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ANNUAL

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# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Currie and his Biography of Burns—Editor</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Addenda to the Cromek Correspondence—Editor</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James, Earl of Glencairn—H. Makinson</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Burns and the Ayrshire Ministers—Rev. N. Farquhar Orr, B.A.</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misdates in Burns Literature—Davidson Cook, F.S.A., Scot.</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Burns and Upper Clydesdale—Andrew M'Callum</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauchline in Burns's Time—J. Taylor Gibb</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Contemporary of Burns: The Shepherd Boy of Dunkitterick (1775-1813)—Wm. M'Intwraith</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burns and Bonie Mary Menzies: Discovery of a Descendant—Sir David Menzies, Bart.</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Link with Burns: Passing of a Clyde Trust Veteran</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorship of the “Verses on the Destruction of the Woods near Drumlanrig”—J. C. E.</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Notes</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and Queries</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll of Honour</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federation Office-Bearers, &amp;c.</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting of Federation</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Directory</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions to Publishing Fund</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PREFACE.

The "sure and certain victory" which we never for a moment doubted during the trying period of heroic effort to thrust back the savage hordes which threatened the liberties of the world is now an accomplished fact, conveying firmest assurance that Peace, just and lasting, is a certainty of the near future. Meanwhile the Allies stand to arms, for never again can we trust

"Wretches of human kind,
Studied in arts of Hell, in wickedness refined."

We have again done our best for the present issue of the Chronicle, in confident expectation of better things when the Clubs resume their wonted activity. When the Boys come home again, joy will lighten sorrow, and Time heal all wounds.

Our thanks are again due to all who have assisted us in keeping the flag flying during the dark years of the war.

D. MCNAUGHT.

BENRIG, KILMAURS,
January 1st, 1919.
MR WM. WALLACE CURRIE, in the Memoir of his father, published in 1831, complains that various Burns admirers and biographers of Burns, including Gilbert, the brother of the Poet, had appeared before the public with the declared object of vindicating the memory of Burns from "the exaggerations and misrepresentations affecting his character" which his father is charged with having admitted into the Life, published in 1800. No objections of the kind, he adds, were made till many years after the death of his father, for which reason he declined to enter upon the ungrateful field of controversy. In the work referred to, he gives the text of the letters which passed between his father and John Syme shortly after the death of Burns, as well as commendatory communications from Lord Woodhouselee, Dugald Stewart, John Syme, and Gilbert Burns, after the biography was given to the world. The whole of Dr Currie's biographical information was ostensibly derived from John Syme and Gilbert Burns, both of whom went to Liverpool in the autumn of 1797, and remained there for a fortnight, arranging the documents forwarded to Currie and explaining and supplementing them to facilitate his labours as editor and biographer. The correspondence submitted by Mr Wallace Currie unfortunately lacks one essential. His father's letters to Syme are all given in continuous order, but Syme's letters, to which they were replies or interrogations, are conspicuous by their absence. From the pointed questions put by Dr Currie, it is quite obvious that Syme's replies must have had a pointed bearing on "the exaggerations and misrepresentations" attributed to Dr Currie, in which view it is both surprising and disappointing that his son did not adopt a more direct way
of exonerating his father. We are left in ignorance of the contents of Syme’s communications, and little or no light is thrown upon them by Dr Currie’s replies. This omission of Mr Wallace Currie is extremely regrettable, because it leaves us in doubt whether the “exaggerations and misrepresentations” are traceable to Syme and Gilbert Burns, or to other sources regarding which we know nothing. From “The Earnock MSS.,” published in the *Burns Chronicle* (Nos. VII. and VIII.), we learn something of Gilbert’s attitude towards the Currie narrative. Replying to Mr Roscoe, the friend of Dr Currie, who had accused him of inconsistency in his estimate of Dr Currie’s work, he says: “You seem to think, from my being at Liverpool for the purpose of giving assistance, and from Dr Currie having consulted me on other subjects, I ought to be considered as advising, or at least consenting to, the statements in question. In regard to the insincerity and inconsistency you seem to think me chargeable with, I can only say that, living upwards of fifty miles distant, I had seen very little of my brother during the last three years of his life. I was certain the view given by Dr Currie was agreeable to the information he had received from people he could not suspect of misrepresentation, but had I then been possessed of Mr Findlater’s letter, I should certainly have communicated it to Dr Currie.” Gilbert had removed from Mossgiel to the farm of Dinning, near Dumfries, in 1797, and had got a different account of his brother from intimate friends in the locality. In view of Gilbert’s protest, the question arises—Was Syme Currie’s only informant? We find the following in the minute-book of the Dumfries Burns Club, under date January 25th, 1819, at which anniversary meeting Syme was vice-president: “Burns has too long suffered,” he said, “from the combined attacks of prejudice and malignity, attacks to which some high and cruel names in the literary world have most ungenerously lent their sanction. This is not fair,” and so on. And he forthwith launches into a high eulogium of the Poet. In face of this, we may well again ask—Was Syme Currie’s sole
informant? Gilbert Burns was a level-headed, fair-minded man, and we know that he resented and challenged certain parts of Syme's recorded evidence. What he says of Dr Currie, unprejudiced opinion will be inclined to endorse. But that does not affect the veracity of the narrative either way; it is not a question of the good faith, or good taste, of Dr Currie in utilising the evidence, but of the origin and value of the evidence itself. That he took extraordinary liberties with dates and text is undeniable, but vices of that kind were characteristics of the editors of that day. Considering his professional position, eminent respectability, and reputation amongst his contemporaries, it appears incredible that he stooped to deliberate misrepresentation, or went beyond information which he deemed reliable.

He was the only son of a parish minister, born at the Manse of Kirkpatrick-Fleming, in Annandale; and he spent his youth in the Parish of Middlebie, to which his father was translated shortly after his son's birth. He emigrated to Virginia in 1771, at the age of fifteen, with the intention of embarking on a commercial career. When the American War of Independence broke out he experienced great difficulty in returning to his native land, which he eventually accomplished; and, at the age of twenty-one, he became a medical student at Edinburgh University. On the conclusion of his studies in 1780, his intention was to emigrate to Jamaica, but he was prevailed upon by his friends to give up the idea and settle as a practitioner in Liverpool. In this city he soon became known in literary circles as a versatile and accomplished writer, chiefly on professional subjects. His Medical Reports are devoted more particularly to febrile diseases, his treatment of which
by the application of hot and cold water, though a marked innovation in the medical practice of his day, appears singularly inept in the light of modern medical discovery. One cannot read his son's account of his career without receiving the impression that he was naturally receptive of the cacoethes scribendi bacillus. He wrote to Wilberforce on the Slave Question, and, in 1793, he addressed an open letter to Pitt, signed "Jasper Wilson," in which he advocated a neutral policy towards the French Revolutionists. This last production excited considerable interest and brought him into notice, though the sequel proved that he was as far wrong in the short-sighted policy he advocated as the Pacifists at the present juncture of the world's history. But for the Liverpool edition of Burns and its many reprints, Dr Currie would only have been remembered as a writer on exploded medical theories. He was never robust in health, which incapacitated him for sustained literary work. He removed to Bath in 1805, where he died on August 31st, aged forty-nine years. He was stiff and formal in manner save to his intimates, kindly and obliging in disposition, and widely-known as a man of considerable literary ability. He was very ambitious of literary distinction, or, as his son puts it, "of the homage which is paid to character and intellectual superiority." Despite his protestations, the reader cannot fail to note that he was very desirous of being appointed editor of the projected posthumous edition of Burns. The whole profits of that edition, amounting to £1200, were handed over for behoof of the Poet's widow and family, this high-souled generosity having the effect of disarming criticism by the Poet's relatives and friends during Dr Currie's life, and for some years after his death. When dissatisfaction at length found voice in the contradictory evidence of Gray, Findlater, and Thomson, the friends of Dr Currie naturally resented it. A long letter of remonstrance addressed to Gilbert Burns by W. Roscoe (author of Lorenzo de Medici) will be found in the "Earnock MSS." already referred to, which, however, throws no more light on the
sources of Currie's information than was already known. Dr Maxwell, the intimate friend of Burns; has been suggested as a probable authority drawn upon by Currie, but there is little or no evidence available to support the conjecture. Doctors do occasionally exchange confidences, but it is contrary to the traditions of that honourable profession to lay their confidences before the general public. And there is nothing pointing to Alex. Cunningham as one of Currie's contributors to the biography. It is futile to speculate on Currie's informants other than Syme and Gilbert Burns. Of the two, Syme is the more likely to have lent himself to exaggeration. His romantic account of the composition of "Scots Wha Hae" is a myth of his own imagining; and the sword-cane incident, which roused the ire of Gilbert Burns, is accompanied by too much stage thunder to pass as literal truth. Till Syme's letters to Currie are produced—and there is now little likelihood that they ever will be—we are thrown back on what has been vouchsafed to us of their correspondence, which we lay before our readers to enable them to judge of the extent to which Currie was beholden to others for the material which he wrote into his Life of Burns, thereby assuming all responsibility for its fidelity and trustworthiness. Why he did not apply to Mr Findlater, Mr Gray, or other well-informed friends of Burns in Dumfries is as inexplicable as it is unpardonable. Mr Roscoe is good enough to say that had Dr Currie seen the evidence of the two individuals named it would have modified, if not fundamentally affected, that which he had obtained from other sources—an admission which surely reflects on the methods employed by Currie in collecting his materials. That he knew next to nothing of his subject himself should have made him all the more solicitous to ensure that his field of enquiry was as wide and comprehensive as the circumstances demanded. In this, as the sequel proved, he signally failed. That Syme was a personal friend of his, and also his agent or factor on some
property he held in his native place, were facts which did not specially recommend him as the only man in Dumfries capable of advising him in the task he had undertaken, the arduous nature of which he did not realise till it was too late to withdraw from it. The truth is, he was over-weighted with his subject. The unbiassed literary opinion of the time may be gauged by that of Charles Lamb, who, writing to Coleridge in the autumn of 1800, says: “Have you seen the new edition of Burns—his posthumous works and letters? I have only been able to procure the first volume, which contains his life—very, confusedly and badly written, and interspersed with dull pathological and medical discussions. It is written by a Dr Currie. Do you know the weak but well-meaning doctor? Alas! ne suitor ultra crepidam.”

EDITOR.

DR CURRIE TO JOHN SYME.

"11th June, 1787.

* * * * *

"The poems of Burns have certainly great merit. An original Poet, which he may be called, is most highly welcome to every man of taste and feeling, after the disgust which arises from listening to a long succession of copyers of copyers, who have inherited from each other the same thoughts, the same expressions, and even the same cadence. This West-country Poet (the first, I believe, which that psalm-singing region has produced), has that admirable simplicity which is the attribute of true genius. His thoughts are natural, and flow easily; and by turns he is humorous, pathetic, and sublime. His ‘Address to the Mouse’ has all these characters of writing united; and it is certainly one of the happiest productions of modern poetry; and, what gives it additional value in this case, none but a ploughman could have written it.

"I agree with you that Burns ought to keep clear of politics, and, we may add, religion, which, from its very nature, cannot be made the vehicle of good poetry; as Johnson has demonstrated in his Life of Waller, in a passage of amazing force and elegance, to which I beg your attention."
"12th August, 1787.

The more I read Burns, the better I like him; and it is with much pleasure that I hear he is about to settle in the neighbourhood of Dumfries, where a farm, on very advantageous terms, has been offered him by Mr Miller, brother to the Lord Justice Clerk. On the banks of the Nith or the Annan, he will meet the Muses of former days, and these rivers may rise in his song to a rivalship with the Yarrow or the Tweed."

"26th July, 1796.

I have long thought of inviting you to Liverpool. Independent of the curiosity you may be supposed to feel in seeing a place of its size and commerce, the very great and extending connection which it maintains with the south of Scotland might furnish you with powerful motives for such a journey; and I think I could make you acquainted with some persons here whose society would repay the fatigues of your travelling. Let me press this upon you. I would advise you to take the present season; to give yourself plenty of time; and to come on horseback. Be assured of the kindest reception it is in my power to give you. It would doubtless have given me, and several of my friends, particular pleasure to have seen poor Burns with you, but that expectation is now over. I have just heard that he has taken a journey to that country 'from whose bourne no traveller returns.'

My friend Roscoe paid him an elegant compliment lately in his Life of Lorenzo de Medici, and sent, or meant to send, him a copy of his work. Burns often talked, as we were informed, of coming to Liverpool; and he would have found many admirers here. I assure you, I lament over his early fate. I never saw this original genius but for a few minutes, in 1792, in the streets of Dumfries. In the little conversation I had with him, which was begun rather abruptly on my part, I could easily distinguish that bold, powerful, and ardent mind, which, in different circumstances, such as the present state of the world renders familiar to the imagination, might have influenced the history of nations. What did Burns die of? What family has he left—and in what circumstances? Am I right in supposing him not a mere poet, but a man of general talents? By what I have heard, he was not very correct in his conduct; and a report goes about that he died of the effects of habitual drinking. Be so good as to tell me what you think on this point.

Men of genius like Burns are sure to be envied, and even hated, by cold-blooded mediocrity and selfish prudence; and, on that account, one receives reports to their disadvantage with great
distrust. As you knew this singular man, of whom much will
now be said, and much enquired in future times, I wish you would
give me as much of his character and of his private life as you
can without inconvenience, in addition to the points I have enquired
into; and I will endeavour, in one way or other, to turn it to some
account.

"In hopes of hearing from you soon, and, perhaps, of seeing
you,—I am, my dear Syme, Your faithful friend and servant.

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 30th July, 1796.

"My Dear Sir,—I thank you very sincerely for your obliging
letter of the 27th, in which you communicate some account of the
death and funeral of Robert Burns. By a letter which was on the
road to you at the time that yours was written, you will see the
interest I take in the subject, and how very sensibly I shall be
gratified by any opportunity that may offer of testifying my respect
for this departed genius.

"Though the paper you had the goodness to send me did not
arrive, I procured the sight of another, and I read with much interest
the accounts which it contains of the character and funeral honours
of this extraordinary man.

I hope you will, at your leisure, comply with my request, and
give me such answers as are in your power to the queries I have put;
for it is possible that I may have it in my power to convert the
information you give me to some purpose.

"I observe an advertisement in the Dumfries Journal for a
meeting of the friends of Mr Burns on the 28th. Oblige me with
an account of the subject, and the issue, of that meeting.

"I have little fear that a provision will be procured for the
family of a man whose genius reflects honour on his age and country,
and who will be talked of with admiration after the far greater
part of his contemporaries, high and low, are lost in oblivion.—
I am, my dear Sir, in haste, Yours ever,

"JAMES CURRIE."

Liverpool, 12th August, 1796.

"My Dear Syme,—I have been in daily expectation of hear-
ing from you for this fortnight past, in answer to two letters I have
written to you on the subject of poor Burns.

"My first, requesting information in regard to his life and
character, you might, indeed, find it troublesome to answer; but
I did expect a word or two in answer to my enquiries in regard
to the mode adopted for the support of his family.
"For want of this information, I have been altogether at a loss how to proceed in my solicitations here; for your letter, written in haste, left me in doubt whether I ought to ask for money, or for subscriptions to the posthumous works.

"I have regretted this the more as I have a long letter from an excellent woman, and a great friend of Burns, urging me to make some exertions, and supposing me perfectly acquainted with the mode in which you are proceeding.

"Despairing of hearing from you, I last night wrote a preamble to a subscription paper, which I have put into the hands of a lady, who will exert herself in getting subscriptions of money; and I have begun to solicit my particular friends, and not without success. At the same time, every one is desirous of knowing to what extent it is necessary to subscribe; and several have suggested the propriety of each subscriber having a copy of such works as may be published. For my own part, I am ready to exert myself in any way that may be requisite; though, I confess, I am less able to solicit for money than for anything else. And the admirers of this celebrated genius may serve his family in different ways—for instance, it may be an object to provide for the sons; and, at a proper season, I am ready to do my best in that way. Some money, however, you shall have; but do write to me what you are doing, and what you expect to be done, that I may give my friends some notion of the sum they should advance, as well as judge for myself on that point.

"Roscoe and I are also very anxious to hear who are to be the editors of his posthumous works, and who is to be Burns's biographer. It is a national concern that this be done with care and skill, and I earnestly entreat you to consider well of this point. All his remains should be carefully collected, but not all published; and his life should be written by one who feels the charms of his genius, and who can express what he feels. By this time such points are probably settled. I should be happy to hear that you are Burns's biographer yourself; and if you undertake it, you may command our assistance, if we can assist you.

"There are certain parts, I apprehend, of Burns's life, as well as of his opinions, that must be touched with delicacy: but the picture that is exhibited of him should convey a genuine likeness; and this can only be done by one who can conceive his character, and the high-wrought sensibility which laid the foundation of his excellencies, and perhaps of his defects.

"In expectation of an answer, short or long, by return of post—in great haste.—I am, my dear Syme, Your faithful friend,

"James Currie.

"The lady who wrote to me is Mrs Dunlop of Dunlop."
Liverpool, 15th August, 1796.

"My dear Syme,—I have given you more trouble than I intended about Burns; but I will send you forty or fifty guineas in a few days for his family; and this, I hope, will be a successful apology.

"I agree with you in thinking the subject of his life delicate as well as important in its nature, and I hope it will be handled with skill and address. I should, however, be very sorry if there were not a superior hand employed to that you mention; for though I have seen some productions of that person,* which convey a favourable notion of her taste and fancy, yet I can never suppose her equal to a conception of the character of this great and masculine genius.

"The biographer of Burns has not many events to relate—the history of his life may be confined to a very few pages; and in regard to his character, that, in my mind, is displayed in almost every poem he wrote, to such as have the comprehension necessary to receive it. The very circumstance of Burns having portrayed himself in such vivid colours, is a decisive proof of his superior genius. It is not often that the real character of an author appears in his works. Inferior minds shrink from a full exposure of themselves; and in the exhibition of their characters are instinctively led to veil their defects, and to make more conspicuous their excellencies. It is only for men of the first order of genius to present themselves, without covering or disguise, in all the nakedness of truth and all the energy of nature. This fact may be easily explained. Common minds covet, of all things, the approbation of the world; superior minds prefer to this, the approbation of their own hearts. It is very rare that these last are completely gratified. Independent of the very defects that are too often entwined with kindred excellencies, it is not common virtues that satisfy their wishes, or common acquirements that will gratify their aspirations. Sinking far below the standard of excellence which their imagination is so constantly exhibiting, and too often mortified by those lapses into which sensibility is so liable to fall, they cannot conceal their errors from the tribunal of their own hearts; and why should they seek to disguise them from the tribunal of the world? Of the world, whose comparative ignorance they know, whose injustice they so often feel, and whose kindness is seldom bestowed till they are no longer sensible of its value!

"But, if I proceed in this strain, I shall trespass all reasonable bounds.

"What I wish chiefly to know is, whether any authorised person has undertaken the prefatory biography and editorship* Maria Riddel.
of Burns, and whether any bookseller has been applied to in regard to purchasing or publishing what posthumous things may appear; because these points are highly important to his family and the public; and (as I said before) such time as I can spare, and such talents as I possess, may be commanded in this service. I have some connections with the London booksellers, and I am positive I can command a much larger sum from them than can be had in Edinburgh.

"That an authorised biographer should be fixed soon, seems to me the more necessary, because it is to be feared that volunteers may appear, attracted by the popularity of a subject which they may deform and disgrace.

"But I have not the least wish to step out of my way on this occasion, if this business is already settled, and in proper hands; and therefore I communicate my offer to you only, and in confidence. Indeed, if I were to be employed, I should wish it to be unknown.—in haste, I am, my dear Syme, Yours most truly,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 25th August, 1796.

"My Dear Syme,—If I had any mercy in my nature, I ought now to spare you on the subject of Burns; but you will see that my craving appetite is not yet completely satisfied, though the object of my writing at present is rather to convey thanks for what you have done than to make fresh solicitations. Why will you make me apologies, and tell me of interruptions? Your letters are excellent; they are, in the very highest degree, interesting; they are, in one word, equal to the subject on which they are written. Accept my warm acknowledgments for all your trouble; and let your benevolence be gratified by the high pleasure it has conveyed.

"When I had the presumption to offer myself as the biographer of Burns, I acted under an impulse that dies away within me; and I was under the mistake that this task was to be undertaken by the lady to whom we have alluded. It seemed to me that, setting aside the disadvantage of little personal acquaintance, I was fitter for the task than a lively female, who, though she might feel the brilliancy, might not be able to sustain the force or support the weight, of his character.

"In proposing to write the life of Burns, I was not aware that Dugald Stewart was likely to undertake that office—certainly a man as well qualified as any in the Island, and to whose superior genius I bow. I trust that nothing will prevent his engaging in the business; and if my solicitations with him can be of any use, I am ready to employ them. The life and personal character will
not require to be drawn at great length; and the inimitable letter you sent me of Burns's own will supply a great part of the materials. The critique on his writings is a more difficult task; and it will afford scope to great talents. One principal subject of curiosity to Englishmen—and Englishmen will be very curious as to Burns—is the nature of his education, and the degree of his information. Some happy strokes of national character and national manners might be displayed in satisfying this curiosity; and being acquainted with the manners of both countries, the peculiarities of the life of a Scottish peasant are better known to a man in my situation than, perhaps, to natives who have never lived in England.

"I, however, altogether renounce the task of his biography; though, if I have leisure, I shall, possibly, amuse myself with some criticisms on his writings, which you shall see."

"Cadell and Strahan were both here a few days ago; they breakfasted with Roscoe, and I am sorry the occasion was slipped of speaking to them as to Burns's poems."

"My view in offering to write Burns's biography, &c., was, first, to serve the family, if I could; and secondly, to rescue it from hands still more unequal. Fame and profit were out of the question; and, indeed, I should have desired to remain unknown."

"In such an undertaking, my business would have been to act under the direction of the executors, and to have submitted everything to them before it was printed—or rather, indeed, to you."

"My chief difficulty would have been to find time requisite for a task so important and critical; and I rejoice that it is in so much better hands. The criticisms that such an undertaking would have brought upon me would not have weighed with me much. I have already sustained, and I hope surmounted, the attacks of bigotry and malice; and I despise, or at least I do not dread, the renewal of these attacks."

"However, the life of Burns should be written, for the sake of his family, with all due regard to the prejudices of the world; and so written, I see little that his biographer has to fear."

"I will speak to you seriously and conscientiously; for at this distance, and situated as we are, it would be abominable to deal in compliments. No man is so fit to be Burns's biographer as yourself; and I earnestly recommend you to undertake the task, if Mr Stewart declines it. If you do, I will put my remarks and criticisms entirely into your hands; and Roscoe will give you his also. If this do not meet your approbation, which, however, it ought to do, you may command us in any way you think for the good of the family; other wish or interest we have none.---Yours most faithfully,

"JAMES CURRIE,"

"16"
"My Dear Syme,—I really know not what to say to your letter of the 31st, and this has prevented me answering it as early as you might expect. I hope you have not mentioned my rash proposal, and that my supposed willingness has had no share in Mr Stewart's declining the task you allude to. I have told you my anxiety and uneasiness on the occasion, and will now explain myself fully.

My objections (which you will justly say ought to have been considered first) arise from various considerations. You talk of your engagements. I can hardly suppose they are equal to mine; every day of my life I am, at least, four hours on horseback, and two on foot; and this bodily exertion is attended with incessant exertion of mind. My only leisure is from two to four, after my forenoon calls are over, and an hour or two in the evening. But at such times I am generally much fatigued, and when I attempt to write after my morning calls, as at present, I am obliged to stimulate my jaded nerves by large quantities of coffee. The little leisure I have finds me almost constantly disposed to sleep, and without coffee I am ready to yawn and tumble back on my sofa.

There are various demands on this leisure, imperfect as it is. My family, my medical consultations, and my daily correspondence must be attended to. But I have had for some time a medical publication on hand, which has lingered most unaccountably, owing to my thoughts wandering into politics, and into various other collateral points that need not be mentioned. Now I find there is a danger of my being anticipated in this publication, and perhaps robbed of some honest reputation, if I delay it much longer. I have, therefore, begun seriously to arrange my papers within these few days, and have spoken to a printer; and I can hardly expect, if Burns's life, &c., is called for immediately, to get forward with both publications at once. You see, then, how I stand; and if either Mr Stewart, Mr M'Kenzie, or any other competent hand has been looked to, and can be obtained for this office, I would certainly wish to decline it. Here is the simple truth. You will not suspect me of any pitiful affectation. But if no such can be procured; if you will not undertake the work yourself as a principal, allowing me to be your aide-de-camp; and if you, and whoever else act for the family, really think I can serve it, by doing my best as a biographer and critic on the Scottish Bard, I will not draw back from any expectation I have excited.

Before, however, even on these suppositions, I undertake the business, I wish to mention two or three particulars, that we may see how far our notions of the manner in which it ought to be executed coincide. My idea is, that the life and critique alluded to ought
to be prefixed to his posthumous publications, and that the whole should be on the plan of Johnson's *Lives of the Poets*, viz., a narrative of the life, and then an appreciation of the writings. For the narrative, the MS. you sent me will furnish a principal part of the materials, and it may be inserted altogether, omitting, however, a few particulars that might give pain to living characters; or it may be quoted occasionally, as authority for the particulars mentioned, so as to embrace the whole. And such additional information may be collected in Ayrshire, and from yourself, as may illustrate the narrative in the earlier parts, and lengthen it out to his death. In all this there will be no great difficulty; but some delicacy will be required in touching his faults and irregularities. In regard to the critique, that will not only apply to the poems already published, but to the letters, &c., now to be brought into light; and thus, the biographer must have these before him. Of the poems already published, a sort of arrangement may be pursued as they are humorous, tender, or sublime; and they will afford room for some striking observations. Of what are yet unseen no notion can be formed. On this part of the business my friend Mr Roscoe will, I hope, do something, the remarks of a man of his talents and taste, himself an excellent poet, will be interesting; and the more, as he never saw Burns or his country.

"It strikes me, however, that there will be some difficulty in transmitting the papers that are to be printed to Liverpool for perusal; and this circumstance, among many others, points out the impropriety of my being employed on the business.

"You must give me a notion what is to be printed, and where; and you must tell me who act on this occasion besides yourself, for this poor family.

"Here we have an excellent printer, but you would not think of printing his works in Liverpool? I suppose that will be done in Dumfries or Edinburgh.

"I imagine it will be thought prudent to avoid all political allusions in the life.

"If it extend nearly to the same length as that of Milton in Johnson, I should suppose that will be what is expected.

"I put all these questions, the better to compare our ideas, and I will thank you to notice them in order, with your first leisure, that a final decision may be made.

"On the whole, I think you will agree in my opinion, that the task will be more conveniently and better executed in Edinburgh, where, I hope, some men of letters will be found to discharge this duty to departed genius and to his country. The decision, after what I have said, shall be with you and Mrs Burns, or whoever act for her. If you really and truly, under all these objections,
wish for my undertaking the task we talk of, I will not, as I said before, withhold my assistance, or my best exertions; but, in the meantime, I do not wish to have my name mentioned in the business.

"I hear with pleasure that the salary enjoyed by Mr Burns is settled on his widow. This I have from Colonel Dunlop, of the Ayrshire Fencible Cavalry; it has made me relax in soliciting subscriptions. Mr Roscoe has written a beautiful monody on Burns, which I will send you soon.

"I wish you would tell me whether you are always as busy as you say; and whether we may not hope to see you here this autumn. If you could come soon, we might settle many things with advantage in a personal conference.

"I am going to talk over the whole of this business with Roscoe. He has promised to accompany me into Scotland when I next go down; and you will be pleased with his manners, as well as with his conversation.—I am, in haste, my dear Syme, Yours always,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 16th September, 1796.

"My DEAR SYME,—This is the last letter I shall write to you at present on the subject of Burns; for we now understand each other perfectly.

"As the biography and criticism will not be wanted for some time, I can have no hesitation in undertaking it, provided a better hand does not seem likely to be procured, and that, under all the circumstances of the case, Cunningham, &c., wish it. The truth is, I could not well have executed it if it had been wanted immediately; unless, indeed, it had been important to the fatherless children, for whom I would certainly be willing to make some sacrifices. As it will not be required for ten or twelve months, I can accomplish it, as I said before, if it be wished.

"I am glad that our friend Cunningham is to have the papers in his charge; I know his excellent heart. He will, of course, be very cautious whom he trusts with a sight of the naked effusions of poor Burns; for there are many that would, from mere curiosity, wish to inspect them; and several who, I fear, would be glad of an opportunity of finding in them food for their malevolence.

"If I am to be the biographer, it will not be necessary to send me everything he has written; but it would be proper to convey to me a complete specimen, at least, of his letter-writing, &c., that I may see his style and character, as far as his correspondence displays it.

"As to his character as a Poet (the principal point) that must be chiefly collected from his printed poems. The materials of his private character are very ample in your letters, and the incidents
of his life may be easily collected as far as they are necessary to be
detailed. His brother Gilbert's account of his infancy will be very
interesting.

"If it should be fixed that I undertake this business I will get
a MS. book, in which I will begin, at my leisure, to collect incidents
and digest my thoughts; but I will not begin the composition till
the time approaches that it may be required.

"Besides my friend Roscoe's monody, I have got another by
Rushton of this town—a truly original genius. He lost his sight
on the coast of Africa, whither he sailed several voyages. He is
truly a poet, as you will one day see.

"It would amaze you to witness the enthusiasm felt about
Burns among many English people here. They understand him
easily in all the English counties from Lancashire north; and he
everywhere takes that strong hold on the heart which is the criterion
of original genius.

"I will send you these monodies, with the life of Burns, when
I get a private opportunity; they are both in the stanza of the
'Mountain Daisy,' and of some length.

"When you write to Cunningham, pray make my best remem-
brances to him. I hope he will be on his guard against the scoffers.

"You may communicate such of my letters to him as you think
fit, but in confidence; for it would give me great pain to get into
the public mouth on this occasion.

"I shall transmit you our subscriptions in a few days.—In
haste, I am always, Yours affectionately,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"4th October, 1796.

"My dear Syme,—I enclose you a bill of this date for seventy
guineas, for the use of the family of poor Burns. The subscriptions
amount to £74 10s, of which I have as yet received about £50 only.
The rest, however, are good, and will come in when I can meet the
subscribers. Twenty shillings, at least, will be required for adver-
tisements. It is possible that I may receive a few guineas more,
which shall in due season be transmitted.

"A report, however, prevails that the King has given a pension
of £50 a year to the widow, which I hope is well founded; for it
has, I am sure, been thirty guineas out of her pocket in the present
instance, not only by preventing voluntary subscriptions coming
forward, but by stopping my solicitations, as I before mentioned
to you.

"Since you did not contradict the report, I conclude that it is
well founded; if it be not, I think I could raise our subscription
to a hundred guineas.
I formerly mentioned to you that I had received two monodies on Burns—one by Roscoe and another by Rushton. They have both great merit, especially the first. But they have a common fault—that of attacking the ingratitude of Burns's countrymen too violently. I objected to this in my friend Roscoe; but I have not been able to prevail upon him to alter his poem in this or in several other particulars; partly because there is no reasoning down the indignation of a poet on a subject of this kind, and partly because what poetry he writes, which is very little, he executes at a single exertion, and cannot be got to retouch.

The foundation of my objection is this—that the kind of attack to which I allude may set the adversaries on their defence; and, in conducting this defence, I fear the frailties of Burns might be unnecessarily exposed. I will, however, copy this poem for you.

By this opportunity I also send you the curious account of Burns by himself, of which I have taken a copy, which shall not be exposed. If anything new occurs on the subject, please to mention it.—In haste, I am, my dear Syme, Yours always,

JAMES CURRIE.

Tell me what you think of Roscoe's poem. He is going to send you the copy of Lorenzo de Medici which he designed for poor Burns.

Liverpool, 31st December, 1796.

In regard to Burns's remains, they may certainly be printed as well here as anywhere, if they can be printed as conveniently. But to tell you the truth, I suspect that many of his effusions, and probably some of the best of them, have such strong parts in them of different kinds, that I am not willing, even with Roscoe's assistance, to take the responsibility of editing them. All that I can say is this: if no better can be done, you may, if you approve of it, send such of the MSS. here as you have arranged, and as you think may be printed. Roscoe and I will look them over with attention, and look out for a printer, &c. We will also look out for a London bookseller.

After I have perused these MSS. I shall be prepared for the biography, which I will sketch out of such materials as you may furnish me with. When everything is so far prepared, you shall come up for a fortnight and revise the whole, and then you, Roscoe, and myself will sit in a final council on the remains of this immortal genius before they are put to the press—a pleasing, though melancholy, occupation!

It appears to me that everything that is now printed should be as free of exceptions as may be; but that a future volume may
contain such things as are now too vehement, but which yet may stand the test of time. However, on this and other points, we shall judge better when we see the MSS.

"If you approve of this plan, you must take the trouble of collecting letters, &c., and of answering such queries as I may put to you as to his Dumfriesshire life. As to his life in Ayrshire, that is chiefly found in his letter to Dr Moore, and I can apply there for what is deficient.

"Here, then, our correspondence on this point may rest for the present. I have got ten or twelve guineas more. My situation (as a physician) makes it an object with me not to be talked of on this occasion.

"Your visit to us will fall about May or June.—In great haste,

Yours ever,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 8th February, 1797.

"My DEAR SYME,—Your letter of the 6th January reached me on the 12th, and along with it came the remains of poor Burns. I viewed the huge and shapeless mass with astonishment! Instead of finding, as I expected, a selection of his papers, with such annotations as might clear up any obscurities—of papers perused and approved by his friends as fit for publication, or furnishing the materials of publication—I received the complete sweepings of his drawers and of his desk (as it appeared to me), even to the copy-book on which his little boy had been practising writing. No one has given these papers a perusal, or even an inspection; the sheep were not separated from the goats; and—what has, perhaps, not happened before since the beginning of the world—the manuscripts of a man of genius, unarranged by himself, and unexamined by his family or friends, were sent, with all their sins on their head, to meet the eye of an entire stranger!

"Finding what an extraordinary charge was devolved upon me, I shut myself up in my study for the greater part of several nights, and on the 22nd ult. I had finished the perusal of these singular papers. I read them with sympathy, with sorrow, with pity, and with admiration; and at times with strong though transient disgust. Sealing up a few by themselves, that in my judgment ought to be committed to the flames, I sent the rest to my friend Mr Roscoe, as you desired, who has perused them also. He returned them to me the day before yesterday, previous to his setting out for London. I had desired him to mark such as he thought might be published, or as afforded the materials of publication, and to give me his sentiments on the best method of disposing of the whole for the family."
"The following is a copy of his answer:—

"My Dear Friend,—I have read the papers with infinite amusement, though with infinite regret. Inclosed is what occurred to me as to the publication. I have not attempted to make any selection, as there is scarcely anything of his own which on the plan suggested may not be useful. On my return I yet hope for another opportunity of looking into them, and shall always be happy to render any service in my power. I wish to return them when you are in the way to receive them; and, if you will please to mention any hour to-day or to-morrow when you are to be at home, I will take care they shall be punctually with you.—I am, most truly yours,

W. R.

[Inclosed in the above.]

Suggestions as to the disposing of the papers of the late much lamented Robert Burns:—

1. That whatever is done as to returning any letters, papers, &c., should be considered as the act of the widow, and transacted in her name.

2. That the letters from Mr Burns's stated correspondents should be selected, and each person's enclosed in a cover, till it be known whether they wish them to be returned; and in case they should, may it not be reasonable to require Mr Burns's letters in return, as being a necessary part of the materials for the intended publication?

3. That an arrangement should be made of such of his letters and unpublished poems as are proper for publication; but that nothing which he has written in his moments of levity or eccentricity, and which may be supposed to affect his character in a moral view, be allowed to see the light.

4. That a narrative should be written of his life, introducing occasionally his own detached memoirs, letters, observations, poems, &c., as illustrating the progress of his mind, the state of his opinions, moral, political, and religious, &c., adding from time to time such observations as may naturally arise from the documents, so as to render the whole honourable to the character of Burns, and interesting and useful to the world at large.

It is greatly to be wished (if not an indispensable requisite) that the narrative should be written by some person who has lived in habits of intimacy with the Poet, and who may often be enabled to illustrate his sentiments and observations by his own personal knowledge of him; but, at all events, it is necessary that he should feel a thorough disregard of vulgar prejudices, and should avow the work.
I apprehend the whole would form a tolerable octavo, or two volumes in twelves, which might be published by subscription at a guinea. The memoirs might occupy about one-half.

The Posthumous Works of Robert Burns.

To which are prefixed Memoirs of his Life and Writings: collected principally from his own Letters and Manuscripts; and published for the benefit of his Widow and Children. By A—— B——.

