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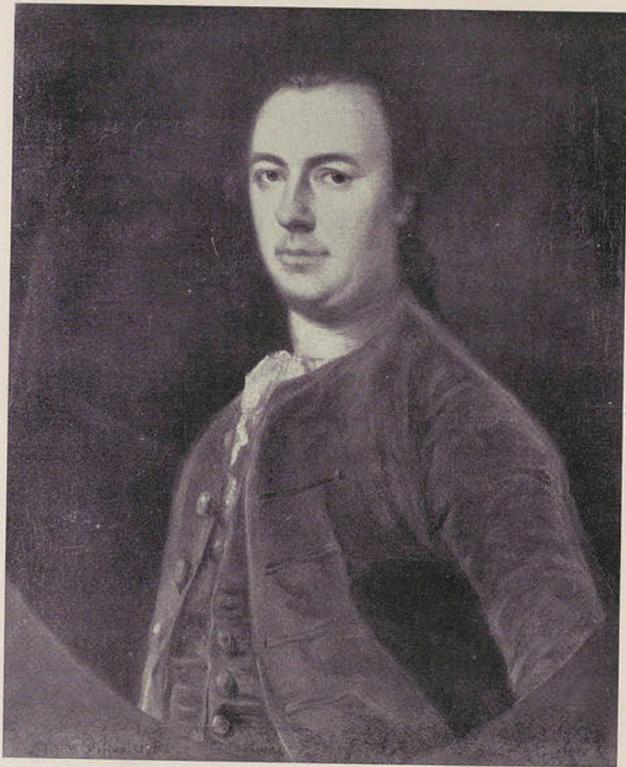
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JAMES BROWN. BUILDER OF GEORGE SQUARE

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[726]

THE BOOK OF THE
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GEORGE SQUARE
ANNALS OF AN EDINBURGH LOCALITY
1766-1926

FROM AUTHENTIC RECORDS

BY

MARGARET TAIT

AND

W. FORBES GRAY, F.R.S.E.

A VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CLUB

FOREWORD

IN this volume a systematic attempt is made to narrate, graphically and accurately, the annals of George Square as revealed by title-deeds, directories, and a wide survey of literary allusion. Nor is this a work of supererogation, since the controversy of a year or more ago displayed a lamentable ignorance of the wealth of historic memories that are associated with this Edinburgh locality.

Intensive research has demonstrated that instead of containing during the century and a half of its existence the habitations of one or two distinguished personages, as has been generally supposed, George Square was, and still is to some extent, a microcosm of Scottish life in its cultural and higher social aspects. In Hanoverian and Victorian times nearly every house sheltered a celebrity of one kind or another: it was essentially the abode of rank, fashion and elegance as well as of intellectual eminence.

In the following pages illustrious persons in every station of life are recalled. How many are aware that James Boswell was almost as familiar a figure in George Square as Scott; that David Hume and Adam Smith had thoughts of settling there; that De Quincey and Carlyle were callers at more than one house; that 'Queeny' Thrale, whom Samuel Johnson tutored, was long an inhabitant; and that Viscount Duncan, the hero of the naval victory of Camperdown, was a dweller in the Square at the height of his fame?

These are but a few examples culled at random which attest the high significance of George Square, historically considered, and which is set forth for the first time in these pages.

M. T.

W. F. G.

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GEORGE SQUARE

ANNALS OF AN EDINBURGH LOCALITY

MANY citizens whose knowledge of Edinburgh is by no means perfunctory will be surprised to learn that a fairly bulky volume hardly exhausts the historical, social, and literary memories that cling to George Square. The popular notion is that one or two distinguished personages resided there a century or more ago, whereas the whole locality is so saturated with history that it may be regarded as unique in Scotland. No city square north of Tweed can rival George Square in the abundance and wealth of its traditions, not to speak of its old-fashioned charm, its pleasant garden, its cultured seclusion, and the austere dignity of the original buildings. 'To step into the quiet precincts of George Square,' it has been said, 'is like stepping into a bygone age.' The statement is literally true. George Square has to this day that atmosphere of a vanished world which reminds one of certain localities in the heart of London or Bath.

An inspection of title-deeds, and a systematic survey of the *Edinburgh Directories*, have demonstrated that practically every house is identified with a celebrity of one sort or another. Indeed it is not too much to say that a substantial portion of the social history of Scotland during the last thirty years of the eighteenth century and the opening decades of the nineteenth could be written from a study of the careers of the dwellers in George Square.

In the following pages an attempt is made to visualise the past of this historic neighbourhood, to repeople it with the ghostly forms of the period from George III to Queen

Victoria, to make clear that it was then the abode of much of the poetry and romance of Scottish life, if also of something of its pathos and tragedy. If the writer may quote what he has written elsewhere: 'Every house has its own tale, distinguished yet human, frequently recalling illustrious deeds and occasionally rising to epic grandeur.' During a long epoch George Square sheltered men and women who materially assisted in the transformation of the intellectual, social, and political life of Scotland.

I. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

When in 1768 David Hume found himself houseless in Edinburgh he consulted Mrs. Alison Cockburn, authoress of one of the versions of 'The Flowers of the Forest,' who generously undertook to secure the philosopher not only a habitation but a wife. Hume had thought of making his home in one of the houses of Allan Ramsay the Younger on the Castle Hill. But Mrs. Cockburn set before him a more alluring prospect; she wished to settle her friend in George Square, then beginning to be built. 'These houses,' she informs Hume, 'lie in the eye of the sun, just by the Meadow, of easy access for carriages, and will have markets and everything convenient, even a chapel! . . . Now I think on't, I will take Scott of Harden's house for you directly; it has garden, coach-house, etc.'

Hume did not accept the advice of the songstress, settling instead in a flat at the south-west corner of St. Andrew Square where he spent his last years and where he died. None the less Mrs. Cockburn's opinion of the new suburb beyond the Flodden Wall was shared by the majority of well-to-do citizens. Adam Smith, having convinced himself that the Old Town had given Edinburgh a bad name (presumably he was thinking of its unsavoury state), was anxious to remove from Panmure House in the Canongate to a modern quarter

of the city, and had set his heart on George Square. As events turned out, he never lived there, but was expressing a preference for a locality that was becoming increasingly popular with the élite.

It is a mistake to suppose that when higher standards of domestic comfort were in the ascendant the tall 'lands' and dark wynds of the Old Town were deserted in favour of the New Town that was springing up on the farther side of the valley once covered by the North Loch. The early migrations were not to the north but to the south. Brown Square was built and George Square building before a stone of the New Town was laid, before even the Act extending the 'royalty' over the fields now covered by Princes Street and adjoining thoroughfares had been passed. That a new and more wholesome Edinburgh might be reared on the sunny uplands overlooking the Meadows, and including a vista stretching to the Pentlands, was an idea firmly grasped by the middle of the eighteenth century. Moreover, obvious advantages were to be gained by building in this southern district. Unlike the extended 'royalty' to the north, the area immediately in rear of the Flodden Wall was not liable to public burdens. There was a further inducement: although the South Bridge did not yet exist, Brown Square and George Square were easily reached from the Old Town.

Till the middle of the eighteenth century the site of George Square was occupied by the grounds of Ross House, regarding which something will be said later. When Ross Park was exposed for sale in 1761, the Town Council were given an opportunity to purchase twenty-six acres for £1200; but the offer was declined. Whereupon James Brown, an enterprising builder and town planner, bought the ground for feuing. No sooner, however, was the transaction completed than the Town Council, realising their mistake, offered Brown £2000, but he refused to sell under £20,000. Clearly the civic fathers had been out-manceuvred. The speculation

resulted in Brown getting the purchase price as a yearly return.

The erection of George Square was begun in 1766, the earliest houses being built on the north side. Work must have proceeded rapidly, since by 1779 the west and east rows as well as the north were complete, while the south row had been begun. The whole Square was an actuality in or about 1785.

Arnot in his *History of Edinburgh* remarks on the meanness of the houses on the north side compared with those on the east and west. The buildings on the north have, he writes, 'a poor appearance, and give a bad effect to the whole. They are of a mean and unequal height, mostly consisting only of a sunk floor, principal floor, and attic storey.' Arnot also finds fault with 'the construction of the vents,' but goes on to point out a peculiarity of the masonry. 'The walls are built partly of blue whin, partly of free stone, put alternately in a chequered figure, resembling the stuff that sailors' shirts are made of.' As for the houses on the east and west, they are 'handsome buildings of a good and regular height, of free polished stone.'

What Arnot says regarding the low elevation of the houses in the north row, or at least some of them, can hardly be gainsaid; and if the paltry aspect is now less prominent, it is because the protruding mass of George Watson's Ladies' College now dominates every other building. Furthermore, Arnot's reference to the chequered stonework, resulting from the insertion of small fragments of basalt into the mortar of the external joints at close and regular intervals, is demonstrated in the frontage of the last houses on the north side.

In *Anecdotes and Egotisms of Henry Mackenzie* (pp. 43-4) are one or two interesting sidelights on the early history of George Square, which, we are told, 'is well adapted for the residence of gentlemen whose estates are situated in the south of Scotland.' Further, the houses 'are very good in them-

selves and supposed to be better and more substantially built than those of the New Town.' The 'Man of Feeling' also points out that the south side of George Square was at first left open. James Brown asked £4000 to allow it to remain so, a sum which the original proprietors would not give. Accordingly it was filled with better houses than on the north, and produced 'a large sum of feu duty to the proprietor.'

If the 'Great Square,' as it was called, is a notable achievement in building construction, then the main credit is due to James Brown, who not only feued the site but exercised general supervision over the whole scheme. On the other hand, the person chiefly responsible for the masonry was Michael Nasmyth, father of the painter of the famous Burns portrait, and grandfather of James Nasmyth, inventor of the steam-hammer. In his *Autobiography* (p. 13) the grandson singles out the houses in George Square as examples of the finished craftsmanship of his ancestor. 'Elegance and substantiality' are what Michael Nasmyth aimed at, and he built with a most durable stone, some of it, if not all, from the quarry at Craigmillar.

Brown as heritable proprietor was very particular about maintaining the dignity of the 'Great Square,' though this was no easy matter. Rules and regulations were strictly enforced. The early residents, however, enjoyed privileges hitherto unheard of. They had the right of entry to the Meadows by the gate on the west side of the park belonging to Mrs. Lockhart of Carnwath, and the use of the well there 'till by some means the inhabitants were provided with water in their houses.' They also had access to the garden of the 'Great Square,' which they were to keep 'in good order and in an ornate manner.'

But there were also exacting obligations. The early residents were 'perpetually restrained from dealing in or the occupation of any trade or merchandise, whether foreign or inland, in wholesale or retail of goods.' Baking or brewing

'for sale' was strictly prohibited, likewise participation in any handicraft. In short, commercial instincts were not encouraged within the august precincts of the 'Great Square': it was to be the exclusive property of the professions, the cultured classes, and those claiming kinship with the nobility and landed gentry.

Residents were also enjoined not to raise their chimney-stacks higher than those of their neighbours, a regulation which must have provided a fertile field of disputation. Further, damaged crops grown by them on Heriot's Croft (now occupied by the Royal Infirmary) were to be sent to the 'milns commonly called Cannon Milns,' there to be 'grinded' on payment 'of the due wont to be paid at the said Milns.'

Finally, the duties of 'cleansing, lighting, and watching' of George Square and the adjoining streets were to be discharged by a group of officials who were empowered to levy a sum not exceeding one shilling in the pound of the respective rents wherewith to remunerate their services.

So far as 'cleansing' is concerned, the regulation was a clamant necessity for a number of years, since George Square, in spite of its aristocratic atmosphere, could not rid itself entirely of the disgusting practices characteristic of the Old Town. Even in the nineteenth century domestic refuse continued to be thrown from the windows, and the unsavoury condition of the cobbled causeway was a source of complaint. Servants transported from the squalor of the Old Town had become habituated to practices not easily dispensed with in surroundings demanding a new and more hygienic mode of existence. That cleanliness is next to godliness is a dictum that did not pass current in Edinburgh for many a day. Even in George Square Dr. Johnson's remark to Boswell (as the pair walked up the High Street to James's Court), 'I smell you in the dark,' had not wholly lost its meaning.

But when all is said, there can be no doubt that important

changes were effected in the mode of life of the well-to-do classes by the exodus from the closes in the Royal Mile and vicinity to the comparatively rural and health-giving region which lay between the town wall and the Meadows. For one thing, the supper parties distinctive of fashionable life in the Old Town were discontinued, their place being taken by formal dinner parties. An invitation to dine in George Square was so important an event in the social round of a dweller in the High Street that egotistic persons so honoured would stand at the Market Cross in full dinner dress during a portion of the afternoon, so that it might be known that they were to dine that evening in the new patrician suburb where all was dignity, refinement, and even grandeur.

Certainly these were privileges whose value was not to be computed in gold. In their isolated position the denizens of George Square were protected from the prying of busybodies, could breathe fresh air, gaze on a pretty landscape, and have agreeable walks in the Meadows. James Brown made these things possible, and the residents assented when he stipulated for 'full liberty' to place his building materials 'on the central area of the said Great Square, and to pasture horses and cows thereon until Martinmas 1772, and thereafter until two-thirds of the proprietors in the Square began to enclose the same.'

Peace and seclusion and the charm of the old world are what we chiefly associate with George Square; but it was not always so. In the eighteenth century scenes both grave and gay were witnessed. There was an occasion when the Square echoed with the martial tread and the shouts of the victorious. Nor was the din of conflict unknown. Reverberations of the French Revolution disturbed the calm of the Square, mobs committed deeds of violence, and blood stained the causeway.

In 1792 the agitation for parliamentary and burgh reform was in full swing, and rioting took place in Edinburgh. The

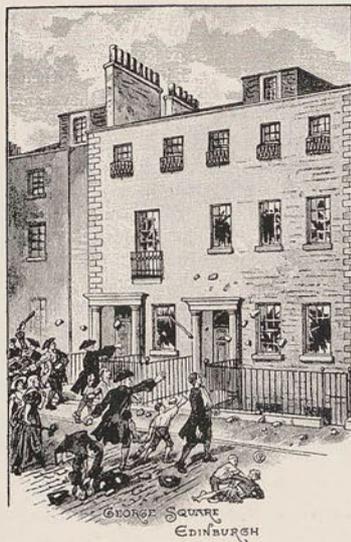
chief opponents of the movement were Henry Dundas, the Home Secretary, and his nephew, Robert Dundas of Arniston, the Lord Advocate. Both resided in George Square, and thither proceeded a tumultuous crowd on the night of the King's Birthday, 4th June.

While Lt.-Col. Francis Dundas was dining with his brother, the Lord Advocate, at the latter's house, he chanced to look out of the window and was astonished to see a crowd menacingly assembled in front. The ringleaders carried a weird effigy of the Lord Advocate, which they intended to burn—'an Image (to quote an official document) suspended between two poles as if in a frame of three sticks.'

Recognising the gravity of the situation, Francis Dundas hurriedly left the house and crossed to the abode of Lady Arniston and her son, Henry Dundas, before which some twenty men with a following of women and children had assembled. Admiral Duncan, the future hero of the battle of Camperdown, also proceeded to Lady Arniston's. Presently the mob displayed hostile intentions, jeering being followed by a tornado of missiles aimed at the windows.

Francis Dundas and Duncan attempted to quell the disturbance. Armed with Lady Arniston's crutch, they sallied forth. Expostulation with the angry mob, however, proved futile. Colonel Dundas was struck with the crutch, and 'a ghastly and formidable countenance' compelled him to take refuge in the house. Duncan, too, was forced to retreat, having been assaulted. He also sustained severe injury to a finger.

The mob assumed dangerous dimensions, and military help was summoned from the Castle. Presently Sheriff Pringle arrived, and entreated the crowd to disperse, but to no purpose. He then read the Riot Act 'till he was hoarse.' Still the crowd showed no disposition to profit by the warning. Accordingly the soldiers were ordered to prime their guns, and with fixed bayonets charged the rioters. Two shots were



HOUSE OF LORD ADVOCATE.
ATTACKED 5TH JUNE 1792

From a drawing in Omond's 'Arniston Memoirs'

fired accidentally but no one was injured. A general dispersal followed, and believing the incident at an end, the military returned to the Castle, all except an officer and twenty men, who remained to protect Lady Arniston's house.

But the withdrawal of the armed forces was a little premature, word having been sent by Bailie Creech that a mob was attacking the residence of the Lord Provost (Sir James Stirling, Bart.) in St. Andrew Square. Instead therefore of returning to the Castle, the soldiers were marched to the New Town, but only to find all quiet.

As a matter of fact, a false alarm had been raised with the intention of allowing the mob freer scope for operations in George Square. Stealthily the rioters returned to the scene of their earlier exploits, assembling, in the phrase of an official report, 'as thick as they could stand.' The sheriff again appeared, and was confronted with a posture of affairs far more threatening. The mob became utterly lawless and the cry soon arose, 'There goes the Lord Advocate's windows.' The sheriff made another fruitless appeal; and the military for the second time had to intervene. Two rounds were fired, and half a dozen persons were wounded. Not till then did the crowd disperse and George Square resume its wonted calm.

But the residents were not allowed to remain long at peace, 'a crowd of 2000 persons' gathering in the Square on the following evening. Happily the rioters exercised a measure of restraint, and the tumult and damage of the King's Birthday were not repeated. Probably the presence of the troops had a subduing effect, or was it the sight of Admiral Duncan prepared for all eventualities? At any rate, he 'spent the evening in front of his house with a cudgel in his hand, and his blunderbuss loaded within doors, determined to defend himself to the last extremity.'

About nine o'clock the mob dispersed. The scene was now transferred to St. Andrew Square, and what had been a false alarm the previous evening was now a reality. The mob

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ROSS (OR BRISTO) HOUSE

From an engraving in Storer's 'Views in Edinburgh'

mustered in full force, and 'in about twenty minutes' the windows of Lord Provost Stirling's house were smashed. Two guns discharged from the Castle summoned the marines from Leith, who assisted the military in quelling the tumult. This, fortunately, was not a formidable task, since the crowd, having wreaked their vengeance on the house of the chief magistrate, quickly retired.

In 1795, three years after the riots, a very different scene was enacted in George Square—a spectacular ceremony recalling shining achievements in Scottish military annals. On 19th June Lord Adam Gordon, Commander-in-Chief in Scotland, presented colours to the Scots or Green Brigade, one of the most ancient bodies of regular troops in Europe. The regiment saw much foreign service, especially in the seventeenth century when Gustavus Adolphus stood forth as the champion of the Protestant princes of Germany. In this glorious cause the Scots Brigade both fought and conquered.

The circumstances eventuating in the military display had their origin in 1793 when George III issued a warrant restoring to the establishment of the British Army three regiments which, under the designation of the Scots or Green Brigade, had long been employed by the Crown in the defence of the United Netherlands. The presentation of colours therefore was the outward symbol that the re-establishment had been successfully accomplished.

The Scots Brigade having marched from the Castle was paraded in George Square for the presentation of the colours. That this should be done by Lord Adam Gordon was fit and proper, he being a leal Scotsman as well as a warrior of renown. Apart from his official military position, Lord Adam was colonel of the Royal Scots, the regiment with which the Scots Brigade was now incorporated. Moreover he had all along taken the deepest interest in the Scots Brigade, as witness his procuring from the French Government a return

showing the strength of the regiment in 1637 when it was covering itself with glory on many a foreign battlefield.

In presenting the colours, Lord Adam, then an old man, made a short speech. It 'visibly affected' the members of the Scots Brigade, drawn up on the north side of George Square under General Dundas and various officers of lesser rank. Having commented on the fact that the King had 'thought proper to new-model the Scots Brigade,' Lord Adam expressed satisfaction that the regiment was about to enter on a fresh lease of life, also the hope that the men by their good conduct would continue 'to merit the approbation of our gracious Sovereign and maintain that reputation which all Europe knows that old and most respectable corps had most deservedly enjoyed.' The speech ended, the colours were consecrated by the Rev. Dr. Porteous, chaplain to the corps. In John Kay's *Original Portraits* is an etching showing Lord Adam Gordon in uniform and astride a rather wooden-looking horse. The occasion was the presentation of colours to the Scots Brigade.

The military spectacle was followed at an interval of two years by a naval one, which also took place in George Square. The great naval victory of Camperdown in 1797 led to unprecedented rejoicings in Edinburgh, and with good reason, since the hero, Admiral Duncan, had intimate relations with the city, and was a resident in George Square.

The Scottish capital therefore made the most of a naval triumph which had no parallel until Nelson's at Trafalgar. Here is a paragraph from the *Scots Magazine* of October 1797 reflecting the jubilation that took place.

On the arrival of the important news of the glorious and important victory by Admiral Duncan, joy was spread over every countenance. In the forenoon the great guns were fired from the Castle, and the first regiment of Royal Edinburgh Volunteers fired a *feu-de-joye* on the Castle Hill. The illuminations in the evening were general and brilliant. All were anxious to testify joy at so glorious an event,

heightened no doubt by the victory being accomplished under the auspices of a Scotsman.

The victorious Admiral's house in George Square was of course prominent in the matter of illumination, each of the lower windows having representations of a ship with streamers flying. 'The whole town of Edinburgh,' declared *The Times*, 'was illuminated, seeming to consider the victory as a national honour to Scotland.'

But these rejoicings, held on the receipt of the news of Camperdown, were only a prelude to the official function on the Admiral's return. A pedestrian but circumstantial account of what took place on the memorable day—16th February 1798—first in George Square, and then on an extensive peregrination through the city, is thus recorded in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* of 17th February 1798:

The tribute of gratitude and respect universally due by every Briton to the gallant Commander [Admiral Duncan] was yesterday paid by his fellow-townsmen, the inhabitants of Edinburgh. The whole brigade of Volunteers were called out in honour of the day, and the muster was a very full one.

The different corps having assembled in Hope Park [Meadows] and other places of rendezvous about two o'clock, soon after entered George's Square by the north-east corner, through Charles Street, in the following order:—

The Royal Edinburgh Volunteer Light Dragoons; the Edinburgh Volunteer Artillery, with field-pieces; First Battalion of 24 Regiment of Royal Edinburgh Volunteers; Second Battalion of Second Regiment; Detachment of the Midlothian Artillery; Royal Edinburgh Highland Volunteers; the Leith Volunteers; another Detachment of Midlothian Artillery with eight artillery carriages.

In this order the troops proceeded westward through the Square in slow time, by Lord Duncan's house, before which his Lordship stood uncovered, saluting them as they passed. Here the procession was joined by a naval car, on which was placed the British and his Lordship's flag, flying above that of Admiral De Winter [the defeated Dutch commander], attended by a body of seamen. Then followed

in carriages Lord Adam Gordon and his Staff; Lord Viscount Duncan; Captain Inglis of Redhall; the Lord Provost [Thomas Elder of Forneth], and the eldest Bailie.

The troops marched round the Square, filing off by Windmill Street, Chapel Street, Nicolson's Street, across the South and North Bridges, the infantry leading and the cavalry closing the procession. At the end of the North Bridge the populace took the horses from Lord Duncan's carriage, and drew it during the remainder of the procession, which proceeded through the principal streets of the New Town, viz., Prince's Street, George Street, Hanover Street, Queen's Street, Castle Street, etc., etc.

The crowd of all ranks was immense, every avenue was filled with spectators, who testified their satisfaction by repeated acclamations. The gallant Admiral received the honours paid him with that plain, affable, and unaffected good humour which marks his character both in public and private life.

The different corps assembled on this occasion . . . never appeared to greater advantage.

The arrangement of the military procession, which in beauty and grandeur was far beyond any ever seen in this country, did honour to those who planned it. . . . An elegant entertainment was given to his Lordship in Fortune's Tavern by the Lord Provost and Magistrates, at which he was presented with the thanks of the city in a gold box of elegant workmanship. A number of persons of the first distinction were present, among others, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Moray, the Earl of Dalkeith, Lord Montague, Lord Adam Gordon, the Lord President [of the Court of Session], the Lord Chief Baron [of the Exchequer], the Lord Justice-Clerk [Braxfield], the Lord Advocate, the officers of the North British Staff, etc., etc.

It was peculiarly fitting that the occupant of Lord Duncan's carriage should be Captain John Inglis of Auchindinny and Redhall, who, in later years, was promoted Vice-Admiral. He was wounded in the battle of Camperdown. Inglis became proprietor of No. 13 George Square, formerly occupied by Lord Braxfield; but this was after Duncan's death.

The Times also published an account of the honour paid to Admiral Duncan on the eventful day which supplements

that given in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*. 'When the front of the column came opposite Lord Duncan's house [No. 5], the different regiments marched past to slow time in open order, the Officers saluting his Lordship, who stood at his door with his hat in his hand to return the compliment, attended by the Lord Provost, his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, and a number of other Noblemen and Gentlemen.'

Another fact that emerges is that there were two processions. The first comprised the Volunteers, which, 'about a quarter of an hour after they had left George Square,' was followed by another containing 'several Noblemen and Gentlemen's carriages.' There is also an allusion to the function in Fortune's Tavern where, it is stated euphemistically, there was 'a degree of convivial and social enjoyment worthy of the occasion.'

Several trophies of Camperdown were long preserved at No. 5 George Square, including the sword and ensign of De Winter, the Dutch admiral. There, too, hung the celebrated painting of the battle by John Copley, R.A., which Duncan bought for a thousand guineas. For many years, as each anniversary of the Camperdown victory came round, the citizens of Edinburgh were privileged to view the painting and the trophies. Duncan died in 1804, but his widow continued to reside at No. 5 till her death in 1832.

George Square figured rather prominently in the first parliamentary election after the passing of the Reform Act of 1832. In his *Memories of Buccleuch Place* Josiah Livingston records the fact that the Whigs had their polling booth in the Square. Livingston, then a youth, favoured the candidature of Jeffrey and Abercromby. 'We all managed,' he tells us, 'to get cockades of buff and blue, and we gathered about the polling place, and cheered lustily.'

It is curious to reflect that one of the sites proposed for the Usher Hall was the west division of the south side of

George Square. The advantages, it was pointed out, were considerable: it was central, isolated from all noise, provided ample accommodation for carriages, and could be conveniently reached from all parts of the city. On this site it was proposed to erect a hall 225 feet long by 100 feet broad, capable of accommodating on the ground floor from 4300 to 4500 people, while galleries holding an additional 2000 or 3000 would be provided. In addition, a reception room accommodating 250 people, also a banqueting hall about the same size were included in the design. The principal entrance was to face the Meadows, and an approach by a raised semi-circular carriage-way, 40 feet wide, was envisaged. But the site in Lothian Road was ultimately selected, and George Square remained, what for the most part it has always been, a tranquil, secluded quarter with a delightful old-world garden.

II. BROWN'S 'CENTRICAL AREA'

In 1813 the inhabitants began to display an energetic interest in the tasteful laying out of the garden in the centre area of George Square. Hitherto it had been used merely as a railed-off pasture for cows and sheep, but plans were now devised for a general improvement in the appearance of the Square.

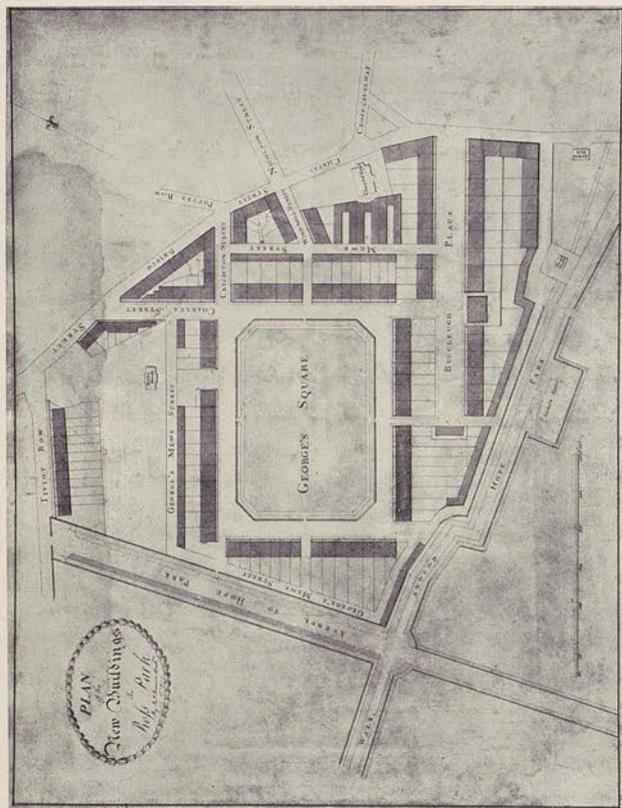
The minutes of the first meeting of the proprietors, held in Archers' Hall, likewise the financial accounts down to 23rd March 1903, are contained in three small ledgers which provide interesting information. There seems to have been anxiety about keys to the garden falling into the hands of unauthorised persons. Keys were occasionally presented as a personal compliment to non-residents such as Sir Thomas Dick Lauder, and the Rev. Dr. Clason (then living in Buccleuch Place), 'as Clergyman of the Parish.' We also read of appeals to the police 'to prevent droves of cattle and sheep from coming through the Square.'

Previous to 1813 the area was enclosed by a railing and let out for pasture at a rent of £33 per annum. In the year mentioned the proprietors expressed regret 'that the area should not have been put into some such state as that of Saint Andrew Square and Charlotte Square seeing that . . . it was so well adapted to its original purposes of ornament and recreation.' Accordingly they requested the Commissioners of the George Square District to employ a person to prepare a plan and estimate the expense of laying out the ground. The proprietors then had £250 at their disposal, but as the expenditure exceeded that amount, an additional assessment was levied. A contract having been entered into with John Hay, gardener, the carrying out of the improvement occupied two years and cost £242, 3s. 9d. In 1820 £83, 9s. 9d. was expended in plants, and smaller sums were applied from year to year to the same purpose.

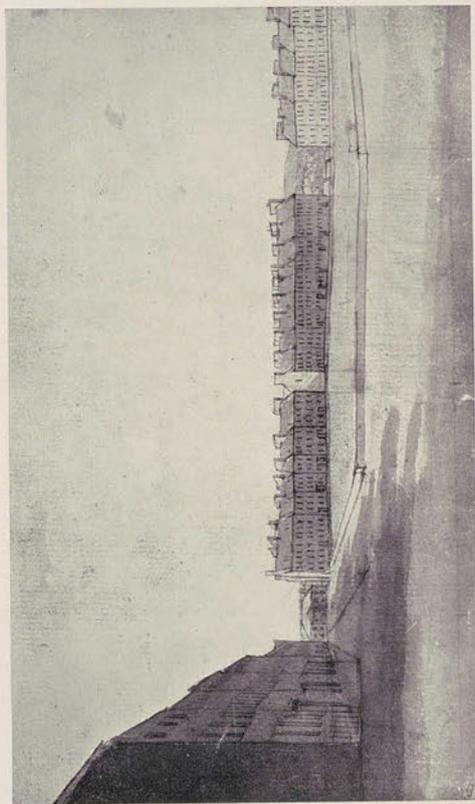
For the upkeep of the garden the proprietors were assessed on the rental of their property. The rate was only fourpence per pound, but this was increased when expenses rose.

The conversion of the area into a pleasure ground met with some opposition and a few proprietors refused to pay. On 24th April 1819 the 'Committee being convinced that those in arrear were bound in law to pay their proportion . . . ordered the Clerk to write those on the list to this effect and requiring them to pay their proportion for 1818-19 and for those years for which they had not paid, and unless they complied within fourteen days the Committee authorised him to raise an action before the Sheriff for recovering the same.' This resolution apparently had its effect, for after 1821 there are no further entries of persons refusing to pay.

In 1843, and again in 1852, it was proposed to set apart a portion of the ground for a bowling green, but a committee reported that they could not recommend the idea without encountering opposition. In 1837 the advice of Sir Thomas Dick Lauder and Dr. Patrick Neill was sought as regards trees



JAMES BROWN'S FEUING PLAN



GEORGE SQUARE *circa* 1799. BY ALEXANDER CARSE
From the collection in Edinburgh Room of Central Public Library

and plants, and in 1856 Mr. MacNab of the Botanic Garden submitted a helpful report.

The social scene is well represented in the minutes for late Victorian days. Lawn Tennis was introduced about 1882. By 1886, 'several of the residents in the Square had lawn tennis parties in the Garden,' and some of the proprietors desired 'permission to have a Military Band in the Garden to play during the game.'

But the great occasions were the Queen's Birthday celebrations. In 1863 there was a spectacular commemoration of the marriage of the Prince of Wales (afterwards Edward VII) when 140 Padelles Lights illuminated the Garden, the inhabitants of the Square also contributing to the display. The Queen's Birthday was usually marked by the setting off of fireworks. In 1887 Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee was duly celebrated, a feature being the presence by invitation of 200 girls from George Watson's Ladies' College. During the proceedings a message was dispatched by the inhabitants congratulating Her Majesty on the auspicious occasion, which was fittingly acknowledged by the Queen's Private Secretary.

When, in 1897, the Diamond Jubilee was reached, Lady Noël Paton, on behalf of the residents, planted a tree in the Garden, and beside it, in 1903, was placed a tablet suitably inscribed.

III. SURROUNDINGS IN BYGONE TIMES

It is difficult to visualise the surroundings of George Square in the eighteenth century and the first half of the nineteenth, so drastically has the whole locality been transformed. Annot, the historian of Edinburgh, writing in 1778, makes the somewhat startling statement: 'Except a narrow mean street called Potterrow and a very short one called Bristo, there were, till within these twelve years, hardly any buildings on the south side of the town.' It was a rural neighbourhood

—a great expanse of greenery with cottages here and there. The South or Burgh Loch, which in the seventeenth century occupied the larger part of what is now the Meadows, had been partially drained, and a valiant attempt to beautify the area was made by a public-spirited citizen, Hope of Rankeillor. He also was responsible for the planting scheme, resulting in avenues of trees that afforded a pleasant promenade.

But harking back to the early days of George Square, the residents, casting their eyes southward, viewed a scene in striking contrast to what they had been accustomed to when denizens of the wynds and closes of the High Street. Beyond the Meadows were gentle uplands covered by the lands of Grange, from which superb views of the Pentlands were obtained. Much of this area was given over to farming and other peaceful occupations, and withal it was so remote that a journey to the city was something of an ordeal.

When George Square was building there stood on the site of the University Music Class-room the town residence of the Lords Ross, the policies of which covered the whole area comprehended in the Square. The mansion, variously known as Ross House, then as Lockhart House, and finally as Bristo House, had at first an uninterrupted view of the Meadows, which was not obliterated by the erection of George Square, since it was stipulated that the open space in front be preserved. And so it remained till the building of George Watson's Ladies' College, though by this time the necessity had disappeared, Ross House having been demolished.

The mansion, which in the eighteenth century dominated the scene, figures in Storer's *Views in Edinburgh* (1820)—a plain, substantial square block of no great size, with slightly projecting wings. It was, says Chambers, who remembered it, 'approached by an avenue through a plantation upwards of sixty yards long from where the north-east end of Teviot Row was latterly. There were the stable offices, and in front

of the house was a tree of great size. Ross House had a spacious garden, the retaining wall of which ran along the west side of Bristo Street.'

The original owners were an interesting family, and as their mansion with its park is indissolubly linked with George Square, some account of their history is in place here. The Lords Ross of Halkhead, Renfrewshire, traced their descent as far back as the reign of William the Lyon. One of the holders of the title fell at Flodden, another was on the jury which tried Bothwell in 1567, while a third was fined £3000 under Cromwell's Act of Grace.

The twelfth Lord Ross aided Claverhouse in harrying the Covenanters. At the Revolution he supported the claims of William and Mary to the Scottish Crown, though not prepared to carry his loyalty the length of opposing his old comrade in arms at Killiecrankie. In 1690 he was imprisoned in the Tower of London, but before the century closed he was again enjoying his freedom and had regained considerable influence in his native country. In 1701 this Lord Ross was Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly, in 1707 a commissioner for the Union, and in 1715 a Scottish representative peer.

Much local interest centres in his son, George, thirteenth Lord Ross. On 23rd November 1737, while still Master of Ross, he joined the governors of George Watson's Hospital in petitioning for a sub-feu of ground in Heriot's Croft. A month later he was proposing a feu of the 'Windmill Acres.' On 10th March 1738 the Town Council granted him some twenty acres on Heriot's Croft 'on the east side of the intended avenue to be made by the City down through that Croft, to terminate at the middle walk in Hope Park.' The 'Windmill Acres' being granted at the same time, the area on which George Square was built was securely in the Master's possession.

This enterprising member of the Ross family was a Com-

missioner of Customs. He seems to have resided pretty constantly at his mansion immediately to the south of the Flodden Wall. He died in 1754, leaving one son, William, fourteenth Lord Ross, who passed away two months after his father.

The title, now extinct in the direct line, was merged by marriage in the earldom of Glasgow. The mansion and its appurtenances passed to the Hon. Jane Ross, sister of the fourteenth Lord Ross, who sold the property in 1756 to John Adam, architect, the eldest brother of the celebrated Robert, and a son of William Adam of Maryburgh, the designer of the old Royal Infirmary in Drummond Street.

