John Geddie, ‘Sculptured Stones of Edinburgh: III. Miscellaneous’,
Book of the Old Edinburgh Club, Original Series, 3 (1910), pp. 179–206.

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The Lawnmarket Club,	Chambers's *Traditions of Edinburgh.*
The Pious Club,	,, ,, ,,
The Boar Club,	,, ,, ,,
The Spendthrift Club,	,, ,, ,,
The Industrious Club,	,, ,, ,,
The Bannet Lairds,	,, ,, ,,
The Skull Club,	,, ,, ,,
The Dirty Club,	,, ,, ,,
The Oddfellows,	,, ,, ,,
The Black Wigs,	,, ,, ,,
The Antemanum Club,	,, and Cockburn's *Memorials.*
The Hellfire Club,	,, and Wodrow's *Analecta.*
The Horn Order,	,, and *Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries,* 1792.
The Assembly of Birds,	Grant's *Old and New Edinburgh.*
The Wagering Club,	*Book of the Old Edinburgh Club,* vol. ii.
The Club,	Lockhart's *Life of Scott.*

HARRY A. COCKBURN.

THE SCULPTURED STONES OF EDINBURGH

III. MISCELLANEOUS [1]

LODGED in obscure nooks on the margin of Edinburgh, whither they have drifted in obedience to some past and partly-forgotten tide of change, are a number of armorial and other sculptured stones that, like travelled boulders, bear on their faces, in more or less clearly-graven characters, the record of their origin and purposes. They are nowhere scattered more plentifully, or more rich in interest, than on the western and south-western outskirts of the city. A few seem to have been carried inward from the country to the town; more have been floated outward from sites that are now in the centre of trade and population to the neighbourhood of green fields and running waters. We have already seen that some of these 'erratic blocks' of local and family history have settled on the banks of the Water of Leith, below Coltbridge. Others, with legends traced on them that also repay decipherment, are to be found near the passages of the stream, on the main roads leading towards Glasgow by Linlithgow, and by Midcalder.

Built over the doorway of the Paip's Charity Cottage that immediately adjoins the public highway and the bridges crossing the Water of Leith at Coltbridge is a seventeenth-century armorial panel, in good preservation, that hands down

[1] The first article on the Sculptured Stones of Edinburgh, 'The Dean Group,' is in the volume of *The Book of the Old Edinburgh Club* for 1908; the second article, 'The West-End and Dalry Groups,' is in the volume for 1909.

to us the memory of a strange and tragic episode in the annals of a noble family that were long the lords of the district lying between this spot and Corstorphine. The bearings on the shield agree generally with a version of those of the Lords Forrester, given in the 'Peers' Arms' MS.[1] These are, 1st and 4th, paly of six, with a canton bearing a gilly-flower, for Livingston; 2nd and 3rd, three hunting-horns, for Forrester; over all, on an 'escutcheon of pretence,' nine stars arranged 3, 3, 2, 1, for Baillie. Above is a coronet. Inscribed over it is the year '1676'; and shield and date are enclosed in an ornamental border. (Fig. 1.)

FIG. 1.—Arms of Lord Forrester on cottage at Coltbridge.
(From a sketch by Miss Marie Fraser.)

There can be no doubt that the stone records the arms of James, second Lord Forrester, who, three years later than the date it bears, was murdered by Christian Nimmo, his niece by marriage, in his garden at Corstorphine Castle, as tradition has it, under a plane-tree that still flourishes close to the old doocot on the skirts of the village. The founder of the family was Sir Adam Forrester, a wealthy and influential burgess of Edinburgh, and three times Provost, who in 1376 acquired the lands of Corstorphine from William More of Abercorn, and in 1382 those of Wrychtis-housis. By him, and by his son Sir John, the ancient church of St. John the Baptist at Corstorphine was founded and endowed, and a piece of land

[1] *The Scots Peerage*, edited by Sir James Balfour Paul, vol. iv. p. 99.

near the Water of Leith at Coltbridge, still identifiable as the 'Lamp Acre,'[1] was granted for supplying light to the lantern, set in a niche at the east end of the church, for guiding adventurous travellers across the marshes that lay between the stream and the village. The church contains interesting memorials of the Forrester family in the form of altar-tombs, recumbent figures, and heraldic shields, bearing the three hunting-horns, of which, and of their motto, 'Blaw, Hunter, Blaw ye Horne,' they were so proud.

Tenth in succession to the founder was George, created in 1633 first Lord Forrester of Corstorphine. He married Christian, daughter of Sir William Livingston of Kilsyth, and by her had a son, who died without issue after he had come to man's estate and married, and five daughters. In his later years Lord Forrester, who had sat in Parliament for Edinburgh and been Sheriff of the county, executed, under influences that cannot now be traced, certain remarkable dispositions of his property. Passing over his eldest daughters, who were all three married, he resigned his estates and obtained in 1650 a new charter of them in favour of James Baillie—son of Major-General William Baillie of Letham and his wife Janet Bruce, and grandson of Sir William Baillie of Lamington—who had married, in the previous year, his fourth daughter Joanna, with succession to William Baillie (who married his fifth daughter Lilias) and other sons of General Baillie. Next year Lord Forrester resigned his peerage, and obtained a regrant of it, with similar destinations. James Baillie succeeded, as second Lord Forrester, on his father-in-law's death in 1654. He was a stout Royalist, and was heavily fined by Cromwell. His private record is infamous, and arising out of one of its

[1] The Lamp Acre—'ane aiker of land lying bewest the Cowes brigge (Coltbridge), upon the south side of the little house that stands by the wayside, commonly called the Lamp Aiker, within the parochine of St. Cuthbert's'—was gifted by George, first Lord Forrester, as an addition to the emoluments of the schoolmaster of Corstorphine, in days when provisions were conveyed from Coltbridge to that village by boat. This fact may give a key to the history and original location of the Paip's Charity stone.

ugliest incidents, his niece Christian Hamilton, daughter of Christian, the third daughter of the first Lord Forrester, who had married first James Hamilton of Grange and afterwards John Wauch, minister of Bo'ness, visited him at the Castle of Corstorphine, on 26th August 1679. She had married James Nimmo, an Edinburgh burgess, against the wishes of her family. She met Lord Forrester in the garden whither he had been summoned from the 'Black Bull,' where he had been drinking, and after a violent scene, ran him through with his own sword. She was condemned to death for the crime, and after escaping from prison, she was recaptured at Fala and executed at the Cross of Edinburgh on 12th October of the same year.

