

SITUATIONS WANTED OR VACANT.

You will receive an immediate reply by advertising in THE HIGHLAND NEWS. THE HIGHLAND PEOPLE'S PAPER.

HIGHLAND NEWS

PROPERTY FOR SALE OR TO LET.

As THE HIGHLAND NEWS circulates all over the Highlands advertisements not appearing in its columns fail to receive the publicity desired by Advertisers.

No. 1172.—23RD YEAR.

(REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE AS A NEWSPAPER.)

INVERNESS, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1906.

EIGHT PAGES.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS. At 1 Calceonian Buildings, Perth, on the 7th inst., the wife of D. Macno, H.R., on a son.

MARRIAGES. At Ness Cottage, George Street, Inverness, on the 8th inst., by the Rev. Chas. Macdonald, Archibald Mackay, baker, to Isabella Macleod, Shore Street, Inverness.

DEATHS. At the Northern Infirmary, Inverness, on the 13th inst., Donald Moore, blacksmith, H.R.

LOST OR FOUND.

STRAYED, White Cat. Can be found in Entry, 15 Union Street.

FOUND, Boat (old), near Bunchrow House. Apply K. Chisholm, The Gardens, Bunchrow House.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

MR JOHN MACLEAN hereby gives notice that on and after this date he will not be responsible for any debts incurred by his wife, Kate Forbes or Maclean, presently residing at 15 Gilbert Street, Inverness.

PRIZE-DRAWING for 2 Scaupens and 4 Pabbits.—Winning Numbers—729, 913, 196, 183, 331, 1.

CLAN MACKAY SOCIETY. The Society's Bursary of £20 per annum for Two Sons (open to Lads under 17 named Mackay, and residing in Sutherland) will be open for competition in July next.

LECTURING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1903. HALF-YEARLY LICENSING COURSE. Notice is hereby given that Statutory Half-Yearly Meetings of the Members of the several District Licensing Courts for the County of Inverness will be held on Tuesday, 17th April, 1906, as follows:

For the 1st or INVERNESS DISTRICT, within the County Hall, County Buildings, Inverness, at 12 Noon.

NESS BANK U.F. CHURCH. YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN'S GUILD. MR J. A. FREEMAN, A.R.C.O., will give a Paper on EDWARD ELGAR, Composer, with Musical Illustrations, rendered by a large Choir, with Orchestral Accompaniment, in the Church Hall on Monday, the 19th inst., at 8 o'clock.

SITUATIONS WANTED OR VACANT. CLERK.—Wanted, immediately, for Merchants' Office. Youth with a year or two experience. Apply No. 848 Highland News Office.

WANTED, First-Class Man, from 25 years upwards, to take orders and collect. Send two references. Apply No. 855 Highland News Office.

APRENTICE PLUMBER.—Wanted, strong, active Youth. Apply Russell, plumber, Barrow Taylor's Lane.

WANTED, Single Ploughman, till Term; Boy; good wages to suitable man. Apply Macgillivray, Ironmonger.

YOUNG Girl wanted for House work. Apply early Kinghalls Road Registry.

COOKS, Kitchenmaids, Housemaids, Tablennid, Laundrymaids, and all classes of good Servants open for engagement. Globo Registry, Eastgate.

DISTRICT NURSE.—Wanted, a District Nurse for the Park District of the Parish of Loch, Lewis. Salary, £50 per annum, with rent of Rooms. Gaelic indispensable. Applications, with copy of testimonials, to be made to the Clerk, Loch Parish Council, Stornoway, not later than 1st April. Parish Council Office, Stornoway, 15th March, 1906.

TO THE TRADE AND OTHERS. AT 4 and 6 EASTGATE, INVERNESS, ON TUESDAY, 20th March, at 7 p.m., SALE, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, OF GENERAL IRONMONGERY, BRASS FURNISHINGS, LOCKS, &c. (Suitable for Joiners and Cabinetmakers), (MACDONALD'S ESTATE).

ON WEDNESDAY, 21st March, at 7 p.m., FANCY GOODS, FENDERS, FIRE-IRONS, AND SUNDRY EFFECTS (NOS RESERVE). THOMAS F. DOLAN, Auctioneer.

GLASGOW A B C RAILWAY HOTEL AND STEAMSHIP GUIDE. TWOPENNY MONTHLY.

THE A B C arrangement, compiled with Fraser's Tables (established 1854), make the Book a Complete Time Table Guide for Scotland in moderate size. Ask your News-Agent to show you a copy.

PUBLISHING OFFICES.—37 OSWALD STREET, GLASGOW.

CHEAP TICKETS BY LARGEST AND FASTEST STEAMERS. Write or Call for Full Information supplied FREE OF COST, including FARES, WAGES, EMPLOYMENT, &c.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.'S PASSENGER OFFICE, 67 ST VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW.

“BLUE SEAL” Whisky, 2s 6d Bottle; 15s 6d; 1 Bottle, 3s 1d; 2 Bottles, 5s 6d; 3 Bottles, 8s 3d, post free. Jack, Exchange.

PROPERTY FOR SALE AND TO LET.

ALBERT HOTEL, INVERNESS.—Offers for this Hotel, as previously advertised, must be lodged immediately with Fraser & Ross, solicitors.

TO Sell or Let, 94 Telford Road; 7 Apartments, good Garden. Apply Macdonald & Graham, solicitors, 51 Church Street.

FOR Sale or to Let, Ellandonan Lodge, Muirfield Road, Inverness, consisting of six Apartments; large well-stocked Garden; excellent situation. Apply Squair & Middleton, solicitors.

FOR Sale, Ravelston, Crown Drive, containing three Public, Six Bedrooms, Bath-room (h. and c.), Kitchen, Scullery, Servants' Bed-room, fitted with all modern Conveniences. Apply to Squair & Middleton solicitors, Inverness.

FOR Sale, by Private Bargain, that Desirable Cottage, No. 14 Hill Street, Inverness, containing 4 Apartments and Kitchen. Pending, containing 2 Apartments and Kitchen. Apply to Davidson & Scott, solicitors, 42 Union Street, Inverness.

SHOP, House, and Stores for Sale, by Private Bargain, to Let, together and separately. Very desirable Premises, 18 Bridge Street, formerly occupied as a Baker's. Apply Davidson & Scott, solicitors, 42 Union Street.

THERE will be Exposed for Sale, by Public Roup, within the Office of George Ross, Solicitor, 12 Lombard Street, Inverness, on Friday, 21st inst., at Twelve o'clock Noon, in virtue of the powers of sale conferred by the said Statute, the following property, to-wit:—

1. All and Whole, the Two Dwellings-Houses, Nos. 2 and 4 Portfield Road, Inverness. One House contains 6 Rooms and the other House 2 Rooms. There is a large Garden at the back of each house, the whole area extending to 1/2 Acre.

2. The Two Semi-Detached Dwellings-Houses, forming Nos. 2 and 4 Telford Street, Inverness, each containing 5 Rooms, and having a Garden behind and Plot of Ground in front, and each being in a good state of repair. Rent-Duty, £1 1s each. Also, Small Brick House, forming No. 19 Telford Street, containing 2 Rooms. Rent-Duty, £1 1s. Small Gable House, forming No. 21 Telford Street, containing 2 Rooms. Rent-Duty, £1 1s. All the above are to be sold in separate lots, at the following prices:—Nos. 2 and 4 Telford Street, at £220 each; No. 19 Telford Street, at £50. For further particulars apply to Mr Black.

BEAUTY.—For Sale, by Private Bargain, House Properties and Garden in Bridgehead, nearly occupied by Mr Donald Fraser and others. Annual Rental, £200. Will be sold cheap. Offers will be received up to 20th inst. by S. Macdonald, banker, Inverness.

CROWN INN, WICK. The Property is practically new, and a lucrative business is being carried on. Full particulars may be had from Mr D. P. Fraser, commission agent, 25 St. Andrew Street, Inverness. Solicitor, Huxley, and Offers will be received by the latter up to 21st inst. March, 1906.

HERITABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE. There will shortly be exposed to Public Roup (unless previously disposed of privately), All and Whole, the Property, 62 Keith Street, Stornoway (near New Street), belonging to Mr. Roderick Morrison, marine engineer.

HERITABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE. Offers are invited for the Property situated in Point Street, Stornoway, consisting of Shop, and Printing Office, presently occupied by Messrs Macpherson & Coy., Ltd.; and Dwellings-Houses, containing 2 Rooms. Rent-Duty, £25. Rent-Duty, £6 6d.

PARLOUR and Bedroom wanted for Young Man, in central locality on Hill. Apply, stating terms, to No. 854 Highland News Office.

TO Let, Roskeen Villa, Lochalsh Road; five Rooms, all Conveniences. Apply at House.

ROOMS to Let at 86 Castle Street. Apply to Innes & Mackay, 19 Union Street.

HOUSE to Let, No. 7 Bridge Street. Apply A. & K. Junor.

LARGE Store and Yard in Fairfield Lane to Let, Apply at Ordnance Hotel.

HOUSE to Let, 3 Duff Street; rent, £8. Apply to James Ross & Boyd, solicitors, Queenagate.

THREE Rooms to Let in Glen Cottage, Balfourry. Apply to Innes & Mackay, 19 Union Street.

TO Let, at Whitsunday next, House, 17 New Bank, Offices, Lombard Street. Apply David Young, Commission Agent.

TO Let, Houses in Queenagate, Crown Drive, Innes & Mackay, 19 Union Street.

TO Let, Shops Nos. 19 Bridge Street, and 8 Castle Street. Entry at Whitsunday, 1906. For further particulars apply to Town Chamberlain.

SEVERAL Superior Furnished Houses to Let; moderate terms. Apply to Innes & Mackay, 19 Union Street, Inverness.

HOUSES to Let.—7 and 9 Shoe Lane, 75 and 77 Muirton Street. Apply Macdonald & Graham, solicitors, 51 Church Street.

TO Let, on Harrowden Road, small Self-Contained House, Garden, all Conveniences. Apply Workshop, Johnstone, carpenter, Abbas Street, Inverness.

TO Let, Hanover Villa, Ness Bank. Immediate entry. Also several Houses in Ness Place and Haugh Road. Apply E. Huggonia, solicitor, Queenagate.

TO Let, several Villas and semi-detached Villas. Also Workmen's Houses of 3, 4, and 5 Rooms. Apply to James Macgregor, Crown Lands, Inverness.

STATIONERY.

H. W. FINLAY & CO. HAVE BEEN COMPELLED TO ALTER THE DATE OF THEIR REMOVAL TO MONDAY, 26th MARCH.

During the few remaining days we wish to clear the bulk of our remaining Stock, as we have a complete New Stock coming forward for our new premises.

250 Boxes NOTE-PAPEL and ENVELOPES, 40 Sheets 40 Envelopes 16 Line; to clear at 5/1d each. 400 Boxes ASSORTED NOTE-PAPEL and ENVELOPES 4 Tints in Box; to clear at 4/1d each.

350 Boxes LINEAR REPP NOTE-PAPEL and ENVELOPES, to clear at 4/1d each. 200 only 60 Boxes STATIONERY to clear at 3/1d each.

1 Lb. Packet CREAM LAID NOTE and 100 ENVELOPES to match, 1s 1d; for 10d. 1s Packets SILURIAN and CREAM LAID NOTE-PAPEL, to clear at 9d each.

18 Gross TOILET ROLLS, to clear at 3/1d each; 3s 2d Dozen. A Quantity of LINED NOTE-PAPEL and ENVELOPES to clear at less than cost. 30 Gross 1d HB PENCILS at 7d per Dozen.

Large Stock DISH and DESSERT PAPERS, best quality; all clearing at less than Cost Price. 100 Boxes PIE COLLARS, Pink and White, at 6d each. FOUNTAIN PENS, 5s, for 3s 11d.

STYLO PENS, Best Quality, 3s 6d, for 2s 11d. Remaining Stock of POCKET-BOOKS, PURSES, WALLETTS, WRITING-CASES, &c., all at less than Cost Price. STEPHEN'S 24 INKS at 1/1d each.

STEPHEN'S 36 INKS at 2s 3d each. 200,000 BUSINESS ENVELOPES from 1s 4/1d to 2s 10d per 1000. Special Lists of COMMERCIAL STATIONERY on application. We have also a Large Quantity of Old Envelopes and Note-paper for Half the Original Cost. TELEPHONE—No. 4X2.

MACTAVISH'S ANNUAL SALE NOW ON.

GREAT CLEARANCES IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

All Surplus and Soiled Goods marked down to Prices which afford an exceptional OPPORTUNITY FOR SHREWD BUYERS.

SPECIAL CLEARANCE LINES IN CUTLERY AND PLATE BY BEST MAKERS, HOUSEHOLD REQUISITES, KITCHEN UTENSILS, LAMPS AND STOVES, TRAVELLING BAGS, OVERLAND AND SARATOGA TRUNKS, LADIES' DRESS BASKETS AND BONNET BOXES, LADIES' AND GENT'S DRESSING CASES IN GREAT VARIETY.

FURNITURE. Dining-Room Suites, Drawing-Room Suites, Bedroom Suites in great variety, at prices ranging from £2 10s to £50; also Sideboards, Cabinets, Book-Cases, Roll-Top Desks, Dining Tables, &c. Bedsteads, Spring Mattresses and Bedding, Carpets and Rugs, Floorcloths and Linoleums, Curtains, Blankets, and Sheets.

