

Camelina sativa *	Eupatorium cannabinum	Carex curta
Cardamine amara	Epipactus latifolia	— fulva
Barbarea vulgaris	Carex dioica	— recurva
Nasturtium terrestre	— intermedia	Aspidium lobatum
Tragopogon pratensis	— paniculata	Botrychium Lunaria

A large portion of the parish was at one time covered with wood, the greater part of which was cut down by the last Duke of Queensberry; and now, except a quantity upon the estate of Amisfield, very little remains. The soil seems most congenial to oak and ash. We have also a few small belts of Scotch and larch fir; but these have all been planted. There is also here and there a tree of the more common descriptions, both of hard and of soft wood. The church and churchyard are surrounded by a thick row, at some places double, of large planes and ashes, upwards of a hundred years old. Of these, however, there are a greater number, and many of them of a greater age, upon the policy at Amisfield. And in the garden there, there is an old holly whose stem below the branches measures *nine feet by seven and a-half* as its mean girt. Its branches are rather peculiarly formed: for immediately upon the top of the trunk they diverge all around in such a manner as to form a large open space in the middle, where a number of people might conceal themselves.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Men.—1. The first person, in point of date, of any eminence connected with the parish appears to be **Sir Thomas Charteris of Amisfield, who was appointed Lord High Chancellor of Scotland by Alexander III. in 1280.** He seems to have been the first layman that ever held that office.—(*Douglas' Baronage of Scotland*, Vol. i. p. 150.)—2. **Sir Thomas Charteris, his great grandson, also connected with the parish, was appointed to the same office by King David in 1134.** He was killed at the battle of Durham, where his royal master was taken prisoner.—(*Ibid.*) 3. **We find Sir John Charteris, also of Amisfield, holding, in the reign of James V., the office of Warden of the West Marches, one of the most important under the crown: and there is a traditionary story of rather a singular visit having been paid him by the king, which led to consequences by which the family were in a great measure reduced.**—(*Forsyth's Beauties of Scotland*, Vol. ii. p. 312.) This family was still farther reduced by the severities directed against it by the govern-

* This, with *Phalaris canariensis*, has been found only among young grass, with the seeds of which it may probably have been imported.

ment of the Protector, in consequence of the active aid lent by Sir John Charteris to Montrose towards the restoration of King Charles.

4. "The famous Paterson, too, who planned the Darien scheme, and the Bank of England, &c. was born at Skipmire, in the old parish of Trailflat, about the year 1660. The same house gave birth to his grand-nephew, Dr James Mounsey, first physician for many years to the Empress of Russia." 5. General Fead, also, was born at Fulton, in this parish, about the year 1720. He enlisted a private in the British artillery, and rose from the ranks to be a general, and a very distinguished officer.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners in the parish are the Marquis of Queensberry, Douglas of Craigs, Charteris of Amisfield, and Dalzell of Glenae.

Parochial Register.—The only register in the parish regularly kept for any length of time is that of births; the earliest entry in which is on April 4, 1762.

Antiquities.—There are distinct traces of a camp of considerable size upon the top of Barshell hill, which, from its round form, is supposed to have been British. There are also the visible remains of three smaller forts, one upon the farm of Shielhill, another at Highachnane, and the third at Amisfield. The last, approaching to a square, may possibly have been a Roman station, where a cohort or two may occasionally have been placed. What renders this more probable is, that the old Roman road from Burnswark by Trailflat passed close by. At Amisfield, also, there is an old baronial tower, still perfectly entire, said to be the most perfect of the kind now existing in the kingdom.

The old place of Tinwald, situated in what was formerly a part of Lochar Moss, and the seat of a branch of the Maxwell family, seems to have been well fitted for a place of defence. Till within a few years, part of the old building remained. It is now entirely demolished, and the materials have been removed.

Modern Buildings.—There are three mansion-houses in the parish,—that of Glenae, belonging to Major Dalzell,—that of Tinwald, belonging to the Marquis of Queensberry; and Amisfield, the seat of the old family of Charteris. "The surname Charteris" (says Douglas in his *Baronage of Scotland*,) "is of great antiquity in Scotland. It is the opinion of some antiquaries that it is of French extraction,—that William, a son of the Earl of Charteris in France, came to England with William

the Conqueror,—that a son or grandson of his came to Scotland with King David the First, and was the progenitor of all of the surname of Charteris in this kingdom; and certain it is they began to make a figure in the south of Scotland soon after that era.”

III.—POPULATION.

In 1801, the population was	-	980
1811,	-	1204
1821,	-	1248
1831,	-	1220

The decrease during the last twelve years has been occasioned by a great many cottages having been thrown down in the progress of improvement. There seems to be a general disposition among the proprietors to continue this practice, as the present cottars die out or remove.

Amount of population residing in villages,	-	-	361
in the country part of parish,	-	-	854
1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	238
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	128
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	58
2. Number of unmarried men, bachelors or widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	17
of unmarried women, including widows, upwards of 45,	-	-	74
3. The average number of births yearly for the last seven years,	-	-	28
of deaths,	-	-	11
of marriages,*	-	-	8
4. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	-	-	440
upwards of 70,	-	-	40
5. The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L.50 and upwards,	-	-	7

The people, with few exceptions, are sober, cleanly, and industrious, strictly honest, and abundantly comfortable and contented with their situation and circumstances. Oatmeal pottage, with milk, is the general breakfast of the peasantry, and of the younger portion of every family in the parish. Potatoes among the working-classes commonly occupy a principal place both at dinner and supper.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—There are (as nearly as I have been able to ascertain,) 9405 imperial acres in the parish, roads, fences, &c. included; and of these there are about 119 acres under wood, 350 in meadow, and 1647 which never have been cultivated, Of the last there may be a few acres, perhaps,

* Returns respecting marriages can scarcely be relied on, as the parties very frequently belong to different parishes, and it is probable that in many cases their marriages may be returned for two parishes.