After the death of Joanna Forrester, 'an exemplary woman, but of too gentle a nature,' Lord Forrester married a second time, and it may be sign of the evil savour he had given to the name that his children (none of whom succeeded him) all took their mother's name of Ruthven, and that his brother, William Baillie, to whom the succession passed, did not assume the title, which was recognised only in 1698, when his nephew, the fourth Lord, produced the regrant of 1651, which until then had been kept secret. The Coltbridge stone appears to show that the 'wicked Lord,' discarding the simple shield of the old Forresters, quartered their arms with those of the mother of his first wife (which resemble also those of his second wife) and surmounted them with his own family coat. The title has descended to the Earl of Verulam, twelfth Lord Forrester.

Other Forrester armorial stones, chiefly from the Church or the Castle of Corstorphine, have got displaced and scattered, but still retain positions on the western outskirts of Edinburgh. A shield bearing the Forrester arms, in company with one having the Ramsay spread-eagle impaled with the Rhynd arms and the initials 'A. R.,' 'M. R.,' is on one of two lintels built into the stables at Corstorphine

House. A boldly-carved mantelpiece, containing the familiar three bugles on two shields, that flank a third having the three unicorns' heads of the Preston family, accompanied by the letters 'H. F.' and 'H. P.,' doubtless commemorates the union of Sir Henry Forrester (succeeded 1589) to Helenor Preston of Craigmillar, and was probably taken from the ruins of the Castle of Corstorphine to its present position over the fireplace of a humble room in the ground story of the eighteenth-century building in the High Street of the village, known as Amulree House. These stones are figured in Selway's *A Midlothian Village*. Other three stones, evidently removed from altar-tombs in the Church, at the time when it was suffering renovation at the hands of Mr. Burn in 1827, are built into the front wall of Long Hermiston House, which was for some time the residence of that merciless 'improver' of our ancient ecclesiastical and domestic architecture. They are circular shield-panels, two of them bearing simply the Forrester bugles, or hunting-horns, while the third has impaled with these an engrailed bend—identical with the arms on several of the shields that adorn the interior and exterior of Corstorphine Church. The panel has a finely-carved oak-leaf border, and its double—evidently completing a set of four shield ornaments—will be found built, with other ecclesiastical fragments, into the outer wall of a house in Juniper Green (Rosemary Cottage) where, I am told, Burn had summer quarters. At Long Hermiston are also a large gargoyle; a dormer bearing the date '1663,' and, above the entrance door, an interesting armorial stone with twelve quarterings (including those of Bethune of Balfour, Kennedy and Macdowell) on a lozenge shield, which, with the initials 'M. K.,' definitely associate it with Marjory Kennedy, daughter of John Kennedy, a wealthy Edinburgh burgess, who married Alexander Bethune, W.S., owner of Long-hermiston and Currie, through whose daughter and heiress, Grizel, the lands passed to the Macdowells of Garthland.

The first paper-mills on the Water of Leith are said to have been established about 1675-79, at Dalry Mills. The spot was on the right bank of the stream, a little way above Coltbridge, and adjoining Roseburn House, to which attention must now be directed. This relic of the domestic architecture of the sixteenth century stands between Roseburn Road and the margin of the Water, but so secluded behind its high gate and walls that one might easily pass it by without suspecting that anything of antiquarian note was hidden behind. It is still occupied and kept in good condition, and its present possessor, Mr. Thomson, takes much interest in its preservation.

Roseburn seems to be a name of comparatively late date as applied to the house. At least it does not appear to be marked by that title in the older maps of the locality; for example, in John Adair's 'Map of Midlothian' of 1680, where 'Dary mil' (Dalry Mill ?) occupies its position on the river. In the description in Latin of the Province of Edinburgh, copied from the Sibbald MSS. in the Advocates' Library and printed in Macfarlane's *Geographical Collections*, mention is made among the country-houses on the right bank of the river, of 'villa Gorghiensis cum mola cognomini, Dalriæ molæ cum arce cognomini, Ovilia, Amnis Lethæ,' and so forth, together with 'Stenopi-Molæ, Saughtonhallum, Dena' and others on the left bank; these weird-looking names being translated 'Gorgie Town, Gorgie Mill, Dalry Mills with the House thereof, Coats, Water of Leith,' and 'Stenopmills, Saughtonhall, Dean' respectively.[1] One suspects that Roseburn was once known as the 'House' of Dalry Mill at which, according to entries in the *Foulis Account Book*, James Scougal, Lord Whytehills, resided in the reign of Charles II.

The mound between the house and the river, now occupied by a dilapidated doocot and a bowling-green, may have been a prehistoric barrow. At least Wilson mentions that

[1] Macfarlane, vol. ii. p. 618, Scottish History Society.

several cists were found here on trenching the ground, and tradition associates it with a camping-ground of Cromwell, who is said to have slept for a night in the house while conducting his campaign against Lesley.

An account of the architectural features of Roseburn House is given in the first volume of the *Transactions* (p. 115) of the Edinburgh Architectural Association, who visited it in 1891 :—

'It appears to have consisted of three sides of a courtyard. The west wing is now ruinous, but otherwise the house is fairly entire. The original entrance was by the doorway in the north-west turret, which also contains the wheel-staircase. A scale and platt stair on the east side has been added in the seventeenth century, with an entrance doorway, and an extension of the east front has been added at the same time. The ground-floor is vaulted, and although greatly altered, it has indications of carefully finished mason-work visible in various details, among which is the lintel over the front door. . . . On one of the doors is a wrought-iron sneck-handle which contains an ingenious concealed device for opening the door.'

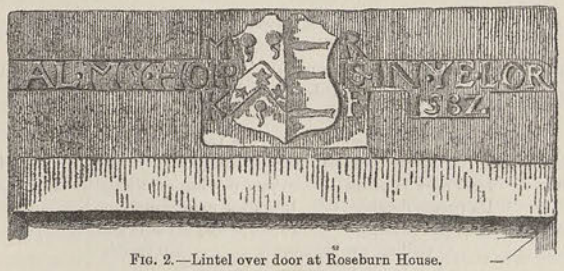

FIG. 2.—Lintel over door at Roseburn House.
(From a sketch by Miss Marie Fraser.)

