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# SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES.

VOL. VIII., No. 9.

FEBRUARY, 1895.

PRICE 3d.

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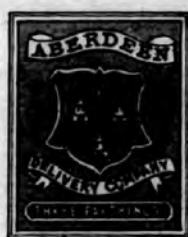


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POSTAGE STAMPS OF  
EDINBURGH, ABERDEEN, DUNDEE, GLASGOW, 1865-69.

SUPPLEMENT TO SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES.

FEBRUARY, 1895.



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## ABERDEEN, FEBRUARY, 1895.

### THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF ABERDEEN, DUNDEE, EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW, 1865-69.

FORTY years ago stamp-collecting was the hobby of a few French and English schoolboys. To-day it counts its votaries by tens of thousands, all over the world, of every age, in every rank. The extent of the literature confined solely to Philately, as it is now called—magazines, catalogues, manuals, price lists, etc.—is almost incredible to the uninitiated. The mere bibliographies of the subject, American, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, fill many volumes. The latest to appear, *Bibliographie der deutschen philatelistischen Literatur, verfasst und bearbeitet von Victor Suppantsehschitz*, München, 1892, is a handsome octavo of 748 pages. In addition to the London Philatelic Society, established in 1869, and having the Duke of York as an active member, there are societies of collectors in at least six English provincial towns, in most of the Continental capitals, in many cities of North and South America and Australia. Directories of stamp dealers give hundreds of addresses; in London and New York stamp auction sales take place almost every week, and the sums paid are astonishing. Certain early varieties of Mauritius (1847) and

of the Sandwich Islands (1852) will any day fetch from £200 to £300 each; while if a second copy were found of the British Guiana 2 cents of 1850 (the only one known is in Paris), there would probably be no difficulty in disposing of it for £500. The collection in the British Museum, bequeathed to the nation by the late Mr T. K. Tapling, M.P., is valued at £50,000, but it is by no means the finest in Europe.

How many readers of *S. N. & Q.* are aware that stamps once existed peculiar to Aberdeen? The following brief notes on these, and on the allied stamps of Dundee, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, are mainly condensed from the account of them given by Mr W. A. S. Westoby, author (with Mr F. A. Philbrick, Q.C.) of *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, (London, 1881, pp. 384 + xx.), and editor of *The Philatelic Record*, the ablest of stamp magazines, now in its seventeenth year.

In 1865, Mr R. Brydone, a native of Edinburgh, organised a company under the name of the "Edinburgh and Leith Circular Delivery Company", for the conveyance and delivery of small parcels and circulars. It is understood that the then Lord Advocate was of opinion that such delivery of printed matter was not an infringement of the privileges of the Post Office.

Adhesive stamps were issued by the Company to prepay the postage on circulars, rectangular in form (25½ × 30 mm.), with hollowed corners. The device consisted of two shields: the dexter triple towered and embattled sable, masoned of the first and topped with three fans gules, windows and portcullis shut of the last, situate on a rock proper; the sinister the arms of Leith (Argent, in the sea proper an ancient galley with two masts, sails furled, sable, flagged gules, seated therein the Virgin Mary with the infant Saviour in her arms and a cloud resting over their heads, all proper). In a scroll above EDINBURGH & LEITH; in another scroll below CIRCULAR DELIVERY COMPANY; in a horizontal tablet at foot the value in words. (See Plate, figure a).

1. One farthing, mauve.
2. One farthing, green.

Of exactly the same design were the stamps for parcels, but the word PARCEL took the place of

CIRCULAR, and the tablet at foot bore the address 12 ST ANDREW SQUARE instead of the value. (Fig. *d*)

3. [Twopence] yellow.
4. [Threepence] red brown.

In 1866 the Company issued two stamps similar in design and lettering to 1, but of smaller size, 22 × 29 mm. (Fig. *b*).

5. One farthing, mauve.
6. One halfpenny, green.

In 1867 the size of the "Circular" Stamps was still farther reduced, 19 × 23 mm.; and a new address, 12 ELDER STREET, took the place of the value. (Fig. *c*).

7. [?] black on yellow.
8. [?] red brown.

On the other hand, the value now appeared on a new type of the "Parcel" stamps, 24 × 29 mm., bearing a horse and cart with driver in a lozenge: the Edinburgh arms on miniature shields in the upper corners, the Leith arms in the lower. (Fig. *e*).

9. Twopence, yellow.
10. Threepence, red brown.

In the same year stamps were issued in Aberdeen, Dundee, and Glasgow, by offshoots of the Edinburgh Company.

**Aberdeen.**—Rectangle, 18½ × 22½ mm. Device: the arms of the City (Gules three towers triple towered within a double tressure flory counterflory argent.) It will be noticed that the towers, which rather resemble heraldic castles, are incorrectly placed, one and two. Above: ABERDEEN. Below: CIRCULAR DELIVERY COMPANY. At foot: value in words. (Fig. *f*.)

11. One farthing, orange.
12. Halfpenny, blue.

**Dundee.**—Size as last. Device: the arms of the City. (Azure, a pot of growing lilies argent.) Above: DUNDEE. Other lettering as last. (Fig. *g*).

13. One farthing, pink.
14. Halfpenny, vermilion.

**Glasgow.**—Size 21 × 27 mm. Device: the arms of the City. (Argent, on a mount in base vert an oak tree proper, the stem at the base thereof surmounted by a salmon on its back also proper, with a signet ring in its mouth or; on the top of the tree a redbreast, and in the sinister fess point an ancient handbell, both also proper.) Above: GLASGOW. Other lettering as last. (Fig. *h*).

15. One farthing, black.
16. Halfpenny, vermilion.

Similar stamps, with which I am not here concerned, were issued in London and in Liverpool.

Nearly all the stamps 1 to 16 are found imperforate, rouletted and perforate. Later series are perforate, appearing imperforate only as reprints.

In August 1867 the action of these Companies attracted the attention of Government, and the Solicitor to the Post Office obtained a conviction against one of their messengers for "delivering letters contrary to the privilege of the Postmaster General," under the Acts 7 Wm. IV., cap. 33, and 1 Vict., cap. 36. After this conviction the promoters of the scheme proceeded to form a company on the mutual system, in which the privilege of making use of the stamps was reserved to the shareholders; claiming immunity on the ground that, as an exception to the monopoly of the Post Office is made in favour of private individuals employing their own servants to distribute letters, a company so constituted should be in a similar position. The new Company was incorporated on February 22nd, 1868, with its chief office in London, and with branches in Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Edinburgh and Leith, Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow. Series of stamps uniform in size (except for Edinburgh), values and colours, appeared for these towns, the word CIRCULAR no longer forming part of the lettering.

**Edinburgh and Leith.**—21 × 28 mm. Arms as in 1. Above: EDIN<sup>R</sup> & LEITH. Below: DELIVERY COMPANY. At foot: value in words. (Fig. *i*.)

17. One penny, green.
18. One halfpenny, blue.
19. Three farthings, mauve.
20. One penny, vermilion.

**Aberdeen.**—21 × 26 mm. Arms: the towers are now rightly placed, but the tressure has vanished; some unrecognisable object appears in chief. Above: ABERDEEN. Other lettering as last. (Fig. *j*.)

21. One farthing, green.
22. Halfpenny, blue.
23. One halfpenny, blue.
24. Three farthings, mauve.
25. One penny, vermilion.

