



Journal Continued.

October, 1840.

Thur: 1 Sauntering about, doing little. In the afternoon paid a visit to the mowers at work in the Leantree-park. There was an argument between them - Potts insisting that he cut more than Andrew did. I could not see it.
- Dull, dry day.

Frid: 2 Busy in the stackyard, guiding the ricks, a job I am rather fond of. The shearers came out to work, though told by Moffat not to come.
- Fine day.

Sat: 3. Busy in the stackyard, assisting in crowning, bridling ricks, &c.
- Fine day.

Sun: 4 Attended Holywood Church. The sermon was "The Day of Judgment", of which a terrible picture was given to poor erring mortals like myself. Andrew and Knuckpack were there. Rec^d: a Bible from Ed. Henderson, who wishes me to write, or rather print, his name inside. I also received a letter from Stokes, H. Esq. enclosing a long list of queries for me to answer, relative to my proposed suit against Hume & Hare.
- Fine.

Mon: 5 Bridling ricks, A.M. In town, P.M. calling on Mr. Gordon for information relative to the deed of discharge mentioned in the letter from London.
- Fine day.

Tues: 6 DREW out, and then made a fair copy of my letter to Stokes, H. Esq. answering their inquiries. Picked up the Bible, and after studying the particulars of Deborah's Daughter began turning the subject into verse. Music and dance in the kitchen during the evening.
- Fine.

Wed: 7 In town posting my letter to Stokes, H. Esq., but previously called at the Bank of Scotland for additional information, which was added in a P.S. - Encountering a soup - I was led to purchase a quantity of writing paper. Met in walk and tipped with A. Henderson & A. McKinnel. Expected to meet the Edgars, but they were not in town. Returned home early to resume work in the stackyard - and in the evening went to Cluden for a mallet and some old files, the latter to be turned into small chisels for lettering on stone. I am about to add the name of Dr. Benedict to our monument in Holywood Church-yard.

Thur: 8 Working in the stackyard. A petition to the Duke of Buccleuch to make our present minister, Dickie, successor to Heron, is now going round the parish, and all hands at Colledgehead were called in to sign it. What a shame that a scamp like Heron should be allowed to retain the emoluments of the church without doing duty.
- Dull, but fine.

Frid: 9 Working in stackyard - paving easings, &c.

Sat: 10 Still in stackyard, - belting ropes - At Newbridge ev^g.

Oct: 1840

Sun: 11 Studying over the verses on Jephtha's Daughter. Could I bring myself to believe that such a person ever existed - I must say her fate was a most villainous one, without the shadow of a cause.

Mon: 12 Busy in the Stackyard, now finished. At N.B. even?

Tues: 13 Copying the Declaration of Trusteeship - C. Proudfoot to Jos. Hume & Jos. Hare. At N.B. calling on Alex. Austin. In the even? accomp? W. Wilson to Cluden -

Wed: 14 In town with the surveying chain. Met Burgefs, Holm, and arranged to visit him on the 22. Met also my brother Alexander, who has got into a disreputable mess about money matters with Spang of Pumpout. I accompanied him to sign a document for his appearance when called on - Tho' Edgar was in town, and as previously arranged rode out with him to Drumcoltran - to spend a few days in repainting their spring cart, &c -

Thur: 15 Washing the spring cart. Commenced painting -

Frid: 16 Painting. Bro. Goodall arrived, also to spend a few days -

Sat: 17 Painting, and finished the cart in fancy style -

Sun: 18 Attended Kirkcounzean church. It was a thin meeting, owing partly to a wet day, and partly to a small parish and a poor preacher - There was no preacher, and the service went on without psalms. Spent the afternoon in the kitchen, where Goodall read aloud the "Life of Welsh", to the edification of one and all. G. who is my bedfellow, kept me long awake with his discourse - Very wet.