The archæological interest of Roseburn centres mainly in the lintel over what had once been the front door—now opening upon a passage at the back of the house—and in a much more elaborately sculptured stone, 'perhaps one of the finest in

Scotland' of its kind, built, out of its original place, in the south wall, and protected by a pent-house which, if it protects it from the weather, stands in the way of successful photographing. The former of these stones bears the initials 'M. R.' and 'K. F.,' with the inscription 'AL · MY · HOIP · IS · IN · YE · LORD,' and the date '1582,' together with a shield on which a chevron, bearing three mullets, between three tadpoles, or 'powits,' is impaled with the device of three fishes fessways. (Fig. 2.)

The other stone, which, it is conjectured, must have formed the lintel of a wide fireplace or of some interior door—as the work is too delicate for the open air, from exposure to which it has already greatly suffered—is not so easy of description. I take the liberty of transcribing that of the writer in the *Transactions*, who gives its length as seven feet eight inches and its height as one foot four inches :—

'In the centre are the royal arms of Scotland with the motto "In Defens," and along the top of the stone runs the inscription which reads, as far as can be made out :—

GVD KEIP OVRE CROVNE AND SEND
GVD SVCCESSIVN,

and at each end two castles, separated by delicately wrought gabled panels, with tracery in the gables, and between, and at either end of the stone, the inscription, in fine raised letters :—

Gyf yov	Gracia dei salvom fac popvlvm tvom domine		Incline
vil enter	quem redimisti precioso sang(vine)		yi eir vn
at Crist	Lord save yi people	qvham yov has rede(mit)	to ye pvre
tis dvre	Da pacem domine	In diebus nostris qvia	
1562	Lord gyf pece	In ovr(e d)ayis yar is non	
	O God on me have revth . . . . . i)n trevth.		

'The legend, in alternate Scots and Latin, is taken from the Church service. A rounded moulding which runs along the under side contains letters here and there, but so much worn as to be undecipherable. On the castles there are figures supporting projected windows; and above one of those windows, on the right hand, a figure on the top of the window seems to hold a flag above its head,

and round the parapet of the same castle there are carved five antic-looking figures. The stone is unfortunately broken on the right of the royal arms.' (Fig. 3.)

The occurrence here, at a date a year later than the crisis of the Scottish Reformation, of the royal arms and of a passage from the Roman service (incorrectly given by Grant, who mentions also a date '1526' which is not discoverable on the stone), may encourage curious speculations. Along with the letters 'M. R.' on the smaller lintel, it has apparently suggested 'the unsupported local tradition which associates the house with Mary and Bothwell,' and that points out one of the apartments as 'Queen Mary's room.'[1] The tadpoles

FIG. 3.—Lintel at Roseburn House.

of the shield undergo, in the description of this writer, a droll transformation into 'rose-buds,' reminiscent of 'Roseburn.' The shield, says the Architectural Association *Transactions*, contains 'the Russell and Fisher or Forman arms impaled'; but it is added, 'we have not succeeded in finding any history of these families attached to Roseburn,' a statement not greatly modified by the note that 'there is a William Fisher mentioned in the Retours in 1567, and a Katherina Fisher, whose initials may be those carved here, is mentioned in 1624' —obviously too late a date.

There can be no doubt that the initials 'M. R.' are those of Mungo, or Kentigern, Russell, Treasurer of Edinburgh in 1575-82, son of Thomas Russell, a burgess of the town in

[1] Grant's *Old and New Edinburgh*, vol. iii. p. 103.

1529-30, who, as stated in Burke's *Peerage*,[1] acquired this property in 1583, and whose will is dated 24th July 1593. Mungo Russell figures frequently in the burghal records of the period. There are, for instance, numerous entries, from 1575 forward, in the *Records of the Convention of Royal Burghs*,[2] relating to the labours of 'Mongow Russell, theasaurer,' in collecting from the various burghs their share of the 'extent of the bullion,' amounting to ten thousand pounds, required by 'the Lord Regent's grace' (the Earl of Morton), his leading auditor being 'Henry Nesbett, bailie,' mentioned in the paper on the Dean Sculptured Stones. In July 1583 he assisted, along with 'Gilbert Primrose, chirurgeane,' and other councillors of Edinburgh, in passing an Act decreeing that a burgess's daughter guilty of immorality should be deprived of the privilege of passing her husband into the guildry or crafts without payment of entry duty.[3]

The Russell arms, according to Burke, are found of earlier date in Stobo Church in Peeblesshire. This is not borne out in the volume on *Stobo Church* by Dr. Gunn, who however, has a good deal to record concerning the Russells of Slipperfield, or Kingseat, an estate lying on the southern slope of the Pentlands, in West Linton parish.[4] James Russell, son or grandson of Mungo Russell, obtained, in 1632, sasine of lands in West Linton, and in 1642 of the Middlethird of Slipperfield, also known as Kingseat, which had belonged to the Pennecuiks of that Ilk and afterwards to Lord Holyroodhouse, son of Adam Bothwell, Bishop of Orkney. His grandson, William Russell, was minister of Stobo from 1688 to 1699, and was

[1] 1910 edition, p. 1571. [2] Vol. i. p. 49.

[3] Sir James Marwick's *Edinburgh Guilds and Crafts*, p. 134.

[4] Dr. Clement Gunn's *Stobo Church*. The stone referred to is probably that built into the outside of the east wall of Stobo Church, and still in a wonderfully good state of preservation, due to its having been painted. I am indebted to the Rev. J. R. Cruickshank for the inscription: "Hic jacet Jacobus Russell in Dreva qui obiit Aug. 30 Anno 1692, aetatis 67, relinquens ex charissima Conjuge Helena Scot tres filios ac quatuor gnatas. Hoc monumentum posuerunt filii superstes in spem resurexionis gloriosae."

succeeded in that charge by his nephew, another William Russell—eldest son of James Russell of Kingseat—who had previously been minister of Culter and of Morham, and who succeeded to the family property. The Session and Presbytery minutes abound in proceedings arising out of the second William Russell's 'contumacy' in such matters as neglecting to pray for George I. He had been a Jacobite trooper before he was a preacher, and Dr. Pennecuik, in his 'Panegyric upon the Royal Army in Scotland,' writes of him as of one who had fallen away from grace:—

> 'Young Kingseat was a Tory trooper then,
> Now Stobo stipend makes him Whig again;
> So frequently we see from cloak to gown
> Prelate and Presbyterian turn upside down.'

