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GLASGOW NOTES.

CLAN MACMILLAN SOCIETY. The annual general meeting of the Clan Macmillan Society was held on Tuesday evening of last week in the Christian Institute...

AN OLD HIGHLAND ACTOR.

Last Monday the remains of old Archie Macdonald were laid to rest in Sighthill Cemetery. Some fifty years ago Archie was one of the most popular of Scotch entertainers...

THE MACKAY BANNER.

At the monthly meeting of the Clan Mackay Society held on Thursday night in the Religious Institution Rooms, Glasgow—Mr Alexander Mackay presiding—papers were read relating to the dispute as to the authenticity of the Clan Mackay banner...

DEATH OF DR T. MORRISON.

Many teachers throughout the Highlands will be with grief of the death of Dr T. Morrison, of the Free Church Normal School, Glasgow, which took place last Tuesday at Partickhill. Dr Morrison, who was in his seventieth year, was a native of Morayshire...

GAELIC SOCIETY OF GLASGOW.

The annual business meeting of this Society was held in the Religious Institution Rooms last Tuesday evening—Mr James Mackellar, president presiding. Among those present were Dr Magnus Maclean, Dr D. C. Black, Dr Ross, Mr M. Macfarlane, Mr Hugh MacColl, Mr Hugh Macleod, &c. The Secretary reported that the meetings during the session were better attended than form-ly...

THE NEW LEMONADE.

TWO GALLONS FOR 43D. Many people suffer from extreme thirst during the hot weather. Messrs Foster Clark & Co. have supplied the want that has so long been felt by making a concentrated lemonade, which is far more economical than the ordinary lemonade. It is made from the finest lemons, and the great advantage is that it is partly manufactured in Italy, in the midst of the lemon orchards...

A GOOD TIME COMING.

"THE OUTLOOK FOR THE HIGHLANDS." This was the subject of a paper read on Wednesday evening by Mr William C. Mackenzie before a meeting of the Gaelic Society of London, held in the Scots Corporation Hall, Fleet Street. Mr Mackenzie took the view that the movement of events in the Highlands tends towards increasing the prosperity of the country and the people...

INDEPENDENCE OF CHARACTER.

was liable to be sapped by an expectant attitude towards the State. It was not the lauded class but the middle class that held the power in the Highlands, and the business men of the town were using their power in a practical and praiseworthy manner, especially in helping the struggling crofters and fishermen...

LONDON HIGHLAND ATHLETIC CLUB.

The annual business meeting of the Highland Athletic Club was held on Monday night in the Bloomsbury Hall, and was very well attended. Mr Smith Hay, one of the vice-presidents, occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr Campbell Clark and Mr William Grant, vice-presidents.

The secretary, Mr Donald Macgillivray, submitted his annual report, from which it appeared that the modern sports which progress during the year. The gathering on last Whitmonday had been the largest and most successful yet held, the membership had increased considerably, and the receipts and expenditure were almost double that of the previous year. There was, however, one regrettable feature in the report, which was the fact that the misunderstanding which had arisen between the club and the Scottish Gathering Association. It would appear that the latter Society is of opinion that the Athletic Club's gathering on Whitmonday last year interfered to some extent with their meeting which took place a few weeks later, and that in order to prevent the same thing occurring again this year the Scottish Gathering booked the grounds at Stamford Bridge, where these meetings are held, for the coming Whitmonday, although their sports were held until a later date. This action was characterised by the chairman and other speakers as utterly unsportsmanlike, and much to be regretted. Instead of having the desired effect, however, it promises to do the Athletic Club more good than harm, judging from the loyal and sympathetic testimonies which were forthcoming from noblemen and gentlemen all over the Highlands, as well as in London. Although the old grounds are not this year available, the usual date—Whitmonday—is not to be departed from, and the Highland Gathering is to be held at the Richmond Athletic Grounds, which is the best of the London Scottish Football Club is well known to most sportsmen in London.

SCOTTISH LAND RESTORATION UNION.

The annual meeting of the above Union was held in the Hall, 56 George Square, Glasgow, on Friday, 22nd inst.—ex-Barrister Burt, president, in the chair. The Secretary submitted a report of the past year's work and progress, which showed a large increase in membership and an increased circulation of literature and of the monthly journal, "The Single Tax." The lecturing work had also been largely extended. The recent Bradford conference on the restoration of land values had been most successful. The London County Council election was mainly on this question. A conference of 59 London rating authorities had unanimously declared in its favour. The Association of Municipal Corporations of England, representing 266 corporate assessing bodies, had also resolved to petition Parliament on these lines, and close upon 200 assessing authorities throughout Britain had during the year asked powers from Parliament to tax land values for local purposes. The meeting was alluded to as striking proofs of the growing sentiment in favour of the principles upheld by the Union. The principle of taxing land values had already been applied in a small and unsatisfactory way in New Zealand, and New South Wales. The results, however, had been very encouraging; the Premier of the Colonies was continually referring to the good social effects of the tax. IN NEW ZEALAND last year two important Acts had been passed providing for the separation of the values of land from the values of improvements, and for giving powers to local rating authorities for local purposes. Touching reference was made to the death of Henry George, and to the loss the Union had sustained by the death of the Rev. G. B. Cruickshank. Mr G. B. Waddell, treasurer, submitted the following reports, which had been unanimously adopted. The arrangements for an open-air campaign during the summer months were also approved. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year—President, ex-Barrister Burt; vice-presidents, D. Maclarty, G. Erlen, C.C.; D. Cassels, Norman Maclellan, Wm. Maclellan, J. Stewart, C.C., Glasgow; Burt; vice-presidents, D. Maclarty, G. Erlen, Adam, M.A., Edinburgh; Thos. Cameron, P.C., Milton of Campsie; Thomas Lindsay, Lennoxton; and J. C. Geddes, P.C., Dundee; hon. treasurer, G. B. Waddell, P.C., Glasgow; minute secretary, William Reid; general secretary, John Paul.

LEWIS CONCERT IN EDINBURGH.

A grand benefit concert in aid of the widows and orphans of those who perished in the recent Ton disaster in Lewis was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Forrest Road, Edinburgh, on the evening of Thursday last. The arrangements for the concert were in the hands of a Committee, composed almost entirely of young Lewismen resident in the city and a few loyal Highlanders desirous of aiding the helpless families who were so ruthlessly bereft of their bread-winners and only support. The appeal met with all might be expected to the highest mark, and the funds raised were ample to meet the needs of the sufferers, who have so often to face destitution through no fault of their own. The audience was principally composed of natives of the island, and their friends, and considering counter-attractions and the probable unaided success of the night for many who would wish to be present, the Committee had every reason to be pleased with the response made by the public. The duties of Chairman were courted and undertaken by Mr Theodore Napier, and he was supported on the platform by, among others, Mr Murdo Morrison, late of Stormoray, Rev. Mr D. Mackenzie, Mr John Mackay and others. The programme was a varied and attractive one, and arranged so as to cater for the tastes of all present, embracing the martial, grave, and comic elements. Highland music and Gaelic songs formed a conspicuous part of the evening's entertainment. The former was very ably contributed by Pipers Maclellan, Mackenzie, Center, and Allan, and the bagpipe playing was interspersed with some fine exhibitions of dancing. Master G. Maclellan, as usual, delighting the audience with his finished and graceful steps. Miss Muggie Macleod and Mr Allan Macritchie sang a few Gaelic songs, which were much appreciated. A feature of the programme was the appearance of a mandoline combination, consisting of twelve performers, all young ladies. Their selections of Scotch airs were very well received, and they had to respond to a hearty encore. Among others who contributed were Mr R. Potheringham, whose singing was of the highest merit, and who responded on both occasions. The comic element was well represented by Mr Willie St. Clair and Mr Bill Mack, while Miss E. Hunter, the eminent soprano, and Mr William Crawford, the well-known favourite comedian, took a large share in the vocal parts. Last, but not least, was Miss Lizzie Slack, an excellent entertainer "The Relief of Lucknow," and we have seldom heard such a faultless rendering of this pathetic piece. The other artists who took part and helped to make the concert such a musical success were Miss J. D. Turnbull, Miss Dalgleish, Messrs Stirling, Hopekirk,

PARTICK AND WHITEHCH HIGHLANDERS.

ADDRESS BY "FIONN." About the New Year the Highlanders of Partick and Whiteinch formed themselves into an Association for the purpose of mutual improvement and social entertainment. We understand the weekly meetings already held have been well attended, and that the number of members enrolled is most encouraging. The meetings have hitherto been of a social nature, consisting of Gaelic singing and Highland dancing, but the Committee hope to arrange a literary syllabus for next session. On Thursday evening of last week a public concert was given in the Whiteinch Burgh Hall, which was well attended. The chair was occupied by Mr Henry Whyte, "Fionn," Glasgow, who was accompanied to the platform by Dr Macaulay, Whiteinch, Mr George Ross, Mr D. Morrison, Secretary, Mr Livingston, &c., &c.

GLASGOW INVERNESS-SHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING. The annual general business meeting of the Glasgow Inverness-shire Association was held last Saturday evening in the Assembly Rooms, Bath Street—the President, Mr Jas. Grant, in the chair. The President, in the course of a few opening remarks, thanked the members for the assiduity with which they had individually given in the work of the past session. They had all reason to be proud of the very successful year they had had both socially and financially. It had been a good year, and he hoped that in the future the Association would be increasing in strength and in usefulness—(applause). The members must do all they could to help one another, and help the Association, and take more interest in it than they had ever done before—(applause). The Secretary's report showed that the membership now stands at about 150, including 60 life and 90 ordinary members. Mr Peter Grant, the treasurer, reported that the year was begun with a balance in hand of £27 10s; that there was a surplus of £11 17s 5d from the annual gathering; and that, after paying all expenses, there was a balance in hand at the close of the financial year of £44 13s 8d. Both reports, which were considered very satisfactory, were adopted. Officers were then appointed as follows—Chief, Mr Charles Fraser-Mackintosh, LL.D.; president, Mr James Grant, W.S. (re-elected); vice-presidents, Mr John Macdonald, M.A.; Mr John Macgregor, and Mr W. Macdonald, 68 Mitchell Street, Finance Convener of the Clan Maclean; secretary, Mr Peter Grant, 12 New Gardens, Hillhead; treasurer, Mr Donald Henderson, 7 James Orr Street, Dennistown; pipers, Pipe-Major Kenneth Macdonald, and Messrs William and William Henderson, Govan directors; Messrs A. Fraser Macrae, M.A.; John Macdonald, Alexander Macdonald, M.A., Divinity student; A. Macdonald, Allan MacKay, George Maclellan, James Ross, A. Cameron, A. Fraser, A. Noble, Duncan Macrae, K. Macdonald, W. Grant, and John Cameron.

A committee of five, consisting of Messrs John Maclean, Mitchell Street; John Macdonald, A. Fraser, the Secretary, Mr Peter Grant; and the Treasurer, Mr Donald Henderson, was appointed to have the rules printed and effect other improvements in connection with the Association. The President intimated that it had been decided to present Miss Kato Fraser, of the Inverness Select Choir, with a "clarsach," and it was considered that this would be a fitting way to mark their appreciation of a genius—(hear, hear). He was glad to be able to report that Celts all over the country had responded most heartily to the appeal which he had sent out for subscriptions to the testimonial, and that many having already been subscribed—(applause). On the motion of Mr Henderson, it was agreed to give a grant of £3 out of the funds of the Association to the testimonial, and it was also reported that all the Directors had added their names to the list of subscribers. It was decided to present Miss Fraser with the "clarsach" at an "At Home" to be given by the Inverness-shire Association in Glasgow on Friday evening, 5th June.

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TEA TABLE DAINTIES.

In the majority of houses the tea hour is the most enjoyable and cosy time of the day, and it is ever the endeavour of the lady or the daughters of the house to provide a dainty accompaniment to "the cup which cheers." Some avoid the trouble of baking at home by buying from the baker, and thereby often miss the dainties. But none would object to home baking if they knew how easily and quickly the most dainty and tempting little tea scones and light cakes could be made with the help of Brown and Polson's Pateley Flour. This article, recently introduced by Brown & Polson, of Corn Flour fame, is used as a raising agent for all kinds of baking, being mixed one part with six or eight parts of ordinary flour. Pateley Flour makes scones and cakes very light and digestible, and it is so certain in its action that, as one reports, "even a froe need never fail in baking if Pateley Flour is used." The article is stocked by all the better-class grocers in the town and district.

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During the course of the evening the Chairman delivered a short address. He thanked the Association for asking him to preside over their first public meeting, and hoped that there would be a long life of usefulness before the Association. He could not see why they should not have a very strong and active organisation, as Partick and Whiteinch contained thousands of the "children of the dispersion"—(laughter and applause). The constitution of the Association was wide enough to include all Highlanders, and he hoped that many of the sons of the Gael would enroll themselves under its banner, and so give practical illustration of the motto of the Association, "Clanna nan Gaidheal ri guallhab a cheille."

HIGHLANDERS SHOULDER TO SHOULDER.

(applause). Of course, they knew that the sons of the Gael were ever twitted with their proclivity to differ and disagree, and it would sometimes appear as if their motto should read, "Clanna nan Gaidheal an gorman a cheille"—(laughter). He was not going to enquire whether the Gael was more prone to develop this unfortunate peculiarity than any other nationality, but a good deal of what led to such divisions among them was the result of foolish questions which were not to edification, and the desire for personal advantage and individual vain glory—(applause). As one who was long conversant with the working of such associations, he might be allowed to give them a few practical hints how to conduct their meetings with a view to attract and interest those for whom the Association was founded. There were many questions affecting the Highlands which could be discussed at their meetings with advantage to the cause. On many of these questions they could not.

but this fact alone made it desirable to have them discussed, in order that they might arrive at the truth. The papers to be read at their ordinary monthly meetings should deal with some phase of the Highland problem, and be written with the view of imparting information regarding the same, in which they as Gaels were interested. They should take care that they developed the mental as well as the physical side of their members. Highland dancing, pipe-playing, caber-tossing, and stone-putting were all good things in their own place, but in the past they had received more than their share of attention, to the detriment and neglect of the mental development of the Gael. How often, indeed, in his line did the Gael provide sport for Saxon Philistines, who regarded him simply as a heaver of wood and drawer of water, and who did not develop the mental as well as the physical side of their natures, the result would be that they would be lopsided. He presumed the most of them knew the kind of boat that was spoken of as having a "taobh-leisg"—(laughter)—and the extreme unpopularity of every one who was attending such a craft—(laughter and applause). Well, if they did not take care to develop symmetrically they would go through life having a "taobh-leisg," which would be easily noticed by those with whom they came in contact. As Highlanders, they had many things to be thankful for; indeed, they had not known but they were justified in giving expression to the prayer of the Pharisee, and thanking God that they were not like other men. They were in many respects

A PECULIAR PEOPLE.

—a people possessing many peculiar advantages—(applause). Those of them who had been born and bred in the Highlands had the advantages derivable from a healthy, invigorating atmosphere. This splendid physique enabled them to endure hardships, and their strong constitution was in many cases a "storage of force" which repelled the attacks of the many diseases prevalent in the cities of the South—(applause). Those who were born in the Highlands could say with Donnacha Bhan the Glenorchy Bard—"An t-uise glan 's am failleadh, Th'air millach nam beann-àrd a, Gu'n d'chuidich e su fa mi sin, 's an t-àrd domh slàn is fall-naeachd."—(applause). "Twas wealth and strength, 'twas health and joy To wander freely there, To drink at the fresh mountain stream, To breathe the mountain air." Another thing they should feel thankful for was that they had two languages, whereas their Lowland brethren had to content themselves with one—(laughter and applause). He would not detain them to discuss the advantages which pertained to bilingual accomplishments, as many of them must be acquainted with them all. With their ancient mother tongue—Gaelic—they received a rich legacy of romance and song, which they must not only treasure "with miser care," but hand down to future generations intact—(applause).

THESE SWEET HIGHLAND MELODIES.

to which many of them had been lulled to sleep in childhood's happy days, were now attracting the attention of the musical world on account of their inherent grace and sweetness, and they had every reason to be proud of the race who had given form to those words of melody which were at once the envy and admiration of other peoples—(applause). With regard to Gaelic, it was an ancient, expressive language well worth cultivating. Of course many people—those who had no kindly feeling towards the Gael or his language—required what was the value of Gaelic in this commercial age. Well, without going to argue or reason with unreasonable people—(laughter)—he might point out that it was only in Gaelic-speaking counties that the Crofters Act was in active operation. The language which had allowed the native peasant a right to live on his native soil—a principle embodied in the Crofters Act—a piece of legislation which has already conduced more to the material progress of the Highlands than all the gunpowder and glory of a century—(applause). They often heard the term "REDUNDANT POPULATION" from the lips of people of whom better things might be expected. Even ministers used it, forgetful of the irreverence implied in its use, as if the All-wise, who, by the fiat of his will, called myriads of worlds into existence, should have brought into being a population larger than his opulent bounty could

supply—(applause).

In conclusion he thought they might clearly discern from the signs of the times that the star of the Gael was in the ascendency. His destiny was now largely in his own hands, and he hoped the Highland people would work out their own salvation with enduring faith and confidence in the future destiny of the Gael, and was prepared to do his own share of labour in the cause, as well as a fair amount of waiting for the promised fruition—(applause). If he only believed that the highest destiny of his brother Highlanders was to provide "wood for powder" at a shilling a day—plus the latest concession to mitigation of two penny cakes of soap per month—he would sorrow as those who had no hope, and would not care how soon the race to which they were proud to belong was wiped out of existence. The Gael had, however, learned for himself that it would be better and a higher destiny before him than to walk through bloodshed to short-lived popularity, and end his days in the confines of a workhouse, and he had made up his mind to show his bravery and devotion to duty in the beatific path of peace—(applause). People credited the Highlanders with being a moral and God-fearing race, and yet they would have them enter a service which had ever been the asylum of "no-er-do-weels" and fugitives from moral discipline and service, moreover, the immorality of which had to be regulated by Act of Parliament. In these

DAYS OF RAMPANT JINGOISM.

it was evident that the country had forgotten that it was righteousness alone which exalted a nation, but he hoped that when they had passed through the present war fever they would turn their attention to peaceful walks remembering that "peace had its victories not less renowned than war." The concert programme was supported by a number of Gaelic and English artists. An assembly followed.

CALEDONIANS IN SOUTH WALES.

PROPOSAL TO FORM A BENEVOLENT SOCIETY. The Caledonians of Swansea are making a strong effort to establish a benevolent Society, and with this object in view, a dinner was recently held at the Bodeg Restaurant, Mr J. R. Young, the president of the Caledonian Society, presided, and there were also present—Messrs Donald Sutherland, Wick; William Moffat, Dumfries; A. Baxter, Stirling; R. Mackelvie, Islay; James Mackay, Sutherland; D. Robertson, Inverness; J. McAllum and J. A. Macmoreland, Pontypridd; J. R. Baillie, Stirling; D. Alexander Sutherland, Swansea; A. Stewart, Sutherland; D. Miller, A. Mackelvie, and D. Macmillan, Islay; H. Fox, and H. W. Kitchener. The dinner was well cooked and excellently served; everything, in fact, was thoroughly in keeping with the best traditions of this well-known house, under the excellent management of Host McCallum. The cloth having been removed, the Chairman gave the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, which were enthusiastically honoured. The "Land we Live in" was then given by Mr J. D. Robertson in a capital speech, and responded to by Mr Mackelvie, the Caledonian vice-president. This was followed by "The Swansea Caledonians," submitted by Mr Macmoreland. The Chairman, in responding, referred to the object for which the gathering had been held. He said there was in Swansea a Credit Drapers' Society and a Caledonian Society for Mutual Improvement. The object of the former was to protect drapers in trade matters, and he was glad to say that it was now in a more flourishing condition than it had been at any previous period in its history—(hear, hear). He thought they could congratulate themselves too, upon the social gatherings which had already been held, and which, he was glad to say, had been a source of pleasure to every one who attended them. As a result of the first gathering at the Longland's Hotel, they were able to hand over five guineas to the Swansea Hospital. The following year they decided to create a new precedent by holding the banquet and ball together in a more flourishing condition than in the past, but the following year the committee had a small surplus in hand, and, finding that there was in the town a Scotchman who had at one time occupied a good position, but who had since been reduced in circumstances through no fault of his own, he decided to hand over the money (which was augmented by subscriptions from several members) in order to enable him to get back to Scotland. This was a really deserving case, and the money, he thought, was well spent—(hear, hear). They had had another success in hand as a result of their last gathering, but while there were no doubt many directions in which it could have been expended, the committee thought it advisable to utilise it to cover the initial expense in the formation of a Benevolent Society, and the formation of the kind existed not only in almost every town in the Kingdom, but where the British flag flew, and it was, he thought, of the utmost importance that something in the direction indicated should be done at Swansea by a Society for the benefit of the town, and with either of those already in existence, and could, he had no doubt, be made very successful. Take, for instance, what had been done at Cardiff. The Society was formed in 1859, and the first year the amount given in relief was £1,000. In 1860 it was £2,000; 1861, £12 18s; 1862, £43 1s; 1863, £65 8s; 1864, £107 18s; 1865, £103 18s 7d; 1866, £119 11s 9d; and 1867, £157 9s 10d, making a total of £604 14s 3d. That was an excellent record, in addition to which a large sum had been invested in mortgage, and brought in a regular income. In Swansea, of course, they could not expect to do so well as at Cardiff, but he had no doubt that if Swansea Caledonians all put their shoulders to the wheel and took the matter up enthusiastically, they would not be very far out—(applause).

Mr Robertson, Mr Macmoreland, Mr Kitchener, Mr Moffat, and others warmly supported the idea, and eventually it was decided, on the motion of Mr Fox, seconded by Mr Black, to form a Society on the lines indicated, the following being selected as a committee to carry out the preliminary arrangements—Messrs J. R. Young, Donald Sutherland, W. Moffat, A. Baxter, R. Mackelvie, J. Mackay, J. McCallum, D. Robertson, and H. Fox. Mr Mackay was appointed to act as Secretary pro tem. Mr Mackay gave "The Host and Hostess," and paid a warm compliment to Mr and Mrs McCallum for the all-round excellence of the catering, which could not, he said, have been surpassed. Mr McCallum replied, and an enjoyable evening was brought to a close with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING.—I can't help appreciating the very confident manner in which the proprietors of Dr Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa are advertising. So certain is the management that Vi-Cocoa is the best of good goods that they are putting down some thousands of pounds in advertising free samples of their product. So if you want to see that Vi-Cocoa suits you, and is as good an article as it is claimed to be, you had better do it to drop a post-card to the offices, 60, 61, and 62 Bunhill Row, London, E.C., and in return "free, gratis, and for nothing," you will receive per post, and in due course, a dainty little sample tin of Dr Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, amply sufficient to make a couple of good breakfast cups of this capital breakfast beverage. Oh! there is just one little thing I omitted to tell you and that is, when writing, you must mention the name of "The Highland News" as a guarantee of good faith. Send us your big cup of Dr Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa are dirt cheap at the cost of a postcard, so take my advice and send in.

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ADDITIONAL STEAM COMMUNICATION BETWEEN LEITH, ABERDEEN, AND INVERNESS AND MORAY FIRTH PORTS TWICE-A-WEEK SERVICE.

SWIFT STEAMERS—THROUGH SERVICE. INVERNESS TO BANAVIE—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 7 A.M. FROM BANAVIE TO INVERNESS—Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 9 A.M.

INVERNESS, THE WESTERN ISLES AND GLASGOW VIA CALTONIAN CANAL. SWIFT STEAMERS—THROUGH SERVICE. INVERNESS TO BANAVIE—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 7 A.M.

NOTICE—SPECIAL SAILINGS. For the convenience of the traffic the "Tea" or other steamer is intended to sail from Glasgow every Friday until further notice at 10 A.M.

ORAN AND MULL MAIL SERVICE—Mail Steamer leaves Tobermory daily, at 8 A.M., and Oban daily, not before 12.30 P.M., proceeds to Salen (Loch Sunnart) Tuesday and Friday, returns Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

ORAN AND BUNESSAN—Mail Steamer leaves Oban Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 6 A.M., for Tobermory, Kishorn, Coll, Tiree, and Bunessan; returning from Bunessan Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 4 A.M.