Mon: 19 Spent the forenoon out mitting in the hard woods - and a fine pastime it is - Sauntering about, P.M. but chiefly watching the finish put upon the ricks - This was the keen night, and a great spree it proved - being kept up till 5 in the morning - when I went to bed -

Tues: 20 Rose early in the forenoon, but bedded again till 12. At 2, in company of W. Irving, I started homewards by Lochfoot, arriving at 5 o'clock. I now re-dressed myself, and hurried off to Hol: village to meet Bro. Currie, whom I accompanied to Cowhill farm - This was a most splendid turnout, and broke up at 1/2 past 3 in the morning -

Wed: 21 In town, where I met with the Edgars, Currie, Burgefs, &c - Dining on Hare-soup, and spending the day in fine style - Dull - wet w?

Thur: 22 Accomp? J. Currie to the races, but they turned out a poor affair - We met Mather and the Burgefs, with whom we returned. Had tea and spent the evening at Holm -

Frid: 23 Two packets of Doston Investigators arrived, which I at once sat down to investigate. Studying also the notes of my Diary, which have fallen into arrears for a week. At N.B. even? for lettering crows, which Wilson has been kind enough to make me

Sat: 24

Oct: 1840.

Sun: 25 At Hol: Church, taking a seal with Bro. Wright. At the conclusion met W. Burgefs, with whom I examined both our and his burial ground, where I have got work to attend to. Testaments from different friends were put into my hands, each anxious to have his name inside, printed by myself. Very fine day

Mon: 26. At Hol: Church-yard, where I commenced cutting Dr. Dinwiddie's name on our monument. From the erect position of the monument, I found the work awkward enough. It was besides showery, and in consequence made slow progress. Spent the evening at Woodlands.

Tues: 27 At Hol: Church-yard, lettering - Mr. Colvin, Abbey, who has been watching my labors, invited me to take tea with them this even: which I consented to do; but when the hour was approaching - I felt as if muscular convulsions were coming on, and left suddenly for Colledgehead. They did not, however, and I went to spend the evening at N.B. where it was arranged for a party of us to attend the theatre to-morrow even: Clear.

Wed: 28 Sent a note to W.M., and letter to Stokes, H. Kes. - inquiring after my lawsuit. In town. Dined with the Messrs Edgars in Dinwiddie's. In the evening, accomp: W. Edgar, &c. to the theatre. It was Templeton's benefit, and the play was Rob Roy - House very crowded - Music fine. Showery -

Thur: 29 Perusing the Boston Investigator, A.M., and at Hol. Ch. yd. P.M. going on with my lettering. Clear day, but wet even:.

Frid: 30 All day at Hol: ch: yd: lettering. At N.B. ev: Dull; mists

Sat: 31 all day at Hol: ch: yd: lettering. At N.B. ev: Hallow'een.

November, 1840.

Sun: 1 Printing name on Bibles for Jean Brodie & Mrs. Henderson. -
Writing diary notes, &c.

Mon: 2 All day at Hol: ch: yd - lettering.

Tues: 3 All day at Hol: ch: yd - lettering.

Wed: 4 Chiefly perusing the Boston Investigator

Thur: 5 At Hol: ch: yd - lettering. It is a tedious, awkward job; but time is not very material, and I am anxious to do the work neatly. Cloudy, w:.

Frid: 6. At Hol: Ch: yd - lettering. In going home at tea time - I was asked into Susy Meland's, and had tea there. Soft, windy day; bad for work.

Sat: 7 Putting names on various Bibles, for which I am grown quite famous among my friends and acquaintances. Attending to repairs, &c.

Sun: 8 Attended Tenebras Church. Wilson presented. Wilson, Roddan and I marched home, at the close, in quick style. In the evening, W. brought me another long letter from Geo. Lockhartie, and also a letter from Miss Proudfoot to Alexander. The letter from G.L. gives me a welcome account of his stewardship & and general news.

Nov: 1840.

Mon: 9 Commenced a long letter to Geo. Lockerie of Indianapolis -
Perusing also the Boston Investigators.

Tues: 10 At Hol: ch: yd - P.M. lettering, but did little. Received an invitation to the ball at Cluden, Drumgray - but my chance of attending is very small.

