MARRIAGE
IS NEVER A FAILURE IF YOU
GET YOUR
WEDDING INVITATIONS
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OVER 50 BEAUTIFUL DESIGNS IN STOCK
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THE
HIGHLAND NEWS
CONDUCTED BY JOHN M'LEOD, M.P.

PRINTING.

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
IN
ENGLISH OR GAELIC
EXECUTED AT
"THE HIGHLAND NEWS"
PRINTING WORKS.

No. 871 SEVENTEENTH YEAR INVERNESS, SATURDAY JUNE 9, 1900. TWELVE PAGES PRICE ONE PENNY.

Births, Marriages, & Deaths.

BIRTHS.

At Kirkton, Bunchrew, on the 3rd inst., the wife of JOHN CRAN, of a daughter.

At West Hill, Culloden, on the 5th inst., the wife of WILLIAM JOHNSTONE, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At the Station Hotel, Inverness, on the 6th inst., by the Rev. John R. Macrae, Beauly, assisted by the Rev. John Mackay, late of Cromarty (cousin of the bride-groom), and the Rev. R. Macleod, Clydebank, JAMES ALEXANDER MACKEGGIE, City Line, Glasgow, to ANNIE, only daughter of the late Mr Donald Macrae, Barnyards, Beauly—No cards.

At the Roxburghe Hotel, Edinburgh, on the 6th inst., by the Rev. George Fitzpatrick James, Bristo U.P. Church, assisted by the Rev. Dr Stewart, Nether Lochaber, the Rev. DUNCAN MATHESON MACRAE, parish minister of Ardgour and Kingairloch, to ELIZABETH KAY, daughter of John Paterson, Esq., 26 Coates Gardens, Edinburgh, and Ardrhu House, Onich, Lochaber.

Within St Columba's Parish Church, Oban, on 6th inst., by Rev. Thomas Gentles, D.D., minister first charge Paisley Abbey, and Rev. Andrew Campbell, Crieff, and Rev. J. A. Nicholls, Kilmelfort, the Rev. ALFRED BROWN, minister of the parish, to LILY, daughter of the late William Campbell, Esq., Fleetwood, and Mrs Campbell, Oban.

THE HIGHLAND NEWS MARRIAGE INVITATIONS are proverbial as harbingers of happy homes. Orders sent by return. 50 varieties in stock. Cake Cards, in pretty designs, at moderate prices.

DEATHS.

Accidentally killed by fall from rocks at Horn Head, Donegal, on 3rd inst., W. CHARLES MANNERS, only son of C. R. Manners, C.E., Sunnybank, Inverness, aged 22 years.

At Teanacoil, Beauly, suddenly, on 3rd inst., DANIEL DEWAR, forester to Lord Lovat.

At Munlochy, on 4th inst., ANDREW SMITH, estate manager, Raddery, Fortrose.

At 2 Stephen's Street, Inverness, on the 4th inst., JANET MACBEAN (late of Scotrack, Strathnairn), aged 75 years.

At Kyleakin, Skye, on the 3rd inst., SUSIE LUSCOMBE, the beloved wife of Alexander Henderson, The Retreat, Dingwall.

At Maxwell Cottage, Glen-Urquhart Road, Inverness, on the 2nd inst., Sergeant GEORGE SHEPHERD, late 78th Seaforth Highlanders, and G Company (Beauly) 1st V.B.C.H.

At Simla, Harrowden Road, Inverness, on 2nd inst., EVA CHAPMAN, aged 15 days.

At 64 College Street, Aberdeen, on the 1st inst., ADAM, son of the late Adam Macdonald, "The Peacock," Inverness, aged 54.

At 8 James Street, Stornoway, on 4th inst., JAMES EVANDER, second son of the late Captain Donald Macaulay, aged 29 years. Deeply regretted.

DIED, at 61 Innes Street, on 6th inst., HAROLD PATERSON, late of the Excise. Funeral TO-DAY (Saturday) at 1 o'clock to Tomnahurich Cemetery. Friends will please accept this the only intimation.

DIED, suddenly, at Middle Feabuie, Culloden Muir, on the 8th inst., MARGARET CHISHOLM, wife of John Macdonald. Funeral to Daviot, at 11·30 A.M., on MONDAY, 11th inst. All friends respectfully invited.

IN MEMORIAM CARDS.—New, Chaste, and Beautiful Designs. Large Selection. Samples and Prices on application to the MANAGER, "The Highland News," Inverness.

JAMES L. HORNE, 45 CASTLE STREET, FUNERAL UNDERTAKER.

CHURCH NOTICES.

CROWN FREE CHURCH.
SABBATH, (TO-MORROW) JUNE 10th.
REV. WILLIAM TODD, M.A.

FREE EAST CHURCH.—TO-MORROW (Sabbath), Forenoon and Evening, Rev. ALLAN CAMERON, M.A.

FREE WEST CHURCH.
Rev. Mr JOHNSTONE, of Strathpeffer, will preach on Sabbath first—
Forenoon Service ... ... 11 A.M.
Evening ... ... 6·30 P.M.
Special retiring collection will be taken at both services in aid of congregational funds.

HOME MISSION.—SPECIAL SERVICE
In the PARISH CHUHCH
(Rev. Mr MACEACHERN'S)
To-morrow at 6·30 p.m. Door Collection.

BAPTIST CHURCH, SCHOOL LANE.—Services TO-MORROW (SABBATH), 11 A.M. and 6·30 P.M. Preacher—REV. JAMES M'KAY, Oban.

Y. M. C. A.
All Young Men made welcome at Dr MACKAY'S Bible Class on SABBATH at 4·30 P.M. Subject—"The Galilean Gospel."
Evangelistic Meeting at 8·15 P.M.

THE ROGART FREE CHURCH
WILL BE
RE-OPENED
On TUESDAY, 12th JUNE,
When the Rev. Mr Mackay, late of Cromarty, will preach in Gaelic at 12 noon, and the Rev. Dr Wells, Glasgow, at 1·30 p.m.
There will be an Evening Meeting, in which Dr Wells, Treasurer Murray, J.P., Glasgow, Rev. Mr Mackay, Rev. Allan Cameron, Inverness, Rev. Mr Trail, Wick, and others will take part.

MUSICAL PROGRAMME.
Mr Rod. Macleod, Mod Gold Medallist, Mr G. A. Cameron, Inverness, and others will assist.
By kind permission of Mr Garrow the Highland Railway give Excursion Fares.
Tickets for Evening Meeting, 6d each.
Free Church Manse,
Rogart, 6th June, 1900.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

PORTREE PARISH COUNCIL.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an ABSTRACT in Duplicate of ACCOUNTS of the PARISH COUNCIL for the year ended 15th May, 1900, duly balanced and signed, together with all Assessment Books, Account Books, Deeds, Contracts, Accounts, Vouchers, and Receipts mentioned or referred to in such Accounts, will be deposited in the OFFICES of the PARISH COUNCIL, and be Open between the Hours of Eleven Forenoon and Three Afternoon, to the inspection of all Ratepayers within the Parish, from the 13th to the 20th day of JUNE inclusive; and all such Persons shall be at liberty to take copies of, or extracts from the same without fee.
NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN, that any RATEPAYER may make any OBJECTION to such ACCOUNTS, or any part thereof, and shall transmit the same, and the grounds thereof, in writing to the PARISH AUDITOR, and a copy thereof to the Officer, or Person or Persons concerned, Two clear Days before the time fixed for the Audit; and any ratepayer may be present at the Audit, and may support any Objection made, as hereinbefore provided, either by himself or by any other Ratepayer.
Mr J. W. ROSS, C.A., 49 West George Street, Glasgow, has been appointed Parish Auditor.
The Audit will take place within the PARISH AUDITOR'S OFFICE, on Friday, the 22nd day of June current, at 12 o'clock.
ANGUS ROSS,
Clerk of the Parish Council.
Portree, 31st May 1900.

LOST OR FOUND.

PURSE—Lost between Town and Drummond, containing money and return ticket to Fortrose. Reward. Apply Mackay, Bookseller.

LOST, Gold Curb Bracelet, set with pearls and turquoise, between Telford Street, Kenneth Street, Montague Row, and Tomnahurich Street. Finder will be rewarded by returning same to Office.

WOULD the young lady who was enquiring about umbrella kindly call at SINCLAIR, confectioners?

GREAT SALE To-day of Cycling Shoes in black and t . Manufacturer's complete stock cleared at very low prices. Great Bargains at Stewart's Glasgow Boot Shop, 4 East Gate, Inverness.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

INVERNESS BURGH LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.
All Liberals who may have removed at the last term are requested to communicate their new addresses to
GEORGE ROSS, Solicitor,
12 Lombard Street, Inverness.
Hon. Secy.

U.K.C.T.A.—INVERNESS BRANCH.—Adjourned Quarterly Meeting will be held on SATURDAY (To-night), at the Caledonian Hotel, at 8 o'clock P.M.

NOTICE.—The HARRIS MARKET will be held on Thursday, 5th July, 1900.
THOMAS WILSON,
Clerk, Harris Parish Council.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE DR MACNEE.
Subscriptions will be received and acknowledged by the Provost and Members of Committee and by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr G. H. Duncan, National Bank, Inverness, and by the Hon. Secretary, Mr J. Munro Middleton, solicitor, Queensgate, Inverness.

ALL Parties having Claims against the Estate of the late HUGH THOMSON, cabinetmaker, Fortrose, are requested to lodge the same, duly vouched, with the subscriber, within ten days from this date.
GEORGE ROSS, Solicitor, Inverness.
Agent for Judicial Factor on the Estate of Hugh Thomson.
5th June 1900.

NOTICE.—Parties having Claims against the deceased Miss MARIE J. SENIOR, Photographer, who resided at Montague Row, Inverness, or against the firm of WATSON & SENIOR, Photographers, Church Street, Inverness, or WATSON & Co., Photographers, Academy Street, Inverness, of which firm the deceased was sole partner, are requested to lodge the same with the Subscribers within Fourteen Days from this date; and Parties indebted to the Deceased, or to the said Firms, are requested to make payment to the Subscribers within the like period.
MACTAVISH & GIBSON,
Agents for Executor.
36 Academy Street, Inverness,
1st June, 1900.

DIVISIONAL ORDERS BY COLONEL FORSYTH, V.D.
Inverness, 8th June, 1900.
The Headquarters Division Competition for the Macintyre Cup will take place at the Longman Battery on Saturday, 16th June.
Parade at Longman 3 p.m. sharp.
Dress—Drill order without belts.
Band to attend at 6 p.m.

POSITION BATTERY.
Turn out in full strength TO-DAY, 9th inst., for drill in Public Park and gun practice at Longman.
"Hook in" at Bell's Park at 3 p.m. sharp.
Uniform—Drill Order.
Band to attend during drill in Public Park.

GARRISON COMPANIES.
Battalion Drill on Wednesday, 13th June, in Bell's Park.
Parade at 7·30 p.m. sharp in plain clothes.
Band to attend.
Gun practices on 20th and 21st June at Moving Targets
Parades at Longman Battery at 6·30 p.m. sharp each evening.
Uniform—Forage Caps and Canvas.
By order,
H. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, Lieut.,
Assistant Adjutant, H.V.A.

LODGINGS WANTED AND TO LET.

LODGINGS.—Large Comfortable Parlour-Bedroom and Bedroom, suitable for one or two gentlemen, to let in central locality. Apply No. 464 Highland News Office.

PARLOUR and Bedroom (Furnished) to Let. Suit married couple. Apply 19 Douglas Row

FURNISHED APARTMENTS.—Londoners to a very large number visit Inverness each year, and those having apartments would quickly let by inserting a small advertisement in the "Eastern Mercury" 30 words 1s., or 3 times 2s. This journal is the leading mid-weekly for suburban London and Essex.—Address, Publisher, "Eastern Mercury" Office, 827 High Road, Leytonstone, London, N.E.

HOUSES, &c., WANTED AND TO LET.

TO LET, Lee Cottage, Kenneth Street. Apply, Wm. Macdonald, contractor, George Street.

TO LET, near Lentran Station, small Cottage and Garden. Apply S. MACDONALD, banker, Beauly.

HOUSE TO LET, Carnmore Villa, Lovat Road. Six apartments, bath (hot and cold), &c. Apply, Boyd, Lovat Road.

TO Let Shop 24 Church Street with or without upstair premises. Apply to WM. MACBEAN, Jun., 35 Union Street.

SHOP and Back Room to Let, 87 Academy Street, presently occupied by Mr Cameron, flesher. Apply, 85 Academy Street.

TO Let, with entry at this Term, Butcher's Shop, No. 1 George Street, Inverness. Rent £16. Apply FRANCIS SQUAIR, 20 Church Street, Inverness.

TO Let or Sell, by private bargain, that beautiful residence known as "Riverdale," Island Bank. Apply to Francis Squair, Esq., solicitor, Inverness.

TO LET, Cottage of 4 large rooms, with ground attached extending to nearly 2 acres; three minutes' walk from Lentran Station. Apply to Messrs Mactavish & Gibson, solicitors, Inverness.

TO Let, DWELLING-HOUSE, No. 22 Market Brae, Inverness, consisting of five apartments. Annual rental, £18. Apply to FRANCIS SQUAIR, solicitor, 20 Church Street, Inverness.

TO Let, HAWTHORN VILLA, Hill Place, Inverness, a desirable dwelling-house, consisting of nine apartments, viz, three public rooms, five bedrooms, and kitchen. Rent, £32. For particulars, &c., apply to FRANCIS SQUAIR, solicitor, 20 Church Street, Inverness.

HOUSES, &c., TO LET.
1. Houses, Menzie's Buildings, Eastgate.
2. Two-Room, One-Room, and Attic HOUSES.
3. Large and commodious GRANARY, West side of the river.
4. HOUSE at North Kessock, to let or sell.
Apply, ALEX. FRASER, solicitor, 63 Church Street, Inverness.

NOW OPEN.
SEABANK LAUNDRY.
SEABANK HOUSE, LONGMAN ROAD, INVERNESS.
Being situated close to the sea, and having a large stretch of drying ground, clothes are returned snow white.
No machinery and no chemicals used.
Moderate prices; first-class work.

INVERNESS BATHS OPEN from 7 A.M. to 9 P.M. Swimming Bath comfortably heated. Private Baths, (d and 9d; Swimming do., 3d.

WILLIAM GROAT, Blacksmith, East Gate, will remove on the 21st inst. to 1 Glebe Street, (Chapel Street).

DON'T HAVE CORNS, BUNIONS, or ENLARGED TOE JOINTS
When a Packet of Dr Johnson's Famous CORN SILK will cure you. Price 7½d.
Sole Agent for Inverness—
J. M. SYMINGTON, CASH CHEMIST,
3 CASTLE STREET.

TESTIMONIALS Printed at The Highland News Printing Works at Lowest Prices.

"WHY NOT MARRY AT ONCE?" when you can get such extraordinary value in China Tea Sets, Dinner Sets, Bedroom Sets, and all necessary Household Requisites in Glass and Earthenware at TODD'S SALEROOM, 52 Academy Street (first shop from the East Church, Inverness).

WATCHES.—Gent.'s Silver Levers from £2 upwards; Gent.'s Silver Waltham Levers, highly recommended or timekeeping, from £2 12s 6d. Warranted five years. Money returned after a Month's Trial if not approved of. The RAILWAY WATCH COMPANY, Inverness.

PROPERTY, &c., WANTED AND FOR SALE.

BUTCHER'S Business for Sale; leading thoroughfare; easy ingoing; immediate entry. Excellent opening for an energetic man. Apply, Douglas, Town and County Bank, or And. J. & J. Macritchie, Solicitors.

FOR SALE the Subjects in Manse Place, Inverness, abutting on Academy Street, consisting of Nos. 2, 4, 6, and 8 Manse Place, and vacant ground adjoining. Offers will be received by FRANCIS SQUAIR, solicitor, 20 Church Street, Inverness, who will furnish full information.

FOR SALE, No. 1 ANNFIELD ROAD.
This well known Semi-detached Residence, with Garden and Grounds, is now offered for sale. It is nicely situated in one of the best parts of Inverness. The grounds, &c., extend to ¾ acre. The ground rent is held at a very low rate, viz., £6 10s. The house contains 3 public and 5 bedrooms, with ample servants' accommodation, outhouses, &c. For all particulars, apply to Messrs A. FRASER & Co., house agents, Union Street, Inverness.

FURNITURE AND OTHER SALES.

GREAT FURNITURE SALE
IN THE
SALEROOMS, BARON TAYLOR'S LANE,
On TUESDAY, 12th JUNE, 1900
(Postponed from 5th June),
Commencing at Eleven o'clock.

Messrs A. FRASER & COY. would draw attention to the large quantity of excellent ORNAMENTS, BEDROOM WARE, GLASS, PANTRY UTENSILS, to be sold at eleven o'clock.

PUBLIC ROOMS.
Inlaid suite in tapestry, mahogany parlour suite in tapestry, suites in leather cloth, &c.; several sideboards, 8 dining tables, occasional and side tables, cheffoniers, cabinets, curtains, carpets, &c.

BEDROOMS.
2 complete suites with wardrobes, 4 odd marble-top washstands, 3 handsome dressing-tables, with glasses; 5 chests of drawers, odd chairs and rails, bedsteads and bedding.

ORNAMENTS, BEDROOM AND KITCHEN WARE.
A very large quantity of fine ornaments, bedroom ware, kitchen utensils, glass ware, the greater part almost new.

MISCELLANEOUS.
2 Large bookcases, piano, garden seat and roller, roll top writing desk, almost new; 2 marble timepieces, brass hall stove, a number of small book shelves, 3 clothes' poles, sewing machine, dressers, kitchen tables and chairs, &c.
A. FRASER & COY., Auctioneers.
7 Union Street, Inverness.
NOTE.—There will also be exposed for sale at five o'clock several Shop Counters and Large Tables, suitable for shops or hotel stock rooms.

TWO Days' Sale at COLVIN'S Auction Rooms, FRIDAY and SATURDAY, 22nd and 23rd June curt. Details later. W. COLVIN, Auctioneer.

BIG DELIVERY To-day of dainty Boots and Shoes in all shades for children. Great Variety. Lowest prices only, at Stewart's, 4 East Gate.

RAILWAY NOTICES.

HIGHLAND RAILWAY
RETURN TICKETS AVAILABLE BY ALTERNATIVE ROUTES.
On and after SATURDAY, 1st July, ordinary return, tourist, and week-end tickets, and tickets issued at holiday fares (day excursion tickets by special trains excepted) between Keith, Grange, and stations on the Great North of Scotland Railway south of Grange on the one hand, and Elgin and stations on the Highland Railway west and north of Elgin on the other hand, and *vice versa* will be available on the return journey *via* Mulben, or *via* Craigellachie, or by the Moray Firth Coast Line, irrespective of the route shown upon the tickets. Single journey tickets and the outward portions of all return tickets will, as hitherto, be available only by the route shown upon them.
W. MOFFATT, General Manager, Great North of Scotland Railway.
T. A. WILSON, General Manager, Highland Railway.
June, 1899.

GREAT NORTH OF SCOTLAND RAILWAY.
TRAIN SERVICE
BETWEEN
WICK, THURSO, KYLE OF LOCHALSH, AND THE NORTH,
AND
MONTROSE, ABERDEEN, DUNDEE, GLASGOW, EDINBURGH, AND LONDON.
From 1st JUNE, 1900, until further notice.

FROM THE NORTH VIA ABERDEEN.

dep.	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.
Wick	—	—	—	—	—	8 40	—
Thurso....	—	—	—	—	—	8 50	—
Tain	—	—	8 15	10 0	—	1 29p	3 20
Stornoway	—	—	11c 0p	—	—	—	—
Portree...	—	—	—	—	7 15	—	—
Kyle of L'h	—	—	6 40a	—	10 30	—	—
Strathp'ff'r	—	7 45	9 25	10 48	12 40p	2 10	4 17
Dingwall..	—	8 0	9 40	11 3	1 7	2 28	4 30
Inverness.	6 0	9 18	11 5	1 40p	3 0	3 55	6 0
Nairn.....	6 32	9 41	11 32	2 2	3 23	4 25	6 29
Forres	7 0	10 5	11 54	2 20	3 45	4 50	6 50
Grantown.	6 8	9 48	—	1 25	—	—	6 10
Elgin.....	7 10	10 32	11 25	2 50	3 50	—	7 26
arr.							
Aberdeen..	9 55	12 55p	3 0p	5 10	7·10	7 20	10 0
Montrose	11 7	2 26	5 30	6 34	—	9 35	7 59a
(Cal.)							
Do. (N.B.)	11 16	2 27	4 26	6 29	—	8 39	7 16
Arbroath	11 34	3 15	6 32	7 0	—	—	8 37
(Cal.)							
Do. (N.B.)	11 41	2 52	4 52	6 53	—	9 5	7 39
Dundee...	12 2p	3 50	—	7 30	—	—	9 15
(East)							
Do. Tay B	12 7	3 25	5 23	7 20	—	9 30	8 5
Perth.....	12 7	3 50	7 15	7 30	—	9 55	8 55
Edinburgh	1 57	5 18	7 9	9 16	—	11 3	9 37
(Wav.)							
Do. (Pr St)	2 15	5 56	—	9 35	—	—	11 4
Glasgow...	2 0	6 0	—	9 25	—	11b58	10 45
(Buch. St.)							
Do. (Q St.)	3 0	6 28	—	10 11	—	—	10 43
London ...	10 45	3 50a	—	7 30a	—	8 0a	7 10p
(Euston)							
Do. (K. X.)	10 45	3 10	5 50	7 10	—	7 35	6 30
Do. (St P.)	4 20a	5 30	—	8 5	—	—	7 50

b Arrives Central Station.
c Does not sail on Saturday nights, but sails on Sundays.

TO THE NORTH VIA ABERDEEN.

dep.	P. M.	A. M.	P.M.	A. M.	P.M.	A. M.	P.M.
London ...	2 0	—	8 0*	—	11c50	—	—
(Euston)							
Do. (K.C.)	10 35a	—	8 15*	—	11e30	—	—
Do. (St.P.)	10 40	—	—	—	9e15	—	—
Glasgow...	10 0p	—	4‡20a	—	7 15a	10 0	2 0
(Buch. St.)							
Do. (Q St.)	8 15	—	—	—	6 40	9 0	1 20
Edinburgh	9 15	—	4 10	—	7 25	9 35	1 50
(Wav.)							
Do. (Pr St)	9 45	—	4 0	—	6 40	9 40	1 35
Perth.....	12 30a	—	5 58	6 0	9 15	11 45	4 0
Dundee....	10 57p	—	5 34	—	9 3	11 35	3 50
Tay Bridge							
Do. (East).	—	—	—	6 40	9 10	11 40	4 0
Arbroath	11 23	—	5 59	—	9 27	12 6p	4 19
(N.B.)							
Do. (Cal.)..	—	—	—	7 20	9 42	12 10	4 37
Montrose	11 46	—	6 23	—	9 51	12 31	4 49
(N.B.)							
Do. (Cal.).	—	—	—	7 42	10 10	12 37	5 9
dep.	A. M.		A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	
Aberdeen..	3 30	6 0	8 5	9 45	11 50	2 f 20	6 45
Grantown.	—	—	11 34	1 7	4 5p	7 36	—
Elgin.. arr.	6 13&	8 20	10 25	12 5p	3 25	4 40	9 5
Forres... ,,	6 45	8 50	10 58	12 33	3 30	5 15	9 32
Nairn.... ,,	7 14	9 10	11 32	12 57	4 0	5 37	9 51
Inverness,,	7 50	9 35	12 5p	1 25	4 38	6 0	10 15
Dingwall ,,	8 52	10 25	—	3 14	5 41	8 58	—
Strip'ff'r,,	9 5	10 40	—	3 35	5 55	—	—
K'e of L'h,,	—	1 45p	—	6 5	9 25	—	—
Portree.. ,,	—	4 30	—	—	—	—	—
Stornoway,,	—	7 50	—	—	—	—	—
Tain .... ,,	10 0a	11 27a	—	4 17	6 50	10 5	—
Thurso.. ,,	—	3 35p	—	—	—	—	—
Wick ... ,,	—	3 50	—	—	—	—	—

* Not on Saturdays.
† Leaves Central Station.
‡ Highland Station. e Also runs on Sundays; but the departure time on Saturdays is 8 50 p.m.
f Also runs on Sundays.
The Train for Grantown, Dingwall, and Tain leaves Aberdeen at 3·45 p.m.
EXPRESS TRAINS, equipped with First and Third Class Corridor Carriages with Lavatory Accommodation and Lighted by Electricity, run from and to Aberdeen in direct connection with the Caledonian and North British Companies' Fast Trains.
THROUGH CARRIAGES are run between London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Inverness.
Passengers are requested to ask for Tickets Routed via Aberdeen. W. MOFFATT, General Manager.

SITUATIONS WANTED AND VACANT.

SMART Lad, good writer, with knowledge of figures, wanted. Apply, Station Hotel.

WANTED, an Apprentice. Apply D. Beaton, tailor and clothier, 27 Church Street, Inverness.

BOOK-KEEPER wanted for wholesale trade. Some experience. Apply, with testimonials, No. 1539 Highland News Office.

WANTED, Three good Journeymen Plumbers. Apply W. Grant, plumber, Kingussie.

GIRL Compositer wanted for the Highland News. Apply at Office.

WANTED, Machinist for dressmaking; also experienced Coat, Bodice, and Skirt Makers. Apply The Arena, High Street.

WANTED, several good hotel cooks and laundrymaids (season), and all classes of servants. Mrs Alexander, the Register.

WANTED, experienced Housekeeper on books. Dairymaid wanted, and all classes of generals for town and country, home, north, and south. SKINNER'S Registry, Academy Street.

SPECIFIC ARTICLES FOR SALE.

HAVE you any Animal or Article for sale? If so, use this column. It brings an immediate response. Eighteen words 6d.

FOR Sale, Gent.'s Highland Dress Suit, comprising black cord tunic and vest with silver buttons, chest 36. Fraser tartan. Kilt, plaid, hose, and drawers, sporran, dirk, bonnet and feather, brooches, rosettes, and other accessories. Almost new. Cost about £10. Will be sold cheap Offers to No 1531 Highland News Office, Inverness.

SEE Window, see window to-day, for all the latest in Boots and Shoes, in a shades and fittings up-to-date goods. STEWART'S, 4 Eastgate.

BICYCLE, in use one season, first-class condition, cost £11 15s. Sell £7. Apply, No. 1272 Highland News Office.

HIGH-CLASS Mailcarts and Bassinettes. Cash or hire. Old ones exchanged at Sewing Machine Depot, Market Arcade, Queensgate.

JACK'S Half-Crown Invalid Port—Guaranteed Pure and Matured; strongly recommended as a nourishing and invigorating Wine. JACK, Exchange.

J. B. B. PIPES are the best to Smoke. Guaranteed against Cracking or Burning. Stood the test for thirty years.

CYCLING SHOES, all sizes, 4s 11d, 5s 11d, 6s 11d. Get a pair and try them. Simpson's, 9 Bridge Street.

HIGHLAND Volunteer Camp.—Simpson's for brushes, per set of two, 1s 3d; blacking, 1d per tin. 9 Bridge Street.

SUITABLE for Camp.—Patent Self-Polishing Blacking, 6d per bottle. Simpson's, 9 Bridge Street.

JACK'S Jamaica Rum, 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per Bottle. Cognac Brandy, 3s 6d to 6s per Bottle. EXCHANGE.

FOR finest new season's Jams and Jellies try MACDONALD'S Imperial Stores, Grant Street. Household Jams only 4d per 2 lbs.

FOR Genuine old Highland and Irish WHISKIES try MACDONALD, Imperial Stores, 29 Grant Street. Pure malt only.

GLOBE SYRUP. Guaranteed pure cane. Only 4d per 2 lbs. Macdonald's Imperial Stores, Grant Street.

CANVAS Shoes in tan or black, new shapes, all this season's goods, thoroughly up-to-date, most comfortable to wear. To be had only at STEWART'S, 4 Eastgate.

JACK'S Half-Crown Invalid Port—One bottle 2s 9d, two bottles 5s 6d; three bottles 8s post free. JACK, Exchange.

THE popular shop for hat polish, stains, enamels, varnishes, and paints. 6d bottles for 4½d. 4 NESS WALK.

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Fine Cashmere, quarter sleeves, 1s 3d, 1s 6½d.
Cotton Spencers, quarter sleeves, in Pink and White, 11½d. White, 1s 3½d. 1s 6½d.
Cotton Vests, long sleeves, 11½d, 1s 3½d, 1s 6½d, 1s 11½d.
Fine Cashmere Spencers, long sleeves, in White and Pink, 2s 6d.
Fine Cashmere Spencers, short sleeves, 2s 2d, 2s 6d.
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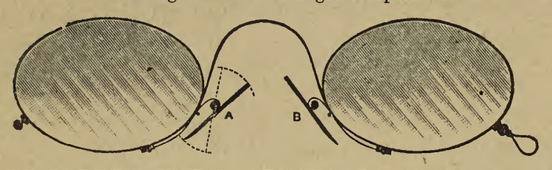

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HIGHLAND RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.—The following is a statement of the traffic returns on the Highland Railway for the week ending 3rd June, 1900:—Receipts for coaching traffic, a£5953; last year, £6344; decrease, £391; receipts for goods, minerals, &c., a£3559; last year £3840; decrease, £281; total for week, £9512; last year, £10,184; decrease, £672; amount for previous thirteen weeks, £111,025; corresponding period last year, £113,822; decrease, £2797; total for fourteen weeks, £120,537; corresponding period last year, £124,006; decrease, £3469. Miles opened, 492¼; corresponding period last year, 490¾; increase, 1½ miles. aCompany's carriage of their coal and of their other stores not included now.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

MODERATORS' CLOSING ADDRESSES.

FREE CHURCH.

In the General Assembly of the Free Church on Saturday Dr John M'Ewan submitted the report of the Committee on Romanism and Ritualism. He said that the animus of the Vatican against Great Britain had never been more plainly shown than during the last few months. For venomous scurrility even the press of Russia had been outbid by the newspapers under the control of the Curia. He urged that there was good reason for continuing this committee, as there was far more going on at this moment in the way of proselytising in connection with the Scottish Episcopal Church than most people were aware of. Mr Muir, Blairgowrie, moved a deliverance approving of the report, and renewing the Church's testimony against the errors and dangers of the sacerdotal movement. Mr Paterson, in seconding, referred to the Church Service Society and the Scottish Church Society, the members of which, he maintained, were very much in unison with the position taken up by the Ritualists in England with regard to the sacraments. After further discussion the deliverance was adopted. The report on army chaplains was afterwards dealt with.

There was a small attendance when the Free Church Assembly resumed on Monday forenoon. The report of the College Committee on cases of students was presented, and a number of applications were granted. Mr R. R. Simpson, W.S., depute clerk, submitted the report on Systematic Giving, which was approved. On the recommendation of the Committee on Sanctioning of Charges, a number of applications were approved. Several applications from ministers of other Churches were granted. Authority was given to certain churches to dispose of property, and the Assembly approved of a deliverance to sell the church property at Leghorn to the Waldesian Church for 30,000 lire. The Assembly approved of a deliverance on the Baldernock case to the effect that while the proposals embodied in the petitions reflect the greatest credit on the Baldernock congregation, the matters raised in the petitions are not in the meantime ripe for decision. The report of the General Trustees stated that the amount in their hands was £1,062,173. At the evening sitting the reports of the Colonial and the Continental Committees were received and approved.

DR ROSS TAYLOR AND UNION.

The Assembly had a short day sitting on Tuesday, only some routine business remaining to be disposed of. In the evening the Assembly was brought to a close with the Moderator's address.

We have had, he said, honest differences of opinion expressed in connection with the momentous subject which chiefly engaged our thoughts; but those who differed from the line of action taken by the majority of the House expressed their views with such a total absence of bitterness, or of any suggestion of separating from their brethren, that we have every reason to expect that, as the weeks go on, their difficulties will increasingly disappear. This may the more confidently be looked for because of the reception the Assembly willingly extended to the "Declaration" presented by a number of honoured brethren who were previously opposed to the union. Moreover, the scruple mainly influencing the majority appeared to arise from a fear lest the Church's attitude towards the great principle of Christ's Headship over the nations should be changed if the Church entered into this union. But I am free to say from this chair that such a fear is groundless. Our testimony as a Church to that principle, and to the correlative duty of nations and their rulers to serve Christ, and to further the interests of His kingdom in every way consistent with the Church's spirituality and freedom, will be in no degree abated. We shall enter the united Church carrying that principle with us, and free to give it practical effect according as our Divine Head may require. And that being so, may we not hope that, when we do pass into the union which has now been irrevocably sanctioned, we shall do so with unbroken ranks, standing shoulder to shoulder as in years gone by, with the common resolve to dedicate our reinforced energies and resources to the more adequate overtaking of our true mission as a power for Christ in the land—alike in Lowland parishes and in Highland glens. Dr Ross Taylor proceeded to review the life and work of the Scottish Churches as developed throughout the century.

OF THE DISRUPTION

he said—It was the manifestation, the crowning manifestation, of the life which had been steadily strengthening in the heart of the Church during the previous 40 years. And, let me add, our fathers were led under this guidance to take a step of far-reaching significance. The Disruption I venture to call the closing of the last chapter but one in the history of the old relation between Church and State in Scotland. Meantime the story forming the last chapter is running on, marked by such incidents as the Patronage Act of 1874, the appearance of a sucession of proposed Bills in the interests of spiritual independence, and the frettings of the Church against the Act of 1693 anent formula. Whether the close of the chapter be near or still distant, one thing is satisfactory, that the pointer sends on the eye towards freedom. Continuing, Dr Taylor said—Another feature in Church life through the century has been the growth of the spirit of unity. To a considerable extent this is due to the broadening out of men's minds to realise the greatness of the Church's mission. Our range of Christian interest has vastly widened, the hair-splittings and provincial feuds which seemed so important when Scotland was our world are judged by a new standard, and with glowing hearts we feel that the sooner we cease to turn mole-hills into mountains, and academic distinctions into impassible barriers, and unite our energies in the common endeavour to bring those territories under the sway of Christ, the sooner will the Church address herself worthily to the task assigned her by the Risen Lord. And, similarly, in regard to the necessities of the home field, the more a sense of its urgency takes hold of men's minds the more the need is felt for united action. Hence the number of undenominational societies that are at work, carrying on various departments of service which properly belong to the Church as such, but which, because of its divided condition, it cannot overtake. All too well the adversary has known how to act upon the motto, divide and conquer; and the sad amount of carelessness which we deplore is, to a large extent, due to the want of organised and systematic effort on a comprehensive scale.

EARNEST MEN AND WOMEN

are at work here, there, and everywhere, but it is a kind of guerilla warfare that is carried on, not a strong, because united, mastering of the situation. And in all this, experience has just been teaching an old truth, lying patent on the face of the New Testament, that if the world is to believe that the Father sent the Son to save, Christ's people must manifest the spirit of love and unity. So long as the Church exhibits the aspect of a number of jealous and jarring sects, straining at doctrinal gnats while swallowing the camel of discord, theologians may protest as they please that there is a secret underlying unity, but the world will judge by what it sees. Only as the cardinal feature of Christ's kingdom receives its place of supremacy will the Church put on beauty and strength, for then only is true expression given to its hidden life. Hence with the growth of spiritual life through the century there has grown an instinctive sense of the duty and wisdom of annuling divisions. Union is not a thing to be forced; but gradually the spirit of Christianity will assert its power, and those who are one in faith will increasingly become one in feeling, and ultimately one in fellowship. Then, and not till then, will the Church in Scotland rise to the height of its great destiny as an instrument in Christ's hand for the evangelisation of the world. We were told on Monday night that the United Church would be a congeries of open questions, but that sounding appellation is now 30 years out of date. Possibly the right reverend Moderator was not aware that the proposal of union on the basis of open questions was abandoned a generation ago. We are now uniting on the standards, and not a single question will be open in the United Church which has not been an open question in the Free Church, and also for that matter in the Established Church—(applause). And that is one reason for hope in regard to the comprehensive union which many of us have at heart, for I believe that our old standards already common to us all will be the meeting ground on which all the true sons of Presbyterianism will in the long run unite—(applause). I must offer one more correction in reply to the reference made to the Free Church on Monday night. It was said—"We do not forget, and I hope the people of Scotland will not forget, that our oft-repeated offer to meet in friendly conference for an equitable basis of union was deliberately rejected." No; we do not forget; we painfully remember that the latest proposal for conference carried on its forefront this stipulation, that the one point of difference between us and the Established Church is not to be open to discussion. In such circumstances conference with a view to an equitable basis of union would have been the merest trifling. It looked as if the door had been for a moment opened in order the more vigorously to slam it in our faces, and of course the so-called offer was declined. If, however, conference should be proposed untrammelled by so ridiculous a restriction, if with mutual trust in one another's motives and respect for one another's convictions we met to consult as to

HOW DIVISION SHOULD BE HEALED,

and the cause and kingdom of our Lord advanced, if instead of cannonading one another across High Street—(laughter)—we gathered in singleness of aim as lovers of one country, heirs of one heritage, trustees of one mission, servants of one King, around the feet of one common Master, to learn His will, may we not expect that under His gracious guidance a worthy solution will be found of the question which has so long engendered alienation and strife and weakened our Christian influence upon the world? In his concluding words Dr Taylor said—It may be that this will be to some of us our last meeting in General Assembly, but when men speaking of it as the last Free Church General Assembly I have no sympathy with the suggestion. We can understand that our United Presbyterian brethren ended their happy and useful Synodical gatherings with a certain sadness because of the severing of old associations; but for our part we have no cause for even a trace of sadness beyond that which is incidental to our separating after a most harmonious and memorable meeting. We look forward to an enlarged building, to an enlarged Assembly, to enlarged fellowship, and to enlarged opportunities for service; and why, then, should we have other feelings than those of gladness and praise? Through God's goodness our Free Church has had a great past—a past which not only forms the outstanding feature in the Scottish history of the closing century, but has stamped its impress on the Christian character of Scotland to a degree which will continue to tell powerfully for good on all succeeding generations. But, great as has been our past, we look forward with devout confidence to a still greater future. We believe that He who has led us hitherto, and has given us to see a consummation realised which fathers of the Church longed and laboured to see, who has also led the sons of the Erskines and of Gillespie, and advanced them from small beginnings into a great, united, and fruitful Church, will not fail to bless still more abundantly His faithful people when, in accordance with His intercessory prayer, they close their divided ranks in order to devote their united strength to the ceaseless conflict with evil and the spread of His glorious gospel throughout all lands—(applause).

ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

In the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland on Saturday Dr Theodore Marshall submitted the report of the Committee on the Government Churches in India. He recapitulated the difficulties that had been put in the way of the Scottish chaplains having use of the Government garrison churches in India. He contended that the present position of matters was not satisfactory, and was not a position that the Church of Scotland could consent to occupy. He thought they should go back to first principles. What they had demanded all along from the Government was churches in which to worship. It did not very much matter to them how the Government provided the churches. If they could induce the Secretary of State for India to arrange that they should have the use of the garrison churches without the chance of interference by any ecclesiastic outside their own number they would be quite satisfied. They had no dispute with the Church of England in the matter. They were not approaching that Church; they were approaching Her Majesty's Government, who sent Scottish soldiers to India, who must make provision for all their other wants, and who must make suitable provision for their religious necessities. The discussion was continued by Sir Charles Dalrymple, M.P.; Sir James Ferguson, M.P.; Principal Story, and Mr Mark Stewart, M.P., and the report was finally adopted. Dr Theodore Marshall was appointed convener of the Home Mission Committee in succession to Donald Macleod. Reports on the constitution of quoad sacra churches, Presbyterial visitation, ministers without a charge, and the Synodal examination of students were also disposed of.