ORAN TO SKYE, STORNOWAY, &c.—"CLATKOR" or "GLASSBORO," Every Monday and Friday, about 8 A.M. PORTREE AND KYLE OF LOCHALSH—Mail Steamer leaves Portree daily (ex. Sun.), at 7.15 A.M., for Kyle, calling at Beasay and Broadford, returning from Kyle about 2.45 P.M.

DAVID MACRORAY, 19 Home Street, Glasgow. JOHN MACKINTOSH, Agent, Queen's Gate, Inverness, 29th April, 1898.

A DOUBLE ADVANTAGE! BUY YOUR SUMMER DRESSES, OF YOUNG & CHAPMAN. They are a STEP AHEAD of others! A QUALITY and a STEP BEHIND in PRICE.

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THE HIGHLAND NEWS. INVERNESS, Saturday, A. 30th, 1898. SUMMARY. Mr N. J. D. Kennedy, Liberal candidate for Inverness-shire, delivered a political speech at Carr-Bridge on Wednesday. (Page 5).

THE WAR. The first week of the war between America and Spain has disappointed those who are thirsting to see a great modern sea fight. It is evident that neither party was well prepared for the struggle that must now necessarily ensue before the question of the future government of Cuba is finally settled.

THE TALE OF PORT ARTHUR. That portion of the public, and it is by no means a small one, who spend their time in little else but either to tell or hear of some new thing, should in these days have their cup of gratification filled to overflowing. Scarcely a week passes but there is some startling announcement from some quarter or other of the globe, each succeeding announcement creating a stronger excitement than its predecessor.

OUR OWN VANS DELIVER IN TOWN AND SUBURBS DAILY. SHOOTING LODGES and Country Orders receive our prompt attention. BURNETT BROTHERS' Famous Hot Pies, 1d and 2d each. Made daily.

FOR GENUINE OLD HIGHLAND AND IRISH WHISKIES try HIGH MACDONALD'S Cash Stores, 29 Grant Street; only 1s 6d per bottle, 16s 6d per box. BARCELONA PORT is 6d per Bottle. JACK'S 2s Tawny Port, both splendid Value. JACK, Exchange.

CHEAPEST SHOP in Town for all kinds of Household Goods. See Japanese Fire Screens. New Photo Frames. 4 Ness Walk. LARGE Assortment in Enamel Ware. Lowest Prices. See the Goods before buying elsewhere. Don't miss this. 4 Ness Walk.

WHAT TO DRINK—FRASER'S PURE TOBERMORY WATER. BUTTER! BUTTER! BUTTER! Extra Choice Danish, 1s 1d; Finest, 1s. Home Dutch Fresh in Today. FRASER'S Caledonian Cash Stores, Drummond Street.

FRASER'S for Best Tea, 1s 1d; special India, 1s 6d; grand value, 1s 6d. Samples on application. CALDONIAN CASH STORES, Drummond Street. PAIRS, Baths, Fenders, Pots, Pans, Box Irons, Trunks, Oilcloths, Dressers, Chairs, Tables, Bedding, Preserving Pans, Coal Vases, Looking Glasses, &c. MACDONALD, Bridge Street.

SPRING CLEANING—Wood Stains, Varnishes, Enamels, Paints, Oils, Brushes, Scouring Cloths, Dusters, Furniture Polish, Picture Hooks, Nails, Beeswax, &c. MACDONALD, Bridge Street. WASHING BOARDS, Tubs, Clothes American Axes, Carpet Beaters, Mats, Emamel Teapots, Bostin, Pails, and Jugs, &c. MACDONALD, Bridge Street.

Our Government in their recent diplomatic struggle with Russia. The correspondence covers the period from 19th November last to the 4th of the present month. From the very beginning we contended that the policy pursued by the Government in the Far East was neither sound nor wise, and was sure to end in failure.

In our opinion seldom has this country received a deeper humiliation in diplomacy than it has received at the hands of the present Government in their treatment of the emergency that had arisen on the Asiatic Coast of the Pacific. We are quite willing to give the Government the benefit of the contention that the emergency that arose there was sudden and unexpected.

At Southside Road, on the 29th inst., the wife of ROBERT MORRISON, baker, of a daughter. At Seathorpe Hill, Midmillie Road, on 27th inst., the wife of WILLIAM GUNS, Cabinetmaker, of a son.

At Hill of Fern, on the 25th inst., JESSIE MURDO, relict of the late Thomas Mackenzie, merchant. At Cross Street, Campbelltown, on the 16th inst., ELIZABETH ANDERSON, aged 51, daughter of the late Bailie Allan Anderson, Campbelltown.

At 40 Upper Kessock Street, Inverness, on the 29th inst., LACHLAN FORBES, male dealer. FUNERAL ON MONDAY FIRST, at 2 P.M., to North Burial Ground. All friends invited. No letters.

"H.N." IRISH FAMINE FUND. A. M., Inverness— 2s 6d. BANK HOLIDAY.—Monday being a statutory bank holiday, the banks in Inverness will be closed for the day.

Medical Examinations.—In the list of passes in the quarterly examinations of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh; Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, we observe the following names: Robert Sutherland Mackintosh, Sutherland-shire, first examination, five years' course; Eben Mackenzie, Ross-shire, second examination; Gilbert Jamieson Melkie, Inverary, third examination.

SERIOUS CONDITION OF MAJOR NAPIER.—The announcement will be received with regret that Major Napier, who was severely wounded at the battle of Albara in the Sudan, is seriously ill, fever having supervened, and being about a dangerous condition in the patient's condition.

SCOTTISH TWENTY CLUB.—The second shoot for the above crosses took place at the Longman on Monday. A thick haze hung over the targets, making high scoring difficult. However, Sergeant D. Gray compiled the magnificent score of 100. The distances were 200, 500, and 600 yards. The following are the top scores:—Sergeant D. Gray, 1st V.B.C.H., 32, 35, 35, 100; Sergeant G. F. M. Ross, H.A.V., 27, 34, 32, 93; Lieut. D. Macbean, 1st V.B.C.H., 31, 29, 31—91; Sergeant J. Martin, 1st V.B.C.H., 30, 31, 30—91; Mr Murdoch, 1st V.B.C.H., 26, 31, 29—89; Quartermaster W. Fraser, 1st V.B.C.H., 28, 32, 22—89.

PROPOSED TESTIMONIAL TO MISS KATE FRASER.—The many friends of Miss Kate Fraser, Inverness, will be pleased to learn that arrangements have been made by the Glasgow Inverness-shire Association to present that young lady with a clarsach, or Highland harp. The clarsach will be presented at an "At Home" to be given by the Glasgow Inverness-shire Association, 5th June next.

SCOTTISH MILITARY NEWS.—Approval has been given for the 3rd Battalion Cameron Highlanders to perform the recruits' musketry and first three weeks of training at Barry instead of at Fort-George, the remainder of the training being spent on the autumn manoeuvres in the South of England. Lieut. E. Craig Brown has been transferred from the West Indian Regiment to the 2nd Battalion Cameron Highlanders. Lieut. J. D. MacLachlan, Cameron Highlanders, has been posted to the 1st Battalion of his regiment, now on active service in Egypt. Lieut. H. J. Mackenzie, Depot Highland Light Infantry, has been ordered to proceed to the School of Musketry, Hythe, on the 3rd prox. for a course of instruction. Captain W. D. Ewart, Cameron Highlanders, having been promoted to resign the Adjutancy of the 1st Battalion Royal Scots, has been ordered to return to this country and join the 2nd Battalion Cameron Highlanders at Fort-George.

The Rural World, which we have received, and which gives valuable prizes to readers, contains its usual budget of articles on Horses, Cattle, the Dairy, Markets, Poultry, Bees, Pigs, Gardening, Natural History, Botany of the Farm and Garden, the Home, Foreign, and Colonial Intelligence, Answers to Correspondents, &c. It is profusely illustrated, and is altogether a most interesting and instructive farming and country paper. The Manager offers to send a specimen copy free. The address is 110 and 111 Strand, London, W.C.

AGUS BITIHD ERICANABH. Bhaile lan do mhaicneabh. Agus do ngleanaicabh. Cluicheadh 'na sraibhidh. Seacharish Caib' vail, 5.

On the stump.—Mr Baillie of Dochfour is going down to West Staffordshire to support the candidature of Mr Hamar for the seat formerly held by Mr Hamar Bass. Donald Michael, the young lad who mysteriously disappeared from his father's house in Celt Street about a fortnight ago, has been found in Dundee, and has returned to Inverness. Michael walked all the way to Dundee.

Two dock labourers named Macleod and Hammond were in the Inverness Burgh Police Court on Monday, sent to prison for fourteen days for "broaching the admiral" at Murrumbidgee.

SALE OF WORK.—In connection with the Free High Church Sabbath School a sale of work was held in the Bank Street Hall on Thursday for the benefit of foreign missions and the Highland Orphanage. The sale was opened by Dr. Black. A large part of the proceeds of the sale goes for the support of an interesting girl, Miss Ann, who is being taught in the Free Church Boarding-School at Bombay, and who is intended for a teacher.

EDUCATIONAL MEETING.—A joint meeting of the Inverness, Ross, and Morayshire Branches of the Educational Institute of Scotland will be held to-day in Farraline Park School for the purpose of nominating a representative to the General Committee of Management. The arrangement for nomination to the branches interested rests this year with the Inverness Branch, the Council of which recommend Mr G. A. Cameron, Central Public School, Inverness, for their support.

INSPECTION OF TROOPS.—On Wednesday General E. F. Chapman, C.B., commanding the troops in Scotland, made an inspection of the troops and barracks at Fort-George, the depot of the Seaforth Highlanders, of the 2nd Battalion Cameron Highlanders, and of the 3rd Battalion Seaforth (Militia). On Thursday General Chapman came to Inverness to inspect the depot of the 1st Battalion of the Cameron Highlanders and the detachment stationed at Millburn, Inverness. Yesterday General Chapman proceeded to Aberdeen.

INVERNESS RIFLE CLUB.—The weekly shooting competition of the Inverness Rifle Club took place at the Longman on Wednesday. The weather was not at all favourable, a strong breeze blowing from the right which spoiled a good many promising scores. The following are a few of the highest scores.—First Class—Private H. C. Fraser, A. Company, 94; Lance-Corporal Hetherington, A. Company, 91; Sergeant D. Gray, A. Company, 89; Quartermaster W. Fraser, A. Company, 89; Lieutenant Maclean, A. Company, 89; Sergeant Martin, A. Company, 89; Sergeant-Major Macneil, 88. Second Class.—Private A. J. Forbes, B. Company, 60; Private Mackenzie, D. Company, 58. Third Class—Private Macgillivray, B. Company, 25.

SHOPKEEPERS' EXCURSION.—The Highland Railway Company, on the occasion of the usual weekly shopkeepers' half-holiday on Wednesday, ran their second special excursion train as far as Hopeman and Elgin. The train left Inverness at 3.20 p.m., and a large number took advantage of the trip. The fares were remarkably cheap, the return to Burghhead, Hopeman (36 miles) being only 1s 6d, while those to the westward were only 1s 3d. In all 125 passengers were booked from Inverness by the train, the respective places visited being—Elgin, 45; Forres, 40; Nairn, 20; Hopeman, 13; and Burghhead, 7. The selection of possible stopping places doubtless acted as a strong inducement to Invernessians to have a run into the country.

THE CAMPBELLTOWN WATER SUPPLY.—At a meeting of the First District Committee of the Inverness County Council on Wednesday—Mr William Burns presiding—the Clerk (Mr William Mackay) read a report by the Sub-Committee upon the water supply scheme for Campbelltown, which is estimated to cost about £6000. The Sub-Committee visited a number of springs, and, after discussion, adopted the following motion presented to them by Councillor Hugh Thomson, viz.:—"That a meeting of the First District Committee be called for on Tuesday, 26th inst., to consider the scheme, on the motion of an engineer to report upon the most expedient mode of carrying out the scheme for supplying the Campbelltown special water district, with power to visit and inspect all available sources of supply, and take such steps as may be necessary to ascertain as to the suitability of the respective waters." At Wednesday's meeting of the Committee, on the motion of Mr Burns, seconded by Mr Davidson, Ruthven, Mr Robert Black, C.E., was appointed to report on the scheme, on the understanding that the fee be fixed by the Committee.

PROGRESS OF THE FREE NORTH CHURCH.—The annual business meeting of the congregation of the Free North Church was held in the church hall on Wednesday evening. Rev. Murdoch Mackenzie, the respected pastor of the congregation, presided, and there was a fair attendance of the congregation. Mr David Munro, the Treasurer, submitted the financial statement, which showed that the income of the congregation amounted to £1253 5s, showing a balance of £12 6s 7d. The income from ordinary church door collections was £398 13s 9d; church sittings, £251 7s 11d; Sustentation Fund, £200 6s 7d; Foreign Missions, £43 9s 7d; £300 6s 7d; Sabbath Schools, £24 6s 6d; schemes of the church, £36s; special objects, £73 7s 11d. The new building account showed a deficit of about £200. In submitting his statement, Mr Munro said the total income—£1253—was higher than last year by £33 11s 9d (applause). He was sure the congregation would like to see the back of the new church fund broken, and he would like to see it down to £500, they would not think anything of it. The balance on the church now due was £1056 18s 8d. On the motion of Mr John Fraser, Attadale Road, seconded by Mr Donald Fraser, elder, the report was unanimously adopted. Mr Charles Macrae, elder, added a few words of a congratulatory character. The Chairman afterwards addressed the congregation at some length. He said he intended that it was not likely as years advanced that he would be able to work alone, and the congregation must consider that in the course of time an assistant would be required. Speaking of the appointment of the new bearers, the Chairman hoped that they would appoint men imbued with the true spirit of Christianity. They were aware that Union was in the air, and more than in the air. He had hitherto kept silent, and meant to do so until the time was known, and each one would have to consider the matter for himself. For his part, he could have no respect for those who pretend to zeal and purity in the Church of Christ, and who were willing to throw themselves into the other extreme. For such a course, Mr Mackenzie concluded an interesting speech by paying a well-deserved compliment to Mr Simpson for the able manner in which he conducts the affairs in the church. On the motion of Mr Angus Davidson, Ardcrorn Terrace, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated with the benediction.

SALE OF ART CHINA.—During the coming week, commencing Tuesday, we are informed that Mr W. J. Morrison will conduct an extensive unreserved sale in the Music Hall, Inverness, of china, earthenware, fine art and fancy goods, which have been sent direct from the warehouse and showrooms at Kensington Works, Hanley, being one of the largest manufacturing concerns in Staffordshire, for absolute sale in consequence of the great depression in the pottery industry of that district. Amongst the stock will be found every class of useful goods, consisting of dinner, tea, breakfast, dessert, trinket and chamber services of very fine quality and newest designs. Included in the ornamental portion are fine specimens of real Kensington ware, Cameo ware, life-size swans on pedestals, forming beautiful jardinières, and other magnificent specimens of pottery made only by this firm. As this sale is compulsory, it will doubtless offer an exceptional opportunity for anyone desiring useful or ornamental pottery of such a class as is seldom offered for sale by public auction. The sale will commence each day at 2 and 6.30 o'clock, and the room will be open from 9 o'clock each morning to afford an opportunity for inspection of the goods. We are also informed that the goods would have been sent direct to London to be sold, only it would interfere with their wholesale trade there.

A BEAUTY ROW.

ALLEGED SERIOUS ASSAULT.

THE SHERIFF ON DRINK.

At the Inverness Sheriff Court yesterday, before Sheriff Scott-Moncrieff and a Jury, Duncan Maclean, farmer, and James Maclean, miller, both residing at Oldtown, Parish of Kilmorack, were charged with having, on the 10th December, 1897, at the Beauty Railway Station, assaulted Alexander Mackenzie, retired shepherd, Fasnak-le, by knocking him down, and striking him on the head with their walking-sticks, to the effusion of blood and danger of his life.

Mr James Anderson, Procurator-Fiscal, conducted the case for the Crown, and accused were defended by Mr Patrick Blair, advocate, Edinburgh, instructed by Mr Andrew Macdonald, solicitor, Inverness.

Alexander Mackenzie, the complainor, deposed that he was in Inverness on the 10th of November last attending Court as a witness. James Maclean, one of the accused, was there for the same purpose, giving evidence on the opposite side. After the Court was over he went to get a dram—(laughter). James Maclean and he went together, and afterwards they had dinner together. They were

THE BEST OF FRIENDS

at the time. After dinner they went to another public-house. While there, Duncan Maclean and another party came in, and he had some words with him. Maclean called him a "worthless man," and struck him on the face. He (witness) was taken away by another man, and so left Inverness without encountering the Macleans again. When he got to Beauty Station he saw the Macleans there, and he asked Duncan why he struck him in Inverness, and threatened to inform the police. Duncan told him to go to the devil, and struck him on the head with a walking-stick, knocking him down. James also assaulted him. He lost consciousness, and when he came to himself next day, he was in a lodging-house

IN A LODGING-HOUSE

in Beauty. He was shortly afterwards taken home, and was confined to bed for a month without moving. He had only recently began to move about. Before the accident he was healthy and as strong as his neighbours, but he did not lose the power of his right hand, which had become somewhat stiff, and did not see so well as he used to do.

Examined by Mr Blair—His house was 19 miles from Beauty, and on the morning of the assault he came to Beauty alone. He was quite friendly with the Macleans, and it made no difference although they were on opposite sides in the case which brought them to Inverness. He never had cause to have ill-will against any of them. He recollects a case which he had in the Court of Session—a slander case—in which he was pursuer and lost. Maclean was one of the witnesses against him, but he

DID NOT BEAR ANY ILL-WILL

to him on that account. In the public-house he did not recall Duncan Maclean and say his father was a sheep-stealer. At Beauty Station he did not threaten Maclean nor attempt to strike him with his stick. He knew Alex. Blair, but he did not recollect saying to him that James Maclean interfered in Beauty Station when he (witness) was Dr Leach. He said that he came from Inverness by train on the 10th of December last. He saw the previous witness at Beauty Station, apparently in his usual state of health, and evidently sober. About a quarter of an hour after getting home he was called to Beauty Station again, and there found Mackenzie covered with blood and in

A STATE OF COLLAPSE.

He had him conveyed to his surgery, and there dressed his injuries. Mackenzie regained consciousness the next morning, but he could not recollect what had occurred to him. He went home that day against his (the witness's) orders. He thought that on account of one of the wounds in Mackenzie's forehead he would have had a day or two's rest on the forehead, one of the arteries being cut and bleeding, and he had a subsequent examination of Mackenzie he found him suffering from nervous injuries, which he probably permanent. The injuries to his head would account for his present state.

Examined by Mr Blair—He would be astonished to hear that Dr Sibbald and Dr Macfarlane had examined Mackenzie on the 19th of March, and were of opinion that there was nothing the matter with him. Mr Fraser, Hughton, stated that he spoke to Mackenzie at Beauty Station on the day of the assault. He spoke of Mackenzie striking him at Inverness. Duncan Maclean came along, and when he looked again

"THE STICKS WERE GOING."

He could not say who raised a stick first. He afterwards saw both of the Macleans on the top of Mackenzie on the platform. He took him to Mackenzie, and afterwards assisted him to the lowest carriage. For the defence, Margaret Maclean, daughter of Duncan Maclean, in reply to Mr Blair, deposed that she was at Beauty Station when James arrived home about ten o'clock. He appeared to have had a dram, but he was not fit to drink. I asked him where my father was, and he said something had come between my father and Mackenzie. He said he did not know exactly what it was, but that he had taken my father away. James showed his leg, which appeared to have been cut by three brothers about eleven o'clock. They said nothing, I noticed a speck of blood on his left cheek, near the eye. Next morning he complained of his head. Later on that day I noticed that he had a mark from the stick to the eye, a black-blue mark, and one on the neck. He got up in the morning, but went back over to bed. On Monday he went to Dr Leach, and he got a little red box for the injury to the eye and a small white box for the neck.

Cross-examined by Mr Anderson, witness, after some hesitation, said she supposed her father's condition might have been caused by drink.

Re-examined, witness

whether his condition had arisen from any other cause than drink. She had never seen her father in such a condition before. It might have been caused by a blow.

The Sheriff—it might be caused by the continued effects of drinking and a blow.

Mr Blair (Mr Anderson)—Just the same as your man—(laughter). Duncan Maclean, Jun., brother of the preceding witness, spoke to his having been told by his brother to get the cart ready, and to go to meet his father, who was found almost two miles away. He had helped his father into the cart, and in doing so observed several marks on his face, "just like as if he had got a crack." Next day he noticed marks on his father's left cheek and on his neck. He had none of those marks on him when he went to Inverness.

Cross-examined by Mr Anderson—Why did he require help?—He was pretty weak. Q.—Was he pretty drunk?—No. Q.—Do you think he was drunk?—I don't think he was drunk. Q.—Did you think he was sober?—I cannot say whether he was quite sober either.

Mr Anderson—You may go—(renewed laughter). Dr Macfarlane, Inverness, stated that on the 19th March, in company with Dr Sibbald, he had visited Mackenzie. He complained of

SUFFERING FROM PAINS

in the head, especially the back of the head, as well as pains like rheumatic pains in the neck and shoulder. He (Dr Macfarlane) found a small scar over the left eye, which scar must have been healed for a long time, because the colour of the skin was the same as the ordinary skin. He got Mackenzie out of bed

and asked him to walk across the floor of the house. Dr Macfarlane took his temperature, which he found to be normal. He had also examined the reflexes, and found them normal. Witness was then examined at some length, the evidence being largely of a technical character.

Mr Macquoen, coal merchant, Inverness, and Alex. Bain, gardener, Afarie Lodge, also gave evidence, the former as to Maclean's condition while in Inverness, and the latter as to Mackenzie's appearance in Beauty.

AFTER THE ASSAULT.

Mr Anderson and Mr Blair having addressed the jury, Sheriff Moncrieff summed up, and the jury retired. After an absence of about twenty minutes they returned, and, through their foreman, Major Cameron, James, returned a verdict against Duncan Maclean of guilty of assault to the effusion of blood, but by no means to the danger of life, and under great provocation. James Maclean the jury found not guilty.

Mr Anderson said the verdict returned by the jury scarcely covered the charge. He would suggest that the verdict against Duncan Maclean should be amended thus—"Guilty to the effusion of blood—quoad ultra not guilty."

This was agreed to and Mr Anderson moved for sentence.

Mr Blair was heard in extenuation of sentence, and suggested that, in the circumstances, the imposition of a fine might meet the ends of justice. Sheriff Scott-Moncrieff, in passing sentence, said that the secret of what had taken place was due to indulgence in drink, which his lordship feared was looked at too lightly in this country, and in this district in particular, and until there was aroused the strongest possible expression of opinion against men becoming drunk on drink, cases of the kind before him would never cease to come up. His lordship imposed a fine of £5 on Duncan Maclean, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment.

James Maclean was dismissed from the bar. The fine was paid.

REPRESENTATIVE OF INVERNESS-SHIRE.

ADDRESS BY MR KENNEDY AT CARR-BRIDGE.

On Wednesday Mr Neil J. D. Kennedy, advocate, Edinburgh, who contested the county of Inverness in the Liberal interest at last election, delivered an address in the Public Hall, Carr-Bridge. The attendance was good. On the motion of Lieutenant Grant, the Hotel, Mr Grant, baker, took the chair, and introduced Mr Kennedy.

In doing so, he said that there were no doubt present those who held different political opinions, but they were always glad to hear a political address from any gentleman—(applause).

Mr Kennedy, who was most cordially received on rising to speak, began by thanking the Chairman for the courteous and impartial manner in which he had been introduced. He had been told that his friend in the chair had not only his readiness to receive his political impartiality by appearing successively as chairman for a great many candidates, successful, unsuccessful, doubtful, actual, and prophetic—(laughter). He could only hope he would live long to introduce such candidates and speakers, political, literary, or otherwise to a Carr-Bridge audience—(applause).

THE LATE PROFESSOR CALDERWOOD.