He died in 1733. His nephew, John Russell of Braidshaw, was the first of four generations of the same name who were 'Clerks to the Signet.'[1] The second of these, John Russell, who died in 1796, is described as 'of Roseburn,' so that the ancestral house on the Water of Leith would appear to have been retained in the family. He was, like his father before him, agent for the Forfeited Estates, as was his son after him—John Russell, the Third, who married Eleanora, daughter of Principal William Robertson. Their son, John Russell, Principal Clerk of Session, born 1780, died 1862, was father of the late Mr. Alexander James Russell, C.S. The '—— Russell, Esq.', described in the *Itinerary of Scotland* of 1824 as proprietor of Roseburn, was apparently the third John Russell, C.S. The family is represented by Sir Charles Russell of Charlton Park, Gloucestershire (descended from the second John Russell), who retains the three tadpoles on his arms.

Higher up-stream the next passage of the Water of Leith is at Saughton, where it is crossed by the Old Glasgow Road.

[1] Part of the family record will be found on the tomb in Greyfriars Churchyard.

Here, as at Coltbridge, groups of mills and cottages have been gathered near the bridge-end from time immemorial, and the bridge itself is the latest of a line bestriding the little river at this point. Besides being a centre of the milling craft, Saughton Bridge had several country mansions within hail; and three of these have held their ground, in more or less damaged condition, down to the present day. On the right, or west bank, Gorgie House has always been associated with Gorgie Mills, and in the second half of the seventeenth century was in possession of a family named Brown. 'Went out by Gorgie Milnes, belonging to one Browne; then by Saughton Hall; then by Bels milne to Stanip-milne Elies,' is an entry of 1668 in Lauder of Fountainhall's *Journals*.[1] The older portion of the house is screened by a more modern front, and contained in it, along with other marks of antiquity, is a hand-wrought plaster ceiling in fine preservation, and of similar design to that in Dalry House, referred to in a previous article. Inserted above a built-up doorway in an adjoining wall is a stone containing a monogram, and the date '1710.'[2] (Fig. 4.)

Fig. 4.—Pediment at Gorgie House.

On the left bank is Saughton Hall, which, with the

[1] Scottish History Society, p. 191.

[2] We may identify the enwreathed initials as those of George Lind and of his wife, Jean Montgomerie. Jean was seized in Gorgie Mylnes, on disposition of 1711, by her husband, George Lind of Gorgie, merchant in Edinburgh (he was Master of the Merchant Company in 1708), to secure the provisions of their marriage contract, dated 11th May 1694. It is interesting to note that the arms of Lind of Gorgie (registered 1738), viz., two spears in saltire, between a mullet in chief and a crescent in base, within a bordure charged with fleurs-de-lys and annulets, correspond closely with those of Montgomerie of Heslaid, or Hessilheid, in Ayrshire, to which branch of the Eglinton stem belonged Alexander Montgomerie, the poet of 'The Cherry and the Slae.' (See

attached lands, has lately become town property. The lands came into possession of a branch of the old family of the Bairds of Auchmeddan, at one time Hereditary Constables of Banff, and of New Byth, in East Lothian, apparently in the time of Sir Robert Baird of Saughton Hall, who was created a baronet of Nova Scotia in 1696. His great-great-grandson, Sir William Baird, fifth baronet, married Frances, the daughter of Colonel Gardiner, the commander of the Hanoverian cavalry at Prestonpans, and the family have since taken the name of Gardiner-Baird. The house, apparently early eighteenth century, contains no sculptured work of note. But built into the east gable wall of the adjoining farmhouse of Saughton, still belonging to the Gardiner-Bairds, is a heraldic stone in good preservation, although the scroll containing the motto, which Mr. Ford, the present tenant of the farm, remembers to have seen entire, has been broken away. The shield bears, on the dexter, a wild boar passant, on a canton a sword in pale (the arms of the Bairds of Saughton Hall), and, on the sinister, three keys fessways in pale, wards downward, these impaled arms being those of the Gibsons of Pentland. There is a helmet, with mantling, and over it the Baird crest, a boar's head. (Fig. 5.)

The stone commemorates Sir James Baird, second baronet, and his second wife. He married first, Margaret Hamilton of Mountain Hall, and after her death, in 1694, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Gibson of Pentland and Addiston (Deputy-Clerk Register from 1696 to 1700), who owned Gibson House, formerly the Dower House of the Forrester family, in the adjoining village of Corstorphine, and whose burial-place is in Old Pentland Churchyard. Sir James (who died in 1715) was the eldest son of Sir Robert, the purchaser of the property, and his brother William, bailie

59th vol. of the Scottish Text Society's publications.) It seems a reasonable suggestion that Jean was a member of the Hessilheid family, and that her descendants in Gorgie Mylnes adopted her family arms.

and city treasurer, who married a daughter of Sir William Binning of Wallyford, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, was ancestor of the Bairds of New Byth. Below this armorial stone has been placed a lintel, partly restored, and obviously of older date, bearing the familiar inscription: 'O Lord

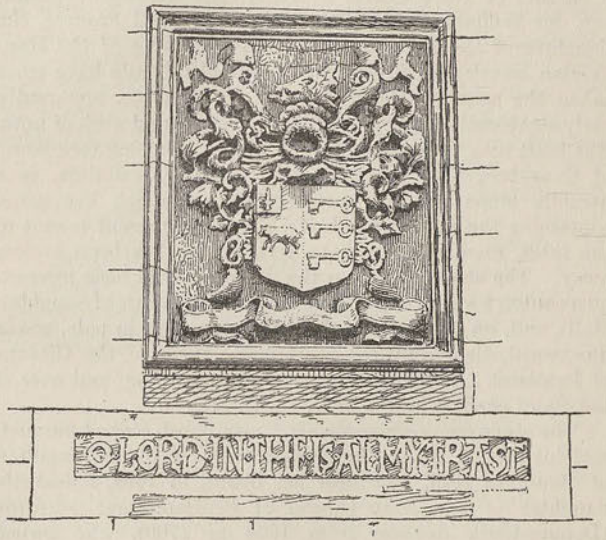

FIG. 5.—Armorial Stone and Lintel at Saughton Hall.