**Dundee.**—21 × 26 mm. Arms as in 13. Above: DUNDEE. Other lettering as last. (Fig. *k*.)

26-30. As with Aberdeen.

**Glasgow.**—21 × 26 mm. Arms as in 15. Above: GLASGOW. Other lettering as last. (Fig. *l*.)

31-34. As with Edinburgh and Leith.

The Company was again attacked by the Post Office in May, 1868, when the magistrate granted a case, which was argued before the Court of Queen's Bench on June 2, 1869. The report will be found in the *Law Times* for June 26. It was held that the society was acting illegally, and judgment was given for the Post Office. This prosecution was a death-blow to the scheme.

The agitation, remark Messrs. Philbrick & Westoby, may be considered as not having been absolutely fruitless, for it directed the attention of the public to the excessive charges of the Post Office for the conveyance of printed matter of small weight, and in 1870 the halfpenny rate for circulars was conceded by Government.

The stamps from which figures *a, d, e, h* to *l* have been lithographed, are in my own possession unused. Those shown in figures *b, c, f, g*, have been kindly lent by Mr. Westoby. Nos. 22 and 27 I have not seen, but copies are in Mr. Philbrick's collection.

In connection with the Aberdeen Company and its stamps, I should be glad to learn:—

1. Where the offices of the branch were situated.
2. Whether any references are to be found in the contemporary newspapers.
3. Whether any copies of the stamps have been preserved on the original circulars and bearing postmarks.

P. J. ANDERSON.

#### ◆◆◆

#### THE EDINBURGH MSS. FORGERIES.

ON Nov. 22, 1892, the *Edinburgh Evening Dispatch* commenced a series of articles, arising from a discovery of a "Burns' MS." which had appeared in the *Cumnock Express*. The subject once opened, it soon became evident that for fully five years past the market had been deluged with many hundreds of suspicious MSS., chiefly, but by no means exclusively, through the medium of two well known Edinburgh booksellers, certain auctioneers, and pawnshops. Bundles of these spurious papers had repeatedly been examined and rejected by learned and expert gentlemen. But none of these seemed to have recognised the duty of openly denouncing the costly imposture, and warning the public to be on its guard, until the *Cumnock* correspondence gave the Editor of the *Evening Dispatch* his opportunity. The MSS. comprised vast numbers of letters and original poems by Burns, letters and autographs of Scott, Thackeray, Dickens, Collingwood, Nelson, Abercromby, Edmund Burke, Southey, Hume, Hogg, Mrs Hemans, Carlyle, and Coleridge; and a very large number of "Historical MSS.," National Covenants, called "Solemn Leagues and Covenants," one of them said to be dated 1648 (!), passports and letters by "Marie R.," Montrose, Dundee, Dalryell, Cromwell, Monck, Prince Charles, &c., and whole clouds of Covenanting witnesses. Hardly a large town in Great Britain, where there is any market for such commodities, but had contributed its victims, and patriotic Scots in America and the Colonies had been buying up our original history and

literature in sackfuls. Every day the correspondence in the press laid bare dozens of these frauds, and the obstinate credulity of some of the victims. Suspicion became concentrated on an ex-lawyer's-clerk, known among his associates as "Antique Smith." In December this celebrity, for such he had become, was arrested. A veto was then laid by the Courts on the correspondence, as tending to prejudice the prisoner's case. In June, 1893, Smith was tried and found guilty, but recommended to mercy, on the ground that "his crime was an unusual one." He was sentenced to imprisonment for twelve calendar months.

Seldom seeing the *Dispatch*, and hearing, in conversation, only of the "Burns forgeries," I had felt no great personal interest in the subject. But on Dec. 7th a friend advised me to purchase that day's paper for some useful test of ink described in it. The copy happened to contain the list and dockets of 202 MSS. purchased by a Mr. Kennedy (U.S.) for a public library in America. Most of these were "Burns MSS.," but some 24 of them were "Historical," ranging from "Marie R." to Prince Charles Edward, including three Montrose signatures. Examination of the last, so far as their contents appeared in the dockets, convinced me that the dates and places given were impossible, and I was led on to apply the same test to the rest in this and other similar lists. Not long before the exposure I had purchased an interesting Montrose signature, and as it now appeared that the bookseller from whom the purchase was made was deeply compromised in the sale of the spurious MSS., I turned up his catalogue, with the result that some 25 "Montroses," "Cromwells," and Covenanting bonds and testimonies refused to stand the test of chronology. Other occupations delayed further exposure of MSS. in these lists, and the veto laid on the correspondence foreclosed the discussion, leaving me with notes on some 50 spurious or highly suspicious documents. As these, for all we know to the contrary, may some day creep back into the market as authentic MSS., they must now share the fate of their congeners and be nailed to the counter. It will be understood that my knowledge of them is confined in almost all cases to the printed details of their dockets (the folded sheet of paper in which MSS. are usually offered for sale, inscribed with a heading of their contents). Of the ink, handwriting, paper, and other *nuances*, I knew and know nothing. But it is obviously sheer waste of time, and to the public, after all, not very convincing, to be told that the writing and colour are suspicious, and the paper probably a fly-sheet torn from an old book, when the



date of the document itself is a chronological monstrosity. In law no proof is more absolute than a well-established *alibi*, and there need be no further question of doubts and probabilities. Thus, if, as I found on inspecting one of the Kennedy MSS., the MS. itself was signed by the Regent Morton *after his death*—though the date on the docket was *ten years earlier*, and therefore possible—none but the most inveterate spiritualist could maintain its authenticity. An order, signed by Montrose, “to the captain commanding in Aberdeene,” was dated 19th September, 1644, the *very day* that Argyll, in pursuit of Montrose, entered Aberdeen, three days after Montrose had left it, on hearing of his rival’s approach. According to one document, Montrose was still “Before our camp of Philliphaugh” on October 2nd, 1645, though the battle was fought on September 13th.

In the following criticisms I shall, as a rule, forbear to give authorities, where the dates and events are such as can easily be verified in the common books and histories of the period.

#### KENNEDY MSS.

1. Elizabeth R. Queen Elizabeth—Letter to Lord Moray. From Windsor, “this 15th of Januarie, 1575.” Relative to “the Prince.”

The Regent Moray was shot at Linlithgow, 23rd January, 1570. In 1575, “the Prince” had for eight years been James VI., king of Scotland.

2. Marie R., Queen of Scots. Warrant to a peer and “others under you to be ready to repair with all speed ye can to such leage as may be appointed,” etc., 20th May, 1564.

The inverted commas are so printed in the *Dispatch’s* list of Kennedy MSS. The spelling is modern and un-Scotch. There do not appear to have been any disturbances in 1564 to warrant such haste. Mary was then contemplating her project of marriage with Henry Darnley.

3. Viscount Dundie, Graham of Claverhouse. Proclamation against misaffected noblemen and others. The Leaguer near Dundie, this 17th of Januarie, MDCXXXIX.