He did not think he could begin on any topic in Carr-Bridge without first making a personal reference to a great loss which not only the political but the literary world had sustained by the death of Professor Calderwood. He said so because he had some little interest in the subject, because he had profited much by his instructions in Edinburgh. Professor Calderwood felt compelled to separate himself from the party in which he had been a distinguished ornament, his political opinion never hindered him from treating with fair impartiality the views of the different parties on different truths and arrived at different conclusions with their political atmosphere was just not fairly clear; parties were like the American and Spanish ships, preparatory to engage, but it was not an unreasonable time in which to take stock, as it were, on what had passed—(applause). The action of the present Government had been in accordance with well-known Scottish principles of action. He thought the occasion was a sufficiently favourable one for examining the situation in the light of the principles of which they in Scotland had been so proud. Since the present Government came in they in Scotland had been governed substantially as a province of England by a majority which consisted entirely of English members. Their Scottish teaching was that the whole end and aim of politics was the welfare of the whole community as carried out by that system through which the people, by

THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES,

express their will—(applause)—and which carried out, first, that the particular advantage should give way to the good of the whole community; and, second, that each man might have justice done to him, and therefore, as a necessary consequence, that the source of all authority and government was in the people, exercised through their representatives. He took another idea familiar to Scotchmen—local and federal government. As far back as they could go in Scottish history, they would find laid down the principle that local affairs should be managed by local bodies, different divisions of the country, and that the elected representatives of Scotland, at the time of the Union maintained that Scotland should preserve her full legislative powers in dealing with her own domestic questions. It was not without interest, he thought, that two of the men who fought most strenuously for retaining the rights of Scotland in that particular were the representatives of northern constituencies—one John Forbes, whose descendant was the well-known President Forbes of Culloden, and the other was the Laird of Grant, whose signature they would find on the petition which was presented to the House of Commons in 1706 in its present form. He hoped that the present bill had a long and varied experience of Liberalism in the Colonies, would take a position not in any degree inferior, and he hoped superior to that of his ancestors, who stood up for the independence of Scotland—(applause). What was it that the most of them thought was a very great grievance just now except that Scotland should have Home Rule—(applause)—Home Rule for her own domestic affairs—(renewed applause). It was probably to discuss what precisely Home Rule meant that the Scotchmen came from all parts of Scotland there came a cry for it.

PRIVATE BILL PROCEDURE.

The present Government had brought in a Bill to amend the procedure in regard to private bills. It was a "good Bill," because the present arrangement was so absolutely bad that any change must be for the better—(laughter). That evidently was the view which the members of Parliament on both sides took of it, because he observed that, except the Lord-Advocate, who introduced it, only three, or possibly four, members on one side or the other had ventured to speak in favour of it. He saw no reason why the Scotch members should not be expected to meet in the different towns in Scotland where they were required a month or two before the Imperial Parliament sat, and hold inquiries on private bills locally to avoid expense. One great disadvantage of the present proposed Bill was that it was proposed to be introduced by the hands of persons accused of the most unscrupulous and unscrupulous conduct, and putting it purely into the hands of irresponsible officials or in the hands of any local arbiters who were to be appointed. In the matter of remedied—there was immediate demand to meet the requirements of something like the power of our own old Parliament—(applause). He next came to what had been done by the Government in the way of domestic reform. There were some things which had been done, and some things which had not, and there were other things which

no human being expected they would touch, and which they had done with a vengeance. They took the question of reforms, which touched them all closely. They promised that land bills would be passed more or less after the Irish bills. The Highlanders were told to vote for the Unionist candidate, and become their own landlords—(laughter). He would like to hear of any gentleman who was a landlord in consequence of the action of the Unionist Government, and he promised to pay the postage—(laughter). Tenants must get compensation and security for all improvements made by them—(applause)—and until the Liberals passed the Agricultural Holdings Act of 1883, there was nothing of that kind.

THE CROFTERS ACT.

It did incalculable good to many parts of the Highlands by giving fixity of tenure and security for improvements. The last Government had actually brought in a Bill to extend the limit of that Act and the powers of the Commissioners to extend holdings—(applause). He would wait long—and, he was afraid, in vain—for the present Government to move in this matter. They had done one thing; they had created a Congested Districts Board. The gentlemen who composed that Board were exceedingly able men, but they were no better in one sense than the Israelites—(laughter)—they could not make bricks without straw. They were what they called "men of straw." Under the fourth section of the Act, he thought it was, they had most marvelous powers. They had power to erect piers, to give seed, to provide bullocks for stock, to buy land for the extension of the holdings, which they had not the power to take land compulsorily, which means that they could not get it, as it was not the judgment of the buyer, but the opinion of the seller, that fixed the price. There was an Act passed, he thought by the Tory Government, but he was not certain, by which ground could be taken compulsorily for cemeteries—(laughter). It was a measure, but he returned to the point of the opinion of the Government, he hoped they would pardon him—that it was nearly as important to provide land for a man to labour and thrive on when he was alive as to give him six feet of earth when he was dead—(laughter). The sum that the Government had given to the Commissioners to do all these wonderful things was the £200,000 which had for many years been given by both Governments for piers and harbours, and £15,000 additional. They would know how far that would go in buying land at thirty years' purchase. In the district which was covered by the Bill there was a population of 200,000, and the £200,000 would be their disposal was £15,000, which came out to

THE MAGNIFICENT ANNUAL INCOME

of nearly 10d per £1 per annum—(laughter). Just think, for 1d a week the Government expected those unfortunate gentlemen to provide new farms, new piers, a new supply of stock, and large extensions. If they were satisfied with that as a fulfilment of the Government's programme all he could say was that the Government used to be much more strict in insisting on their rights—(applause). If they were satisfied with a compensation of 1d instead of 20s in the £1, then he thought much of their vigour had departed. There was another matter on which their hopes were slightly raised. They were told by old age pensioners that the only old age pension that had been given was to the venerable old soldier the Duke of Cambridge. In addition to the £12,000 he had before he gets about as much as the whole northern counties through the Congested Districts Board. He only expressed the fear that those who were looking for old age pensions might by the long time and die of old age before they got the first Post Office order Government warrant for them—(laughter). He would mention one or two things which the Government had done, and which nobody expected they would have done. He thought they saw the mark of the cloven hoof of the old policy of Lord Beaconsfield in upsetting the educational system of England, and partly of Scotland, and bringing in measures to give the predominance of influence to the Church of England. Another matter was with regard to their foreign policy. If they had been told at the last election that the old policy of supporting the independence of the Empire and the opinion of Lord Beaconsfield carried out, and Mr Gladstone was fortunately able largely to undo, was again to be taken up, and told that British ironclads were to be employed in shelling men in Crete who had risen in defence of their property and in defence of the independence of the island, he would have said before they got them the power which they had so used—(applause). If Mr Gladstone's example had been followed, he had no doubt the same result would have followed. He threatened that if Turkey did not yield, and if at once her ports would be blockaded. She would within a few days be blockaded. She would not have had to submit to the humiliation of bringing vessels and guns to be employed against men who had a common Christianity and common rights with ourselves—(applause). He would only say that he rejoiced to see that the attempt to form a new Government with regard to America had utterly failed, and that the United States had taken their own way in their determination that Cuba should not be a second Crete, and had resolved that Cuba of right, is, and ought to be, free and independent. They had gone into the struggle with the firm determination to set Cuba free. It was now the time to keep their promise, and to burn, so that for the many important questions which were before them each one should think and vote under the complete protection of the ballot as his conscience might direct him. There were already many increasing signs that the verdict, not only of Scotland, which was already a Liberal majority, but the verdict of the whole country would again be what it was in 1880—Give an account of thy stewardship; thou mayest no longer be steward—(loud applause).

THE CHAIRMAN, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr Kennedy, said there was no shadow of a doubt that the present Government had committed mistakes. He must say that Mr Kennedy's address was one of the best he had ever heard—(applause)—and he was sure they would support him in awarding him a hearty vote of thanks.

The motion was unanimously carried, and Mr Kennedy briefly acknowledged the vote.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr Kennedy.

SCOTTISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS

The Scottish Trades Union Congress was resumed at Aberdeen yesterday. The standing orders were suspended at the opening of the sittings, and Mr Ross, Govan, moved that the decision of the Congress to support Mr O'Sullivan's Bill be carried. Mr O'Sullivan's Bill had been so altered as to make it utterly worthless. Mr Murdoch Maclean, Glasgow, seconded. Mr Payne, Glasgow, moved, and Mr Peter Grieve, Edinburgh, seconded, the previous question. On a division the resolution of the Congress to support Mr O'Sullivan's Bill was re-affirmed by 49 to 21 votes.

Mr Burgess, Glasgow, and Mr Macleod, Glasgow, made a statement to the Congress in reference to the dispute in the furniture trade.

Mr Burgess emphatically asserted that the operatives were determined not to resume work until the masters surrendered to their terms. He expressed the hope, therefore, that the workers of the country would supply the sinews of war and not let the workers be defeated by the employers. On the motion of Mr Carr, Dundee, seconded by Mr Mallin, Glasgow, the Congress expressed sympathy with the workers in their struggle with the employers, and urged the delegates to see that the appeal to be issued by the Glasgow Trades Council for funds on their behalf should receive immediate attention.

Resolutions were also adopted in favour of the extension of the Factory Act, the giving of particulars of work hours to the workers, and the consolidation of Factory and Work-shops Acts.

On the recommendation of the Aberdeen Trades Council the Congress unanimously declared itself in favour of the referendum.

LATEST NEWS.

THE WAR.

SPANISH FLEET SAIL FOR THE SOUTH.

SEA BATTLE IMMINENT.

St Vincent, Friday, 8.30 a.m.

The Spanish fleet, which had been getting up steam since last night, has just sailed away.

The course at the outset was laid to the south.

The destination of the fleet is unknown.

The Admiral has sailed with sealed orders, and these will be opened and communicated to the captains after twelve hours' steaming at sea.—(Central News).

St Vincent, Friday.

The Spanish Fleet has sailed hence in a southerly direction, under sealed orders—(Reuter).

REPORTED FIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINES.

AMERICA WORSTED.

Madrid, Thursday, 11.30 a.m.

Up till 11 o'clock this evening the Government had received no confirmation of the report which has been freely circulated to the effect that Spanish war vessels had sunk an American ship in Philippine waters. Senior Sagasta calculates that the American squadron will not arrive in the vicinity of Manila until to-morrow, and that, therefore, no encounter with the Spanish naval forces can yet have taken place.

Senior Sagasta, interviewed with respect to the report that the late Philippine rebel leader Aguinaldo would accompany Admiral Dewey's squadron, said the statement was absolutely incorrect. Only one native of the Philippines will go with the American ships, and he will only go as a pilot. This man is known to the Spanish authorities, and he never took any part in the rebellion.

The news of the stranding of an American warship on the coast of Pinar del Rio has caused a great feeling of elation here.—(Central News).

CRISIS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Singapore, Thursday.

It is not believed here that the American squadron from Hong-Kong will go to Manila at present, but the situation in the Philippines is considered critical, and an insurrection appears to be imminent. The packet boat Nan-yang has left here to seek the Bishops of Abu and Manila, and to embark the treasures of the churches. Communications between Hong-Kong and Manila have been interrupted. A Spanish steamboat is running on the service between Singapore and Manila, under the French flag.—"Daily Chronicle."

THE INVASION OF CUBA.

FORCE TO BE LANDED TO-DAY.

According to a "Times" telegram from New York, to-day is the day fixed for the first landing of an expedition in Cuba. The authorities have been informed that at least 19,000 insurgents are gathering in the neighbourhood of the point which will be attacked by the Spanish forces.

TEN THOUSAND MEN TO BE LANDED AT MATANZAS.

Washington, Friday.

A Committee of the Congress have reached an agreement on the Naval Appropriation Bill. The increases proposed by the Senate, including additions to the navy, were adopted. It is stated that the War Department proposes landing ten thousand men at Matanzas under cover of the fleet's guns within a week.—Reuter.

AMERICAN NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Key West, Friday, 1 a.m.

Reports from the fleet up to this hour show that there has been no further fighting, nor have any of the shore batteries in Cuba opened fire upon any of the American warships yesterday. There is a consensus of opinion here now that Matanzas is the point that has been selected for the landing of the preliminary expedition of Cubans and volunteers now organising at Tampa.—Central News.

AN IMPORTANT OPERATION.

New York, Wednesday.

Preparations have been completed for bombarding Havana or some point in the immediate neighbourhood of that city, to which General Blanco is expected to devote his attention. As soon as the marines and the insurgents have driven the Spaniards away from the port desired as the military base, an army will be hurried from the United States to Cuba. It will fortify the port, and hold it. Through this base, as has been stated, munitions of war and other necessary military supplies will be conveyed to the insurgents. As soon as the latter are armed, and are in condition for fighting, there is reason to believe that heavy guns will be conveyed across to Cuba while the fleet makes a feint from the sea on Havana. These guns will be mounted at such points as will enable the gunners to fire into Havana if necessary.—"Times."

A SENSATIONAL STORY.

New York, Friday.

A sensational report was circulated here late last night to the effect that the Board of Strategy recommend that as soon as it becomes apparent that the Spanish fleet does not intend to cross the Atlantic, the Canary Islands and one of the Balearic Islands, probably Minorca, shall be seized by the United States as a basis of supplies.

The Board of Strategy has decided, in order the sea on Havana. The States warships should attack Spain at home. Our best warships would be certain to reach the other side of the Atlantic considerably the worse for the voyage, but if the Canaries are seized, they could be made a base of operations against Spain.—Evening News.

MATANZAS BOMBARDED.

YANKEE SATISFACTION.

A Key West correspondent says that the excellent practice made by the "New York" and her consort in the subject of general congratulation. One officer declared that there was worth a year's pay to see the effects of the last shot fired from the "Puritan's" "12-inch pet," when a mass of stones, earth, and debris was sent hurtling sixty feet in the air, falling in the rear of the spot where the Spanish gun had been fired a few minutes before. There must have been many casualties on the Spanish side, as the rapid fire of guns were used on all the ships, as well as those of large calibre. The general opinion is that the Spaniards had nothing heavier than 8-inch guns, and that the gunners were very unexpedient. Just before the forts were silenced, however, one gun on the west side of the harbour seemed to be setting the range of the flagship, several shots striking the water near her, and on both sides of her. If the purpose of the reconnaissance and the subsequent cannonade were to secure an avail-

able place for landing United States troops at a later stage, that purpose has been well accomplished, for no doubt exists that the Spanish batteries at Matanzas are not at all likely to prove dangerous.

SPLENDID ARTILLERY FIRE.

Correspondents state that the bombardment took place in rough weather, with the water washing over the decks. Nevertheless the American artillery fire was excellent. The "Times" correspondent says—"This is the first time one of our greatest warships has gone into action, and it has been interesting to note the perfection of discipline that obtained. Officers gave their orders in voices hardly raised above that of conversation. The men laughed when the shots struck home, but there was no cheering, and no greater show of excitement than at practice. At the same time the deck heaved, and where I stood on the forward bridge, behind the turret, the concussion of her guns made one's car-drum tingle, and the smoke filled the mouth and nostrils and dimmed the eyes, so that it was for a few seconds at a time impossible to see or speak. The Spanish marksmanship was wretched. The gunners did not seem to be able to find their range at all. For some time all their projectiles fell short, and then all flew far overhead. Had their sighting been accurate, all the American vessels would have been in grave danger. In about twenty-five minutes after the first shots were fired from the shore the engagement was over. Once the warships were actually at work it took three of them exactly eighteen minutes to silence the fire from the shore.

FROM MADRID.

Madrid, Friday.

The official report of the bombardment of Matanzas states that there was no loss of life, but one mule was killed.—Reuter.

DINGWALL FREE PRESBYTERY.

NEW FREE CHURCH FOR GARVE.

On Wednesday the monthly meeting of the Free Church Presbytery of Dingwall was held in the Dingwall Free Church. Rev. Mr. Johnston, Strathpeffer, presided. Rev. Messrs Sutherland, Strathcanon; Beaton, Urray; and Macqueen, Kilmearn—ministers; and Messrs Arras, Fodderdy; Neilage, Glasgow; and R. Fraser, Both, Alness, are the Commissioners appointed for the General Assembly. As to the appointment of a Moderator, the Clerk intimated that Mr. Macqueen fell to be appointed, but, as he was not present that day, he thought it was illegal for a pro tem Moderator to sign the elders' commissions. The Presbytery had no alternative but to appoint the next in order, who was Mr. Nicholson. Mr. Nicholson moved his appointment. Mr. Nicholson then took the chair. Mr. Beaton was re-appointed Clerk. A statement of the Sustentation Fund was submitted, and showed that in the Dingwall Presbytery there was an increase of £38 for the past eleven months. It was referred to the examining Alex. Robertson, Beaully, and John Cameron, Strathgarrow, who applied to the Presbytery for examination before entering the Divinity Hall, at the next meeting of Presbytery. The plans and specifications of the proposed new Free Church at Garve were submitted by Rev. Mr. Nicholson, and the church was estimated to cost £750, and to seat 250 people.

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT

was read by Mr. Nicholson with regard to the steps taken before resolving to proceed with the building of the new church:—"The principal steps taken in the matter of getting on with the proposed new church were as follows: (1) There were several meetings of the congregation held, with the view of either renovating the old church or getting a new church built on the site of the old one. There were parties strongly going in for both proposals; but latterly they agreed on going in for the erection of a new church. (2) There was another important point on which the people were at first divided—that is, whether the church was to be built under "THE MODEL TRUST DEED," or to have it vested in the congregation, or the title deeds to be in the possession of the trustees for the congregation. This point was considered so critical by both parties that they thought the best way to decide it was to send out papers for signatures among the people, and that the minority were to give in to the majority. The majority decided to have the title deeds of the new church in their own possession, or vested in the congregation. Having had some way or other failed to secure the title deeds of the old church, the majority believed they would do better to secure and preserve the title deeds of the new church in their own possession. Of course I stated to them at the outset that I was not to take the side of either party, or to interfere with them in any way of matter relating to the Church, only that I warned them, unless they were unanimous in the case, I could not bring it forward for being recommended to outside friends with the view of receiving their help, and that I believed our Edinburgh friends would not thank me at all, but blame me if I went on in the matter of a division of opinion, that it did not matter much to me which way they proceeded, if they were only unanimous themselves in the case.

THE BUSINESS OF THE CHURCH.

But, if they took my advice, they would all keep in with Edinburgh, because we might be gainers and not losers by it in the long run. However, as they had ascertained that there was no special fund at present from which they might expect much help, I, I fear, influenced them more than anything to keep aloof from Edinburgh. (3) Am, nevertheless, glad to say that they have heartily and honourably contributed, among themselves, towards the Building Fund £200. They have also received from friends about £100, and I would not carelessly bespeak for them, as I do fully expect the sympathy and support of all congregations within our Presbytery, and not excluding any other congregations or parties who may be considerably disposed to give us their aid in this pressing and praiseworthy undertaking."

THE CLERK STATED THAT UNLESS THE CHURCH

was built on the Model Trust Deed, that the office would not give a book, and would not recommend them to the liberality of the Church. Mr. Mackenzie, Garve, stated that he was informed the office of the things that had been done in connection with the Church and Manse Endowment in Edinburgh. Mr. W. D. Mackenzie, Garve, said that a plebiscite of the congregation was taken, and a large majority of the congregation voted against the Model Trust. After further discussion, the Presbytery agreed to recommend the object to the Christian liberality of the public.

THE SYNOD OF MORAY.

FREE CHURCH.

The Free Church Synod of Moray met at Forres on Tuesday. Rev. Allan Cameron, who was retiring Moderator, conducted devotional exercises. The Clerk intimated that he had received no commission from the Free Synod of Ross in favour of Mr. Middleton, Forres, who was present. The Synod agreed that Mr. Middleton should be associated with them. On the motion of the retiring Moderator, Rev. James Hendry, Forres, was appointed his successor, and, on the motion of the Rev. Mr. Stockdale, Grange, a hearty vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. Cameron. On the motion of Rev. Murdoch Mackenzie, Inverness, it was resolved to nominate Dr. Salmon for the Principalship of the Aberdeen Training College. Mr. Mackenzie submitted the report on the Foreign Missions Scheme. The total sum collected for schemes, including Foreign Missions, amounted to £1700 2s 11d, being an increase of 12s 4d. Dr. Macphail, of the Santal Mission, Bengal, addressed the Synod. A committee was appointed to draw up a minute in reference to the late Dr. Macphail, Inverness. Rev. Dr. Winter submitted the annual financial statement. The contributions for schemes and Foreign Missions amounted to £1700 2s 11d, being an increase of £291 9s 11d over last year. The Congregational Fund this year was £9882, as against £7854 last year, being an increase of £2028 over last year. The Sustentation Fund this year amounted to £6557, as against £6551 last year, being an increase of £6. The total contributions all over the Synod this year amounted to £23,303, as against £19,847 last year, being an increase of £3456 (applause). There was a slight diminution in the number of elders and deacons, which was pretty constantly varying. The number of communicants over the Synod was 11,166, as against 11,052 last year, an increase of 84. The number of adherents over 18 years of age was 22,212, as compared with 21,903 in 1897, an increase of 309 (applause). Rev. Mr. Cassie read the report on Presbyterianism in America. Referring to the Presbytery of Inverness, the report stated that the congregations were doing satisfactory work. In the Presbytery that had been doing, it was unnecessary for the Synod to interfere. The report on Religion and Morals presented by Mr. Taylor, Rafford, in the name of the Convener, stated that a hopeful feeling seemed to prevail throughout the Synod, and there evidently was much that was encouraging. Among the hindrances to religious progress were an inordinate love of pleasure, and a running after amusements, which were too often associated with intemperance, and too involved companionship that did not benefit and elevate. In some districts great difficulty was found in retaining firm servants, many of whom persistently avoided ministers or other religious workers,

ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

At a meeting of this Synod in Forres on Tuesday, Rev. B. D. Miller, Ardclach, was elected Moderator, in succession to Rev. Mr. Sinton, Dores, who received a vote of thanks for the opening ceremony. On the report of the Business Committee, it appeared that the Clerk had failed to receive payment of the cost of printing the papers from the guarantors in connection with the Lhanbryd fane, and it was agreed to instruct Messrs Cooper & Wink, solicitors, Elgin, to recover the balance. Mr. Pirie, Knockando, submitted the report on Small Livings, and commended the support given by the congregation of Forres for many years, the minister of the parish deserving their warmest thanks for his zeal in the objects of the scheme. In the case of Abernethy the grants exceeded the amounts contributed, and several of the other churches in the Presbytery gave very small sums. Mr. Pirie said he had no desire to depreciate Foreign Missions and other schemes, but he thought the first duty of the church was to make her home work efficient, and that ought to be done by aiming at providing a stipend of not less than £200. Mr. Macpherson, Elgin, read the report on statistics, which he thought fairly satisfactory, several of the congregations having made large contributions to building funds. Forres alone having raised £1999 during the past year, Elgin and Nairn also making large contributions. The actual sum collected, not including seat rents, amounted to £12,115 odds. The number of communicants on the roll at December 31st, 1897, was 16,935, an increase of 225 as compared with last year, the average attendance at Communion services during the year having been 781 per cent., which the Convener thought was a matter of serious concern. From the report of Mr. Watt, Edinville, in the case of Sabbath Schools, it appeared that the number of scholars was greater than it had been since 1886, being 7214 at December 31st. In connection with a complaint that the Presbytery of Abernethy had a parish which had no Sunday School, Mr. Liddell, Advie, stated that the Presbytery had already dealt with that district, and the excuse given by Mr. Bain was that he preached the Gospel. The Synod instructed the Presbytery to make the necessary enquiry into the matter, and report to next meeting of Synod. Mr. Liddell, Advie, asked if there was any law in the Church which compelled a minister to have a Sunday School, Mr. Pirie, the clerk, saying, in reply, that the Synod was not a court of consultation, and Mr. Liddell could find that out for himself (laughter).

SUTHERLANDSHIRE NEWS.

DORNOCH—HOLIDAYS.

The merchants of Dornoch have unanimously resolved to close their places of business on Thursdays at three o'clock p.m. during the months of May, June, and July.

DORNOCH—SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS.

Miss N. Peters and Miss A. Gillespie have both successfully passed second class in the Queen's Scholarship examination which was held at Inverness last December.