So far my friend Roscoe; and with his sentiments my own entirely correspond. As you have not perused the MSS., I will give you a general notion of what they consist. You have read the different books probably: they consist chiefly of letters and poems copied out fair, the original draughts of which are to be found among the loose papers: and the best of the poems are already in print. But there are a few detached memoranda set down at various times, containing incidental opinions and reflections, which are nowhere else to be found:

1. There are nearly fifty sketches of letters, written on various occasions; a few of which, and only a few, may be published entire. The larger part of many are fit for the public; and some will admit of a few passages only being selected. It was seldom that the Bard put pen to paper that something sterling did not flow from him. As might be expected, where detached correspondents were written to without any view to the letters being brought together, there are certain phrases frequently repeated. These chiefly respect independence of spirit in a humble condition; a sentiment which obtruded on his mind as often as he wrote to persons in a higher condition, and which, as he expressed it often, he acquired the habit at last of expressing nearly in the same phraseology. It will be necessary to omit many such passages. Other passages it will be necessary to omit because they respect living characters and recent circumstance which it would be improper to expose to the public; and, in respect to such omissions, it is altogether impossible that I can form a proper judgment. I suspect also that there are passages to be omitted which respect occasions in which the Bard engaged with all the vehemence of his character, and possibly took the wrong side, or carried the right to an extreme. In regard to Dr McGill's controversy, for instance, a stranger must be entirely at a loss what to set down or what to suppress; and the same may be said on other occasions, on which his ardent sympathies were
excited. There are (e.g.) some excellent letters respecting Mr—*, a schoolmaster at Moffat. These it would be a pity to suppress; and it might be hazardous to disclose them. Many such difficulties I might mention.

"2. But one difficulty remains, greater than any other; and that is, what to say or what to suppress in regard to his political opinions. I see that the Bard was admonished on the subject of his heresies, and threatened with the loss of his place; and the letter which he wrote in his own justification is one of the finest of all his compositions. There are several poems that are political; most of them, indeed, of little importance: but there is one which, though short, is of great merit: 'Libertie, a Vision.' This, of course, must not die; but the question, how far it might be right to venture the publication of it, and other things of the same delicate nature, at present, is one which the family ought to be consulted on, and which a stranger cannot presume to decide.

"3. There are many detached pieces of poetry, but chiefly in the form of songs, and written, I presume, for the musical work that is going forward. Possibly these may be paid for, and, of course, the property of the persons engaged in that work; and a stranger cannot pretend to publish them without their permission.

"4. There is a very considerable number of letters from Burns's correspondents, some of them very good in themselves, and others which would be interesting as coming from persons of celebrity. A few of these it would be desirable to intermix with those of the Bard; but how shall a stranger presume to do this?

"5. Not one of the copies of his own letters is dated; and, therefore, a stranger cannot arrange them in the order of time, so as to make them convey a history of his mind. Persons perfectly acquainted with the Poet might be able, from the contents of these MSS., to form a pretty exact notion of their date, and thus supply the deficiency; but a stranger cannot do this.

"I might go on enumerating the difficulties, of which these are only a part, that stand in the way of my undertaking to be the editor and biographer of Burns; but I am fatigued, and probably tedious.

"You will readily believe me when I tell you that I did not foresee these; nay, I could not possibly foresee them, till the papers were put into my hands;—put into my hands, not selected and arranged as I expected, but with the whole toil and responsibility thrown upon me.

"In this situation you will not be surprised that I feel an anxious wish to decline the undertaking, if any other person can be

* James Clarke, afterwards schoolmaster, Forfar.
found to engage in it. Edinburgh, doubtless, is the place where
the publication should be made; and, among the men of letters
there, I earnestly hope that some one perfectly qualified for the
task may yet be found willing to engage in it. He that has leisure,
and advantages for the proper performance of it, will receive the
blessings of the widow and fatherless, and hand down his name
with honour to posterity. But—to speak my mind to you freely—
though the subject has so much interest, yet there are so many
delicacies belonging to it, and the materials are so scattered and so
peculiar, that a very great deal depends on the taste, and delicacy,
and judgment of the biographer.

"My friend Roscoe has given very exactly my opinions of the
manner in which it should be executed. But I will be a little more
particular.

"The scheme he has mentioned under No. 4 is that which was
adopted by Mason in his Life of Gray. The execution was, however,
poor; and the whole work is, to me, languard and uninteresting.
Gray's life afforded little incident: his sentiments were refined,
even to fastidiousness; and his poetry, excellent as it is, is,
afforded no great scope for original criticism. There are several circum-
stances in the history of Burns that give greater scope to his bio-
grapher. The rise and progress of this daring peasant exhibits
an interesting picture of the power and of the evolution of original
genius, and naturally connects with, and even introduces, details
concerning the condition and character of the Scottish peasantry,
their lives and opinions, which, to an English reader at least, will
have the attraction of novelty. The Poet painted nature, and
particular nature: he gives to all his exhibitions of character—
persons; to all his displays of passion—persons, character, and
scenery. Besides this, his peculiar cast of poetry, formed in a great
measure on the models of his own country, naturally introduces
some observations on the poetry of Scotland—a subject on which
I have read nothing, but on which I have occasionally ruminated,
as I have crooned in my solitary journeyings the old ballads of our
ancient bards; all of whom Burns greatly surpassed.

"To show what it is in the poetry of Burns that so strangely
takes hold of the heart; even at times in defiance of the taste, may
open some views into the sympathies of our nature, and into the
powers by which poetry charms.

"The errors and faults, as well as the excellencies of Burns's
life and character, afford scope for painful and melancholy observation.
This part of the subject must be touched with great tenderness; but
it must be touched. If his friends do not touch it, his enemies will.

"To speak my mind to you freely, it appears to me that his
misfortunes arose chiefly from his errors. This it is unnecessary
and, indeed, improper to say; but his biographer must keep it in mind, to prevent him from running into those bitter invectives against Scotland, &c., which the extraordinary attractions and melancholy fate of the Poet naturally provoke. Six Liverpool poets have sung the requiem of our admired Bard; and every one of them has indulged in the most pointed, and in some degree unjust, invectives against the country, and the society, in which he lived.

"I have thus given you a sketch of the difficulties which a person in my situation must have in executing the task that has devolved on me, as well as my notion how it should be executed. I give the first, that you and the family of the Bard may yet consider of the subject, and, as you are going into Edinburgh, that you may consult with the friends of his family there, and procure, if possible, some man of letters on the spot to undertake his biography, &c.; if you find anyone so disposed, you can extract from my letter what respects the materials, that he may the better be enabled to judge of them.

"In addition to what I have mentioned to you of the difficulties in my undertaking the business, I have to mention that I am at this moment engaged in a medical work, which will not be off my hands before Midsummer; and till then, that I cannot put pen to paper on the subject; and that such are my incessant toils and my delicate health, that it will be impossible for me to undertake for the publication before Midsummer, 1798, if then.

"I mention all these particulars, that the family may not form any expectations that may be disappointed.

"Finally, if under all these circumstances you and G. Burns (who I see, by his letters, is a man of extraordinary understanding) think it more for the benefit of the family that I should be the editor and biographer, I have only to say, that no expectation of the widow and the fatherless shall be disappointed, as far as my health and my talents will permit; provided always, that you come here and read over and explain all the MSS., and that you procure me such letters, &c., of the Bard as Edinburgh and Ayrshire can afford, and in short, undertake all the correspondence in Scotland; also, that while in Edinburgh, you and Cunningham consult together over this letter, and exert yourselves to smooth my difficulties. I must have the old Scottish poets, &c. On this subject pray consult Mr Dugald Stewart; and get Creech to send me everything that he thinks will be useful. I have got Fergusson, but not Ramsay, nor any of the various collections.

"I understand that Gilbert Burns is now, or will soon be, in Dumfries. Shew him this letter, and consult with him. I must trust to him for the early part of the incidents—to you for the latter.

"I wish you to go into Edinburgh and fix the whole affair with
as little as possible delay, because my friend Roscoe is gone to London; and if I am to undertake this business (which I pray to God may be otherwise ordered), he will have some conversation with the booksellers there before he returns. I doubt if a subscription be the proper way; probably a sum of money may be procured for disposing of the whole. I cannot allow my name to be hawked in a subscription paper; but this is an after consideration.

"I perceive that Graham of Fintry was a most sterling friend of the Bard; I think he ought to be consulted on the subject. You may assure him that my opinion is that the work should be made as free as possible of offence, in a party view; that it should be literary and critical chiefly.

"When you have considered all this, write to me. Keep my name, I pray you, as much as possible out of the public mouth. I sicken when I see it in the newspapers (as I sometimes do), whether for applause or censure.

"I can hold my pen no longer.—Yours always,

"Three o'clock in the morning,

"8th February, 1797.

"P.S.—Do me the favour to keep all my letters on this subject, and bring them with you. I cannot copy anything I write."

TO ALEXANDER CUNNINGHAM, ESQ., EDINBURGH.

"Liverpool, 1st March, 1797.

"My Dear Sir,—What I address you on now is the necessity of a speedy determination whether the task of editorship, &c., is to devolve on me, or whether some better man is willing to undertake it; and I write to you, because I presume Syme is in Edinburgh, and has communicated the contents of my letter to you, as I mean that you should communicate this to him.

"If I had been aware that I was so much committed on the subject, I believe I should not have stated my objections to Syme so strongly: but I found myself so wholly unsupported in the business, that I wished to state my objections and difficulties fully beforehand, that, in case my execution was slow or imperfect, less blame might attach.

"I shall be happy to resign the MSS. to a respectable and independent man; but I would not have the family of this great genius to suppose I am afraid to undertake toil or trouble. If they cannot dispose of the task more to their advantage, they may devolve it on me, as I have before said: I will task their patience only, and the public candour."
"Still, in this case, Syme or you, or, if possible, both of you, must come here to peruse the MSS. with me; and you must bestir yourself in Scotland, as your judgment directs you, in procuring materials; on which subject I will write you at large when the point is settled.

"I perhaps may be ready in the winter of 1798 with the work; but I stipulate for the summer following.

"There is no occasion for publishing everything now that is to be published. The great duty is to collect now, before things are lost; and to publish at present only what is fit, leaving doubtful matter for other editors and aftertimes.

"I shall not write to Creech; in short, I must be considered as the stomach, that digests what is put into it, not as the hand that gathers, or the head that directs.

"If you can come and lend a hand it will give us pleasure; at all events, Syme will and must come.

"After all, I begin to fear the impending tempest may prevent this publication. What an awful gloom hangs over us!—In haste, I am, my dear Sir, Yours very faithfully,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 28th April, 1797.

"My Dear Syme,—I now address you on the affairs of Mr Burns. I have spoken to a printer—a fellow of genius and fire—the same that printed Lorenzo de: Medici, who undertakes the office not with willingness but ardour; and, being a North of Ireland man, he is an adept in the dialect of Scotland, and, on that account, may be employed with advantage. I wish, therefore, to set him to work to print with as little as possible delay; for we have agreed that the works may be begun to be printed before the biography, and with advantage as well as convenience.

"The principal part of the poetry to be printed will consist of his songs, 120 in number, which Cunningham informs me Mr Thomson will transmit to me, perfectly correct, as finally touched by the Bard’s hand; and, till these are received, we can do nothing; for the copies here are, I dare say, imperfect, being in general the rude and first draughts, and there are so many variations, that it is impossible to say what he finally rested in. I wish these sent without delay. Mr Thomson has, I understand, a very valuable collection of letters on the subject of these songs, and of song-writing in general, which he wishes to retain; but as these will be the only part of his correspondence generally interesting, I think it very unfair that it should not be given up to the use of the family; and I have mentioned this to Cunningham, declaring that I could not undertake the editorship.
unless they were sent to me.* I beg you will enforce this, for the materials in my hands are very scanty, and in many respects defective. The dead Poet, his surviving family, and his living editor, ought to have fair play. With every advantage, the expectations of the public will be disappointed.

"I wish you also to lose no time or fair opportunity in transmitting the remaining materials in your hands, and in collecting, wherever you think you can collect. I have got some things from Dr Moore, and shall get more. Burns corresponded with a Miss Craik, a poetess, and, in one of her replies to him, I see he had given her a critique on Johnson's Lives of the Poets. I wish that letter could be recovered—it would be very curious, even if it contained an opinion only. Can you do anything to get it? If you apply to the lady, your way would be to ask for all the letters of his that she may have.

"In the same way you may perhaps collect other things of value. I will look over his correspondents' letters as soon as I can; and probably I may suggest several things for you to do, from the hints they offer. In the meantime, I submit it to you whether it might not be proper to put an advertisement in the Edinburgh papers, mentioning that a publication of Burns's posthumous Letters and Poems is preparing, for the benefit of the family, and requesting that persons in possession of any such poem, or letters would forward them to A. Cunningham in Edinburgh, or yourself in Dumfries. If necessary, I will get a similar advertisement in the London papers, appointing Dr Moore the receiver. This is all that strikes me at present. If I disgrace myself, my country, and my subject, you will have much to answer for: but I am fairly embarked.—Yours affectionately,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 11th August, 1797.

"My Dear Syme,—Though I have, in some degree, anticipated the object of yours of the 1st of August, in a letter which must have reached you about the 2nd or 3rd, and which I am rather surprised not to see noticed in your postscript of the 6th; yet, as it is important at the present moment that we should understand each other, I sit down to reply to it without delay.

"First, as to Burns. If copies had been forwarded me of the printed pieces that are to go into the posthumous publication, or correct copies of any part of his works, as was promised, the printers might have been going on, and the work advancing. But the unaccountable delay of—and—and the accountable delay of your

* These were given up by Thomson in the handsomest manner.
visit here, has rendered it impossible to commence the work. For my own part, I have had, as you know, a confused and undigested mass of sketches and scraps thrown upon me, without explanation, and without dates or arrangement. Several of these are the first rude sketches of songs, correctly printed, but which I have never seen; and though I requested Elphinstone Balfour to apply to Cunningham to send me copies of the printed songs, they are not come in a packet of Scotch publications he has sent me. What is essential, or at least important, is to have all the materials before us—after this, to have the whole examined by one acquainted with their history—then to decide what is to be published—then how, and in what order. All this is not so difficult, if you and I were a few days together, and had the assistance of Roscoe and M'Creey. But then you must bring everything with you that you can lay your hands on, and, among other things, the letters you may have received on the subject from various quarters, my own included; for, among these, hints and suggestions may be found that are important.

“When you come here I have a bed and a private room for you. There I will set you to work, with pen and ink before you; and I will be with you as much as I can. Till our work is done, you shall not accept a single invitation, nor look at the wonders of Liverpool. You shall be as retired and as abstemious as a hermit; and you shall rise with the sun, and go to bed as he goes down.

“Your coming, however, is essential; and, that you may understand how much so it is, I declare most solemnly that if you do not come I will write to G. Burns, and publish a manifesto abandoning the work. It is no matter, however, whether you come instantly, or by the 20th or 25th, or the end of the month.

“I am very sorry to hear of Heron’s undertaking; and I wish he were remonstrated with. It is a scandalous thing for any one to interfere with the family on an occasion like this. For the same reason, I was particularly sorry to see the biography of Burns in the Monthly Magazine, which is very correct, and very circumstantial, and contains almost everything that can be said. I have written to enquire who is the author.

“Why do you make such perpetual apologies about hurry, the excise business, or rather stamp-office business, &c.? I can assure you that these apologies only remind me of the extent of my obligations for the time you devote to my affairs, and have never once been necessary for any neglect or inattention, or even for any obscurity of composition.

“For my part, I make no apologies, though God knows I am in a perpetual bustle, as you will see.—Very faithfully yours,

“J. CURRIE.”
JOHN SYME TO DR CURRIE.

"3rd September, 1800.

Now, what can I say respecting Burns's publications? I confess with sorrow that you have had that universe on your shoulders from first to last, and little or no aid have you received. I felt, and I feel so; but it has been, and continues to be, impracticable to move—and my time is engrossed with such various and desultory attentions that I cannot stick closer to the business. I have the high pleasure of receiving from every quarter the most grateful attestations of the merit of your production. I enclose you one, which is worth a thousand. With regard to the impression which your biographical work has made on me and Mr William Dunbar (Inspector-General of Stamp Duties for Scotland), it is such as we cannot easily describe. I declare to you we never read a piece of writing that does more credit to the author. The meanest fellow here sounds its praise, and that is perhaps a stronger testimony than the trumpet of the literati."... "I have noted some matters and explanations on the margin of the rough copy first sent me; and Gilbert Burns, who is to breakfast with me to-morrow, is to furnish more."

DR CURRIE TO JOHN SYME.

"10th October, 1800.

"My Dear Syme,—Having on another sheet of paper discussed my own private affairs, I sit down to say a few words on Burns.
"The very kind manner in which you express your opinion of the execution of the task you assigned me, is in a high degree pleasing to me. I pay much deference to your taste, and to your moral feelings; I have entire confidence in your sincerity; and setting aside the partial influence which our friendship may produce on your judgment, you are better qualified to decide on the *Life of Burns* than any man now alive. That the portrait I have drawn has considerable power and interest, strangers to the subject may perceive; and this, indeed, the world seems disposed to allow. But how far it resembles the original—the most important point in regard to every portrait—those only can judge to whom the original was known; and in this respect your decision, whatever it may be, admits of no appeal. That it is favourable, I am led to infer from your sentiments of general approbation. I am led to presume it, also, from having had the assistance of your observations in the character I formed of Burns. Yet, I wish you to speak to this point particularly—and with your wonted sincerity. The praise of fine composition, if I might aspire to it, strikes my ear but faintly; but to be able to exhibit to the world the exact lineaments of this great and original genius, is an object of ambition which a greater artist than I am might be proud to attain.

"So much for yourself. Let me thank you also in a particular manner for the letter of Mr Anderson, to whose superior character I am no stranger, and of whose extraordinary attainments I have before heard. The high opinion he expresses of the letters of Burns is, I find, very generally entertained by the best judges. I doubt if English literature contains any compositions of the same nature equal to them. This sentiment has been expressed to me by Dr Aikin, perhaps the best of our living critics. Dr Aikin had prepared a *Life of Burns* for his biographical work; but he writes to me that, since he saw our work, he has thrown his intended article aside, and is preparing another more worthy of our Poet. Nothing can be more flattering than the very high estimation of Aikin for the genius of Burns, and his entire assent to the character we have given of it. I have received from a great variety of other quarters—from Dugald Stewart, Fraser Tytler, Alison at Edinburgh, from Lady E. Cunningham, &c., very obliging communications; from Moore, Mackintosh, Percival, Ferrier, Sharp, Smyth, Wishaw, Scarlett, and a great number of others in England and Ireland, and though last, not least, from Messrs Cadell and Davies, warm commendations. I am quite satiated with this species of gratification—of which, however, from proper quarters, no one can have a better relish. Some of the letters of the persons I mention, and of others, contain general criticisms and valuable reflections. I could send you a selection, along with the excellent letter of Mr
Anderson, but that your time would scarcely permit you to read them. Among others, I have a valuable communication from Mr Ramsay of Ochteryre. I will arrange a parcel of these, and send them for your winter evenings' amusement. I have mentioned to you before, the great sale in Liverpool, and indeed over England in general. If I am right in my supposition, our works are likely to get better through the British Critic than I suspected they would. Except the *Critical Review*, no other periodical work has noticed them. The *Critical* seems disposed to assign them a large space. Two numbers are occupied by the Life alone—and the critical observations are not touched yet, nor a word said of the writings themselves.

"I am scribbling to you at a late hour of the night—I grow obscure—sleep steals upon me. I must not, however, conclude without acknowledging the very kind interest you take in my son. He is better, and I hope likely to recover.

"I will write again to-morrow. In the meantime, adieu.—Yours very affectionately,

"*James Currie,*"
SOME ADDENDA TO THE CROMEEK CORRESPONDENCE.

IN the Burns Chronicle (Nos. VII. and VIII., 1898-99) we gave the text of a series of letters by the editor of the Reliques and others, which formed part of the "Earnock MSS.," then in the possession of Sir John Watson, Bart., and which shed much new light on Currie's edition of 1800, and Cromek's Reliques published in 1808. Through the courtesy of Mr W. K. Bixby, one of the leading members of the St. Louis Burns Club, whose property they are, we are enabled to lay before our readers another series of Cromek letters of almost equal value, which have never been published till now, so far as our knowledge goes. They are addressed to Wm. Creech, Burns's Edinburgh publisher, and were written when the Reliques was passing through the press. So much has come to light within recent years regarding Cromek's peculiar methods of procuring and preparing the material for his publication that the Bixby contribution is sure to be perused with as much amusement as Burnsian interest. The correspondence makes it plain that his object was to get as much from Creech as he could on the easiest terms. Having undoubted proof in his hands that Burns was far from being satisfied with the financial aspect of his dealings with Creech, he skilfully plays this off against Creech's well-known predilection to keep a tight hold of everything from which money might be extracted, by offering to delete all damaging references to him in the Poet's letters already in his possession, for the which good offices he expected a satisfactory quid pro quo. His appeal to the vanity of Creech by vague promises of personal puffing in the projected volume will not be lost upon the reader.

We also give other three letters from Mr Bixby's collection containing some interesting Burnsiana. The
letter from Mr Scott Douglas to an unknown correspondent contains his opinion of the Laing, Train, or Richmond papers (they have been referred to under one or other of these titles) bequeathed to the Edinburgh University Library by David Laing. That opinion has been endorsed by every Burns student who has given them any consideration. The Greenfield referred to is the Rev. Wm. Greenfield, of St. Andrew's Church, Edinburgh, and Professor of Rhetoric in the University there. Burns had a good opinion of him, but flagrant reports regarding his conduct having got into currency, he demitted his charge and subsequently died in the north of England under an assumed name. He is mentioned in one of the preceding Cromek letters.

The accepted reading of the line quoted from the "Jolly Beggars" is:—

"Wha used at trysts and fairs to driddle."

Cromek to Wm. Creech. 14th March, 1808.

Sir,—I take the liberty of repeating the request I made to you when in Edinburgh respecting the letters of Burns in your possession, to be substituted instead of those which I could wish to suppress.

As you promised me them so seriously, I have, of course, been looking for them by every mail. As the book is gone to press, this delay is of the greatest consequence to the volume—this I need not point out to you.

I hope to have the pleasure of a line from you forwarding the manuscripts in a post or two at the farthest. A compliance with my request will serve the interests of literature, and very much oblige—Sir, Your obedient and humble Servant,

4 Newman Street, Oxford Road, London.

(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

Cromek to Wm. Creech.

London, 64 Newman Street, 21st March, 1808.

Dear Sir,—I was busily employed in correcting the fourth sheet of the forthcoming volume when your letter reached me.
I need not say that your discovery of the letter and poem gave me infinite delight. Nor am I less pleased with your liberal mode of communicating the discovery to me; for I was all along aware that if you could contribute your mite to the volume you would cheerfully do it, notwithstanding the "ebullitions of that ardent mind" which dictated the letters addressed to you in my possession.

In the proof sheet I have just mentioned is printed a letter addressed to a lady in your city, the postscript of which contains a long and most severe remark on your conduct toward this unfortunate son of song. In the copy I gave to the printer I had run my pen through it, but I was greatly surprised on revising the sheet to see it staring me in the face. Of course I have obliterated the whole of the passage, and I will be scrupulously careful that it does not appear.

I hope you will do me the justice to believe that my mind is not formed of that sort of stuff which delights in wantonly giving pain to others; at the same time it must be considered that as Editor of the volume the reputation and good name of the Poet is in some measure entrusted to my guardianship; and to the utmost of my ability and integrity I pledge myself to watch over it with the most anxious solicitude.

I am greatly surprised when you tell me you subscribed and paid the full price for 500 copies of the Edinburgh edition. It was indeed a liberal act, and an act that I shall mention to your honor in a proper part of the book. How different is this conduct from that of a certain gentleman in your town to whose musical publication poor Burns contributed gratuitously so many of the finest efforts of his Muse. This wretch in return sent him one five-pound note, and when subscription was set on foot to raise a sum for a monument to the Bard's memory he very generously contributed five shillings!!!

If it please God that my right hand "does not forget its cunning" this shall be told, and told most severely. Just now, this is entre nous.

You need not have told me that several of your literary people approved of the poem you have found. Your own approbation, with me, would have had sufficient weight.

Will you have the goodness to present my kindest respects to my good friend Mr Miller? I will write to him, if possible, by to-morrow's mail.

You say the poem will now need some illustrations. I am sure you will oblige me by making such observations on it as you may judge necessary, and let me have it by letter—never mind whether single sheet or double—as soon as possible.

If I can serve you in return in any way in London, I hope you
will not stand on ceremonies in commanding me.—I am, dear Sir,
Your obt. obliged humble servant,
(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

I shall indulge the hope that Mr Ballantyne will be the messenger
of good news to me. May I ask if you can indulge me with one or
two of the manuscripts in the handwriting of Burns? To me they
will be of consequence, as I mean to bind together all his originals
that I have collected.

The second paragraph of this letter was undoubtedly
intended to impress Creech with a due sense of the risk
he was running by neglecting to reply to his letters and
acceding to his requests. The fourth paragraph is grossly
unjust to Thomson. Burns emphatically refused to
accept any remuneration from him, and there is every
reason to believe that no profit had accrued from his musical
publications for some time after the death of Burns.
Thomson had placed his Burns MSS. unreservedly in the
hands of Currie, the proceeds of the Liverpool edition being
for behalf of the Poet's family. It was different with
Cromek. We learn from Thomson’s letter to Alex.
Peterkin (October, 1814), that he flatly refused to put
said MSS. into the hands of Cromek for two reasons—
first, they required careful and judicious editing considering
that Currie had not published them in their entirety; and
second, Cromek’s being confessedly a speculation for
personal profit, he could not, in justice to himself, entertain
his proposal. Hence the resentment expressed in the
letter. The heirs of Creech have never given his corres-
pondence with Burns to the public, for some occult reason; consequently nothing definite is known regarding the
merits of the dispute between them. We reproduce
Thomson’s letter to Peterkin at the end of the present
series.

Cromek to Wm. Creech. 28th March, 1808.

Dear Sir,—I am half afraid you will begin to think me a
troublesome correspondent, but I should not be thus urgent if my
book was not at the press, and if the sixth sheet were not on the verge of correction.

I have read your kind letter received this day with much attention. I will tell you in five words the considerations I have in view as editor of Burns's papers.

In this publication I have been influenced by one motive only—the inflexible resolution to present nothing to the world of his composition that will not do honour to his head, or to his heart, or that is not immediately or remotely connected with the development of his character or with the illustration of his writings. I do assure you that the reputation and good name of Robt. Burns is almost as dear to me as my own.

It is not my intention to give the least offence to living character—I mean to such as are worthy of respect. Those that are not, Burns has gibbeted them, and I shall not presume to cut them down.

To give you my opinion candidly, though I think most highly of Dr Currie's performance, yet I must say that the fear of giving offence has led him to disfigure the work most strangely. He has cut away one of Burns's testicles entire; but I hope it will never be said of me that I lent a hand to complete the operation.

In my MS. preface I have touched on the subject of suppression, alteration, qualification, &c.; and have asked, who would pardon even Dr Johnson and his brother commentators if, instead of illustrating, they had dared to garble the works of the immortal Shakespeare? It is hardly possible to fix a standard of public taste by which each letter and poem might be tried and qualified for general approbation. The fable of the old man whose wives plucked his head bald because one disliked white hairs and the other black ones, showed the futility, as well as the danger, of attending to these scruples.

Indeed, if I were determined to please everyone I should use the pruning knife until I had not as much MS. left as would make 50, instead of 500 pages. To say nothing of whole letters, I have cut away passages of letter after letter that relate to you, 'till my volume is considerably decreased in its size, and, I do assure you, you are the only person to whom I have acted so delicately, with the exception of a few letters of a very private nature addressed by the Poet to Mrs Burns. You will be surprised when I say that such has been my industry and the ardour of my enthusiasm that Burns scarcely ever wrote a paper of which either the original or a copy of it has not fallen into my hands—even to his very journals and most private memorandum books.

I have enclosed a page of the forthcoming volume. You will see what I have done in these passages, and you will see how this kind of proceeding robs me of my materials. For God's sake lose
no time in forwarding by the very first mail the manuscripts you have found that you think worthy of being given to the public. You shall have them returned safe, and I pledge my honour, as you require, in the most sacred manner, not to publish anything you have "crossed as improper to print."

Surely there is no occasion to wait for the approbation of gentlemen whose names are introduced to their praise and advantage. However much Scotland neglected a Poet that honored his country, yet, believe me, sir, you have not a name among you, however high, that would not be proud to live in the writings of this great, but ill-fated Genius. The names I will carefully mark with asterisks, as you desire. G—d’s,* of course, must not even be hinted at.

Will you remember me very respectfully to the Ballantynes when you see them, and Mr Miller? — I remain, dear Sir, Your obliged and humble servant,

(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

Notwithstanding this criticism of Currie, Cromek stands convicted of "garbling" on a scale never attempted by Currie. In this letter he begs for original material to fill up the gaps resulting from the Creech excisions, and promises to return all MSS. In the previous letter he writes as if he intended to keep them.

Cromek to Wm. Creech. 16th April, 1808.

Dear Sir,—I have to thank you very kindly for your communications. I should have acknowledged their receipt before this day, had I not been at Liverpool, with my friend Roscoe, when they arrived.

The letter in verse to you is exceedingly novel and interesting. It was forwarded to me at Liverpool, and Mr Roscoe appreciates it as much as I do.

The prose letter is equally characteristic of its author and honorable to you. The epigrams are very good, of a much higher character than the generality of those already published.


I can only thank you, at present, for your friendly offer to be useful in a second edition. I shall be in your city this summer, and I flatter myself, after you have read the book, and when we * Greenfield's,
meet, you will contribute many useful hints respecting what may
be lopped off and what may be added.

The epistle to you in verse will be printed in a few days. I
shall have an opportunity of forwarding you a proof sheet of it.

I think, in future, much trouble may be spared in transcribing
anything you may find.

Send the originals to me by post, coach, or as you please, as
you at first proposed. I pledge my honor to return them to you
safe, and also to omit what you may run your pen through. I
hope you will cut a considerable figure in my volume.

Since I wrote the above I have received a capital letter from
the Hon. Mrs Holland, enclosing one written by Burns to her late
uncle, the Earl of Glencairn.

Be so obliging as to inform me if you think “Holy Willie’s
Prayer” is admissible. I would be determined by your advice.
I confess that though it bears the impress of genius, yet it does not
suit the tone of my feelings from the so frequent recurrence of the
name of the Deity in it.

Hoping to hear from you very soon,—I remain, dear Sir, Your
much obliged humble servant,

(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

Mr Ballantyne has not yet made his appearance here.

The “epigrams” here referred to are what the Poet
called “clinches.” “From the white-blossomed sloe”
is one of these clinches sent to Creech. Elsewhere he
condemns “Holy Willie’s Prayer” in the strongest of
language, and he did not print “The Jolly Beggars” in
his Reliques.

Cromek to Wm. Creech. London, 64 Newman Street,
2nd May, 1808.

DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 27th April I received this day.
It came very opportunely, as I was just going to send off a sheet
in which Burns’s poetical epistle to you is inserted. I am quite
delighted to find that it reached me in time to appear in its proper
place, and so early in the volume; a circumstance that would not
have happened if we had not been obliged to cancel several sheets
already printed.

The whole strain of the letter is so much in your favour, and
at the same time the compliment is so delicate, that I declare to
you the gentlemen here to whom I have read it are quite jealous.
I don't know whether it is not as characteristic of Burns as any-
thing in the whole volume.

I rejoice exceedingly to find you have another folio sheet for me.
I hope it will consist of letters. I can only acknowledge your good-
ness to me; I am sure I shall never be able to repay it. I saw
Mr Ballantyne yesterday. He will tell you with what sincerity
of gratitude I mention your contributions and exertions in regard
to my book. I hope to be in your city in July or August. You
will then hear me on the subject.

You did very well to consult Professor Stewart and Mr Mac-
kenzie about "Holy Willie." The opinion of these gentlemen is
gospel with me; of course the Prayer will not appear.

Though my good friend Mr Roscoe has decided in favour of
the insertion of the "Jolly Beggars," yet I am not quite easy about
it. Pray read it and give me your advice. Unquestionably its
dramatic effect is very great, and it is a work of real genius. The
design and the execution of it are equally original, and perhaps
no poem of our Bard more abounds in those genuine and lively
strokes of character which display the hand of a Master, and which
so happily realise the maxim of Horace—ut pictura poesis.

I am sorry you have not the Epitaph. The lines on the "Sprig
of the Thorn" will, as you say, be a fine specimen for a facsimile.
Pray send them directly and I will have them engraved.

You ask about Mrs Holleland, the niece of Lord Glencairn.
Her name is Holland. On referring to the letter I find that it is
addressed to the late Earl of Glencairn, brother of Lord Glencairn,
Burns's friend and patron; and that the Hon. Mrs Holland is
niece to the widow of the first-named nobleman. Samuel Holland,
his husband, lives at Peytonings, Sussex.

You mention a poem said to be by Burns, called "Nith
Personified." I have it not. I think I have seen something of
this kind conveying satire on the Duke of Queensberry for cutting
down and selling trees, but as I was told it was really written by
Mr Mackenzie, I did not presume to meddle with it. You can
set me right.

Your remarks on Burns and the anecdote you communicate
are equally interesting. Whether I can apply the anecdote at all
is a question. It tells against him. His character must be kept
sacred and dignified. Poor, dear man! With all his faults, I
love him still.

Cadell & Davies are so anxious to have the book out this
season that we could not wait 'till a proof could be forwarded to
Edinburgh and returned. It is printed with great care from my
kind friend Robt. Miller's copy (Quem Deus conservit/) and it was
corrected by the Poet's son, a young man of genius and information.
I hope you will be pleased with it. You need not return the sheet.
—I am, my dear Sir, Your obt. obliged humble servant,

(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

The second letter (in prose) you were so good as to send me is set up. I have not yet received a proof of it. It will appear in the sixth sheet. I will forward a perfect sheet to you. My friend Constable is not yet arrived. Jas. Ballantyne I have this moment seen. He will spend an evening with me this week.

Can you tell me the meaning of the Scotch word Gubravage?*

Robert Burns, junior, to John Gibson.

Dumfries, 12 English Street,
Monday, 14th May, 1849.

My DEAR SIR,—I received your letter on Tuesday, but I was unavoidably prevented from answering it before this day. On Wednesday I was under the necessity of spending the entire day at the house of a friend near Lincluden, and on the following day our friend Mr Smith and myself attended the remains of Mr James Thomson (the husband of the Poet's Jessy L——†) to the grave. After this I had to write two letters to my brother.

Until I received your letter I was wholly unaware but that the "Letters" had been transmitted to Mr Lamb. When I left Mauchline on the morning of the 8th of November last, I left the book with Mrs Armour, and she promised to put it into the hands of Mr Knight, the clerk at the Mauchline Station, for transmission to Mr Lamb at Kilmarnock. Soon afterwards her husband (my cousin, Robert Armour) fell into a consumption and died. I suppose the confusion and distress that necessarily ensued in consequence of her husband's illness and death caused Mrs Armour to forget the book. I have sent for it here, and as soon as it arrives it will be put into the hands of our friend Mr Smith, who will transmit it in the manner specified by you. I will write you again the moment I receive the book.

Until I received your letter I was ignorant of the death of Mr Roan. He called on me during the cholera, and remained with me about a quarter of an hour. He was going with Mr Smith to dine somewhere in the town. I am still with Mrs MacKendrick, who

* "Gilravage" is probably meant—to raise a tumult or riot; to destroy property or food needlessly.—[Ed.]

† Lewars.
desires me to return you her best thanks for your kind remembrance of her.—Believe me, My dear Sir, Yours ever truly,

(Signed) ROBERT BURNS.

This letter was written by the eldest son of the Poet.

(Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

John Gibson to Joseph Mayer.

* * * * * * *

"Gin a body meet a body
Comin’ thro’ the grain;
Gin a body kiss a body,
The thing’s a body’s ain!"

"The Exciseman and the gentleman in one,
I point thee, Findlatter, for thou’st (sic) the man.*"

"O lovely Polly Stewart,
O charming Polly Stewart,
There’s no’ a flower that blooms in May
That’s half sae fair as thou art."

The above lines were written by Burns with a diamond on the panes of a window in a room over the kitchen of the Globe Inn, Dumfries, and were copied by me in the year 1823.

JOHN GIBSON.

Whitehaven, 1850.

Scott Douglas to (?).

2 Greyfriar Place,
Edinburgh, 25th March, 1880.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have to thank you sincerely for the copy sent of Burns’s unpublished letters to Robt. Riddell of Carse, embracing the song “The Day Returns,” &c. The date is certainly Tuesday, 9th September, 1788, written on the evening of same day the Poet penned his letter to John Beugo: “I am here on my farm, busy with my harvest.” Three days thereafter he writes to Mrs Burns: “My harvest is going on. I have some to cut down still.” Again, on 16th September (Tuesday), he writes his final letter to Peggy Chalmers: “You will be pleased to hear that I have laid aside &lat, and bind every day after my reapers.” In that letter

* We do not remember of ever seeing this couplet on Findlater before.—[Ed.].
he enclosed the song "The Day Returns" as a piece recently composed.

There are continually fresh manuscripts of Burns casting up. The most important of these that have come to light since the publication of my closing volume is a volume that has been bequeathed to the Library of Edinburgh University by the late David Laing. There appears some internal evidence that the volume had been in the hands of Sir Walter Scott and Mr Lockhart, although it seems to have been bound after 1828. There is some wretched rubbish in shape of information or memoranda said to have been derived from John Richmond on the subject of Highland Mary and also of Clarinda—very damaging to Burns's moral character, and still more to that of the women referred to. These statements can be proved to be atrociously untrue, and prompted by inventive malice. They are anonymous, and no guess can be formed as to the contributor thereof. Clarinda is represented as visiting Burns in Richmond's lodgings in Lawnmarket, while we know the Poet never saw Clarinda till December, 1787, long after he had parted with Richmond, a fellow-lodger.

