

Cheptour Fyve

Scotlandwall

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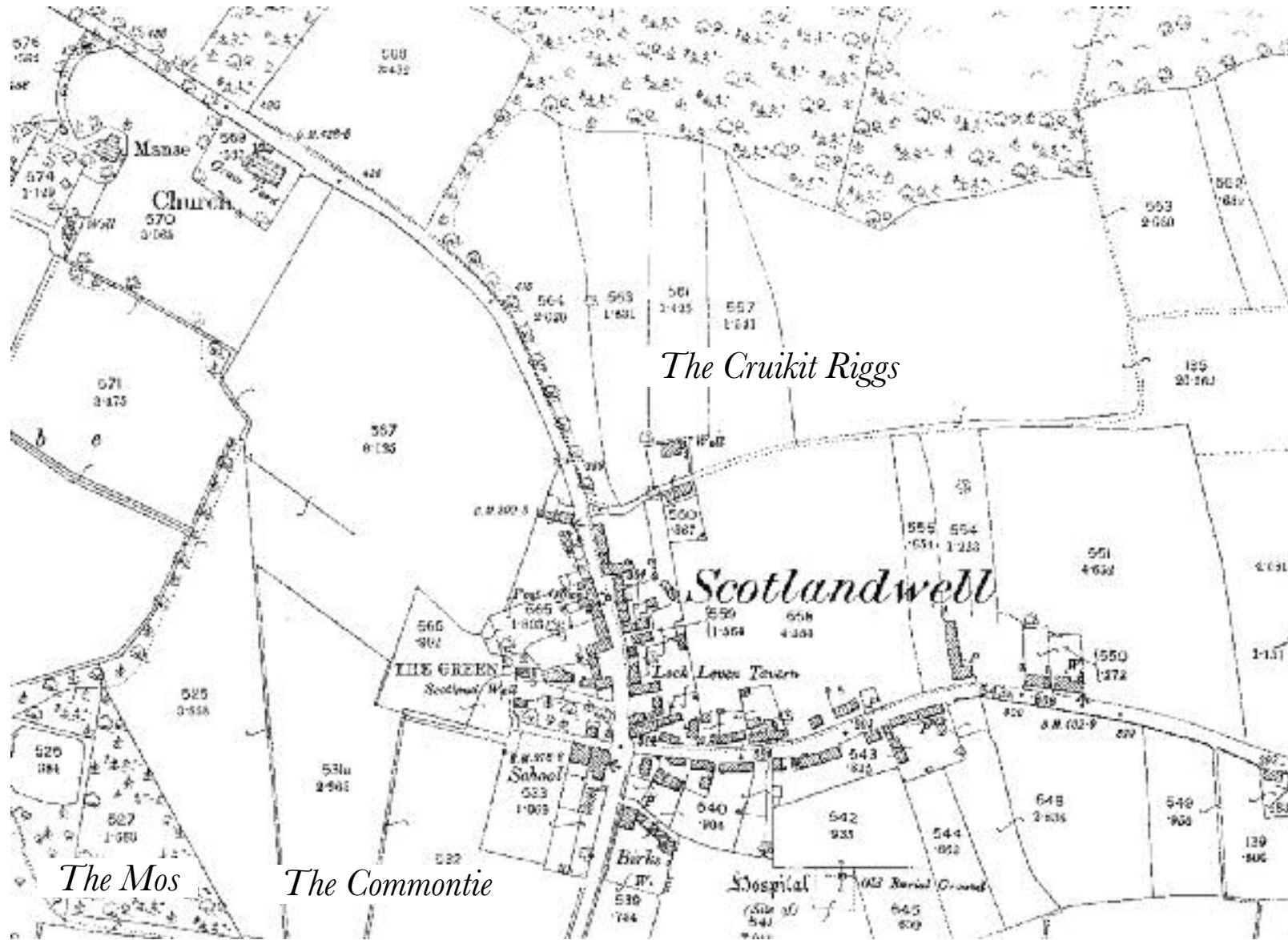
Scotlandwall is a wie fermtoun in Kinross at inhauds aw the characts o the laun it taks its nem frae. It is situat atwein the Lomond Huls ti the nor an Loch Leven ti the suth. Thusgates the local launskip is a model o Caledonia i peirie shap.