SCOURIE—ROAD INSPECTION.

Mr. J. Scobie, sheep farmer, Durness, and Mr. D. Macaskill, fisherman, Panamora, visited this district last week instead of the committee appointed at the last meeting of County Council to report on the state of the Roads in the parish of Eddrachilles.

BONAR-BRIDGE—SALMON FISHING.

The returns from the netting stations on the Kyle of Sutherland and Dornoch Firth indicate a very poor catch for the season up to date. Recently, however, a slight improvement in the fishing has taken place, rather better takes being got. Prices still rule unusually high for this period of the season, a fact which is due to the scarcity of fish all round.

BONAR-BRIDGE—THE SEASON.

For some time past the weather has been most reasonable, being characterised by mildness, with general showers of rain and much sunshine. The various cereals raised in the locality have been kept in, mostly under propitious conditions of soil and spring operations of all kinds are well advanced, if not in advance of the season. Pastures, both natural and artificial, are making quite phenomenal progress, the latter already affording abundant feeding to stock. Fairly remunerative prices are ruling for stock, and farmers are rather exercised for something to grow about.

CLYNE—ENTERTAINMENT.

Mr. Alexander Sutherland, Sella, gave a splendid entertainment in the Temperance Hall recently. Mr. Sutherland is a well-known amateur vocalist and pianist, and his appearance before the public, which have been frequent of late, have added much to the enjoyment of the locality. Mr. Sutherland's forte is a dramatic piece entitled "The Pike." In this he excels, and is invariably delightful. Mr. Sutherland will, we understand, be shortly leaving the place on an important business, where he goes he will take with him the sympathies and best wishes of many admirers in the parish of Clyne.

CLYNE—WEDDING.

The marriage of Mr. G. F. Murray to Miss Janet Gunn was the occasion of much rejoicing among a host of relatives and friends during the course of last week. The young couple are both natives of the parish of Clyne, and are highly respected. Mr. Murray has for many years identified himself with the local branch here, has done much to foster an interest in the cause of Liberalism among the people. In the Temperance cause he, too, takes an active and important part. As choir conductor, his services are much appreciated, and entertained with the advancement of Temperance here and his hearty and gratuitous co-operation. Mr. and Mrs. Murray carry with them a married life the best wishes of the community.

REAY COUNTRY NOTES

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

The s.s. "Cormorant" and "Belvidere" discharged cargoes of coals last week in the Kyle of Tongue.

In the district—not parish—of Tongue, with a population of over 1000, about twenty deaths have been registered during the month. In the great majority of cases influenza was the immediate cause, and old people the victims.

The police constables of Durness and Tongue have exchanged stations. Constable Little is now at Tongue, and Constable Campbell at Durness. We hope Mr. Campbell will find his hearty and his predecessors in that district—a perfect sinecure. With the exception of the forfeiture of an evicting sheriff-officer and his accomplices many years ago, we believe Durness is in the enviable position as far as crime is concerned, of being able to show a clean sheet.

HEATH BURNING.—Heather burning is still in vogue in some districts, which is considerable later than was at this time last year. Mr. Rae, Baderath, has been busy on the life and work of Robert Burns on an early date. Mr. Rae has made a special study of the works of the national bard. The Government ship "Monarch" put in here last week, when the cable across the firth was laid in connection with the proposed extension to Dunderdull, which was contemplated during the present week. A Rifle Club in connection with the local volunteers has been formed. Practice with the rifle will begin on an early date. Some of the best will give prizes for good shooting.

TAIN NEWS.

The annual general meeting of the East Ross C.C. is to be held on Monday evening.

This year's lunacy assessment leviable on the burgh of Tain has been fixed at £26 14s 7d.

The secretary of the Thistle C.C. begs to acknowledge, with thanks, subscription of 5s from Mr. W. J. Beckell, I.R., Tain.

On Saturday the effects of the late Mr. John Clark, printer, were sold by auction, and some good bargains were got.

Dornoch Golf Club are, we understand, going to play a match with St Duthus on Tain course to-day.

On Monday evening Mr. W. B. Gardner, of the Scottish Temperance League, delivered a lecture in the Free Church Hall.

Mr. Macintosh, Secretary to Tain Royal Academy, presided at a science examination, under the Science and Art Department, in that school on Tuesday evening.

CONCERT.—In the Public Hall on Tuesday evening, Frame, "The Man We Know," gave a farewell concert. Owing to his great popularity in the domain of comic entertainment, he drew a record house.

CRICKET CHALLENGE CUP.—Mr. D. Macphail, Railway Hotel, Tain, has resolved to present a challenge cup open to all the cricket clubs in Ross and Cromarty and Sutherland.

Mr. Macintosh, solicitor and Procurator Fiscal, has, we understand, been appointed secretary and treasurer to the Tain Public Hall Company, Ltd., in succession to the late Mr. Macdonald, Castle Brae.

GAS.—At a meeting of the Town Council as Gas Commissioners on Monday evening it was reported that the late collector's accounts had been examined and found to be in a satisfactory state. Mr. Ross, the new collector, also put in a very satisfactory statement of his first collection.

RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE.—In the Free Church Hall on Monday afternoon the children attending the Public School and the Academy were examined in religious knowledge by the Free Presbytery of Tain. To all questions smart and intelligent answers were given, and the examination proved quite satisfactory.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.—The lecture in the Established Church to-morrow evening is to be by the Rev. J. W. Macdonald, the new minister of Crook. Last Sunday the Rev. Mr. Macleod, Edinboro', gave a lecture on "The Bible: its Literary Character," in the Masonic Hall on Sunday there were "Secessionist" services in Gaelic and English by the Rev. Mr. Macleod, Ullapool. The hall was well filled at the Gaelic and almost overcrowded at the English.

SHELTER SITE GRANTED.—At the April meeting of Town Council on Monday evening it was unanimously resolved to grant a site on the Links for the proposed public shelter, gymnasium, and athletic dressing rooms. It is to be the size originally intended—40 feet by 25. It is not certain that the Volunteers will unite with the Building Committee, but if they do the size will be increased. When erected this shelter will be a great boon to the town.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Monday morning there was a slight accident at Tain Railway Station, by which an engine and one wagon were thrown off the line. It occurred in connection with a goods train shunting, and arose from an accidental shifting of the north points. No person was hurt, but the engine was slightly damaged. The wagon was easily got on to the line, but the steam crane from Inverness was required to put the engine on. The accident taking place on a loop line, there was no delay of traffic.

DAMAGES CLAIMED ON ACCOUNT OF A NUISANCE.—Miss Anderson, Cadboll Place, who has for twelve months been complaining of a nuisance arising from an untrapped drain near her house, has now put in a claim for damages against the Town Council. Mr. T. J. Macleay wished to repudiate liability, and Baillie Munro seconded this motion, but several members of Council thought that there might be grounds for the claim, and the matter was committed to a committee for inquiry and report.

SCHOOL BOARD.—At a full meeting of the School Board on Tuesday evening, it was resolved to advertise for a clerk, treasurer, and correspondent in succession to the late Mr. Macdonald, at a salary of £25 per annum. Meantime Mr. Stephen has been appointed interim clerk, and a committee has been appointed to take over the late clerk's books, &c. The meeting to appoint the new clerk is to be held at eight o'clock on Tuesday. The rest of the business has been postponed till that meeting.

THE ROSEBANK DRAIN.—The nuisance complaint at Rosebank Garden has been so far removed, but several members of Council are very decidedly of opinion that more redress is to be done. Further, it is now alleged that the Kirkseat Trustees have encroached with a wire fence on the right-of-way belonging to the town. All this, however, has yet to be looked into. Since (adds our correspondent) the place referred to is so dirty and undesirable, why not let the Trustees encroach on the whole of it?

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Alexander Fraser, journeyman tailor, Tain, is now leaving the town for a better situation, and, as he has always not only been a diligent tradesman, but a patriot, and for a good number of years a member of the Tain Company, Seaford Volunteers, it was only right and fitting that his services and good character ought to be acknowledged. A list, therefore, went round, and a good sum was collected and presented to Mr. Fraser in the Crown Hotel on Wednesday evening. Songs, &c., followed.

FREE PRESBYTERY.—On Wednesday there was a meeting of the Free Presbytery of Tain. The following were elected as this year's representatives to the General Assembly:—Ministers—MacKay, Croick; Macleod, Logie-East; Macpherson, Forank; and Murray, formerly of Tarbert. Elders—Major Mackenzie, Inverkeirnie; Mr. A. Taylor Innes, advocate, Edinburgh; Councilor James Robertson, Tain; and Mr. Geo. Gunn, Glenalvie. Mr. D. Cameron, son of Inspector Cameron, Tain, having taken his M.A. degree with honours, was introduced and received as a student in Divinity, with his hearty and his predecessors in that office. Mr. Rae, Baderath, was introduced for his trial was fixed for the first Wednesday in July. The Rev. Thomas Grant, as Chairman of Tain Royal Academy, took occasion to refer to the number of students from that school who have taken their degrees with honours. The rest of the business was routine.

PEETTY—SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS.—Among the list of those who passed the preliminary examination for admission to the Veterinary Surgeons' College, Edinburgh, is Mr. Wm. Robertson, Dalziel Farm, who has taken in a very creditable place. Every success is wished Mr. Robertson in the study which he is about to begin. Among those who graduated M.B. and Ch.B. at Aberdeen this year is D. J. Kelly, Hillhead Farm, who has just completed a course which has all through been characterised not only by perseverance and energetic application, but distinction, in several subjects. For several years after leaving school he devoted his attention to the farm, and consequently was placed at a very considerable disadvantage at the outset. His final success therefore on his first trial is all the more creditable. As a proof of his class distinction, it may be added that Dr. Kelly has already been offered two important practices in England.

LANEED COMPOUND.—Trade Mark for Oughth and Coals, 94, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200.

DINGWALL NEWS.

Mr. A. Jack, grocer, Dingwall, who is giving up business, has taken a lease of the farm of Easter Kinkell, on the Ferintosh estate.

Frame, the well-known Scotch comedian, holds a concert in the Masonic Hall to-morrow (Saturday).

Mr. Henry Joass, of the Caledonian Bank, Dingwall, has passed successfully the Associates' examination in connection with the Institute of Bankers.

ALLEGED FRAUD BY A GIRL.—At the Sheriff Court on Saturday, Isabella Macleannan, domestic servant, Maryburgh, emitted a declaration on a charge of fraud and imposition in so far as she represented to several parties that she was a domestic servant seeking employment, and did thus induce them to give her arles money.

CRIMINAL CASES.—In the Sheriff Court on Tuesday James and Mary Macphoe, tinkers, of no fixed residence, were each fined 2s 6d for committing a breach of the peace at Mulnoby on the 14th April. At the same Court on Wednesday James Stewart, tinsmith, Bonar-Bridge, pleaded guilty to having, on the 15th April, on the road between Strathgairn and Lochearn, ill-treated and tortured a horse which was suffering from four open wounds on the back. A fine of 5s was imposed.

TOWN COUNCIL.—At a meeting of the Town Council on Monday attention was drawn to the dangerous obstructions at the harbour, brought up at last meeting. Councillor Grieg stated that a vessel had almost been wrecked on the obstruction lately. The ropes of the vessel had broken, and she drifted on to the cairn of boulders erected at the mouth of the harbour. After discussion, the Clerk was instructed to take action in the matter at once. Baillie Robertson asked the Clerk if anything had been done in regard to the Station Road fence. The Clerk explained that Messrs Dunca & Middleton were written to on the subject, stating that the Council resolved to have matters put right, it was necessary to have a special meeting of Council to confirm the minute agreed to before proceeding to interdict. It was agreed to leave the matter over until next monthly meeting of Council.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.—A meeting of the Town Council was held on Monday to report progress in connection with the proposed lighting of the burgh with electric light. Provost Stewart presided, and was congratulated by the members of the Council on his reappearance at the Council Board after his recent illness. The report was read by the Clerk from Mr. A. Hill, the Council's electrical adviser, regarding the suggestions submitted at a former meeting by ex-Provost Macleay. After some discussion of a routine nature, it was explained that the Council would act in accordance with the Council's stipulations. The Council generally concurred in the matter of having the powers and privileges of the inhabitants carefully attended to in connection with the scheme. Baillie Macrae thought the Clerk should incorporate into the draft of agreement the suggestions submitted recently by ex-Provost Macleay, and to have the agreement revised finally by Mr. Hill, and considered also by the Council. This was agreed to by the meeting.

A SCENE IN COURT.—A farm manager from the Black Isle was charged at a Justice of the Peace Court, held at Dingwall on Tuesday, with carrying a gun without the necessary license. The charge was at the instance of the Excise and the accused was defended by Mr. Macrae, solicitor. Evidence was led in support of the charge by Mr. Sullivan, I.R., who deposed that on the 15th of March last he found accused with a gun, for which he had no license. He stated he was sending hods, and he was not on his own farm at the time. A young lad, Malcolm Martin (16), was called for the defence, but on entering the Court and being shown the witness-box, he refused to enter it. Martin was coaxed by Mr. Macrae and the Bench, but said he could stand where he was, viz., by the County Council bench, and give his evidence. On being asked to take the oath, witness said he would tell the truth, but would not take the oath. Mr. Macrae said he understood witness was to give his evidence in the usual way, and was rather surprised that he would not do so. Witness was asked if he thought witness would give evidence, he replied that he did not think he would do so for his life (laughter). Mr. Macrae then told witness that he might insist on him being sent to jail. Witness replied that he would not take the oath. Ultimately Martin's services were dispensed with. After a statement by Mr. Macrae on behalf of the accused, he was found guilty, and a fine of 10s, with expenses, was imposed.

BLACK ISLE NEWS.

Mr. A. Taylor, carpenter, Fortrose, has been entrusted with the Harbour repairs stipulated in Committee report.

AVOCH—MEDICAL APPOINTMENT.—We are pleased to note that Mr. John Cameron, Avoch, has been appointed Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Avoch district of Ross-shire.

AVOCH—FISHING.—Active preparations are presently on foot for departure for the West Coast fishing. Several boats started last week. A few days fishing at Barra will precede operations at Stormary.

AVOCH—CHOIR TRIP.—The Free Church Choir had their annual trip on Saturday. The party visited the famous Falls of Kilmorack. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the day, the outing was much enjoyed, and a merry return journey was made in the evening.

AVOCH—DRAINAGE.—At a meeting of the sub-Committee of the Water and Drainage District Committee on Saturday—Mr. J. D. Fletcher of Rosehaugh presiding—it was arranged that the flushing arrangements should be completed, the old water supply being used for the purpose.

FORTROSE—FOOTBALL.—A number of spectators left Fortrose on Saturday for Dingwall to watch the final match for the Seaford Juniors Cup. This was played between Victoria United (Dingwall) and Thistle (Fortrose). The Fortrose visitors had the vexation to see the handsome trophy elude the grasp of the Royal Burgh.

FORTROSE—CRICKET.—The following are the officials elected for the ensuing season by the St Boniface C.C.—Captain, Dr. Brodie; vice-captain, Mr. G. Scopes; secretary and treasurer, Mr. R. B. Mackenzie. The following appointments were also made, subject to the approval of the nominees.—President, Sir B. B. Finlay, Q.C., M.P.; vice-presidents, Major-General D. Macintyre, V.C., Lieut. General J. Macintyre; Colonel Stephen, C.B.; Mr. J. D. Fletcher of Rosehaugh; Captain Matheson, Inch; Mr. P. Burgess, Fortrose; Mr. J. Henderson, do.; Mr. T. Henderson, do.; as it came out of his house and barked at them. The evidence being inconclusive, the case was dismissed, the Inland Revenue officials being notified of appeal to the Sheriff. The Justices on the bench were Dr. A. M. Mackenzie and Baillie Strain.

DISPLENISH SALES.

The first displesh sale of the season took place on Saturday at Blairmore, Cawdor. Horses sold from £13 to £15; cows, from £13 to £15; year-old stots and heifers, from £7 to £10 5s. Mr. A. Gordon acted as judge and auctioneer.

SCHOLASTIC.

The Links and Church Street Schools have been expected this week by Mr. Macleod, H.M. Inspector of Schools. Science and Art examinations have been held in the Academy this week for the pupils attending the evening classes of that Institution.

THE BURGH LICENSING CONFIRMATION COURT.

The above Court met on Tuesday to consider the new licenses that were granted. Provost Donaldson presided, and there were on the bench Baillie Baillie, Baillie Reid, Colonel Clarke, and Mr. Skene. It was unanimously agreed to confirm the licenses granted. Mr. Macritchie, solicitor, Inverness, appeared for Mr. Macpherson, Station Hotel, and Mr. Robertson, solicitor, Nairn, for Mr. Nicol.

BEAULY NEWS.

SPRING HOLIDAY.

Wednesday was observed here and in the surrounding neighbourhood as a general holiday. Both banks and all other places of business were closed. The weather being favourable, there was quite an exodus of people from the village; some made excursions into the country, while a multitude took advantage of the cheap fares offered by the Highland Railway Company. At Beaully Station 299 tickets were issued, as compared with 305 tickets on the spring holiday last year. 128 persons visited Inverness, 42 Dingwall, 13 Strathpeffer, a Kyle of Lochalsh, 3 Dunkeld, 2 Perth, 2 Edinburgh, 5 Glasgow, 1 Peterhead, and 7 Aberdeen. Consequent on Wednesday being observed as a half-holiday in Inverness, a number of the excursionists returned early in the evening.

VIOLENT ASSAULT BY A WOMAN.

Adrianna Mackenzie or Macbean, wife of and residing with John Macbean, Beaully, was brought before Sheriff Scott-Moncrieff on Wednesday charged with (1) assaulting Betsy Mackay or Cameron, widow, Shore Street, Beaully, on 18th April last, by catching hold of her by the breast and throwing her on to the ground, striking her several times on the head and body with her clenched fists, and knocking out two of her teeth and cutting her lower lip, to the effusion of blood and injury of her person; and (2) threatening to throw a shovel of burning embers at the said Betsy Mackay or Cameron, thereby committing a breach of the peace. The accused, through her agent, Mr. Charles Macdonald, of Morris & Macdonald, solicitors, pleaded guilty to the charges. There were eight previous convictions against the accused. Mr. William Anderson prosecuted. The Sheriff imposed a fine of £2, which the accused paid.

FORT-WILLIAM NEWS.

ON THURSDAY ARTHUR MACLEAY, A NAVY

working on the Arisair line, was brought before Sheriff-Substitute Davidson on a charge of breaking four panes of glass at the farmhouse of Kinloch. He was sentenced to pay a fine of 10s, or go to prison for five days.

ALLEGED SERIOUS OFFENCE.

An engine fitter, named Brisbane, has been arrested by the Arisair police and lodged in Fort-William prison, pending enquiry into a charge preferred against him of having last week criminally assaulted a young girl.

NAVIES IN TROUBLE.

The Fort-William police have in their custody a navy named Nolan, from the Mallagh Railway Works, charged with theft there; and another railway excavator, named James Boyce, who is alleged to have attacked a pedlar on the public road, and stolen a shirt from him.

FOOTBALL MATCH.

A match between the Victoria Thistle and the Vale of Nevis was played on the Public Park on Wednesday of this week. The evening was fine, and a large number turned out to witness the game, which was begun at seven o'clock. There was a slight breeze blowing, and the Vale of Nevis having the wind in their favour, pressed their opponents severely, the ball on several occasions grazing the posts. At half-time the match was equal, no goals having been scored. During the second period the game opened out to some extent. A scrumman, named in front of the Nevis goal, which ultimately ended in a goal for the Victoria. On the ball being again set in motion some smart passing was witnessed, and a grand run on the part of Dan Chisholm resulted in the Thistle securing a second goal. Thus the game ended—Victoria Thistle 2, Vale of Nevis 1. Robert Macdonald acted as referee to the satisfaction of all concerned.

HISTORIC HOUSE BURNED.

At North Ballachulish, on Thursday evening of last week, two semi-detached houses, occupied by Alexander Mackenzie and Donald Mackenzie, crofters, accidentally caught fire, and were burnt to the ground. Both men were at Achnacarry attending the local rejoicings at the time the fire broke out. It appears that one of the wives was away from home during part of the day. She returned about six o'clock in the evening, and was in the act of lighting a fire. Going over a part of the house with a burning paper in her hand, she let part of it drop near a paraffin flask, which had apparently been leaking. This immediately caught fire, and in a few minutes both houses were in flames. Unfortunately, nothing was saved, every article of furniture being burnt. The house in question had been occupied by Mackenzie and his forebears for over 200 years, the family having been the landlords of the Crofters of Lochiel for generations.

AFTER THE BALLS WERE OVER.

The work carried on "behind the scenes" in connection with the Lochiel festivities of last week fell pretty heavily on the Banavie Hotel staff, as they not only had to arrange for the ball in their own house, but also to provide for the luncheon and ball at Achnacarry. Mr. Wenzel, the esteemed manager of the hotel, therefore determined to provide them with a little entertainment of their own as a reward for their labours. Accordingly a few congenial friends were invited, and a cosy little company, numbering about thirty, gathered on Monday evening and spent some delightful hours together. Dancing began about 9 p.m., Miss Macdonald presiding at the piano and Mrs. Macgillivray playing the violin. In due course the company sat down to an excellent supper, after which dancing was resumed. During the evening Mr. Wagner played a solo on the zither, which was heartily appreciated. The entertainment was a decided success, and proved a very happy time to all present.

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LEWIS.

STORNOWAY OFFICE—3 CHURCH ST. To which complaints as to the defective distribution of the paper should be addressed, and at which orders for advertisements and all Lewis communications may be left.

TIDE TABLE.

Table with columns: Date of Month, Morning, Evening, H.M., P.M. Rows for Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat.

STORNOWAY.

LEWIS HOSPITAL.—The Hon. Secretary acknowledges, with thanks, six Indian heart-strings from Capt. Kenneth Macaulay, Bombay; six dozen eggs from Mrs Macdonald, Free Church Manse; Lewis cakes and fruit from Mrs D. L. Mackenzie.

I.O.G.T.—At the weekly meeting of the Pharos Lodge of Good Templars on Monday, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing quarter:—G.T., Bro. D. M.M. Cattinach; V.T., Sister Dora Murray; C., Bro. Robertson; Secretary, Sister Maciver; A.S., Sister M. Smith; F.S., Sister B. Macgregor; T., Bro. M. Nicolson; M., Bro. J. Macaskill; D.M., Sister M. Twatt; G., Bro. D. A. Macleod; Sent., Bro. J. Smith; and P.O.T., Bro. K. Smith.

THE LIGHT RAILWAY.—In reply to a communication from the Burgh Clerk asking whether the Board have powers to lend and the Commissioners powers to borrow under the provisions of the Light Railways Act, a letter was submitted from the secretary to the Public Works Loan Board, in which it is stated: "There is some doubt as to the Board's powers under the Act, but as the Act mentioned, and the Board are taking legal advice on the matter. When obtained I am to communicate again with you on the subject."

PARISH COUNCIL.—The Stornoway Parish Council met at Stornoway on Wednesday—Provost Anderson presiding. There was a considerable amount of routine business disposed of, including a number of new and continued applications for relief, and the half-yearly revision of the poor roll was also made. The question of the unsatisfactory condition of the Tolsta Burying-ground was considered, and it was remitted to the Chairman and Clerk to draw up and forward a representation to the Local Government Board desiring permission to apply a portion of the amount at credit of the Cemetery Fund towards fencing the burying-ground, as it is being invaded by sheep, cattle, and horses.

LEWIS TEACHERS.—On Saturday, April 16th, the members of the Lewis Branch of the E.I.S. met at Garrynahine Hotel, Mr Ferguson, Bragor, occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance. Mr Mackintosh, Laxdale, read an excellent paper on "Supernatation," which was much appreciated, and it was unanimously resolved to urge on members of Parliament to take the matter up, and the Secretary was instructed to forward a copy of the resolution to Mr Weir and Mr Balfour. Mr Robertson, H.M.I., who was also present, spoke on the new code. He pointed out and emphasized the fact that the new method of inspection necessitates thorough and systematic work on the part of the teacher throughout the entire year. He was disappointed, he said, that pupil teachers did not take advantage of the extra marks given for Gaelic at their final examination. He pointed out and emphasized the fact that the new method of inspection necessitates thorough and systematic work on the part of the teacher throughout the entire year. He was disappointed, he said, that pupil teachers did not take advantage of the extra marks given for Gaelic at their final examination. He pointed out and emphasized the fact that the new method of inspection necessitates thorough and systematic work on the part of the teacher throughout the entire year. He was disappointed, he said, that pupil teachers did not take advantage of the extra marks given for Gaelic at their final examination.