At Monday's meeting of the Assembly the Moderator delivered his closing address, and reviewed the progress, material and religious, which had marked the nineteenth century. The following are the more interesting points which he handled:—

SACREDOTAL PRETENSIONS.

Among ourselves there is little or nothing, so far as I can see, that should cause any alarm. The charges of "Sacredotalism," "Sacramentarianism," "Ritualism," and the like, which are sometimes bandied about, either ignorantly or thoughtlessly, have only the most slender foundation, in most cases none at all. That there are different shades of sentiment in the Church in regard to some of these matters may readily be allowed. But when probed to the bottom they do not amount to much, and so long as they are kept within reasonable and proper limits I should be the last to repress them. May I be permitted to say, that some of our younger clergy might exercise greater caution and discretion in the use of a style of ecclesiastical praseology, and in the adoption of practices, and even mannerisms, in which a certain flavour of mediaevalism may be detected—things harmless perhaps in themselves, but unfamiliar to our people, and calculated to give needless offence. I am convinced that Scotland—in which, of course, I include the Church of Scotland—is as resolutely opposed to all sacredotal pretensions as it ever was; though I trust there is a growing apprehension of the divine function of the Christian Church, the Christian Sacraments, and the Christian ministry.

THE DECREASE IN DIVINITY STUDENTS.

The decrease in the number of divinity students is a subject which has recently attracted some notice, though not more than it deserves. This diminution, which is not confined to the Church of Scotland, has certainly been considerable. During the last decade it has been specially noticeable. Various cases have been suggested for a state of matters which, if continued, may seriously affect the efficiency of the Church. In the luminous report on probationers which was presented to last General Assembly, these causes are grouped under three heads:—(1) The changed condition of the University curriculum; (2) the relation of licentiates to the full entrance into ministerial office; and (3) the relation of the ministry to other callings in life. Probably the University preliminary examination and the high standard of proficiency demanded in recent years by the Church herself has had a good deal to do with the diminution which has taken place. There are, however, many contributory causes which must be taken into account in connection with this matter. I do not myself believe that the want of what are called "pecuniary attractions" has much to do with it. Make the "livings" better, say some, and you will soon increase the supply. I am not quite sure of that, at least to the extent expected. Improve the livings by all means. No enterprise of the Church demands at this moment a more resolute and earnest effort than the Small Livings' Scheme.

COMPETITIVE PREACHING.

I have much greater sympathy with those who tell us that the ordeal of a congregational election, with its competitive preaching, through which a licentitate must pass to the full status of a parish minister, has a deterrent effect on many of our students, and these not the least worthy. I do not know that the Church can do much more than has been done for the purpose of restricting the existing evils of popular election. Nothing could be wiser or more appropriate than the counsels which have been authoritatively put forth on this subject. It is to be feared, however, that in many cases they are completely disregarded. If the place from which I now speak can give any added weight to the words I utter, I do most earnestly entreat our faithful people everywhere, to endeavour, when a vacancy occurs, to approach the solemn duty which then devolves upon them in a wiser and more earnest and prayerful spirit than is usual in such cases. When the election of a minister is conducted by methods not unlike those which are customary in connection with the secular appointments of municipal and parliamentary life—when party feeling is engendered—and passions the most mundane are called into exercise—when Sunday after Sunday is occupied with the "hearing" of candidates whose sermons and prayers are the subject of parochial criticism and gossip during the succeeding week—it is impossible that there should not be a great lowering of the spiritual tone of the congregation and a certain consciousness of humiliation on the part of those who have to run the gauntlet of this fiery trial.

THE RELIGIOUS DIFFICULTIES OF THE TIME.

But, as was before said, the causes are more complex than is generally supposed. To some extent they have their root in an exaggerated estimate of the religious difficulties of the time—in the decay of faith sadly prevalent in some quarters—in the spread of secularism—and in the attitude of certain classes of literature towards the Church and Christianity. There is much also in some forbidding aspects of our Scottish ecclesiasticism—much in the proceeding of Church Courts—much in our sectarian rivalry and unchristian divisions—much in the tone of our Church life, which hinders young men from directing their thoughts to the ministry. And if this be so, then, fathers and brethren, the true cure is the quickened spiritual life of the Church herself—the infusion into all our proceedings of a sweeter and nobler spirit—the growth of tolerance and charity, of earnestness and piety.

THE CHURCH'S CONTINUED PROGRESS—ITS CONDITIONS.

The Moderator went on to say that there were three conditions, at least, which might be laid down as essential to the Church's continued progress and stability. A living Church, first of all, must ever be eager "to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints." In these days they were witnessing a deliberate attempt to prove that the moral fruits of Christianity owed nothing to its beliefs—in other words, that were the creed of Christianity gone, its works might and would survive—in short, that what we call the supernatural might be put aside, and yet leave all that is most attractive and beautiful in the Gospel of the blessed Saviour. When Christian doctrine was thus dismissed to the region of theorists and dreamers in favour of a purely ethical Christianity, there was a total forgetfulness of the fact that "Christian doctrine, rightly understood, is simply the articulate statement according to the Scriptures of divine and eternal truths that we may live by them." The true preacher should have a message. He must have convictions, and he must declare them. He is not a moralist or an essayist, in whose productions, however "fresh or "original," there is no positive assertion of the everlasting veritics of the Christian faith. Foundation truths must be proclaimed in unmistakable accents, and with all the authority which belongs to those who are the commissioned heralds of a divine revelation.

THE CHURCH AND THE NEEDS OF THE TIME.

Again (continued the Moderator) a living Church must ever be ready to adapt its methods to varying needs and circumstances as they arise. As a divine society the Church's true vocation is the spiritual enlightenment and recovery of sinful and immortal beings. But there is a social as well as an evangelistic mission which in these days she is most urgently called upon to fulfil. There is still the bitter cry of outcast humanity going up to heaven. Hunger, nakedness, and poverty exist side by side with splendour of wealth and luxury. No language is too strong to describe the unwholesome atmosphere, morally as well as physically, in which multitudes are habitually living. It is a danger to the State as well as to the Church. The housing of the poor, the education of the young, the promotion of habits of thrift, sobriety, and industry among the people are all subjects which may very properly be included within the purview of the Church. We need a large and immediate increase in the financial resources of the home mission. The parochial system must be extended. Additional places of worship must be provided. The religious education of the young—a most urgent question—must be attended to more systematically and effectively than at present. New agencies must be developed. Our plan of operations must be rendered less stereotyped and more elastic. We adhere too closely to the old routine in the arrangement of our services. We ought to avail ourselves of trained and duly authorised lay agency to a much larger extent than we do. At all costs and with all earnestness and devotion must this work of social reform be carried on, not, indeed, from any unworthy motive of sectarian rivalry, but because we believe it is for our country's good, and that to neglect or paralyse it would be our country's loss.

"Oh, bring we then all sweet and gracious things
To touch the lives that lie so chill and drear,
That they may dream of some diviner sphere,
Whence each soft ray of beauty springs.
Each good and perfect gift is from above;
And there is healing for earth's direst woes:
God hath unsealed the springs of light and love,
To make the desert blossom as the rose."

PRESENTATION TO DR NORMAN MACLEOD.

On Tuesday afternoon, in the portrait gallery of Tolbooth Parish Church, the Rev. Dr Norman Macleod, moderator of the General Assembly, was presented with an illuminated address subscribed by past and present assistants. Rev. P. M. Playfair presided, and made the presentation, and Rev. John Turnbull, St Monans, and the Rev. Mr M'Corkindale, Lochgilphead, spoke of the high esteem in which the Moderator was held, and of the encouragement and assistance they had received from him.

CHURCH NOTES.

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, whose fame as a religious author and as the promulgator of the new Christian journalism has spread wherever the English language is spoken, has come over here from America on a holiday. On his arrival he was at once besieged by an army of newspaper men, who endeavoured to elicit his opinion on almost every subject under the sun. The preacher-journalist is described as "a well-built, robust-looking man in the prime of life, while his manner is strikingly subdued and kindly." His congregation at Topeka has granted him eight months' leave of absence, a portion of which he will spend in England lecturing under the auspices of the Christian Endeavour Society. He expresses himself fairly well satisfied with the results of this week's editorship of the "Topeka Daily Capital." No one, however, he says, ever fully realises his own ideal, and there were limitations which prevented him making the newspaper all he would have liked. To attract attention to the idea of a Christian daily paper was his chief aim, and in this he certainly succeeded. Mr Sheldon does not propose to repeat the experiment. One great fault in American newspapers, he declares, is a common absence of truthfulness and accuracy. He deplores the fact that scores of supposed interviews with himself which had appeared in prominent newspapers were "manufactured" by the writers. His temporary editorship was not an attempt to reform the American press—probably he thought such a thing impossible—but merely a protest against its methods. In making that protest Mr Sheldon had the sympathy of many in this country, who will also share his desire "for a new generation of newspaper writers to arise who shall have some sense of responsibility and of accuracy." In popular journalism now-a-days accuracy is sneered at as the characteristic of the dull.

To quarrel with the precentor is too frequently the tendency of ministers. When in ill-humour the minister pounces upon the wielder of the baton, and gives him a shaking-up which is generally resented—result, resignation. But the minister and precentor of the parish church of Achindour seem to be peace-loving individuals, for the latter recently retired after forty-seven years' service, and during all these years the relations between minister and precentor have been of the most cordial kind.

While speaking of precentors, I give the following anecdote:—On Sundays it was the habit of a rural minister to select the tunes to be sung to the psalms, and the precentor, who had been newly appointed, had chosen tunes for himself, but the minister would not consent to this arrangement. Accordingly, he cancelled the precentor's list, and selected the tunes himself. When he had done so the precentor asked the minister what his text was to be that day. On being told, the precentor objected to the minister's text, and forthwith proceeded to draw his pencil through the text which headed the minister's MS. But his pencil was quickly seized by the minister, who upbraided him for his impudence. "Ah, weel, dee as ye wid like tae be deen till, than," replied the precentor. "You like tae choose yer ain texts, an' I like tae choose my ain tunes." Then he entered the church by the vestry door, and throughout the service sang the tunes which he had selected himself. The minister interfered no more, at least so long as that precentor was in office.

In olden days the cathedral organist seems now and again to have been very badly behaved. In 1615 "a Mr Organist Kingston" was admonished for being "verye often drunke, and by means thereof he hathe by unorderly playing on the organ putt the quire out of tune and disordered them." Another organist, named Mudd, got so "muddle" that the precentor asked the dean to "send us downe an stable and more civill organist." Two days later the precentor again wrote to the dean as follows:—"Yesterday Mr Mudd showed the effects of his last week's tippling, for when Mr Joynes was in the midst of his sermon Mr Mudd fell a-singing aloud, insomuch as Mr Joynes was compelled to stopp; all the auditorie gazed and wondered what was the matter, and at length some neere him, stopping his mouth, silenced him, and Mr Joynes proceeded. Wee dare trust him no more with our organ, but request you to helpe us to another." We have improved since those boisterous times!

TAPE WORMS expelled in a few hours: full particulars and testimonials of efficacy sent free on application state age.—Address, Higson, Box 266, North Street, Nottingham. 13

THE FALL OF PRETORIA.

REJOICINGS IN THE HIGHLANDS.

The event of the week was the occupation of Pretoria by the British forces, which occurred on Tuesday morning last. The news of the occupation of the city sent a thrill of delight through Great Britain, and the joyful tidings were fittingly celebrated in every town in the Kingdom, from the City of London downwards. Perhaps the belief that the occupation of the capital city of the Transvaal foreshadowed the early ending of the war, lent force to this pæan of rejoicing. A very few days will now prove whether that view of the matter is correct. Following the surrender of the city, an impressive march-past of part of Lord Roberts' force took place, and the troops got a better welcome from the townspeople than his lordship had been led to expect. A significant fact that—one tending to show that the pacification and settling-down of the conquered Republic will not be the long and difficult process so confidently asserted by many who claimed to know the character of the Dutch in South Africa.

INVERNESS.

The news, received in Inverness on Tuesday afternoon, that Pretoria had been occupied by the British army, gave rise to a prolonged and unparalleled saturnalia of rejoicing among the townspeople. From that afternoon until Thursday morning the ordinary business life of the town was practically suspended, and, with only a few exceptions, everybody, master and man, mistress, maid, lady, and lass proceeded to enjoy themselves with an abandom and freedom from restraint which so historical an occasion surely warranted.

The telegram announcing the memorable tidings was received at "The Highland News" Office shortly after 1 p.m. Copies of the wire were, without delay, despatched to the Railway Station Bookstall and to several other centres. "The News" also distributed the information broadcast in hand-bill form. It followed, naturally enough, that the latest and most glorious achievement of Lord "Bobs" was soon common property, and the public with a promptitude at once laudable and patriotic proceeded to fittingly commemorate the event.

Nor were our Civic Fathers less active to the importance of the occasion. At a meeting held on the previous day the Town Council had drawn up a programme, the various items of which were to be carried out on the receipt of the news that Pretoria had been occupied; and now that the longed-for intelligence had come, arrangements were at once made to initiate the agreed-upon rejoicings. A telegram was forthwith despatched to Lord Roberts, conveying to him the hearty congratulations of his fellow-burgesses—for it will be remembered that a few years ago the Commander-in-Chief was presented with the freedom of the Burgh. The Town Council had also agreed to recommend that the following day (Wednesday) be observed as a public holiday in Inverness, and that the school children be fêted in the Public Park.

Meanwhile a squad of Corporation employees were busily engaged in decorating the Town Hall, on which the National flags were speedily floating. The Civic banner was also prominently displayed. Lines of streamers fluttered across the street from the roof of the Town House to the opposite side: even the Forbes Fountain bore a banner on its finial. The shopkeepers and inhabitants of the principal streets had been likewise engaged. "Decorate!" was the cry, and almost immediately after the receipt of the news the onlooker standing on the Exchange could behold a vista of flags floating over the shops and houses on High Street, Bridge Street, and Church Street. The streets, too, were rapidly filling up, and in an hour from the announcement of the news High Street and the Exchange were crowded with sight-seers. It seemed, indeed, as if a large number of townsfolk had resolved to make a holiday of the afternoon.

Young ladies in particular were much in evidence, and they all, without exception, wore dainty rosettes or bows of tri-coloured ribbons attached to their dresses. The fashion was a pretty one; at anyrate, it invariably seemed to suit the fair wearer. Though it was yet early in the afternoon, the young men of the town had already commenced a veritable carnival of rejoicing. "Crackers" of all degrees of noiseness were exploding over the heads of the crowd; an unsuccessful attempt was even made to kindle a bonfire near the Exchange, but at so early an hour the police naturally interfered, and for the nonce spoiled the little game of the merry-makers. Displays of bunting, many of them of really elaborate design, were also shown on Castle Street, Union Street, and Academy Street. To particularise in such a case is impossible, but it can confidently be asserted that every available flag, banner, or bannerette was pressed into requisition by the shopkeepers of these and the other streets. Most of the Board Schools appeared to have dismissed the children at an earlier hour of the afternoon than usual, and groups of boys and girls, as excited as their elders, joined in the revelry. Between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. in the afternoon, the crowds in the street were much entertained by the action of some of the employees of the Rose Street Foundry Company, who dragged through the streets a wonderfully-got-up equipage, having on its top an effigy said to represent President Kruger. A tin-kettle and empty meat-can band played incidental music as the procession solemnly passed along the streets.

THE BANQUET.

All this and many other similar scenes was, however, but preliminary to the doings of the evening, which commenced with a cake and wine banquet given in the Town Hall at 4.30 p.m. Bailie Clark, Senior Magistrate, presided in the absence of Provost Macbean, who was in Edinburgh. Most of the members of Town Council supported the Chairman, as also did many well-known citizens. There was a crowded attendance.

The loyal and patriotic toasts were succinctly proposed by the Chairman. The name of Her Majesty was received with unbounded applause, the gathering rising and singing the National Anthem.

Councillor Wm. Mackay, in an excellent address, gave "The Victor of Pretoria." The speech was punctuated with continued and tumultuous applause.

Councillor Squair briefly gave "The Imperial Forces"—a toast also enthusiastically responded to by the audience, who, rising, chorussed "For they are jolly good fellows."

Captain Stiffe, Adjutant, Highland Volunteer Artillery, replied.

Dr Ross proposed "The Reserve Forces," and Colonel David Munro, commanding the 1st Volunteer Battalion Cameron Highlanders, responded.

Councillor Guild gave "The Colonial Forces," and the Rev. Gavin Lang replied.

The proceedings in the hall then concluded with the giving of hearty cheers for General Hector Macdonald, for the Lovat Scouts, and for the Service Company, Cameron Highlanders.

IN THE STREETS.

As evening drew on the scenes in the streets became all-absorbing in character and interest. While the banquet was in progress the crowd succeeded in kindling a bonfire opposite the Exchange, round which many happy youngsters danced in the ecstacy of delight. More effigies of poor old K. were paraded round the streets, a number of the Highland Railway locomotive workers, preceded by a piper, being strongly in evidence with a procession of no fewer than seven of most reputable aspect and all liberally tarred. One of the effigies bore the legend, "To Stagger Humanity." As the procession wended its way the effigies were set fire to one by one, and in this condition were carried until they fell smouldering on to the streets. Many other dummies representing Old Paul were mysteriously and quickly produced, all of which showed him in various stages of uneasiness and dilapidation, and in attitudes suggesting a fitting ending to an ill-spent life. Another procession of members of the Inverness Horse attracted considerable attention. Towards nine o'clock bonfires were blazing at various points, the police wisely not interrupting so long as the ongoings stopped short of the destruction of property. Fires in front of the Glenalbyn Hotel and beside the Wesleyan Church were surrounded by large crowds. Throughout the evening fireworks of all descriptions exploded without cessation. Young men and boys spent small fortunes on this form of amusement, and the din of the exploding eight-a-penny cracker varied every now and again by the roar of the more noisy "cannonade," the hissing of rockets, and the flare of coloured lights was continuous and head-splitting.

On the Exchange the band of the Highland Volunteer Artillery, under very difficult circumstances, discoursed pleasing selections. The bandsmen, while playing, were subjected to a constant fusilade of exploding crackers which were thrown at their heads, but withal they acquitted themselves well.

At ten o'clock a display of fireworks was given by the Town Council, a large number of rockets, flares, and coloured lights being "touched off" from the roof of The Castle. An hour later an immense bonfire which had been built on the Public Park was lighted by Mrs Provost Macbean. The pile was surmounted by the effigy of a certain president.

An enormous crowd, estimated at over 7000 people, gathered round the bonfire, those in the immediate neighbourhood of the pile singing the National Anthem as the flames mounted skywards. The Bandstand was occupied by the band and pipers of the 1st V.B. Cameron Highlanders, and to the excellent music they discoursed a good deal of dancing was indulged in, while here and there isolated groups footed it merrily to the music of the humble melodeon. It was long past midnight before the crowds left the Park, and when the spectators returned to the town at an early hour in the morning they found merry-making still in full swing in the streets. On the balcony of the Highland Club a piper paced majestically to and fro blowing his hardest, while the building itself was brilliantly illuminated, an ornamental gas jet adding to the effect. H.M.S. "Briton" and the Northern Counties Asylum were also illuminated. More effigies—one of them representing ex-President Steyn—were produced and set on fire, and day had fully broken before the revellers were sufficiently wearied out to proceed homewards. While the centre of interest was certainly found to be in the principal streets of the town, the outlying districts were by no means behind-hand in the work of jubilation. In Castle Street Paisley shawls were used in lieu of flags; while in Crown Street an intricate design of what appeared to be bedcovers and tablecloths gave rise to much favourable comment on the patriotism of the inhabitants of that quarter. Other districts were not a whit deficient in the work of glorifying "Pretoria Day" on a scale commensurate with the historic importance of the occasion. In the Merkinch district many flags were displayed, and the inhabitants paraded the streets until an early hour.

WEDNESDAY.

Wednesday dawned fair, but cold. The recommendation of the Town Council that a holiday be observed in Inverness was very generally observed, nearly every shop and place of business in town being closed. The day, as already stated, was to be a children's day. Shortly after twelve o'clock the children gathered at the various schools, and, accompanied by their teachers, proceeded to the Royal Academy Grounds. There the procession was marshalled, and, headed by the band of the 1st V.B.C.H., marched to the Public Park. The procession was preceded by Chief-Constable Macdonald on horseback, who throughout the day was indefatigable in promoting the comfort of the little ones. The order of the schools was as follows:—Academy, Bishop Girls, Cathedral Boys, Central, Clachnaharry, Culcabock, Culduthel, Farraline Park, High, and Merkinch. Over 4000 children were "on parade," ranging from Standard I. mites upwards. The Artillery Band and the Rifle Volunteer Pipe Band also took part in the procession. The youngsters filled the air with shrill cheering, and waved flags and banners as they proceeded. In Ardross Street Mr Mackenzie, optician, Inglis Street, secured a successful cinematogram of the animated scene. On arriving at the park the bairns were formed up in an immense circle round the Bandstand, which had been fittingly decorated, and proceedings opened by their singing the National Anthem, under the direction of Mr W. S. Roddie, to the accompaniment of the massed bands of the H.V.A. and the 1st V.B.C.H. Refreshments were next distributed, and after a little breathing space, agreeably filled in by charming selections of music rendered by the bands and pipers alternately, a series of races were run over a short course. Each school competed separately, and the races were as a rule keenly contested. Councillor Young acted as prize distributor. Mr J. M. Reid acted as starter, assisted by Mr Fraser, High School, and Mr S. G. Alexander. A list of the prize-winners will appear in our Evening Edition.

While the sports were proceeding, some dancing was indulged in round the bandstand. Indeed, open-air dancing was a feature of the two days' rejoicings. The entertainment in the park concluded between six and seven in the evening, but in the streets it was evident that the young men had not yet worked off all their superfluous energy. Between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. innumerable attempts, sternly suppressed by the police, were made to light bonfires in High Street. At a somewhat later hour the police were completely outwitted, and a roaring blaze was started at the East Gate end of High Street. In attempting to extinguish this bonfire, one or two members of the force came in for rather severe hustling by the crowd. After a few unsuccessful attempts to pierce the cordon round the fire, the gentlemen in blue wisely retired, and left the celebrators in full possession. Fireworks were again in ample evidence, and the smell of burnt powder was everywhere. Towards midnight the crowd began to thin out, and a shower of rain completed the dispersal, and in a hour later the streets were as quiet as they were wont to be. So ended the "Pretoria" rejoicings, and save for the regrettable collision with the constables on the Wednesday evening, there was nothing to condemn in the attitude of the crowd. The two days' celebrations will doubtless remain memorable in the minds of those who witnessed the unique scenes that took place. That the rejoicings marked the flood tide in the art of jubilation as practised in Inverness is certain.

Credit is due to Bailie Clark, who in the absence of Provost Macbean ably filled the Provost's position. On the Bailie and on Mr G. Smith Laing, Town Clerk Depute (in the absence of Mr Kenneth Macdonald), fell the burden of the arrangements. Wednesday's fête in the park was superintended by Councillor Young, Convener of the Parks Committee. Mr Young was assisted by a Committee of teachers.

NAIRN.

The news of the capture of Pretoria reached Nairn about one p.m. on Tuesday afternoon, and immediately on receipt of the news the town crier went through the town proclaiming the glad tidings. The enthusiasm was great, and from the windows of all the principal buildings hung bunting. On Wednesday the celebrations were more enthusiastic. Flags and bunting were displayed from every window in the town. At one p.m. all the shops and public places of business were closed for the day. A grand procession took place at 2.30 p.m., in which the following took part—The Volunteers, headed by the Brass Band, led the van. The Provost, Magistrates, and Town Councillors, who were conveyed in three carriages, followed. The school children, with their profuse display of banners, also took up a prominent position in the march. The local branches of the Ancient Orders of Gardeners and Foresters were also strongly represented, while several trades, such as bakers, blacksmiths, butchers, and carters, all took part. A novelty in the shape of a mounted troop, representative of Colonial Troopers, came in for a good deal of attention. To keep up the interest of the people, the brass band and pipers marched up High Street playing several tunes, preceded by an effigy of Kruger, which was afterwards burned. In the evening the scene of celebrations was the Links, and a large crowd of people wended their way thither. Mr Whitelaw, Monkland, gave a splendid display of fireworks from his house, which from its elevated situation was adapted for that purpose. A large bonfire was lit shortly after ten by the wife of Provost Dallas, and round the fire dancing was kept up till a very late hour. This closed the rejoicings of the day, which will long be remembered in Nairn and district.

AVOCH.

The news of the capture of Pretoria spread here like wildfire, and soon the town was a labyrinth of flags and a chorus of bells. A vespertine holiday was inaugurated, and the children set free from school indulged in processions to their hearts' content. At night the historic heights that dominate the Firth were the scene of a splendid bonfire.

FORTROSE.

On Tuesday afternoon a telegram was received announcing Lord Roberts' entry into Pretoria. The Cathedral and Parish Church bells at once made the good tidings generally known, and in a very short space of time nearly every house in the town showed flags. The Provost and some of the leading citizens met in the Royal Hotel and drank Lord Roberts' health. Both schools and shops were closed for the rest of the day. At night a picturesque scene gave colour to the old Cathedral grounds. The brass band did musical duty, while dancing seemed the order of the day all round, from the fairy whirl of the children on the green to the more emphatic movements of the crowds outside the wall. On the motion of the Provost three ringing cheers were given for the Queen, Lord Roberts, and "Fighting Mac." The musicians were subsequently entertained by the Provost. About 10 o'clock a torchlight and musical procession paraded through the town accompanied by an immense effigy of President Kruger. Returning to the Cathedral Square this effigy was placed on a great funeral pile, and was burned to the strains of "God Save the Queen." The Cathedral bells commenced to ring as the cremation ceremony was completed. A display of fireworks from the old Cathedral and the profuse illumination of the Provost's house gave brilliancy to the scene. An improvised dance and concert in the Drill Hall—one feature of which was an extraordinary crush—followed. Music was supplied by the brass band and bagpipes, and a new day had dawned ere the Pretoria celebrations came to an end.

TAIN.

Flags and bunting were displayed on every possible place of vantage, and the children from the schools were let loose. Two little lads in khaki, armed with rifles, and having a figure representing Kruger between them, paraded the streets. A thanksgiving service was immediately held in the Free Church and at five o'clock the whole populace was invited to take part in a thanksgiving service in the old chapel of St Duthus, where the Rev. Mr Macnaughton officiated. Thereafter the Oddfellows' Brass Band paraded the principal thoroughfares, and the Volunteers gave a military display. In the evening a patriotic concert was held.

ROGART.

In a certain district of this parish the people were taking time by the forelock, and were preparing a huge bonfire of whins, juniper, and other combustibles, to be lit when the news of the fall of Pretoria would come. On Tuesday a telegram with the joyous news arrived, but as its authenticity could not be relied on, the people resolved to defer the lighting of the bonfire till the following night. On Wednesday morning, however, the people awoke to see their bonfire burnt to the ground, as some believed in the truth of the rumours, and had ignited it during the night. Ex ungue leonem.

INVERMORISTON.

Invermoriston was on Tuesday evening en fête when Mrs Davis, of the Hotel, announced the receipt of the following telegram:—"'Highland News' telegram—Roberts reports British occupy Pretoria." The news was received with great acclamation and rejoicing. The enthusiasm of the populace was roused to the highest pitch when some one in the crowd struck up "God Save the Queen" and "Rule Britannia," the company present taking up the theme in a most hearty manner. When the first burst of enthusiasm was over, Mrs Davis stepped forward, and in a neat and very happy speech said that it would give her much pleasure to meet them outside in front of the hotel a little later on, when she would treat everyone to a service of refreshments. The announcement was received with appropriate and vociferous cheering. Everybody, both young and old, with great zest entered into the spirit of the occasion, and instantly set about collecting material for a huge bonfire, whilst the enthusiastic and obliging young master painter, Mr John Grant, Fort-Augustus, with a staff of willing, active hands, soon turned up with an excellent effigy of Mr Kruger. Notwithstanding his exhibiting the "white flag" in his right hand, the ex-President received no protection from the jubilant crowd. At 9 p.m. the huge pile on the middle of the "Invermoriston Cross," and right opposite the hotel, was completed and Mr Kruger was set on the summit of it. At the north end of the green there was prominently placed a whole barrel of beer and a good supply of the proverbial "Long John" and glasses to match. Mrs Davis was respectfully invited to apply the match to the pile, which she did with characteristic gracefulness, in the midst of tremendous cheering and the singing of "God Save the Queen." Shortly thereafter the company, at Mrs Davis's request, made their way to the stand where the refreshments were placed. In the unavoidable absence of Mr Davis, Mr John Macleod, Invermoriston, proposed in eloquent and appropriate language the health of the "Queen and Royal Family," the "Defenders of the Queen and Nation," and the "British Army and Navy," all of which were responded to in truly loyal and patriotic spirit. Mrs Davis, who presided at the gramaphone, and played from the drawing-room window, gave universal pleasure to everybody with the following capital selections:—"The Barren Rocks of Aden," "Highland Laddie," "Soldiers of the Queen," "Leader of Company B," "Macgregor's Gathering," "Mr Angus mac. Iain Dhu," "Talisker," "How I go Tomorrow," "Whistling Jake," "Soldiers in the Park," &c. Then was played a reel, to the strains of which the company tripped it right merrily on the fantastic toe. Mr Wm. Macleod thereafter kept the company in touch with his excellent performance on the melodeon. The health of Mr and Mrs Davis was duly proposed and pledged with much enthusiasm, as were that of "Miss M. Davis and all the other members of that happy family," kept lively the while by the singing of "Ho, ho, my Brown-Haired Maiden." Mr P. Macgruer gave "The Bachelor." Thereafter all present sang "God Save the Queen," and the company dispersed about 10.30 o'clock. It should be mentioned that Mrs Davis served all the children each with a bottle of lemonade and ginger ale, and all done free of cost to everybody.

On the Lovat side of the water Mr Peter Macdonald presented the steamer hands on board the "Lochness" with a barrel of beer, and likewise treated everybody about the wharf with round after round of beer free of charge. Mr Macdonald was highly complimented for his thoughtful generosity. The mail steamer "Lochness" fired a salute on approaching the pier on Tuesday evening.

On Tuesday evening last, when the glad tidings of the occupation of Pretoria by the British reached this district about four o'clock p.m., it spread like wildfire. Everybody was in a gala and high-toned spirit. At Mr Macdonald's, of Wood Park, there was a large display of bunting, the Union Jack having been hoisted upon the one end of the house, and the Scottish Standard at the other end thereof. It did not take long time to improvish material for a bonfire, upon the top of which was placed the figure of Mr Kruger in effigy, and the match applied by Mr Alastair Macdonald, a gentleman of four score years. The health of Generals Roberts, White, Baden-Powell, and Major-General Hector Macdonald was proposed and drank with Highland honours, the company raising a continuous, thrilling cheer the while. Much credit is due to Mr Macdonald for his kind interest and help in getting up the demonstration.

FORT-AUGUSTUS.

As "hope deferred maketh the heart sick," so the recent conflicting surmises of the surrender of Pretoria had an all-round depressing effect upon the "little too previous" section of our community, and in this way the report on Tuesday afternoon of its occupation by the British was received by them with a "grain of salt," until the announcement was made public that the official report was conveyed through the medium of "The Highland News," which journal throughout the campaign had established a reputation for the early receipt and reliability of its war news, when the gladsome intelligence was promptly signalised by the booming of the village "pom-pom" at Bunoich. Very appropriately, the local superintendent of the Caledonian Canal, it being the longest Government institution in the country, extending, as it does "from sea to sea," was the first to hoist its flag on the staff which is called after the great African explorer and lion-hunter, Roualleyn. Thereafter Richmond House, the Lovat Arms Hotel, Chisholm's Hotel, Messrs B. Douglas & Co., the Abbey, the Post Office, and the School-house respectively followed suit, and vied with each other in patriotic display. In the Public School the announcement was received with the greatest possible glee, and the children were "liberated" for the rest of the afternoon and next day. A feature of the rejoicings was the graceful figure the approaching mail steamer "Lochness" made in being decked with all available colours, emphasised with minute-gun salutes, resounding the Glendoe and Portclair hills on either side of the lake. Mr James Rhodes Douglas the spirited manager of Messrs G. Douglas & Co., unlimitedly tapped "Ben Nevis dew" to all those who felt disposed to whet their enthusiasm, upon whom the then prevailing dry east wind had a most parching effect. It is worthy of recording that the local Pro-Boers—a very small minority— had good-naturedly joined the loyal majority, and thus our joy on the occasion was the more complete. Next day the swift steamers "Gondolier" and "Gairlochy," as well as the Glasgow through steamer "Cavalier," were tastefully decorated with varigated bunting.

STORNOWAY.

Receipt of intelligence of the occupation of Pretoria by Lord Roberts occasioned another gay display of bunting at Stornoway on Tuesday. There was no public meeting or other demonstration of rejoicing, apart from the decorations, but Provost Anderson despatched a telegram to the Queen in the following terms:—"Her Most Excellent Majesty the Queen and Empress of India, Balmoral. The inhabitants of Stornoway and Lewis, from which over 200 men are at the front, most respectfully tender heartiest congratulations on the triumphal occupation of Pretoria by Her Majesty's forces.—ANDERSON, Provost." To which he received the following reply:—"The Provost, Stornoway. The Queen thanks you and the inhabitants of Stornoway and Lewis for your loyal congratulations on occupation of Pretoria by Her Majesty's forces under Lord Roberts.—A. BIGGE."

KINGUSSIE.

The news that Pretoria had been invested by Lord Roberts was received by the inhabitants in a hearty, if not in a demonstrative manner. Flags decorated all the principal buildings, and from the Public School bells a merry peal was rung out. A congratulatory telegram was despatched by the Provost to Lord Roberts in course of the day. At night a successful Volunteer parade was held, refreshments being provided by Mrs Duke, High Street. The usual toasts were cordially pledged, the proceedings being wound up by the singing of God save the Queen."

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD.—"Honour to whom honour is due," and a G.C.M.G. was never more deserved than by Sir Claude Macdonald, our Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary in China. Not only has he watched over British interests with a care that can only be described as motherly, but he has even bested that wily old gentleman, Li Hung Chang. He has now got his hands full with the boxers, whom he will probably present with a knock-out blow, for (says "The King") he is a man of strong measures, who believes in taking off the velvet glove every now and then. Sir Claude is the son of a soldier, and was a soldier himself. He joined the 74th Highlanders as a youth, and in 1882 served throughout the Egyptian campaign, being present at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. Not satisfied with this experience of active service, he volunteered for the 1st Battalion Black Watch two years later, and took part in the battles of El Teb and Tamai. The War Office then attached him to the agency at Cairo, where he worked with such goodwill that he soon became Zanzibar's Consul-General. West Africa, the Niger territories, the Oil River Protectorate, Fernando Po, and the Cameroons have also felt the value of his services, and he obtained his present post in 1895.

THE DIARY OF A TROOPER.

[By STANLEY MUGFORD, 35TH (MIDDLESEX) IMPERIAL YEOMANRY.]

LETTER V.

Bethany, Orange Free State,
Sunday, April 29th, 1900.

We are halted here for the day on the way to Bloemfontein, from which we are now distant only some thirty odd miles. We started ten days ago from Maitland Camp, riding in on Wednesday afternoon to Cape Town, whence we entrained in the evening and railed uninterruptedly as far as Norval's Pont, which we reached on Saturday. Although we knew that there was a great likelihood of striking tents at Maitland at an early date, the order to leave came at a moment's notice, and the first thing we had to do was to give up almost everything we possessed for storing at the base, this in addition to the kit-bags we had already handed in. Our carrying space was now limited to the quarter of a small cavalry kit-bag, or in other words one kit-bag had to serve four men. Nor are these kit-bags carried with us so that we can make use of them as required, for instead of being packed in the wagon which carries the cook's dishes, &c., they have to be sent ahead by rail, which means that for all practical purposes we take our entire belongings with us. I have mentioned in a former letter what is packed on the saddle, and in addition thereto you can carry only as much or as little as can be put into your haversack. This means in most cases simply soap and towel, a packet of meat lozenges, the day's rations, tobacco, and perhaps one or two other little necessaries or luxuries that take up no great space. Thus equipped, we started out as mentioned above, the horses having been packed, ten in a truck in the forepart of the train. For ourselves, we were fortunate in finding at our disposal excellent carriages of all three classes, the first and second being fitted with sliding arrangements by which good beds could be formed. Our comfort was further assured by many little acts of kindness on the part of the good folk of Cape Town, who distributed at the carriage doors lime-juice, biscuits, matches, and other articles of a like nature that were fully appreciated by us all. To describe one day's journey in the train would be to describe all three, for there was naturally little in the way of incident, our chief diversion being the passing of various places of interest, and the noting of phases of life characteristic of this country. Every day was marked by the sunniest weather, and each by the viewing of the same wild and endless stretches of veldt, the same varying Karoo bush, the same glimpses of the life of the Karooners, the same sight of the ubiquitous ostrich. Everywhere one could see kopjes and mountains, and we ceased to wonder why the offensive party found itself surprised again and again, and mowed down like cattle. As you looked at place after place you could not help thinking what a death-trap it must be to an attacking force. It was all exactly like the thousand and one illustrations that have crowded every paper for the last half-year.

We travelled, of course, along the lines of communication, and every twenty miles or so was found a pleasant little camp, inhabited by gentlemen in khaki, who seemed glad to see fresh arrivals, and who proved themselves eager to obtain all the magazines and newspapers that could be spared. We found volunteers and regulars, militia and some yeomanry at these points, and it seemed that in almost every town we visited there was a detail of the C.I.V. Also we passed several trains bringing down troops from the front, these including a Red Cross one filled with wounded. Further evidence of this side of the war was afforded by a sight of the Yeomanry Hospital at Deelfontein, through which place we passed, and where the wounded of the C.I.V. are being tended. It was a pleasant sight to see the English nurses amongst the white tents and marquees as they stood waving to our passing train.

On Friday afternoon we reached a spot now famous in modern history, De Aar, and there saw the piles upon piles of stores that have been so often referred to in connection with this spot, though no doubt since the occupation of Bloemfontein the stores at De Aar have been considerably reduced. We had an hour or two's stay during which to look around the place, and, needless to say, the time was principally spent at the stores and the Soldiers Home, where we regaled ourselves with tea and cakes.

After leaving De Aar, we made way direct for Norval's Pont, passing during the night through Colesberg and Naauwpoort, and arriving at the Pont in the early morning. There we found that the Boers had been in possession until about five or six weeks ago, and had succeeded in blowing up the large and important bridge that spans the Orange River at this point. A pontoon bridge now stretches from bank to bank, and a second bridge has been thrown across for the railway. The latter, however, was flooded at the time of our arrival, and thus our further progress by train was barred. Accordingly, we rested for the day, and bivouacked at night, this being our first experience to date of sleeping in the open. The way things are managed for the bivouac is for each of the four sections to form up at column distance, after which the horses are linked to one another from right to left, these on the flanks being head-roped to picketing pegs. Next rifles are piled in sets of four, and bandoliers, haversacks, side-arms, and field glasses are hung on them; then saddles are taken off, and set on the ground in line, these forming pillows for the night. You complete your bed by employing your one blanket and mackintosh sheet, rolled in which, with your overcoat on, you rest on the earth, with the stars blinking above you. It is a picturesque sight, and reminds one inevitably of Meissonier's work to look down the lines at night, with the sleepers stretched out, the upstanding piles of rifles at their heads, and the string of horses behind.