Soon after John Adam sold Ross House to George Lockhart of Carnwath, while the park to the south was disposed of to James Brown, the builder of George Square. Lockhart changed the name of the mansion, which was afterwards known as Bristo House, as we are reminded by an advertisement in the *Edinburgh Advertiser* of 14th February 1769, intimating that 'Bristo House, belonging to Mr. Lockhart of Carnwath' was to let. It is described as 'the very best house about Edinburgh, well furnished to accommodate a large family,' and with coach-house for two carriages and stables for nine horses. Mention is also made of 'ground to be immediately laid down in grass for the benefit of keeping a cow.'

In the minutes of the Town Council for 21st February 1787 the mansion is designated Lockhart House, and is stated to have been 'inherited lately by General James Lockhart of Lee and Carnwath.' This personage, in right of his mother, assumed the name of Wishart in addition to Lockhart. He had a singular career. One of the Lords of the Bedchamber to the occupant of the throne of Hungary, he served in the Austrian army during the Seven Years' War. Ultimately he was promoted general of the Imperial forces and created a baron and count of the Holy Roman Empire.

The next owner of Bristo House (who lived at No. 55 George Square, 1775-79) was General Alexander Mackay. During the second Jacobite rebellion he raised a company which was embodied in Loudoun's Highlanders. He was taken prisoner at the skirmish at Prestonpans. After parliamentary experience as member for Sutherlandshire, Mackay was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Scotland. He died in 1789, and in the following year Bristo House was advertised for sale 'together with the feu duties payable out of the buildings and grounds of Park Place.' As an inducement it was pointed out that 'a considerable part of the park [to the north] might be built on without hurting the mansion' (*Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 4th January 1790). But no purchaser came forward, and Bristo House stood empty till 1793, when it was opened as a hospital by Dr. Alexander Hamilton, Professor of Midwifery in Edinburgh University.

Park Place, referred to above, only disappeared with the erection of the M'Ewan Hall and the University Union. General Mackay had disposed certain portions of ground behind his mansion, and there, as the eighteenth century was drawing to a close, was built a tall and substantial group of self-contained houses that stretched from Bristo House to Teviot Row. Each house was approached by a broad flight of steps, bridging an area, while the doorways were of classical design. In Park Place lived several notable personages. Here was the town house of Sir Ilay Campbell, Lord President of the Court of Session. 'As a lawyer,' says Cockburn, 'and in every department of the science, he was inferior to none of his brethren in depth and learning.' As an offset to his legal attainments, Sir Ilay had social qualities, and his house was one of the 'most popular resorts in Edinburgh.' His daughter, Susan, was the wife of Craufurd Tait, who resided next door. They were the parents of Archibald Campbell Tait, Archbishop of Canterbury during the Victorian era.

When Park Place was pulled down there was placed in a sculptured niche behind the M'Ewan Hall a bronze bust of the Archbishop with a suitable inscription.

Another inhabitant of Park Place was Archibald Constable, who, after piloting commercially the *Edinburgh Review*, became Scott's publisher. Constable had no happy associations with Park Place, for he went there broken in health and fortune, dying at this address in July 1827.

The sweeping spaciousness of the approach to Bristo Street from Teviot Place makes it hard to believe that some sixty years ago there existed at this spot a narrow entrance, which, though not incommoding the slow-going traffic of those days, would have been a positive danger now. The west side of the upper portion of Bristo Street was occupied by a group of lofty tenements stretching into Charles Street. Most of the property was dilapidated, and below ran dark cavernous passages which led to back greens facing Park Place. Small, low-roofed shops lined the street level, while in the houses above overcrowding was seen at its worst. This portion of Bristo Street was dismal in the extreme; light and air were at the vanishing point. Still it is worth recalling that it afforded a lodging to Thomas Carlyle when a student at Edinburgh University. In Charles Street, in a tenement now gone, the entrance to which was gained by descending two steps below the pavement, was born Francis Jeffrey, editor of the *Edinburgh Review*.

Both Charles Street and Crichton Street give access to George Square at the north-east corner. The houses there, built by James Brown, were intended to be entirely residential, a characteristic that has been partially modified in Charles Street, but remains as regards Crichton Street, where the lowest flat of the four-storey blocks is at street level. This short thoroughfare preserves even now an old-world respectability, but the outlook is not inspiring. Across the street are the backs of the massive houses lining the east side of

George Square, and there is Windmill Lane, at the south end of which the lofty tenements of Buccleuch Place completely shut out the vista.

In Charles Street occurred during Walter Scott's childhood 'the tragical death of his great-aunt, Mrs. Margaret Swinton.' This aged lady, who figures in the introduction to the story of Aunt Margaret's Mirror, was living, says Lockhart vaguely, 'in a small house not far from Mr. Scott's residence in George's Square.' The house was in Charles Street. There Mrs. Swinton resided with a female servant who in a fit of insanity killed her mistress with a hatchet, 'and then rushed furiously into the street with the bloody weapon in her hand, proclaiming aloud the horror she had perpetrated.'

Crichton Street when first built attracted a good class of citizen. Perhaps its most noted dweller was Mrs. Alison Cockburn, of 'Flowers of the Forest' fame. According to Chambers, Mrs. Cockburn removed from Baird's (originally Blair's) Close on the Castle Hill to Crichton Street where, 'in the neat first floor of a house . . . with windows looking along the Potterrow,' she entertained David Hume, Lord Monboddo, and other notables. In one of her letters, Mrs. Cockburn gives a charming glimpse of her house.

On Wednesday I gave a ball. How do ye think I contrived to stretch out this house to hold twenty-two people, and had nine couples always dancing? Yet this is true; it is also true that we had a table covered with divers eatables all the time, and that everybody ate when they were hungry and drank when they were dry, but nobody ever sat down. . . . Our fiddler sat where the cupboard is, and they danced in both rooms; the table was stuffed into the window and we had plenty of room. It made the bairns all vastly happy.¹

Mrs. Cockburn was a member of Buccleuch Church (then a Chapel of Ease), and attended regularly the ministrations of Dr. Touch. Before the latter resigned the charge in 1808,

¹ Mrs. Cockburn's *Letters*, edited by T. Craig-Brown, 1900, pp. 82-3.

the congregation had dwindled away till the seat rents dropped from £150 to less than £30 per annum. By the efforts, however, of the Rev. Sir Henry Moncrieff and his colleague in St. Cuthbert's Church, the debt was cleared. Dr. Touch, whom Mrs. Cockburn usually referred to as 'my parson Touch,' had an annuity of £80.—*Letters of Mrs. Cockburn*, 1900, p. 158.

Chapel Street, a short but spacious thoroughfare, in the rear of George Square, links Bristo Street with Buccleuch Street. Opposite Crichton Street, at the south end of Potterrow, is a gateway flanked by massive pillars surmounted with stone balls. In former times it gave entrance to a short avenue leading to a solidly-built mansion (still to the fore) with a row of stone vases on the roof.

Built early in the eighteenth century, Chapel House has had for occupants, among others, Sir Hew Hamilton-Dalrymple of Bargeny and North Berwick, and Sir Patrick Inglis, Bart. and his partners in the firm of Inglis, Horner & Co., linen manufacturers. In the first half of last century Andrew Melrose, founder of the firm of tea merchants, resided in this mansion, together with thirty apprentices. Later, the building was transformed into a maternity hospital. After serving this purpose for many years, it was sold to John Miller Richard, typefounder.

Another historic house faces the burying ground of Buccleuch Parish Church. A rustic-looking, three-storey building, with a substantial gable to West Nicolson Street, it had once a pleasant garden, the remains of which are represented by a luxuriant pear tree. Here lived Sir James Fergusson (1688-1759), who sat on the bench of the Court of Session as Lord Kilkerran. He had a 'tack' of the ground opposite, forming part of the burying ground, where lie the remains of Mrs. Alison Cockburn, and other celebrities of eighteenth-century Edinburgh. A subsequent tenant of Lord Kilkerran's house was the widow of William Baird of New-

byth, whose son Sir David Baird was the hero of Seringapatam. The Baird family were intimate friends as well as neighbours of Mrs. Alison Cockburn.

Lord Kilkerran, who appears in Stevenson's *Catriona* and Neil Munro's *Doom Castle*, married in 1726 Jean Maitland, granddaughter of the fifth Earl of Lauderdale. Their eldest son, John Fergusson, was born in 1727. By 1743 he had advanced to the university stage, and Kilkerran, desirous that John should acquire an English accent, sent him to a Non-conformist academy at Northampton kept by Dr. Philip Doddridge, the hymn-writer, also biographer of Colonel Gardiner who fell in the skirmish at Prestonpans. Much correspondence passed between Kilkerran and Doddridge relative to the education of John, who became a member of Doddridge's household, and was highly esteemed by him. At the outbreak of the Jacobite rebellion in 1745, John, then in the midst of his studies, accepted a commission in the Hanoverian regiment raised in Northampton for the defence of the country. He was among the royal army which followed the retreat of the Highlanders from Derby, and was stationed at Carlisle, which was recaptured from the rebels. Soon after he was overtaken by a fatal illness, and died, aged twenty-three, at his father's house 'outside Edinburgh.' He was buried in Holyrood Abbey, where his mother also lies. See *John Fergusson, 1727-1750*, by James Fergusson (1948), where the whole story is told and the correspondence between Kilkerran and Doddridge reproduced.

Dr. Thomas Blacklock, the blind poet and 'discoverer' of Burns, lived for many years in a flat in Chapel Street, where he kept boarders, entertained literary friends, and indited verses with fatal fluency. John Home, author of *Douglas*, describes Blacklock as 'a strange creature to look at—a small, weakly underthing, a chilly, bloodless animal that shivers at every breeze.' At the same time this cadaverous-looking man was 'the most flagrant enthusiast' Home ever saw.

'When Blacklock repeats verses, he is not able to keep his seat but springs to his feet.'

Dr. Johnson, on his return from the Hebrides, breakfasted with Blacklock. Henry Mackenzie, who also was a guest, says that Johnson did not create a wholly favourable impression. One reason of Mrs. Blacklock's dislike was that the lexicographer drank twenty-two cups of tea. No matter, Johnson and the blind poet drew to each other, the former holding Blacklock's 'remarkably small white hands' in his 'great paws during the most part of the time they conversed together, caressing and stroking them, as he might have done those of a pretty child.'

Windmill Street, which enters the east side of George Square, has not altered for at least a century and a half. Like Charles and Crichton Streets, it was built for residential purposes only, a peculiarity it has retained. The thoroughfare took its name from a windmill which, in the seventeenth century, belonged to the Fellowship and Society of Brewers, and was used for pumping water from the South Loch.

In this retired street resided several aristocratic people, notably 'Suphy' Johnston of Hilton, whose idiosyncrasies are described by Cockburn in his *Memorials*. 'Suphy' lived 'in a flat on the ground floor . . . where her sole companion was a female servant. When the servant went out . . . Suphy's orders were that she should lock the door, and take the key with her. This saved Suphy the torment of always rising; for people went away when they found the house, as they thought, shut up. But she had a hole through which she saw them perfectly well; and, if she was inclined, she conversed through the orifice; and when tired of them told them to go away.'

Numerous references to 'Suphy' occur in the *Letters* of Mrs. Alison Cockburn, the back windows of whose house in Crichton Street faced those of Windmill Street. In a letter to Miss Henrietta Cumming, the songstress writes: 'Poor

Soph had a miserable ending. A sceptic, without hope, but not without terror, she lived to extreme old age, and latterly in great misery through penuriousness, her first salutation to visitors being always, "What hae ye brocht?"—stretching out her skinny arm to receive the offering.'

In Buccleuch Street there has been demolished (1947) a five-flatted tenement with an archway leading into St. Patrick Square. The block was the last of the Edinburgh buildings associated with Burns. Lockhart states that the poet lodged with his boon companion, Willie Nicol, on the 'Buccleuch Road' (Buccleuch Street) during the winter of 1786-87. The house was above what went by the name of Buccleuch Pend. Nicol's lodging is said to have been on the top floor. If Burns did not lodge with Nicol in this building (as part of the evidence seems to indicate), he was familiar with it, for in the archway a doorway led to an underground tavern frequented by Burns and Nicol. In one of the flats above the Buccleuch Pend was born James Grant, author of *The Romance of War*, *The Yellow Frigate*, and other military novels, as well as the compiler of *Old and New Edinburgh*.

Apart from George Square, Buccleuch Place was perhaps the most ambitious of James Brown's building schemes. It is a trifle dull, although curious round towers in rear of several houses impart architectural interest. Yet when all is said a certain grandeur pervades these lofty, firmly-set tenements, and when account is taken of the noble width of the thoroughfare, there is an impressiveness about the general outline. At the west end the north side is entirely open, so that the view from George Square is not impeded. Here in summer is a wealth of foliage that delights the eye especially after passing the huge blocks of masonry on either side.

One of three Edinburgh merchants who founded the former Literary Institute in South Clerk Street was Josiah Livingston, who in old age found congenial employment in

writing his reminiscences of the south side of Edinburgh where he lived his whole life. In 1893 he published a booklet entitled *Our Street: Memories of Buccleuch Place*. The work affords pleasant recollections of a thoroughfare along which many walk without being aware that in bygone years persons who made history abode there, or that it was associated with the pleasures and recreations of dwellers in George Square.

The height and solidity of Buccleuch Place are noteworthy. Several of the tenements reach as many as seven storeys, being in this respect reminiscent of the tall 'lands' of the Old Town from which many of the early inhabitants had come. Another similarity, retrospectively viewed, was the density of the population. In a few stairs there used to be from five to six separate houses, each occupied by a large family.

Livingston tells us that his street was not fashionable. Possibly by his time it had lost its aristocratic atmosphere, but aristocratic Buccleuch Place undoubtedly was when first erected. Did it not, for one thing, contain the 'George's Square Assembly Rooms,' where, as Cockburn reminds us, was to be seen 'the last lingering remains of that stately courtesy and rigid ball-room discipline which characterised the preceding age'? Hither from the Archers' Hall came this institution in 1785, and in the lower portion, facing the south-east entrance to George Square, rank and fashion forgathered on many a winter evening, the fair visitants being brought in Sedan chairs, and welcomed in a handsome well-lighted ball-room.

At the Buccleuch Place assemblies 'Lady Don and Mrs. Rothead of Inverleith both shone, first as hooped beauties in the minuet, and then as ladies of ceremonies.' Here, too, young Walter Scott attended with his first love, Williamina Belsches. 'It was a proud night with me when I first found that a pretty young lady could think it worth her while to

sit and talk with me in a corner of the George's Square Assembly Rooms.'

In this street was the home in later years of Lady Hamilton of Rosehall, whose widowhood of more than half a century is graphically depicted by John Ramsay of Ochtertyre in *Scotland and Scotsmen of the Eighteenth Century*.

Lady Hamilton was 'one of the most popular characters of her time.' Her house one never entered 'but with pleasure' or 'quitted without regret.' The daughter of James Stirling of Keir, she married about 1746 Sir Hugh Hamilton of Rosehall, 'a man of large estate in Lanarkshire.' After her husband's premature death, she rented Monkkrigg, a small estate on the outskirts of Haddington. Here she resided many years, but the property being sold, she removed to Edinburgh, purchasing 'a good house in Buccleuch Place,' to which she became reconciled, also to 'a novel state of society.'

The ruling passion of this Scots gentlewoman of the old school was 'hospitality in a style somewhat primeval' though combined with rigid economy, for she had but a moderate income. 'Amiable and lady-looking,' her talk exhibited 'strong understanding,' with a vein of wit and pleasantry. A Jacobite and Episcopalian, Lady Hamilton sang political songs 'breathing much of the spirit of 1745-46.' Her parties were always 'easy and natural,' and 'as long as she enjoyed tolerable health and spirits she entertained her friends.' Lady Hamilton died in October 1802. She was then nearly eighty, and had survived her very numerous brothers and sisters.

Buccleuch Place has important literary associations. In a tenement near the Assembly Rooms, No. 18 to be precise, a group of brilliant young men met in the house of Francis Jeffrey on a stormy night in March 1802, and resolved to found a high-class magazine. Besides Jeffrey, there were Sydney Smith, Henry Brougham, and Francis Horner, all

staunch Whigs, and destined to renown in more than one sphere. The periodical projected was the famous *Edinburgh Review*, which carried on for more than a century and was a force to be reckoned with in politics and literature. The *Edinburgh* raised the whole tone and character of periodical criticism and was an effective instrument in guiding and controlling public opinion.

At 4 Buccleuch Place, the house of James Gray, a classical master in the High School, James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd, met his future wife, a sister of Mrs. Gray. A poet himself, and a scholar and linguist as well, Gray was intimate with Burns and corresponded with Wordsworth. Hogg introduces him into the *Queen's Wake* as the fifteenth bard who sang the ballad of 'King Edward's Dream.' Here, too, at No. 1, was the Southern Academy, founded by William Maxwell Gunn, who, because of his reputation as a classicist, had the LL.D. degree conferred on him by Edinburgh University. Opened in 1829, the Southern Academy attracted boys from well-to-do families in the Newington district, the classes being of a more manageable size than those of the High School. In this seminary Scott Russell, the designer of the *Great Eastern* ship, taught mathematics. After a few years the school was removed to 5 George Square, where it continued under Maxwell Gunn's rectorship till his death in 1851. Besides various textbooks, he published the *Select Works of Robert Rollock*, the first Principal of Edinburgh University.

At No. 28 Buccleuch Place was born Dr. William Henry Goold, one of the distinguished Presbyterians of his day, while next door Dr. James Hamilton of Regent Square Presbyterian Church, London, spent his youth. In No. 30 resided the Hon. George Brown, a former Prime Minister of Canada.

For about twenty years after the rest of George Square had been built, the ground to the south was open country, the tenements at the west end of Buccleuch Place being then

non-existent. It was at this time that the Meadows was converted by the University professors into an 'academic grove.' Says Cockburn: 'There has never in my time been any single place in or near Edinburgh which has so distinctly been the resort at once of our philosophy and our fashion. Under these trees walked, and talked, and meditated, all our literary and scientific, and many of our legal worthies.'

At the beginning of the eighteenth century the eastern portion of the Meadows was still a marsh, the remains of the South Loch. At all times of the year it was unpleasant if not dangerous for pedestrians, though worst after wet weather. This state of affairs continued till 1722, when Thomas Hope of Rankeillor took a fifty-seven years' lease, and at his own expense made a courageous effort to convert a quagmire into an ornamental park. Hope deserves the gratitude of posterity for having created the Middle Meadow Walk, that noble avenue of trees linking the Old Town with the southern outskirts. The essential charm of the Meadow Walk is not merely the vista, affording, as it does, a superb view of the slopes to the south, but that beneath its spreading branches one may saunter without the fear of vehicular traffic. Hope's plan was to make a footway thirty feet broad, with two rows of lime trees and a narrow canal on each side. While this scheme was not carried out in its entirety, the attractive appearance of Meadow Walk to-day is due to Hope's judicious planting.

Previous to the middle of last century, a sparse population dwelt south of the Meadows, including James Boswell, who had summer quarters there. Consequently the Walk was not used to any extent. A high wall stretched across the Lauriston end, completely shutting out the view towards Blackford Hill. At the south terminus Hope erected a summer house, popularly styled 'The Cage,' pleasantly described by Robert Chambers in his essay, 'The Meadow Walk Warriors.' The

'freedom of the Cage' was sought after by old soldiers who recounted their martial prowess to sympathetic audiences.

Residents on the west and south sides of George Square at the period under review saw from their back windows an enchanting view—a glorious expanse of greensward, rich in venerable trees, carrying the eye to the gentle slopes of Bruntsfield and Merchiston, and, farther off, to the undulating contour of the Pentlands.

On the west side of the Middle Meadow Walk, surrounded by luxuriant foliage, was George Watson's Hospital, now forming part of the Royal Infirmary. Built in 1738, it originally was a plain, squat structure with projecting wings. A broad flight of steps led to the entrance on the south side, and a diminutive spire surmounted by a ship was an apt reminder of the days when the founder was cashier to Sir James Dick of Prestonfield.

The bulk of Watson's fortune, amounting to £12,000, was mortified to raise the Hospital. By 1738, fifteen years after the death of the testator, the bequest had increased to £20,000, which enabled the governors to purchase from the Town Council seven and a half acres, ideally situated in Heriot's Croft, and bounded on the east by 'the spacious walk leading from the Charity Workhouse postern gate to Hope's Park, on the south by the northern ditch (known as the "Lochrin") of the said park . . . and on the north by Bristow Causeway.' For a hundred and thirty years Watson's Hospital was a conspicuous feature in the vicinity of George Square. In 1870, however, a complete transformation was effected, the institution being sold to the managers of the Royal Infirmary. Henceforth it was engulfed in the congeries of buildings marking the new home in Lauriston of that beneficent institution.

From the top of the Middle Meadow Walk eastwards, where now is the Medical School and the M'Ewan Hall, formerly stood a row of villas with pleasant gardens in front.

This brings us to the point from which our cursory topographical survey of the surroundings of George Square started.

IV. FAMOUS RESIDENTS—NORTH ROW

Having dealt with the general history and surroundings of George Square, likewise with its beautiful old garden, it is proposed to direct attention to the many famous people who have lived in or were associated with the sixty-one houses comprising Brown's 'Great Square.' With few exceptions the first two or three names of residents are usually the most interesting, but even the rare example of an early dweller with no particular history has been included, in order to present as complete a picture as may be of the early society of George Square. As far as possible, but without having had access to the title-deeds of *all* the houses, most of the original inhabitants have been traced.

'How wonderful a thing it is,' writes Dr. G. M. Trevelyan, 'to look back into the past as it actually was, to get a glimpse through the curtain of old night into some brilliantly lighted scene of living men and women, not mere creatures of fiction and imagination, but warm-blooded realities even as we are.' In the hope, then, that readers will find that the following accounts enable them to 'get a glimpse through the curtain of old night' at scenes and personages of those Georgian days, and some a little nearer our own day, a start shall be made at the north-east corner, and a continuous narrative will lead them about the Square until they again approach the north-east corner, at No. 60.

The first proprietor of No. 1 was Captain the Hon. Charles Napier, R.N., of Merchiston Hall (1731-1807), second son of Francis, fifth Lord Napier, and his wife, Lady Henrietta, a daughter of Charles, Earl of Hopetoun.

Napier was appointed a lieutenant in the Navy in 1754, and commander in 1758. He captured off Cape de Gatte

(1761) a French privateer of 18 guns and 135 men. In 1762 Napier was in the West Indies as part of the naval force under Sir George Pocock sent against Havana. There he was advanced to post-captain and appointed to the *Stirling Castle*, serving on the West Indies Station for some years after peace was declared. He figures in the list of superannuated captains for 1793. In Clowes' *Royal Navy* occurs the following:

In May 1777, there were five American privateers lying off Waterford, waiting for the Newfoundland fleet. In the same year, two privateers anchored in Solway Firth; off Kintyre there were two more, and others cruised between Jersey and Guernsey. 'Fall the Pirate,' one of the most notorious, was chased, unsuccessfully, by Nelson in 1781. He had harried the coast of Scotland. The letters of Capt. the Hon. Charles Napier show the Firth of Forth to have been much troubled by such freebooters.

This is the British side of the state of affairs referred to in the American naval song 'Paul Jones':

Thro' a mad-hearted war, which old England will rue,
At London, at Dublin, and Edinburgh, too,
The tradesmen stand still, and the merchant bemoans
The losses he meets with from such as Paul Jones.

Further evidence of the straits to which Britain was reduced to obtain forces with which to keep up the struggle for command of the seas is afforded by an entry in Boswell's *Journal* for 11th April 1777. It tells how Walter Scott, W.S., took James Boswell to call on a neighbour of the Scotts in George Square, Captain Napier, then 'on the impress service, as John McBurnie, an Auchinleck Man, had been taken aboard, and I,' says Boswell, 'was much solicited to get him off. The Captain had heard of his Father and mine being intimate. He shewed me his Warrant: That he was ordered to press all seamen and men who had worked in Ships or Boats, and he was informed that McBurnie, who was a notorious Smuggler, had worked in boats. But if it was not so he should be discharged.'

Some amusing passages in the *Life of Admiral Sir Charles Napier*, descriptive of his boyhood at No. 1, are of interest. Although Napier was unlucky with his hopes of promotion, his second son—the famous 'Black Charles'—became a distinguished officer in the Navy. The author says: 'No particular circumstances are recorded as having marked the early years of Charles Napier; but his childhood appears to have passed happily away amidst a large and united family—in the summer months at Merchiston Hall, and during the winter at the town residence in George's Square, Edinburgh.'

'To me,' writes an old schoolfellow, 'there is magic in the name of Charlie Napier; it brings fresh before me the "days o' lang syne," the days of the High School, George's Square, its games, its laddies, and its bickers; in these Charlie was one of our most conspicuous leaders. . . . He succeeded on one occasion in obtaining the position of "Don," or head of the class to which he belonged, and so proud was he of this distinction that to commemorate the event he ordered a sedan chair . . . and was thus carried home in triumph to his father's house in George's Square.'

Writes P. B. Ainslie of Pilton, in *Recollections of a Scottish Gentleman*:

Amongst the favourite companions of my boyhood was Charlie Napier, whose ardent wish to enter the Navy was decidedly opposed by his father (a retired post-captain). This interference with Charlie's wishes was considered by us aspiring youngsters as a tyrannical stretch of parental authority, and we accordingly determined to accompany Charlie to his father's house, and endeavour, by our persuasive eloquence, to move the gallant captain from his resolution. I well recollect the awe we experienced when we reached George's Square, and were about to be ushered into the presence of the captain. . . . On entering the library . . . our fears and alarm did not diminish as the Captain looked with most stern surprise at the liberty we had taken by thus invading his sanctum. At last Charlie lifted up his voice and reiterated his wish to don the middy's uniform—when we took courage and urged in tremulous tones in support of his position.

But it was in vain, and we were dismissed in no very courteous terms by the gallant veteran, who declared, in decided language 'that Charles never should enter the Navy.' How this seemingly most positive determination came to be altered I know not. But in a very brief after-period, Charlie announced to us, with unbounded joy, that his father had at last consented to his wishes.

Another friend recalls that 'one of the earliest recollections of my childhood is that of "black cousin Charles," as we used to call him. And our great delight as children was to get him to walk with us and our old nurse, in the Meadows near George's Square, when he would sometimes carry the youngest in his arms.'

The second proprietor of No. 1 was Thomas Burns, W.S., of Longcroft, Stirlingshire (1770-1858), the youngest son of James Burns of Glenfour. As he was an apprentice to Walter Scott, W.S., he may be the person referred to as 'Tom Burns' in Scott's *Journal* for 14th February 1828. His only son, Thomas Charles Burns, W.S., married Jane, only daughter of John Livingstone Campbell of Achalader, Argyllshire. In the title-deeds he is referred to as a 'gas manufacturer.' No. 1 was roused in two separate lots to pay Burns's creditors, he having been involved in financial difficulties. The house was purchased by James Lewis, and the garden and stabling by a speculative builder who erected upon the ground the shops and houses which form the west side of Charles Street.

In No. 1 lived for a short period, as a tenant, Alexander Fraser Tytler, Lord Woodhouselee (1747-1813). He was Professor of Civil Law at Edinburgh 1780, Judge Advocate 1790, and was raised to the Bench in 1802. He encouraged Scott in the study of German literature, and he and his wife were kindly neighbours of Sir Walter at Lasswade.

The first proprietor of No. 2, James Smollett of Bonhill (d. 1775), was a son of George Smollett of Ingliston. He was a Commissary of Edinburgh and Sheriff of Dumbarton. His wife was Jean, a daughter of Sir George Clerk of Penicuik.

Commissary Smollett was a kind friend to his less fortunate cousin, Tobias Smollett, the novelist. There is no record of Tobias ever having been in the Commissary's house in George Square. His last visit to Scotland, in 1766, furnished much interesting and amusing material for *Humphry Clinker*. The novelist makes one of his characters observe that 'Edinburgh is considerably extended on the south side, where there are divers little elegant Squares built in the English manner.'

Commissary Smollett cherished Tobias's name and reputation by erecting to his memory a Tuscan column on the banks of the Leven in the parish of Bonhill, the inscription for which was prepared by Professor George Stuart, of Edinburgh, and John Ramsay, of Ochertyre, and revised and in part written by Dr. Samuel Johnson. In the *Tour to the Hebrides*, Boswell declares that when Johnson and he visited the Commissary at his country seat they found him 'a man of considerable learning, with abundance of animal spirits' and 'a very good companion for Dr. Johnson.'

Although Johnson never visited at No. 2, James Boswell did so, in order to save the life of a man eventually executed for theft. The visit is recorded in Boswell's *Journal* for September 1774. Commissary Smollett, however, was unable to assist.

The second proprietor of No. 2, Alexander Udny of Udny, advocate and Commissioner of Excise (1742-87), was the eldest son of John Udny of that ilk. Alexander Udny is celebrated in Aberdeenshire as the master of the well-known Jamie Fleeman, the laird of Udny's fool. Whether the following story relates to George Square, or to an earlier residence of the laird's in Edinburgh, history has not made clear :

Upon one occasion he [Fleeman] was sent with a letter to the laird, resident at the time in Edinburgh. Jamie arrived in Edinburgh safely, but he was quite ignorant of the laird's address, and this he set himself to work to discover. As he wandered through the streets,

he narrowly inspected every dog he met, and he was at last sufficiently lucky to recognise one of his old bed-fellows. Seizing him in his arms he ran into a shop, and seizing a coil of rope, measured off five or six yards, and fastening this round the dog's neck, set him down, and giving him a few hearty kicks—'Hame wi' you, ye scunging tyke, hame!' and thus discovered the laird's dwelling-place.

Udny also figures in Boswell's materials for a Life of Lord Kames as the companion of Lord Braxfield on circuit when the latter, under the influence of drink, kissed Kames's wife in the coach.

Sir James Naesmyth of Posso, third baronet, was the next proprietor of No. 2. He was married, firstly, in 1785, to Eleanor Murray, daughter of John Murray of Philiphaugh, 'a lady equally attractive from her external charms, and the elegance of her mind and manners.' Lady Naesmyth's sister, Mrs. John Baugh, inherited No. 3 from their aunt, Margaret Murray, who lived there along with her mother the Dowager Lady Philiphaugh. When the Black Dwarf's cottage fell into disrepair about 1802, Sir James Naesmyth, says William Chambers, 'kindly ordered a new one to be erected for him and his sister.' The baronet died in 1829.

No. 3 was the home of the widow of John Murray of Philiphaugh. Known as Lady Philiphaugh, she was the daughter of Lord Basil Hamilton (1671-1701), by his wife Mary, the granddaughter and heiress of Sir David Dunbar of Baldoon. Lady Philiphaugh's brother, Basil, commanded the first troop of horse under Viscount Kenmure in the Jacobite rising of 1715, when, as Burns has it,

There's no' a heart that fears a Whig,
That rides by Kenmure's hand.

Lady Philiphaugh owned No. 3 from 1767, and lived there with an unmarried daughter, Margaret Murray, to whom it was left in 1784. Miss Murray's sister Mary, who had married Sir Alexander Don in 1750, came in 1787 to live at No. 53. And when their brother, John Murray of Philiphaugh, had

to retire to the West Indies to recruit his fortune which had been crippled by racing, keeping a pack of hounds, indulging in expensive electioneering, and by a fire which destroyed Hangingshaw—'the largest, the best, the richest, and the grandest furnished house in the south of Scotland,'¹ No. 3 served as the second home of, and was eventually inherited by one of his married daughters—also a Margaret Murray—who became the wife of Lieut. John Baugh, of the 58th Foot. Baugh evidently retired with the rank of captain. His death (1813) at his house in George Square is noted in the *Courant*.

At various periods No. 3 was the home of Sir William Jardine of Applegirth, uncle of the ornithologist; also of a Polish political exile, Dr. Dionysius Wielobycki; and of the Rev. Dr. Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), minister of the Free High Church, Edinburgh, who brought out his first book of poems—*The Bishop's Walk*—while residing there. Dr. Smith's years in George Square may have furnished him with some nostalgic memories described in a later poem, 'The House in the Square,' in which he recalls how

. . . all the day long there was sunshine there,
In the House in the Square.

At No. 4 lived Miss Helen Stevenson, daughter of Alexander Stevenson, W.S., of Mount Greenan (d. 1755). Her maternal grandfather was Sir Archibald Hope of Rankeillor, one of the Lords of Session.

¹ This last misfortune, which occurred in April 1768, occasioned some verses by Mrs. Alison Cockburn, in one of which she writes:

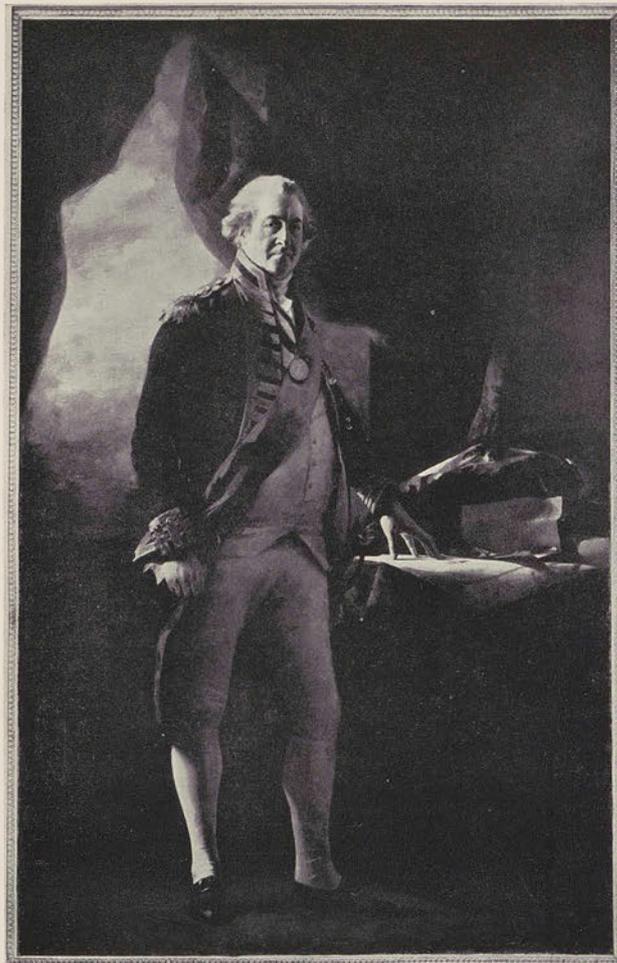
'Ah, see that seat of joy and mirth,
Where every guest was gay and cheerful,
By flames now levell'd to the earth,
And all around grown dark and fearful!
Behold those tenants of the Vale
Are now obliged to change their master.
With heavy hearts they tell the tale,
And weep for his and their disaster.'

After her death the house was occupied by James Balfour, W.S., and his sister Miss Louise, who were descended from the Balfours of Pilrig. During their ownership this became the home for a time of a distinguished soldier of the East India Company—Lt.-Col. Sir John MacGregor Murray (1745-1822), chief of Clan Gregor, who resumed the proper surname of his family shortly before his death. Sir John was bred to the law, but obtaining a cadetship in Bengal in 1770, became Deputy Judge Advocate to the Second Brigade at Berhampore and, later, military secretary to the celebrated Colonel Champion. MacGregor Murray saw service in the first Rohilla War, and amongst his friends of Indian military days were Colonel Sir John Cumming and Colonel Robert Bruce. He and his three brothers, sons of Evan McGregor of Glen Carnaick, aide-de-camp to Prince Charles Edward in 1745, all served in the East India Company's forces.

Turning from Jacobite and Indian memories, we come to Scotland's lexicographer, the Rev. Dr. John Jamieson (1759-1838), who lived at No. 4 from 1821 until his death. The two supplementary volumes of his famous *Dictionary of the Scottish Language*, issued in 1825, are associated with this house. 'Somewhat ponderous he is, poor soul!' writes Scott. Lockhart tells how the publication of Jamieson's *History of the Culdees* was an unpromising venture for Scott and the Ballantynes, and quotes from a letter of Scott's to Morritt, in which the writer asks for subscribers for the projected volume.

I wish, for poor auld Scotland's sake, and for the manes of Bruce and Wallace, and for the living comfort of a very worthy and ingenious dissenting clergyman, who has collected a library and medals of some value, and brought up, I believe, sixteen or seventeen children (his wife's ambition extended to twenty) upon about £150 a year—I say, I wish, for all these reasons, you could get me among your wealthy friends a name or two for the enclosed proposals.

Jamieson often took lodgings near Abbotsford so that he



ADMIRAL, VISCOUNT DUNCAN

From the portrait by Raeburn specially painted for Trinity House, Leith

might indulge his favourite pastime of angling by the banks of Tweed. Scott's *Journal* for 25th July 1826 has this entry :

At dinner-time today came Dr. Jamieson of the Scottish Dictionary, an excellent good man, and full of auld Scottish cracks, which amuse me well enough, but are caviare to the young people. A little prolix and heavy is the good Doctor ; somewhat prosaic, and accustomed to much attention on the Sunday from his congregation, and I hope on the six other days from his family. So he *will* demand full attention from all and sundry before he begins a story, and once begun there is no chance of his ending.

