam suam et territorium de Nudry-Merschale, fundat. et situat. pro animabus in dicta carta specificatis de mandata nostra visam, latam, et inspectam, et diligenter examinatum, sanam integram non rasam, non cancellatam, nec in aliqua sui parte suspectam, ad plenum intellixisse sub hac forma; omnibus hanc cartam visuris vel audituris, Archibaldus de Nudry-Merschale, salutem in Domino sempiternam; Noveritis me, cum consensu et assensu Euphamie Skowgale, sponse mee, in laudem et honorem Omnipotentis Dei beatissimeque genitricis sue Virginis Marie et Sancte Crucis Domini nostri Jhesu Christi, omnium Sanctorum pro salute animarum colende memorie quondam serenissimi Principis Jacobi tertii, Dei gratia Scotorum Regis, et Margrete, consortis sui, Regine Scotie, proliumque suarum ac prosperitate excellentissimi Principis Jacobi quarti, Dei gratia Scotorum Regis, moderni illustrissimi antecessorum et successorum suorum, ac pro salute anime mee, et dicte conjugis mee, patris mei et matris mee, antecessorum et successorum nostrorum, et animarum omnium vivorum et defunctorum, quibus debitor fui et penes quos aliquantulum in hac vita deliqui dedisse, concessisse, et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse. Nec non dare, concedere, et hac presenti carta mea confirmare, Deo, et Beate Marie Virgini, et Sancte Cruci omnibusque Sanctis Dei, et uni capellano divina celebranti, et pro perpetuo celebraturo ad magnum altare per me construct. fundat. et edificat. in honore dicte Sancte Crucis Domini nostri Jhesu Christi, situat. infra villam meam et territorium de Nudry-Merschale, unum annuum redditum duodecim mercarum usualis monete Regni Scotie annuatim percipiend. et levand. ad duos anni terminos consuetos, Penthecostes, viz. et Sancti Martini in hieme, per equales portiones, de omnibus et singulis terris meis de Pylmure, in manibus meis existend. quas nunc occupat Joneta Peiry et Joneta Gordoun, cum pertinentend. jacen. in baronia mea de Nudry-Merschale, in parochia de

A a a

Curry,

Curry, infra vicecomitatum de Edinburgh. Nec non terram meam edificatam plantatam et vastam, jacen. in dicta villa mea et territorio de Nudry-Merschale, quam nunc occupat Duncanus Campbell, et orientalem acram terre sine crofte mee, nuncupat. Lestotes, patis croft jacen. in dicta villa mea et territorio de Nudry-Merschale, inter occidentalem acram hujusmodi crofte ex occidentali, et acram terre quam nunc occupat Joannes Carnys, ex orientali, et publicum vicum dicte ville ex boreali, et terras communes hujusmodi ville ex australi partibus, ab una et alia pro gleba et mansione dicti capellani, qui pro tempore fuerit, una cum gramine et pastura duarum vaccarum in communio dicte ville mee et territorio de Nudry-Merschale, tenendum et habendum totum et integrum predictum annuum redditum duodecim mercarum, cum pertinent. Nec non dictas terras, et acram terre, pro gleba et mansione dicti capellani, una cum dict. gramine et pastura dictarum duarum vaccarum, cum suis pertinent. dictis Omnipotenti Deo, Beateque Marie Virgini, et Sancte Cruci Domini nostri Jhesu Christi, et uni capellano divina celebranti ad dictum altare infra dictam capellam, et suis successoribus, ad idem perpetuo celebraturis in puram et perpetuam elemosinam, cum omnibus et singulis libertatibus, commoditatibus, proficuis, et asiamentis, ac justis pertinent. suis quibuscunque, tam non nominatis, quam nominatis, procul et prope, ad predict. annuum redditum duodecim mercarum, et terras cum suis supra scriptis pertinent. spectant. seu juste spectare valent. quomodo libeat in futurum. Et adeo libere, quiete, plenarie, integre, honorifice, bene et in pace, sicut aliquis annuus redditus, aut terra infra regnum Scotiae alicui capellano, vel altari, per aliquem liberius datur, vel conceditur, aut dari vel concedi poterit in puram elemosinam, et perpetuam qualitercunque in futurum, ac sine retinemento, revocatione, seu obstaculo aliquo. Volo tamen et concedo quod ipsius capellanie presentatio, sive donatio, quotiens vacare contigerit, mihi et haeredibus meis pre ceteris aliis vere pertineat, ut infra octo dies quotiens vacaverit, sufficientem et ydoneum capellanum