The next morning (Sunday) we set out again by road and ever since we have been on the march, until we are within two days of Bloemfontein, which we are to reach on May 1. There we expect to join Lord Roberts on his great march to Pretoria. We are fortunate in being almost the first battalion of Yeomanry that has reached the front, and, of course, are congratulating ourselves on our good luck. We manage to keep in good trim, although some six or eight of our number are already in hospital from one cause or another. We have hardly a moment to ourselves, and letter-writing has to be done out of bed-time. Every other night you are on night guard, which means little sleep, and as for fare, you must content yourself chiefly with bully beef and hard biscuits. The air, though, is bracing, and the weather during the march has been ideal. The days are exceedingly warm and the nights bitterly cold. You have to rise at five o'clock, whilst twice we have been up and packing at four o'clock, in expectation of attack. So far, however, we have not come into contact with the enemy, although we bivouacked two nights sufficiently near Wepener to have made an engagement possible if not probable. To end this hurried letter, our chief stopping places have been Springfontein, Jagersfontein Road, and Edenburg, and to-morrow we reach Kaffir River, our last stopping-place before we arrive at our destination.

THE CHAPLAIN OF THE HIGHLAND BRIGADE.

At the meeting of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh on Monday last, the Moderator (Dr Norman Macleod, Inverness) interposed in the course of the business to read the following letter from the front:—

Winburg, May 7, 1900.

From the warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Highland Brigade.

To the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, as representatives of the regiments now forming the Highland Brigade, at present serving in South Africa, under General Hector Macdonald—(applause)—do hereby desire to express our appreciation of the untiring energy and praiseworthy zeal of Major J. Robertson, our chaplain—(applause)—not only in camp, but also on the field.

He is invariably among the first to succour our wounded, and many a Scottish mother's heart will be gladdened by the knowledge that her lad's last moments were brightened by our chaplain's kind ministrations—(applause).

At Magersfontein, Paardeberg, and other engagements he was always to be found in the firing line with a cheerful word or a kindly nod of encouragement, and on many occasions has acted as A.D.C. to our Generals—(applause).

Soldiers are proverbially bad speakers, but we venture to request that this short note may be read aloud on the occasion of the meeting of the General Assembly at Edinburgh during May, 1900—(applause).

We beg to subscribe ourselves, Sir, your humble servants.

25 signatories of Sergeant-Majors, Sergeants, and Corporals, representing the Black Watch, the Highland Light Infantry, the Seaforths, and the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders followed.

The Moderator said he was sure it must be very gratifying to the Assembly to receive this spontaneous acknowledgment of the services of their Chaplain—(loud applause).

GENERAL ELECTION. PREPARE.—QUALIFY! QUALIFY!! QUALIFY!!!—As the General Election will be fought on the Roll now being made up, all Liberals should make certain that their names appear on the Roll of Voters. All Poor Rates must be paid before 20TH JUNE, 1900. Unless this is done, you will not have a Vote in the coming fight. LIBERALS, SEE TO THIS AT ONCE.

Light Summer Puddings.

When the warm days come in, the hot heavy puddings go out. Lighter dishes, not heating to the blood, but cool and refreshing, are desired. One of the most wholesome of these, ever welcome to children, and to their elders, is a blanc-mange made with Brown & Polson's Corn Flour. This forms a delightful addition to stewed fruit of all kinds in season, and is much more digestible than pie-crust. To get that jelly-like consistency and pleasant nutty flavour which mark a good blanc-mange, the best Corn Flour must be used, and the best—the Recognised Best is

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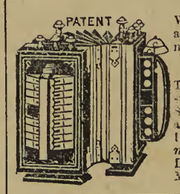

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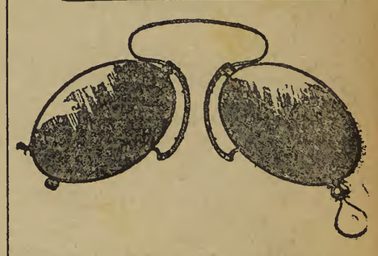

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OPTICIAN TO THE FACULTY,
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"The analysis was as follows:—Extractives, 0·40 per cent.; mineral matter, *nil*; acidity, *nil*; alcohol—by weight, 42·0 per cent.; by volume, 48·75 per cent.—equal to proof spirit 85·43 per cent. *The spirit appears to be of excellent*

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The next Gaelic service in Regent Square Presbyterian Church (near King's Cross) London, will be held on Sunday afternoon, 17th June, at half-past three o'clock, when the preacher will be the Rev. Alexander Connell, B.D.

THE GORDON PLACE CORNER.—The Law Committee of the Inverness Town Council, after consideration, have reported that Mr Leslie-Fraser, dentist, who has bought the property, is within his rights in building on the sunk railed-in space in front of the houses. The Committee point out that the sunk area in question had been used by the proprietors, so far as the Committee could ascertain, for longer than the prescriptive period, and that the titles fully prove Mr Fraser's rights over the piece of ground. The Town Council have instructed the Law Committee to meet Mr Fraser and confer with him, and to ascertain whether he would be disposed to give any portion of his ground in front of the houses for the widening of the road at the point.

"THE HIGHLAND NEWS" IS SET UP BY LINOTYPE COMPOSING MACHINERY.

The Highland News

INVERNESS, Saturday, June 9, 1900.

SUMMARIES.

Mr H. M. Lucy has good reason to believe the Cabinet have decided that the general election shall not take place in July.

Yesterday, in the Royal Hotel, Inverness, the delegates of the Inverness-shire Liberal Association met, under the presidency of Lord Tweedmouth, and unanimously invited ex-Lord Provost Dewar, to become the Liberal candidate for the county at next election. Mr Dewar accepted the invitation. A full report of the proceedings will be found on page 5. The county Liberals are to be congratulated on having secured so sound and able a candidate as Mr Dewar, whose splendid record as a municipal governor, and his admirable conduct of affairs in his native city of Perth, all point to his thorough fitness to represent the sturdy Liberalism of "the largest county in Scotland."

OUR CHURCHES' DUTY.

This week the General Assemblies concluded their annual meetings, the Established Church on Monday and the Free Church on Tuesday. From the reports submitted to both bodies it would at first sight appear that the Churches in the various departments of their widespread operations at home and abroad are in a satisfactory and prosperous condition. In one department of their work this is notably the case. It is indeed doubtful how far the work of a Church can be rightly judged from its financial prosperity. Bible teaching, from beginning to end, regards the possessors of riches as open to various forms of temptation. Churches may possibly be not subject to the influence of these temptations against which the Bible warns mankind with no uncertain voice. The Churches profess to desire wealth not for its own sake but for the sake of the good to humanity they are able to accomplish through its instrumentality. In these times of searchings and siftings there are those who will not take even a Church at its own profession. That line of thought, however, it is not our purpose to follow. The Churches we regard as institutions having moral and spiritual ends in view, and as the spirit of the individual cannot under the present economy exist and manifest its powers without the material body, so neither can Churches accomplish moral and spiritual ends without some material resources. How far then, it may be asked, are the Churches with the resources at their disposal succeeding in achieving victories for truth, justice, and righteousness? Taken in the aggregate the resources of our three Presbyterian Churches—or shall we say two?—amounts to a very considerable annual sum. We are well aware that the incomes of many individuals in the Churches' service are miserably low. We are not, however, looking at the matter from the individual point of view, but from the aggregate amount that finds its way yearly into the Churches' coffers. The Established Church has the income arising from its endowments. The voluntary contributions of the three Churches, Established, Free, and United Presbyterian, for all purposes during the past year, amount to the remarkable sum of nearly one million and a-half pounds. From a financial point of view this is indeed a notable result. The moral and spiritual results are not, on the Churches' own admission, so satisfactory as is to be desired. A large proportion of the above amount is spent in the foreign field. The Churches take a pride, and it may be a legitimate pride, in the success of their missionary operations. Different opinions are sometimes heard. On these differences of opinion it is no business of ours to pronounce judgment. Our concern at present is with the condition of things at home.

Scotland is but a small country, yet notwithstanding all the Churches' agencies, a statement was submitted to the Free Church Assembly to the effect that one million six hundred thousand of the population had no Church connection. There are probably people wicked enough to say that this is a mark of the growing intelligence of the masses, and their dissatisfaction with the Churches on account of their remissness as organisations in helping orward social reforms in which the working class are specially interested. Be that as it may, it is a very serious fact, from the Churches' point of view, that on its own admission more than a fourth of the population of Scotland should be indifferent to the Church and its ministrations. In other respects also it is manifest that the Churches' work is not so successful as might be supposed from their flourishing condition financially. Drunkenness, gambling, and other forms of immorality are matters of everyday observation, and needed no reports to Assemblies to give the deplorable facts publicity. While these and many lesser evils are rampant throughout the land, it cannot be said that the Churches are achieving any signal victories for righteousness. We should not wish to pass any harsh judgment on those whose special duty it is to carry on work that is surrounded with great and special difficulties; but let us for a moment look at the question of drunkenness. Can it be said that the Churches of Scotland have yet united in a determined and sustained attack on this gigantic iniquity? Individuals in all the Churches are to be found who in this matter are in a greater or less degree doing their duty; but the Churches, as great and powerful organisations, have not yet taken up this vital question with the courage and earnestness that its importance demands. The reason is plain. The evil has too great a hold within the Churches' own borders. Till the Church in its own practice adopts a consistent attitude with regard to this terrible vice all its preaching will be in vain. Hoary-headed customs have to be given up—the right eye must be plucked out, the right hand must be cut off. These are acts of self-denial no doubt, but what do Churches exist for if not to practice acts of self-denial? And if the Churches of Scotland are not able to practise as much self-denial as shall enable them to attack the vice of drunkenness with clean hands it is not easy to exonerate them from neglecting to qualify themselves for the discharge of the most important and urgent duty of the present day. Reference to the subject of the union between the Free Church and the United Presbyterian Church, which was the centre of interest in connection with this year's Assemblies, must be deferred till next week.

GENERAL ELECTION. PREPARE.—QUALIFY! QUALIFY!! QUALIFY!!!—As the General Election will be fought on the Roll now being made up, all Liberals should make certain that their names appear on the Roll of Voters. All Poor Rates must be paid before 20TH JUNE, 1900. Unless this is done, you will not have a Vote in the coming fight. LIBERALS, SEE TO THIS AT ONCE.

Next week we shall give the first instalment of an interesting paper on "Quaint Historical Documents, relating to the Highlands," by Hugh MacLeod, Glasgow.

Over 2000 excursionists from Motherwell visited Inverness on Saturday last.

Rev. Dr Norman Macleod, Inverness, is announced to preach in the Daviot Parish Church to-morrow (Sunday).

Mr William Dingwall, Caledonian Bank, Inverness, has taken the first place in the essay competition, open to the staffs of Scotland, in connection with the Institute of Bankers.

The contracts to furnish the officers' quarters of the following Volunteer battalions which go into camp at Fort-George next week have been received by Messrs Kidd Brothers, Greenock: — Highland Infantry, Brigade Staff, Sutherland Highland Rifles, Ross-shire, Inverness-shire, Morayshire, and Banffshire Highlanders.

THE LATE SERGEANT SHEPHERD.—Sergeant Shepherd, late of 78th Seaforth Highlanders, a respected citizen, died on Saturday last. Deceased, who was 73 years of age, went through the Persian campaign, for which he held the medal and clasp. He spent a long number of years with his regiment in India. He was for several years sergeant-instructor to the Volunteer company at Beauly, and in later years he was janitor to the Inverness College. He was a native of Glasgow.

THE SITE OF THE DISINFECTING STATION.—With regard to the site of the Inverness disinfecting station at the Citadel, the Town Council Committee to whom the matter was remitted have recommended that the Station be placed immediately to the north of the laundry of the Cholera Hospital. At the Town Council meeting on Monday evening some discussion took place on the matter, during which several members condemned the proposed site on account of its proximity to the Slaughter-House. Ultimately the minute was remitted back to the Committee for enquiry as to whether a site could not be got nearer to the Fever Hospital. The Council further agree to visit the proposed site.

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.—Yesterday a meeting of the Committee of the Inverness Branch of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to children was held in the office of the Secretary, Mr William Anderson, solicitor. Mr Geo. Sinclair, the new local inspector, submitted his report, which showed that since February last 21 cases had been investigated. A satisfactory improvement had taken place in most of the cases enquired into, and, on the whole, it appeared that the work of the Society in Inverness was of a useful and beneficial character. It may be mentioned that since the branch was instituted upwards of 60 cases had been investigated, affecting over 200 children.

A YEAR'S VITAL STATISTICS.—Dr Ogilvie Grant, Medical Officer of Health for the Burgh of Inverness, has just issued his report dealing with the vital and health statistics of the town during the year 1899-1900. Births show a diminution when compared with the previous year's total, the figures being last year 634, and the previous one year 645. There were 214 marriages as compared with 244 in the previous year. Most marriages took place in December, and the fewest in the months of May and Septemb. 445 deaths were recorded during the year. Of these, 212 were males, and 233 females. There were 468 deaths in the previous year. The months with the highest birth-rate were June and August, while December had the lowest birth-rate. The months with the highest death-rate were February and May, while the months of July and August had the lowest death-rate, being 13.1 per 1000 of estimated population in each case. The birth-rate for the year was 30.1 per 1000, as compared with 30.6 in the preceding year; while the death-rate was 21.1 as compared with 22.2 for the previous year. Dr Grant observes that as probably the population is rather under-estimated than over-estimated, this may be considered a satisfactory state of matters. The number of deaths during the infant period of life (under 5) was 129; 5 to 15 years, 14 deaths; 15 to 25, 38 deaths; 25 to 60 years, 116 deaths; and above 60 years, 148 deaths. Diseases of the respiratory system caused the greatest number of deaths—104 in all. The next greatest cause of death was consumption and tubercular disease, which caused 63 deaths. Dr Grant states that in view of our increased knowledge as to the means of preventing this preventible disease, it is hoped that before long the deaths from this cause will show a good reduction. A meteorological table, appended to Dr Grant's comprehensive report, shows that the prevailing winds during the year were westerly and south-westerly. The rainfall for the year was 28.995 inches.

The Duke of Argyll has let Inveraray to Sir Thomas Lipton.

According to Mr Knowles, Burgh Sanitary Inspector, there are still 144 thatched houses in Inverness, viz., 124 in the First Ward, 8 in the Second, and 24 in the Third, containing in all 824 inmates.

Mr William Fraser, Dempster Gardens, Inverness, has just received a letter from Her Majesty, through her Private Secretary, thanking him for his poem on her birthday, and complimenting him on the ability displayed in the verses.

FREE WEST CHURCH.—Rev. Mr Johnstone of Strathpeffer will conduct in the Free West Church to-morrow both the forenoon and evening services, when at both diets of worship a special retiring collection is to be taken in aid of congregational funds.

UNWHOLESOME FOOD.—During the past year Mr Knowles, burgh sanitary inspector, reports the following seizures of unwholesome food in Inverness:—Beef, 5747 lbs.; mutton, 40 lbs.; pork, 210 lbs.; and fish, 320 lbs—in all, 6317 lbs. Eleven seizures were made. In one case a warrant was obtained for destruction of meat, and in all the others the meat was destroyed with the written consent of the owners.

ALLEGED BIGAMY CASE.—A man named Smith, with the aliases of Buchanan and Campbell, emitted a declaration before Sheriff Scott-Moncrieff in the Inverness Sheriff Court on Thursday. The charge against him is one of alleged bigamy, it being stated that he married Mary Campbell Maclean in Inverness in August, 1894, while his wife, Mary Edgar or Smith, to whom accused was married in 1887, was alive. Accused, who had been conveyed from Glasgow to answer to the charge, was remanded pending further investigation.

CONGRATULATING COLONEL H. G. GRANT—On learning that Her Majesty the Queen had conferred the title of C.B. on Colonel H. G. Grant, commanding the 72nd and 79th Regimental District, Colonel David Munro, 1st V.B.C.H., in name of the Battalion, wired congratulations to Colonel Grant. At the parade of the headquarter Companies at Inverness on Tuesday evening, Captain and Adjutant Clarke read a letter from Colonel Grant to Colonel Munro, in which Colonel Grant heartily thanked the officers and men of the Battalion for their kind congratulations. Cheers were afterwards given for Lord Roberts and also for Colonel Grant.

ACCIDENT IN THE PUBLIC PARK.—A little boy named Mackenzie, eleven years of age, residing at 50 Telford Road, Inverness, was rather severely hurt on Wednesday afternoon while the children's fete was in progress in the Public Park. Along with another boy, Mackenzie was running down the east side of Tomnahurich Hill when he tripped over a fence, his forehead coming in violent contact with a tree. When picked up the boy was found to be unconscious. A cab was at once secured, and, accompanied by Mr James Ross, headmaster of the Merkinch Public School, the boy was conveyed home, and attended to by Dr Wilson Black. Happily, beyond a severe shaking, no injuries were sustained, and in a few days, it is expected, the little lad will be running about again.

AN INDEPENDENT TOWN BAND.—At the monthly meeting of Inverness Town Council on Monday evening, it was reported that there was a prospect of the immediate formation of an independent band for Inverness. Bandmaster Leslie-Reed, H.V.A., has agreed to undertake the conductorship of the new band, which is to number, in all, 25 capable performers. Arrangements are also in progress for the giving of a series of open-air concerts by the new combination. These entertainments will probably take place on the Castle Hill and in the Public Park Bandstand alternately. The fee asked us, for twelve concerts, £3 10s per evening, and for twenty-four concerts, £3 per evening. The cost of such a band will, it is stated, amount to about £350 for the providing of instruments and uniforms. The proposal has been very favourably received in Inverness, and several local gentlemen have already intimated their willingness to subscribe to the Town Band Fund.

NEW INFANT SCHOOL FOR INVERNESS.—For the new infant department to be attached to the Central School, the offers of the following contractors have been accepted:—Mason, A. Mackenzie, £1328 15s 9d; carpenter, Fraser & Macdonald, £1095; slater, James Gray & Son, £209 18s; plumber, Richard Ferrie, £428; plasterer, Donald Mackintosh, £138 2s 10d; painter, Donald Macdonald, £118 15s; iron and blacksmith, Rose Street Foundry Coy., £94 18s. The accepted offers for the additions and alterations to the school itself are—Mason, Thomas Macdonald, Inverness, £838 10s 1d; carpenter, Robertson & Gillies, £1087; slater, Alex. Fraser, £106; plumber, Angus Macdonell, £345 15s 4d; plasterer, Donald Mackintosh, £146 2s 4½d; painter, James Cameron, £138 13s 4d; iron and blacksmith, Rose Street Foundry Coy., £22 2s. The plans were passed by the Dean of Guild Court on Wednesday last.

U.P. PRESBYTERY OF ELGIN AND INVERNESS.—The Elgin and Inverness U.P. Presbytery met at Forres on Tuesday last—Rev. Mr Sharpe, Moderator pro tem. The Clerk intimated that the Forres Session had appointed Mr Wm. Forrest, Caroline Street, Forres, as Presbytery elder. Rev. Mr Grant, Elgin—whom failing, Rev. Mr Robertson, Inverness—was appointed to read a paper at the conference of Northern Presbyteries to be held in July within the bounds of the Buchan Presbytery. The various session records were examined by the Presbytery and attested as correct. Rev. Mr Mann gave an interesting report on Disestablishment, for which he was cordially thanked by the Presbytery. Mr Wm. Raff, Woodlea, who is a member of the Disestablishment Council for Scotland, also added a few remarks. The next meeting of Presbytery was fixed to be held at Inverness on the first Monday of October, and Mr Chisholm, on behalf of his fellow-elders, invited the members of Presbytery to dinner on that day, as it would be the last meeting of the Presbytery as at present constituted. The invitation was cordially accepted, and the thanks of the Presbytery were conveyed to Mr Chisholm and the other elders.

NOTES FROM SKYE.—On Tuesday, the 29th ult., the May market was held at Portree. The weather being all that could be desired, there was a large turn-out of farmers and crofters from all the surrounding districts. Prices generally, except for stirks and horses, were not as high as was anticipated.—During the latter end of May and the beginning of June the belated summer weather has burst upon us with almost tropical brightness and brilliancy. Crops and all kinds of vegetation are springing up with amazing rapidity, and the benign influence of the sunny season is evidenced on all hands.—The news of the entrance of General Roberts into Pretoria was hailed at Dunvegan with exhuberant delight. Young and old alike gave vent to their feelings in patriotic bursts of enthusiasm. Huge bonfires were lighted at Roag and on the hill in front of the Hotel, and crowds gathered round each cheering for Queen, country, and our brave soldiers and generals at South Africa.

Inverness schools close for the summer vacation on the 27th inst., resuming again on 14th August.

Mr J. A. Mackenzie, Inverness Burgh Surveyor, has been granted six weeks leave of absence to recruit his health.

The Civilian Rifle Club for Inverness now numbers about 40 members. The Government are to supply rifles at special rates.

PAYING THE PIPER.—The expenses in connection with the recent election of the members of Inverness Burgh School Board amount to £74 16s 5d.

"RATTLE HIS BONES," &c.—Eight burials at the public expense were undertaken in Inverness during the year to 30th April last. The cost to the town was £11.

Mr A. J. P. Menzies, advocate, Edinburgh, has been again refused permission by the Court of Session to build an inn upon a feu held by him at Banavie, except with the permission of the Superiors, the Commissioners of the Caledonian Canal.

FOUND DEAD.—Donald Fraser, tailor, 9 Denny Street, Inverness, was found dead in the entry at 15 Castle Street, Inverness, between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Tuesday evening. He had been seen near the spot earlier in the evening. Deceased was 40 years of age and unmarried.

CONVICT LABOUR AT PORTERFIELD PRISON.—For the past fortnight a gang of prisoners from the Inverness prison have been working in part of the enclosure of the new prison at Porterfield. The men, who number about a dozen, are attended by a couple of warders.

TRADERS' TICKETS.—NO REDUCTION.—The Directors of the Highland Railway Company have intimated to Messrs Mactavish & Gibson, secretaries of the Inverness Chamber of Commerce, that they cannot accede to the representations of the Chamber asking that the prices of traders' tickets be fixed at the rates which prevailed prior to the recent increase in the charges.

THE ASYLUM BOARD CHAIRMANSHIP.—At a statutory meeting of the Northern Counties District Asylum Board, held on Tuesday at Inverness, Major Stirling was unanimously re-appointed chairman. In returning thanks for his appointment, Major Stirling referred in appreciative terms to the excellent manner in which their superintendent, Dr Keay, performed his duties. They trusted the doctor would long continue with them—(applause).

HIGHLAND RAILWAY TOURIST PROGRAMME AND LODGING LIST—SEASON 1900.—The Tourist Programme contains full information concerning a great variety of tours in all directions by rail, coach, and steamer through a country of surpassing interest and beauty, at very reasonable fares, and the lodging list will be found of great service to family parties and other visitors who wish to spend their summer holidays in the North. These publications may be had free of charge on application to the Superintendent of the Line, Inverness.

INVERNESS FIELD CLUB.—The members of the Inverness Field Club held their first excursion for the season on Saturday last, when a party of sixteen ladies and gentlemen, under the leadership of Mr Watson, of the Royal Academy, left Inverness by train for Alness. The party drove from Alness, by Ardross, to Boath. On the way they examined the ruins of a 16th or 17th century church at Nonakiln. The ladies were left to see the garden and grounds at Ardross Castle while the gentlemen went on to Boath, where the ladies joined them later in the day. The attention of the members was first called to the remarkable development of ironstone on the Alness River. The ore is said to contain a high percentage of the metal. After this the site and remains of an old iron working were examined. There was here a rich deposit of bog-iron ore. The remainder of the day was spent examining the ruins of what appeared to have been two brochs of the ordinary dimensions, and the Chambered Cairns. From the western broch a fine view of Loch Moir was obtained. The Chambered Cairns have been shamefully destroyed, the material having been carried away for building purposes and to mend the roads. This, happily, has been stopped. The chamber over one of them is of unusual structure, especially in the size of the stones composing the base of the building. The others are made to overlap, and give the chamber the usual bee-hive structure. The party here entered their carriage, and drove to Alness in time to catch the train reaching Inverness at 9.30, after spending a most enjoyable day.

TRAGIC DEATH OF AN INVERNESS ENGINEER.—News was received at Inverness last Monday forenoon of the tragic death, in the north of Ireland, of Mr Walter Charles Manners, son of Mr C. R. Manners, C.E., Sunnybank, Inverness, through falling over a cliff. Mr Manners at the time of his death, and for some months past, had been acting as assistant engineer in the employment of the Board of Works upon the Letterkenny and Burtonport Railway extension. Mr Manners left Dunfanaghy on Sunday afternoon in company with three companions to visit Horn Head, a striking promontory on the Donegal coast line. At the time of the accident they were climbing round the face of one of the cliffs, the only footway being a very narrow sheep path. Each one was obliged to hold on by projecting pieces of rock. Mr Manners was leading, and the others following close behind. In this fashion they proceeded some distance, until Manners caught a piece of rock, which turned out to be loose and fell away, just grazing his companion coming immediately after. In trying to avoid it Mr Manners swayed to one side, lost his balance, and went tumbling down a short, steep slope which ended in a sheer cliff. Not being able to stop himself here, the poor young fellow fell clean over, a fall of some 120 feet. One of the party with great difficulty clambered down to the edge of the cliff over which Mr Manners had disappeared, and saw his body lying on a ledge a few feet above sea level, his head and shoulders being in the water. Death was instantaneous. This young gentleman afterwards was able to make his way down to the spot, and remained by the body until a boat arrived from Dunfanaghy, four miles distant. The body was conveyed to Inverness for interment. Deceased, who was an only son, was but 22 years of age. Educated in the Inverness Royal Academy, which school he left about five years ago, Mr Manners, until his appointment to Ireland, had found employment in his father's office. Deceased was well known in local cricketing circles. A cheery companion and a genial friend, his untimely death is deeply deplored by his many comrades and acquaintances in Inverness. The funeral took place on Thursday to Tomnahurich Cemetery, and was largely attended. A service was held in St Andrew's Cathedral, at which the Right Rev. Bishop Kelly officiated. A large number of wreaths were deposited at the grave-side, two of them being from the members of the Inverness Academy Old Boys' Club, of which deceased was a member. The sincerest sympathy is extended by all to deceased's parents and relatives in their sad affliction.

INVERNESS-SHIRE LIBERALS.

ADOPTION OF MR DEWAR, PERTH.

LORD TWEEDMOUTH'S SPEECH

Yesterday afternoon a meeting of the Inverness-shire Liberal Association was held in the Royal Hotel, Inverness, when Mr John A. Dewar, Perth, ex-Lord Provost of Perth, who had been recommended by the Executive of the Association as a suitable Liberal candidate for Inverness-shire, delivered an address to the members.

Lord Tweedmouth presided, and the gentlemen and delegates present from the various districts included Mr Duncan Mactavish, Inverness, chairman of the Executive; Rev. C. C. Mackenzie, Strathglass; Messrs Alex. Falconer, Beauly; D. Grant, Glen-Urquhart; Simon Muir, Errogie; J. G. Mackay, Portree; A. G. Johnstone, Drummond, Inverness; Henry Munro, Nessmount, Inverness; Hon. President of the Inverness Burgh Liberal Association; George Ross, solicitor, Inverness, Secretary, Inverness Burgh Liberal Association; Donald Murray, Eastgate, Inverness; Mr Macdougall, Glen-Urquhart; Messrs John Macdonald, Kirton Muir; A. Mackintosh, Kiltarlity; Donald Maclean, Portree; J. F. Grant, Nethy Bridge; Alex. Fraser, Beauly; H. Lawson, Ardersier; Donald Fraser, manager, "The Highland News;" W. Armstrong, Glasgow; John Macbean, Ballifeary, Inverness; Messrs P. D. Mactavish & Gibson, solicitors, Secretaries of the Inverness-shire Liberal Association; and Mr Wm. Webster, Inverness, Liberal organiser.

WHAT MR KENNEDY HAS DONE.

Lord Tweedmouth said they were met there that day for business and not to hear him talk. It would be an insult to a meeting of the Inverness-shire Liberal Association if he were to attempt to lay down to them either their duties or their opinions; they were quite capable of forming those opinions for themselves. The principal object of their meeting there that day was to form their opinions with regard to a gentleman who presently would be asked to come into that room. At that moment dissolution was in the air. Of this fact they might be very certain that the dissolution would take place in the course of the next twelve months, and at that moment they in Inverness-shire were without a Liberal candidate. They would agree with him that was a state of things which should be remedied—(hear, hear). In the last few years they had been extremely lucky in having an extremely good man as their candidate in Mr Kennedy—(applause). Mr Kennedy had keen sympathies for all that was most dear to Highlanders in the matter of politics. He showed his sympathy with Inverness-shire men by coming down to the county year after year and mixing among them and hearing their wishes and their views on political subjects. He himself deeply regretted the fact that Mr Kennedy was no longer their candidate; but while he regretted that fact he also declared that he was confident that Mr Kennedy's work during the past few years had not been thrown away, and that it would be found, whoever was to be the candidate of the future, that Mr Kennedy had indeed prepared the way before him—(applause). It was upon no grounds of political differences that Mr Kennedy had been obliged to sever his connection with Inverness-shire. It was simply on account, if he might say so, of bread and butter. It was an unfortunate thing that at the present time the wishes of the constituencies were unfortunately limited as to the choice of the men that they could have to represent them—limited because of the great cost of elections, and also because of the great cost that a member of Parliament had to endure when he went to represent the constituencies that had chosen him to occupy a seat in Parliament. It was not merely the cost of living in London, but the cost of sacrifice in his own particular profession, and this consideration was one which weighed most heavily on those constituencies which were further from London, because it was those constituencies that called for the greatest sacrifice from those sent up from among themselves in order to represent them. Those, in his judgment, were subjects for early Liberal legislation—(hear, hear. He held that

THE COST OF ELECTIONS

should not fall upon candidates—(hear, hear). It was a proper thing to throw on the taxpayer as a whole, for it was for the benefit of the taxpayer that a member goes to Parliament. He held that any man who was chosen by a constituency to serve them in Parliament should have the means provided for him in order to carry out that service efficiently in Parliament—(applause). He made no criticism of the intention, if there be one, on the part of the Government for a dissolution. His own belief was that the sooner they got rid of the present Parliament the better. It had been a useless and a bad Parliament from the beginning. There had been no "go" in it on the Government side, and he was afraid there had been little "go" in it on the Liberal side. The sooner they shuffled the cards and had a fresh deal the better—(hear, hear). What had this Parliament resulted in? It had resulted, as they all knew, in very little of social legislation; it had resulted in a great deal of disturbance abroad; it had resulted in a most enormous addition to the national expenditure—(applause). The present Government, in the years that it had been in office, had increased their national expenditure by no less than 35 millions a-year—(hear, hear). They had added 14 millions to the Defence Service, and they had added 21 millions to the Civil Service Estimates. That was the result of a few years of Tory Government—(applause). That addition to the taxpayer's burden had been made without any sort of charge for the present war that was going on, which would land them in 100 millions more. What was shortly to be done was undoubtedly to effect

A SETTLEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA.

He was not going into that; but what he did say was this, that for his own part he should like to see the final settlement made by Liberals—(applause). If such final settlement were made by Liberals, it would likely be one that would be much more conducive to peace, contentment, prosperity, and unanimity in South Africa in the future—(applause). If it was not to be settled by a Liberal Government, then let them have it settled by a fresh Tory Government. Only the other day the Government Whip, Sir William Walrond, himself said that the present Cabinet was getting a bit stale. He (Lord Tweedmouth) thought it had been stale from the beginning—(laughter and applause). But what he had to consider, and what the electors in Inverness-shire had to consider, was how best they could take part in that settlement. He believd the best way they could take part in the settlement of South African affairs, setting aside the question of Highland legislation, was by returning a Liberal to Parliament—(applause). Since Mr Kennedy announced his retirement, the Executive of their Association had been very busy in seeking a candidate. They first went to one of their own household to endeavour to get Macleod of Macleod—(applause)—to stand, and they also endeavoured to get Mr Ellice of Invergarry to come forward. Neither of these gentlemen was able to respond to the overtures made to them by the Executive. They then had to look further afield, and amongst other persons approached was Mr Dewar, who was the first Lord Provost of Perth, a man of high character, of great integrity, a Scotchman—(applause)—with Highland blood on both sides, and a man who, at anyrate, had shown in his own neighbourhood he had the respect of friends and neighbours, who made him their own Lord Provost—(applause). He was not here to press Mr Dewar upon them. Mr Dewar was not here to press himself upon them. But he knew Mr Dewar's feelings, for he had spoken to him on the subject. Mr Dewar's feeling was this—If the constituency—if the Association—was ready to welcome him unanimously, and take him as the man most suitable for the constituency, Mr Dewar was willing to place his services at their disposal—(applause). The last thing Mr Dewar would wish, and he (Lord Tweedmouth) would wish, would be that the Inverness-shire Liberal Association would adopt a candidate who would not be acceptable to them, and one they felt they could not support heart and soul, through and through to the end of the fight. Their business that day was in the first place to receive the report of the Executive, and, if it be their pleasure, to adopt Mr Dewar as their candidate—(applause).

Mr Gibson read the correspondence which had passed between the Executive of the Association and Mr Dewar. A deputation, consisting of Mr Campbell, Kingussie; Mr Webster, Mr Gibson, and Mr D. Mactavish, from the Executive of the Association, had interviewed Mr Dewar at Perth, and had heard his views, particularly on the land and temperance questions. Mr Dewar had accordingly been asked to address the members of the Association, and the Council recommended that, in the event of his views proving acceptable. Mr Dewar be adopted as Liberal candidate for the county.

Mr Duncan Mactavish said the members had heard the amount of business the Executive had gone through, and he begged to move the adoption of the minute. In doing so, he might be permitted to express, on behalf of the Association, their regret at the retiral of Mr Kennedy—(hear, hear).

The Chairman asked the meeting if it was their will that Mr Dewar be invited to address them—(hear, hear and applause).

TRUE LIBERALISM.

Mr Dewar, who was cordially received, said he appreciated very highly the great honour they had done him in asking him to come there that day to discuss the question of him becoming their candidate for the Liberal Party at the next General Election. He could assure them that he came there with great diffidence indeed, because he was well aware of his own limitations and deficiencies, and he was of the opinion that in a great constituency of that kind, they required a stronger and better-equipped candidate than he could pretend to be. He could assure them, however, that they could not have one more strongly convinced of the justice of the Liberal cause and of the necessity, in order to promote the progress and prosperity of the county, that legislation should be influenced by sound Liberal principles. For one who up to that time was a rank outsider, and simply a spectator in the game of politics, he might be permitted to offer a few opinions regarding the great danger to the Liberal Party at the present time. The greatest danger they had to face was that many of the ordinary rank and file of the electors—the men who did not think very much about it—among the great majority, there was just a danger that party lines were becoming obliterated. Many of the younger men thought that, after all, there was not much difference between a good Liberal and a good Tory. The root principle of Liberalism was the same as ever it was. It was the same as when our fathers and grandfathers fought against class and privilege to the bitter end, for the common rights of British citizens. Of course, they must acknowledge that the Liberal legislation of the last sixty years—and three-fourths of that legislation had been secured by Liberals—had done a great deal to prevent the power of mischief in the Tory party, and to-day they were the party who wanted the rule of the aristocracy against the rule of the people. The principle of true Liberalism was that the people should govern themselves They had still the party of progress and reform. They had also the party of reaction. If reforms were to be carried, Liberals were of opinion that they should be thorough and upright. On the other hand, they had the party whose reforms were full of distrust and timidity. He (Mr Dewar) had always been a Liberal, and his belief was that, in the eyes of the law, all men were equal.

EQUALITY WANTED.

It was the duty of legislation to sweep away all privilege and anything that prevented equality. Their principle was that the people should govern themselves, and that every man should have a say in the government of the country. It was because of that that Liberals wanted very radical reform of the legislative law. In regard to the law of registration, Mr Dewar said he did not think it should be difficult for men to get on to the register of voters, and for this reason mainly—that the great majority of men should be placed on the register in respect of their manhood, and not in respect of their property—(applause). He sometimes thought the man with £1 a-week was a safer judge of what was good for the country that the man with £10,000 a-year, because a man with £1 a-week was more susceptible to bad laws than the rich man. There was one question that agitated the country, and that was that several thousands of men were struck off the register on account of their non-payment of poor rates before 20th June. That was a great injustice, which should be rectified at once—(applause). The next question that struck him as most applicable to Inverness-shire was the reform of the land laws—(hear, hear). Land was a necessary of life. It was as necessary to existence as the air they breathed. It was an extraordinary thing that, while land was necessary to life, it should be under restrictions such as the laws of entail and primogeniture, which clearly ought to be swept off the Statute-Book—(hear, hear).

THE CROFTERS.

But the question which chiefly interested them was the crofter question. There were three classes—the crofter, the farmer, and the feuar. They must recognise that the landlord held the lease by a good title, and the Radical party would never be a party to abuse that title. He thought that property was never so safe as when the democracy was in power—(hear, hear). Public good must come before private good, whether in land or in anything else—(hear, hear). For instance, they had already got power to take land compulsorily from individuals for improvements in cities. He gave instances of the great increase in the value of land near cities. There was also this duty of legislation—to see that purchasers of land should be on an equal footing. For instance, a crofter wanted a croft. He could only get ground from the proprietor, who owned all the land in the district. He had no equal footing with the proprietor, and in that case he (Mr Dewar) held that the Legislature should step in, as it had done in the Crofters Act, and rectify this great injustice, putting the crofter on a fair footing. The same thing applied to the Ground Game Act, which made it illegal for a farmer to give up the game on his ground to the landlord. He advocated

THE EXTENSION OF THE CROFTERS ACT

to the other counties. He could never see why a crofter in Perthshire did not have the same rights as in the counties to which the Crofters' Act applied. His grandfather and his great-grandfather were crofters—(applause). He did not know what his ancestors before that were—(laughter). He also advocated the extension of the Crofters Act to leaseholders. It was, he said, only reasonable. Crofters also should have power to sell their improvements. He thought it monstrous that, when the crofter improved his croft, these improvements passed to the landlord when the tenant left. It seemed to him that they should have some radical amendment of the Agricultural Holdings Act. Dealing with the power of the local authorities, he said that the local authority should have more power to take land for public purposes. At present Town Councils had power to compulsorily acquire water rights; they should also have power to take land for building houses, because houses were just as necessary to the comfort of the community as a supply of pure water. Indeed, the question of the housing of the working classes was assuming alarming proportions. Regarding feu-duties, he held that in the first instance these duties should be paid by the proprietor. At the same time, he did not think it would be fair to interfere with existing feu-duties, and change the taxation from the feuar to the landlord.

FOREIGN POLICY.

In regard to this subject, Mr Dewar said he was in favour of a strong foreign policy. Almost every country was bound to be interested in a strong foreign policy and in a strong colonial policy. This country depended largely on foreigners for purchasing our manufactures and chartering our steamships. He was of the opinion that the British Empire should be maintained in all its greatness—that Britain should have a strong and sympathetic interest in her Colonies wherever they were. He was not a Jingo, and he approved of Lord Rosebery's views on the subject.

SOUTH AFRICA.