in The is al my Trast.' Both stones were removed a few years ago by Sir William Gardiner-Baird from the walls of the adjacent farm buildings—which bear signs of considerable age—to their present position. Their previous history—whether they had ever been incorporated in the existing Saughton Hall, or had been ornaments of an older building on

or near the same site—is unknown to me. Comparison may be made with a large armorial stone of almost contemporary date, at present resting beside the porch at Riccarton House. It was formerly at Addiston House, and was sent by Lord Morton to the late Sir James Gibson-Craig when that old seat of the Gibsons was undergoing alteration. It bears the initials 'S. A. G.,' the date '1688,' and the crest of a pelican, surmounting a shield bearing the three keys fessways. This identifies it with Sir Alexander Gibson (son of Sir John Gibson of Pentland and Addiston), Principal Clerk of Session, who was knighted in 1682 and died 1693, and whose son and successor, Sir John of Pentland, Deputy-Clerk Register, married, in 1687, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Lewis Craig of Riccarton. It may be added that, built into the 'restored' tower at Riccarton (the handiwork of Burn), is a remarkable lintel, dated 1621, and having within a roll-and-hollow

'S. L. C.

moulding the letters D. D. together with the mottoes,

B.C. M.S.'

'Vive et Vivas,' 'Sit Deus intrantibus, solamen praesdum exeuntibus,' and 'By Godlines the Airis is blissit, but Cryeing Sinnes spewis him out of possession.' The initials 'S. L. C.' are those of Sir Lewis Craig of Riccarton, a Lord of Session under the name of Lord Wrightslands, son of Sir Thomas Craig, the great feudal lawyer, and Helen, daughter of Heriot of Lymphoy. He succeeded his father in 1608 and died in 1622, the year after the date on the lintel. The other initials are those of Sir Lewis Craig's two wives, Beatrix Chyrnside and Marie Somerville.[1]

An older and still more interesting edifice than Gorgie House is its forlorn neighbour, on the same side of the stream, Stenhopemills, or latterly Stenhousemills. A still older name appears to have been Saughton Mills,

[1] For much of the above information I am indebted to Miss Gibson Craig, Long Hermiston House.

and it seems to have once formed part of the lands of Saughton, an appanage of the Abbey of Holyrood. In 1511 the Abbot and convent granted Saughton Mills in tack for a hundred and ten years to a family named Stenhope, from whom the property afterwards took its name. Saughton was acquired from the Abbey in 1537 by Richard Watson, who, it has been conjectured, from a remark of Nisbet the Heraldist on his arms and motto—an oak-tree with the words 'Inseperata Floruit'—resumed ownership of the lands after the family had been dispossessed of them for a hundred years. They long remained in the hands of his descendants, represented by the Earls of Morton. In 1537, Robert, Commendator of Holyrood, granted a charter of feu farm of six oxengates of the town and lands of Saughton, in the Regality of Broughton, in favour of Janet Stenhope (presumably a daughter of the neighbouring laird of Saughton Mills), the relict of Richard Watson, in liferent, and his son James Watson in fee. In 1657, David Watson of Saughton acquired from James Winram of Wiston, the superiority of 'Saughton Milnes, commonly called Stenhope Milnes in the parish of St. Cuthbert.' The Watson line ended in an heiress, Helen, who in 1844 married Sholto John, Lord Aberdour, afterwards twentieth Earl of Morton.

Saughton House contains among other antiquities a curious painted ceiling of astronomical design, and probably of late seventeenth-century date. Inscribed over the old east doorway is a hexameter line from Terence—'Quidquid agas, prudenter agas, et respice finem.' Mr. W. Traquair Dickson writes: 'A good many alterations on the house were made, evidently about the end of the seventeenth or early in the eighteenth century. The Watsons of Saughton were then wealthy and prominent people. The old east doorway with the inscription is evidently of that time. The earlier doorway seems to have been at the place of the present one. A

large window of late style was put in its place.' The house is in good hands and admirably preserved. Stenhopemills House, lying on the very border of the extended burgh, has, on the other hand, been parcelled out among poor tenants, and is lapsing into a sad state of neglect. In the Edinburgh Architectural Association's *Transactions*,[1] it is described as a once pleasant residence on the bank of the Water, and until

Fig. 6.—Arms of Patrick Ellis at Stenhouse Mills.

lately of even larger dimensions than the present considerable size :—

'It contains some fifteen apartments, and is extremely simple in its arrangements. It may be regarded as a T plan on a large scale, with an extra wing at one corner. The main block measures about 75 feet long from north to south, by about 22 feet, and is three stories high. Two wings project on the west side. These, after the usual manner of Scottish houses, contain one apartment on each floor. The larger wing comprises also the wheel-staircase, which is reached directly from the entrance in the ordinary way. . . . The entrance

[1] Vol. i. p. 116.

door is in the re-entering angle, and there are also two entrance doors in the east front. The main portion of the house is divided near the centre by a thick gable, all to the north of which on the ground-floor is vaulted. In one of the vaults there is a well now covered over.'

The vaulted portion contains several recesses and other architectural features of interest, and was evidently used as kitchen with attached brew-houses and bake-houses. Over the entrance doorway (Fig. 6) are the arms and initials of Patrick Ellis, merchant-burgess of Edinburgh, and, like Mungo Russell, the builder of Roseburn, Treasurer of the town. The date is 1623, and on the lintel beneath are the words :—

'Blisit be God for al His Giftis.'