The wall is a kell at flowes out frae ablow the hul. Fowk aye cum ti the wattir lik the Roumans duin lang syne. Thai cryed it “Fons Scotiae”. Robert the Bruce also cam ti seke a cuir at the wall. Fur Scotlandwall wes on the rodd atwein the Quene’s Ferrie an Sainct Andrae’s, an wes the stance o ane ospital o the Rid Freres.

As monie auld ferm biggins yit staun i the veillage, it is the histore o the enviroounin laun at is the maist interessin pairt o the storie. The yird ablo the toun haes dictautit the shap an naitur o’d. Thon is trew o kintraes an nautiouns aw owre the mappamound an is wirthie o a bit mair expositioun.

Ti the suth o Loch Leven is a geologicall faut at rins along the Cleish Huls. The mairch o Fyfe follaes thon faut an the roks an meinerals o thon countie ar weill kent, the coll heuchs aye maister the laun. Nou thai ar gryte aipen kest mynes at kythe neist the motir-wey owre-nicht. Ti the nor o the faut is Kinross-shire at disna hae onie coll sinks, bot is flet ferm laun atwein the mairch an the Lomonds. This is the auld bed o Loch Leven an is ae gryte peit mos, whaur aince the loch kivvert the laun wi wattir bot nou hes resyled thro the effek o naitur, an eftir thon bi the wirk o man.

Loch Leven itsell wes furmed eftir the lest eiss aige. Suin wi the growein o sprots an fog the loch eige crap in an owre thousands o yeir the mos aince



kent as Petmoig wes furmed. Monie braid akirs o grun becam dray. Bot the lairds wesna settified an clekkit a plann ti kittil the flowe down the Leven Wattir. Thai sayed at it wes ti impruive the wattir rin fur aw the milns down the streme bot it wes ti crie mair ferm laun roun the lip o the loch.

Thur warks cam about yeir 1830. The first pairt o the Wattir wes strauchtent an a sklouse houss biggit ti haud onie spates an ti let drouths. The aurrie o the Loch wes inlait bi a quarter. The saumon at bene fundin the rodd up the Leven Wattir med sair bi raison o aw the milns, wi thair weirs an outfaws o pushionous waistrie died out an the eles furby. Bot the fushin o trout gaed on as afoir.

Oniegates , ma subjek is Scotlandwall. The ift o sae mukkil gracious laun med bi thur warks keppit the lairds quate. The riggs o Scotlandwall wes on the stey braes o the hul an abies sic bountie wes o littil wirth. Thon mote be the raison at the fermars o thon grun wes no interuppit in thair aige auld prattiks.

The riggs o the fermtoun wes cryed the cruikit riggs, mebbies kiz the grun on the braes o the huls wes owre brent ti wirk an it wes mair eith ti plew askew ti gar the furrs mair nerr the flet. The fowk contined ti growe craps on thur riggs ontill eftir 1920. Beiss wesna allowed on the riggs bot ti maneir thaim whan thai wes fauch. The cous an horss o the toun gerssed on the commontie at wes pairt o the laich grun ti the suth o the veillage. It wes foundit on peit an wes thairfur weit an sprottie bot guid fur hey an gerss. Furby thai cutt peit frae the mos, lik thair antecessers duin.

A heized-up causie run owre the commontie. Whan the peilgrims traivelt along thon gate lang syne an passit throu the toun the biggins o the clachan wes anerlie o widd an faill, wi theikit ruifs. It wesna ontill the laird socht ti redd up hiz siller ti beild a mukkil mansioun at the tenands wes sett the grassum o thair laun, an wes frie ti bigg stane houssis. The laird at thon tim wes cryed Wullie Bruce, an he wes the airchietek, an eftir the awner o Kinross Houss.