num ad eand. capellaniem presentent, in quo si remisse fuerint aut negligentes heredes mei, Volo tunc quod donatio sive presentatio hujusmodi Capellanie Abbati Monasterii Sancte Crucis prope Edinburgh, et suis successoribus, qui pro tempore fuerint hac vice spectabit, cum tenebitur idem capellanus qui pro tempore fuerit et arceatur, ad continuam recidentiam, et indies cum dispositus fuerit ad dictum altare missam celebrare, et ad primum Canatorium cujuslibet misse de profundis pro animabus supra dictis cum collecta consueta dicere, et populum, ut dicat unum Pater Noster, cum salutatione Angelica, scilicet Ave Maria exhortare. Nec licebit dicto Capellano, aut suis successoribus, se absentare a dicto servitio per quindecim dies continue, absque licentia dicti patroni, qui pro tempore fuerit quin vacabit dicta Capellania, et si contingat ipsum Capellanum qui pro tempore fuerit, quod absit focariam seu publicam concubinam detinere, hoc notorie cognito vacabit similiter dicta capellania. Tamen, non licebit dictis heredibus meis, nec Abbati hujusmodi Monasterii patroni, qui pro tempore fuerit prefatum annuum redditum, seu terras prescriptas, nec aliquam partem earund. una cum dict. gramine et pastura penes, vel apud se retinere, vel in suos proprios usus convertere, sed duntaxat ad sustentationem dict. Capellani qui pro tempore fuerit integre conserventur. Et ego vero predictus Archibaldus Wauchop, heredes mei, et assignati, totum et integrum predictum annuum redditum duodecim mercarum, et terras prescriptas, cum gleba et mansione dicti Capellani, una cum dictis gramine et pastura ut supra, cum suis pertinent. prefatis Omnipotenti Deo, Beateque Marie Virgini, et Sancte Cruci Domini nostri Jhesu Christi, et uni Capellano divina celebranti ad dictum altare infra dictam Capellana, et suis successoribus, ad idem perpetuo celebraturis adeo libere et quiete in omnibus, et per omnia, forma pariter et effectu, ut prescriptum est, contra omnes mortales warantizabimus, acquetabimus, et in puram et perpetuam elemosinam defendemus. In cujus rei testimonium, sigillum meum huic presenti carte mee insignum, hujus infeodationis ac sa-

sine premissorum donationis per me discreto viro Domino Wilhelmo Werok, Capellano meo presentato ad eand. capellaniam pro toto tempore vite sue est appensum apud Nudry-Merschale, quinto die mensis Junii, anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo secundo, coram hiis testibus, viz. reverendo in Christo patre Johanne Episcopo Rossien, Magistro Johanne Matellan, Roberto Sleich, Archibaldo Skowgale, Willielmo Blakey, et Jacobo Moynet, notario publico, cum diversis aliis quamquid cartam ac donationem, concessionem, fundationem, ordinationes, et regulas in ead. contentas in omnibus suis punctis et articulis, conditionibus, et modis, ac circumstantiis suis quibuscunque forma pariter et effectu, in omnibus, et per omnia approbamus, ratificamus, et pro nobis et successoribus nostris admortizamus, et ad manum mortuam pro perpetuo ut premissum est confirmamus, salvis nobis et successoribus nostris orationum suffragiis devotarum dicti Capellani, et successorum suorum tantum. In cujus rei testimonium, presenti carte nostre confirmationis et admortizationis magnum sigillum nostrum apponi precipimus, testibus, ut in secunda carta preceden. apud Edinburgh, secundo die mensis Februarii, anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo secundo, et regni nostri decimo quarto.

The lime-stone quarry at Muirhouse, in 1787, employed 13 quarriers; and consequently, we may infer, produced 26,000 bolls of lime *per annum*.