In the *Dispatch* of Dec. 9, “J. A.” cast doubt on the expression, and pointed out the absurdity of “1639.” In Arabic figures 3 might have been confused with 8, but in Roman letters it is not so easy to account for the omission of the L. Was this a mere error in transcribing the docket? A sight I had of the Kennedy MSS. subsequently showed that here at all events the docketter or cataloguer had not tampered with the egregious absurdity of the MS. Anyhow, in January, 1689, Dundee was in England, afterwards going north to attend the Con-

vention appointed to be held on March 13th. He reached Edinburgh about the end of February. On the 16th March a plot to assassinate him and Sir George Mackenzie was revealed. On the 18th he left Edinburgh to raise the king’s standard. These facts dispose of the next MS.

4. Viscount Dundie, Graham of Claverhouse. Order to the Town of Perth on supplies, Mar. 18th, 1689. “The samen was ordered to be erased from the buiks of the Counsal.”

Dundee spent the night of the 18th at Linlithgow. Thence he proceeded to his house near Dundee. Several attempts to recall him to the Convention failed. On March 30th he was proclaimed a traitor.

5. Sir John Cope. Proclamation prohibiting assisting the Rebels, 26th August, 1745, Stirling. Countersigned by Duncan Forbes (of Culloden), 26th August, 1745.

Cope set out from Edinburgh on August 19th, to rendezvous his troops at Stirling. On the 22nd he was at Amulree; on 23rd at Tay Bridge; 24th at Trinfuir; 25th at Dalnacardoch. Thence he marched to Dalwhinnie, where it was decided in a council of war to turn aside to Inverness. Duncan Forbes was then at his own house at Culloden. Cope, shortly after passing Dalwhinnie, received a letter from Forbes, written from Culloden.

I take this opportunity of protesting against the persistent practice in some school histories of calling Cope’s force the “English.” The *Hanoverian* army routed at Prestonpans was composed mainly of Lowland Scots and some (Whig) Highlanders. National self-glorification on the strength of the Highland Jacobites and their achievements is a curious mark of the change of feeling towards the Highlanders, then generally regarded by Lowlanders with suspicion, horror, fear, or contempt.

6. James VII. Letter to Lord Viscount Kilsyth, signed at Commercy (Comrie), 26th Oct., 1715.

In the MS. itself “VII.” did not appear. James VII. died in 1701. The “Chevalier,” James VIII., landed at Peterhead, December 22nd, 1715, and sailed from Montrose in February, 1716. “Commercy” should be Commercy.

7. Prince Charles Edward—Proclamation for raising Troops. Perth, 10th September, 1745. By his Royal Highness’ commands. George Murray, Halirood House, September, 1745.

In the *Dispatch*, Dec. 15, 1892, Mr John Russell showed that the Prince was styled simply “Highness,” and “Halirood House” was spelt Holy-rood-house.

Prince Charles was at Perth Sept. 4-11th, and Lord George Murray was with him. The Prince entered Edinburgh 18th Sept. The MS. would seem to infer that Charles was at Perth, and G. Murray at "Haliwood House" on Sept. 10th. "George Murray" is probably the forger's error for Jo. Murray (v. No. 8), the Prince's Secretary.

Mr Russell's criticism applies also to the following:—

8. Prince Charles Edward—Commission to Colonel George Buchanan in Dunbarton. Halyrude House, 25th October, 1745. Counter-signed by J. Murray.

A genuine document quoted by Mr. Russell, runs—"Given at Holy-Rood-house," "By his Highness's command, Jo. Murray." Here, as far as date goes, the document might be genuine. Charles left Holyrood, Oct. 31st.

9. Duke of Cumberland—Despatch to the Provost, Baillies and Council of Perth. To give up the names of those who assisted the Rebels. Fort Augustus, 21st June, 1746.

I have not been able to verify this date. The Duke was back at St James's July 25th. It is more to the point to note that his proclamations were addressed to the General Assembly and Parish Ministers. Chambers, in his History of the Rebellion, ch. xxv., specially mentions that such proclamation "was read in the churches of Perth and its vicinity."

H. F. MORLAND SIMPSON.

(To be continued.)

#### LOCAL BIBLIOGRAPHY.

WE continue our List of additions to Mr. A. W. Robertson's "Hand List of Bibliography of the Shires of Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine," and believe a few notes on some remarkable names and works contained in it will make it more generally interesting.

It is singular to note how the pent up patriotism of a representative of the old local family of Cadenhead, who had settled at Padua, finds expression in two poems in honour of the restoration, and of the marriage of K. Charles II. The only copies known to us are preserved in the British Museum, and probably came from the King's Library. We have the high authority of the late Dr. Joseph Robertson for translating *Camerarius* and *Chambre* into the familiar local surname of *Chalmers*, and we think it is to be regretted that in the "Hand List" the error of the Brit. Mus. Catalogue has been repeated by recording as the works of David Chambre (Lord Ormond) two books which Dr. J. Hill Burton long

ago pointed out were written by another local David Camerarius. The works which we have added to Lord Ormond's Bibliography are frequently bound up with the *Histoire Abrégée*, and may thus have escaped notice. *Christ's Kirk on the Green* is included for its vivid representation of a phase of rural life in an ancient Aberdeenshire parish four centuries ago, by an unknown author, said to have been a Scottish king, in verse which later poets have frequently imitated, but rarely excelled. The political agitations of a hundred years ago are significantly illustrated by the publication in our city of two works by William Cobbett. The younger Colman's vivacity and wit were never better exemplified than in the *Random Records* of his life at our University, and in a play written during, what he termed, his "exile" at Aberdeen. The name of George Conn, of the family of Auchry, one of the keenest Catholic controversial writers of the 17th century, is worthy of local preservation. The esteem in which he was held in his native shire, in his own time, is marked by the existence of his portrait at Gordon Castle, with an inscription recording that he was papal legate to Henrietta, Queen of Charles I., and that, but for his early death, he would have been exalted to the purple. He died at Genoa, 10th January, 1640, aet. 42, and his tomb in the church of San Lorenzo at Rome bears his effigy and armorial bearings.

The earliest printed works of any Aberdeen author that we are able to record are two books by Gilbert Crab (1517), both of which are excessively rare. No copy of either has ever occurred in the Sale Catalogue of any Scottish Library during the last 150 years, so far as we have been able to discover. The first noted by us is in the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh, and the Aberdeen University Library fortunately possesses a beautiful and perfect copy of the second, the binding of which ought to be very carefully repaired. It was presented to the University by William Rait (Humanist, 1587), and the printer's name is James Mareschal. Sir Thomas Craig appears on our List upon the authority of his best biographer, supported by the opinion of his descendant, the late Sir James Gibson Craig. His *Epithalamium* on the marriage of George Gordon, Earl of Enzie, eldest son of the 1st Marquis of Huntly, and Lady Anne Campbell, daughter of the 7th Earl of Argyll, in 1607, in any event entitles his name to inclusion, and assists us to believe Tytler's assertion that he was probably born at Craigston. We cannot afford space for the titles of the superabundant works of the late Dr. John Cumming, but any one interested will find most of them in Allibone. Works relating to the Dioceses of Moray and

Brechin are included, because they comprise many parishes in our three Counties. An excellent notice of Dr. William Davidson (1593-1670), the great Aberdeenshire Alchemist, was contributed by Mr. John Smith to the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries in 1873. His works are rather scarce. So are those of Thomas Dempster, whose remarkable personal history is now little known. He was a voluminous writer, and we believe that Mr. Robertson's List (14) with our own (15) combined, do not exhaust his Bibliography.