But some very important original MSS. of Burns are bound up there; in particular, a beautiful holograph of "The Jolly Beggars" (omitting the Merry Andrew interlude).

There is also a letter addressed to the Rev. Wm. Greenfield, of 5th December, 1786, which had been in Currie's hands, but as Greenfield was then in disgrace, and no allusion to the Poet's intimacy with him could be tolerated, Dr Currie took a large section of the letter and attached it to one addressed to Mrs Dunlop, and gave it as part of the correspondence with that lady. (See letter 15th January, 1787, the whole paragraph from "You are afraid" to "vengeful triumph."

Mr M'Kie has drawn my attention to a curious corruption which had long been adopted in printing one of the lines of "The Jolly Beggars." The MS. in hands of Gilbert Burns, and also the one in Edinburgh University, read—

"A pigmy scraper wi' his fiddle
Wha us'd to trysts an' fairs to driddle."

All the editions of Stewart, in Cromek's of 1810, and in Peterkin's edition, 1814 or 1815, the MS. is adhered to. But in Oliver & Co.'s edition, 1801, and in all editions of "The Jolly Beggars" printed after 1815 that I know, the corruption is adopted. The corruption has arisen through a false conception of the meaning of the word "driddle." See Cunningham's Glossary, also Waddell's, &c.—Very truly yours,

(Signed) W. S. DOUGLAS.
George Thomson to Alex. Peterkin.

Edinburgh, October, 1814.

My dear Sir,—With reference to your enquiry respecting Mr Cromek, I have to acquaint you that he called on me, professing what he really seemed to feel, an enthusiastic admiration of the works of Burns; and after telling me that Mr Rose meant to have introduced him to me, asked me for a scrap of the Poet's handwriting to keep as a relique. This I gave him. After visiting me several times, he mentioned his intention of making a pilgrimage to the birthplace and the grave of Burns, which he did; and upon his return informed me that he had obtained a number of unpublished letters and verses from different friends of the Poet; that he thought of giving them to the public, and asked me to show him the MS. correspondence between the Poet and myself; thinking it likely, he said, that Dr Currie might have omitted many things deserving of publication, which he, Mr Cromek, would wish to give in his intended volume. I, of course, declined any such communication, telling him that it was my fixed purpose never to part with a single paragraph which Dr Currie had thought fit to withhold. Mr Cromek was much displeased and disappointed, and took occasion, in stronger terms than I thought warrantable, to contrast my refusal with the confidence and liberality bestowed on him by other correspondents and friends of the Poet, who in general, he said, approved highly of his project. This gave me a fair opportunity of stating to Mr Cromek that I dissented from those friends, if he were to have the power of deciding on the letters and fragments to be laid before the public; and that I never could be convinced that such a project was justifiable, or the credit of the Poet safe, unless the whole of the manuscripts, solicited and obtained by him, should be put into the hands of Gilbert Burns, the brother and natural guardian of the Poet's fame; and whose sound judgment and purity of character were the sure and proper pledges that nothing would be suffered to meet the public eye injurious to the Poet or to the feelings of individuals. To Mr Cromek, however, this was wholly unpalatable. I then submitted to him whether his right to publish those manuscripts for his own behoof might not be questionable, and whether they did not legally belong to the Poet's family, or to Messrs Caddel & Davies; and in any event, since profit seemed plainly to be an object to him, I requested him to consider whether that would not be increased by getting Gilbert Burns to become the editor of the volume. In reply, he maintained his own right to what he had procured by his own diligence, and told me that Gilbert Burns, however respectable, not being much a man of the world, it was quite unlikely that they should ever agree
as to the pieces proper for public esteem; and therefore, that he
would take upon himself the task of editor.

* * * * *

Yours truly,

George Thomson.

In the Life of Allan Cunningham, by the Rev. D. Hogg (1875), Cromek is an important figure in the part of the narrative which treats of The Remains of Nithsdale and Annandale Song, which Cromek, encouraged by the success of his Reliques, published in 1810. How he was deceived by "Honest Allan," who palmed off his own compositions as veritable antiques, is well known, and the deception is made all the more heinous by the unblushing confession of the forger himself. Writing to his brother (8th September, 1810), "Honest Allan" thus unbooms himself:

"Well, we have at last printed that volume of Remains of Nithsdale and Galloway Song. . . . The thing which pleases me in it, every article but two little scraps was contributed by me, both poetry and prose; you will see what the Edinburgh Review says about it, for it must be noticed, and highly too. . . . You enquire about Cromek? Why, my dear James, he speaks as generous words as you would wish to hear from the pulpit. Oh! the bravery of the lips and the generosity of words are the current coin with which naked bards are ever paid; and as a specimen of his critical discernment, I wrote a queer song entitled 'A Song of Fashionable Sin,' beginning—

'My ladie has a golden watch,' &c. . .

Now, I inserted this in a newspaper. I was at Mr Cromek's, and a lady was praising it highly. He did not know it was mine, and condemned it as a base thing and of bad Scottish. I never heeded him, but marked it down as a precept that a man may talk about the thing he does not understand, and be reckoned a wise fellow too."

To his friend, George, he writes:

"You edify me by your opinion on the Remains of Nithsdale and Galloway Song. The critics are much of the same opinion as yourself. Your conjecture is not very far wrong as to my share
of the book. Was it the duty of a son to show the nakedness of his own land? No, my dear friend. I went before and made the path straight. I planted here and there a flower—dropped here and there a honeycomb—plucked away the bitter gourd—cast some jewels in the byepaths and in the fields, so that the traveller might find them, and wonder at the richness of the land that produced them. Nor did I drop them in vain. Pardon the confession, and keep it a secret."

Elsewhere, to the same correspondent, he writes:—

"I was so extremely bashful when I came to London that I really could not utter a known falsehood above three or four times a day. Now I could assert in the face of a congregation that the sun derives his light from the moon.... Now, you must mind one thing, and I beseech you mind it, that these songs and ballads (the Remains), being written for imposing on the country as the relics of other years, I was obliged to have recourse to occasional coarseness," &c., &c.

But he did not take everybody in; the "Remains" were ever as suspect as Macpherson's Ossian, though Cromek died in the innocent belief that they were genuine. Whatever profit accrued from the Reliques must have been swallowed up by his second venture, for Mr Hogg informs us that he was not in good circumstances in his later years, and died a poor man. No man could have accomplished what he did, without the enthusiasm which Thomson credits him with; as for "profit for his own behoof," it was a necessity in his case, for travelling was expensive in those days, and his resources as a working engraver must have been limited. The recovery of the Glenriddel MSS. (not the Gribbel volumes) and the consequent exposure of his editorial misdemeanours by Mr James Dick, of Newcastle, utterly discredited that part of his work. It is charitable to suppose that his motive in taking liberties with the text was to supplement and improve the Glenriddel notes to the songs, and the excuse may be advanced that in doing so he, like Currie, was only following contemporary editorial example. If he made a collection of Burns MSS.—and there is reason to believe that he did
—it would be interesting to know if they were dispersed or are still in the hands of his descendants. In an informing article on "Burns and Cromek," which appeared in the Glasgow Herald in January of the present year, the author, Mr Davidson Cook, informs us that Jean (Burns's widow) presented Cromek with the Poet's copy of Milton, in two vols., which bear the Poet's autograph and a note to the effect that they were presented to him by Lord Monboddo. Concerning these volumes, all the information given by Cromek's son is in these general terms: "Comus and Lycidas have a great number of passages marked by the Poet with inverted commas, and one word misprinted has been corrected by him." The representatives of Cromek's son (Mr Thomas Hartley Cromek) presented the volumes to the Library of St. Paul's School, London, where Milton was educated. Books annotated by Burns have a special value in showing his critical powers and literary tastes. A reflex of his thoughts on the text of Milton would be enlightening, and we trust some Burnsian in the metropolis will take the trouble to examine the volumes and report.

EDITOR.
STUDENTS of Scottish history well know that in various State departments associated with that ancient realm successive holders of the Glencairn Earldom have essayed an important part.

Nevertheless, though prominently and honourably known in a former day, yet, beyond the reminiscent recording page, and consonant with the common lot, their memory is gone. To this rule, however, there exists one outstanding exception along the belted line, and in all probability the name of the fourteenth Earl, and subject of our theme, will endure while the sunbeams continue to glint on Scottish braes. It is not that he excelled in any particular walk of life or public activity, for his pilgrimage was, alas, comparatively brief. The westland nobleman whose times we review owes his immortality to one circumstance alone—he befriended the Poet Burns. Such incidental allusion is, we think, amply sufficient reason for a few biographical particulars affecting one of so much concern to the Burns world—a synonymous term for those who hail the time when a fraternal economy will generally prevail. In order at the same time to associate comprehensiveness with our task, a beginning is made by inviting the reader's attention towards a certain worthy yet unpretentious brother and sister, James and Agnes Gairdner, indwellers in the latter half of the seventeenth century at the town of Ayr.

James Gairdner died not very long after marriage. In course of time his daughter Isabella was wedded to a Mr Hugh MacGuire, and among others of her family there was one named Elizabeth.

Agnes Gairdner, in 1674, was joined in wedlock with Adam MacRae, and to them was born a son, James MacRae, whose life is intermingled somewhat with fanciful
romance. For this particular westland boy neither school nor home possessed any attractions. His heaven on earth was Ayr Harbour, and if it were possible for any

enjoyment to exceed seeing the ships come in, it was watching them crowd sail and go. To this obsession only

* By courtesy of the publishers:—Kilmawa Parish and Burgh, by D. M'Naught. Alex. Gardner, Paisley: 1912.
one result could naturally follow, and so, when he attained
the age of twelve, "young Jamie went to sea." For thirty
long years the tide ebbed and flowed, but no word of the
young sailor was heard at the Western seaport. At
length, however, rumour began to get busy concerning a
certain Captain MacRae of the East India Company's
Service, and such was none other than the mariner enthusiast
of long ago. Amid an environment of washing waves
and creaking cordage, his stout heart and iron will carried
him far in the affairs of the Orient. Step by step, and
hand over hand, he rose from toiling before the mast to
be Governor of Madras Presidency. Ultimately, when
the shadows of life were lengthening, he embarked for the
homeland, bearing with him a colossal fortune. On
wandering again among the scenes of boyhood he found
that the hand of time was upon others as well as himself,
and in all truth his was the status of a Rip Van Winkle.
Both parents, besides the contemporary relatives of youth,
were dead, and the wee ken'd face was gone. Advertising
in the Press, he found that the grandchildren of his mother's
brother were yet alive, and on one of these, the youthful
Elizabeth M'Guire we have mentioned, he conferred the
Barony of Ochiltree. This fortunate maiden subsequently
became Countess of Glencairn, and mother to the world-
wide known benefactor of Scotland's Bard.

In early times, hereditaments in the Scottish south-
west effering to the house of Glencairn attained consider-
able bounds. In the days, however, of our fourteenth
Earl, these were somewhat curtailed. For long, too, the
ancient family seat at Kilmaurs had become a ruin, giving
place, as principal residence, to Finlayston House, on the
Renfrewshire shore of the Clyde. William, the ninth
Earl, Lord Chancellor of Scotland, began a pretentious
family mansion near the old Castle in 1662, but it never
was completed, and no remains of it now exist save a few
sculptured stones built here and there into other buildings.
At Finlayston, in 1749, was born the subject of this
narrative, upon whom, on the early death of an elder brother, devolved the title of Lord Kilmaurs.

In following along his way, we would now centre interest in the Burgh of Dalkeith, a few miles to the south-east of Edinburgh. At the period of which we write, Mrs Creech, widow of the incumbent who had recently ministered in the neighbouring Newbattle Parish, took up abode in Dalkeith. In her bereavement she was greatly befriended by the Marchioness of Lothian, whose husband was an elder in Newbattle Church. It is extremely probable, therefore, that, through the influence of the Lothian family, Lord Kilmaurs and his younger brother, along with their tutor, Dr Robertson of Dalkeith Academy, all became members of Mrs Creech's household. Next in order of reference and prominent in consequence, as affecting biographical matters, the celebrated William Creech appears. The Dalkeith widow's only son, he, in the future days, published the Edinburgh Edition of Burns.

At this point in our narrative, however, William was the attached playmate and friend of Kilmaurs. Books and bookdom were not yet, and both boys enjoyed that period of life when the sun "never rose an hour too soon or brought too long a day." It so happened also, that while the lads were roaming by the banks of Esk, the sweet singer of Scotland, resuer of both from oblivion to imperishable memory, was yet a juvenile in the Auld Clay Biggin, listening to Betty Davidson's dissertations on Fairies, Brownies, Kelpies, "and other trumpery."

Now, with all the many gifts and graces adorning his personal character, it was the misfortune of the youthful nobleman of whom we write to lack the all-important endowment of a robust constitution. When educational days were over and gone he travelled extensively abroad, not so much, it may be, to act in unison with the then prevailing custom among the younger branches of the Scottish nobility as in search of elusive health. To his native shores he stood, as a consequence, very much in the way of being a stranger, and it so happened that at a time
he was exploring the regions of Norway, Lapland, and Sweden the call came for his succession to the Earldom of Glencairn. It must be chronicled too that, irrespective of all physical disadvantages, the Earl, so far as circumstances permitted, and in accordance with the resourceful spirit of his line, proved himself a man of enterprise. Choosing a military career for life’s activity we find him, in 1778, attaining the rank of Captain in the West Fencible Regiment, and two years later he was selected a Scottish representative Peer to the House of Lords.

Pursuing our commemorating path leads onward to the ever interesting period, in Edinburgh annals, of 1786. By then the Countess Dowager of Glencairn resided at Wester Coates, a rural retreat near by the Coltbridge approach, and, in the closing months, the Poet Burns came cantering along from Mossgiel to the city by the Biggar Road. Lady Glencairn had already heard of the Bard and his merits, through her Ochiltree overseer, Mr John Tennant, farmer, Glenconner. He was a near neighbour of the Burns family back in the Alloway days, as well as the Poet’s “Guisd Auld Glen, the wale and ace o’ honest men.” Coincidentally, too, the manager on the Finlayston Estate, Mr Alexander Dalzell of Bardrainy, an old acquaintance of the Bard, according to the true spirit of the well-wisher and with kindly reference, placed the Kilmarnock Edition in the hands of his lordship. With its perusal Glencairn was highly gratified, and so convinced thereby did he feel of the author being a coming force in the world of letters that he determined to further his interests in every possible way. . . . All the world now knows concerning the historic visit paid by the Poet in the forementioned year to the Scottish Capital, and perhaps the warmest of the welcomes he received emanated from the admiring Earl and his mother at Wester Coates. This mansion, once so pleasant a rural retreat, stood not far from the highway and near the last stage, at Haymarket, of the mail coach from the west country, ere reaching the terminus at the Grassmarket. The vandalism of
half a century ago has, hard to relate, accounted for the "Auld Hoose" as well as many another memento of the past, since inclusion within the municipal bounds. Yet thither, in its halcyon times, the Poet often repaired, and as he recited an old specimen among his matchless verse, all the better for being couched in homely westlan' jingle, the titled lady must have wished she remained again the simple maiden of long ago, running about barefoot and happy on the braesides of Ayrshire when the summer days were fine.

A peculiar feeling of satisfaction attaches itself, more especially perhaps to a lover of Burns, in the contemplation of the Poet's fast receding Edinburgh days; for to the incidents they contain there is linked that perennial freshness which time has imparted to the carvings of the Monks on the pillars in Melrose Abbey. In true Ayrshire fashion the Earl and his companion went skelping along the streets, and no imagery is indulged in narrating the exchange of greetings on their forgathering with Lord Monboddo on his homeward way down the Canongate, or Professor Dugald Stewart, freed for the day from his Moral Philosophy Class in the old University. As the two Westlanders passed along, the word "Burns" might be heard echoing from lip to lip across the narrow pathways, and the sedan-chairs were stopped a while to permit of the fair occupants obtaining a glimpse at the author of "The Cottar's Saturday Night." For the circumstantial effect of these stirring episodes in the Bard's own short career the Earl must stand sponsor, and they are incorporated with his memoir to demonstrate the status he holds among men as one who will consequently be held in perpetual and happy remembrance.

The visit of the Poet Burns to Edinburgh stood primarily associated with the publication of a second edition of his Works, and to the patron whose life we review he expressed his hopes. In this particular quest Lord Glencarne was enabled to do the Bard yeoman service, for Mr William Creech, of prior reference, his old playfellow
of boyhood days at Dalkeith, now conducted the principal publishing business in the city. At the eastern end of the famous Luckenbooths, abutting on the northern wall of St. Giles' Church, the well-known bookshop was situate, having its frontage facing down the High Street. To this old-world emporium, and lounge of the literateur, the two Ayrshire friends resorted, and, though tradition is silent regarding the gathering around of "toothy critics by the score, in bloody raw," nevertheless, negotiations relative to the proposed "Edinburgh Edition" were ultimately brought to a satisfactory conclusion. Neither did the Glencairn benefaction end here. The Earl busied himself among the highest in the land, resulting in a substantial quota of subscribers to the new venture, and in his relationships with the Poet, from first to last, he proved a veritable friend. Nor was gratitude awanting in the recipient, as these universally-known numbers can testify:—

"The bridegroom may forget the bride
    Was made his wedded wife yestreen;
The monarch may forget the crown
    That on his head an hour has been;
The mother may forget the child
    That smiles so sweetly on her knee;
But I'll remember thee, Glencairn,
    And a' that thou hast done for me."

Without departing in the least from relevancy, we might further add that Burns's communings with men of the stamp of Lord Glencairn and Lord Daer tended to free his heart from much of the bitterness engendered by early family adversities, besides the slings and arrows of his own lot, and, instead, they left abiding in the mind the more hopeful and better thought, that kindliness of demeanor is the monopoly of no social degree. Light of this description, too, cleared the way for the inditing of that prophetic, fraternal ode, by which the Bard of Ayrshire has captured humanity.

Now, notwithstanding the Ochiltree tocher added to the Glencairn Estates, these were still very much encumbered,
and the Earl of our sketch felt it prudent to dispose of the ancient patrimony of Kilmaurs, which was effected the same year he first met Burns in Edinburgh.* Meanwhile, with all the gifts and graces endowing this outstanding noble's outgoings, yet, as already indicated, the blessing of health was denied. An insidious affliction clouded his days. In the hope of returning vigour he toured over a wide area of the Continent, though change of climate and scene proved of no avail. In the year 1791, when the Poet was back to the land, combining farming at Ellisland with the duties of Excise Officer, an appointment also due to his noble patron, the Earl himself was returning from Portugal to his native country to die. The poor satisfaction of a farewell look at the surroundings of youth was not destined, however, to be his, or even to grip the hands of the dear and loved, for he passed away at Falmouth soon after landing on British shores. When the tidings reached Ellisland, the Poet was plunged in grief, lamenting his personal loss as one who is bereft of a brother, and in his several communications to relatives of the dead, the Earl's solicitude on his behalf was ever the burden of allusion. Besides the imperishable "Lament," a verse of which we have quoted, one of his boys was christened James Glencairn Burns, and had the days of the Bard himself been prolonged, he designed to impose the tender injunction on his sons that the name should be continued in the family down to the latest generation. Somehow, too, in recalling this Glencairn in memoriam episode, there will force themselves upon one's thoughts, as bearing some peculiar applicability to the Poet's sense of obligation, those glowing lines, composed at Ellisland:—

"Time but the impression stronger makes,
As streams their channels deeper wear."

* The Barony of Kilmaurs was disposed of in lots in 1616. In 1790 the lands and patronage of Kilmarnock were sold to Miss Scott, who afterwards became Duchess of Portland.—[Ed.].
The present unparalleled crisis in our Homeland and Colonial history lends a somewhat adaptable interest to this biographical theme, for throughout its currency there is evidenced a pervading flavour of service. In the great War for the conservation of International principle the late Member for Kilmarnock Burghs has been the substitute of his fellow-heroes in engraving on every British heart, that it is not the length of time a man lives that counts, but the quality of his actings during the allotted span. Glencairn died at the early age of forty-two, but within that time he readjusted the focus of self-respect, and gave restoration of soul to the man who, amid the undermining influences affecting the social and national life of his country, has done so much to make Scotland stand where it did.

In these latter days our eyes are opened wide to what unselfish service means, and the Earl, from whom we take the long farewell, is a monitor to everyone to say the kind word when you can. As with the patriot Bard, he has richly come into his own. And to a like commendable ordering of life—from even the giving a cup of cold water, to the laying down of life itself in a meritorious cause—the rewards attached are sure as sunrise. Nor do such lack in abundant import. They redound in some thirty, in some sixty, and in some an hundredfold.

H. MAKINSON.
Among the other debts that we owe to Robert Burns, we have to thank him for the keen-edged knife of his satire, with which he exposed, if he did not entirely cure, the canker of a rigid Calvinism. "The Kirk's Alarm," "The Ordination," "The Holy Fair," "The Twa Herds," "The Address to the Unco Guid" reveal to us the Poet in his best moods. In these poems "Calvin's Sons" were sorely used by "that fell cur ca'd common-sense, that bites sae sair." They are a strong and healthy protest against the deficiencies and deformities of the Church in his day. And if we say that they owed their success, primarily, to the genius of Burns, we must admit also that the truth of the facts and the sincerity of his motives gave them additional emphasis. Rarely, if ever, has the Church been the object of so much pungent and concentrated bitterness. Yet it was a bitterness without malice. And perhaps it was not undeserved.

It will help us to a true estimate of the relations of Burns and the Presbytery of Ayr if we can recall and understand to some extent the religious conditions which prevailed in Scotland at this time. The old order was insensibly changing. Sects were beginning to multiply. One writer of the period says, "Having occasion to go across the country I wondered to see and to hear the confusion that is both in the Established Church and the sects that are broken out." They swarm out from the hive of the Old Church as "Methodies," "Seceders," "Anti-Burghers," "Independents," "Societies," and "Brethren." Elsewhere he records that in passing through the Parish of Shotts he discovered a lamentable state of affairs. The landlady of the inn tells him "their present minister was
forced upon them by soldiers; and of the whole parish not more than two or three went to hear him.” Outwardly the Church was still the same, but inwardly it was in the clutch of disintegrating forces. Ayrshire in particular is regarded by Glasgow ministers as “a dark place of Scotland and its preachers very unsound.” In other ways the times were tending to a kindlier form of worship. Solemn elders no longer policed the streets on a Sabbath evening haling unfortunate transgressors before the Session. Families were now allowed to take the air, and thought it no sin. The “Dock” at Dumfries, then a long and leafy avenue of trees, was crowded with people after the Sabbath exercises. Slowly the rigid Calvinism of the orthodox was giving way before more tolerant forms and more flexible thoughts.

In the midst of this Burns, with a prophet’s instinct, uttered his striking plea for “the larger heart, the kindlier hand.” The poet is always a prophet, the preacher rarely so. The preacher inherits too much from the past. Robert Burns was shackled by no chains of tradition. He feared neither the terrors of the Presbytery nor the frowns of the “Unco Guid.” He had nothing but scorn for the “yill-caup commentators” that frequented the “Holy Fair.” He had little sympathy for those whose life was like a—

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opportunity his genius sought. The publication of a
"Practical essay on the Death of Christ" by "Doctor
Mac" brought a storm about the ears of this minister.
Dalrymple warmly commended the work in the preface.
The case was conducted by "Orator Bob" Aitken, a close
friend of Burns. Lockhart says "Burns was from the
beginning a zealous—as in the end he was, perhaps, the
most effective—partisan on the side on which Aitken staked
so much of his reputation." From his poems we gather
that he hailed this "heretic blast" which was "blown
in the wast" as a proof of the march of thought towards
more tolerant opinions.

The service that Burns thus rendered must not be
forgotten. The truth he championed had been over-
looked. He was just the one whose penetrating voice,
whose vigorous wit, whose scathing word was needed.
His voice, like "Black" Russell's, was heard "ower muir
and dale"; and his words, more effectively than those of the
"herd" of Kilmarnock High Church, were "piercing
words like Highland swords" dividing "the joints and marrow."

It does not seem too much to say that Burns was
largely responsible for the delivering of Scotland from a
subtle form of tyranny. There had been too much of the
exercise of law and too little of charity—too much of the
spirit of Shylock and too little of the mercy of Portia.
Sympathy was lost in severity. The satires, doubtless,
put the Ayrshire ministers in a pillory, and gave them an
uneviable immortality, and doubtless also some injustice
was done against men whose chief fault was that their
zeal was greater than their charity; still the service the
Poet rendered to Scottish religious life was great and
lasting. He ventilated a stuffy theology. He pleaded
that justice should be tempered with mercy, that men
"should gently scan their brother man." No other weapon
than the keen satire of the Poet could have pierced the
thick hide of Calvinism as Burns found it. Where he
suspected insincerity, want of charity, or bigotry no mercy
was shown to the offender.
We must bear this in mind when we discuss the question whether the ministers were hardly treated by being thus made the subject of ridicule, if not of contempt. Does Burns give us a true estimate? Is not his view one-sided? In his eagerness to champion the cause of charity does he not overstep the bounds of fair and legitimate criticism? He delineates the harsh and severe aspects of the religion of the time; he shows us how evil flourished in spite of the iron hand of the Kirk, in spite of the stool of repentance, but does he do justice to the good points? For their rigid interpretation of religion these men deserved the sarcasms of the Poet. Their unbending severity required as stern a rebuke. They erred perhaps in enforcing discipline without considering human frailty. Some of them were rash and irascible. Some of them were gloomy and unsympathetic. Yet, on the whole, the members of the Presbytery of Ayr seem to have been faithful men, who reflected in their characters the best as well as the less estimable features of the religious life of that day.

There exist certain other sources of information, which give us a very different view of some of these ministers. Auld of Mauchline, Moody of Riccarton, and Russell of Kilmarnock were, no doubt, what Burns showed them to be; but they were also more. The picture of Auld is an example. According to Burns, Auld was worthy of little respect, a man without much force of character—

"If ye canna bite, ye can bark."

But Dr Edgar, in his *Old Church Life in Scotland*, gives us another side to Auld's character. "He was a man of far more than common force of character, besides being a minister of exemplary faithfulness. He was one of the most abundant in pastoral labours, that left on the parish the clearest and most enduring mark of himself. A stately courtesy and much kindness of heart lay underneath his austere and rigid manners. No delicacy of feeling, or shyness of disposition, or moral cowardice ever
restrained Auld from openly doing what he thought his ministerial duty." Auld certainly could bite, as the Kirk-Session Records of Mauchline show, for there his language is "pipere mordacior—spicier than pepper."

The same is true in regard to Moody. The Presbytery records support the Poet's insinuation that Moody was a hasty and indiscreet man. For it stands there that on one occasion he was found guilty "of a want of prudence, generosity, and gratitude, and that he should be censured for his conduct and admonished to be better for the future." The incident of "The Twa Herds" is undoubtedly a fact, though whether the quarrel between Moody and Russell went to the extremity of blows is doubtful. But there are other records which show Moody in a different light. They prove that he was a hospitable and genial man, that he was most earnest, evangelical, and full of zeal against the evils of his time. In the diary of a Moravian minister, who frequently travelled the road from Ayr to Glasgow through Riccarton, it is mentioned that Moody always gave him a most hearty welcome at the Manse, and by his life and conversation proved himself to be a sincere minister of the gospel. It is interesting to find that this writer places a higher estimate on Moody's character than on that of Mr Dalrymple of the first charge in Ayr. We are familiar with Burns's verdict of this minister. His heart was "like a child," and his life "like the new-driven snow." But Dalrymple could reveal a certain narrowness and bigotry. In the same diary he is represented as announcing that he would preach a sermon against the errors of a certain sect "to the satisfaction of all his hearers." But the result was not as he expected, for "it turned out to his hearers' dissatisfaction. I hear that the people are very much displeased with their minister for being so very bitter; he went home from ye pulpit sick, and continues very ill." Evidently the sickness is regarded as a visitation from heaven upon this very worthy minister.

The portrait of Russell is the most conspicuous of all.
It is that of a strong Calvinist who dangled his hearers continually over—

"A vast, unbottom'd, boundless pit,
Filled fou o' lowing brunstane,
Whase raging flame, an' scorching heat,
Wad melt the hardest whunstane!"

And, indeed, "Black" Russell seems to have been very much like his portrait. "His countenance was dark and forbidding, his voice like thunder, his frame coarse and massive. Children fled from him, and the sound of his staff on the street was the signal for the closing of doors." With such a man Burns had no sympathy. They were at opposite poles of thought. But a truer estimate would have done justice to the courage, the conviction, and the force of a character which might have found its place in the roll of "Scots Worthies" of former generations. Russell was a true descendant of the Covenant.

In justice to the Poet we must also say that he could be generous to those who came nearer to his idea of religion. Of M'Gill he writes that he was "one of the worthiest, as well as one of the ablest, of the whole priesthood of the Kirk of Scotland." And we have the authority of Burns for the statement that his father was a great admirer of Dalrymple and of his strain of preaching and benevolent conduct, and that he attended Dalrymple's ministry with diligence and profit.

Burns's relations with the Church were not of the happiest character. It was impossible for so conscientious a minister as Auld to look lightly upon the irregularities of the Poet. And the severity of the punishment administered by this stern "Apostle" may possibly have aggravated the Poet's dislike for the Church as it was then constituted. We hasten to add, however, that Burns had the utmost reverence for all true religion. He caricatured the form which it assumed in the Church, and not the spirit. And the truth for which he contended lay very near to the
heart of the Teacher of Nazareth. Possibly Burns never expressed it better than in these words:

"The cleanest corn that e'er was dight
May hae some pyles o' caff in;
So ne'er a fellow-creature slight
For random fits o' daffin."

With "New Light" or "Old Light" the Poet had no concern. He was not interested in theology. He was vitally alive to all that was human. For that reason his voice lives when Russell's is silent, and his verses are remembered when M'Gill's treatise is forgotten. The humble cottar has rendered a greater service to the nation than the august Presbytery of Ayr. He has preached, too, a truer gospel than those who thundered their denunciation from pulpit, "tent," and Session-House.

Rev. N. Farquhar Orr, B.A.
MISDATES IN BURNS LITERATURE.

The Poet was born Thursday, 25th January, 1759;
Died Thursday, 21st July, 1796,
And was buried Monday, 25th July, 1796.

Many are the mistakes regarding dates to be found in editions of the Works of Burns and other volumes relating to the Poet. Currie, in his first edition, 1800 (vol. I., page 58), said: "Robert Burns was born on the 29th day of January, 1759." He corrected the mistake in his second edition, 1801 (vol. I., page 57), changing the date to the "25th." However, the correction was leaden-footed, and the error seemed to have wings. Indeed, for many years the 29th was popularly celebrated as Burns's natal day. Paisley Burns Club held its Anniversaries of Burns on the 29th of January, year after year, till they discovered their error in 1818. In that year R. A. Smith, who had gone from Paisley to Ayr to open music classes, wrote to a Paisley friend that he had discovered the real birthday of the Bard to have been on the 25th of January. He also mentioned that the 29th was still on the cottage wall where the Poet was born, and likewise on the painting of his likeness kept inside of the house; but it would be altered soon. Smith became acquainted with the Session-Clerk, who had shown him the Register of Births. The following extract was made:—

"Robert Burns, lawful son of William Burns in Alloway and Agnes Brown, his spouse, was born on the 25th of January, 1759, and baptised the 26th by the Rev. Dr William Dalrymple.
Witnesses—Jno. Tennant and James Young."

"Extracted from the Register of Births and Baptisms in the Parish of Ayr for the Paisley Burns Club—R. A. Smith being present—at Ayr, this 19th day of August, 1818."

Smith thought Burns was responsible for the error, but we have the evidence of his Autobiographical Song to the contrary:—
"Our monarch's hindmost year but ane
Was five-and-twenty days begun,
'Twas then a blast o' Janwar win'
Blew hansel in on Robin."

We have further proof that Burns knew his own birthday on the cover of the Edinburgh Common-place Book, on which he wrote:—

"R. Burns was born 25 Jan., 1759.
See this book, pa. 3, note."

The note refers to "There was a Birkie born in Kyle," which is the version of the song therein inscribed, and the note reads:—

"Jan. 25th, 1759, the date of my Bardship's vital existence."

Scott Douglas omits the note written on the cover in printing the Common-place Book in his Edinburgh Edition, but it is recorded in Macmillan's Magazine for 1879, which first printed this important manuscript.

Possibly the popular mistake was largely due to the fact that many of the editions which followed Currie, ignorant of his correction, repeated the error of his first edition. The following is a list (comprehensive but not complete) of editions of Burns which give the birthday as the "29th of January."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Edition</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stewart</td>
<td>1802</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angus, Newcastle</td>
<td>1802</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadell &amp; Davies, 3 vols.</td>
<td>1804</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alnwick Edition</td>
<td>1808</td>
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<tr>
<td>London: Goodwin</td>
<td>1811</td>
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<tr>
<td>London: Cadell &amp; Davies</td>
<td>1817</td>
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<td>London: Allason</td>
<td>1819</td>
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<td>London: Bumpus</td>
<td>1822</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones's Editions</td>
<td>1823-24-25</td>
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<td>Currie's Life of Burns</td>
<td>1826</td>
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<tr>
<td>London: Scott Webster</td>
<td>1834</td>
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<tr>
<td>London: Clark</td>
<td>1836</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Correct in Clark—1831.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halifax: Pohlman</td>
<td>1836</td>
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<tr>
<td>London: Charles Daly</td>
<td>1838</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manchester: Diamond Edition</td>
<td>1845</td>
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<tr>
<td>Derby: Richardson</td>
<td>1845</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halifax: Milner</td>
<td>1849</td>
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At least two editions vary the mistake by saying Burns was born on the "20th January."

W. F. Pratt: Howden. 1838.

I have noted two instances where wrong dates are given for the death of the Poet. The first occurs in a very rare Burnsiana item, without date, but printed almost certainly in 1800. The title page reads:—

LIVERPOOL TESTIMONIALS
TO THE
DEPARTED GENIUS
OF
ROBERT BURNS,
THE SCOTTISH BARD.

Printed and Sold by Merritt and Wright, Castle Street, Liverpool.

It consists chiefly of poetic tributes to the Poet, and gives a list of Liverpool subscribers to the fund for Burns's family, beginning with Dr Currie, £10 10s; and including the father of W. E. Gladstone, "Mr John Gladstone, £5 5s"; the next name, and for a like amount, being that of his friend Mr William Ewart, after whom the great statesman to be was named. In the notice of Burns comes this sentence: "The celebrated Ayrshire Plowman, whose genius reflects so much honour on his age and country, died at Dumfries, on the 8th of July, 1796, in the 38th year of his age."

In Davenport's Dictionary of Biography (London: Tegg, 1831, page 137) there is a nice woodcut of Burns, and a sketch of his career which tells us that, "Worn out with vexation, and the consequences of his love of inebriating liquors, he died on the 26th of July, 1796, leaving his wife and family in an unprovided state."

Another great blunder was set going by Currie in his first edition (vol. I., page 227), when he said: "On the evening of the 25th of July the remains of Burns were
removed from his house to the Town Hall, and the funeral took place on the succeeding day." All students of Burns know that this is wrong. The *Dumfries Journal* of Tuesday, 26th July, says the coffined remains were conveyed to the Town Hall "on the evening of Sunday, 24th July," and that the funeral was "the following day." The *Edinburgh Advertiser* of 29th July says: "The remains of Burns were interred on Monday." One of Brash and Reid's poetical tracts (1796), No. 2 of the second volume of *Poetry: Original and Selected*, is entitled "Verses to the Memory of Robert Burns; with an account of his interment at Dumfries, on Monday, the 25th of July, 1796, also his Epitaph written by himself."

Oliver's two-volume edition, 1801, repeated Currie's misdate. As far as I am aware the first edition of Burns to give the correct date of his funeral is the two-volume edition of Robertson & Denholm and Dick, Edinburgh, 1802, which on page 174 of the second volume gives an "Account of his Interment," and says, "His remains were interred on Monday, the 25th July, 1796."

The funeral error got the backing of another great authority, careless of verification, in Lockhart's *Life of Robert Burns*, 1828. On page 281 of the Constables' *Miscellany Life*, and on page 402 of the library edition of the same date, the biographer says: "On the 25th of July the remains of the Poet were removed to the Trades Hall, where they lay in state until next morning."

Scott Douglas, in dealing with this matter (vol. VI., page 208) says: "We are thus particular in order to correct an error of date committed by Currie, Lockhart, Cunningham and others." Here Scott Douglas blames Allan Cunningham unjustly, and, evidently on his authority, the indictment is again served on Allan Cunningham in the *Annual Burns Chronicle* of 1918. "Honest Allan" did many worse things in his editing (save the mark !) of Burns, but as it happens, he is "not guilty" on this particular count. In his volume I., page 345 (eight-volume edition, 1834), A.C., speaking of Burns, says "His interment took place on the 25th
July"; and in Virtue's 1838-39 edition (vol. I., page XLIV.), he remarks: "The burial of Burns, on the 25th of July, was an impressive and mournful scene." The Curious Book (Edinburgh, 1826) has an article on "The Last Moments of Burns," by Allan Cunningham, but in that no date or day of the week is mentioned in connection with the funeral.