No. 5 was the house suggested for David Hume by his friend Mrs. Cockburn. The first owner was that Walter Scott of Harden whose wife, Lady Diana, a daughter of the last Earl of Marchmont, ' had conversed, in her early days, with the brightest ornaments of the cycle of Queen Anne . . . and could give Walter Scott personal reminiscences of Pope.'

It is not certain that the Scotts of Harden lived in George Square very much ; at any rate their house was let to Henry Dundas as early as 1773 and purchased by him in 1778. At this time the future Lord Melville was M.P. for Midlothian and growing in power and influence until he became known as ' the uncrowned King of Scotland.'

A visitor to No. 5 in July 1781 was Lady Carlow, a daughter of the third Earl of Bute and granddaughter of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu. Lady Carlow, who was on a visit to the Duchess of Buccleuch at Dalkeith House, writes to her sister Lady Louisa Stuart : ' Our shopping being over, we went to the Advocate's house, which the Duchess had borrowed, and were entertained by his sister, whom I mentioned being at Dalkeith when we first came.'

Henry Dundas is associated with three houses in George Square, of which No. 5 is the earliest. His cousin, Lord Cockburn, describes him as ' handsome, gentlemanlike, frank, cheerful and social,' and ' a favourite with most men, and

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REV. JOHN JAMIESON, D.D.
Compiler of *Scottish Dictionary*

*From oil painting by W. Yellowlees in Scottish
National Portrait Gallery*

with all women.' His house was a natural resort for the great personages of the day.

Captain Adam Duncan, R.N. (1731-1804), who married Henrietta, daughter of Robert Dundas, the Elder, President of the Court of Session, bought No. 5 in 1786. In his *Life of Admiral Duncan*, the Earl of Camperdown relates how, after Duncan was promoted to flag rank in 1787, nearly eight years passed before he hoisted his flag. 'During these years he lived chiefly in Scotland, and passed much of his time in Edinburgh with his wife's relations.' 'Keppel's Duncan' was on half pay when the Reform riots of 1792 brought the Edinburgh mob into George Square to smash Dundas' windows and, incidentally, a Duncan finger on which, ever after, the Admiral had to wear a curious double ring which clamped the helpless digit to the finger next it. The rioters are said to have attacked two houses in George Square, namely, those of the Lord Advocate (57) and Lady Arniston. It is asserted that the latter was in her house in George Square when it was attacked. As Duncan had bought No. 5 from Henry Dundas in 1786, and was living there with his family, it seems curious that the mob should be said to have attacked this house. In 1792 Henry Dundas owned No. 38, though the *Edinburgh Directory* gives his address as Park Place.

Duncan has been described as one of the biggest and finest men in the Navy. He was 'six feet four in height and of corresponding breadth.' His skilful handling of the mutinous seamen at the Nore, and the inspiring victory of Camperdown have given his name an undimmed lustre. Camperdown called forth addresses, illuminations, ballads, and plays expressive of pride and delight. Dibdin sang of

October the eleventh, at nine,
Neptune beheld the British line :
And, lest his honours, so long worn,
Should from our ever-conquering flag be torn,

Dismay to France, horror to Spain,
Bade Duncan's thunder great Britannia's reign
Proclaim anew—the Sovereign of the main.

An interesting visitor to No. 5 was the Duke of Clarence, afterwards William IV. He became known to Duncan in 1779, when, as Prince William Henry, he served as a midshipman. The Prince ever remembered that when Mrs. Duncan was residing in Gosport she 'was very kind and hospitable to the young officers who visited her house.' After her husband's death he 'made a point of calling upon her when he was in Edinburgh.'

Lady Duncan (as she became) must have been a delightful person. The Admiral was devoted to her and once expressed his regard at a dinner celebrating the Battle of the Nile. After 'The King' had been pledged, Duncan rose and said, 'Gentlemen, I'll give you the best woman in the world. I'll give my own wife, Lady Duncan.'

From 1767 No. 6 was the town house of the Riddells of that ilk. Sir John Riddell and his sons, Walter and John, were friends of Boswell, who noted in 1769 that he and his father, [Lord] Balmuto, 'the two Mr. Riddles,' and William McDonald dined with Sir Thomas Wentworth at Mr. Campbell of Asnish's where, says the diarist, 'I drank freely.'

The sudden death of Sir John Buchanan Riddell, M.P. for Selkirk Burghs from 1812 to 1818, led to a contested election in which Scott took part, riding 'all round the ancient woods of Riddell.' Many were his lamentations over the catastrophe that had befallen the family.

They are [Sir Walter wrote] one of the most venerable races in the south of Scotland—they were here long before these glens had ever heard the name of Soulis or of Douglas—to say nothing of Buccleuch : they can show a pope's Bull of the tenth century, authorising the then Riddell to marry a relation within the forbidden degrees. Here they have been for a thousand years at least ; and now all the inheritance is to pass away, merely because one good worthy gentleman would

not be contented to enjoy his horses, his hounds, and his bottle of claret, like thirty or forty predecessors, but must needs turn scientific agriculturist, take almost all his fair estate into his own hand, superintend for himself perhaps a hundred ploughs, and try every new nostrum that has been tabled by the *quackish* improvers of the time.

Mrs. Carre of Cavers, and, later, her grandson Thomas Riddell, younger, of Camieston, were the last Riddell connections to live in No. 6. Thomas Riddell, a friend and companion of Scott in his Yeomanry days, married a cousin of Susan Ferrier—the 'Scottish Fanny Burney'—and he and his wife are mentioned in her *Letters*.

Margaret, Grizel, and Anne Boswell Carre, daughters of George Carre of Nisbet, one of the Senators of the College of Justice (d. 1766), owned No. 7 from 1768. A brief reference is made in Boswell's *Journal* to the two elder sisters. On 24th February 1782 he 'supt' with Lord Kames when 'Miss Carre of Nisbet and Miss Grizzy' were the only other guests. No. 7 passed in turn to Alexander Carre of Cavers and his brother-in-law, John James Boswell (1793-1839), son of Robert Boswell, W.S. This Boswell became an advocate. Later, he served on the Prince of Wales Island establishment of the Bombay Medical Service and from thence was transferred to Bengal.

Another sister of John James Boswell, Elizabeth, married John Anderson. During her widowhood she resided at No. 7 with her four daughters Sibella, Mary Anne, Elizabeth Carre, and Margaret Catherine. A fascinating picture of their home in George Square is given in the Sandeman family magazine—*The Clan*. Mrs. Anderson is described as 'a beautiful old lady, full of sweetness, and charm of manner and conversation.' She was a deaconess in the Glasite Church. Her eldest daughter Sibella was the only one of the family not a member of that body; she was an Episcopalian.

'The house in George Square was full of old-fashioned furniture—old Chippendale bright with the polish of use and

in perfect condition; ancient mirrors with bevelled glass and carved frames; quaint bits of Eastern china and curios . . . ; and one or two "Raeburn" family portraits. The walls were innocent of recent decoration, but the colours of the papers and the curtains, all mellowed with age, suited the contents of the rooms.'

The ladies were musical. They cherished Jacobite sympathies, and possessed several relics of Prince Charles Edward. Jacobite songs were first favourites, and no shortening of 'Bonnie Dundee,' or other lengthy songs in that vein, was allowed. The parties at No. 7 were attended by the young folks of the Glasite Meeting House. Sibella supplied the music for dancing, finishing with Sir Roger de Coverley, for which she played 'Bab at the Bowster.' Elizabeth was a poetess, her verses being of a religious character. After their mother's death the four sisters continued to live in George Square 'in the same kindly, hospitable manner.' Mary Anne died in 1878 as the result of a cold. Catherine and Eliza, exhausted by nursing, soon after followed their sister. All three died within a month. Sibella survived her sisters for five years, until the end of 1883, when the house in George Square was sold, and its treasures scattered.

The first proprietor of No. 8 was Lady Jane Leslie, daughter of John, Earl of Rothes. Her brother, Andrew Leslie, an equerry to the Princess-Dowager of Wales, inherited the house but sold it to Lt.-Gen. James Abercromby of Glassaugh (1706-81), who was in command at the assault upon Fort Ticonderoga on 8th July 1758. 'The engineer having reported that the intrenchment might be forced by musketry alone, Abercromby, unfortunately, determined to attack the place without waiting for the artillery. . . . After repeated attacks under disadvantageous circumstances, and with the loss of five hundred and fifty-one killed and one thousand three hundred and fifty-six wounded, orders were given to withdraw.' Interesting memorial tablets to General

Abercromby and his wife are in the Glassaugh aisle of the old Kirk of Fordyce.

At his parents' death, No. 8 passed to the second son, Col. James Abercromby, who held a commission in the Black Watch, and served in North America and the West Indies. On half pay for a time, he eventually went on full pay with the 3rd Foot. He died in his house in George Square in 1804. His wife—a Gordon of Cocklarichie—erected a memorial in Greyfriars Churchyard.

The name of the first proprietor of No. 9 has not been ascertained. Probably it was tenanted by the Abercrombys of Tullibody. George of Tullibody (1705-1800) lived in the Square from 1773 to 1776. A son of Alexander of Tullibody, he married Mary, daughter of Robert Dundas of Manor. He was called to the bar but never practised. Having purchased in 1735 the Professorship of Civil Law, he lectured on the Law of Nature and Nations, and was 'distinguished for his industry, his love of knowledge, and his vigorous and comprehensive understanding.' Henry Mackenzie says that it gave him pleasure to visit old Mr. Abercromby, who was a 'genuine Scots gentleman of the olden feudal time.'

In the autumn of 1776, very shortly after the death of David Hume, Abercromby was travelling to Haddington with two friends. The conversation turned on the deathbed of Hume, and as Abercromby's son-in-law, Col. Edmonstone of Newton, was one of the philosopher's intimate friends, he had heard much regarding the cheerfulness which, it was said, had enlivened the sickroom. Whilst the conversation was running on in this strain, a lady in the coach, who had attended Hume on his deathbed, asked to be allowed to give her testimony. 'I can assure you,' she said, 'I hope never again to attend the deathbed of a *philosopher*.' Hume when alone was often overwhelmed with 'unutterable gloom,' and was wont to declare that he had been in search of light all his life but was now in greater darkness than ever. 'His

agitation was so great at times, as to cause his bed to shake.'

Against this version may be placed an anecdote which rendered Robert Haldane's conversation so interesting, depending, as it usually did, on 'original and authentic information.' Hume, at the request of Adam Smith, promised, if it were in his power, to meet his friend 'in the shady avenue of the Meadows, behind George Square' and 'tell the secrets of the world unknown.' But probably Hume's promise was made with the same levity as his remark about Charon and his boat. Anyhow such was its effect on Adam Smith that 'no persuasion would induce him to walk in the Meadows after sunset.'¹

From 1788 to 1796 Abercromby's son, Sir Ralph, 'the general who shares with Moore the credit of renewing the ancient discipline and military valour of the British soldier,' lived quietly in George Square. While his main object was the education of his family, he himself found occupation in study. During one winter he attended lectures on Church History.

Sir Ralph served in Germany with the 3rd Dragoons. Later, he acted as aide-de-camp to General Sir William Pitt, and saw a good deal of active service. When war with France broke out in 1794, Abercromby served in Flanders and was wounded at Nimeguen. He commanded the storming column at Valenciennes, and was publicly thanked by the Duke of York for his conduct at Roubaix.

As Commander-in-Chief in the West Indies in 1795, Sir Ralph reduced St. Lucia, took Demerara, relieved St. Vincent and reorganised its defences and those of Granada, before going home. On his return Trinidad was captured. His services were rewarded by the colonelcy of the Scots Greys, the Order of the Bath, and the governorship of Fort George and Fort Augustus. Sir Ralph afterwards took part in the

¹ *Lives of the Haldanes*, 4th ed., 1855, p. 560.

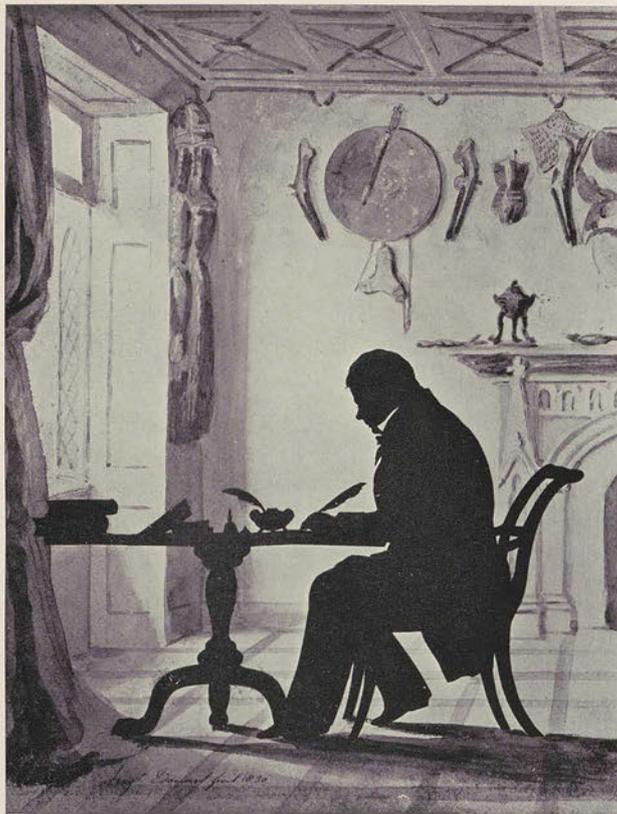
disastrous campaign in Holland where the operations at Bergen-op-Zoom and Egmont failed. Abercromby refused a peerage, as he did not wish to be associated with such military disgrace. His last period of active service ended in a soldier's death in Egypt, in 1801.

Other members of the family of Tullibody who lived in George Square were the judges—Lords Abercromby and Dunfermline. Alexander, Lord Abercromby (1745-95) helped to found the *Mirror*, and contributed to the *Lounger*. A fine portrait by Raeburn agrees well with the admiration of those who knew him, for his 'handsome person and engaging disposition.' His nephew James, Lord Dunfermline (1776-1858), surprised Cockburn by 'the enthusiasm with which he remembered a part of his youth when he lived in George Square, with his uncle Lord Abercromby, the judge.'

No. 9 became in 1800 the home of the widowed Mrs. Elliot of Borthwickbrae, who was heiress of Meikledale, Dumfriesshire; Flex, Old Melrose; and Burnfoot on Alewater, Roxburghshire. An entry in Grieve's *Diary* mentions her death. 'In the winter of 1810 old Mrs. Elliot of Borthwickbrae died, aged 80. She is the last of a race who made a considerable figure . . . and in whom centred all the wealth of all the Laings. . . . She was a fine-looking woman when young, and mother of Colonel Lockhart, Captain Walter Elliot, and Mrs. Simpson of Teviotbank.'

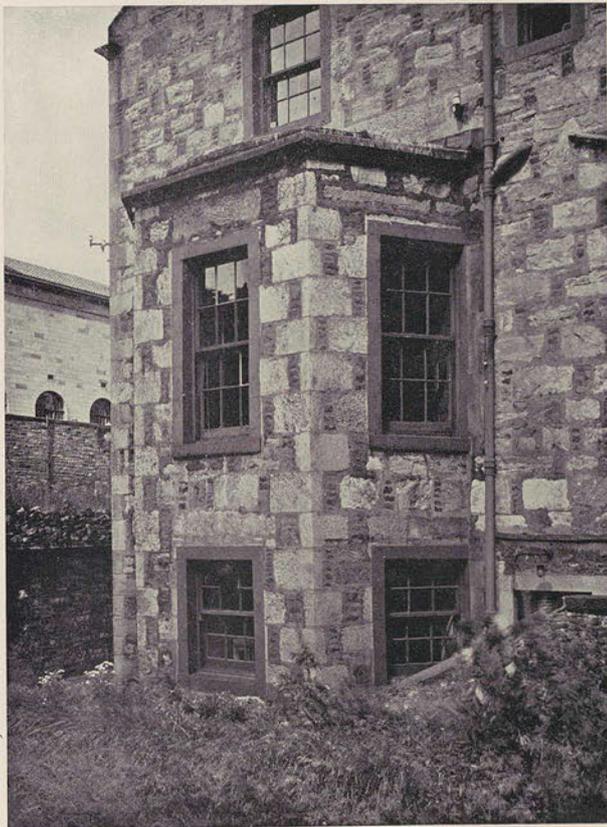
The last-mentioned was the widow of David Simpson. She lived at No. 8 for some years but, after the death of Mrs. Elliot, moved into No. 9, where she too died. Their son, Sir James Simpson, served with the Grenadier Guards in the Peninsula. He was wounded at Quatre Bras, was second-in-command to Sir Charles Napier in the Kacchi Expedition, and Commander-in-Chief in the Crimea after the death of Lord Raglan. He was awarded the G.C.B. after the capture of Sebastopol.

The first proprietor of No. 10 was Martin Eccles, M.D.,



SIR WALTER SCOTT

From a silhouette by Edouart, dated 1830, never previously reproduced.
By permission of Miss Margaret Tait



BOW WINDOW AT No. 15. A VERY EARLY TYPE

By permission of the Edinburgh College of Agriculture

who bought the house in 1770. By this date a prosperous and respected citizen, Eccles had apparently lived down his reputation as a surgeon who did not enquire too minutely as to where the bodies which he required for dissection had been procured. An incident which took place on this account is described in the *Scots Magazine* for 1742 :

For some time past there was ground to suspect that the unjustifiable practice of stealing corpses out of their graves was become too common here ; and on the 9th of March a dead body was found in a house near the shop of Martin Eccles, surgeon, which upon enquiry was found to be one Alexander Baxter's, who had been interred in the West kirk yard March 2. Upon this discovery, the populace were enraged and crowded to the place, threatening destruction to the surgeons. Towards night the mob increased (notwithstanding the precautions used by the magistrates) and having seized the Portsburgh drum, they beat to arms down the Cowgate to the foot of Niddry's wynd, till the drum was there taken from them by a part of the city-guard. However, that night they broke several surgeons' windows ; and next evening forced their way into Mr. Eccles' shop, tho' guarded by a party, and fell a-demolishing everything. But the magistrates, attended by the officers of the train'd bands, constables, etc. attacked and dispersed the mob ; and most of them having run out at the Netherbow, that and the other gates of the city were shut, by which they were in a great measure quelled. Mr. Eccles and his apprentices were cited to stand their trial before the magistrates, as accessory to the raising of dead bodies. Two of the apprentices absconded ; and Mr. Eccles and the other three appeared ; but no proof came out against them.

Sir Patrick Inglis, linen manufacturer, noticed earlier, purchased No. 10 in 1794. He was a descendant of the family of Inglis of Cramond which had been settled near the mouth of the river Almond since the reign of James VI. Several of its members followed a mercantile career. Another member of the family, Capt. Charles Inglis, R.N., is said to have tenanted this house. The son of Rear-Admiral Charles Inglis, he took part in the relief of Gibraltar and served under Lord Hood in the West Indies.

The first known proprietor of No. 11 was the judge, John Campbell, Lord Stonefield, who purchased the house in 1784 from Richard Lake, who previous to 1779 had it from Mrs. Rutherford of Hunthill. Although a judge for thirty-nine years, there appears to be no record of his professional history. Stonefield, who presided at the trial of Deacon Brodie, is reputed to have had scholarly attainments. By his first wife, Lady Grace Stuart, sister of the third Earl of Bute, who was Prime Minister, Lord Stonefield had seven sons, all of whom predeceased him.

The judge appears in no very flattering light in the letters from his niece Lady Carlow to her sister Lady Louisa Stuart. She remarks on a duty visit paid in 1781 'to see Lady Gracie Campbell, whom I found set out in great order to see me. I think she is like my father and she doesn't whine like the Ruthvens, but she seems quite broken-hearted for the loss of her sons; as to him [Stonefield], I never saw such a detestable creature, and he talked me to death. Mrs. Mure said he was drunk, but I fancy he's not more agreeable when sober; their youngest son seems a good-looking young man.' Lady Carlow must have again visited the Stonefield ménage in 1783, for she received no less than three letters from her mother, Lady Bute, commending her attempts to endure Stonefield's civilities.

The second son, Lt.-Col. John Campbell, served in the Black Watch, and was the hero of the siege of Mangalore. In 1781 the 42nd were ordered to the Cape, but, after capturing a Dutch Convoy in Saldanha Bay, the enterprise was abandoned. Meanwhile Hyder Ali, the Moslem usurper of the throne of Mysore, having formed a league with the French, the Black Watch went to the East and occupied Mangalore, in May 1783. On the 28th Tippoo Sultan sent a force to besiege it. For eight months the small, weak, and hungry garrison kept the whole of the Sultan's main army employed. When forced to surrender, 'even Tippoo acknowledged the

gallantry of the defenders.' The East India Company erected a memorial in the Cathedral at Bombay 'to the merits and service of Lieutenant-Colonel John Campbell.'

William Balderston, W.S. (d. 1818), who had been an apprentice to Scott's father, and founded the firm of Scott, Moncrieff & Traill, W.S., was at several addresses in George Square. One of these was No. 11, which he purchased from Lord Stonefield's widow Phoebe Lloyd (his second wife), in 1811. It has been surmised that his somewhat uncommon surname supplied the idea of 'Caleb Balderstone' to Scott, who must have been acquainted with all his father's apprentices.

The earliest owner of No. 12 appears to have been Henry Bethune of Kilconquhar. Connected with the noble family of Lindsay, he figured in the social life of Edinburgh, and was a member of the Poker Club. Later, the house was possessed by several members of the Trotter family—Archibald of the Bush, Robert of Castlelaw (who was Postmaster of Scotland) and Miss Trotter of the Bush.

With the possible exception of Walter Scott's early home, No. 13 is more strongly reminiscent of various aspects of Scottish history than any other house in George Square. For twenty-nine years it was the town house of the Scots judge, Lord Braxfield, and in it he breathed his last when the eighteenth century had nearly run its course.

Formerly a widely spread belief associated the original of R. L. Stevenson's *Weir of Hermiston* with No. 28, but title-deeds place beyond doubt that the 'Hangin' Judge's' connection is with No. 13, and with no other. Probably Stevenson may have been aware of this, but in *Weir of Hermiston*, at any rate, we are told how 'my lord would take the decanter and the glass, and be off to the back chamber *looking on the Meadows*, where he toiled on his cases till the hours were small.' In reality, however, 'my lord' looked, not on the Meadows, but on stables with Ross House for background.



Readers of the romance will remember that Braxfield's mansion was 'wretchedly ill-guided; nothing answerable to the expense of maintenance but the cellar which was his own private care.' This was literally true, for when a subsequent tenant complained that the wine cellar was frequently full of water, the then owner explained that Braxfield found the cellar too small and had deepened it, with disastrous results.

When No. 13 was undergoing structural alterations to meet the needs of the College of Agriculture some relics of the Braxfield period were found in one of the upper rooms. These consisted of invitations to dinner addressed to the Justice-Clerk and his wife, also several visiting cards. Two of the latter were inscribed 'Mrs. Duncan, George Square.' In all likelihood this was the wife of Admiral Duncan. The other cards were those of 'Lady Christian Graham' and 'Mrs. Brown, George Square,' the latter presumably the wife of James Brown from whom Braxfield obtained the feu on which his mansion was reared. One invitation is in the following terms: 'Sir James and Lady Colquhoun request the Honour of Captain and Mrs. McQueen's company to dinner, Friday, at 4 o'clock—St. Andrew Square.' In Fergusson's *Life and Times of Henry Erskine*, Colquhoun of Luss is described as 'one of the oddest characters of the time.' The other invitation was from 'Mr. & Mrs. Macdonald,' who resided in Princes Street. The Macdonalds may have been relations, since Braxfield's daughter Katherine married John Macdonald, head of the Highland family of Clanranald, who owned extensive lands in the Hebrides.

Within a year of Braxfield's death (1799) No. 13 was sold to Claude Alexander of Ballochmyle, the brother of Wilhelmina, the lady celebrated in Burns's song 'The Lass o' Ballochmyle.' The son of a landed proprietor in the west of Scotland, Alexander realised a fortune as Paymaster-General of the East India Company's forces in Bengal. He heiried Ballochmyle from the Whiteford family.

Alexander's proprietorship of No. 13 lasted barely a year. In 1802 the house was bought for a winter residence by Admiral John Inglis of Auchindinny and Redhall. The purchase price was £1280, but with repairs and furnishings this figure was increased to £2500. Inglis was a distinguished sea captain of the Nelson era, and saw much service on both sides of the Atlantic. He was a lifelong friend and fellow officer of his neighbour—Admiral Duncan. In 1795, probably through Duncan's influence, Inglis was commissioned to the *Coromandel*, an armed transport sent to join a squadron cruising off the Texel for the purpose of protecting British merchantmen. Two years later, he reported on the mutiny which had broken out among Duncan's fleet in the North Sea.

The bond between Inglis and Duncan was strengthened by the battle of Camperdown. When the victory was known, local poets became vocal. In David Crawford's *Poems chiefly in the Scots Dialect* Inglis is eulogised in the following doggerel:

An' Captain Inglis, just our ain door-neighbour,
Did pelt amang the loons wi' a' his vigour.
Nae mair they'll grin to taste his heavy mettle;
His wounds can tell he fought a bludy battle.

In November 1797 Inglis was given the honorary freedom of Edinburgh 'in testimony of his intrepid conduct . . . and of the high sense the citizens . . . entertain of Captain Inglis's good services to his country in general and this city in particular.' In 1801 he was promoted Rear-Admiral of the Blue, in 1804 Rear-Admiral of the White, and in 1805 (the year of Trafalgar) Vice-Admiral of the Blue. Inglis died in 1807 and was buried in Colinton Churchyard.¹

Much local history is also bound up with the next occupant of No. 13. In 1804 Lt.-Col. James Leatham came to Edinburgh to be Master of the Riding School. This building, erected from designs of Robert Adam, stood on the site of

¹ See *Family of Inglis of Auchindinny and Redhall*, by John A. Inglis, 1914.

the Surgeons' Hall in Nicolson Street. The institution, officially but vaguely known as the Royal Academy for Teaching Exercises, was patronised by the nobility and gentry. It had, however, a chequered existence.

At the time of his appointment Leatham was Paymaster to the Royal Irish Dragoons. According to the terms of a nine years' engagement, he was to have 'the exclusive liberty of Teaching the Arts of Riding and Fencing, and all other exercises heretofore taught.' The salary was £325. Unfortunately the average annual outlay for maintaining ten horses was £365. This loss quickly accumulated, and in the end amounted to £4380, which was mainly borne by Leatham.

In 1808 the directors of the Riding School presented a memorial to the Treasury, calling attention to Leatham's distressful position. On the advice of the Earl of Moira and General Vyse he had accepted the post of Riding Master, and in so doing had sacrificed two positions in the Army, each worth £500 a year. Yet during the twelve years he had been in Edinburgh he had 'literally derived no Emolument from his situation' but had to subsist on his own means, and was now 'almost a ruined man.'

The Barons of the Exchequer recommended that Leatham be 'reimbursed for the loss he had sustained.' But whether this recommendation was given effect to, and if so how, has not transpired. Leatham still held the appointment in 1828, though by this time the duties were shared by Captain Leatham, possibly a son. On 15th June 1841 Leatham's will was recorded in the Register of Deeds. He was then residing in Shandwick Place, to which he had apparently removed after residing in turn at 13, 28, and 38 George Square (1810-29). Leatham was known to Sir Walter Scott, who, in a letter to Lord Melville, dated November 1819, mentions having introduced Gustavus Vasa, Prince of Sweden (then residing in Edinburgh as Count Itterburg) 'to all the learned Professors

whom he wished to know, not forgetting the Professor of Equitation, our friend Leatham.'¹

Later proprietors of No. 13 include the Rev. Dr. John Paul, one of the ministers of St. Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh. Here was born his son, Sir James Balfour Paul, Lord Lyon King of Arms from 1890 to 1926.

Hitherto it has generally been believed that that talented noblewoman, Elizabeth, Duchess-Countess of Sutherland, resided at No. 15—the last house on the north side—but the Register of Sasines proves conclusively that she lived at No. 14. At a later date the house was occupied by Lady Alva, and in it her daughter, Viscountess Glenorchy, aunt of the Countess of Sutherland, died on 13th July 1786.

Shortly before her death, Lady Glenorchy sold her estate of Barnton and went to reside with her niece in George Square. In the house hung a portrait representing the viscountess 'playing on a lute'; but if all accounts are true the likeness bore little resemblance to the original. Lady Glenorchy was deeply religious. For a time she encouraged John Wesley in his apostolic labours in Edinburgh. She also founded an undenominational chapel which stood for long in the shadow of the old North Bridge. Here she was buried, but on the removal of her chapel in 1845 her remains were re-interred in the church bearing her name in Roxburgh Place. When the present church at the corner of Drummond Street was built, her coffin was lifted once more and given a third burial in what is likely to be its final resting place.

But to return to the Countess of Sutherland, whose career has all the elements of romance. The premature death of her parents in 1766, within sixteen days of each other (they are buried at Holyrood), left Lady Elizabeth, aged one year, the greatest heiress in Scotland and the holder of the oldest title in Great Britain. Besides being a countess in her own right,

¹ See 'An Eighteenth-Century Riding School,' by W. Forbes Gray, in vol. xx of the *Book of the Old Edinburgh Club*.

she was proprietrix of nearly the whole of Sutherlandshire. In 1785 she married George Granville Leveson-Gower, who in 1803 became Marquess of Stafford and in 1833 was created first Duke of Sutherland.

The countess was a gifted artist in water-colours. She and her husband spent lavishly on pictures. Though her principal home was in England, she remained a leal Scots-woman. Edinburgh, her native city, she visited again and again, 'for being there,' as she confesses in one of her letters, 'is always interesting' because of 'the recollections it revives,' George Square not least, we may suppose.

Both Scott and Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe were among her intimate friends. Sir Walter had remembered the countess ever since she stood at the window of No. 14 and reviewed 'her regiment of Sutherland giants.' Sharpe was a relation. Of Scott's writings she was a discriminating admirer, though while the authorship of the Waverley novels was still a secret she assigned *Waverley* and *Guy Mannering* to Sharpe, and even tried to discover from Scott himself 'if her contention was sound.' Many features of these novels seemed to encourage the belief, and she actually wrote congratulating Sharpe. Both works, she told him, were 'read and studied by people of all kinds and so much in fashion, that many pretended to understand the dialogue in *Guy Mannering*, who cannot possibly comprehend a word of it, and who, never having walked through the Greyfriars Churchyard, cannot appreciate the epitaph on Captain Bertram's burial place.'

When the *Border Minstrelsy* appeared, the countess wrote to a friend: 'I like the Border stories, I own, better than the very Highland ones of Macleans and Macdonalds, which never go beyond their own hills; and I like the hills themselves better than the tradition of a Maclean kicking a Macdonald down one of them, or *vice versa*.'

History does not record that the countess was a prodigy, but it may almost be inferred, for when twelve years old she

raised a regiment of Sutherland Fencibles, a thousand strong. Her achievement was prompted by the American War of Independence. So enthusiastic did the countess become that she lamented she could not herself command the regiment. On reaching womanhood she raised a second corps, eventually embodied in the famous 93rd Regiment. In this corps served Samuel Macdonald—'Big Sam.' His height was seven feet four inches, and he was broad proportionately. The countess, 'judging probably,' says General Stewart of Garth, 'that so large a body must require more sustenance than his military pay could afford,' generously allowed 'Big Sam' an additional half-crown a day.

The Gaelic title of Lady Sutherland was 'Banamhorar-Chat' (*i.e.* the Great Lady of the Cat), which Scott pardonably misspelt. Why, it may be asked, 'Great Lady of the Cat'? The explanation is simpler than at first appears. In bygone times the extensive territory in Sutherland and Caithness belonging to her was infested with wild cats, a circumstance which led the head of the house of Sutherland to introduce a black cat into his coat of arms. The chief of the clan was known as 'The Great Cat.'

In 1787, No. 14 found a new proprietor in Captain Archibald Swinton of Kimmerghame. Son of John Swinton of that ilk, he studied surgery in Edinburgh and then embarked on a military career in India, where he was brought into close relationship with Clive. Swinton was wounded at the taking of Arcot. He rendered notable service as a surgeon with the East India Company, and had many adventures which he related with gusto. Swinton's Indian record brought him fame. On returning to Scotland he received the honorary freedom of Glasgow, Inverness, and Fortrose.

He married the eldest daughter of James Campbell of Blythswood, and made No. 14 his town residence. There his eldest son John, and two daughters, Henrietta and Elizabeth Catherine, were born. Swinton died at Bath in 1804 and is

buried in the Abbey there. It is of interest to add that in 1845 Henry Davidson of Muirhouse married Henrietta, third daughter of John Campbell Swinton of Kimmerghame. They were the parents of Randall Thomas Davidson, Archbishop of Canterbury. From 1787 to 1805 the Swintons of Kimmerghame, Archibald and his son John, a captain in the 91st Regiment, lived at No. 14. About 1811 it became the home of Lady Dalrymple Hamilton MacGill. She was the widow of Sir John Dalrymple, fourth baronet of Cousland, and being heiress of Thomas Hamilton MacGill of Oxenford and Fala, her husband (and her cousin), by right of marriage, became Sir John Dalrymple Hamilton MacGill.

Sir John, who was a Baron of Exchequer, is known to literary fame as the author of *Memoirs of Great Britain*, a work rather trenchantly handled by Dr. Johnson. This circumstance, however, did not deter Johnson from accepting an invitation to visit Dalrymple at Cranston, the last he paid in Scotland before returning to England from his tour to the Hebrides.

If, as Boswell says, the visit was not a success, the blame lies with Johnson and his biographer, who accompanied him. Croker can hardly be accused of severity when he states that both 'seem to have behaved . . . with wanton incivility.' They committed the unpardonable sin of arriving 'very late' and found Sir John 'not in a very good humour.' Worse still, Johnson had the effrontery to amuse himself by describing to Boswell the imaginary impatience of their host in language resembling that of the *Memoirs of Great Britain*. It is not surprising, therefore, that the talk was rather strained, and that after supper the travellers retired to 'ancient rooms, which would have better suited the climate of Italy in summer, than that of Scotland in the month of November.'

According to the *Edinburgh Directory* for 1841, Alexander Chancellor of Shieldhall, Lanarkshire, was residing at No. 14. He was the representative of a family which had held the lands

of Shieldhall and Quothquhan for more than four centuries. In the *Memorie of the Somervilles* it is stated that a firm friendship existed between the Lords Somerville and the Chancellors as early as the reign of Robert the Bruce. In 1567 William Chancellor joined the supporters of Mary Queen of Scots and fought at Langside.

No. 14 was for some years the home of Waller Hugh Paton, R.S.A., and there he died in 1895. He came of an artistic family. Waller was a brother of Sir Joseph Noël Paton, while his sister, afterwards Mrs. D. O. Hill, attained some distinction as a sculptor. Though self-taught, Waller Paton quickly came to the front as a landscape painter. He was the first Scottish artist to attempt painting his pictures throughout in the open air. Most of his subjects were found in the hill scenery of Perthshire, Aberdeenshire, and Arran. Waller Paton, writes Sir James L. Caw in *Scottish Painting*, 'was an industrious worker and a copious exhibitor, and for many years his highly finished, prettily detailed landscapes enjoyed enormous popularity with the general as distinguished from the art public.'

The last house on the north side, No. 15, has its western front treated somewhat elaborately, the central feature being a large bay window which once overlooked the spacious and well-wooded grounds of George Watson's Hospital.

In the eighteenth century this house was inhabited by the Calderwoods of Polton and the Durhams of Largo, families that intermarried. William Calderwood, the earliest occupant, was the eldest son of Thomas Calderwood of Polton, and his wife Margaret, daughter of Sir James Steuart of Coltness. Her brother James, who succeeded to the baronetcy, was implicated in the Jacobite rebellion of 1745-46, and compelled to reside abroad. In order to relieve the loneliness of his exile, Mrs. Calderwood joined him in the Low Countries. While there she was punctilious in jotting down her travels and experiences, and at the same time kept up a voluminous

correspondence with her Scottish relatives and friends. All this material ultimately was brought together and published under the title of *Letters and Journals of Mrs. Calderwood of Polton*. The work, now scarce, is noted for the gossipy as well as graphic account of her sojourn abroad interlarded with much shrewd comment on manners and customs in a strange land.

William Calderwood, who is frequently mentioned in his mother's letters, became Lt.-Col. of the First Horse Guards. He also held the office of Silver Stick. In 1780 he married Anne, daughter of Col. John Balneaves of Cairnbadie. His death occurred prematurely in 1787 at Lausanne, where there is a monument to his memory. The Polton estate passed to his sister Anne, who had married James Durham of Largo. 'A gentleman of good and ancient family,' he was living at No. 15 about the time of the death of his brother-in-law, William Calderwood of Polton.