We close our remarks by simple reference to three names of high rank in the annals of human genius which we, this month, add to those in the "Hand List." Sir Andrew Clark and James Matthews Duncan were bright examples of the long line of eminent physicians who, for more than three hundred years, have successively done honour to their Alma Mater; and here in Aberdeen, the birthplace of Scottish Art, we feel proud to remember that the Royal Academicians of England have seldom enrolled a more illustrious name than that of William Dyce. ————— K. J.

- Cadenhead, James*, *Astrœ Venetæ plausus in Caroli II Stuarti Mag. Brit. R. Instauratione* Padua 1661.  
*Pallas pronuba in nuptiis Caroli II et Catharine* " 1662.  
*Cadenhead, William*, *The Links Burns' auld Arm Chair* S.A. et L. Abd. 1884.  
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*The Nail struck to the head* " 1712.  
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 (To be continued.)

Mr. J. J. Haldane Burgess contributes an important article, on Some Shetland Folk-Lore, to the January number of the "Scottish Review."

## LOCAL BIBLIOGRAPHY.

I DESIRE to offer my best thanks to the anonymous writer on this subject, the first instalment of whose contribution appears in the January number. The extent and variety of his knowledge, as shown in his mention of many works which ought to find a place in my contemplated Bibliography, as well as his manifest genuine and intelligent sympathy with the aims of that enterprise, are such as clearly entitle him to the warm gratitude of all interested in the subject.

From this brief expression of my grateful recognition of the value of his services, present and prospective, I proceed to make a few observations upon some of his introductory remarks, and also upon some of the authors whose names appear in his list so far as published; and I do this the more readily, as it may enable both him and others to understand somewhat of the position I have been compelled by circumstances to take up.

Like most of those who have ever embarked, or thought of embarking, on a work of the kind in question, the writer evidently has dreams and visions which, as such, excite interest and admiration by their very largeness and usefulness. But the case is somewhat altered when the attempt has seriously to be made to convert these airy fabrics into substantial structures, every stone of which has to be hewn out, and dressed, and adjusted. It is then that the practical difficulties present themselves, and by their multiplicity and variety damp the ardour, and so often kill the enterprise of many enthusiasts.

To those who have the courage to persevere, it not seldom happens that, as their work proceeds, they find themselves more and more constrained to limit their desires and restrict their field. Especially must this be the case with those who, like myself, can give to their arduous and usually self-imposed task only the spare moments that can be gleaned from a full and busy life. It would be otherwise, undoubtedly, if any could be found who, in addition to the requisite knowledge and enterprise, possessed the qualification of abundant leisure; while an almost ideal condition would be attained if a few such favourably endowed individuals could be got to agree to attack the work by sections. Only in such circumstances, as it seems to me, could it reasonably be expected that an enterprise of the magnitude and exhaustiveness, shadowed forth by the writer, should be successfully carried through. For myself, working single-handed in the way already indicated, I have found it necessary, the farther I have gone, to limit my range, and to exclude from my scope much that I believed and hoped at the outset I

should be able to overtake. Even in my "Hand-List," rough and imperfect as it necessarily and confessedly is, there are many items mentioned which will have to be ruled out of the "Bibliography" itself, because their retention would consistently lead to the inclusion of other items quite beyond my attainment, and to the swelling of the more material volume beyond reasonable limits. On a like showing Journalistic matter, the absence of which is so pathetically bewailed by the writer, will be rigidly excluded, as will also all contributions to Magazines, volumes of Transactions of Societies and such like, unless, indeed, they have been reproduced in separate book or pamphlet form. A pity it is that it is so, for in many of these occasional and ephemeral contributions lies embedded material of the greatest interest and value. But for this very reason they deserve a separate treatment of their own, and the individual who will give them it will deserve, and will doubtless receive, a special meed of grateful recognition.

More than this however, I have also found it necessary to exclude writers whose claim rests on the fact that, though not born or bred in the district, they are more or less remotely related to families belonging to it. Byron, (*Argenis*) Barclay, and Bishop Burnett are types of such cases. To recognise these would open the door to an almost endless host of writers gathered from all parts of the civilised world. So with writers like James Anderson (the Agriculturist), and Professor J. S. Blackie, they are recognised by me only in so far as they made contributions to literature while they were identified with the district; for it would be absurd to claim them as local authors in respect of all their literary productions, simply because they happened in the course of their career to reside for a short time in the district, and to produce one or more works during that residence.

Other points are suggested to me by entries in the writer's list, so far as it is revealed, but having already occupied so much of your space I will not now refer to them, but only express the hope that, with regard to such of them as should clearly find a place in my Bibliography, the writer is in a position to favour me, if not with the opportunity of examining the actual works, at least with a full and accurate bibliographical description of them.

A. W. ROBERTSON.

Public Library, Aberdeen.

Scots Lore is the title of a new magazine which will be issued this month by Messrs. Wm. Hodge & Co., Glasgow.

NOTABLE MEN AND WOMEN OF  
ABERDEENSHIRE.

96. *Burnett, Thomas*, of Kemnay: Literary and Political News Writer, Friend of the Electress Sophia, Leibnitz, &c. Born in 1655, he spent a large part of his early and middle life on the continent in France, Holland, and particularly in Hanover, where he was held in much esteem by the Electress Sophia, by whom he was trusted with many delicate negotiations. The numerous letters which passed between him and that princess on a variety of subjects, political, theological and philosophical, are full of valuable materials for a literary history of the period. Mr. Burnett, who had travelled extensively, possessed a good amount of knowledge, gathered from books, and improved by experience at home and abroad. He was a correspondent of his cousin, Bishop Burnett, and of the celebrated Leibnitz, the latter of whom, in a letter to George Stepney, who was English Ambassador at Dresden and Vienna, says in 1695, "There is here (Hanover) a Scotch gentleman named Burnett, a relation of the Bishop of Salisbury, who is a man of much acquirement, and has profited well by his travels." Sometime after this, in 1703, when returning through France from a secret mission of the Electress to England, Mr. Burnett was, by contrivance of the Jesuits, arrested and committed to the Bastille, where, but for the repeated and earnest intercession of the Electress, and of her daughter the Queen of Prussia, he might have perished unheard of. By the interposition, however, of the Duchess of Orleans, niece of the Electress, he was at length set at liberty. Leibnitz was also active in obtaining the release of the incarcerated Scot. Notwithstanding the desire of his mother that Mr. Burnett should be rewarded for his services on the accession of the Hanoverian dynasty to the English throne, George I. neglected to do anything on his behalf. He died in 1729.

97. *Burr, James*: Minor Poet. Born at Tarves, 1863. Noticed by Edwards in *Modern Scottish Poets*.

98. *Burton, John Hill*: Historian, &c. Born at Aberdeen, 22nd August, 1809, he graduated at Marischal College in 1829. After studying law, he devoted himself chiefly to letters. In 1854 he was appointed Secretary to the Prison Board of Scotland, and subsequently Historiographer of Scotland. He died 1881. He was a D.C.L. Oxford, and LL.D. Edinburgh and Aberdeen. A contributor to the *Westminster Review*; *Blackwood*, *The Scotsman* and *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Among his original works may be named *Life of Hume*, 1846. *Lives of Simon Lord Lovat and Duncan Forbes of Culloden*, 1847. *Political and Social Economy*, 1849. *A Manual of Scottish Law; A Treatise on the Law of (Scottish) Bankruptcy; History of Scotland from the Revolution to the Extinction of the last Jacobite Insurrection*, 1853. *The History of Scotland from Agricola's Invasion to the Revolution of 1688*, 7 vols., 1867-70. New Edition, 8 vols., 1873. *The Book Hunter*, 1862. *The Scot Abroad*, 2 vols., 1864. *The Cairngorm Mountains*, 1864. *Reign of Queen Anne*, 1880. He has also edited the *Register of Privy Council of Scotland for 1545-78*, and assisted in editing Bentham's Works, &c.