CHINA. Dinner Sets from 12s 6d, Tea Sets from 5s. Jugs, Teapots, and Large Stock of Fancy China Vases, Ornaments, &c.

GLASS. A Large Assortment of Tumblers, from 1s 9d per dozen, Wine Glasses of all kinds, and in all quantities.

GOODS REDUCED IN PRICE 25 TO 30 PER CENT.

TERMS—CASH. INSPECTION INVITED.

MACTAVISH'S COMPLETE FURNISHING WAREHOUSE, INVERNESS.

PROPERTY FOR SALE AND TO LET.

HOUSE, 42 Castle Street, 6 Apartments, £21. House, 13 Hill Street, £10. House, 15 Kingmill Road, £23. House, Charles Street, 7 Apartments, rent, £22 10s. House, 45 Rose Street, £3 and £12. House, 10 North Church Street, £21. House, Mary Ann Court, £8 and £9. House, 10 North Church Place. Apply to Squair & Middleton, solicitors, 30 Church Street.

TO LET. House, 42 Union Street, 4 Apartments; rent, £35. House, 7 Victoria Terrace, 5 Apartments; rent, £23 10s. House, 15 Kingmill Road, 6 Apartments; rent, £21. House, Union Road, 6 Apartments; rent, £19 10s. House, 7 Eastgate, 4 Apartments; rent, £13 10s. Shop, with Cellar, Queenagate; rent, £20. Office in Queenagate and Academy Street. Rents from £15 to £20. Apply Davidson & Scott, solicitors, 42 Union Street, Inverness.

CYCLE for Sale, Road-racing Cycle, Free Wheel, Eddie Fittings; can be seen at Chisholm's Cycle Depot, Falcon Square.

GENT'S Cycle for Sale, Road Racer, all Accessories, almost new. £2; owner leaving town. Apply at once 13 Greig Street, one up, right.

MEN'S, Youths', and Boys' Overcoats and Suits now clearing out at half-price. Compare our prices. Macmillan's, Lombard Street.

LOT Samples of Waterproof Coats from 1s 6d to 2s 11d. Superior Lot, 16s 11d; worth double. Macmillan, clothier, Lombard Street.

40 Dozen Gent's Shilling Ties, new, 6d; 10 dozen Gent's Shilling Caps, new, 6d; Boys' Caps from 3d. Macmillan, clothier.

ARMY Leggings, as good as new, Black, 1s 6d; Brown 8d. By post, 4d extra. Macmillan, clothier, Lombard Street.

"WHERE'S my Spectacles?" "Here they are." "No, not those. Give me the pair I got from Christie."

MY Eyes ache so after using my Spectacles that I am not suited. Call and see Christie, Queenagate."

"WHO'S this Christie?" "Why, the Optician in Queenagate, famous for Spectacles. Try this pair I got from him." "Grand, grand!"

CHRISTIE, Optician to the Faculty, Queenagate, is selling his First Quality Pure White Lenses in his Spectacles and Folders.

SPECIFIC ARTICLES FOR SALE.

R. J. KELT, Fishmonger, Poulterer, and Game-dealer, Victoria Arcade, Inverness.

TALISKER Whisky, 7 years old, to be sold at D. Thomson's, Tisdale Bar, Col. Street, Inverness.

FINEST Globe Syrup, pure cane, only 5/1d per 2 lbs. Macdonald's Imperial Stores, Great Street.

ORD, Ferintosh Distillery Whisky. Post free for 3s 3d per bottle; 18s 6d per Gallon. Carriage paid. Macdonald's Imperial Stores, Inverness.

POULTRY and Pigeon Foods a Speciality. Full particulars and prices on application John Mackenzie & Co., Grain Merchants, Dempster Gardens, Inverness.

FAMOUS "LOVAL" Pipe and Mixture. Sole Agents—Robertson & Co., haberdashers and tobacconists, 37 Union Street, Inverness.

FOR genuine value in Tea—Prices, 2s 2d, 1s 10d, 1s 8d, 1s 6d—Come to Gillanders, Queenagate, Inverness.

"JACK'S HALF-CROWN INVALID PORT"—guaranteed genuine. 3 Bottles, 1s 6d; 3 Bottles, 2s, post free. Jack, Exchange.

DOZEN Cases Whisky or Wines or Assorted, carriage paid. 50s General Orders carriage paid. Jack, Exchange.

GUN, nicely finished, 12-bore, non-bleed-barrel breech-loader, top lever, central fire, rebounding locks, extension rib, left choke, pistol grip, walnut stock. Price, 48s absolute. D. Reynolds, Greenock Street Works, London, E.C.

SEND your Sewing Machine to be Repaired and Cleaned by a practical Mechanic at Mackenzie's Sewing Machine Depot, Market Arcade, Inverness.

1906—Do you want Baby to grow up healthy and strong? Then you cannot do better than be silly in the fresh air. We have excellent and comfortable high-class Malleolets and Bassinettes, adapted for summer and winter, at very moderate prices, and upholstered in latest sanitary material, fitted with wind-up turn for 3s extra, steel C Springs, or, if you wish, ball bearing nickel-plated wheels. Old Malleolets taken part exchange; full value allowed. Free payments, or discount for cash. Mackenzie's Sewing Machine Depot, Market Arcade, Inverness.

BARGAINS IN NECKWEAR.

We have about 50 Dozen Wide-End Ties—splendid designs—which we want cleared out. We have cut the prices to 4 1/2 each, or 3 for 1s; worth 1s each. Also about 30 Dozen Wide-Ends, in best quality silks. These we are offering at 1s each; worth from 1s 6d to 2s each. In Washing Ties we have about 30 Dozen, which we are clearing out at 2d each.

A. FRASER & CO., THE HATTERS, HOSIERS, AND NECKWEAR SPECIALISTS.

47 CHURCH STREET, INVERNESS.

Where you get CHRISTY'S HATS.

BE WISE IN TIME AND VISIT PAUL CAMPBELL'S WAREHOUSE.

GREAT STOCKTAKING SALE.

HAS FAIRLY CAUGHT ON, AND IS PROCEEDING WITH VIGOR AND SUCCESS. Here are a few of the Lines I am selling this week. They cannot last long in the Shop at the Prices that are being asked for them—

Ladies' Louis-Herold Glass Kid Three-Bar Shoes, very fine make and beautiful finish. Gual price, 10s 6d, to be sold while they last at 6s 3d a pair.

Ladies' Black and Tan Buckle Shoes, finest grade kid, a stylish shoe for summer wear, at the low price of 9s 11d. This shoe cannot be bought anywhere under 12s 6d. See them in my High Street window.

Ladies' 3-Bar Walking Kid Shoes, black grade kid, a stylish shoe for summer wear, at the low price of 9s 11d. This shoe cannot be bought anywhere under 12s 6d. See them in my High Street window.

Ladies' Fine Glass Kid "K" Boots, buttoned, lace, and Derby. I have 12 Pairs of this boot to sell at 10s 6d a pair. This boot has never been offered to the public by any "K" Boot agent under 17s 6d a pair.

Gentlemen, I have about 100 Pairs of Gent's Boots—size 6 only—prices ranging from 10s 6d to 21s a pair. I want to clear this small size, and to help me to do so I would request you to write, send, or call and purchase a pair of these Boots at 8s 11d. This is an offer that will not be repeated. I have a large stock of Black and Tan Clogs—usual price, 6s 6d and 7s 6d; during Sale 4s 11d a pair.

Gent's Calf and Box Calf Walking Shoes, square and pointed toes.—Before they are all sold out you should have a pair at 6s 11d. This is a 10s 6d shoe.

Gent's Strong Walking Boots for every-day wear.—These splendid Boots have been sold all the year round at 11s 6d and 12s 6d a pair. Just to help to reduce the stock you can have a pair at 8s 11d.

1 HIGH STREET. GELLION'S HOTEL, INVERNESS.

I have pleasure in intimating to my numerous Friends in Inverness and the Highlands that I have taken a further Lease of the above Hotel. I have to thank those Friends for their support in the past, and I trust I may look to them for the same support in the future. ROBERT ROSS, Proprietor.

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT. JAMES FRASER, BOOT AND SHOE REPAIRER, 18 HUNTLY STREET.

Hops to intimate that he has started Business at 18 Huntly Street, after an absence of seven years in the South, and would remind his former Customers that he would be glad to have their patronage renewed. Those who have not patronised him formerly be invited to give him One Trial Pair, and feel confident they will receive satisfaction both as regards Material and Workmanship.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—JAMES FRASER, BOOT REPAIRING ESTABLISHMENT, 18 HUNTLY STREET, CLACHNACUDDIN (Opposite Cabmen's Shelter).

CYCLISTS! PATRONISE HOME INDUSTRY.

COME AND SEE BRENNER'S £6 10s CYCLES. BUILT BY HIMSELF, THREE YEARS' GUARANTEE.

CYCLES built by him have stood almost impossible tests on Scotland's roughest Roads. 25 Years' Experience. REPAIRS done under his own supervision. Only Expert Workmen kept.

Agent for RUDGE-WHITWORTH, TOWNSEND, or any build of Cycle, on easy terms.

COME AND SEE N.S.U. MOTOR WORKING.

No charge for inspecting Works. 200 Pairs of COVERS, from 6s 6d each. ALL TUBES, 3s 6d.

LAMPS, BELLS, SPANNERS, OILERS, CARBINE OILS, LUGGAGE CARRIERS, SADDLES, BAGS, TOW-DRAPES, PEDALS, FREE WHEELS, BOWEN-BRICKS, FRONT BRAKES.

MACHINES BUILT TO ORDER. Cyclists visiting town can leave their Cycles at Bretnner's. No charge.

HIRES BY THE DAY, WEEK, OR MONTH.

Open from 6 a.m. till 10 p.m. House above Shop.

ALCOHOLISM. THE HAGEY CURE. THE OLDEST AND MOST SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT IN THIS COUNTRY. UNDER EFFICIENT MEDICAL SUPERVISION. NO RESTRAINT OF PATIENTS. FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE ORDINANCES. 107 WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW (The Original Institute). Telegrams—"Hagey," Glasgow.

BRENNER'S CYCLE DEPOT, INVERNESS. Telephone—No. 1812.

ROB RUADH MAC-GRIORAIH.

[Le LACHANN MAC-LIL-EATHAIN NACH MAIBINN.]

God bha Rob Ruadh... (Main text of the first article)

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LITERARY NOTES.

The January number of "The Thin Red Line" has just come to hand...

The "Estate Magazine" for the present month contains an article on "Back to the Land Schemes"...

It is evident that no matter what our opinions may be on the Fiscal question we are all agreed upon one point—the promise given by the present Atlas the maps are printed in colours on a fine surface paper...

Beagan na dheidh so bha Rob a dol troimh "Auchtertyre" dluth do Chraoibh, far am fac e ann am pair gearan òg boidheach a rideis 'sa sìrth...

"Nuaire rith aonta Rob air Balchuidir a mach chaidh e air imrich do Ghleann-urecha, agus bliadhna na dha na dheidh sin ghàbh e gach bliadhna...

Cha robh dol a null no nall air Athal—cha urrainn e aicheadh nach robh so fìor, agus bhàir Earraghaidheil mar chluir arson a theamachd...

"Nuaire ghhabhadh Rob sogan cha robh ad a b' fhearr leis, na b'hi g'innse mar theas-araig e bhantighearna. Theagmh gun do dhi-chuimhich euid d'air leughaidhean/Cha mhiste sgeul math innsa da uair.

(Ri leantainn.)

INDIGESTION CURED.

A WALTHAMSTOW WOMAN'S RECOGNITION OF BENEFIT DERIVED FROM MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP.

Mrs Greenwood, of 16a Ringwood Road, Walthamstow, relates an experience of suffering which is all too common, and would be almost universal but for the good work done by Mother Seigel's Syrup...

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

MEETING OF LOCAL BRANCH. On Wednesday night a meeting of the local branch of the Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Free Library Buildings...

Mr John Mackintosh suggested that each member should do all in his power to increase the membership of the Comunn Gaidhealach...

THE FORRES BURLESQUE.

On all hands (writes a correspondent) I hear of the condemnation of the Tomfoolery presented at the opening of the Forres Parish Church...

BLOOD & SKIN DISEASES. BLOOD IS LIFE, LET IT BE PURE.

Itches, pimples on the face and body, scrofula, sores, itching and redness of the skin, letter and eczema are symptoms which indicate impure blood and skin diseases...

THE WEARING OF THE GREEN.

This day (17th March, St Patrick's Day) is the Shamrock worn in the hat or button-hole of all patriotic Irishmen. It commemorates in particular the landing of Saint Patrick near Wicklow...

Shamrock is in reality only the general term for trefoil. The white clover is what is usually taken to be the proper species, but often the oxalis, too, and exotic species of the trefoil genus with yellow, crimson, white and variegated flowers...

Magical properties are still ascribed to the shamrock by many Irish folk. If the dew on it be sipped before sunrise, happiness is ensured for the twelvemonth. If it be put into your footgear you will have a safe and prosperous journeying...

It is Pfluy who sheds a curious sidelight on the effect of the shamrock on snake life. In his "Natural History" he asserts snakes are not to be found where the trefoil grows; in Ireland there are no snakes, and in Italy they are rarely met with where trefoils grow wild in profusion...

"LISSEED COMPOUND." Trade Mark of Kay's Compound Essence of Lissed, cures Coughs and Colds.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE. The purest and most efficient Remedy procurable for COUGHS, COLDS, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, CATARRH, WEAK LUNGS, & CHILDREN'S COUGHS. W. LASCELLES-SCOTT, F.S.C. (Lond.) Little Iford, Essex.