Durham appears to have had a claim to the disputed title of Lord Rutherford, his grandmother having been a daughter of Sir Thomas Rutherford, heir of line of Lord Rutherford. Indeed the laird of Largo went so far as to have a statement of his descent drawn up, 'as much for the purpose of saving the dignity from falling into wrong hands, as for any hope of securing it for himself.'

Romney painted the portrait of Mrs. Durham of Largo. It shows 'a face of exceeding brightness and intelligence . . . admirably set off by a large hat and plume of ostrich feathers.' Her son was Admiral Sir Philip Calderwood Durham. He was Captain of H.M.S. *Defiance* at Trafalgar.

V. FAMOUS RESIDENTS—WEST ROW

The first proprietor of No. 16, James Fraser of Torbreck, was an apothecary in London. He was the second son of Alexander Fraser, fifth of Phopachy, described as a 'hellish knave' by Simon, Lord Lovat, whom James saw beheaded on Tower Hill. Lovat had a disagreement with Fraser of

Phopachy, his factor, who was dismissed when the notorious Jacobite's 'wylde humour came on.'

In Lovat's correspondence are malignant references to the 'London Apothecary,' for whom, however, he sent, while awaiting execution, and who is noted in the *Records of the Tower* as 'James Fraser, Apothecary, in Craven Street.' He was one of six persons allowed to see Lovat 'at all seasonable times.' Forgetful of earlier rancour, Lovat embraced Fraser on the scaffold, saying, 'My dear James, I am going to Heaven but you must continue to crawl a little longer in this evil world.'

In 1758 the London apothecary purchased the lands of Torbreck and Balrobert, and eventually succeeded his brother, 'Young Phopachy,' who died without an heir.

The *Edinburgh Courant* of 17th November 1770 contains the announcement that 'On Thursday the 15th current, died at his house in George's Square, in this neighbourhood, Dr. James Fraser of Tarbreck.' Fraser must have lost his wife some years previously, for he signed a disposition and assignation of 16 George Square in favour of his niece, Miss Elizabeth Reid, the second proprietor, 'in consideration that at my request she gave up her business as a milliner in Edinburgh to reside with me and take charge of my house and family.'

Elizabeth Reid was a daughter, by his second marriage, of the Rev. Lewis Reid, minister at Strachan, Kincardineshire, and his wife Janet, a daughter of Alexander Fraser of Phopachy (the 'hellish knave'). Reid's first wife, Margaret, was one of the many children of David Gregory of Kinnairdy, so that Elizabeth Reid had distinguished connections among the Academic Gregorys. The Testamentary Register of the Commissariat of Edinburgh records the will of 'Reid, Miss Betty, sometime milliner in Edinburgh, 27 May 1773.' Her brother, the Rev. Thomas Reid, was Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Glasgow.

The next proprietor of No. 16 was Lady Anne Duff (1725-

1805), daughter of William, first Earl of Fife. The wife of Alexander Duff of Hatton, she was a cousin of Mrs. Udny of Udny, who lived at No. 2.

Lady Anne Duff's daughter, who was the wife of Sir James Grant of Grant, only son of Sir Ludovick Grant, by his second wife, Lady Margaret Ogilvie, eldest daughter of James, Earl of Findlater and Seafield, inherited No. 16 on the death of her mother. Sir James Grant, known as 'the good Sir James,' was an admirable landlord. Successively M.P. for Elgin and Forres, and Banff, he raised two regiments of fencibles. The first served as marines with Lord Howe's fleet in 1794 and, afterwards, was drafted to the Black Watch. The second was the well-known 97th or Strathspey Fencibles, in whose uniform Sir James Grant makes a handsome figure in Kay's *Portraits*.

In 1813, No. 16 became the home of the Dowager Lady Purves, widow of Sir Alexander Purves.

The first proprietor of No. 17 was Robert Stedman, an Edinburgh merchant. He married Martha, eldest daughter of Rev. Edward Stedman, Haddington, chaplain to Charles, Earl of Hopetoun. Mrs. Stedman's mother was Janet, daughter of Rev. Patrick Wilkie, also of Haddington. In his *Autobiography* Carlyle of Inveresk gives interesting sketches of the ministers of Haddington in 1744, and includes a flattering estimate of the father, and a most unflattering one of the grandfather of Mrs. Martha Stedman.

I passed on to Haddington, and dined with Mr. Edward Stedman, a man of first-rate sense and ability, and a leader of the presbytery. We called on his father-in-law, Mr. Patrick Wilkie, who had as little desire to examine young men as he had capacity to judge of their proficiency, so that I had only to pay my compliments and pass an hour or two with Stedman, whom I knew well before, and who, with the sombre constrained air of a Jesuit or an old Covenanter, had an enlightened and ardent mind, and comprehended all things human and divine.

From Stedman No. 17 passed to Miss Margaret Keith

Abercromby, the younger daughter of General James Abercromby of Glassaugh, who had resided at No. 8. Abercromby's elder daughter, Jean, married (1) Capt. George Morison of Haddo and Bognie, and their daughter Mary, who had married Col. Robert William Duff of Fetteresso, inherited No. 17 from her aunt. Col. Duff was a nephew of Lord Fife and of Lady Anne Duff who owned No. 16. Thomas Abercromby Duff of Haddo, advocate, the son of Duff of Fetteresso, was the fourth proprietor of No. 17.

Two other inhabitants of this house are of interest. General John Fletcher Campbell, seventh of Saltoun, who was a tenant for a couple of years, assumed the additional name of Campbell on succeeding to Boquhan. The other resident of No. 17 was the Rev. Dr. James MacGregor (1832-1910), minister of the Tron and subsequently of St. Cuthbert's, both of Edinburgh. He was Chaplain-in-Ordinary to Victoria and Edward VII. One of the most popular of Scottish preachers, Dr. MacGregor was Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1891. Lady Frances Balfour wrote a biography of him.

When No. 18 comes into the records, it is in the possession of the family of Leith of Overhall. Mrs. Leith (Elizabeth Forbes), widow of Robert Leith, was living there as early as 1774. In 1797 the mansion was occupied by George Leith of Overhall. In the middle of last century it was the manse of Lady Yester's Church. The Rev. John Caird, who in early life acquired distinction as a pulpit orator and a theologian and philosopher, resided at No. 18 from 1847 to 1849. While still on the threshold of a career which culminated in the Principalship of Glasgow University, crowds flocked to Lady Yester's to hear Caird's polished sermons. It is said that the size of the congregation was such that latterly admission was by ticket. Caird's discourse on 'Religion in Common Life,' preached before Queen Victoria at Crathie, is reputed to have been known throughout the Protestant world. Dean Stanley

accounted it 'the greatest sermon of the nineteenth century,' though it would be interesting to know how he arrived at this conclusion.

Prominent in the early history of No. 19 are the Irvings of Bonshaw, a family that for long was one of the considerable clans in Dumfriesshire. In the sixteenth century they had a fighting force of about five hundred men. The Bonshaw family were regarded as chiefs, being recognised as such in an Act of Parliament passed in 1587. The first proprietor was Robert Irving, W.S., who married a sister of William Veitch of Elioock. He died in 1772, within a year of acquiring the house in George Square. He was succeeded by John Robertson Irving, and then in 1773 another Writer to the Signet, Charles Gordon of Cluny, became owner.

The Gordons of Cluny, Aberdeenshire, were proprietors of the Braid estate to the south of the city, and Charles Gordon, the resident in George Square, built the present mansion of Hermitage of Braid about 1780. It is designed in the castellated style known as 'Carpenter's Gothic,' and has points of resemblance with Gillespie's Hospital and Nelson's Monument. The original form, weak architecturally, has been altered by the erection of an additional storey.

Charles Gordon, W.S., was the father of the beautiful Joanna Gordon, who became the wife of the seventh Earl of Stair. Gordon's wife was Joanna, daughter of Thomas Trotter of Mortonhall. The wedded life of the countess was unhappy, and after the annulment of the marriage in 1820 she lived a solitary life at Hermitage of Braid. She is buried in St. Cuthbert's Churchyard. Charles Gordon, her father, died in 1814.

From 1810, and for a number of years thereafter, No. 19 was the residence of William Dymock, W.S., who was prominent in the ecclesiastical history of Scotland. He was intimately associated with the evangelistic labours of the brothers Robert and James A. Haldane, though he sub-

sequently differed from them on baptism and church government. At one time the whole of Robert Haldane's substantial pecuniary transactions with the Scottish Congregationalists were managed by the 'excellent and respected William Dymock, Esq., of George Square, W.S.'¹

A story of financial disaster attaches to Robert Forrester, an eminent Edinburgh banker, who was inhabiting No. 20 in 1775. Ten years previously he had helped to originate the firm of Bertram, Gardner and Company, whose course in face of much competition did not run smoothly. The crash came in 1793 when the firm's liabilities amounted to about £145,000, but the partners managed to liquidate to the extent of 17s. 6d. in the £. Forrester was one of the jurymen at the trial of Deacon Brodie.

Before the eighteenth century closed No. 20 was disposed of to Robert Sym, Writer to the Signet, and was his home for many years. The uncle of Professor John Wilson ('Christopher North'), he was the Timothy Tickler of *Noctes Ambrosianæ*. Sym, who is said to have been one of the most handsome men in Edinburgh, appears among John Kay's etchings, dressed immaculately, taking a morning stroll in the Meadows. He also has a place in Benjamin Crombie's *Modern Athenians*, a series of original coloured portraits of distinguished citizens of the period 1837-47. In that work we read of Sym's 'fine, fresh complexion . . . wreathed amid snowy locks, crowning a stately figure of the most shapely proportions, dressed in light-coloured attire.'

At Sym's house contributors to *Blackwood's Magazine* forgathered, and mirth and song held high festival. James Hogg, the Etrick Shepherd, has drawn a characteristic word-picture of an evening spent at 20 George Square. The poet and Sym, seated side by side, would play Scots music. 'At the end of every tune,' writes Hogg, 'we took a glass, and still our enthusiasm increased, our energies of execution

¹ *Lives of the Haldanes*, 4th ed., 1855, pp. 343-4.

being redoubled; till ultimately it became not only a complete and well-contested race of fiddlesticks but a trial of strength to determine which should drown the other.'

On one occasion Sym entertained to dinner three nephews—John, Robert and James Wilson, also De Quincey, Hogg, and Lockhart. As he carved the pheasants, he told a droll story of how the birds were delivered at various houses in the Square, prior to being returned to No. 20. Though the pheasants were a gift to Sym from Archibald Campbell, Sym mistakenly sent them on with his compliments to No. 32, then occupied by Lady Wedderburn. She in turn sent them to the Misses Brown at No. 29. Thereafter, the birds were handed in at No. 24 (Sir William Purves Hume Campbell), then at No. 59 (William Mitchell), and next at No. 14 (Miss Dalrymple). The last-mentioned sent them on again to Sym, and so ended the travels round the Square of the pheasants.

Sym died in 1845 at the great age of ninety-three. In an hour of revelry some twenty years before, the wags assembled in Ambrose's Tavern composed obituary verses for each other. Here is part of those about Sym:

Pray for the soul
Of Timothy Tickler,
For the church and the bowl
A determinate stickler!
With a pipe in his cheek
And a goblet before him,
Every night of the week
In sæcula sæculorum.

Though a W.S.
And ambitious to thrive,
He ne'er caus'd distress
To a creature alive.

Beyond the control
Of old Nick in particular,
O cherish the soul
Of dear Timothy Tickler!

An early occupant of No. 21 was Mrs. Penuel Grant, widow of Capt. Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch. One of fourteen children of Sir James Grant of Grant, she married Capt. Grant in 1740. They had one son, William, who succeeded to Ballindalloch. Mrs. Penuel Grant died at her house in George Square about 1800.

Capt. James Ludovick Grant of the H.C.S. *Brunswick*, who sold No. 21 after the death of Mrs. Penuel Grant, was the son of Lt.-Gen. Francis Grant of Dunphail, M.P. for Elgin, and his wife, Catherine Sophia Cox, and a nephew of Mrs. Penuel Grant. In the *Journals of Thomas Addison, 1801-30*, there is a vivid word-portrait of Grant, who is described as 'a martinet and a great disciplinarian' but who 'always made a point of treating the midshipmen as officers and gentlemen, two of whom dined with him daily.' Grant used to tell 'long yarns about his having served as midshipman with the Duke of Clarence.'

In No. 21 resided at the beginning of last century the Tods of Drygrange. The widow of Thomas Tod, W.S. (Jean, daughter of James Gartshore, W.S.), who at an earlier date was living in No. 26, took up residence at No. 21 in 1804. The house was then owned by a son, Archibald Tod, also a Writer to the Signet. Drygrange is an estate in Melrose parish, the mansion occupying the site of the granary of Dryburgh Abbey. From Drygrange Bridge, close to the junction of Tweed and Leader, there is an extensive view of

Ercildoune and Cowdenknowes
Where Homes had once commanding;
And Drygrange wi' the milk-white ewes,
'Twixt Tweed and Leader standing.

Another occupant of No. 21, about 1801-3, was Sir John Henderson of Fordel, Bart. In Kay's *Original Portraits* there is a droll etching entitled 'A Political Set-To, or Freedom of Election Illustrated.' The 'row' occurred at the General Election of 1796, when an exciting contest took place between

Sir John and the Hon. Andrew Cochrane Johnstone, afterwards Governor of Dominica. Both were Parliamentary candidates for Inverkeithing. The result was disputed. A committee of the House of Commons, however, declared Johnstone elected, but placed it on record that Henderson's petition was not 'frivolous or vexatious.'

No. 22 has interesting associations with such diverse literary figures as Boswell and Carlyle. The first owner was Miss Isabella Hall of Dunglass (d. 1804),¹ eldest daughter of Sir James Hall, second Baronet of Dunglass, and aunt of the Sir James Hall who was a fellow-pupil with Napoleon at Brienne. She is mentioned several times by Boswell in his *Journal* for 1781-82. She was a niece of Boswell's friend, Sir John Pringle, who resided in No. 32. There Boswell frequently met Miss Hall. Occasionally the biographer of Johnson called upon her himself, as he appears to have preferred her company to that of the ladies of the Pringle family whom he designates 'Dull Women.' Boswell, who tells us he 'drank freely,' or went home 'in a chair a good deal intoxicated,' dwells with satisfaction on social gatherings at the Hon. Alexander Gordon's² when Sir James and Miss Hall were among the company. The evening was 'all sobriety and genteel manners. I liked it much.'

Burns alludes, in his *Journal* for 1787, to his visit to Sir James Hall at Dunglass, where his host pointed out 'a walk for which he has an uncommon respect, as it was made by an aunt of his to whom he owed much.'

John Bradfute (1763-1837), the next proprietor of No. 22, was a partner of Bell and Bradfute, booksellers. He was descended from a family closely connected with the Church of Scotland, his father and grandfather being ministers of

¹ She was the attached friend of Mrs. Alison Cockburn, and is frequently referred to in her published correspondence as 'Tibby or Tib Hall.'

² When raised to the bench of the Court of Session in 1784 he assumed the judicial title of Lord Rockville. He was a son of the second Earl of Aberdeen.

Dunsyre, and his great-grandfather of Pettinam. A vivid description of John Bell, and his nephew, John Bradfute, will be found in *Archibald Constable and his Literary Correspondents* (i. p. 536).

The late Mr. John Bell . . . may be ranked as the most thorough gentleman of the profession in Edinburgh at this period. . . . His nephew and partner, my friend Mr. Bradfute, inherits all the esteem and respectability of his uncle, and is in possession of a handsome fortune, which, to my knowledge, he applies on suitable occasions to kind and benevolent purposes. Mr. Bradfute was regularly bred to the profession, and after spending some time in Paris, became the partner of his uncle under the firm of Bell and Bradfute in the year 1788 or 1789.

Partly on account of Bradfute's position as a bookseller, and partly because of the friendship of his niece, Eliza Stodart, with Jane Welsh, No. 22 has a niche in the literary history of Edinburgh. Some of the episodes of Carlyle's courtship took place here, and nearly the whole of the correspondence published in *Early Letters of Jane Welsh Carlyle* is addressed to her friend Eliza (Bess) Stodart at 22 George Square.

At No. 22 Carlyle superintended Jane Welsh's German studies in the winter of 1821. In Wilson's *Carlyle Till Marriage* it is noted how Jane Welsh 'came to town herself . . . , and stayed with her dear Bess Stodart in George Square.' In April 1823 Jane and her mother stayed for ten days at No. 22. Carlyle was invited to call but, after all hopeful anticipations, there were but four interviews with Jane. Both, however, continued to write to each other, Jane, in one of her epistles, giving an interesting account of the great Edinburgh fire of 1824. 'For the last six weeks, I have seldom been three days at a time without a pain in my head; and now the gaieties of the [Musical] Festival and the alarm of the Fire have made me even worse than usual. The Newspapers will have informed you of this calamitous business; unfortunately I was at George Square when it happened;

and Mr. Bradfute being a party concerned, we were kept, while it lasted, in continual agitation. I verily believe another night of it would have killed me.' In 1836 Eliza Stodart married the Rev. David Aitken, and left No. 22. In the following year Bradfute died.

A Moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church tenanted No. 22 from 1855-66, Rev. Patrick Clason, D.D., of whom there is an amusing but kindly portrait in Crombie's *Modern Athenians*.

No. 23 was bought by Thomas Lockhart, Commissioner of Excise (the builder of 23A), in 1775. 'Thomas Lockhart of Lockhart Hall, Bart.,' as he is described by his widow, Henrietta Gordon of Newhall, on a tombstone in Kirk-michael Churchyard, was a friend of James Boswell, who, under date Sunday 25th February 1776, notes: 'I walked out to George's Square between sermons, and sat a little with Commissioner Lockhart.' This was a staid visit compared with the hearty dinner Boswell had at the Lockharts in 1780 when the only other guests were Commissioner Cochrane, Miss Christie and Mr. Ross, Secretary of the Post Office. Boswell writes: 'I drank porter and port and Madeira and a bottle of Claret, and wished for more. I staid tea.'

The next proprietor of No. 23 was the celebrated Scottish judge, William Craig, Lord Craig (1745-1813). Son of the Rev. William Craig, Glasgow, he became an advocate and was raised to the bench of the Court of Session in 1792. Lord Craig was a cousin of Mrs. M'Lehose, Burns's Clarinda, to whom he left an annuity. Clarinda declared in her old age that Lord Craig was the best friend she ever had.

Craig's tastes were literary. He was a frequent contributor to *The Mirror*, and its successor, *The Lounger*. Henry Mackenzie was his intimate friend. In *Anecdotes and Egotisms*, the 'Man of Feeling' tells of his interest in a 'small literary club' of which he was a member, 'along with Mr. Blair, afterwards President of the Court of Session, Mr. (after-

wards Judge) Abercromby, Lord Craig, Lord Bannatyne, and Mr. George Ogilvie. We used to discuss literary subjects (generally drinking tea at the house of one of the members) without the formality of a set speech.' Lord Craig's portrait by Raeburn was long in the possession of Robert Sym at No. 20.

Later No. 23 was occupied by Capt. William Ogilvy, R.N., third son of Sir John Ogilvy, of Inverquharity, whom he succeeded in the baronetcy. Entering the Navy in 1773, Ogilvy served as lieutenant of the *Polyphemus*, 64, in the action off Cape Spartel, and was Captain of the *Robust*, 74, at the occupation of Toulon, when, says Bryant, 'the greatest arsenal in France and thirty ships of the line passed into the hands of a British fleet of only twelve,' after which came the battle off Ushant. Ogilvy was presented with a commission for his conduct during an action 'lustrous with many a tale of gallantry.' He next distinguished himself in Sir John Warren's expedition to Quiberon in 1795. In the following year, while in command of the *Lark*, 16, the Navy co-operated with the Army in the unsuccessful attack upon the island of Santo Domingo. In 1821 Ogilvy was placed on the list of superannuated Rear-Admirals.

A subsequent tenant of No. 23 was John Thomson, a noted physician and surgeon whose portrait in oils hangs in Surgeons' Hall. He was reputed the most learned physician in Scotland, and having held three separate professional chairs in Edinburgh, was nicknamed 'The Chair-Maker.'

No. 23A is the quaint little house which attracts the attention of many visitors. In June 1779 the proprietors in George Square presented a petition to the Court of Session, of which the following is an extract:

That the opening or thoroughfare betwixt the House belonging to Commissioner Lockhart and that belonging to Miss Hall, in place of being of any utility to the inhabitants of that row, is very inconvenient especially in the winter season, and in high winds and stormy weather,

it therefore is our desire to have the same shut up, and for that purpose and in order that it may be done in the most frugal manner, we do consent and agree that Commissioner Lockhart or Miss Hall, shall have leave to fill up the said opening with any building which they may think proper to erect as an addition to one or other of their houses, providing always That such building shall be within the line of the other Houses and shall be erected and supported at their own charge and shall be of a construction ornamental to the Square.

The prayer of the petition was granted.

Thomas Hog of Newliston (1742-1827), advocate, was the first proprietor of No. 24. His first wife was Lady Maria, third daughter of James, seventh Earl of Lauderdale.

Then, for thirty-four years, the house was the centre of a gallant circle of officers in the service of the East India Company. The first of these, and the second proprietor of No. 24, was Col. Sir John Cumming, who was appointed in 1771 to command all the Company's troops in the service of the Nawab Wazir of Oudh. He was made a Knight Bachelor in 1780. Several references to Cumming occur in W. C. Macpherson's *Soldiering in India, 1764-1787*. Cumming, who died in 1786 at St. Helena, married in 1770 Mary, eldest daughter of Capt. Henry Wedderburn of Gosford, who is known to readers of Scott's autobiography as his neighbour in George Square. Lady Cumming, who thought the howls of the Scott children when learning to sing were cries of woe while undergoing chastisement, 'sent to beg the boys might not be all flogged precisely at the same hour, as, though she had no doubt the punishment was deserved, the noise of the concord was really dreadful.'

Lady Cumming's father, Capt. Henry Wedderburn of Gosford, was 'bred to the sea' (*Wedderburn Book*), 'and settled at Bengal as a free mariner soon after 1740.' He rendered valuable service to the East India Company in their struggles with Suraja Dowlah and the Dutch. He was made Master Intendant of Marine, a post which he held until his death.

No. 24 ultimately became the property of Col. Henry John Cumming, 11th Dragoons, who sold it in 1804 to Lt.-Col. Robert Bruce of St. John Street, Canongate. Bruce, who was a brother-in-law of James Cockburn of the Linen Hall, Edinburgh, served in the second Rohilla War, and in 1799 commanded the Hindustani cavalry known as Bruce's Independent Regiment of Cavalry. For a stirring description of Bruce's service during the second Rohilla War the curious may consult the *Memoirs* of William Hickey.

The sixth proprietor of No. 24 was Sir William Purves Hume Campbell of Purves and Marchmont, Bart. (1767-1833). In 1813 he bought No. 16 for his stepmother, Lady Purves.

Arthur Forbes of Culloden, who married Mary, daughter of Col. Sir John Cumming, is mentioned in an old list of residents in George Square as living at No. 24. He was admitted a burgess and guild-brother of Edinburgh in 1784. In a *View of the Political State of Scotland in 1788* he is referred to as of 'independent fortune. Got a sum from Government for a monopoly of whisky duty free. Connected with Lord Forbes his chief, Lord Monboddo his relation, and Sir Arthur Forbes who is one of the Independent Friends.'

The Rev. Dr. William Robertson (d. 1882), another tenant, is chiefly remembered for having established the Vennel Ragged School in 1846, and for his sympathetic interest in the Waldensian Churches. For forty years minister of New Greyfriars, Edinburgh, his social and mission work among the poor in the parish was commemorated by the building of the Robertson Memorial Church in Grassmarket.

At No. 24 also lived Dr. Robert Lee (1804-68), minister of Old Greyfriars, and afterwards Professor of Biblical Criticism in Edinburgh University. Shortly after Lee's appointment to Old Greyfriars (1845) occurred the memorable fire, a great part of the church being severely damaged. At its reopening in 1857, certain innovations introduced by Dr. Lee culminated in his arraignment before the General

Assembly of 1867. But 'on the day preceding the trial, while riding in Princes Street, he was struck by paralysis and fell from his horse at the West End.' His death took place a few months later.

Many of the memories of Scott are, as he himself wrote to John Swinton of Kimmerghame in 1827, when recalling 'George's Square with all its childish and boyish anxieties, hopes, and fears,' inseparably linked with No. 25. Two rooms are particularly associated with Scott's youthful days. One is the upstairs bedroom where he lay for weeks seriously ill. For long hours cleverly arranged mirrors reflecting passers-by in the Middle Meadow Walk provided him with a source of amusement. Two window panes bear traces of his name scratched with a diamond in a rather uncertain hand. One is clear: 'W. Scott.' The second begins more elaborately 'Walter Sc,' then trails off in a series of indeterminate lines. The other room is the 'den' in the sunk storey where, Lockhart tells us, Jeffrey called on Scott the night succeeding that on which he, a newly elected member of the Speculative Society, had requested an introduction to Scott, after having heard him read 'an essay on ballads.'

Scott himself records another memory associated with a particular room in No. 25. During his delicate childhood he slept in his mother's dressing-room, where he found 'some odd volumes of Shakespeare.' 'Nor can I,' he says, 'easily forget the rapture with which I sate up in my shirt reading them by the light of a fire in her apartment, until the bustle of the family rising from supper warned me it was time to creep back to my bed, where I was supposed to have been safely deposited since nine o'clock.'

The Square was the scene of many an episode of Sir Walter's daily life. In 1824 Scott conducted Dr. and Mrs. Hughes 'to the charming meadow walk at the bottom of George Square.' He pointed out his father's house and the room in which he used to study, also 'where when sometimes

I was believed to be hard at work, I was looking out into the walk for a certain blue feather.' The wearer was Miss Wilhelmina Belsches. Then Sir Walter added with a deep sigh, 'This walk is after all a melancholy place to me tho' I love to come to it, for it is the scene of past loves and friendships, and most of the actors are in their graves.'

Even the Meadows can conjure up memories of young Scott walking after the labours of the day with his friend Irving among the formal alleys of old trees and repeating with enthusiasm—especially on moonlit nights—lines that had a strong hold on his imagination:

The dews of Summer night did fall—
The Moon, sweet regent of the sky,
Silvered the walls of Cumnor Hall,
And many an oak that grew thereby.

In No. 25 were written the translations from Horace and Virgil, approved by Dr. Adam. Two of these, preserved by Adam, were 'found wrapped up in a cover, inscribed "Walter Scott, July 1783."' The translations from German ballads were also made in No. 25.

The Scott children shared 'the quaintest home-made wooden rocking-horse,' which a year or two ago was found concealed 'between the attic roof and the slated roof.'

The poet's father, Walter Scott, W.S. (1729-99), was a son of Robert Scott of Sandyknowes, Roxburghshire. He married Anne, eldest daughter of Dr. John Rutherford, Professor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh. Sir Walter has immortalised his father as Saunders Fairford in *Redgarnillet*.

An interesting visitor to No. 25 on 11th April 1777 was James Boswell. Sir William Forbes had advised him not to be in a hurry to choose a school for the Campbells, and, says Boswell,

He recommended it to me to talk with Mr. Walter Scott, Writer to the Signet, who had been at great pains to look out for a good school,

and had found one near Dumfries where he had placed his eldest son. I called on Mr. Scott this evening at his house in George's Square, and as he is much of a Gentleman, I had a very agreeable conversation with him. His notions and mine just coincided as to the North of England schools, and I was pleased to find that the school of which he had approved after the most particular and attentive inquiry was that of Closeburn, of which Mr. Alexander Mundell is Master.

Boswell then goes on to note that Mr. Scott, that same evening, took him to visit Capt. the Hon. Charles Napier, at No. 1.

No. 26 has associations with both Scott and Carlyle. The first owner was Thomas Tod, W.S., of Drygrange (1726-1800). His numerous children were the friends of the Scott family next door; while his second son, Thomas (1771-1850), was the schoolmate of Sir Walter, who records an occasion at Abbotsford in September 1826, when 'Mr. Thomas Tod and his wife came to dine,' and 'we talked of old stories and got over a pleasant evening.' Familiar as Scott was with this house in boyhood, he had not visited it until the last few years of his life, when it was the home of John Scott of Gala.

During the years 1817-26, No. 26 was the home of the Rev. Dr. Thomas Fleming (1754-1824), of Lady Yester's Church. In 1822 Edward Irving recommended Carlyle as 'a tutor to the Bullers, a rich Anglo-Indian couple in perplexity about two of their sons,' who 'were to be sent to Edinburgh University for a year or two.' Towards the end of January, 'Charles and Arthur Buller arrived at the home of Dr. Fleming in George Square where they were to board.'

Carlyle found the Bullers bright and agreeable pupils. He remarks particularly of Charles that he was 'a most manageable, intelligent, cheery, and altogether welcome and intelligent phenomenon; quite a bit of sunshine in my dreary Edinburgh element.' Buller had been removed from Harrow and put under the tutorship of Carlyle, who, not so advanced as his pupil in Greek and Latin, had to push on his own studies

to keep ahead. Charles Buller eventually became member of Parliament for Liskeard, and accompanied Lord Durham to Canada. Much of the celebrated Durham Report was drawn up by him.

One can picture the young Carlyle passing daily through George Square and glancing at Bradfute's door on the way to attend his young Anglo-Indian pupils, and, a few years later, Walter Scott using 'paths not trod for twenty years' in order to visit his 'dear Gala' who lived at No. 26 from 1828 to 1831. He was a kinsman of Sir Walter, who in his letters dubs him 'the Baron of Galashiels.' Gala was one of the trio who accompanied Scott to the Continent in July 1815, the others being Alexander Pringle, younger of Whytbank, and Robert Bruce, afterwards Sheriff of Argyll. On the return journey Sir Walter had his last meeting with Byron. He took Gala with him, and the poet dined with both at their hotel. In a letter to Morritt of Rokeby, dated 2nd October 1815, Sir Walter writes: 'My young friend Gala has left me after a short visit to Abbotsford. He is my nearest (conversable) neighbour, and I promise myself much comfort in him, as he has a turn both for the sciences and for the arts, rather uncommon among our young Scotch lairds.' Lockhart prints a letter from Gala narrating the last time he saw Sir Walter, which was in London, the day after the novelist arrived from Scotland, on his way to Italy. On 26th May 1829 Sir Walter 'dined at Gala's, and had the pleasure to see him in amended health. Sir John and Lady Hope were there, and the evening was lively and pleasant. George's Square is always a melancholy place to me. I was dining next door to my father's former house.'

There is a story to the effect that Sir Ralph Abercromby resided at No. 27 between 1788-94 but no proof has been forthcoming. The *Edinburgh Directories* give his address as George Square, but that is all. The first proprietor of No. 27 was the Hon. Henry Erskine (1746-1817), known affection-

ately as 'Plead-for-All or the Poor Men's Lawyer.' He was a son of Henry David, Earl of Buchan and his wife Agnes, daughter of Sir James Stewart of Goodtrees. His brilliant talents, sparkling wit, and handsome appearance made him a universal favourite. He was Lord Advocate in 1783 and 1806, and Dean of Faculty in 1786. Erskine liked a quiet rural stroll. Says Kay: 'While Mr. Erskine practised at the Bar, it was his frequent custom to walk, after the rising of the Court, to the Meadows. . . .'

A glimpse of Erskine's kindness and courtesy is given in a letter written by him in 1809 to Kirkpatrick Sharpe, whose acquaintance he had not then made. But the most attractive account is in Scott's *Journal*: 'Henry Erskine was the best-natured man I ever knew, thoroughly a gentleman, and with but one fault—he could not say *no*, and thus sometimes misled those who trusted him.' The families of Erskine and Scott were on friendly, though not intimate, terms, and the Scotts, who did not keep a carriage, rented their unused stables to the Erskines, whose equipage was one of the colourful sights of George Square.

Next we come to Vice-Admiral Francis Erskine Loch (1788-1868), who after a great deal of service was made a naval aide-de-camp to Queen Victoria. The youngest son of George Loch of Drylaw and his wife Mary, daughter of John Adam of Blair-Adam, he entered the Navy in 1799, narrowly escaping with his life the following year when his ship took fire. From the time when he assisted at the blockade of Genoa his whole career reads as if it came straight from the pages of Marryat.

Captain Loch, who at one time commanded Nelson's flagship *Victory*, cruised in the North Sea with great success. He had several daring exploits, commanding a body of seamen at the capture of Monte Video and sketching (1812) the position of the enemy's vessels in Brest Roads. Subsequently, between Ushant and Ile de Bas, he forced an armed convoy

to seek protection, an achievement officers and men acknowledged by presenting him with an elegant sword and a complimentary address. In 1813 Loch assisted in a naval demonstration when Wellington's army was forcing the French lines along the coasts of St. Jean de Luz. At the Peace of 1814 the *Sparrow*, under his command, carried members of the suites of the Allied Sovereigns. Then in 1815 Loch conveyed arms and ammunition to troops on the coast of Spain. Subsequently he was senior naval officer in the Persian Gulf, where he captured or destroyed nine piratical vessels. Admiral Loch retired in 1863.

The most interesting personage known to have lived at No. 27 was Sir Adam Ferguson (1771-1855), Keeper of the Scottish Regalia. Scott writes of him as 'Adam Ferguson, son of the celebrated Professor Ferguson, who combined the lightest and most airy temper with the best and kindest disposition.' It was at Professor Ferguson's house in Sciennes that the only meeting of Burns and Scott took place. The younger Ferguson served in the Peninsula under Wellington. His career has more than a hint of the dashing figures in Lever's military novels, as is testified by his letter to Scott, dispatched from Lisbon in August 1811. Here is an extract:

. . . I need not tell you how greatly I was delighted at the success of the *Lady of the Lake*. I daresay you are by this time well tired of such greetings—so I shall only say, that last spring I was so fortunate as to get a reading of it, when in the lines of Torres Vedras. . . . While the book was in my possession, I had nightly invitations to evening parties! to read and illustrate passages of it, and I must say that (though not conscious of much merit in the way of recitation) my attempts to do justice to the grand opening of the stag-hunt were always followed with bursts of applause—for this Canto was the favourite among the rough sons of the fighting Third Division. At that time supplies of various kinds, especially anything in the way of delicacies, were very scanty; and in gratitude I am bound to declare that to the good offices of the *Lady* I owed many a nice slice of ham and rummer of hot punch, which, I assure you, were amongst the

most welcome favours that one officer could bestow on another, during long rainy nights. . . .

Ferguson was taken prisoner during the retreat from Burgos and remained in France until the Peace of 1814. He witnessed the Bourbon entry into Paris.

In 1818 he and his sisters went to live at Huntly Burn, near Abbotsford. In a letter to Morritt, Scott writes :

Captain Fergusson is inducted into the office of Keeper of the Regalia, to the great joy, I think of all Edinburgh. He has entered upon a farm (of eleven acres) in consequence of this advancement, for you know it is a general rule, that whenever a Scotsman gets his head above water, he immediately turns it to land. As he has already taken all the advice of all the notables in and about the good village of Darnick, we expect to see his farm look like a tailor's book of patterns.

Ferguson, who married the widow of George Lyon, a daughter of John Stewart of Stenton, Perthshire, received his knighthood when King George IV visited Edinburgh. He it was who commissioned Wilkie to paint Scott and his family as a group of peasants, with Ferguson himself in the background in the guise of a gamekeeper or poacher.

The *Memoir of William and Robert Chambers* contains an account of Sir Adam while living in George Square. William Chambers says :

Sir Adam was an intimate acquaintance of my brother, at whose house I frequently met him. Notwithstanding his extreme age, he possessed great buoyancy of spirit, told amusing anecdotes, and was an enthusiastic admirer of the Scottish melodies. . . . He had long entertained a wish to visit Peeblesshire for the last time, and now, in his eighty-first year, the wish was realised. . . . I drove him to Hallyards to see his former haunts. Every step in the excursion awakened old and slumbering recollections. He declared, however, that he with difficulty recognised some of the ancient landmarks. The sight of the old avenue of Hallyards affected him considerably. He said he was afraid his feelings would not allow him to enter the house ; but the spirit of the old soldier rallied. . . . He essayed to mount to a room



STAIRCASE AT No. 22 WITH
WROUGHT-IRON BALUSTRADE

By permission of Lady MacLeod

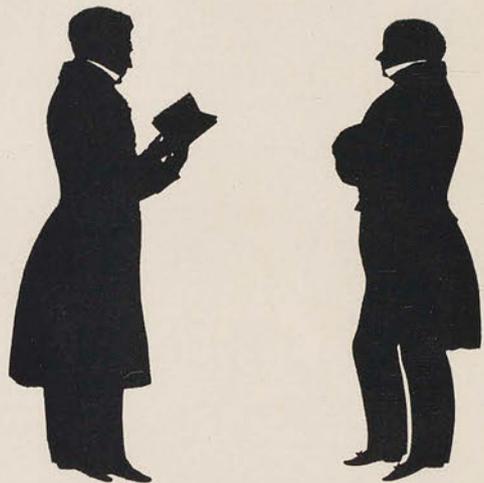
which he had occupied when a youth, but the narrowness of the staircase, and the infirmity of an unfortunate knee, presented insuperable obstacles to the ascent. On leaving the grounds, we drove to the Black Dwarf's cottage, the scene of the interview with Scott. A shock awaited the veteran. By an unfortunate exercise of bad taste, the lowly thatched structure had been transformed into a slated house.