Wed: 11 Finished the letter to G.L. In town, posting do. Met J. Edgar and arranged to go out to Drumcoltran in a fortnight, to measure the farm, paint portraits, &c. Came home with Alex. Austin. At Cluden, even -

Thurs: 12 At the smithy, where I had left the lettering irons to be pointed, but found them yet undone. Returned to Colledgehead to write a letter to W.G. Baydon, informing him of his sister Janet's pregnancy, and the awkward position in which she is altogether placed by her own folly. Received a visit from Geo. Roddan and W. Wilson on ice matters. Our society is to meet next Monday - W. and I spent the week at Woodlands, holding auto Halloween.

Frid: 13 Perusing Boston Investigators, a.M. At Hol: ch: yd, P.M., in the eve. borrowed Nesbit's Sawing from Mrs. Kenwick. I am anxious to brush up my memory a little before I go to Drumcoltran - Unceasing rain, a.M., and bitter cold, P.M.

Sat: 14 At Hol: Ch: yd, lettering, but it was very cold.

Sun: 15 Attended Tangles Church. Walk, P.M., by Youngfield.

Mon: 16 Chiefly perusing Nesbit. In the evening attended the meeting of the Tangles Curling Society, at the school room, Kirkland.

Tues: 17 At Hol. Ch: yd, lettering. Perusing Nesbit. clear & frosty.

Wed: 18 In town, where I go as regular as the market day comes round. Arranged with the Edgars about my journey to Drumcoltran next Wednesday.

Thurs: 19 At Hol: church-yard, and finished the inscription, at least all but some trifling points, which shall be attended to on a future occasion - Altogether, I am satisfied with my labor.

Frid: 20 Perusing Nesbit. Wrote letter to Tho: Tod, acquainting him of his sister's forthcoming marriage.

Sat: 21 Perusing Nesbit, which I am indeed thoroughly overhauling - I also picked up the Bible, Catechism, &c. Skinned a hare - the 1st after many years

Sun: 22 Perusing Nesbit. Adjusting triangles. Alex. has settled down after a disgraceful debauch of 4 days, and 2 vain attempts to reach Peupert to pay Sloane. W. Dinwiddie paid us a visit this afternoon, and on his return I accompanied him part of the road. I.M.M.C., the noted whomonger, met an awkward disappointment in meeting Mary Bennett. It was all through his dog which set us on the watch, resulting in a capital lack. In the evening prepared my drawing instruments for Drumcoltran.

Nov: 1840

Mon: 23 Attending to repairs, &c. At R.B. w^m. making out accounts for R. Wilson, blacksmith. I frequently do such work for my friends. Dull.

Tues: 24 Attending to matters at home - spending the w^m. at Woodlands -

Wed: 25 Martinmas Wednesday; and Dumfries, where I soon landed - seemed more crowded than I ever remember on a similar day. Met Tho^s. Edgar, as arranged, who purchased canvas, colors, &c. for the family portraits I have undertaken to paint; and at the hour of starting rode out with him to Drumcoltran -

Thur: 26 Made preparations, and commenced the survey of all the available land on the farm. Clear

Frid: 27 Out all day surveying, and finished every enclosure south of the public road. Calculating quantities in the even^g. Clear, frosty -

Sat: 28 Measuring fences chiefly. Frosty

Sun: 29 Calculating quantities, &c. The better day - the better deed.

Mon: 30 All day, surveying. Calculating quantities in the even^g.