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THE PETTY CUSTOMS.

ANOTHER FUTILE MEETING.

MR BRYCE, M.P., AND THE LORD ADVOCATE.

What promised to be a somewhat prolonged though interesting debate came to an abrupt conclusion at a special meeting of the Inverness Town Council on Monday evening—Provoost A. D. Ross presiding. There was only a fair attendance of members.

The Town Clerk—This meeting is called in terms of an advertisement in the local papers to consider the abolition of the Petty Customs. As you know we informed the law agents for the Caledonian Canal Commissioners in January last that we were to meet on 12th March to abolish the Petty Customs, and asked them to let us know what decision they intended to come to in the interval. At this stage the Town Clerk read a number of telegrams and letters bearing on the subject. On Thursday last he sent the following telegram to the Canal Commissioners—"Town Council meet on Monday to abolish Petty Customs. Expected to have heard from you long ere now." On the following day the Commissioners wired that they were to oppose the abolition of Petty Customs, and had lodged a note of suspension and interdict in Court that day.

The Town Clerk said that immediately after receiving the above wire Provoost Ross, Councillor Gillanders, and himself had a meeting, and it was then suggested that a telegram should be sent to Mr J. Annan Bryce, M.P., for Inverness, to the effect that the Town Council was accordingly sent to Mr Bryce suggesting that he might see the Lord Advocate and arrange that the Council be allowed to proceed with the abolition of the Customs. Mr Bryce replied by telegram as follows—"I am sorry to say it is impossible to abolish customs till interdict removed, which needs another meeting Commissioners. They only want avoid pecuniary loss, but Advocate thinks would neither authorise you levy shore dues nor levy themselves. Advocate recommends you make proposals. Understand Commissioners already made suggestions. The Town Clerk wired Mr Bryce in the following terms—"Thanks for telegram. Commissioners have made no suggestion or proposal. They can save themselves all loss by levying shore dues equal to the customs. In the course of a letter to the Town Clerk Mr J. Annan Bryce, M.P., said that he had already made the suggestion to the Lord Advocate that if they levied dues on everything landed at the town, Inverness, and not merely on what was intended for Inverness itself, they would earn more than what they now get from the town. The Lord Advocate replied that they did not want either to levy dues themselves or to permit the town to do so. He (Mr Bryce) had seen Mr J. A. Dewar, M.P., and he said that from his interview with the Speaker he gathered that they were determined to hold on to their debt from the town.

After reading further correspondence regarding the note of suspension, the Town Clerk said—in face of the suggestion by the Lord Ordinary Provoost Ross and I could do nothing else than give an undertaking that the matter would not be proceeded with until the note and answer were disposed of. I have here the note of suspension which I should like to read to you. Treasurer Birnie—There is no interdict granted. Bailie J. S. Fraser—It is practically interdict.

The Provoost said that the members had heard what had been done in the matter since it last came before the Council. It was impossible to call a meeting, as there was no time to do so. It was particularly disheartening that that was the second time the Council was prevented.

The Town Clerk at this stage said he had received a counsel's opinion which he would like to read to the members. After the reading of the counsel's note, Provoost Ross said that it was particularly disheartening that in meeting a second time to consider the abolition of the Petty Customs the Council should be placed in the difficult position in which it now found itself. He thought, however, that the community would see that in considering the question the Council were really in earnest as to whether or not the customs should be abolished. In dealing with the matter, he was anxious that they should fix the date of the next meeting of Council, and he would like to ask the Town Clerk whether a month hence would be sufficient time? How soon could they meet to again consider the matter? He was anxious that these customs should not be abolished at the end of their financial year, the 15th of May, because if the matter was delayed until then it might be postponed for another year. He fancied that a month hence would be sufficient for the Canal Commissioners to consider the question. Treasurer Birnie—You are fixing a month.

Councillor R. L. Mackintosh—I do not think that the Canal Commissioners ought to receive any undue consideration. Councillor George Young—I think that six months would be sufficient time. The Town Clerk—The Provoost suggested a month. The Provoost smiled, so did I. Councillor R. L. Mackintosh—On this occasion there is very good reason for treating this as a new meeting, because when the matter came before us some time ago the Canal Commissioners were not constituted a corporate body. It is different now, however. We delayed the matter out of grace to the Canal Commissioners.

Treasurer Birnie—I think the whole matter should be adjourned for a month, and the committee who have been considering the question should report to the Council. Ex-Bailie Maclean—Can you not continue collecting the ordinary Petty Customs as usual? Councillor K. A. Gillanders—It will take a week to find out how matters stand at the present time, so that a month will not be sufficient. Provoost Ross—We can find that out in the interval.

Councillor R. L. Mackintosh—My opinion is that the question should be brought up at the next monthly meeting of the Council. The Town Clerk—The Provoost or myself won't be here that night. I should like to be present when this question is discussed. Treasurer Birnie—I suggest a month. Councillor Gillanders—Make it five weeks. The Town Clerk—I think four is enough. I am not one of those who would like it to get abroad that because of the collapse of the amalgamation scheme we are trifling with this matter—(applause).

Provoost Ross—We have met twice already, and have not been able to do anything. Councillor Gillanders—The advertisement calling the meeting will require to be altered. The Town Clerk—I do not propose to advertise the next meeting. After further talk the Council resolved to meet a month hence.

PROVOOST ROSS AND THE OLIVE BRANCH. Provoost Ross said he trusted they would permit him to propose a motion that was not on the card of business. It was—"That the Town Council, as representing the community, record in its minutes its sense of the great services rendered by Councillor Burns and Mr Macdonald, Town Clerk, in the town's opposition to the proposed amalgamation, more happily defeated, of the Highland and Great North of Scotland Railways." There was not one among them, he said, who did not, in his own way, build a brick into the wall of opposition which had effectually tumbled over the proposal of the two railways, but while every one of them might have done a little, to Mr Burns and Mr Macdonald they owed all that had made for effective opposition in the interests of the town. The unique experience of Mr Burns as a railway law agent was placed unreservedly at their disposal, and it was well-nigh amazing to him (Provoost Ross) to notice how much of everything connected with the

contest, Mr Burns had at his finger-ends. Single-handed, Mr Macdonald could have accomplished much, but with Mr Burns at his right hand, the combined force was all-powerful, and the success was all the more complete. Mr Macdonald wrought with his whole heart, from disinterested affection for his native town, and determination to conserve, at all hazards, its best interests. Nothing that human ingenuity, backed by legal acumen, could suggest was wanting in the completeness of their opposition; in fact, if one might say it and be sensible, it was almost a pity that the fight collapsed so soon, for it would have been seen how completely and exhaustively their share of the opposition had been prepared by their colleague and their Town Clerk—(applause). He did not desire for a moment to minimise the importance of the shareholders' opposition, led by Mr Duncan Shaw, W.S., and supported by Mr Maclean, C.A., Mr Fred. Black, and Mr Evan Barron; nor was he oblivious to the help rendered by the Chamber of Commerce, and by Messrs Mactavish & Gibson, its secretaries. All these gentlemen, however, would have their services appreciated by the bodies whom they represented. The duty of the Town Council was to acknowledge the help given to them by their colleague and their clerk, and, that they might do so, he asked them to adopt the motion—(applause). They were inundated with advice. The necessity of going back to the days when the Highland Railway and the Town Council were brothers-in-arms against the common foe, and they were urged to cultivate the friendship that made for peace, and they were to have peace, it must be peace of honour, and not peace at any price. Both sides had their grievances, but he was safe to say that his grievance was too great to be overcome if they approached it in the desire to have it so. Mutual forbearance would soon engender mutual respect, and, if this was attained, the rest was easy, and would be pleasant. The business that had brought them there that night was an indication that the Council was not unwilling to take the first step towards reconciliation. Other things there were, but these, too, might be adjusted, or at any rate explained away, to their mutual satisfaction; and if, once for all, it were made clear to the directors of the Highland Railway and to the town of Inverness that they had better be friends and not enemies, the old times would of a certainty come back, and the recent bitterness would turn out to have been a blessing in disguise—(applause).

Bailie Alexander Fraser—I have much pleasure in seconding the motion which has been submitted to this meeting. I had been engaged in connection with the work of the opposition, and from the nature of that work I can endorse to the fullest possible manner the high encomiums you, Mr Provoost, have passed on Mr Wilson, Mr Maclean, and Mr Macdonald. The work that these two gentlemen have done could not have been accomplished by any other one in such a way as they acquitted themselves. That we should pass such a resolution as this is only right, and I have much pleasure in seconding it—(applause).

The motion was unanimously adopted. Councillor R. L. Mackintosh—Although I rise after the motion has been carried, I should like to say with reference to the Provoost's remarks in connection with burying the hatchet that I hope it will soon be put under the ground, and that a suitable cavity will be found for this purpose—(laughter).

CALEDONIAN CANAL COMMISSIONERS AND INVERNESS TOWN COUNCIL.

ACTION FOR INTERDICT.

In the Bill Chamber of the Court of Session on Saturday—Lord Macleod presiding—a note was presented by the Caledonian Canal Commissioners asking interdict against the Magistrates of Inverness passing a resolution abolishing the collection of Petty Customs at the Commissioners' Muirtown Lock, on the Caledonian Canal.

Mr T. B. Morison, for the Commissioners, submitted that this was a case for an undertaking being given by the Magistrates that they would do nothing until the question at issue had been tried. Mr Murray, for the Magistrates, said he would not give any undertaking, for the reason that it seemed to him to be utterly incompetent to come to the Court for an interdict against the Magistrates, passing that resolution, which they did in the exercise of a statutory power. The complainers, he submitted, had a contract right dating from 1847 to a moiety of the Petty Customs collected by the Magistrates at Muirtown Lock on goods brought into the burgh. That right, he further submitted, was resolved by the Act of 1870, which gave the Magistrates power to abolish the Petty Customs after due notice.

Mr Morison contended that his clients had an absolute right to the interim interdict. They asked that the system which prevailed all these years should go on until the complainers' right and interest were determined. Lord Mackenzie said it seemed to him entirely fair that the Magistrates should give an undertaking until the answers were put in.

Mr Macleannan said he would rather that his lordship dealt with that matter. The only statutory right that they had set forth was a right to get half the Petty Customs. Magistrates chose to collect, and if they chose to cease collecting Petty Customs the Commissioners had no right at all. Lord Mackenzie said that in disposing of the motion he did not say anything against the right of the Magistrates of Inverness to abolish Petty Customs. They were perfectly entitled to do so, but in that there was a question raised upon the rate, that inasmuch as what the Magistrates proposed to do was to invert the state of possession which had continued for a number of years that should not be done until there was an opportunity of the matter being discussed after the Magistrates had lodged answers to the note, and then the issue would be presented in pleadings on both sides for the determination of the Court.

Accordingly, what he proposed to do was to order answers to be given by the complainers for the respondents were prepared to give an undertaking that they would not proceed in the matter until the note and answers were discussed and disposed of, he should be prepared to grant interim interdict. It was obviously very undesirable that interim interdict should be granted against a body like the Magistrates of Inverness. Therefore he would give counsel an opportunity before the interlocutor was written out of saying whether they would give an undertaking or not.

Mr Macleannan asked permission to allow the matter to be mentioned later, and this his lordship granted. Later in the afternoon Mr Macleannan, K.C., and Mr T. B. Morison appeared before his lordship. The former said he was not in a position to give the undertaking desiderated to obviate the issuing of interdict. Mr Morison thereupon asked that interim interdict should be granted. Mr Macleannan said that of course the interdict would not be one which would last throughout the proceedings in the Bill Chamber after answers had been lodged. Lord Mackenzie said that interim interdict had better go out, but it would be reconsidered after the answers had been put in.

Lord Mackenzie's interlocutor, in the name of suspension and interdict by the Caledonian Canal Commissioners against the town of Inverness, with regard to the proposed abolition of Petty Customs at Muirtown Lock on the Canal, is in the following terms—"The Lord Ordinary having heard counsel on the caveat, allows the respondents to lodge answers to the note within seven days; meantime, on the respondents undertaking to do nothing in regard to the matters complained of in the note till it is advised on answers, refuses to grant interim interdict."

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THE HIGHLAND RAILWAY REPORT.

The report of the directors of the Highland Railway Company for the half-year to 31st January, to be presented to the meeting held on 28th inst., states that the expenditure on capital account for the half-year has amounted to £2897 10s 6d, against the estimate of £7638. The expenditure for the current half-year is estimated at £16,041 9s 8d.

The following statements show the comparative results of the receipts and expenditure on revenue account for the half-years ending 31st January, 1906, and 31st January, 1905—

Table with columns: RECEIPTS, Inc. or Dec., and EXPENDITURE, Inc. or Dec. Items include Passengers, Parcels, horses, carriages, &c., Mails, Live Stock, Traffic receipts, Miscellaneous receipts, Maintenance of way, works, and stations, Locomotive power, &c., Traffic expenses, &c.

After providing for debenture interest, temporary loan interest, and bank and general interest, &c.; also dividend on Dundee and Western Railway, the preference dividends, and having placed £1000 to bridge renewal fund, there is a balance of £34,447 14s 6d, out of which the directors propose that a dividend be declared on the ordinary stock at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum, carrying forward a balance of £2803 17s 10d to the credit of the current half-year's accounts, as against £8818 16s 5d carried forward in corresponding half-year of 1904-5.