Thomas Wright, the first proprietor of No. 28, is rather an elusive person. If he is the individual designated 'Thomas Wright, late merchant in Dantzic,' it is not easy to say whether he is also the Thomas Wright mentioned in Grant's *Old and New Edinburgh* as having bought the lands of Greenhill in 1790 from George Fairholme. He might well be, as the Fairholmes of Chapel (and Greenhill) lived at No. 59 and may have entered into a mutual arrangement with a neighbour in the Square for the disposal of a small estate.

The second proprietor, Capt. Ninian Lewis, the laird of West Plean, son of Robert Lewis, an officer in the Scots Brigade in Holland, had been in the East India Company's Service. He sailed from the Downs in March 1787 and arrived back in November 1788. He married Miss Isabella Monro of Auchenbowie in 1789. Lewis was the first chairman of the Committee of Management for George Square Garden. His tidy habits evidently caused him to wish to turn the railed cattle pasture, which it then was (1813), into a neat and ornamental pleasure ground, a design he eventually carried out. Mrs. Lewis died at No. 28 in 1814. She was a sister of Mrs. Home of Argaty who owned No. 38 from 1814-35.

The next person associated with No. 28 was George McMikin Torrance of Kilsaintninian, later of Threave. He came to the house as a tenant in 1827 and bought it in 1849. It was the residence of himself and his heirs and successors for many years. Threave Isle and Castle were 'left to the sons of Robert Maxwell, as joint owners, who sold it to George McMikin Torrance,'¹ who died in 1871 in George Square.

¹ P. H. McKerlie, *History of Lands in Galloway*.



CHARLES MACLAREN AND WILLIAM RITCHIE, S.S.C.

Silhouettes by Edouart of founders of *The Scotsman* and joint editors from 1817-31. Maclaren continued as sole editor till 1845

The last house on the west side—No. 29—was the residence of James Brown, the builder of George Square as well as of the earlier Brown Square and the later Buccleuch Place, Charles Street, and Crichton Street. It is unfortunate that comparatively little is known of the personal history of Brown, who enhanced the architectural heritage of Edinburgh when the principles of town planning were almost unknown.

James Brown, who was enterprising and businesslike, was well-connected. Besides being the moving spirit of ambitious building schemes, he was prominent in the affairs of the Riding Academy, already referred to. He purchased the site in Nicolson Street and reported to the directors that 'the Foundation of the Manège, according to Mr. [Robert] Adam's Plan' had been excavated. Furthermore Brown was one of a committee, which included Lord Haddington and Principal Robertson, appointed to procure 'a well qualified Master' for the establishment and, if unsuccessful, to arrange for the disposal of the horses.

When the Riding Academy ceased to prosper, Brown was financially involved. 'Harassed and threaten'd with Diligence,' he claimed the right to feu the ground belonging to the manège. The directors were sympathetic and, 'for imediate Reliefe of Mr. Brown,' instructed their agent to apply for payment to persons indebted to the Riding School. But these measures were ineffective, and Brown had the humiliation of intimating to the directors that he had been 'apprehended on a Caption' for a debt of £117, 18s., being their share of the expenses 'for making the Road etc. in Nicholson Street.' Eventually he was released from his troubles, money being borrowed to liquidate the debt.

As the projector of Buccleuch Place, it was perhaps natural that Brown should be actively interested in the establishment of the 'George's Square Assembly Rooms.' In March 1783 he advertised for plans and estimates, and from then onwards was conspicuous in the affairs of the institution.

In 1799, when it was evident that its days were numbered, Brown eased the difficulties of the proprietors by purchasing the premises. He died in 1807.

Brown's brother, George, after whom the 'Great Square' was named, 'from the love he [Jas. Brown] bore his brother,' owned the estates of Lindsaylands and Elliston, was a man of substance, and moved in the highest social circles. 'A gentleman of amiable temper and suavity of manner,' so he is described in Kay's *Original Portraits*, George Brown was one of the Commissioners of the Board of Excise in Scotland. In early life he followed a military career. He was a member of the Poker Club and, like his brother, much concerned with the fortunes of the Riding Academy. In a round-up of defaulting subscribers, he was associated with Lord Haddington in valuating the horses, furniture, and other property. He also signed a memorial to the Treasury for an increase of the royal bounty allotted to the establishment.

George Brown married Dorothea Dundas of Dundas, by whom he had two sons and three daughters. The ladies became Viscountess Hampden, Lady Wedderburn of Ballindean, and Lady Alexander Hope. George Brown, at one time a resident of George Square, died in 1806, aged eighty-four.

VI. FAMOUS RESIDENTS—SOUTH ROW

The first house on the south side (going east), No. 30, had several notable residents. In the closing decades of the eighteenth century it was the town abode of Col. Robert Campbell of Monzie, whose wife was an aunt of Kirkpatrick Sharpe. A daughter of Charles Erskine of Tinwald, Lord Justice-Clerk, and a sister of Lord Barjarg, another Lord of Session, Mrs. Campbell was a typical Scots gentlewoman. Combative to a degree, she did not suffer fools gladly. Yet she was a social success, and the dancing Assembly found in her a capable directress.

From a window at No. 30 Kirkpatrick Sharpe saw young Walter Scott limping home in a cavalry uniform—the most grotesque spectacle that can be conceived, so thought Sharpe, who evidently had no taste for a military life. It is Sharpe, too, who tells us in droll fashion of the visits to his aunt of Miss Jean Elliot, the songstress. ‘When Miss Jeanie’s old Sedan [chair] appeared at my aunt Campbell’s door in George Square of a summer evening at tea-time, we all became sad, knowing that a thunderstorm would ensue. My aunt and Jeanie retired after tea into the back drawing-room and, after a long prate, off jolts Jeanie in her Sedan, and my aunt falls foul of the whole company: her excellent daughters, a female cousin who resided with her, and your humble servant.’

Later occupants of No. 30 included David Williamson Robertson Ewart, who sat in the Court of Session as Lord Balgray. He resided in George Square during the whole of his judgeship of more than twenty-six years. No. 30 was also the home for a brief period of John Borthwick of Crookston. He belonged to a Midlothian family as old as the fifteenth century. The Borthwicks had their town house at the north-east corner of Lauriston Gardens (the building still exists), but near the middle of last century John Borthwick, who was an advocate, removed to George Square.

In 1807 Archibald Borthwick, as heir male, claimed the title of Lord Borthwick, which had become dormant in 1772, on the death of the tenth holder. The case came before the House of Lords, when John Borthwick of Crookston, father of the George Square resident, claimed descent from John de Borthwick of Crookston, second son of the first Lord Borthwick. This claimant purchased the ancient fortalice of Borthwick. His son was a friend of Sir Walter. We read in the *Journal*, under date 17th February 1827: ‘We dined today with Mr. Borthwick, younger of Crookston.’

A more intimate relationship with Scott is recalled by the occupant of No. 31—James Pringle of Torwoodlee. To be

quite accurate, he was a relative of Scott. Pringle studied law at Cambridge and Leyden, but on succeeding to his uncle’s estate of Torwoodlee he turned farmer and devoted himself to the improvement of his estate. He was Convener of Selkirkshire and commanded the local yeomanry. In November 1818 Scott, Lockhart, and Adam Ferguson ‘rode over together to Mr. Pringle’s beautiful seat—the “distant Torwoodlee” of the *Lay of the Last Minstrel*’—but ‘distant not above five or six miles from Abbotsford,’ where they spent a ‘joyous evening.’

In 1837 No. 31 became the residence of Robert Kay Greville, a famous botanist. Son of an Anglican clergyman, he came to Edinburgh to study medicine. Possessed of independent means, he married early and settled in the city. Greville was a member of the Wernerian Society, before which, and the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, he read many papers. In 1823 he began serial publication of *Scottish Cryptogamia Flora*, which, dedicated to Hooker, extended to six volumes and contained three hundred plates drawn and coloured by himself. Greville did much to popularise botany by means of lectures. He also made scientific tours throughout Scotland, in the course of which he collected fifteen thousand specimens. These were presented to the Botanical Society of Edinburgh. Greville was one of the founders of the herbarium in connection with Edinburgh University. In 1821 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and three years later was honoured with the LL.D. degree by Glasgow University.

A man of many-sided culture and considerable musical ability, Greville withal had strong religious instincts. He partly edited *The Amethyst, or Christian Annual*, to which he contributed devotional poems. He was also the author of a pamphlet entitled ‘The Drama brought to the Test of Scripture and found wanting.’ An effective temperance advocate, he published in 1834 ‘Facts illustrative of the Drunkenness of Scotland.’ Into the anti-slavery movement,

too, he threw himself wholeheartedly, while the Sabbath Alliance found him a warm supporter; as did various missionary societies and ragged schools. Greville's artistic bent was displayed in numerous paintings exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy. Even politics engrossed him. In 1856 he was elected a Parliamentary representative for Edinburgh.

In 1845 No. 31 was occupied by Mrs. Cheape of Rossie. She had two famous sons. Sir John Cheape had a distinguished military career in India. In 1853 he was appointed aide-de-camp to Queen Victoria, and in 1866 was promoted general. His younger brother, Charles, was Professor of Civil Law in Edinburgh University, in which capacity he substituted English for Latin. He was a writer of lampoons and produced a burlesque opera.

While Pringle of Torwoodlee was living at No. 31, his relative, Sir James Pringle of Stichel, fourth baronet, was occupying No. 32. His uncle, Sir John Pringle, physician to George III and President of the Royal Society, had previously lived in this house, where he was visited more than once by James Boswell, a friend by 'hereditary connection.' In Boswell's *Journal* are several references to Sir John. Under date, 13th June 1781, occurs this entry: '... Drank tea with Mr. George Wallace after which he and I visited Sir John Pringle and walked in the meadow with him and his Dull Women.' On 24th August of the same year Boswell 'went uninvited to dine with Sir John Pringle' but 'found it was not *the thing*, as the saying is.' On 22nd January 1782, 'having been informed by Mr. George Wallace that Sir John Pringle was taken very ill,' Boswell 'went out and visited Miss Hall, his Neice (*sic*) [at 22 George Square], and found it to be too true, and that there was no hope of his recovery.'

Sir John, who was then in London, died the following day. On the 24th Boswell paid a visit of condolence to Sir James, the nephew and heir, at whose expense a monument to Sir John's memory by Nollekens was erected in Westminster

Abbey, though he was actually buried in St. James's Church, Piccadilly.

Sir James served for many years in the Army, commanding the 59th Regiment. After retiring he became Lt.-Col. of the Southern Fencibles and, later, of the Roxburghshire Yeomanry. He represented Berwickshire in four Parliaments and at one time was H.M. Master of Works in Scotland.

In 1809 No. 32 passed into the possession of Francis Grant of Kilgraston, father of the celebrated painter of the name, and of General Sir James Hope Grant. The former was President of the Royal Academy, and was knighted. Between 1834 and 1879 he exhibited no fewer than 253 works, many of them full-length portraits of illustrious Victorians. Sir Francis also executed the portrait of Scott with his two staghounds, which Lockhart acclaimed 'the last really good portrait' of the Wizard.

General Hope Grant was equally renowned. His military service was chiefly in India. During the Mutiny he was noted for the ease with which he managed movable columns. Grant ultimately became Commander-in-Chief at Madras. His last years were spent at Aldershot where he introduced annual manœuvres and the war game. Lord Wolseley paid generous tribute to Grant when he publicly remarked at Aldershot: 'If I have attained any measure of military prosperity, my gratitude is due to one man—Sir James Hope Grant.'

During the period 1817-30, No. 32 was the residence of the Dowager Lady Wedderburn (Alicia Dundas) and Sir David Wedderburn, Postmaster General for Scotland.

A literary interest attaches to No. 32, since it was the temporary abode of the second Lady Scott of Abbotsford, and of her mother, Mrs. Jobson of Lochore. Here they resided from 1849 to 1865, after having been tenants at No. 34 in 1846.

Mrs. Jobson, who was the daughter of John Stewart,

fourth laird of Stenton, prided herself in a claim of descent from King Robert II. When the marriage between her daughter Jane, 'the pretty heiress of Lochore,' and the elder son of Sir Walter Scott was mooted, she took umbrage at the baronetcy in prospect as being too recent. The author of *Waverley*, however, bore Mrs. Jobson no ill-will; indeed characterised her to Mrs. Hughes of Uffington as 'a very worthy woman in excellent, sound, old-fashioned Scottish principles' if 'rather straitly laced' in her Presbyterianism.

In *Memoirs of a Highland Lady* (p. 306), Elizabeth Grant of Rothiemurchus (afterwards Mrs. Smith of Baltiboy), writes somewhat maliciously of the mother-in-law of the second Sir Walter Scott. Here is the reference: 'The fat, vulgar Mrs. Jobson whose low husband had made his large fortune at Dundee by pickling herrings, on being congratulated at the approaching marriage of her daughter to Sir Walter's son, said the young people were attached, otherwise her Jane might have looked higher; it was only a baronetcy, and quite a late creation.'

The lady of Rothiemurchus would have been on firmer ground if, before indulging her spite, she had made sure of the facts. She is not accurate in stating that the father of the second Lady Scott of Abbotsford made his money by pickling herrings in Dundee. On the contrary, he was a London merchant who, on returning to Scotland, bought the estate of Lochore in Fife. He died in 1822, leaving an only child, Jane, who in 1825 married Scott's elder son. The ceremony took place at 6 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh. Young Walter was given a command in the Hussars stationed in India, but in 1846 was stricken with fever after a tiger hunt at Bangalore. He died on 8th February while being conveyed to England. His remains were interred beside those of his father in Dryburgh Abbey.

Lady Scott lived till her seventy-sixth year, dying on 19th March 1877. As already noted, a large portion of her

widowhood was passed at the house in George Square, within a hundred yards of where her illustrious father-in-law spent his youth. Lady Scott lived in complete retirement, much of her secluded existence being devoted to reading books and newspapers. She was, rather surprisingly, much interested in politics, following closely the varying fortunes of party government in Victorian times. A feature of her character was her extreme reticence. Rarely did she mention her husband's name, and she never could be prevailed on to speak of Abbotsford.

No. 33 transports us again into the artistic domain. It was the home for many years of Sir Joseph Noël Paton, Queen Victoria's Limner for Scotland. His paintings of mythological, historical, and religious scenes—'Hesperus,' 'Luther at Erfurt,' and the rest—are widely known and appreciated. When Sir Noël was painting his great picture 'The Gentle Shepherd,' he was so insistent on verisimilitude that he ordered a live lamb from his butcher, the lamb and its mother being conveyed daily to his studio in George Square.

Sir Noël was an indefatigable collector of art objects, notably armoury, and various antiquities. The collection, probably the most valuable and beautiful of its kind in Scotland, was admirably arranged in his house, the walls of which were closely but artistically hung with weapons, while on pedestals stood seven mail-clad warriors who, remarks one writer, 'looked particularly well in the evening when the firelight played over the polished steel and cast strange shadows on the walls.' Nearly all the suits of mail and a large number of the weapons belonged to the fifteenth century. After Sir Noël's death this very notable collection was purchased, largely by public subscription, and found a permanent home in the Royal Scottish Museum.

The earliest associations of No. 34 are with William Baillie, the Scots judge, whose judicial title was Lord Polkemmet. The name is derived from a landed property

in West Lothian, on which stands a Scottish Baronial mansion. Polkemmet's career on the bench lasted from 1793 to 1811, when he resigned. He died in 1816. By his first wife, a daughter of Sir James Colquhoun of Luss, he had one son, Sir William Baillie, and four daughters. Early last century other members of the Polkemmet family resided at No. 34—notably Lt.-Col. Robert Baillie, of the East India Company, and Miss Isabella Baillie. The former died in George Square in 1820. He took part in the second Rohilla War, being present at the sanguinary battle of Bitaurah when the fate of the East India Company hung in the balance.

It is a far cry from George Square to New York but both are linked in the career of Andrew Elliot of Greenwells, who in 1788 was residing at No. 34. He was the third son of Sir Gilbert Elliot of Minto, Bart., Lord Justice-Clerk. While very young he went to Philadelphia where he served as an apprentice in a counting-house. Subsequently he embarked on a mercantile career. After marriage with a second wife who possessed a large fortune, Elliot returned to Britain, and obtained a place of honour and emolument in the household of the Princess Dowager of Wales.

By 1764 he had returned to America, where he quickly made his mark. He was appointed Receiver-General and Collector of New York, offices which he held till the close of the American Revolution. In 1774 he seized a quantity of fire-arms, and the people threatened to tar and feather him. By 1782, in addition to being head of the Customs, he was Lieut.-Governor of New York, Receiver-General of quit rents, and Superintendent of Police.

When in 1780 Sir Henry Clinton made a final attempt to save Major André, Elliot was one of three persons sent to confer with George Washington. After the evacuation of New York in 1783, Elliot sailed with his family for England. Five years later this maker of American history was residing at 34 George Square, where he died in 1800.

In the year following Elliot's death No. 34 became the town residence of David Anderson of St. Germain, East Lothian. He saw much service with the East India Company, and by character and ability rose to the position, onerous if exalted, of secretary to Warren Hastings, the first Governor-General of India. The relationship between the two men was almost fraternal. In *Memoirs of Warren Hastings*, compiled by G. K. Gleig (3 vols., 1841), a work which Anderson materially assisted, numerous letters from the Governor-General to his faithful and efficient secretary are printed. Intimate, and even affectionate, they are revealing to the extent of showing that Warren Hastings was deeply interested in the various members of the Anderson family. His letters sometimes begin 'My dear Friend,' and he rarely forgets to enquire after the welfare of Mrs. Anderson and the children, one of whom was Hastings' godson.

The 'peculiar talents and wariness of Mr. David Anderson' qualified him, in the opinion of Hastings, to fill any post in the East India Company's service. The cordial relation of the two men is shown in one of Hastings' letters. 'We often talk of you and dear Mrs. Anderson, and always with fervent wishes for your present tranquillity and yet reserved happiness.' Here is a passage from another letter of Hastings, dated 6th October 1814: 'I wish I could have accompanied you [*i.e.* Anderson] in your late tour. Every inch that has fallen within the touch of Walter Scott is to me consecrated ground.' On his return from India Anderson built himself a plain mansion near Tranent, on a small estate known as St. Germain. Here the Knights Hospitallers had an establishment founded in the twelfth century.

In the middle of last century No. 35 was the residence of Charles Lawson of Borthwick Hall, Lord Provost of Edinburgh from 1862 to 1865. Lawson, a seed merchant, was consequential and fond of show. Indeed his hospitality was on a scale that made deep inroads on his purse. When the question

of precedence between Edinburgh and Dublin came before the House of Lords, the Lord Provost, as he was then, took his official carriage to London, where he was waited on by powdered footmen.

But Lawson's great opportunity for display came in 1863, when the Prince and Princess of Wales (afterwards Edward VII and Queen Alexandra) visited Edinburgh shortly after their marriage. The city was brilliantly illuminated, and on the night of 2nd October their Royal Highnesses dined with Lord Provost Lawson at his house in George Square. The grandeur and sumptuousness of the occasion remained a vivid memory with the citizens for many a day. Parenthetically it may be stated that the supper, wine, and music were brought from Paris. Lawson's spending capacity was great and his personal affairs were endangered.

The Veitches of Eliock (a Dumfriesshire estate with a mansion in which the 'Admirable Crichton' was born) had their town house at No. 35 during the early years of last century. From 1784 to 1799 it had been occupied by Rear-Admiral William Lockhart. Perhaps the most notable member of the Veitch family was James Veitch, a Lord of Session with the title of Lord Eliock. He is said to have been 'endowed with mental qualities of the first order' besides being 'one of the most accomplished scholars of his time.' His judgeship lasted from 1760 till his death in 1793. Lord Eliock owned the lands of Piershill and Three Steps near Edinburgh.

Henry Veitch of Eliock, who resided at No. 35, was a relative of the judge. He was Lt.-Col. of the 98th Regiment of Foot. His wife was Zepherina, daughter of Thomas Loughnan of Madeira. She was a great-granddaughter of Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch, by his wife Anne, one of the four daughters of Sir Robert Laurie of Maxwelltown—the 'bonnie Annie Laurie' of the song. Fergusson was a friend of Burns, and is the hero of 'The Whistle.' Henry

Veitch's daughter married Robert Macqueen of Braxfield, grandson of R. L. Stevenson's *Weir of Hermiston*.

David Urquhart of Braelangwell, who at the end of the eighteenth century owned No. 36, was the father of the diplomatist of the same name (1805-77), by his second wife, a Miss Hunter, sister of an Edinburgh merchant who was a large owner of property in the New Town, and left a fortune of over £100,000. The son was educated in France, Switzerland, and Spain. In 1831-32 he was attached to Sir Stratford Canning's mission. Subsequently he was sent to Constantinople to report on British trade. In 1847 he entered the House of Commons as member for Stafford, became a bitter opponent of Palmerston, and figured as a champion of Turkish independence. In 1864 Urquhart withdrew from public life owing to ill-health, and died at Naples. A thorough master of Turkish, he was known in Constantinople as 'The English Bey.'

For many years No. 36 was the town house of Adam Maitland of Dundrennan, father and son. The estate of Dundrennan adjoins the Kirkcudbrightshire village of that name, and near it is the ruined abbey, in which it is said, though on doubtful authority, Mary Queen of Scots passed the last night of her sojourn in Scotland. Dundrennan belonged to the Maitlands for several centuries.

Adam Maitland the Younger was the brother-in-law of Lord Cockburn, who commented sarcastically on his relative assuming the title of Lord Dundrennan when he became a Lord of Session in succession to Jeffrey. 'I hope,' wrote the author of *Memorials of His Time*, 'he will be the last who will show the infirmity of changing his own name—preferring that of his *clods* in mounting the judgment-seat. He is henceforth to be called "Dundrennan." Nonsense!' His Lordship, who figures in Crombie's *Modern Athenians*, succeeded to the ancestral domain in 1843. Shortly thereafter he was elected to represent the Stewartry in Parliament. A noted

bibliophile, his valuable library was dispersed at his death in 1851.

An early resident at No. 37 was William Riddell of Camieston, Roxburghshire. Born in 1747, Riddell was a Writer to the Signet, but also appears to have been connected with the Scottish Exchequer. In 1776 he married Elizabeth, only surviving daughter of John Carre of Cavers Carre. Riddell died in 1829.

Another occupant of this house was Lt.-Col. John Munro of the East India Company. He took part in military operations in the Jumna-Doab, 1803, and Sasni, and in the settlement of Haryana and Bhawani. Munro gave his name to the 9th Native Infantry—'Mureeroo-Ki-Paltan'—a regiment raised in 1803.

The first proprietor of No. 38 was Capt. Alexander Park of the East India Company's army in Bengal. He married Mary, daughter of George Graham of Kernock, a wine merchant in Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, and a cadet of the house of Montrose. Park, who is stated to have 'made a good fortune as an India Captain,' owned the estate of Lochore in Fife, subsequently the property of the Jobsons, whose daughter became the second Lady Scott of Abbotsford.

It is related of the father-in-law of Capt. Park that, on the death in action of his grandson, heir of Thomas Graham, M.P. for Kinross, he 'willed the estate [of Kinross] to that one of his two daughters who should first have a son to reach the age of twenty-one years.' This stimulated the ladies to haste and they both married within six months of the old man's death. Mrs. Park never had a son; but the other daughter, who married Sir James Montgomery of Stanhope, was the mother of Graham Montgomery, who succeeded as third baronet of Stanhope.

Park was a link with Warren Hastings and the stormy days of the Rohilla and first Mahratta wars. In these years of tumult he was secretary and Persian Interpreter, first

to Col. Goddard, and then to Lt.-Col. Granger Muir of the Bengal Infantry. Years later, Park was Lt.-Col. of Princess Charlotte of Wales' Loyal MacLeod Fencibles (1798-1802), on duty in Ireland. He died on 12th November 1814, aged 76.

Henry Dundas, then Treasurer of the Navy, bought No. 38 from Park in 1788 and retained possession until 1793. During this time there took place the Dundas riots picturesquely depicted by James Grant in his novel *Oliver Ellis*.

The next owner was Richard Fisher of Loretto, after whom came Robert Cathcart of Drum, W.S., the 'gentleman of high worth and integrity' mentioned by Lockhart as being a partner in Constable's business. Cathcart of Drum was succeeded by Major William Miller, 'late of the Royal Regiment of Horse Guards,' who appears in the *Edinburgh Directory* for 1812-14 as a wine merchant. Then came Mrs. Home of Argaty who 'at the time of the French invasion scare . . . raised a troop of yeomanry among her tenants and neighbours,' her son-in-law being captain. She marched with them to a review in Edinburgh.

Lt.-Col. Leatham, already mentioned, spent several years in No. 38 before it was sold by Mrs. Home's grandson to Dr. Andrew Fyfe, Professor of Chemistry at Aberdeen from 1844-61. Dr. Fyfe's tenants included Sir William Johnston of Kirkhill, Lord Provost of Edinburgh 1848-51, founder of the firm of W. & A. K. Johnston, mapmakers; and the Rev. Dr. David Arnot of St. Giles', whose talents for sculpture and versification are noted by his contemporaries.

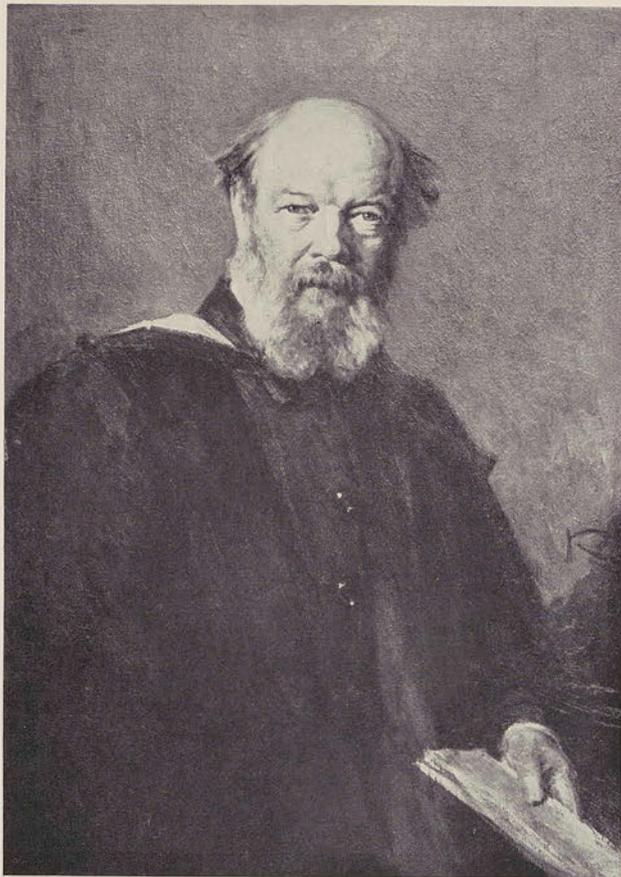
The house next became the property of Professor Peter Guthrie Tait (1831-1900), for forty-one years Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. A vivid description of the Professor in his George Square home is given in the *Life of William Robertson Smith*, by J. S. Black and G. Chrystal:

Professor Tait was at this time at the height of his reputation as a teacher and as a man of science, and was working in close association

with his illustrious Glasgow colleague, Sir William Thomson, afterwards Lord Kelvin, in various undertakings, including the production of a celebrated text-book, familiarly known from the circumstance of the collaboration as 'T & T'. Apart from his distinction as a natural philosopher Tait was personally a remarkable figure, even in a generation which maintained at a very high level the traditional glories of the Modern Athenians. He was a man considerably above the average stature, with a rugged head that Rodin would have liked to copy. The outlines of his face were bold and stern, but with this the intense kindness of his eyes and the benign expression of his mouth made a contrast which was almost startling. His personality acted like a charm on those who had the privilege of his intimacy. This was probably due in great measure to the strain of buoyant, almost boyish, enthusiasm which permeated his character to the end of his days. When he was not engaged in a strenuous course of golf at St. Andrews or a long walk near Edinburgh, his kingdom was a barely furnished little room in his house, 38 George Square, lined to the ceiling with books, and littered with piles of pamphlets and dusty manuscript, mostly covered with a neatly written maze of quaternionic or other mathematical symbols, pervaded with the odour of tobacco, and, in his earlier days, usually graced with a hospitable beer-jug which stood on the mantelpiece. Here he would work hour after hour, standing at a high ink-stained desk. But, however busy, he was always ready to welcome a friend, with whom he would discuss and argue with a tolerance and good humour which would have greatly surprised those who knew him only as a keen gladiator in the scientific arena.

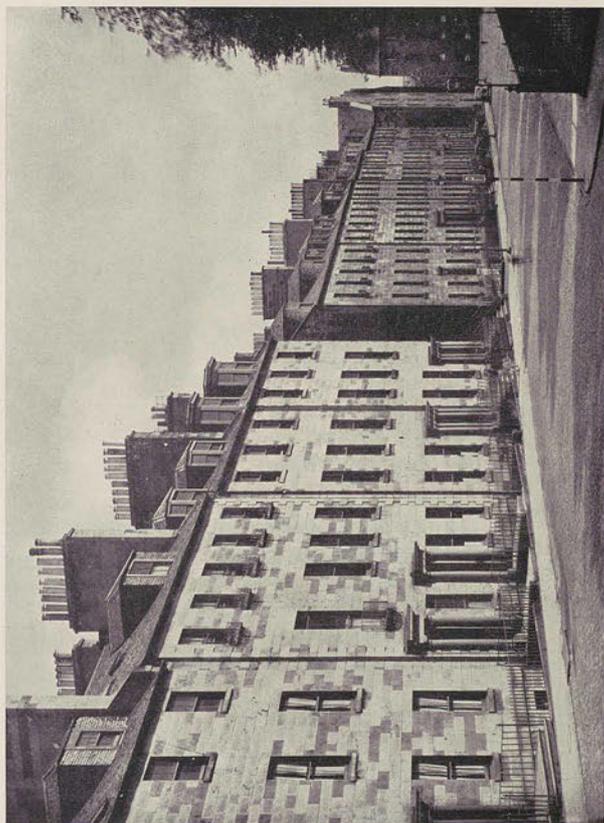
Professor Tait's third son, Lieut. Frederick Guthrie Tait, Black Watch (1870-1900), who was twice winner and a third time runner-up in the Amateur Golf Championship, and whose successes in 1896 caused that year to be known as 'Tait's year' in the golfing world, was wounded at Magersfontein. As soon as Tait had recovered he rejoined his regiment, only however to fall, being shot through the heart, at Koodoosberg, on the banks of the Riet River, where a few lonely graves are all that now mark the site of the battle in which the 'gay and gallant Freddy Tait' lost his life.

The building immediately to the east of the central lane leading to the Meadows, and numbered 39, is one of the few



PROFESSOR P. G. TAIT, MATHEMATICIAN AND PHYSICIST,
COLLABORATOR WITH LORD KELVIN

From the painting by Sir George Reid in Scottish National Portrait Gallery



GEORGE SQUARE TO-DAY. EAST SIDE

houses in George Square in which, ever since its erection, several families have resided, each occupying a flat. It recalls scholastic memories, for in the top storey lived Dr. Alexander Adam, the most celebrated rector of the High School of Edinburgh.

Adam's rectorship lasted forty-three years. Cockburn, one of his scholars, says epigrammatically: 'He was born to teach Latin, some Greek, and all virtue.' And there is Walter Scott's tribute: 'It was from this respectable man that I first learned the value of knowledge, which I had hitherto considered only as a burdensome task.' Adam was a supreme master of the art of teaching, a competent classicist, and a moral and intellectual force in the age of Hume and Adam Smith, of Scott and Cockburn.

Early in life he had thoughts of entering the ministry, but gradually his leanings towards the classics and the vocation of the pedagogue ousted divinity. After being headmaster of George Watson's Hospital and tutor in the family of Alexander Kincaid, His Majesty's Printer for Scotland, he was made rector of the High School, a position he held till his death.

Convinced of the futility of teaching boys Latin rules they could not understand, Adam prepared a Latin grammar in English. While the work met with the approbation of 'some of the best judges about Edinburgh,' it also led to a long and acrimonious controversy. The professors of Greek and Latin in the University objected that Adam was encroaching on their province.

In spite of the attacks on his textbook Adam's Latin class continued to flourish. In the year of his death there were 167 pupils, a number equal to the whole attendance at the school when he became rector. His best known book is *Roman Antiquities*. It went through several editions and its merits were recognised by Edinburgh University conferring the LL.D. degree on the author.

Adam was of medium height. He had blue eyes and a ruddy complexion. Till near the end he wore a queue, and was always neatly dressed in a brown coat, black waistcoat, and silk stockings, with knee and shoe buckles. It was Adam's custom on leaving school to walk to Arthur's Seat, planning his work as he climbed to the summit. In later years he would stroll in the Meadows or the Grange district. On 13th December 1809 he was seized with apoplexy while teaching his class, and died after five days' illness. His last words are reported to have been: 'But it grows dark, boys—you may go; we must put off the rest till tomorrow.'

The funeral took place on 29th December. The masters and boys of the High School to the number of six hundred, 'walking in regular procession' (says the *Scots Magazine*), preceded the corpse.

The Magistrates and Council in their state dress followed it. The Principal and Professors of the University in their gowns came next; and then above seven hundred gentlemen . . . far the greater part of whom had been Dr. Adam's pupils, closed the scene. Among these, heads of the Supreme Courts, Judges, and Ministers of Edinburgh were observed; and the members of a Society of young gentlemen, chiefly of the Bar, who had lately presented the High School with a portrait, by Mr. Raeburn, of their honoured master, and who attended in a body, were particularly remarkable. When the procession reached the Churchyard [in Buccleuch Street] the boys formed into two lines, standing uncovered, and showed in their countenances and deportment, that the mark of respect was strongly felt which they were now paying for the last time to the venerated remains which passed before them.

The north window of Buccleuch Parish Church contains a memorial to Adam. His son, Dr. Walter Adam, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, also resided at No. 39. In compliance with the desire of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, he submitted a report of his observations at the exhumation of the body of Mary of Gueldres, wife of James II, King of Scots, within Trinity

College, Edinburgh, on 23rd May 1848. Queen Mary was buried in Trinity College, which she founded in 1462. When the building was demolished in 1848, her body was taken out of the tomb, in which it had lain for nearly four hundred years, and re-interred in the royal vault at Holyrood.

A highly romantic story attaches to the boarding school for young ladies carried on by the Misses Margaret and Jean Cramond from 1804 to 1845 'in the eastmost half of the first storey from the street' of No. 39, likewise in 'half of the two ground storeys.' The Misses Cramond, who were daughters of Rev. Robert Cramond, minister of Yarrow, were assisted in the management of the seminary by their widowed mother. Some time in the years between 1804 and 1812, one of the young ladies, Charlotte Ferrier, aged seventeen, formed an attachment with William Waddell, aged twenty-one, member of a family of woollen manufacturers. The infatuation grew so strong that Charlotte, no doubt with the help of her lover, contrived an elopement. Climbing out of a back window of the boarding school, she made an easy descent into the garden, and, obtaining access to the lane adjoining by a side gate, she made off with Waddell. In 1821 Waddell purchased a woollen mill in Northumberland, not however under the most favourable conditions. No matter, he was energetic and enterprising and built up a flourishing business. Of the eleven children of William Waddell and Charlotte Ferrier, the son who bore the father's name remained at the mill, which is still carried on, the present William Waddell representing the fourth generation, all of whom have borne the same name. Such has been the happy sequel of a runaway marriage, the heroine being one of the pupils of the boarding school kept by the Misses Cramond at No. 39 George Square.

By coincidence another teacher of classics at the High School, almost as famous as Dr. Adam, though never rector, was a tenant of No. 39. Like his renowned predecessor, Dr.

James Boyd (he was an LL.D. of Glasgow University) lived and died in George Square.

Adam began his teaching career as headmaster of George Watson's Hospital; Boyd as house governor of Heriot's Hospital. After graduating at Glasgow University, Boyd spent two years in the study of medicine. Then he entered the Divinity Hall, and became a licensed preacher. Eventually he found his true vocation as a teacher of classics. His character and ability were early recognised. When Boyd left Heriot's Hospital in 1829, he was presented with his portrait painted by Thomas Duncan, R.S.A., a tribute to his 'high talents, varied accomplishments, and professional skill.'