BURGH COMMISSION.—The monthly meeting of the Water Committee of the Burgh Commission was held on Monday. Five tenders received for the construction of a water gauge near the Lower Loch were opened, and were remitted to the engineer of the works, and a committee, with powers, the advisability of putting locks on the manholes was discussed, and it was agreed to ask the opinion of the engineer of the works as to whether it is the contractors or the Commissioners that will have to be at the expense of providing the same. The Water Manager was instructed to hasten the water supply during the summer season, and to regulate the automatic flushing tanks throughout the town to discharge at shorter intervals than at present. A letter from Mr Orrock with reference to the site of the proposed Town Hall, and the substance of which we have already published, was submitted. Consistently published, was submitted. Consistently published, was submitted. Consistently published, was submitted.

THE COMING FISHING—FOREIGN MARKET PROSPECTS.—The following report, dated 22nd April, has been issued by Mr Paul Körner, Stettin:—"When seeing my last printed report, dated 6th January, the general situation of our market, as well as the statistical figures, were on hand, entitled me to express the opinion that there was every hope of a timely clearance of our total stock of Scotch herrings. Upon the whole this anticipation has been realized, although the spring business did not by any means come up to expectations. Small consumption on hand, an unusually mild, frostless winter, and heavy losses were brought about by the West Coast mists stored for preservation in ice houses. Owing to the inferior quality of last year's matie, a large percentage of the stored quantity has gone bad altogether. Besides the demand for preserved matie was poor, so that a considerable amount of this matie is still lying unsold at the different places. Prospects for the first new matie are under the circumstances rather unpromising, and it would seem advisable to postpone shipments of such as possible, or, better still, not to send any of the early, unripe and inferior matie at all, as they would probably be nothing but a cause of loss and disappointment to their owners, whereas chances for ripe and fine qualities might turn out quite favourable. The total quantity of unsold herring of all descriptions still in stock can be estimated to come up to about 30,000 barrels, the bulk of which is of course of Norwegian origin."

WHOOPIING-COUGH.—The whooping-cough epidemic, which has gone the round of the island during the past half-year, has now spent itself, and schools which have been closed for about two months are being reopened. There have been recently a few cases of typhus fever.

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NEW FOG SIGNAL AT BUTT OF LEWIS.—Operations have now been commenced for construction of fog-siren, oil-store, engine-room, and keepers' dwelling-houses. Mr John Aitken, Lewick, is contractor. Mr Andrew Laughton, foreman, and Mr Alexander Nicholson, Edinburgh, Government Inspector of Works. The new tower is to be sixty feet in height and built of stone.

ABOUT A BILL.—On Friday morning last before Sheriff Johnston—parties' procurators were heard in the appeal by the pursuer against the Sheriff-Substitute's interlocutor allowing a proof before answer to the parties in an action at the instance of Evander Macrae, fisherman, Portvoller, against William Campbell and others (formerly members of his crew in the boat "Ivanhoe") for the amount of a bill. The Sheriff took the case to avoidandum. Agents—For pursuer, Mr W. A. Ross, solicitor; for defenders, Mr J. N. Anderson, solicitor.

SERMON TO YOUNG MEN.—On Sunday evening the Rev. John S. Macdonald, Stornoway Free English Church, preached a special sermon to young men. He took as his text 2nd Kings, xviii, 33, "They feared the Lord, and they served their own gods." The sermon was an eloquent and impressive one, the key-note of which was, "Take the side of Jesus Christ, or take the side of the devil; either be a real friend of Jesus Christ, or be an open foe; do not try to unite the service of Christ and the service of sin."

PROPOSED COASTGUARD FOR TIUMPAN.—In the House of Commons on Tuesday, Mr Weir asked the Lord Advocate whether the Secretary for Scotland had received a copy of a resolution, carried at a recent meeting of the Lewis and Harris Fishermen's Association, urging that a coastguard should be placed on duty at Tiumpat Head, Island of Lewis, with instructions to report trawlers working within the prescribed limits in Broad Bay; and would he consider the advisability of placing himself in communication with the Admiralty with a view to the suggestion being carried into effect? The Lord Advocate said the reply to the first part of the question was in the affirmative and the second in the negative.

BACK-CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.—While some young ladies from North Tolsta were driving home from Stornoway on Saturday afternoon last, an accident occurred which might have been attended with serious results, though happily such were in a great degree averted. When in the vicinity of Coll, the horses shied at some object by the wayside, and the carriage was overturned, throwing the occupants out on the hard roadway. All were more or less severely shaken and bruised, and Miss Maggie Macleod, Myrtle Cottage, Tolsta, sustained severe injuries about the head. For some time her condition was considered precarious, but we are glad to learn that she is making satisfactory progress towards recovery.

BURGH COURT.—At the Burgh Police Court on Saturday last, the Bench was occupied by Bailies J. M. Morrison and Thomas Morrison. Angus Campbell, lampfitter, Murray's Court, was fined 1s for allowing his chimney to be on fire on 18th March. Murdo Morrison, carter, Point Street, was charged with assaulting Mr D. A. Macleod, agent for the Singers' Manufacturing Company, on Kenneth Street on 13th April by hitting him with his head and striking him with his clenched fist. He was fined 7s 6d. James Affin, Jun., Murray's Court, was also charged with assaulting Mr Macleod on the same day by striking him with his fists. He admitted the offence, and was fined 5s. John Lamb, pedlar, Conlodge, was up on a charge of committing a breach of the peace on 8th April, which he admitted. He was out on bail of 5s. He got half of it back, the fine being 2s 6d.

LIGHT RAILWAY.—On Friday, the 22nd inst., Mr J. M. Morrison, Stornoway, County Councillor for the Eastern Division of the parish of Uig, addressed a meeting of his constituents at Callanish for the purpose of explaining the provisions of the Hebridean Light Railway scheme. Mr Robert Maclellan, New Park, presided. The details of the scheme were very ably and concisely explained by Mr Morrison, and particularly the financial part relating to the loan of £200,000, and the advantages that the district would derive from the railway. The meeting was also addressed by Mr Donald Mackenzie, merchant, Stornoway, who accompanied Mr Morrison. A motion was afterwards moved by Mr Donald Maciver, Parish Councillor, Breasclete, and seconded by Mr Neil Morrison, Parish Councillor, Callanish, "That the meeting express their gratitude to Mr Morrison for his efforts on behalf of the district, and give their unanimous consent to the scheme as laid before them, and authorize Mr Morrison to act on their behalf in carrying it into effect." The motion, on being put, was carried by a hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr Morrison and Mr Maclellan for their kindness in coming to the district to hold the meeting, also to Mr Maclellan for presiding.

JUVENILE ENTERTAINMENT AT UIG.—The children attending the Free Church Sabbath School at Crowlsta were invited to a children's treat at Timsgary on Monday evening. About forty, and a few of the children's friends attended. Tea was set, and after grace by the Rev. Mr Fraser, proctor, the wants of the young folk were attended to by their hostess, ably assisted by Mrs Stewart and Miss Jenkins, the School-house. After justice was done to this part of the treat, several national and patriotic songs were sung. At this stage the children were addressed by Rev. Mr Fraser, the subject being "The Christian Race." The singing of a selection of sacred hymns followed. The accompaniments to the songs and hymns were played on the pianoforte by Mrs Stewart with decided taste and ability. The Superintendent of the School moved a vote of thanks to the ladies who assisted so effectively, and contributed so largely to the success of the entertainment, and a vote of thanks to Mr Fraser for his excellent address, to which votes the children responded with ringing cheers. Mr Fraser, who has been supplying the school at Uig with marked acceptance for the last month, has left for Golcaron, where he has been appointed to assist the Rev. Mr Forbes for the month of May.

SUCCESS OF F.E.C. SABBATH SCHOOL SCOTLAND.—The results of the examination held recently in connection with the Glasgow Sabbath School Union have now been declared. As in former years, the pupils of the Free English, Stornoway, have done exceedingly well. Last year one of them (Maggie Macleod) won the medal in the Junior Section. On this occasion Donald Maclellan has come out medalist in the Advanced Section. The following is a list of the Free English pupils who competed, with the marks earned:—Advanced: Donald Maclellan, 100; May Macfarlane, 100; Margaret Macleod, 100; Angus Mackenzie, 95; Bella Murray, 93; and Angus Macleod, 92. Senior—Robert M. Maciver, 100; Roderick Maciver, 97; John F. Macleod, 96; Roddie J. Mackenzie, 93; Maggie Macleod (6), 96; John Maciver, 94; John M. Maclellan, 94; Jenny Macfarquhar, 94; Isabella Macleod, 91; Colin J. Maciver, 90; Willie Maciver, 90; John N. Macleod, 89; Alexander Beaton, 88; Jeannie Morrison, 88; Mary Crichton, 85; Janet Macleod, 85; Kenneth Mackenzie, 83; Maggie Macleod (6), 81; Peter Miller, 77; Hugh M. Matheson, 76; Kenneth J. Macleod, 72; Jack Maciver, 70; Mabel Forbes, 63; Alexander Morrison, 62; and Annie Mackinnon, 44. Junior—Murella Macfarlane, 92; William P. Macleod, 90; Maggie Adam Smith, 90; Donald F. Macleod, 88; Cathy Macleod, 86; George F. Macleod, 81; Jessie Macleod, 79; Lily Morrison, 79; Duncan Miller, 74; Lewis Macfarlane, 71; and Colina Macdonald, 60.

COALING.—The steamer "Cape Comino," of Sunderland, from Baltimore, U.S.A., to Denmark, with grain, put in here on Friday evening last for bunker coals, and having been supplied with 160 tons from the bulk "Alisa Craig," sailed early on the following morning. She made a quick passage—fourteen days—from America.

LEWIS FREE PRESBYTERY.—This body met at Stornoway on Wednesday. Present—Rev. Messrs J. Macdonald, Moderator pro tem., Hector Cameron, N. M. Morrison, Geo. Macleod, J. Mackay, J. S. Macdonald, and Peter Macdonald, clerk. The Rev. John Mackay, S.A., Kinloch, was unanimously elected Moderator for the ensuing year.—Rev. P. Macdonald, Stornoway, was appointed representative to the General Assembly in room of Rev. N. M. Morrison, Barvas, and Joseph Russell, Esq., ship-builder, Port-Glasgow, was appointed representative elder instead of Sir John Gowar, Bart. of Besslack.—The Presbytery agreed to petition the ensuing General Assembly to have the congregation of Park raised to the Equal Divided Platform, and the representatives to the General Assembly were instructed to support the same. The Presbytery heard the trials for licence of Mr Roderick Morrison, who has just completed his divinity course. The trials were sustained with approbation, and Mr Morrison was licensed a preacher of the Gospel.—The next ordinary meeting of Presbytery is to be held in the Free English Church, Stornoway, on the second Wednesday of June, which is the date of the Quarterly Fellowship meeting.

BRAGOR—GALLANT RESCUE FROM DROWNING.—On Thursday of last week a woman named Christina Macleod, Bragor, had a very narrow escape from drowning in Bragor Bay. She was cutting seaweed on a rock, when a sudden gust of wind swept her off, and carried her out about ten yards into the bay then being several fathoms deep. A man named Angus Smith, who was near, observed what happened. Running at once to her rescue, he plunged in, and after a struggle with a heavy sea, in which they were both nearly exhausted, managed to bring her ashore. Both are now none the worse of their perilous immersion. It may be mentioned that this is the second occasion on which Mr Smith has saved life, and certainly his manly conduct is deserving of recognition.

CROWLISTA—SCHOLASTIC AFFAIRS.—A correspondent writes:—"A public meeting of the inhabitants of Aird (Uig) and Crowlsta was held on Friday evening of last week. Mr Murdo Mackenzie presided, and briefly explained the object of the meeting, which was called to order by the schoolmaster of the school of Uig to the relations existing between the headmaster and children and staff in the school of the district. A deputation was appointed to wait upon the School Board of Uig in order that the object of the meeting be put more fully before the Board. A feeling was expressed by the meeting that crofters were not sufficiently represented on the School Board, the voting power of the parish being virtually in the hands of the teachers and a few sheep farmers. It was suggested that the schoolmaster, the result of the proceedings will be watched with keen interest."

THE LEWIS RAILWAY. OPPOSITION MEETING. A general meeting of the Lewis Fishermen's Association was held in Stornoway last week to consider the resolution which is to come before a meeting of the County Council in reference to the proposed light railways in Lewis. On the motion of Mr Donald Mackenzie, Shader, seconded by Mr Murdo Mackenzie, Bayble, it was unanimously resolved—"That this meeting do not approve of the resolution that is to be proposed by Mr J. M. Morrison at the Lewis District Committee meeting on the 2nd May, in which it is concluded that the landward portion of the Lewis district rates be given as security for the construction of the light railway between Carloway and Stornoway."

On the motion of Mr Malcolm Macleod, Knock, seconded by Mr Alexander Matheson, Tong, it was agreed that it would be ridiculous to further tax the crofters, many of whom are widows and aged men, who find the taxes already in existence. On the motion of Mr Roderick Mackay, Garrabost, seconded by Mr John Finlayson, Tong, it was resolved—"That this meeting of fishermen are thoroughly convinced that the light railway will never pay in Lewis until a railway terminus is obtained on the main line at Lochiver to convey the fish to the market to compete with the East Coast."

The meeting further resolved that the latter scheme was the only reasonable one, and that the promotion of the present scheme would be a waste of public money. They were of opinion that it would be better to have a pier or a breakwater at Lochiver for a harbor "in Broad Bay" than to have a pier or break districts for the safety of life and property.

STORNOWAY VOLUNTEER INSPECTION.

On Thursday the 8th (Stornoway) Company, Highland Volunteer Artillery, were inspected by the Hon. Colonel Playfair, the day being fine. The men paraded at the Drill Hall, and marched to the drill ground to receive the inspecting officer. There were 107 men of all ranks on parade, the officers present being Major Robertson, commanding; Surgeon-Captain M. Mackenzie, in command of the stretcher-bearer party; Lieut. A. Bain, Captain of A Company; Lieut. A. Mackenzie, Captain of B Company; and Lieut. H. Macleod, subaltern of A Company. Major John Ross, of the headquarter staff, was also on parade.

Colony Playfair, who was accompanied by Captain Stiffe, R.A., Adjutant, H.V.A., arrived on the parade ground at noon, and was received with the general salute, after which he passed down the ranks, inspecting the clothing and arms. The march past was then carried out in a very creditable manner, after which the men were put through the manual and rifle exercises and company movements by the drill instructor, and Surgeon-Captain Mackenzie's stretcher-bearer party went through some movements of rendering first aid to the wounded. Thereafter the men returned to the Drill Hall, where lunch was served. After luncheon the repository competition—Company against Company—was engaged in. The general public have always evinced a keen interest in this competition, and there was a large crowd present while it was being conducted. The Companies were then re-formed, and marched to the Battery for their gun practice.

At the close of the work at the Battery, the inspecting officer, the officers and the men. He complimented them on the very excellent turn-out, and expressed himself as highly pleased with the field work and the various drills engaged in during the day, although the work at the Battery was not quite to his satisfaction. On returning to the Drill Hall, the sectional competitions—gun and squad drill—were entered upon, Captain Stiffe acting as umpire, as he had also done at the repository competition. Before announcing his decisions in the prize competitions, Captain Stiffe briefly addressed the men. He expressed himself as well satisfied with the whole day's work, except that at the Battery, for which, he considered, the Colonel had let them down very softly. Captain Stiffe distributed the prizes as follows:— Best turn-out—Sergeant Chrystall (No. 3 of B). Prizes—1 B Company (Sergeants Chrystall and Macleod); 2 A Company (Sergeants Swan and Macdonald).

Best Drilled Section (Gun and Squad Drill)—A Company—1 Sergeant-Major R. Maclean (No. 4), 2 Corporal D. Macneil (No. 2), B Company—1 Corporal G. Macleod (No. 2), 2 Sergeant P. S. Macleod (No. 4).

Gunners Examination (held during the winter)—1 Corporal G. Macleod, 2 Bom. N. Matherson, 3 Bom. R. Macleod. Certificates won by Members of Dr Mackenzie's Ambulance Class (four silver medals for pupils attending a second course)—Sergeant Macdonald, Sergeant Chrystall, Sergeant Macfarquhar, and Gunner H. Miller. Proficiency Certificates for pupils attending a first year's course—Lieutenant H. Macleod, Sergeant Swan, and Bom. N. Matheson. On the call of Major Robertson, three hourly cheers were given for Captain Stiffe for the interest he has taken in the corps, and for acting as umpire in the competitions. The men were dismissed about eight o'clock, having been on parade for eleven hours. The annual church parade takes place on the Established Church (Rev. D. Mackinnon) to-morrow.

THE SKYE RAILWAY. A QUESTION OF TAXATION.

A meeting of Skye District Committee of the County Council of Inverness was held at Portree on Wednesday—Mr Macdonald, Skeabost, chairman, presiding—to dispose of a motion by Councillor Alexander Macdonald, Portree, with regard to assessing the inhabitants of Skye for raising money to promote a light railway through the island. The motion was that the County Council of Inverness be requested to approve of the intention of the Fifth or Skye District Committee to make application to the Light Railway Commissioners for an order authorizing an advance of such a capital sum as can be raised by rate, not exceeding 6d per £1, charged on the valuation of Skye, to the Hebridean Light Railway Company to aid in the construction of the light railways in the Isle of Skye defined on the plans lodged, or to be lodged, by the said company. In support of his motion, Councillor Macdonald said the advantages of the proposed light railways were manifest. It was his opinion that, had the railways been made long ago, the burning questions they had to deal with some years ago in connection with the THE LAND AGITATION would not have existed. Of the million sterling set apart under the Light Railways Act, only £175,000 remained to be allocated, and if they did not act promptly they might be deprived of any share. He believed the crofters would be unanimous in favour of raising the money in this way. Macleod of Macleod, in seconding the motion, said the question for them was, Would the railway benefit Skye, or would it not? Experience taught them the country was improved by the railways, but they were extended. He took a broader view of it than that. It would give work or carry fish to market; it would enlighten the people and do them good in every way. The assessment of 6d would cease when the railway began to pay a dividend. He would press for the extension of the railway to Dunvegan, there being a large population there, and an injustice would be done them if they were assessed for a railway from which they derived no benefit. On that condition he supported the motion. Councillor Martin, Glendale, though not against the construction of the railway, was against the assessment of the people of Glenelg and Wester Ross, who were meantime well served by steamers and would derive no benefit from the proposed railway. He moved that it was not advisable to assess the already overburdened ratepayers of Dunish with the proposed tax. Councillor the Rev. James Grant, Kilmuir, feared that railway work or carry fish to market; it would enlighten the people and do them good in every way. The assessment of 6d would cease when the railway began to pay a dividend. 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AGRICULTURE.

SOME NOTES.

We learn that Mr. A. G. Pirie of Leckmelm has hired for this season his Highland entire, "Roderick," to Lord Leven and Melvin, for use amongst his lordship's fine stud of Iceland mares at Glenfernes, Dunphail. "Roderick," being kept at Leckmelm, has up to now been little known. He is five years old, and considered by competent judges a model Highland entire, and the best of his kind at the present time.

When it became known that Mr. P. B. Macintyre, Findon, had taken a lease of the farm of Braeangwell, the leading farmers in the district volunteered to give him a day's ploughing gratuitously. Accordingly on Thursday last 35 ploughs turned out at Braeangwell, and thus showing in a practical way their goodwill and esteem for Mr. Macintyre. The moushmen were liberally supplied with luncheon and refreshments by Mr. Macintyre. During the day the fields were visited by a considerable number of spectators.

A deputation from the Sheep Breeders' Association interviewed Mr Walter Long at the Board of Agriculture on Tuesday, and asked that that Board should take over from the local authorities the control of the regulations to check the extension of sheep scab. Mr Long said the information available to his Department seemed to show that sheep scab was diminishing rather than increasing. The disease was still, however, too prevalent. He believed it to be curable, and would be glad, so far as he could, to use the influence of the Board of Agriculture to bring such pressure to bear upon the local authorities as would awaken them to a sense of their responsibility, and to a proper exercise of the adequate powers they possessed.

Messrs MacCallum Bros., salesmen, Dingwall, held their second annual show and sale of horses, carriages, and harness within their auction market on Friday. A large number of all classes of horses were forward, and the average of the prices elicited a good deal of attention. For the best roadster mare or gelding over 14 hands the first prize was taken by a superior filly, newly broken, the property of Mr. Ferny, Paradar, and which was subsequently purchased by Mr. Peterkin, Montrie, for £28. In the next class—roadsters under three years old—a pair from Fettes attracted a good deal of attention. They were chestnut in colour, with white markings, and had all the appearance of being particularly well bred. They were placed first and second in the prize-list. At the after sale the first prize was taken out by Mr. J. G. Robertson of the National Hotel, Dingwall, for 36½ guineas, while the second prize fell to the bid of Mr. George Bankes of Balcornie for 25 guineas. The trading was over the sale was commenced forthwith. For all classes of good, sound animals there was a manifest increase in price, and very few animals were reserved. The fixture promises to become a permanent institution in Dingwall.

DEAD MEAT MARKET.

LONDON, Friday.—Weather mild; trade slow. Prices:—

Table with columns: Description, Price per Stone of 8 lb., and Price per Cwt. Items include Beef, Mutton, and Lamb.

GRAIN MARKETS.

EDINBURGH, Wednesday.—Wheat—1448 qrs., being 819 more than last week. Of the wheat there were sold 246 qrs. Prices were 7s up on the top, and 5s 7d up on the average. Barley—157 qrs., being 154 less than last week. Of the barley there were sold 77 qrs. Prices were unaltered on the top, and 1d up on the average. Oats, 1855 qrs., being 1198 less than last week. Of the oats there were sold 1075 qrs. Prices were 1s 6d up on the top, and 1s 8d up on the average. Beans—27 qrs., being 43 less than last week. Of the beans there were none sold. Tares—18 qrs., being 52 less than last week. Of the tares there were sold 1 qr. at 5s per qr., weight 63 lbs. per bushel. Prices:—Wheat, 63 lbs., 45s; Barley, 60 lbs., 51s 6d; Oats, 44 lbs., 45s; Beans, 27s; Average prices:—Wheat, 42s 8d; Barley, 31s 2d; Oats, 25s 4d.

NAIRN.—The market was held on Wednesday this week instead of Thursday (Past-Day). There is now very little grain on the farmers' hands, so that there was very little business done. Prices were similar to last week:—Barley, 20s to 21s; oats, 20s to 21s.

STOCK SALES.

INVERNESS, Tuesday.—At Hamilton & Co.'s, of Inverness, Limited, weekly sale to-day there were good supplies both of fat cattle and sheep forward. Cattle met with a sharp trade, and a rise may be quoted on last week's prices. There was a large attendance of buyers, and a clearance was easily effected. Fat cows rather better, and sheep quotations. Sheep—Fat lambs were wanted, but few on offer, consequently they sold dear; hogs rather steeper than last week; widders a firm trade; ewes scarce and selling well. Mr. Liddell, Denny, had a few Ayrshire cows on offer, but met with a stiff trade. Numbers—145 cattle, 402 sheep, 58 calves, and 42 pigs. Prices:—

Table with columns: Class, Price, and Live Calculated Weight. Items include Fat Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs.

INVERNESS, Monday.—At Messrs Macdonald, Fraser, & Co.'s (Limited) weekly sale of fat stock, there was a good show of cattle and sheep. The most of the cattle were home-bred and well finished. The demand all through was firm. Sheep—Fat lambs were scarce, and sold dear. Cross hogs met with a good trade, and were quickly bought. Cheviot hogs sold well. Cheviot and black-face widders were wanted, and easily sold out. There were very few fat ewes on offer. Numbers were—91 cattle and 485 sheep. Prices:—

Table with columns: Class, Price, and Live Calculated Weight. Items include Fat Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs.