So Scott Douglas's statement stands to be rectified by drawing the pen through Cunningham's name, but the words "and others" should be left in, as witness the following list of Volumes which bury Burns, on the 26th of July:

Currie, and subsequent Editions ... 1800.
Oliver's Edinburgh Edition ... 1801.
M'Lelland : Glasgow ... 1801.
Thurgood : London ... 1803.
Turnbull : Edinburgh ... 1804.
Irving's Scottish Poets ... 1804 and 1810.
Mackenzie & Dent : Newcastle ... 1818.
Mackenzie & Dent, Newcastle (reprint) 1821.
Gilbert Burns's Edition ... 1820.
Richards : London ... 1821.
T. Cadell ... ... 1822.
Lockhart's Life of Burns 1828, 1830, &c.
Aldine Edition ... ... 1830.
Clark's Edition ... ... 1836.
Aldine Edition ... ... 1839.

Many editions escape figuring in this list because the sketch of Burns's career which they print either makes no mention of his funeral or gives no date for the event.

Mistakes are still being made, and a very glaring one occurs in a modern edition of Letters to Clarinda, a volume without date, but bearing the imprint "Sisleys, Ltd., Makers of Beautiful Books, London." The introduction, signed M. Y. Bankart, has this passage: "It was only on the publication of his first volume of poems, in 1793, that the Poet adopted the present spelling of his surname."

DAVIDSON COOK, F.S.A.,Scot.
It has been frequently observed that "the Land of Burns," like "the Land of Scott," is of much wider extent than the area which is generally meant when the expression is used. It is not unreasonable to include in "the Land of Burns" not only the districts in which he resided and the scenery and the inhabitants of which formed the theme of many of his poems and songs, but also places which he visited in the course of his travels—and he was a well-travelled man—and some of which were made famous, or had their fame extended, by the notice which he took of them. If this definition of the phrase is accepted, "the Land of Burns" will comprehend a very large part of Scotland, and also the English counties of Northumberland and Cumberland, and it must also comprise the upper portion of the valley of the Clyde, where the Burns connection, though not of great extent and at times elusive, is of deep interest, and worth setting forth in full and consecutive form, a task which, so far as I am aware, has not hitherto been attempted.

The association of Burns with Upper Clydesdale is chiefly concerned with the visit which he made while travelling from Mossgiel to Edinburgh, in the winter of 1786, to publish the second edition of his poems. In dealing with this part of the subject there is clear and reliable material to work upon. It is different when subsequent visits come to be considered; then the investigator is to a considerable extent in the region of doubt and speculation, and little help is obtained from anything which is to be found in the writings of the Poet.

The journey from Mossgiel to Edinburgh occupied two days, and the intervening night was spent in Upper Clydesdale. Through his friend George Reid, tenant of
Balquharrie Farm, Ochiltree, and a son-in-law of John Tennant, Glenconner—

"Guid auld Glen,
The age and wale o' honest men"—

Burns was introduced to Archibald Prentice, another farmer, who occupied Covington Mains, on the left bank of the Clyde, about half-way between Biggar and Carstairs. Prentice was a great admirer of Burns—he subscribed for twenty copies of the Edinburgh edition—and he spoke about him in terms of the warmest enthusiasm to his fellow-agriculturists. It is probable that he was the means of making them first acquainted with the poems, and there is no doubt that it was through him that they were introduced to the author of them. Burns travelled to Edinburgh on horseback, and not on foot as stated by Currie, an error corrected by Gilbert Burns. He was mounted on a pony—the immortal "Jenny Geddes," which carried him on his Border and West Highland tours, had not yet been discovered—which was lent to him by Reid, who arranged that he should pass the night at Covington Mains. Burns would travel along the valley of the Ayr and enter Upper Clydesdale at Glenbuck, and then follow the Douglas Water to Hyndford Bridge, where he would join the main road to the south, which would take him to Thankerton, from which Covington Mains is only about a mile distant.

Archibald Prentice knew the social qualities as well as the poetical abilities of Burns, and he was too unselfish a man to reserve to himself and family the pleasure to be derived from meeting one who had already been hailed as the National Poet of Scotland. The way in which he received his distinguished guest was related by his son, Archibald Prentice, who is known to journalists as the founder and editor of the Manchester Times, in a letter addressed to Professor Wilson ("Christopher North") under date, 8th March, 1841:—"All the farmers in the parish had read with delight the Poet's then published works,
and were anxious to see him. They were all asked to meet him at a late dinner, and the signal of his arrival was to be a white sheet attached to a pitchfork, and put on the top of a corn stack in the barnyard. The parish is a beautiful amphitheatre, with the Clyde winding through it, with Wellbrae Hill to the west, Tinto and the Culter Falls to the south, and the pretty, green, conical hill, Quothquan Law, to the east. My father's stackyard; lying in the centre, was seen from every house in the parish. At length Burns arrived, mounted on a pownie borrowed of a Mr Dalrymple, near Ayr. Instantly was the white flag hoisted, and as instantly were the farmers seen issuing from their houses, and converging to the point of meeting. A glorious evening, or rather night which borrowed something from the morning, followed, and the conversation of the Poet confirmed and increased the admiration created by his writings.” Burns, in a letter addressed from Edinburgh to George Reid, returning the pony—a letter which
shows that the farmer's son had been mistaken as to the ownership of the animal—described the meeting as "a most agreeable little party," and he mentioned "a Mr Lang, a dainty body of a clergyman; a Mr and Mrs Stodart—a glorious fellow, with a still more glorious wife."

The present tenant of Covington Mains is Mr Thomas Johnstone, whose wife received me very courteously on a recent visit to the farm. The room in which the Poet was entertained is on the left hand of the front entrance. Mrs Johnstone had no doubt as to the identity of the apartment, but when I asked if she could show me the room in which Burns slept her confidence departed. "Perhaps," she said—and the remark may have been made to soothe my disappointment—"Perhaps the party did not get to bed at all."

That Burns was thoroughly at home in the society of the farmer of Covington Mains is evident from the following further extract from the letter of young Prentice: "My father was exactly the sort of man to draw forth all the higher powers of Burns's mind. He combined physical and moral strength in an extraordinary degree; had a great deal of practical knowledge; had read and thought much; had a high relish for manly poetry; much benevolence; much indignation at oppression, which nobody dared to exercise within his reach; and no mean conversational powers. Such was the person to appreciate Burns—aye, and to reverence the man who penned 'The Cotter's Saturday Night'; and accordingly, though a strictly moral and religious man himself, he always maintained that the virtues of the Poet greatly predominated over his faults. I once heard him exclaim with hot wrath, when somebody was quoting from an Apologist: 'What! do they apologise for him? One-half of his good, and all his bad, divided amang a score o' them, would make them a' better men!'

The opinion which Burns formed of his host was equally high. "No words," he wrote in the letter already quoted, "can do him justice. Sound, sterling sense and plain, warm hospitality are truly his."
No anecdote or conversational fragment of that memorable night in the parlour of the farmer of Covington Mains has been preserved. The late Rev. Thomas Somerville, D.D., Minister of Blackfriars, Glasgow, said, in the chapter on Robert Burns in his book, *George Square, Glasgow*, that "it is stated that on this occasion he (Burns) made his address to a haggis—"

"Great chieftain o' the paddin' race!"

But Dr Somerville does not support the statement, and there are other traditions as to the circumstances under which that famous piece was composed. According to James Hogg, it was written at dinner in the house of Mr Andrew Bruce, Castlehill, Edinburgh, and Robert Chambers says that the last stanza, as originally printed—

"Ye Powers wha g'ie us a' that's gude,
Still bless Auld Caledonia's brood,
Wi' great John Barleycorn's heart's bludo
In stoups and luggies,
And on our board that King o' Food,
A glorious haggis"—

was extemporised as a grace to a dinner, of which a haggis formed a part, in the house of a friend, said to be a Mr Morison, cabinetmaker in Mauchline. The one thing clear is that the poem was published for the first time in *The Caledonian Mercury* on 19th December, 1786, and that it was reprinted in *The Scots Magazine* in January of the following year.

The festivities of the Covington people did not end with the night; they were resumed next morning at the breakfast table of Mr and Mrs James Stodart—the couple so highly eulogised by the Poet—Hillhead Farm, less than half a mile distant. But before Burns left Covington Mains there occurred an incident of which he probably never heard, and which seems to have been first made public by Dr Somerville (who was a great-grandson of Archibald Prentice) in his Glasgow volume. Dr Somerville wrote: "I have heard James Stodart's son (a James Stodart also)
say, when nearly eighty, that he remembered passing the Mains that morning, with other companions, on his way to school. The pony was waiting at the door for the owner to start on his journey. The stalwart 'Bauldy' came out and ordered him and the other boys to stop and haud the stirrup for the man that was to mount, adding 'You'll boast of it till your dying day.' The boys said, 'We'll be late, and we're fear'd for the maister.' 'Stop and haud the stirrup; I'll settle wi' the maister!' They took courage, as well they might, for Prentice was six-feet-three, and the dominie but an ordinary mortal. That boy Stodart (almost an octogenarian at the time he spoke to me) said, 'I think I'm prouder of that forenoon frae the schule than a' the days I was at it.'

There is no record of the party at Hillhead Farm. All that Archibald Prentice, jun., says is that it was large; but it is not difficult to imagine that, however many newcomers there may have been, most of the company of the previous evening were present. Those who had spent "a nicht wi' Burns" would not willingly forego a morning in the same delightful and invigorating society. It is a tradition at Hillhead, which was then a clachan,* and still contains several houses, that while the Poet rested there his pony was shod by the local blacksmith, who, we may be sure, did not spend more time on the job than was absolutely necessary. He would want to join the company in the spacious parlour, situated, like the similar apartment at Covington Mains, on the left-hand side of the entrance. The meal was not a hurried one, and the whole forenoon seems to have been passed at the table. We learn from the narrative of young Prentice that by lunch time Burns had proceeded only as far as the Bank Farm, about a mile away as the crow flies, and reached by crossing

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*It may be noted that "the farm and hamlet of Hillhead" find a place in The Red Hose, a tale of Upper Clyde'sdale in the days of George the Fourth, by William Scott. At the period of the story the tenant was Archibald Stodart, whose kirn, one of the most celebrated in the district, is described.
a ford on the Clyde. The tenant of the Bank, which is in the neighbouring parish of Carnwath, was John Stodart, the father of the gudewife of Covington Mains, who had also invited a large party to meet the eminent visitor. That evening Burns rode into Edinburgh, where he was in a short time to become the “lion” of the season, and a few days later he returned the pony to Reid by John Samson, brother of the immortal Tam.

That Burns returned to Covington Mains does not admit of doubt. Archibald Prentice kept a diary, preserved by his son John, and under date May 1st, 1787, we read: “Cold; ... Mr Burns here.” It is evident from the dates of Burns’s correspondence that the visit was of short duration. On 30th April he wrote from his lodgings in the Lawnmarket to William Dunbar, and on 3rd May he addressed a letter to the Rev. Dr Hugh Blair from the same quarter. According to Robert Chambers, this was one of several excursions, having generally “some
obscurity, if not mystery, resting upon them," which Burns made from Edinburgh into Upper Clydesdale. Chambers suggested that Burns may have become enamoured with a peasant girl, whom he secretly went to see, and that she is celebrated in the song, "Yon wild, mossy mountains," of which the first three verses may be quoted:—

"Yon wild, mossy mountains sae lofty and wide,
That nurse in their bosom the youth o' the Clyde,
Where the grouse lead their coveys thro' the heather to feed,
And the shepherd tends his flock as he plays on his reed.

Not Gowrie's rich valley, nor Forth's sunny shores,
To me hae the charms o' yon wild, mossy moors;
For there, by a lanely, sequestered stream,
Resides a sweet lassie, my thought and my dream.

Amang thea wild mountains shall still be my path,
1lk stream foaming down its ain green, narrow strath,
For there, wi' my lassie, the day lang I rove,
While o'er us unheeded flee the swift hours o' love.

Other biographers and critics have also attempted to account for the song, and to identify the maid whose charms had caught the fancy of the Poet. Scott Douglas had no hesitation in assigning the close of 1786 as the date of its composition, and that it was produced on the journey between Mossgiel and Edinburgh. He wrote: "Composing on horseback was a favourite occupation of his (Burns's) mind a few years afterwards, when passing through wild, sequestered scenery, and it may reasonably be supposed that the muse accompanied him during this solitary ride through those moors, where the infant Clyde meanders, and is fed by rills from Tintock and the Culter Fells." The Rev. Dr P. Hatley Waddell went a step further. He observed: "Death had by this time dissolved the bond between him (Burns) and Mary, and circumstances for a time had alienated his affections from Jean. Some country beauty in the moors of Tintock must have attracted his attention there, and he has immortalised the nameless beauty accordingly." William Stenhouse concluded that
Highland Mary must have inspired the production, though it is well known that she had no connection by residence or otherwise with the district. Allan Cunningham's opinion was that the heroine was "either Nannie, who dwelt near the Lugar, or Highland Mary—most likely the former, for he (Burns) always spoke out when he alluded to Mary Campbell." Dr Wallace says that the song "may refer to one of Burns's mysterious excursions to Lanarkshire in 1787"; and Henley and Henderson, taking their cue from Chambers, remark that "Burns occasionally visited a peasant girl near Covington." All this speculation has been provoked by the silence of Burns on the subject. His note in the interleaved copy of Johnson's Museum is, "This song alludes to a part of my private history which it is of no consequence to the world to know." What Burns refused to reveal will, it is safe to say at this date, never be known. The only comment the present writer would make is that the lines,

"Not Gowrie's rich valley, nor Forth's sunny shores,
To me hae the charms o' yon wild, mossy moors,"

suggest that the song was not composed until after the Highland tour, which made Burns familiar with the Carse of Gowrie and the Firth of Forth.

It was, probably, while on his second call at Covington that Burns passed through Biggar, an incident which all his biographers have, curiously, overlooked. Mention of the fact was made in Biggar and the House of Fleming by William Hunter, who disposed of it in a single sentence: "Robert Forsyth, the bellman, used to state that Robert Burns, the Poet, to whom he showed the church, reverentially took off his hat on entering, and, evidently impressed with devotional feelings, remained uncovered all the time he examined the sacred edifice." The Rev. W. S. Crockett, Tweedsmuir, in his Biggar: Historical, Traditional and Descriptive, gives 1787 as the date of the visit of Burns to the town, and adds that "he is said to have been much impressed with the stately solemnity of the parish kirk."
The only other association of Burns with Upper Clydesdale is the following epigram, known to every reader of the poems, said to have been written by him in the kirk at Lamington:

"As cauld a wind as ever blew;  
A cauld kirk, and in't but few;  
As cauld a minister's ever spak';  
Ye'ee a' be het or I come back."

LAMINGTON KIRK.

The lines were first printed in 1828 by Lockhart, who, without quoting any authority, attributes them to Burns. The only information which Lockhart offers is that on one occasion Burns, being storm-stayed at Lamington, went to church, and after the congregation had dispersed, the indignant beadle invited the attention of the clergyman to the stanza, which had been inscribed with a diamond on the window by which a noticeable stranger had been sitting. Assuming the epigram to be the work of Burns—and Scott Douglas observes that it is too characteristic
81
to be doubted as his production—the minister must have
been unfortunate enough to be in bad form on the day
he had such a critical listener. Messrs Henley and Hen-
derson inform us that the minister was the Rev. Thomas
Mitchell, who was described as "an accomplished scholar."
"He was presented (1772) to Kinglassie by the Earl of
Rothes; but as the parishioners were unanimously against
him, it was arranged that he should exchange with the
original presentee to Lamington."

These few incidents complete the story of Burns and
Upper Clydesdale. They form but a short part of his
short life, and they had little influence on his career either
as a man or as a Poet. But whatever opinion may be
entertained as to their value, their interest will not be
disputed, and their presentation as a complete narrative
may be acceptable as a further contribution to what is
apparently the inexhaustible by-way literature of Burns.

ANDREW M'CALLUM.
MAUCHLINE IN BURNS'S TIME.

THERE is no record of Burns's first visit to Mauchline, though it is highly probable that he may have attended a Mauchline Fair from Lochlea, to which he had removed with his father in 1777, and which was only a matter of three miles distant. We are told that at a Mason's meeting at Tarbolton he had met with Gavin Hamilton (his worthy friend and patron), Dr Dugald Stewart, and other Mauchline men, before the removal to Mossgiel.

What like Mauchline was at that time we cannot exactly say. But from what we have learned from the old people, with whom we have been for long in touch, and from our own personal observation, the town was not by any means so extensive as it presently is. The accompanying sketch map may perhaps give some idea, if compared with the map which will be found in the opening page of my brochure, Mauchline Town and District, published in 1911.

It should be noted that in Burns's day there was no New or Kilmarnock Road, and no Earl Grey Street, these having taken the place of the Backcauseway and the Cowgate, then the principal streets leading north and south. There were no houses then on what is now called the Barskimming Road, and below the Loudoun Street entrance to Netherplace (along what is sometimes called the New Street or Ayr Road) perhaps not more than one or two dwellings. The Auld Kirk was then standing, as also the Auld Manse ("Daddy Auld's"). The former was supplanted by the present building about ninety years ago, at which time the Kirkyaird must have been greatly curtailed, though the houses built on it to the north were at that time pulled down, their site being added to the burying-ground. As for the old Manse, it stood in its own grounds, and was approached by a road leading off the Cowgate, and also,
very probably, by way of the Bellman's Vennel and the country road to Welton.

The Cowgate, with its Tweedly's Square; round the Cross; the Backcauseway; the Knowe; the Burnside; and the High Street, would seem by all accounts to have
been the streets where the bulk of the people lived. As to the general appearance of the houses at that time, a few old buildings here and there, particularly in the Back-causeway and the Knowe, give a fairly good idea. Nor must we forget that some few remain, somewhat altered no doubt, but still preserving their original lines: Poosie Nancy's; Nance Tinnock's; the house where the Poet began housekeeping with his Bonnie Jean; Dr MacKenzie's; John Richmond's, the house at the top of the Cowgate where, tradition says, "The Haggis" was begotten; the Castle, and the residential part of it adjoining; the Place, and the old Archway in the High Street.

As for the inhabitants of Mauchline—how they lived, and their probable number, it is somewhat difficult to say. As to their occupation, most probably they were mostly weavers; though we are told on good authority that besides the usual joiners, wheelwrights, sawyers, masons, and blacksmiths there was a fair sprinkling of nailers, coopers, maltsters, tanners, and curriers—Mauchline being a town of more than ordinary importance in these early years as the trading centre of a wide district. The fact of there being no fewer than thirteen fairs (horse and cattle), and an annual "race," bespeaks an important place in the social economy of a people.

As to the population of "The old Burgh of Barony" at the middle and latter end of the eighteenth century, it is difficult to put a figure upon it. Everything, however, tends to the conclusion that it was smaller than at the present time.

There was a decided increase in the middle of last century owing to railway building, but stress of circumstances was responsible for a large exodus about thirty years ago. Indeed, it almost looked as if Mauchline was going to the wall, her young men and women leaving by the dozen. The development of the quarries no doubt helped to stay the emigration (meanwhile they are closed); but the fact that there is at the present time only one box-work, employing about forty hands, as against three
boxworks formerly, employing say 200, shows distinctly that Mauchline has gone back in population. In this connection the following note speaks for itself:—Fifteen years ago there were upwards of 500 scholars on the roll of attendance at the Public School, while at the present time, I am informed, there are just about 400.

However, time promises an improvement; the opening of coal pits in the locality at an early date may work wonders.

What of the families of those who walked the streets of Mauchline in Burns's day? A glance at the voters' roll of this present year, and a walk through the Kirkyaird, show a great change. Where are the Nisbets, the Richmonds, the Hamiltons, the Armours, the Tinnocks, the Gibsons, the Browns, the Howats, the Mackenzies, the Lees, the Humphreys, the Doves, the Smiths, and many more? Left, or "dee'd oot"—their names a memory! We have still with us the Lambies, the Wilsons, and Campbells. Mauchline has completely changed, as far as family names are concerned, in the closing years of the eighteenth and the opening years of the nineteenth century.

What, more particularly, of the Poet's personal friends in Mauchline—"Jeems" Smith, John Richmond, Hunter, and Gavin Hamilton of the Castle? All forgotten but for the immortality conferred on them by Rab Mossgiel.

Of his houses of public entertainment, little authentic can be said. No doubt Burns was fond of sociability; but there is no tradition whatever that would lead anyone to suppose that he gave way to indulgence in Tarbolton or Mauchline. True, he says something about "nine times a week" drinking Lapraik's health in Nance Tinnock's; but how much of that is due to poetic license? The statement that he was in Poosie Nancy's on the occasion which inspired "The Jolly Beggars" is not given correctly. That house was not a public-house in the proper sense of the word, but a "foregathering" place, a howff, or lodging-house for gangrel bodies—not an alehouse for general refreshment.
There is every reason to believe that the Whitefoord Arms was Burns's principal house of call. There, we know, "the Coort" was held, and from its back windows he signalled to his Jean, who lived across the street. It was there that he stayed overnight when he came back from Edinburgh—the acknowledged Bard of Scotia. This staying overnight in "Johnnie Doo's," with Mossgiel and his mother and sisters and brothers not a mile away, does seem strange; but he perhaps arrived late, and he had much business to attend to before returning to Edinburgh.

That he was a hard worker, both on farm and in study, during these years in Mossgiel, his own brother Gilbert tells us. In short, whatever charges of irregularity have been brought against him by his detractors, it is certain that he was, in his early manhood at Mossgiel, an industrious and abstemious man.

It may be of interest to know how much time he spent in Mauchline after he took up house in the Back-causeway with his Bonnie Jean, that is, from May till November, 1788, when he removed to Ellisland—six months, twenty-six weeks, or one hundred and eighty-two days all told. I am inclined to think that he spent less than fifty days and nights at his house in Mauchline—the bulk of his time being taken up with his duties at Ellisland. Travelling to and from Mauchline would take, most probably, the most of two days going and coming, the distance between Ellisland and Mauchline being little short of forty-five miles, which is too great a distance for a farm horse in a single day.

He does not appear, as far as the records go, to have visited Mauchline even once after his removal with his wife and family to Ellisland in November, 1788.

We know that the world did not altogether go well with him after he left Ayrshire, there being much in his subsequent life which betokens sourness and disappointment. But that he had aye a warm place in his heart for the memory of early days—the "lang syne" of Lochlea and
Tarbolton, Mossgiel and Mauchline—cannot be doubted. Nor has Mauchline, the town of his acquaintance for full four years, and where he got his wife—a Mauchline belle—forgot either him or her. Witness the house in the Backcauseway, where they began housekeeping, being now the residence of decent old people, through the efforts of the Glasgow and District Burns Clubs Association; and perhaps before the close of 1918 the house of Doctor Mackenzie, where Jean found refuge when under storm-clouds, may become, like the other, a "cosy bield" in which many of the aged and infirm may pass their eventide. And what of the Burns National Memorial and Cottage Homes, erected near-bye Mossgiel, twenty years ago, by the Glasgow Mauchline Society. They stand for Robert Burns, and speak eloquently of the secret of his fame—his world-embracing sympathy.

J. TAYLOR GIBB.
A CONTEMPORARY OF BURNS.

THE SHEPHERD BOY OF DUNKITTERICK (1775-1813).

DUNKITTERICK was once a shepherd’s cottage, and is situated near the top of Palnure Glen, amid the wild hills of Galloway. Time has long since laid it in ruins, but its thick, grey walls of granite still remain to cast their shadow on the few acres of surrounding croft-land. The spot is approached from the New-Galloway turnpike road by a wooden bridge which is laid across the burn of Palnure. The name Dunkitterick, in the Erse language, signifies “the knowe of the cattle,” but it by no means gives one the idea of a fertile pasture-land, except, perhaps, for hardy Highland cattle and moorland sheep. Just above the ruins, on the slope of the mountain named Craignilder, on the lofty summit of which a battle is said to have been fought in the days of Bruce, the rays of the sun for six months in the year never fall, to impart vigour to the scanty herbage and light up the lonely and desolate scene. From end to end, the valley of Palnure is something like ten miles. The burn which runs through it, and from which it has taken its name, empties its waters into the river Cree a few miles below Newton-Stewart, near the mouth of Wigtown Bay. During the greater part of the winter, and indeed far into the summer, the tops of the mountains are either enveloped in mist or snow, amid which Nature plays in her wildest and most terrible moods. To protect their flocks and herds in this inclement region, the inhabitants have to maintain an unequal struggle against the forces of Nature. Thus it is, that those who leave the valley are not so deeply moved with those heartfelt longings to return as was the Prince of Abyssinia, in Dr Johnson’s fascinating story. There is a strong temptation to dwell at some length on the physical aspects of this coun-
try, and doubly strong to one who has been familiar from earliest youth with every nook and corner of it—but lack of space forbids, so I must now proceed to the central figure of this sketch.

On Sunday, the 22nd of October, 1775, Alexander Murray, the shepherd boy, was born at Dunkitterick. His father was a shepherd, whose sole property was two or three score of sheep and four muirland cows. The sheep provided wool to clothe the family and mutton for them to eat, while the cows supplied them with butter, milk, and cheese. The few surplus sheep they managed to send to market from the annual increase of this small stock, went to purchase oatmeal and other necessaries.

All the sons in Murray's family were brought up to their father's occupation, as was also Alexander, the eldest of his father's second marriage. From his birth Alexander was a weak and delicate child, having a predisposition to pulmonary disease, which unfitness him for the hard life of a shepherd. Moreover, he was also short-sighted, which caused him to make serious blunders when sent to look after sheep and cattle on the hills. He concealed this infirmity from his parents for some time, who, in ignorance of the defect, attributed these blunders to indolence and incapacity. By reason of the same difficulty with which the older members of the family had to contend because they lived at so great a distance from any public school, and the parents could not pay for both board and schooling, Alexander's education was at first totally neglected. In the autumn of 1781, when he was six years of age, his father commenced to teach him the letters of the alphabet by writing them with the black end of an extinguished heather birn or stem on the back of an old wool-card. The boy rapidly mastered the alphabet, and for some time afterwards amused himself trying to improve upon his father's lettering. When he had mastered the alphabet his father bought him the Shorter Catechism, which was deemed next to the Bible in importance among the Scottish peasantry in those days. Although only costing a penny,
the Catechism was carefully put away in a chest after lessons, beside the Bible and Psalms of David, so that no accident might happen them. In the early part of the following year Murray's father allowed him the use of the Psalm-book, and he totally abandoned the Shorter Catechism, for which he had an inherent dislike, and which he subsequently tore in pieces and hid in a hole in the dyke. He soon committed the Psalms to memory, and longed for a new book. At length a friend presented him with a copy of the New Testament, the historical portions of which he read with much curiosity and interest. Theology, as yet, was not much in his way, and he specially longed to read the Bible, which he regarded as a more pleasant book owing to the insight it gave him into the past history of the world. In a short autobiography, which he contributed to the Literary History of Galloway, he informs us of the strange and haunting pleasure he experienced in reading the history of Abraham and David. "I like mournful narratives," he goes on to say, "and greatly admired Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the Lamentations." The Bible which first fell in his way was an old loose-leaved one he carried away piecemeal, and pored over it in secret for many months, committing so many passages to memory that he astonished all the neighbours in Palnure Glen, who regarded him as an uncanny chiel.

"For many years afterwards," he tells us, "he could rehearse all the names of the patriarchs from Adam to Christ." In 1783, when but eight years of age, his fame for Scripture knowledge and wondrous reading was the talk of the whole country-side, and he even astonished the minister. A school education was still out of the question, however, for the reasons already mentioned. At length an uncle of Murray's came from England on a visit, where he had made a few hundred pounds as a travelling merchant, and being informed of his nephew's tastes, he undertook to pay his board and school fees at a school in New-Galloway, some ten miles from Dunkitterick. We have it on his own authority that when he went to this
school in May, 1784, his pronunciation of words was laughed at, and his whole speech was the subject of fun to the rest of the school. He had not been long there, however, till he threw off his rusticity; and before the vacation in August, he gained, and retained, his position at the top of the Bible class. After having been about ten months at New-Galloway he was brought home and installed as a shepherd boy to assist his father.

During the whole of this time, he was an omnivorous reader, which was interspersed with attempts at original writing and studying ballads. All the coppers he received from strangers were spent on ballads and penny histories, bundles of which he always carried in his pockets and read when he was sent to tend the sheep and cattle on the hills. For histories of all sorts he had an unquenchable desire, the main facts and incidents of which he rarely forgot. In the course of the two years, in addition to mastering all the histories and ballads his limited means had enabled him to purchase, he had borrowed and read almost all the books belonging to the inhabitants of the Glen. During the winter of 1787-88 he was engaged to teach the children of a small landed proprietor in the neighbourhood of Glenluce, receiving the small sum of sixteen shillings for the whole term, in addition to his board and lodgings. With part of the small sum thus earned he purchased the *History of the Twelve Caesars*, translated from the Latin text of Suetonius. In the early part of May, 1789, Murray's father removed from Dunkitterick to a place called Dregmorn, some four miles east of Dunkitterick, near the top of the beautiful valley of Penkill, about four miles from the village of Minnigaff. This change of residence gave him a more favourable opportunity of sending his son, who was now fourteen years of age, to a public school. For six months he attended the parish school of Minnigaff as regularly as the delicate state of his health would permit, mainly devoting his time to arithmetic and book-keeping. When at school, he took no part in the outdoor sports indulged in by the other boys, but diligently read every
book he could borrow from his school-fellows or their parents. In this way he became acquainted with the *Spectator* and the *World*, which was much in vogue at the time. The contributions of Addison and Steele delighted and fascinated him, as they gave him a second-hand knowledge of Homer, Virgil, Shakespeare, Milton, and Newton. Before the end of 1789, however, he was obliged to leave school, and during the winter of that year and the spring of 1790 he was engaged as tutor to two families in the moors of Minnigaff who lived at too great a distance from any public school. In May, 1790, his father again removed from Dregmorn to a place named Barneachla, two miles and a half from the village of Minnigaff.

Having acquired by this time what was thought to be a sufficient knowledge of writing and arithmetic for the purposes of a merchant's clerk, the only thing which was now deemed necessary for the completion of his education was some knowledge of the French language. With this object in view he commenced to learn the language from Chambaud's *Rudiments of French Grammar*, a book he borrowed from a friend. After having devoted three weeks to the study of French, he was able to read the New Testament in that language. Two months after, when the vacation came round, he could read with ease any French book that fell in his way, besides having mastered the Latin verbs and taken lessons in Eutropius.

After the August vacation in 1790, he was again compelled to take a situation in the winter months as tutor to a family. To his new situation Murray took with him a copy of Ainsworth's Latin Dictionary. In this dictionary it appears that the corresponding Greek and Hebrew words were given, and he read and studied the book from start to finish. In the course of eight months he was able to read Eutropius, Ovid, Cæsar, and Virgil, all in the original. In May, 1791, he returned to school, and Cramond, his schoolmaster, was astonished at the progress he had made during his absence from the classes. Cramond was apparently a well qualified and talented tutor, who
was educated at Aberdeen University, and had for his class-
fellows several men who afterwards became distinguished in literature, among whom was Dr James Beattie, the poet.

Murray's early struggles must have vividly revealed to him the power and value of money, but he valued knowl-
edge vastly more, and deemed no other possession a worthy rival. The greater portion of the wages Murray received for teaching in the winter of 1790 was sent to Dumfries to purchase a copy of Moore's Greek Grammar, and a Greek Lexicon. By the aid of these, and diligent application, in a short time he was able to read and translate from Homer's *Iliad*, with which he was so delighted that he made it his pocket companion.

By this time he had entered upon his sixteenth year, and the number of books he had read at this age is so astounding that it would have been a credit to his industry had he acquired a knowledge of no other language save his own. For three years more he attended the school of Minnigaff during the summer months, in the winter acting as tutor in some private family or other.

In addition to learning his school exercises, he made excursions into other branches of study—for example, the Welsh language, Hebrew, Anglo-Saxon, Arabic, &c., all of which he mastered in a marvellously short time. The branch of literature which fascinated him the most was that of poetry, especially that class of poetry that appealed to the passions and emotions. The sublime poetic flights of Homer, Sophocles, Virgil, and Ovid were intelligently appreciated by him. Yet, as is frequently the case, young men who read many books, too soon conceive the idea of writing one, though they may have no new or valuable message to convey to the public, and Murray was no exception. To him, epic poetry was the most inviting theme, and the one to which he thought the Muses were beckoning him. The idea which appeared to have dominated him was that he had a heroic figure to introduce to public notice about whose achievements the final word had not
been spoken. Arthur, General of the Britons, was the hero of his epic, and he wrote several thousand blank verses on his exploits.

Just about the time his interest in Roman literature was aroused to the fullest extent, a manuscript volume of the lectures of Arnold Drackenburg, a German professor, on the lives and writings of the Roman authors from Titus Livius Andronicus, to Quintilian, fell in his way. This he managed to purchase for a trifle, and, notwithstanding the dry-as-dust character of the volume, he resolved to translate and publish it. In his enthusiastic desire to promote this scheme he reckoned without his host, for it did not seem to strike him that a subject which interested him so keenly might not appeal to the general public. By the few scholars of taste and culture in the vicinity of Dumfries his translation was not thought either elegant or correct, which may have been the fault of the Professor as much as it was his, for the German cannot write decent prose, and generally lacks imagination. Whatever may have been the real facts of the case, neither of the two publishers in Dumfries could be induced to publish it. His epic poem was received with more favour, however, and he collected five hundred subscriptions towards its publication.

While this young rustic of nineteen years of age was in Dumfries in search of literary fame he was introduced to the Poet Burns, to whom he submitted his epic. Burns, who had none of the literary snob in his character, received him kindly, acknowledging the merits of the poem; but advised him if he could get to college and defer its publication it would be far better, as he was young and his taste not formed, and he would probably be ashamed of his youthful poetic effort when he could write and judge better.

Murray was a young man of commonsense, understood the advice, fully realised the sincerity with which it was given, and resolved to act upon it. One of the chief difficulties with which he had to contend, however, was that
he was not acquainted with any person of influence to whom he could apply for assistance in a college career, and he was on the point of giving up the idea in despair. At length a friend of his, who had become a tea merchant in Edinburgh, described Murray's situation to a printer in the city, who at once brought his case before Dr Baird. With a letter of introduction from a friend in his own locality, he went to Edinburgh in November, 1794. The day after he arrived in the city he was examined before Drs Baird, Finlayson, and Moodie. When brought before his examiners he accurately analysed a passage of French, an Ode of Horace, a page of Homer, and a Hebrew psalm. All three examiners were so much pleased with the manner in which he acquitted himself that they at once procured for him the pecuniary help necessary for the carrying out of his studies, and in the course of two years he obtained a bursary from the city. In addition to this, he augmented his small income by giving private lessons and by occasional contributions to some of the periodical publications of the day. By his talents and achievements he soon became known to the brilliant literary circle which at that time adorned the Scots metropolis, among whom were Lord Jeffrey, Lord Brougham, Dr Campbell, Dr Brown, Dr Leyden, and Dugald Stewart. When he had finished his Arts course he applied himself to the study of theology with the diligent application he had hitherto manifested, and soon qualified himself for the Church. While at college he acquired a knowledge of all the European languages, besides devoting considerable study to Sanscrit and other abstruse dialects of the East. In 1802 Murray was employed by Constable, the leading publisher in Edinburgh at that time, to edit a new edition of Bruce's Travels in Abyssinia. His knowledge of the principal dialects, as they were actually spoken by the various races of Abyssinia, specially qualified him for the task. This work occupied him for three years, after which he wrote a life of the traveller, which was separately published. The principal reason which made a new edition necessary was
that Lord Valentia, a subsequent traveller in Abyssinia, brought a number of charges of inaccuracy against Bruce, and, to use Murray's own words, "gave many of Bruce's statements the lie direct." It afterwards transpired, however, that some of the inaccuracies with which Bruce had been charged were greatly exaggerated, through jealousy on the part of Lord Valentia, though not altogether without foundation. After a critical comparison and analysis Murray discovered that wrong names had been given to some places, and that Bruce's geographical knowledge was frequently defective. Several of the maps he had drafted required alteration and, in some instances, reconstruction. In spite of these defects, however, the work was not utterly discredited, for Bruce's Travels in Abyssinia has outlived subsequent writers on the subject, and all the editions that have been issued since Murray's day are framed in accordance with his alterations, notes, and comments. Nothing hitherto in Murray's marvellous scholastic attainments did so much to advance his reputation as a philologist as did this work.

Soon after this task was completed Murray, in 1806, was appointed assistant to Dr Muirhead, minister of the Parish Church of Urr, in his native shire of Kirkcudbright; and on the death of Dr Muirhead, two years afterwards, he was appointed his successor. But to revert to Murray's connection with Bruce's travels, and what it further led up to. Henry Salt, a native of Lichfield, Staffordshire, who had been appointed Consul-General in Egypt to the British Government in 1809, was despatched to Abyssinia on a mission of peace, with the view of settling some disputes which then existed between the religious sects of that country, and which had long been a subject of contention. After an absence of two years Salt returned to England, bringing with him a letter written in the Geez dialect, from the Governor of Tygree to King George III. * It was discovered that Alexander Murray was the only person in the

* Salt also brought with him a copy of the mythical Book of Enoch, in Ethiopic.
British dominions who could translate the document. Moreover, Murray's edition of Bruce's *Travels* proved to be of so much assistance to Salt that he recommended the Marquess Wellesley to forward the letter to Murray, which he did through his secretary. At the end of ten days a literal translation was returned, and was deemed highly satisfactory for all official requirements. This letter is rather a strange document, and threw a great deal of light on the religious sentiments of the people belonging to this section of the Greek Church in that day.

