

**The Statistical Account of Scotland.
Drawn Up from the Communications of the Ministers of
the different Parishes.**

**By Sir John Sinclair, BART
Volume Four
Section Nine (IX) of Volume Four ~ Pages 71-76
1791-1799**

The original unabridged volume four contains that listed below.

This extract is for **Roseneath** - (Ro $\int$ eneath) only.

Lethnot,Dumbarton, Tullynessle, Auchterarder, Aberlemno, Drumblade,
Skene,Aberlour, **Roseneath**, Drainy, Ardersier, Tealing, Dallas, Kirkhill,Inverarity,
Duirinish, Kirkinner, Rattray, Ardclach, Udney, Ormistoun,Cushnie, Rynd, Abbot's Hall,
Inchture, Hutton, Kilspindie, Strickathrow,Johnston, Crieche, Dunbog, Barrie, Earlstoun,
Kingsbarns, Kells, Kilmalcolm,Dreghorn, Bolton, Fearn, Knockandow, Dalrymple,
Duthil and Rotheirmurchus,Methlick, Kilbucho, Aberdour, Kilmaden, Monikie, Calder,
Deskford,Pittenweem, Dunse, Alvah, Strathmiglo, Row, Coldstream, Logie
Buchan,Glenholm, Falkland, Banchory Davinick, Gurisdeer, Torphichen, LogieEaster,
Errol, Fordoun, Kingslassie, Crawford, Kirkpatrick-Juxta,Kirkpatrick-Irongray, Largo,
Towie, Strachurn and Stralachlan.

Throughout the First (Old) Statistical account of Scotland, you will have noticed the use of a character that resembles an **f** but is actually an old-fashioned (archaic) form of typeset for the letter **s**. The '**long s**', or ($\int$), also known as the **medial s** was found in documents written in English or Scots from the 1700's. In general, the '**long s**' ($\int$) fell out of use in Roman and italic typefaces in professional printing, well before the middle of the 19th century, and rarely appears in printing after 1800.

In addition, the use of older spelling of the Anglisised *Roseneath*, rather than today's Gaelic derived spelling of *Rosneath* is used.

Please note the original four pages of volume four are included to provide context to the original and unabridged document.

THE
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF
SCOTLAND.
DRAWN UP FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS
OF THE
MINISTERS
OF THE
DIFFERENT PARISHES.

BY SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, BART.

VOLUME FOURTH.

"Ad consilium de republica dandum, caput est nosse rempublicam."
CICERO, de Orat. lib. ii.

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MDCC, XCII.

C O N T E N T S.

No.	Name.	Population in 1755.	in 1790-1.	Inc.	Dec.	Page.
1	Lethnot, -	635	505	—	130	1
2	Dumbarton, -	1427	2003	576	—	21
3	Tullyneisle, -	269	396	127	—	27
4	Auchterarder, -	1194	1670	476	—	33
5	Aberlemno, -	943	1033	90	—	47
6	Drumblade, -	1125	886	—	239	52
7	Skene, -	1251	1233	—	18	57
8	Aberlour, -	1010	920	—	90	64
9	Roseneath, -	521	394	—	127	71
10	Drainy, -	1174	1040	—	134	77
11	Arderfier, -	428	1298	870	—	88
12	Tealing, -	735	802	67	—	92
13	Dallas, -	700	888	188	—	105
14	Kirkhill, -	1360	1570	210	—	111
15	Inverarity, -	996	929	—	67	124
16	Duirinish, -	2568	3000	432	—	130
17	Kirkinner, -	792	1152	360	—	138
18	Ratray, -	751	500	—	251	148
19	Ardclach, -	1163	1186	23	—	151
20	Udny, -	1322	1137	—	185	156
21	Ormistoun, -	810	864	54	—	166
22	Cushnie, -	500	430	—	70	173
23	Rynd, -	498	495	—	3	178
24	Abbot's Hall, -	1348	2136	788	—	185
25	Inchture, -	893	1000	107	—	191
26	Hutton, -	751	920	169	—	196
27	Kilspindie, -	828	718	—	110	202
28	Strickathrow, -	529	672	143	—	209
29	Johnston, -	494	565	71	—	216
30	Criech, -	375	306	—	69	227
31	Dunbog, -	255	235	—	20	233
32	Barrie, -	689	796	107	—	236
33	Earlstoun, -	1197	1351	154	—	248
Carried over,		29531	33030	5012	1513	