December, 1840

Tues: 1. All day surveying -

Wed: 2 Accomp^d Tho^s. Edgar into Dumfries. It was a piercing cold - morning. On our arrival, I went out to Colledgehead for a change of singlets, &c. returning very soon to town, where I got on the spree with R. Colvin, &c. In the evening went back with Mr. S. to Drumcoltran. Clear -

Thur: 3 Surveying. In the even^g. commenced playing on the fiddle to amuse the good folks at Drumcoltran

Frid: 4 Kirkgunzton Fast-day. Attending to my calculations. In Goodall arrived from Dumfries

Sat: 5 Surveying the small farm of Frankland, and various sites proposed for plantations, &c. In the evening, we had Mr. George at tea: and on resuming the fiddle - it set Goodall a-dancing, much to the enjoyment of every one. In short - he cut a most ludicrous figure without knowing it. Cold -

Sun: 6 Busy with my calculations. Walk, P.M. -

Mon: 7 Measuring certain lines to discover a supposed error, but there was none. Attending to the calculations, and fiddling in the even^g. Cold & windy

Tues: 8 Finished the calculations. Measured the gardens, orchard, &c. Had R. Thomson at tea. Fiddle in the even^g.

Wed: 9 Accomp^d Kaden & Tho^s. Edgar to Dumfries, where I met various friends, and received a formal invitation to Miss Jane Tod's wedding on Friday - I also got into company with my relative R. Dinwiddie, who gave me an animated description of the losses and crosses he had suffered through his son-in-law, Goldie, whom he abused like a pick-pocket. Such family quarrels are anything but interesting to me. At the close of the day, made home to Colledgehead, landing eventually at R.B. -

Dec: 1840

Thur: 10 Writing Diary Notes, perusing a packet of Post: Insects, &c. Rec. a letter from Mrs Allam of Duke Str. Spent the evening, and a very happy one at the Home. No doubt - I am a great favorite there. Cold.

Frid: 11 Preparing for Jane Tod's wedding, to which, at the appointed hour, I escorted Miss Elton. There was a large party, and a spirited dance. It was however eventually spoiled by W. Tod, the bride's brother, getting drunk. A select number, including myself, finished up by a spree in the toll-bar. I did not get to bed till 5 in the morning. Dull.

Sat: 12 Perusing Tail's Magazine for December. The tailors at Collegehead going on with their work. James, in a drunken spree, kicked up a row, and kept us late out of bed. Dull and cold.

Sun: 13 at Ter. Church. On coming out, I was invited to Akybush, where I dined. Reaching home at 5 - found Mary Bennett in the house, Jas. still tipsy, and all in confusion. Cold day.

Mon: 14 Commenced a pencil copy of the picture of a tulip. Examined old prints, &c. Received a visit from Mr. Morine, Alexander, and Miller, P.M.; and in the evening landed at Woodlands.

Tues: 15

Wed: 16 Preparing for Drumcoltran, and went into town, P.M. but ascertained the cart did not arrive, and in consequence the journey was put off. Meeting W. Tod - I agreed to accompany him, on Friday, to Dalbeattie, where he is to take his lately married sister home. In the evening landed at R.D. toll bar. Shaw.

Thur: 17 Examining old prints, of which we have a great many. Made a pencil copy of the Blue Fox. In the evening accompanied W.W. to Scott's, and paid him my postage bill amounting to 10/- Shaw, but party evening.

Frid: 18 Started in good time with W. Tod, and the new-married wife, for her husband's residence in Dalbeattie. We rode in the cart, and had an agreeable journey. Spent the evening in style at Bambarroch. Dull and party.

Sat: 19 Paid a visit to the "scar", the name of Mr. Clellan's vessel. Mr. C. the brother-in-law, is not only a seaman, but a little bit of a captain; and we had of course a treat on board. Crossing the water to Palnackie, we met Robinson and also W. Bell. Examined the latter's mill, and after that a spree. Returning to Bambarroch, we set out on the journey homewards about 5 o'cl. At 7, we reached Drumcoltran, where I stopped while Tod drove onwards to Kilnaps.

Sun: 20 Attended Kirkg: Kirk. The congregation is a very small one. Towards evening, conveyed Eliza Bell, who had been to a visit to her uncles, some distance a long the road. Rather a fine day.

Mon: 21 Preparing the canvases, colors, &c. to commence the portraits of Mrs. and Kaden Edgar. Had a first sitting from Thomas. Dull.