Its translation not only enhanced Murray's reputation as a profound scholar with the officials at the Foreign Office, but was the means of creating a friendly correspondence between Salt and Murray which continued till Murray's death. In the course of the correspondence it was decided that Salt should visit Murray in Scotland, but on account of injuries Salt sustained by falling from his horse the visit had to be postponed, to the great disappointment of both.

Throughout the entire course of Murray's brief career his lot in life was a hard one, for he had to prosecute his studies under most unfavourable circumstances. From early youth a subtle disease was preying upon his vital organism, yet his capacity for work was almost inconceivable.

In the various stages of his career as a shepherd boy, a school boy, a University student, and a parish minister, his facility in the acquisition of languages enabled him to attain in a few months what would have been beyond the reach of ordinary talents and average industry during the course of a long life. This is a virtue which should not be too lightly esteemed. All the great achievements which have been attained in literature, science, philosophy, and mechanical invention has been attained by the specialist. The specialist, by the concentration of thought and penetration, probes the subject to its utmost depths, till it is made to reveal its secret elements, which may have remained hidden for centuries from the ken of the superficial observer.
It is almost incredible that Murray should have mastered in so short a time every language spoken and written by people who made any pretence to civilisation and culture, from Saxon to Sanscrit. In addition, he possessed a large store of that general information which is seldom acquired except by personal experience and contact with the outside world.

It is a time-honoured maxim that salvation is the heritage of the man who has the sense of humour, and it appears to have been one of Murray's possessions, in spite of ill-health, which at times must have been a galling yoke to one who had such an insatiable desire for work and so keen a sense of duty. His patience, his good-nature, his quaint humour so vividly reflect the character of the man, that one feels in reading these writings as if one were in communion with a living voice and a robust spirit.

Although Murray was never out of his native Scotland, and certainly never in Abyssinia, we can imagine what a correct estimate he had formed of the character and condition of those people. In fact, Salt himself, who had nearly two years' experience in their midst, fully recognised the value of Murray's information, for he not only expressed himself to that effect in his letters, but, in the interests of the Foreign Office, he frequently solicited Murray's advice. None of Murray's biographers or eulogists I have read have given much information respecting his correspondence and friendship with Henry Salt. Yet, had it not been for this correspondence, so accidentally brought about, Murray might have probably remained an obscure minister of a country parish. It was through the influence of Salt and Lord Castlereagh that he was recommended as a suitable candidate for one of the vacant Professorships in the University of Edinburgh in June, 1812. After a keen contest, he was elected in the following month by a majority of two votes as Professor of Oriental Languages, and he undertook to teach Sanscrit, Bengalee, Hindostanee, Persic, Arabic, and other dialects. After he was elected to the Professor's chair he resigned his charge as minister
of Urr, which he had held for six years. Up to this time he had written and published a poem on *Arthur, General of the Britons*, which he had carefully revised since he submitted it to the criticism of Burns; *The Life of Bruc*; an account of *Egyptian Theology*; *The Coptic Language, and History of Egypt*, which formed an appendix to his edition of *Bruce's Travels*; *Outline of Oriental Philology*; *Philosophical History of European Languages*, the latter of which was left unfinished at his death, but which was edited and subsequently published by Dr Scott. Of course, it was not to be expected that one who rose from so obscure a position would find his path to fame a bed of roses at a time when Edinburgh assumed the position of literary autocrat. When this work appeared it was severely criticised by Dr Brown on account of Murray's philological conclusions. In the course of this treatise Murray maintained, as a probable theory, that the languages of Europe may be traced to a single radical dialect, which may analytically be resolved into a few monosyllables, perhaps nine in number. The severity of Dr Brown's criticism is uncalled for, inasmuch as Murray did not dogmatise on the point, neither did he lay it down as an infallible axiom, but only spoke of it as a probable theory. This we learn from a letter to his friend Salt in May, 1812.

The great work Murray left unfinished at his death contained similar conclusions to those that have been arrived at by subsequent scholars on the subject. Many authors, it is true, have left behind them work of a more mature and lasting character. Nevertheless, by his premature death at the early age of thirty-seven, the literary men of the time acknowledged that the learning of the country suffered a great and incalculable loss. Had this brave and noble character who had so heroically struggled against poverty and disease been spared a little longer, it is probable that his achievements in the science of philology would have been such that no other in the same field could have taken from him an honour and distinction which by right should have been his. After
Murray had been in Edinburgh about nine months, it was his intention to visit his wife and family in the April of 1813, who were still living at Urr, but his health finally gave way. His wife having been warned of his condition, arrived in Edinburgh on the 13th of that month, and found him wasted away to a mere shadow, but deeply engrossed in his favourite studies, quite unconscious of his approaching end. The next day he was induced to remain in bed; towards evening he became worse, and gave his wife instructions about the payment of some small debts. As the shadows of death fell upon him he expressed his deep regret in not being able to see his little boy and girl, to give them his last parting kiss and blessing. On the following day, April 15th, he took a last farewell of his sorrowing wife, and quietly passed to his rest.

The last letter Murray wrote to his faithful friend, Henry Salt, reached London in the absence of that gentleman, and before he had a chance of returning an answer Murray was no more. Although he and Murray never met, the correspondence produced a friendly attachment between them, and Salt never referred to "that great and noble man," as he called him, without a deep sense of emotion.

This then, is the story of Dr. Alexander Murray, who, though he rose from the humble position of a shepherd boy, his gentlemanly disposition and scholarly attainments made a deep and lasting impression on all with whom he came in contact. He was interred in the burying-ground of Greyfriars' Church, Edinburgh, where a monument has been raised to his memory. A monument has also been erected to his memory on a commanding eminence at Tanotrie, overlooking his birthplace. It is build of square blocks of granite hewn from the mountain side, rising to a height of eighty feet, where it stands in solitary magnificence amid the Galloway hills.

Few distinguished men are so little known outside their native land as Alexander Murray. The indomitable perseverance and courage with which he struggled and
overcame difficulties would have crushed many a brave spirit with a more robust physical constitution, and speak more in his praise than the learned works which were their result. In his own country, however, he has not been forgotten, and it is gratifying to state that his fellow-countrymen did not allow the centenary of his death to pass unheeded. In the month of April, 1913, people flocked from all parts of Scotland in their tens of thousands to the wilds of Minnigaff to do homage to this distinguished Scot amid the shadows of his native crags and peaks.

WM. M'ILWRAITH.
On the 27th August, 1787, Robert Burns, Scotland's greatest Bard, set out in a chaise from Edinburgh along with Mr Wm. Nicol, teacher, on a tour to the north, partly with the view of visiting a number of relatives he had in Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire, going by way of Linlithgow, Falkirk, Plean Castle and Stirling, then on to Kenmore and Aberfeldy, where he composed "The Birks of Aberfeldy," which at that time belonged to the Menzies of Bolfracks. It is said that when here he met Sir John Menzies, fourth Baronet and Chief of Clan Menzies, and may have visited him at Castle Menzies, which is only about two miles from Aberfeldy—this is said to have been on the 30th of August, 1787. From there he visited the Duke of Atholl, and at Blair Castle he met Lady Charlotte Murray, eldest daughter of the Duke of Atholl, and afterwards the wife of Sir John Menzies, the fourth Baronet of Castle Menzies. Proceeding north he visited the Falls of Fyers, Gordon Castle, Fochabers, and Aberdeen, arriving about 8th September, 1787. From there he went out to Glen Dye, and the Mill of Dye, in the Mearns, which is in the parish of Strachan, a few miles from Banffory. In this part of the country the Poet had many relations, and had thus gone off the main roads for travellers to visit his kith and kin and to meet bonnie Mary Menzies, one of the greatest beauties then in Aberdeenshire or the North. Her beauty-fame had travelled far south to Burns and his relatives in Ayrshire, from relations of the Poet who lived or owned a farm called "Jelly-brawns," where bonnie Mary Menzies had spent some time on a visit to the relations of Burns, who had that farm. The wife of the farmer was then a very old woman, and was a near relative
of the Poet. There were other relations of Robert Burns who had lived for a considerable time there before the visit of bonnie Mary Menzies to the farm of "Jelly-brawns."

At that time "Mary Menzies was well known throughout the Mearns for her good looks." She is described by a descendant relative as being acknowledged as "being beautiful," and is recorded to have been "tall," as were most of the Menzies at that time, and she had lovely hair

of a reddish-golden colour—a type of hair common among many of the Clan. Her hair she kept divided into side-locks and side-ringlets. Burns himself took poetic note of her hair and complexion and bright blue eyes, her white brow, her rosy cheeks ay dimpled with a smile, &c. From the first Burns was struck with her natural beauty and presence, and thus describes his first meeting:—

"In coming by the Brig o' Dye,
At Darlet we a blink did tarry;
As day was dawning in the sky,
We drank a health to bonie Mary."
Then the Poet goes on to paint her portrait in poetic language, inspired by the charms of a young and beautiful girl, in such a way as only an artist like Burns could do. He says:—

"Her een sae bright, her brow say white,
Her haffet looks as brown's a berry;
And ay they dimpl't wi' a smile,
The rosy cheeks o' bonie Mary."

Burns was received by the father of bonnie Mary Menzies with true Highland hospitality, and at once got the piper lads of the district together and enlivened the scene by reels and other dances to the music of the great Highland bagpipes. Burns describes that mirthful and gleeful time in the following lines:—

"We lap an' dance'd the lee-lang day,
Til piper lads were wae and weary."

Burns, ever observant and ready to turn every incident to poetic account, observed that there was a young gallant of another and kindred Clan "gone" on bonnie Mary Menzies, of the name of Charlie MacGregor, who, attempting to kiss bonnie Mary Menzies, lost in the scuffle his tartan plaidie. The Poet thus describes the incident:—

"Theniel Menzies' bonie Mary,
Theniel Menzies' bonie Mary;
Charlie Gregor tint (lost) his plaidie,
Kissin' Theniel's bonie Mary."

Not only did MacGregor lose his plaidie for his impulsive act in kissing such a bonnie lassie, but Burns tells us that he had to stand treat for that great honour, in the following words:—

"But Charlie gat the spring (treat) to pay
For kissin' Theniel's bonie Mary."

The father of bonnie Mary Menzies, whom Burns calls "Theniel," was Nathaniel Menzies, the Miller of Dye, and
a son of William Menzies, third last laird of Pitfodels—she being Pitfodel’s granddaughter, who was one of the leading men, and head of the oldest of the Aberdeenshire Clans. His ancestors were Lord Provosts of Aberdeen from about 1411 to 1635 almost continuously.

Through a reference which was made in a paper to The Red and White Book of Menzies by Sir David Menzies, Bart. of Plean Castle, Larbert, a descendant of bonnie Mary Menzies was brought to light. She is Mrs Edith Menzies Young, 13 Wigom Road, Bearwood, Birmingham, who has given the greater part of the foregoing information. She traces the family thus: William Menzies of Pitfodels had two sons, John, and the second Nathaniel Menzies, who married the daughter of the miller of Dye about 1760, who was also one of the beauties in her time. Nathaniel’s father was a Roman Catholic, and of course he was brought up the same; but having met Lord Peterborough, a man of many adventures, who married Miss Fraser, the heiress of the Laird of Durris, and after a year’s residence at Durris seems to have got tired of the quiet life, and being of a roving disposition, and having charmed a number of the class young men of the shire, he left on a roving expedition, and was joined by Nathaniel Menzies. After many years of adventure Nathaniel came back, having, as they said, “lost his religion,” and fell in love with the miller’s daughter of Dye, and became the father of Burns’s bonnie Mary Menzies. He had a son, John Menzies, who married Margaret Knowles, and their daughter, Barbara Menzies, married John Gallow, and had a daughter, Isabella, who married Jas. Anderson, and had a daughter, Edith, who married Jas. Young, Perth. So that Mrs Edith Menzies Young is the lineal descendant of Bonnie Mary Menzies.

DAVID MENZIES,
9th Baronet.
THE passing of Mr Hugh Killin has severed one of the few remaining associations with the period and personages of Robert Burns. His mother was Mary Lees, daughter of Mrs William Lees, who was Jenny Armour, younger sister of Jean, the Poet’s wife. Mary Lees was intimate with another Mauchline young lady, Jean Wilson, a niece of “The Gallant Weaver,” Robert Wilson, who showed great kindness to Jean Armour in Paisley. “Jean Wilson,” writes Mr Thomas Killin, “went to Australia over eighty years ago as a lady’s help with a family named Ranken, from Sorn. Going to Australia in those days was a great event, and anyone going usually got keepsakes from their friends. Mrs William Lees (Jenny Armour and Mary Lees’ mother) said to Jean Wilson, ‘I shall give you something worth prizing,’ and she gave her a small lock of Burns’s hair which Jean Armour had cut from the Poet’s head when he died in Dumfries, her sister Jenny being with her in Dumfries at the death. Jean Wilson took this hair to Australia, got married to an Englishman named Maukett, and died within a couple of years of their marriage after having a little boy. Mr Maukett returned the hair to his wife’s friends in Mauchline with a letter saying his wife put more value on this lock of hair than anything else she possessed, and he thought the proper place for it was back among her friends. This was very much prized by them. Mrs M’Ewan, a sister of Jean Wilson, on one occasion was so overcome with the persuasion of an American for three hairs that she gave
him them, which he said he would for ever prize. On the
death of Mrs M'Ewan, on behalf of the family I got £50
from Mr Dunlop of Doonside for the relic, and it is now
in the Burns Cottage Museum at Ayr in the wee pastebobdd
box in which it was sent back from Australia." The
late Mr Hugh Killin lost his parents when very young and
was brought up by his grandmother, and he well remembered
her speaking of the Poet, whom she knew personally. He
had seen three of the Poet's sons at the house of Mrs Lees.
She was their aunt, and they came occasionally to visit her.

Mr Killin came to the Clyde in 1860, residing in Glas-
gow, where he was married in 1862. The aged couple
celebrated their golden wedding in 1912. He joined the
Clyde Trust when he came to Glasgow, and retired a few
years ago, after forty-five years' faithful service, for a well-
earned rest, on pension granted by the Clyde Trust. He
had seen some great alterations and improvements on the
Clyde, and had assisted at the making of all the large docks
which are now such a boon to our Mercantile Marine, and
a great asset to the Clyde and the nation.

He rarely went into company, and I do not think the
Royal Burgh of Renfrew realised that in their midst they
had a relation of the Scottish Poet, who had done so much
to learn Scotsmen the world o'er the great birthright of
freedom and straight living as depicted by Robert Burns.

And so, after those long years of strenuous toil, Mr
Hugh Killin was laid quietly to rest in that old-fashioned
churchyard of Renfrew Parish, followed to his last resting
place by a large gathering of his family and friends, by
whom he was much esteemed and respected. Thus ends
a life well spent. Mr Killin is survived by his wife, three
sons, three daughters, and twenty grandchildren.
AUTHORSHIP OF THE
"VERSES. ON THE DESTRUCTION OF THE
WOODS NEAR DRUMLANRIG."

IN the Scots Magazine for February, 1803 (vol. LXV., pp. 129-130) there were printed—for the first time, it is believed—twelve four-line "Verses Written on a window shutter of a small country Inn, in Dumfriesshire, supposed to be by R. Burns." The verses are those beginning

"As on the banks o' winding Nith
Ae smiling simmer morn I stray'd,"

and are now better known as "Verses on the Destruction of the Woods near Drumlanrig." As "Lines Written on the Banks of the Nith by Robert Burns" they appeared in the Glasgow College Album, 1828, the editors of which believed them to be unpublished. Doubtless they were reprinted elsewhere before being included by James Hogg and William Motherwell in the fifth volume (1836) of their Works of Burns. Allan Cunningham did not include them in his eight-volume edition of 1834, but he did print them in his one-volume edition of 1840. He, however, omitted them from his edition of 1842, because of a doubt as to Burns being their author. William Scott Douglas (vol. 3, 1877), believed them to be by Burns; and Dr William Wallace (vol. 4, 1896), inclined to their being the composition of Burns—from internal evidence; a position taken up also by Mr D. M'Naught (People's Edition, 1896): "there is no proof of the authenticity of this piece save its intrinsic merit." Mr George A. Aitken, editor of the third Aldine edition of Burns, prints the verses (vol. 3, 1893), with a note that "Cromek wrote to Creech that he was told they were really written by Mackenzie." This statement is repeated by Messrs Henley and Henderson
It is a satisfaction to be able now to say that the "Verses on the Destruction of the Woods near Drumlanrig"—ascribed to Burns and printed as his, though sometimes with hesitation on the part of his editors, for over a century—were indeed written by Henry Mackenzie, author of *The Man of Feeling*. Included in a valuable collection of letters from friends and acquaintances of Burns that has lately been acquired by Mr Charles R. Cowie, J.P., Glasgow, are two from Mackenzie to Dr James Currie, editor of *Burns's Works* (1800). The earlier of the two was written while Mackenzie and Currie were personally unknown to each other, and is here given verbatim. Thanks are due to Mr Cowie for generously placing the letter at our disposal.

**TO DOCTOR CURRIE, LIVERPOOL.**

Office of Taxes, Edinburgh,
22nd October, 1802.

Sir,—Tho' I have not the honor of your Acquaintance, yet there is a Sort of Relation between literary Men which makes me feel as if I were not unknown to Dr Currie. It is on a literary Subject, tho' a very trifling one, that I trouble him with this Letter.

I have just learn'd, by accident, that you lately received from this Country a little Poem, said to be the production of poor Burns (to whose Memory and Compositions, as well as to his family, you have done so much Service), and to have been found by me written on a window of a Country Inn in Dumfriesshire. I think it but justice to you, as well as Burns, to tell you candidly how the fact stands. Having occasion last year to make a Journey thro' Nithsdale, accompany'd by my eldest Daughter, We could not but feel the strongest regret, and some little resentment, at the miserable Devastation which the Banks of that beautiful River had suffered from the Cutting down of the Trees with which they had been cloth'd. My Daughter observ'd to me that if Burns were alive it would afford an excellent Subject for the Feeling and Indignation of his Muse to work upon. Catching the Hint, I wrote, almost impromptu, the little Poem in question, and read it next day at a Gentleman's House where we visit'd, from the pencilled copy in my Note-Book, which I pretended to have taken from the Window-
Shutter of a little Inn, whence I had actually copied some other Lines of Burns's in praise of a Young Lady, published by you in the Collection of his Works. Somebody, I really forget who, afterwards wrote out a Copy from my Book, and prefixed to it the fictitious Origin which I had assigned it. I made a Sort of Apology for the Severity of the Concluding Line, which at the time, in the absence of the Scene described, I really felt; but on a late visit to Nidpath Castle I had the veteris vestigis /lamme rekindled in me that I was disposed to retract the Charity of that Concession, if I had ever mentioned the Verses, which, except once or twice at the time above mentioned, I never did.

Such, Sir, is the genuine Account of this trifling Jeu d'Esprit. There is no probability that one of your critical Discernment should be deceived by it; but I think it right to prevent even the smallest chance of my being accessible to such a Deception.

I passed lately some weeks at Moffat on account of my health, and visited frequently the shades of Dumcrieff. If they should tempt you at any time to Scotland, I hope you will allow me an Opportunity of introducing myself to you. Tho' for some time past a Recreant to Letters (my Time devoted to Business, and my Thoughts, alas! to Affliction), I cannot but feel an Interest in the good Opinion of Dr Currie, and should be proud of obtaining his Acquaintance. Meantime it will afford me much Satisfaction to cultivate his Correspondence.

I am, with very sincere regard, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) HENRY MACKENZIE.

The authority is thus of the best, and as a consequence the "Verses on the Destruction of the Woods near Drumlanrig" go to join the collection of pieces—"Verses to my Bed," "To the Owl," "Mary," "Shelah O'Neil," "Evan Banks," and the far too numerous others—which forms the Burns apocrypha.

J. C. E.
 CLUB NOTES.

[COMMUNICATED.]

THE LONDON ROBERT BURNS CLUB.

50TH ANNIVERSARY.

The year 1918—the Jubilee year of the Club—was marked by great activity, many matters of purely local importance, as well as matters of more general concern having occupied the attention of members.

The Birthday Celebration was the occasion of a demonstration of International importance, for on the 25th January, the Club, as part of its war work, invited to dinner the Ambassadors and other representatives of our Allies-in-arms. In accepting the invitations, every one of the Ambassadors testified to their pleasure in worshipping for an evening at the shrine of the Poet of Democracy. Every representative of the Diplomatic Corps who was invited accepted our invitation to the Criterion Piccadilly Circus, and although a dinner by the Prime Minister in honour of the Italian Premier, Signor Orlando, suddenly fixed for that evening, robbed us of our principal guests, the Ambassadors and Ministers sent representatives, and the programme was carried through with enthusiasm, and evidently to the great pleasure of the large audience. Mr W. Will, the President, occupied the chair, and excellent speeches were delivered by Lord Glenconner, Dr Fort Newton, the Right Hon. Robert Munro, Secretary for Scotland, and Admiral Sir Reginald Hall; while Mr John Buchan proposed "The Immortal Memory" in one of the finest orations on Robert Burns that has ever been delivered, which is saying a great deal. Mr Mackenzie Murdoch charmed the great gathering by his delightful rendering of Scottish violin music, and Archie Anderson sang with his old enthusiasm several of Burns's songs. The Club Pipe-Major Reith and Pipe-Major Geo. Shand still further enlivened the proceedings by their skilful playing of reels, marches, and strathspeys.

The whole of the arrangements were in the hands of Mr P. N. M'Farlane, the Hon. Secretary, and the great success of the gathering was a tribute to this skilful handling of the whole affair.

LUNCHEON TO MR HARRY LAUDER.

On the return of Mr Harry Lauder, a member of the Club, from a successful mission to the United States and Canada, the members
arranged for a "Welcome Home" lunch, which was held in the Café Monico on 28th June, 1918. The building was packed by an audience which gave the great little Scot a tremendous ovation. The chair was occupied by the President, Mr Wm. Will, and in the company were Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Glenconner, Right Hon. Ian Macpherson (Under Secretary of State for War) and Mrs Macpherson, Right Hon. Andrew Fisher, Col. Sir John Young, and Rev. Dr George Adam, &c. Preceding the submission of the toast of the afternoon, Lord Balfour proposed, Lord Glenconner seconded, and Mr Fisher supported a vote of congratulation to the King of Italy, Signor Orlando, and General Diaz, on the great victory gained by the Italian Army. Mr Macpherson in an eloquent speech proposed the health of Mr and Mrs Lauder. Mr Lauder, he said, had done much for Scottish National sentiment, and he had done much for the successful prosecution of the war. The toast was received with great enthusiasm. Mr Lauder, in a speech in which he touched the whole gamut of human emotions, replied, and showed himself an implacable opponent of the Hun, and a fierce critic of those pacifists who were prepared to take the blood-stained hands of the Germans and treat them as brothers. Mr Lauder treated the audience to the solo parts of "God Save the King" and "Auld Lang Syne."

OBITUARY: MR NEIL TURNER.

The death of Mr Neil Turner, a Past-President of the London Robert Burns Club, came with tragic suddenness when leaving King's Cross for a vacation on 20th September last. Mr Turner, who was one of the most active of the members of No. 1 (London), was President in 1910-11, and discharged the duties of the chair with great conscientiousness and spirit. He was a keen student of the works of the Bard, and on several occasions read papers on various aspects of the Poet's life.

Last year Mr Turner, who was general manager of The Daily Chronicle and Lloyd's News and their allied publications, was appointed by the Paper Controller to be Director of Distribution and Economy; the faithfulness with which he discharged his duties may probably have been a contributory cause of his sudden demise. Mr Turner's reserved character did not lead to the making of many friends outside business circles, but those friends whom he did make were bound to him by ties strengthened by his splendid character. Incapable of doing a mean action himself, Mr Turner was an implacable enemy of anything mean in others. The funeral to West Hampstead Cemetery was one of the most largely attended ever witnessed—every Newspaper Office in London being represented, and many others outside business circles also
being present. A large number of members of the London Robert Burns Club were present at the service at the cemetery, and a handsome wreath was sent by the Club.

**A TOUCHING BURIAL AT WEST HAMPSTEAD CEMETERY.**

The funeral of Mr Neil Turner, general manager of *The Daily Chronicle*, took place yesterday afternoon at West Hampstead Cemetery, and was a touching tribute to the regard in which he was held not only by his colleagues and immediate friends, but by others with knowledge of his public spirit and generosity of heart. Mrs Neil Turner, a brave pathetic figure, was able to attend the service, first in the chapel of the cemetery, which lies away apart from the roar of London, and then to take farewell of her husband at the grave-side, where her cousin, the Rev. F. Pickford, rector of Farncombe, said the beautiful last words of "The Order for the Burial of the Dead."

The attendance at the funeral was not only large and representative, especially of Fleet Street, but there was a wonderful tribute of flowers.

Altogether, the quiet, removed corner where Mr Neil Turner rests in West Hampstead Cemetery had the colour and perfume of a lovely garden, austere and fine, and that is how he would have liked to be left.

**SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB.**

We issue our Twenty-first Annual Report of the Sunderland Burns Club with the war still raging: the enemy suing for peace, while continuing his dastardly acts of shelling open boats filled with women and children, pillaging and looting towns and villages. Any day may see his end, but we are quite certain we are expressing the hope of every member of our Club when we say, Give him first a good hammering and then talk peace—that peace which shall be lasting.

The demands of the Admiralty to accommodate the Shipyard workers were such that several important centres in the town were taken over by them. This necessitated the removal of our property, and we are indebted to our Treasurer, Mr A. W. Semple, for temporarily housing our belongings. We trust conditions may have so changed that we may be able to return to the Palatine Hotel, where we have spent very many happy hours together.

**ANNUAL MEETING.**

The Annual Meeting of last year was well attended, and was quite an interesting gathering. A report submitted on the
proposal to remove the Highland Mary Memorial and Grave from the West Churchyard, Greenock, was considered, when it was decided that we forward to the Burns Federation our protest against the proposal.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

For the first time in our history we had to dispense with our Annual Dinner. Our arrangements were almost completed when, a week or so before the 25th, the Admiralty took over the Palatine Hotel and we were compelled to seek new quarters. Your Committee left no stone unturned to obtain a suitable place, and we were fortunate in being able to celebrate the one hundred and fifty-ninth Anniversary of our Poet's birth. The gathering took place in the Mountain Daisy Hotel, on Friday, 25th January, 1918, and, while not so large as usual, it was quite representative.

The President of the Club, J. A. Macdonald, Esq., occupied the chair, and was supported by the Rev. R. L. Wiseman, who submitted the Toast of the "Immortal Memory." In doing so he paid a high tribute to the genius of Burns.

"CHRONICLE."

The Chronicle continues to maintain its position in the list of publications issued during the year. Each year adds to the difficulty of securing something new concerning the Poet, and while that is so the veteran Editor is to be congratulated upon his efforts in this direction. The articles are always well worthy of the perusal of every member of the Club. We should like to see a larger number of readers in our Club—probably were the price increased the value would be more appreciated. It is an acknowledged fact that these volumes will one day be more valuable than they are to-day, and our duty is to support the Chronicle and its noble Editor.

THE PIPE BAND.

The work of the Pipe Band has been continued during the year under the guidance of Pipe-Major Wm. Graham. While there has not been anything which calls for special mention, the practices have been held regularly and a large amount of useful work done.

One of our number, Piper James Findlater, has joined the Forces, and we regret losing his valuable services. We were pleased to have the assistance of Piper A. M'Lean during the year, while located in the town, but he has also joined the Mercantile Marine, and we thus lose the valuable services of two young pipers. In order to keep the ranks filled Pipe-Major Graham has devoted a
large amount of time in training young recruits, with excellent results.

We have, to record the loss of an Hon. Vice-President of the Club in the late David Fortune, J.P., whose death took place in Glasgow, on 12th November, 1917. A powerful and eloquent speaker, his services were much sought after, and his speech at our Anniversary Dinner in 1907 on the “Immortal Memory” was a masterpiece. During the session of 1911 he also contributed an excellent paper on “Smith, Poet and Essayist.” He took the keenest interest in our work, and lost no opportunity in making kindly enquiries concerning our progress. By his passing hence the city has lost a good citizen, and we have lost a true friend and an honoured Vice-President.

We have also to record the loss of a Past President of the Club in the late Mr Adam Lennox, whose death took place on 11th July, 1917. His connection with the Club dates from 1900, and during the whole of that time he took the keenest interest in all our work. He occupied the President’s chair during 1914, and directed the affairs of the Club with ability, and during the following session submitted an excellent paper on his native town of Dunfermline. He took a keen interest in the formation of the Pipe Band, and was one of its more ardent supporters. It was fitting, therefore, as a last token of respect, that the Pipers appeared at the funeral in full Highland costume as a tribute to one who had been throughout his life a true Scot.

We have also the sad duty to record the loss of a son of one of our members, who has fallen on active service. Private Stan. Murray, West Yorke Regiment, younger son of Mr George Murray, Clashmore, Sutherlandshire, formerly Pipe-Major to the Club, fell in action on 9th October, 1917. This makes the second loss sustained by the Club, and we sincerely hope we may be spared from making further records of this nature. Truly “the sacrifice has been great.”

MEMBERSHIP.

We commenced the year with sixty-five active members. During the year we have added six new members.

We have again to report an excellent series of short papers contributed by the various members, and to these gentlemen our best thanks are due.

We had a special “Hallowe’en Nicht” on 31st October, 1917, when a large company of gentlemen were present, including a number of wounded soldiers from the War Hospital and Jeffrey Hall. The President, J. A. MacDonald, Esq., occupied the chair, and the proceedings took the form of a Smoking Concert.
Our thanks are due to the President for the presence of the wounded soldiers and for his kindness in entertaining the company. We have instituted a Benevolent Fund which has been splendidly supported by the members, and the voluntary contributions thus received have been the means of making the declining years of one of Scotia's daughters just a little brighter—a duty which will commend our Club for giving a helping hand to those who through force of circumstances are unable to help themselves.

1917.

SYLLABUS.

Oct. 31. Hallowe'en Celebration—The President.

1918.


As we look forward to the work of another year, let us hope that we may see a glorious and lasting peace proclaimed, and that we may be able to give the gallant boys who have sacrificed so much, a right royal welcome back to their "ain firesides."

M. Neilson, Hon. Secretary.

THE BIRMINGHAM BURNS CLUB.

Dear Sir,

I recently wrote you on the 5th inst. acknowledging receipt of your advice of Annual Conference of the Burns Federation, pointing out that owing to the illness of our last season's Secretary, Mr Thomas Barclay, your communication had not reached me in time to appoint any delegate to attend. Since then I have noticed a report of the Conference Meeting in the Weekly Scotsman of 14th inst., in which reference is made to the war-work done by Burns Clubs, notably that of the Bridgeton Burns Club, who subscribed £1100 in aid of Limbless Soldiers.
The Birmingham Burns Club and War Work.

The efforts of the Birmingham Burns Club have during the last session, 1917-1918, been devoted almost entirely to war work, and the Club is justly proud of its achievements in this direction. The three Birmingham Burns Club Cots, which have been endowed under the auspices of the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Home and Foreign Service since the beginning of the war, are being maintained by the Club—sums for this purpose being remitted to the Headquarters of the Scottish Women's Hospitals in Edinburgh.

Two of the Cots are installed in France and one in Salonica, and letters of appreciation sent by several of our gallant Allies who have occupied these beds are amongst the most carefully preserved documents of the Club, as mementoes of the war-work done during the Great European War.

A much larger scheme was however entered into by the Club early in the year, when a Flag Day, granted by the courtesy of the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, and organised and carried through by the members, was held, and resulted in the total sum of £1664 11s 3d being raised and handed over to the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Home and Foreign Service, in Edinburgh, to endow a "City of Birmingham Section" in the new Dr Elsie Inglis Memorial Hospital at Sallenches, in France.

In addition, the Club has been able to contribute during the past session the sum of £50 2s to local charities.

During the past session six functions were held as follows:—

1917.
Nov. 2. Lecture: "The Call of Our Allies and the Response" (in aid of Scottish Women's Hospitals)—Grand Hotel.

1918.
Feb. 8. Whist Drive—Grand Hotel.
Mar. 8. Smoking Concert—White Horse Hotel.

All of these functions were exceedingly well attended and, without exception, were all of a most satisfactory and enjoyable nature.

For the Lecture held on 2nd November, 1917, we were extremely fortunate in being favoured with the services of Mrs Robertson, of
Kilmarnock, who, in her lecture, gave a most complete account of the work carried on by the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Home and Foreign Service.

The functions set out above were instrumental in raising money which was devoted to the upkeep of the three Burns Club Cots endowed under the auspices of the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

During the session 32 new male members and 21 associate members were elected, making at the end of the season a total membership of 216 (195 male members and 21 associate members)—twenty-one members being on service with the Colours.

Sister Mary S. MacDonald, associate member, has been awarded the Royal Red Cross in recognition of the splendid work she is doing in France.

Two of the members have each lost a son in the war, and one has lost a son-in-law—all three being killed in action.

CHAS. MACGREGOR, Hon. Secretary.

BURNS CLUBS ASSOCIATION, GLASGOW.

The Annual Meeting took place in the Bath Hotel, Glasgow, on 31st October, when there was a large attendance, under the Presidency of Mr Alex. Mackenzie (Glasgow Herald). The Annual Report stated that notwithstanding the sad fact of the continuance of the war the Association's activities have been well maintained, and there had never been a year when more useful work was accomplished and a greater interest taken in the business.

The Association met three times—once at the Annual Meeting, once at the Testimonial to Mr D. M'Naught, on 18th January (when Mr M'Coll presided and the Secretary was privileged to present a handsome testimonial to the revered President of the Federation), and once on 21st September, when the Annual Outing took place to Mauchline. That function was attended by thirty-five gentlemen, and the outing was most successful except as regards the weather.

A large number of executive and committee meetings had taken place, and had been well attended.

Three Clubs have been admitted to membership during the year (Cambuslang International, Dalmuir, and Anderston Cronies Burns Clubs), and the roll now stood: Town 24, Country 17—a total of 41. The Anniversary Dinners held were very successful, and several of them had a collection for the Mauchline House. The
Association undertook as usual the decoration of the Burns Statue, which was beautifully done. The second Anniversary Sermon was preached on 27th January by Rev. Dr Smith, of Partick, and was in every respect a very noteworthy event. Mr Killin made all the arrangements, and read the lessons. Old Psalm tunes were tastefully rendered by the choir, and the collection taken for the Homes was very satisfactory, amounting to £16 3s 1d.

The printing of Dr McMillan's sermon of 1917 was undertaken by the Association, and Dr Smith's sermon was printed by his own congregation. The sale of both has been very satisfactory. Rev. Jas. Barr has been secured for the next sermon.

A number of very successful entertainments on behalf of War Funds were undertaken, the most noteworthy being those of the Bridgeton, Carlton, Rosebery, and Primrose Clubs. The Association was represented at all, and also took part in various Club meetings, lectures, and other functions throughout the year.

The Association, through the School Competition Committee, was represented at a number of highly successful competitions.

The Association had occasion to express great gratification at the completion of the work on behalf of the Blind undertaken by the Carlton and Rosebery Clubs. It was also the first body to congratulate Lord Glencoe on the gift of Dryburgh Abbey, and drew from his Lordship the authoritative and pleasing intimation that the gift was for the Nation.

It was not found necessary to take any steps in connection with the Highland Mary grave controversy. The Association was represented at the unveiling of an inscription on the grave-stone of John Wilson ("Dr Hornbook") in Glasgow. The officials were invited to inspect the completed Gribbel Album, a production of rare beauty.

The outstanding work of the Association during the year was in connection with Mauchline. The visitations to the Burns House were many, and the inmates are all well and happy. The Museum continued to increase in size and value. A surprising large number of gifts have been handed over.

With regard to Dr Mackenzie's House, the work of renovation has met with many difficulties on account of the scarcity of tradesmen. The work performed by the builder, thatcher, and others has been admirably done, and the best thanks of the Association are due to Messrs Cowie and MacWhannel for the constant care and attention (involving several visits to Mauchline) which they have bestowed.

The generosity of Clubs and friends to the Dr Mackenzie Fund has been really astonishing considering the other claims made on
all at this time. Warm thanks are due to all subscribers, but especially to Messrs Cowie and Captain Douglas, H. M'Coll, A. C. Riddell, and A. R. Young. Mr A. Pollok has every reason to be satisfied with the success of the printed appeal he made in connection with the funds. It is hoped that the Dr Mackenzie House will be ready for the occupancy of three or four additional beneficiaries in the course of a month or two, and the affiliated Clubs will have an opportunity of nominating worthy persons as tenants.

J. JEFFREY HUNTER, Secretary.

TAM O' SHANTER CLUB, GLASGOW.

The Annual Meeting took place in the Trades House Restaurant, on 29th October—Mr J. F. Anderson presiding. The Annual Report stated that, notwithstanding all difficulties, the Club's work had been well maintained. Notably the Anniversary Dinner and the Annual Summer Outing were probably in all respects the most successful yet held. At the former a really brilliant oration was delivered by President Anderson. At the latter several new elements of pleasure were evident, the Club being hospitably entertained by the Provost of Greenock, and if all succeeding outings could be favoured by the same brilliant weather, agreeable company, and spirited civic hospitality the members would indeed have reason to be grateful. The members visited Highland Mary's Grave, James Watt's House, and other places of interest.

