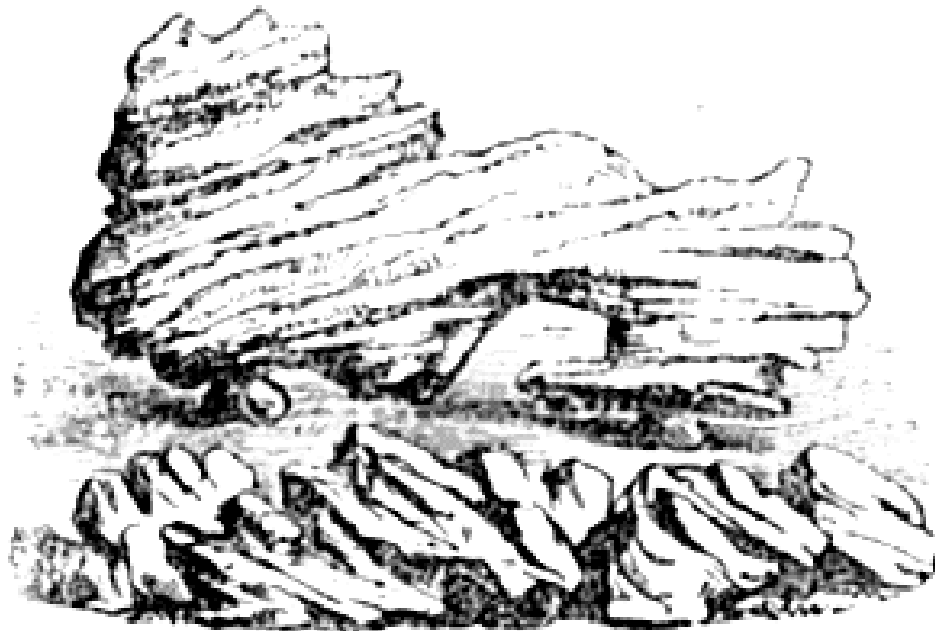


tion of which was only removed about [fifty] years ago,* to build the offices of the manse.

St. Bride's Chapel appears to have occupied the site of a Druidical place of worship. A large stone—called a rocking-stone—still exists near the spot. This huge mass of shelving



Druidical Rocking Stone.

rock—perhaps thirty tons weight—rests upon two stones, placed as supporters, apparently for the more easy introduction of the pivot upon which it should move. The probability is, that the rocking-stone never was completed, for we cannot suppose that the Culdees, by whom the Druids were succeeded, would be at the trouble of removing the pivot and introducing instead the two supports. The Culdees wisely superinduced the new system upon the old with as little outrage to the customs or feelings of the people as possible. The exposure of the stone to the weather for such a length of time has split it up considerably, and a number of disintegrated pieces lie scattered around, so that it must have been of enormous weight originally. By what means it could have been carried to such a height—for it has not apparently been dug out of the crags—cannot well be conceived. Farther northward there is a huge standing-stone, with a natural seat upon

* Statistical Account.

it, called *Wallace's Stone*, from which an excellent view of the Firth of Clyde and the surrounding country is obtained.

According to the Statistical Account, "several years ago, a number of silver coins, of the reign of Elizabeth, James VI., and Charles I., were dug up on the farm of Bargunnoch; and more recently, four stone coffins were found in a field on Barcleuch, near the banks of Ayr." We have been informed, however, that these supposed coffins were more probably receptacles of brandy, during the palmy days of smuggling.

FAMILIES IN THE PARISH OF COYLTON.

CATHCART OF CARBISTON.

The Cathcarts of Carbiston, says Nisbet, are an "old branch of the family of Cathcart, as far back as the time of Robert III.;" but we suspect that a still greater antiquity can be claimed for them. They had a gift of the wardship of the lands of Carbiston, during the reign of David II., in 1368. The oldest charter of the property in their possession is dated 1464. The last male representative of this branch was *William Cathcart de Carbiston*, who died in 1547. He is mentioned as one of the heirs of entail of John, fourth Lord Cathcart, of certain lands in Ayrshire, in a charter dated 8th July, 1541. He was married to *Elizabeth Maxwell*, whom, together with his daughter, *Janet*, he appointed, in his latter will, as his executor. *Margaret* is also mentioned as his daughter in this document. In consequence of the death of Margaret, Janet became the sole heir of her father. She married *Allan Cathcart of Duchray*, another cadet of the family of Cathcart. His father, the first of the branch, was, according to Nisbet—