In regard to South Africa, Mr Dewar believed the war to be just and necessary. It might, perhaps, have been avoided. The only man who could have avoided it was President Kruger, but he had not avoided it. They had learned a great deal since the war began, and it was his opinion that, from the state of mind the President of the Republic was in, war would have taken place no matter which Government was in power. He was of opinion that the demands of this country were just and reasonable, and they would have been conceded except by an impossible ruler like President Kruger. They must annex these two Republics, and allow them that freedom under the British flag that they never enjoyed before. Mr Dewar also alluded to the necessity for army reform, The best men should be allowed to come to the top. There was need of more "Hector Macdonalds" in the army. Mr Dewar concluded by expressing his regret at the retiral of Mr Kennedy.

THE DISCUSSION.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions.

Mr Simon Muir, Errogie, said that the district from which he came was more particularly interested in the land question. Another point that interested them was the right of trout fishing in the lochs there. From time immemorial Lochs Garth and Farraline had been fished by the native population of Strathferrick. Mr Muir proceeded to state that last year an Association, consisting of the British Aluminium Company, Mr Sopper, Dunmaglass; Lord Lovat, and Captain Fraser of Balnain, had stopped the inhabitants from fishing in these lochs. Mr Muir concluded by asking if Mr Dewar was willing to make trout fishing in these lochs open to the local public.

Mr Dewar said he was not in favour of interfering with old-established rights. It seemed to him that the right to fish for trout was of little value, and he thought the right could very well be granted.

Mr J. G. Mackay, Portree, described the Congested Districts Board appointed by the Tories as a sop to prevent the extension of the Crofters Act. He asked Mr Dewar if he was in favour of the extension of the powers of the Congested Districts Board, so as to enable them to grant the extension of holdings properly.

Mr Dewar replied that he was certainly in favour of that extension.

Mr Mackay said the great fact before them was that they wanted a Liberal candidate for the county—(hear, hear)—and he himself thought that they had a very good Liberal candidate in front of them—(applause). They were all sorry that Mr Kennedy had retired, for they had all come to believe—and he believed himself—that Mr Kennedy was an ideal Liberal candidate, and he (Mr Mackay) was perfectly satisfied that Mr Kennedy would have gone in for the county by a large majority. As many of them knew, he (the speaker) had been antagonistic, not to landlords, but to the system of landlordism, and when Mr Kennedy withdrew he thought it would be a grand thing for them to have as their representative that "rara avis"—a Liberal landlord, who liked to see his tenants thriving about him—but he was disappointed when Macleod of Macleod could not come forward as their candidate. Then they heard of Mr Dewar, of Perth. He was sure they would afford him a hearty Highland welcome. Any little schooling he needed when he came to Skye and the West they would be glad to supply him with—(laughter). If they stood shoulder to shoulder, Mr Mackay had no doubt they would carry Mr Dewar triumphantly. He asked that Liberals should close up their ranks and all support Mr Dewar. They could not get a man specially built for them, but all should agree, whatever their particular views were, to support the candidate. He concluded by formally moving that Mr Dewar be adopted as the Liberal candidate for Inverness shire—(loud applause).

Mr Macdougall, Glen-Urquhart, in a word, seconded.

Letters were read in favour of adopting Mr Dewar from Mr D. Campbell, J.P., Kingussie; Mr Dugald Campbell, secretary North Ballachulish Association; Mr A. Campbell, secretary of the Fort-William Association; Mr Donald Mackay, Kiltarlity; Mr Fraser, Abriachan, and others.

Mr Dewar returned thanks for his acceptance. He was willing to work as hard as they liked—(laughter and applause). He thanked them very heartily, and assured them that he would do all he could for the good of Liberalism. He would be glad to get all the education he could. He remembered a friend in Perth saying that when he went to Skye he would learn good Gaelic and good manners—(laughter).

Mr Duncan Mactavish moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Lord Tweedmouth said he would be glad to do everything in his power to assist Mr Dewar, although he could not take a part at election times.

The proceedings then terminated.

GENERAL ELECTION. PREPARE.—QUALIFY! QUALIFY!! QUALIFY!!!—As the General Election will be fought on the Roll now being made up, all Liberals should make certain that their names appear on the Roll of Voters. All Poor Rates must be paid before 20TH JUNE, 1900. Unless this is done, you will not have a Vote in the coming fight. LIBERALS, SEE TO THIS AT ONCE.

NOTES FROM A HIGHLAND GLEN.

[By JOHN NORTH.]

LIBERAL ORGANISATION.

As a Liberal, I cannot but rejoice that the Liberal cause in the county now possesses a system of organised order and efficiency that must, by its educative influence, in the years that elapse between elections, and its capabilities of timely service and action at the time of an election, do much for the advancement of Liberalism. A few years ago the Liberal cause in Inverness-shire was almost altogether allowed to shift for itself. There was no representative or administrative association. The Liberals of one district held no communication with those of another, and while Liberalism has always been the dominant political creed of the shire, for want of cohesion and combination among the Liberal electors, and by reason of the warring of small parochial issues, the Tory has crept in, as member of Parliament, and we know now how he has fulfilled his duties and carried out his promises. Mr Baillie is an estimable and amiable gentleman, I admit, but the fact that he represents Inverness-shire is a slur upon the political common sense of the electorate, and particularly upon the Liberal portion of it. Ineptitude, indifference, inactivity have characterised the Parlimentary record of the Tory. His ways are not the people's ways nor his interests their interests, and the sooner the election comes and he gets his dismissal and The Mackintosh—another of the Tory ilk—'s rejected and refused, despite the sweet charming of big promises and big talk, the better for the interests of a county that has by mistake been misrepresented or non-represented for so long. And in securing Mr Dewar as their future member, Inverness-shire will do well. A man of acumen and great business administrative ability, a sound and uncompromising Liberal, and a capable man, he stands in bright and strong contradistinction to the nominee of the Tories and the beloved of the Primrose League. Almost every district in the county has now a Liberal Association or Committee, and organised and united efforts are bound to place Mr Dewar with a great majority in the seat of representation; although, indeed, without organisation at all, he would, I daresay, attain it by the spontaneous vote of a people disgusted by the inefficiency of the Tory candidates, who remind one strongly of the village pump orator. Mr Webster, the Liberal organising secretary, merits praise and credit for the excellent manner in which he has organised Liberalism in the county, and let the election come when it may, we are prepared to give Mr Webster the fruits of his unremitting services—a great majority in the Liberal vote, return of Mr Dewar as our member, and the relegating of The Mackintosh to private life where he may—and will probably—devote his time to the extension and regulation of his deer forests and other kindred subjects—subjects which, we must all admit, he is most capable by training and sympathy of understanding.

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UNION AND DISUNION.

I am almost loth to touch again upon Church matters or politics, but while the Union controversy is exciting the minds of most Highlanders, while in many parishes the Free Church is face to face with a disruption, and while our Highlands is likely to be again rent by the factions of the ecclesiastical world, I cannot refrain from an expression of regret that such keen, unfriendly controversy, such uncharitableness, such prejudice, such hatred almost, should characterise the sayings and doings of those whom we call ministers of Christ. Cannot as large a charity as characterise other professions with less pretence to goodness or piety characterise the Church that calls itself by Christ? The Constitutionalist calls the Unionist a backslider and an infidel, the Unionist calls the Constitutionalist a bigot and a hypocrite, and so the game of mud-slinging goes merrily on. This would be amusing if it were not sad and deplorable. Christianity is brought into contempt. The Churches get little credit for goodness or piety or sincerity of motive, and the energies and forces that ought to be given to the warring against sin and unrighteousness are given over to an internecine strife that is suicidal to the Church and dishonouring to God.

I have seen one secession from the Free Church already, and I know what its effects have been. Another secession in the Glen would leave us with three or four Protestant Churches, each weak and paltry, and living not for the love and glory of God, but for the bitter purpose of spite and hate, and each having as the chief tenet in its creed the preaching of the errors of the others. The contemplation of another secession darkens one's mind and outlook. It will ruin the Church life of the Highlands; it will breed unbelief and infidelity, and will discredit the cause of religion. Surely this is sad, and I for one hope fervently that better counsels will prevail, and that the Free Church of my fathers, strengthened by this great addition of learned and devout Christians, will go on from strength to strength, worthily fulfilling its mission and blessing the land of its birth.

I am, of course, a Highlander, with most of the Highland sympathies and prejudices common to the average Gael; but notwithstanding all that I cannot help thinking that we Highlanders have in the matter of our religion been led too much by tradition and prejudice. I have the highest admiration for Dr Kennedy and other fathers of the Church who lived in bygone days; but because Dr Kennedy held certain views upon any subject, it does not necessarily follow that I am to accept these views without examining them in the light of my own understanding. Yet this is how many do. Dr Kennedy declared against union; therefore they are against it. This is the apotheosis of unreasonableness. Let Dr Kennedy and all advocates for or against be shut out, and let each then decide for himself. I fancy we should hear less of another secession if this were done; but tied down to the thoughts of another, fettered by prejudice and tradition, obstinate and unthinking, our Constitutionalist goes cheerfully to the disruption and dismemberment of his Church, confident that he is right in so doing because some great man or minister has said so. It is time this servility to other men's views ceased, and that the Highlander should feel in his own individual person a sense of that spiritual independence that seems to be part of the Constitutionalist shibboleth.

LOVE AND SONG.

Love came, and with a fiery whirlwind's force
Swept heart and brain.
He trembled and was silent. In its course
Lay mingled joy and pain.

Love passed and left; where all its glow had been
Ashes and dust and woe;
He shuddered as he looked upon the scene
Where all his ways must go.

Tired eyes were sealed in sleep, and broken speech
Bespoke the wounded soul;
Too tired, awake, the pity to beseech
Of all the strong or whole.

A loving spirit girt in golden light,
With pitying gentle grace,
Bent o'er the restless figure in the night,
And kissed the careworn face;

And said—"Love blesses many, and rich store
And strength are to the strong:
I give thee, soul, poor, bruised, and bleeding now—
I give thee song."

THE RIGHT-OF-WAY

AT MILLBURN.

The matter of the alleged public right-of-way at Millburn has again been before the Law Committee of the Town Council, and the Committee, through the Convener, Councillor Wm. Mackay, have confirmed the report, dated August 1889, by the Town Clerk and town Law Agent, which report stated that after careful consideration they considered that the town had not sufficient ground of action to initiate or to pursue legal proceedings to declare a public right-of-way through the estate of Millburn and Seabank. The Law Committee further add that by the Highland Railway Act, 1895, sec. 10, power is conferred to close Welsh's Bridge and shut up the level crossing, and also "to appropriate the site and soil of such bridge and level crossing so far as the same are bounded by the lands of the Company." This precludes any possible use of the alleged right-of-way from the Millburn side. The non-existence of the public right-of-way has accordingly been clearly proved, and an unpalatable enough result the finding of the Committee is certain to be, more especially with the older inhabitants of Inverness, in whose young days the Millburn estate seems by all accounts to have been one of the several happy recreation grounds then frequented by the youth of the town.

INVERNESS TRADES COUNCIL

AND A FAIR WAGE.

The monthly meeting of above Council was held in the Trades' Hall, Castle Street, on Wednesday evening. Mr Hassan, tailor (president), was in the chair. The Secretary, Mr P. Aitken, intimated the receipt of a letter from the Clerk of the Inverness School Board, which stated that the Board had agreed to accept the "fair wage" clause in future contracts. The Council considered the Secretary's statement very satisfactory. A member expressed dissatisfaction with the awarding of the Central School improvement contracts, maintaining that in the case of one firm at least he believed the "fair wage" was not paid; but it was pointed out that these contracts had been settled before the adoption of the clause by the School Board. Another member objected to the use of the phrase "fair wage," stating that "standard wage" was the better term. Every employer thought the wage he paid a "fair" wage—(hear, hear). It was agreed to make enquiry into the matter, and the Secretary was instructed to that effect. Mr Macdonald, painter, somewhat adversely criticised the monthly report of the Burgh Sanitary Inspector. In regard to the inspection of workshops, the speaker stated he was safe in saying that if the Sanitary Inspector was doing his duty his (Mr Macdonald's) trade would have a few weeks' work in front of them—(laughter). It was agreed to write the Town Clerk for a copy of the Sanitary Inspector's annual report. Regarding the Trades' Holidays, the following motion by Mr Grundie, tailor, was after a long discussion unanimously agreed to—"That the Trades' Council communicate with the Inverness Town Council, asking them, before they change the July holiday from Wednesday to Monday, to call a public meeting to take the views of the townspeople whether the Trades' Holidays, as recommended by the Building Federation and by the Trades' Council, should be adopted." This was all the business.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

FIGHTING BETWEEN BOXERS AND CHINESE TROOPS.

BRITISH MARINES BLOCKED.

(Reuter's Telegram).

Tientsin, Thursday.

Fighting is proceeding between the Chinese troops and the Boxers about 20 miles from here in the direction of Peking. An engagement has also taken place on the Taku Road. Seventy-five British marines are waiting at the station for permission to proceed by train to Peking. It is said the Chinese are putting difficulties in the way. It is reported that the Chinese troops have been defeated near Paoting-fu. Two French warships and one Russian have arrived at Taku.

Later.

The train service between Tientsin and Pekin is again suspended. The Chinese authorities would not allow British marines and bluejackets to entrain, although they offered to repair the line as they went.

(Dalziel's Telegram).

Shanghai, Thursday.

A party of British marines, numbering 180, with a machine gun, is about to leave Tientsin to force a passage through to Pekin.

Altogether about 900 British have been landed from the fleet, this number being greater than the total from the vessels of the other Powers combined.

("Morning Post" Telegram).

Pekin, Thursday.

The city is still under control, but is in a very excited state.

An early solution to the problem may be expected.

THE BRITISH IN ASHANTI.

AN OMINOUS SILENCE.

The dearth of news regarding the situation in Ashanti is viewed by the Government with increased apprehension. Two days have passed without tidings of the relief column, and no information direct from Kumasi has been received for nearly a month. The Government does not place much reliance on the reported relief of the beleagured garrison there. The correctness of the report that Lieutenant Slater was killed in fighting near Kwisi is now questioned.

FROM THE BATTLEFIELDS.—An interesting collection of relics from South African battlefields is now on exhibition in the window of Mr William Mackenzie, clothier, 37 Church Street, Inverness. These include parts of a 100 lb. shell from the famous Boer "Long Tom"—the shell exploded on Market Square, Ladysmith, during the siege; a hand-made Boer ammunition-bag found on a dead Boer on the battlefield of Elandslaagte; Mauser, explosive, and shrapnel bullets taken from a Boer laager after the battle of Dronfield, 16th February, 1900, and a copy of illuminated addresses presented to Lord Lovat's Scouts at Cape Town on 10th April, 1900.

GENERAL BULLER

AT LAING'S NEK.

General Buller reports the seizure of Van Wyke with few casualties. General Hildyard carried out a well-planned attack, forcing the enemy to retire, and, as General Buller hopes, the Boers' position at Laing's Nek is rendered untenable.

LORD ROBERTS' ENTRY TO PRETORIA.

MAGNIFICENT SPECTACLE.

(From Yesterday's "Morning Leader.")

PRETORIA, Tuesday.

As was generally anticipated, the Boers fled from the capital during the night. The news of the surrender of the town was circulated in our camp at dawn, and evoked the greatest enthusiasm.

Lord Roberts met with a great reception when he rode past the various regiments on his way to head the triumphal entry. The local officials met the Field-Marshal outside. He formally entered Pretoria in the afternoon. The British flag, which had been worked by Lady Roberts, was then hoisted above the official buildings. The ceremony was accompanied by the playing of the National Anthem by the fifes and drums of the Guards. Lord Roberts himself led the cheers for the Queen.

Next, the troops which had taken part in the magnificent march to Pretoria passed in review before Lord Roberts and his staff. The townspeople gave us a cordial welcome.

President Kruger's bolting seems to have caused a bad impression, especially as he left the capital surreptitiously, after commandeering the money in the banks.

Madame Kruger remains.

Curiously, the only shell which took effect in the town yesterday hit the United States Consulate.

We have recovered all our prisoners, with the exception of 900.

FLIGHT OF THE BOERS.

LIBERATION OF 200 PRISONERS.

(From Yesterday's "Standard").

Pretoria, Tuesday.

The Transvaal Capital has been occupied to-day by the British Army.

Yesterday evening the West Australian and 6th Mounted Infantry approached the outskirts, and the details of the capitulation having been arranged, Lord Roberts entered the city this morning with the Guards Brigade.

The Burghers, who were passing through the city all day yesterday, moved off to the east.

A thousand of the British prisoners were sent off by railway in the same direction, but a couple of hundred were liberated on our entry.

The trains were leaving the station as we arrived. Two of them were captured, but one managed to escape.

Mrs Kruger has remained at her home.

The demeanour of the people generally is one of sullenness.

A number of our shells dropped into the town yesterday.

THE RETURN OF REFUGES.

TO THE TRANSVAAL.

A WARNING BY SIR ALFRED MILNER.

The following telegram has been received at the Colonial Office from Sir Alfred Milner:—

7th June.—Reported by telegram that large numbers of miners and others are about to start for Transvaal from Southampton on Saturday. Cannot public notification be issued warning people against premature return? They will be delayed at Cape ports, and will only increase numbers supported by charity. It must be a couple of months at least before the bulk of those now in the colony and Natal can be allowed to return or work generally be resumed.

Wiring last night, the Press Association states:—Regarding High Commissioner's warning against the premature return of miners and others to South Africa, the Press Association learns there have already been numerous bookages for Cape ports.

THE POST OFFICE AND THE WAR.

At the opening of the new Post Office at West Hartlepool yesterday afternoon, Lord Londonderry, the Postmaster-General, said the war had cast a very responsible burden on the Post Office. The mail despatched on May 19th to the Army in South Africa contained 313,000 letters and 131,000 newspaper packets.

THE LOVAT SCOUTS.

The following is an extract from a letter written by one of the privates of the Lovat Scouts. The letter is dated May 14th, and the interest of it is that it shows that the 1st Company were not so long detained by the outbreak of pink eye as we were led to expect by some (now evidently long delayed) cablegrams, which appeared to say that they left on the 21st. They were thus probably able to rejoin the 2nd Company at Kroonstad, where Lord Roberts is said to have reviewed them on the 19th:—

"May 14th.—We have been two days and nights in the train, and hope to arrive at Bloemfontein on Wednesday (the 16th). We left Cape Town last Sunday. We marched from a camp called Maitland, five miles from Cape Town. We are now travelling through a splendid country. The heat is rather too much in open carriages, but the nights are colder. Our horses are all well. We stop thrice a day to feed and water them, and we get tea at the same time. We live on corned beef and hard biscuits. This, in this hot weather, is the thing to reduce a chap! All the bridges and rivers are guarded right up from Cape Town. We have 100 rounds and our rifles at our sides in the train, and—a hard biscuit! There are some queer-looking people in this country, but they all turn out and give us a cheer, and seem very glad to see us. We shall stay at Bloemfontein a few days, and then up country to Lord Roberts, we expect."

DEATH OF A LOCHCARRON OFFICER AT THE FRONT.

The sad tidings of the death of Lieut. Alaistair Murray, jun., of Lochcarron, which reached Lochcarron on Tuesday evening, has cast a gloom over the whole district. Lieut. Murray was the oldest son of Major Murray of Lochcarron, and M.P. for Coventry. He left here about four months ago for South Africa, and joined General Rundle's Division. He took part in the battles which were fought at Senekal, and was seriously wounded, his left thigh being fractured, but hopes were entertained of his recovery, till the sad news arrived on Monday evening. He was a promising young soldier, being tall, active, and courageous, and being of a frank and kindly disposition, he was greatly beloved by all who knew him, all of whom now deeply sympathise with Major and Lady Murray in their sore bereavement.

ROSS AND CROMARTY BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

PRESENTATION TO MR MACKEGGIE

The members of the Ross and Cromarty Benevolent Association met in a restaurant in Gordon Street, Glasgow, last Monday evening for the purpose of presenting Mr James A. Mackeggie, on the occasion of his marriage, with a tangible token of their appreciation of his services to the Association. The chair was occupied by Mr Wm. M. Mackenzie, M.A., who was supported by the guest of the evening, Dr Dingwall, Mr D. M. Mackenzie, Mr Munro, Mr Angus Urquhart, Mr Peter Macdonald, Mr J. A. Mackenzie, Mr John Mackay, "Celtic Monthly;" Mr Henry Whyte ("Fionn,") Mr M. Ross, Mr W. Macdonald, Mr G. Watson, and others. After supper,

The Chairman said that no duty could be more pleasant than that which he had now to perform. They were met to do honour to one of themselves, Mr Mackeggie, and he was sure he was only giving expression to their sentiments when he said that to know Mr Mackeggie was a distinct privilege as well as a positive pleasure—(applause). It was difficult for one to speak as they would like in the presence of their guest, for he knew that Mr Mackeggie was too modest to have his good qualities declared in his presence. Mr Mackeggie came to Glasgow some eighteen years ago, not with the proverbial half-crown in his pocket—he was far too prudent for that—but he came as many others came, and as many more, he hoped, would come—to push his way in this city. He has now climbed his way to a position of influence and trust in one of the oldest and largest shipping firms in this second city of the Empire—(applause). That fact was sufficient to declare his business knowledge and natural abilities—(applause). Shortly after he came to the city he connected himself with the Ross and Cromarty Association. Becoming an ordinary member, he by and bye received from the Association every honour which as an Association it could confer—filling every office with efficiency and distinction—(applause). It was somewhat remarkable that he should take such an interest in the Association, seeing he was not by birth a native of Ross-shire—which he deserved to be—(laughter)—and he was sure they would be proud to adopt him as a son of Ross-shire—(applause). The lady who was to become Mrs Mackeggie bore a good Ross-shire name—for where should Macraes be found if not in that county?—and so the Association thought that they must show in a tangible fashion their interest in Mr Mackeggie and their approval of the step he was now about to take, so they had procured those articles which they saw before them. It was his pleasing duty to ask Mr Mackeggie to accept these as a small token of their personal and collective esteem, with the wish that his prosperity might continue and augment in the future, and that recurring years might bring their own stores of happiness and honour; and when the mechanism of these articles were done with age he might be found sitting under his own roof-tree—(applause).

The toast of "Success to Mr Mackeggie" having been cordially pledged,

Mr Mackeggie rose to reply. He said it was very difficult to find adequate words in which to express his thanks to them all, but especially to his friend Mr Mackenzie for his kind remarks regarding himself and with reference to Miss Macrae. If Miss Macrae was not a native of Ross-shire, she came from a good stock long associated with that county—(applause). His own father was a native of Ross-shire, although he (the speaker) happened to have been born on the wrong side of the river. Referring to his connection with the Association, he said that he thought he was under greater obligations to the Association than ever the Association was indebted to him. The fact of his having joined the Association had a good deal to do with the moulding of his character, and the experience acquired in connection with the benevolent work of the Association was an education itself. He was taught to take a deeper interest in his fellow-countrymen who might be less fortunate in the battle of life, and in this way his sympathies were widened and his mind enlarged. Coming to the chief business of the evening, he said he could only thank them all for their great kindness in handing him such beautiful gifts. It required no such tokens to assure him of the good wishes of the Association towards himself and Miss Macrae, and he could assure them their handsome gifts would ever occupy an honoured place in their home—(applause).

The presentation, which consisted of a handsome drawing-room clock and ornaments, bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr James A. Mackeggie, ex-President of the Ross and Cromarty Benevolent Association, on the occasion of his marriage.—6th June, 1900." During the course of the evening appropriate remarks were made by Mr John Mackay, Mr Henry Whyte, Mr D. W. Mackenzie, and Mr Peter Macdonald. A number of songs were sung, and a pleasant evening was spent.

HIGHLAND GATHERING.

The London Highland Athletic Club held their seventh Highland gathering on Monday last in the Stamford Bridge Grounds, Fulham. As the weather was good, there was a very large number of spectators on the ground, in fact a much larger attendance than upon any former occasion, a result that was all the more satisfactory considering that the proceeds this year are being devoted to the War Funds. In addition to the usual sport, the Committee provided an exhibition of Scottish home industries, which was given in a large tent on the grounds. The exhibits included every kind of Scotch tweed, knitting, embroidery, wood-carving and other industrial work. The Duchess of Sutherland, as president of the Scottish Home Industries Association, opened the exhibition, and was accompanied by her little daughter and Lady Constance Mackenzie. On her arrival at the grounds she was met by the Band of the Second Battalion Highland Infantry and escorted to the exhibition. Archdeacon Sinclair, in the name of the Committee, welcomed Her Grace, and presented her with a bouquet made up in the form of a tricolour. The Duchess of Sutherland briefly thanked the assembly for her welcome, and for the opportunity afforded of bringing before the public the efforts of the Scottish Home Industries Association. Spinning and weaving were as noble as serving over a counter or tapping a typewriter in London, and she was glad to say what a pleasure it was to her to see that Scotchmen had not forgotten the sports of their country under the broad cloth—(cheers). She was very thankful they were giving the proceeds of this day to the War Fund. We who were now happy in the sunshine knew how great had been the trials and hardships of our brave soldiers, and especially our brave Highlanders, in the service of our Queen and country in Africa—(cheers). To-day she hoped they would think of the wives and mothers who were greeting for the loss of the brave who had fallen in battle—(loud cheers). Prizes won in the sports were presented by the Marchioness of Tullibardine.

STORNOWAY SHERIFF COURT.

CRUELTY TO A HORSE.

In Stornoway Sheriff Court on Thursday—before Sheriff Campbell—Mr John H. Grigor, coach-hirer, was charged with having on 26th May cruely abused or tortured a horse belonging to him by working it while suffering from an open raw wound or sore on the front of the neck, and two open sores on the right and two on the left shoulder. He pleaded not guilty. Provost Anderson, who was the first witness, deponed that his attention was called to the condition of one of two horses yoked to a machine near the Fish Market on the day libelled. He did not know at the time to whom the horse belonged. He saw that the horse was suffering from an open sore larger than a crown piece, under the collar on the breast, and he suggested to the driver that the animal should be unyoked and removed to the stable. The driver unyoked the horse, but Mr Grigor came on the scene at this point and had it replaced in the machine and ordered the lad to drive away.

Mr J. G. Macdonald, merchant, Mr H. B. Murray, clerk, police constable, John Kennedy, Mr Wm. Lumsden, fishcurer, Mr Matthew Nicol, do., Police Sergeant Maciver, and Mr Robert Hunter, Barvas Inn, all spoke to the wounds on the animal, and expressed the opinion that it was cruel to work it in the condition in which it was.

For the defence, the driver, Malcolm Campbell, stated that the horse had been lying idle for a fortnight prior to the day libelled in consequence of a wound on the shoulder. When it was yoked that morning the wounds were quite healed but the skin was tender. After witness drove to the Fish Mart he found that the neck was cut, and Mr Grigor, as soon as he saw the condition of the horse, ordered him to go to the stable and put another in its place. In cross-examination he admitted that he did not change horses at the stable as instructed, but drove on to Barvas, where he waited until another horse was sent out from Stornoway. He did not change horses at the stable as he had no one to hold the other horse for him.

John Macleod and Murdo Kennedy, two carters, both spoke, he having examined the horse before it left the stable on the day in question. At that time the wounds were quite healed. Alexander Macdonald, cooper, who was present at the Fish Mart, stated that he heard Mr Grigor instruct the driver to go to the stables and change horses.

Mr C. G. Mackenzie, Procurator-Fiscal, submitted that he had established his case. It had been proved that Mr Grigor caused the horse to be yoked to the machine and to be driven to Barvas, a distance of 12 miles, and also that Mr Grigor was aware of the condition of the horse.

Mr Grigor, on his own behalf, said the animal had been standing in the stable for fully two weeks before the day in question. When it was yoked on this day the wounds were quite healed, and he and all the men about the stable considered the animal fit for work. If he had thought that the horse was not in a condition for work, he would certainly not have yoked it, and when he saw that the wound had opened again he ordered the horse back to the stable. The driver had not obeyed his instructions, but accused telegraphed to Barvas to stop him, and sent out a fresh horse to take the place of the one in question.

The Sheriff said it appeared from the evidence that this horse had at least two wounds a fortnight before 26th May, and that it had been kept in the stable in consequence. The evidence for the defence was that these wounds had healed. He could hardly accept this as correct, for it needed no elaboration to show the absurdity of the statement that to drive the horse from Bayhead to the Fish Mart would have caused the wounds to open if they were properly healed. When Mr Grigor appeared on the scene at the Fish Mart, and his attention was directed to the wounds on the horse, he resented the interference of the Provost with his property, and told him to mind his own business. As a matter of fact, the Provost was minding his business at the time—the business of his office and of the community. From the evidence of Police Sergeant Maciver and Mr Hunter, it appeared the horse had five instead of two wounds when it reached Barvas. There could be no doubt that in driving the twelve miles between Stornoway and Barvas the animal had suffered pain, and that it was cruelly tortured in being driven that long distance. He was, he said, taking into account that Mr Grigor, at the time he was remonstrated with, was in the midst of a large crowd of people, all of whom, or most of whom, knew him, and that he felt nettled at being held up in this way before the public. In the circumstances, he lost his temper, and told the lad to drive on, and he obeyed. He regretted, for Mr Grigor's sake, that he must find him guilty, for he did not believe Mr Grigor, under ordinary circumstances, would allow his horse be cruelly treated. Sentence—£2 or thirty days.

THE LIBERAL LEADER IN GLASGOW.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, speaking in Glasgow on Thursday night, replied to Mr Chamerlain's charges that his speeches had encouraged the Boers. He charged Mr Chamberlain in turn with having made a gross and fatal blunder when, knowing the immense armaments of the Boers, he did not foresee their stubborn resistance. Speaking of the settlement after the war, he deprecated any hasty resolutions, especially because we could not yet have the same opinion of South Africa on the point. He criticised adversely the declaration of Lord Salisbury that we could not leave a shred of independent self-government to the Boers, and also Mr Chamberlain's suggestion of government on Crown Colony lines. What was wanted above all things was to show our confidence in the Boers, who would then be moved to return confidence. Sir Henry also spoke briefly on Australian federation, the union of the Free and United Presbyterian Churches, and the general political situation and the prospects of the Radicals at the forthcoming election.

A POPULAR FOOTBALL OFFICIAL.

Mr James Johnstone, secretary of the Highland Football League and Inverness Charity Cup Committee, has been the recipient of several gifts on the occasion of his marriage. On Thursday, 31st ult., he was waited on by a deputation representing the several Football Committees in town and other gentlemen, and presented with a purse of gold. The deputation conveyed, in name of the subscribers, their sincerest congratulations and best wishes for his future happiness. The staff of "The Northern Chronicle" also presented Mr Johnstone with a handsome clock, suitably inscribed. The presentation was made by Mr W. L. Grant, printing manager, who referred in pleasing terms to Mr Johnstone's many amiable qualities, he being a favourite with everybody in the office. Mr Grant wished their guest and his wife every joy. In a word Mr Johnstone returned thanks for the beautiful present and the kind remarks that accompanied it. The clock was supplied by Messrs Ferguson & Maebean, jewellers, Union Street, Inverness.

WOMEN AGAINST THE WAR.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HIGHLAND NEWS."]

SIR,—A mass meeting of women, under the auspices of the South African Peace Conciliation Committee will be held next Wednesday evening, 13th June, in the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, London. May I ask all the women in Inverness and elsewhere who are in accord with this righteous movement against an unrighteous, iniquitous, and uncalled-for war to record their sympathy in favour of the movement by sending a post card, if they cannot be present themselves, either with names signed, or simply write "Yes" for each individual, and address— Mowbray House, Norfolk, Strand," in order that their names or numbers may be read out at the meeting. Appeals against the "annexation of the Transvaal and Free State," as well as appeals that "their continued independence be secured," will be included in the protest. Scotswomen, whose forefathers bled and died in securing the independence of our beloved land—whose husbands, fathers, and brothers are being sacrificed by the same unscrupulous and greedy race lusting after the lands and gold mines of their neighbours—surely will rally to the call, and use their influence in making the women's agitation against the war known. Thanking you in advance.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

G. ROBERTSON.

SUTHERLANDSHIRE NEWS.

GENERAL ELECTION. PREPARE.—QUALIFY! QUALIFY!! QUALIFY!!!—As the General Election will be fought on the Roll now being made up, all Liberals should make certain that their names appear on the Roll of Voters. All Poor Rates must be paid before 20TH JUNE, 1900. Unless this is done, you will not have a Vote in the coming fight. LIBERALS, SEE TO THIS AT ONCE.

GOLSPIE—PRESENTATION.—Mr D. W. Munro, Secretary of the Golspie Golf Club, has been presented with a purse of sovereigns on the occasion of his marriage. Mr Archd. Argo, County Clerk, Vice-President of the Club, presided, and the President, Dr Simpson, made the presentation, in which he alluded to the valuable services rendered to the Club by Mr Munro as their secretary. Mr Munro briefly returned thanks.

ROGART—SCHOOL BOARD.—The School Board election is fixed for Friday first. The following gentlemen have been nominated for the five seats:—Mr Alex. Bannerman, Langwell; Colonel Menzies, Blarich; Mr Murray, Davochbeg; Rev. Mr Mackintosh, Free Church; Mr Geo. Grant, Dalmore; Major Mackay, Corry; Mr Grant, stationmaster; and Mr Angus Mackay, Torbuie. The first four gentlemen were members of the old Board.

GOLSPIE—COMFORTS FOR THE FRONT.—Through the kindness of the Y.W.C.A. and Sabbath Afternoon Bible Class members and a few friends, who have been busy during the past few weeks, the following articles are being forwarded to South Africa:—23 pairs of socks, 5 balaclava caps, 1 parcel of books, 1 parcel containing hair-brushes, combs, boot-laces, and notepaper. The Secretary of the Y.W.C.A. and the teacher of the Bible Class are sending out the goods for the use of the sick and wounded in the Highland Brigade, in the hope that they may be useful to our brave lads, and remind them of those who are eagerly following their progress, and earnestly praying for their safe return.

ROGART—RE-OPENING OF THE FREE CHURCH.—Rogart Free Church (the Rev. Donald Mackintosh) is to be re-opened on Tuesday first, after undergoing extensive alterations and repairs. At noon Rev. Mr Mackay, late of Cromarty, will conduct a Gaelic service, and at 1.30 p.m. Rev. Dr Wells, Glasgow, will preach in English. At the evening meeting addresses will be delivered by well-known ministers and laymen, and a musical programme will be sustained by favourite Inverness artistes. Mr Mackintosh is fairly entitled to the hearty congratulations of all, and the ceremony will mark an auspicious occasion in the history of his pastorate of the Rogart Free Church.

CLAN MACKAY—INTERESTING DISCOVERY.—A most interesting discovery, writes a correspondent, has just been made, which will be of the greatest possible value in connection with the history of the Clan Mackay. When the Reay estates were sold to the Sutherland family by Eric, Lord Reay, nearly everything in the way of family papers and relics disappeared, and from that time till now no one had been able to trace what had become of them. The strange paucity of documents and other property relating to the Mackays of the North has been a matter of surprise to Highland historians, for it was considered hardly possible that a family whose history dated back to about the twelfth century, and who during that long period ranked among the most powerful in the Highlands, could avoid possessing a mass of valuable charters and other papers bearing on the exciting annals of the Northern Highlands. That such papers did exist somewhere the Clan had not the slightest doubt, but all efforts to trace their whereabouts had hitherto proved fruitless. By the most curious accident, the papers of the noble family of Reay have now been found in a place where they had evidently been placed for safety by the Mackay Chief who sold the ancestral lands. Two large boxes were found to be packed with the most interesting documents, charters, bonds, agreements, rent rolls, correspondence, &c., including also a MS. history of the Clan. Indeed, the real material for an adequate history of the Clan Mackay is to be found in these old and valuable papers, and a talented member of the Clan, well versed in Highland, and particularly Sutherlandshire, lore, is already busy putting these interesting materials into literary shape, with the view of publishing a volume giving a complete history of the Clan, based on these and other documentary proofs. Of late one or two writers on Highland historical subjects have been indulging in a flippant criticism of many points of Mackay history, but I understand these papers provide a conclusive reply to these critics, and the Clan historian means to come down heavily on the enemy. The Reay charter chests have come to light at an awkward time for the Mackay critics. I need hardly add that Lord Reay is greatly interested in the discovery of the papers of his family.

Mr Grant Allen's descent from the Grants of Blairfindie is traced (with the aid of Mr J. M. Bulloch) in a memoir by Mr Edward Clodd. His father was an Irishman, who became a clergyman in Canada, and there married Charlotte Catherine Ann Grant, daughter of the Baron de Longueuil. The succession of the Grants to the title came through the marriage of Marie Charles Joseph, Baroness in her own right, with Captain David Alexander Grant of Blairfindie, whose ancestors had fled to Canada after the Battle of Culloden. One of Grant Allen's sisters, Mrs Maud Fergusson, says in a letter to Mr Clodd—"There is much protesting blood in us," and the author remarks that his life-note was revolt.

TAIN NEWS.

THE MORRICHMOHR AS A CAMPING GROUND.—The Morrichmohr was visited on Saturday last by Dr Lang, of Inverness, and Mr D. J. Reid, C.E., Inverness, who inspected the ground with reference to the proposal to secure it for a camping ground for the Highland Volunteer Artillery.

THE EDDERTON VACANCY.—On Wednesday a "pro re nata" meeting of the Free Presbytery of Tain was held, when the Rev. Mr Matheson, of Tarbat, was appointed Moderator. It was resolved that the Free Church of Edderton be preached vacant on Sunday, and the preacher on that day will be the Rev. Mr Mackay, of Croick. No further steps can be taken until the Presbytery meet in July.

WELCOME TO SHERIFF HAY SHENNAN.—Sheriff Hay Shennan occupied the Tain Bench for the first time on Tuesday last. There was a full Bar, and the new Sheriff was accompanied to the Bench by Hon. Sheriff-Substitutes Hugh Ross and R. T. Stewart, bankers. Mr Ross, in a word, introduced Sheriff Shennan, and Bailie Geo. Macleay, solicitor, as Dean of the Faculty of Solicitors, welcomed Sheriff Shennan, saying his appointment had given the utmost satisfaction. Provost Fowler, on behalf of the Town Council and community, also extended to the Sheriff a cordial welcome. Sheriff Shennan, in reply, thanked the gentlemen for the reception accorded him, and hoped the same happy relations which prevailed between himself and his former Bar would be experienced there.

DINGWALL NEWS.

APPOINTMENT.—Mr John Fraser, who has for the past three years been bookkeeper with Mr Hay Macleay, wine merchant, has been appointed representative of the Edinburgh United Brewery Company for the North of Scotland. The brewery with which Mr Fraser will be associated is well known, and to show that the position is a most desirable one, it is only necessary to state he has been selected out of 160 applicants. Mr Fraser, who is exceedingly popular in Dingwall, is a native of Balblair, and served his apprenticeship with Messrs Macdougall, Grantown-on-Spey.

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BLACK ISLE NEWS.

ROSEMARKIE—THE LATE MRS HENDERSON.—We regret to note the death of Mrs A. Henderson, Dingwall, wife of Mr A. Henderson, ironmongor, and sister-in-law of Messrs J. & T. Henderson, Fortrose. This sad event took place in Skye, whither Mrs Henderson had gone for her health, She is survived by her husband and two children, for whom much sympathy is felt. Her remains were interred in Rosemarkie Churchyard on Thursday.

AVOCH—SCHOOL BOARD MEETING.—At the first quarterly meeting of the new Board, held on Monday, the rates for the current year were reduced one penny per £, i.e. from eightpence to sevenpence. Colonel Stephen, C.B., Avoch House, was re-elected representative to the Rosehaugh Bursary Trust. The quarterly accounts and the balance sheet for the past year were examined and passed. Mr J. D. Fletcher of Rosehaugh presided.