SALES AND CONTRACTS SUMMARY.

PROPERTY AND OTHER SALES. SATURDAY, April 30 (Today).—Lot of Eight Grass Parks, Inverness, by Macdonald, Fraser & Co., at 3 o'clock. WEDNESDAY, May 4.—Dispenish sale at Culbo, Black Isle, by Macdonald, Fraser & Co., at 11. THURSDAY, May 5.—Dispenish sale at Dalnagarry, Moy, by Hamilton & Co., Inverness, at 11. FRIDAY, May 6.—Sale of dairy cows at 23 Chapel Street, Inverness, by Hamilton & Co., Inverness, at 11. FRIDAY, May 6.—Dispenish sale at Lenig, Conon-Bridge Station, by D. Mackintosh & Co., Dingwall. FRIDAY, May 6.—Furniture in New Salerooms, Baron Taylor's Lane, Inverness, by A. Fraser & Co., Inverness, at 11. SATURDAY, May 7.—Shoemaker's stock at Munloch, by Wm. Colvin, Inverness. TUESDAY, May 10.—Furniture in Music Hall, by Wm. Colvin, Inverness. WEDNESDAY, May 11.—Dispenish sale at Drakel, Colnabreck, Inverness, by Hamilton & Co., Inverness, at 12. THURSDAY, May 12.—Dispenish sale at Invercauld, by D. Mackintosh & Co., Dingwall. THURSDAY, May 12.—Furniture from Friary Hotel, Beaulieu, in Beaulieu Hall, by K. Noble, Inverness, at 11. FRIDAY, May 13.—Dispenish sale at Aldie and Rosemount, by W. W. Mackay & Co., Tain. WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, May 11, 12, and 13.—Furniture in Sutherland Arms Hotel, Golsie, and Stock and Implements of Farm of Golsie Tower, by A. Fraser & Co., Inverness, and John Stewart, Golsie. SATURDAY, May 14.—Dispenish sale at Burnside, Lethen, by Hamilton & Co., Inverness, at 11. THURSDAY, May 10.—Range of buildings and hall in Tolbooth Street, Forres; within Writing Chambers of Mackenzie & Grant, solicitors, Forres, at 12.

STOCK SALES. MONDAY, May 2.—Spring sale of horses and carriages at Perth Auction Market, by Macdonald Fraser & Co., at 10. MONDAY, May 2.—Weekly sale of fat stock at Northern Central Market, Perth, by John Swan & Son. MONDAY, May 2.—Weekly sale, Inverness Auction Market, by Macdonald Fraser & Co., at 11.30. MONDAY, May 2.—Weekly sale at Perth Auction Market, by Macdonald Fraser & Co., at 11.30. TUESDAY, May 3.—Special sale of store cattle and sheep at Inverness Auction Market, by Macdonald Fraser & Co., at 11. TUESDAY, May 3.—Weekly sale at Inverness Auction Market, by Hamilton & Co., at 11. WEDNESDAY, May 4.—Special sale of store cattle and sheep at Dingwall Auction Mart, by D. Mackintosh & Co., at 12. WEDNESDAY, May 4.—Weekly sale at Dingwall Auction Market, by MacCallum Brothers, at 12. FRIDAY, May 6.—Weekly sale at Easter Ross Auction Mart, Tain, by W. W. Mackay & Co., at 12. FRIDAY, May 6.—Weekly sale of store stock at Northern Central Market, Perth, by John Swan & Sons at 12.30. FRIDAY, May 6.—Annual sale of cattle and sheep at Perth Auction Market, by Macdonald Fraser & Co.

BUILDING AND OTHER CONTRACTS. (Date given is last day for receiving offers.) SATURDAY, April 30 (To-day).—Per at Loch Efort, North Uist.—Messrs Blyth & Westwood, G.E.S., 135 George Street, Edinburgh. FRIDAY, May 6.—House at Hill of Fern—A. Sutherland & Sons, architects, Tain. FRIDAY, May 6.—Construction of concrete trench for canvas targets, magazine, stop-batt, &c., for new rifle range on Golsie Links—Major Morrison, Golsie. TUESDAY, May 31.—Purveying at Invercharon Gathering—D. Ross, secretary, Bonar-Bridge.

DISPENISH SALE AT HAMILTON & CO., OF INVERNESS, LTD.

HAMILTON & CO., OF INVERNESS, LTD., favoured with instructions will submit to public competition the whole STOCK, comprising:— HORSES—1 Brown Mare, 5 year old; 1 Brown Horse 11 year old; 1 Brown Mare (aged); 1 Yearling COW. CATTLE—5 Cross and Polled Cows, Calved and to Calve; 15 Black Polled Steers (nearly all Stots); 4 Calves. 2 PIGS; POULTRY. IMPLEMENTS—4 Comp Carts and Frames 1 Wood do., 2 Single Ploughs, 1 Chilli do., 1 Drill do., 2 Sets Wood Harrows, 1 Set Iron do., 1 Chain do., Grubb Harrow, Drill do., 1 Reaper (damaged), Turnip Roller, Shoulder Rake, Turf Cutter, Fanner, Cart and Plough Harness, and all the usual Farm, Barn, and Stable Requisites. Also a Quantity of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE. Sale at 12 o'clock. The usual credit will be given. HAMILTON & CO., OF INVERNESS, LTD. Conveyance will leave Auctioneers' Office for the Sale at 10 o'clock.

HAMILTON & CO., OF INVERNESS, LIMITED.

SALE FIXTURES. May 4.—Western, Petty, Dispenish Sale. 5.—Dumgriety, Strachan, Dispenish Sale. 6.—Sale of Dairy Cows, &c., Chapel Street, Inverness. 7.—Children Grass Parks. 10.—Weekly Sale, Inverness. 11.—Aberarder and Ballinvolvi Grass Parks. 12.—Cracks, by Inverness. 12.—Kerrward, Petty, Dispenish Sale. 13.—Heathfield, near Fort-George Station, Dispenish Sale. 14.—Burnside of Lethen, Nairnshire, Dispenish Sale. 17.—Weekly Sale, Inverness. 18.—Dores Villa, Dores, Dispenish Sale. 20.—North Torcum, Dispenish Sale. 22.—Tullochry, Moy.

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.

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.

JOHN SWAN & SONS, LIMITED. SALES AND MARKET ENGAGEMENTS. NORTHERN CENTRAL MART, PERTH. SALE OF FAT STOCK.....EVERY MONDAY. STORE STOCK.....FRIDAY.

J. K. DAVIDSON, AUCTIONEER, FURNITURE and CURIO DEALER.

Any Quantity Bought. SALES CONDUCTED. 2 and 4 LOWER KESSOCK STREET.

W. MORRISON, AUCTIONEER and VALUER.

High Street. Conducts Valuations of every Description. Moderate Prices. Quality unsurpassed.

LAWRIE BROS., SEEDS! SEEDS!

MARSHALL & PEARSON, THE WEST HIGHLAND Ironmongery, Seed, and Saddlery Stores, FORT-WILLIAM.

Have on hand large consignments of the Finest Farm and Garden Seeds, including North Country Sandy Oats, Galloway, Tullach, Turnip, all kinds Seed Potatoes, Clover, Lucerne, Cabages, Peas, Beans, &c. Sole Agents in the district for Alex. Cross & Sons' Celebrated Manures.

Harvest of all kinds always in Stock. Repairs on the Premises by First-Class Workmen. Write to the Writer for Prices.

MARSHALL & PEARSON, THE WEST HIGHLAND Ironmongery, Seed, and Saddlery Store, FORT-WILLIAM.

SOLE AGENTS in Lochaber for Alex. Robertson's HIGHLAND SHEEP DIV.

FURNITURE, CARPETS, LINOLEUMS.

Parties intending to FURNISH are invited to inspect our Large and Varied Stock of DINING-ROOM, DRAWING-ROOM, HALL and OFFICE FURNITURE. SUPERIOR QUALITY AND FINISH, AT LOWEST PRICES. Large and Well-Assorted Stock of AXMINSTER, WILTON, BRUSSELS, and other CARPETS. PLAIN and INLAIN LINOLEUMS, &c. MACIVER & COY., 68 CHURCH STREET, INVERNESS.

THE WESTERN TEA MART GREIG STREET, INVERNESS.

THE FAMILY GROCERY AND PROVISION WAREHOUSE OF THE WEST-END DISTRICT. SPECIALITY.—Our Western Gem Tea, at 2s per lb., is acknowledged to be the best value offered at the moment. Other Teas of First Class Blends at 1s 2d, 1s 4d, 1s 6d, 1s 8d, and 1s 10d, to suit all tastes. Samples on application. Provisions and Groceries always fresh and new at lowest possible prices. Orders promptly attended to.

C. MACKENZIE, THE WESTERN TEA MART, GREIG STREET, INVERNESS

FURNITURE FOR SALE.

Including Dining-Room Suites, Drawing and Bedroom Suites, Side-boards, Cheffonières, Couch and Easy Chairs, Parlour Chairs of every pattern. All kinds of Chests of Drawers, &c.

SELLING UNDER ANY SHOP IN THE NORTH OF SCOTLAND. A VISIT INVITED TO CHISHOLM & SONS, 95 AND 97 ACADEMY STREET, AND 4 GEORGE STREET, INVERNESS

JACK'S SEVEN BLENDS HIGHLAND WHISKIES.

JACK'S YELLOW SEAL, 2s. RED SEAL, 2s 3d. BLUE SEAL, 2s 6d. GREEN SEAL, 2s 9d. BLACK SEAL, 3s. V. O. BLEND, 3s 6d. V. V. O. BLEND, 3s 6d. JACK'S 10-YEAR-OLD "LONG JOHN," 3s 6d per Bot. 21s per Gal. One Doz. Cases (except 2s and 3s) Carriage Paid. All Matured Whiskies; and, on Comparison, will be found vastly superior to anything offered elsewhere.

JACK, EXCHANGE, INVERNESS.

THE HIGHLAND JEWELLERY ESTABLISHMENT.

By Special Appointment to H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES HIGHLAND and CAIRNGORM JEWELLERY. ALL the Old Patterns and many Registered Novelties New this Season. HIGHLAND DRESS ORNAMENTS. Dirks, Sporrans, Shoulder Brooches, Skean Dhu, and every Requisite for this Picturesque Dress. SOLID SILVER and ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE. The Latest Specialities for Wedding, Birthday, and Complimentary Presents, at Moderate Prices. Selections of Goods sent for approval. ANTIQUE SILVER PLATE, CLOCKS, &c. Fine Gold Jewellery, Gold and Silver Watches. Clocks in Brass, Bronze, Enamels, Marbles and Fine Woods. Presentation Committees met with on Liberal Terms. Watches, Clocks, and Jewellery Carefully Repaired by Thoroughly-Experienced Workmen. Electric Time Ball in Direct Communication with Greenwich Observatory. Highest Price given for Old Gold and Silver.

FERGUSON & MACBEAN, CORNER OF UNION STREET, INVERNESS.

FOR GOOD WHISKY OR RUM TRY THE CORNER SHOP IN GREIG STREET.

COMMISSION AGENTS. RABBITS! RABBITS!! RABBITS!!! JOHN S. BOYLE, FISH and GAME SALESMAN, FISHMARKET, GLASGOW.

Realises Best Market Prices for all RABBITS and GAME consigned to him. Hampers and Address Cards on application. Correspondence Invited. Telegraphic Address—"GUIDANCE. References, National Bank of Scotland, Trongate Branch. Telegraphic address—"CHAPMAN," London. Bankers and BARCLAY, BEVAN, & CO., Lombard Street, London. References

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SHANKS' LAWN MOWERS.

Shanks' Hand, Pony, and Horse Machines, with Steel Axle Springs, are superior to all others. Foreigners bested for Quality and Cheapness in the Side Wheel type. Stocks kept by all the leading Ironmongers and Seedmen. Price-Lists and Testimonials on application to ALEXANDER SHANKS & SON, Ltd., Ayr, Ayrshire.

"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 TULLOCH SALEROOM, 25 Academy Street, first shop from the East Church Inverness.

WATCHES.—Gent's Silver Levers from £2 upwards; Gent's Silver Waltham Levers, highly recommended for timekeeping, from £2 12s 6d. Warranted for 3 Years. Money returned after a Month's Trial if not approved of. THE RAILWAY WATCH COMPANY, INVERNESS.

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VICTORIA CYCLE WORKS, BANK STREET, INVERNESS. Sole Agents for Inverness and district for the "ELSWICK," "ALLARD," "ROYAL ENFIELD," "NEW HUDSON," "CENTAUR," "RAMBLER," "JAMES," and "DEFIANCE" Cycles. Call and see Samples at our New Cycle Saloon at BANK STREET. Largest in the North. Price—£29 10s. FULLY GUARANTEED. Repairs of all kinds done CHEAPLY and QUICKLY.

THE LARGEST AND FINEST EXHIBITION OF HIGH-GRADE CYCLES.

Outside of London is to be now seen at URQUHART'S, 23 AND 30 HIGH STREET, INVERNESS, COMPRISING HUMBERS, TRIUMPHS, SWIFT, ARIELS (LATE DUNLOP), AND STARS, which have the enviable reputation of being the best the world can produce, and are now being sold at GREATLY REDUCED PRICES at the above Address only.

A limited number only of "HUMBERS," at Special Clearance Prices, from £12 12s, being several pounds under actual cost of production. Also a few "RALEIGHS," at considerably less than cost, to clear.

All kinds of REPAIRS executed on the Premises in first-class style by thoroughly experienced mechanics.

SAVE MONEY BY PURCHASING AN OSMOND.

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WHOLESALE AGENT FOR THE NORTH—CHISHOLM, FALCON CYCLE DEPOT, FALCON SQUARE, INVERNESS. Telegrams—"CHISHOLM, CYCLIST."

The balmy breath of spring is here, and heralds the warm days of summer. This fact reminds the prudent man that it behoves him to consider wherewith he will himself suitably for the season. To be well and neatly dressed is the laudable aim of every well-regulated being, but in these hard times it is matter of paramount importance that a man should get his clothing at the cheapest possible rate and be assured that he will have at the same time excellent material, first-class style, and perfect fit. You can satisfy

YOURSELVES IN CLOTHE BECOMING GARMENTS.

practically nominal. One can be clothed now-a-days in the most fashionable style and in first-class material for a sum that a few years ago would not pay a tailor to sew the articles. But not everywhere can you get this immense advantage. Even yet most firms charge an excessive profit on ready-made

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AT R. M'LEOD'S GENERAL OUTFITTING, DRAPERY & BOOT STORES, 17 Castle Street, INVERNESS.

Only Address in Town. No connection with any other shop, having sold same to present occupier. BRANCH SHOP—8 GORDON STREET, NAIRN

ROBERT MURRAY, FAMILY GROCER AND WINE MERCHANT, FORT-WILLIAM.

Having acquired the LICENSED BUSINESS of the late Mr JOHN WALKER, I would respectfully call attention to the large and Varied Stock of GROCERIES, WINES, SPIRITS, &c., in my Warehouse, which, from long connection with Manufacturers and the best Wholesale Houses, I am in a position to supply at Very Moderate Prices. While selling all Goods as Cheap as possible, QUALITY WILL NOT BE SACRIFICED, but every endeavour made to maintain a High Standard of Excellence. All Orders receive careful personal attention, and are Promptly Delivered. A Fair Trial will be Esteemed.

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ADDITIONAL TRAIN SERVICE between BURGHHEAD and HOPEMAN. On and after Monday, 2nd proximo, the 12.15 P.M. Mixed Train from Alives to Burghhead will be continued to Hopeman, and the 5.50 P.M. Mixed Train from Burghhead to Alives will start from Hopeman, running as under:—Alives, dep. 12.15 P.M.; Collieston Platform, dep. 12.24 P.M.; Burghhead, arr. 12.32 P.M.;

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"OSSIANIC HEROIC POETRY."

PAPER BY DR L. STERN. [Translated by J. L. ROBERTSON, H.M.S.] No. 1.

A hundred and thirty years have gone by since the name "Ossian" reached us here. The credit of having made the world acquainted with the poetry of the son of Finngal belongs wholly to James Macpherson, a young divinity student from the Scottish Highlands, who, in Edinburgh, in 1760, under the patronage of the celebrated literary critic Hugh Blair, published two poems, then fifteen, and in the second edition sixteen "Fragments," translated from the Gaelic or Erse into English—all of which were regarded as precious gems of lyric poetry. The task of collecting more of this material, either from manuscripts or from the oral recitation of the Celtic inhabitants of the Scottish mountains and the Western Islands, and of translating this into the English language, was offered to many, but the accomplished young man completely gratified this honourable desire, for in 1762 he startled everyone with the publication of a regular epic "Finngal," and in 1763 an exactly similar work, "Temora"—both of which were followed by supplementary minor poetical pieces, being avowedly the composition of Ossian, the son of Finngal, a King of Morven, in ancient Scotland, in the third century, and being faithfully translated from the Gaelic version. Indeed, there was appended to the last named volume a sample of the original text, the seventh book of "Temora" for the purpose of appeasing the doubts of inquisitive critics.

The fact that the "Poems of Ossian" made throughout Europe is too well known. No one suspected for a moment the existence of such an ancient and emotional body of poetry in that remote corner of the earth. The melancholy, "melancholy" which suffuses these poems accorded so well with the mental phase of intellectual activity which was predominant about the middle of the last century, while the quaintness of the poetical prose, its flowing style, so laconic, and yet so consonant with the English language, operated as a charm upon many. Far off the happy of the Celtic Homer entranced the souls of men, and kept them long captive in a sweet captivity.

"But why art thou sad, son of Finngal? Why grows the cloud of thy soul? The chiefs of other times are departed; They have gone without their fame: The sons of future years shall pass by, And another race arise. The people are like the waves of the ocean: Like the leaves of woody Morven— They pass away in the rustling blast, And other leaves lift their green heads, Did thy beauty last, O Ryno? Stood the strength of carbons Oscar? Finngal himself passed away, And the halls of his fathers forgot his steps; And shall thou remain, aged and hoar, When the mighty have failed? But my fame shall remain, And grow like the oak of Morven, Which lifts its head to the storm, And rejoices in the course of the storm." (1)

But there was no lack of critics, who refused to give any unqualified acceptance to the Ossianic poetry. The sombre melancholy is the too dominant and favourite mood of the desolate, though powerfully-drawn, landscape, and such is the prevailing monotony in the representations of nature which find a not apt parallel in the changing scenes of a kaleidoscope or the artificial patterns of a mosaic. While the poems of Ossian attempt to discard the impossible and the trivial, in which the imagination of folk-poetry delights, they yet introduce a sentimentality and magnificence still less appropriate to the legendary story of the heroic time. All through the invention is poor, the execution vague; the style is certainly youthful and perceptible, and the lack of variety and due attention to details betray the inexperience of the composer. The figures of speech, daring as they are, sometimes will not stand the test of close examination. An odd and incongruous use of words is very common, and the general diction frequently descends from the affected grandeur of the Ossianic level to the ridiculous. (2) Moreover, echoes of Homer, Milton, the Hebrew Prophets, and other poets abound—a fact to which Macpherson himself naively enough called attention, and which the incisive critical writings of the learned Malcolm Laing (1762-1819) have more emphatically and justly elucidated. The complete purity of the Gaelic poetry had been characterised by Voltaire in 1770 in his scathing remark that to compose Virgil was difficult, Ossian easy. (3)

But there was another count in the indictment against the Ossianic poems. Their real basis is the neopagan theory that the Celtic Highlanders are the direct descendants of the ancient Celts, whom the Romans, under Caracalla, are said to have subdued in 208 A.D. This erroneous hypothesis David Macleod—"the great author MacComb," (4) to whom Alexander Macleod in his beautiful verses in praise of the Gaelic language has so aptly and so championed, and thereby flattered not a little the patriotic feeling of his countrymen. According to Macpherson, Finngal was King of an ancient legendary Morven, in the county of Argyll, in Scotland—though such a kingdom is absolutely unknown to other traditional accounts, especially to those of Ireland, the motherland of the Scottish Gaels, and the chief seat of the Celtic race to the present day. Of this race, which, standing once on a time from its original Indo-Germanic home, penetrated farthest westwards of all, two branches, besides the Gaels in ancient France, have survived the centuries, viz., the Cymri in Wales, Cornwall, and Brittany (to whom probably the extinct people, the Picts, belonged), distinguished by Professor Rhys from a speciality of their dialect the "P-Celts," and the Gaels or Scots, the "G-Celts," who took possession of Ireland and the Western Islands. Beda, it may be remembered, in his "Ecclesiastical History," chronicles the tradition that the Irish tribe from Ulster, the "Dalriadae," or "Dál-Riada," emigrated about 500 A.D. to Argyll, north of the Firth of Clyde, and thus the Gaelic or Scottish nation was transplanted to Caledonia. To this country they gave not only the name Scotland, but also sixty kings, from Fergus, the son of Ere, to Alexander II. in 1249 A.D. In Ireland, however, the civilisation of the Scots attained a marked development, and from early days this influence operated effectively in its transference to the Gaelic-speaking countries—that is, the Isle of Man, West Scotland (Alba), and the Hebrides (Inse Gall, "the Isles of the Strangers") to wit, the Orkneys, the Gaels, and the Western Islands, generally called simply "Gaelic," is, as the Manx is, merely a dialect of the Irish tongue, and is accordingly named in English "Erse." (5) In modern times these dialects have widely differentiated, yet their early literature is one and the same, and the ancient mythical tales have, for the most part, had their origin in the motherland. Finngal is a well-known heroic figure in this joint legendary lore, but he goes by the name of Finn or Finna, and is Commander-in-Chief of the martial clan the Feinne or Fenians, under Cormac the Overlord of Ireland in the middle of the third century. Oochin, Oscar, and Goll are certainly in the Irish saga members of this warrior band; but Cuchullin, to whom, according to Macpherson, Finn lends assistance, lived about a century before the Christian Era, at the time of King Conchobar of Ulster. Again, Derdri, the wife of the last-named, becomes in the poems of "Ossian," who calls her Darthula, a contemporary of Finngal, and is slain by the jealous Cairbre, and he was a successor of Cormac. So goes on the entire narration of the story. (6) It fares equally badly with geography in the poems of "Ossian"; sounding names without any significance are all that Macpherson gives, and his practice is to shift the scene of the action almost always to Scotland. This kind of treatment might be looked for in later poetry, but not so in the "Poems of Ossian" professedly were. Despite these objections, Macpherson gave out that he collected the "Poems" in the vernacular Gaelic—and how few of them were ever made known to the public—and that he translated them, indeed, remarked how strikingly expressive the original is in this or that passage (e.g., Temora, p. 92—Gaelic 5, 307 ff.) or that a certain passage had been set to music, and that few called for a strict translation, as the Gaelic is 108 ff.). In his introductory and explanatory comments he continually extols the high antiquity and excellence of his "Poems of Ossian," as compared with the trashy and nonsensical popular poetry which in Ireland affected the name of Ossian; and he, a man who never made his name as a poet, but who, as a man of letters, had called for a strict translation, as the single line of a Gaelic manuscript only a few centuries old, treats contemptuously the learned Roderick O'Flaherty and Dr. Geoffrey Keating, the Livy of the Irish nation. Such was the unparalleled audacity with which he single-handedly challenged the whole array of Old Irish scholarship.

fail utterly to expulate their English "translator"; on the contrary, they entirely confirm the judgment of his most celebrated critics. Doubt, in fact, gives place to certainty. It is, in the next place, of great importance to the story of the genesis of the Gaelic originals to take notice of some fragments thereof which appeared earlier. The first of which we know is a piece from "Finngal" (3, 302-403, 497-514 of the later issue), attributed to the Rev. Mr. Maciver, of Lochalsh (ob. 1790). It was first published in 1814 by J. Grant in his "Origin and Descent of the Gael" (p. 423, et seq.), and it shows an entire divergence from the "original" of 1807. The episode is an incomplete outline of the corresponding passage in Macpherson's "Finngal" of 1762, and must be relegated to the year 1760 or 1761, as the "Garbh" of this fragment was named "Swaran" by Macpherson in 1762, and he is, "Finn," the form "Fionnghael," i.e., Finngal, appears. Probably Maciver was a friend and coadjutor of Macpherson's.