99. *Byres, James*, of Tonley: Antiquary, Art Connoisseur. Born Tonley, Tough Parish, about 1730, and died 1817. He was distinguished for his knowledge of architectural antiquities and the fine arts, and lived much at Rome, where he gave lectures on his favourite themes. A posthumous and valuable work on *Sculphres of Etruria* contains interesting archaeological lore.

100. *Booth, Jane, Mrs. Ferrier*: Minor Poet. Mrs. Ferrier is a native of Auchmaleddie, New Deer, and was born there sometime in the 6th decade of this century. Her father was an eminent agriculturalist, and her mother, through whom she inherits that estate, belonged to the family of Parkhill, Monquhitter. Educated at Aberdeen and Dublin, Miss Booth was a young lady of high accomplishment and culture, when, through the death of her uncle, Alexander, in 1889, she became proprietrix of Parkhill. She was married to Dr. Thomas Ferrier on 13th December, 1892. This able and promising young physician, who was in the colonial service, unfortunately died six months after on board ship returning from Africa, smitten by malarial fever. His widow has issued a volume of poems entitled *Beyond the Shadow*. She is a frequent contributor to magazines. An active philanthropist, she is president of "The Women's Guild, Monquhitter," and takes a deep interest in "The Scotch Girls' Friendly Society," and "The Onward and Upward Association." To the monthly organ of the Society she contributes frequently. Mrs. Ferrier is at present engaged on a literary work which will probably soon appear in volume form.

101. *Cadenhead, William*: Minor Poet. Born in Aberdeen, 1819, bred a factory worker, his mind early took a poetical bent through the reading of Beattie's *Minstrel*. As early as 1839 he published a tale in verse, entitled *The Prophecy*, being an endeavour to realise the fulfilment of Thomas the Rhymer's vaticination concerning the old brig of Balgownie, near Aberdeen, celebrated by Byron in *Don Juan*. Continuing to write to the newspapers and other periodicals in 1853, he published a volume *Flights of Fancy and Lays of Bon-Accord*. In 1856 he published a guide book to his native city, under the title *The New Book of Bon-Accord*. This little volume has been very popular. Latterly Mr. Cadenhead has been a wholesale wine and spirit merchant in Aberdeen. Some of his verses have appeared in Rogers's *Scottish Minstrel* and other similar collections.

102. *Calder, John, D.D.*: Dissenting Divine, London; Journalist, &c. Born in Aberdeen in 1732, he graduated at the University of his native city. In later life he became Private Secretary to the Duke of Northumberland, but is described as having been originally a clergyman of the Church of Scotland. He came to London under the patronage of the noble Duke referred to, with whom he had become acquainted while residing in the neighbourhood of Alnwick Castle. He published in association with Mr. John Nichols *The Tatler, with notes*, 6 vols, 1786, also *Pierre Francois le Courayer's last Sentiments on Religion, from the French*, 1787. While minister of a Dissenting Congregation near the Tower, he contributed to the London press, and is known as having engaged



in an abortive attempt to prepare for the press an edition of the *Cyclopaedia*, afterwards edited by Dr. Rees. He died in 1815.

103. *Calvert, Henry (Talbot)*: Tragedian. Born in Aberdeen, 1833, bred as an architect, he followed that profession till, in 1862, by the advice of his father, he went on the stage. From the outset he took a good position in his profession, and was highly popular both in Great Britain and the Colonies. He spent his closing years as teacher of elocution in Glasgow, and died in 1894.

104. *Cameron, Alexander (Rev.)*: Bishop of Roman Catholic Church. Born Auchindryne, Braemar, in 1747, he was consecrated Bishop of Maximinopolis in 1798, resigned his charge, 1825, and died 1828.

105. *Cameron, William (Rev.)*: Poet and Hymnist. Born at or near Pananich, a hamlet near Ballater, in 1751. He graduated at Marischal College, 1770, was ordained minister of Kirknewton Parish, 1786, and died 1811. His first work, a collection of poems published 1780, was anonymous. Along with Rev. John Logan and Dr. John Morison of Canisbay, Mr. Cameron aided greatly in preparing the paraphrases sung in the Scottish Church. He is author of the 14th, 17th and 66th paraphrases, and of portions of the 32nd, 40th and 49th. He died in 1811, and a posthumous volume of verse was issued in 1813. He also wrote a review of the French Revolution, and his song, *As o'er the Highland hills I hied*, is still sung.

106. *Campbell, Colin*: Architect. A countryman of the famous architect Gibbs, and said to have had fewer faults, but less imagination. He published between 1715 and 1725 a series of architectural designs named *Vitruvius Britannicus*. He also published, 1716, *The Ancient and Modern History of the Balearic Islands*, translated from the Spanish. Mr. Campbell was surveyor of works at Greenwich Hospital, and died 1734.

107. *Campbell, George, D.D. (Prof.)*: Theologian. Born 25th December, 1719, in Aberdeen, he was educated at the Grammar School and University of his native town. Trained at first for the law, he was apprenticed to a Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh; but abandoning that profession he studied for the church, and in 1748 was ordained to the pastorate of Banchory-Ternan parish; but in 1757 was translated to Aberdeen, and in 1759 was promoted to be Principal of Marischal College. His first important work, an answer to Hume's *Essay on Miracles*, appeared in 1763, and in 1771 Dr. Campbell was appointed to the Chair of Divinity and Church History in Marischal College, resigning at the same time his parochial charge. In 1776 appeared his *Philosophy of Rhetoric*. In 1777 he published a sermon on *The Success of the First Publishers of the Gospel considered as a proof of its Truth*. His largest and in various respects his greatest work was his *New Translation of the Gospels*, accompanied by preliminary Dissertations on the language and more peculiar phrases of the New Testament, and with critical notes on the portion translated. It appeared in 1778. As a critical commentary it is superior to any production of the period, and is still deserving of careful perusal. Dr.

Campbell died in 1796. His lectures on Church History and those also on Divinity, and on the Composition of Discourses, were published after his death. His work on Miracles is still valued, and has been described as "one of the most acute and convincing treatises that has ever appeared on the subject." Herzog's *Encyclopaedia of Historical, Doctrinal and Practical Theology* speaks of him "as the acutest and most cultivated theologian the Church of Scotland has produced." His portrait, by Archibald Robertson, hangs in the Trinity Hall, Aberdeen; and a copy is introduced in the Mitchell window, Marischal College.