Boyd's entry into the High School synchronised with the removal of the seminary from the old premises in Infirmary Street to the spacious and elegant, if not wholly convenient building on the Calton Hill. Here he taught for nearly twenty-seven years. 'Dr. Boyd's Fourth Class' was so outstanding as to be the subject of a brochure. He was adored by his pupils and several clubs were organised in his honour. Nor is this all. Two 'Boyd clubs' were formed by British officers serving in the Crimean War, and within two months of Boyd's death in 1856 a medal named after him, and to be presented annually to the 'dux' of the 'Fourth Class,' was subscribed for by past and present scholars as well as friends generally.

Boyd was long the secretary of the Edinburgh Society of Teachers. When he passed away that organisation adopted a resolution stating that 'throughout the one hundred and twenty years' of the Society's existence 'no member or office-bearer contributed more to maintain its efficiency and secure its welfare.' Boyd employed much of his leisure in editing classical textbooks, and it is pleasant to record that he linked his name with that of Dr. Adam by sending forth a new and revised edition of the latter's *Roman Antiquities*.

Boyd's recension, a scholarly production, was reprinted no fewer than fifteen times between 1834 and 1856.

In 1784 there resided at No. 40 Captain John Inglis, R.N., who may have been a member of the Auchindinny and Redhall family. Early last century No. 40 was occupied by James Baird of the Exchequer, who narrowly escaped being shot in his office by a madman. Like Bartoline Saddletree, John Skene, the culprit, set up as a propounder of the mysteries of the law. He also persuaded Dr. Hugh Blair to believe that he was a clergyman, so much so that it was arranged (at least so the story goes) that he should occupy the pulpit of the High Church (St. Giles). Skene also harangued 'for the good of the public,' but tiring of this occupation, applied to the Exchequer for remuneration. On being repulsed, he entered the premises with a loaded pistol, and threatened to shoot Baird. He was instantly disarmed, and confined as a lunatic.

From 1783, and for many years thereafter, No. 41 was occupied by the widow of Sir William Lockhart of Carstairs, Bart. (*née* Catherine Porterfield). During her married life Lady Lockhart occupied a mansion at the west end of Fountainbridge, but removed to No. 41 George Square when her sister Janet, who was heir to Sir William Lockhart, married William Bertram of Nisbet. The Porterfields of Fullwood, from whom Lady Lockhart claimed descent, were prominent for their Covenanting principles. According to Wodrow, they were victims of 'exorbitant fining and long imprisonment.'

At No. 41 there was living in 1811 Gilbert Chisholme of Stirches, who is associated in rather a curious way with the early history of aviation. In 1784 Vincent Lunardi, the balloonist, made a descent near Ale Moor, Selkirkshire, after a voyage from Glasgow. At the time of landing the laird of Stirches and his first wife, a daughter of Michael Anderson of Tushilaw, happened to be passing. They were both on horseback, and, noticing so singular an incident, were deeply

interested in the aeronaut's exploit. Mrs. Chisholme wished to ascend, and the gas in the balloon not being exhausted, Lunardi assisted her into the car. After a voyage of several miles, the balloon safely descended at Redford Green. Thereafter Lunardi accompanied Mrs. Chisholme to Stirches.

Chisholme on attaining his majority went to London, where he led a fashionable life to the injury of his fortune. On returning to Stirches there was no abatement of his expensive habits, and a portion of the estate was sold. In spite of his extravagance, Chisholme was public-spirited and popular. In 1798 he formed the Hawick volunteers, which checked a certain amount of lawlessness in the district, one of the fruits of the French Revolution. After a time the corps was disbanded but was re-embodied in 1801, largely through Chisholme's efforts, as was acknowledged when the volunteers marched to Stirches and presented the laird, their commander, with a silver cup.

In 1802 Chisholme married his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of John Scott of Whitehaugh, by whom he had two sons and two daughters. Latterly his affairs became so embarrassed that he had to sell Stirches. The purchaser, Capt. Michael Anderson, lived only four years after the transaction. By his will he bequeathed Stirches to its former owner. So Gilbert Chisholme was laird once more, and remained so until his own death in 1820.

The first proprietor of No. 42, Major Archibald Erskine (1746-1804) was the youngest son, by his second wife (Anne, daughter of James Stirling of Keir) of John Erskine of Carnock and Cardross, Professor of Scots Law in Edinburgh University, and author of the celebrated *Institutes of the Laws of Scotland*. Major Erskine, who was a half-brother of Dr. John Erskine of Greyfriars Church, probably inherited his taste for a military life from his grandfather, Lt.-Col. the Hon. John Erskine of Carnock (the 'Black Colonel'). In 1771 Erskine joined the Black Watch, then serving in Ireland.

The regiment returned to Scotland in 1775 after an absence of thirty-two years, but immediately was ordered to America. In August 1776 the Black Watch took part in the battle of Brooklyn, by which the British recovered New York. The regiment later engaged in several successful actions and when, in November 1777, the British entered Philadelphia, it took part.

Erskine married Margaret, daughter of Charles Maitland Barclay, second son of the twelfth Earl of Lauderdale. On retiring from the Army in 1782, he settled in Edinburgh. James Boswell met him at dinner at No. 27, on 9th February 1783. Boswell records in his *Journal* that he 'went in a chair and dined (for the first time) with the Hon. Henry Erskine; the Hon. Alexander Gordon, Mr. David Erskine, and his brother Archibald there. I drank Teneriffe Negus and was comfortably warmed in body, but my Mind roved on London, and was discontented, though we had good social talk.'

Erskine, who bought No. 42 in 1786 and resided there until 1799, was one of the original officers of the Edinburgh Royal Volunteers, and was admitted a burgher of Edinburgh at the presentation of colours in September 1794. In 1798 Erskine purchased the estate of Venlaw overlooking the town of Peebles. His death is recorded in the *Scots Magazine* for 1804 and there is a tablet commemorating him in the old Cross Kirk of Peebles.

The second proprietor of No. 42 was Alexander Horsburgh of Horsburgh (d. 1829), only son of John Horsburgh of that ilk. He married Violet, daughter of Thomas Turnbull of Know, as we are reminded by Mrs. Alison Cockburn, who, in one of her letters, writes: 'My neighbour Horseburgh will soon be marryd to Miss Turnbull of Know, a fine girl, and I am glad of that.' Burns notes in the *Journal* of his Border tour that he 'drank tea yesternight [May 15, 1787] at Pirn with Mr. Horseburgh.'

The story of No. 43 begins with the widow of John Pringle, W.S. (d. 1784), grandson of Sir Robert Pringle of Stichel.

Mrs. Pringle, a daughter of James Drummond of Blair Drummond, died in 1804. Next comes Charles Kerr of Bughtrig, Berwickshire, who is described on his tombstone in Greyfriars Churchyard as 'of Calder Bank, late of Bughtrig, Capt. in the 43rd Regiment, and King's printer for Scotland; ob. 18th July 1813, aged 60.' One of the original officers of the Edinburgh Volunteers, his portrait by David Martin hangs in the Scottish National Military and Naval Museum in Edinburgh Castle. Kerr was another of Boswell's friends. Johnson's biographer notes in his *Journal* early in 1794 (when he was in London), that Robert Boswell, W.S., and 'Mr. Ker, King's Printer for Scotland,' dined with him.

The third proprietor of No. 43 was Sir Walter's friend, Charles Balfour Scott, W.S., of Woll (1782-1838). Scott mentions him in his *Journal*, in particular on 25th May 1830, when he writes: 'Walkd in very bad day to George's [Square] from the parliament House, through paths once familiar, but not trod for twenty years, met Scott of Woll and Scott of Gala and consulted about the new road between Galashiels and Selkirk.'

In 1807 No. 43 was bought by Dr. John Inglis (1763-1834), the successor of Principal Robertson in Old Greyfriars Church. Man and preacher are described in *Peter's Letters to his Kinsfolk*. There is also Cockburn's tribute:

Inglis has two enemies to overcome in his look and his voice, both of which are unfortunate. . . . But a strong and acute understanding, general intelligence, deep and ready reasoning, clear diction, and the manners of a gentleman, make him a vigorous writer . . . and always an admirable debater. No strong adversary ever measured mind against him without feeling his force. . . . He is one of the many men who have been wasted and lowered by being cast on an unworthy scene. . . . He is a first-rate preacher. The fanatical taste of the age, however, has gone on diminishing his hearers, till at last his church is nearly empty. Yet his almost bare walls hear as good, if not better, every-day sermons, than are preached in any church in Scotland except by Chalmers.



JOHN INGLIS, LORD JUSTICE-GENERAL OF SCOTLAND, 1807-91

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Inglis, who originated the scheme for the evangelisation of India, was the father of Lord Glencorse, better known as Lord President Inglis (1810-91), 'the chief legal ornament of the Scottish Bench since Lord Stair,' according to the author of *Some Nineteenth Century Scotsmen*. He quotes Alexander Taylor Innes, advocate, as follows :

You are giving recollections of John Inglis. I hope you will not forget that, to some extent, he must have been the original of Weir of Hermiston. Of course the historical original was Braxfield, that 'formidable blacksmith' on the bench a hundred years ago. But when Robert Louis Stevenson (as I remember him) walked the Parliament House, the only man who could have resuscitated in his imagination the visage of that ancient ruffian was the stately and courteous President. Far away in Samoa, the author fell in love with his own creation, Hermiston; and had the book been completed, he would have still more idealised him. But in real life he had held that the head of our Court in the Seventies was 'the greatest man in Scotland'; a man who in external aspect impressed both Stevenson and his brethren as (in the words of one of the cleverest of them)

'The rhadamanthine, adamantine Inglis.'

When in future years readers of Stevenson's *Hermiston* come to the Parliament House of Edinburgh to see the portrait of Braxfield by Raeburn, they should turn to the left before they depart, and look also at the portrait of Inglis by Reid. Only thus do they get the two halves of Adam Weir. In the Raeburn it is difficult to find the intellectual power and despotic will of the Braxfield, either of history or of the novel. . . .

But look at Inglis! It is the face of a man who despises popularity from the heart—who on the whole would rather not have it. He dwells alone, in a realm of intellectual energy, but with a thundercloud brooding over it so habitually, that the inward menace has moulded the features almost into a scowl. . . . On canvas, he is more Braxfield than Braxfield himself. . . .

At No. 44 we come again on the representative of a notable Border family—John Rutherford of Edgerston. This family have always been classed amongst the most ancient and powerful in Teviotdale. John Rutherford's father, who

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ROOM AT No. 46 SHOWING
ADAM RECESS

By permission of Mrs. Faed

bore the same name, was an advocate but exchanged the law for a military life. He became captain of an infantry regiment at New York and was killed at the battle of Ticonderoga in 1758. John Rutherford, the younger, sat in Parliament for Selkirkshire and later for Roxburghshire, of which he was also Vice-Lieutenant and colonel of the local militia. His wife was Mary Ann, only daughter of the Hon. Major-Gen. Alexander Leslie. Rutherford died in 1834.

In 1786, a Presbyterian minister who in maturer years was successively minister of New Greyfriars and the collegiate charge of St. Giles', had his abode at No. 45. In important respects the career of Dr. Robert Henry resembles that of Principal Robertson. Both were parish ministers and both earned renown, not on the strength of their pulpit attainments, but as historians of their country. And so far as commercial results are concerned, neither had any reason to complain. Robertson's *History of Charles V* brought him £4500, in addition to the praise of Gibbon and Voltaire, while Henry, after nearly thirty years' labour, produced a six-volume *History of Britain*, which yielded him £3300, and secured a pension of £100 a year from George III.

The *History of Britain*, extending from the Roman invasion to the death of Henry VIII, was conceived on a new plan, the main feature being the allocation of chapters to social aspects. Dr. Johnson, who does not appear to have read the work, informed Principal Robertson that he heard Henry's work 'well spoken of.' But what puzzles the reader to-day is that so dull a work should have been the financial success it was. Henry's tomes exhibit the minimum of research, and are discursive and ill-arranged, while the literary quality is negligible. Still, as Grey Graham has pointed out, Henry deserves credit for having appreciated better than other historians 'the importance of studying the social movements of a nation as essential parts of its real history.' The same authority described Henry as 'one of those characteristic

Moderates of the old school who were genial in society, humorous at table, and deplorably dry—and deliciously conscious of being dry—in the pulpit.'

It has already been noted that Dr. Robert K. Greville resided at No. 31 on the south side. At the south-east corner, in the two uppermost storeys, lived another famous scientist—Robert Jameson, who for thirty-four years occupied the Chair of Natural History in Edinburgh University. Although he was mainly a naturalist and Greville a botanist, both were geologists, both were members of the Wernerian Society, and both accumulated superb collections of specimens pertaining to their respective branches of knowledge.

Jameson, who held conjointly with his professoriate the keepership of the University Museum, arranged geographically forty thousand specimens of rocks and minerals, in addition to ten thousand fossils, eight thousand birds, and many thousands of insects. He was the first great British exponent of Werner's geological doctrines, though in later years he was candid enough to admit that the views of James Hutton rested on a sounder basis. With his students, some of whom attained European reputation, Jameson was popular. Besides organising excursions that were a substantial means of enlightenment, he poured his instruction into many treatises. He founded, along with Sir David Brewster, Principal of Edinburgh University, the *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, of which, from the tenth volume, he was sole editor.

Jameson was born at Leith in 1774, the son of a merchant reputed the largest soap manufacturer in Scotland. His first effort at authorship was two works illustrative of the natural history of the Hebrides. Indeed he was only fifteen when he made his first journey to Shetland with a scientific intention. On the return of Captain Parry from his Polar expedition, Jameson, at his request, drew up a sketch of the geology of the coast discovered by Parry.

The original proprietor of a first floor flat at No. 45 was

James Home of Linhouse, W.S. (1755-1819), who in 1796 became Lyon-Depute.

Early last century the flat at No. 45 was inherited by Mrs. Sibella Ann Morison or Wilson, widow of Archdeacon James Wilson, of the Episcopal Church, Canterbury, New Zealand (1813-86). Son of William Wilson, W.S., he was born in Edinburgh, and educated at Edinburgh Academy and Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1851 he went to New Zealand as a chaplain. Purchasing land in the Canterbury settlement, he engaged in farming but was mainly noteworthy for his services in adjusting the arrangements regarding the bishopric of Christchurch and Christ's College. In 1866 he was appointed a canon, and in 1871 Archdeacon of Akaron.

At a more recent date this flat was tenanted by the Rev. John Anderson, Curator of the Historical Department of the Register House, whose editing of the *Lairg Charters* (1899) for publication placed students of Scottish history and genealogy under a deep debt.

The associations of No. 46 are with the Misses Margaret, Elizabeth, Marianne, Henrietta, Jane and Helen Robertson, the six handsome and witty daughters of David Robertson of Loretto, Musselburgh, and his wife Marion Forbes, daughter of Hugh Forbes of Loretto, one of the Clerks of Session, and a cadet of the Culloden family. Forbes married Margaret Aikman, granddaughter of the painter, William Aikman, last of the 'gude Lairds of Cairney.'

All the sisters were remarkable for wit and beauty. Two of them—Elizabeth and Marianne—corresponded with Kirkpatrick Sharpe. Three delightful letters by Elizabeth appear in Sharpe's *Correspondence*: 'Your gay friend Marianne,' she tells him, 'hasted to town for the birthday ball, where you know for many years she has shone resplendent. Helen likewise hurried off. They both pretended they should have liked to spend the winter in the country, but it struck me they were passing glad once more to inhale the delightful perfumes

of Auld Reekie; and there they are, writing such accounts of balls, routs, dinners, suppers, as quite turns not only my head but my stomach.' In another epistle Elizabeth announces her plans to winter in Rome and invites Sharpe to stay with the sisters there, exclaiming 'What fun we should have!' Alexander Robertson appears to have lived at No. 46 with his sisters and to have shared their epistolary talents.

Josiah Livingston, the historian of Buccleuch Place, gives this picture of the beautiful Misses Robertson in old age, about the year 1831:

Not exactly in the street, but in the part of George Square looking to the street, and in a house whose door was turned towards the street, lived a family of old ladies who greatly amused the boys. From our earliest recollection they all had been very old, but their dress was juvenile and gay. On their door was a very old oval brass plate, 'Alexander Robertson, Advocate,' but never in our day had there been any member of the family except the maiden sisters. . . . Even in age they showed the remains of beauty of a high order, and their manners and bearing were courtly. It was said that one of them had been engaged to a Duke of Buccleuch, and, though the pigs had run through the match, neither she nor any of her sisters would henceforth accept the suit of anyone under an Earl.

VII. FAMOUS RESIDENTS—EAST ROW

At the beginning of last century the houses on the east side were for the most part occupied by well-known Border families. As has been shown, they were resident in other parts of George Square, but seem to have been most numerous betwixt Buccleuch Place and Crichton Street.

The earliest owner of No. 47 was Gilbert Innes of Stow (1751-1832), banker, musician, and 'perhaps the richest commoner in Scotland,' so at least we are led to believe from the sketch of him in Kay's *Original Portraits*. Ultimately his fortune is reported to have exceeded a million sterling.

In 1820 he purchased the estate of Drum, Gilmerton, with its palatial mansion, one of the best specimens of domestic architecture executed by Robert Adam. At his death the Drum passed to Alexander Mitchell of Stow, who in 1869 restored to Edinburgh the truncated shaft of its ancient Market Cross that had been preserved in the grounds of Drum for upwards of a century.

The wealth of the Innes family accrued from the fact that two of its members were conspicuous in the financial world. George Innes, the father of Gilbert, was cashier of the Royal Bank of Scotland, while his son, the owner of No. 47, was Deputy-Governor of that institution. It was because of his close association with the Royal Bank that the latter removed from George Square to 24 St. Andrew Square, in order to be near headquarters.

Innes was a great-grandson of the Scots judge, Lord Fountainhall (Sir John Lauder, Bart.). While referring to his legal ancestry, it is interesting to recall that the financier was one of the jury who condemned Thomas Muir, the 'political martyr' of 1793.

In his younger days Innes was a noted amateur singer at the concerts of the Musical Society of Edinburgh in St. Cecilia's Hall, Niddry's Wynd. And it was he who, along with Sir David Rae (Lord Eskgrove) and Sir William Forbes of Pitsligo, Bart., signed in 1801 the 'Articles of Roup and Sale in connection with the Musical Society.' Innes is buried in an enclosed, ornate tomb in the Covenanters' Prison of Greyfriars Churchyard. Over the gateway in obtrusive lettering are the words 'Innes of Stow.'

The next proprietor of No. 47 was George Keith Elphinstone, Viscount Keith, a reliable if not a brilliant sea captain, who was brought into intimate relations with Nelson and Napoleon. Born in 1746 and dying in 1823, Keith commanded the expedition which took Cape Town. It was Keith's ships too that landed Sir Ralph Abercromby's army

in Aboukir Bay. His Lordship was largely responsible for the suppression of the Sheerness mutiny. He also was the Government's representative in the negotiations relating to Napoleon's exile to St. Helena. The Emperor protested against the treatment meted out to him, and tried to inveigle Keith, who however was not to be drawn. The freedom of London, and a sword valued at a hundred guineas, were a part recognition of this sea captain's services.

From 1782 to 1792 Keith lived much in Edinburgh. He entered Parliament, successively representing Dumbarshire and Stirlingshire. A grand-nephew of Marshal Keith, Earl Marischal, after whom he was named, Keith was twice married. His first wife was Jane, co-heiress of William Mercer of Aldie, Perth. She died in 1789. Their only daughter, Margaret Mercer Elphinstone, was married in 1817 to Charles de Flahault, natural son of Queen Hortense, aide-de-camp of Napoleon, and French ambassador in London. Flahault's wife succeeded to her father's estates of Tulliallan and Meikleour. Two daughters were born of her marriage, the elder of whom was the mother of the Marquess of Lansdowne. Flahault rode beside Louis Napoleon in the streets of Paris on the day of the *Coup d'état*. He died in the French capital on 1st September 1870. Flahault and his wife maintained a Franco-Scottish household, the Frenchman entering with zest into Scottish country life. A keen sportsman, he introduced the capercaillie to the Tulliallan woods.

After being a widower for some years, Lord Keith married in 1808 Hester Maria, eldest daughter and co-heir of Henry Thrale of Streatham. Her mother was the friend of Samuel Johnson, who, however, was offended when, late in life, Mrs. Thrale married the Italian musician Piozzi. For Mrs. Thrale's daughter Johnson wrote childish rhymes, and when she grew older directed her education. In December 1781 Mrs. Thrale records that 'Queeny [her daughter's pet name] works hard with Johnson at the classics.' When the marriage with Lord

Keith had taken place, Mrs. Thrale wrote: 'The *Thraliana* is coming to an end; so are the Thrales. The eldest ('Queeny') is married now. Admiral Lord Keith the man; a *good* man for aught I hear; a *rich* man for aught I am told; a *brave* man we have always heard; and a *wise* man I trow by his choice. The name no new one, and excellent for a charade, e.g.,

A Faery my first, who to fame makes pretence;
My second a Rock, dear Britannia's defence;
In my third, when combined, will too quickly be shown
The Faery and Rock in our brave Elphin-stone.'

When she married Lord Keith, Hester Maria Thrale was no longer young. Moreover she had 'strengthened her mental faculties by the severe studies of perspective, fortification, Hebrew, and mathematics.' Notwithstanding this rigorous training, she proved an ideal helpmate to her husband. She lived much at Tulliallan, as well as in George Square, and, along with Lord Keith, was constantly carrying out improvements on the estate. This pupil of Samuel Johnson became Viscountess in 1814, on the elevation of Admiral Keith to the English peerage, and, together with her stepdaughter, the Hon. Margaret Mercer Elphinstone, played a leading part in Society in London and Edinburgh during the Regency. In 1823 Lady Keith was left a widow. After 1850 she lived a secluded life, devoting herself to works of charity. She died at her London home, 110 Piccadilly, in 1857, aged ninety-five. The only child of the union with Admiral Keith, Georgina Augusta Henrietta married (1) The Hon. Augustus Villiers, son of the fifth Earl of Jersey; (2) Lord William Godolphin Osborne, brother of the eighth Duke of Leeds.

Admiral Keith was succeeded in the occupancy of No. 47 George Square by Lady Clerk of Penicuik. Her husband, Sir John, was a Baron of Exchequer. Lady Clerk, a daughter of Sir John Inglis of Cramond, Bart., was a friend of Miss Catherine Gordon of Gight, an Aberdeenshire heiress, who several years later became the mother of the poet Byron.

In the early summer of 1784 Miss Gordon was the guest of Lady Clerk, who possibly was a tenant of Lord Keith at No. 47. Mrs. Siddons was at this time making her first appearance on the Edinburgh stage, and one evening the future Lady Byron went to see the famous actress in a performance of a play entitled 'The Fatal Marriage.' Mrs. Siddons's acting so worked on Miss Gordon's emotions that she was carried out of her box in hysterics, screaming loudly the words uttered by the actress. 'Oh, my Biron! my Biron!' Robert Chambers says that several persons in the theatre declared that they would never forget the ominous words, 'Oh, my Biron!'—ominous inasmuch as Miss Gordon, shortly afterwards, married John, Lord Byron. It was for her a fatal marriage. The husband spent the wife's fortune, and probably would have ill-treated her 'if she had not been as great a vixen as he was a rascal.' But the union gave to the world the poet Byron.

Several versions of Miss Gordon's outburst are extant, but that of Kirkpatrick Sharpe furnishes a semblance of actuality, though written some thirty years later. At any rate, it links the incident with George Square. In Sharpe's *Correspondence* we read: 'When Mrs. Siddons appeared first in Edinburgh, Miss Gordon took a hysterick fit in the play-house, clung round Mrs. Mure's (of Caldwell) neck, kicked off her shoes, and was carried out by Mr. Dundas, now Chief Baron, and put into Lord Napier's carriage, which conveyed her, screaming all the way to George's Square, where she then resided.'

In 1799 No. 47 was the abode of Lady Ruthven, wife of James, fourth Lord Ruthven, and a daughter of David, sixth Earl of Leven and fifth of Melville. In 1811 it was the home of Miss Scott of Gala, who at a later date seems to have been residing at No. 48.

In 1827 Sir James Forrest of Comiston, Bart., was domiciled at No. 47. The first of the Victorian Lord Provosts

of Edinburgh, he held the office for two terms, and was created a baronet in 1838. Forrest is the hero of a somewhat ludicrous incident which occurred on the occasion of the visit to Edinburgh of the young Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort in 1842. Elaborate preparations for the reception of the royal visitors were made. The Queen was due to arrive on the afternoon of 31st August but a thick fog detained the royal yacht behind Inchkeith. Not until the following morning did it reach its destination. Arrangements naturally were upset, and when the Queen landed at Granton, Forrest and the other magistrates were still in the land of nod. Consequently the formal presentation of the keys of the city did not take place, and the royal carriage had proceeded as far as Pitt Street before the civic fathers were aware of what had happened.

The Lord Provost had to bear the brunt of the public displeasure, and for long after the most popular song in Edinburgh was a new version of 'Hey, Johnny Cope.'

Hey, Jamie Forrest, are ye waukin yet?
Or are ye sleepin' in yir bed?
Hech, man! get up, for the drums do beat,
To meet the Queen in the morning!

In some shop windows nightcaps were labelled 'Jamie Forrest's nightcaps, warranted not to wakin in.' Even years later, when Lord Macaulay was elected one of the members of Parliament for Edinburgh, much amusement was caused by a nightcap intended for Forrest (who was present) being thrown on to the hustings.

Forrest, who was an advocate, took an active part in popular movements. The repeal of the Corn Laws, the abolition of church patronage, and notably the Disruption of the Church of Scotland were causes with which he was closely identified. A leader of the Non-Intrusion party, Forrest walked in the procession from St. Andrew's Church

to Tanfield, and was prominent in the first General Assembly of the Free Church. As Grand Master Mason of Scotland, he laid the foundation stone of the Scott Monument. He died in 1860. His wife was a daughter of Alexander Horsburgh of that Ilk, and Pirn, Peeblesshire, whose town house was at No. 42.

In 1778 No. 48 was occupied by Mrs. Douglas of Cavers, a Teviotdale parish, seven miles from Hawick. It contains the village of Denholm, the birthplace of John Leyden, the poet, and of Sir J. A. H. Murray, the first editor of the *Oxford English Dictionary*. At Cavers Church Thomas Chalmers was assistant minister. Not far from it is the mansion of Cavers, the oldest portion of which was built by Sir Archibald Douglas, younger son of the valiant Earl of Douglas, who fell at Otterburn. In Mrs. Douglas's time this ancient family still possessed Cavers. Indeed it was only with the twentieth laird, James Douglas (1822-78), that the male line became extinct. Mrs. Douglas's husband, Archibald Douglas of Cavers, was the last heritable Sheriff of Teviotdale. He was also Postmaster-General for Scotland.

In the early decades of last century No. 48 was the residence of William Ritchie, one of the founders of *The Scotsman* newspaper. A native of Fife, he came to Edinburgh at the age of nineteen, where he was a member of the legal profession. For some years Ritchie contributed to the local press, writing on the national debt and cognate subjects. *The Scotsman* originated through the Edinburgh newspapers refusing to insert a criticism by Ritchie of the management of the Royal Infirmary. Joining a friend, Charles Maclaren, the two men projected *The Scotsman* as a weekly newspaper, price tenpence, to advocate liberal reforms. The first number appeared on 25th January 1817, Ritchie writing for it a 'preliminary note' and three articles. Besides he assisted in the formation of the plan, suggested the title, drew up the prospectus, 'and by his exertions and personal influence, says Maclaren,

contributed more than any other individual to establish the paper.'

Till his death in 1831, Ritchie was joint-editor, while Maclaren contributed articles on a variety of subjects. The former witnessed in 1823 the conversion of *The Scotsman* from a weekly into a bi-weekly. The price was reduced from tenpence to sevenpence; ultimately it was fourpence-halfpenny. Ritchie's elder brother is noticed on another page.

The associations of No. 49 are, first, with Francis Scott, late of Bombay, who seems to have been the son-in-law of Lady Don, thereafter with Col. John Campbell of Barbreck, whose family was a branch of the Campbells of Lochnell, the nearest cadet of the ducal house of Argyll. His wife was co-heiress of her uncle, Hay of Hartfield. By her Campbell had two sons—Charles, who succeeded to Barbreck and inherited Hartfield, and Lionel, who wedded a daughter of Sir James Campbell of Auchenbreck, Bart. Of the three daughters of Col. Campbell, the eldest married Stewart of Kilwhinlock, and the second, Col. Campbell of Saddle. No. 49 subsequently was the residence of Anne and Janet, daughters of John Porterfield of Fullwood, and sisters of Lady Lockhart of Carstairs, who, as already mentioned, had her town house at No. 41.

A citizen of public spirit who lived in various houses in George Square was Alexander Trotter of Dreghorn. He occupied for longer or shorter periods four houses during the first three decades of last century. In 1795 he was dwelling at No. 54. In 1832 he transferred to No. 23A. Five years later he returned to the east side, occupying No. 50. After a twelvemonth he again removed—this time to No. 12. He shall be treated as an illustrious resident of No. 50.

Trotter, who was born in 1755 and died in 1842, was Paymaster of the Navy, in which capacity he was impeached along with Lord Melville. He belonged to the Dryden and Bush branch of the Midlothian family. Trotter's aesthetic

tastes found scope in propounding schemes for the improvement of Edinburgh architecturally, and from the point of view of amenity. In 1829 he published a thin folio, with drawings, entitled *A Plan of Communication between the New and Old Town of Edinburgh* 'in the Line of the Earthen Mound and of building on that site.'

It was a grandiose scheme, but showed Trotter a diligent student of what seemed to him the best way of enhancing the beauty of the city. As one who visited the Continent with the express purpose of instructing himself in noble architecture and the layout of beautiful cities, he regretted that the principal streets of Edinburgh were given over to shops and warehouses where formerly there had been mansions. Trotter advocated that particular situations be set aside for the convenience of the public. For example, he favoured the adaptation of the Earthen Mound so as to form a 'grand gallery' that would provide uninterrupted communication between the Old Town and the New. The whole of the east side was to be allotted to shops, and occupiers were to reside in the upper storeys. But the erection of the Royal Institution caused a modification of the plan: the long gallery had to be omitted and something less pretentious substituted.

Trotter then came forward with a proposal for a handsome arcade whereby pedestrians on the Mound would be protected from violent gales and piercing winds: it would also serve a business purpose. 'The shops and a bazaar establishment would not fail to attract the Belles, and Beaux in their train.' The upper end of the Mound was to be sunk to the level of Princes Street and carried eastward along the north side of the Bank of Scotland, and then southward by a gentle acclivity to the High Street by an opening opposite St. Giles'. This thoroughfare would have commanded a superb view of the New Town, the Firth of Forth, and Fife. But while Trotter's idea was worthy to join the Old Town and the New, the

scheme, as Cockburn makes clear, was 'too magnificent for execution.'

In 1794 No. 50 was occupied by a Glasgow merchant, John Corbett of Tollcross, who died in 1836. His granddaughter Ariana married Patrick Corbett, a Leith merchant, who in later life was manager of the National Bank of Scotland, *de jure* eighteenth Lord Borthwick, the peerage being claimed in 1816. Corbett of Tollcross died in 1840. Another resident of No. 50 was Lt.-Col. George Clark of Southfield, who served from 1770 to 1794 in the 4th Battalion of the First Madras European Regiment and took a prominent part in the second Mysore War, which excited enough contemporary interest to cause Scott to write *The Surgeon's Daughter* and Maria Edgeworth *Lame Jervas*. Clarke was present at the storming of Bangalore, the capture of Nundidroog, and the investing of Seringapatam.

The McDougals of Mackerston, 'a family of great antiquity and distinction in Roxburghshire, of whose blood, through various alliances, Scott had a large share in his veins' (says Lockhart), are connected with No. 51. Here resided Sir George Hay McDougal, and at a later period his son Sir Henry Hay McDougal. The elder McDougal was a second cousin of Scott's grandfather, and, writes Sir Walter, 'there was always great friendship between us and the Mackerston family.' In some notes reminiscent of his childhood Sir Walter has a fine pen-portrait of Sir George, the elder of the two kinsmen.

I distinctly remember the late Sir George McDougal of Mackerston. . . . He was . . . a relation of ours, and I still recollect him in his old-fashioned military habit (he had been colonel of the Greys), with a small cocked hat, deeply laced, an embroidered scarlet waistcoat, with milk-white locks tied in a military fashion, kneeling on the ground before me and dragging his watch along the carpet to induce me to follow it. . . . This must have happened about my third year, for Sir George McDougal and my grandfather both died shortly after that period.

Scott also makes reference to Sir Henry, with whom he was better acquainted. Writing from Rosebank, Kelso, on 5th September 1788, he tells his mother of his intention to send her a hare, 'as my uncle has got a present of two greyhounds from Sir Henry McDougal,' whom Lockhart describes as 'an old baronet with gay, lively, and highly polished manners.' Again, in 1792, we hear of Scott being informed by his father that Lord Braxfield, then on the Border circuit, would probably breakfast with Sir Henry.

At the funeral of the laird of Mackerston, Sir Walter and his cousin, William Scott, younger of Raeburn, were 'the nearest blood relations present . . . and ranked as pall-bearers accordingly.' The McDougal line ended in an heiress, who married General Sir Thomas Brisbane, Bart. In right of his wife, Anna Maria, only daughter of Sir Henry, Brisbane assumed the name of McDougal. Scott mentions a visit to Abbotsford of Brisbane and his newly-married wife—'a sort of wedding visit.'

After the Mackerston family No. 51 was occupied by Mrs. Violet Pringle, widow of John Pringle of the Haining, a Senator of the College of Justice. Mrs. Pringle lived there from 1794 to 1821.

At No. 52 resided Robert Ramsay of Blackeraig, M.D., whose daughter, Margaret Cunningham, married Thomas, son of Robert Bruce of Kennet. In 1798 the house was owned by William Loraine of the East India Company's Marine at Bombay.

No. 53 was for many years the home of the widow of Sir Alexander Don of Newton. Lady Don was prominent in the social life of Edinburgh, and was one of the ladies of ceremonies at the 'George's Square Assembly.' Cockburn has a delightful sketch of this occupant of No. 53:

Lady Don (who lived in George Square) was . . . highly bred, as was attested by her polite cheerfulness and easy elegance. The venerable faded beauty, the white, well-coiled hair, the soft hand

sparkling with old brilliant rings, the kind heart, the affectionate manner, the honest, gentle voice, and the mild eye, account for the love with which her old age was surrounded. She was about the last person (so far as I recollect) in Edinburgh who kept a private sedan chair. Hers stood in the lobby, and was as handsome and comfortable as silk, velvet, and gilding could make it. And, when she wished to use it, two well-known respectable chair-men, enveloped in her livery cloaks, were the envy of their brethren. She and Mrs. Rothead [of Inverleith] both sat in the Tron Church; and well do I remember how I used to form one of the cluster . . . to see these beautiful relics emerge from the coach and the chair.

Lady Don, before her marriage in 1750 to Sir Alexander Don, was Mary, daughter of John Murray of Philiphaugh. Sir Alexander died in 1776. The family consisted of a son and two daughters. Mary Don married Col. Francis Scott of Beechwood, son of Scott of Harden. After she became a widow, she resided with her mother at No. 53. Mary Scott, Lady Don's granddaughter, afterwards became Mrs. T. Ffolliot Baugh.

As far back as 1773 No. 54 was possessed by three sisters—Margaret, Jean, and Henrietta, daughters of Sir Patrick Warrender, third baronet of Lochend, East Lothian. Sir Patrick served in the Horse Guards and then became Lt.-Col. of the 11th Dragoons. He took part in the battle of Minden. In 1772, he succeeded to the baronetcy and entered politics. He was Parliamentary representative for Haddington Burghs from 1768 to 1774 and King's Remembrancer of the Court of Exchequer from 1771 to 1791. He died in 1799.

In 1800 Mrs. Margaret Wauchope of Niddrie was residing at No. 54, which consisted of flats, one of which was entered from Windmill Street. She was the wife of Captain John Wauchope, a Dragoon officer at the battle of Minden. Mrs. Wauchope was a daughter of William Baird of Newbyth and sister of General Sir David Baird, the hero of Seringapatam.

The first proprietor of No. 55 was Lt.-Gen. the Hon. Alexander Mackay, second son of the third Lord Reay. H

married Margaret, daughter of Sir William Carr, of Etal, Northumberland, Bart., but left no descendants.

In 1737 Mackay was appointed to an ensigncy in the 25th Foot, and in 1745 to a captaincy in Lord Loudoun's new regiment, for which he raised an independent company in the Reay country. Loudoun's regiment was present at the battle of Preston in September 1745. The sequel to the surrender of Mackay, and other officers, at Cockenzie House, is described by Carlyle of Inveresk, who 'saw walking on the sea-shore, at the east end of Prestonpans, all the officers who were taken prisoners. I then saw human nature in its most abject form, for almost every aspect bore in it shame, and dejection, and despair. They were deeply mortified with what had happened, and timidly anxious about the future, for they were doubtful whether they were to be treated as prisoners of war or as rebels.'