The house contains two plaster ceilings, the most elaborate of which is that which decorates what is called 'King Charles's Room,' from the fact that the design includes the initials of Charles II., with date and motto and various royal insignia, as at Dalry and Gorgie. Part of the ceiling has been cut away in forming the present comparatively small apartment, and what is left of the design is badly clogged with whitewash. The building evidently had at one time a considerable extension towards the east, and had been approached from the north by a courtyard. It is a melancholy reminder of what had been the comfortable home of a wealthy Edinburgh burgess of nearly three centuries ago.

The arms, a sword in bend, between two helmets, agree with those registered by Ellis of Sauchton Milnes, under the Act of 1672. They differ from those of other two Ellis families—those of Elliston and of Southside—whose seventeenth-century houses are still standing within a few miles of Edinburgh, and whose coats, registered about the same time as that of Ellis of Saughton Mills, bear respectively 'three eels naiant fessways in pale' and 'three helmets with beavers open.' 'Patrick Heleis, Thesaurer of the brugh of Edinburgh'—the builder of the house, whose initials, 'P. E.,'

are on the lintel—was occupied in 1601 in disbursing the charges incurred in the 'hamebringing of the strangers' from Flanders with their 'wyffis, bayrnis, geir, and warklomes' for the 'makin of braid clayth and stuffes within the realm'—the introduction of a new industry into Scotland.[1] Concerned in the same 'interpryse' was 'George Hereott, younger,' goldsmith, and Thomas Fischer, merchant, the latter of whom (employed by the Convention of Royal Burghs in 1598 on an important fiscal mission to the French Court) may have been related to Katherine Fisher, whose initials are on the Roseburn lintel, and who was probably name-father of Fisher's Close in the Lawnmarket. It has been noticed[2] that Patrick married Isobel, daughter of Seton of Parbroath. But the entry in Lord Fountainhall's Holograph Notes, giving his maternal great-grandfather's descent and connections, is sufficiently curious to bear quotation :—

'I find in 1513 in the end of King James the 4th reign (it being unnecessary to mention any before, tho' Eleis' son assured me he could doe it for severall prior generations) one Alexander Elois merchant in Edinr his burgesse ticket of that date designed son to Patrick Elois, Bailzie of Edin. This Alexander Elois had a son called Patrick after his goodsire, and this Patrick was also a merchant and Bailzie in Edinr, and the first lands he acquired was Stanopmilnes, then Plewlands, Southsyde and Mortonhall, which he gave to his several sons, being upwards of twenty thousand pounds in lands and money. He was twice married; his first wife was Marian Inglis, daughter to James Inglis, merchant in Edinr, and predecessor to the present Laird of Cramond. His 2nd wife was Isobel Seton, daughter to John Seton, son to Seton of Parbroath in Fyffe. . . . Which Patrick Elois, among other children, had Mr. Alexander Eleis, so called after his goodsire, Patrick's father, to whom he gave the lands of Mortonhall. This Mr Alexander Eleis of Mortonhall married Elizabeth Edward, daughter of Nicol Edward, Dean of Gild of Edinr. . . . Of this marriage was Isobel Eleis borne, which Isobel Eleis was in 1645 married to John

[1] *Records of the Convention of Royal Burghs*, vol. ii. p. 118.
[2] *Book of the Old Edinburgh Club*, vol. i. p. 85.

Lauder, merchant in Edinr, afterwards designed Sir John Lauder of Fountainhall, who was lineally descended from the Lauder of Lauder of that Ilk, of which marriage and parents by God's appointment I am

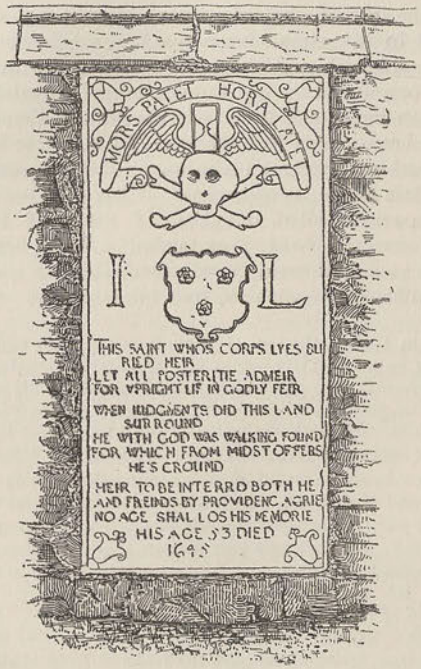

FIG. 7.—Gravestone in garden in Chamberlain Road.

descended and sundry other sons, so, as I have brought forward my Mother's geneallogie, so to trace it back. Our maternal coat of arms is Eleis of Mortonhall, which is the same writ Stanopmyle and Southsyde,

being a helmet on a spear (as is to be seen in Sir George Mackenzie's *Book of Heraldrie*, p. 66).'

Saughton Mills, or Stenhope Mills, passed out of the hands of the Stenhopes some time before the end of their tack and the date on the house. Patrick's son James appears to have succeeded to it. He was a bailie of Edinburgh and Commissioner to the Convention of Burghs during the Cromwellian occupation, and was one of the magistrates of the city who, in 1652 subscribed assent to the Union of Scotland with the Commonwealth.[1] The Mr. James Eleis of Stenhopemills, treasurer of St. Cuthbert's, who had, in 1680, the feud with Sir Patrick Nisbet of Dean over the 'West Kirk Poore money,' as detailed in the first Book of the Club (p. 113), was probably a grandson of the builder of the house. In 1684 he sold Sighthill to David Watson of Saughton, and about the same time Stenhopemills seems to have left the hands of the Ellis family.

Turning to another side of Edinburgh—to the south and to the district once covered by the Burgh Muir—we find several stones, hidden away in obscure corners, that deserve attention. Enclosed within a narrow walled space in a private garden in Chamberlain Road, is a remarkable grave-slab which may be a memorial of a former possessor of the lands of Greenhill. A sketch from a photograph is here given of the stone (Fig. 7), which is accurately shown in Dr. Fothergill's *Stones and Curiosities of Edinburgh*. It is ornamented by a shield bearing three cinquefoils, or gillyflowers, flanked by the letters 'I. L.,' and surmounted by a skull and cross-bones and winged hour-glass, and by a scroll with the words, 'Mors patet: Hora latet'; and the inscription runs:—

'This Saint whos Corps lyes buried heir
Let all posteritie admeir
For vpright lif in Godly feir.