AVOCH—FISHING.—The West Coast fishing as yet has been signally poor. The fisher folk have had to move from "pillar to post," so to speak, in the hopes of improving the condition of matters. Fifteen village girls have been engaged by a Fraserburgh fishcurer to proceed to Shetland for the season there. On returning from the Northern Island they will be in time for the Fraserburgh season.

FORTROSE—SCHOOL BOARD MEETING.—Mr J. D. Fletcher of Rosehaugh presided at a meeting of the School Board, held on Wednesday last. The chief business was the fixing of the rates. The members of the Board certified that £50 could be saved on this year's expenditure. This means a reduction in the rates by threepence per £. Arrangements were made for the executing of necessary repairs in the schoolroom at Rosemarkie.

MUNLOCHY—DEATH OF AN ESTATE MANAGER.—A very unexpected death occurred in Munlochy on Monday last. We allude to that of Mr Andrew Smith, estate manager for the new proprietor of Raddery. Mr Smith left for Inverness on Saturday, but took ill at Munlochy, where, despite all that could be done, he departed this life on Monday. Much sympathy is felt for the widow and family so painfully and prematurely bereaved.

WESTER ROSS NEWS.

KYLE OF LOCHALSH—GUN ACCIDENT.—Mr John Grant, Kyleakin, was seriously injured on Saturday last. One of the stewards on the steamer "Clydesdale" was firing at some sea birds with a rifle, when the bullet entered Mr Grant's leg above the ankle. Another man standing near had also a narrow escape. The wound is rather a serious one.

EASTER ROSS NEWS.

ARDGAY—LARGE SERPENTS KILLED.—A few days ago James Murray, water bailiff, Strathoykel, while on his rounds in Glen Ginaig, killed two serpents, one of which measured 35 inches in length, and the other 24½ inches. As there are many naturalists and others who do not believe that serpents of 35 inches exist in this country, the following quotation from "The Fishing Gazette" of 4th January, 1889, may be given:—"Donald Macleod, shepherd at Carbhaig, in the vicinity of Cape Wrath, killed a serpent which measured 4 feet 4 inches. Whether it was an adder or a snake has not been ascertained, but the slayer declares it was ferocious enough to be a cobra." According to Dr Joass, Golspie, an able authority, adders generally run from 20 inches to 28 inches, and snakes in some cases to 3 feet or 4 feet.

BEAULY AND THE AIRD NEWS.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.—Two young men, Peter Taylor and John Taylor, sawmillers, were in Inverness on Tuesday fined 5s each or three days' imprisonment, for a breach of the peace committed at the Commercial Hotel, Beauly, on the previous day.

DEATH OF MR DANIEL DEWAR.—Intimation of the death of Mr Daniel Dewar, head forester on the extensive estates of Lord Lovat, which took place early on Sunday morning at his residence, Teanacoil, in the parish of Kiltarlity, was received with profound regret. The deceased, who was about sixty-five years af age, occupied the position for over thirty years, and was highly esteemed by the officials on the estates, as also by the general public. Mr Dewar is survived by a widow and three sons.

NAIRN NEWS.

DEATH OF A SON OF EX-PROVOST MANN.—We regret to observe the death of Mr Geo. Garioch Mann, son of the late ex-Provost Mann, Nairn. He has died of enteric fever in military service in South Africa. Mr Geo. Mann was an extensive farmer in East Griqualand, South Africa, and joined the Natal Carabineers as a Volunteer. His last letter to his friends mentioned that he was about to join Buller's forces—a prospect which he hailed with great satisfaction. He was an exceedingly fine young fellow, and his death will be much regretted by his old friends in Nairn and elsewhere.

FOYERS NEWS.

OBITUARY.—We regret to announce the death of Mr John Guthrie, foreman engineer to the Foyers Aluminium Company, Limited, here on Saturday week. Deceased had been in the employment of the company for over five years, during which period he won the confidence and esteem of both his employers and subordinates. His funeral on Tuesday to Foyers Cemetery was attended by a large concourse of his fellow-workmen and friends, by whom he will be much missed. Mr Guthrie belonged to Perthshire.

KINGUSSIE NEWS.

PRESENTATION.—Miss Isabella Grant, Station Cottages, Newtonmore, was on the occasion of her approaching marriage presented on Tuesday evening with a handsome Bible by the members of the Free Church Choir. The Rev. Mr Mackintosh presided, and made the presentation. Miss Grant suitably replied.

COMMUNION.—The half-yearly Communion will be celebrated in the Free and Established Churches to-morrow. Thursday was observed as a Fastday in the burgh, work being suspended for the day. In the Free Church the Rev. Neil Dewar is being assisted by Rev. Messrs Mackay, Pitlochry; Lang, Cromdale; Kennedy, Liff; Ross, Abernethy; Maclennan, Laggan; Mackintosh, Newtonmore; &c.

REV. NEIL DEWAR.—The General Assembly of the Free Church, at their sitting on Tuesday, took up consideration of an application by the Rev. Neil Dewar for a grant from the Aged and Infirm Ministers Fund to aid him in securing an unordained assistant. Mr Dewar having passed the alloted span, and being therefore unable fully to overtake the duties of the ministry, the Assembly acceded to the request, and fixed the sum at £45.

PRESENT FROM LORD LOVAT.—In the warehouse of Mr Ewan Campbell, cabinetmaker, there is to be seen an exceedingly handsome duplex silver lamp of latest design, with shade of pretty colouring. The article, which is the gift of Lord Lovat to Sergt. Cameron, drill instructor, Kingusie, bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Sergt. Cameron by Lord Lovat, with best thanks, for assistance in raising Lovat's Scouts." The Sergeant is justly proud of his Lordship's tangible expression of appreciation.

BOWLING CLUB.—The annual meeting of the Bowling Club was held the other day—Provost Macpherson presiding. The financial statement was submitted, showing a credit balance of 4s 6d on the year's working, and considered satisfactory. Mr Macpherson of Balavil was elected President, and Provost Macpherson Vice-President, along with a Committee consisting of Dr Orchard, Dr de Watteville, James Macdonald, Geo. A. Crerar, John Dallas, and William Carrich. Mr George A. Crerar was appointed Secretary and Treasurer in room of Mr Donald Campbell who tendered his resignation. The meeting agreed to minute the Club's appreciation of Mr Campbell's services for the past two seasons. The green has been opened for play, and is in excellent condition.

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Lot M O 3.—The world famed "TOLL BRUSH PARCEL" still at the old price, notwithstanding the great advance on the prices of the raw material. It contains 1 good hair brush with mirror back, 1 good cloth brush, 1 good nail brush, 1 good tooth brush, 1 dressing comb, and one small tooth comb. All this for 1s 1d; postage, 3d extra.

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THE HIGHLAND RAILWAY.

PLEASURE PARTIES.

Return tickets are issued to parties desirous of taking pleasure excursions to places on this railway on the following terms:—At a fare and a-quarter for not less than six first class passengers; at a fare and a-quarter for not less than ten third class passengers, when the distance travelled by rail is under 30 miles (fractions of a penny to be charged as a penny), and at single fares when the distance is 30 miles or more. The tickets are only available for return the same day, and the holders can only proceed and return by the trains which stop at the stations for which the tickets are available, and they must all travel together. No ticket will be issued at a less charge than 1s for each adult passenger. Children under 12 years of age, half-price. To obtain these tickets application must be made at the stations, or by letter addressed to the Superintendent of the Line, Inverness, not less than three days before the excursion, stating the following particulars, viz.:—That it is exclusively a pleasure party; the stations from and to which tickets are required; for which class of carriage; the date of the proposed excursion; and the probable number of the party. The power of refusing to grant any application is reserved, and if granted an authority will be sent to the applicant in course of post, on the delivery of which to the Booking Clerk at the station from which the journey is commenced tickets will be issued.

HOLIDAY TICKETS.

Weekly or fortnightly holiday tickets are issued between any of the Stations on the Highland Line. Holders of these tickets are entitled to travel as often as they please between the stations named upon the tickets, including intermediate stations. For rates apply to any stationmaster, or to Superintendent of the Line, Inverness.

SCHOOL EXCURSIONS.

Parties of scholars under sixteen years of age, and numbering not less than 20, will be conveyed at the following fares (third class):—Not exceeding 10 miles, 4d each; do. 15, 5d; do. 20, 6d, do. 25, 7d; do. 30, 8d; do. 35, 9d; do. 40, 10d; do. 45, 11d; do. 50, 1s; and above 50 miles, 1d additional for every five, or portion of five, miles. Teachers, parents, and friends accompanying the party will be conveyed at the fare for day excursions. Apply to any stationmaster to make arrangements, or direct to the Superintendent of the Line, Inverness.

CHEAP FARES FOR GOLFERS.

Return tickets are issued on the Highland Line, also between the Highland and Great North of Scotland Lines, at single journey fare and a-quarter, with minimum as for 5 miles, and no less charge than 1s, to members of golf clubs travelling for the purpose of playing golf, to stations adjacent to golf links from stations not more than 50 miles distant, upon surrender to the booking clerk of a voucher from the Secretary of the club signed by the holder. The tickets are available for return on day of issue only.

WEEK-END CHEAP FARES.

Return tickets are issued on Fridays and Saturdays, available on the going journey by any ordinary train on the day of issue; and for return on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, at Ordinary single journey fares, between all stations on the Highland Railway; also between all through booking stations on the Hiyhland Railway and stations on the Caledonian, Glasgow and South-Western, and North British Railways at ordinary single journey fares (plus fractions of a penny), minimum fare, 2s first class; 1s third class; and similarly from through booking stations on the aforenamed railways to stations on the Highland Railway. Week-end return tickets, at single journey fares, are likewise issued between all through booking stations on the Highland and Great North of Scotland Lines. Minimum fare—3s 4d first class; 1s 8d third class.

Inverness, June, 1900.

Lewis.

TIDE TABLE—HIGH WATER AT STORNOWAY.

JUNE.

Date of Month.	Morning. H.M.	Evening. H.M.
Su. 10	5 7	5 28
M. 11	5 47	6 5
Tu. 12	6 24	6 42
W. 13	7 2	7 22
Th. 14	7 42	8 3
Fr. 15	8 25	8 48
Sa. 16	9 11	9 36

STORNOWAY.

GENERAL ELECTION. PREPARE.—QUALIFY! QUALIFY!! QUALIFY!!!—As the General Election will be fought on the Roll now being made up, all Liberals should make certain that their names appear on the Roll of Voters. All Poor Rates must be paid before 20TH JUNE, 1900. Unless this is done, you will not have a Vote in the coming fight. LIBERALS, SEE TO THIS AT ONCE.

Articles of interest to our Stornoway readers will be found on page 6.

The Quarterly Fellowship meeting is to be held in the Free Church, Stornoway, on Wednesday, 13th inst., at noon.

VITAL STATISTICS. — The Registrar's returns for the parish for the week ending Thursday are — Births, 3 (2 males and 1 female); marriages, 1; deaths, 4 (1 male and 3 females).

ASSAULT.—Before Sheriff Campbell on Wednesday, James Cook, cooper, Wick, was charged with assault and breach of peace committed on South Beach the previous night. He pleaded not guilty, but was convicted on evidence, and was fined 20s or fourteen days.

SHERIFF COURT.—Before Sheriff Campbell on Thursday Murdo Smith, fisherman, Aird Tong, was fined 10s for assaulting another fisherman from the same village. Murdo Macdonald, mason, Benside, and John Munro, labourer, Priest Glen, were fined 20s each for a breach of the peace committed at Laxdale. A further charge of assault was preferred against Munro, but in this instance he was found not guilty.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.—On Monday night Mrs Marr, LL.A., wife of Rev. E. Marr, M.A., Rathillet, Fife, special deputy from the United Presbyterian Church, for fishing season delivered a lecture on "Canada" in the Free English Church Hall, in aid of the Indian Famine Relief Funds. There was a large attendance, a number having to content themselves with standing room. The lecture, which was most interesting and instructive, was illustrated with a series of beautiful lantern views, showing scenes of interest on the line of Mrs Marr's recent tour in Canada. The collection amounted to the handsome sum of £6 8s 6d.

OPENING OF THE FREE CHURCH SEMINARY.—Our Stornoway readers will be gratified to learn that they are to have an early opportunity of hearing the greatest of modern foreign missionaries—the Rev. Donald Fraser, Ngoniland, Livingstonia, Central Africa. He is coming to Stornoway to open the New Free Church seminary. The opening services are to be held on the evening of Friday next, the 15th inst. In the history of modern foreign missions there is nothing to equal the extraordinary blessing which has attended Mr Fraser's ministrations in Livingstonia. Rev. Mr Macdonald is to be congratulated on securing such a distinguished missionary for the opening services in connection with the new Seminary, and we have no doubt Stornoway will rise to the occasion and crowd to hear this modern David Livingstone.

FREE ENGLISH SEMI-JUBILEE.—At the forenoon service in the Free English Church on Sabbath, Rev. J. S. Macdonald, after preaching from Romans xiii. 11-12, remarked that it was now twenty-five years since the congregation was formed. On the 22nd of May, 1875, the sanction of the General Assemly was obtained, and on the second Sabbath of June the congregation met. He thought this semi-jubilee which they had now reached was an event which should not be allowed to pass unnoticed. He would be far from seeking to arouse any feeling of mere self-congratulation, yet he could say that the history of the Church during these years had been an honourable one, and such that no one in any way associated with it need be at all ashamed of. He believe that this prosperity was due to the fact that the movement was from the beginning undertaken, and at every subsequent stage carried on, with much prayer, and He Whose ear was never heavy had heard and answered his people's cry. Proceeding, he remarked that it had been to him a study of great interest to read the early records of the congregation and its list of members. There were names there that neither the congregation nor the town would soon forget, and others who in less conspicuous ways but with equal fidelity had served Christ and His Church. Of those who sat down at the first Communion some were scattered in distant lands, some, he rejoiced, were with them still, while others worshipped no longer in any sanctuary on earth, but in the immediate presence of their Lord. He would urge upon all present the need for serving Christ in the altered circumstances of to-day with the same loyalty that had animated those whose venture of faith they that day now commemorated.

EARLY HERRING FISHING.—The following statement shows the progress of the early herring fishing from 1st May till 2nd June, 1900, and for the corresponding period last year:—

	1900. Crans.	1899. Crans.	1900. Brls.	1899 Brls
SCRABSTER—				
Total catch	2132	4389	—	—
Cured gutted	—	—	519	1612
Ungutted, freshed and kippered	1685	2635	—	—
STROMNESS—				
Total catch	2339	4578	—	—
Cured gutted	—	—	2391	4299
Ungutted, freshed and kippered	406	452	—	—
Exported to Germany	—	—	—	329½
STORNOWAY—				
Total catch	23,105	36,[illegible]3	—	—
Cured gutted	—	—	17,727	29,832
Ungutted, freshed and kippered	8332	11,293	—	—
Exported—To Germany	—	—	—	3484
,, —To Russia	—	—	—	1072
CASTLEBAY—				
Total catch	5438	8157	—	—
Cured gutted	—	—	6797	10,162
Ungutted, freshed and kippered	—	—	—	—
LEITH—				
Exported—To Germany	—	—	10,396½	15,173
,, —To Russia	—	—	385½	1485½
,, —To other places	—	—		581

DEFENCE, NOT DEFIANCE.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HIGHLAND NEWS"]

SIR,—A lie that is half the truth is said to be the worst form of lying. In "Volunteer's" letter in your last issue the "suppressio veri" and the "suggestio falsi" are both prominent. He quotes me as saying exactly what I did not say. Now, as an ex-Volunteer, I would be extremely sorry to make an attack on a large body of men for the misdeeds of a few lads, and in this particular case it would be doubly wrong, because I am quite conversant with all that is done by the officers in providing counter-attractions to the public-houses—games, smoking-concerts, &c., during the season; and on the inspection day, to obviate any necessity for surreptitious retirals, both food and drink (temperate) are provided. That, in the case of a number of foolish lads, these efforts fail to have the desired effect, is not the fault of those in authority.

I am glad to be able to give correctly the passage to which "Volunteer" took exception. Towards the end of my short address (thanks, "Volunteer," for dignifying it by the title of sermon) while appealing to the young men present to join the temperance ranks, I expressed my sorrow at the prevalence of drunkenness amongst our young lads, and stated a positive fact that on the night after the inspection, between the foot of Francis Street and Church Street, I met eleven lads, beardless boys, under the influence of liquor, playing the fool, and that seven of the eleven were in uniform. I did not say Volunteer uniform. As a matter of fact, they were not all in Volunteer uniform. I presume my friend will admit there are other uniforms, beside that worn by the 8th H.V.A. I also said—"Our Lewis lads at the front are winning laurels; these lads (the seven) are disgracing the Queen's uniform." Where is the attack on the Volunteers, and to whom is the apology due?

Perhaps, nowhere, among large bodies of men, gathered for drill or fishing, do you find a smaller percentage of drunk cases than in Stornoway. The specially deplorable circumstance here is that the cases which do occur are nearly all of youths not out of their teens, and that among these drinking is increasing rapidly. I am not concerned whether "Volunteer" will feel satisfied or not. I am sure those who have the real good of these lads at heart will feel satisfied that neither wittingly or unwittingly was an attack made upon the 8th H.V.A. They, as well as many others, deplore that the good conduct of the day, and the well-deserved encomiums of the Inspecting Officer and others, should be marred by the foolishness of a few lads, who seem to think the only proper conclusion to any and every holiday is an adjournment at night to the drink-shop.

In conclusion, I would recommend "Volunteer" to come into the open. Sniping from behind anonymity is akin to the conduct of the Boers, and is not befitting for one who was ready to leave all and dare all, to fight his country's foes. In other words, "Volunteer" must give his local name and habitation, otherwise further communications will be regarded as but idle "havers."—I am, Sir, yours, &c., D. MACMASTER CATTANACH.

Stornoway, 5th June, 1900.

[Two letters, by "Citizen" and "Regular," on above subject, unavoidably held over. Will appear in our next issue.—ED. "H.N."]

STORNOWAY SHIPPING.

FRIDAY (1st June) — Arrived. — Gloucester ss. Kyle, light; "Lord Roberts," oatmeal; Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general; Vigilant ss. fishery cruiser. Sailed—Dunard, ss. Kyle, herrings; Talisman ss. Oban do; Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general.

SATURDAY (2nd)—Arrived.—Agate ss. Oban, light; Saxon Maid, Barrow, salt; Claymore ss. Glasgow, general; Dunard ss. Kyle, light; Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general. Sailed—John Irwin ss. Fleetwood, herrings; Dunard ss. Kyle, do.; Gylf ss. Swedish, Castlebay, light.

SUNDAY (3rd) — Arrived. — "Tempu Fugit," Portsoy, stock. Sailed— Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general.

MONDAY (4th)—Arrived.—Talisman ss. Oban, light; Princess Louise ss. Leith, general; Dunard ss. Kyle, light; Clydesdale ss. do., mails and general; Odin ss. (Norwegian) Leith, light. Sailed—Armaddy, Castlebay, ballast; Claymore ss. Glasgow, general; Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general.

TUESDAY (5th)—Arrived.—Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general. Sailed—Princess Louise ss. Leith, general; "Lord Roberts" Wick, ballast; Marie ss. Kyle, herrings; Clydesdale ss. Kyle mails and general.

WEDNESDAY (6th)—Arrived.—Marie ss. Kyle, light; St Clair ss. Leith, general; "Lotos" ss. Norwegian Christiana to Liverpool, ice, to coal; Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general. Sailed—"Lotos," Liverpool,, ice; St Clair ss. Leith, general; Marie ss. Kyle, herrings; Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general.

THURSDAY (7th)—Arrived.—Princess Ena ss. Liverpool, general; Clansman ss. Glasgow, general; Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general. Sailed—Clansman ss. Glasgow, general; Princess Ena ss. Leith, general; Clydesdale ss. Kyle, mails and general.

"The Poster" (1 Arundel Street, Strand, London), for May should prove attractive to admirers of fine art in advertising. The periodical is now under the editorship of Mr Hugh Macleay.

The copyright of the picture by Mr Frank Dicksee, R.A., entitled "The Two Crowns," now exhibiting at the Royal Academy, and generally regarded as the most important and popular picture in the exhibition, has been purchased for the purpose of publishing as an engraving. It may be recollected that the President and Council bought this important picture for the nation for a very considerable sum of money—we understand £2000—but for the accuracy of this statement we cannot vouch, but believe it to be truth.

DEATH OF A DISTINGUISHED LEWISMAN.—There has passed away in the person of Mr Robert Ryrie, a distinguished Lewisman. Born in Stornoway in 1829, he proceeded to India to seek his fortune at an early age. Here he became connected with an eminent mercantile firm, and by the exercise of abilities of a supreme order, he raised himself into the ranks of the merchant princes of Bitain. He died in London, but at his own dying request his remains were buried in Sandwick Cemetery.

WEST COAST HERRING FISHING.

A BLANK WEEK.

Stornoway, Thursday.

The week since our last report has been a very disappointing one in connection with the herring fishing. The catch on Friday was 600 crans from 150 boats. Prices 38s to 43s a cran. On Saturday 200 boats landed only 97 crans a great many being blank. The total catch for the week to Saturday was 2640 crans.

On Saturday and Sunday a large number of boats arrived from Barra, and on Monday morning a fleet almost as large as at the opening of the season sailed for the fishing grounds. The night was favourable for fishing, and at last a good catch was anticipated. A disappointment however, was in store for only 42 boats returned on Tuesday with 252 crans, the highest shot being 25 crans. Prices 40s to 45s a cran. On Wednesday 400 boats came in, but their average only worked out at one cran, the top haul being 10. Prices 48s to 52s a cran. To-day (Thursday), 80 boats averaged 1½ crans the total being 120 crans. Prices 48s to 53s. One boat the "Hellen Smith" of Portessie had a shot of 20 crans which fetched 52s a cran.

The total catch to this date is, in round figures 24,000 crans as against 38,300 at the same date in 1899, showing a shortage of over 14,000 crans.

All shipments to foreign markets have so far been coastwise, and amount to 9105 barrels. The steamer "Bernadotte" however, has nearly completed the loading of the first direct cargo. The ss. "Jokul" is also loading for the Baltic, but she is to proceed to Stromness for part cargo.

STETTIN HERRING REPORT.

The annexed is Mr Paul Korner's report on the Stettin herring market, dated 2nd June. We received this week—Per s.s. "North Star," 525¾ barrels matjes, and per s.s. "Dresden," 431 barrels matjes, bringing the total for the season up to 1847¾ barrels, against 4063¾ in 1899 at the same date. The inquiry is still not up to the time of the season, for which to some extent the approaching Whitsun holidays may have to blame, so that in spite of the small supplies and unfavourable reports of the fishing the arrivals could not be completely cleared. Prices may be quoted:—Castlebay larges, M. 55—65d.p.; Castlebay mediums, M. 30; Stornoway and Stromness larges, M. 35—40 partly M. 42—45 d.p.; Stornoway and Stromness mediums, M. 25—28. The next boat brings 757 barrels, and will probably discharge on Tuesday next. I hope the demand will grow more general after Whitsuntide, as some of the larger places for matje consumption, which held back with orders so far, are likely to start business in it on a larger scale then.

THE FAILURE OF THE HERRING FISHING.

A SUGGESTED REMEDY.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HIGHLAND NEWS"]

SIR,—I have been watching the progress of the herring fishing with much interest, and I am very sorry to see that up to this time the result has been very disappointing, the fishermen having failed to strike the shoals. I write on this subject, because in the last issue of "The Highland News" a correspondent, who signs himself "Precaution," discusses the probable cause of the failure, and you have publicly invited an expression of opinion on the matter. I admit that what I am going to say is largely conjectural, but when we are all groping in the dark together, even a faint ray of dubious light may be of some assistance. In writing you now, my object is to suggest that "Precaution" is very likely wrong in some of his conclusions, and then to give my own opinions as to the cause of the failure, and to suggest a possible remedy. Your correspondent contends, or rather suggests, that the cause of the failure of the summer fishing is that the herrings are disturbed and driven from the Minch by the fishing operations which annually take place there in the spring. Although this is a common enough view of the case, I never could realise it; but your correspondent need not be disheartened, for if there is one thing more than another that a man learns in the course of a study of fishery questions, it is to be tolerant of the opinions of others where the collective wisdom is not of much account. For is it not the case that each successive step in the acquisition of knowledge regarding the habits of fishes only makes it the more evident how little we really do know? "Precaution" assumes that the large full herrngs which are caught in the Minch during March are of the same school as the "matje," and that all are drawn to the shores of Lewis for the purpose of spawning—the former in March, the latter in June. Now, it is not too much to expect that the herring which spawns in March will spawn again in June? I think it is. It is the fact, at anyrate, that the true matje does not carry milt and roe in June, and has not, therefore, the spawning instinct to guide it to our shores. The herring is indigenous to most waters north of the Equator, and I am of opinion that what we characterise as the "winter" herring is nothing more or less than our own native variety which is always with us. What the matje is and where it comes from will be touched later on. "Precaution" suggests, too—and this is the basis and foundation of his remarks—that the herrings are diverted in their course and driven right out of the Minch by the fishing operations. That is to say, the herrings being obstructed in their passage in March, take fright, and will not return in June. I never held this opinion either, and I have tried hard, because if we believe this we endow the herring with a reasoning power which I do not think it possesses. It is as if the herring should say as it rounds the Butt, "Ha, here is Donald Mackenzie with his tarry boat and nets; let us give him a wide berth and away, my friends." If the herring can divine the fisherman's intentions when he shoots his nets to capture them, why have they for successive seasons come into the Minch and other waters and allowed themselves to be entrapped—entrapped in such enormous hauls that we have seen thousands of crans thrown away, the supply being so abundant? Or why, again, shouldn't the philosophy that, according to your correspondent, directs the spring herring to be good enough for the summer variety as well? A fit of mental aberration, you say! But the questions answer themselves. Why do the herrings come to the vicinity of the Lews at all? Mark, I do not say to its shores. They come, I believe, for the same reason that the fishermen and curers come, namely, following the sources of their food supply.

In the spring of 1888 or thereabout—I speak from memory—I was surprised to find that the boats employed fishing herrings in the Minch were daily bringing in small lots of anchovies. When one considers that the anchovy is a native of the seas of tropical America and the Mediterranean region, and is seldom found in Scottish waters, there is no wonder that their presence in the Minch gave cause for reflection. My reflections led me to the following conclusions. A vast body of herrings live and generate in mid-Atlantic—it is a wide word. At the beginning of our summer the Gulf Stream and its numerous side currents flowing northwards support and nourish a vast body of animalcules, which provide abundant food for the herring. The animalculæ is swept northwards by the course of the stream, and the herrings finding their food there, all heedless and unconscious of their course, are onborne wherever it trends. This minute animal life can exist only in the warm waters of the Stream; but the Stream itself, it stands to reason, varies in its course from year to year, that being affected, one can imagine, by oceanic and atmospheric conditions. If, then, the "warmer" waters of the Stream bearing this living freight come not within forty miles of the Butt, or, in other words, within the radius where the boats usually fish, the herrings are missed and a rich harvest is lost.

So only the dog-infested fringe of the shoals have been reached this summer. Some will smile at this; others shake their heads. I know to whom I write. Bear with me, my friends, while at the risk of trying your patience I attempt to set down some basis of ascertained facts for this theory to stand upon. The matje is a distinctive herring; there is nothing in Scotland to compare with it for flavour and delicacy. And why? Because in the true matje, although plump and well fed at the moment of capture, you will seldom find any trace of food stuff in its stomach, the reason being that its food was easy of digestion and richer in nourishment than the hard food matter which is produced in our cold northern waters. When the winter and spring of our climate have been exceptionally cold the waters surrounding the Long Island are correspondingly affected, and a low temperature ensues. When, therefore, the waters of the advancing Gulf Stream mingle with ours a reduction of temperature takes place which is fatal to the minute animal life which afforded sustenance to the herring, the food supply is cut off, and the bulk of the fish retreat upon their base of supplies, or such of them as have strayed from midstream, find themselves faced with a new condition of things. The strayed ones must subsist, too, so they utilise the food to be found in the waters of the Lewis, which consists of minute crustacea, but principally the sand eel, which abound in great numbers in June and July. Every curer knows what a blue-bag herring is, and how difficult to cure, but not every one knows it is produced by a too exclusive diet of sand eel.

From this necessarily brief letter, halting and inconclusive in many details I admit, most readers, I hope, will appreciate the reason why West Barra herrings and those of the North-West Lewis are richer and more preferable than those from the Minch and off Stromness. What I have been attempting to do is to show that the matje is an exotic, and that its coming to our shores depends mainly on the course of the Gulf Stream and the existence of the herring food it bears.

So far the herring fishing has failed this season, which means that our fisher friends will lose about £200,000—a loss sufficient, I think, to induce a Governmental inquiry as to the cause. And even supposing that the hypothesis I have here laid down is not accepted by the incredulous, still it will be admitted by all that the herrings are "somewhere." To find their location now or at any future season would surely be a great achievement, and to this end I would suggest that two cruisers fitted with herring nets should be sent next May to conduct operations 100 miles, more or less, west from Barra. The result of their investigations could be communicated to the fishermen from time to time, and although I anticipate the objection that even if the herrings were found there, it would be impossible for the sailing boats to overtake them, still it would, I am confident, increase our knowledge as to their movements, and I fear not that the commercial instincts of our fishermen would induce such changes in the mode of fishing as would in the future prevent such a catastrophe as a failure in the herring fishing.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

JAS. B. INGRAM.

Aberdeen.

FREE GAELIC CHURCH.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HIGHLAND NEWS"]

SIR,—I understand it is a regular custom in the different congregations of this town to issue an annual balance-sheet, showing income and expenditure for the year. This year I have read with pleasure the statistics given by two congregations, showing the very satisfactory progress they have made. Now, Sir, we in the Free Gaelic congregation have not seen a balance-sheet for the last six years or more, and consider this very unsatisfactory. I can safely say there are not a dozen in the congregation that know its financial standing. We give collections weekly, monthly, quarterly, and yearly, and we never know what the amounts are or how they are dispensed (with the exception of the Sabbath School and Sustentation Fund).

We have also renovated a church, and subscribed to its cost, but we don't know what the cost is, how much was subscribed, or what is the present debt. We also give a monthly collection for the Assistant Fund, and a very popular collection it is. Still, not one of the congregation has the least conception what this amount is. If they did, I have no hesitation in saying that some of them would double their contributions. Not only this, Mr Editor, but the fourth part of the congregation cannot tell what their minister's salary is. I know it is not a large one—much smaller than some of the congregation imagine. I do not mean to say that the books of the congregation are improperly kept or audited—of course, I don't know—still, the proof is—and the congregation are entitled to see—a correct statement signed by the auditors, which would give satisfaction to all, not only to our own congregation, but to our well-wishers who may be outside of it. For instance, there has been built this year a mission house or seminary. We held a bazaar two years ago. Most of us contributed heartily, and raised a considerable sum. Now, Sir, is it not fair that we should know the actual cost of that place, how much was contributed, or is it all paid? Please give space for the above, so that this overlook may be remedied.—I am, Sir, yours, &c., INQUIRER.

Stornoway, 6th June, 1900.

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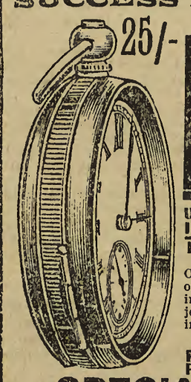

SAVED FROM A BOER BULLET. "Ladysmith, March 31st, 1900.

"Mr. H. Samuel,
"Dear Sir,—Please send me one of your Silver Lever Watches. I had one from you about 20 months ago and it gave every satisfaction, standing the various temperatures out here splendidly, which is saying a good deal, for all other watches with the troops have gone wrong. In the Relief of Ladysmith a Mauser bullet went clean into it (while it was in my belt) through the back case. It has been with me through the Battles of Colenso, Spion Kop, and the Relief of Ladysmith.—I am, Dear Sir, Yours truly, (Signed) "W. HOWE, 2nd Royal Fusiliers, Field Force, Natal."

UNPRECEDENTED VALUE. EXTRAORDINARY SUPERIORITY, and an IMPORTANT CASH SAVING assured by sending direct to H. SAMUEL for his world-famed Watches. Nearly A MILLION in wear. TAKE A PEN and write your name and address. Enclose with it P.O. Order for 25/-, and by next post H. Samuel sends the most remarkable Watch of the century. H. Samuel's famous "ACME" PATENT LEVER in Solid STERLING SILVER Cases, fine three-quarter plate movement, extra jewelled, fitted with dust and damp-tight CAP and H. Samuel's special improvements, protected by HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT and only to be obtained in H. Samuel's Watches. WARRANTED for Five Years. H. Samuel's price 25/-. With each a Handsome

SPECIAL FREE BONUS GIFT

is enclosed from H. Samuel's GREAT DISTRIBUTION, full particulars of which are given in H. Samuel's large descriptive ALBUM OF BARGAINS, together with lists of presents. This volume contains 3,000 illustrations. Watches from 6/-. DIAMONDS, Clocks, JEWELLERY, Plate, &c., at WHOLESALE PRICES; also HUNDREDS of testimonials from all parts. H. Samuel sends this volume to any address on application GRATIS AND POST FREE. BEWARE of Monthly Payments and the Brand of Debt. Send direct to H. Samuel. Buy for cash and SAVE MIDDLE PROFITS. H. Samuel GUARANTEES the quality and allows A MONTH'S FREE TRIAL with all purchases. If dissatisfied the full amount returned. BEWARE of Imitations.

SEND TO-DAY TO

H. SAMUEL, Dept. No. 348 95, 97, 99, 101, 33, 89, & 121, Market Street, MANCHESTER.

THIRD BATTALION SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.

NOTES FROM CAIRO.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY. — The Queen's Birthday (writes a correspondent in Cairo) was a great day here. Owing to the excessive heat, the troops paraded very early in the morning.

THE KHEDIVE.—The Khedive is to be in England for nine days very shortly.

THE 3RD SEAFORTHS.—The 3rd Seaforths are now getting used to the climate of Egypt, and are beginning to like Cairo immensely. They gave a successful concert in the Citadel on Wednesday, 23rd May. The following is the programme:—Part I.—1 Selection, Band; 2 Scotch Reel, Pipe-Major Sutherland and Pipers; 3 Song, Colour-Sergeant Arnold; 4 Song (Gaelic), Corporal Macaulay; 5 Recitation, Colour-Sergeant Laurie; 6 Dance, Pipe-Major Sutherland; 7 Song, Band-Sergeant M'Nair; 8 Song, Boy Grechan; 9 Song (Gaelic) Corporal Nicholson. Part II.—1 Overture, Band; 2 Dance (broadsword) Pipe-Major and Pipers; 3 Song, Band-Sergeant M'Nair; 4 Song (Gaelic) Private M'Leod; 5 Dance (Irish Jig) Private Sutherland; 6 Song, Boy Grechan; 7 Duet, Bandsmen Elland and Gaffney; 8 Song, Band-Sergeant M'Nair; 9 Dance (Sailor's Hornpipe), Private Sutherland. "God Save the Queen." The concert was, of course, held by the kind permission of Sir Hector Munro, Bart., the officer commanding, and the officers of the regiment. Bandmaster Wakelin conducted, and the accompaniments were played by Private Flint.

THE WESTERN ISLES.

NORTH UIST—SETTLEMENT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD DIFFICULTY—A School Board for this Island has now been constituted by the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education in Scotland. The six gentlemen nominated and not withdrawn have been appointed, and on their suggestion Mr Maclean, Balranald, has been elected to the vacant seat. Messrs Chisholm and Morrison suggested the name of Sir A. J. Campbell-Orde—who is now in South Africa—for the vacant seat, but he, being so far distant and unable to write accepting to serve as a member, his name had to be abandoned. The members of the new Board are Messrs A. A. Chisholm and P. Morrison, Lochmaddy; H. H. Mackenzie, Balelone; Rev. D. Macdonald, Baleloch; Dr Mackenzie, Scolpaig; J. Maclean, Balranald; and D. Maclean, Carinish.

VISIT TO ST KILDA NEW POST OFFICE.—The first trip this season was made to the island of St Kilda on Thursday last by the steamer "Hebrides." The inhabitants were found all well, but were entirely run out of stores. There had been one birth and no marriages or deaths during the winter, and the population is now 73. The congested Districts Board are engaged in the erection of a pier, and the work was inspected on Thursday by Colonel Gore-Booth. The inhabitants have been fortunate in securing steady employment at the new pier works during the winter. An important feature of the visit was the establishment for the first time of a post office at St Kilda. Rev. Mr Fiddes, who has previously acted unofficially, was installed as the sub-postmaster by Mr Smith, postmaster, Lochmaddy, who will have control of the new sub-office. It is needless to say how proud Mr Fiddes and his flock were on the erection of the letter-box and sign-board "St Kilda Post Office." The first official mail bag was greatly taken advantage of by the inhabitants and all the steamer passengers in order to secure the new post-mark.

CADBURY'S COCOA is absolutely pure, being entirely free from kola, malt, hops, alkali, or any foreign admixture. Caution! The public should insist on having CADBURY'S—sold only in Packets and Tins—as other Cocoas are often substituted for the sake of extra profit. 4

IMPORTANT PURCHASE OF — LADIES' — BLOUSES AND SHIRTS.

Just received, A MANUFACTURERS' RANGE of SAMPLES of LADIES' BLOUSES AND SHIRTS in all the Fashionable Shades and Fabrics for Summer Bought at 33⅓ per cent. off cost price.

in time and secure some of these lovely Goods, which are to be cleared out at or under half the regular price. INSPECTION INVITED.

D. MACIVER, 5 — BAYHEAD, STORNOWAY — 15.

HOUSE TO LET, containing two rooms and scullery, also conveniences. Desirable locality Apply Malcolm Macarthur, Cromwell Street Stornoway.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS.

DONALD MACLEOD, tailor and clothier, Point Street, Stornoway, having granted a Trust Deed for behoof of his creditors, all parties having Claims against him are requested to lodge the same within ten days from this date, with the Subscriber, to whom also parties indebted to the said Donald Macleod are requested to make payment of the sums they owe within the like period.

NEIL MACCALLUM.

1 Kenneth Street, Stornoway, 5th June, 1900.

HEADQUARTERS FOR HOME-MADE COD LIVER OIL.—MAIR'S.

STORNOWAY COD LIVER OIL is much superior to Norwegian. Absolutely the purest oil produced. It is recommended by doctors as invaluable for Chest Complaints. Sold in bottles—2s per quart; 1s per pint Postage, 7d extra.

JAMES MAIR, SHELL STREET, STORNOWAY

HIRING! HIRING!! HIRING!!!

HORSES CAN BE HAD ON HIRE ON VERY MODERATE TERMS from

J. H. GRIGOR, 6 SOUTH BEACH STREET, STORNOWAY.

AT LAWRENCE'S.

HEALTH SALINE. Cooling, purifying invigorating and health-giving, just the medicine for this time of year. Bottles 1s 6d, postage 4d extra.

HEALTH SALT. An effervesing saline and soothing tonic. Tins 4½d, postage 2d extra.

CRYSTALADE. A sparkling lemonade, cooling and refreshing. A most delicious drink. Tins 4½d, postage 2d extra

IMPERIAL LEMONADE. One 4½d tin with one pound of sugar makes two gallons of Lemonade. Can also be used for flavouring cakes, ices, jellies, &c., postage 1d extra.

SAMUEL LAWRENCE, M.P.S., *Chemist*, 29 CROMWELL STREET, STORNOWAY, Also at OBAN and TAYNUILT.