The Roll of Membership now stands at—Life 36, Ordinary 66, Honorary 4—total 106.

There might, with advantage, be made up a Roll of Honour connected with the war. Lieutenant Gandy has been killed, and Lieutenant Tom Lockie died of wounds on 7th October. A number of other members have served with distinction.

The Club was represented at the Annual Meeting of the Burns Federation, held in Bath Hotel, Glasgow, on 7th September, by Messrs Anderson and Renfrew, and there was a successful meeting. The Club took part in the Annual Competition for the McLennan Bowling Cup, and entered two rinks. Mr Izat had charge of the arrangements.
The Club contributed as usual to the Burns Chronicle Fund, made a collection of £4 4s for the Mauchline Homes, and also subscribed £1 1s to the same object. In addition, the members supported a Patriotic Concert got up in April by the Rosebery and Primrose Clubs.

J. JEFFREY HUNTER, Secretary.

SCOTTISH BURNS CLUB.

The results of the past season have proved very gratifying, alike in the membership and attendances, both of which have been more than maintained. As usual, the Club set aside two evenings at which ladies were invited, and the large turnout gave evidence of the popularity of such gatherings.

Undernoted are details of the present season's syllabus:

1918. SYLLABUS—1918-1919.
Nov. 25.—"Miss Ferrier's Novels"—Mr W. Power.
Dec. 23—"Scotland in 1800"—Dr James Devon.
1919.
Jan. 27. "The Scottish Language"—Mr S. B. Langlands.
Mar. 24. Annual General Meeting at 6.45 p.m. Musical Evening (Ladies' Night) at 7.30 p.m.

The meetings are now held in Reid's Rooms, 30 Gordon Street, Glasgow.

WM. R. PETRIE, Hon. Secretary.

NEWBATTLE AND DISTRICT BURNS CLUB.

1918. SYLLABUS—SESSION 1918-1919.
Nov. 2. Mr E. Ormiston—Paper.
1919.
Jan. 25. Anniversary Meeting (as arranged).
Feb. 1. Mr A. Wilkie—Paper.
HULL BURNS CLUB.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1918-1919.

Nov. 15. Lecture: "Are we Scots or Germans?"—T. Sheppard, Esq., F.G.S.
Dec. 20. Lecture: (Subject to be announced)—Rev. R. E. Clegg.

1919.

ALBANY BURNS CLUB.

No meetings of this Club have been held during the Sessions of 1914-15-16-17-18. The Directors have, however, held a number of meetings to transact necessary business and keep in touch with the Burns world.

The Annual Singing and Reciting Competition from the Works of Burns by the children of Provanside Higher-Grade School was held on 2nd February last under the auspices of this Club. The meeting was held in the Gymnasium of the school, and was attended by a large and appreciative audience. In the absence of Mr James Stewart, Rutherglen, the chair was occupied by Mr David Annand, one of our Directors. The medals, which were the gift of Mr James Stewart, were handed to the winners by Miss Annand. The winners of the Club medals were:—For Reciting—Peggy Tait and Robert Mushet; and for Singing—May Cowie and Harry Donaldson. The unsuccessful competitors received handsome volumes. The greatest praise is due Mr Marshall, the headmaster of the school, and his staff, for their work in bringing the competitors to the high state of efficiency as was evidenced by the children in their rendering of the songs and recitations.

A number of interesting letters have been received during the past session from the President, Captain Dr Cullen, who is with the Forces in France. It is a great pleasure to know that, even with his multifarious duties at the Front, our President can find time to send us word, showing that he has still the welfare of the Albany at heart.

Mr Andrew C. Riddall was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the Club in room of Mr Carmichael, who has agreed to continue the secretarial work of the Club until the end of the war. Mr
David Kennedy, son of the late Past President Tom Kennedy, was appointed a Director.

No Summer Outing was held this year.

A number of Life Members were added to the Roll during the year.

The affairs of the Club, both financially and otherwise, are in a flourishing condition. Mr R. D. Donaldson and Mr Carmichael, the Secretary, attended the Federation meeting as Delegates from this Club.

The Annual Bowling Match of the officials was arranged to take place on Willowbank Green, on Saturday, 21st September, but, owing to the weather being unpropitious, the game was abandoned. At the informal after-meeting ex-President Mirlees (ex-President of Willowbank, and also a Director of the Albany), entertained the company with an interesting narrative of his travels in Japan, and sketched the customs and manners of the Japs in a masterly style. Mr John A. Headrick, Past President of the Albany, in a few well-chosen words, thanked Mr Mirlees for his impromptu oration, which he said was most interesting and edifying.

Ex-President James Raeside of the Albany, in referring to the annual game, said that although the weather had damaged their spirits outside, the brilliant deeds being done by our gallant armies abroad would soon create a brighter aspect on the horizon, and ere another year came round he hoped they would be meeting under the happier auspices of a never-to-be-forgotten peace.

ROBT. CARMICHAEL, Hon. Secretary.

SHETTLESTON BURNS CLUB.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1917-1918.

Another year of success is credited to the Shettleston Burns Club. The membership has increased, and our financial position is good. The meetings have been well attended, and it speaks greatly for the interest and enthusiasm of our members that during a year in which we had critical and anxious times we should have to record a session of continued activity in social and educative work.

The "Immortal Memory" was proposed at our Annual Dinner by Dr Steel, Rector of Allan Glen's School, who delighted his audience with a highly pleasing and instructive criticism of Burns's Poetry and Songs. Lectures at our autumn and spring Socials were given by our Bard, Mr Duncan Rodger, his subject being Burns's "Address
to a Mouse;” and Mr John Riddell, “Burns on Agriculture.” Both lectures were much appreciated by members and friends present.

Our Ladies' Night, as in previous years, was a great success, and is becoming more popular each season.

During the year we subscribed to our Local and National Funds grants amounting to £4 10s, in addition to our various Burns organisations. We have a creditable balance on hand.

Unfortunately at the later stage of our session we lost the valuable services of our Secretary, Mr J. L. Stewart, who resigned his position on account of his acceptance of Headmastership in Lesmahagow Higher-Grade School. We as a Club congratulate Mr Stewart on his promotion, wishing him every success in his new sphere, and tender him our best thanks for his services as Secretary during the last four years—services which has added greatly to our Club's success.

Messrs Butler and Knight have audited our Treasurer's books, and report funds in a sound condition—thanks to our Treasurer, Mr Thomas Barrie.

1918.

SYLLABUS, 1918-1919.
Nov. 2. Lecture: “Politics in Time of Burns”—James Lucas, Esq., M.A.
1919.
Mar. — Ladies’ Night—Lecturer, Jos. Rae, Esq., M.A.

ROBERT M. Mmholm, Hon. Secretary.

HAMILTON JUNIOR BURNS CLUB.

REPORT, 1917-1918.

Another successful session in the history of our Club has closed. As these lines are being written, the bells, which had been dumb for the past 4½ years, are ringing out the glad news that Germany has signed the armistice. The whole earth is now at peace, because it has been won outright on the red fields of battle. The massing of events during these last days has left us all more or less incapable of comprehending adequately the extent of the blessing that has again returned to us. We do find ourselves, however, projecting our minds into the future with a spirit of hopeful expectancy that, when the restrictions with which the cloud of war has enwrapped us are removed, the social intercourse of our brotherhood may be resumed on the old lines, and that—

“Man to man, the world o’er,
Shall brothers be for a’ that.”
The Annual Meeting of our Club was held on the evening of 21st September, when Mr W. Ferguson presided over a large attendance of the members. The reports submitted by the Secretary and Treasurer were of a gratifying nature, and disclosed the Club to be in a good financial position.

The Choir carried through quite a number of successful enterprises during the summer months on behalf of charities and war funds. The principal of these was an open-air Concert, held in the Palace policies, in aid of the Glasgow Infirmary, when the sum of £48 was raised. The services of the Choir were also given in connection with the Hamilton Red Cross Fete in the month of August; the Fetes in Wishaw Manse Grounds and at Mossend, in August and September, also for Red Cross Funds.

The proceeds of the Concerts given by the Choir during the year were allocated as follows:—Limbless Sailors and Soldiers, £25; Royal Infirmary, £18; Western Infirmary, £18; Victoria Infirmary, £12; Dunoon Seaside Homes, £1.

The Choir propose giving another Scotch Concert on a date in January, and Mr A. Sorbie, who has so unreservedly given his time and talent in the past as conductor, has again agreed to place himself at their service.

The Club meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, at 7.30 p.m., at 1 Union Street, Hamilton, when a warm welcome will be accorded to any member of a Federated Club.

W. Wilson, Secretary.

LIVERPOOL BURNS CLUB.

A notable Scot and Burns enthusiast has recently passed away in Liverpool through the death of the late Mr Alexander Smith. Born at Hamilton in 1835, he came as a boy to Liverpool with his parents. His whole business career was spent in the North American shipping trade, and from 1891 till his death he was Freight Manager for the well-known Leyland Line.

A member of the Church of Scotland, and identified with Scottish activities, he in 1866, with others who have all predeceased him, founded the Liverpool Burns Club (No. 18). Mr Smith acted as Honorary Secretary to the Club for twenty-three years, being presented with an illuminated address and other tokens of appreciation on his retirement from office. He was afterwards Chairman of Committee till his death. The Club, whose operations have been suspended during the war, owed its existence mainly to his enthusiasm.
PRIMROSE BURNS CLUB (GLASGOW).

CHILDREN'S COMPETITION IN SCOTTISH SONG OR LITERATURE.

Above Club during last year held a Competition amongst the senior scholars attending the night classes of Petershill Public School, Petershill Road, Springburn. Four prizes, consisting of full-bound copies of the Works of Robert Burns, were presented by members of the Club. Essays were written by the scholars on any poem or song by the Poet, and the result was very gratifying. The prizes were awarded to two boys and two girls. It may be said here that all the essays received were of a good standard, and it was very satisfactory indeed to all the appointed judges to find such enthusiasm displayed, and the papers handed in of such real merit.

W. LITHGOW.

ROSEBERY BURNS CLUB.
SYLLABUS FOR SESSION 1918-1919.

Oct. 8. Musical Evening—President's Address—President J. D. Sloan.

Nov. 12. Lecture: "Burns in Lanarkshire"—Mr W. Henderson.
Dec. 10. "R. L. Stevenson"—Mr James Lucas, M.A.
Feb. 11. Lecture—Mr T. C. F. Brotchie, F.S.A.
April 28. Annual Business Meeting.

The Club meets on Tuesdays as above at 7.45, in Bath Hotel, Bath Street. The Executive request that Members of the Club will endeavour to attend all meetings promptly at 7.45 p.m.

YE CRONIES BURNS CLUB (GOVAN).
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1917-1918.

The Annual Meeting of the above Club was held on Saturday, 15th June, when a large number of members attended. The following is the Secretary's (Mr R. Coutts) report for the past year:

At the beginning of this past session we were very unfortunate in losing our Secretary, Mr Wm. Parker, owing to a new important engagement he accepted, and which debarred him from acting as Secretary to "Ye Cronies"; the members at the same time were
very sorry to lose such a valuable member. Mr R. Coutts was duly appointed to fill the vacancy. With reference to our Roll of Honour there are at present on the scroll, 8 members, 20 members' sons, and 12 members' brothers. Fortunately for us we have had up to the present for this past year no fatal casualties, which indeed we are very grateful for. At last Christmas, through the kindness and generosity of our Bard, Mr T. M. Walker, M.A., who presented 350 copies of his poems, the sale of which enabled us to dispatch thirty parcels to our brave lads at the Front, and I had quite a number of replies thanking the "Cronies" kindly for their gifts.

The membership still stands at its maximum—six new members having joined during the year. Notwithstanding these precarious times we are living in, the financial position of the Club is still strong. The average attendance of members for this past year is twenty. We have had a very successful year notwithstanding all the drawbacks we have had to contend with owing to the terrible war, and our very best thanks must go out to our worthy President, Mr Rellie, also to the Office-bearers, who have worked very energetically for the welfare of "Ye Cronies." We must also thank our two members, Messrs Chalmers and Swan, for their kind gifts of "Fleurishes," which helped to swell the Club funds, grants, &c. This past year has been no exception to the rule. The first was Mr M'Naught's presentation on the occasion of his jubilee; the next being a grant to Dr Mackenzie's Homes at Mauchline; and the Annual Subscription to the Burns Chronicle—which was fully taken advantage of this year, 28 of our members subscribing for copies. The Chronicle is very interesting, the Editor doing full justice to it.

VISITATIONS, &c.—As some of the Burns Clubs are held up owing to the depletion of membership, visitations were not so much in evidence this past year. On the 8th February we received a deputation from the Shettleston Burns Club, which proved a very sociable function. The Delegates were quite jubilant at seeing how the "Cronies" business was conducted. A deputation of "Cronies" was at the Glasgow Burns Association, also at Uddingston, when they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Past President Mr J. Chalmers, being our representative, has been very diligent during the past year, and has reported on several occasions the progress and work carried on by that body. The Annual Supper was held on 26th January, in Argyle Café, and proved a great success, as in the past. Mr Lucas, M.A., proposed "The Immortal Memory" in a vivid and impressive speech. Songs and recitations were given during the evening.
NOTES AND QUERIES.

"IT IS NA, JEAN, THY BONNIE FACE"—THE ENGLISH VERSION—A DISCOVERY.

Burns's note to this song in Johnson's Museum is: "These were originally English verses; I gave them their Scots dress." These original verses have eluded the search of every enquirer from the date of their publication down to the beginning of the present year, when a copy of them was unearthed by Mr Davidson Cook, Barnsley, who published them in the February issue of The Bookman. The verses are contained in a small volume of poems, by "John Armstrong, Student in the University of Edinburgh," published by Peter Hill (Burns's correspondent): Edinburgh: 1780. Armstrong was an admirer of Burns, and the volume contains two pieces in Burns's honour, which he acknowledged in the following words, which will be found in a letter to Peter Hill, of date 2nd February, 1790: "Mr Armstrong, the young poet who does me the honour to mention me so kindly in his works, please give him my best thanks for the copy of his book. I shall write him my first leisure hour. I like his poetry much, but I think his style in prose quite astonishing." Anderson was just turned eighteen when the volume was published. He afterwards went to London, where he formed a lucrative connection with the newspaper press. His health, however, gave way, and he returned to Leith, his native place, where he died in 1797, at the early age of twenty-six years. Whether or not Burns redeemed his promise to write to him, there is nothing on the record to show. We give Anderson's version of the song, as Burns took it in hand for insertion in the Museum as a Scots song:—

"No, Delia, 'tis not thy face
Nor form that I admire,
Although thy beauty and thy grace
Might well awake desire.

Something in every part of thee
To praise, to love, I find;
But dear as is thy form to me,
Still dearer is thy mind.

No selfish passion moves my breast,
No higher wish I know,
Then, if I cannot make thee blest,
At least to see thee so,
If heav'n but happiness shall give
To thee—content am I;
And as with thee I'd wish to live,
For thee I'd bear to die."

Our readers can compare this with Burns's version as an example of his methods in preparing material for Johnson.

The little volume is very interesting. Besides Mr. Cook's copy, another has been added to the collection of Mr. A. J. Craig, Fixby, Corstorphine.

[Editor.]

NOTE ON THE RHYME OF "COTTAR'S SATURDAY NIGHT."

The influence of Shenstone on Burns is the subject of a chapter of *Furth in Field* by Hugh Halliburton. In it he says: "If we turn to 'The Cottar's Saturday Night' and read it alongside of 'The Schoolmistress,' we shall find that in respect of measure, theme, and style of both treatment and language, it was modelled scarcely less after the manner of Shenstone than according to the pattern of Fergusson's 'Farmer's Ingle.' Unlike the latter, but like 'The Schoolmistress,' it maintains the perfect form of the Spenserian stanza."

Be it granted that passages which Hugh Halliburton points out in "The Schoolmistress" display a similarity to passages in "The Cottar's Saturday Night," it still requires an assurance not borne out by comparison of the texts to say that Burns was influenced more by Shenstone's poem than by Fergusson's "Farmer's Ingle." In general, the similarity between Fergusson's "Farmer's Ingle" and Burns's "Cottar's Saturday Night" is far more striking than when comparison is made with Shenstone's "Schoolmistress." Even allowing for Burns sharing with Dodsley the mistake that "The Schoolmistress" was a moral poem, and not, as originally intended by Shenstone, of an exquisitely humorous turn, we have still the assertion that Burns got his Spenserian stanza from Shenstone.

In the Cambridge *History of Shenstone*, vol. XI., chap. 10, Mr. T. F. Henderson says: "Burns got the Spenserian stanza of 'The Cottar's Saturday Night' from Beattie, not from Spenser."

While those two eminent Burns authorities can be left to dispute the claims of Shenstone or Beattie (and could we not also suggest those of Thomson, who used the pure Spenserian stanza for his "Castle of Indolence," a poem that Burns would be familiar with), we find that Mrs. Dunlop, on the 10th April, 1788, when she meditates returning a copy of Spenser's "Faery Queen" to Burns,
makes the following remark: "I have your 'Faery Queen' here. I don't know how I shall contrive to get her returned; you must instruct me. I never read her with pleasure before. I think you have taught me to understand Spenser, and I thank you for that, and all the superior poetic pleasures for which I am your debtor."

One therefore may be excused for a preference of belief that Burns got his rhyme for the "Cottar's Saturday Night" direct from Spenser. To anyone who is aware that one of the attributes to Burns's genius was "accuracy in all things," it seems a waste of time to seek the source of Burns's inspiration in other places than the fountain head.

A. J. Craig.

Corstorphine.

I think I made a find yesterday in Edinburgh. I got a book called Poems by William Taylor. Taylor seems to have originally hailed from Banffshire, and must have been resident sometime in Currie, Midlothian, just at the foot of the Pentlands. I enclose copy of some lines on Burns, which must be one of the first printed poetical effusions on the Bard. There are also poems on Dr Blair, Fergusson, &c. The poetry is not up to much, but the ideas are good, and there are some uncommon Scotch words in them. There is one called "Jack Ass' Song," which is evidently to the tune of "Green grow the Rashes, O." The first verse and the refrain runs thus:

"There's nought but cross on ilka back,  
Whilk ilka hour amasses, O;  
The life o' Jack's nae worth a plack,  
Gin 'twere na for 'the Asses, O.

Sair, Birkies, thrash us O,  
Sair, Birkies, thrash us O,  
Nae hour ligs Jack in pleasure's lap,  
Unless amang the Asses, O."

And there is a poem on Fergusson, Ramsay, &c., but Burns is not mentioned in this one.

A. J. Craig.

(From Scots Poems, by William Taylor. Printed in Edinburgh: m, dcc, lxxvii.)

ON READING MR BURNS'S POEMS.

When Scotia, clad in wae, bemoan'd  
Her Fergusson laid i' the yird;  
The God o' Verse, heegh, heegh enthron'd,  
Confess'd he was a hopeful' bird.
Than thus his Peers o' State address'd:
"Peers! wha shall wawk the Scottish lyre?"
Than his braw Peers, wi' grief oppress'd,
Into the rows o' fate enquire:
Whare written was, "Tho' Rob be dead,
"Scots need na greeet, nor mak' a bustle,
"An Ayrshire Blade shall beet their need,
"For Robie Burns shall blaw the whistle."
The God a genius quickly sent
T' inspire the Ayrshire Ploughman Billie;
Stop, Lady Muse, ye've spun your stent;
Content, quo' Muse, my Norland Willie.*
For modesty wou'd gar him blush,†
Gin we wou'd sing his just applause;
An' has he fawts? the answer's hush;
Nae Mortal Man is free o' flaws.

A. J. CRAIG.

Corstorphine.

* The Author is a Banffshire Man.
† Witness Mr Burns's Answer to W. S——n, Ochiltree.

"BURNS COTTAGE COLLECTION."

In November-December, 1918, there was exhibited in London what was described as "The Burns Cottage Collection, comprising the Furniture of the Cottage in which the Poet, Robert Burns, was born, on January 25th, 1759." The claim advanced on behalf of the Collection was refuted by Mr J. C. Ewing, in an article in the Glasgow Herald of 7th December, 1918. Lack of space prevents the reprinting, in this number of the Chronicle, of that article and of two subsequent letters on the subject, from the President of the Burns Federation and Mr Thomas Killin, Hon. Treasurer of the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes at Mauchline; but it is proposed to reprint them in our next issue.
ROLL OF HONOUR.

IN FRANCE.

Cover the wound in his forehead pale,
Where his soul sped in the gloming,
Fluttered and flew through the misty vale,
Like a startled wild bird homing.
No train of mourners, no tolling bell,
Nor flowers on a coffin lying ;
For requiem only a screaming shell
Through the grey sky o'er us flying.

Carry him slowly, carry him low,
And carefully choose your going ;
Narrow the trenches, and deep the snow,
And the snipers watch your showing !

No costly cerements to wrap him round—
The khaki needs no adorning ;
He'll sleep in that till the trumpet sound
Revelle on Judgment morning.

A small, rude cross, a number, a name,
His memory fragrant keeping,
A soldier who fought for Britain's fame
In a foreign land a-sleeping.

Back to the trenches, over the snow,
And carefully mind your going ;
There's danger where the parapet's low,
And the snipers watch your showing.

—JAS. BROWN.

The following names have been sent to the Secretary to be added to the List of Members and Members' Sons already published who have given their lives for their King and Country.

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<th>Federation Number and Name of Club</th>
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<td>0 Kilmarnock</td>
<td>†Pte. Eric Barrett, 9th H.L.I.</td>
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<td>†Pte. R. Gordon Boyd, 1st Gordons.</td>
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<td>1 London</td>
<td>†Lieut. W. P. Duff, M.C., 8th Sherwood Forrester's</td>
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<td>†Lieut. Alan Leslie Macland, Manchester Regiment.</td>
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<td>†Lieut. C. H. Meiklefield, South Lancs.</td>
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<td>†Lieut. G. C. Williamson, 2nd Essex Regiment.</td>
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<td>†Pte. Magnus M. Manson, 1st Surrey Rifles.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Tam o' Shanter</td>
<td>†Engineer Lieut. Thos. Corbett Lockie, R.N.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Dundee</td>
<td>†Lieut. D. Speed, Black Watch.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>†Lieut. Frank Neilson, M.M., Canadians.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Edinburgh</td>
<td>†Lieut. W. A. Jenkins, A. &amp; S.H.</td>
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<td>†Pte. William A. Wallace, Welsh Regiment.</td>
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<td>62 Cupar</td>
<td>*Major G. E. B. Osborne.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*Sub-Lieut. A. J. Luntit, R.N.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>63 Glasgow Mossgiel</td>
<td>†Pte. Wm. S. Hyslop, 9th H.L.I.</td>
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<tr>
<td>67 Carlton</td>
<td>†Pte. John Blair, Lewis Gun Section, 4th Canadians.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>†Pte. George Blair, 1st Seaforths.</td>
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<tr>
<td>74 Glasgow Mauchline Society</td>
<td>†Corpl. Andrew Gilchrist, 9th H.L.I.</td>
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<tr>
<td>76 Brechin</td>
<td>†Pte. Wm. Blair, Lewis Gun Section, 47th Canadians.</td>
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<td>†Pte. C. H. Calvert, R.C.R.</td>
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<tr>
<td>89 Sunderland</td>
<td>†Lieut. W. H. Calvert, R.C.R.</td>
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<tr>
<td>94 Uphall</td>
<td>*Corpl. Jas. Potter, 8th Black Watch.</td>
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*Hot September 9th, 1916.
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<th>Federation Number and Name of Club</th>
<th>Member's or Son's Name. (* Member. † Son.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06 Jedburgh ... ... ...</td>
<td>Sergt. Peter Robson, 2nd Seaforth Highlanders.</td>
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<td>09 Darlimme ... ... ...</td>
<td>†Pte. Thomas Reid, R.A.M.C.</td>
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<td>100 Hamilton Mossgiel ... ...</td>
<td>†Lieut. Wm. Anderson, Royal Highlanders.</td>
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<td>112 Dumfries Burns Howff ... ...</td>
<td>†Lance-Corp. Jas. Maxwell, 7th Cameron. †Lance-Corp. Jas. M'Lehan, 17th H.L.I.</td>
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<td>128 Glencairn Cowdenbeath ... ...</td>
<td>†Pte. Thos. Grandison, Seaforth Highlanders.</td>
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<td>167 Birmingham ... ...</td>
<td>†Lieut. K. Fullarton, R.N. †Pte. A. Halley.</td>
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<td>†Lance-Corp. J. Paterson, Northumberland Fusiliers</td>
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<td>190 Newbattle and District ...</td>
<td>†Gunner John F. Vickors, R.F.A.</td>
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<td>200 Stonehouse Jolly Beggars ...</td>
<td>†Pte. W. Gibson, H.L.I. †Pte. Thomas Tail, A. S. II.</td>
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<td>*David Mitchell. *David Buchanan.</td>
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<td>239 Hawick ... ... ...</td>
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<td>248 Birtley ... ... ...</td>
<td>†Pte. William Fenwick, Coldstreams.</td>
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<td>249 Mid-Calder ... ... ...</td>
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<td>†Sergt. John Glencross, R.F.A. †Lieut. A. Glencross, 1st Black Watch. †Robert Kerr, R.N.D. †John Miller, 9th Royal Highlanders.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
The Burns Federation.

INSTITUTED 1885.


Hon. Vice-Presidents—Wm. Wallace, LL.D., University Avenue, Glasgow.
Professor Lawson, D.D., The University, St. Andrews.
Brigadier-General Sir Alex. Gibb, K.B.E., R.E., Rosyth.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

President—Duncan M'Naught, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Vice-Presidents—J. Jeffrey Hunter, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow.
A. McCallum, News Office, Pollockshaws.
Joseph Martin, J.P., 163 West George Street, Glasgow.
Alex. Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow.
John Carmichael, 49 Park Road, Glasgow.
P. Paterson, 23 Bruce Street, Dunfermline.
Ex-Bailie Munro, J.P., Howard Park Drive, Kilmarnock.
Ex-Provost M. Smith, J.P., Glencairn Square, Kilmarnock.
Ex-Provost Wilson, 149 Howard Street, Glasgow.
Hugh McColl, 278 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.
David Main, Lowther Street, Carlisle.
Henry S. Murray, J.P., Glenmayne, Galashiels.
Charles R. Cowie, Blythswood Square, Glasgow.
J. C. Ewing, Bailie’s Institution, West Regent Street, Glasgow.
Alex. M’Kenzie, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow.
William Douglas, 509 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.
Thos. Killin, 2 Stewarton Drive, Cambuslang.

Hon. Secretary—Thos. Amos, M.A., 19 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock.

Hon. Treasurer—G. A. Innes; F.E.I.S., Landsborough Drive, Kilmarnock.

Auditors—Major D. Yuille, Burns Avenue, Kilmarnock, and Capt. Adam Mackay, The Crescent, Prestwick.

Local Representatives—
Lond£n—P. N. M'Farlane, Taillis House, Tallis Street, London, E.C.
Glasgow and District—J. Jeffrey Hunter, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow.

Hon. Secretary of Children’s Competitions—Alex. Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow (to whom all communications should be addressed).

CONSTITUTION.
1. The Federation shall consist of Hon. Presidents, Hon. Vice-Presidents, Executive Council, and members of each affiliated Club.

2. The Executive Council shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Editor of the Burns Chronicle, and two Auditors—all of whom shall be elected annually, and be eligible for re-election; also of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, or any other three members of, and nominated by, each affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence as Burnsians nominated by the Executive Council.

3. All Past Presidents of the Federation shall ex officio be members of the Executive Council.

4. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Office-bearers of the Federation, who shall meet quarterly, or when called by the Hon. Secretary, for the transaction of the business of the Federation.

5. Federated Clubs outwith the United Kingdom may be represented by proxy at the meetings of the Federation.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.
1. To strengthen and consolidate by universal affiliation the bond of fellowship existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs and kindred Societies.

2. To superintend the publication of Works relating to Burns.

3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the life of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

4. To repair, renew, and where advisable mark with suitable inscriptions any buildings, tombstones, etc., interesting from their association with Burns.

5. To encourage and arrange School Competitions in order to stimulate the teaching of Scottish History and Literature.

RULES.
1. The Headquarters of the Federation shall be in Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a
practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Library and Museum in the United Kingdom.

2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and kindred Associations may be admitted to the Federation by application in writing to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing a copy of Constitution, Rules, and list of members, which shall be submitted to the Executive Committee at their first meeting, and the Clubs shall be enrolled if there are not more than two dissentients.

3. The Registration Fee is 21s, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.

4. Members of every Burns Club or kindred Association registered by the Federation shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of 1s. These payments are final—not annual.

5. The funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Committee for the purposes before mentioned.

6. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually on the first Saturday of September, at such place as may be agreed upon, when reports on the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and Office-Bearers elected for the ensuing year.

7. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall take place some time before the Annual Meeting of the Executive Council, to make the necessary arrangements for the same.

8. All nominations for the office of Vice-President must be lodged with the Hon. Secretary two months before the Annual Meeting.

9. Each Federated Club shall subscribe 10s 6d per annum towards the fund for the publication of the Burns Chronicle. Clubs failing to pay this subscription for two consecutive years may be struck off the Roll of the Federation. Any surplus profits resulting from the sale of the Chronicle shall be added to the general funds.

10. Notice of any amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Federation to be considered at the Annual Meeting must be lodged in writing with the Hon. Secretary not later than 30th June.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, etc., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive Council of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club.

2. Exchange of fraternal greetings on the anniversary of the Poet's natal day.

3. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with pocket diplomas are entitled to attend meetings of all Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management unless admitted a member according to local form.

4. Members are entitled to be supplied, through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all Works published by the Federation at a discount of 25 per cent.

5. A list of Lecturers, Essayists, and Judges for Children's Competitions will be supplied to Clubs on application.
BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION.

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>1919</td>
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Copies of the last eight vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Treasurer.
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
BURNS FEDERATION.

BATH HOTEL, GLASGOW,
7th September, 1918.

The Annual Meeting of the Executive Council of the Burns Federation was held here to-day, at 3.30 p.m.—Mr D. M'Naught, J.P., presiding. The following Delegates were present:


The Minutes of last Annual Meeting were read and approved.
Mr Thomas Amos, M.A., the Hon. Secretary, submitted the Annual Report, which was in the following terms:—

"The war, with its insistent call of duty and sacrifice, is still with us. It is no wonder, then, that the past year in the Burns world has been quiet and uneventful. The energies of the members of patriotic and social bodies such as Burns Clubs have been largely diverted into other channels, and many of our clubs are still closed and will remain so till the end of the war. Some of the Clubs which have continued to hold their meetings have amply justified their action by the work they have done in entertaining wounded soldiers and in raising funds for Red Cross purposes. I am glad there will be some recognition to-day of the patriotic efforts of Burns Clubs in the cause of charity. The war still demands a heavy toll of young and noble lives, and we sincerely offer our sympathy to the families of those of our members who have died on the field of honour. With your permission I propose to continue in the next issue of the Chronicle the Roll of Honour of our members who have fallen. It is my duty to mention the death of Dr Biggs, one of the well-known figures at our annual meetings. For several years he submitted, with great acceptance, the report on the work done for the blind by the Rosebery and Carlton Clubs, and we shall miss his kindly presence at our gatherings.

"During the past year, Birtley, Mid-Calder, Cowdenbeath, Tam o' Shanter, and Glencraig Burns Clubs have affiliated, and the roll of the Federation now numbers 252 Clubs. There is still a steady demand for the pocket diploma of membership, and I have sent out 140 copies since our last meeting.

"Early in the year the twenty-seventh volume of the Chronicle was published by the Federation, and the whole issue was soon sold out. The literary matter was of the usual high standard, and received very favourable criticism from our leading newspapers. Our veteran editor has once more placed us in his debt for the masterly manner in which he continues to carry on his work, and we thank him very sincerely. I would again try to impress on the delegates present the necessity of supporting the Chronicle. It is our own property, and its moderate price should bring it within the reach of every loyal member of the Federation.

"On the 18th of January, at a meeting of delegates and admirers held in Glasgow, our President was the recipient of a handsome silver rose bowl and a cheque for 100 guineas on the completion of his semi-jubilee as editor of the Burns Chronicle. His golden wedding and jubilee as parochial schoolmaster of Kilmours also fell due at the same time, and the triple event was enthusiastically celebrated by a large gathering under the genial chairmanship of Mr Hugh M'Coll. In making the presentation, Mr Jeffrey Hunter eloquently reviewed Mr M'Naught's work for the Federation, as one of its founders, as the able editor of the Chronicle, and as its revered President.

"Last October the Gribbel Album was handed over to my care by Mr J. C. Ewing, convener of the Album Committee, and was at once deposited in a place of safety, where it will remain until the end of the war, when we hope to present it to Mr Gribbel in person. It is a splendid and absolutely unique gift, and the Federation has
every reason to be proud of being associated with many distinguished Scottish artists in recognising in such a handsome manner the generosity of Mr Gribbel to Scotland. At the completion of their duties we cannot overlook the great amount of time and labour freely expended on behalf of this gift by Messrs Ewing and Connell. Without these gentlemen the Album could not have been what it is, and their unwearyed efforts on its behalf during such a trying time as this deserve the unstinted gratitude of all Burnsians. Associated with these two gentlemen were Messrs Wm. Stewart and T. C. F. Brotchie, who also deserve our best thanks. Notwithstanding the war, a few of our enthusiastic Clubs still continue to hold their children's competitions in Scottish song and poetry, and we heartily wish them success.

"The Glasgow Burns Clubs Association continues in its good work of providing homes for aged deserving poor in Mauchline. As Bonnie Jean's House, with its growing Museum, has proved a decided success, the Association intends to open in the immediate future an additional home in the house that belonged to Dr MacKenzie, the friend of Burns. No memorials to our National Bard could come nearer his own heart than those under the care of the Glasgow Mauchline Society and the Glasgow B.C.A., and both bodies have earned the gratitude of many old folks by providing for them a cozy bield in their declining years. As nothing new of vital importance has occurred since our last meeting, the Committee appointed to watch developments in the proposal to remove the grave and monument of Highland Mary from the west Churchyard, Greenock, has not been called together.

"In conclusion, I wish to thank all who have assisted me in carrying on the business of the Federation, and to express a wish that we may soon meet freed from all the trials and sorrows of the present time. In the victorious advance which has gladdened our hearts our countrymen have proved themselves worthy descendants of the Scots who fought and bled with Wallace and Bruce. We Burnsians pay them our respectful homage, and wish them the strength and the will to continue to strike for Freedom and Right until the world is entirely rid of this German incubus."

On the motion of the Chairman, a special vote of thanks was awarded to Messrs J. C. Ewing, Connell, Brotchie, and Wm. Stewart for their work in connection with the Gribbel Album; and the Secretary was requested to communicate this to them.

In the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, no financial statement for the year was submitted.

In submitting a report on the Burns Chronicle, the Chairman announced that the whole of last issue had been sold. On the motion of Mr Thos. Killin, seconded by Mr Hugh M'Coll, it was unanimously agreed to continue the publication of the Chronicle, and the usual sum of £25 was voted to the Editor for the payment of contributors.

Mr Alex. Pollock, in his report on Children's Competitions, urged that it was the duty of the Federation, by every means in its power, to induce schoolmasters to give more time to the reading and studying of Scottish songs and poems, so that their pupils might under-
stand the works of the immortal Poet in whose honour the Federation had been founded.

Mr Hugh M'Coll reported on the patriotic work carried out by Burns Clubs, and mentioned that Bridgeton Club had contributed £1,000, and Albany and Carlton Clubs £30, to the Scottish Hospital for Limbless Soldiers and Sailors; while Primrose and Rosebery Clubs had divided £50 equally between the Limbless Soldiers and Sailors, and the Blinded Soldiers in Edinburgh. Other Clubs, such as Birmingham, Hamilton, Tam o' Shanter, Newbattle, London, Govan Cronies, Sandyford, &c., &c., had also made generous contributions. He suggested that contributing Clubs should send to the Secretary the result of their efforts, so that their good deeds might be chronicled in the annals of the Federation. He also referred to the Edition of Burns for the Blind, on which between £300 and £400 had been expended by the Rosebery and Carlton Burns Clubs, and likewise to the Burns Homes for aged poor at Mauchline.

Mr C. R. Cowie in an interesting address detailed the proceedings of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association regarding the renovation and restoration of the house in Mauchline which belonged to Dr Mackenzie, the friend of the Poet. He announced that the external part of the house had been restored, and that in all probability it would be in perfect order next spring, ready for the admission of aged poor needing a shelter.

The Secretary intimated that Ayr Burns Club wished to affiliate. The Chairman suggested that owing to special circumstances the Club should get a position near the head of the Federation Roll. Mr Pollock moved that the application be remitted to the Executive Committee to consider and report to next meeting. Mr Cowie moved that the Ayr Club be admitted with the number 00. On a division it was agreed by 46 votes to 34 to remit the matter to the Executive Committee.

On the motion of Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter, the Office-bearers were re-elected, with the addition of Mr Thos. Killin to the list of Vice-Presidents.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

The Delegates afterwards partook of tea, and spent a pleasant social hour, under the genial chairmanship of Mr Alex. McKenzie, President of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association.