[1] *The Cromwellian Union*, Scottish History Society, p. 72.

When judgments did this land surround
He with God was walking found
For which from midst of fers he 's cround,

Heir to be interrd. Both he
And freinds by Providenc agrie
No age shal los his memorie.

His age 53. Died 1645.'

'I. L.' and his friends were mistaken; in spite of his saintly qualities, posterity has lost all remembrance of him, apart from this stone, and the fact that John Livingstone and Elizabeth Rig purchased the lands of Greenhill in 1636. There can be no reasonable doubt that the stone marks John Livingstone's grave; for above the moulded doorway of the enclosure is an ornamental pediment (Fig. 8), bearing on one side the letters 'I. L.' and 'E. R.,' with the same date, 1645, while on the reverse, towards the interior, the shield and the initials of the owner are repeated. (Fig. 9.)

Fig. 8.—Ornamental Pediment: Obverse.

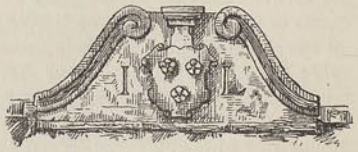

Fig. 9.—Ornamental Pediment: Reverse.

Grant gives an incorrect representation of the Chamberlain Road Stone, with the title attached of 'An Old Tomb in Warrender Park.' There are in reality two tombstones in the locality, both apparently bearing the date of the 'Year of the Plague,' 1645, and supposed to mark the place of sepulture of victims of the pestilence, as, in the case of the Greenhill Stone, is

strongly supported by the reference to 'judgments' and 'fears' abroad in the land. The Bruntsfield House Stone is built into the enclosing wall of the park adjacent to Thirlstane Road, and a little way to the east of the mansion-house. It is more time-worn than when Wilson described it in the 1848 edition of his *Memorials*,[1] and only traces remain of the 'skull surrounded by a winged sand-glass and scroll inscribed "Mors Pace . . . Hora Caeli."' The shield, which he and Grant represent as bearing a saltire, looks as if its charge were merely a repetition of the familiar crossbones, while the date and the initials 'M. I. R.' have entirely disappeared. Of Greenhill—'an old gable-ended and gableted manor-house'—no relic now remains outside the enclosure that seems to have been used as a burial-place for successive owners. But the House of Bruntisfield, originally Brounisfield—'the last,' says Miss Warrender in her *Walks near Edinburgh*, 'of the old houses in the immediate vicinity of Edinburgh which is still occupied by its owners'—still stands in good condition in the circumscribed park that is supposed to have once formed part of the Burgh Muir. The original building on the site was long the dower-house of the Lauders of Hatton, and was sold in 1603 by Sir Alexander Lauder to John Fairlie of Braid, whose initials, 'I. F.,' with those of his spouse, 'E. W.,' appear repeatedly over the windows. With the date, 1605, they doubtless mark an enlargement, early in the seventeenth century, by the new possessors, whose descendants held it until it was purchased from William Fairlie in 1695 by Sir George Warrender of Lochend, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, who 'by degrees also acquired other lands lying contiguous, by purchase from Rigg of Riggsland, Biggar of Whitehouse, and Dick of Grange.'

Part of the ground of the 'Common Mure' appears to have been set aside for the 'Services of the Pest,' which was so frequent and deadly a visitor to the neighbouring city

[1] Vol. i. p. 165.

during the Middle Ages. From the 'Statutes for the Baillies of the Mure,' first enacted in 1568, and repeatedly renewed and amended, we know that in time of pestilence it was the duty of the servants of the town, known as the 'Baillies, Clengers, and Bearers of the Deid,' to proceed with all diligence possible 'sa sone as ony houss sall be infectit,' so that 'the haill houshald, with their gudds be depeseit towart the Mure, the deid buriet, and the houss clengit.' The graveyard attached to the Chapel of 'St. Roque, the Healer,' received the bodies of many of the victims; but others, it would appear, were buried in isolated spots of the Muir. At the Chapel of St. Roque James IV. paid his devotions on St. Roque's Day (15th August) 1507, and again in September 1513, while the Scottish forces were assembled round the Bore Stone on the Muir. The 'interesting and venerable ruin,' of Hugo Arnot's time, was swept away early in the nineteenth century as 'an unsightly encumbrance.' No fragment belonging to a building which appears to have been in the decorated Gothic of the early sixteenth century has been left on the site, although Grant states that a tombstone from its burying-ground, bearing the date 1600, long remained at the corner of a thatched cottage in the adjacent Grange Loan, the old 'common passage of the Mure.' Mrs. Stewart Smith[1] is authority for the statement that 'Upon the demolition of the ruin, many of the beautiful carved stones were removed, and built up into the walls of an adjacent property, and are still in excellent preservation.'

This evidently refers to the *cache* of carved stones which have found a place in the walls of an outhouse attached to Bloomsbury Laundry, in Grange Loan, near the junction with Canaan Lane, and only a few hundred yards distant from St. Roche's. Three of these pieces of ancient ecclesiastical architecture are richly decorated ogee-shaped arches, enclosing elaborate tracery, and flanked by shields, which

[1] *The Grange of St. Giles*, p. 13.

appear to have formed the canopies of altar-tombs. Two of them are super-imposed (Fig. 10), and the lower one is much more worn than the other, either from greater age or from

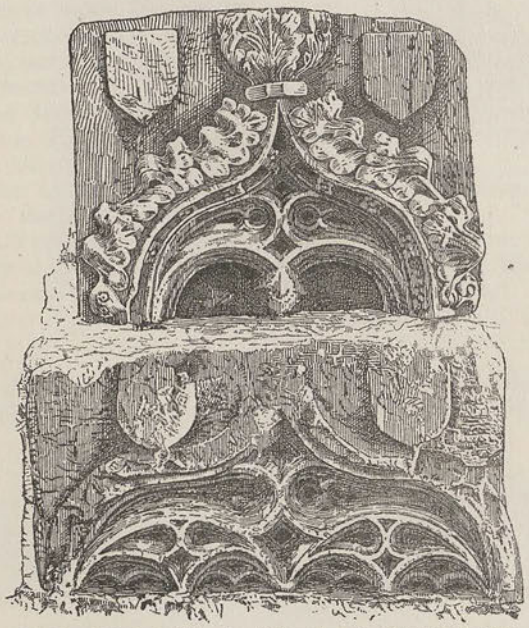

Fig. 10.—Ecclesiastical Canopies at Bloomsbury Laundry, Grange Loan.

softer material and longer exposure to the weather. If the shields on them ever bore any insignia—which, in the case of the upper stone at least, looks more than doubtful—they have been effaced.