No.	Name.	Population in 1755.	in 1790-1.	Inc.	Dec.	Page.
	Brought over,	29531	33030	5012	1513	
34	Kingsbarns, -	871	807	—	64	254
35	Kells, -	784	869	85	—	259
36	Kilmalcolm, -	1495	951	—	544	274
37	Dreghorn, -	887	830	—	57	280
38	Bolton, -	359	235	—	124	285
39	Fearn, -	1898	1600	—	298	288
40	Knockandow, -	1267	1500	233	—	302
41	Dalrymple, -	439	380	—	59	305
42	Duthil and Rothie- murchus, -	1785	1110	—	675	308
43	Methlick, -	1385	1035	—	350	320
44	Kilbucho, -	279	362	83	—	324
45	Aberdour, -	1198	1280	82	—	327
46	Kilmadan, -	806	351	—	455	338
47	Monikie, -	1345	1278	—	67	343
48	Calder, -	882	1062*	180	—	349
49	Deskford, -	940	752	—	188	358
50	Pittenweem, -	939	1157	218	—	369
51	Dunfe, -	2593	3324	731	—	378
52	Alvah, -	1161	1070	—	91	393
53	Strathmiglo, -	1095	980	—	115	400
54	Row, -	853	1000	147	—	405
55	Coldstream †, -	1493	2521	1028	—	410
56	Logie Buchan, -	575	538	—	37	421
57	Glenholm, -	392	300	—	92	429
58	Falkland, -	1795	2198	403	—	437
59	Banchory Davinick	1495	1700	205	—	450
60	Durisddeer, -	1019	1031	12	—	457
61	Torphichen, -	1295	1069	—	226	465
	Carried over,	60856	64320	8419	4955	

* Mr Grant having only stated the number of examinable persons, a proportional addition is here made for children under that age, at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$.

† A similar addition is made to Dr Bell's report of this parish, whose examination roll was made up in 1785-6.

C O N T E N T S.

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No.	Name.	Population in 1755.	in 1790-1.	Inc.	Dec.	Page.
	Brought over,	60856	64320	8419	4955	
62	Loggie Easter, -	850	1125*	275	—	472
63	Errol, -	2229	2685	456	—	480
64	Fordoun, -	1890	2258	368	—	494
65	Kinglaffie, -	998	1200	202	—	501
66	Crawford, -	2009	1490	—	519	505
67	Kirkpatrick-Juxta,	794	617	—	177	517
68	Kirkpatrick - Iron- gray, -	895	762*	—	133	525
69	Largo, -	1396	1913	517	—	534
70	Towie, -	656	550	—	106	547
71	Strachur and Stra- lachlan, -	1193	1061	—	132	555
	Total,	73766	77981	10237	6022	
	Population in 1755,		73766	6022		
	Increase, -		4215	4215		

* The usual proportion for children under 8, is also added to the returns from these parishes.

STATIS.

NUMBER IX.

PARISH OF ROSENEATH.

(COUNTY OF DUNBARTON.)