108. *Cant, Andrew (Rev.)*: Noted Covenanter. Said to have been a native of Aberdeen, and born 1584, but more probably of the family of Glendye in Strachan parish, Kincardineshire. He was educated at the Grammar School and King's College, Aberdeen, where he graduated in 1612. Acting as Humanist at King's in 1614, he was settled at Alford as parish minister prior to December, 1617. Though coveted by the presbyterians of Edinburgh, Cant, by the opposition of the bishops, failed to obtain translation, but continued at Alford till 1629, when he took service with Lord Forbes of Pitsligo as tutor to his family, and held the appointment till 1633. In that year Cant was settled at Pitsligo in a new church built by Lord Forbes. Here as well as in Alford Cant gave himself with great earnestness to promote the interests of presbyterianism. He was a member of the famous Glasgow Assembly of 1638, and took an active part in the suppression of Episcopacy. In the same year he was translated to Newbattle, near Edinburgh. In 1640 he was appointed a chaplain to the Scottish army in England, and was present at the entry into Newcastle. Cant did not continue long in Newbattle, as in 1641 we find him again in Aberdeen, minister of St. Nicholas parish church. Here he continued to labour till the Restoration, when he was deposed from the ministry, and died in 1663. He has often been called "the apostle of the covenant in the north," and certainly was the most active partisan of the extreme presbyterian party in that quarter, and had great influence with the nobles who adhered to the covenant. He was opposed to the Engagement and joined the Protestors in 1651. His writings are *Titles of our Blessed Saviour*, Aberdeen, 8vo; *Sermon preached in the Greyfriars' Church, Edinburgh*, 1638; *Two sermons and a discourse and exhortation on Renewing the National Covenant*, republished in Glasgow 1841. A portrait is in the possession of the University of Aberdeen.

W. B. R. W.

### "BROKEN MEN" FROM THE HIGHLANDS.

MANV Scotchmen in the last century had to come under this category, when they found it necessary, as a matter of prudence, to lose their identity, and reappear as new men in parts of the country far from the place of their birth. It was truly a case of *Vae victis* after the loss of Sherriffmoor and Culloden, and the Lowlands

along the east and south of Scotland became a precarious refuge for those Highlanders who had fought unsuccessfully for the House of Stewart, and were thankful to escape with their lives. Under the circumstances they sacrificed home and family ties, and sought only for oblivion till better days should come. The clan name was laid aside for Smith, Black, or Thomson, and perhaps the old familiar glen was depopulated, so that there was no call to revert to unpleasant memories. The clan feuds, again, were often productive of similar necessities, when the quickest remedy for a violent deed of vengeance was a "moonlight flitting" and a careful covering up of the tracks. In those days the means of transport were few and limited: distance was a very important consideration, and within the limits the powers of extradition might be rather summary. There is certainly a kind of "honour among thieves," but the prospect of the hangman's cravat and the lone sigh of the *widdie* were heavy tests to the strength of fidelity. The safest course was at all costs to decamp and make their feet their friends. Now, the Highlandmen may have been good cragsmen, and they could step high on the hillside and through the heather, but they were indifferent sailors, and their chief treasures were pride and poverty. They could generally do well when they found their way across the Borders, but they had usually to leave their nest first on a short flight. When, then, *Donald Menzies* would find it barely safe for him to remain on the Moor of Rannoch, he would vanish from the view and no questions would be asked, but he would reappear in the Lothians as a stalwart ploughman, and William Moon might live in peace, marry there, and prove a useful prosperous citizen. It was no one's particular business to search into the antecedents of his neighbour, and a Scotchman can always be trusted to parry the thrusts of one who is bent on inquisitiveness.

This leads me to ask your correspondents if any attempt has ever been made to follow up the track of those who had for political reasons to leave their birthplace in the highlands and become the "Broken Men?" They formed a recognised class, and were generally treated with a certain respect because they were known to have passed through hardships and difficulty: they were for the most part "political martyrs," and there may have been, even in those days, an "underground railway" to transmit the fugitives into places of safety, but these details must long be forgotten. The chief object of interest is the family history, and it is only at this late date that such a matter can be attended to. The tradition of my own name may be given as an example of what must have been true of

many others. It is said that, early or about the middle of the last century, three brothers came down from the highlands and settled in Buchan under a new name, but there is no suggestion as to the origin of the assumed name. They threw, as usual, their staff, and each brother took his own path as the head of his staff pointed. Thus there were three families in Buchan called Gamack or Gammack, and the members of two or three generations ago could count kin and name the clan from which they were descended. In the present day all is lost except the vague tradition, and with another generation it will pass out of memory. Yet this is only one of many such cases that the times were producing, and I have often wondered if any one, with access to the records of the eighteenth century, has taken up the matter as a curious study, or whether it is for all time to be left untillied as a piece of fallow land. There is more than romance in the life of the old clans, and there is a strange fascination in those high grey hills and long winding glens. But part of our reverence for them may have its strength in their having been the homes of our forefathers, and to many of us the name of Culloden comes with a very pregnant meaning. This corner of archæology would yield, I am convinced, very interesting results, and there should be no special difficulty in beginning to work with the attention directed to it. It might be useful, however, at the outset, to gather up and put on record how much has already been done.

JAMES GAMMACK, LL.D.

Plymouth, Conn., U.S.A.

SAMUEL RUTHERFORD'S PRISON.—In his classic *Letters* Rutherford frequently speaks about his "prison," and of himself as a "prisoner." He never was a prisoner in the generally accepted meaning of the term. By his utterances on ecclesiastical matters, and still more by the attacks on Arminianism, Rutherford gave offence to the Bishops of Galloway, and was, in consequence, banished to the city of Aberdeen. Although prohibited from preaching, he was allowed to come and go as he pleased within the town, but like Shimei the son of Gera, in the reign of Solomon (1 Kings ii., 36, 37), he was not permitted to extend his walk beyond the city gates. This appears to have been a favourite mode of silencing a too out-spoken preacher; and there are many instances of ministers being similarly confined within the "granite city" and other towns in Scotland.

"Bog, Myrtle and Peat" is the title of a new volume of stories by Mr. Crockett, which will be published next month.

THE LATE  
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S WORKS.

LIST OF FIRST EDITIONS.

- The Pentland Rising, a Page of History, 1666.  
 Inland Voyage, 1878.  
 Picturesque Notes on Edinburgh, 1878.  
 Travels with a Donkey in the Cevennes, 1879.  
 Virginibus Puerisque, and other Papers, 1881.  
 Familiar Studies of Men and Books, 1882.  
 New Arabian Nights, 1882.  
 Treasure Island, 1883.  
 Silverado Squatters, 1883.  
 The Body Snatcher, 1884.  
 Child's Garden of Verses, 1885.  
 Prince Otto: a Romance, 1885.  
 Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, 1886.  
 Kidnapped: Adventures of David Balfour, 1886.  
 Merry Men and other Tales and Fables, 1887.  
 Underwoods, 1887.  
 Memories and Portraits, 1887.  
 Black Arrow: a Tale of the Roses, 1888.  
 Master of Ballantrae, a Romance, 1889.  
 Father Damien: Letter to Rev. Doctor Hyde, 1890.  
 Ballads, 1891.  
 Across the Plains, with other Memories and Essays, 1892.  
 Beach of Falesa and the Bottle. Imp. 1892.  
 Footnote to History, Eight Years of Trouble in Samoa, 1892.  
 Island Nights Entertainments, 1893.  
 Catriona, a sequel to Kidnapped, 1893.
- R. L. Stevenson and Fanny Van de Grift (Mrs. Stevenson).
- More New Arabian Nights—The Dynamiter, 1885.
- R. L. Stevenson and L. Osbourne.
- Fleeming Jenkins Papers by Colvin, with Memoir by R. L. Stevenson, 1888.
- The Wrong Box, 1889.  
 The Wrecker, 1892.  
 The Ebb Tide, 1894.