The lime-stone quarry in Moredun Mains, for some time past, has afforded, at a medium, 5000 bolls of lime *per annum*.

And let it be here observed, that all the coal, lime, and a good deal of the free stone in the parish, stand on edge, and that the upper edge fronts the north-west. And this is the case at Dyfart, on the other side of the Frith; and the coal, in its progress from south-west to north-east, dips considerably; but in some seams more than others. This is also the case in Fife: And, for this reason, when the coal is to be wrought below the level which carries off the water, fire-engines become necessary for bringing up the water to the level.

No. II.

At Gilmerton there are above twenty seams of coal, from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 feet thick. They are now working four or five of these seams; and, considering the number of hands that are employed, the sale and output must amount to a great deal *per annum*.

The lime-stone quarries in the estate of Gilmerton, during the year 1787, must have yielded 70,000 bolls of lime; for 35 quarriers have been constantly employed; and each quarrier is supposed to furnish annually to his master 2000 bolls.

The

No. III.

*Account of the Number of Souls in the Parish of Liberton, taken
Autumn 1786.*

In the whole parish,—3457.

Number of Inhabitants in the several Villages of any note.

In Kirk-Liberton	-	159	In the South East Craigs	26
In Upper or Over Liberton		155	In the North Craigs, includ-	
In Morton-Hall	-	37	ing Kirklands	- 59
In Morton	-	61	In West Craigs	- 20
In Straiton	-	94	In Bridgend	- 26
In Bourdeaux	-	128	In Craig-Millar	- 35
			In	

In Straiton Mill	-	30	In Park Neuk and Little Paisly	35
In South Kaims	-	22	In Nether Liberton	- 267
In North Kaims	-	42	In Dams of Liberton	63
In Broken Bridge	-	56	In Camron and Common	
In Muir-House Edge	-	23	Myre	- - 31
In West Edge,	-	28	In Red-House	- - 33
In Lavrock-Hall	-	16	In Pepper-Mill	- 21
In Cart-Hall	-	96	In Cairn or Kairntous	25
In Gilmerton	-	755	In Mill-town of Niddry-Mar-	
In Haivock Mill	-	26	shall	- - 125
In Stainhouse	-	175	In Klichimin of ditto	- 70
In Green End	-	121	In Hunter's-Hall of ditto	63
In Guardwell	-	19	In the Barony of Niddry-Mar-	
In Burnhead, including			shall there are, in whole,	
Robb's House	-	47	334	
In Houden's Hall	-	26	In Brunstaine, sometimes call-	
In Little France	-	42	ed Little Gilmerton	31

No. IV.

*Charter, by the City of Edinburgh, to William of Prestoun of Gourton.**

AT Edinburgh, the 14th day of May, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine years. In presence of John Wordie, Esq; bailie, compeared David Baillie, clerk to Mr John Dundas clerk to the signet, and gave in the charter under written, desiring the same might be registered in the borough court books of Edinburgh, conform to the act of parliament made anent the registration of probative

* Dated 11th January 1454, and registrate 14th of May 1779.

ive writes; which desire the said bailie found reasonable, and ordained the same to be done, whereof the tenor follows:—Be it kend till all men be yir pnt lres, We the Pvoft, Baillies, Counfile, and commnte of ye burgh of Edinburgh, to be bundyn and fikerly oblist to William of Prestoun of Gourton, son and aire to umquhile William of Prestoun of Gourton, and to ye freinds and surname of yaim, yat, forasmekleas William of Prestoun the fadir, quam God affoillie, made diligent labour and grete menis be a he and mighty Prince, the King of France, and mony uyr Lordis of France, for the gettyn of the arme bane of Saint Gele, (the quhilk bane he freely left to oure moyr kirk of Saint Gele of Edinburgh, withoutyn ony condition makyn), we, confidrand ye grete labouris and costis yat he made for the gettyn yrof, we pmit, as said is, yat within six or seven zere, in all the possible and gudely haste we may, yat we sal big an ile, furth frae our Lady Ile, quhare ye said William lyes in the said ile, to be begunyn within a zere; in the quhilk ile yare sal be made a brase for his crest in bosit work, and abone the brase a plate of brase, with a writ, specifiaud the bringing of yat relik be him in Scotland, with his armis; and his armis to be put, in hewyn marble, uyr thre parts of the ile, (alswa ane alter to be made in ye said ile, with buke and chalice of silver, and all uyr grath belongand yrto; alswa, that we sal affing ye Chapellane of quhilum William of Prestoun to sing at yat alter frae yat tyme furth), and gif ony uyr freinds lykys to fest ony ma Chapellanis, yat sal be thankfully refavit to sing at that alter. Item, yat alsfast as the said ryllik beis borne in ye zere, yat the surname and nerrest of blude to the said William fall bere the said ryllick before all uyr; alswa, yat frae ye the dede of ye said William, fadir, yr sal be fundyn a Chapellane, for the terms of five zeres, to sing for him. Item, we pmit yat yare sal be ane obit zereyly done for him, sic as afferis ye time of the zere of his deceffe. In witness of the quhilk things, we have set to oure