The traffic receipts per railway mile, exclusive of worked lines, have yielded £532 18s against £525 12s for the corresponding half-year. The receipts per train mile for coaching traffic have been 46.91d, as against 47.30d; and for merchandise, mineral, and live stock traffic, 44.16d, as against 42.56d. The proportion of working expenses to traffic receipts has been 52.66 per cent., as against 53.12 per cent. last year. During the half-year 3386½ more train miles were run.

The directors who retire at this time are—R. M. Wilson, Esq.; E. G. Fraser-Tyler, Esq.; J. Douglas Fletcher, Esq.; Lord Lovat, C.B., D.S.O., & being eligible, they offer themselves for re-election. The directors do not propose to fill up the vacancy created by the death of Mr Donald Grant.

Mr Alex. Moore, junr., one of the shareholders' auditors, also retires, and is eligible for re-election. During the half-year 2½ miles of the line have been re-laid with heavier steel rails. The progress of the new works under construction during the half-year is shown in the following report.

At the special general meeting, held on the 7th inst., the directors intimated that in consequence of the substantial opposition among the shareholders towards the Bill for amalgamation with the Great North of Scotland Company, and of the indifference shown by the large number of shareholders who did not vote at all, and considering that in a matter of such importance they ought not to proceed except with the approval of such a majority as would be practically to the community, they have resolved, after consultation with representatives of the Great North of Scotland Company, to withdraw the Bill.

The voting by proxy resulted as follows:— For — Against — Did not vote. Ordinary Stock .. £1,162,657 £445,057 £295,669 Preference Stock .. 365,286 270,160 638,414 Total .. £1,527,943 £715,217 £1,595,083

At the conclusion of the half-yearly meeting an extraordinary meeting will be held in accordance with the standing orders of Parliament for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, approving the following Bill, which has been deposited in Parliament for the present session, viz.:—"A Bill to authorise increased contributions to the railway clearing system superannuation fund corporation by the railway companies and bodies contributing thereto."

In consequence of a recent report of the actuaries, the pensions were reduced from the 1st December, 1904. The Bill imposes on the promoting companies the obligation to supplement, if necessary, in respect of contributing members in their services at that date, any pensions and other benefits payable from time to time by the fund, so as to bring them up to the scale in force before the alteration was made. The members affected are obliged to subscribe to the fund as a condition of service, and the liability of each company is limited to its own members. Any payments made under the Act are to be deemed part of the working expenses. The directors consider the Bill a just and prudent measure framed in the best interests of the railway service.

WM. WHITELAW, Chairman. The stock held by the directors retiring at this date is:— Ordinary Preference R. M. Wilson, Esq. .. £5000 E. G. Fraser-Tyler, Esq. .. £5000 J. Douglas Fletcher, Esq. .. £2000 £3000 Lord Lovat, C.B., D.S.O. .. 2000

ENGINEER'S REPORT. The reconstruction of the iron girder work of the bridge—230 feet clear span—carrying the railway across the River Spey, near River Station, is progressing satisfactorily, and the building of the foot bridges at stations is being proceeded with.

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REV. MURDO MACKENZIE AND THE PROFESSORS.

A REMARKABLE UTTERANCE.

Plain speaking characterised the mouthy meeting of the Inverness Free Church Presbytery on Tuesday. Rev. Murdo Mackenzie, moderator, presided.

In the absence of the Rev. D. Maclean, Rev. Mr Munro, Forintosh, was, on the motion of Rev. Mr Ellis, asked to act as Clerk to the Presbytery. The Clerk on more than one occasion experienced some difficulty in reading the minutes of the last minutes of Presbytery, and the Moderator created some amusement by remarking that Rev. Mr Munro had forgotten to take his spectacles with him.

The Clerk reported that steps had been taken to moderate in a call to the Rev. Mr Hendry, Monaghan, Ireland. It was explained that a meeting of the Presbytery was held at Burghhead recently, and that the call to Mr Hendry was signed by 108 communicants and 156 adherents. The Moderator—Have there been any names signed since the call? An elder from Burghhead replied in the affirmative.

The Moderator—I see that there are 108 members in full communion and 156 adherents. That makes 264 in all. The Burghhead elder said that there would be about 335 names adhibited to the call, but a number of persons were away from home at the time.

The Moderator—Did you consult the Irish Presbytery about the matter? Rev. Mr Ellis—Rev. Mr Maclean is to do that. He thinks that we should incur as little expense as possible, and, besides, Mr Macculloch is going to Ireland in regard to giving a call to Mr Orr.

The Moderator—That is not according to your instructions. At this stage Rev. Mr Mackinnon, Gairloch, was associated with the Presbytery. The next business was to elect commissioners for the ensuing General Assembly. The following gentlemen were appointed:—Rev. Murdo Mackenzie, Rev. Mr Mackay, Kingussie; Rev. D. Maclean, Edinburgh; Rev. Mr Ellis, Grantown; along with Messrs Buchanan, Nairn; Mackintosh, Alves; Watson, Moy; and Mr K. Stewart, Culduich.

Nominations thereafter took place regarding the vacancies in the Chairs of New Testament Exegesis and Systematic Theology. Rev. Mr Macrae moved that the Rev. Mr Macleod of the Free Church, Edinburgh, be nominated as Professor of New Testament Exegesis in the New College there. Mr Macleod's qualifications, he said, were well known to them, and it was desirable that he should become occupant of this Chair. He was a distinguished student; in fact, he believed that Mr Macleod was one of the most distinguished students that had recently passed from the Aberdeen University—(applause). He believed that his teaching and influence would soon be felt in the Free Church.

Rev. Mr Munro, Forintosh, seconded the motion of Rev. Mr Macleod, whom he said he had the privilege of knowing during his theological course, and he could assure them that Rev. Mr Macrae did not overstate Mr Macleod's attainments as a student. He had the privilege of knowing Mr Macleod for a number of years. In his class he seemed to take everything before him; but there was something more than that which struck him (Mr Munro) regarding Mr Macleod, and that was his genuine Christian character and sterling Presbyterianism. The nomination was unanimously agreed to.

The Moderator said he could speak with greater authority than anyone present at that meeting regarding Mr Macleod, because he knew him almost before he knew himself—a laugh. He might regard him as one of his own boys. He knew Mr Macleod's family and many of his relatives as well. Some of them on his mother's side were in this part of Inverness-shire, particularly in Lochaber. In visiting the school at Kilmallie and attending the School Board meetings at River William, besides participating in examinations, Rev. Mr Macleod showed that, if he were spared, he would be a useful man to the Church of God. Personally, he (the Moderator) was sorry when he (Rev. Mr Macleod) saw fit to go another way, but he was glad to find that he had seen it to be his duty to come back to his first love—(applause).

Rev. Mr Ellis proposed the name of the Rev. James Macculloch, Principal of the New College, Edinburgh, as a suitable person to fill the Chair of Systematic Theology. The fact that Rev. Mr Macculloch was Principal of the College made him a very suitable party for this chair. As a preacher Mr Macculloch was better known to them than to him personally. He was in the forefront of their ministry, and was, in the present time, in charge of very important church. The men who knew him spoke in high terms of Mr Macculloch's theological attainments. Mr Macculloch was what was now called a science builder. As they were all aware, he had taken an active interest in the Church, and many of them did not know what would have become of them but for his spiritual guidance and firm hand. As a man he (Mr Ellis) had a great regard for Rev. Mr Macculloch, who was above all a wise man. He had heard it stated that Mr Macculloch's age might delude him from accepting the post, but the fact was that he looked older than he really was. He nevertheless possessed great vigour of body and mind.

The Moderator—There is no necessity for making a speech about it. It will not be decided here to-day. Rev. Mr Ellis—That is so, Sir, but we like to say something about a man's attainments. Mr Buchanan, Nairn, seconded the nomination.

Mr Watson (Moy)—I beg to nominate Rev. Mr Kennedy Cameron. Mr Mackintosh seconded.

The Moderator said that if he was to speak his mind on the subject, he would say that there were too many professors in the Church (renewed laughter). Too many professors were the ruin of the Free Church. Dr Cunningham was one of those who felt very strongly when it was proposed to have more than one college connected with the Free Church. He endeavoured to have only one fully equipped college instead of three. Of course, the majority went against him. Dr Cunningham felt it sorely, and he never got over it. He (the Moderator) thought that the men who differed from Dr Cunningham then saw before they died that he was right and that they were wrong—(applause). There would not be so many heretics if there were not so many professors; there were not more than three professors in the University, and men came from it as fully equipped and well trained as they did to-day. They had too many professors when they thought of the smallness of their Church. Of course, the Church was extending, but he thought there was something in Rev. Mr Macrae's suggestion that the Presbytery would not make any nomination for one chair so far as this year was concerned. He (the Moderator) had no voice in the matter. Why did they not propose himself?—(laughter).

After further talk the nominations were approved of. Rev. Mr Mackinnon—I suppose they are appointed with a view to getting their endowment. Deputations were present from Cawdor and Ardserrie, but it was agreed not to hear them until the next meeting of the Presbytery.

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TULCHAN PROFESSORS.

The Rev. Murdo Mackenzie is evidently still smarting under the recollection of how seriously his Church has burned its fingers over her very first professor. At a meeting of the Presbytery he seriously objected to the multiplying of professors, for his reading of the Church's history had been that the more professors the more heresy. As the Presbytery did not see its way to nominate himself, a thing which he playfully suggested, he thought they should refrain from nominating any ministers for the Chair of Systematic Theology at all. Of course, the logical result of his argument ought to be the having of no professors at all, and then presumably heresy would be reduced to a minimum, if it did not disappear altogether from the Church. A whispered remark by the Rev. Mr. Mackinnon, Gairloch, and a demurring frown from the Rev. Mr. Ellis, reminded him that the filling up of the Chairs was necessary in order to establish a claim to the emoluments, and so two gentlemen were duly nominated, one of whom the General Assembly might, if it deemed wise, select to fill the tulchan appointment. As regards the moralising of Mr Mackenzie regarding the connection between professors and heresies in the Church, he ought to be reminded that no member of the Presbytery treated the heresies of Professor Alexander's "Demonic Possession" more lightly than he did, and yet even the heretic himself at last found it necessary to repudiate the teachings of the book, and withdraw it from public sale. It is to be hoped that the attention of Lord Eglinton's Commission will be directed to this fresh attempt to create bogus claims on a share of the ecclesiastical property which they were appointed to administer, and that the eyes of the public will be still further enlightened as to the complexion of the principles which are being made to do duty for the code of 1843, and the spirit in which the friends and advisers of the Free Church of 1906 are serving themselves heirs of the great trust created at the Disruption.

THE FORBES RITUALISTIC CANTRIPS

With Canterbury, or even Rome as the standpoint, it might be difficult to settle the old Shakespearean inquiry "How far is't to Forres?" At all events, if some of the stern old Covenanters of Moray were to rise from their graves we are of opinion that, in view of what they could see going on from day to day in the magnificent parish church now completed, they would not be very strongly disposed to contest the proverbial affirmation of the Gaelic people that the devil's chief residence is in Forres. Reading in the public press the account of the services being held, during what the service books call the first week of Lent, one has to rub his spectacles to make sure that he is perusing an account of a series of religious ordinances in a Presbyterian Church, and not a congregation of English or Romanist Ritualists. With the complexion of a congregation's faith or the fashion of its ritual, we do not desire to concern ourselves. It is a matter for themselves alone so long as it involves no demand on the purses or consciences of their neighbours. In the present case, however, the matter is very different and very serious. If the minister of Forres and any members of his congregation choose to ape Episcopacy and adopt the English Church Prayer Book few would be disposed to quarrel with them, but it becomes quite another matter when it is being done at the public expense and in open defiance alike of the law of the land and the laws of the Established Church of Scotland which the minister of Forres, in common with other parish ministers, has sworn to maintain and obey. In the Directory for Public Worship, which received the sanction and imprimatur of the General Assembly of the Kirk of Scotland at Edinburgh, on the 3rd of February, 1845, and of the Scottish Parliament three days afterwards, it is declared as follows:—"We have, after earnest and frequent calling upon the name of God, and after much consultation, not with flesh and blood, but with His holy Word, resolved to lay aside the former Liturgy, with the many rites and ceremonies formerly used in the worship of God; and have agreed upon this following Directory for all the parts of public worship at ordinary and extraordinary times." We surmise men like the minister of Forres will find some day that they have laid the last straw on the back of the patient Scottish camel, and will provoke a demand for Disestablishment which he and his kind can do little to withstand. It may seem harsh and scarcely just that unoffending congregations should be made to suffer for the contemptible cantrips of such men as Mr Buchanan, but this could be obviated by the passing of a short Act of Parliament punishing with instant disendowment any parish convicted of indulging in such grossly irregular and illegal performances as have brought Forres into such prominence during the past few days.

THE PETTY CUSTOMS.