The second Gaelic original fragment was that of the son Lanchlan Macpherson and Strathmashee (1767), a Gaelic poet. This specimen, describing the combat between Goll and Swaran, in "Finngal," 4, 259-76, some thoughtful friend communicated in 1799 to the Highland Society (Report, p. 32), for not a line of its text, the genuineness of which had already been doubted by Edward O'Reilly (Essay, p. 245)—Swaran and the Heath of Gormal being (James) Macpherson's—squares with the Gaelic "Ossian" of 1807. Macpherson, Strathmashee, it is likely, also the author of that other Gaelic piece, which, after being communicated to A. Gallie, was printed in the Report (p. 143).

"A mhacain cheann Nan cirsain sraun Ard-leunnach righ nan sleagh," &c. (12) This poem is pretty literally rendered by Macpherson in "Finngal" (p. 56, ed. 1762 or 4, 299-310) as the "Battle Song of Ullin"—"Son of the chief of generous steeds! King bounding king of spears! &c., and was like that of the Gaelic original, and was translated quite literally and with hardly any variation direct from the English. Don. Campbell, in his "Treatise on the Language, Poetry, and Music of the Highland Gaels" (Edinburgh, 1862, p. 122), gives a very loose version professedly based on an oral transmitter, verbatim, and is not more reliable than the English translation in the Gaelic "Ossian" of 1807, which likewise, indeed, contains reminiscences of the actual original of the Report, though it otherwise is thoroughly in discord therewith. This poem is in no sense ancient, for both the metre and the language are phrases are borrowed from the dirge of Rob. Roy Macgregor— "Sar mhacraich nan fann Air cirsain nan sraun Sreim mhacraich nan ceann b'e't' aidhear e." (Stewart's Collection, n. 301; Menzies' Comh-chruinnseach, p. 256). According to an unsupported story, Macpherson, Strathmashee, was also the translator of the Gaelic version of the seventh book of "Temora" of 1763, but it need only be remarked that he at one time testified prominently to the authenticity of the Macpherson "Ossian," and that, to quote his own words, he found it rendered with astonishing fidelity.

NOTES. 1 Cf. Herd's Works 16, 327; from "Bethula." 2 "Thou dweller of battle or 'dweller of my thoughts' ("Temora," p. 143); also "a white-bosomed dweller between my arms" (p. 120). In 1785 the style of "Ossian" was grotesquely parodied in the "Edinburgh Magazine." 3 Oeuvres Complètes, edition Garnier (Paris, 1786), t. 2, p. 236. W. Shaw (Linnæus, 1781, p. 58) derides the mechanical in the Ossianic poetical method. 4 "S réir Mhac. Com. An t-uidhaid mór luaidh" (Alex. Macdonald). 5 Mentioned by William Dunbar, circa 1590; "as crische," 5, 41; "ersche," 1, 53; and "arschey," 2, 69 (quoting "Irish Gaelic," 1793-94, L. L. Eligor, 1798; Alex. Campbell, 1797; Ch. H. Schuchardus, 1799; J. Macdonald, 1802; J. Gurllit, 1802; Mrs. Grant, Laggan, 1803; Arch. Macdonald, 1805; P. Graham, 1807; Sir John Sinclair, 1807; J. Grant, 1814; E. Macleachlan, 1818; H. and J. MacCallum, 1816; Alex. Macdonald, 1820; J. Campbell, 1822; J. Lyon, 1831; J. Reid, 1832; P. Macgregor, 1831; G. Macleachlan, 1854; Oswald, 1857; Thos. Macleachlan, 1857; P. Macnaghtin, 1861; D. Campbell, 1862; J. F. Campbell, 1862; W. F. Skene, 1862; E. Waag, 1863; Th. Pattison, 1866; Arch. Macneil, 1868; A. H. Eddard, 1868-70; Arch. Clerk, 1870; P. B. Waddell, 1875; J. M. Blackie, 1876; C. S. Jerram, 1876; D. M. Stewart, 1880; W. Stewart, 1884; Alex. Macleachlan, 1884. The many translators of "Ossian" who seem by this to be convinced of its genuineness I have not mentioned in the above list. 6 Doubt in the genuineness of the "Poems of Ossian" is met with in 1762 in the "Journal of Scavans," Nov., p. 724 ff.; then follow in the same line the remarks of 1764 and E. Warner, Ch. O'Connor, 1766-75; W. Johnson, 1775; Sir James Foulis, W. Shaw, 1781-84; M. Laing, 1800-1805; Th. O'Flanagan, 1808; Fink, 1811; Ch. O'Connor, D. J. 1814; Edw. Davies, 1825; W. H. Drummond, 1831; E. J. Reilly, 1831; Talvi (Therese Ad. L. v. Jankovics), 1837; Murray, 1850; Ch. O'Curry, 1862; the "Times," 1869; W. M. Hennessy, 1871; J. F. Campbell, 1872; St. H. O'Grady, 1880; Alex. Macleachlan, 1886-87; H. Macleachlan, 1887; Professor Mackinnon, 1890; Alf. Nutt, 1890; H. D'Arbois de Jubainville, 1892. Here, as in the foregoing note, only the most important names are given, for a complete Ossianic bibliography would of itself fill a volume. 7 The first fifty Psalms, translated by the Synod of Argyll, were published in Glasgow in 1659. This is the first book printed in Scottish Gaelic, and it is noteworthy that its Irish colouring is marked. 8 Alex. Stewart, the grammarian of the Gaelic, "Albanogaelic" (1801), actually holds that the modern dialect is older than the ancient Irish, v. "Elements of Gaelic Grammar," p. 88. 9 In the "Gentleman's Magazine," XXX. (1760), p. 409, in reference to the "Fragments," occurred the following: "As the Original Erse intended to be printed with some future edition of them, it will irrefragably prove their authenticity, which might otherwise be reasonably doubted. And in January, 1761, Macpherson writes to Macleachlan that a Gaelic copy of Finngal has come into his hands—'I have some thoughts' he says, 'of publishing the original, if it will not clog the work too much' (Report, app. p. 155). Before the first edition of Finngal in 1762, he likewise remarks—'There is a design on foot to print the originals as soon as the translator shall have time to transcribe them' (Report, p. 155). The original was deposited in one of the public libraries, to prevent so ancient a monument of genius from being lost. In 1763 a Gaelic specimen of the seventh Book of 'Temora' appeared, with the declaration that further proofs were

necessary, as the originals had long enough lain open to inspection. Macpherson's first intention was to print the Gaelic text in Greek character.

A LEWIS CATECHIST. REMINISCENCES OF THE LATE MURDO MACLEOD. [By R. Ross, M.D.]

In the early years of the present century the living piety of the parishioners of Lochs was represented in the persons of the following individuals, the fruit of the labours of itinerant lay preachers, namely:—Alexander Macdonald, already referred to; Donald Maciver, of Ransh, latterly of Stornoway, and known as "Donnlun Mór nan grà"; Arthur of Athline, "Arto", whom we shall refer to again; and Ann Macdonald, a spinster, residing first at Steumrava and latterly at Garrivard. These were looked upon by the generality of their neighbours as odd and peculiar persons; they were disliked and despised, not only at the same time their unblemished lives and their zeal for the salvation of others could not but command a measure of respect. What a trial it must have been to those godly persons, each of them living many miles apart, to have no sympathy from or fellowship with those about them. Even the ministers had no regard for them, they rather feared and hated them. They did not resent such conduct. For example's sake they attended church regularly, though the services must have been a grief to them, and though they say the entrance to the sanctuary on the Lord's Day made the principal gossiping resort of the parish, the place where bargains and appointments were wont to be made, and where even common wares were unblushingly exposed for sale after the close of the service! As often as they could they met by themselves for prayer and fellowship, exhorting and encouraging one another in their lonely pilgrimage.

Some idea of the cross spiritual ignorance and prejudice these people had to contend with may be gathered from the following anecdote of their time:—When Mr. Ewen Macdonald opened the first Gaelic School at Lochs, he used to prescribe home lessons to his pupils; and on a certain evening a girl happened to be coming over his Gaelic Scripture extracts at the fireside. His father's attention being attracted by the unusual exhibition, he wished the boy to read aloud so that he might hear what was in the book. But on hearing the boy reading out of his book some of the identical passages the minister has lately read in church, the father, horror-struck, as such a profanity, exclaimed, "Stop, stop, things have come to a strange pass when the Gravar little boys read out of a book the very passages we used only to hear read out of the minister's book in church!" In like manner, in the year 1824, when the Rev. Mr. Macleod was settled in Uig, one of his early experiences on a Monday morning was to see his manse surrounded by a crowd of angry, menacing men, not a pleasant sight to any man of those days—demanding an explanation from him of his authority for denouncing them from the pulpit on the previous day as lost sinners who needed a Saviour. What sin or fault had he to charge them with, or who could save them but themselves? But on the man opening his Bible and reading out of it some of the passages which spoke of the river, and of the people who were the great salvation, the poor people exclaimed, "It was never told us before," and then returned home peacefully to reflect on those things; to ponder savingly on them, as they result in many cases afterwards showed.

Two more anecdotes, in each of which one of the four persons above referred to comes on the scene in a commendable manner. When Malcolm Macchie, the late worthy Free Church minister of Garrivard, died under spiritual concern, which happened before Mr. Macleod went to Uig, the boy's father, deeply anxious about his son's strange conduct, consulted the then parish minister, Mr. Hugh Munro, as to what should be done. After hearing the father's account of his son's distress, Malcolm, some of Arthur's talk seed has got into him again on a certain occasion, a fama rot abroad that the Rev. Mr. Simpson of Lochs, Mr. Finlayson's predecessor, had imbibed rather freely during a visit to Stornoway. As soon as Alexander Macleod heard it he made his way to the manse, and on being shown into the study, addressed Mr. Simpson as follows:—"Minister, do you really go to heaven?" "Oh, yes, Sandy," replied the minister. "Well," said Sandy, "if you do, allow me to tell you that you won't get a bottle and dram glass there to go on the spree as you did in Stornoway the other day." On delivering this message, Sandy withdrew, leaving the minister to reflect on his conduct. Undoubtedly these men were not so far from the truth, though witnessing faithfully and fearlessly for the Truth, when it required much moral courage to do so, they did not behave in a censorious or pharisaical manner: they spoke in love and not anger, and hence they could not be justly respected, though feared. Mr. Simpson, among other persons, held the right of the fishing of the famous Laxay River, and one of the usual modes of capturing fish in those days was by means of the "carraid," a stone dyke semicircularly on the shore at a bend near the mouth of the river, or across another small bay, which fish frequented. This dyke was constructed as to be a few feet below water when the tide was in; but as it ebbed the fish frequently remained inside the dyke when the tide receded, and thus became stranded on the beach. In this manner a shoal of salmon got stranded at the Laxay River on a certain Sabbath morning, and the man in charge loaded his small boat and set off for the Manse. He arrived during service, but had the sense of propriety to keep out of sight till the congregation had dispersed. His master, however, rebuked him for his modesty, saying it was a pity he had not known before Mr. Ross's boat (the Crossboat) had left. Determined, however, that Mr. Ross should have his fish, and have it fresh, he despatched his herd with caution, him to keep well outside Leurrind, and him to fear Sandy Macleod, who might meet him and make a row over the matter! One more story, showing Mr. Macleod's fearlessness and fidelity. The then catechist of Lochs, whose name is now very properly forgotten, added to his other accomplishments that of playing the violin, which he might be no offence, but which, when employed at the same time with the fiddle, he started singing Psalms, with the result that both fiddling and dancing immediately ceased. We linger with admiration on the doings of this early faithful Christian witness in our native parish, but we must now part with him by remarking that he persevered to the end, always rising early to pray and praise, and on the Sabbath mornings rousing up his sleepy neighbours. One day, while on his knees praying in the kiln,

he had a stroke of paralysis, which disabled his body for the remaining four years of his life, but which did not abate his zeal for his Master's cause. Peace to his hollowed memory and that of his fellow-witnesses! They were, in truth, the harbingers of the bright and glorious day which was about to shed its light on their native parish and island.

PECULIARITIES OF THE REAY COUNTRY DIALECT. [TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HIGHLAND NEWS"]

SIR,—In the April number of the "Celtic Monthly" the Rev. Adam Gunn gives among other things a certain number of "Reay" words, with a hard "g" for "g" in "sin"—Why do you say that? Mr. Gunn suggests that "this uig (t hard) is for *ciad*, and perhaps *thig*, sometimes put *gu-tig*, as if reduplicated." Allow me to suggest that the analysis is *ciad-thighe*. The same peculiar use is used dialectically in Ireland, and is found in a contract for *cad dhighe*. For instance, in the tale "An gobhag agus an sgol gearr, glas" in last week's "Gann an lae," we find the following—"Tuige ar mharaigh tu iad—Why did you kill them?" Is there any other part of the Highlands where the word is used?—I am, Sir, yours, &c., C. M. P.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS. "The Wide World Magazine" continues successfully to live up to its keynote that "Truth is stranger than fiction." Some very strange tales are told in the number for May, not the least interesting of which are "The marvelous feat of Sam Pershad, the juggler," "The Mysterious Tramp," "A very odd story of Fiji," and "In the Ocean Depths." With one or two exceptions the articles are illustrated by photographs, which go a long way to prove the truth of what otherwise might be suspected of being more than usually clever fiction.

With the sixth volume of "Hobbies" (Hobbie's Limited, Paternoster Square, London), several new departments have been added, notably such subjects as "Old China, Pottery, and Earthenware," "Canals and how to build them," "First Aid and Ambulance work," "Swimming," and "Holidays," and where to spend them are treated in a clear and interesting manner. Many other interesting announcements are made in "Hobbies." To this excellent little penny periodical we would refer the reader for further information.

The Religious Tract Society's parcel contains the "Boys' Own Paper," where serial stories of such talented writers as Jules Verne, John Dunkey, G. Manville Fenn, and Rev. A. N. Malan are running. "The Girls' Own Paper" has also come to hand. It is bright and brimful of excellent reading. The supplementary volume is by Sarah Donnelly, and is entitled "A Flower of Light." "Leisure Hour" is a capital number. In the "Sunday at Home" there are three appreciative sketches of the late George Muller and his work. The first of these is by Rev. Dr. Glover, and the next by Mr. James Baker, while Mary Rowles Jarvis breaks into song. "Friendly Greetings" from the large type in which it is printed, is an invaluable miscellany for the aged.

The fourth volume of the "Transactions of the Inverness Scientific Society and Field Club" records the work of seven years, from the beginning of the present session of 1889 to the end of 1895. Naturally, in such a wide period, many subjects were dealt with and numerous excursions were held. Visits were made to nearly every point of interest within forty miles of Inverness, and the younger members of the Club were fortunate in always having the company of several of the older and more experienced of our local scientists. The papers published are in some cases possibly somewhat learned and obtrusive, but the general reader will find in the volume much of real interest. The book is brightened by several illustrations, not the least interesting of which is that of the armadillo in Greyfriars Churchyard, Inverness. The identification of the figure with some Scottish soldier of note has long been the subject of dispute, but there appears to be a general agreement at the present moment that the figure is intended to represent the first Earl of Mar. The four volumes of "Transactions of the Society" covers a period of twenty years.

There are, in these latter days, so many periodicals dealing with the "Home" that the public is in danger of becoming bewildered as to the identity of each, and without some distinctive feature to go by may be somewhat doubtful if the budget it gets this week is the one it had last, or whether it would recognize again the one it wishes anyhow. Still, they come, however, the latest being "The Home Magazine," issued from the office of "Trit-Bits" (the Strand), and which may be assumed that the people who produced "Trit-Bits" and the "Strand" know what the public want, and this time they pin their faith by a magazine which is distinctly religious, and is described as "an illustrated paper for Sunday and week-day reading." The editors, Mr. George Clarke and Mr. Frank Newnes, in a foreword say, among other things, "The Home Magazine" is sent out into the world in the belief that it will fill a place not yet filled, and in the sincere hope that it may be a means to the end we have in view—making hearts happier, hopes brighter, lives more holy; bringing many to God, and the Christ to many more. The magazine is published every Wednesday at one penny, and the first number, brightly written and copiously illustrated, is a distinct acquisition to the religious literature of the day.

LITERARY NOTES.

Certain literary ladies in France are fostering a project to found a French Academy for themselves on the line of the famous masculine institution, one of the most enthusiastic being the celebrated "Gyp."

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Scottish Universities: "St. Andrews," by J. Maitland Anderson, Librarian, Registrar, and Secretary of the University; "Glasgow," by Professor W. Stewart, D.D., Clerk of the Senate; "Aberdeen," by Robert S. Rait, M.A.; and "Edinburgh," by Sir Ludovic J. Grant, Bart., Clerk of Senate and Professor of Public Law, will be dealt with in order in Mr. F. W. Robertson's "Illustrated Popular Histories of Universities and Colleges" series.

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We are advised from headquarters that "Miss Marie Coralli having threatened Mr. Leonard Smithers, the publisher of Mr. W. P. Ryan's 'Literary London,' with a libel action for the references to herself on pages 80 and 81 in that book, Mr. Smithers, while not admitting any libel, has agreed to draw his name from the title page, a legal decision. The author has assumed full responsibility for the publication of copies on his own account circulating in the ordinary channels."

Hostilities between Spain and the United States will lead to the postponement of the publication of several books which would have appeared in London in the summer. Most books likely to be popular in this country are published simultaneously on the other side of the Atlantic, and as the minds of American citizens are likely to be occupied before long with exciting news, they will be less inclined to buy books.

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The family of the late Henry George are preparing a limited edition of his works, which will be in the best style of book-making, containing new portraits and a full biography written by Henry George Jun. The work carried through the press his father's last book, "The Science of Political Economy," which Mr. George had in preparation at the time of his death, and which embodies the finished thought of the economist's ripest years.

A new work dealing with the historic district of Lochaber will shortly be published by Messrs Morrison Brothers, Glasgow. It will be entitled "Loch Lochaber, Historical, Genealogical, and Traditinary," and is from the pen of Mr. W. Drummond-Norris, whose frequent contributions to Highland literature are well known. The subject is exhaustively treated from a Jacobite standpoint, and the volume is very appropriately dedicated to Cameron of Lochiel. The work will be profusely illustrated with original drawings by Mr. Lockhart Bogle and the author. There will be many photographs of interesting places, and reproductions of old and rare portraits of local celebrities.

A curious imaginative tale of what the next century may bring forth is to be found in a volume just issued from the Western News Co., of Chicago, entitled "Can a Man Live for Ever?" by J. Emile Hix. It presupposes that a National Institute of Science has been established by the Government in 1903, equipped with every appliance known to advanced science, and conducted by a faculty composed of all the noted scientists of the country. An elixir of life is discovered, and discovery experiments are made upon adult and infants. In the author's opinion, the success of this life elixir is a solution of the ills of humanity—what has been a perpetual existence which has defied mankind through all ages.

In view of the approaching Wagner festival at Covent Garden, lovers of music will be interested to hear of a new volume on the subject of the opera from the pen of M. Albert Lavignac, Professor of Harmony at the Conservatoire of Paris. M. Lavignac has succeeded in this book in presenting the Wagnerian style in its own proper light by dissipating the clouds with which it has been enveloped by certain of its commentators, who far from smoothing the way have made it bristle with difficulties. Another aim of the author has been to satisfy the curiosity of those who have not yet undertaken the attractive journey to Bayreuth. The publishers will be Messrs Service & Paton.

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CURE DEAF PEOPLE. A rich lady cured of Deafness and Head Noises by Dr. Gibson's Artificial Ear Drums sent £1000 so that these deaf people might be cured. The deaf may have them free. Apply by letter to P. X. Richardson Bros., 9, Gt. Russell St., London, W.C.

TWO AGAINST ONE.

By OLARA MULHOLLAND. Author of "Kathleen Mavourneen," "Lady Strathmore's Stratagem," "John Lawson's Ward," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XVI.

Across the grass at this moment walked Jasper Lynne. In his hand he carried an open letter, and even in the fading light, Diana saw that his face was ghastly in its pallor. He came straight in at the window, and stood beside her chair. She did not move at his entrance, or appear to notice that he was there.

"Diana," she looked up, coldly, without the smallest show of interest. "Yes?"

"I have news that will please you, although you are so indifferent," he hissed from between his teeth—"news that will please you almost as much as it does me, for, though you do not look me, you look her still more. Ah! I thought you would wake up. Leila has beaten us, Diana Talbot! In spite of our machinations she has kept Harold's love, and now succeeds in his fortune."

Diana sprang to her feet. Her great eyes glittered and a cry broke from her lips. "You are mad, Jasper Lynne!"

"Would that I were!" he wiped the cold perspiration from his brow—"because I might become sane again and find that this was not true. But unless something is done, unless we can secure this will, and well, let us say lose it, Leila inherits every penny of Harold Lynne's fortune."

"What can you mean? There is no will. My uncle—"

"He is safe enough, poor old man. I have nothing to fear from him. But look at this," holding out a letter. "To-day, as I rode along, a boy ran after me, saying that in his mother's house a soldier lay dying. He had news of Harold, he told them, and wished to see someone from Ravenswell."

"Harold!" gasped Diana, her face lighting up suddenly with a great, an unexpected joy. "He is not dead, then? Oh—say he is not dead!"

"Oh—he is dead—there is no doubt about that," cried Jasper. "But before he died—on the eve of the battle in which he was killed—he wrote this letter and gave it to this soldier, who had been severely wounded and was going home soon—charging him to give it to Leila herself—if possible. Read it for yourself—I cannot."

Diana took the letter from his trembling hands, and, going close to the window that she might catch the fading light, read as follows:

My DARLING, — To-morrow, to-night—any moment—we may be face to face with the enemy. God alone knows whether I shall ever see your sweet face again. May He bless and protect you, my love, my darling; and I meant to tell you what I meant to tell you long ago. In the secret tower of the library, of which you and I alone know, my will, which I leave you everything I possess in the world. Good-bye, my love, good-bye.—Yours till death, HAROLD LYNNE.

The paper fluttered to the ground. Diana uttered a deep sob, and buried her face in her hands. "How he loved her—how he loved her! And I—this must never reach her. Leila must never know that he died loving her. It would kill me to know that she received this letter. It must be destroyed at once."

The fierceness in her voice startled Jasper. But he glanced approvingly at the white, determined face.

"You are right, and it shall be destroyed—now." He tore the letter into atoms and tossed them out of the window. "There! so much for that. But the will remains. Any day—any hour—it may be discovered, and I, Jasper Lynne, owner of a good old name, and a title to boot, would be little less than a beggar with Ravenswell to keep up."

"Do not alarm yourself. The will, too, can be destroyed."

"For a moment their eyes met.

"True," he said. "But do you know the drawer he means? Can you find it?"

"I do not know the drawer. But I may find it. And, if the worst comes—if we cannot discover it—I shall be content to forward and whisper a few words in his ear."

Jasper staggered back—a look of horror flashed across his face.

"The old place—the old home! I could not do it—"

Diana looked at him contemptuously. "You are only a half-hearted villain after all, Jasper Lynne."

Then, with a short, mocking laugh, she swept past him out of the room.

All this time Mrs. Oakleigh was in a state of grief bordering upon distraction. The knowledge that her husband lay wounded—sick, perhaps, unto death—in the midst of uncivilised people, surrounded by all the horrors of war, without a friend to nurse or take care of him, drove her wild and caused her the most intense anguish.

Jennie came home from the hospital and devoted herself to the difficult task of comforting and consoling her mother. Nettie, too, like the loving little daughter she was, left her studies, and joined with her sister in doing all she could to lighten the poor woman's burden of grief by lavishing upon her all possible signs of love and affection.