THOMAS AMOS, Hon. Secy.
Alphabetical List of Federated Clubs.

<table>
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<th>No.</th>
<th>Club Name</th>
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<td>206. , Jolly Beggars</td>
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<td>198. Gorebridge Jolly Beggars</td>
<td>131. Nottingham</td>
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<td>59. Gourock Jolly Beggars</td>
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<td>193. Rutherglen Jolly Beggars</td>
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<td>60. Wolverhampton</td>
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No. 2—ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Village School, 1st Friday each month. President, Richard Stevenson, Stevenson Place, Alexandria; Vice-president, Donald M'Dougall, Bridge-End Tavern, Bonhill, Alexandria; Secretary, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria; Treasurer, James Merrilees, Charleston House, Alexandria. Committee—Dougal Stevenson, Richard Thomson, John Barton, William M'Gregor, Harry Flowers, and John M'Crae.

No. 3—GLASGOW Tam o’ Shanter. Instituted 1858. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, Glasgow, last Tuesday of winter months. President, John F. Anderson, Rose Villa, Stepps, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Rennfrew, 29
Park Road, Glasgow; Secretary, J. Jeffrey Hunter, Solicitor, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow. Committee—Ex-
president Bailie John Smith, H. J. Attmann, John Ballant-

No. 4—CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885.

No. 5—ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. Place of meeting, Red Lion Hotel, Earlston. President, J. M. D. Simpson, Esq., Broomfield House, Earlston; Vice-president, Henry Wallace, High Street, Earlston; Secretary, A. M. Black, Market Place, Earlston. Special features of Club—Celebration of Poet’s Birthday; Annual Trip to places of interest; lectures, &c.

No. 6—ALLOA Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1885.

No. 7—GLASGOW Thistle Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. President, John Vallance, 57 College Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Councillor A. Allan, 13 Eglinton Street, Glasgow; Interim Secretary, J. Vallance, 57 College Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Eadie.

No. 8—MORPETH and District Burns Club.

No. 9—GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Bank Restaurant, Queen Street, Glasgow, 1st Thursday in October, at 7.30 p.m. President, George Guthrie, 29 Craigmillar Road, Langside, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Macfarlane, 51 Bath Street, Glasgow; Secretary, George F. Howarth, 14 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow.

No. 10—DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Elephant Hotel, 25th January. President, John Menzies, Hazlemere, Bonhill Road, Dumbarton; Vice-president, David C. Clague, Strathdene, Bonhill Road, Dumbarton; Secretary, John McClelland, Barlovan Crescent, Dumbarton. Committee—George Chapman, Chas. Mackinnon, Robert M’Murray, John M’Pherson, H. W. Ballardie, J. B. Cameron, J. M’Gill Graham. Special feature of Club—Celebration of the Poet’s Birthday.

No. 11—CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. Federated 1886.

No. 12—BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club. Federated 1888.

Rev. Professor Allan Menzies, D.D., 58 South Street, St. Andrews; Vice-president, W. Macbeth Robertson, solicitor, St. Andrews; Secretary, David Fraser, Lilybank, Largo Road, St. Andrews. Committee—C. R. Cristie, Joseph Foster, J. G. Petrie, T. Evans Johnston, D. Hardie, Andrew Bonnett, Rev. R. W. Wallace, and J. Cargill Cantley.

No. 14—DUNDEE Burns Club. Instituted 1860. Federated 5th March, 1886. Place of meeting, Club Rooms, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; President, John Brown, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; Vice-president, John Purves, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; Secretary, George S. Middleton, 36 Nethergate, Dundee.


No. 16—SYDNEY Burns Club, N.S.W. Instituted 1880. Federated 1886. Secretary, W. Telfer, School of Art, Pitt Street, Sydney.

No. 17—NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society. Federated 1886.

No. 18—LIVERPOOL Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1886. President, Colonel Richard Bulman, V.D., Mersey Chambers, Liverpool; Secretary, Major R. S. Archer, V.D., 6 Devonshire Road, Princes Park, Liverpool. No meetings since outbreak of war.


No. 21—GREENOCK Burns Club (The Mother Club). Instituted 1802. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Club Rooms, 36 Nicolson Street. President, Provost W. B. McMillan, C.B.E., The Craigs, Newark Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Hugh McLean, 29 Minchin Lane, London, E.C.; Secretary, George B. Grieve, 25 Victoria Street, Greenock; Treasurer, Hugh Ritchie. Special features of Club—To further the interest in, and study of, Scottish Literature, and promote a fuller knowledge of the Works of Burns and other Scottish writers.

Street, Edinburgh; Vice-president, Robert Walker, 6 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh; Interim Secretary, Thomas Liddle, S.S.C., 5 Hill Street, Edinburgh.

No. 23—ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. Secretary, H. Tassie, Gray's Arcade, Adelaide, S.A.


No. 25—WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated 1886. Secretary, David Philip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg.


No. 27—SPRINGBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.

No. 28—MAUCHLINE Jolly Beggars Burns Club.


No. 30—BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886. Secretary, Robt. Ferguson, 9 Tackett's Street, Blackburn, Lancs.

No. 31—SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. Secretary, Geo. W. Paterson, 801 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, U.S.A.


No. 33—GLASGOW Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Ferguson and Forrester's, 36 Buchanan Street, last Tuesday from October till March. President, Robert Hamilton, Inver- shin, Newlands, Glasgow; Secretary, William S. Baird, 121 West George Street, Glasgow.

No. 34—CARRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1887. Place of meeting, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow. President, R. A. Wood, Rosevale, Kilmarnock Road, Giffnock, near Glasgow; Secretary, David Sutherland, 123 Frederick Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Wm. Morrison, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow.

No. 35—DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1825. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Turf Inn, Friday, 24th January, 1919. President, David Couper, Braeside, Dalry, Ayrshire; Vice-president, Hugh Shedden, Templeland, Dalry; Secretary, Patrick Concraig, Waterside, Dalry; Official Correspondent—J. D. Gordon, solicitor, Dalry. Special features of Club—Unbroken record, and meets in same Inn where instituted.
No. 36—ROSEBERY Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Bath Hotel, Glasgow, Monthly. President, James D. Sloan, 151 Queen Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Craig, Beechgrove, Crow Road, Jordanhill, Glasgow; Secretary, Alexander Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Ronald Johnstone, 55 Roslea Drive, Glasgow. Executive—A. G. Andrew, G. Armour, J. R. Colquhoun, James Gardiner, Isaac Hyslop, J. Ferguson, D. M'Arthur, H. M'Coll, John Smith, Hugh Sturdy, James Young, James Webster. Special features of Club—A course of monthly lectures on various literary subjects; inter-visitation of sister Burns Clubs to promote brotherly feeling and mutual assistance; encouragement of the young to learn the songs and poetry of Scotland by school competitions and prizes. Jointly with the Carlton Club the Rosebery Club have carried through the publication of Burns’s Works in Braille type, whereby the blind are able to read Burns for themselves. An edition of the Poet’s works in “Moon” type for blind people who are unable to read Braille has also been issued.

No. 37—DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 29th December, 1887. Federated 30th December, 1887. Place of meeting, Athenaeum. President, J. C. Wilson, Institution Place, Dollar; Vice-president, A. M. J. Graham, Town Clerk, Dollar; Secretary, D. Kilpatrick, Station Road, Dollar; Treasurer, J. M. Halley, Eastbourne, Dollar. Special features of Club—To foster the memory of the Poet.


No. 40—ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889. Place and date of meeting, Balmoral Temperance Hotel, Market Street, dates as arranged (monthly). President, Alexander Cormack, 40 Whitehall Place, Aberdeen; Vice-president, Robert Douglas, 16 Bridge Street, Aberdeen; Secretary, Alex. Mutch, 311 Holburn Street, Aberdeen. Committee—Captain Cressy, Wm. Paisley, R. Stuart M’Kay, Wm. Smith, Jack Hird, Wm. A. Stewart, Peter Cooper, James Donald, James Gill, and Andrew Chenoweth. Special features of Club—To organise lectures and concerts, and otherwise to encourage interest in the work and teaching of Scotia’s National Bard.


No. 43—GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated 1891.

No. 44—FORTH Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1891.
No. 45—CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. Place of meeting, Dumfries Arms Hotel. President, David Caldwell, Pennyfadzeoch, Cumnock; Vice-president, Dr William Armitage, Moorfield, Cumnock; Secretary, John Hume, solicitor, Cumnock; Treasurer, Andrew Taylor, Clachlan, Cumnock.


No. 48—PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1891. Time of meeting, First Thursday each month, October to May inclusive. President, James Cook, Laigh Park, Paisley; Vice-president, Dr R. S. Penman, Wellmeadow House, Paisley; Secretary, Julius F. McCallum, Mayfield, Sunnyside, Paisley. Special feature of Club—Literary and social.


No. 51—CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Federated 1892.

No. 52—DUMFRIES Mechanics Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 53—GOVAN Fairfield Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1888. Federated 23rd September, 1892. Place and time of meeting, Eden Villa, 8 Carmichael Street, Govan, 7 p.m. President, Geo. C. Campbell, 8 Nimmo Drive,
Govan; Vice-president, A. B. Allison, City Stock Rooms, Glasgow; Secretary, Jas. F. Steele, 16 Mackenzie Street, Govan; Treasurer, Alex. George, 4 Park Drive, Whiteinch. Committee—Alex. Philip, Jas. M. Watson, Thos. Fullerton, and Thos. M'Lean. Special features of Club — The Club is endeavouring to get the school children in the district to give a musical evening with the songs of Burns during the winter season.

No. 54—PERTH St. Johnstone Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 55—DERBY Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1892. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Derby; President, T. E. Campbell, Wilson Street, Derby; Vice-presidents, D. M. Aird, Vicarage Avenue, Derby, and Dr Watt, County Offices, Derby; Hon. Secretary (pro tem.), W. H. Cunningham, 133 Whitaker Road, Derby; Treasurer, R. B. Muir, Derby Road, Belper, Derbyshire. Special features of Club—To keep alive the memory of Burns, and promote a feeling of brotherhood among Scotsmen in the district.

No. 56—LAPRAIK (Muirkirk) Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. President, C. P. Bell, Main Street, Muirkirk; Vice-president, Peter Mackie, c/o Mrs Ferguson, Main Street, Muirkirk; Secretary, Hugh Bell, Roslyn, Wellwood Street, Muirkirk; Treasurer, And. Pringle, Ironworks Cottages, Muirkirk. Committee—Thos. Weir, Jno. Taylor, Edgar Anderson, Jas. Hazel, Wm. Patrick, Wm. Brown, Arch. Fairbairn, Thos. Hazel. Special features of Club—Annual Celebration and educational.

No. 57—THORNLIEBANK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. Place and time of meeting, Club Room, Fridays, 8 p.m. President, Thomas P. Winter, "Elswick," Lochiel Terrace, Thornliebank; Secretary, Thomas Haddow, Hillside Terrace, Thornliebank; Treasurer, Hugh Halliday, Kennishead Road, Thornliebank; and 15 members of Committee. Special features of Club—School children's competitions, Scotch concert, annual outing, Hallowe'en festival, Anniversary dinner, and Club meetings.

No. 58—KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 59—GOUROCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Secretary, Robt. M'Gechan, 2 Torridon Terrace, 19 Cardwell Road, Gourock.

No. 60—WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 61—GLASGOW Clencairn Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 62—CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1893. President, Major W. Anstruther-Gray, M.P., of Kilmany; Vice-president, Provost Stark, Millbank,
Cupar;  Secretary, David F. Esplin, Courier Office, Cupar.  Chairman of Committee—Geo. Inness.

No. 63—MOSSGIEI Burns Club.  Instituted 1893.  Federated 1893.  Place of meeting, Masonic Chambers, 30 Abbotsford Place.  President, T. W. McNish, 82 Cumberland Street, Glasgow, S.S.;  Vice-president, Wm. Murray, 32 Albert Drive, Crosshill, Glasgow;  Secretary, Joseph McGregor, 45 Abbotsford Place, Glasgow;  Treasurer, J. Coulter.  Committee—J. Sanders, J. M. Blair, R. Parker, Wm. Morrison, W. Brownlee, A. Irnis, J. Ferguson, W. McNiel.  Special features of Club—The annual celebration of the Poet’s birth;  occasional reunions for the sake of social and intellectual intercourse amongst the members and friends;  the encouragement of Scottish literature;  and to have a summer trip to some of the places dear to the Poet.

No. 64—BEITH Burns Club.  Instituted 1892.  Federated 12th December, 1893.  Place and date of meeting, Anderson Hotel, December, 25th January, and March.  President, John Snodgrass, Gordonhill, Beith;  Vice-president, James Anderson, Craigwell, Crummock Street, Beith;  Secretary, Neil M’Innes, 5 Grahamfield Place, Beith;  Treasurer, John Short;  and 10 members of Committee.

No. 65—MUSSELBURGH Federated Burns Club.  Instituted 1886.  Federated 3rd January, 1894.  Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, December, President, Alex. Mitchell, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh;  Vice-president, Walter Walker, Laverock Road, Musselburgh;  Secretary, Herbert Millar, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh;  Treasurer, John Gordon, Eskside, Musselburgh.

No. 66—CROSSGATES Burns Club.  Federated 1894.


No. 68—SANDYFORD Burns Club.  Instituted 13th December, 1893.  Federated 1894.  Place and time of meeting, Grand Hotel, 7.30 p.m.  Hon. President, A. P. Hamilton, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow;  President, ex-Bailie Jas. Gardiner, “Overwood,” Fergus Avenue, Dumbreck, Glasgow;  Vice-president, Wm. Thomson, 493 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow;  Secretary, W. Smith Tait, C.A., 79 West Regent Street, Glasgow.  Committee—Jas. Wolls, A. Wood Smith, J. M’Naught Campbell, Captain W. M.

No. 69—DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 70—GLASGOW St. Rollox Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 71—CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1895. Place and date of meeting, Viaduct Hotel, Third Saturday in the month. President, James Porteous, 47 Scotland Road, Carlisle; Vice-presidents, T. Caton, D. Main, G. Brown, J. Stewardson, Dr Doughty, and F. Jones; Secretary, Thomas George Beattie, 200 Warwick Road, Carlisle. Committee—J. J. Dawes, J. Crawford, J. Meldrum, J. Blue, G. Topping, R. S. Kirk, and J. Jardine. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, papers are read and discussed at all the monthly meetings, Scottish literature being a very special feature.


No. 73—LENZIE Burns Club. Federated 1896.

No. 74—GLASGOW Mauchline Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. President, J. Leiper Gemmill, 162 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, John Hyslop, Ashton, Douglas Gardens, Uddingston; Secretary, William Campbell, 166 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thos. Kilin, 7 Stewarton Drive, Cambuslang. Special features of Club—To promote sociability among natives of Mauchline and friends, and manage the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes, Mauchline.

and recreation branch; carpet bowling, &c., in Kim Hall three times every week.

No. 76—BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated 7th March, 1896. President, William Anderson, 2 Airlie Street, Brechin; Vice-president, Charles Thomson, Eastbank, Brechin; Secretary, F. C. Anderson, 10 St. Mary Street, Brechin. Committee—J. A. Hutchison, James S. Lindsay, J. S. Melrose, J. S. Lammond, Robert Anderson, Alex. Norrie, and David K. Laing.

No. 77—PAISLEY Tannahill Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1896.


No. 79—CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1896. Secretary, W. M. Wilson, 7 Belgrave Place, Corstorphine.


No. 82—ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. President, Dr. J. D. Gilruth, Hyde Park House, Arbroath; Vice-president, John R. W. Clark, solicitor, Arbroath; Secretary, Ernest F. Cobb, Town Chamberlain, Arbroath; Treasurer, F. W. Moon, solicitor, Arbroath.


No. 84—ABINGTON Burns Club. Federated 1896.


No. 86—CUMNOCK Winsome Willie Burns Club. Instituted 1856. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Hotel Royal, first Saturday of every month, at 7 p.m. President, Robert Hyslop, Waterside Place, Cumnock; Vice-president, James Findlay, Garrallan Cottages, Cumnock;
Secretary, Hugh Campbell, 43 Barhill Road, Cumnock; Treasurer, Gilbert McKissock. Committee—William Hyslop, George Jardine, John McDonald, Matthew Welsh, William McKie, and James McCrindle.

No. 87—CAMPSIE Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1896.

No. 88—GLASGOW Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted 1896, Federated 1897.


No. 90—GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 18th November, 1895. Federated 21st May, 1897. Place of meeting, Garelochhead Hotel. President, Major D. B. Anderson, Brookvale Cove, Dumbartonshire; Vice-president, David Stark, Anchorage, Garelochhead; Secretary, John Douglas, Dalhandhui, Garelochhead.

No. 91—SHEETLESTON Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1897. Place of meeting, Bath Hotel, 152 Bath Street, Glasgow. Hon. Presidents, William Reid, F.E.I.S., James Lucas, M.A., John Cresswell, and Robert M. Milholm; President, James S. Wilson, Jesmond, Sandyhills, Shettleston; Vice-presidents, John M'Farlane, 6 Gordon Terrace, Shettleston, and Ed. S. Thomson, Ardsheil, Shettleston; Secretary, Robert M. Milholm, 7 Somerville Place, Glasgow, East; Treasurer, Thomas Harrie, Harlaw, Shettleston. Committee—John Ramsey, A. Cresswell, D. Allan, John Brown, J. Seton Smith, M.A., G. Clendinning, H. Fletcher, Robert M'Farlane, William Farmer. Special features of Club—A literary centre as well as social; lectures on Scottish life and literature by authorities on various subjects and writers. Prizes are provided by the Club for the pupils of the Shettleston school to foster study of the Works of Burns. Visitors are always welcomed at any of the Club’s meetings.

No. 92—KILBOWIE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted September, 1896. Federated 26th August, 1897. Place and time of meeting, T. F. Ross’s Restaurant, Thursday, 7.30 p.m. President, Alex. McDonald, Montrose Street, Clydebank; Vice-president, Wm. Paterson, Livingstone Street, Clydebank; Secretary, William-Crun, 34 Granville
Street, Clydebank. Committee—Messrs D. J. Clark, Blair, Brown, Clark, Dale, Dunbar, Flurey, M'Farlane, Lovie, Melrose, Philip, Walters, and M'Williams. Special features of Club—The cultivation of a better knowledge of the life and works of the Bard, and the study of Scottish literature by the reading of papers, &c., original and selected, amongst the members.

No. 93—CLYDEBANK Burns Club. Federated 1897.

No. 94—UPHALL Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 12th September, 1885. Federated, 12th September, 1897. Place of meeting, Ross Hall, Uphall. President, Alex. Mutter, Church Street, Broxburn; Vice-president, Jas. Spence, Beechwood Cottages, Uphall Station, Uphall; Secretary, Jas. Purdie, Hawthorn Place, Uphall.

No. 95—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1897.


No. 97—KILMARNOCK Bellfield Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, first Friday in each month. President, John Guthrie, 13 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Daniel Picken, Glebe Avenue, Kilmarnock; Secretary, Thomas Neilson, 2 Paxton Street, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, J. H. Neilson. Committee—A. Rodger, A. Minto, W. Henderson.


No. 99—BARLINNIE Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1898. Place of meeting, Officers' Recreation Hall. Hon. President, Jas. Cram, Esq.; President, James Cunningham, Lyndhurst, Riddrie, Glasgow; Vice-president, John Jackson, Cartraight House, Shettleston, Glasgow; Secretary, Alexander Mackay, 10 Officers' Quarters, Barlinnie, Glasgow; Chaplain, Rev. George Allan, M.A.; Committee—Lieut.-Col. Baird, Messrs Murray, Geachie,
M’Quaker, Arnott, and Galloway. Special features of Club—To foster and encourage the study of Scottish poetry and literature, especially amongst the young.

No. 100—HAMILTON Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 4th April, 1898. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, Cadzow Street, Hamilton, first Tuesday of each month, 8 p.m. President, Wm. Maxwell, Chapel Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, ex-Bailie R. Anderson, 3 Castle Street, Hamilton; Secretary, John D. Macleod, Leidaig, Scott Street, Hamilton. Committee—Robt. M. Alston, Wm. Bushell, Wm. Prentice, Jas. Ferguson, A. W. Campbell, Jas. M’Cartney, Jas. Davie. Special features of Club—The writings and songs of Burns.

No. 101—MOTHERWELL Workmen’s Burns Club. Federated 1898.

No. 102—CARLISLE Border Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1898.

No. 103—COALBURN Burns Club. Federated 1898.

No. 104—DUMFRIES Oak Burns Club. Federated 1898.


No. 106—BROXHILLRosebery Burns Club. Federated 1898.

No. 107—HUTCHESONTOWN Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, 570 Rutherglenn Road, Glasgow, first Friday of month, at 7.30 p.m. President, G. D. Miller, 16 Mathieson Street, Glasgow, S.S.; Vice-president, John W. Kerr, 4 Nisbet Street, Parkhead, Glasgow; Secretary, Robert A. Sinclair, 4 Govanhill Street, Crosshill, Glasgow.

No. 108—EAST CALDER and District Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 1898. Place and time of meeting, Grapes Inn, East Calder, at 8.15 p.m. President, James Millar, Burnhouse Farm, Kirknewton; Vice-president, James Robertson, Main Street, East Calder; Secretary, Thomas F. Penman, Milestone Cottage, East Calder.


No. 110—CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. Instituted 1850. Federated 1898.


No. 112—DUMFRIES Burns Howff Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 10th August, 1899. Place and date of meeting,

No. 113—VALE OF LEVEN Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1899. Place and date of meeting, Albert Hotel, Alexandria, last Saturday of month, at 6.30 p.m. President, Hugh M'Vean, Mossiegil, Dalmonach Road, Bonhill; Vice-president, Alexander Campbell, 82 Bridge Street, Alexandria; Secretary, Daniel Macmillan, Smollett Street, Alexandria; Treasurer, George M. Colquhoun, 157 Main Street, Bonhill. Committee—Daniel M'Innis, Thomas Nicol, John James, and Wm. Gibb. Auditors, Wm. Smith and Alex. Campbell. Special features of Club—Celebration of 25th January; summer outing; and occasionally short papers by members.


No. 115—KIPPEN and District Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Gillespie Memorial Hall, Kippen. President, Thoraas Syme, Shrigerton, Kippen; Vice-president, Andrew Main, Strewiebank, Kippen Station; Secretary, Samuel Thomson, Pointend, Kippen. Committee—James M'Ewan, Robert Leckie, Peter Matson, John Montgomery, Alex. Denovan, Robt. Christie, Thos. Clark, William G. Archibald, T. C. Darling, John Mackintosh, John Travis, and Robt. Davison. Special features of Club—to promote a knowledge of the life and works of Burns an annual children's prize competition is held, open to the school children of Kippen and the surrounding schools. The subjects of competition are set songs and recitations from the works of our National Bard. For this purpose a fund is maintained, and annually many valuable prizes are given.


No. 118—GLASGOW Albany Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street. President, William
Cullen, M.D., 3 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow (presently on service in France); Vice-presidents, Isaac Craik, Glenara, Cambuslang, and Andrew C. Riddall, 23 Shamrock Street, Glasgow; Secretary, Robert Carmichael, 89 Eiklerslie Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, S. B. Lithgow. Directors—R. D. Donaldson, Wm. McNaughton, Alexander Gray, David Annand, D. C. Kennedy, and J. R. Mirrlees. Librarian, Wm. Dall. Past Presidents, J. W. Bain, James Taylor, John Brown, Ninian MacWhannell, John A. Headrick, James Raeside, and Thomas McBride. Special features of Club—Lectures and harmony, and to cultivate a knowledge of the works of Burns among school children, in connection with which a competition is held yearly and medals and volumes given to the successful competitors. Annual subscription, 2s 6d. Life membership, £1 ls. No meetings of members have been held since the commencement of the war.


No. 120—BRISTOL Caledonian Society (an incorporation of the Bristol Caledonian Benevolent Society, instituted 1820, and the Bristol Burns Club, instituted 1894). Incorporated 1898. Place of meeting, Caxton Rooms, Bristol Bridge, Bristol. President, John Turnbull, 1 Baldwin Street, Bristol; Vice-presidents, Alex. Cameron, 1 Wine Street, and Alex. Stewart, 26 Ravenswood Road, Redland, Bristol; Hon. Secretary, Angus C. Turnbull, 26 Florence Park, Redland, Bristol. Special features of Club—Have instituted and become responsible for annuities to a number of needy persons connected with Scotland by birth, marriage, or parentage, resident in Bristol.

No. 121—HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted September, 1886. Federated April, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Mrs R. Bell's, Union Street, Hamilton, first Monday each month. President, William Ferguson, Douglas Cottage, Douglas Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, David Cross, 127 Quarry Street, Hamilton; Secretary, William Wilson, 5 Haadow Street, Hamilton; Minute Secretary, A. Thomson; Steward, W. Kane. Committee—J. Brown, H. Paton, R. Cochrane, and G. Gilmour. Special features of Club—Reading of essays on various subjects, concerts, competitions, summer rambles, and social evenings. (30 members.)

No. 123—AUCHINLECK Boswell Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1901. Federated 10th December, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Market Inn, last Saturday of month. President, Geo. M’Comb, Park Road, Auchinleck; Vice-president, Thomas Mackie, Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck; Secretary, Peter Strachan, 192 Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck. Committee—D. Muir, A. Crozier, and John M’Mahon. Special feature of Club—Harmony.

No. 124—EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1902. Place of meeting, Ferguson & Forrester’s, Princes Street. President, William H. Riddell, 60 Grange Road, Edinburgh; Vice-president, J. Augustus Beddie, 11 Merchiston Crescent, Edinburgh; Secretary, W. J. S. Dalling, solicitor, 173 Bruntsfield Place, Edinburgh; Treasurer, John Wilson, 66 High Street, Edinburgh. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, dance, at-home, excursion, and business meetings.


No. 126—FALKIRK Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1902. No meetings being held during war. President, James M. Wilson, Arnothfield, Falkirk; Vice-presidents, H. B. Watson, Harlesden, Falkirk, and T. C. Wade, Woodcroft, Larbert; Secretary, R. H. Menzies, Bank Street, Falkirk.


No. 128—COWDENBEATH Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated May, 1903. Place and date of meeting, Raith Arms Hotel, Cowdenbeath, each consecutive Friday, from October to April. President, Thos. Harrower 49 Arthur Street, Cowdenbeath; Vice-president, John Banks, 28 Arthur Street, Cowdenbeath; Secretary, Eb. Hunter, 31 Arthur Place, Cowdenbeath; Treasurer, Thos. Wilson, 30 Arthur Place, Cowdenbeath; Bard, Jas. Murray. Committee—Geo. Russell, Peter Falconer, Wm. Foster, Jno. Liddell, Robt. Lister, Alex. White, and Wm. Breingan. Special features of Club—To promote social intercourse among the members by means of songs, recitations, essays, &c., and the celebration of the Poet’s birthday.

No. 130—ROW Burns Club. Instituted 6th February, 1902. Federated 1903. Place and date of meeting, Colquhoun Arms, January, June, and October, at 8 p.m.; President, Major John M'CFarlane, 1 West Clyde Street, Helensburgh; Vice-president, W. Fraser, F.E.I.S., Clarkfield, 29 Campbelle Street, Helensburgh; Secretary, Robert Sloan, Hollylea, Row, Dumbartonshire; Treasurer, George Walker, Luggray Lodge, Row. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among its members.


No. 133—NEWARTHILL Burns Club. Instituted 26th September, 1903. Federated 28th March, 1904. Place and date of meeting, Mrs H. Watson's, last Saturday every month, at 6.30 p.m.; President, John Henshaw, Church Street, Newarthill, Motherwell; Vice-president, Thomas Law, Allan Place, Newarthill, Motherwell; Secretary, Duncan Crawford, 287 High Street, Newarthill, Motherwell. Committee—Thos. Crombie, Thos. Nimmo, and Thos. M'Alpine.

No. 134—DUNTOCHER Heron Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1904.

No. 135—PARTICK Western Burns Club. Instituted 1903. Federated 1904. Place of meeting, Windsor Restaurant, Partick. President, R. Hubbard Hoy, 482 Dumbarton Road, Partick; Vice-president, J. Robertson, 57 Queensborough Gardens, Glasgow, W.; Secretary, Allan Stark, writer, 180 West Regent Street, Glasgow.


No. 139—GLASGOW National Burns Club, Ltd. Instituted 1904. Federated 30th December, 1904. Place and date of meeting, 21 India Street, Glasgow, daily; President, James Hempseed, 350 Garscube Road, Glasgow; Vice-president, W. Straiton, 26 Aberdour Street, Glasgow; Secretary—A. Cunningham, National Burns Club, Ltd.
21 India Street, Glasgow, W. Special feature of Club—Social.


No. 146—DUBLIN Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place of meeting, as arranged. Past President, Thomas A. Stodart, 16 Northumberland Road, Dublin; President, J. Hubbard Clark, J.P., Inverclyde, Iona Park, Glasnevin, Dublin; Vice-presidents, James Stephen, 50 Rathdown Road, N.C.R.; James Watson, Newcourt, 55 Harold's Cross; James Dean, 35 Windsor Avenue, Fairview; and David A. Quaid, T.C., 7 Eustace Street; Hon. Secretary, John Farquhar, 7 Fairview Avenue, Fairview, Dublin; Hon. Treasurer, Alexander Lyon, 111 Botanic Road, Glasnevin; Hon. Auditors, J. B. Taylor, and A. Moorhead. Committee—Wm. McCarthy, Robert Morrison, George Hill, S. Wylie, E. W. Warren, David Lyon, and Wm. Bowden. Special features of Club—Having for its object the perpetuity of the memory of Robert Burns by the celebration of his birthday and otherwise, and for intellectual improvement as well as the social intercourse and enjoyment of its members.

No. 147—STONEHOUSE Haggis Burns Club. Federated 1905.

No. 148—GREENOCK Cronies Burns Club. Instituted January, 1899. Federated 9th November, 1905. Place and date of meeting, 15 Charles Street, first Wednesday each month, October till April. President, George Cameron, 7 Mount Pleasant Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Alex. McGavin, 7 Finnart Street, Greenock; Secretary, David Baird, 67 Dempster Street, Greenock; Treasurer, Joseph Innes, 5 Brachelstone Street, Greenock. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and generally to promote good-fellowship.

No. 149—ELGIN Burns Club. Reconstituted December, 1899. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, Annual

No. 150—KILMARNOCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, "Wee Thack," Grange Street, last Friday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. President, John Brown, 13 Hurlford Road, Riccarton; Vice-president, Geo. M'Donald, 6 Old Irvine Road, Kilmarnock; Secretary, R. Jamieson Green, 58 Park Street, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, David Mitchell, Fairhills Road, Kilmarnock. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and generally to encourage a taste for Scottish literature; and to celebrate the memory of our National Bard by an annual social meeting, to be held on 25th January, or as near thereto as is possible.

No. 151—OLD KILPATRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 20th January, 1906. Place and time of meeting, Gentles Hall, every month, at 7.30 p.m. President, William Cockburn, N.-B. Station House, Bowling; Vice-president, Robert Newlands, Gavinburn Place, Old Kilpatrick; Secretary, Robert Smith, Maryville, Old Kilpatrick; and 8 Committee-men. Special features of Club—Nothing special in the way of social or educational events owing to the serious time; but all helping, as in the past three years, to send a parcel to all brave lads who have left our district and area.

No. 152—HAMILTON Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1906. Place of meeting, Commercial Hotel, Hamilton. President, Sheriff Hay Shennan, Angus Lodge, Hamilton; Vice-president, David M. Andrew, Wellhall Road, Hamilton; Secretary, David N. Cross, Bank of Scotland Chambers, Hamilton; Treasurer, W. Martin Kay, Craigton Lodge, Hamilton (on service); Acting Treasurer, David N. Cross. Special features of Club—The proceedings of the Club are in abeyance meantime.

No. 153—SCOTTISH Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1904. Federated 27th February, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Reid's Rooms, 30 Gordon Street, Glasgow, fourth Mondays, at 7.30 p.m. President, J. S. Gregson, 167 Hyndland Road, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, S. B. Langlands, 1413 Pollokshaws Road, Glasgow, and James G. MacKerracher, 67 Durward Avenue, Shawlands, Glasgow; Secretary, Wm. R. Petrie, 24 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow; Treasurer, Robert W. Reddoch, 35 Bellwood Street, Langside; Financial Secretary, G. A. Duncan, F.C.I.S., 14 Leven Street, Pollokshields; Auditors, Jas. B. Macpherson and D. M. MacIntyre, M.B.E., F.C.I.S.; Bard, Thomas Cree. Committee—J. K. M'Dowall, J.P.
J. S. Downie, M.A., N. MacWhannel, F.R.I.B.A., I.A.,
J. D. Bauchop, LL.B., James Macfarlane, George McGill,
and D. S. MacGregor, with President, Vice-presidents,
Secretaries, and Treasurer ex-officio. Special features
of Club—Burnsiana and literature.

No. 154—JOHANNESBURG Burns Club. Instituted 1900.
Federated 1906. Secretary, Richard Rusk, solicitor,
Natal Bank Buildings, Market Square, Johannesburg.

No. 155—EAST STIRLINGSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted
January, 1905. Federated September, 1906. Place
of meeting, Cross Roads Inn, Falkirk. President, Alex.
Cruickshanks, Union Buildings, Carron Road, Falkirk;
Vice-president, Wm. Cowan, 46 Mary Street, Grahamston,
Falkirk; Secretary, Alex. Glen, 12 Gordon Terrace,
Carron Road, Falkirk; Treasurer, James McWilliam.
Committee—Wm. Calbraith, Jas. Inglis, Charles Brooks,
Jas. Morrison, and James Niven. Special features of Club
—To foster and maintain an intimate and thorough
knowledge of the life and works of Burns; to celebrate
the anniversary of his birth in supper, song and senti­
ment; and to propagate and encourage a kind, social,
and brotherly feeling one towards another.

No. 156—NEWCASTLE and TYNESIDE Burns Club. Instituted
1864. Federated 4th October, 1906. Place and date
of meeting, Central Exchange Hotel, Fridays, 7 o'clock.
President, William Maxwell, 88 Osborne Road, Newcastle­
on-Tyne; Vice-president, R. M. Graham, c/o Bainbridge
& Co., Market Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Secretary,
James H. M'Kenzie, 15 Otterburn Avenue, Gosforth,
Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, John Dempster, 51
Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Special
features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and all admirers
of Burns; to cultivate literary pursuits; to preserve
an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs,
and for purposes of a kindred character.

No. 157—BAILIESTON Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted
Place and date of meeting, Free Gardeners' Hall, second
Thursday of each month, at 8 p.m. President, James
Adams, 157 Main Street, Baillieston; Vice-president,
Thomas Waugh, Crosshill, Baillieston; Secretary, Alex­
ander R. D. Johnstone, 66 Main Street, Baillieston.
Special features of Club—Spread of Scottish literature
by school competitions, lectures, and essays; com­
memorate the name of our National Bard.

No. 158—DARLINGTON Burns Association. Instituted 8th
March, 1906. Federated 18th October, 1906. Place
and date of meeting, Temperance Institute, average
monthly during winter, no fixed night. President, Philip
Wood, M.A., 24 Cleveland Terrace, Darlington; Vice­
presidents, Wm. Forster, J.P., Elmbank, Darlington;
John Henderson, 6 Trinity Terrace, Darlington; John
M. Galt, 4 West Park, Woodlands Road, Darlington; Secretary, Robt. M. Liddell, 37 Langholm Crescent, Darlington; Treasurer, Geo. Lawson, 5 Holmwood Grove, Harrowgate Hill, Darlington. Committee—Jno. C. Veitch, Jas. Shirlaw, J. J. Black, Jno. Macfarlane, Andrew Morton, Jas. Deas, Dr Munro, Gavin Struthers, and Robt. Storar. Special features of Club—Series of lectures, to which friends (including ladies) are invited; annual Scottish concert; annual social gathering; anniversary dinner.

No. 159—WALKER Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 11th November, 1906. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Walker. President, Jno. M'Kay, 623 Welbeck Road, Walker; Vice-president, Jno. Keith, 663 Welbeck Road, Walker; Secretary, Andrew D. Bell, 717 Welbeck Road, Walker; Treasurer, Robt. M'Roy, 26 Eastbourne Gardens, Walker. Special features of Club—To promote the cultivation of a better knowledge of the Poet and his works; to bring together Scotsmen and other admirers of Burns; also promoting Scottish concerts.


No. 161—CHARLESTON Burns Club, Paisley. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated 20th December, 1906. Place and date of meeting, 17 Stevenson Street, quarterly. President, Andrew Wylie, Newhall Villas, Glen Road; Vice-presidents, Peter Shannon, 14 Greenlaw Avenue, and Hector Craig, 17 Stevenson Street; Secretary, Andrew Walker, 16 Stevenson Street, Paisley; Auditors, Hugh Black and Wm. Waddell. Committee—Thos. Summers, Thos. Robb, Thos. Peacock, Wm. Herl, John Easton. Special features of Club—The propagation of the writings of Burns in the district; and the promotion of a friendly feeling among the members and kindred Clubs; and the celebration of the Poet's birth.

No. 162—PLYMOUTH and District Caledonian Society. Instituted 8th February, 1898. Federated 8th March, 1907. President, James Thain, “Bon-Accord,” 11 Craven Avenue, Plymouth; Vice-president, Wm. Johnston, 10 Seaton Avenue, Mutley, Plymouth; Secretary, P. Robertson, 89 Alcester Street, Devonport.