The question at issue between the Canal Commissioners and the Town Council being pending in the Superior Court, we have no desire to discuss it, and if we do refer to it at all it is only by way of naming the case as the cause of the appropriate expression of regretful disappointment to which Provost Ross gave utterance at the meeting of the Town Council on Monday, specially called to discuss the question of the Petty Customs, and if so advised to resolve upon their abolition. That was now the second time they were unexpectedly interrupted in their intentions of once and for all disposing of this irritating impost. The question has been a bone of contention among us for generations, one party favouring abolition and another being in favour of its retention; no one, however, being prepared to justify the tax on its merits. It was antiquated, inequitable, and a source of constant irritation to the ordinary tradespeople of the town generally. They were in later years a source of no little unpleasant contention in the relations between the Highland Railway Company and the Town Council. It were, perhaps, a matter of difficulty to prove that the bickerings over the Petty Customs and their collection, which formed the subject of litigation between the Highland Railway and the Town had anything special to do with the recent proposals for amalgamation and the intention to remove the railway engineering works to Inverurie. The existence of such an element of bitterness however, and the propriety of using all possible efforts to remove it has, within the past year at least, very materially modified people's opinion regarding the Petty Customs, and prepared the majority of the people themselves as well as the Town Council for their immediate abolition. The happy collapse of the amalgamation scheme, too, would have formed a fitting occasion for a return to

more cordial conditions of things that had prevailed for the past few years. The abolition of the Petty Customs by vote of the Town Council would at least indicate a desire on the part of that body to do their utmost to remove what was always a source of annoyance. The ebb of the event, however, has been marred by the interruption to which we have referred, and for at least one month, no further steps can be taken toward the removal of this apple of discord. No matter. The Petty Customs are doomed, and their utter abolition is only the matter of a very short time. In their present form Inverness will shortly know them no more, and the Highland Company, in common with the rest of the town's ratepayers, will cheerfully take its place as a payer of the equivalent rate, which it will be necessary to impose in order to satisfy the terms of the law which renders necessary the substitution for the present antiquated impost the laying of a small rate on the whole community.

THE NEW MEMBER FOR SUTHERLAND.

Sutherland, as all the world knows, is entitled to be regarded as the fountain head of the great clearances, when the people, who had from earliest generations lived with more or less comfort and content upon their humble crofts, were driven off to foreign lands, or huddled together in the villages along the coast to make room for large sheep runs, deer forests, and sport moors. The evil policy of that time had its day so long as the lands retained the fertility imparted to them by the cultivation of the crofters; sheep farming succeeded and sheep farmers made wealth. In course of time, however, reverses of fortune supervened; sheep farming became very much of a failure, and those who had been loudest in their defence of the new economic policy began to see that a huge blunder had been committed in the expatriation of the people from the straths and hills of the north. The owners of the lands themselves began to admit their mistake, and movements began to assume form for re-division and for the restoration of the people to the land and the land to the people. In Sutherland the dual house itself admitted the evil character of the policy that had banished the peasantry, and various schemes were set afoot for the subdivision of large holdings among a crofting population. The question has now become a national one, and all around the cry is, Back to the land. Parliament is prepared to grant drastic measures for giving effect to the prevailing desire, and there is every prospect that in the early future effective measures will be devised, and liberal pecuniary encouragement will be granted to re-people many of the districts which are now waste wildernesses devoted to sport, to enlarge the present holdings of the crofters, and to create new crofts where land suitable for such purposes is available. In the good work of accomplishing this it is but fitting that Sutherlandshire should occupy a prominent place, and it is equally appropriate that that county should have for its representative in Parliament one who is in active and intelligent sympathy with the movement. In Mr Alpheus Cleophas Morton, who was recently chosen by a large majority to represent the county in Parliament, the people of Sutherland have an ideal representative. A shrewd and successful man of affairs, carrying great influence in commercial circles in the great Metropolis, Mr Morton has been for many years a prominent and active friend of the Highland crofters, and has again and again taken an aggressive share in the agitation through which they were successful in obtaining the concessions and privileges which are embodied in the Crofters Act of 1886. In the present movement for extension and amending the provisions of that Act, the people have no more faithful, persistent, and vigilant advocates than Mr Morton. He is familiarly conversant with every phase of the question, and is found at the front in all the steps which are being taken by the land reformers of the House of Commons for the work of restoration and redistribution. He has already justified the choice made by the people of Sutherland, and we are confident that in all future movements for their benefit he will not grudge their cause the wide business experience and the conspicuous administrative capacities which form part of his equipment as a member of the present most democratic of modern Parliaments. It is not only among the Highland peasantry that Mr Morton's eminent qualities are appreciated. We are pleased to see that last week he was the honoured guest of a large gathering of his colleagues in the Court of Common Council, London, and others, presided over by Sir William Treloar. All the speakers vied with each other in expressions of admiration for his sterling honesty and his conspicuous abilities as a member of their distinguished Company.

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

Nothing could bring home more plainly the close connection between foreign policy and social reform at home than the debate on Old Age Pensions in the House of Commons last Wednesday. As showing the trend of public opinion towards the duty of the State to the individual, it is only necessary to notice that Mr O'Grady's motion to provide an allowance of from 5s 6d to 7s per week to all deserving aged subjects of His Majesty in the United Kingdom was approved, without dissent, by all parties in the House. Truly Parliament has expressed itself in favour of State aid to almost an alarming extent during the past week or two. The feeding of school children, the payment of members, the payment of returning officers' fees, and now the provision for old age, involving an annual expenditure of over £10,000,000, have all received the assent of the House of Commons. Resolutions approving of colossal expenditure are passed, without a blush, by a Parliament pledged to retrenchment. Is it not all a waste of time? No one believes for a moment that, in the present state of the public purse, any measure involving the country in extra taxation to such a huge amount can be seriously entertained or passed into law. There may be a certain satisfaction in piously passing these resolutions, but, keeping in view the congestion of business at the end of a Parliamentary session and the amount of necessary work to be got through, it would be well for members to don themselves the pleasure of showing their sympathy with every measure brought forward; far better to take up matters that can be carried to fruition and so have some return for the time spent. The idea of palliating the social evils that exist by donations out of the Imperial Exchequer, instead of cutting away the causes at the root, finds support on all hands; from the Socialists, naturally, because it expresses their great principle that State aid and State control can secure

perfect conditions of living, ignoring the fact that much of the misery results from immoral life and that men cannot be made good by Act of Parliament; from the Conservatives, because it has always been their policy to gloss over the iniquity of the land laws, and because they would prefer to pay untold millions out of taxes rather than have their most treasured privileges passed under review by a House of Commons bent on land law reform. Liberals vote blithely for all these resolutions and measures because they have more heart than head, they have genuine sympathy for the suffering masses, and great faith in the power of money. They seem to have lost all touch with the deeper aspects of the question and fail to trace the connection between the new evils that increased taxation must bring in relieving the old. They are only debarré from putting the various State-aid resolutions of the past week into practical working by a knowledge of the stern fact that our expenditure is already as high as we can bear, and that in the first place some relief must be sought. Old Age Pensions are further from realisation than they were when they received a certain prominence ten years ago. Since that time the annual expenditure of the country has increased by over forty millions, without any corresponding increase in the wealth of the country. Now, this increase has in great part given rise to the distress that by further taxation it is hoped to cure. Surely the most sensible procedure is somehow or other to reduce the heavy burden of taxation, and at the same time afford relief by opening new avenues to wealth and prosperity by removing the hampering restrictions that bar ready access to the land. Here then is seen the close connection between foreign policy and improvement at home. Mr Asquith looks for economy without loss of efficiency when dealing with educational matters. It cannot be. The claims of education get more varied and more expensive year by year. The only hope of a genuine reduction in expenditure lies in the Army and Navy. At present little can be done. The policy of bluster and menace followed so religiously by the late Government has made the present expenditure on the fighting forces necessary. We are glad to see that Mr Asquith foreshadows a departure from the policy of his predecessors. As he observed, there are only two practical ways of effecting a radical retrenchment—"One is by reducing the numbers of our permanent fighting force, and in the case of the Navy by contracting our shipbuilding programme. In the long run these are questions of policy, and a Government pledged, as we are, to pursue by every means in our power a policy of pacific and conciliatory intercourse with other nations of the world are bound to take steps—substantial steps—in both directions." It is necessary to remember that this is the only way in which adequate retrenchment can take place in the future. Then, if the Government so will it, a beginning may be made with old age pensions either, as suggested by Major Anstruther-Gray, by commencing with a low pension, or, what appears to us the more preferable method of starting, by pensioning men of advanced years, and lowering the age as funds increase and the system is found to be a success.

RODERICK GILLIES.—Letter received too late for publication this week. Will appear in our next issue.

SPRATENHAIN PLOUGHING MATCH.—This match has had to be postponed until further notice.

LADIES' LITERARY SOCIETY.—On Thursday afternoon the last meeting of the session of the Ladies' Literary Society was held in the Palace Hotel. There was a large attendance of members. Arrangements were made for the ensuing session. SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS.—In connection with a recent drawing exhibition in London, under the auspices of the Royal Drawing Society, Miss Daisy Mackenzie, North Church Manse, Inverness, has been awarded a prize. There were 182 competitors, and the prizes were given for the best selection of studies in 1905.

PROVOST'S COAL FUND.—Provost Ross begs to acknowledge, with thanks, the following donations in aid of the Coal Fund.—Mr James Barron, Ravelrig, £1 1s; Messrs R. Carruthers & Sons, £1 1s; A. S. J. J. Rusterholtz, Palace Hotel, 10s; Mr J. J. Inverness and Highland Curling Club, per Mr J. Munro Middleton, £3 3s.

SALE OF PROPERTY.—Although property in Inverness may not have gone up quite 25 per cent. since the date of the Wharfedale meeting, there is certainly a greater disposition to buy and sell, and prices have undoubtedly hardened. On Thursday the property known as Moorlands and Beech-cliff, Drummond Road, was sold at a good figure. The sale, which took place in the office of Mr E. M. Barron, solicitor, was well attended. The upset price was £850, and the bidding went on briskly until £1010 was offered by Mr J. M. Middleton. Mr Barron, who, we understand, made the purchase on behalf of a client.

FORTHCOMING EVANGELISTIC MISSION.—Arrangements for the forthcoming united evangelistic mission are being rapidly pushed forward. The missionaries, Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, D.D., and Mr J. B. Hemminger (soloist) are both Americans, and come to Inverness with reputations of successful business men elsewhere. A meeting for workers will be held on Saturday, 31st March, and the mission will last a fortnight. A large united choir will sing each evening from the Hemminger hymn-book. During the mission there will be special meetings for children and men, and a great closing meeting will be held in the Music Hall on Friday, April 13th.

DEATH OF AN OLD SERVANT.—On Saturday last the death took place of Catherine Sharp, an old and valued servant in the service of Aldourie. She was employed for the past fifty years on the estate, where her father had also been employed as a woodman. She was a tall, strong, healthy woman, and representative of a type fast disappearing from the district. She seldom complained of illness until a few days before she died, and she performed her usual duties almost up to the last. The week before her death she was able to gather two barrowfuls of driftwood for some of her neighbours. The funeral was largely attended, among others being Major Fraser-Tyler and Master Fraser-Tyler, who placed a beautiful wreath on the coffin. The Rev. Mr Sinton, Dore, officiated. The general company included the Aldourie manager and other officials, Mr Macdonald, head teacher, Lance-Corporal Fraser, and others.

NELSON F.C. CONCERT.—The above event took place in Munro's Hall, Grant Street, on Wednesday last before a large and appreciative audience. Mr R. MacLachlan, vice-president, occupied the chair, assisted by Mr A. Bain. The following ladies and gentlemen contributed to an excellent and varied programme of vocal and instrumental music, step dancing, and ventriloquism:—Messrs J. Fraser, D. Mackenzie, J. Macdonald, T. Macdonald, J. Jamieson, J. Sutherland, C. Mackintosh, T. Macdonald, J. Macdonald, and S. Chisholm, and Misses Gordon and Mackenzie, and a musical quartette under the leadership of Mr W. J. Fraser, all of whom had to respond to well-merited encores. The programme concluded a lady in the audience drew the winning numbers in the prize-drawing inaugurated by the club. The numbers will be found on page 1 of this paper. The concert was an unqualified success, and the committee deserve all praise for the manner in which they carried through the proceedings.

Several articles have been unavoidably held over, including reports of meetings of Inverness Academy Governors and Inverness-shire W.M. and Spirit Association. These will appear in to-night's "Football Times," along with reports of to-day's football in Inverness and the south, all the latest local news, &c. On sale at 7 p.m.

NEW SHERIFF-OFFICER.—Mr Patrick MacLachlan has been admitted a sheriff-officer for the town and county of Inverness.

KING CORONANT.—During the past few days several cormorants have been disporting themselves in the river to the intense delight of the gamins on the west side of the river.

As will be observed from our advertising columns, our townsman, Mr James Fraser, has opened a boot and shoe repairing business at 18 Huntly Street. Mr Fraser has had large experience in Inverness and in the south, and we have no hesitation in predicting for patrons of this knight of the hammer and awl neat and substantial workmanship.

SUNDAY SERVICES.—The services in the United Free High Church will be conducted to-morrow (Sabbath) by the Rev. Edward E. Anderson, East Kilbride. Rev. C. Adie Pollard, Clydebank, will have both C. Adie Pollard, Clydebank, will have both services in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and will address the annual home missionary meeting in the Methodist Hall, Raining's Buildings, on Monday evening. Rev. A. Bremner will preach in the Baptist Church to-morrow morning and evening. In the evening there will be a baptismal service.

CAMANACHD CUP SEMI-FINAL.—The semi-final in connection with the Camanachd Cup competition takes place at Inverness on Saturday next, the 24th inst., the contestants being Lovat and Newtonmore. Both teams are at present giving a good account of themselves, and a keen and exciting game may be expected. The Highland Railway Company are offering cheap fares in connection with the match, and we have no doubt many will avail themselves of the excellent travelling facilities afforded by the Company.