In 1750 Mackay, as major in the 3rd Foot, served in Scotland, with headquarters first at Edinburgh, and then at Dundee, Fort George, and Stirling Castle. In 1764 he was appointed to the 65th Foot, and served for some years in America. In 1780 he became Commander-in-Chief in Scotland, a post which he held until his death in 1789.

In June 1780 Boswell met 'General Mackay, with whom [he says] I had a good deal of conversation upon the merit of his Regiment the Scotch Fuzileers; the advantage of having a good chaplain to attend a Regiment; and the pleasure of drinking a little brandy. We agreed very well.'

General Mackay, when acting as Commissioner of the Reay estates, devoted his energies 'to the improvement of the lot of the smaller tenantry.' His exertions are said to have anticipated the work of the Crofters Commission by a hundred years.

The next proprietor of No. 55 was Anthony Adrian, eighth Lord Falconer and fifth Earl of Kintore (d. 1804). James Grant mentions Kintore as one of the noblemen who con-

tributed liberally towards the founding of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. The Earl's only son, William Keith Falconer, sixth Earl (1766-1812) also owned No. 55. He served in the Scots Greys. He married Maria, daughter of Sir Alexander Bannerman, Bart.

A tenant of Kintore was Henry Mackenzie, the 'Man of Feeling.' A son of Dr. Joshua Mackenzie of Edinburgh and his wife Margaret, daughter of Hugh Ross of Kilravock, he married Penuel, daughter of Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant, Bart. Mackenzie lived at No. 55 from 1793 to 1806. During this period he founded the Friday Club.

He was editor of the *Mirror*, and the *Lounger*. To Mackenzie Scott dedicated *Waverley*. He is praised by the author of *Peter's Letters to his Kinsfolk*. 'The beautiful visions of his pathetic imagination had stamped a soft and delicious, but deep and indelible impression on my mind. . . . The very names of the heroes and heroines of his delightful stories, sounded in my ears like the echoes of some old romantic melody.' Several artists, including Raeburn, painted portraits of Mackenzie.

The next recorded inhabitant of No. 55 was John Corse of Bughtrig, who, in consequence of a settlement, adopted the name of Scott of Synton in addition to his own, on his marriage in 1800 to Catherine Scott.

In 1847 John Goodsir, Professor of Anatomy in Edinburgh University, was residing at No. 55. He, along with Dr. Walter Adam (see p. 98), examined the remains of Mary of Gueldres, the wife of James II, King of Scots, when they were exhumed at Trinity College prior to the removal of the building in 1848.

Another occupant of No. 55 was William Stothert of Cargen (1791-1863), eldest son of James Stothert, descended from a family of merchants in Dumfries. He made a fortune as a Jamaica planter. Stothert, who inherited Cargen and colonial property, entered the army in 1809. While serving

in the Coldstream Guards, he was captured by the French at Fuentes de Oñoro in the Peninsula, and remained a prisoner until the peace of 1814. On retiring from the army Stothert settled down to improving his estates.

After having been used for a few years as a girls' school, No. 55 became the property of John Ritchie (1778-1870), who became sole proprietor of *The Scotsman* after 1831. He resided at No. 48 from 1836 to 1842. His wife having died, his family circle consisted of a niece, Mrs. Findlay, her son, and two daughters.

The grandnephew, John Ritchie Findlay, was the author of an interesting little book, *Personal Recollections of Thomas De Quincey*, in which he recalls certain visits from, and to, the Opium Eater. De Quincey, though abnormally shy, occasionally consented to dine quietly at No. 55. In this connection, Findlay records an amusing incident, which probably occurred in 1854. De Quincey, having walked from Lasswade to dine at George Square, was 'shown into a room to wash, in which was a fixed basin with hot and cold water, an arrangement not so common then as now.' Findlay writes: 'Turning on the water I left for a moment to fetch a towel, and on my return found Mr. De Quincey standing in an attitude of paralysed perplexity a little way from the nearly brimful basin. His alarm was lest the basin should overflow and deluge the room, an evil which I explained was provided against.' There are interesting accounts of conversations with De Quincey, and descriptions of his shrinking from society, which make the little book of value as an authentic picture of the last years of the Opium Eater.

Robert Graham of Gartmore (1735-97), the first proprietor of No. 56, was the second son of Nicol Graham of Gartmore, who wrote the description of the state of the Highlands quoted in the introduction to *Waverley*. Robert Graham's mother was Lady Margaret Cunningham, a daughter of the Earl of Glencairn.

An interesting biography of Graham, entitled *Doughty Deeds*, by his descendant, R. B. Cunninghame Graham, the well-known writer and traveller, recently dead, was published in 1925. It gives a vivid picture of the colourful days, easy-going morals, dangers and pleasures of life in the West Indies in the eighteenth century, where the future laird of Gartmore was Receiver-General for Jamaica. The ill-health of his Creole wife Annie, daughter of Simon Taylor, a cadet of the Taylors of Barrowfield in Fife, compelled him, however, to return to Scotland where he managed his estates and entered politics as M.P. for Stirlingshire.

The laird of Gartmore was esteemed by Burns. In a letter to Hill, the Edinburgh bookseller, the poet asks: 'Does Mr. Graham of Gartmore ever enter your shop now? He is the noblest instance of great talents, great fortune and great worth that ever I saw in conjunction.'

The biographer of *Doughty Deeds* records that 'in 1779 the Laird of Gartmore with his family removed to Edinburgh, where he had bought a house in order that his daughters should be educated according to the canons of the day.' Most probably, the girls attended classes, and had professors of the 'genteel arts of good society to teach them at home.' Shortly after the death of Mrs. Graham in 1781, the house at No. 56 was sold.

During the years in George Square the laird of Gartmore took a deep interest in literature, and amusing letters to him from Thomas Sheridan, author of a *General Dictionary of the English Language*, are quoted. Between 1780 and 1790, Graham blossomed into poetry with lines beginning:

If doughty deeds my ladye please,
Right soon I'll mount my steed;
And strong his arm, and fast his seat,
That bears frae me the meed.
I'll wear thy colours in my cap,
Thy picture in my heart;

And he that bends not to thine eye
Shall rue it to his smart.
Then tell me how to woo thee, love;
O tell me how to woo thee!
For thy dear sake, nae care I'll take,
Tho' ne'er another trow me.

The second proprietor of No. 56 was Robert Bruce of Kennet (1718-85), a judge of the Court of Session from 1764, and a Lord of Justiciary from 1769. Kennet, whose portrait by Martin hangs in the Parliament House, was the son of Alexander Bruce of Kennet, and a grandson, through his mother, of the fourth Lord Burleigh. He was for some years Professor of the Law of Nature and Nations in the University of Edinburgh.

In 1800 No. 56 once more changed hands. The new owner was Lord President Blair of Avontoun (1741-1811), son of the Rev. Robert Blair, author of *The Grave*. Avontoun was noted for his modesty, legal acumen, and integrity, and George III was heard to refer to him as 'the man who would not go up.' Chantrey's statue of him is praised in *Peter's Letters to his Kinsfolk*. 'Nothing can be grander than the attitude and whole air of the figure.'

Cockburn describes Blair as 'a species of man not very common in Scotland.'

He had a fine manly countenance, a gentleman-like portly figure, a slow dignified gait, and a general air of thought and power. Too solid for ingenuity, and too plain for fancy, soundness of understanding was his peculiar intellectual quality. Within his range nobody doubted, or could doubt, Blair's wisdom. Nor did it ever occur to anyone to question his probity. He was all honesty.

In *Memoirs of a Literary Veteran*, R. P. Gillies tells us that the Lord President 'retired to rest early . . . and rose to breakfast betwixt four and five, and had half a day's work achieved before his public duties in the Court commenced. . . . Light reading had a great charm for his leisure hours, and he would enjoy *Gulliver's Travels* or the last new novel with all the fresh feelings of boyhood.'

The sudden death of Blair, followed almost immediately by that of Lord Melville, his old friend, shocked Edinburgh society. A monody on the death of these two great men, composed by Robert Buchanan, a future Professor of Logic at Glasgow University, is quoted in Kay's *Portraits*.

In 1817 No. 56 became the home of Major-Gen. John Cunninghame of the Bengal Army. Admitted to the East India Company's military service in 1781, he died in Edinburgh on 10th April 1843, aged eighty-three.

The house was next purchased by Mrs. Hozier of Newlands, Lanarkshire, the great-grandmother of Mrs. Winston Churchill. A daughter of John Campbell of Clathick, Perthshire, she married William Hozier, the son of a Glasgow magistrate. In 1784 Hozier purchased the estate of Newlands, subsequently adding Barrowfield, also in Lanarkshire. Their son, James Hozier of Mauldslie Castle and St. Enoch's Hall, was an advocate and Convener of Lanarkshire. In 1823 he married a daughter of Sir William Feildon of Fenniscowles, Bart. The third son of this union was Col. Sir H. M. Hozier, K.C.B., who in 1878 married Lady Blanche Ogilvy, daughter of the seventh Earl of Airlie. These were the parents of Mrs. Winston Churchill.

Finally, in 1869, No. 56 became the property of the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, being named the Miller Memorial Mission House 'as a tribute to Professor James Miller,' one of the Vice-Presidents of the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, and assistant to the great surgeon, Robert Liston. There is a bust of Miller by Steell at No. 56.

The first owner of No. 57 was another of the distinguished naval officers who lived in George Square, Vice-Admiral Sir John Lockhart Ross of Balnagowan, Bart. (1721-90). He was the fifth son of Sir James Lockhart of Carstairs, Bart., and his wife Grizel, third daughter of William, twelfth Lord Ross. The Admiral married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert

Dundas, younger, of Arniston. His portrait was painted by Reynolds and afterwards engraved.

Entering the Navy in 1735, Lockhart served in the West Indies, and afterwards in the North Sea and on the North American coast. Returning to England, he was posted to the *Devonshire*, and took part in the action off Cape Finisterre (1747). In the same year he was present at Hawke's action, commanding the fireship *Vulcan*.

Lockhart's great chance came on his posting to the *Tartar*, 28. In this frigate he was engaged in 'active, successful, and brilliant cruising in the Channel' during which he captured several privateers. He, however, was severely wounded. After rejoining his ship he captured (1757), 'after a long chase and a stubborn action,' a fine vessel which was added to the British navy. Lockhart's 'signal services in supporting the trade' led to his being presented by the merchants of London and Bristol with handsome pieces of plate. He also received the freedom of Plymouth.

Later on, we hear of him serving under Rodney in an effort 'to destroy the flat-bottomed boats and the supplies which had been collected at Le Havre for the projected invasion of England.' In 1759 his meritorious conduct at Quiberon Bay led to his appointment to the *Royal George* and subsequently to the *Bedford*, the latter forming part of the fleet under Hawke and Boscawen. In 1777 he was transferred to the *Shrewsbury*, which took part in the action off Ushant (1778). Lockhart's bold frigate actions were celebrated in a ballad.

Ye sons of Old Ocean who're strangers to fear,
On board of the *Shrewsbury* quickly repair;
Brave Lockhart commands her, rejoice every tar,
For Lockhart commanded the *Tartar* last war.
Hearts of oak are our ships, jolly tars are our men,
We always are ready,
Steady, boys, steady,
We'll fight and we'll conquer again and again.

In 1779 Lockhart was promoted Rear-Admiral with his flag in the *Royal George*. Unsuccessful in his search for Paul Jones, he was present at the relief of Gibraltar. He became Vice-Admiral in 1787.

Lockhart succeeded to the baronetcy and the estate of Balnagowan on the death of his brother, adding the name of Ross in accordance with the entail. He was M.P. for Lanark Burghs, but did not take any active interest in parliamentary affairs, devoting himself instead to the improvement of his estates. Pennant tells us that he was 'the best farmer and the greatest planter in the country; his wheat and turnips showed the one, his plantation of a million of pines the other.'

On 5th April 1780 James Boswell 'waited on Admiral Sir John Lockhart Ross,' to whom a humble relation, also named James Boswell, had offered himself and been engaged for a ship, 'and I,' says Johnson's biographer, 'recommended the young man to him.'

On the death of Admiral Lockhart Ross in 1790, No. 57 became the residence of Robert Dundas of Arniston (1758-1819). His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of the first Lord Melville. Robert Dundas was Solicitor General for Scotland in 1784; Lord Advocate in 1789; M.P. for Midlothian, 1790-96. In 1801 he was appointed Chief Baron of the Exchequer. Cockburn writes of him as 'in public affairs, the most important person in this country. . . . He was a little, alert, handsome, gentleman-like man, with a countenance and air beaming with sprightliness and gaiety; and dignified by considerable fire, altogether inexpressibly pleasing. It was impossible not to like the owner of that look. No one could contemplate his animated and elegant briskness, or his lively benignity, without feeling that these were the reflections of an ardent and amiable heart.'

During the early period of the Lord Advocate's residence at No. 57 the Edinburgh mob, as already narrated, attacked

the house. In No. 57 the death of the first Lord Melville occurred the day before the funeral of Lord President Blair when, Cockburn says, 'another unlooked-for occurrence deepened the solemnity. The first Lord Melville had retired to rest in his usual health, but was found dead in bed next morning.'

No. 58 was originally part of No. 57, which had been a very large house, but was divided during the ownership of Robert Dundas of Arniston. Among early residents were Richard Campbell of Helenton Mains (d. 1835), a Writer, and his wife Mary (d. 1832), daughter of William Currie of Bridekirk. Campbell was a brother of a rich nabob, who purchased the estate of Craigie in Ayrshire about 1783. On his death without issue Craigie passed to Richard Campbell.

Although Dr. Charles Stuart of Dunearn is usually connected with No. 59 (originally 58), where he resided from 1812 to 1817, he was occupying No. 41 when the duel between his son James, a Writer to the Signet, and Sir Alexander Boswell of Auchinleck, Bart., son of the biographer of Johnson, brought him unenviable renown. An ardent Whig, James Stuart incurred the enmity of truculent foes, a crisis being reached with a violent attack on him in a Glasgow periodical. When Stuart discovered that Boswell had written the article he challenged him to a duel, which was fought in Fife. Boswell was mortally wounded. Stuart was put on trial but found not guilty. 'No Scotch trial in my time excited such interest,' writes Cockburn.

Dr. Charles Stuart, the father of the duellist, had a curious career. In 1773 he became minister of Cramond but resigned three years later on the ground that he could not find Scriptural warrant for a national church nor for Presbyterian government. He afterwards attached himself to a Baptist congregation, and then quixotically changed his vocation. He began the study of medicine, took the M.D. degree, and set up as a practising physician in Edinburgh.

Dr. Stuart greatly admired the character and preaching of James Haldane, and was a member of his congregation at the Tabernacle in Leith Walk. The laird of Dunearn once declared that to see Haldane a Baptist would be 'the consummation of his [Dr. Stuart's] earthly felicity.' When Stuart lay dying at his house in George Square, James Haldane called to enquire as to the patient's condition, but as his brother, Robert Haldane, was with him, did not enter. Dr. Stuart died later the same day, 30th May 1826.¹

The Dunearn family were followed by William Mitchell, Cashier of the Royal Bank, and his wife Christian, a daughter of Thomas Shairp of Houston. After them came Charles McLaren (1782-1860), editor of *The Scotsman* for thirty years. Another noteworthy dweller was the Scottish divine and author, Thomas McCrie, son of the biographer of Knox. The next proprietor was Alexander Negris, Professor of Greek Literature and author of a *Dictionary of Modern Greek Proverbs*, a *Modern Greek Grammar*, and other works.

None of these personages, however, managed to pack as many varied experiences into their lives as an apparently unremarkable officer of the East India Company—Major John Grant (1783-1852), one of the three sons of John Grant of Kinchirdy, Duthil. Before he obtained a cadetship in the Bengal Army in 1806, young John Grant had held a commission in an Irish Yeomanry corps. The licence enjoyed by troops in Ireland must have led Grant to imagine that he could discipline the natives of India with the same freedom. In 1807 he was tried at Calcutta, on a charge of arson, found guilty, and sentenced to death. This punishment, however, was commuted to transportation to Botany Bay for seven years. In less than two years, however, he obtained a free pardon from the Government of New South Wales. Returning to India, he was reinstated, and served until his retirement in 1836. He was on active service during the third Mahratta War.

¹ *Lives of the Haldanes*, 4th ed., 1855, p. 552.

The first proprietor of No. 60 (originally No. 59) was John Pringle of Crichton, eldest son of the Mark Pringle of Clifton who fled the country after the duel in which he slew Scott of Raeburn. Captured by Algerines, he was for a time a slave. John Pringle ultimately engaged in commerce, but owing to financial difficulties, Crichton, his Midlothian estate, had to be sold. He married Anne Rutherford, niece of Mrs. Alison Cockburn, and the heiress of Fairnielee. When John Pringle's affairs became precarious his father-in-law was also involved, and a portion of the lands of Fairnielee had to be disposed of. Mrs. Cockburn, the songstress, left property to the amount of £3800, half of which went to her niece, Anne Pringle of Crichton.

For many years No. 60 was in the possession of various members of the Fairholme family. George Fairholme of Greenhill and Greenknowe, Berwickshire, appears in Kay's drawing—'The Connoisseurs.' He was known as 'an old, independent bachelor,' and Kay says of him that he with his younger brother, William Fairholme of Chapel (who married a sister of Pringle of Torwoodlee), 'had long resided in Holland as eminent bankers where they realised a considerable fortune.' On returning to Scotland they became extensive shareholders in the Bank of Scotland. While in Holland Fairholme was known as a keen and judicious collector of pictures and works of art. He had a valuable collection of etchings by Rembrandt. George Fairholme died in 1860, and was interred in the family vault at Greenhill, now part of a garden in Chamberlain Road. The Fairholmes had been established in Midlothian since 1620. They possessed considerable property, including the estates of Pilton and Greenhill. A daughter of John Fairholme of Craigiehall married a Marquess of Annandale.

By 1830 No. 60 had become the abode of John Waugh, a worthy magistrate whose calling was that of bookseller. He was a partner in the firm of Waugh and Innes, Hunter Square,

which published in 1824 *Views of the Principal Buildings in Edinburgh*. In the absence of Sir John Marjoribanks of Lees, Bart., Lord Provost of Edinburgh (then in London), Waugh, as acting Chief Magistrate, read to a crowd assembled in the High Street a letter from the Lord Provost, containing the first distinct intelligence that had reached Edinburgh of the victory of Waterloo. Bailie Waugh also opened a fund 'for the widows and children of those brave men who had fallen in the late Glorious Battle.' He was a considerable proprietor in the Newington district, the topmost houses on the east side of Minto Street as well as those at the south-west corner of Salisbury Road being built by him.

VIII. CELEBRITIES AND UNIDENTIFIED HOUSES

This account of famous residents of George Square would be incomplete without some reference to a few distinguished personages who are known to have lived there for longer or shorter periods but who for a variety of reasons cannot be connected with any particular house.

In *Henry Erskine: His Kinsfolk and Times*, Lt.-Col. Fergusson states categorically that Erskine, while residing in George Square, had amongst his neighbours Jane, Duchess of Gordon. He recalls an anecdote in which her Grace regretted 'removal from her old house in George Square to the New Town.' Erskine is quoted as the authority of the Duchess's lament at 'having to leave the house which had been her home so long, but that really the Old Town was intolerably dull.' The remark, it is said, brought from Erskine the witty rejoinder: 'Madam, that is as if the sun were to say, "It seems vastly dull weather, I think I shall not rise this morning."' "

Unfortunately for the truthfulness of the story, Fergusson adds: 'This is one of the incidents which have been told as occurring in England. It is left to the curious in such matters to establish the correct version of the tale.' But however we

may regard its authenticity, there is hardly room for doubt that Jane, Duchess of Gordon, resided in George Square, and apparently for a considerable time.

Another aristocratic *habitué* of George Square, according to Sir Walter Scott,¹ was the venerable Countess of Balcarres, who died a painless death at the age of ninety-four. Her residence most likely was in the interval between her removal from Hyndford's Close and her departure for George Street, where she had Scott as a neighbour. The daughter of Sir Robert Dalrymple of Castleton, she married the fifth Earl of Balcarres (d. 1768),² and was the mother of Lady Ann Barnard, authoress of 'Auld Robin Gray.'

The countess, who looked upon Mrs. Alison Cockburn as 'a second mother,' was a woman of marked individuality. In *Lives of the Lindsays* we read how her benign influence radiated the ancestral home in the East Neuk of Fife. She was an omnivorous reader of the Waverley novels, although apparently unaware that the author was the lame youth who used to visit the Balcarres family in Hyndford's Close. The countess knew her daughter's ballad of 'Auld Robin Gray' by heart. In one of her last letters she paraphrased two lines, and applied them to her decrepit state. 'Tell Annie,' she writes, that

My wheel I turn round but I come little speed,
For my hand is grown feeble, and weak is my thread.

¹ *Letters*, viii. p. 38.

² He was dubbed 'the patriarch' by Mrs. Alison Cockburn. 'May he live a thousand years and more!' she exclaimed. After spending a week at Balcarres, she writes to David Hume: 'The "old lord" asked for you, disputed with you, confuted you, came over to your opinion, but had no faith when I told him you was (*sic*) tired of public life. 'Ods fish, is the fellow a fool? What can a man of his talents do in a poor ruined country like this?'—Mrs. Cockburn's *Letters* (p. 46). This earl damaged his career by taking part in the 'Fifteen rebellion. He was 'a grey, gaunt man' of thirty-five when he married Anne Dalrymple, aged twenty-three. She had refused him at first, but when she heard (thinking himself near his end) he had left her half his fortune, she 'first endured, then pitied, then embraced,' becoming the mother of eleven children.

When she resided with her mother in George Square, Lady Anne Lindsay (as she was before marriage) occasionally betook herself to the Assembly Rooms in Buccleuch Place where she danced in the 'Maiden set.'

The Countess of Glasgow also comes into this category. The wife of John, third Earl, she was Elizabeth, second daughter of George, Lord Ross of Halkhead. Eventually she became heir to her brother William, the thirteenth and last Lord Ross. As indicated on another page, the town house of this family stood behind the north side of George Square, and probably it was there that the Countess of Glasgow resided.

In 1782 Lady Rae had her house in the Square. The youngest daughter of John Stuart of Blairhill, she in 1761 married Sir David Rae, Bart., who succeeded Braxfield as Lord Justice-Clerk, taking the judicial title of Lord Eskgrove, the name being derived from his country seat at Inveresk. He did not live to enjoy the baronetcy, dying five months after, in October 1804. If all accounts be true, Lord Eskgrove was rather eccentric, at least such is the impression conveyed by Cockburn's unflattering portrait. In his earlier days the judge was a close friend of the poet, Hamilton of Bangour, whose verses he edited for publication, prefixing a short introduction. His son, William, the second baronet, was Lord Advocate, and a notable political figure. Scott apostrophises him as 'Dear loved Rae' in the introduction to the fourth canto of *Marmion*, a compliment which Rae acknowledged in 1841 when he brought in a bill in Parliament for the erection at Edinburgh of a monument to Sir Walter. 'Sensible, cool-headed, and firm, always thinking of his duty and never of himself' was Scott's eulogium of Sir William Rae.

About 1776 George Square provided a town abode for John Maclaurin, who sat on the bench of the Court of Session as Lord Dreghorn. He was the son of Colin Maclaurin, the

renowned mathematician, who in his professional work in Edinburgh University had the support of Sir Isaac Newton. A learned and able lawyer, Dreghorn practised a literary talent by writing satirical verse. He was the author of *The Philosopher's Opera*, a *jeu d'esprit* on David Hume and John Home, author of *Douglas*. From the same pen, too, came an *Apology for the Writers against Douglas*. He was also the author of *Essays in Verse*, which, along with his other writings, was published in 1798.

In one of the houses on the east side of George Square¹ there lived from 1797 to 1800 Thomas Kennedy of Dunure and Dalquharran Castle, Ayrshire. Lineally descended from Sir Thomas Kennedy of Kirkhill (whom James VII nominated for the Lord Provostship of Edinburgh), he was an advocate. His son, Thomas Francis Kennedy, was M.P. for Ayr Burghs, 1818-34. He built the harbour of Dunure and, from the design of Robert Adam, the original portion of the modern house of Dalquharran. An ardent Whig, he was the friend and political co-worker of Jeffrey and Cockburn. Kennedy married Jane, daughter of John Adam of Blair-Adam and Maryburgh.

From the *Lives of the Haldanes* (p. 68) we learn that James Alexander Haldane (1768-1851) took up house in George Square, shortly after his marriage in September 1793 to the only daughter of Major Alexander Jones of Culleonard, Banffshire. Haldane's mother was a sister of Admiral Duncan, who had his town house at No. 5.

Both James Haldane and his brother Robert, following in the footsteps of their famous uncle, served for some years in the Navy, but while still young men they came under religious influences which diverted their energies into entirely new channels. Robert founded the 'Society for Propagating the Gospel at Home,' built numerous places of worship ('tabernacles' they were called), and supported a band of

¹ Further researches have shown it to be No. 59.

itinerant preachers, spending in this manner over £70,000 in twelve years.

James Haldane, on the other hand, made an evangelistic tour throughout Scotland in the company of the well-known English divine, Simeon of Cambridge. In 1799 he was ordained pastor of a tabernacle which his brother built in Leith Walk, where he preached for half a century without salary. At first his congregation was affiliated with the Independents, but in 1808 Haldane and his flock became Baptists. Both brothers wrote books of theology and engaged in numerous controversies. The late Viscount Haldane of Cloan, who was Lord Chancellor in 1912, was the great-nephew of the two evangelists.

IX. NOTE ON THE ARCHITECTURE

The charm of George Square to an architect lies in the simplicity of the masonry as compared, for example, with the formally designed frontages of the houses in Great King Street; also in the variety of surface tooling as well as the Nasmyth chequer work, rather disparaged by Arnot but now much admired.

The buildings on the south side exhibit two different styles of tooling. One shows horizontal grooves close together, while the other consists of a plain space about an inch wide. Although the alternations of these two styles are not carried out with mechanical regularity they yet appear frequently enough to form a pattern of their own.

Simplicity and neatness combined with comfort and dignity is the keynote of these Georgian houses whose situation and lay-out are superior to those of Charlotte Square. Good entrance doorways flanked by pilasters supporting an entablature and adorned with excellent brass handles, knockers, number plates, and bells, often surmounted by attractive fanlights (where the hand of the Victorian

'improver' has not been at work), give access to arched halls where graceful stairs wind upwards displaying mahogany handrails and ironwork of pleasing design.

The rooms are lofty and well lit. As in most Georgian houses, the chimney-pieces are the important decorative feature. These, in the Adam style, are embellished by marble of various shades, and have handsome basket grates with brass ornaments. Deep window recesses, wainscots, handsome doors, and recesses, also in the Adam style, are typical of the rooms.

The windows are still, in many cases, of the twelve-paned variety. On the south side a 'round tower' at No. 39 breaks the line with good effect. The most interesting features of George Square are, however, the very early type of bow window at No. 15, and several 'wheel' windows on the north and south sides. A circumstance worth noting is that the masonry of the gable-end of No. 1 shows traces of the original position of the first entrance, which apparently faced east in uniformity with No. 46.

X. LIST OF INHABITANTS, 1766-1926

(The dates placed after each name denote period of entry)

- No. 1 Capt. Hon. Charles Napier, R.N., of Merchiston Hall, 1767
 Lord Woodhouselee, 1786-90
 Mrs. Christie of Balchristie, 1804
 Thomas Burns, W.S., 1808
 Wm. Alester, Writing Chambers, 1810-16
 James Lewis, merchant, 1848
 Alex. Cormack, L.D.S., 1871
 Edward Henderson, 1882
 Scottish Branch of General Council of Medical Education
 and Registration. James Robertson, 1888
 Alex. Miles, surgeon, 1897
 John D. Logan, L.D.S., 1903

- No. 2 James Smollett of Bonhill, Commissary of Edinburgh, 1768
 Alex. Udney of Udney, advocate, 1776
 Mrs. Udney Duff, 1790
 Sir James Naesmyth of Posso, Bart., 1793
 Mrs. Crawford of Carronbank, 1804
 Mrs. G. Irving of Newton, 1843
 James Black, M.D., 1857
 Mrs. Black (Jane Galt), 1871
 Mrs. Gilruth, 1911
 Capt. Hon. M. C. A. Drummond, Black Watch, 1913
 Hon. Oscar Guest, Lothians & Border Horse, 1914
 Lord Polwarth, 1916 (?)
 Rev. Andrew H. Gilruth, 1917
 Mrs. A. H. Gilruth, 1926
- No. 3 Hon. Mrs. Murray of Philiphaugh, 1769
 Sir Wm. Jardine of Applegirith, 1786
 General James Abercromby, 1790
 Capt. John Baugh, 58th Foot, 1804
 Alex. Schaw, 1814
 John S. Blackwood of Pitreavie, 1819
 Wm. Mackenzie, surgeon, 1832
 George Graham, surgeon, 1840
 Mrs. Graham (dau. of Andrew Usher, wine merchant), 1841
 Miss Somerville, 1841
 John Speed, W.S., 1850
 Mrs. Speed of Ardovie, 1850
 Mrs. Hardy, 1851
 Thomas Usher, 1853
 Rev. Walter Chalmers Smith, D.D., 1859
 Alex. Stevenson, 1863
 Dr. Dionysius Wielobycki, 1871
 James Thomson, 1886
 James Pollard, C.A., 1888
 Mrs. Lyle, 1890
- No. 4 Miss Helen Stevenson, 1766
 James Balfour, W.S., 1793
 Sir John MacGregor Murray, 1800
 Mrs. Wedderburn, 1807
 James McInnes, writer, 1811
 Rev. Dr. John Jamieson, 1821
 Charles Dick, brewer, 1841

- Thomas Abernethy, merchant, 1843
 John Niven, M.D., 1843
 George Smith, shawl manufacturer, 1849
 Thomas McLean, 1855
 Misses Menzies' Ladies' Boarding School, 1855
 George Hope, 1860
 George Lindsay, 1862
 Alexander Thomson, 1870
 Mrs. Lyle, 1880
 George Watson's Ladies' College, 1891
- No. 5 Walter Scott of Harden, 1770
 Henry Dundas of Melville, 1773
 Capt. Adam Duncan, R.N., later Earl of Camperdown, 1786
 Sir Wm. Cunningham, Bart., 1807
 Miss Shiells' Boarding School, 1834
 Southern Academy, 1837
 Miss Scott, 1853
 J. S. Johnston, S.S.C., 1854
 Thomas A. G. Balfour, M.D., 1858
 Ladies' Boarding School, Melville House, 1859
 Wm. Keiller, 1870
 George Watson's Ladies' College, 1876
- No. 6 Sir John Riddell of Riddell, 1767
 Sir John Buchanan Riddell, 1767
 Col. Riddell, 1778
 Miss Riddell, 1783
 Mrs. Carre of Cavers, 1793
 Thomas Riddell, W.S., 1808
 Alexander Lawrie, bookseller, 1812
 Mrs. Lawrie, 1833
 Miss Lawrie, 1835
 James Boag, merchant, 1836
 Andrew Grierson, W.S., 1840
 Walter Rutherford, merchant, 1851
 John Turnbull, cloth merchant, 1855
 Wm. Crease, merchant, 1859
 Miss Crease, 1899
 George Watson's Ladies' College
- No. 7 Misses Carre of Nisbet, 1768
 Alex. Carre of Cavers, 1811

- No. 7 Mrs. Kerr, 1818
 Mrs. Carre of Cavers, 1822
 John James Boswell, advocate, 1824
 Miss Boswell, 1838
 Mrs. and the Misses Anderson, 1851
 James Fenton, jeweller, 1884
 Dr. Dawson Turner, 1891
 Misses Wilson, 1897
 George Watson's Ladies' College, 1910
- No. 8 Lady Jane Leslie, 1767
 Lt.-Gen. James Abercromby of Glassaugh, 1771
 Col. James Abercromby, 3rd Foot, 1779
 Mrs. Scott, 1806
 Mrs. Rice, widow of Rev. John Rice, rector of Waldonia,
 Kent, and daughter of David Graham, advocate, 1807
 Mrs. Simpson of Teviot Bank, 1807
 Mrs. Graham, 1820
 Miss Grace Graham, 1820
 Dr. Richard Huie, 1826
 William Lyon (Lyon & Turnbull), 1868
 Dr. George Anderson, 1877
 Alexander Cormack, L.D.S., 1881
 J. Henry Cormack, L.D.S., 1881
 David A. Cormack, L.D.S., 1881
 Miss Mosman, 1909
- No. 9 George Abercromby of Tullibody, 1773
 Gen. Sir Ralph Abercromby, 1788
 Mrs. Clark, 1795
 Mrs. Elliot of Borthwickbrae, 1800
 Mrs. Simpson of Teviot Bank, 1820
 Charles McAllister, 1840
 James Richardson, merchant, 1841
 P. Cameron, merchant, 1854
 W. Alexander, 1860
 Miss Wallace Millie, 1863
 David Gordon, M.D., 1864
 Capt. Jo. Mackgill, 1877
 Rev. Thomas Nicol, 1880
 Mrs. A. Monteath, 1886
 Thomas Thomson, 1891
 J. Morrison Inches, 1898

- Dr. A. P. Laurie, 1901
 Fred. Gardiner, M.D., 1906
- No. 10 Martin Eccles, M.D., 1770
 Capt. Charles Inglis, R.N., 1790
 Sir Patrick Inglis of Sunnyside, 1794
 Sir George Leith, Bart., 1815
 Mrs. Colquhoun of Garscadden, 1818
 Col. Ludovic Colquhoun, 1824
 James McInnes, S.S.C., 1830
 James Greenhill, 1849
 William White Millar, 1860
 W. D. Adams, M.D., 1869
 Alexander Cormack, L.D.S., 1871
 Mrs. Anderson, 1873
 H. S. A. L. Hay, 1877
 Thomas Dewar, 1882
 James Greenhill, 1891
 Mrs. Cameron, 1911
 Forestry and Entomology Department, Edinburgh University, 1917
- No. 11 Mrs. Rutherford of Hunthill, 1779 (?)
 Rich. Lake, W.S., 1779 (?)
 Lord Stonefield, 1784
 Mrs. Campbell, 1803
 Arthur Clifford, 1807
 William Balderston, W.S., 1811
 Miss C. Cockburn, 1818
 Mrs. Prendergast, 1820
 Robert Cameron, 1822
 Mrs. Lawrie, widow of John Lawrie, excise officer, 1831
 William Alexander Lawrie, W.S., 1833
 Miss Beatson, 1833
 Thomas Campbell, 1851
 Mrs. Mackgill, 1852
 George F. Barbour of Bonskeid, 1858
 Nursing Home for Women, 1900
 W. B. Scott, 1913
 Edinburgh Indian Association, 1913
- No. 12 Henry Bethune of Kilconquhar, 1790
 Archibald Trotter of the Bush, 1793

- No. 12 Robert Trotter of Castlelaw, Postmaster of Scotland, 1797
Miss Trotter of the Bush, 1799
Alex. Trotter of Dreghorn, 1836 (from 23)
Thomas Campbell, 1852
James Melvin, 1871
Ferdinand F. Begg, 1873
James H. Jamieson, W.S., 1885
James N. Fleming, 1891
Muir Hall, 1898
- No. 13 Lord Braxfield, 1770
Claude Alexander of Ballochmyle, 1800
Admiral Inglis of Auchindinny and Redhall, 1802
Lt.-Col. James Leatham, Master of Riding Academy, Nicolson Street, 1807
R. Hepburn of Clerkington, 1817
Gen. John Hamilton of Dalzell, 1820
Robert Cameron, 1825
Rev. John Paul, D.D., St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, 1829
Andrew Isles, 1885
Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture, 1904
- No. 14 Countess of Sutherland, 1773
Lady Alva, 1780
Capt. Arch. Swinton of Kimmerghame, 1787
Mrs. Inglis of Auchindinny and Redhall, 1801
Capt. John Swinton, 91st Regiment, 1805
Lady Dalrymple Hamilton MacGill of Oxenford and Fala, 1811
Miss Dalrymple of Cousland, 1830
Alexander Chancellor of Shieldhall, 1841
John Chancellor, advocate, 1845
William Alexander, W.S., 1854
Mrs. Wyld, 1860
Charles Lawson, jun., 1863
Alex. Y. Pitcairn, W.S., 1866
Rev. W. S. Moncrieff, 1871
Waller H. Paton, R.S.A., 1873
Church of Scotland Residence for Divinity Students, 1897
College of Agriculture, 1914
- No. 15 Col. William Calderwood of Polton
James Durham of Largo, 1785