I.

**Queries.**

**946. GEORGE STEVENSON.**—George Stevenson, a Banffshire man, born 1751, educated for the ministry, went to Virginia, U.S.A., lost his property by fire, and became a schoolmaster there. Would some Aberdeen reader kindly let me know whether that name is borne on the University and Divinity Hall Records in Aberdeen during the period, say, 1765-1780, and if so would he kindly furnish me with extract?

**SCOTT'S FASTI.**—Has any one done for the other divisions of the Church of Scotland a parallel work to Scott's Fasti? if so, titles will oblige

"SOUTHERN CROSS."

**947. ELSMLIE.** . . . —Elmslie, a contractor and master builder, owned Garden Nook Close near Royal

Infirmity, Aberdeen, and died shortly after 1826. Wanted full particulars, Christian name, parentage, and where buried. His son Mr. William Elmslie, Treasurer to the Commissioners of Police, Aberdeen, died at Kidd Lane about 1849. Married (2nd time) about 1826 Miss Margaret Brodie, daughter of Rev. John Brodie, Relief Church, Aberdeen. Wanted his mother's name, exact dates, and where he was buried. South Australia. "SOUTHERN CROSS."

**948. PARODY OF SONG JOHNNIE COPE.**—On the Queen's first visit to Scotland, Her Majesty, owing to the discomforts of the voyage, landed at Leith at a much earlier hour than the one announced, and proceeded to Holyrood, thus upsetting the arrangements of the magistrates of Edinburgh and other civil and military dignitaries who had intended to welcome her with all due pomp and ceremony. Many were the jokes at the expense of the discomforted Town Council; one of the best taking the form of a parody of the familiar song "Johnnie Cope." James Forrest, it may be as well to premise, was Lord Provost of Edinburgh at the time. I can only recall a few lines, can any reader supply the whole of the verses, and give the name of the author?

"Hey! Jamie Forrest, are ye waukin' yet?  
 Or are your Baillies snorin' yet?  
 Gin ye were waukin' I would wait,  
 And gang to the pier i' the mornin'."

Gie me ma hat an' robes o' state,  
 Come Baillies we may catch her yet.  
 Na, na, ma Lord, ye are too late,  
 She's been through the toon this mornin'."

It is scarcely necessary to add that the Queen, with her usual courtesy, made a formal entry into the ancient capital of Scotland at a more reasonable hour, and received the homage of the city fathers.

MICHAEL MERLIN.

**949. CORKLIT, A DYE.**—In his now familiar volume *The Stickit Minister*, Mr. Crockett puts into the mouth of one of his characters the "famous quatrain," as he styles it,—

"The Slock, Milquharker, and Craignine,  
 The Breeshie and Craignaw;  
 The five best hills for corklit,  
 That ere the Star wife saw."

A footnote (quoted from *Harper's Rambles in Galloway*), explains the meaning of the word "corklit," which I have italicised:—"In old times the rocks and cliffs of the Dungeon of Buchan were famous for a kind of moss known as "corklit," used for dyeing, the gathering of which formed part of the livelihood of the peasantry. At one time it was much used for dyeing soldiers' red coats." What is the botanical name for this moss, and can any reader supply particulars respecting its use in Galloway or other parts of Scotland, and when it was superseded by more modern dyes?

MICHAEL MERLIN.

**950. CHARLES LESLIE, JACOBITE BALLAD SINGER.**—Can any one give particulars of the history of Chas. Leslie, a celebrated Jacobite ballad singer, who died in 1782, aged 105 years. Any reference to books or magazines containing information about Leslie would be highly appreciated.

L.

## Answers.

648. ALEXANDER WATSON, AUTHOR OF "KAIL BROSE," &c. (V., 171, 188).—In his very characteristic volume, *Scottish Song: Its Wealth, Wisdom, and Social Significance*, Professor J. S. Blackie introduces the popular song "The Kail Brose of Auld Scotland" with the following particulars concerning the origin of the verses:—

"It was a favourite notion with the London philosopher, Mr. Buckle, that the character of different races of men depends on the kind of food on which they are nourished; and no doubt there is a certain amount of truth in his view; enough, at all events, to give a hue of philosophic plausibility to Fielding's famous song, in which the eating of roast-beef is accredited with the production of that stout warrior-breed of the seas, each one of whom, Nelson used to say, was equal to three Frenchmen:—

'When mighty roast-beef was the Englishman's food,  
It enobled our hearts and enriched our blood,  
Our soldiers were brave, and our courtiers good—  
Oh, the roast-beef of Old England,  
And oh, the Old English roast-beef!'

This song, naturally a great favourite with the substantial feeders of the English army and navy, happened to be played persistently by an English regiment in the granite capital of the north, when stationed there during the time of the American war. The Aberdonians as good Scotsmen, boast indeed the toughest brains and the broadest skulls of all broad Scotland; they also glory in the birth or the entertainment of not a few very notable poets, as Barbour, Ross, Beattie, William Thom, Skinner, Still, Grant, Dr. Walter Smith, and not a few others; so it was but natural that the constant echo of this English glorification of beef-eating should rouse a counterblast in favour of Scottish diet, as it did in the breast of Alexander Watson, a tailor and deacon of the Incorporated Trades in the city that lies between two rivers. Watson was a man of no literary pretensions, and sang, like many of our best popular song-writers, so to speak, only by accident, or 'for fun,' as Burns used to say; his pride, so far as he had any, was confined to the fact that he had made Lord Byron's 'first pair o' breeks,' of which Moore, in his *Life of the noble rhymist*, failed to make due mention; but his hard-headed fellow-citizens will be prouder of his singing than of his tailoring; and the 'Kail Brose of Auld Scotland' will be sung from the Ganges to the Mississippi, on festive occasions, as long as Highland tartan shall not duck before London red-tape, and genuine Highlanders, bred on the hills, shall not be ashamed of showing their brawn."

The version given by Professor Blackie differs slightly from the one printed in these columns. An additional verse is given, following the one commencing "Thou our sodgers were dress'd," &c.; and verse 5, which appears in *S. N. & Q.*, is not inserted. The additional verse is as follows:—

"In our free, early ages, a Scotsman could dine  
Without English roast-beef, or famous French wine,  
Kale brose, when weel made, he ay thought it divine.  
Oh, the Kail brose," &c.

The concluding verse of the song, as printed by the Professor, runs:—

"But each true-hearted Scotsman, by nature jocose,  
Can cheerfully dine on a dishful of brose;  
And the grace be a wish to get plenty of those.  
Oh, the Kail brose," &c.

JAMES W. SCOTT.