comon

common file, at Edynburgh, ye xi day of the moneth of Januare, ye
zere of our Lorde a thousand four hundreth fifty fourtyth zeres.

Extracted by

(Signed) JN°. DUNDAS.

No. V.

An Account of the Stipend of Liberton, as allocated on the several Lands.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Scots.			Sterling.		
	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	L.	sh.	d.	L.	sh.	d.
Niddry-Marshall pays yearly	16	0	24	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	16	8
Craig-Millar and Nether												
Liberton - - -	0	0	6	15	12	0	11	13	5	0	19	5 $\frac{5}{12}$
Drum - - - -	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	0	1	0	16	6	8	1	7	2 $\frac{8}{12}$
Stainhouse - - -	4	0	0	0	22	0	8	0	0	0	13	4
Gilmerton - - -	0	13	2	0	28	0	146	13	4	12	4	5 $\frac{4}{12}$
Goodtrees and Moredun	0	0	1	0	0	0	13	6	8	1	2	2 $\frac{8}{12}$
Cairn or Kairntous -	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	15	3	0	2	11 $\frac{8}{12}$
Morton-Hall and Muir-												
House - - - -	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	2	15	0
Morton - - - -	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	1	13	4
Upper, or Over Liberton	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	16	8
Straiton - - - -	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	10	0
Camron and Common Myre	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	5	0
South-House - - -	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	5	0
Total of the stipend	21	14$\frac{1}{2}$	50	0	63	0	282	15	4	23	11	3$\frac{4}{12}$

N. B.—Mr Baird of Newbyth pays L. 120 Scots, or L. 10 Sterling, of the above money stipend, out of his estate of Newbyth. The rest of the money stipend he pays is due, as vicarage, on the estate of Gilmerton.

What was paid formerly from the lands and barony of Stainhouse, is now allocated on the lands of Burnhead, called Westfield.

No.

No. VI.

The Tithes of Liberton.

(According to the Valuation that was made in 1630*.)

WHAT Mr William Little possessed of Upper, or Over Liberton, are 30 bolls of victual; of which, 12 bolls barley, 12 bolls oats, 4 bolls wheat, and 2 bolls pease.

What Mr George Winram possessed in the same barony, are also 30 bolls of victual; of which 12 bolls barley, 12 bolls oats, 4 bolls wheat, and 2 bolls pease.

Morton-Hall, at that time possessed by Alexander Ellis, are 40 bolls of victual; of which 26 bolls oats, 10 bolls barley, and 4 bolls wheat.

Muirhouse, or Murrees, are 8 bolls of oats.

Morton, with a piece of ground adjoining to it, called Camron †, as given up by William Rigg of Morton, at that time proprietor of these lands, are 8 chalders of victual; of which, 2 chalders wheat, 2 chalders barley, and 4 chalders oats.

Straiton-Hall, at that time belonging to John Henderson of Fordeil, are 2 chalders of victual; of which 24 bolls oats, 6 bolls barley, 1 boll wheat, and 1 boll pease.

B b b

Towa

* Records in the Tithe Office, Edinburgh.

† Camron is described as lying in the parish of Hales, or Colinton.