*By the Rev Mr GEORGE DRUMMOND.**Name, Situation, Soil, &c.*

THE ancient name of the parish was *Rosnacboich*, which is a Gaelic word, signifying the "Virgin's Promontory." The parish is situated in the most westerly part of Dunbarton-shire, in the Synod of Glasgow and Air. It is a peninsula, nearly in the form of a parallelogram, being about 7 miles long and 2 broad, and is bounded on the land-side towards the N. by the parish of Row, on the W. by Lochlong, on the S. by the frith of Clyde, and on the E. by Gairloch. It is a continued ridge of rising ground, without any high hill or mountain, although some parts of it are rocky. The higher grounds are covered with heath; but the lands near the shore are green. The soil is various, part of it being fertile, and part barren; part of it deep, and part shallow. The air is naturally dry, but is frequently moistened with showers. It is in general healthy. There are several small rivulets; but, from the situation of the parish, no large rivers. We have a lake of about a mile in circumference, that abounds with perch.

Coast,

Coast, Fisheries, &c.—The extent of coast is about 13 miles. The shore is in some places flat and sandy, but in general rocky and low. The fish commonly caught are herring, cod, mackerel, skate, flounders and salmon. Salmon are sold from 1 d. to 3 d. a-pound. The other fish are sold by guess or number, according to their size. The salmon and herrings are caught with nets; the other fish with lines. Greenock and Glasgow are the markets in which the fish caught here are generally sold. There is a strong current in the Gairloch, between the parishes of Roseneath and Row, opposite to the church of Row, where there is a ferry. There are two bays on the coast, one called Callwattie, and the other Campfoil; in which last there is good anchorage, and safe harbour for ships of any burden. In the Duke of Argyle's park there is a remarkable rock, which, though now at a considerable distance from the shore, bears evident marks of having been washed by the sea. Its greatest perpendicular height is 34 feet. It is called Wallace's Loup, *i. e.* Leap, from a tradition, that the renowned Wallace, being closely pursued by a party of his enemies, jumped down this rock on horseback, and escaped unhurt; but his horse was killed by the fall, and was buried at the foot of the rock, where his grave is shewn.

Produce, Rent, &c.—The average produce of an acre is not easily estimated, both from the farmers being backward in disclosing their affairs, and from a want of knowing the number of acres in the parish. The parish could sufficiently supply its inhabitants with provisions, if they were not obliged to sell the produce for ready money, in order to pay their rents: When this is the case, they are under the necessity of buying provisions again for their own support; the purchase-money for which arises from the profits of the herring-fishery. The land-rent of the parish is about

£. 1000

L. 1000 Sterling. The annual rent of a cottage and yard is from 10 s. to 20 s. One salmon-fishery, with a piece of ground, lets for L. 30 a-year. The Duke of Argyle has discovered a slate-quarry in this parish, which at present promises pretty well. Several thousand slates are already dug out, formed, and shaped for use.

Population.—According to Dr Webster, the number of the people was 521. At present, there are

Under 10 years,	54	Smiths, - - -	3
Between 10 & 20,	82	Shoemakers, -	4
— 20 & 30,	140	Tailors, - -	5
— 30 & 40,	102	Carpenters and appren-	
Above 40 -	16	tices, -	6
		Seamen, -	6
Total,	394	Herring-fishermen,	96
		Salmon-fishermen,	2
Males above 10 years,	180	Ferry-men, -	2
Females ditto,	160	Household servants,	22
Farmers, -	48	Seceders, -	5
Weavers, - -	7	Cameronians, -	14
Mason, -	1		

T A B L E of Marriages, Births and Deaths, from January 1780, to ditto 1790.

<i>Years.</i>	<i>Marriages,</i>	<i>Births.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
1780,	- 5 -	16 -	3
1781,	- 6 -	13 -	4
1782,	- 5 -	16 -	9
1783,	- 4 -	14 -	5
1784,	- 4 -	19 -	4
1785,	- 5 -	18 -	6
1786,	- 7 -	12 -	1
1787,	- 5 -	14 -	4
1788,	- 6 -	17 -	10
1789,	- 8 -	14 -	5
Average,	- $5\frac{1}{2}$	15	5

There are 98 houses in the parish, all which are detached, there being no towns nor villages. The proportion of bachelors to married men and widowers, is as 2 to 3. Each marriage produces, at an average, nearly 3 children. The decrease in the population, from what it was 40 years ago, is not to be ascribed to the attraction of neighbouring manufactures, but is owing partly to one proprietor having taken into his own possession some farms upon which several families formerly lived, and partly to some other farms being let to fewer tenants; yet, even at present, we are stocked with inhabitants.