Nivver-the-less, the fermers didna cheinge the mainner o husbandrie in a hurrie. The pasterage o beiss on the commontie an mos wes regulatit eftir 1763, bi a parlament o the tenands. A seistem o soumin an roumin wes

brocht in, at gied fur ilk fermer a leit o the bestial at cuid be pastert, an a couherd wes hyerit. At the samen tim the ruills anent the mos allowed ilkane twa dargs o peit an a darg o turff fur ivverie akir thai feued.

Bi yeir 1822 the laird o Arnott, at nou awned the commontie, efter seiven submeissiouns ti the Shirra Court, wun the richt ti inclose the grun at bene pasterage. Wi the inlaik o the loch, thur fields wes drained an craps wun. The cruikit riggs abuin the toun an the mos wesna cheinged tho. The mos wes solit peit nerr twintie feit depe. The local fermars an cottars cutt intill lik an enorm tairt. The pairts at wes howkit wes cryed heids, an the bit whaur the peits wes stakkit wes cawed spreids. The wes a grieve at med siccar at ilkane did the dargs richt.

The antrim fak anent the toun wes the daut o the inclosur o the run-riggs at wesna till yeir 1926, Thon's bot twalve yeir afoir A cam hame masell. The seistem o run-riggs is weill knawn, tho mebbies ye dinna ken o'd. Ti growe fuidd craps in a weit kintra ye maun hae guid drains ti draw awaw the grunwattir at maks the syle cauld an wersh. Ti wun plats o grun at wes dray enough ti saw wi bere ir aitts, the grun wes plewed intill lang skelps. The plewin kest the yerth furr ti ae syde an gif ye gaed roun an roun the syle wes furmed intill a kinna ruif at sched the renn down ti the rind. Thon wes ae rigg. The inventin o the feild-drain at ligg depe down in the yird ablo the plew couter med the prattik onnessar. Maugre the ither faks, at the riggs o Scotlandwall wes o the suth syde o the hul an weill-drainit bi the naitur o the laun, furby the saundie syle, an thusgates didna nede field-drains, the orra fowk o the ferm toun hauddit ontill in thair auld farrant weys lik rauchil daith.

The Cruikit Riggs wes the nem o the laun abuin the toun, nae dout kiz the brae allowed ye ti vissie the shap o the riggs. Plewin wi ousen, at wes the oreiginal wey o teillin the grun, wesna verra nate. Fur ensaumpil A sein on the tellie at the rigg ettill ti furm ane "S" shap fur the pleuch o beiss wes deiffekwalt ti fess roun at the ends o the rigg an owre the yeirs wes stered apley ti mak the tirn mair eith. It is alse o interest ti me, tho mebbies ti nae buddie els, at plewin an mathiematiks aye bene connekkit. The auntient Egiptanes hed ti mett out the fields ilka saison eftir the Nyle Wattir cam down i spate an swoupit awaw aw the meiths. Likwiss, monie o the auld meisurs o



laun, the rod, the powl an the perk, wes ti dae wi meisurin wi the bit widd at gyed the ousen. Furby, the nem Oxfgangs is a superbill o Embro at consers the idaiat at ye can mett laun bi the aurie at can be plewit in ae day. Monie perks an gowf coursiss i thon ceitie is aye merked wi the auld lings o runrigg plewin. The plewgate wes anither mett o laun at wes aqual ti ae hunnert Scotch akirs.

Nou the raison at the fowk o Scotlandwall wes sae thrawn wes liggit out ben a buik o histore at A red raicentlie. The pynt o the runrigg seistem wes ti skair guid grun an pur. The riggs wes excheinged ti mak siccar at aw the tenands gat a shottie o the best pairts. This wesna verra eith ti gyde. Also, the wes deifferand opeiniouns whan ti pit the bestial ontill the riggs (whaur thair sharn maneired the syle) an cangils owre whedder ti tak the wrak aff the grun, kiz sum fowk sayed it benefeittit the corn, ithers contered thon, an whussil owre the lave o'd.

The mainner at sicna threips wes redd up wes ti haud ti tradeitioun. The day, we dinna haud wi the wey at wir pawrents duin thair beisines. In fak maist o the auld cant is taen ti be wrangous, sae i modren tymes we dinna unnerstaun the pouer o umquhile hants ti weize wir aks. Bot the fowk o Scotlandwall cuidna be shiftit frae the auld weys, an thusgates clappit ontill the runrigg seistem inti the contemporane trak o tyme.

