

Balcony Castle, of old a residence of the Earls of Ross, and named on that account Balcony Vic Dhonail, stands on the banks of the Skiach, and has apparently been modernised or rebuilt.<sup>1</sup> In 1333 Hugh Earl of Ross, and in 1341 William Earl of Ross, date some of their charters at Balkenny.<sup>2</sup>

Near the village of Drummond there existed in the last century a grave composed of flags, 7 feet long, 3 broad, and about 3½ deep, named the Priest's Sepulchre.<sup>3</sup>

## L U M L A I R .

Lemnelar<sup>4</sup>—Lymnolar<sup>5</sup>—Lumlar<sup>6</sup>—Lymmalar<sup>7</sup>—Limlair<sup>8</sup>—Lynlair<sup>9</sup>—  
Lymnolair<sup>10</sup>—Lumlair<sup>11</sup>—Limlare.<sup>12</sup> (Map, No. 17.)

This parish seems to have been composed of only the western and smaller portion of the present parish of Kiltearn, stretching from the shore of the Cromarty Firth to the foot of Ben Wyvis, and thus having a gradual ascent from south east to north west.

In the year 1227 William Poer parson of Lemuelar was present at Kenedor in Moray at the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray and Ross.<sup>13</sup> The church became afterwards a prebend of the cathedral. In 1548 (21 March) Queen Mary presented John Kincaid to the prebend of Lymnolar in the cathedral church of Ross, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Master John Bellindene.<sup>14</sup> In the same year (10 November) he was presented by the Queen to the same prebend, then vacant by the decease of Master John Bellenden.<sup>15</sup> At the Reformation Henry Kincaid was parson of Lymmalar, and seems to have still been parson in 1584.<sup>16</sup> The rector of Lymnolair as prebendary had a manse and croft in the canony of Ross.<sup>17</sup>

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and in modern times known as Saint Mary's chapel, stood at Lumlair near the sea shore.<sup>18</sup>

In 1586 King James VI. granted to George Monro, the son of George Monro chancellor of Ros, for seven years, 'for his support in sustenyng him at the sculis,' the chaplainry of Clyne in the diocese of Ross and sheriffdom of Inverness.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Old Stat. Acc.

<sup>2</sup> Balnagown Charters. Kiltavock Charters.

<sup>3</sup> Old Stat. Acc.

<sup>4</sup> A. D. 1227. Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

<sup>5</sup> A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 78.

<sup>6</sup> A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 51.

<sup>7</sup> A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

<sup>8</sup> A. D. 1574. Book of Assumptions. Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

<sup>9</sup> A. D. 1674. Book of Assumptions.

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<sup>10</sup> A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 60; vol. ii. fol. 14. <sup>11</sup> A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 73.

<sup>12</sup> Circa A. D. 1640. Blæu's Map.

<sup>13</sup> Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

<sup>14</sup> Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 78.

<sup>15</sup> Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 51.

<sup>16</sup> Book of Assumptions. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 60, 73.

<sup>17</sup> Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 60, 73; vol. ii. fol. 14.

<sup>18</sup> Old Stat. Acc. <sup>19</sup> Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 64.

There was a chapel at Kilchoan, dedicated, as its name implies, to Saint Congan of Lochalsh.<sup>1</sup>

In Baiamund's Roll the church is taxed at £3, 6s. 8d.; in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £33, 6s. 8d.<sup>2</sup> The parsonage, as stated by Henry Kincaid between 1561 and 1566, was 100 marks or £66, 13s. 4d. yearly.<sup>3</sup> In 1574 the reader at Lunlair had for his stipend 20 marks and the kirklands.<sup>4</sup>