747. SALT IN SCOTLAND (VI., 143, 174).—From his answer to this query one would infer that "Mac" is of opinion that Scotland, instead of relying for supplies of salt on other countries, was always in a position not only to supply her own wants, but to export large quantities. This supposition is not borne out by facts. The Ledger of Hugh Halyburton (which extends from the years 1493 to 1505), a Scottish merchant conducting commission business for his countrymen at Middleburg, and conservator of Scottish privileges there, contains many entries of salt imported from Continental towns. "Salt was imported from France," says M. Francisque-Michel in his *Critical Inquiry into the Scottish Language*, "at least before 1588, the date of an agreement passed between James V., and Eustacius Roghe, Fleming, for the making of this substance. It did not come from Salins, so celebrated for its manufacture of salt, but from Brouage, and was 'recuit to be worth in freight' so many 'tunnis Aleron'—i.e., Oleron in Aunis. Jamieson, in supposing Aleron might be from Fr. *à la ronde*, or from the name of Orleans, is in error." In the *Customs and Valuation of Merchandises*, 1602, "Bay or French Salt" is charged 20s. the holl. The "tun Aleron" seems to have been a standard weight. The laws of Oleron, says the authority already quoted, which are said to have been drawn up as early as the twelfth century, formed a sort of maritime code, and guided decisions not merely in France, but in other countries.

JAMES W. SCOTT.

821. CONTRACTIONS IN OLD DEEDS, &c. (VII., 92).—In days of old scribes were wont to shorten their tedious labours by using contractions; this appears to be the only explanation of the practice to which "J." draws attention. The early printers also employed an elaborate system of contractions in their printed copies of MSS. The printer's reason for following the custom of the scribes was probably scarcity of type, or "letter," as it is technically termed. Contracted words were distinguished by a short stroke placed over the letter immediately preceding the one omitted; e.g. *ād*=and; *hī*=him; *frō*=from; *thā*=than (or then); and so on. The letter "y" in the contractions *ye*=the; *yt*=that; are corruptions of the Anglo-Saxon character or symbol for "th."

The following verses, from the Bible of Tyndale, Coverdale, and Rogers (the first complete printed version of the Bible in English), will illustrate the practice followed by our early printers. This version of the Scriptures was admitted into England by royal license in 1536; the verses are from the Book of Jonah, which Tyndale printed about the year 1532.

¶ "Thē they sayde unto hī, tel vs for whose cause we are thus trowbled: what is thine occupaciō, whence comest thou, how is thy cōtre called, & of what nacion art thou?"

¶ And thē they toke Jonas, & cast hī in to ye se, & the se leftē ragynge. And ye men feared the lordē

exceedingly: & sacrificed sacrifice vnto the lorde: and vowed vowes."

This excerpt also illustrates the accuracy of the translation, and its close relation to the "Authorised Version" of 1611, which, indeed, was largely based upon it.

JAMES W. SCOTT.

941. ALDERMEN IN SCOTLAND (VIII., 126).—In Rev. Kirkwood Hewat's interesting work, "A Little Scottish World," just published, the author remarks that in the Burgh Records which begin in 1470, "the rather English-sounding word 'alderman' for magistrate twice occurs." He however states elsewhere, p. 20, that the officials of the burgh are "a Provost (formerly Chancellor, still earlier Puirman), two Bailies, four Councillors, a Treasurer, a Fiscal, and a Liner." From this it may be inferred that in the Ayrshire burghs, prior to 1470, the descriptive epithet alderman for magistrate had practically died out, though for a little after that date the memory of its use still lingered on the minds of some.

Dollar.

W. B. R. W.

933. "TO GO TO THE STONES" (VIII., 92, 110).—Peccavi! because (1) I should have acknowledged sooner the courtesy of the two gentlemen who have answered my query; and (2) the loose wording of that query has caused Mr. Mackinlay to suppose the phrase quoted is still in use. At the time of writing I had not the book beside me for reference. The book (though of course that is a matter of indifference now) is Robert Naismith's *Stonehouse, Historical and Traditional*, and the exact words employed are, "This is a form of expression that was common up to recent times in some localities." J. CALDER ROSS.

### Literature.

#### THE CAIRNGORM CLUB JOURNAL.

NUMBER Four comes attesting the zeal and earnestness of the Club. The opening article on Hill Climbing in Skye, by Prof. Adamson, is perhaps mainly interesting in its Forewords, which are a philosophical apology for hill climbing. A short paper by Mr. J. C. Barnett on Mountain Measurements is followed by an important and exhaustive article by Prof. Trail on The Flowering Plants and Fern Allies of the Cairngorms. Mr. John Clarke describes the "Climbs" of the Club at Ben-Alder, whilst The Brimmond Hill finds in Mr. Alex. Copland a most genial and racy historian. The indefatigable editor, Mr. McConnochie, brings up the rear with an article descriptive of the Eastern Cairngorms. The Club, chiefly through its publications, is doing a great deal to promote a cult which may be said to be only in its perambulator yet.

#### SCOTCH BOOKS FOR THE MONTH.

Ancient Scots Ballads, with the Traditional Airs to which they were wont to be sung. Edited by G. Eyre-Todd. Royal 4to, 12s 6d, 21s

Bayley & Ferguson.

Auld Scotch Sangs (The) and Ballads, arranged by S. Dunn. 2nd Series. 4to, 2s 6d, 3s 6d, 7s 6d

Morison.

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exceedingly: & sacrificed sacrifice vnto the lord: and vowed vowes."

This excerpt also illustrates the accuracy of the translation, and its close relation to the "Authorised Version" of 1611, which, indeed, was largely based upon it.

JAMES W. SCOTT.

941. ALDERMEN IN SCOTLAND (VIII., 126).—In Rev. Kirkwood Hewat's interesting work, "A Little Scottish World," just published, the author remarks that in the Burgh Records which begin in 1470, "the rather English-sounding word 'alderman' for magistrate twice occurs." He however states elsewhere, p. 20, that the officials of the burgh are "a Provost (formerly Chancellor, still earlier Puirman), two Bailies, four Councillors, a Treasurer, a Fiscal, and a Liner." From this it may be inferred that in the Ayrshire burghs, prior to 1470, the descriptive epithet alderman for magistrate had practically died out, though for a little after that date the memory of its use still lingered on the minds of some.

Dollar.

W. B. R. W.

933. "TO GO TO THE STONES" (VIII., 92, 110).—Peccavi! because (1) I should have acknowledged sooner the courtesy of the two gentlemen who have answered my query; and (2) the loose wording of that query has caused Mr. Mackinlay to suppose the phrase quoted is still in use. At the time of writing I had not the book beside me for reference. The book (though of course that is a matter of indifference now) is Robert Naismith's *Stonehouse, Historical and Traditional*, and the exact words employed are, "This is a form of expression that was common up to recent times in some localities." J. CALDER ROSS.

## Literature.

### THE CAIRNGORM CLUB JOURNAL.

NUMBER Four comes attesting the zeal and earnestness of the Club. The opening article on Hill Climbing in Skye, by Prof. Adamson, is perhaps mainly interesting in its Forewords, which are a philosophical apology for hill climbing. A short paper by Mr. J. C. Barnett on Mountain Measurements is followed by an important and exhaustive article by Prof. Trail on The Flowering Plants and Fern Allies of the Cairngorms. Mr. John Clarke describes the "Climbs" of the Club at Ben-Alder, whilst The Brimmond Hill finds in Mr. Alex. Copland a most genial and racy historian. The indefatigable editor, Mr. McConnochie, brings up the rear with an article descriptive of the Eastern Cairngorms. The Club, chiefly through its publications, is doing a great deal to promote a cult which may be said to be only in its perambulator yet.

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