Tho aw the auld fermars is lang deid, the spreit o the plece aye hings about. Aroun yeir 1960 the Forrestrie Commeissioun plauntit out the mos wi sitkae sprush an inpit trinks ti drain the peit. Bi the tyme at A cam ti byde ben Scotlandwall the plauntatioun bene pit i the hauns o the Widdlaund Traist an wes fu growne. The chiels o the distrik wes fain o daunnerin about in it. It gied skug frae the win an renn. Deir wes beildit ben the farnes, rid conspang throu the trie taps. Ivverie-buddie wes weill leised on it. Bot the traist wes feirt at the sprush, at hes bot shallie ruits wuid aw be blawn down bi a gell, kiz the peit didna gie a siccar steid fur the tries. Furby, thai concludit at the peit mos, at is ane inveroun rare i lawland Scotland, suid be consairved an bak pit ti its auld hech howe, the sheuchs stappit, an the wat grun alloued ti growe fogg an flouers.

Sae thai hakkit doun maist o the tries ti schaw the mos. Bot naebuddie ben the veillages roun an about wes settified, an grummilt an peinged as ilka

aurrie wes claired o tries. A maun awn at A wes as agin the cheinge as mich as onie ither.

Nae dout the pepil compleened as mukkil whan the loch wes laichit allsweill, fur the fushin in Loch Leven wes spylt bi the warks. The Loch is aye kent fur its trout, at is diveidwal tilt. Bot aince charr an eles wes ti be keppit, an lang syne saumon. The biggin o the slouse feinist thaim aff. The fush aince wes nettit in setts biggit roun the shallae banks an eyls o the lochs, lik the Castle an Rede Bower inchis. In the praisent day, fushin is bot frae boits. The'r speishal cobills at's desinged fur the condeitiouns o the Loch wi a lang kele an wechtie furby, sae as no ti bi blawn alang wi the win.

Lik the Mos o Scotlandwall, the Loch is cheingin. The bylies pit rennbowe trout intill. Bot the pur craiturs wes blinndit wi a wie pest at cam out o the wattir snails naitral ti the loch. The blinnd trout didna die tho. Thai cuid leve weill eneuch. Thai cuidna sei ti tak a flie tho, an thusgates nane wes ivver keppit bi the anglars at thai wes mintit fur. The Scotch trout at leived ben the wattir fur thousands o yeir hed immunutie an cawed on regairdles. Nou we ar telt at the skairts ar swalliein aw the fush, an canna be extirpit kiz o the Burd Conservatours.

Anither taill anent the loch is o parteiklar pleisur ti me. Ae inch is cryed Saunt Serf's. The wes a Kildie pryorie on thon eyland at wes gied owre ti the Augustin Catholiks bi Keing Dauvit I. Nae dout the samen monks cairried on as afoir, "unner nyow manishment", wi thair wirk at wes in pairt the copiein an illuminin o manuskrips. Fur this thai note cauf skin cryed vellum. The fowk o Kirknesswidd at is the neipourin veillage ti Scotlandwall, wes fawmous fur bredein veil ti supplie sicna material ti the monks. Ane o thur skreivers at wirkit ben Saunt Serf's Inch wes a pryour cawed Andra Wyntoun at wrate the "Orygynale Cronykil" on thon verra spat. It gies ye a heize ti skreive awaw at the modren furm o the Scots langage i the lik aurrie as sicna kenspekkil feigur. The link isna yit brak in anither wey furby. Andra Chisholm at teichit at Embro Ert College wes veisitin w'uz in Scotlandwall. He aye uises vellum fur skriptin skrowes fur graduands. Also he telt uz at the aire winnocks fur kirks wes copied frae the illumines o manuskrips, at wes the anerlie picturs o the saunts an apostils apen til the ertiss o thon tyme.