Town and lands of Straiton, pertaining at that time to Archibald and James Straitons, with 2 acres which, at the same period, belonged to William Straiton, are 12 bolls of victual; of which, 9 bolls oats, 2 bolls barley, $\frac{1}{2}$ boll wheat, and $\frac{1}{2}$ boll peafe.

South-Houfe, at that time belonging to David Bouman, are 10 bolls of victual; of which, 4 bolls barley, 5 bolls oats, $\frac{1}{2}$ boll wheat, and $\frac{1}{2}$ boll peafe.

That part of Gilmerton possessed by Hugh Somerveile of Drum, are 30 bolls of victual; of which 12 bolls barley, 15 bolls oats, and 3 bolls peafe.

That part of Gilmerton possessed by Mungo Short, are 4 bolls of barley, and 1 boll of oats.

That part of Gilmerton which was then the property of David Crighton of Lugton, are 40 bolls of oats, and 18 bolls of barley.

Drum, are 20 bolls of victual; of which, 6 bolls barley, 11 bolls oats, 2 bolls wheat, and 1 boll peafe.

Todhills, which at that time belonged to George Borthwick, and was included in the barony of Drum, are 14 bolls of victual; of which, 1 boll wheat, 5 bolls barley, and 8 bolls oats.

Goodtrees, or Gutters, now called Meredun, which at that time belonged to David Macculloch, are 20 bolls of victual; of which, 3 bolls wheat, 6 bolls barley, 9 bolls oats, and 2 bolls peafe.

Priesthill, the property, also, of the aforesaid David Macculloch, are 16 bolls of victual; of which, 4 bolls barley, and 12 bolls oats.

Stainhoufe,

Stainhoufe, and St Katharines, will appear from what follows:
 Quilk day (November 26. 1730.) Alexander Clerk, Provost of Edinburgh, agreed to pay the fifth of 4 chalders of victual for the space contained in the valuation; and the Commissioners ordain him to find caution for the payment of this duty. The Commissioners likewise find, that the mill lands of Stainhoufe are worth yearly, of teind, 6 firlots of victual; of which, 3 firlots barley, and 3 firlots oats; and that the lands of St Katharine's are worth yearly, of teind, $2\frac{1}{2}$ bolls of victual, half barley, and half oats.'

Camron, Mains of Craig-Millar, Bridgend, Cairn, or Kairntous, and Little France, so much thereof as is within the barony of Craig-Millar, are 60 bolls of victual; of which, 30 bolls oats, 15 bolls wheat, and 15 bolls barley, without any defalcation. Soon after, these tithes were fet in tack, or lease, to the laird of Craig-Millar, by Mr Andrew Learmonth, minister of Liberton, for L. 10 Scots, or 16 sh. 8d. Sterling:

Nether Liberton, possessed then by James Winram, father of Mr George Winram, before mentioned, are 4 chalders barley, 56 bolls, or 3 chalders 8 bolls of oats, 8 bolls peafe, and 24 bolls wheat.

Common Myre, a part of the lands of Camron, which at that time pertained to Sir James Hamilton of Priestfield, now Prestonfield, a second son of the family of Haddington, are 2 chalders of victual; of which, 8 bolls barley, 8 bolls wheat, and 16 bolls oats.

Peffer-Mill, and King's Meadow, are a chalders of victual; of which, 3 bolls wheat, 5 bolls barley, 6 bolls oats, and 2 bolls peafe.

Niddry-Marshall, are 6 chalders of barley.

B b b 2

Brunstaine,

Brūnftainē, called Little Gilmerton, belonging at that time to the Earl of Lauderdale, are 1 firlof of victual; of which, two parts are peafe, and the third part barley.

No. VII.

An Account of the Christenings in Liberton, from November 28. 1624, until January 1. 1788, taken from the Parochial Records.*

From the above date, until January 1. immediately following, 10 children were baptised.

In 1625 70 baptised	In 1640 63 baptised
26 75	41 60
27 60	42 69
28 75	43 53
29 65	None recorded this year from May 7.
30 48	until August 28.
31 48	In 1644 36 baptised
32 48	None recorded this year from June 10.
None recorded this year from May 13.	until the end of the year.
until August 5.	In 1645 89 baptised
In 1633 59 baptised	46 83
34 46	47 87
35 53	48 93
36 42	49 64
None recorded this year from July 12.	50 42
until October 2.	Only one baptism recorded from Ju-
In 1637 49 baptised	ly 29. until the end of the year.
38 53	In 1651 10 baptised
39 55	None recorded this year until No-
Only 3 baptisms recorded this year	vember 5.
from January 2. until May 12.	