MR DEWAR AND DEN NEVIS OBSERVATORY.—The Town Council of Fort-William have asked Mr John A. Dewar, M.P. for Inverness-shire, to present a petition by them in favour of the re-opening of the observatories at Fort-William and on the summit of Ben Nevis. On the motion of Councillor Macphie at the monthly meeting of the Council, the Town Clerk has been instructed to communicate with the other Scottish members and corporations likely to support the project, in order to bring as much influence as possible to bear on the Government when the petition is submitted to the House.

I.W.L.A.—COMMITTEE MEETING.—At a drawing-room meeting of the Executive of the Inverness Branch of the Women's Liberal Association, held at Atholene on Thursday afternoon, Provost Ross, who was incidentally present, asked the Association to memorialise Parliament in support of Mr Cameron Corbett's Sunday Trading Bill. The Provost having explained the provisions of the Bill, it was cordially agreed to accede to his request. The subject of the annual social meeting of the Association was also discussed. The meeting will probably take place some time in April, when it is hoped Mr and Mrs Annan Bryce will be present. Mrs Ross kindly entertained the members to tea.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY AND FIELD CLUB.—Last night the fourth monthly meeting of the Inverness Scientific Society and Field Club was held in the Waverley Hotel. There was a large attendance, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. Mr George Macdonald, LL.D., of the Scottish Education Department, read a very interesting paper on "Roman Remains in Scotland." The lecturer treated his subject in a masterly manner, and his remarks were listened to with the closest attention throughout. A number of gentlemen spoke in appreciative terms of the lecture, which was beautifully illustrated by line-drawings. At the close Mr Macdonald received a very hearty vote of thanks.

A SUCCESSFUL ARTIST.—Mr Andrew Paterson, Inverness, has just secured his seventeenth award in photographic competitions, the present honour coming from Nottingham, where a competition is being held. The subject which has won for Mr Paterson the bronze plaque is "The Head of a Man" in the portrait class strongly represented by one hundred competitors. The exhibit is an effective one, marked by easy dignity and simplicity of treatment, combined with effectiveness, and well upholds the exhibitor's position in the world. In one of Mr Paterson's show cases the plaque is on view, and is a most artistically designed and modelled figure panel of handsome dimensions well worthy of the skill and trouble taken to secure it.

ESTATE OF LOCHIEL.—The late Lochiel has left real estate of the estimated value of between £50,000 and £60,000 and personal estate of £68,868 18s 2d, and in Scotland amounts to £61,703 5s 4d, including life policies valued at £26,125, farming stock, &c., at £17,693, and household effects, £5830. The testator bequeathed £100 to his factor, Mr Thomas Moneyman, and in addition to the residue which they will be entitled under his marriage settlements, he left £12,000 upon trust for his younger children. The residue of the estate he left to his eldest son, subject to his continuing the pensions and gratuities which he had been in the habit of paying to old servants and others. The entitled estate passed to his eldest son, Donald Walker.

DEPARTURE OF A POPULAR TOWNSMAN.—The other day a number of friends and well-wishers assembled at the Railway Station to witness the departure of Mr John Junor, chemist, who for several years, conducted a successful business in Bridge Street, and Mr Junor was held in high esteem by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, who will regret his departure. Mr Junor, who was an intelligent citizen and took a keen interest in local municipal affairs, recently purchased a business in South Shields, which will be conducted by himself and his brother. The representative gathering which assembled in the Glenalbyn Hotel a few evenings ago testified to the high esteem in which Mr Junor was held by all who had the privilege of knowing him. He carries with him the best wishes of many friends in Inverness and the north.

ANNUAL MEETING OF CITADEL CRICKET CLUB.—A fairly representative meeting of the Citadel Cricket Club was held in the Lovat Arms Hotel on Thursday night—Mr Wm. G. Mackay in the chair. The Secretary's report, which showed a substantial balance on the year's working, was unanimously adopted. Mr S. Maclean also submitted a lengthy and creditable report of the club's doings during last season, from which it was observed that Frank Mackenzie occupied premier position in the bowling averages, while James Macdonald took first place as regards the wicketing of the bats. A lengthy discussion as to the desirability of the club entering the Northern Cricket League afterwards took place, when it was agreed that the club should again participate in that competition. The election of office-bearers was left over to a future meeting.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN PERSONAGE.—The death occurred on Tuesday in sad circumstances of John Wormald, a wandering seller of old books and pamphlets, and a well-known personage at the Dingwall and Muir of Ord stations. He used to sleep under the water tank at Muir of Ord station in all kinds of weather. He was in the Free North Church, Inverness, on Sunday, and on the following morning he was picked up at Muir of Ord Railway Station in an exhausted condition, having fainted in the snow. The poor man was conveyed to the police station where he died, his death being due to exposure and starvation. The deceased was an inoffensive man, and was treated with kindness at the houses at which he was in the habit of calling. Wormald held a good appointment in the Highland Railway office, and it is said that his mind was unshaken by the death of his mother.

(Local News continued on page 8).



BACK TO THE LAND.

[To the Editor].

Sir,—In obedience to the dictates of gratitude I desire to offer sincere thanks to you for opening your columns for the free expression of opinion on the important subject of the land for the people. In the above remarks I am sure that I have 99 per cent. of the people of the Highlands with me. Now, Sir, in my last letter I made the statement that no land reform for the Highlands would be permanent unless it provided that the occupier become the absolute owner of his holding, on easy terms, and with as little delay as possible, and not at the end of fifty years as the Congested Districts Board's recent offer suggested. It may not be out of place here to give the opinion of practical men on what would be a reasonable size of croft or small farm. Taking for granted that the present Government will pass a Land Purchase Bill on satisfactory lines (1) it is suggested that from 50 to 60 acres of good arable land should be the size of the farm; (2) Where hill pasture is available, say from 20 to 30 acres arable land, with hill pasture for 150 to 200 sheep, should be the extent of the holding. These small farms would provide constant employment for the crofter, who in a few years would become the absolute owner, and then evictions would be known no more in our land; (3) Where the people are engaged in the fishing industry a smaller croft would be more in keeping with the requirements of the fisherman than that suggested in the first and second paragraphs; (4) Locality, condition, and quality of the soil, convenience or otherwise to market, should be taken into consideration in fixing the price or rent of land. Now, Sir, keeping in view the size of the holdings suggested above we have in the Highlands land enough to provide comfortable homes (by a re-arrangement of the present order of things) for at least 60,000 families. Let us put that in the balance against all the deer and grouse, the present occupiers of the land, then let the Government and the nation practically say whether it is deer and grouse or men and women who are to be the future occupiers of the land in the Highlands. I do not say that such a great transformation as that involved in placing 60,000 families on the land could or should be done all at once. But to begin modestly (if the Government were to take the matter earnestly and firmly in hand) there would be nothing unreasonable or impossible in settling 6,000 families every year on the land, until at the end of ten years the whole Highlands would be fairly well occupied by a happy and prosperous people. This surely would prove a better policy from every point of view than sending thousands of our best people, simply by oppression, into the sea in search of the means of making a living. Let us imagine what stimulus and activity to business and all branches of trade would be created throughout the Highlands by the establishment of 60,000 new settlers on the land every year for at least ten years. The unpleasant association known as the unemployed would be heard of no more; stagnation in trade would give place to extraordinary activity. Prosperity would displace poverty; happiness would then reign supreme in the land. Now, Sir, one or two words more and I am done. I must reserve my arguments in support of this statement for a future occasion. I have almost unlimited confidence that the present Government will do justice to the Highlands on the land question, but in all fairness to the Government reasonable time to fully consider the kind of measure that would restore comfort, prosperity, contentment, and happiness to the people of the Highlands.—I am, Sir, yours, &c., K. STEWART, 4 Argyll Terrace, Inverness.

FURTHER SEIZURE OF LAND IN SOUTH UIST.

News comes from the Outer Isles that the cottars on Lady Gordon Cathcart's estates have made a further seizure of land in South Uist. Last week thirty-three crofters and cottars from the Lochdar district of South Uist raided the farms of Gerinish and Drumore, situated in the north end of the estate, and entered into possession, dividing them up into holdings for themselves and selecting sites for the erection of their dwelling-houses. There is no desire on the part of the cottars to appropriate the land to their own use without paying a fair rent. This they are willing to settle by arbitration, but they hold that in the circumstances they are entitled to act for themselves. They have been herded together for years, and have vainly striven to obtain redress by constitutional means, but now think the time has come to act for themselves. They are quite determined they will not draw off again until they get holdings. These successive risings show that they are in earnest, and that their action is the result of the oppressive social conditions under which they live, and not merely a desire to possess themselves of the property of others, but an assertion of their rights as men to work and to live. The cottars who three weeks ago took possession of the farm of Bornish have completed the building of their huts there, and have now taken up their abode on the farm, each cottar having his own lot, which he has hived for himself. These cottars are quite resolved to keep possession. At Ormladie Farm the Stoneybridge crofters are engaged in manuring the Machairland and making paths for their cattle to the hill ground, where they are to graze them in future. The sheep and cattle of the Ormladie Farm were removed some time ago, and the hills are at present without stock on them. Everything that is being done shows the determination of the men to retain possession of the soil. Solid stone dykes are being raised round each lot, and the whole district has now the appearance of a settled township. Taken in conjunction with the meetings in Skye, it shows that the crofters are working for a purpose, and unless speedy relief is given to congested districts by Act of Parliament the risings will become widespread.

AGITATION IN HARRIS FOR STEAMER SERVICE.

A mass meeting of crofters, cottars, and fishermen from the townships of Lickisto, Ardeve, Leaces, Kyles, Stocknish, Cluir, Collam, Grosebay, and Seadabay was held in Kyles Stocknish Public School on the 2nd inst. Mr Alex. Fraser, missionary, Collam, presided. The following resolutions were unanimously passed:— (1) That this meeting petitions Parliament, that the Postmaster-General should, if necessary, give a small subsidy to the mail steamer which passes daily within a few hundred yards, so as to call at Kyles Stocknish, where there is a most safe anchorage, and no steamer calls between Tarbert and Rodel, Harris, a distance of 16 miles by sea on either side and containing a population of at least 500 souls, in addition to a large number of people in the adjoining townships.

(2) That during the winter months particularly, as the people suffer great hardships, their goods lying at Tarbert sometimes for six and seven weeks through bad weather, having to carry their meal and the other necessities of life on their backs a distance of seven or nine miles by land, the daily calling of the mail steamer at Kyles Stocknish, which is half-way between Tarbert and Rodel, is urgently needed.

Mr John Mackinnon, merchant, Kyles Stocknish, in supporting these resolutions, said that for years they bore patiently with their inconveniences with regard to the mail steamer, but were determined not to stand them much longer, that it was a disgrace in a civilised country to see the mail steamer passing so near daily and not calling there; that men risked their lives especially in going to Tarbert for their goods, and that the steamer could call at Kyles Stocknish daily even in winter.

(3) That the fishermen should have an access to the southern markets for their fish, such as lobsters, herring, mackerel, eels, white fish, whelks, &c. Mr Duncan Macleod, crofter fisherman, Kyles Stocknish, said that they exported great quantities of lobsters every year, and that the men had to carry them in boxes on their backs to Tarbert, at least seven miles. Through this antiquated way of carriage a great number of lobsters were dead before they reached the steamer.

Mr Roderick MacCush, merchant, Leaces, and several others spoke and said that they fully expected the present Liberal Government would listen to their demand, which was not an unreasonable one. It was agreed to send a copy of these resolutions to Mr Dewar, M.P., the Secretary for Scotland, and the Postmaster-General. A petition signed by 149 householders has also been sent to Mr Dewar, M.P.

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WE CEASE NOT TO REMEMBER. Of we cease not to remember, 'Mid the summer days are gone, 'Mid the blossoms of becoming, Of the pleasures that have flown, When the birds sing all in tune, Love, little rock we—little dream— Stars of memory set too soon, Love, and the pool lacks a theme. Of we cease not to remember, Of the heart-felt anguish keen, When the coldness of December, Chills our hearts and conns between, Roses bloom and roses fade, love, Sere the laurels round your brow; But I love thee in the shade, love, Much as in the sunshine now. 9th March, 1906. THE BARD OF RECON.

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BARRA—VISIT OF CAPTAIN MIERS.—Captain and Adjutant Miers has just made a recruiting tour of the island, being accompanied by Mrs Miers and Captain Herriman.

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SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION OF SECONDARY TEACHERS. MEETING IN INVERNESS.