BARGAIN SALE BARGAIN SALE OF READY-MADE CLOTHING.

Men's Suits at 12s 9d, 20s, 25s, and 30s.



BOYS' SUITS CHEAP.

BOYS' KNICKERS CHEAP.

BOYS' JACKETS CHEAP.

BOYS' TROUSERS CHEAP.

Lace Curtains at 1s 6d, 2s 6d, 3s 6d, 4s 6d, 5s, and 6s the pair; splendid value.
Beautiful Cretonnes at 3½d, 4½d, 6d, and 7½d per yard.
Good Sheets at 2s, 2s 6d, 3s, and 4s per pair.
Good Sheeting at 10½d, 1s, and 1s 3d per yard.
Fancy Tablecovers, 1s 11d, 3s 3d, 4s 6d, and 6s.
Cheap Towels in Linen, Cotton, and Bath.

BARGAINS IN BOOTS & SHOES.



Children's White Shoes, Sand Shoes, 1s, 1s 2d, 1s 3d, to 1s 6d.
Children's Grey Sand Shoes, 1s 6d to 2s 3d.
Children's Boots and Shoes, good and cheap.

GREAT BARGAINS IN CHINA TEA SETS, DINNER SETS, and BEDROOM WARE FOR SALE AT THE STORNOWAY POLYTECHNIC.

AGRICULTURE.

The general meeting of the Highland and Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday last in Edinburgh—Lord Balfour of Burleigh presiding. After the appointment of office-bearers, Mr A. M. Gordon of Newton submitted the report on the forthcoming show at Stirling, and reports on the Inverness and Aberdeen shows of 1901 and 1902 respectively were also submitted. In regard to the Inverness show, Mr Gordon reported that a substantial local fund was being raised, and that no effort would be spared by the authorities of Inverness and the surrounding counties to promote the success of the show. Rev. Dr Gillespie gave the results of the examinations in agriculture at the Yorkshire College, Leeds, in April last, and announced that the directors had decided to discontinue the grant of £10 given as prizes to students attending the agriculture class in Edinburgh University. A motion expressing gratification at the introduction of the Scotch Education Bill was unanimously adopted. Sir Robert Menzies reported that only one candidate came forward for the forestry examination, and he failed to satisfy the examiners for a certificate. At the monthly meeting, which was held previous to the annual meeting, a motion in favour of having a standing order regulating the practice of the Board of Directors in considering Bills before Parliament was defeated by 12 votes to 6.

GRAIN MARKETS.

INVERNESS, Friday.—The attendance at the market to-day was above the average. Prices:—

Barley, 56 lbs.	24s 6d	to	25s 0d
Oats per qr.	19s 0d	,,	20s 0d
Hay (in bales), per cwt.	4s 6d	,,	5s 0d
Do. (loose), per cwt.	3s 9d	,,	4s 0d
Straw (Oat), per cwt.	2s 6d	,,	3s 0d
Do. (Barley), per cwt.	2s 3d	,,	2s 9d
Do (Wheat), per cwt.	3s 3d	,,	3s 6d
Potatoes, per ton	60s 0d	,,	—
Oatmeal, per boll	14s 0d	,,	15s 0d

EDINBURGH, Wednesday.—Wheat, 1846 qrs., being 602 more than last week. Of the wheat there were sold 1508 qrs. Prices were 6d up on the top, and 3d down on the average. Barley, 167 qrs., being 45 less than last week. Of the barley there sold 27 qrs. Prices were 3d up on the top, and 3d up on the average. Oats, 1237 qrs., being 14 more than last week. Of the oats there were sold 482 qrs. Prices were 9d up on the top, and 4d up on the average. Top prices—Wheat, 65½ lbs., 27s 6d; barley, 56 lbs., 26s 3d; oats, 44½ lbs., 25s 9d. Average prices—Wheat, 26s 3d; barley, 26s 3d; oats, 23s 6d.

STOCK SALES.

INVERNESS, Monday. — At Macdonald, Fraser, & Co.'s (Ltd.) weekly sale of fat stock, there were about average numbers for the season. Cattle were particularly well finished. Several lots of black polled and home-bred crosses were much admired, and as each entered the ring there was a spirited competition for them, resulting in the highest prices, up to 40s 6d live weight. Secondary quality and Irish were also fetching better prices. Sheep—Fat lambs were dearer, meeting with a rise. Cross hoggs were a good show in point of quality, and exceeded in price the high rates recently got. Cheviot hoggs and wedders were also selling at equally high rates. Fat ewes were short of the demand, and those forward met with a keen competition. There was a large attendance of local and distant butchers and dealers in want of cattle and sheep, both for local and southern markets. Numbers were—43 cattle and 381 sheep. Prices—Best bullocks, £21 to £24 12s 6d, and £17 to £20 15s; lighter weights to £16; heifers, £16 10s to £19 15s; young cows to £21 5s. Sheep—Lambs, 34s to 37s 9d, and 30s to 33s 6d; younger do. to 29s; cross and half-bred hoggs, 41s to 44s 3d, and 37s 6d to 40s; smaller do., 36s; Cheviot hoggs to 36s 3d, and 30s to 34s; blackface hoggs, 36s to 39s 3d; Cheviot ewes, 38s to 44s, and 30s to 35s; others to 28s; blackface ewes, 24s to 29s 9d, and 20s to 23s. Beef—Top, 66s to 69s; secondary, 63s to 65s per cwt. Mutton—Top, 10d; current, 8½d to 9½d per lb.

The time occupied in running the Derby last week, according to Benson's chronograph, was 2 minutes 42 seconds. The time last year was two minutes 42 and four-fifth seconds.

GENERAL ELECTION. PREPARE.—QUALIFY! QUALIFY!! QUALIFY!!!—As the General Election will be fought on the Roll now being made up, all Liberals should make certain that their names appear on the Roll of Voters. All Poor Rates must be paid before 20TH JUNE, 1900. Unless this is done, you will not have a Vote in the coming fight. LIBERALS, SEE TO THIS AT ONCE.

HANDSOME PORTRAIT FOR 4s 6d.

Send Photo. or that of a friend, and have in return BEAUTIFUL ENLARGEMENT resembling Engraving (18 in. by 14 in.) and ONE CABINET.

6 Cartes, 2s 6d; 12, 4s; 6 Cabinets, 4s 6d; 12, 8s 2 Cabinets and 12 Cartes, 6s.

Photos. carefully copied at same prices. Highland, Fishwife, Dairymaid Costume, and Shepherd's Dress kept.

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WE LEAD: THE MINISTER FOLLOWS

500
WEDDING CARDS
DONE IN ONE WEEK.

Our WEDDING CARDS are Proverbial as HARBINGERS OF HAPPY HOMES.

LILY—Dear George, do remember to get our Marriage Invites done at "The Highland News." You know, they are so LUCKY!

GEORGE—My own . . . . . I shall run no risk. Besides, all my married chums have been telling me what you have just said.

50—VARIETIES IN STOCK—50

AN ORDER WE MISSED.

We are NOT SURE where PRESIDENT KRUGER got his MARRIAGE INVITATIONS done—when him and the Missus forgathered—but what we ARE SURE OF is, that, had he got them done at

THE HIGHLAND NEWS

He would to-day be sitting contentedly in the bosom of his family, revered and respected, knowing nothing of Outlanders, Chamberlain, Tommy Atkins, and—Lyditte!

REMEMBER KRUGER!

AND CALL AT

"THE HIGHLAND NEWS" OFFICE

FOR YOUR WEDDING INVITES

SALES AND CONTRACTS SUMMARY.

PROPERTY AND OTHER SALES.

SATURDAY, June 9 (To-day).—Feu at Calcabock Village, Inverness, within the Office of Stewart, Rule & Burns, solicitors, Inverness, at 12.

TUESDAY, June 12.—Furniture sale in salerooms, Baron Taylor's Lane, Inverness, by A. Fraser & Co., auctioneers, at 11.

FRIDAY, June 15.—Heritable property and goodwill of business in Munlochy, within the office of Kenneth Macdonald, solicitor, Town House, Inverness, at 12.

STOCK SALES

MONDAY, June 11.—Weekly sale of fat stock at Northern Central Market, Perth, by John Swan & Sons.

MONDAY, June 11.—Weekly sale of fat stock at Inverness Auction Market, by Macdonald Fraser & Co., at 12·10

MONDAY, June 11.—Weekly sale at Perth Auction Market by Macdonald Fraser & Co., at 11·30.

MONDAY, June 11.—Sale of horses, carriages and harness, at Perth, by Macdonald, Fraser & Co., Ltd., auctioneers.

TUESDAY, June 12.—Weekly sale, Inverness Auction Mart, by Hamilton & Co., at 12.

TUESDAY, June 12.—Special sale of all classes sheep, cattle, and also milch cows, at Inverness, by Macdonald, Fraser & Co., auctioneers, at 11·15.

WEDNESDAY, June 13.—Weekly sale of prime fat cattle, sheep and pigs, at Dingwall, by Maccallum Brothers, auctioneers.

WEDNESDAY, June 13.—Weekly sale at Dingwall Auction Mart, by D. Mackintosh & Co., at 12.

FRIDAY, June 15.—Weekly sale of store stock at Northern Central Market, Perth, by John Swan & Sons at 10·30.

FRIDAY, June 15.—Weekly sale at Easter Ross Auction Mart, Tain, by W. W. Mackay & Co., at 12.

BUILDING AND OTHER CONTRACTS.

(Date given is last day for receiving offers).

MONDAY, June 11.—Two houses in Harrowden Road, Inverness—Thos. Munro, architect, 36 Academy Street, Inverness.

WEDNESDAY, June 13.—Deepening of Findochty harbour. Plans, &c., from D. J. Reid, C.E., York House, Church Street, Inverness. Offers to Mr Taylor, Clerk to Harbour Commissioners, Findochty.

SATURDAY, June 16.—Farm servants' cottages at Dunballoch, Teawig, Tomich, Easter Lovat, and Kirkton—J. T. Garrioch, factor, Lovat Estates Office, Beauly.

SATURDAY, June 16.—Villa on Skibo Estate—Ross & Macbeth, architects, Queensgate, Inverness.

WEDNESDAY June 20.—House and shop at Rosemarkie—Alex. F. Mackenzie, architect, Union Street, Inverness.

SATURDAY, June 23.—House in Dornoch—Ross & Macbeth, architects, Queensgate, Inverness.

STOCK SALE ARRANGEMENTS.

INVERNESS AUCTION MART.

WEEKLY LIVE STOCK SALES

Every TUESDAY, commencing with PIGS at 11 A.M. CALVES at 11·15, FAT CATTLE at 12 Noon.

FAT CATTLE and SHEEP, STORE CATTLE and SHEEP, CALVES, and PIGS.

SPECIAL SALES of CATTLE and SHEEP at MUIR OF ORD, as Advertised.

HAMILTON & CO., OF INVERNESS, LIMITED.

DINGWALL AUCTION MARKET.

MACCALLUM BROTHERS,
AUCTIONEERS AND LIVE STOCK SALESMEN.

Special attention given to FURNITURE and FARM STOCK SALES.

Valuations of all kinds undertaken.

Ample Keep and Accommodation for Stock arriving previous to day of sale.

WEEKLY SALES of FAT and STORE CATTLE, SHEEP and PIGS, on WEDNESDAYS at Twelve Noon prompt.

Sales of Horses, Carriages, and Harness as advertised:
M'CALLUM BROS., Salesmen.

JOHN SWAN & SONS, LIMITED
SALES AND MARKET ENGAGEMENTS.

NORTHERN CENTRAL MART, PERTH.

SALE OF FAT STOCK.....EVERY MONDAY.
STORE STOCK..... ,, FRIDAY.

NOW EXHIBITING AT PARIS EXHIBITION.

WOOL A. & J. MACNAUGHTON,
Manufacturers to the Queen,
PITLOCHRY, PERTHSHIRE,

Pay Carriage of Woo's sent them for exchange or for manufacture into Tweeds, Ladies' Dress Tweeds, Blankets, Bedcovers, Rugs, &c., &c.

Attractive new patterns and a new detailed catalogue will be forwarded on request.

Parties wishing to buy our genuine woollens should, in writing for patterns, add "For Purchase."

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ROBERT HOUSTON & SONS,
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Estab. 1780.
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doing business for more than a century direct with the consumers, RECEIVE WOOL on the most favourable terms, for their celebrated A'OO SUMMER and WINTER TWEEDS, in Cheviot and Saxony Wools, ladies' costumes, serges, winceys, plaidens, blankets. Home-spun fabrics for cycling, golfing, &c., a speciality, all of which are

TO BE HAD FOR CASH AT MILL PRICES, IN ANY LENGTH.

Large Assortment of Patterns sent on approval post free

THE MOST POPULAR AND SUCCESSFUL OF ALL SPRING IMPLEMENTS!
THE MASSEY-HARRIS CULTIVATOR.

Prices on application to
DONALD MURRAY,
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Sole Wholesale Agent for the North of Scotland.

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Are in every respect the best machines in the market Splendid range of sizes and designs to select from Special machines for bowling greens, golf courses, &c Stocks kept by all leading Ironmongers and Seedsmen Price lists on application to
ALEXR. SHANKS & SON, Ltd., Dens Ironworks, Arbroath, and Bush Lane House, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

GREAT SUCCESS.

THE NEW FOOT AND HAND THRASHERS.

GREAT IMPROVMENT FOR 1899-1900



Every Crofter should have one of these useful, handy Machines, which, besides thrashing perfectly clean, are the lightest to drive of any Manual Power Thrasher in the market.

OVER 2,200 MADE AND SOLD.

They are so improved for 1899-1900 that one man, unassisted, can thrash 8 bushels per hour. They can be adjusted to suit all kinds and quantities of Grain and Hay. NOTE.—All other Foot Thrashers are cheaply got up imitations copied from our Thrasher, and without the New Improvements. Beware of those counterfeits, and buy only the original and best.

Price Lists and Testimonials free from the
INVENTORS AND SOLE MANUFACTURERS—
SHEARER BROTHERS,
MAYBANK WORKS, TURRIFF, N.B.

Also Makers of semi-Portable Mills for Horse, Water and Engine Power, Barn Fanners, Corn Bruisers, Straw Elevators for Portable Mills &c., &c.

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P. MINCK, Practical Watchmaker, 21 Inglis Street. All Repairs personally attended to. Good Workmanship guaranteed. Charges moderate. Terms Cash.

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TAILORS, CLOTHIERS, HIGHLAND DRESSMAKERS,
Inventors of Highland Cloak and Knickerbockers.
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AUCTIONEER & VALUATOR,
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Sales and Valuations of every description conducted. Proceeds guaranteed.

W. J. MORRISON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
22 HIGH STREET,
Conducts Sales and Valuations of every Description.

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BUTCHERS,
DRUMMOND STREET, INVERNESS.
Telegrams—"Elliot, Inverness."
Telephone No. 84.

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FAMILY BUTCHERS
53 UNION STREET, INVERNESS
Shooting Lodges and all Country Orders Punctually Attended to.
Only the Finest Meat supplied.

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Parties own cloth made in Latest Styles by first-class Workmen.
CHARGES MODERATE.

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Painters, Glaziers, and Paperhangers,
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INVERNESS.
PICTURE FRAMING A SPECIALITY, at Moderate Charges.
All orders will receive personal and prompt attention.

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WHOLESALE & RETAIL WINE MERCHANT
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PICTURE FRAMING.
IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.
Terms very Moderate.
Sole Agent in Inverness for the National Art Society. Catalogue showing Plates and Sizes to be seen at the Shop.
Paints, 5d per 1 lb. tin; Glass at 4d per square foot Paperhangings from 3d per piece upwards.
COLIN D. JACK,
HOUSE PAINTER,
22 BARON TAYLOR'S LANE. 56

LADIES' and Gent.'s Tan Boots and Shoes in all shades, in broad or narrow toes, a treat to wear, never tire the feet. Only at STEWART'S.

INCREASE ON TEA DUTY.

MACDONALD & MACKINTOSH,

Having made extensive and advantageous purchases of CEYLON, INDIAN, and CHINA TEAS, in anticipation of an increased duty, are in a position to offer them at the old prices for some time. They invite the attention of the public to the subjoined list of Teas, a trial of which is respectfully solicited.

FINE HOUSEHOLD TEAS.—These blends will be found very economical, having great strength and flavour, 1s 4d and 1s 6d per lb.
CHOICE CEYLON TEAS.—High-Class Teas, good body and flavour, and recommended to families and large consumers, 1s 10d and 2s per lb.
GOLDEN TIP TEA.—Choicest Pickings of Ceylon and Darjeeling Teas, specially recommended, 2s 3d per lb.
Samples Free by Post.

MACDONALD & MACKINTOSH,
TEA IMPORTERS, INVERNESS
Telephone, No. 79.

BOOTS AND SHOES.
BEST STOCK IN SCOTLAND.

SUITABLE FOR COUNTRY WEAR.

First letter order opened every Tuesday sent free and money returned.

Prices lower than is charged by the largest Edinburgh & Glasgow Wholesale Houses.

Men's strong boots, tacked or sparables, toecaps, 6s 6d, 7s 6d, 8s 6d, 9s 6d, 10s 6d.
Ploughmen's boots, thorough waterproof, 6s 11d, 7s 6d, 9s 6d, 11s 6d.
Men's light walking boots, horse skin, goloshed caps 6s 9d, 7s 9d, 8s 9d, 10s 6d, 11s 9d.
Men's light walking shoes, calf skin, 4s 6d, 5s 9d, 6s 6d, 7s 6d, 8s 6d.
Men's stout everyday boots, tacketed or sparables, 4s 11d, 5s 11d, 6s 11d.
Women's light lacing boots, smart made, 4s 11d, 5s 9d, 6s 9d, 8s 6d, 9s 6d, 10s 6d.
Women's light walking shoes, smart made, 3s 10d, 4s 9d, 5s 9d, 6s 6d, 7s 6d, 8s 6d.
Boys' and Girls' tacketed or sparables boots, sizes 10 to 1, 4s 6d; 2 to 5, 5s 6d; best quality 5s 3d and 6s 3d.

Send size and postal order. All goods carriage paid.

Balveria Mills, Dufftown.

Dear Sir,—We received the three pairs of boots to night, and are highly pleased with them. They are splendid value.—Yours truly, GEORGE DEAN.

Address—
A. T. HOGG,
STRATHMIGLO, FIFE.

SHAW, WALKER, & CO.,
CITY IRONMONGERY STORES,
14 TO 18 UNION STREET,
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SHUT AT SIX P.M. ON SATURDAYS.

Illustrated Catalogue and Price List for 1900, containing 228 large pages, sent post free on application.

THE "ENTERPRISE" LAWN MOWERS, with five steel blades in revolving cutter, height of cut may be regulated by adjustable screws at the side of roller, leaving grass ¼ in. to 1¼ in. high. This is one of the best side wheel lawn mowers in the market. All parts kept in stock for repairs. 9 in. cutting blade 16s 9d; 11 in., 20s 9d; 13 in., 24s.
NETS for covering fruit, 150 yards long by 4 yards broad, and 300 by 2 yards, 8s 6d each. Bamboo Garden Canes, 4 ft. long, in bundles of 50, 1s per bundle. Garden Syringes, 18 inches long by 1¼ inches diameter, with rose bronzed, 1s; brassed with brass rod, 1s 6d; with rose and jet, 1s 10d; also at 2s 3d, 2s 9d, 3s 6d.
3000 PICTURES, ETCHINGS, from the Copperplate, on Indian Proof Paper, Scotch Scenery, mostly local subjects, our exclusive copyright, can only be had at 14 Union Street. Subjects are:—"Loch Katrine," "Tarbert, Loch Fyne," "Glasgow Cathedral," "University, with River Kelvin," "George's Square, with Municipal Buildings," "Lanlash, Arran," "Loch Lomond," "Burns' Monument, Ayr," "West Bay, Dunoon." Plates only 1s each. If framed with "Hogarth Black Frames," with gilt beads, glass front; or with plain and reeded walnut frame, with gilt edge, measures over all 18 in. by 14 in., 2s 9d each. Or if with walnut embossed and gilt fancy frame, gilt slip and glass front, measures over all 22 in. by 19 in., 3s 3d each.
CHIMNEY SWEEPERS, for instantly removing the soot out of chimneys, range flues, stove pipes, &c. No dust, no dirt, no danger, 6d each.
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DRUIDISM AND THE DRUIDS.*

[By WILLIAM M. MACKENZIE, M.A., Glasgow.]

[CONCLUDED.]

We are now in a position to form some general idea of what Druidism really was, and of what constituted a Druid. It is true our data are somewhat confusing, do not piece out properly, and come through channels that are never quite above suspicion. Still, guided by analogies among other peoples, as in the mental unity of mankind we are entitled to be, one may sketch out something of this sort. Evidently the more primitive condition of the phenomenon is to be found in Ireland. There we have Druids but no system of Druidism. The individuals so named are distinguished from the general mass by the possession of knowledge of a primitive sort in the matter of lucky and unlucky days, foretelling the future, the practising of magic, and of the curative powers of certain herbs. They too are special intermediaries between gods and men. The Druid in short is, to start with, the familiar medicine-man, soothsayer, and magician of all peoples at an early stage of civilisation. From one point of view he equates with the seer or possessor of second sight in later times. These powers, of course, appear where they list, and there is no professed caste, no school of the prophets to begin with. That comes later as the practisers of these arts procure political power in a settled society, and their lore is collected and augmented from generation to generation. We have then a system, a cult as we find it in Gaul. There circumstances peculiarly favoured such a development. Greek civilisation radiated among them from the colony at Marseilles on the south coast of Gaul. The use of Greek letters by the Gaulish Druids noted by Cæsar suggests the source whence they derived much of what they taught concerning the transmigration or re-birth of souls. This was not, as Mr Macbain agrees, the popular view of immortality among the Celts. Their practical conception of a future life was that it was of such a sort as to admit of the receipt of letters from relatives on earth. These Diodorus Siculus tells us were cast on the funeral pyre. Valerius Maximus, much amused, declares that debts might even be contracted here between Gauls for settlement in the hereafter. That hereafter usually takes the form of some Elysium or "Happy Isles" west over the sea. Certainly, the practice of metempsychosis or rebirth in human or animal form is familiar enough in Irish mythology. But it is confined to that department, and never meets us in a doctrinal shape or with any ethical purpose attached to it; as it does among the Druids of Gaul. Possibly, as I have said, this development of a crude and probably disappearing belief was due to contact with similar teaching among the Pythagoreans who flourished in the western colonies of Greece, of which Massilia or Marseilles was one. One Latin writer speaks of having found the Druidic doctrine "under the cloak of Pythagoras." Certainly, if the Druids could use Greek letters for their ordinary business they must have had some acquaintance with Greek culture.

In Gaul internal circumstances were helping to push the Order to the front. Political life was becoming more complex. The father had been the priest for the family; the King for the State. But a division of labour was becoming imperative. The sacrificial duties, themselves also growing more complicated, were being passed into the hands of special functionaries. The Druids were fast concentrating into a priestly caste. Not, indeed, so as to introduce any new religion or special theism. Professor Rhys, as we have seen, has tried to make them out priests of the supreme Aryan god symbolised by the oak, but not, as I have tried to show, successfully. Moreover, we hear of a vague divinity styled the god of the Druids, where the writer seems to be simply expressing his natural misunderstanding of the case. In the Irish writings we hear of the "idols" of the Druids. These may have been fetishes of some sort. But the popular religion grew up alongside and apart from them, and such priestly functions as the Druids might discharge were taken over from their lay predecessors. It is clear that they were much dreaded by the populace, and it is likely that they used this power more for their good than we have been led to suppose. "They tamed them as wild beasts are tamed," is the assertion of one writer.

But the course of events favoured the Druids in yet another way. Some time before Cæsar's arrival the Gauls had passed through a political revolution. The kings had been removed, and the country had come under the sway of an aristocracy. Everything indicates that between them and the Druids there was the closest sympathy. The plain conclusion is that they were allies, and that the success of the aristocratic party meant a corresponding rise for the Druids. Conversely, the suppression of the nobles by the Romans, and the partial restoration of the royal families, with the spread of Latin culture among the people, carried inevitably with it the decadence and final extinction of the Order. The very fact that it was in the state of transition indicated above would make its overthrow more rapid.

What, now, is to be said as to the ultimate origin of this cult or school? At first sight there seems no reason why we should not pronounce it indigenous. There is nothing peculiar in the existence of such a school, nor in its development. The Irish data, too, lead us to regard it as a spontaneous outcome of the historic circumstances of the people. But these data are not entirely genuine. The writers projected into the past their own conception of the Druids of a much later time. Their historic allusions are full of anachronisms. Even the mythical invading races of Ireland are equipped with Druids. On the other side, we have to put such facts as these—The Druids were most vigorous in the western districts of Gaul, where was located their great place of assembly. Outside Celtdom proper, and among the extreme eastern tribes, we have no mention of them. Cæsar records the opinion that the cult was "discovered" in Britain, and thence transferred to Gaul. In Britain, too, we find them most powerful and tenacious in the west, where we may take it the aboriginal inhabitants survived in the greatest numbers. Pliny backs Cæsar's remark with an expression of admiring wonder at the expertness of the people of Britain in the arts of magic. Now, it is a common phenomenon to find a conquering people succumbing to the mental powers of their more civilised subjects. The Romans had a profound respect for the religious skill of the Etruscans. We seem led to the conclusion that this peculiar cult was borrowed by the conquering Celtic peoples from the earlier inhabitants of the land they had overrun.

One further matter may, in conclusion, be noted. The presence of a priestly caste, or what approximated to such among the Celtic peoples, has, of course, been read to their disadvantage. In contrast, we are pointed to the Germans among whom no such caste then existed. All sorts of deductions have then been drawn from this supposed propensity of the Celtic peoples to priestly domination. Even Mr Macbain can speak of "the superstitious caste of the minds" of the Gauls. All this is quite gratuitous. The presence of a priestly caste among a people is the outcome of their historic circumstances and antecedents. For the time it even marks an advance in so far as it arises from a division of labour in the development of civilisation; and the slightest examination of Celtic history will show that the peoples so styled are no more than their neighbours cast in a superstitious mould, nor any more inclined to put up with an unreasonable tyranny of any sort. In the Druidic cult a phenomenon common in the history of religions was thrown, among the Celtic speaking peoples, into clear relief. What is glossed over or forgotten elsewhere is here emphasised and formulated. Could we be sure that an alien influence had been at work this might in some measure be explained. Or if we could pierce to the exact significance of the name, something would be gained; but neither eventuality seems likely. When all is said that can be said on the subject, there must still remain an element of doubt and mystery baffling any final analysis and entire comprehension of a most interesting problem.

THE KILT, AND HOW TO WEAR IT.

[BY THE HON. STUART RUADRI ERSKINE.]

CHAPTER VIII.

THE BONNET.

The bonnet is an important article of the Highland dress, because it gives a certain character to the whole. Moreover, a man's head is the most striking feature of his anatomy, and it is essential that it should be suitably covered. There are at present in vogue in Celtic Scotland two kinds of bonnet—the old flat bonnet, which is sometimes, absurdly enough, styled the Balmoral; and the semi-conical "Glengarry." Of these two bonnets, the former is immeasurably superior to the latter in point of age; whilst to my mind the latter's superiority from the point of view of picturesqueness is equally incontestible. No doubt, the Glengarry is a smart little bonnet, and presents a soldierly appearance when worn by a young man of good carriage who possesses the necessary appreciation of its rakish qualities. Pipers affect this bonnet almost to the exclusion of the other, but for what precise reason I am unable definitely to say; but I suppose it is because they think that the old flat bonnet detracts from and, in some mysterious way, militates against, a swaggering gait and brisk appearance.

However that may be, the fact remains that, taking Scotland as a whole, the Glengarry is the more popular bonnet of the two now in vogue. It is really unnecessary to say how it should be worn, since its shape is explanatory of its purpose. It may be stated, however, that its best appearance is when slightly "cocked." Military men sometimes carry this exaggeration to inordinate lengths; and the appearance of the bonnet suffers in consequence. Extremes in dress, as in most other things, should be sedulously avoided. They detract from dignity, denote a vulgar, little mind, and are quite as ridiculous and offensive as a slavish adherence to the preposterous *formulæ* of fashion. The streamers of the Glengarry bonnet should fall a little below the nape of the neck.

The old flat bonnet is infinitely the better bonnet of the two, to my mind. It is older, and, in my opinion, more picturesque than the popular and rather effeminate looking little mincing Glengarry. There is a dignity in the sweep, as it were, of its broad outline, which denotes at once art and antiquity. Moreover, I think it is more agreeable to the genius of our blustering climate than the other, which neither protects one from the sun nor shields one from the rain; whilst in a gale of wind it is the hardest thing imaginable to keep secure and tight to its place. For many reasons, therefore, I prefer the old flat bonnet to the new-fangled Glengarry. And to my mind, it is really more smart and picturesque-looking than the other. But I have one or two serious faults to find with it, as we see and wear it at present. In the first place, I rather object to its dingy colour. The old flat blue bonnet, such as we see depicted in the celebrated Culloden painting (to which attention has been repeatedly called) was of a much brighter blue than the colour now worn.* This difference between the old and the new is, in my opinion, all in favour of the former; for the lighter blue of antiquity presented a much fresher and smarter appearance than does its more sober counterpart, if I may be permitted the expression, of to-day. Of course, I do not require to be told that this difference between the two colours is entirely a matter of taste; and that light or dark blue signifies very little provided the parts, as it were, be equal to the whole. No doubt there is abundance of reason in this contention; and I am the last man in the world to desire to impose my individual tastes and idiosyncrasies on other people. But an old picturesque fashion, prematurely decayed, is to my mind a thing to grieve over and to attempt to resuscitate. I venture to hope, therefore, that when next bespeaking their bonnets, a respectable moiety of my readers will follow my example and order bonnets of a lighter shade of blue than that now worn. It is merely a matter of taking one's hatter into one's confidence and seducing the good fellow's allegiance to custom by appeals to his purse and his reason.

My second objection to the existing flat bonnet is that it is generally made and worn too large. The old flat Highland bonnet was a very small affair. A Perth hatter once told me that they wear a smaller bonnet in Perthshire than they do elsewhere. And I am inclined to believe that this is to be accounted for on the hypothesis that in Perthshire the old custom of wearing small bonnets has survived that which obtains in other counties of wearing larger ones. At all events there can be no doubt that the old flat Highland† bonnet was a small bonnet of a lightish blue colour. I remember conversing some years ago with an old Ballater man, who wore just such a bonnet. He would have none of the modern ones, and stoutly maintained that his style and kind of head covering were the only true and orthodox ones. And for my part, I believe that the octogenarian was right. The streamers of this bonnet should be of the same length with those of the Glengarry. It is often worn a little cocked, but, to my mind, it has a better appearance when it is placed flat and straight on the head.

And whilst I am on the subject of bonnets, I hope it will be considered as proper that I should add a few words touching the subject of cockades and badges and brooches. With respect to the first, I daresay few are aware that the bit of black ribband which is to be found stitched to the side of every bonnet, be it flat or Glengarry, that is manufactured and sold, is a remnant, or rather survival of the odious black cockade of Hanover. I make bold to say that this information will come as a sad shock and surprise to many stalwarts who, unconscious or ignorant of the significance of the vile emblem, have unblushingly worn it many years; but the reasonableness, or rather absolute correctness, of my assertion will, I make no doubt, be grudgingly admitted when it is remembered that the old black cockade of Hanover was shaped like a bow (to which the bit of black silk stitched to the modern bonnet also bears a rough resemblance), and that on the fall of the white rose, it became a criminal offence to assume the fair, sweet emblem of the Stuarts. I would therefore strongly counsel my countrymen to have nothing of this evil black badge. For my part, whenever I purchase a bonnet, the first thing I do is to request the removal of the offensive emblem. This conduct invariably gives rise to conjectures and enquiries on the shopkeeper's part, which I do not hesitate to take advantage of; and in this way I flatter myself I am sometimes able to teach a little practical history, and to influence others a little to share with me those sentiments of abhorrence and detestation with which I regard the execrable House of Hanover.

The most suitable cockade for a Celtic gentleman—and in Celtic Scotland all are gentlemen, in the best and truest meaning of the word—is undoubtedly the old white cockade.‡ This should be made of white silk or satin in the form of a rose of five petals, and the centre (which should be a little raised or puffed) should be tied about with golden thread. This cockade presents a very smart appearance in the old flat bonnet; and, doubtless, even on the new-fangled Glengarry it would strike a picturesque posture. This cockade should be worn without a brooch. There can be no objection to combining the badge with it; but obviously it is not every badge that would suit the genius of the white cockade. This cockade is more proper for extraordinary than ordinary occasions: on the latter, a green, red, blue—in fine, a cockade of any significant colour—is sufficient. Indeed, for my part, I wear neither brooch nor cockade on ordinary occasions.

With respect to the brooch, I must confess myself no great lover of this ornament. The present fashion of wearing the crest in the form of a silver brooch to the bonnet is unmistakeably modern, and, consequently, vulgar. There is something to be said for the crest-brooch when worn in the Glengarry (where undoubtedly it looks best); but as both bonnet and brooch are comparatively modern innovations. I shall crave the reader's permission to spare my breath to cool better porridge than these. If a brooch must be worn, a silver ornament, fashioned after a Celtic pattern, is undoubtedly the best and most proper. One or two of my older acquaintance wear such brooches, and I must say I rather like their appearance, though, to be sure, I am no supporter of the brooch in general, which more often than not is worn vastly too large, and, because of its exaggerated dimensions, imparts an awkward "pitch" to the bonnet.

With regard to floral badges, their cautious and sparing use is rather to be upheld and advocated than denounced and discouraged. The newer criticism has had a good deal to say of late respecting these badges; and, doubtless, the newer criticism has reason, and is just enough. But the custom of wearing floral badges or emblems is undoubtedly a very ancient one, and very probably was the sole means employed in former times to distinguish clan from clan and sept from sept. Such a good old custom, therefore, is surely worthy of all suitable encouragement, more especially as it happens to be a very pleasing and picturesque one. And though we may smile a little at the enthusiasm which, blind or regardless of fact, indulges certain clans with badges which are not to be found growing in any known part of the Highlands, yet we can afford to recognise the artistic value and the antiquity of the custom in general, and to adopt and subscribe to it whenever we conveniently can and properly may. With regard to plumes or feathers to the bonnet, I have heard it said a chief should wear three, a chieftain two, and a gentleman one. Therefore every Celt is entitled to a plume to his bonnet—if he has a mind to wear one.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

*A kindly correspondent draws my attention to the fact that once upon a time *red* bonnets were a fashion in Scotland. There is no reason, of course, why one should not wear a red bonnet, but personally my taste is in favour of the blue.

†All the Highlanders in the Culloden picture, which is probably our best contemporary "document" and authority, wear small blue flat bonnets.

‡There is no necessity to attach a party signification to the white cockade, which was, and is, the emblem of nationality: and the nation is superior to party. The Whigs, whose Government and Governmental ideal was a narrow, selfish oligarchy, could never grasp the fact that the Stuart Sovereigns (James VIII. and Charles III.) were supported as much by Nationalists as they were by Jacobites. The so-called "Rebellions" of 1715 and 1745 were really national movements, in which Tory and Republican fought side by side for a common cause, namely, national emancipation.

Mr Whitley Stokes, the distinguished philologist, who is one of the best living authorities on early Celtic myth and literature, will complete his seventieth year in a few days, and he has just received an unusual honour in the form of a "Festschrift," published by several eminent continental professors as a birthday offering. Mr Stokes has edited a large number of ancient Irish texts, and his services to the study of Gaelic literature have been invaluable. The current number of the "Revue Celtique" contains a portrait of Mr Stokes and a tribute to his work. Although he has found time to do so much for Gaelic literature, Mr Stokes has other work to do in the course of his busy life. He is a barrister, and lived for many years in India, where he held several important legal appointments, and he is the author of seven works on legal subjects, including "The Anglo-Indian Codes," published in 1887-91.

A TUNE WITH THREE STORIES.

Ye voices of Cona, of high swelling power,
Ye bards who can sing of her olden time,
On whose spirits arise the blue panoplied throng
Of her ancient hosts, who are mighty and strong,
My bards raise the song.
Ossian.

In pipe music there is one tune peculiar in this respect, that whereas to many are ascribed two origins, to this there are ascribed three. More than one cannot possibly be correct, unless we conclude that different pipers at different times in different places and without any co-operation composed the same tune. That is rather too much, however, but I will give the stories, and then perhaps we will see which is the most likely to be historically true.

In the first place, then, this tune

HAS THREE NAMES.

It is known as "The Breadalbane Gathering," "Wives of this Glen," and "Bodaich nam briogais" (the carles with the breeks), and each name applies to the air as it is associated with a certain district of Scotland. As the Breadalbane Gathering it is a Perthshire tune, and well known. The story is that it was played in 1676 at a battle in Caithness, in which the first Earl of Breadalbane was victor, but the air belonged to an earlier period, for "Seumas-an-Tuim," the reiver referred to in the melody flourished at the beginning of the century:—

Ye women of the glen
Ye women of the glen
Ye women of the glen
Ye women of the glen
Is it not time for you to arise?
And Seumas-an-Tuim driving away your cattle.

The tune then, although Breadalbane's raid into Caithness may have given it a new lease of life, under a new name, must have been in existence before that time. The raid itself, for that matter, is somewhat mythical, and the chances are that this is only a bowdlerised version of the second story, which is thoroughly authenticated.

It is as "The Carles with the Breeks" the tune really hails from Caithness. Sir John Campbell of Glenorchy received in 1672 from George Earl of Caithness an assignment of all his lands and possessions on condition that he would take the name of Sinclair. Glenorchy agreed to this, and on the death of the Earl in 1676 he took the title. His right was, however, disputed by the heir male, George Sinclair of Kiess, and Sir John went to Caithness with a force of Campbells, and defeated the Sinclairs at Altimarlach, a spot on the banks of the Water of Wick and a short distance from the county town. The Campbells, a Highland clan, of course wore the kilt, and like all true Highlanders—of that age—they despised those who did not. The Sinclairs, never a Highland clan, but only a county family at best, wore the trews, and when Findlay MacIvor, Glenorchy's piper, saw them wavering, he poured forth the voluntary:—

The carles with the breeks, the carles with the breeks,
The carles with the breeks are flying before us.

And to experts in pipe music the tune does appear to articulate very plainly the sentiments of "Bodaich nam Briogais." Another set of words, given in the Killin collection of Gaelic song, seems more like a defying challenge to the Sinclairs than a song of victory—

Your cattle lifted are, lifted are, lifted are,
Your cattle lifted are, your men sadly slain are,
I'm Black John, the sharp-eyed one, sharp-eyed one, sharp-eyed one,
I'm Black John the sharp-eyed one, driving them safely.

Carles in trewses clad, trewses clad, trewses clad,
Carles in trewses clad, up and bestir you.
Carles in trewses clad, side dirk and mailed shirt,
Carles in trewses clad, flight we quick gave you.

Glenorchy's bold Macintyres, true shots that will not miss,
Bullets sure hitting that fast slay the carles.
There where the river bends, arrows that pierced you quick;
Many's the house-head that rests without waking.

Carles in trewses clad, &c.

We made that morning start, morning start, morning start,
We made that morning start, when watching failed you.
Wives, mothers, in this glen, in this glen, in this glen,
Wives, mothers, in this glen, it's time you were waking.

Carles in trewses clad, &c.