In

* No records before November 28. 1624.

In 1652 48 baptised	In 1683 87 baptised
53 69	84 108
54 80	85 111
55 81	86 111
56 91	87 108
57 94	88 115
58 72	From April 1. to the end of the year,
59 91	baptised, in the meeting-house at
60 73	Craig-Millar, 26;—in all, there-
61 72	fore, 141.
62 105	In 1689 90 baptised
63 97	90 112
64 108	91 108
65 107	92 116
66 117	93 117
67 90	94 104
68 72	95 91
69 114	96 89
70 101	97 76
71 94	98 106
72 78	99 83
73 85	1700 80
74 65	01 124
75 83	02 104
76 82	03 130
77 110	04 101
78 94	05 119
79 95	06 108
80 84	07 116
81 84	08 139
None recorded this year from Octo-	09 109
ber 8.	10 120
In 1682 5 baptised	11 124
None recorded this year until Octo-	12 96
ber 8.	13 116

In

In 1714	114 baptised	In 1749	110 baptised
15	119	50	120
16	102	51	110
17	131	52	93
18	112	53	110
19	117	54	103
20	120	55	103
21	123	56	109
22	108	57	88
23	135	58	95
24	108	59	89
25	105	60	101
26	111	61	100
27	115	62	116
28	124	63	98
29	105	64	113
30	89	65	110
31	119	66	123
32	118	67	122
33	111	68	110
34	124	69	112
35	110	70	131
36	105	71	122
37	98	72	133
38	121	73	116
39	115	74	119
40	105	75	110
41	105	76	108
42	83	77	122
43	110	78	123
44	111	79	110
45	109	80	120
46	97	81	138
47	108	82	109
48	130	83	105

In

In 1784	112 baptised	In 1786	123 baptised
85	126	87	127

On every baptism there is due to the session clerk half a merk Scots, or six pence and eight-twelfths of a penny Sterling; and to the church officer forty pennies Scots, or three pence and four-twelfths of a penny Sterling.

An Account of the Marriages in Liberton, as found in the Parochial Records.*

In 1689	26	couple married	In 1710	29	couple married
90	25		11	25	
91	33		12	32	
92	38		13	33	
93	23		14	39	
94	31		15	30	
95	29		16	28	
96	16		17	35	
97	20		18	29	
98	24		19	23	
99	25		20	26	
1700	28		21	28	
01	38		22	33	
02	38		23	36	
03	24		24	24	
04	35		25	32	
05	29		26	28	
06	35		27	37	
07	31		28	19	
08	38		29	21	
09	25		30	38	

In

* No marriages recorded here before May 12. 1688.—That year, six marriages before the last of December.

In 1731	23 couple married	In 1760	17 couple married
32	23	61	21
33	39	62	17
34	18	63	23
35	31	64	19
36	17	65	15
37	20	66	17
38	28	67	17
39	36	68	26
40	32	69	28
41	22	70	24
42	25	71	20
43	18	72	15
44	26	73	13
45	19	74	19
46	22	75	11
47	24	76	17
48	13	77	20
49	20	78	16
50	18	79	18
51	18	80	19
52	15	81	17
53	15	82	9
54	17	83	15
55	22	84	14
56	17	85	19
57	17	86	20
58	20	87	34
59	15		

For every marriage, there is due to the session-clerk 2s. 6d. Sterling, and to the church officer half a merk Scots. About twenty years ago, the session-clerk had only a merk Scots.

An

*An Account of the Irregular Marriages, from the beginning of 1753
until the end of 1783.*

In 1753	3 couple married	In 1769	18 couple married
54	2	70	10
55	5	71	12
56	4	72	3
57	6	73	6
58	1	74	8
59	4	75	3
60	2	76	8
61	6	77	6
62	11	78	4
63	9	79	5
64	6	80	6
65	6	81	15
66	8	82	2
67	12	83	8
68	13		

Since January 1784, when the marriage act took place, such as have been irregularly married are recorded with those that have been married regularly, according to the laws of the realm.