Church, School, Poor, &c.—The church was rebuilt in 1780; the manse in 1770. The stipend is mostly paid in victual; and, at an average, including the glebe, may be estimated at L. 110 Sterling. The Duke of Argyle is patron.

tron. The number of heritors is 3; 2 of them reside constantly in the parish; and sometimes the Duke of Argyll, who is the chief proprietor. The schoolmaster's salary is L. 8, 9 s. Sterling; average of fees and perquisites, L. 8, 7 s.; number of scholars in winter, 38; at other times fewer. The quarter-fees for reading are 1 s.; for reading and writing, 1 s 6 d.; for reading, writing, and arithmetic, 2 s.; for Latin, 2 s. 6 d.; but which last has not been taught for several years. The number of poor is 13. The annual amount of contributions for their relief, including the interest of the parochial funds, is L. 18 Sterling.

Price of Provisions and Labour, &c.—The present current prices of beef and veal, are from 5 d. to 7 d. the pound; formerly they were from 2½ d. to 4 d. the pound; mutton and lamb, at present, from 4 d. to 6 d. a-pound; formerly 2 d. to 3½ d. the pound. A hen, which now sells at 1 s. sold formerly at 4 d.; a chicken, now 4 d. and 5 d. sold formerly for 2 d.; butter, at present from 9 d. to 1 s. the pound, formerly at 3½ d. and 4 d.; skimmed-milk cheese, at present 3 d. formerly 1½ d. the pound. Barley sells now at 15 s. a-boll, Dunbarton-shire, 8 stone the boll, which is a peck and a half larger than Linlithgow measure, formerly it sold at 9 s. or 10 s.; oats, at present 13 s. a-boll, formerly 8 s. A common labourer's wages a-day, without victuals, are from 10 d. to 1 s. and 1 s. 2 d.; a carpenter or wright, 2 s. a-day; a mason, 2 s. a-day; a tailor, 8 d. a-day and his meat. Peats are the common fuel used here; some few families use coals, which are brought by water down the river Clyde, from the neighbourhood of Glasgow. The price of them at the shore here, including freight, &c. is 5 s. the cart. The cart should be 1200 weight. Peats are sold at 6 d. the creel. The average expence of a common

mon labourer and his wife may be estimated at L. 11 Sterling yearly: Many of them have actually brought up pretty large families upon the wages they receive, and that without running much in debt.

Miscellaneous Observations.—There are no ale-houses, but plenty of whisky-houses, here, which are rather unfriendly to the morals of the people. Twelve new houses have been built within these 10 years; for each of these, except 3, an old house has been pulled down. There are almost no cottagers employed in agriculture, unless by the Duke of Argyle. It is difficult to say whether it is better to employ them or hired servants. It is believed, that the cheapest and most expeditious method of carrying on work in this part of the country, is letting it by the piece, when it can be done so. For these 20 years and upwards, no person whatever, residing within this parish, has been imprisoned, except one poor man a short time for a small debt. Here rats cannot exist: Many of these have, at different times, been accidentally imported from vessels lying upon the shore; but were never known to live 12 months in the place. From a prevailing opinion, that the soil of this parish is hostile to that animal, some years ago, a West India planter actually carried out to Jamaica several casks of Roseneath earth, with a view to kill the rats that were destroying his sugar-canes. It is said this had not the desired effect; so we lost a very valuable experiment. Had the experiment succeeded, this would have been a new and profitable trade for the proprietors; but perhaps, by this time, the parish of Roseneath might have been no more.