Dec: 1840

Tues: 22 Another sitting from Thomas.

Wed: 23 Accompanied the cart to Dumfries—and when there went with Kaden
ke to see the new market. Spent rather a dull day after all. Returned to Dumfriestown
in the even^g. R. Smith preferred returning in Caven's cart.

Thurs: 24 Painting at Sho: Edgar's portrait

Frid: 25 First sitting from Kaden Edgar.

Sat: 26 Second sitting from do.

Sun: 27 Accom^d Sho: to Kirkcunzeon Kirk, where Mary Thompson's wed-
ding was proclaimed. Evening walk with W. Edgar.

Mon: 28 Third sitting from Kaden.

Tues: 29 Fourth do do.

Wed: 30 Returned to Dumfries. A sudden rain came down, and passing
while falling made very slippery roads. We had to stop at the smithy to get the horse's
feet sharpened. While in town, met R. Thompson, who gave me an invitation to his sister's
wedding on Friday week. It was late, and I was tipsy on reaching Colledgehead. Then

Thurs: 31 Assisting in the arrangements for Nancy Campbell's wedding. Went
to Kilnsp for the chandelier. Accompanied the party who went to meet the bridegroom.
They were married, and had tea at Fawbridge, but the dance took place at Colledgehead.

January, 1841.

Frid: 1 The new year was no sooner in than I cut the wedding
party, and made off to first visit old acquaintances at R.B. and Woodlands.
At the latter place I found a bed, and when I rose breakfast, after which
I started for home. Meeting Wells, the gardiner, he abused me aloud like a
pick-pocket for being at the Woodlands with the bottle. I took it quietly, but
thought the more. It was late in the day before I got home. Spent the ev-
ening at Cluden. Dull.

Sat: 2 Having received but little sleep, I was very drowsy all day—
Paid a visit to Janet Brydon, respecting a letter to her brother. Called on
Jas. Stewart for the fiddle to assist at the party at Colledgehead this evening—
There was the usual dance, songs, &c. Dull: not w^d.

Sun: 3 Very drowsy. Wrote letter to J. G. Brydon from his sister.

Mon: 4 Altered, and re-wrote the letter to J. G. B.

Tues: 5 Meeting with J. Currie— I accompanied him to Hol: vil: but when
there called on the shoemaker instead of going to Holm, as intended. On my return
landed in the toll-bar. The evening turned out very stormy.

Wed: 6 In town, as usual on market days. Lifted my interest from
the bank. Called at R.P. where I stayed all night.

Thurs: 7 Chiefly preparing for Mary Thompson's wedding. Letter from
Hare trying to persuade me from the suit I have filed against him. No, indeed.

Jan: 1841

Thurs: 8 Was raised early by the shoemaker with my new pumps - Found them all right. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10, mounted my pony for Drumcolthan to attend the wedding at Branet-rig. Arrived at noon. During the afternoon the wedding omnibus gave us a call; and at the appointed hour I accompanied the Edgars to Thompson's house. Here a party, which I joined, was formed to meet the bridegroom, who was at no great distance. Returned to Branet-rig, the marriage ceremony, tea, &c, followed in succession; and then the whole party walked over the hill to Carton, the bridegroom's residence, to dance and spend the evening. It was a capital spree, which broke up at 10 o'clock. We returned to Drumcolthan at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2, when I bedded till 9 o'clock. R. Thompson, the bride's brother, joined us at dinner, after which we sallied up the hill, trying to start "baudrons", but it was no go. While out, we visited the Camp-hill, and in returning called at Branet-rig, where a treat was spread before us. This over, we made for Drumcolthan.

Sat: 9 At 11, a.m. started homewards, riding by Dovecot and Kichland. Reached Collegehead at 1. Learned that a bonspiel had been entered into between Tengles and Holywood. Called on G. Roddan, head skip of the R.B. rink and arranged all particulars. Much snow

Sun: 10

Mon: 11 Preparing room, &c, for the bonspiel; and at the appointed hour accompanied the curlers to Fourmuckland Loch, the place of meeting. My feet got wet through wading in the snow. Had dinner at Mr. Call's before the spiel commenced. Though the ice was bad, the sport was very keen, and at the conclusion we beat Holywood by 7 shots. At the toll-bar, on our way home a select number of us celebrated the event by a spree.