*An Account of the Deaths or Burials in Liberton, as found in the
Parochial Records*.*

In 1705 103 died.
06 78

In 1707 111 died.
08 124

C c c

In

* No deaths or burials recorded here before August 1704.—From this month until the end of the year, or 1st of January, died 31.

In 1709	61 died	In 1744	74 died
10	94	45	139
11	128	46	99
12	137	47	130
13	91	48	104
14	86	49	123
15	88	50	103
16	96	51	105
17	103	52	125
18	77	53	91
19	115	54	98
20	128	55	94
21	101	56	112
22	130	57	101
23	161	58	88
24	104	59	115
25	97	60	102
26	100	61	78
27	135	62	118
28	139	63	121
29	112	64	85
30	95	65	141
31	75	66	123
32	69	67	120
33	151	68	81
34	114	69	123
35	76	70	114
36	80	71	106
37	114	72	108
38	82	73	92
39	101	74	118
40	131	75	89
41	126	76	98
42	153	77	72
43	66	78	81

In 1779	109 died	In 1784	141 died
80	88	85	80
81	100	86	71
82	104	87	113
83	86		

All these were buried at Kirk Liberton, and at Niddry Marshal. Several others died; but they are not mentioned here, being buried in other places.

No. VIII.

Valuation of the several Lands in the Parish of Liberton.

	Scots.			Sterling.		
	L.	sh.	d.	L.	sh.	d.
Upper, or Over Liberton	1297	0	0	108	1	8
Morton-Hall, Muir-Houfe, and N. Kaimes	1078	0	0	89	16	8
Morton	390	3	4	32	10	3 $\frac{4}{5}$
Straiton	400	0	0	33	6	8
South-Houfe	261	0	0	21	15	0
Gilmerton	1803	0	0	150	5	0
Drum	964	10	0	80	7	6
Goodtrees, now Moredun	374	0	0	31	5	4
Stainhoufe	792	0	0	66	0	0
Craig-Millar and Nether Liberton	2932	15	0	244	7	11
Camron, and Common Myre	600	0	0	50	0	0
Peffer-Mill, and King's Meadow	250	0	0	20	16	8
Cairn, or Kairntous	167	5	0	13	18	9
Niddy-Marshall	1379	0	0	131	11	8
Brunstaine, or Little Gilmerton	666	13	4	55	11	1 $\frac{4}{5}$
St Katharine's	130	0	0	10	16	8 $\frac{3}{5}$
Total Valuation	13685	6	8	1140	10	10 $\frac{8}{5}$

The Valuation of the several Feuers or Feodaries of Stainhouse.

	Scots.			Sterling.		
	L.	sh.	d.	L.	sh.	d.
1. Nell-field, the property of Mr Thomas Campbell	44	0	0	3	13	4
2. West-field, or Burnhead, the property of Bailie Sprott	184	0	0	15	6	8
3. Stainhouse, the property of Miss Symonton and Thomas Peacock	280	0	0	23	6	8
4. Craigs, the property of Mr Peter Inglis merchant in Edinburgh	156	0	0	13	0	0
5. South-field, the property of Mr Miller of Dalwinton	48	0	0	4	0	0
6. Greenend, the property of Robert Braiden, &c.	42	0	0	3	10	0
7. Green-park, the property of Gideon Rutherford	14	0	0	1	3	4
8. Daniel Robb's property	20	0	0	1	13	4
9. John Goldie's garden and house	4	0	0	0	6	8
Total Valuation of Stainhouse	792	0	0	66	0	0

No. IX.

MORE than three-fourths of the valuation of Liberton, of which there is a particular account in the preceding number, are entailed; for, the lands of Upper or Over Liberton, Morton-Hall, Muir-House, and North Kaims, Straiton, South-House, Gilmerton, Craig-Millar and Nether Liberton, Camron and Common Myre, Niddry-Marshall, and Brunstane, or Little Gilmerton, are subjected to a strict entail*.

An

* Register of Entails, Edinburgh.