The third canopy (Fig. 11) is still in very good condition. The date '1728' incised on the shields is obviously much later

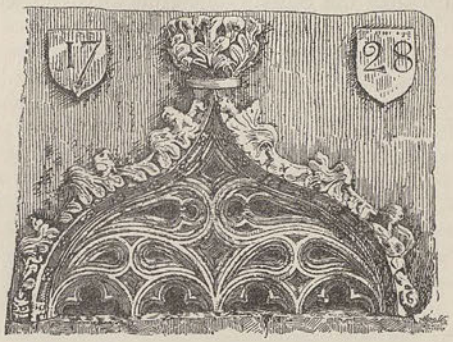

Fig. 11.—Ecclesiastical Canopy at Bloomsbury Laundry, Grange Loan.

—probably two centuries at least—than the piece of sculpture on which it is inscribed. Underneath it has been set a lintel-

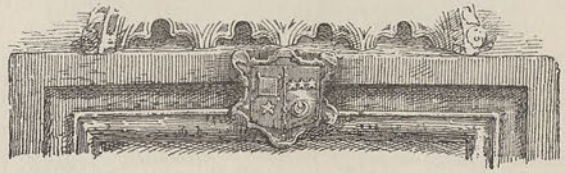

Fig. 12.—Lintel with Heraldic Shield at Bloomsbury Laundry, Grange Loan.

stone, also in fine preservation, and probably of seventeenth century date. A shield occupies the centre, and on it are arms which may be read as those of Marjoribanks—on a chief a cushion between two spur-rowels—impaled with those of Trotter of Mortonhall—a fess, with three mullets in chief and

a crescent in base (Fig. 12). Thomas Marjoribanks of that Ilk, Provost of Edinburgh and member for the city in 1541, and afterwards a Lord of Session and Lord Clerk Register, was father of John, ancestor of the elder branch of Marjoribanks of Balbardie, and of James, of Leuchie and Hallyards, ancestor of a line of Edinburgh merchants and magistrates. A grandson of James, John Marjoribanks of Leuchie, born in 1612, married in 1641 Elizabeth, daughter of John Trotter of Mortonhall, and one of their descendants is the present Lord Tweedmouth. It seems probable that the stone is a record of this pair, although I am unable to say from whence it was removed or what is its history.

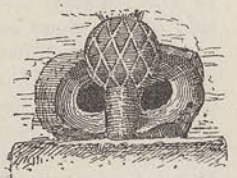

Fig. 13.—Thistle finial at Bloomsbury Laundry, Grange Loan.

Fig. 14.—Canopied Recess at Bloomsbury Laundry, Grange Loan.

The other sculptured fragments collected in this nook include a fine thistle finial (Fig. 13), and a canopied recess that may have been an aumry or a piscina (Fig. 14), and

close beside this, but in too obscure a position to be photographed, is a memorial panel, bearing a long Latin inscription, defaced, and rendered only in part readable through the use to which a strip of two or three inches on the right-hand side of the stone has been put in sharpening a knife. It commemorates 'Thomas Douglasius,' of the Cavers branch of that illustrious family, a man honourable in business, the holder of offices in the city and its suburbs, and the possessor, according to the inscription, of many virtues, who died on the 9th of August 'MDC—'; and it was erected by Richard Douglas, advocate, Robert Bennet, and Robert Blackwood, the lamenting heirs under his testament. The Roman numerals completing the date have been rubbed off.[1]

[1] The 'second bailie' of Edinburgh in 1679 was a Thomas Douglas. According to the Register of Interments in Greyfriars Churchyard, Thomas Douglas, merchant in Edinburgh, was buried 15th August 1686. He was 'second brother to Douglas of Cavers,' and son of Sir William Douglas of Cavers and of his second wife, a daughter of Sir James Macgill. His arms are recorded in the Lyon Office, 1680-87, and are shown in Mr. G. Harvey Johnston's *Heraldry of the Douglases*, p. 94. It may be noted that the late Mr. J. Russell Walker, in an article on 'Scottish Baptismal Fonts' in the *Proceedings of the Society of Scottish Antiquaries* (vol. ix., New Series, 1887, p. 439), quotes Sir Walter Scott as stating, in his *Provincial Antiquities*, that a font stood beside the ruins of the chapel of St. Roque in the Burgh Muir, and records his own discovery, on the uncovering of the 'Penny Well' in Grange Loan, that 'the basin into which the water ran was without doubt a baptismal font.' He gives the dimensions, and suggests that this may be the St. Roque font mentioned by Scott.

JOHN GEDDIE.

THE HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT SQUARE: BEING AN HISTORICAL NOTICE OF THE SOUTHERN PRECINCTS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, EDINBURGH

I. FROM THE EARLIEST CHARTERS TO THE BURIAL OF JOHN KNOX

WHILE the origin of the great Kirk of St. Giles is obscure, there is no question that those who founded it selected a most suitable and conspicuous site. Placed on the upper part of the ridge which stretches from the Castle to Holyrood, it dominated the ancient 'Edwinesburch' in only a lesser degree than the *Castrum puellarum* itself. Situated at a height of nearly 290 feet above the sea-level, the Church looked down on its north side upon the 'Nor' Loch' 140 feet below it, while farther north was the ridge along which passed the 'Lang Gait' (now Princes Street), and beyond it a long declivity sloping gradually to the Firth of Forth. On its south side, the precincts of the Church dipped at a somewhat sharp angle to the Cowgate, situated some 70 feet below the Church. From every part of the burgh, and from the shores of Fife on the north to the Pentland and other hills on the south, the ridge crowned by the Church of St. Giles was visible, and formed a central and culminating point in the landscape.

My object in this paper, however, is not in any way to describe the history or architecture of the Church of St. Giles, but simply to attempt to relate the history of its