On Saturday the first meeting of the Northern Branch of the Scottish Association of Secondary Teachers was held in the High School, Inverness. Mr F. Macdonald, Dingwall Academy, president, presided. Among those present were Dr Dey, Aberdeen; Mr J. L. Robertson, H.M.I.S.; Rev. Wm. Brown, Alness; Rev. Mr Macquarrie, Ferintosh; Dr Macbain, Inverness; Mr W. J. Watson, do.; Mr T. D. Wallace, do.; Rev. Gavin Lang, do.; Rev. Allan Cameron, do., and many others. The Chairman in a few introductory remarks stated the object of the meeting in forming the Association, and called upon the Rev. Mr Brown, Alness, to read a paper on THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Rev. Mr Brown's paper was an able and lengthy one. He said that whatever form the draft regulations of the Education Department might finally assume all their teachers would have a secondary professional training, and on a scale never before attempted. On the whole, the new regulations had the almost universal approval of the teachers themselves. They were the outcome of long and careful consideration on the part of the Department. They were much on the lines of those bearing on the King's student. This was very good for a supply of teachers for their large cities, but what of their small country schools with an average attendance of 30 and under? At present most of them were supplied with teachers by a special first class, and were not admitted into the Normal College. Some of them had proved very fair teachers in the elementary schools. He sympathised with the ex-pupil-teachers. They ought to have received marks for professional training, and been allowed to enter the Normal School for one year at least. Many of them had passed as acting teachers, and had proved themselves worthy and capable. His first objection to the new regulations was that it was too early an age to lay hold of a pupil to train him for a special profession. Headmasters should recommend their primary pupils, and after an examination the successful ones should get a bursary to attend a secondary or a higher grade school. At the end of two years they would be another examination, and the successful competitors would attend a secondary school and qualify for the intermediate certificate. Those who gained this would then proceed to a secondary school for two years, and during that time would teach for six months. After some further steps he would then only be qualified to teach in a primary school. To get a supply of teachers for small schools under 30 students, who had passed the intermediate certificate, and had passed one year of training, would be well qualified for such work. If they received reliable reports by H.M. Inspector then they could if they chose pass an equivalent examination to the leaving certificate, and get a full certificate as a primary teacher, or qualify at a University for the higher certificate, so as to be in a secondary school. Let there be an open road from the primary school to the highest position in the profession. The sum and substance of the regulations was the abolition of the pupil-teacher system, and the provision for the training of teachers in higher education. Mr Brown then went on to criticise other features of the regulations, and concluded by saying that the true teacher was born, not made. The one thing was not mere lectures, but practice, and all successful teachers lay in having the right man in the right place.

Rev. Mr Macquarrie gave general approval to the new departure that had been made in the regulations. The question was a grave one for the ratepayers. It was a question of money. As to the question of Gaelic, he would insist on due arrangements being made that in Gaelic-speaking districts they should have the services of bilingual teachers.

Mr W. J. Watson, Inverness, was thoroughly in favour of the abolition of the pupil-teacher system. He expressed his sense of the importance of having Gaelic-speaking teachers, and representations had been made in connection with the northern members of Parliament. He moved hearty thanks to Mr Brown for his interesting paper.

Mr Winchester, Clyne, moved a series of resolutions, desirous of certain amendments in the regulations, which were carried.

EDUCATION IN THE HIGHLANDS. Mr Dey, Aberdeen, gave an interesting address on Highland education. He showed that the Highlands had a fair and strong claim to have the special attention of any bod- or bodies that were trying to procure and to train the best possible teachers. The natural in the Highlands was first rate. There was no lack of it, and let them encourage it. Dr Alexander Macbain moved a vote of thanks to Dr Dey. He stated as an interesting fact that Dr Dey was himself a Gaelic speaker. He trusted Dr Dey would take an interest in bi-lingual teaching in the Highlands. The motion was cordially agreed to.

After some general discussion the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

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BURGH SCHOOL BOARD. NO ELECTION.

Monday was the last day for receiving nominations for election to the School Board of Inverness. There were nine vacancies, and as only nine nominations were received by the Returning Officer (Mr Rod. Scott), there will be no election. The members of the retiring Board being those nominated, will form the new Board. They are as follows:—Mr William Macbain (Chairman), Rev. Gavin Lang, Rev. D. Macdonald, Wm. Tod, Mr Kenneth Macdonald, Bailie John Mackenzie, Rev. Murdoch Mackenzie, Rev. Duncan Macqueen, Rev. Allan Cameron.

THE EQUIVALENT GRANT IN PARLIAMENT.

The claims of the Highlands to a portion of the surplus of the Equivalent Grant amounting to £21,000 have been pressed upon the Secretary for Scotland by Mr A. C. Morton, but Mr Sinclair, in a letter, has replied that he does not think it is possible to give further funds to the Congested Districts Board. Only £100,000 is to be available this year, and the Board has funds of its own for its own purposes. "Though it may be thought that are not sufficient at the present time." With regard to the teaching of Gaelic, Mr Sinclair has at the same time informed the member for Sutherlandshire that the present arrangements will not be disturbed by any of the proposals in the draft minute.

SEVERE SNOWSTORM AND FLOODING.

One of the most severe snowstorms ever experienced in March took place on Sunday and Monday and the nights following. Two days. The weather was extremely cold, and a strong wind prevailed increasing on Monday morning to the force of a gale. On the Highland Railway engines with snow-ploughs attached constantly patrolled the line to prevent blocking. The snow was very rough, and on Monday afternoon several streets in the Fishertown of Nairn were flooded to a depth of several feet. Much damage was done. At Tain the full force of the storm was experienced at the foreshore, large quantities of the embankment were washed away. Many roads in the Highlands have been completely closed to traffic. The position of large flockmasters in the north has become extremely critical, the flocks having to be entirely hand-fed. Flocks are suffering severely. All out-door work has been suspended. Reports from all quarters indicate that the storm is not confined to any particular district.

GLASGOW GAELIC MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association was formed in this city some fifteen years ago at a time when the Mod was just beginning to make its influence felt, particularly in its efforts to improve Gaelic song. To form and build up another Gaelic Choir in Glasgow was the first aim of the promoters of this Association. It is to be noted that Gaelic song is an easy matter when one knows that such a large Gaelic-speaking community exists in and around the city, but at that time the difficulty to a great extent lay in there having been very little choral music to be had, and, perhaps the most important thing, that the young men and women had very little or no opportunity or inducement offered to them to acquire a knowledge of music, so as to enable them to take part in choir work. This Association started on purely unsectarian or un-nominal lines, and although no great success had been achieved in the first few years, the seeds were being sown that at some future time were bound to bring forth fruit. Steady progress was always being made, and a most important factor was that many friends and supporters of the objects of the Association were being brought to take an interest in the choir, and came forward and joined the Association, thus greatly strengthening its hands. The choir for many years was under the baton of Mr Norman Macdonald, and for some years back under that of the present able conductor, Mr William Armstrong. To anyone who knows of these gentlemen it can be assured that they were and are, the most competent to perform their part of the duties required. The choir has taken part in competition at many of the Mods, and also been much in request at local Gaelic gatherings, where they have at all times acquitted themselves creditably. Soloists out of the choir have also been prominent part at the various Mods, and have secured a fair share of the highest honours there, and not a few having secured the gold medal, the blue ribbon of the competition. Mention might also be made that this choir has been the first to make the attempt in public to sing Gaelic songs as "Suas leis a Ghaidhlig," "Oidhe nach leibh," "Faithe Phrionnsa," "Oidhe nach leibh," and many others, thus proving that they have fully justified the aims and objects for which they were formed. The Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association was formed for the purpose of affording all local Highlanders an opportunity of cultivating their native language and melodies, and with a view to raising our beautiful songs to a higher artistic plane than they have hitherto occupied. Any who wish to further these aims, either as chorists or by general interest in the work of the Association, are cordially invited to become members. Choir practice is held every Monday night at 8.30 in the Waterloo Rooms.

The choir have just held their annual concert, which proved in every way a very successful function, the Gaelic predominating all through the programme, and each item eliciting unstinted applause from a large and enthusiastic audience.

SHINNY. MEETING OF CAMARACHD COUNCIL.

A Council meeting of the Camarachd Association was held in the Alexandra Hotel on Saturday afternoon. Captain Hugh Fraser of Lovat presiding. The semi-final (Central v. Northern), Lovat v. Newtownmore, was, on the motion of Mr Ross, seconded by Mr Macrae, decided to be played at Inverness on the 24th inst. Mr G. W. Macrae was appointed referee, and Mr W. Macdonald Fraser and Mr John Macaskill were chosen as goal judges. The semi-final (Southern v. Western), Brae-Lochaber v. Kyles Athletic, was ordered to be played at Craigendron on the 31st inst. Mr D. Macdonald Skinner was appointed referee. It was unanimously agreed that the final be played at Inverness on the 14th April. Mr J. W. Macrae was appointed referee, and Messrs Ross and Macaskill as goal judges. It was also agreed to entertain the finalists in the Alexandra Hotel after the match, and that Lord Lovat, Chief of the Club, be asked to preside and present the trophy.

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SUCCESS OF A CRADLEHEAD HORSE.—Broadbaird (11637), sired by Hiawatha, dam, Royal Garity, was placed fourth in a strong class at Toronto Stallion Show in February. The horse, which is a stylish bay, was bred by Mr Wm. Macbain, Cradlehead, and owned by Mr William Duncan, Stroud, Ontario.

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Lot V100.—Ladies' Pretty DELAINETTE BLOUSES with small black spots; have white lace yokes, trimmed back and front with fancy white gimp, very full ruffled front and sleeves, lace cuffs trimmed with gimp. Price only 2s 11/4d; post 3d. Can also be had in Black or Navy, with white spots, and trimmed with black lace. Lot V110.—Wonderful line of Ladies' NUNSVELLING BLOUSES in various shades of Cream, or Pink; have tucked yoke with three rows of cross stitching, and tucked neck-band and cuffs with one row of cross stitching. Price only 1s 11/4d; post 3d. Lot V120.—Ladies' MERCERISED MUSLIN BLOUSE; have ruffled yoke, with circle of Val. lace in centre; full caught full edged with Val. lace, also across back; full sleeves tucked on to deep tucked cuffs. Price only 3s 6d; post 3d.

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ALL SMALL HOLDERS SHOULD HAVE ONE OGG SHEARER'S EASILY-DRIVEN FOOT AND HAND THRASHERS. THE ORIGINAL, BEST, AND CHEAPEST. 300 Thrashers sold throughout the country. Over 1000 Thrashers sold each season. Discount for cash, or Payment taken in Instalments, and all Machines Delivered Free. Write for Illustrated Price-List, with Testimonials. Special value in Barre. Features from £3 10s.

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NORWELL'S PERTH BOOTS. For Agriculturalists, Farmers, and those exposed to all weathers, wear in and year out, must have dry, warm feet. You will find our specially-made Boots just the kind you have looked in vain for. Our Scotch Boots have no equal for flexibility, lightness and durability. THE "PERTH" FARMER, as illustrated, is the New Perth "Beva" Boots—Foresters, Gamekeepers, Gunners, etc., wear 13.0. Sheepsheep Boots for Moor or Field 13.0. Farm and Town Boots, Handbuilt, 7/3 and 7/11. Our new Price List No. 5 is a lesson in Shoe Economy. Send for it today, it is free. NORWELL'S, Manufacturers, PERTH, N.B. Established over 100 years.

CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE. THE WORLD-FAMED BLOOD PURIFIER. Of all Chemists and Stores, 2/6 per Bottle. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

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STORNOWAY SCHOOL BOARD. THE LAST ROUND.

At the termination of the business at the Stornoway School Board meeting on Tuesday the Chairman referred to the fact that that would be their last regular meeting before the triennial election, and he wished to thank the members and managers for the kindness and forbearance they had shown him during his occupancy of the chair. Their meetings had been very pleasant, and the work done had been productive of very great good. He might say that their meetings had been marked by a cordiality that spoke volumes for the feeling borne one towards another. There had been no acrimonious discussions or any words spoken that they would wish to recall. He did not know whether it was the intention of the members of the Board to stand again for re-election, but if they did they had an excellent record to show. He hoped the friendly feeling that had prevailed at their meetings would animate their successors so that they might be able to do as well as they had done. He thought they ought to record a special vote of thanks to the Chairman, who, he said, had attended every meeting since the beginning, and a great deal of the pleasantness of their work was due to the Chairman's tact and business methods. Provost Anderson seconded. He thought they should tender the Chairman their hearty thanks for his actions in the chair during the past three years. It was a very great pleasure to him (the Provost) to attend the meetings. There had been an interest taken in education which was most pleasant to them all. Their work as a Board had been fruitful of much success, and he trusted that the same success would follow the work of the incoming Board.—Mr. J. M. Morrison, speaking in behalf of the managers, assured he voiced their feelings when he said they had on all occasions been treated by the Chairman with the greatest courtesy. Every effort had been put forth by the Chairman to make the proceedings as agreeable as possible. Dr. Morrison wished to emphasise the vote of thanks to the Chairman for his services to the Board for the past three years. Mr Mackenzie had not been absent from a single meeting—not even a committee meeting.—(Applause)—During the three years of his occupancy of the chair, which constituted a record, he thought, for public bodies. His courtesy, fairness, and impartiality in the chair was all that they could wish for, and their meetings had been very pleasant. Indeed, he believed he himself was the only member who had occasionally come into collision with the Chairman, but, of course, that did not count, as he could not be happy unless he had an occasional dig at the Chairman (laughter).—Rev. Mr. Calder had, he said, been struck by the tact and business methods of the Chairman in education, and his mastery of details. The pleasantness of their meetings was in a large measure due to the Chairman's unfailing geniality. Bailie John Mackenzie, as a manager appointed by the Town Council, wished to thank the Board and managers for the attention they had given to the interests of education during the past three years. They had from the Chairman downwards carried on the work of the Board in a manner satisfactory to the town and parish, but to the whole island.—The Chairman thanked the members for the kind things they had said for too much in that respect, but he had endeavoured to perform the duties of his fair duty, and he was pleased to know that they thought he had succeeded.