And poor Leila, prostrate and broken down, her whole life ruined, every hope of happiness shattered by Harold's sudden and awful death, incapable, when once the full knowledge of her cruel bereavement had dawned upon her, of uttering a word of consolation or sympathy without a passionate fit of weeping, was a source of much comfort to the sorrowing woman during this terrible time. The sight of that sweet face, the large, loving brown eyes raised in tearful sympathy to hers; the touch of those trembling lips pressed against her own; the girl's deep, unutterable woe, which shewed itself in every turn of her golden head, in every movement of her body, touched Mrs. Oakleigh most keenly, and she felt drawn to this poor lonely child in a manner that astonished her.

months he would have the happiness of clasping his dear ones in his arms. "And now," cried Mrs. Oakleigh, looking round joyfully at the three girls, "we must fret no more. From this day we must be happy and cultivate our roses, so that when your dear father returns he may find us bright and pleasant to look upon. Nettie, my darling, your cheeks must get back those roguish dimples that he loved so well. Jennie, I trust you will get a little plumper. These weeks of sorrow have told upon you. And as for Leila—"

But Leila was gone. They heard her foot upon the stair and a few gasping sobs as she hurried along. Then the door of her room was shut and locked, and they heard no more.

"The child has some fresh grief of her own," said Mrs. Oakleigh, sadly, "some sorrow she will not speak about."

"Yes," replied Nettie, her dark eyes filling with tears. "She neither sleeps nor eats. There must be some bitter sorrow in her heart."

"Poor girl, she has been cruelly treated," said Jennie, "and that preys on her mind at times. But she will soon be better, I feel sure."

"There is more than that wrong now," insisted Nettie. "Something has happened to make her more wretched of late."

"Poor darling! I am afraid Nettie is right. But we must try to cheer her now, and make her life as bright as we can," said Mrs. Oakleigh. "My heart has gone out more than ever lately to the dear child. I feel sometimes as if she were really my own, my little dear Esther."

Jennie smiled and kissed her mother tenderly. "That is an old fancy of yours. But it is not a wonderful one, dear. The fact that Leila was once in a railway accident put it first into your head."

"Perhaps. And yet," thoughtfully, "the girl is just what my darling might have been; she was such a pretty child."

The next day Jennie and Nettie returned to their work; but Leila felt too ill to go through a day's drudgery at the studio, and remained at home. During the morning hours she stayed in her room, working and reading, but in the afternoon a longing for air took possession of her, and putting on her hat and jacket she went out.

Suddenly, as she walked along, she determined to visit Mrs. Giles once more, and question her a little farther as to her assertion that she was her grandmother.

Of late she had not troubled herself much about this unpleasant relationship, as her mind had been completely filled with the one terrible thought that Harold was dead—that she could never see him again.

"It matters little now whose child I am," she cried. "And yet to know the truth—to feel that had my darling lived I might have been his, would comfort me. Oh! I would give worlds to know really who my mother was. She, at any rate, was not this woman's child."

So thinking, Leila stepped into a 'bus, and was rattled away towards the dirty slums in which dwelt this wretched old woman. As she went thoughts of all that had happened since the first eventful day on which she had first driven to Silver Lane crowded in upon her, and she felt faint and sick at heart as she remembered all that she had suffered, and was likely to suffer, in the lonely, desolate future.

At last the 'bus stopped with a jerk, and the trembling girl soon found herself climbing the dirty, greasy stairs that led to Mrs. Giles's apartment.

"Hallo! 'ere we are again," cried a voice, and standing just above her was the same little boy whom she had met upon the occasion of her first visit to the old woman. "Who do yer want now, may I ask?"

"Mrs. Giles. Is she here still?"

"No. She's gone. They spasms did for 'er, bless yer. Someone took to sendin' 'er money, an' that finished 'er. She's gone to another lodgin' some three weeks back. An' the urchin chucked maliciously."

"To another lodgin'? Did she leave her address?"

"Bless yer, no. She wasn't rightly sure where she was goin'."

"What a pity. I was most anxious to see her."

"Then that you'll never do, Miss. She's dead, and was buried a good time ago. But she's no loss, I can tell yer. An' now look at this, 'Bill,' says she, the day before she died, 'if that 'ere young lady with the beautiful face comes again, give 'er this.' An' he handed Leila a piece of dirty crumpled paper, upon which the following was written in big round letters—"

"I am no relation of yours. What I told you was a lie. I was bribed to tell it.—ANNE GILES."

Leila staggered against the wall. The whole place seemed to spin round. Her heart beat wildly.

"I wrote it," said the boy at her elbow. "An' it's all true. She swore it on her oath."

The girl looked at him gratefully. She could have embraced him in her joy. But remembering that something more substantial than a kiss would doubtless be more to his taste, she drew out her purse and, reserving only a few pence for her 'bus fare, emptied its contents into his hand.

The boy's face shone with pleasure, and he thanked her long and loudly. Leila did not, however, wait to listen to him, but turned and fled as quickly as possible down the stairs.

From that hour the girl's spirits grew brighter. A terrible load had been lifted from her heart. And though her sorrow for Harold was still intense, she seemed less weighed down with grief and woe. Her lover was dead. Harold could never be her husband. But it was a comfort to know that she was not so terribly unworthy of that position as she had been led to suppose. Things were unchanged in that respect. Nothing more was known of her parents since the time when he had loved her and asked her to be his wife; and to the day of her death she would remain true to his memory and the love she had given him. "If I could only see Sir Oswald now," she would frequently exclaim with streaming eyes, "and tell him how false was the story of my relationship to that old woman. If I could put my arms round his neck, my head on his breast, and tell him how truly I grieve and sympathise with him in his pain and sorrow for Harold—if I could only speak to him for one moment, he would take me back to be his child, and together we would pass our days mourning for our lost darling."

Then, again, she wrote long and loving letters to Sir Oswald. But, as we know already, he never received them, and so no answers came to poor sad little Leila. And then at last, believing that he had ceased to love her, and was resolved never to have anything more to do with her, she gave up in despair, and the post carried her to her father's house at Ravenswell. No more of her tender pleadings to Ravenswell.

One evening towards the end of June Mrs. Oakleigh sat at the open window in the drawing-room, working. Nettie and Jennie were on the balcony together, discussing with much earnestness a subject very dear to them both, namely, Leila.

hard to get on. Besides, she is weary of the studio."

"Poor child! I do not wonder. It must be irksome and disagreeable," replied Jenny with quick sympathy. "She has been shamefully treated; brought up in luxury, and then suddenly left alone in London. Just imagine what might have happened if Mary had not known us, or if mother had refused to take her in! It is awful to think of. And yet she will not allow a word to be said against Sir Oswald Lynne. To my mind he is a cruel, heartless old man."

"So it seems to us. Leila says he has been deceived, and that her cousin Diana Talbot is at the bottom of it. She was jealous, perhaps. And I tell you what, Jennie," a sudden light is dawning upon me. Harold Lynne, the man who was killed, was the cause. Now that I remember Leila's face when I told her she was dead—her grief and anguish since—the rings she wears—seem to see it all. God help her, poor darling; she loved him, may be, was engaged to him."

"And the cousin—did she love him too?"

"Probably. And so wished to get rid of Leila."

"But he was away."

"Yes. But she thought he would return. Ah, I see it all. Mary told me that Diana hated Leila; and that she was proud and wicked."

"Jennie, Nettie, my darling children; here is good news!" cried Mrs. Oakleigh, holding out a letter. "Your father will be here to-morrow evening. I—"

They sprang to her side, and clinging to her, kissed her rapturously. "How delightful! How glorious!" they cried. "Dear, dear father! How good it will be to see him again!"

"Yes," she answered, whilst great tears fell unheeded down her cheeks. "I can hardly realise that he is coming. I feel quite unbinged. It is so much sooner than I expected. And the joy seems almost too great."

"What does he say, mother?" asked Nettie. "Is he poor dear very weak and ill?" "Then taking the letter, she read it attentively. "Why, to-morrow in time for dinner." "Yes, mother, Jenny, that means to-night. He'll be here in a few hours!"

"To-night? Yes, of course!" cried Mrs. Oakleigh, trembling with excitement; "so he will."

"And see," continued Nettie, "he says he is bringing a friend"—reading—"a young officer who, having saved me from a blow that would certainly have killed me, was struck down by my side, and whose name was given in the list of the dead. He is a splendid fellow, and will, I am sure, be most welcome to you, my wife and daughters, for the great services he has rendered me. And also, when I tell you that he has given me news of our little one—who we have all believed dead for so many years."

"Our little one, Esther?" exclaimed Mrs. Oakleigh, growing suddenly pale. "He makes a mistake. It is some other child this young man knows about. Our darling died. It would be cruel to raise false hopes in our breasts."

"Yes," said Jennie, "very. And poor papa would be as likely to jump to hope. He never quite believed she was dead."

"Well, no one ever saw her after death. We were in India; my cousin was ill. But the description of the little girl found near the old servant was exactly like our child. Oh, she was killed, I know."

"Well, dear, we shall soon hear what this officer's story is," said Jennie soothingly. "Meanwhile, darling mother, you must keep calm."

"Yes, dearest—yes. I will try."

"But about this officer, Nettie? Is he coming here with father? It will be a little awkward; we have no room for him. What shall we do?"

"Father knows nothing of Leila. He thinks we have a spare room. But I'll make up a bed on the floor in your apartment, dear, and give him mine. It is small, but—"

The door opened suddenly, and Leila appeared upon the threshold. Her eyes were full of tears, and she was in a state of extreme agitation and excitement. "Mrs. Oakleigh," she said in a choking voice, "I must go to Ravenswell to-night. Sir Oswald is dying."

"Dying? Sir Oswald Lynne?"

"Yes. See what Jasper says, and she drew a telegram from her pocket. Mrs. Oakleigh took it from the girl's trembling fingers, and read as follows: "If you wish to see Sir Oswald alive, come at once. Train leaves Paddington for Ravenswell at half-past six."

Mrs. Oakleigh looked at the girl with deep sympathy. "My dear, I suppose you are bound to go without delay? But alas! I must allow you to go alone. My husband comes home to-night, and neither I nor my daughters could be absent when he returns."

"Of course not." And flinging her arms round her and kissing her warmly, "I am so glad that he is coming. But I have not a moment to spare. My train goes in half an hour."

In great haste Leila collected a few necessary articles, and packed them in a bag. Then saying good-bye to her friends, she jumped into a hansom and drove away.

She was just in time for the train, and before she had thoroughly grasped the situation, or realised what she was doing, she was being whirled through the country towards Ravenswell.

(To be continued.)

The record of the ninth year's work of the Sailors' Orphan Society of Scotland is published. The object of the Society is to feed, clothe, educate, or otherwise provide for the orphans or fatherless children of seafaring men throughout Scotland who have been left in destitute circumstances. An interesting report is summed up in these words:—"We would state in a few words what is required for the general expenses and maintenance of the children, or £2600 for the year. Perhaps some friends would like to undertake the keep of one or more of a year. £3000 is still required, over and above what has been given or promised, to complete the building of the new Homes, and lastly, we want help towards the £100,000 for the Endowment Fund. We do not employ any collectors, nor do we call upon anyone for money; but seek in this way to let it be known what our needs are. May we suggest to you that we can for the orphans who through no fault of their own, are brought into needy circumstances, remembering that as God has given us much, He will expect much from us." There are a receiving home and working boys' home at 2 Elmbank Street, Glasgow, a girls' home at 5 Thistle Street, Glasgow, W., and a boys' home at 41, Albany Street, Dalmar. Some of the local committees are:—Barra, Rev. A. Macdonald; Forres, Rev. John Macpherson; Lochmaddy, Rev. D. Macdonald, North Uist, and Rev. Alex. Grant, Trumysgarry; Port Ellen, D. Mackenzie, Royal Bank; Skye, Rev. D. A. Macdonald, Kilmar; and Rev. Alex. Grant, Broadford; Stornoway, Rev. Provost Smith; Stromsferry, Rev. Alex. Macgarratt; Ullapool, Rev. John Macmillan; Wick, Daniel Weir. The Trustees desire that it should be as widely known as possible that they are ready to receive the orphan or fatherless children of seamen from any part of Scotland, if they are in necessitous circumstances, and that without voting papers or any influence.

Sunlight Soap advertisement. Put Aside Your Own Ideas about washing clothes, and try the SUNLIGHT way; it is easy, clean and economical. Don't let another washing day go by without trying SUNLIGHT SOAP. You will find it does double the work in half the time. Less Labour, Greater Comfort. Soap.

OLD PORT WINES. FINE OLD TAWNY PORTS, 2s, 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per Bot. RED WINES (Caledonian), 1s, 1s 3d, 1s 6d, 1s 9d per Bot. VERY SPECIAL. JACK'S HALF-CROWN INVALID, 2s. JACK'S 2s PORT. JACK'S BARCELONA PORT, 1s 6d. Doz. Cases (except the 1s and 1s 3d) Carriage Paid. Port Wines are often to a large extent adulterated and inferior, and most difficult to judge. It is therefore most important that consumers, especially invalids, should see that they use only a Pure, Sound Article, as Adulterated Wines are very injurious. We guarantee the above Wines Pure and of Fine Quality, and recommend them as specially suitable for Invalids. JACK, EXCHANGE, INVERNESS.

HAMS. HAMS. To all HOUSEWIVES WHO PRIDE THEMSELVES ON HAVING THE BEST OF EVERYTHING FOR THEIR MONEY, MESSRS HAMILTON BROS. RECOMMEND THEIR FAMOUS HAMS. FOR QUALITY AND VALUE THEY CERTAINLY ARE NOT EQUALLED BY ANY OTHER BRAND IN THE BRITISH MARKET. ORDER FROM YOUR GROCER.

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SANTAL-MIDY. THESE tiny Capsules relieve kidney and bladder trouble promptly. They are superior to Copalins, Cubebis, or Injections, and cure in forty-eight hours the same diseases without inconvenience. Each Capsule bears the name "Midy." Sold by all Chemists, or post free 3s 6d from WILCOX & CO., 53, Moir Street, London, W.

RINGS.—Engagement, Wedding, and Keeper Rings from 1s. Gent's Gold Signet Rings from 4s 6d. Cards for measuring finger post free. THE RAILWAY WATCH COMPANY, 15 New Market, Inverness.

HAVE YOU A BAD LEG With Wounds that discharge or otherwise, perhaps surrounded with inflammation and swollen, that when you press your finger on the inflamed part, it leaves the impression of a hot iron, and you have reason to believe that the remedies you have tried, which, if not extracted, you never can cure you. I don't say priapism, but I will, for I can cure you. The same with the ankles, round which the skin may be discoloured, or there may be wounds; the disease if allowed to continue will deprive you of the power to walk. You may have attended various hospitals and had medical advice and been told your case is hopeless, or advised to submit to amputation; but do not, for I can cure you. I don't say priapism, but I will, for I can cure you. The same with the ankles, round which the skin may be discoloured, or there may be wounds; the disease if allowed to continue will deprive you of the power to walk. 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# THE Highland Home.

BY MORAG.

## WEDDING PRESENTS.

**WHAT TO GIVE.**

**SOME STRANGE COLLECTIONS.**

MY DEAR MORAG.—A subject which has given rise to much discussion over the tea-cups in many of our local drawing-rooms of late is that of the giving of the inevitable wedding present. Only the other afternoon I was present when the matter was discussed from various points, all more or less interesting. One lady in particular waxed eloquent over the subject. In giving a wedding present, many people act wisely in thinking over the matter, even to the smallest detail. The little note attached conveys the donor's best wishes for the happiness of the recipient. The feeling which prompted the giver should be that of love, or respect, or friendly recognition of some little kindness done long ago not forgotten. Anyway, it should be given with hearty good-will, and happy at the prospect of being able to give a little gift on an interesting occasion. One lady present who paraded her opinion of these historic articles, said that she for one would not be a party to accepting such gifts. Well, she is not the only person that I have known having held that idea. I know a gentleman personally who had a horror of receiving presents upon his marriage, and fearing, as he was a public man, that he might be the recipient of several, he actually added to the usual wedding invitations, "No presents." In one instance he, however, was thwarted, and no sooner was his wedding announced than a present arrived in the shape of a set of very valuable hand-painted china. Not wanting to give offence where no offence was intended, he accepted it. Out of courtesy to the giver, who was an old friend of the family, the china was used upon every occasion he was visiting at the house. The gentleman, who was possessed of exquisite taste,

**GAVE HIS REASONS**

for not accepting wedding presents as he was afraid that his home would be monopolised with things vulgar and hurtful to his eyes. I have no doubt they would appear so to him, but, generally speaking, his case is rarely met with. To those who have an opportunity of viewing wedding presents, they cannot fail to observe the innumerable quantity of similar articles which, however useful they may seem to be, are too often looked upon as white elephants where, with a little forethought ere purchasing, or even going the length of consulting the bride or bridegroom—which I don't think would be very bad taste. The present might take the form of some very useful article, which would add pleasure and comfort to the owners. Another lady who took part in this lively discussion said the pleasure she derived from having a look over her wedding presents was almost indescribable, not for the intrinsic value of the articles, but for the happy associations recalled when thinking upon the donors. There was some sentiment in this lady, and her ideas, I thought, were higher than those of the previous speakers, who wanted to do away with the good old custom. There were present amongst the little croup those who considered presents a real grievance in respect that they were called upon too often to contribute, and they were beginning to feel that it was becoming a serious tax upon their resources. With this class I have no sympathy. The very poorest of the poor will at a marriage time banish all thoughts of expenditure, and rise to the occasion and do their part gracefully. There is this much, however, observable nowadays amongst a certain class—those who never consult their purses—the desire is

**TOO OFTEN INDULGED IN**

to be able to say that their gift was better and more expensive than that given by So-and-so. Yes, this is the class of people to whom I would like to give advice. Never attempt to outshine anyone in the giving of your presents. What you do give, however small or humble, give it with a right spirit, and I am quite sure it will be acceptable and much prized by the recipient. Nowadays there are so many excellent things that one can choose from, and I have seen lately among a bride's presents quite a new departure from the usual list of monotonous silver articles which everyone flies to present. There were several comfortable and chaste drawing-room chairs, old china, and corner cabinets—yes, and actually a butter-churn. It was, indeed, the only sensible collection I have seen for some time. Just fancy one being the possessor of, say, eight or more tea-racks, as many sets of carvers, half-a-dozen cruet-stands, and any number of jelly-dishes. These are only trifling items which are seen in the list, but one can form an idea of the ridiculousness of the collections. To those who purpose presenting wedding presents, take time, and think on something very useful, or, as I have said, consult the bride, for who should know better? To those who advocate "No presents," in many cases I do not think the bride would be much the loser by their adhering to their self-assertive ideas. They prefer to be odd, and as a rule they look it.—Your affectionate Cousin,

Inverness. FIONA.

## HOUSEWIFELY HINTS.

**MINCE RHUBARB PIE.**

ONE cupful of rhubarb after chopping fine, half a cupful of sugar, half a cupful of best molasses, half a cupful of water, half a cupful of raisins chopped, one large cracker rolled, one egg, half a teaspoonful of cinnamon, one-third as much clove, a little nutmeg and grated lemon rind, a little salt and one tablespoonful of melted butter; bake with two crusts. This makes two pies.

**SOUP THICKENINGS.**

Nothing is easier than to spoil soups, stews, or sauces. In the first place be sure there is not one single lump in the thickening itself (test by straining, if necessary, add a little of the hot liquor to be thickened to the bowl of thickening, and pour in very slowly with the left hand, the right stirring the soup, stew or sauce at the bottom of the pot. In using egg-yolks (for cream soups, stews, and blanquettes), add a tablespoonful of cold milk or water for each egg, and beat thoroughly together. Stir constantly after pouring in. If eggs are too expensive for making entire thickening, add to the number you desire to use enough flour thickening to accomplish the desired result.

**RHUBARB JAM.**

To six quarts of rhubarb add six pounds of granulated sugar and six large lemons; cut the rhubarb into small pieces about the size of a walnut, then the lemons should be sliced and the peel cut very fine; put the fruit (removing the seeds from the lemon) all into a large bowl, then cover with sugar; let it stand twenty-four hours, after which boil slowly for about two hours, taking care it does not stick to the kettle; be careful not to stir so as to break the rhubarb, as it is much nicer preserved in this way and is very delicious.

**THREE GOOD DRESSINGS FOR FISH.**

1. Soak enough stale bread in strong stock to make, when squeezed out, a pint. Pound this bread to a paste, add one teaspoonful of salt, one half teaspoonful of pepper, the yolks of two raw eggs, one tablespoonful of melted butter, and one half teaspoonful of the grated rind of a lemon—only the outer yellow part. This is sufficient dressing for a six-pound fish. 2. Fry half a small onion, minced fine, in three tablespoonfuls of butter, add the squeezed-out bread (as above) rubbed into crumbs, a teaspoonful of salt, one half teaspoonful of pepper and one half level teaspoonful of powdered sage. Heat through well, keeping it tossed about, allow to cool, and fill into fish. 3. One pint of stale bread-crumbs; two tablespoonfuls of butter; one teaspoonful of salt; one half teaspoonful of pepper; one teaspoonful of chopped capers; one teaspoonful of chopped parsley; one teaspoonful of onion-juice. Melt the butter, add the onion-juice, and pour over the crumbs, in which all the other seasonings have been thoroughly mixed.

**DECORATION NOTES.**

THERE are three cardinal rules to be observed in decoration, which the decorator ought to bear in mind, for without attention to these rules the designer fails to design properly.

The three rules are in substance as follows:—

1. The decoration should be adapted to the object decorated; in a word, it should be suitable for its purpose.
2. The decoration should not detract from the usefulness of the object decorated.
3. The decoration should not be of more importance than the object decorated.

In regard to the first rule, suppose one desires to decorate a pillow-slip for bed pillow; it would be an act of folly to embroider it with beads, or to paint it delicately with a landscape or flowers in water colour. The beads would make it uncomfortable to the sleeper, and the water-colour design would be destroyed in washing the slip. Suitable decoration would be embroidery in white, or insertions and edgings of cotton or thread lace, or else drawn work.

As to the second rule, suppose one wished to decorate a wooden bread plate; one would not carve its whole surface with high relief carvings, as that would interfere with its usefulness; one could not cut bread on such a surface without destroying the carvings. The rim of the bread plate only should be carved.

Lastly, as to rule third, it would not be suitable to enrich a hand-towel with gold embroidery, or to work it with cut jewels; the only suitable decoration would be something that would not interfere with its washableness or its comfortable use; for example, embroidery in washable threads, or else drawn work and fringe of its own warp or weft.

Inverness. FIONA.

## HEALTH NOTES.

**GLYCERINE** is wonderfully curative of chaps with most persons, though the first night there will be heat and smarting when the gloves are first put on, but this soon passes off, and after three or four nights none need be applied.

The function of the nitrogenous portion of our food, it is claimed, is to furnish tissue repairs and digestive fluids. Nitrogenous elements include the proteids, albumen, fibrin, casein, and legumens.

The function of the hydro-carbons, fats and oils, is to furnish nutrition to the nervous system; hence the value of cream, butter, cod-liver oil, olive oil, &c.

The carbo-hydrates, starch and sugar, for instance, supply heat and energy for work. If we lead sedentary lives we do not need so much of these carbo-hydrates as do those who labour.

Good bread is a very perfect form of food, especially when eaten with good butter. Good bread is made of whole or entire wheat-flour, and is somewhat dark in colour. This bread is not fattening, but it is life-supporting.

Moderation in eating is as important a factor toward good health as any one can mention, because just enough of the right sort of food is all that profits the body. Food over and above what the body needs putrefies and fills the stomach and intestines with gases.

Tight lacing increases obesity where there is any tendency to it, because it confines the sort of food is all that profits the body. Food over and above what the body needs putrefies and fills the stomach and intestines with gases.



**1016 THE John Noble**

**HOME, HOLIDAY & COSTUMES & HALF-GUINEA**

Supplied by Parcel Post direct from the Largest Firm of Costumiers in the World (Originators of Half-Guinea Costumes) and universally admitted to be THE HIGHEST KNOWN VALUE FOR MONEY.

Supplied in the following descriptions of good durable cloths: L. JOHN NOBLE CHEVOT SERGE, brightly and weather-resisting. L. JOHN NOBLE COSTUME COATING, smooth surfaced and of lighter weight.

**PATTERNS SENT POST FREE,** together with the new 81pp. Illustrated Fashion Book for Ladies and Children, and need not be returned. Please mention this newspaper when writing.

A FULL DRESS LENGTH of either 7/6 or 8/6. A FULL DRESS LENGTH of either 7/6 or 8/6. A FULL DRESS LENGTH of either 7/6 or 8/6.

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