David Cathcart of Duchray, third son of John, Lord

John Wallace of Craigie, who was one of the Commissioners from Ayr and Irvine in 1560. He married *Lady Mary Cuninghame*, daughter of the Earl of Glencairn, by whom he had five sons, *John*, his successor, *William*, *Robert*, *Michael*, and *Allan*; and a daughter, *Annabella*, who was married to Sir William Hamilton of Sorn. From the younger portion of the sons are descended more than one family of the name in the North of Ireland, and one in the Netherlands, of whom was Field-Marshal Oliver Count Wallis, who accompanied the Imperialists, in the campaign of 1739, against the Turks. The eldest son succeeded.

John Wallace of Craigie. In 1577, he acquired the 10a. land of Gallisholmes from A. Fergushill, burgess of Ayr, and his heirs.* He was alive in 1586, in which year he acquired a field from the town of Ayr, called the *Fandis*. He had also "heretabill stait and sasing" of "the croft of land callit Ereris-fauld, sumtyme possessit be William Wallace in Quithous," "liand wtin. the said burt., beeyd the place quhair the Blackfreris sumtyme stood," &c.* In the same year he took instruments at Monkton, against "ane letre of baillierie, maid be Dame Margaret Setoun, Lady Halsyde, and Lord Claud Hammiltoun, commendatour of Paisley, hir spous," constituting "Andre Craufurd, sone to the Lard of Ferme," and certain others, "thair baillies of the landis and lordschip of Monkton and Dalmelling." The same day "comperit Michail Wallace, brother to Johnne Wallace of Cragy, and in name and behalf of Johnne Wallace, sone and appeirand air of the said Johnne Wallace of Cragy," declared the determination of the latter to hold his right to the baillierie of Monkton until "ordourlie put thairfra be the [law]."[†] Wallace afterwards disposed and gave over to his son his

porary circumstances. *Wood's Peerage*, on the authority of a charter, says that Alan, fourth Lord Cathcart, married Margaret, daughter of John (not William) Wallace of Craigie. In the absence of direct proof to the contrary, *Margaret Kennedy*, who married the Earl of Cassilis, as described, may have been the second wife of John of Craigie.

* Mason's Note-Book.

right to the bailiary of Monkton. He appears to have fallen under the displeasure of some of the dominant factions which prevailed about this time—probably that of Captain Stewart, afterwards Earl of Arran; for, in 1587, we find William Wallace, “minister of Failfuird, donatour to the escheit guidis of the said Johne Wallace of Cragy,” making over the whole to his brother, Michael Wallace.* John Wallace married “Dame Margaret Campbell, daughter to the Lord Loudoun,” and had five sons—*John, William, Mr Thomas, James, and Robert*. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

Sir John Wallace of Craigie. He is mentioned as “Johnne Wallace of Craigie hir mir,” in the testament of “Katherine Jamiesone in Goldring,” in 1596; and as “Sir John Wallace of Craigie,” in that of “Marioun Cathcart, spous to Andro Craufuird of Dringis,” in 1612. He married Lady Elizabeth Douglas, second daughter of David, seventh Earl of Angus, and relict of John, sixth Lord Maxwell,† by whom he had *Hugh*, his successor; *William*, of Prestickshaws;‡ and *Robert*.§ He had also a daughter, *Issobell*, whose existence is proved by the following document:—September 10, 1594. The qlk day (&c.) James Layng, servitour to the ryt. honoll. Johne Wallace of Cragy, past to the duelling hous of Williame Makkerrell, shref clerk of Airshire, within the burgh thereof, and ther, in name and behalf of Issobell Wallace, dochter laull to the said Johne Wallace of Craigie, and hir said father as administratour to hir for his enteres, presented or. soueraneis letrs,” &c.|| He died before July, 1614, in a testament of which date he is mentioned as “vmqle. Johnne Wallace of Craigie.” He was succeeded by his son,

Sir Hew Wallace of Craigie. He had a charter of the whole

* Charter dated 5th August, 1598.

† The family MS. says she was Lady Margaret Maxwell, daughter of the Earl of Nithsdale.

‡ He is so designed in the list of debtors appended to the testament of William Brown, merchant in Ayr, who died in 1613—“Wm. Wallace of Prestickshaws, sone to ye Laird of Craigie.”

§ Also stated to be a son of the Laird of Craigie in the same document.

|| This matter regarded the tains of the parish of Galston, to which Wallace seems to have had some right.