No. 163—GATESHEAD and District Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1907. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, first Thursday of each month, September to April. President, E. Johnston, 140 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Vice-presidents, E. Bennett, T. Hetherington, R. Good, J. Blackhall, and J. E. White; Corresponding Secretary, Wm. Bain, 142 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Financial Secretary and Treasurer, G. J. Porter, 6 Trovelyan Terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Hon. Piper, Piper-Major Munro Strachan, 20
Diamond Street, Wallsend-on-Tyne (now of the Tyneside Scottish). Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns; to keep up Scotch customs and study works of Burns.

No. 164—KINNING PARK Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1907. Place of meeting, Masonic Halls, Rodland Crescent. President, John D. M'Lachlan, 10 Gilmour Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; Vice-president, Thos. Dean, 45 Cornwall Street, Plantation, Glasgow; Secretary, John Downie, 29 Melville Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thos. M. Moffat. Committee—A. M. Welsh, R. N. Bain, Jas. Hay, Jas. M'Intyre, Chas. Leggat, John Wood, and Donald M'Donald. Special features of Club—A competition among school children for the singing and reciting works of Scottish poets; ladies’ social evenings.

No. 165—WALLSEND Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 18th April, 1907. Place and date of meeting, Adult School, fourth Wednesday of the month. President, John Polson, 40 Carvale Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Vice-president, Dougal Walters, 35 North Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Secretary, Andrew Gray, 3 Burn Avenue, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Treasurer, David Liddle. Committee—W. Cox, J. Heron, W. Johnston, W. William, and Alex. Gove. Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns; to cultivate literary pursuits and love of Scottish song and story by promoting Scotch concerts; also to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs.

No. 166—CLEVELAND Scottish Association. Instituted 1907. Federated 1907. Secretary, A. Wallace, 6 Royal Exchange, Middlesborough.

No. 167—BIRMINGHAM Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 1907. Place and date of meeting, Grand Hotel, Birmingham, Fridays, at 7.30 p.m. President, James A. Budge, The Braeken, 49 Anderton Park Road, Birmingham; Vice-presidents, Wright Murray, 130 Oakwood Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham; and John Barr, 6 Springfield Road, King’s Heath, Birmingham; Secretary, Charles MacGregor, 161 Great Charles Street, Birmingham; Treasurer, Robert M’Kenzie; Minute Secretary, James Cumming; Auditors, J. Whitelaw and Alex. Blair. Special features of Club—(1) To cherish the name of Robert Burns, Scotland’s National Poet, to foster a love for his writings, to celebrate the anniversary of his birthday by a social festival, and generally encourage a taste for Scottish songs and literature. (2) To promote friendly and social intercourse amongst Scotsmen resident in Birmingham and district.

No. 168—RICCAR ront Burns Club. Instituted 7th February, 1877. Federated 14th January, 1908. Place of meeting, Commercial Inn, Riccarton. President, Robt. Wylie, sen., Fleming Street, Riccarton; Vice-president,
R. P. Walker, Kay Park Terrace, Kilmarnock; Secretary, Jas. P. Moir, “Craigallan,” 39 Campbell Street, Riccarton. Committee—Geo. Cunningham (“Pate M’Phun”), John P. Dickson, and J. Williamson. Special features of Club—Social intercourse amongst the Burns fraternity; to spread and become familiar with the Poet’s works.

No. 169—GLASGOW and DISTRICT Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies. Instituted 1907. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, 106 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. President, Alexander Mackenzie, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, C. R. Cowie, 20 Blythswood Square, Glasgow, and Wm. Cockburn, N.B. Station, Bowling; Secretary, J. Jeffrey Hunter, solicitor, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow; Ex-Presidents, Alex. Pollock, Hugh M’Coll, Wm. Douglas, Committee—George Armour, Jas. M. Campbell, Isaac Chalmers, R. M. Milholm, A. McKay, Wm. Reid, A. C. Riddell, A. A. Stewart, W. J. Straiton, ex-Councillor Sutherland, Jas. Tudhope, T. Killin, A. Shand, J. F. Anderson, A. R. Young, J. M. Brown, J. S. Galpine, J. S. Ritchie, T. P. Thompson. Special features of Club—To further the interests of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the district and bringing the members of these Clubs into more harmonious relationship, and to take the initiative in instituting and recommending movements likely to be beneficial to the Club.


No. 172—OREGON Burns Club, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated December, 1908. Place of meeting, Chamber of Commerce Building. President, William C. Bristol, Wilcox Building, Portland, Oregon; Vice-president, Dr Edward A. Marshall, Morgan Building, Portland, Oregon; Secretary, Alexander T. Smith, 143 Hamilton Avenue, Portland, Oregon; Chairman of Executive Committee, James Hislop, 63 Front Street, Portland, Oregon; Judge, Geo. J. Cameron, Portland, Oregon. (No meetings held since 25th January, 1915.)

No. 174—ARDROSSAN Castle Burns Club. Federated 1908. Secretary, Wm. Gibson, Hill Cottage, 90 Glasgow Street, Ardrossan.


No. 176—RENFREW Burns Club. Federated 6th December, 1898. Place of meeting, Renfrew. Vice-president, A. Whyte, Friars’ Croft, Renfrew; Secretary, Wm. S. Cochran, 20 Renfield Street, Renfrew.

No. 177—PRESTWICK Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President, Councillor James Meikle, Powbank, Farm; Treasurer, James McCance.

No. 178—KILMARNOCK Begbie’s Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Angel Hotel, third Wednesday of each month. President, John Stewart, 13 Hill Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Andrew Sinclair, 65 McLelland Drive, Kilmarnock; Secretary, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—John Brown, Wm. Johnstone, Hugh Dale, A. M’D. Anderson, David Lang, John Douglas, and Wm. Muir. Special features of Club—Reading of papers relative to the works of Burns and kindred subjects; celebrating the birthday of the Poet.

No. 179—DAILLY Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 22nd January, 1902. Federated 22nd January, 1902. Place of meeting, King’s Arms Hotel Hall. President, Thomas Dykes, King’s Arms Hotel, Dailly; Vice-president, Adam Wilson, wood merchant, Dailly; Secretary, Hugh Dykes, King’s Arms Hotel, Dailly. Committee—S. M’Blain, H. M’Culloch, Robt. Smith, Dr Macdougall, and Dr MacInroy. Special feature of Club—Celebrating the Poet’s anniversary.

No. 180—GLASGOW Tollcross Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Tollcross
Bowling Club-house, first Tuesday every month. President, Allan Shaw, Clyde Terrace, Tolleross; Vice-president, William M‘Gregor, West Thorn Farm, Tolleross; Secretary, Alex. Wilson, Braidfauld Cottage, Tolleross; Treasurer, Walter Newton, Movern, Tolleross.

No. 181—GLASGOW Primrose Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 11th February, 1909. No regular meetings being held during war. President, Thos. S. Turnbull, 310 Colfhill Drive, Glasgow; Vice-president, George J. M‘Callum, 2 West Regent Street, Glasgow; Secretary, Thos. H. Hellier, 205 Crow Road, Broomhill, Glasgow; Treasurer, William Lithgow, 40 Rowallan Gardens, Broomhill, Glasgow. Special features of Club—Monthly meetings, anniversary dinner, school children’s competition, lectures and musical evenings.

No. 182—STANE (Shotts) Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 3rd February, 1908. Federated 24th February, 1909. Place and date of meeting, Stane Hotel, first Friday of month, except June, July, and August. President, Jas. Cairns, 121 Tarbothie Road, Stane, Shotts; Vice-president, William Rodger, 104 Main Street, Stane, Shotts; Secretary, Alex. Walker, 9 Tarbothie Road, Stane, Shotts; Treasurer, Jas. White, 1 Stane Place, Stane, Shotts. Special features of Club—Papers on Poet’s works and Scottish literature, school competitions, celebration of all anniversaries.


No. 186—KILMARNOCK Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1910. Place and date of meeting, Bridge Inn, Robertson Place, second Friday of each month, at 8 p.m. President, Alex. Smith, 13 Arbuckle Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, James Gilmour, 22 Arbuckle Street,
Kilmarnock; Secretary, John Thorburn, 12 Fairyhill Road, Kilmarnock. Committee—John Ferguson, Alfred Dunmore, and Alex. Anderson. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst its members and kindred Clubs; the celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the works of Burns and kindred subjects.

No. 187—GALASHIELS Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1908. Federated 9th December, 1909. Place and time of meeting, Town Hall, at 8 p.m. President, Provost Sutherland, Albert Place, Galashiels; Vice-president, Rev. Dr Butler, The Manse, Galashiels; Secretary, Tom C. Hutchison, 83 High Street, Galashiels; Treasurer, John Hodge, jun., 12 Island Street, Galashiels. Special feature of Club—School competitions.


No. 189—CLYDEBANK Burns o' Clyde Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1896. Place and time of meeting, Hutchison's Restaurant, Clydebank, 7 p.m. President, T. Abbott, 123 Glasgow Road, Clydebank; Vice-president, G. Latto, Canal Street, Clydebank; Secretary, J. Abercrombie, 17 Cochino Street, Clydebank; Treasurer, J. B. Macready, 914 Yoker Road, Yoker.

No. 190—PORT-GLASGOW Burns Club. Instituted 13th January, 1910. Federated 5th April, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Co-operative Hall, Princes Street, first Friday, September till March. President, Thomas Wylie, High-holm Street, Port-Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. R. Niven, 47 Firth View, Port-Glasgow; Secretary, Jas. Hicks, jun., 20 John Wood Street, Port-Glasgow; Treasurer, John S. Pearson, Flemington, Port-Glasgow.

No. 191—MOORPARK Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place of meeting, Moorpark Hall. President, Alexander Blackley, St. Andrew's Drive, Moorpark, Renfrew; Vice-president, William M'Intyre, Renfrew House, Renfrew; Secretary, Ebenezer Inglis, Gladstone, Fauldshead Road, Renfrew; Treasurer, James Clark, Moorpark, Renfrew. Special features of Club—To provide social and literary evenings for members and friends; to encourage the study and love of Burns's works by holding an annual children's competition in Moorpark School in March; to celebrate the birth of the Poet by annual festival on 25th January.

No. 192—AYRSHIRE ASSOCIATION of Federated Burns Clubs. Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place and date of meeting, Quarterly, at various places and times in the county. President, Andrew Sinclair, 65 M'Lelland Drive, Kilmarnock; Secretary, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—Arch.
Laird, James Moir, Hugh Campbell, Wm. Hall, John M'Gregor, James Queay, and Thos. Neilson. Special features of Club—To further the interests of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the county, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Federation.


No. 195—SHIREMOOR Blue Bell Burns Club. Instituted November, 1906. Federated 14th November, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Blue Bell Hotel, every four weeks from 30th August. President, John Wilson, 11 Duke Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, John Marshall, C. Pit Cottages, Backworth, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Secretary, James Fyfe Wilson, 29 Harrow Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, Wm. Richardson. Committee—Robt. Fyfe, G. Fyfe, M. Armstrong, J. Aitchison, and J. Sneddon. Special features of Club—To foster the memory and songs of the Poet; annual celebration in rooms; annual summer outing; and musical evenings.


No. 197—WINNIPEG Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1911. Secretary, A. G. Kemp, Box 2886, Winnipeg.

No. 198—GOREBRIDGE Twenty-five Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 28th November, 1913. Place of meeting, Mr Brunton’s Inn, Gorebridge. President, Robert Burnside, Main Street, Corebridge; Vice-president, Robert Weir, Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge; Secretary, John Duncan, 5 Slate Row, Arniston, Gorebridge. Committee—Robert Davidson, William Weir, John Darling, Robert Millar, Robert Robertson, and Andrew Walker. Special features of Club—Holding the Poet’s anniversary; also children’s competitions, and concerts during the year.

and date of meeting, Bowling Green Pavilion, Newton-
grange, first Saturday in each month, from October to
April, at 7 p.m. President, Geo. Humphrey, Saugh,
Newtonrange; Vice-president, Wm. Carson, Saugh,
Newtonrange; Secretary, James Kennedy, 14 Linger-
wood Road, Newtonrange, Midlothian. Committee—
J. Samuel, P. Dickson, J. Dickson, J. Gilmour, J. Curie,
P. Gray, G. M'Intosh, S. Dalgleish, D. Richardson, J.
Special features of Club—The celebration of the birth
of Burns; the cultivation of social and intellectual in-
tercourse amongst members and friends; promoting
concerts for charities during the winter months (by this
means we have been successful in distributing close on £130
to various local charities within the last three years);
annual trip (cancelled during the war). Membership
about 130.

No. 200—STONEHOUSE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted
1911. Federated 21st March, 1911. Place and date of
meeting, Buckshead Inn, every alternate Friday. Pre-
sident, Samuel Kennedy, Queen Street, Stonehouse;
Vice-president, Daniel Todd, Hill Road, Stonehouse;
Secretary, Matthew Steel, Cumnethan Street, Stonehouse;
Treasurer, Robt. Anderson, Buckshead Inn, Stonehouse.
Special features of Club—To promote social intercourse
among people in the village.

No. 201—CARLISLE Newtown Burns Club. Instituted
November, 1910. Federated 27th April, 1911. Place of meeting,
Green Dragon Hotel. President, P. T. Paterson, 71
Scotland Road, Stanwix, Carlisle; Vice-presidents,
G. E. Edmondson, Millbourne Arms Hotel, and John
Hare, 16 Orchard Street, Carlisle; Secretary, Robert
Burns, Green Dragon Hotel, Carlisle. Committee—R.
Gillespie, J. Mc'Gregor, T. Pearson, R. Scott, J. Reid, R.
Cortner, J. Scott, J. Maxwell, D. Wilson, J. Carruthers,
D. Inglis, G. Jeffrey, J. Bainbridge, and J. Johnstone.

No. 202—GOVAN Ye Cronies Burns Club. Instituted 1893, Fede-
1911. Place and date of meeting, Red Lamp, Maxwell
Street, Govan, second Saturday each month, at 6 p.m.
President, James Rellie, 18 Elder Street, Govan; Vice-
president, Matthew Stirling, 13 Hutton Drive, Govan;
Secretary, Wm. Stirrat, 67 Graham Street, Govan;
Treasurer, J. M'Kinnon; Bard, T. M. Walker. Com-
mitee—A. M'Dowell, D. Thomson, L. M'Leane, J. Orr,
James Hutchieson. Special features of Club—The Club
shall consist of men who honour and revere the memory
of Burns; the membership shall not exceed 100, and
each candidate for membership must be a Freemason;
to promote social and friendly intercourse amongst its
members.

No. 203—DENNISTOUN Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted
25th January, 1911. Federated 6th June, 1911. Place
and date of meeting, Chalmers Street Church Hall, last
Thursday of month. President, J. M'Donald, 128 North John Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, J. Jack, 58 Whitevale Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Secretary, A. Hainey, 39 Brandon Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Treasurer, W. Hood; Piper, A. M'Pherson. Federation delegates—G. F. Thomas, J. Jack, and A. Hainey. Special features of Club—The objects of the Club shall be the celebration of the birth of Robert Burns; occasional reunion for the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse amongst members and friends; and the encouragement of Scottish literature.

No. 204—DUNDALK and DISTRICT Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 11th July, 1911. President, J. Milne, Hill Street, Dundalk; Vice-president, W. G. Minehin, Castle Road, Dundalk; Secretary, Geo. Williamson, 53 Castle Road, Dundalk.

No. 205—PAISLEY ST. MIRREN Burns Club. Instituted 1910. Federated 1911. No meetings been held during the war. Secretary, Robert Crawford, 44 Old Sneadon Street, Paisley.


No. 207—CAMBUSLANG Wingate Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1912. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, first Saturday each month. President, Wm. M'Lean, 551 St. George's Road, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Young, 44 Glasgow Road, Cambuslang; Secretary, Robert Forrester, jun., 173 Hamilton Road, Cambuslang; Assistant Secretary, R. Tait; Hon. Members—Wm. M'Lean, Duncan M'Gilvray, A. Young, Wm. Young, R. Tait, John Smith, A. Dunn, Daniel Smith; Stewards, John Williamson and Thos. M'Gilvray. Committee—Jas. M. Smith, Jas. Wales, John Anderson, Wm. Williamson, and Wm. Stewart. Special features of Club—Furtherance of Scottish song and sentiment.

No. 208—COLORADO SPRINGS and DISTRICT Caledonian Society. Instituted 1897. Federated 1912. Chief, W. W. Campbell, Golf Club, Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A.; First Chieftain, John Grant, 1620 South Nevada, Colorado Springs; Second Chieftain, D. W. Smith; Third Chieftain, P. D. Campbell; Secretary, William B. Dunlop, 219 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs; Treasurer, Thos. MacLaren. Special features of Club—The cultivation of Scottish literature and music by means of social meetings, with essays, debates, vocal and instrumental music, &c.; to keep alive and propagate a love for the ancient customs, games, and outdoor sports of Scotland; to care for and assist in times of distress members and their families, also needy, deserving Scotsmen non-members; to provide for the annual celebration of Burns's birthday, St. Andrew's Day, an annual picnic with Scottish games, and an annual meeting for the election of officers.
No. 209—GREENOCK St. John's Burns Club. Instituted 13th August, 1909. Federated 17th August, 1912. Place of meeting, Masonic Temple; President, R. Brown, 69 Dempster Street, Greenock; Vice-president, G. Blake, 45 Regent Street, Greenock; Secretary, Neil Black, 22 Bank Street, Greenock; Treasurer, Jas. P. Miller, 28 Bruce Street, Greenock.

No. 210—HARDGATE Auld Hoose Burns Club. Instituted 28th September, 1912. Federated 30th September, 1912. Place of meeting, Hardgate Bar, Hardgate. President, James McKenna, New Buildings, Hardgate, Duntocher; Vice-president, A. Fisher, Old Manse, Hardgate, Duntocher; Secretary (on active service); Treasurer, James Evans, Old Manse, Hardgate, Duntocher. For any reply write the President.

No. 211—LARKHALL Cronies Burns Club. Instituted May, 1912. Federated 10th October, 1912. Place and date of meeting, Wm. Farr's, Charing Cross, every Saturday, at 7.30 p.m. Hon. Presidents, Messrs Farr, Bruce, and Smyth. President, Charles Rowan, Summerlee, by Hamilton; Vice-president, Wm. Kilpatrick, Muir Street, Larkhall; Secretary, Alexander Henderson, 63 London Street, Larkhall, Lanarkshire. Committee—T. Ramage, R. Ramage, D. Brown, R. Frame, C. Dobbie, and G. Pollock. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's birthday, and to encourage the study of his works; to promote closer union between other Clubs, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Federation.

No. 212—PORTOBELLO Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 1913. President, Rev. Canon H. S. Reid, M.A., 13 Abercomby Place, Edinburgh; Vice-president, Bailie James Hastie; Secretary, William Baird, F.S.A., J.P., Clydesdale Bank House, Portobello; Treasurer, J. L. Jenkins, Windsor Place, Portobello. Special features of Club—to encourage a taste for the works of Burns, and more especially among the young to increase their knowledge of Scottish literature. Fourteen book prizes were awarded to the Board Schools (2) in Portobello this year, for essays written by the children, recitations, and excellency in the singing of Scotch songs—a practice continued by the Club for the past 26 years.

love for his writings, and to encourage the taste for Scottish literature and music generally; to celebrate his birthday on the 25th January, or as near thereto as possible. Ladies are invited certain nights during the session.

No. 214—MELROSE Burns Club. Federated 22nd February, 1913. President, Dr Henry Speirs, St. Dunstan’s, Melrose; Vice-president, Geo. Sanderson, Westhill, Melrose; Secretary, Geo. MacKenzie, High Street, Melrose.

No. 215—THORNIEWOOD Burns Club. Instituted 26th February, 1913. Federated 24th February, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Lee’s Hall, first Thursday every month, at 7 p.m. Hon. President, John Lee; President, William Nicol, Woodend House, Mossend; Vice-president, Jas. Cowan, Throniewood, by Uddingston; Secretary, W. Kerr, 54 Throniewood, Uddingston; Assistant Secretary, John French; Treasurer, R. Hendry.

No. 216—RUTHERGLEN Royal Burgh Burns Club. Instituted March, 1913. Federated May, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, Rutherglen, last Wednesdays October to April. President, Robert McKenzie, Reformer Office, Queen Street, Rutherglen; Vice-president, John Murray, 6 Abbotsford Avenue, Rutherglen; Secretary, James E. Murray, 94 Mill Street, Rutherglen; Treasurer, Maurice Stewart, 35 Greenhill Road, Rutherglen. Special features of Club—The promotion of the Burns cult; the cultivation amongst its members of social and intellectual intercourse; and the encouragement and study of Scottish literature.


No. 218—BANNOCKBURN Empire Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1913. Federated 13th June, 1913. Place and time of meeting, Commercial Hotel, Bannockburn, 7 p.m. President, Wm. R. Leennie, Newlands, Bannockburn; Vice-president, Thomas Rattray, West Murrayfield, Bannockburn; Secretary, William Wark, Helenslea, Station Road, Bannockburn; Treasurer, Jas. Kirkwood, Cauldhamo, Bannockburn. Committee—Messrs Still, Wilson, Palmer, Fulton, Neil, Smith, Christie. Special features of Club—Monthly meetings during the year; our meetings consist of recitations and songs, and tend to create good-fellowship amongst our members; also runs hero fund for those who have gained honours on the battlefield.

No. 219—UDDINGSTON Burns Club. Instituted 1st April, 1913. Federated 21st June, 1913. Place and time of meeting,
Magdala Hall, at 6.30 p.m. President, James Ferguson, Dechmont View, Uddingston; Vice-president, Thomas Hamilton, 12 Alpine Terrace, Uddingston; Secretary, Walter Morrison, 25 Greenrig Street, Uddingston. Special features of Club—The moral and intellectual improvement of its members by the reading of essays and conversation of Burns's works, or any subject that may be for the well-being of the Club.

No. 220—ST. LOUIS Burns Club, Mo., U.S.A. Instituted 1904. Federated 1913. Date of meeting, 26th January. President, James Wallace, Castleview, Prestondans; Vice-president, James Wallin, Century Building, St. Louis, Mo.; Secretary, Walter B. Stevens, Jefferson Memorial, St. Louis, Mo.; Treasurer, Hanford Crawford, 722 Walnut Street, St. Louis, Mo. Special features of Club—Annual meetings; issuing printed reports from time to time.


No. 223—GLASGOW Auld Clinkmun Burns Club. Instituted 3rd April, 1913. Federated 6th October, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Halls, Overnewton, monthly, first Saturday each month. President, William Chalmers, 13 Breadalbane Street, Glasgow, W.; Vice-president, Charles Hamilton, 42 Dover Street, Glasgow, W.; Secretary, James Wilson, 42 Dover Street, Glasgow, W.; Treasurer, James Muir, jun., 8 Avon Street, S.S.; Delegates, Jas. Muir, sen., and Jas. Wilson, sen. Special features of Club—Annual trip; celebration of the Poet's
birthday; literary and musical evenings; occasional short papers by members, and otherwise to encourage interest in the work and teaching of Scotia's National Bard.

No. 224—ASHINGTON Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Portland Hotel. President, Dr F. Beaton; Vice-president, Dr J. McLean; Secretary, D. Robertson, 20 Sixth Row, Ashington; Treasurer, S. W. Strong. Special feature of Club—Celebration of Burns's anniversary.

No. 225—HELENSBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 2nd February, 1911. Federated 14th November, 1913. Place of meeting, Various Halls, according to meeting. President, John Brown, Cairadhu Lodge, Helensburgh; Vice-presidents, John Somerville, Woodlands Place, Helensburgh, and Silas Maclean, 52 John Street, Helensburgh; Secretary, Robert Thorburn, Albion Cottage, Helensburgh. Present feature of Club—To carry on until the post-war revival.

No. 226—DUMFRIES Burns Club. Instituted 1819. Federated 1913. Place and date of meeting, Annual Meeting, Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries, first week in November. President, R. A. Grierson, Town Clerk, Dumfries; Secretary, John M'Burnie, Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries. Committee—Samuel Charteries, Thomas Dykes, Geo. B. Carruthers, David Fergusson, David H. Hastie, and W. A. Hiddleston. Special features of Club are—(a) To maintain the Burns Mausoleum in good repair, and provide for its proper supervision; (b) To discharge the obligations laid upon the Club by the testatory disposition of Colonel William Nichol Burns, with respect to Burns's House and the Mausoleum; (c) To celebrate in suitable manner the anniversary of the Poet's birth, and to honour his memory in such other ways as may be from time to time determined; (d) To foster a knowledge of the life and works of Burns by means of an annual competition amongst local school children, prizes being awarded to the successful competitors.

No. 227—PENRITH Burns Club. Instituted 27th January, 1911. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Station Hotel. President, D. S. McGhie, Kirkby Thore, near Penrith; Vice-president, Thomas Heskett, Plumpton Hall, Plumpton, Penrith; Secretary, J. S. M'C.ogan, 94 Lewther Street, Penrith, Cumberland; Treasurer, R. Gardiner, 8 Bruns-wick Square, Penrith. Special feature of Club—Honour to memory of Burns.

No. 228—CALDERWATERHEAD Burns Club. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Jas. Taylor, Gillburn, Shotts; Vice-president, John Gilfillan, Station Road, Shotts; Secretary, Wm. R. Moir, Mossbank, Hall Road, Shotts.
No. 229—EASTBOURNE and DISTRICT Scottish Association. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Sir John Nisbet Maitland, 69 Silverdale Road, Eastbourne; Vice-president, Alex. Campbell, 14 Blackwater Road, Eastbourne; Secretary, R. Prentice, 110 Terminus Road, Eastbourne.


No. 231—FAULDHOUSE and EAST BENHAR Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Caledonian Hotel, last Thursday of every month. President, John Salmond, Co-operative Buildings, "West End, Fauldhouse;" Vice-president, Thomas Forsyth, Caledonian Hotel, Fauldhouse; Secretary, John Kinniburgh, Co-operative Buildings, West End, Fauldhouse; Treasurer, Robert Clark. Committee—R. Mutter, Thomas Glencorse, Wm. Forsyth, and Geo. Hardie. Special features of Club—Visiting Clubs and receiving visitations from other Clubs, and having songs and sentiments from Burns's works.

No. 232—ARNISTON Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Secretary, George Russell, 1 Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge.

No. 233—The CLACHAN Burns Club. Instituted February, 1914. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Coalburn Inn, first Saturday of every month. President, Matthew Patrick, Coalburn Rows, Coalburn; Vice-president, John Watt, 50 Dean Street, Kilmarnock; Secretary, Donald M'Leod, Ivy Cottage, Brahead, Coalburn; Treasurer, William Kerr, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn.

No. 234—GLASGOW Southern Merchants' Burns Club. Instituted 1914. Federated 1914. Place of meeting, 1 Cathcart Road, Glasgow. President, Bailie Campbell, 1 Cathcart Road, Glasgow; Secretary, A. J. Ruglen, 36 Dundas Street, Glasgow (City); Treasurer, J. Balgarnie, 114 South Portland Street, Glasgow. Special features of Club—To celebrate the Poet's birthday the Club, instead of having the annual dinner, sent a "haggis" of thirty guineas to Erskine House for wounded soldiers.

No. 235—HAMILTON Glencarn Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 5th August, 1914. Place of meeting, Burns Bar, 39 Campbell Street, Hamilton. President, William Ralston (on active service); Vice-president, John Wilson,
46 Campbell Street, Hamilton; Secretary, Robert Morrison, 43 Campbell Street, Hamilton (on active service).

No. 236—WHITEHAVEN Burns Club. Instituted 24th January, 1914. Federated August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, Duke Street, Whitehaven, in January, March, and November. President, Dr J. F. Muir, Scotch Street, Whitehaven; Vice-president, Dr Dickson, Queen Street, Whitehaven; Secretary, John Davidson, 9 Edge Hill Terrace, Whitehaven. Committee—A. Anderson, R. T. Bell, J. R. Clark, A. Dickson, Wm. Glenn, Geo. Hill, A. Lockhart, H. M'Intosh, W. H. Miers, T. Preston, Jas. Shields, P. Turner, J. D. Wood, and J. Young. Special features of Club—To foster a knowledge of the life and works of Robert Burns, and to perpetuate his memory by an annual festival on the 25th January.

No. 237—UDDINGSTON Masonic Burns Club. Instituted July, 1914. Federated 8th August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Rowan Tree Inn Hall, Uddingston, third Saturday in every month, at 6 p.m. President, James Donald, Bothwell Castle, Bothwell; Vice-president, Thomas Cameron, Gasworks Cottage, Uddingston; Secretary, Owen Williams, 103 Walter Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thomas Barr, 4 Croftbank Place, Uddingston. Committee—William Watson, Alfred Russell, David N. Miller. Special features of Club—To further the interest in the name of Burns, and in keeping with Burns Clubs in general.

No. 238—ATLANTA, Ga., Burns Club, U.S.A. Instituted 1896. Federated August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Burns Cottage, Atlanta, Ga., first Wednesday each month. President, Dr Jno. Osman, 584 So. Boulevard, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Vice-presidents, A. A. Craig, Box 582, Atlanta, Ga., and H. H. Cabaniss, Atlanta, Ga.; Secretary, A. A. Craig, P.O. Box 582, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Treasurer, E. F. King; Superintendent of Grounds, W. L. Smith; Historian, R. M. M'Whirter. Special feature of Club—The only permanent replica of the Burns Cottage extant.

No. 239—HAWICK Burns Club. Instituted 1878. Federated 17th August, 1914. Place and time of meeting, 12 Teviot Crescent, 10 a.m. till 10.30 p.m. President, John Hume, 5 Wellington Road, Hawick; Vice-president, William Fairholm, 12 Dickson Street, Hawick; Secretary, Alex. Pringle, 24 Garfield Street, Hawick. Committee—Philip Russell, Peter Walker, George Brooks, John Hamilton, Thomas Laidlaw, and Andrew Nichol. Special features of Club—To honour the name of Robert Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth, and otherwise endeavour to perpetuate his memory; to afford the members the means of social intercourse, mutual helpfulness, intellectual improvement, and social recreation.
No. 240—BLAWARTHILL Burns Club. Federated 6th December, 1914. President, Wm. Blair; Vice-president, J. Paterson; Secretary, T. G. King, 917 Yoker Road, Yoker; Treasurer, D. J. Lindsay.

No. 241—CROOK Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 4th January, 1915. Place and time of meeting, Crown Hotel, Crook, 7.30 p.m. President, Matthew Gregory, Croft Avenue, Crook; Vice-president, J. Tillotson, School House, Crook; Secretary, A. B. Rutherford, Church Street, Crook, Co. Durham; Treasurer, Fred. Lax, Hope Street, Crook. Committee—Dr Caldwell, Wm. Cawthorn, J. B. Couithard, M. Coates, J. Riddell, C. L. Wand, G. Lax, G. Ogg, J. Wilson, J. Race, R. Anton, and Wm. Pallister. Special features of Club—Concert held 25th January, 1916; from proceeds we have handed over £20 to war charities. Concert held 25th January, 1917; from proceeds we have handed over £30 to war charities.


No. 243—PAISLEY St. James Burns Club. Instituted 1912. Federated 1915. President, John Stewart, 6 Blythswood Drive, Paisley; Vice-president, James Leitch, 33 Glen Street, Paisley; Secretary, John M'Kechnie, 2 Douglas Terrace, Paisley. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst the members and kindred Clubs; the celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the life and works of Burns, and kindred subjects.

No. 244—DALMUIR Burns Club. Instituted 1914. Federated September, 1915. Place of meeting, Trades Hall, Dalmuir. President, Bailie John Young, The Crescent, Dalmuir; Vice-president, Robert Ferguson, Learig Place, Dalmuir; Secretary, Alex. Dillon, 21 Trafalgar Street, Dalmuir; Literary Secretary, John Ral, Trades Restaurant, Dalmuir.

No. 245—KINNAIRD Victoria Burns Club. Instituted October, 1910. Federated 3rd January, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Inn, Carronshore, second Saturday each month, at 7 p.m. President, James Turnbull, Bothy Row, Carronshore, by Carron; Vice-president, Alexander Reid, North Main Street, East End, Stenhousemuir; Secretary, George Jenkins, Kinnaird, by Falkirk. Committee—Joseph Wallace, Charles Walker, George Cowan, John Waugh, and Samuel Marshall. Special features of Club—To meet in a social capacity; to uphold
the name of Burns; annual picnic; celebration of the anniversary of the Poet's birthday.

No. 246—LOCHORE and ROSEWELL Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 20th September, 1916. Federated 15th January, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Rosewell Bar, Lochore, first Tuesday each month. President, Wm. C. Clark, Montrose Street, Lochore; Vice-president, James Bauld, Thelma Cottage, Crosshill, Lochore; Secretary, Robert Davidson, Ballingry Road, Lochore. Committee—Wm. Morton, Jas. Dunn, John Hebenton, George Young, and John Bauld. Special features of Club—The encouragement of sound intercourse among admirers of the Poet by means of literary and social meetings, &c., as the committee of management may deem fit to adopt.

No. 247—LOCHGELLY Thirteen Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 12th March, 1916. Federated 1st September, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Bar, monthly. President, W. Whisker, Opera House Buildings, Main Street, Lochgelly; Vice-president, G. Arrol, 36 South Street, Lochgelly; Secretary, John Paton, 18 Berry Street, Lochgelly; Croupier, J. Kippen; Assistant Croupier, J. Mitchell; Bard, R. Mackie; Horn Bearer, J. McNeil; Sentinel, J. Walker.

No. 248—BIRTLEY Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1916. Federated 18th October, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Railway Hotel, Birtley, alternate Thursdays, at 7.30 p.m. President, Thomas Fenwick, Hurras Bank, Birtley, Co. Durham; Vice-president, Robert Kerr Wilson, Brook Terrace, Birtley, Co. Durham; Secretary, James Mann, Wellington House, Station Road, Birtley, Co. Durham; Treasurer, Dr John Johnson, Brookside, Birtley, Co. Durham. Committee—W. F. L. Lister, Jos. W. Sterling, R. Wade, R. G. Wilson, W. Cowie, and A. Stewart. Special features of Club—To celebrate in a suitable manner the anniversary of the Poet's birth, and to honour his memory in such other way as may from time to time be determined; social well-being of the members; it is intended to institute competitions in the local schools in Scottish song and literature.

No. 249—MID-CALDER Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 28th September, 1916. Federated 23rd November, 1917. Place and time of meeting, Market Inn, Mid-Calder, at 6 p.m. President, James Denholm, Pumpherton, Mid-Calder; Vice-president, Thos. Daziel, Oakbank, Mid-Calder; Secretary, D. M'Ckerracher, North Gate, Livingston, Mid-Calder; Treasurer, George Morris, Market Inn, Mid-Calder.

No. 250—COWENBEATH Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 19th October, 1917. Federated 28th November, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Crown Hotel, alternate Saturdays, at 5 p.m. President, John Black, 25
Natal Place, Cowdenbeath; Vice-president, Jas. Wilson, Park Avenue, Cowdenbeath; Secretary, Geo. Marshall, 38 Natal Place, Cowdenbeath; Treasurer, A. Mitchell; Bard, W. Jack; Croupier and Pianist, A. Bradford Committee—John Duff, R. Brownlie, W. Lawrie, John Stark, and G. Campbell. Special features of Club—Furthering the cause of Burns.

No. 251—GLENCRAGAIG Burns Club. Instituted February, 1918. Federated 1918. Place and time of meeting, Hunter's Bar, Glencraig, 7 p.m. President, Robert Glencross, Lofty View, Glencraig; Vice-president, Robt. Fairbairn, Launcherhead, Station Road, Lochgelly; Secretary, Robt. Wands, Largo Cottages, Glencraig, Fife; Treasurer, Jas. Salmon, near Glencraig. Committee—Messrs Ferguson, Moffat, Murdoch, and Dodds. Special features of Club—For the purpose of preserving the Scotch doric advancing the spirit of the Burns cult, and promoting harmony amongst our members.

No. 252—ALLOWAY Burns Club. Instituted 18th December, 1908. Federated 7th December, 1918. Place of meeting, Alloway (date not fixed for 1919). President, John B. Fergusson, Balgarth, Ayr; Vice-president, James Johnstone, Alloway Cottage, Ayr; Secretary, Andrew J. Gray, 29 Northpark Avenue, Ayr.

No. 253—GALSTON Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1916. Federated 1918. Place and date of meeting, Burns Tavern, Galston, Monday, at 6.30 p.m. President, Alex. Hunter, Barr Street, Galston; Vice-president, John Luke, Orchard Street, Galston; Secretary, John Morton, 26 Garden Street, Galston. Committee—Adam Aitken and Jas. McCaw. Special features of Club—Social and literary.

No. 254—GREENOCK Victoria Burns Club. Instituted 3rd October, 1914. Federated 18th December, 1918. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Bowling Green, East Crawford Street, nightly (excluding Saturdays), at 7.30 p.m. President, Bailie Dr Milne, Hill End House, East Crawford Street, Greenock; Vice-president, D. Clark, 2 Octavia Street, Port-Glasgow; Secretary, Wm. Ferrier, 3 East Crawford Street, Greenock; Treasurer, J. Armstrong; Auditor, Wm. Morrison. Special features of Club—Monthly lectures; draughts, dominoes, darts, cards, and bagatelle competitions; to cherish the name of Robert Burns, to foster a love for his writings, and generally to promote good-fellowship.
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