Tues: 12 Very stiff, and spiritless -

Wed: 13 In town with an account of the spiel to the Dumfriess Times. Received a packet of American newspapers, charged $9\frac{1}{4}$ postage, which I paid notwithstanding the outrageous overcharge. Called on Moffat, and after my return home went down to R.B. to spend the evening.

Thurs: 14 The bonspiel between Tengles and Irongray came off to-day on the Carlin Loch. We had a beautiful day, keen ice, and the contest was very spirited; Tengles, however, lost by one shot, and one only.

Frid: 15 Attended at the Carlin Loch, as a spectator only, to see the spiel between Holywood and Teague. The former lost by 11 shots.

Sat: 16 Again at the Carling Loch, as a spectator. It was the spiel between Holywood and Irongray; and, mirabile dictu, Holywood gained by no less than 41 shots. This shows how uncertain the game of curling is after all. We beat Holywood; yet Holywood has mercifully beaten a society that beat us. Landed with several of the Holywood curlers to a blow out in the toll-bar.

Jan: 1841

Sun: 17 Copying several of Joe Hare's letters, including the last, to send them to my solicitors in London. Received a visit from W. Wilson; afterwards from W. Tod. Rain and thaw.

Mon: 18 Wrote Stokes, H. Dec. enclosing a copy of Hare's letter to me dated the 5th inst. I have also been designing an answer to Hare, but whether to be sent or not is yet uncertain. Very cold.

Tues: 19 Bauldie Johnstone, landlord of the "Ewe and Lamb," paid us a visit. Though now blind, he is as lively as a cricket, and seems to enjoy life even in such a benighted state. He has long been on familiar terms with our family, and we are always happy to see him.

Wed: 20 Went into town, P.M. Posted my letter to Stokes, H. Dec. Put in with W. Tod and the Misses B. of Holm, with whom I came from Dumfriesshire. Landed at N.B. in the evening, where I called on Roddan, and also Mrs. Guffie saw and read the answer Janet Brydon has received from her brother.

Thur: 21 The spill between Ferregles and Troqueer was arranged to come off to-day on the Carling Loch, where I joined my place in the N.B. rink. The ice was in bad train, and we were well beaten. Ferregles lost by 22 shots. Spent the evening at Alexander's, Bowhouse.

Frid: 22

Sat: 23 Studying out an ice song, a parody on "the sea-the sea." Had to go to N.B. for a copy of this well-known song.

Sun: 24 Wrote letter in reply from Janet Brydon to her brother.

Mon: 25 Finished my parody - "The ice - the ice." Letter from S. H. Ke in answer to mine of the 20th. They see the insidious plausibility of Hare as I do.

Tues: 26 Studying verses to be entitled "The Peacock." At N.B. to see a letter W. Wilson has received from his uncle David. J. Alexander was there, and I introduced to their notice my song of "The ice - the ice."

Wed: 27 I came to the conclusion to write Hare, but did so very cautiously. In town putting do. Mel Wilson and Alexander. Gave the latter a copy of "The ice - the ice" which he proposes singing at an early meeting of the society.

Thur: 28 The tailors at work here, and I keeping them company.

Frid: 29 Doing nothing in fact. Attend^d however, Mrs. Austin's ev.^s party.

Sat: 30 do

Sun: 31 Accompanied W. Wilson to Holmhead, Dumfriesshire. We were both mounted on horseback, and rode out by Gray and Ruten Bridge, returning in the evening by Cotack. During the day, we ventured to the top of the hill at Holmhead, and though dull and cold had a very pleasing excursion. I dearly like such visits, being fond of seeing the country, here, there, and every where. If I was an independent gentleman, I would travel much.