Glenorchy however, did not obtain a very firm hold in the county, and the Sinclairs held the great bulk of the lands until within the lifetime of the present generation, when it seems to be drifting into other hands because of the want of heirs male in the direct line. Neither did the contempt expressed by the piper do much to make the trews unpopular, for the late Caithness Fencibles, raised and commanded by Sir John Sinclair, were dressed pretty much as were their ancestors at Altimarlach. Caithness, of course, was, and still is, not very Highland, except in the matter of latitude, and it is very noticeable that the only pipe tune associated with the county was played by a Perthshire piper on a warlike excursion, fighting against the natives. Caithness has no pipe music of its own.

Thirdly—may the irreverence be overlooked—the tune is known in Argyllshire as "Wives of this Glen." Tradition says it was played by Breadalbane's piper just previous to the massacre of Glencoe in 1692, in the hope of warning the Macians of their danger, and that one Macian wife heeded the warning and fled to the hills with her child, saving his life. Glencoe is one of the wildest places in the Highlands, gloomy and desolate, ten miles from any other inhabited district, and through it the Cona, a wild rugged stream, on the banks of which Ossian is believed to have first seen the light tumbles its way to the sea. Towards the north-west end the terrible tragedy, which left an ineradicable stain on Scottish history, took place, and there the piper is supposed to have stood when he played—

Wives of wild Cona glen, Cona glen, Cona glen,
Wives of wild Cona glen, wake from your slumbers,
Early I woke this morn, early I woke this morn,
Woke to alarm you with music's wild numbers.
Slain is the cattle boy, cattle boy, cattle boy,
Slain is the cow boy, while you soundly slumbered;
Lifted your cattle are, lifted your cattle are,
Slain are your herdsmen, by foemen outnumbered.
"Iain du Beeroch du, Beeroch du, Beeroch du,
Iain du Beeroch du" is off with the plunder,
Wives of wild Cona glen, Cona glen, Cona glen,
Wives of wild Cona glen, wake from your slumbers.

"Iain du Beeroch du" was a noted Highland cattle-lifter and corresponds to "Seumas-an-Tuim" of the Perthshire origin of the tune. Probably they were one and the same person under different names. The only theory on which the three stories can be reconciled is that the tune originally belonged to Perthshire, but was taken to Caithness and to Argyllshire by different pipers, accepted in each place as new, and given a new name. In those days, when communication between districts of Scotland which had nothing in common was very restricted, the tune could exist in each county as new for many years without the people knowing that it was familiar to those of another. And naturally they continued to associate with it the circumstances in which they themselves first heard it.

On the morning of Quatre Bras this tune was played through the streets of Brussels to wake the slumbering Highlanders, and to it Sir Walter Scott wrote the popular song, "Hail to the Chief."

Although the Clan Macgregor was one of the most

FAMOUS IN HIGHLAND HISTORY,

there is not very much even of reliable tradition concerning the music of the clan. There is—or, at least, was—enough of tradition; but as it does not seem to have been committed to paper, it is now probably lost. Of the origin of "The Macgregor's Gathering" we know nothing beyond the fact that it was included in Captain Macleod of Gesto's manuscript book of pibrochs as having been taken down in pipers' language—that "syllabic jargon of illiterate pipers" from the performers, most likely from the MacCrimmons. From the Gesto book it was translated in 1815 into ordinary notation by Alexander Campbell, editor of "Albyn's Anthology," and this gave it a place in published pipe music. The notation of Captain Macleod, says Mr Campbell, he found, to his astonishment, to coincide exactly with regular notation, so it cannot have been such jargon, as he calls it. Scott thoroughly caught the spirit of the tune in his song:—

The moon's on the lake, and the mist's on the brae,
And the clan has a name that is nameless by day!
Then gather, gather, gather, Gregalich!
Gather, gather, gather, &c.

Our signal for fight, that from monarchs we drew,
Must be heard but by night in our vengeful haloo!
Then haloo, Gregalich! haloo, Gregalich!
Haloo, haloo, haloo, Gregalich! &c.

Glenorchy's proud mountains, Caolchuirn and her towers,
Glen Strae and Glen Lyon no longer are ours;
We're landless, landless, landless, Gregalich!
Landless, landless, landless, &c.

But doom'd and devoted by vassal and lord,
Macgregor has still both his heart and his sword!
Then courage, courage, courage, Gregalich!
Courage, courage, courage, &c.

If they rob us of name and pursue us with beagles,
Give their roofs to the flame and their flesh to the eagles!
Then vengeance, vengeance, vengeance, Gregalich!
Vengeance, vengeance, vengeance, &c.

While there's leaves in the forest and foam on the river,
Macgregor, despite them, shall flourish for ever!
Come, then, Gregalich; come then, Gregalich!
Come then, come then, come then, &c.

Through the depths of Loch Katrine the steed shall career,
O'er the peak of Ben Lomond the galley shall steer,
And the rocks of Craig Royston like icicles melt,
Ere our wrongs be forgot, or our vengeance unfelt,
Then gather, gather, gather, Gregalich!
Gather, gather, gather, &c.

ONE OF THE MOST TRAGIC OF STORIES

is associated with another Clan Macgregor air—"Macgregor of Ruaro." The clan, as is well known, were terribly persecuted by the ruling powers. When, after the '45, most of the other Highland chiefs accepted Crown charters for their lands, the Macgregors refused, their clansmen backing them vigorously in their attitude. For this independence of theirs they were hunted like wild beasts, pursued by bloodhounds, and executed wherever caught. Even so early as 1603 the clan found themselves so persecuted and hemmed in that their Chief, Macgergor of Glenstrae, considered it necessary to deliver himself and a score of his principal men to the Government, under promise of being allowed to leave the country. This promise was given, but ruthlessly broken, for thy were all hanged at Edinburgh. In the group was Gregor Macgregor of Ruaro, the subject of the lament and the song. The author of neither is known:—

There is sorrow, deep sorrow,
Heavy sorrow down-weighs me;
Sorrow deep, dark, and lonesome,
Whence nothing can raise me.

Yes, my heart's filled with sorrow,
Deep sorrow undying,
For Macgregor of Ruaro,
Whose home was Glenlyon.

For the bannered Macgregor,
So bravely who bore him,
With the roar of the war pipe
Loud thundering before him.

His emblem the pine tree,
On mountain side swinging;
His trim-tapered arrows
The true bird was winging.

and so on in very much the same strain for other nine verses.

There is another tune of the

"CHILDREN OF THE MIST,"

as the Clan Macgregor were known, that deserves mention. It is a wild and melancholy pibroch, called "Cruachan a' Cheathaich," or "The Braes of the Mist." To it is sung a ballad, and connected with the air and song there is an interesting story. The singer, a Macgregor, concealed in her house her husband and two sons when some bitter enemies of the clan were approaching. There was no time for escape, and so she hid her friends in a bed, and, sitting down by the fire, proceeded to sing:—

"I sit here alone by the plain of the high-way,
For my poor hunted kin, watching mist, watching bye-way;
I've yet got no sign that they're near to my dwelling;
At Loch Fyne they were last seen—if true be that telling."

And so on, representing herself as waiting in solitude for her persecuted kindred, and saying that as they had not returned they must either be at Loch Fyne—as when she last heard of them—or far away in the glens of the mist, hunting and fishing, and compelled to pass the night in some poor hut, where she had previously left some things for them. After a prayer for their safety—

"May the King of the Universe save you for ever
From the flash of the bullet and the store of the quiver,
From the keen-pointed knife, with the life-blood oft streaming,
From the edge of the sharp claymore, terribly gleaming."

she concluded with expressions of her own sadness on account of their dangers. The enemies stopped outside her cottage and listened to the song, and, believing it to be from the singer's heart—as it was, but not in the way they supposed—they passed on without disturbing her, and her husband and sons were saved. Surely never was song or tune composed in such circumstances.

Rob Roy himself, the most celebrated of all the clan who had

A NAME THAT WAS NAMELESS BY DAY,

had a lament specially composed by his wife, Helen Macgregor, on an occasion when the family were compelled by the law to leave their own fastnesses and take refuge in Argyllshire. Helen was a woman of fierce and haughty disposition, and, feeling extreme anguish at being expelled from the banks of Loch Lomond, she gave vent to her feelings in a fine piece of music, still known as "Rob Roy's Lament." "I was once so hard put at," Scott makes Rob say, "by my great enemy, as I may well ca' him, that I was forced e'en to gie way to the tide and remove myself and my people and my family from our native land, and to withdraw for a time into MacCailein Mor's country—and Helen made a lament on our departure, as well as MacRimmon himself could hae framed it—and so piteously sad and waesome that our hearts amaist broke as we sate and listened to her—it was like the wailing of one that mourns for the mother that bore him—the tears came down the rough faces of our gillies as they hearkened—and I would not have the same touch of heartbreak again, no, not for all the lands that ever were owned by MacGregor."

THE GAELIC OBSERVATORY.

[BY FREICEADAN].

It is evident the Highlanders and the Irish are beginning to be in earnest regarding the value of bilingual teaching. The Irish have been agitating strongly for bilingual teaching in Irish-speaking districts, and there is every reason to expect that the concession will be granted before long. A series of bilingual class-books will then be a first necessity, and Miss Norma Borthwick, one of the most earnest workers amongst the Gaelic Leagues, has made a good beginning by the little publication called "Aibgitir na Gaedhilge"—The Irish Alphabet. On the first page we have a large or capital "A" and a small "a," the picture of an Ass, and the word "Asal." For "B" we have a cow "bò," and for "C" a hen, "cearc." For "M" we have "muc," a pig. The work, which is sold for one penny, is sure to interest the children. Some time ago I called attention to a small collection of popular Irish songs, called "Ceòl-sidhe." I am informed that the first edition of 5000 has been sold, and that a second edition is being printed. A second part of the same collection is also in the press.

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BILINGUAL TEXT-BOOK.

I observe that Mr D. MacIver, F.E.I.S., Bayble School, has published a Bilingual Text-Book to facilitate the teaching of English. The book is well arranged, and, in the hands of the author, cannot fail to be of great service. Had the Gaelic exercises not been in the provincial dialect of Lewis, the book might be of equal service to teachers in other parts of the Highlands, but what boy, say in Argyllshire, would ask—"De an t-ainm a thair a bhalach a chunnaic thu air a chladach?" Or how many of your readers outside of Lewis can translate the following:—"Tha sgùileach nan tòb na thothar math?" We also notice some phrases which look like "Gaedhlig-ghallda"—"Tha an lochan pailt ann an iasg." "Tha a làn a tighinn." Should this latter phrase not run:—"Tha e 'lionadh," or "Thug e lionadh air?"

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FIONA MACLEOD.

I notice the "Academy" has been trying to read "The Celtic Mind" in its review of this mysterious being's latest work—"The Divine Adventure." There is an essay in the volume termed "Celtic," in which this author or authoress seeks to describe the "Celtic" Movement.

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WHAT IS THE CELTIC MOVEMENT?

This is what the "Academy" says—"As one of the principal figures in that movement, she (Miss Macleod) is peculiarly qualified to speak; and to a distinct utterance on the subject from a principal writer concerned in it, we are peculiarly glad to listen. Miss Macleod, perhaps, rather seeks to dissociate herself from some of the ideas put forth by the critics or friends of the movement than directly to elucidate its nature; but in doing so she actually sheds more light on its character than any writer we have read. To disclaim what it is not goes a long way towards stating what it is; nor does Miss Macleod leave us without positive utterance on its aims. It is the wisest counsel that has been put forth by any of the Neo-Celtic writers, and does much to set the Celtic Movement on the only track possible for it, if it is not to follow futile and self-stultifying ends. She is, like most of us, somewhat sick of the title, and of the mistaken notions which have been identified with it. She protests against the idea that it is an attempt to reconstruct the past. For herself, she does not seek to reproduce old Celtic presentiments of tragic beauty and tragic fate, but to discover their secret of beauty in the nature and life of the present, by means of imagination, which can still exercise the myth-making faculty on the existence of to-day. She avers (and we sympathise with her) that she is no great believer in "movements" and "renascences." But so far as the Celtic Movement is a fact, she considers it the expression of "a freshly inspired spiritual and artistic energy," coloured by racial temperament, and drawing its inspiration from "the usufruct of an ancient and beautiful treasure of national tradition." Its aim is, or should be, to pour that treasure into the common treasury of English literature, informed with all the qualities of the Celtic nature, and so enrich by its infusion the common life of the Britannic race. For in the opening of this great fountain of Gaelic legend lies the power and opportunity of the Celtic writers.

. . . . . .

"The Celtic movement, according to her view, is a movement in English literature, and its object is to infuse that literature with the qualities of vision, subtle emotion, intimacy with nature, and aspiration towards the spiritual world, which the Celt possesses more singly and tenaciously than other races, though they do not belong to him exclusively. And its peculiar advantage for this purpose lies in its storehouse of Gaelic legend, virgin and unexhausted by the English-speaking world. It will be distinctive in so far as racial temperament naturally and subtly tinges it, not by any deliberate distinctions of form or style. The pronouncement is interesting, and, as we have said, timely, if only for what it protests against and condemns, for its extinguishing of false lights. That Miss Maclod's own work conforms to the ideals she has thus set forth no reader of the present book can doubt. She sees the whole world transparent (as it were) by the contained light of the Unseen."

I wonder how many of my readers are prepared to accept the foregoing as a correct idea of what they understand by the Gaelic Movement.

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS.

CHAPTER II.

Time rolled on, and although it brought few changes to me outwardly, I trust that, profiting by the lesson of experience, I became, if not a better at least a wiser man. Of course I never heard more of my watch; indeed, to tell the truth, I never took any steps in the matter, I was so ashamed of the foolish part I had played. Neither did the fair unknown ever again cross my path. For long I kept a sharp look-out on the streets—for long I read every police report, but all to no purpose—I neither heard nor saw anything of her. She seemed to have departed as suddenly as she had come, leaving not a trace behind. Even the very street to which she had taken me I could never afterwards clearly identify as I had been too much excited on the memorable evening to take particular note of the landmarks of the scene. Did the love—for the young woman shall I call her?—also disappear as completely from my heart? I don't know what to say to this question. When I thought of her fair face and silvery voice then I am afraid the answer must be "No." But when her degraded life and all its terrible accompaniments rose up before my mind then it must be "Yes," for love passed into pity. Somehow it was only pity I felt. I never felt angry at the deception which I concluded had been practised on me.

I soon made my peace with my landlady, and—with shame I write this—I had often to tell lies to my aunt about my watch. I know that the end does not justify the means, but if I had revealed to her the whole truth I am sure it would have brought her grey hairs in sorrow to an earlier grave than Nature had marked out for her. Poor old soul! may she rest in peace! Her funeral notice at this moment lies upon my table.

One winter evening between one and two years after my adventure I sat in my own room considering what answer I should send to a note I had received inviting me to an evening party. Now I was not fond of dancing, and in consequence had hitherto as a rule declined all such invitations, but I was half inclined to make an exception in this case. The "blow-out" (as I have heard some of my fast friends call it) was to be given by the Austins—a family with whom I had become very intimate within the last year or so, and one of the members of which, Frank by name, was my most particular friend. If I sent a refusal I would more than likely give offence, and I did not certainly wish to risk that. Would I be self-denying and go? I was saved the trouble of deciding for myself. In the midst of my cogitations I heard a ring at the bell, followed in a minute or two after by a knock at my door. I had hardly time to say "Come in" before harum-scarum Frank Austin, "in propria persona," was shaking me by the hand.

"I say, old boy, how are you? I declare it is a perfect age since I saw you last; that's our note in your hand, isn't it? You are coming. Of course you are. You couldn't refuse, you know."

This was either a cool assumption on Frank's part or else he saw indecision written on my face, for he had not given me time yet even to open my lips. Without heeding me, however, this second Lavater rattled on.

"And you will not repent it, for although I say it that shouldn't it well be a 'swell' affair. My cousin from England is to be there. By-the-bye, you have not seen her yet. She is a little stunner and no mistake. And there will be a whole lot of other jolly girls. Dost like the picture, Charlie?"

(Before going further I must protest against some of the terms made use of by Frank. I cannot approve of them. I would never call any young lady either "a stunner" or "a jolly girl," nor a number of young ladies "a lot" as if they were drapery or hardware goods put up for action. Such expressions are not respectful, and, moreover, they are not poetical. Tennyson would never have used them).

What could I say to Frank? His vigorous onset struck me dumb, and as silence is always held to mean consent, I was forced to go to the party.

One or two quadrilles were over, and I sat down in an out-of-the-way corner of the room to rest myself and take a general survey of the company. It was a brilliant assemblage, but not an interesting one to me for I could see but few familiar faces among the many present. Remembering Frank's words, however, I kept a sharp look-out for the "stunners" and the "jolly girls," but my search was so fruitless that I began to think they had existed only in that young gentleman's rather vivid imagination. Sitting by myself, I fell into a sort of dreamy state, and, half unconsciously, allowed my eyes to rest on the figures of two young ladies engaged in conversation at the other end of the room. I saw figures advisedly, because from the position in which they were both sitting I could at first see neither of their faces. Just, however, as I, suddenly recollecting myself, was on the point of taking off my eyes, one of them looked round in my direction. At the very first glance it struck me that I had seen her features before; I stole another look, and then they all came back to me—that face! those eyes! that smile! The room swam round with me, for there before me I saw in substantial flesh and blood the heroine of my night's adventure! Were my senses deceiving me? Was I dreaming? I shook myself to make sure that I had not fallen asleep, and then fixed my eyes once more upon the lady. She smiled again to her companion, and I knew that I was not mistaken; for by that smile I could have picked her out from among a hundred others.

It was a most astounding discovery. I sat gazing at her for some time, with a strange beating at my heart, and, it must be confessed, no little confusion in my head, till at last our eyes met, and I noticed her give a slight start. I was sure she had recognised me, and I was confirmed in this belief by seeing her almost immediately afterwards rise from her seat and leave the room.

In the midst of my perplexity I was greeted by Frank.

"How are you getting on, old boy?"

The sound of his voice was like music to my ears, for it immediately occurred to me that he was the very person to help me to an explanation. I opened on him at once.

"Frank! there is a young lady in the room"——

"Two or three of them, I rather think, Charlie!"

"Well; but, joking apart, there is one in particular—one with brown hair, brown eyes, a sweet smile, and a voice that's"——

"Do draw it mild, please! You do not mean to say you have fallen in love with my pretty cousin already. Never mind. It's nothing to be ashamed of. Come away and I'll introduce you."

I rose from my seat at once to accompany him, with my courage screwed to the sticking-place; but, just at that moment, a servant came up and whispered a few words in Frank's ear.

"I will have to leave you for a little, Charlie. They have got into no end of a mess with the negus, and I must go and look after it. Ah, Mrs Webster! allow me to introduce you to my friend, Mr Browning. I'll be back in a minute or two."

And he was off "like an arrow from a Tartar's bow," leaving me to the tender mercies of an old dowager, who seemed to think her daughters—their beauty and their accomplishments—the most interesting subjects upon which she could speak even to a stranger. I am afraid that at first I made rather random replies to her various observations; for Frank's words were ringing in my ears, and making the confusion in my head worse confounded. His "cousin," he had said. Could it be possible? The matter seemed only getting more and more complicated; but I contented myself at last with the reflection that all would soon be explained. For half-an-hour I had to listen patiently to the terrible old lady's account of how deeply young Smith had been impressed by the beauty of Helen (a flaxen-haired doll of over thirty), and of what old Jones had thought of the talents of Mary (if the girl was not a fool her face did her a grievous wrong), but at the end of that time Frank reappeared. Instead of leading me off to be introduced to the young lady, he, much to my surprise, desired me to step aside with him for a minute or two as he had something particular to say to me. I, of course, on the tiptoe of expectation, followed him at once, and we ensconced ourselves in an out-of-the-way corner of the room.

"Charlie! I have been informed by my cousin," said Frank, seemingly half-amused, half puzzled, "that she and you have met before, and that on the occasion when she was in your company she—ahem! to state the case mildly—lost her watch!"

The reader may imagine, but I cannot well describe, the varied emotions that passed through my mind during this short speech of Frank's. In the first place it removed any lingering doubt as to the young lady's identity. The heroine of my night's adventure and Frank Austin's cousin were in truth one and the same person, and in the fact also mentioned by Frank of the young lady having lost her watch, I saw the first glimmer of light cast upon the mysterious circumstances connected with the disappearance of my own. Of course we had both been robbed while entangled in the crowd in Princes Street. Fool that I was never to have suspected the truth before now! I turned to Frank, and abruptly asked him if his cousin had related to him all the particulars of our meeting.

"No she had not."

Begging him not to interrupt me, however ridiculous my statements might seem to him, I then gave him a full, true, and particular account of our rencontre in Moray Place; of my escorting her to her own house; of missing my watch on my return home—of my suspicion—my fruitless search in the Directory—and the precipitate conclusion I came to. I told him everything. No, not everything; whatever he might suspect I was silent on the subject of my passion for Miss Burnham. That was now too serious a matter to be needlessly exposed even to his eyes. Friends—male friends at least—do not very often make confidants of one another in their love affairs. Several times during my narration I noticed that Frank was very much amused, and the moment I came to an end he began his explanations.

"In the first place, Charlie! I must tell you that at the time you met my cousin in Moray-place, Captain Burnham and his family were only residing temporarily in Edinburgh, and therefore occupied furnished apartments. That explains why his name was not in the Directory. Then, secondly, the name of the person with whom they lodged was Cardigan; the street they lived in was certainly in Lauriston, but is called——street. And, finally, you never hardly had a chance of seeing Kate again, because it must have been almost immediately after your rencontre, that one of my younger cousins having been suddenly ordered by the doctor to a milder climate, my uncle and all the rest of them went with her to the south of France; and they only returned from the Continent about a week or so ago. I have now told you all I know about the matter; but I think I have made everthing very plain. Can you read the riddle, Charlie?"

Read the riddle! Ay, indeed! It would take no Edipus to solve it now. He had made it too plain. I groaned in spirit; for I could only repeat the verdict my own judgment had already passed upon my conduct. "What a fool I had been!" Of course, Miss Burnham had told me both the name of their landlady and of the street they lived in. In my excitement, I had forgotten the first and substituted for it the second. In the light of this explanation, how slight the mystery looked; how contemptible my own suspicions! I felt heartily ashamed of them. I despised myself for ever having entertained them.

After a few moment's silent cogitation, I ventured to remark to Austin—

"What a fool your cousin must think me!"

"Oh, no!" he said with a wicked smile, "not quite so bad as that; she only thinks you are a pickpocket! But never mind; come with me, and I'll introduce you to her, and make everything right in a minute or two."

I at once declined the honour. I could not face the young lady, knowing how I had wronged her in thought at least. Indeed I felt sorely tempted to rush from the room and from the house, and be a cynic and shun society from that hour. Just when this impulse was strongest, I heard the rustling of a lady's dress behind me. Frank, who, from the position in which he was standing, could see the wearer of the dress, slyly desired me to look around at her. I unwittingly obeyed, and——; but I cannot give a succinct account of what ensued. I met the glance of soft-brown eyes! I heard my own name pronounced in Frank's voice, followed by what I now suppose must have been words of explanation. I saw a sweet and gracious smile vouchsafed to me. I felt a little soft-gloved hand in mine, and I was happy—very happy.

I have little more to say. As Captain Burnham is now a permanent resident in Edinburgh, I have very often met his daughter since the evening of the party—about a year ago now—and it has so happened that my first moonlight walk with the young lady—that walk which will dwell for ever in my memory—has not been by any means the last, nor the night on which I rescued her in Moray Place the only occasion on which I have had to act with her the pleasant part of escort. A word to the wise is enough; so I will only add that some day—and that at no distant date—I hope to have the right to call Kate Burnham by a dearer name than that of "friend."

[THE END.]

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

"An Evening with 'Punch'" is the title of a collection of pictures and prose and verse taken from "The First Fifty Years of 'Punch'"—1841 to 1891, i.e., the set of one hundred of the "Punch" half-yearly volumes, now offered to the public in twenty-five quadruple volumes by the proprietors at special prices. "An Evening with 'Punch'" contains many of the really good things which have amused generations in the past. The piquant jest and clever sketch will be just as highly appreciated to-day. And even more so, for throughout the work there are copious, cleverly-written notes regarding the artists who have been engaged on "Punch," their work, their idiosyncracies, and their portraits. Some of Sir John Tenniel's best and most notable work is also included.

Mrs E. J. Whitby, in "Chambers's Journal," predicts for the cinematograph an immensely enhanced value in that it will add to the knowledge of the science of surgery, as well as simplify the means of acquiring it. Practical studies of surgical operations are usually carried out on corpses:—

"Though this may be highly necessary in the interests of all, and for the promotion of science, it is a gruesome idea, and most people will hail with satisfaction the news that the use of the cinematograph will do away with, or at least lessen the necessity for dissection. No demonstration, however cleverly given, on a dead body can possibly equal all that may be learnt from studying the same operation performed on a living patient, and it is just this which the cinematograph will ensure. Even when it is possible for students to watch an operation on a patient, a large number of spectators is impossible, while for various reasons those present must keep at a distance, and thus have a difficulty in seeing the operations. All these disadvantages the cinematograph promises to remove."

The interpretations of prophecy, says a writer in the "Leisure Hour," are many and wonderful. Early in the century there were those who seriously set down the "king" of the Revelation, "who in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon," as Napoleon, and within our time we have seen the same as seriously construed into Gladstone. The latest curiosity upon which we have chanced is a letter to one of the Natal papers, earnestly written by one who thinks that England has a mission for enlightening the dark country of Ethiopia, and also of the southern Bantu peoples. "This has become clear lately, when one remembers that the prophecies (of Jeremiah and Ezekiel particularly) are teeming with the declarations that Egypt shall always be a subject nation (not holding its own any more, as of old—Ezek., xxix., 15). But still it is also said (Ps. lxviii., 32)—'Princes shall come of Egypt; Ethiopia shall haste to stretch out her hands unto God.' Let us remember that this expression 'Princes' on this place is given by a word in the Hebrew signifying a magnate (of power and nobility). In these very days the first part of this utterance of King David has commenced to be fulfilled before our very eyes. The great magnates, Sir A. Milner and Lord Kitchener, as earlier Stanley, have come from Egypt. What must follow? Ethiopia shall haste to stretch out its hands to God. The civilisation is the external consequence in the steps of Christianity."

"Let us hope," says a writer on "The New Model Officer" in "Cornhill," "that one good result of this war may be that officers generally will enter the army as a serious profession, and that the public will on their side guarantee a fair day's pay for a fair day's work, and make promotion more clearly dependent on merit and success. We cannot hope for the stimulus to military training and success which the German officer has, in spite of his low pay, for we have no emperor to enforce his personal views as head of the army, and ready to give his officers a unique social position in lieu of extra pay. But our officers will find that increased knowledge of their business will give them a share of the esteem of their fellow-countrymen which no other gifts can win, and that the most certain of all positions, socially or otherwise, would be that of the successful soldier. By all means let them be professional, and show it by wearing their uniforms."

"It is probable," says E. Walter Maunder in "Knowledge," "that the earliest sun-dial was simply the spear of some nomad chief, stuck upright in the ground before his tent. Amongst those desert wanderers, keen to observe their surroundings, it would not be a difficult thing to notice that the shadow shortened as the sun rose higher in the sky, and that the shortest shadow always pointed in the same direction—north. The recognition would have followed very soon that this noonday shadow changed in its length from day to day. A six-foot spear would give a shadow at noonday in latitude 40 degrees of twelve feet at one time of the year, of less than two feet at another. This instrument, so simple, so easily carried, so easily set up, may well have begun the scientific study of astronomy, for it lent itself to measurement, and science is measurement; and probably we see it expressed in permanent form in the obelisks of Egyptian solar temples, though these no doubt were retained merely as solar emblems ages after their use as actual instruments of observation had ceased. An upright stick, carefully plumbed, standing on some level surface, may therefore well make the first advance upon the natural horizon. A knob at the top of the stick will be found to render the shadow more easily observed."

38 MILLIONS OF LEMONS

WERE USED LAST YEAR IN THE MANUFACTURE OF "EIFFEL TOWER" LEMONADE.

The Manufacturers of "Eiffel Tower' Lemonade are the largest users of Lemons in the world for making Lemonade.

"Eiffel Tower" Lemonade is made from Messina Lemons, **the finest Lemons in the world**; the great advantage is, that it is partly manufactured right in the midst of the Lemon Orchards.

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TWO GALLONS FOR 4½d.

A FREE SAMPLE,

Sufficient to make one pint sent on receipt of a post card, or send 4½d for a bottle sufficient to make two gallons, to the Manufacturer, G. Foster Clark & Co., 3231, "Eiffel Tower" Factory, Maidstone.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

HOW IT WAS REPORTED.

The evolutionary process through which newspaper reporting has passed during the last hundred years (says "Saint Andrew") is strikingly shown by comparing the reports of the General Assembly of 1799 with those which appeared in the leading Scotch dailies in 1899—in some instances extending to 16 and 17 columns of 1800 and 1900 words each. A century ago the only Scotch newspaper of any note were the "Edinburgh Courant" and the "Aberdeen Journal," consisting of four pages, a shade longer in size than those of "Saint Andrew," and costing sixpence per copy a price sufficiently prohibitive to limit the circulation to a very narrow circle of readers. Stenography was little known then, at least in the sense in which we know it in these latter times; but if newspaper scribes were deficient in this branch they were experts in the art of condensation, and could "boil down" long speeches with even greater ability than their modern brethren.

It is quite evident that the "Courant" reporter entrusted with the duty of chronicling the proceedings of the General Assembly of 1788 was not conversant with the mysteries of the "winged art." His reports are models of condensation, crisp, concise, and without the remotest indication of ornamentation. In the issue of the "Courant," dated May 23rd, he limits his report of the first day's proceedings to less than thirty lines. It will be noticed that he shuns the florid descriptions of the modern reporter, and is as sparing in his words as is the sender of a cablegram to the Antipodes. He finds nothing in the brilliant pageant of the King's Commission, nor in the Moderator's sermon, to stimulate his descriptive powers, and records these incidents in a paragraph, the brevity of which would hardly do justice to a Zenana Mission meeting. "This day," he writes, "the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met. The Right Hon. the Earl of Leven, His Majesty's Commissioner, walked from his lodgings, King's Arms Tavern, to the High Church (the Nottingham Militia and City Guard lining the streets), where he was received by the Magistrates in their robes. Dr William Tatlow, one of the ministers of Glasgow, the late Moderator, preached before the Commissioner. After sermon, His Grace went to the Assembly Rooms, and the members proceeded to choose the Moderator for the ensuing year, when Dr Wm. Moodie, one of the ministers of the city, and Professor of Hebrew in the University, was unanimously elected. His Grace's Commission and His Majesty's letter of warrant for £1000 for propagating the Protestant religion in the Highlands and Islands, being read as usual, the Assembly was opened by an eloquent speech from the Throne, to which a very suitable reply was made by the Moderator." The second day's proceedings are summarised into a paragraph of ten lines, giving the names of the ministers appointed to preach before the Commissioner. On the fourth day there was a slight breeze, but the reporter made no "copy" out of it, even devoting only half-a-line to the summary ejection of a man who interrupted the deliberations of the Court—an incident which now-a-days would get the prominence of two or three lines on the contents bills of the evening papers. It would appear that back in these far-off times the Ross-shire clergy and their flocks gave the Assembly even more trouble than they do now. This year a minister of the name of Dallas was before the Court for disobedience. He had been asked by the Dingwall Presbytery to bring before it "two men charged with giving tokens to vagrant communicants from other parishes." Mr Dallas did not obey the order, and he had to appear before the Assembly, but was not "rebuked" as the Dingwall Presbytery wanted. "The vagrant communicants" were eventually found, and after being put under the sentence of the lesser "ex-communication, they made confession."

Overtures were submitted from the Synods of Aberdeen and Angus and Mearns respecting "vagrant teachers and Sunday schools, and respecting irreligion and anarchy," and occupied the house a full day. The Assembly ultimately resolved that a pastoral admonition to the people of Scotland, warning them of the danger of encouraging or listening to the addresses of these men, who, under the name of missionaries or itinerant preachers, had of late been travelling all the districts within the bounds of the Church. It is stated in the "Courant" that on the closing day of the Assembly's sittings Sir John Sinclair presented the Court with a complete copy of the Statistical Account of Scotland, in twenty-one volumes, which was ordered to be laid among the records, and the thanks of the Assembly were voted to Sir John. The entire report of the proceedings of the 1799 Assembly would not occupy more than a column and a-half of the "Glasgow Herald."

The old saying that history repeats itself could not have had a more striking illustration of its truth than what took place during the sittings of the Assembly of 1799 and those of 1899. In the month of May the country was agitated over the publication of Sunday papers, and curiously enough the same question was vigorously discussed throughout the United Kingdom in May of 1799. On the 24th of May of that year Lord Belgrave rose in his place in the Commons to call the attention of the House to a subject which he said was at all times of infinite importance, but more so then, when in so large a portion of the Christian world infidelity was making such strides, and unfortunately in France such successful attacks on religion—he alluded to the publication and sale of Sunday newspapers. This practice, his Lordship pointed out, had first obtained a footing in 1780. Subsequent to that year the evil had increased, but fortunately for the country, these papers had not received much support till about three years ago, when a journal called the "Observer" was set up, which had since, he was informed, obtained considerable circulation. One of the evils which he had always apprehended from this practice was this, viz., that the Sunday papers would accumulate upon Sundays in the same proportion as other papers did upon every other day of the week. What had more particularly called his immediate attention to the subject was an advertisement which he had seen in one of the morning papers relative to an additional Sunday paper, called the "Volunteer." He proposed that the circulation and sale of Sunday newspapers should be deemed a breach of the peace, and that the person guilty of it should be immediately apprehended and fined by any magistrate, church warden, or constable. What he asked, had been the cause and decay of the downfall of empires? What but the increase of luxury connected with the disregard of moral and religious observances. Dr Wilberforce seconded the motion, and Mr Jones opposed it, on the ground that already everything that could possibly restrict the abuses of the press and render newspapers the medium of moral sentiment and virtuous principles had been adopted by the Legislature. The sermons, said Mr Jones, which the publications in question had produced were such as afforded him more grateful satisfaction than any he had heard from the pulpit. The motion was, however, carried, and the Sabbatarians of 1799, like their brethren of 1899, were successful in their crusade.

TO THE DEAF.—A Gentleman who cured himself of Deafness and Noises in the Head after fourteen years suffering will gladly send full particulars of the remedy on receipt of stamped addressed envelope. F. CLIFTON, Amberley House, Strand, London, W.C. 10

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MESSRS EVERETT,
BELL'S BUILDINGS, SALISBURY SQUARE,
FLEET STREET, E.C.,

agus gheibhear e. Cha 'n e mhain sin ach thu bùithean feadh a bhaile anns an faighear am paipear so ma theid sanus a thoirt dhaibh gu bheil e dhith oirbh gach seachdain. Ma tha dragh sam bith agaibh am paipear faodainn sgriobhadh a dh' ionnsaidh Fear Riaghlaidh a' phaipear ann an Ionarneis agus theid a chùis a leasachadh. 1

Gaelic Page.

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UALLAICHEAN TROMA.

NAIGHEACHD AIGHEARRACH.

"Tha a smùdan fhein a ceann gach foid." Tha 'uallach, no 'chrois fhéin aig gach aon r' a ghiùlan: agus is ainmic a gheibhear duine nach 'eil gearanach mu 'chùis—seadh, farmadach r' a choimhearsnaich, 's ag ràdh "Mur biodh a dh' uallach orm ach na tha airsan bhiodh mo cheum eutrom, 'us mo chridhe sunndach gach latha." Bha e mar so o thùs: agus tha na Greugaich a' cur an céill am beachd air leis an sgeulachd a leanas. Bha Iupiter —an t-àrd dhia acasan—air a chlaoidh ag éisdeachd ri sìor-ghearan dhaoine mu na h-uallaich a chàirich e orra; 's a h-uile fear a' mainnachadh cor fir-eigin eile. Mu dheireadh dh' iarr e air sluagh mòr dhiubh tighin 'n a làthair, agus an eallachan a' thilgeadh dhiubh air faiche fharsuinn réidh a dh' ainmich e. Thàinig iad 'n an ruith 's 'n an deann ruith, agus ann an tiota bha gach uallach gu làr. An sin thubhairt e riu gach aon o a thaghadh na h-ealacha a bu roghnaiche leis. Rinn iad sin, agus b' fhalbh iad làn dòchais, agus taingealachd. Ach an ùine glé ghoirid bha fear us fear a' tilleach, ag iarraidh na seann eallacha; agus mu-n tàinig ceann na bliadhna cha robh gin diubh nach d' ràinig air an turus cheudna, uile ag éigheach gu-n robh gach aon mòran na b' fhèarr dheth le 'eallaich fhéin na le té a choimhearsnaich, agus a' griosad gu-m faigheadh e a chrois fhéin air a h-ais.

Chunnaic mi o chionn ghoirid sgeul beag Frangach a' soilleireachadh an ni cheudna, agus ged a tha e car àbhach, tha mi am beachd gur fhiach e 'eadar-theangachadh, 's a chur a sìos.

Bha ann am baile àraidh de 'n Fhraing duin' uasal d' am b' ainm "Lelong" aig an robh mòran thighean a bha e a' suidheachadh air tuath. Am measg a thuath-anach bha seann saighdear d' am b' ainm "Duval" a chaill a chas anns a blàr, agus aig an robh, mar bu dùigh, saor-dhuais—"pension," no "Sealsi"* mar a chuala mi air a ràdh ris o chionn fhada 's a' Ghàidhealtachd. Bha esan, mar a bhios an deadh shaighdear daonnan, riaghailteach, cinnteach anns gach dleasnas, 'us ghléidh e am latha 's an uair gu mion ann am pàigheadh a mhàil. Bha coimhearsnach aige ris an abairteadh "Tardif;" duine car dùr, doichiollach 'n a nàdur, agus glé leisg 'n a dhòigh. Cha ghleidheadh esan a latha aig àm air bith, 'us an uair a rachadh e le earrann de'n mhàl cha robh e ach ag iarraidh dàil 'us isleachaidh gun stad, 's ag ràdh leis a' h-uile crois 'us càs a bha 'tighin 'n a charadh nach b' urrainn da am màl a phàigheadh.

'Nach faic thu, mar a tha do choimhearsnach "Duval" a' deanamh? thubhairt fear na h-aitreibh.

"'Duval!' Beag buidheachais dha. Nam bithinn-sa mar a tha esan le saor-dhuais o'n arm phàighinn co maith ris fhéin." 'S e fhreagair e. "Cha-n 'eil a dhuais ach glé bheag, agus is goirt a choisinn e i, an duine bochd, a bhi air lethchois fad a bheatha," thubhairt am fear eile.

'Is mi a bheireadh gach cas 'us làmh a tha agam nam faighinn pris co maith orra 's a fhuair esan air an aona chois. Tha mi ann an cor searbh dheth: ach 's e m màl crois a's truime a tha orm gu léir', fhreagair "Tardif."

Bha "Lelong" 'n a dhuine geur, smaointeachail, agus bha beagan feala dhà ann; mar sin thubhairt e "Mata bheir mise dhiot a' chrois throm sin air son crois glé eutrom ma thogras thu.

"'S mi a thogras; ciod i?" fhreagair esan.

Ghabh "Lelong" crioman cailce 'n a làimh. "Leig leam da stiall le so—crios gheal—a chur air druim do chòta, cuir ort e a' h-uile latha ciod air bith a bhios tu 'deanamh: agus fhad 's a ni thu sin gheibh thu do thigh saor—cha-n iarr mise peghinn mhàil ort."