- Capt. James Tod, of *Ocean*, Indiaman, 1798
Miss Tod, 1820
John Rickman, 1825
Miss Mackenzie, 1833
Mrs. Duncan, 1833
Hon. Miss Mackay, 1844
Miss Scott, 1844
Rev. W. K. Tweedie, Free Tolbooth Church, 1846
J. Houston, M.D., 1887
Sir John Struthers, 1898
J. W. Struthers, M.B., 1898
Lady Struthers, 1898
Miss Helen Welsh, daughter of Rev. Dr. David Welsh (1793-1845), 1901
Henry Parker, 1908
College of Agriculture
- No. 16 James Fraser, apothecary in London, 1767
Miss Elizabeth Reid, niece of preceding, 1770
Lady Anne Duff, 1771-1805
Sir James Grant of Grant, Bart., 1794
Miss Helen Anne Fisher of Loretto, 1807
Dowager Lady Purves, 1813
William Skinner, W.S., 1850
David Dickson, stationer, 1851
John Home, 1865
Waller H. Paton, R.S.A., 1868
W. Halden Beattie, 1874
William Bowman MacLeod, L.D.S., 1882
James Stewart-Durward, L.D.S., 1886
- No. 17 Robert Stedman, merchant, 1769
Mrs. Fletcher, 1784
General Fletcher Campbell, 1796
Miss Margaret K. Abercromby, 1798
Thomas Abercromby Duff of Haddo, advocate, 1824
John Stevenson Brown, iron merchant, of Smeaton Park, Inveresk, 1831
J. Wilson Pillans, 1848
Mrs. Scott, 1852
Rev. Wm. Scott Moncrieff, 1854
Mrs. W. Scott Moncrieff, 1857
Mrs. Hamilton, 1861

- No. 17 Rev. Jas. MacGregor, D.D., Tron Church, afterwards of St. Cuthbert's, 1868.
Mrs. Crompton, 1874
Mrs. Wood, 1877
Adam Stark, 1879
James Morrison, 1879
William Bowman MacLeod, L.D.S., 1882
- No. 18 Mrs. Leith, widow of Robert Leith of Overhall, 1774
George Leith of Overhall, W.S., 1797
Mrs. St. Clair, widow of Andrew St. Clair, banker, 1803
Mrs. Douglas, 1838
Andrew Steel, 1841
D. Livingston, clothier, 1845
Rev. John Caird, Lady Yester's Church, afterwards Principal of Glasgow University, 1847
Ludovic Colquhoun, advocate, 1853
Miss Swindell Norvel, 1855
David Scott Moncrieff, W.S., 1863
Robert Hislop, 1869
H. M. Church, M.D., 1876
George Stewart, 1880
Miss Stewart, 1900
Robt. John Johnston, M.D., 1908
H. Watson, 1922
- No. 19 Robert Irving, W.S., 1771
John Robertson Irving of Bonshaw, 1772
Charles Gordon of Cluny, W.S., 1773
Mrs. Clerk (Helen Duff), widow of David Clerk, M.D., 1782
John Cochrane of Rochsoles, Commissioner of Customs, 1795
William Dymock, W.S., 1810
Mrs. Dymock, 1826
J. L. W. Dymock, 1826
Arch. Dymock, surgeon, 1826
Robert L. Dymock, joint Procurator-Fiscal, 1826
J. C. Dymock, tea dealer, 1826
R. Brown, merchant, 1834
Mrs. Thomas Ritchie, 1835
George Ritchie, brewer, 1835
Lt.-Col. D. McNeill, 1839
Rev. Charles J. Brown, 1847
R. L. Dymock, solicitor, 1851

- William Horne, M.D., 1869
W. Sadler, 1869
Thomas Brewis, 1872
Mrs. Balfour, 1877
Miss Balfour, 1900
David F. Lowe, LL.D., 1908
- No. 20 Robert Forrester of Cormiston, banker, 1775
Robert Sym, W.S., 1796
James Wright, 1847
W. Dickson (J. D. & Co.), 1851
James Cappie, M.D., 1865
James R. Dymock, 1867
H. Davidson, 1890
John Gibson, Ph.D., 1894 and 1906
Major Inglis, R.A., 1903
Rev. John Wallace, 1908
Major A. A. Wolfe-Murray, 1910
Major Sholto W. Douglas, 1916
- No. 21 Mrs. Penuel Grant of Ballindalloch, 1771
Capt. Jas. Ludovick Grant, of *Brunswick*, Indianman, 1802
Sir John Henderson of Fordel, 1800
Robert Bruce Henderson, advocate, 1800
Mrs. Tod of Drygrange, 1804
Thomas Tod, advocate, 1804
John Wauchope of Edmonstone, 1817
Miss Wauchope of Edmonstone, 1820
William Waddell, printer, 1830
Mrs. Alexander Henderson, 1840
Rev. John W. Ferguson, St. Peter's Church, 1840
John Court, S.S.C., 1851
Robert Anderson, 1874
Walter Gowanlock, 1882
Miss Robarts, 1900
Roderick Ross, Chief Constable, 1904
A. G. Mackay, L.D.S., 1910
- No. 22 Miss Isabella Hall of Dunglass, 1774
John Bradfute (Bell & Bradfute, booksellers), 1807
Robert Marshall, draper, 1837
James Aitken, bookseller, 1842
Samuel Aitken, bookseller, 1843
Charles Hay, 1850 and 1853

- No. 22 Alexander Cunningham, 1852
 Rev. Patrick Clason, D.D., Buccleuch Street Chapel, 1855
 Robert Wright, architect, 1867
 Walter M. Richard, typefounder, 1872
 Mrs. Murray, 1877
 Robert McLachlan, 1886
 Peter Loney, 1889
 John M. Loney, 1893
 Prof. Simon Somerville Laurie, LL.D., 1897
 Dr. Borthwick, 1910
 Dr. John Macmillan, 1912
 Rev. Dr. David Scott, minister of Motherwell (1874-1913),
 1914
 Miss May Elizabeth Bradfute Scott, m. (1938) Sir James
 MacIver MacLeod, 1925
- No. 23, 23A and 23B
 Hugh Mossman, writer, 1770
 Thomas Lockhart, Commissioner of Excise, 1775
 Hon. William Craig of Craig, 1796
 Capt. William Ogilvy, R.N., 1811
 Jas. Douglas of Cavers, 1818
 William Braidwood, manager, Sea Insurance Co., 1822 and
 1830
 Dr. John Thomson, Prof. Military Surgery and Lecturer on
 Practice of Physic, 1824
 Alex. Trotter of Dreghorn, Paymaster of the Navy, 1832
 Mrs. Scott, 1832
 Mrs. Braidwood, 1833
 William Pattison, merchant, 1833
 William K. Aitchison, W.S., 1835
 Mrs. Allan, 1836
 James Stuart, Superintendent of Police, 1837
 Mrs. Robertson, 1838
 P. Robertson, 1840
 Rev. Charles J. Brown, New North Free Church, 1838
 Miss Duncan, 1841
 Edward McGlashan, bookseller, 1841
 Miss Dudgeon, 1843
 W. M. Gunn, 1844
 James Watson, 1845
 Miss Helen Robertson, 1845
 George Peak, 1845

- Malcolm Inglis, 1848
 Matthew Howden, 1849
 Mrs. G. Watson, 1854
 D. J. Stot, 1854
 Dr. William Gilchrist, 1857
 Rev. William Reid, Lothian Road Church, 1862
 Mrs. David Irving, 1863
 Rev. John Charles Dunlop, 1867
 Dr. John Fraser, 1868
 Ebenezer Ormiston, 1870
 Thomas Brewis, 1870
 Charles H. Hanson, 1875
 Dr. C. Bryan Waller, 1877
 Charles A. Doyle, 1877
 Father of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, author of *Adventures of Sherlock
 Holmes*, and brother of Richard Doyle, the *Punch* caricaturist. Sir
 Arthur was born in Edinburgh in 1859.
- Dr. David Gordon, 1877
 Miss Scott Moncrieff, 1880
 Dr. John Cochrane, 1881
 William Forrester, L.D.S., 1882
 Mrs. A. B. McCulloch, 1884
 Mrs. Gregor, 1884
 J. Q. Donald, 1884
 David Scott Moncrieff, W.S., 1886
 R. B. Mathie, 1887
 Dr. Gordon Sanders, 1891
 Dr. Alexander Miles (at No. 1, 1897-1900), 1893
 Surgeon-Major A. F. Russell, Army Medical Service, 1898
 Mrs. Hewan, 1900
 Capt. H. J. Walker, 1904
 Frank M. Fletcher, 1910
 Prof. Donald F. Tovey, 1924
 A. Forbes Thomson, 1925
- No. 24 Thomas Hog of Newliston, advocate, 1771
 Col. Sir John Cumming, East India Co., 1778
 Arthur Forbes of Culloden, c. 1800
 Lt.-Col. Robert Bruce, East India Co., 1804
 Alex. Campbell, of Bengal, 1807
 James Pillans, merchant, Leith, 1814
 Sir Wm. Purves Hume Campbell of Purves and Marchmont,
 Bart., 1824

- No. 24 Thomas Edmonstone, ironmonger, 1834
 Rev. Wm. Robertson, D.D., New Greyfriars Church, 1845
 Mrs. John Wyld, 1848
 Rev. Prof. Robert Lee, D.D., 1851
 David Scott Moncrieff, W.S., 1868
 Miss Scott Moncrieff, 1918
- No. 25 Walter Scott, W.S., 1772
 Thomas Scott, W.S., 1799
 Mrs. and Miss Robertson, 1800
 Mark Pringle of Clifton, advocate, 1804
 Mrs. Pringle, 1814
 Wm. Braidwood, jun., manager of Sea Insurance Co., 1823
 Thomas Shiells, bookseller, 1828
 Mrs. and Miss Shiells, Boarding School, 1828
 George Brown, wine merchant, 1834
 James McCaskie, hat manufacturer, 1847
 John Alison, corn merchant, 1857
 P. Cameron, contractor, 1860
 Allan McCaskie, S.S.C., 1874
 Miss Christina Rainy, 1877
 Mrs. George Rainy, 1877
 John Balfour Rainy, W.S., 1877
 Harry Rainy, M.B., C.M., 1877
 James Allan, M.A., George Watson's College, 1901
 Robert Stewart, M.B., 1905
- No. 26 Thomas Tod, W.S., of Drygrange, 1772
 John Tod, W.S., 1799
 Thomas Tod, advocate, 1799
 Archibald Tod, 1800
 John Romanes, 1801
 A. & J. Tod, W.S., 1804
 Tods & Romanes, W.S., 1808
 Dowager Lady Wedderburn (Alicia Dundas), 1815
 Rev. Dr. Thomas Fleming, Lady Yester's Church, 1817
 John Scott of Gala, 1828
 Rev. Daniel Wilkie, New Greyfriars Church, 1831
 Wm. Macdonald, M.D., of Ballyshear, Prof. of Civil and
 Natural History, St. Andrews, 1836
 John Alexander Mackay, 1840
 Col. A. Forbes Mackay of Blackcastle, 1871
 Mrs. Forbes Mackay, 1907
 Sisters of Charity, St. Ann's Convent, 1911

- No. 27 Hon. Henry Erskine, advocate, 1775
 John Wauchope of Edmonstone, 1799
 Thomas Smith, banker, 1800
 Col. James Campbell, 1801
 Archibald Campbell, brewer, 1809
 Alexander Campbell, 1829
 Francis Erskine Loch, Vice-Admiral, 1837
 W. S. Walker of Bowland, 1840
 Capt. Sitwell, 1843
 Sir Adam Ferguson, Keeper of Scottish Regalia, 1846
 William Brunton, merchant, 1861
 James Brunton, W.S., 1861
 Alex. Aitken, clothier, 1865
 Convener, etc., of Committee on Christian Life and Work,
 Church of Scotland, 1893
- No. 28 Thomas Wright of Greenhill, 1779
 Misses Wright, 1790
 Capt. Ninian Lewis, East India Company, 1799
 Lt.-Col. Leatham, 1818
 Capt. Cubbitt, 1820
 George McMikin Torrance of Kilsaintninian, later of Threave,
 1827
 Mrs. Torrance, 1871
 Miss Margaret Jane Bruce, 1880
 Thomas Thomson, 1898
 Trustees of Church of Scotland: Deaconess Rest House,
 1913
- No. 29 James Brown, builder of George Square, 1770
 Mrs. Brown (Janet Dempster), 1808-49
 Misses Violet, Janet and Elizabeth Brown, 1808-49
 R. Brown of Firth, 1850
 Mrs. and Miss Borthwick, 1865
 James Anderson, 1871
 James Balsillie, M.A., 1881
 Mrs. Balsillie, 1897
 Colin Campbell, Edinburgh House of Rest, 1899
 David Farquharson, A.M.B., 1900
 Hugh Miller, 1909
 Alexander Cassie, 1910
 J. D. H. Jamieson, L.D.S., 1920
- No. 30 Col. Robert Campbell of Monzie, 1782

- No. 30 Mrs. Campbell (Susanna Erskine), 1790
Miss Campbell of Monzie, 1794
Robert Trotter of Castlelaw, 1790
Patrick Boyle, jun., of Shewalton, Postmaster of Scotland,
1802 and 1847
Alexander Binny, 1805
Mrs. Jackson, 1805
Lord Balgray, 1815
C. A. Williamson, 1838
John Borthwick of Crookston, 1840 and 1850
Grahame Baron of Morphie, 1852
Samuel Raleigh, 1860
A. McLaurin Monteath, 1872
John C. Steen, 1873
Congregational Theological Hall, 1887
Masson Hall, 1921
- No. 30A Misses Simpson, 1885
Rev. W. Hope Davidson, 1899
Miss Mary Lamond, D.C.S., 1901
Thomas C. Addis, 1912
Francis J. Grant, W.S., 1915
- No. 31 Mrs. Elliot of Borthwickbrae, 1781
John Elliot of Borthwickbrae, 1784
James Pringle of Torwoodlee, 1800
Robert Trotter, W.S., 1804
Rev. Dr. Robert Anderson, 1807
Thomas Anderson of Craiganes, advocate,
Robert Kay Greville, LL.D., 1837
Mrs. Cheape of Rossie, 1845
James R. Stewart, 1888
Miss Small, 1895
Masson Hall, 1898
- No. 32 Sir John Pringle of Stichel, 1780
Sir James Pringle of Stichel, 1781
Sir William Maxwell, 1803
Mr. Nicholson, 1803
Capt. Alexander Tod, R.N., 1804
Francis Grant of Kilgraston, 1809
Lady Wedderburn (Alicia Dundas), widow of Sir David
Wedderburn of Ballindean, 1818

- Sir David Wedderburn, Postmaster General for Scotland,
1824
Thomas Clapperton, 1833
Lady Scott of Abbotsford (second), 1849
Thomas Harvey, LL.D., rector of Edinburgh Academy, 1872
Robert T. Hamilton Bruce, 1889
Sir W. Tennant Gairdner, M.D., 1901
Masson Hall, 1907
- No. 33 Dr. John Craigie of Mocking, East India Company, Bengal,
1786
Mrs. Jacoba H. V. Craigie, 1796
John Smith, W.S., 1813
William Miller, typefounder, 1825
Robert Kay Greville, LL.D. (from No. 31), 1845
Sir Joseph Noël Paton, R.S.A., 1859
Victor A. Noël Paton, W.S., 1902
Geological Survey of Scotland, 1906
- No. 34 William Baillie, jun., of Polkemmet, advocate, 1782
Andrew Elliot of Greenwells, Lieut.-Governor of New York,
1788
Mrs. Elliot of Greenwells, 1797
David Anderson of St. Germain's, secretary to Warren
Hastings, 1801
Sir William Elliot, Bart., 1804
Phineas Hall, 1805
Gilbert Hall, 1813
Lt.-Col. Robert Baillie, East India Company, 1813
Miss Isabella Baillie of Polkemmet, 1819
Charles Lawson, jun., 1845
Mrs. Lawson, 1888
H. G. S. Lawson, F.F.A., 1898
William Archer, 1902
Richard Stanfield, M.I.C.E., 1904
Miss Browne, 1909
Euphemia D. Cowe, 1920
Rev. Roger Anson Ford, 1921 (Boarding House for George
Watson's Boys' College)
- No. 35 Rear-Admiral William Lockhart, 1784-99
Henry Veitch of Eliock, Commissioner of Customs, 1801
James Veitch, advocate, 1825

- No. 35 John Veitch, 1825
 Mrs. R. Cunningham, 1826
 Thomas L. Veitch, W.S., 1837
 Charles Lawson of Borthwick Hall, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, 1839
 William Skinner, W.S., Town Clerk of Edinburgh, 1875
 Capt. S. F. Williams, R.E., 1903
 Col. Churchill, 1906
 Col. T. M. Corker, 1908
 Prof. E. T. Whittaker, 1913
- No. 36 Thomas Lockhart
 David Urquhart of Braelangwell, 1794
 Mrs. and Miss Robertson, 1798
 Adam Maitland of Dundrennan, 1802
 Archibald Gibson, accountant, 1829
 Rev. John Paul, 1835
 W. McCrie, merchant, 1838
 Mrs. Cheape of Rossie, 1844
 W. Waring Hay, W.S. (later W. W. Hay Newton of Newton), 1846
 Mrs. Hay Newton, sen., 1861
 Thomson Jeffrey, M.A., 1873
 Henry M. Church, M.D., 1882
 Scottish Nurses' Home, 1920
- No. 37 William Riddell of Camieston, W.S., 1784
 Lt.-Col. John Munro, East India Company, 1816
 Alexander Lothian, advocate, 1831
 Andrew Lothian, S.S.C., 1831
 Rev. John Sym, 1836
 Mrs. Sym, 1855
 Park Place Ladies' Institution, 1875
 Dr. Dawson Turner, 1893
- No. 38 Capt. Alexander Park, East India Company, 1787
 Henry Dundas, Treasurer of the Navy, 1788
 Richard Fisher of Loretto, 1793
 Mrs. Fisher, 1794
 Robert Cathcart of Drum, W.S., 1806
 John Kermack, W.S., 1811
 Major Wm. Miller (Brown, Miller & Co., wine merchants), 1812

- Mrs. Home of Argaty, 1814
 Lt.-Col. Leatham, 1821
 John Chalmers, W.S., 1830
 James Chalmers, merchant, 1830
 Dr. Andrew Fyfe, 1836
 William Johnston of Kirkhill, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, 1845
 Rev. Dr. David Arnot of St. Giles', 1852
 Mrs. Mackay, 1868
 Professor Peter Guthrie Tait, 1873
 Mrs. Tait (Margaret Archer Porter), 1901
 William A. P. Tait, C.E., 1901
 John Guthrie Tait, 1920
- No. 39 Mrs. Williamson, 1794
 Alex. Adam, LL.D., rector, Edinburgh High School, 1795
 Miss Cockburn, 1797
 Archibald Dunbar, W.S., 1799
 Mrs. Willison, 1800
 David Willison, merchant, 1800
 Mrs. Sinclair, 1803
 Mrs. Cramond, 1804
 Misses Cramond, Boarding School, 1807-34
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 Mrs. Adam, 1810
 Dr. Walter Adam, 1810
 John Tait, jun., W.S., 1810
 John Handyside, merchant, 1825
 Robert Hayward, 1831
 William Ellis, accountant, 1831
 James Taylor, grocer, 1833
 William Rutherford, draper, 1836
 Dr. John Y. Myrtle, 1839
 James Buchanan, solicitor, 1841
 Rev. J. French, 1842
 Arch. Milne, 1844
 Wm. Thomson, S.S.C., 1844
 Miss Robertson, 1844
 James Boyd, LL.D., High School, 1845
 Mrs. Davidson, 1845
 Mrs. George Hitchiner, 1846

- No. 39 Rev. John Glen, 1847
 Jas. Dickson, 1849
 Thos. Dunn, 1849
 Miss Redpath, 1850
 Rev. Charles J. Brown, 1851
 Mrs. Young, 1853
 Rev. A. Cameron, 1854
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 Miss Jane Cramond, 1862
 Thomas Cairns, M.D., 1863
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 Mrs. Duncan, 1867
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 Mrs. H. Armour, 1869
 Rev. Wm. Bell, 1870
 Miss Margt. Pretsell, 1872
 Mrs. F. Brown, 1872
 Robt. W. Armour, 1875
 Geo. Christall, 1878
 Mrs. Fleming, 1880
 Rev. Geo. Rogers, 1880
 James Waugh, 1881
 Mrs. Geo. Scott, 1881
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 Miss F. Hilliard, 1888 and 1911
 Mrs. Mandell Pearson, 1888
 Miss Whittet, 1895
 D. P. Heatley, 1897
 D. W. Mackinnon, 1898
 Mrs. John Comrie, 1899
 Dr. M. Shannon, 1899
 Isodore Le Gentil, 1900
 John W. Horne, L.D.S., 1902
 Lady Struthers, 1902
 Mrs. Maclagan, 1903

- Charles J. Brown and Alex. Brown, 1905
 Arch. Newlands, 1906
 Percy Portsmouth, A.R.S.A., 1909
 Miss Maxwell, 1912
 Rev. A. J. Grieve, 1918
 Maurice Hellier, 1921
 Rev. James Mathers, 1921

Nos. 40 and 40B

- Capt. John Inglis, R.N., 1784
 Mrs. Inglis, 1793
 Misses Barbara and Elizabeth Dundas of Dundas, 1786
 Mrs. Carnegie of Craigo, 1795
 James Baird of the Exchequer, 1797
 Misses Baird, 1804
 Capt. Robert Smart, 1799
 Patrick Russell, W.S., 1800
 John Gray, writer, 1804-30
 Mrs. Brunton, widow of Jas. Brunton, Dalkeith, 1814
 Wm. Brunton, cloth merchant, 1822
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 Mrs. McAskill, 1857
 Wm. Alexander, 1861
 Jas. Thyne, 1864
 Alex. Thomson, 1872
 John McIntyre, draper, 1877
 Mrs. Raleigh, 1891
 Lady Struthers, 1903
 Prof. F. Niecks, 1908
 Mrs. Niecks, 1925

- No. 41 Lady Lockhart, widow of Sir Wm. Lockhart of Carstairs,
 Bart., 1783
 Col. Bertram of Nisbet, 1805
 Gilbert Chisholme of Stirches, 1811
 George Turnbull, W.S., 1817
 Charles Stuart of Dunearn, 1820
 Dr. Henry A. Dyer, 1833
 Dr. James Johnston, 1833

- No. 41 Joseph Lillie, 1845
Miss K. H. Davidson, 1889
Church of Scotland Deaconess Institution, 1890
Dr. A. A. Matheson, 1894
- No. 42 Major Arch. Erskine, 22nd Foot, 1786
Alex. Horsburgh of Horsburgh, 1799
James Home, W.S., of Linhouse, 1806
Office of the Lord Lyon, 1813
Home & Clark, W.S., 1813
Mrs. Home of Linhouse, 1822
John Rickman, 1824
John Gibson (Gilmour & Gibson), 1830
W. M. Gunn, classical master, Southern Academy, 1831
Alexander Robertson, W.S., 1834
William Ferguson, W.S., 1836
Walter Ferguson, artist, 1836
James McLaren, tea merchant, 1851
John Purdie, pianoforte and music seller, 1860
Thomas Key, H.M.I.S., 1865
George Aitchison, M.D., 1876
Walter Miller Richard (Miller & Richard), 1877
Alfred W. Hughes, M.B., F.R.C.S.E., 1890
Robert Stewart, M.B., 1892
Alfred G. Mackay, L.D.S., 1907
Charles C. Brown, L.D.S., 1911
Alex. Brown, 1911
- No. 43 Mrs. Pringle, 1785
Capt. Charles Kerr of Bughtrig, 1790
Mrs. Kerr, 1793
Charles Scott of Woll, 1800
Rev. John Inglis, D.D., Old Greyfriars Church, 1807
Henry Inglis, W.S., 1825
Wm. Whitehead, hosier, 1836
Dr. Gunning, 1848
James Boyd, LL.D., High School, 1849
Mrs. Robertson, 1859
J. D. Wormald, W.S., 1867
William Bowman Macleod, L.D.S., 1868
James Jamieson, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., 1882
John Boyd Jamieson, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., 1896
James D. H. Jamieson, L.D.S., 1900

- No. 44 John Rutherford of Edgerston, 1783
Mrs. Rutherford, 1800
Miss Agnes Rutherford, 1822
John Parker, Legacy Duty Office, 1841
J. K. Munro, house agent, 1887
Alex. Gunn, M.D., 1899
Prof. D. F. Tovey, 1916
Dr. R. M. Matheson, 1917
- No. 45 Mrs. Maxwell, 1784
Rev. Wm. Simpson, 1786
Rev. Robt. Henry, D.D., historian, 1786
Henry Home, W.S., 1795
Mrs. Hamilton, 1799
Arch. Dunbar, W.S., 1800
Mrs. Nicol, widow of Capt. John Nicol, 1803
Prof. Robt. Jameson, 1806
Robt. Little Gilmour, W.S., 1808
Mrs. Beatson, 1808
Arch. Horn, G.P.O., and Wm. Horn, writer, 1814
Jas. Peat, collector of excise, 1814
Robt. Bowie, 1819
Jas. Harvie of Brownlee, 1822
Alex. Hume, 1822
Miss Williams, 1822
John Walker, printer, 1822
Wm. Miller, 1824
Miss Oram, 1825
Misses Morton and Orme, 1828
Misses Mutter, 1831
Geo. M. Sinclair, 1831
Mrs. Forrester, 1832
Jas. R. Dymock, wine merchant, 1834
Misses Home, 1835
Wm. Scott, lodgings, 1838
Jas. Aitken, merchant, 1839
Miss Mary Walker, 1840
Miss Stewart, 1841
Rev. Thos. McCrie, 1842
Miss Harvie, 1844
Mrs. Scott, 1845
Robt. Walker, 1847

- No. 45 Alex. Walker, 1849
 Mrs. Sibbald, 1851
 Walter Sibbald, 1851
 Miss Sibbald, 1856
 Miss Gordon, 1857
 Mrs. Kirk, 1862
 Miss Moffat, 1863
 Jas. Fenton, 1866
 Mrs. C. Leavock, 1869
 Robt. Sandilands, 1869
 Thos. Houlden, 1870
 R. W. Gibb, 1873
 Arch. Aitchison, 1875
 John Houlden, 1876
 Wm. Houlden, 1877
 Mrs. Elizabeth Jeffrey, 1879
 Miss Aitchison, 1883
 A. S. Murray, 1885
 Miss Gowan, 1888
 Jas. M. Rose, 1890
 J. Wares, 1890
 Miss E. Gowan, 1891
 Wm. Veitch, 1892
 Mrs. Stewart, ladies' nurse, 1895
 Rev. John Anderson, 1898
 Mrs. R. W. Gibb, 1903
 Mrs. E. Layden, 1903
 Charles J. Brown, and Alex. Brown, 1904
 Hugh Cameron, R.S.A., 1906
 John G. Nicolson, 1907
 Miss Jessie K. Cameron, 1907
 J. R. Harkness, 1909
 Miss Allan, 1910
 Robert Gray, S.S.C., 1910
 Mrs. E. L. Durno, 1912
 Wm. A. Orrock, 1913
 Jas. Gorman, 1916
 Allan Horne, 1917
 A. L. Slimon, 1918
 Joseph N. Taylor, 1920
 Hugh McGinnes, 1924
 Mrs. Rae, 1925
 Misses McDonald, 1926

- No. 46 James Newbigging, writer, 1780
 Wm. Robertson, 1796
 Mrs. Robertson of Loretto, 1800, and daughters
 R. L. Dymock, 1864
 Thomas Harvey, rector of Edinburgh Academy, 1870
 John R. Williamson, 1872
 William C. Sillar, M.B., 1895
 A. W. Borthwick, D.Sc., 1911
 W. H. Borthwick, 1911
 Rev. Prof. H. A. A. Kennedy, 1918
- No. 47 Gilbert Innes of Stow
 George Keith Elphinstone, Viscount Keith, 1783
 Lady Clerk of Penicuik, 1784
 Lady Ruthven, 1799
 Mrs. Clerk of Penicuik, 1800
 Miss Scott of Gala, 1811
 Wm. Morison, advocate, 1812
 Mrs. Dudgeon, widow of John Dudgeon of East Craig, 1816
 Patrick Dudgeon, W.S., 1824
 Sir James Forrest of Comiston, Bart., Lord Provost of Edinburgh, 1827
 James Douglas, accountant, 1840
 Dr. William Ziegler, 1854
 Dr. Alexander Ziegler, 1854
 Miss Ziegler, 1891
 Mrs. Gillespie, 1891
 Miss Gillespie, 1891
- No. 48 Mrs. Douglas of Cavers, 1778
 Miss Douglas of Cavers, 1790
 Miss Scott of Gala, 1821-35
 John Ritchie of *The Scotsman*, 1836
 Mrs. Findlay, 1836
 James Dickson, merchant, 1854
 Thomas Cairns, M.D., 1866
 Robt. Moir, M.D., 1869
 Wm. J. Browne, surgeon, 1889
 Mrs. Charles R. Bird, 1895
 Scottish Branch of General Council of Medical Education and Registration, 1897
 Jas. Robertson, solicitor, 1897
 Dr. John Macmillan, 1901

- No. 48 North British Wireless School, 1917
Mrs. Craigie, 1922
W. S. Craigie, 1924
Miss Carmichael, 1926
Miss Barnet, 1926
- No. 49 Francis Scott of Bombay, 1780
Col. John Campbell of Barbreck, 1784
Misses Anne and Janet Porterfield of Fullwood, 1787
George Turnbull, W.S. (from 41), 1818
Mrs. Turnbull, 1856
John Turnbull of Abbey St. Bathans, W.S., 1860
Misses Turnbull, 1892
G. G. Turnbull, W.S., 1892
- No. 50 John Corbett of Tollcross, Glasgow, 1794
Lt.-Col. Geo. Clark of Southfield, 1799
Misses Jean and Plummer Clark, 1803
Mrs. Mary Thomson or Clark, 1803
Alex. Deans, advocate, 1815
Rev. Wm. Simpson, D.D., 1817
James Trotter, writing master, 1825
George Logan, W.S., 1833
James Logan, S.S.C., 1833
Alex. Trotter of Dreghorn, 1835
Mrs. Hamilton, 1837
Rev. W. K. Tweedie, 1842
Mrs. McNair, 1845
Mrs. Wyld, 1853
Miss Brown, boarding school, 1862
Rev. James Begg, D.D., 1866
Mrs. Begg, 1884
Tom Bairstow, surgeon, 1893
Ernest Geo. Salt, surgeon, 1895
Prof. G. Baldwin Brown, 1903
D. L. Eadie, 1914
G. P. H. Watson, 1921
Duncan M. Macdonald, 1925
Harriet P. Hunter, 1926
- No. 51 Sir Geo. Hay McDougal of Mackerston, 1774
Lady Hay McDougal, 1778
Sir Henry Hay McDougal of Mackerston, 1787

- Mrs. Violet Pringle of the Haining, 1794
Miss Pringle of the Haining, 1794
William Clark, W.S., 1822
Miss Wilson, 1833
Misses Kynnier, 1838
William Stuart, jun., W.S., 1840
Miss Bertram of Kerswell, 1843
Mrs. Brougham, 1850
Thos. A. G. Balfour, M.D., 1867
Andrew Balfour, surgeon, 1895
Miss Helen Welsh, 1898
J. Morrison Inches, 1901
Mrs. J. M. Inches, 1920
- No. 52 Robert Ramsay of Blackeraig, M.D., 1784
Capt. Wm. Loraine, East India Company, 1800
Miss Margaret Loraine, 1813
Col. William Geddes, C.B., 1854
Capt. W. L. Geddes, 1879
Lt.-Col. Dunbar, 1881
Mrs. Dunbar, 1880 and 1900
J. D. H. Jamieson, L.D.S., 1901
Edinburgh University Women's Union, 1920
- No. 53 Robert Fleming, bookseller
John Rutherford, advocate, 1773
Mrs. Rutherford, 1782
Lady Don, widow of Sir Alex. Don of Newton, 1787
Mrs. Scott (Mary Don), widow of Francis Scott, son of Scott of Harden, 1816-20
Mrs. T. Ffolliot Baugh (Lady Don's granddaughter)
Dr. P. Fairbairn, F.R.C.S., 1833
Dr. P. Fairbairn, jun., 1862
Mrs. Fairbairn, 1864
Mrs. A. Monteath, 1891
Mrs. Cameron, 1913
Edinburgh University Women's Union, 1920
- Nos. 54 and 54a
Alex. Robertson, writer
Misses Margaret, Jean and Henrietta Warrender of Lochend, 1773
Jas. Pringle of Torwoodlee, 1788

Nos. 54 and 54A

Mrs. Scott (Barbara Kerr) of Thirlestane, 1793
 Misses Rebecca and Magdalene Scott, 1793
 Col. Alex. Trotter, 1795
 Mary, Helen and Isabel Stewart, daughters of Rev. Walter
 Stewart of Barnhills, Ashkirk, 1799
 Mrs. Margaret Wauchope of Niddrie, 1800
 Alex. Ross, merchant, 1816
 Geo. Thomson, baker, 1828
 Robt. Simpson, National Bank, 1830
 J. R. Forrest, auctioneer, 1830
 David Forrest, 1843
 Jas. Ferguson, broker, 1842
 Thos. Brown, 1843
 Mrs. David Torrance, 1852
 P. Robertson, Commercial Bank, 1858
 Jas. Craigie, 1861
 Mrs. Jas. Ferguson, 1867
 Mrs. Isles, 1874
 Mrs. Smith, 1875
 Misses Ferguson, 1875
 Mrs. James, 1875
 John C. Smart, 1879
 Rev. James Milroy, 1898
 Scottish Branch of General Council for Medical Education
 and Registration, 1901
 Jas. Robertson, solicitor, 1901
 Rev. Wm. Baird, 1904
 Otto Schlapp, Ph.D., 1907
 Rev. John Anderson, 1908
 D. L. Eadie, 1910
 Mrs. S. C. Church, 1913
 Miss Mabel FitzGerald, 1916
 Edinburgh Intercollegiate Christian Union, 1920
 Edward Forde, 1921

No. 55 Lt.-Gen. the Hon. Alex. Mackay, Commander-in-Chief in
 Scotland, 1775
 Earl of Kintore, 1779
 Henry Mackenzie of the Exchequer, 1793
 Alex. Pringle of Whytbank, 1806
 John C. Scott of Synton, 1817
 Wm. Stothert of Cargen, 1831

Southern District Ladies' Institution, 1836
 J. S. Dalgleish, writing master, 1836
 John Ritchie of *The Scotsman*, 1842
 Prof. John Goodsir, 1847
 Mrs. Findlay, 1851
 James Lewis, merchant, 1871
 David M. Lewis, 1895

- No. 56 Robert Graham of Gartmore, 1779
 Robert Bruce of Kennet, 1782
 Sir John Henderson, 1796
 Robert Bruce Henderson, 1799
 Robert Blair of Avontoun, 1800
 Mrs. Blair of Avontoun, 1811
 Major-Gen. John Cunninghame, East India Company, 1817
 Mrs. Hozier of Newlands, 1826
 Wm. Hozier of Newlands and Barrowfield, 1828
 Thos. Leburn, S.S.C., 1842
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- No. 57 Vice-Admiral Sir John Lockhart Ross of Balnagowan, Bart.,
 1778
 Sir Robert Dundas of Arniston, Chief Baron of Exchequer,
 1790
 John B. Gracie, W.S., 1820
 Johnston & Graham, silk mercers, 1825
 Mrs. Manson, 1839-41
 Mrs. Herbert, 1839-41
 J. B. Pender, 1841
 Rev. Wm. Peddie, D.D., Bristo Street Church, 1842
 Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, 1893
- No. 58 David Beatson, wine merchant, 1826
 Thos. Leburn, writer, 1826
 Charles Maclaren, editor, *The Scotsman*, 1830
 Misses Cameron, dressmakers, 1833
 Dr. E. D. Alison, 1836
 Rev. Thos. McCrie (son of biographer of Knox), 1838
 Alex. Negris, Professor of Greek, 1843
 Major John Grant, Bengal Army, 1850
 Miss E. Gardner, 1853
 Thomas Bird, 1867

- No. 58 Andrew A. Blues, 1881
John Bell, 1884
George W. Purves, music teacher, 1888
Mrs. Jamieson (Agnes Boyd), 1907
J. D. Hamilton Jamieson, L.D.S., 1919
- No. 59 David Robertson of Loretto, 1775
Hugh Robertson, W.S., 1793
Wm. Robertson, architect, 1793
Thomas Kennedy of Dunure, 1797
Richard Campbell of Helenton Mains, 1800
Charles Stuart of Dunearn, 1807
William Mitchell, cashier, Royal Bank, 1817
Mrs. Mitchell, 1819
Wm. Miller, S.S.C., 1826
Ritchie & Miller, S.S.C., 1826
Miss Miller, 1891
Ernest G. Salt, M.D., 1901
- No. 60 John Pringle of Crichton, 1774
Geo. Fairholme of Greenhill, 1787
Wm. Fairholme of Chapel, 1800
Misses Fairholme of Chapel, 1806
Wm. Murray, 1817
John Waugh, bookseller, 1828
Dr. Wm. Young, 1835
Dr. Jas. Young, 1835
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