STORNOWAY TOWN COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of the Stornoway Town Council was held on Monday. The members present were:—Provost Anderson, Bailie John Mackenzie, Bailie Murdoch Maclean, Councillors Donald Maciver, John Innes, W. J. Ross, John M.R. Morrison, and C. Sims, and Mr. Archibald Munro, Town Clerk. The principal item of business on the card was a motion of which Councillor W. A. Ross had given notice proposing to terminate the occupancy by the Social Institute of certain rooms in the St. Andrew's Buildings, Municipal Buildings. Councillor Ross, who was seconded by Councillor Sims, moved in the following terms:—"That in view of the serious injury being done to part of the Council's property by the Social Institute, the tenancy of the part of the Municipal Buildings now occupied by the Institute be terminated as at 1st May next, and that notice to that effect be at once given to the managers of the Institute." Provost Anderson moved the previous question, and it was carried by a majority of 10 to 2. Donald Maciver. Considerable discussion ensued. All the members present taking part. There was a general consensus of opinion that the attention of the Managers of the Institute would have to be directed to the misconduct of a section of those now frequenting the Institute, but that Councillor Ross's motion was rather drastic. Ultimately both motion and amendment were withdrawn, and the following moved by Councillor John M.R. Morrison became the unanimous finding of the meeting:—"That in view of the injury being done to part of the Council's property by parties frequenting the Social Institute, the managers of the Institute be called upon to give a guarantee to make good all damage, and see that proper order is preserved in future, and that the Institute be closed on Sundays." Bailie Mackenzie, as convener of the Works Committee, reported on the steps taken to clear the water mains on North Beach and Point Street which had become choked in some mysterious way. They opened the water on North Beach and ran the rod through part of the main, and on turning on the water again it was found to run freely. The same method proved effective on Point Street. His own theory was that when the plumbers were working making the Matheson Road connection at Bayhead, some calcium or other substance must have got into the main and was carried along till it stuck in the smaller mains on North Beach and Point Street. The Convener's actions were approved. Bailie Mackenzie also drew attention to the manner in which the flushing taps are meantime connected with the sewer main, and the engineer was asked to report on the same. Bailie Murdoch Maclean referred to the present unsatisfactory arrangement of the main making King Mackenzie's Y.L. heart-felt thanks for the good resolutions passed by him in the Town Council of Stornoway on 11th December, 1905.

STROUD (HARRIS).—By the kindly contributions of the shipmates and many friends of the late Mr Angus Macaulay, ship carpenter, for over ten years on Mr Macbrayne's West Highland steamer Lochiel, who was accidentally drowned on Lochalsh on 18th November, 1903, a beautiful polished silver grey granite memorial stone has just been erected in Rosel Cemetery. Held in much and deserved esteem by all who knew him, Mr Macaulay's end came when in the prime of life, leaving those behind to mourn the loss of one who was truly upright. The stone now erected is a fitting memorial to his memory and affection by his shipmates and friends. It records the deceased's birth and death, and its erection by Captain Macgillivray and Mr John Brown, first mate of the Lochiel, along with Mr William Stewart, Stroud, who formed the committee, is a fitting memorial erected.

THE SCOTTISH GAELIC SOCIETY OF NEW YORK.

This flourishing Society of Scottish Gaelic meets in the Caledonian Hall, New York, on the second Thursday of each month. For the information of those who are not familiar with our old Highland customs it is usual to give a brief outline of what Gaelic-speaking Highlanders and their descendants, who revere the old language and traditions and customs, lived amidst in their childhood days. The following is the programme of the "Luadhaidh," which formed the programme on the 8th February last:—The first part of the presentation is the interior of a Highland cottage. The guide-wife is spinning, one of the daughters is carding, and another is skeining yarn. The father and sons are engaged in other matters. Some of the younger children coming in from school announce to the mother that "Am Fighheadair" sends word that the cloth is ready. One of the lads is sent for, and the mother tells the girls to get all ready for the "Luadhaidh," to invite the neighbours, and be sure to have Murchadh Ploibaire. The father is somewhat averse to the dancing, which he knows is a usual termination to these occasions, but, as usually the case with fathers, his objections are overborne by "Am Fighheadair" and the girls, who proceed to the making of oatcakes and other eatables and the preparation of all other arrangements necessary to carry out a joyous aftermath to the "Luadhaidh" proper. The second stage of the proceedings shows the "Luadhaidh a' chlo"—the "waulking" of the cloth in progress, the singing of the girls engaged in it—"Clo' nan gilleann, iomair o ho, Clo' nan gilleann, iomair o ho, Clo' bu bhinne, iomair o ho, Clo' nan gilleann, iomair o ho." As with light hearts they proceed with their work of love, they indicate from time to time the progress which the cloth is making towards a satisfactory completion by saying "that it will take another song yet"—"Gabhaidh e oran eile fhathast." The concluding part represents the company enjoying themselves at supper and in dancing—"Na gruigiteachan teisteoil 'n fhoagsaichean truaich." A' d'annasadh gu' h-innall, 's ri mireag gun bheud." The aim of the Society is to promote and perpetuate a deeper love for the language, traditions, music and literature of the Scottish Highlands, and to give information and assistance, as circumstances permit, to any newcomer from the Old Country. There are Gaelic-speaking members from almost all parts of Canada, Virginia, and Carolina, as well as from the Highlands of Scotland. The Lewis has a large representation, most of the officers being from the Outer Isles. Levists visiting New York will be sure of a welcome at the hands of this enthusiastic Society.

SCOTLAND, FAREWELL.

Farewell to bonnie Scotland, Her hills and mountains high, Where grows the bonnie heather, Her fame will never die, Farewell to dear old Scotland, Where waves the sweet bluebell And the tiny little daisy Growing in the dell. Far, far from dear old Scotland, With her brook, broom, and bower, And the thistle growing wildly, Her proud and noble tower, Far from the dear old Homeland, Where every streamlet glides, Where little winding rivers Run down the mountain side, Here's to bonnie Scotland, Land of my fathers brave, Who fought for Scotland's freedom, Who never fled to the sea, They loved the dear old country, And loved her to the core, Her warriors bold and brave, And kept her to the fore. Rise up for bonnie Scotland, Be a' for the bold and brave; Her sons are ever faithful, But the flag is never false, But the bonnie Scotland Many a tear was shed, When on the field of battle, Her warriors bold had died, I'm proud of dear old Scotland, Her brave lads never fear, To fight for Freedom's right, In the land they love so dear, But many a bloody day was spent, In the name of a brave one fell, Fighting for his country, The land he loved so well, Hurrah! for bonnie Scotland, The land that I adore; Till think of the fair o'er the sea, As a' for the bold and brave, Hurrah! for bonnie Scotland, She still upholds her name; Press on to the field of battle, Scotland won her fame. Govan. DONALD MACLEOD.

AFTER FOUR YEARS.

Time is the best test of truth. Here is an Aberdeen story that has stood the test of time. It is a story with a point, which will come straight home to you of us. Mr William Baxter, 23 Urquhart road, King Street, Aberdeen, says:—"The pills cured me so thoroughly that I have never needed to use any medicine since. It is over FOUR YEARS ago now that I used Doan's Pills, and my health has been splendid all the time. I gladly confirm all I wrote in my letter telling you of my cure. I have had many people call to enquire about my case." The following is the letter we received from Mr Baxter immediately after his cure:—"Gentlemen, I am writing to thank you for the great relief Doan's Backache Kidney Pills have brought me. Some 12 months ago I began to suffer with bad pains in my back. I did not take much notice of these at first, as I thought they were caused by my work—I have a lot of stooping to do—but as time went on the pains became worse. Soon I found that the urinary system was disordered, and then I knew that my kidneys were not acting properly. "When I had been taking Doan's Pills a little while I was much easier, and the pains were not so bad. I went on with the pills, and in a short time they completely cured me. I am now in the best of health, and have no sign of the old troubles. "You may certainly publish this as I did—Yours truly" (Signed) "William Baxter." Nervousness, backache, yellow skin, sleeplessness, irritability, poor appetite, tired feeling, restlessness—all these are signs of kidney resistances in the blood. Doan's Backache Kidney Pills give aid and strength to the kidneys, so that they not only take out these poisons, but filter the blood perfectly and regularly, thus preventing a return of the trouble. That is just why Doan's cures are lasting cures. Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are two shillings and ninepence per box (six boxes for thirteen shillings and ninepence). Of all chemists and stores, or post free, direct from Foster-McClellan Co., 28 Wells Street, Oxford Street, London, W. Be sure you get exactly the same kind of pills that Mr Baxter had.

EDDERTON.—SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATIONS.—Rev. D. Macrae, E.C.; Rev. M. Macrae, U.F.; and Messrs D. R. Cran, Ardmore; John Munro, Rarichy; and D. Aird, merchant, have been nominated for the School Board, and as there are only five seats there will be no contest. CROMARTY.—SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.—There were six nominations for the School Board election, viz. Mrs Mackay, Ray (one of the truly upright); the stone now erected is a fitting memorial to his memory and affection by his shipmates and friends. It records the deceased's birth and death, and its erection by Captain Macgillivray and Mr John Brown, first mate of the Lochiel, along with Mr William Stewart, Stroud, who formed the committee, is a fitting memorial erected.

HIGHLAND INTERESTS IN PARLIAMENT.

TAXATION OF DEER FORESTS. In the House of Commons on Thursday Mr Weir asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he would consider the expediency of imposing special taxes on deer forests, salmon fishings, and grouse moors. Mr Asquith could see no ground for imposing such taxes on these particular objects of sumptuary expenditure to the exclusion of others. Any scheme for taxing these luxuries would be difficult to frame and still more difficult to administer. The object of the deer forest, which he took to be secure a larger proportionate contribution to the public revenue from the wealthier classes, would be more effectually secured by other means. Mr Weir—Is the right hon. gentleman aware of the enormous sums of money waiting here to be handed into his pocket (laughter). Mr Weir asked the Secretary for Scotland if he would consider the expediency of issuing a circular to deer forest proprietors in the Highland crofting counties urging them to fence in their forests in such an effective manner as to prevent the deer from straying on to the adjoining lands and ravaging the crops thereon. Mr Sinclair—The point will be borne in mind in connection with the amendment of the Crofters Act, which is now being prepared.

Among the suggestions that Mr Weir and Mr Morton have placed before the Secretary for Scotland for his consideration in framing the Bill to amend the Crofters Act are the following:—"That the Act should be extended to every parish in the Highland crofting counties; that provision should be made for the erection of new buildings by the Crofters Commission for crofters, cottars, and fishermen; that the Commissioners should make advances on easy terms for repayment on buildings, drainage, fences, and other improvements; that the Crofters should be empowered to acquire at fair rents the lands scheduled by the Deer Forests Commission, and the lands which have been brought under sheep or deer subsequent to the date of the Crofters Act; that there should be no further formation of deer forests or sheep farms in the crofting counties; that the owners should erect effective fences round the forests to keep in the deer, that the right of free sale should be given to crofters, cottars, and fishermen; that the Crofters Commission should be empowered to prevent or restrict the poor crofters should be protected against their more prosperous neighbours, that the principle of "Once a croft always a croft" should be adopted unless resumption should be needed for the public good; that crofters, cottars, and fishermen should be empowered to build and make any improvements, that the crofter should have a right to ground game, and power to destroy all wild animals on his holding, and that he should be allowed to engage in an industry, trade, or business on his holding, other than the liquor traffic, and to erect buildings for the purpose of such occupation. The other Highland representatives are also engaged in preparing suggestions.

DINGWALL NEWS.

WATER SUPPLY.—The annual report of the Sanitary Inspector, which is being forwarded to the Town Council, states that during the past year the water supply has been fairly abundant, and that there have been no complaints as to its quality. CIVIC CONDEMNATIONS.—On the motion of Provost Macrae, the Town Council unanimously agreed on Monday that they should offer their sympathy to Mrs Stewart Mackenzie of Southport, in connection with the death of Mrs Stewart Mackenzie's father, which took place the other day.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.—At the monthly meeting of the Town Council on Monday it was decided, on the motion of Mr Burns, that if Messrs Innes & Mackay, solicitors, Inverness, could show that the buildings might be erected on the ground without interfering with the rights of the Council, then the Council would consider the matter of permitting them to build. Bailie Macrae reported that in view of the letter received from the Local Government Board by the Town Council on the 25th inst., that the Council was quite in order in conducting the business although they were six members short, he had been unable to prevail upon several citizens to put their names forward to fill the vacancies. Mr Frow—They look upon the present Council as being perfect.—(laughter).

MEETING OF U.F. PRESBYTERY.—On Wednesday a meeting of the U.F. Presbytery of Dingwall was held in the Manse. Rev. Mr Mackenzie, Maryburgh, moderator, presided over Revs. Messrs Macdonald, Dingwall; Ross, Alness; Cameron, Contin; and J. Johnstone, Strathpeffer. Rev. Messrs Macdonald, Dingwall; Ross, Alness; and J. Johnstone, Strathpeffer; and elders—Messrs Forbes, Cullraggie; James Mackay, Urray; and Walter Arras, Galashiels. Rev. Mr Johnstone gave in the report of the Presentation Fund for the past month, and it showed an increase in several of the congregations, and a decrease in others in the Presbytery. Mr Mackenzie gave in a report on his work at Ferintosh. The Moderator then presided over the presentation of the following members to the U.F. Presbytery:—Rev. Messrs Macdonald, Dingwall; Ross, Alness; and J. Johnstone, Strathpeffer; and elders—Messrs Forbes, Cullraggie; James Mackay, Urray; and Walter Arras, Galashiels. Rev. 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