"Mile taing dhuibh. Is sibh a tha fial, agus rinn sibh duine sona dhiomsa," fhreagair e.

Chuiroadh an comharradh air a dhruim, agus dh' fhalbh e gu h-àighearach, sunndach. Ach is gann a ràinig e a dhachaidh an uair a ghlaodh bean an tighe. "A dhuine, rinn cuid de 'r companaich droch cleas oirbh. Tha crois gheal, troigh am fad, air cùl 'ur càta, stadaibh gus an glan mi é."

"Cha ghlan thu fhéin, leig leis mar a tha, 's e sin mo thoil-sa," thubhairt esan gu gnù.

"Cha leig mi," thubhairt ise. "Cha-n 'eil mise 'dol a dh' fhulang gu-m bi fear mo thighe 'n a chulaidh mhagaidh feadh a' bhaile." 'Us thug i ionnsaidh air a chòta a shuathadh. Thàinig iad gu crosdachd 'us trol mu'n chùis. Agus mar is ann aice-se 'bha an teangadh a bu sgaitiche ghabh esan an ruaig. Leum e mach air an dorus, an dùil gu-m faigheadh e sìth an sin. Ach cha b' fhada a chaidh e air aghaidh an uair a ghlaodh an gobhainn ris, "Stad, stad, fhir mo chridhe. Rinn cuid eigin prac mhi-mhodhail ort. Tha stiallan grannd' air do chòta." Chruadhaich e a cheum gun fhacal a fhreagairt. Ach a thiota thubhairt fear eòlais eile ris "Ciod an suaicheantas iongantach a tha ort an so, a ghoistidh?" "D é sin duit-sa? Thoir an aire air do ghnothaichean fhéin," thubhairt esan gu feargach. Ach cia b'e taobh a ghabhadh e bha an éigh as a dheaghaidh. "Chuir bean an tighe comharradh air, eagal as gu-n rachadh e air chall," ghlaodh aon ris. "Cha-n e sin a th' ann thubhairt fear eile" "ach tha an duine air tionndadh gu cràbhadh. Tha e a' dol air thuras do'n Roimh, 'us chuir e suas crois a Phàpa." Dh' fhalbh e, a' cur roimhe nach tugadh e feairt air ni a theirteadh ris, 'us gu-n tugadh a bhi saor o'n mhàl comhfhurtadh a bu leoir gu a ghleidheil a suas. Cha deanadh e feum, ceàrn air bith a thionndaidheadh e a cheum, bha gaire magaidh 'n a chluasan, bha gach aon a toirt tearrachd air chor-eigin air. Mu dheireadh, 'us e ach beag air a bhreith as eadar màire 'us feirg, ruith e 'n a dheannan air ais gu a thigh fhéin. Shuath e a' chaile bhàrr a chòta. Thug e leis airgiod, agus bhuail e gu tigh mòr Lelong. "Sin agad do chuid màil. B' fhèarr leam a dhioladh tri uairean na bhi 'fulang na sgeig 'us na truaighe a tharruing do chrois dhona orm."

"Direach! Bha fhios agam gur ann mar sin a bhitheadh e," fhreagair maighstir an tighe gu socrach. Ach bha toil agam beagan gliocais a theagasg dhuit. Tha a' chrois trom, no eutrom a réir inntinn an fhir a tha 'g a giùlan. Tha a dheuchainn agus 'nallach féin aig gach aon. Ma tha sinn a léirsinn gur e an Ti uile-ghlic agus uile-ghràsmhor a shònraich iad air ar son, agus sinn a' dol riutha le spiorad sriochdta, foighidneach, fearail, neartaichidh E Féin sinn agus cha dochainn iad sinn. Ach ma tha sinn a' dol gu frionas, gu gearan, 'us farmad, cuiridh an eallach a's suarraiche gu làr sinn, dìreach mar a rinn cor 'Duval,' agus a' chrois-chaile' ortsa."

Sin an sgeulachd a rangach. Is minic a tha feum againn air beachdachadh air an fhìrinn a tha ann.

* 'S a Bheurla "Chelsea ponsion."

CLARSACH NAN GAIDHEAL.

AIR A GLEUSADH LE FIONN.

No. 186.—A MODERN LAMENT.

The following verses are the composition of Mr Angus Mackechnie, Jura—the author of several popular songs. It is set to the air of "Och mar tha mi." FIONN.

TUIREADH.

KEY F.—*Moderato, with expression.*

{ .s,:s,.l, | d:d.d:r.m | s:l. }

Bu lurach' bòidheach an t-sòbhrag mhàlda,

{ .s:s.m | d:d.d:r.m | l,:l,. }

A dh' fhàs cho àrail fo dhrùchd nan àrd-bheann,

{ .s,:s,.l, | d:d.d:r.m | s:l. }

Bu tric miidlùth dhith 's mo shùil a ghnàth oirr,'

{ .t:d'.,l | s:m.d:r.,m | d:d. ‖

Ach sheachd 'us shùigh i 's a gnùis fo ghàire

Ged 'tha gach caoin-lus fo aoigh mar ò' àbhaist,
Is fallamh, fuaraidh 's an uair mo ghàradh,
Cha sheinn mi 'n uaigneas mo dhuanag ghràidh ann;
Oir tha mo luaidh-sa 's an uaigh gu sàmhach.

'Nuair 'thig an t-òg-mhios làn glòire nàdur,
Le 'thrusgan òirdhearc 's le ròsan àgmhor;
Gu'm bi mo smuain mu na buadhan àrda,
Bha daingeann suainte 's a' ghruagaich àluinn.

Tha còisir luaineach nam bruach 's nan craobhan,
A seinn gu h-uallach an duanag aotram;
Cha toir an ceòl ud ri m' bheò dhomh faochadh—
Bu bhinne briodal mo nìgh'naig ghaolaich.

O, chì mi ghrian anns an iar ag aomadh,
Is neula ciara ag iadh gach taobh dhith,
Aig briste là chì mi 'gaire aoidheil,
Sud cor mo rùin-sa—gu 'n duisg i aobhach!

Tha 'n oidhche 'dùbhradh fo chùirtean ciar-ghlas,
Is air na stùchdan tha mùig ro chianail;
Tha bròn is tùirse air gnùis nan siantan,
A' caoidh nach'gluais gu là luain mo mhiann-sa.

A rionnag dheàrrsach tha 'n àird na h-iarmailt,
Do bhaoisge bàigheal mar bha o chianaibh;
Cha 'n fhuadaich t-àilleachd mo chràdh 'us m' iarguinn,
'S e 'bheireadh slàinte sùil bhlàth mo nigh 'naig.

EACHDRAIDH LOMNOCHTAIN AN T-SLEIBHE RIFFE.

[Transliterated from the Irish by Mr J. G. MACKAY, London].

EARANN IX.

98. "Adubhairt mi ris an rioghain gun aon doilgheas a'bhi uirre, oir gu'n robh e an dan do'n eun gun d'fhad saoghail a'bhi aige ach gu'n toireadh e gaisgeach leis do'n ghleann so a bhuaidheadh air a' Ghruagach, agus gu'm bu doigh gu'm bu mhi fein an laoch sin, o'n is e mise a mharbh an t-eun. 'D'a bhrigh sin (uime sin) tha suil agam ri sibhse 'fhuasgladh as a' bhraighdeanas anns am bheil sibh.' Adubhairt inghean righ Uladh gu'n rachadh i fein leam, agus gu'm faodadh gu'm bu mhath an congnamh dhomh i. Chaidil mi fein agus Ridire a' Chlaidheimh Ordha gu maduinn ar n-a bharach, agus iar n-eirigh dhomh tar eis mo thuirse 'chuir dhiom, cheangail mi mo chorp 'na chath-eideadh, agus thriall mi fein agus mo choghaisgeach agus inghean righ Ulamh gu faiche Ghruagaich a' Ghlinn Duibh.

99. "Bha bile (mor-chraobh) air lar na faiche agus clag mor am barr a' bhile sin agus slabhraidh airgid as a' chlag sin a nuas. Adubhairt iughean righ Uladh riumsa an clag a' bhuain (a' bhualadh). Rinn mi amhlaidh, agus cha bu chian duinn gus am faca sinn laoch mor, mileata, mear-chalma, deud-gheal, dath-aluinn a' teachd chugainn le fraoch feirge, agus b'e fein a' bheithir bheodha agus an leomhan tuath-fheargach, agus an nathair nimhe neo-eagalach agus an dragan diana dasachdach, agus an curaidh nach do thraochadh (cheamsaicheadh) riamh an comhraig, i Gruagach a' Ghlinn Duibh; agus iar teachd dha, oir dh'ionnsuigh sinn a cheile mar dha lomhan air luinne (air boile), no mar dha dhragan dasachta, agus rinn sinn comhragh fhaobhrach, fhuilteach, neart-chalma athaidh (uine) fhada de'n la sin, agus gach sath sleagha no beum claidhimh no foir-dheargadh air, agus mo chreuchdan-sa a' sileadh fola fiann-ruaidh o bheumannaibh a' Ghruagaich. 'Cuimhnich, a' mhacaoimh,' arsa inghean righ Uladh, 'nach dearg arm air a' Ghruaghach.' 'Is fior sin,' arsa mise, agus leis a sin ghabh mire meanmna mi, agus ruith mi asteach air a' ghruagach, agus threasgair mi fodham e, agus thug mi sath nimhe sleagha anns an t-suil chli air, gu'n do chuir esan buir uathbhasach as bu chlos air feadh a' ghlinn, gu'n do thuit an t-anam as ais an lathair sin.

100. "An sin dh'eirich gaoth agus stoirm, criothnachadh talmhainn agus toirneach fhuathmhor, ionnus gu'n do shaoil sinn gu'n tigeadh an speir chum talmhainn, agus dh'eirich an gleann cho ard ris an talamh air gach taobh dheth. Is ann an sin a chiuinich a' ghaoth agus ghlan an speur os ar cionn, agus shoillsich a' ghrian gu taitneamhach, agus dh' imich an draoi-dheachd de'n ghleann, ionnus, a' mhuinntir a bha re cian de aimsir ann, gu'n tainig iad chugainn gu luthghaireach, agus chuir iad fiorchaoin failte romhainn do'n Eilean, agus iad a' breith buidheachais dhomh-sa tres an fhuasgladh a thug mi dhoibh, agus chaith sinn caoigthighis ar mhis (mios gu leth) gu subhach, suilbhir. Ach cheana phosadh na coig ceud bean ann, agus phos mi fein ingheam righ Uladh, oir chan fhaca mi a macsamhuil anns an do thais-deal mi de'n domhan air mhein air chruth agus air chaoin-deilbh, agus thairg mi rogha mna do Ghaisgeach a' Chlaidheimh Ordha, ach adubhairt esan rium nach posadh aon bhean gu brath ach inghean Gruagaich a' Ghlinn Ghuirm, agus gu'n robh a gradh sin cho mor sin ceangailte 'na chridhe agus 'na aigne a 'la agus a dh'oidhche, gu'n robh e deimhneach bas 'fhaighinn mur faigheadh e i, agus gu'm b'ann d'a h-iarraidh a chaidh e an uair a cheangail an Gruagach e. Adubhairt fein nach beiginn bas da, agus gu'n rachainn leis d'a tochmarc (suiridhe) agus d'a buain a mach air ais no air eiginn. Adubhairt na gaisgich eile gu'n rachadh iad fein leinn.

101. "Ghleus sinn ar luingeas agus ar leathan-bharca bronn-fharsuing agus sheol sinn a mach air chraos mara agus cha do ghagh sinn cuain agus cala anns an Eilean Ghorm, agus ghluais sinn romhainn gus an do rainig sinn faiche an duna, agus chuir mi Conn Crithir, gaisgeach o Eirinn chum a Ghruagaich a dh'iarraidh a inghine mar mhnaoi do Ghaisgeach a' Chlaidheimh Crdha, no mur tugadh, gu'n toirinn àr sluaigh, dith dhaoine, agus uireasbhuidh fear-ogloch orra. Ghluais Conn Crithir agus chaidh an lathair a' ghruagaich agus dh'aithris a uraghall (teachdaireachd) do. Adubhairt an Gruagach nam bitheadh fir an domhain air aon mhachaire nach toireadh fein beam no aon ni eile uaidh d'a aindeoin, agus gu'n toireadh cath dhoibh ar n-a bharach. Thainig Conn tar a ais agus dh'aithris gach (ni) a chan an Gruagach ris.

102. "Ach cheana thug as an oidhche sin, agus am moch na maidne ar na bharach thainig an Gruagacfi agus da fhichead mile de ghleire ghlan sluaigh (saighdearan taghta) agus dh'fhogair (ghairm) cath oirnn. Fhreagair sinne gu h-easgaidh neo-eagalach e, agus thainig sinn an aghaidh a cheile agus rinn sinn comhrag chalma chruaidh-dhaingeann, fhuilteach, fhir-treun, ionnus gu'm bu iomadh lamh air a ciorrbhadh (gearradh) a bha ann, agus bu iomadh sruth fola fiann-ruaidhe a bha air a thaosgadh tre chreuchdaibh nan righ-mhileadh. An sin mheudaich na curaidh-ean am meamnna agus chruadhaich iad an cridheachan agus luathaich iad an lamhan agus thromaich iad am buillean, gus an do rinn gach treun-fhear de m' mhuinntir-se agus de na h-allmhurachaibh (coigrich) gniomhan gaisge os ard.

103. "An tan a mhothuich mi fein arsaidheachd (sean-saighdearan deanta, oileanaichte) nan allmhurach 'nam aghaidh, hug mi ionnsnigh air a'chath fo rabharta feirge ags fo chonfhadh catha agus ard-aigheanta (uaibhreachas), gu'n do ghabh mi d'am muchadh, d'an dian-sgaoileadh do m'dheis agus do m'chli, ionnus nach do sguir mi de'n ruathar sin gus an do rainig mi cro catha anns an robh Gruagach a' Ghlinn Ghuirm, agus an tan a chunnaic an Gruagach an t-ainghein (ionnsuidh saintach) a thug mi air a mhuinntir, dhruid e 'nam choinneamh, agus dh'ionnsuigh sinn a cheile gu danarra, dur-chridheach, tinneasnach, tolganach, agus fhearadh (rinneadh?) iom-reuson (sabaid, trod) creuchdmhor cadarainn. Gidheadh b'e crioch na combraig an Gruaghach a' thuiteam leam fa dheoidh, agus ruith mi an sin a' dhi-cheannadh easbhuidh orra, agus ghlac iad teicheadh agus raon madh-ma (no, bealach an ruaigh) agus lean mise agus mo mhuinntir iad lasteach anns a' chathair (baile) agus mharbh sinn iad ach fior-bheagan a bhabh coimirce agam-sa, (a chaidh 'nam mheinn) agus thug mi inghean a' Ghrugaich mar mhnaoi agus mar bhanacheile do Ridire a' Chlaidheimh Ordha, agus rinn mi righ air an Eilean Ghorm dheth, agus is easbhuidheach, ditheach a bha mo mhuinntir fein tar eis a' chath-ghleo sin, oir cha robh beo de'n deich mile laoch a chaidh leam chum na catha ach aon aon mhile a mhain.

104. "Chaidh an laochraidh, a' mheud a mhair dhiubh, do'n duthchaibh fein, agus thriall mise do m'rioghachd fein agus thug mi inghean righ Uladh leam, i. Doirn Deud-sholais, agus is gearr a mhair i agam, oir fhuair i bas an ceann bliadhna, agus tha mac d'a h-eis agam a tha a nis an ceann a sheachd bliadhna, agus mheas mi a chur gu Eirinn a dh' fhoghlum luthais agus gaisge. Ach cheana, an ceann bliadhna an deis bais mo mhna chuala mi aig luchd suaidh agus seanchais agus aig luchd-leughaidh leabhraichean gu'm bu ann aig righ Innsean nam Beo bha an inghean bu bhriagha cruth agus dealbh de'n robh anns an domhan uile agus gu'n do mhuch a dealbh air dheibh bhan an domhain. Iar n-a chlas sin dhomhsa, chaidh mi gu a h-iarraidh air a h-athair mar mhnaoi, agus is e am freagairt a thug e orm nach toireadh e a cumhal coimhdeachta (ban-fhrithealaiche) mar mhnaoi dhomh. Ghlac fearg ro-mhor mi iar clos an aithisg sin, agus dh'iarr mi comhrag air. Adubhairt an righ nach rachadh e fein leum comhraig am feadh a bha an uiread sin sluagh aige. An sin adubhairt mise (ris) coig ceud laoch a' chuir chugan , oir mheas mi gu'm bu ghearr gus an tuiteadh sluagh an duna uile leam air a'mhodh sin, ach dar mo sin, b'iad a thainig 'nam aghaidh air na laimhe, a' threin-mhile, cha b'amhlaidh a bha, oir an cuig ceud a mharbh mi an la bharach. Ann am beagan bhriathran, bha mi a' comhrag leo fichead la, agus b' iad a' mhuinntir cheudna thainig chugam a' cheud la a thainig gach aon la, agus bha iad cho beo an la deidheanach agus a bha riamh. Dh' fhag mi an tir iar sin gu dubhach droch-mheanmnach, agus ag sin mo sgeul dut, a' ghaisgich," ars' an Ridire Or-armach, "agus innis dhomhsa a nis co thu fein a rug buaidh orm."

105. "Donas agus tubaist air do bheul!" arsa Conan, "is iomdha laoch is treine na thu air an do rug an cath-mhile sin buaidh, agus biodh a fhios agad gur e Osgar mac Oisin mhic righ na Feinne e, agus ochdnar eile de mhaithibh na Feinne a tha 'na fhochair an so." "Is math leamsa," ars' an gaisgeach, "gu'm bu leis a rainig treisinachadh (fairtleachadh) orm, de bhrigh gu'm bheil a fhios agam gu'm faigh mi m'anacal a (cobhair, didion) uaith." "Cha b' fhiu le Osgar thus' a' mharbhadh," arsa Conan, "o nach do mharbh e anns a' chomhraig thu." "Gheibh thu anacal uam-sa," arsa Osgar, "agus beir buaidh agus beannachd (leat), oir is ra-bhinn na sgeoil a chan thu dhuinn. Sgaoileadh de'n Ridire Or-armach iar sin, agus chaith iad an oidhche sin gu subhach so-mheanmnach gu maduinn.

(RI LEANTAINN.)

BITHIBH SEIRCEIL RIS NA H-UILE.

Na cronaich duine am feasd gun ùrnuigh a dheanamh air a shon.

Ma tha fior dhéigh agam air maith spioradail mo choimhearsnaich a chur air aghaidh cha-n abair mi facal ris a chuireas dorran, no diomb air: ach bithidh mi daonnan faicilleach, faireil mu gach ni a their mi ris: agus an uair a labhair mi i ann an gràdh.

Tha e 'n a mhearachd mòr do dhaoine maith a bhi a' smaoineachadh gu-n gabh daoin' eile ris an fhìrinn, 'us gu-n aidich iad i a dh' aona mhionaid—co luath 's a tha i air a cur fa 'n comhair. Is ni ro dheacair creutair co dall, uaibhreach ris an duine a thoirt gus an fhìrinn a léirsinn, agus a mhearachdan aideachadh. Nan cuimhnicheamaid coid an ùine a ghabh e gu sinn féin a thoirt gus an t-slighe cheairt bhiodh tuille uaille na gràidh ann. Is mò a chron na 'mhaith. "Labhair facal ann an àm," agus feith gu foighidneach gus an sil an t-uisge, agus an dèarrs a' ghrian air o nèamh.

Cha ghnothach furasda fantainn 'n ar tosd an uair a tha ceart, 'us tuigse air ar taobh. Ach gu minic feumaidh sinn deanamh mar so ann an cùiscan cudthromach air sgàth sith, agus seirc. Nach mòr is mò a thig e dhuinn so a dheanamh anns na nithean suarrach, faoine, mu 'm bheil daoine gu minic a' connsachadh ann an còmhradh cumanta—nithean nach cuir ni ne neach air bith a' bheag a sios no suas.

Dean na 's urrainn duit a mhaith do na h-uile: ach tha thu aincolach air a' chinne-dhaonna na bhios fiuthair agad gu-n coisinn so dhuit taingealachd, 'us gràdh anns gach cùis. Labhair uiread mhaith 's a dh' fhaodas tu mu na h-uile dhaoine: ach mur 'eil agad ach olc amhàin r' a labhairt mu dhuine air bith fàg sin aig an diabhol. Is e 'obair shònraichte-sam e. Is esan "fear-agraidh nam bràithrean."

ORIGINAL GAELIC POETRY.

FIONNGHAL NI'C DHOMHNUILL.

Cha'n fhàs ar cridhe fuar
Mu chuimhne bhuan nan gaisgeacn,
'S bi 'n Gàidheal tric a luaidh
Air na làithean mòr" a bh' ann;
Mu na làithean dorcha doirbh
Anns an d' fhàs ar dòchas lapach,
'N uair a chaill sinn a' bhuaidh
Agus taic ar sluaigh
Ann am batal cruaidh nan lann.

Ged a dh' fhàgadh dùn de ar laochraidh marbh
Air àraich shearbh Chulodair,
Thàinig deùchainn ghoirt agus ghèur a dhlearbh
Lan dìlseachd siol nan gleann—
Cha do reic iad Tearlach Og
Air òr no duais an t-sodail;
'S ann a dhion iad a ruaig
Air tuinn a' chuain
'S ann am frògan fuar nam beann.

'S feàrr uair de bheatha ghlòrmhoir
Na linn gun trèoir gun spiorad:
Tha Fionnghala Ni'c Dhòmhnuill
Am buidheann chòir nan trèun—
Air àireamh cheannard fheachd
Jean d' Arc is Boadicea,
'S cò dh' iarradh luaidh
Is àirde buaidh
Do ar maighdinn shuairce fèin?

Cha 'n ann lois a' Ghàidheal t-ainm air fad,
Oir ort-sa thuit an fhalluing
A chòmhdaich sàir, ri uchd a' bhlàir
Air raoin an àir bho chian;
Oir thuit air do cheann-sa tomhas pailt
De ghaisge Bhruis is Uallais
Agus cuibhrionn àigh
De loinn na bàigh
Le dòchas àrd is rian.

Ged a mhill an rachd mu òrdugh cath'
Clann Dòmhnuill mhòr nan Eilean,
Cha b' ann le foill no gealtachd
A sheas an lann 's an àr.
'S e èud nan trèun mu 'n cliù
A dh' fhàg am Prionns' air dheireadh
'S a mhil a' mhùirn
Aig oighr' a chrùin
'S a thilg a rùn gu làr.

Ach 's annasliochd Mhic Dhomhnuill
A dh'èirich òigh nam beannachd,
A rinn am Prionns' a chomhnudh
Ri am na tòir 's an fhèum;
Air tir o bheinn gu tràigh
'S air tonnan àrd na mara
Mar aingeal shoills'
Bha 'gnùis gun fhoill
A boillsgeadh air a cheum.

An diugh tha t-ainm ro-chùbhraidh
'S do chuimhne mùirneach maireann;
Do chruth is t-iomhaigh snaight' an cloich
'S do mheas an cridh' an t-sluaigh.
Bidh t-ainm thar ainm gach òigh
A chòmhnuich riamh 's an fhearann;
Bidh bàird le fuinn
Nan òran binn
A ghnath mu d' chuimhn' a luaidh.

N. R.

AN LEODHASACH A' DOL DO 'N EIPHIT 'S A' BHLIADHNA 1900.

O, 's cianail thà mi 's mi 'n diugh a' fàgail
An àite ghràdhaich so, Eilean Leòdhais,
Mi 'falbh thar chuantan do n Eiphit dhuaichnidh—
O, 's fada uainn i, 's gur fuathach dhòmhs' i!

SEISD—O, eilein ghràdhaich 'tha ghnàth air m' inntinn,
O, eilein ghrinn 'tha mar m' anail dhòmh-sa,
O, eilein fhraochaich, cha 'n aom mo chrì' uait—
Mo thruaigh mi-féin 'n diugh 'dol oéin á Leòdhas!

'S e Niall an Tàilleir a thug an cràdh dhomh
Air latha àraidh 's mi 'gabhail òrain,
'N uair rinn e 'm pàipeir a chur a' m' làimh-sa,
'Thug sanas geàrr dhomh 'bhi dol a sheòladh.
O, eilein ghràdhaich, &c.

Mar thigh na daorsa bha Ard-nan-Saor dhomh,
Ach, O, bu chaomh leam 'bhi ann an còmhnaidh,
Seach dol do'n Eiphit gu bhi 'g a m' léireadh
Le teas na gréine, 's mi fad o Leòdhas.
O, eilein ghràdhaich, &c.

Gur mòr mo dhiùmb air a' bhodach "Krùger,"
Fear na h-ùp'raid 'us fear na bòilich;
'S e 'm buraidh cealgach bu choireach marbhadh
Nam feara calma 'bha laghach, bòidheach.
O, eilein ghràdhaich, &c.

Mur b'e chuid eucoir cha bhithinn féin 'n diugh
Gu dubhach, deurach a' dol thar m' eòlais,
Ach mar ri m' chàirdean, ri mire 's mànran,
No 'faighinn gràidh o mo leannan Seònaid.
O, eilein ghràdhaich, &c.

O, ni neo-aoibhneach! An eogadh oillteil!
Gur beag de loinn th' air a' ghnothach ghòrach;
Cha 'n 'eil e Criosdail, cha 'n 'eil e rianail,
Ach buileach biasdail, mi-dhiadhaidh, bròn-ach!
O, eilein ghràdhaich, &c.

Gur bochd ri inns' e na daoine siobhalt
Dha 'n aithne 'n fhìrinn 'bhi 'sireadh còmhstri';
Na 'n éight' an t-sìth dhuinn, gu 'n seininn binn duibh,
'S mi fad mo thìm ann an Tìr na mòine!
O, eilein ghràdhaich, &c.

R. F. MACCOINNICH.

Caisteal Chairo, Tìr na h-Eiphit,
Am Màigh, 1900.

LAOIDH, AIRSON FEASGAR SAMHRUIDH.

A Dhé, mo chridhe gluais gu ceòl
Do d' mhòrachd-sa amhàin is fiù!
Tha aingle féin, is àird an glòir,
Gun sgìos an còmhnuidh 'seinn do chliù
'S am bi nan tosd an cinne-daon,
A' gabhail tlachd an nithe faoin?

Tha 'ghrian 'sa, ghealach anns an spéur
Do ghnàth ag éigheach, "'s tusa Dia,"
'S tha choillteach mhòr, le h-iomadh craobh,
Gu sèimh a saobhadh do'n àrd Thriath!
'S am bi nan tosd an cinne daon,
A' gabhail tlachd an nithe faoin?

Tha boladh cùbhraidh nan ùr-ròs,
Gach blàth is bòidhche agus lus
A' tairgse òbairt agus tùis,
Do'n Ti a dhùisg iad suas on dus,
'S am bi nan tosd an cinne daon,
A' gabhail tlachd an nithe faoin?

Tha còin na h-ealtuinn gach aon là—
Tha torman àrd cas-shruth nam beann,
'S mactalla, fhreagras geum nam bà
Gu léir ag ràdh "'s tu 's Tighearn' ann"
'S am bi nan tosd an cinne daon,
A' gabhail tlachd an nithe faoin?

"Ach cha-n'eil dadum cosmhuil riut
"A' measg na chruthaich thu gu léir
"Is cha-n'eil bith aig am bheil cainnt
"A labhras d' ainm, ach d' fhocal féin'
So far am faigh thu moladh saor
Ged bhiodh nan tosd an cinne-daon!

TEAGASG TRATH.

Is sona 'n leanabh 'dh'éisdeas tràth
Ri teagasg nèamhaidh fìor,
'S le'm fuath an t-slighe pheacach chlaon,
Gu h-ifrinn 'dh'aomas sìos.

Ma ghéilleas sinn do'n Spiorad Naomh
'M feadh tha sinn maoth is fann;
Bhoir esan neart dhuinn 'nuair thig aois
'Chum aoradh dha gach àm.

Bi'dh seirbhìs Dhe na sòlas dhuinn
Ma thòisicheas sinn luath,
Ach daingnichear nan ciont gu teann
A chlann a bheir dha fuath.

Ni so sinn beusach agus stuam'
'Nar gluasad gach aon là,
Is togaidh e ar n' inntinn suas,
Le buaidh, air leab' ar bàis.

"HONOUR AMONG THIEVES."

[Le DONULL MACCALUM.]

Na'm b'e ursgeul a bhithinn a sgrìobhadh chumainn Loirean bochd, mar dh' fhàg an Siora e, "gun smal air a' theasdas," ach, ann a bhi dìleas do'n eachdraidh, feumaidh mi innseadh gu'n deachaidh a chlacadh a a sealg an fhéidh, a dhìtheadh, agus a phrìosanachadh fad tri fichead là. So mar a thachair e dha.

Air duais nach bu bheag—ceud punnd Sassunnach—ghabh Caomhan as laimh do Chaptain Goblets gu'n cuireadh e na "poachers" na làmh a glacadh an fhéidh, agus rinn e féin agus an Gille Bàn a suas eadar riu gu'n roinneadh iad an duais, a' leth do gach fear air chùnant gun innseadh an Gille Bàn do chaomhan an là bhiodh e féin agus Loirean a sealg an fhéidh air Beinn-a'-Chladaich, 's gu'm bitheadh iad le chéile air an glacadh le Captain Goblets. Rinn an Gille Bàn gu dìleas mar a gheall e, agus chaidh e féin agus Loirean a ghlacadh, a dhìteadh, 's a phrìosanachadh.

'Se sin na bhuineadh dhomh, gu coramach a sgrìobhadh 's an earrann so, ach, o'n a chuir mi ann am beagan fhaicil e, innsidh mi dhuit mu'n taing a fhuair an Gille Bàn air son a shaoir, a cheilg 's a pheanas.

Air dha tigh'nn dhachaidh o'n phrìosan chaidh e, os iosal, far an robh Caomhan a dh' fhaotainn leth na duais, a réir na cùnant, agus 'nuair a chuir e oiseanachd an céil dha, so mar thuirt Caomhan ris—"A Iùdais Iscariot, nach 'eil gu leòir de pheacadh air do cheann do chompanach a bhrath thairis do làmhan na nàimhdean gun duais a ghabhail air a shon? Leth cheud punnd Sasunnach! ha! ha! ha! Mur bi thu a mach ás m' fhianais ann an leth mionaid cuiridh mi na coin riut."

A Chaomhain, a Chaomhain, na'm b'e briseadh t-fhacail ris a chealgaire so am peacadh bu mhotha de'n robh thu ciontach b' ualach a laitheadh iad air do shlinnean. Cha'n 'eil thu gu'n bhràithrean agad. Is aithne dhomh gu leòir tha'n daimh riut—daoine ni gu math 'n uair phaigheas sin gu math dhoibh, ach air a bhann sin a chearta cho toilichte ni'n encur.

GAELIC VARIA.

Tha misneach a cheart cho feumail dhuinn ri eòlas. Cha dean saighdear gun mìsnich feum sam bith anns a' chogadh? Nach fhaodar a radh le firinn gur e cogadh a th' ann am beatha gach duine? Nach 'eil gach duine a' cogadh an aghaidh trioblaid, bròin, agus bais? Nach 'eil sinn a' cogadh an aghaidh bochdainn, agus éis, agus camadh crannachuir?

Feumaidh na h-uile a bhios a' cogadh armachd a bhith aca cho math ri misnich. Is i an armachd a ni feum dhuinn anns a' chogadh a th' againn ri dheanamh a h-uile latha dhe 'n bhliadhna, claidheamh an Spiorad, ni a's e facal Dhe. Leis an armachd so cuiridh sinn an teicheadh air Satan fhein.

An uair a tha sinn a' dol an ceann an dleasdanais a dh' àithn Dia dhuinn, tha h-uile aobhar againn a bhi làidir agus misneachail. Faodoidh sinn a bhith làn chinnteachd gu 'n téid ar n-obair leinn. "Ma tha Dia leinn, cò dh' fhaodas a bhith 'nar n-aghaidh."

Chluinn sinn gu trìc iomradh air daoine a tha comasach air labhairt ann an iomadh canain, ach is ainneamh a chluinnear iomradh air duine aig am bheil eòlas coimhlionta air a chainnt mhàthaireil.

Ma 's math leinn fios a bhith againn air an dòigh anns an còir dhuinn ar beatha 'chaitheamh, bidh sinn a' leughadh facal Dhe gu tric, agus a' beachd-smuaineachadh air a latha 's a dh' oidhche.

Tha facal Dhe dhuinne, an uair a tha sinn a dol troimh chùrsa na beatha so, mar a tha 'chairt-iùil do 'n mharaiche. Tha Dia 'na fhacal ag innseadh dhuinn gu soilleir ciod is còir dhuinn a sheachnadh, agus ciod is còir dhuinn a leantuinn. Mar is mò a th' againn ri dheanamh, agus mar is cudthromaiche ar n-obair, is ann is dìchiollaiche bu chòir dhuinn a bhith 'beachd-smuaineachadh air facal an Tighearna.

SEAN-FHOCAIL.

Sealladh ard seanna mhaighdinn.

'S ann am

For the Ladies.

HE MUST BE ABLE TO SUPPORT A WIFE.

Well, says Mr Andrew Carnegie in the San Francisco "Examiner," I take it that nearly all young men have decided, just as soon as possible, to ask "a certain young lady" to share his lot, or perhaps his lots; and, of course, he should have a lot or two to share, and this is very serious business indeed and gives rise to many weighty considerations. "Be sure to marry a woman with good common sense, was the advice given me by my mentor, and I just hand it down to all young men as the solution of the marriage question. Common sense is the most uncommon and most valuable quality in man or woman. But before young men have occasion to provide themselves with a helpmate there comes the subject of wealth—not wealth in millions, but revenue sufficient for modest, independent living. The greatest work men and women can perform is to establish on earth a happy, virtuous, refined, earnest home. Such a home is the centre of all the virtues. What proceeds from the home is the way of influence upon the occupants and upon others is the truest test of the success which men and women have made in their lives.

There is one class of young men who must work for a living, and set before them as their aim the acquisition of a modest competence. Of course, with a modest but picturesque cottage in the country, and one as companion "who maketh sunshine in a shady place," and is the good angel of his life. The motto of this class of young men might be given as "Give me neither poverty nor riches." "From the anxieties of poverty as from the responsibilities of wealth, good Lord deliver us."

But there are three other classes. Class No. 2 comprises those who are determined to acquire wealth, whose aim in life is building to that much-talked of and grandly abused class, the millionaire—those who start to labour for the greatest good of the greatest number, but the greatest number always number one, the motto of this class being short and to the point: "Put money in thy purse."

Then comes the third class: the God they worship is neither wealth nor happiness. They are inflamed with noble ambition—the desire of fame is the controlling element of their lives. It does not seem to me that the love of wealth is the controlling thought, the controlling desire of so many as the love of fame, and this the matter for sincere congratulation, and proves that under the irresistible laws of evolution the race is slowly moving onward and upward.

There is a fourth class who worship neither at the shrine of wealth nor fame, but at the noblest of all shrines, the shrine of service—service to the race. Self-abnegation is its watchword. Members of this inner and higher circle seek no popular applause, are concerned not with being popular, but with being right. The man belonging to this class is not cast down by poverty, neither unduly elated by prosperity.

I will give this fourth class the fitting illustration from the words of a Scotch poet, who died altogether too young:—

"I will go forth among men, not mailed in scorn,
But in the armour of a pure intent.
Great duties are before me and great songs,
And whether crowned or crownless when I fail,
It matters not so that God's work is done!
I've learned to prize the quiet lightning deed,
Not the applauding thunder at its heels
Which men call fame."

A young man must start his life career with no life preservers; no support. If, in addition to being poor himself, he has witnessed his parents' struggles with adversity and resolves to drive the wolf from the door of the family, he has the strongest of all incentives which lead to success. No ambitions of a merely personal nature can compare to this. I did not marry until after my mother's death. I was only too happy to undertake the task of aiding my parents. Responsibility thrown upon a young man. That is the thing to bring out what is in him. Such is the raw material out of which great captains of industry are made. After my father's death the burden of the support of the family fell upon me. I was then getting $25 a month.

Young men give all kinds of reasons why in their cases failure is attributable to exceptional circumstances, which rendered success impossible. Some never had a chance, according to their own story. This is simply nonsense. No young man ever lived who had not a chance, and a splendid chance, if he has his health.

Before a man marries, he should have sufficient to at least know where his rent and food is coming from if he starts at the bottom round of the ladder. A young man who resolves to make himself useful to his kind, and therefore entitled to receive in return from a grateful community whom he benefits the sum necessary to his support, sees clearly one of the highest duties of a young man. Every one is agreed that it is the first duty of a young man to so train himself as to be self-supporting. Nor is there difficulty about the next step, for the young man cannot be said to have performed his whole duty if he leaves out of account the contingencies of life, liability of accident, illness, and trade depression. Once he begins saving his earnings he is on the high road to fortune, and if he then marries a good, common-sense woman, who will help him to save, he will be on the way to accumulating great wealth.

Remember what Emerson says—for what he says here is true, and it applies as well to those classes of young men who seek other things than riches—"No young man can be cheated out of an honourable career in life unless he cheats himself."

"WHERE ARE THE OLD WOMEN?"

The question is not ours, but Lady Jeune's, and heads an article in the "Ladies' Field." Every woman now, it seems, looks young, or at most middle-aged, and that a middle age with so many alleviations that it is practically no inconvenience. In the days of one's youth the world was full of old women; and who of the generation to which one belongs does not remember scores of them—genuinely, openly, old women, who looked, dressed and thought like old women and whose lives were those of people who had put the vanities of the world aside, and bid them good-bye? "How changed it all is now," adds Lady Jeune. "Now no woman ever gets old. The child is young, the mother younger, the grandmother youngest of all. One gets into society, and round about on every side one sees women from whose face the first fresh beauty has flown, yet comely, fresh, pretty, full of health and enjoyment, and by their side the grown-up daughter, in many cases not apparently much the junior of the two." Lady Jeune believes that the modern love of outdoor life is mainly responsible for this vast change.

WHO TRAVELS ALONE.

Who travels alone with his eye on the heights,
Tho' he laughs in the daytime, oft weeps through the nights;
For courage goes down with the set of the sun,
When the toil of the journey is all borne by one.
He speeds but to grief, tho' full gayly he ride,
Who travels alone without Love at his side.

Who travels alone without lover or friend,
But hurries from nothing to naught at the end;
Though great be his winnings, and high be his goal,
He is bankrupt in wisdom and beggared in soul.
Life's one gift of value to him is denied
Who travels alone without Love at his side.

It is easy enough in this world to make haste,
If we live for that purpose, but think of the waste!
For life is a poem to leisurely read,
And the joy of the journey lies not in its speed.
Oh, vain his achievement, and petty his pride,
Who travels alone without Love at his side.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

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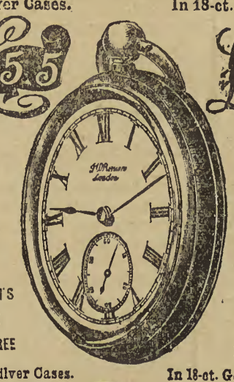

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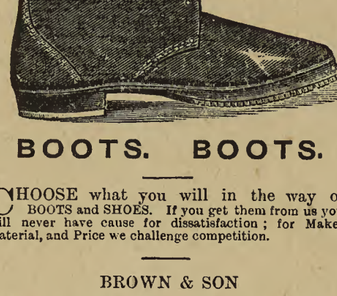

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