Between 1224 and 1231 Ferkar Earl of Ros granted in heritage to Walter of Moray the son of the deceased Hugh of Moray two davachs of land in Ros, namely, Clon with its pertinents, the grantee paying yearly to the granter a pound of pepper at the feast of Saint Martin (11 November), and doing to the King the forinsec service belonging to the land.<sup>5</sup> In 1263 Sir Fergus of Ardrossan, for the weal of his own soul, and specially for the weal of the soul of the deceased Friskin of Moray lord of Duffus his overlord, granted for ever to Archebald bishop of Moray his land of Ros, namely, the two davachs of Clon which he held of Friskin, for the maintenance of two chaplains in the cathedral church of Elgyn to minister perpetually for the souls of all the faithful dead, to be held freely and fully according to Friskin's charter to him, saving the forinsec service of the King and the liferent of the lady Eufamia the mother of Friskin, and with the exceptive clause that Sir Fergus and his heirs should not be bound to warrant the land to the church.<sup>6</sup> In 1264 the lady Eufemia, the widow of Sir Walter of Moray lord of Duffus, quitclaimed to Archebald bishop of Moray the land which she had in Ros in name of her dowry, namely, the third part of the whole lands of Clonys near Dyngvall, which formerly belonged to Sir Walter her deceased lord, for the maintenance of two chaplains to minister for the living and the dead in the cathedral church of Elgyn according to the charter of Sir Fergus of Ardrossan.<sup>7</sup> In 1269 William Earl of Ros confirmed to Bishop Archebald the same two davachs of Clon in Ros, granted by the deceased Freskin of Moray lord of Duffus, quitclaiming for ever the yearly revenue of a pound of pepper due from the lands, and engaging for himself and his heirs to perform the forinsec service due to the King.<sup>8</sup> Between the years 1350 and 1372 various charters are witnessed by William of Clyne.<sup>9</sup> In 1375 William of Clyn, apparently the same person, held the lands of Cadboll in Tarbat of the bishop of Moray.<sup>10</sup> In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Sir Alexander Douglas, chaplain of the chaplainry of Saint [Mary] Magdalen, and Sir James Spens chaplain of the chaplainry of Saint Laurence in the cathedral church of Moray, granting, with consent of the bishop, canons, and chapter, to Robert Monro of Foulis in liferent, and to his second son Hugh Monro and his male heirs, with remainder to Hector Monro his other son and his male heirs, and to Robert's own male heirs whomsoever bearing the surname and arms of Monro, the towns and lands of Mekill and Litill Clynis, with the mills, salmon fishings, and other fishings in salt and fresh water, lying in the

<sup>1</sup> MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Old Stat. Acc.

<sup>2</sup> MSS. in Adv. Lib.

<sup>3</sup> Book of Assumptions.

<sup>4</sup> Book of Assignations.

<sup>5</sup> Regist. Moraviense, pp. 333, 334.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., pp. 277, 278.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., p. 278.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., pp. 278, 279.

<sup>9</sup> Balnagown Charters.

<sup>10</sup> Regist. Moraviense, pp. 180, 181. See TARBAT, pp. 441, 442.

wardom of Ross, regality of Spynie, and sheriffdom of Innernes.<sup>1</sup> In 1589 Master Hector Monro was served heir male and of entail to his brother german Hugh Monro of Clynes in the lands and towns of Mekle Clyne and Lytill Clyne, with the mill and maultures, and the salmon fishings, lying as above, with the power of building and cultivating, of the extent of £21, 6s. 8d. feuferme.<sup>2</sup> In 1608 Robert Monro was served heir male of entail and provision in the same lands to Master Hector Monro of Foulis his father.<sup>3</sup>

In 1557 David bishop of Ross, perpetual commendator of Cambuskyneth, with the consent of his dean and chapter, granted to his brother Robert Leslie the lands and baronies of [in?] Ferindonald and Ardmanoch, the patrimony and property of the bishoprick, the lands in Ferindonald being those of Kilquhoane, for which the grantee was to pay yearly 4 marks with 17s. 9½d. as grassum, the fourth part of a custom mart, one mutton, 6 poultry, one kid, 20 eggs or 3 pence, and one boll of custom oats; paying for the whole lands as arriage and carriage, and turf or fuel, 30s. with 13s. 4d. yearly in augmentation of the rental, and furnishing also three suits at the three head courts yearly held at the canonry of Ros.<sup>4</sup> The bishop's lands of [in?] the mairdom of Ferindonald, as held by the laird of Fowlis and his brothers between the years 1561 and 1566, paid yearly £40, 9s. 1¼d., 11 bolls oats, 8½ marts, 25 muttons, 24 kids, 82 capons, and 69 poultry.<sup>5</sup> The lands held by the Monroes appear to have been those of Pellok and Lymlair with the alehouse, and some lands in Alness, which were granted by John bishop of Ross to Robert Monro of Foulis and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever, and in 1583 were confirmed to him by King James VI.<sup>6</sup> In 1587 that king confirmed a charter by William Sinclare rector of Orlrik, canon of Caithnes, and commissary of Henry bishop of Ross, granting the lands of Kilquhone extending to the quarter of a davach, and other lands of the bishoprick, to Thomas Vrquhart the son of the deceased Alexander Vrquhart sheriff of Crombathy, and to the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his brother german Arthur Vrquhart and his male heirs, to their brother german James Vrquhart and his male heirs, to their brother german John Vrquhart and his male heirs, and to their eldest brother Walter Vrquhart and his male heirs whomsoever bearing the surname and arms of Vrquhart.<sup>7</sup>

At Clyne is a small eminence, around which are three circles, one at the foot 80 paces in circumference, a second higher up 50 paces, and a third at the top 35 paces and enclosing two ovals formed of erect stones, each 13 feet by 10.<sup>8</sup> At some distance westward from the eminence there is a cairn about 30 paces in diameter, having a few graves composed of flags, one in the centre of the cairn, and the others at the circumference.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 99.

<sup>2</sup> Retours.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 581. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 9.

<sup>4</sup> Book of Assumptions.

<sup>5</sup> Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 132.

<sup>6</sup> Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 169.

<sup>7</sup> Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.