Nou the anerlie pairt o the pictur o Scotlandwall at A hivna yit pentit is the hie huls abuin the toun, the Lomonds. It is orra fur me ti byde ablo thur kenspeckkil volcanaes, fur ye'll can sie thame frae Embro, an ma auld Auntie Peggie aye sayed," Gif ye'l can hae a sicht o the Lomonds, it isna gaun ti renn". The day, a dae leive ablo'm an bi wanfortun it is rennin, tho a brae o the hul is eith sein. The Cruikit Riggs streiks out eistlins wi the crags abuin, nou enverounit wi conifers. Wastlins is Kilmagadwidd at sklims up the brae an eilies awaw owre the eisin. Whan ye gang up the peth throu thon widds ye sei at the tries is sair camshauchelt bi the win, bot nyow plauntauitions is gaun in, an i the fuither the widds wul retour ti halth an fushioun. The fowk frae the fermtouns maun hae wun timmer frae the hul, bot the auld wark at is maist dauntin is the howkin out o rok. The hul is kivvert wi quarrels an the rodds at wynd doun the brae ti cairt the stane. The bouk o the stanes is the maist dumfoundin. Ein the draystane dykes on the hie muir bene biggit bi etins. The isna licht stanes. The'r a kinkynd o whunstane at is haurd an wechtie, sair ti spleit an dour ti wirk.

Lik a sneistie laddie, naitur haes lichtlied man's darg wi the rok, an furmed a whein megalithik whigmaleeries o its ain. The'r the Bunnet Stane at haes a Tam o Shanter ballansit atap o'd. The collums o stane cryed Carlin Maggie is sayed ti be the auld wutch turnit inti whun, an eik the'r weirdlik craigs nemmit the Fairie Roks, geyan streinge an fu o grammarie. Howsomdevir, abuin aw, the Lamonds rax intil the cluds an doun fess the wattir, at deip ablo the grun supplies the loch an burn an kells at gie Scotlandwall its teitil.

Ye's can nott at A duina speik mukkil anent the buddies at byde ben the clachan. The'r a kenspkkil bourach at deserr a buik o thair ain. Our immediat neipours ar geyan freinlie an joco. The'r maistlie auld fowk, a polisman, a lectriceiane, a biggar, a kerr daler. Ilk hes a sonsie guidwyfe. Monie ithers ar kent t'z kiz thai hae dugs an we pas i the mos, takkin wir beiss fur thair daunner,

Wir tyke is fell fain o a pukkil o'm. The twa shelties at is the lik brede is freins, an a tarrier cryed "Gloamin" is the mither o'z pups. Ithers isna sae easie-osie. Mair mukkil dugs hae the mainner o bangsters an sumtymes ye wiss ye haed a rung ti gie thaim a dunt. Lik the dugs ther's differs atwein

fowk, we here. Maist ar ti dae wi hauddins. Wha haes the richt ti gang by a pend? Wha haes the richt ti snedd a hege ir a trie?

Howsomdevir, the fermtoun is lang deid an the auld furm o'd bein buriet ablow nyow houssis. The Post Offish is lang gane, an the schop is out o beisines lang syne furby. The publict houss is aye apen bot the'r isna a steir about its duirs maist nichts. The kirk is aye ruisin the lord, tho the auld Frie Kirk is nou the veillage haw, uised for a Pollin Plece an Burns' Sippers an the lik. The'r a fair whein o guid Scots tungs aye clekkin awaw an ye dinna hae the idaia at ye ar leivin in Oxford, ats the feillin at ye wun gif ye byde in Embro an leisten ti the tuins on the causie.

The fuither o Scotlandwell disna ligg wi masell tho. Ilk morn aw the bairns staun on the paument ti kep the buss at gies thaim a hurl ti the skuil. Ilk ein thai pley fitbaw on the grene an caw bak an forrit on the sweings. Thon's whaur the fuither liggs. Bot nicht an day, the wall by the grene trinkils out the saun, lik it duin fur thousands o yeir.

Heir a quott frae the auld Rouman makkar Horace:

"This wes amang ma prayers; a piece o laun no sae verra lairge, whaur a gairden suid be, an a wall o ivver-flowein wattir nerr the houss, an a bit widdlaun as weill as thur."
