

# Cellardyke Town Hall

1841

To be sold by public roup within the town hall of Cellardyke

That Large tenement of three storeys ,situated upon the Braeheads of Cellardyke, and formerly a malt steading, having a malt barn upon the ground floor, and two excellent granaries above, each about 72ft long within the walls, together with the large yard behind the same and likewise the kiln presently used as a barn and hayloft. As also that unfinished dwelling house of two storeys on the north end of the property and stable thereto attached.

These premises are conveniently situated and admirably adapted for a fish curer. The Malt barn and granaries could at once be used as a cooperage and cellar for storing salt, and the kiln as a smoking house, while the curing yard would be of great extent, and would afford ample room for sheds and other necessary erections. The dwelling house is substantially built and covered with blue slates and could be finished at comparatively little expense.

There is easy access to the property with carts both on the south and north. There is also plenty of water on the premises.

Further particulars from Archibald Williamson, ship-owner, Anstruther Wester the proprietor or to Matthew Forster Connoly and John smith Writers in Anstruther.

1849

HERITABLE PROPERTY IN CELLARDYKE TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC ROUP

There will be Sold by Public Roup, within the Town Hall Cellardyke, on Saturday the 29th September 1849, at Two o'Clock P M ,

1. All and Wlole that TENEMENT of Two Flats, with the Yard and Pertinents, as presently possessed by George Smith, aud others, bounded by the late Ann Simson's subjects on the west, the Vennel leading to the sea the east, the sea on the south, and the street Cellardyke on the north.

2. All and Whole these Three DWELLING-HOUSES of Two Flats, with Offices and large Gardens attaaehed to situated on the north side of the street Cellardyke, and immediately the east of the Town Hall, and possessed by Robert Anderson and Others ;—as also All and Whole that Small HOUSE of One Flat immediately to the north of the Shambles of Cellardyke.

3. All and Whole that new DWELLING-HOUSE Two Flats, possessed by James Wilson and others; small HOUSE adjoining, possessed by Widow Marr; FISHCURING YARD the south thereof, situated east side the Tolbooth Wyud, with the eastmost ROOM and CLOSET on the second storey of the eastmost House, with the GARRET above the same, and westmost CELLAR of the said House, possessed by James Jack and others, situated on the south side the street of Cellardyke opposite the Town House. These Properties are most convenient and valuable, and will subdivided into small Lots, if not sold in whole. For further particulars, apply Olliphant, Writer, Anstruther, in whose hands are the Articles of Roup and Title-Deeds. Austruther, August 1849.

1851

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN —That, in virtue of the Powers contained in Act passed the Third and Fourth Years of his Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled " An Act to enable Burghs in

Scotland " to establish General System of Police," the OCCUPIERS of PREMISES in that part of the Burgh of KILRENNY called CELLARDYKE, of the real yearly Rent or value of Ten Pounds sterling and upwards, are hereby required to meet upon Thursday, the Thirtieth current, at Twelve of the clock, within the Town Hall in this for the purpose of determining the Amount of the maximum Assessment for the next Three Years, in terms of said Act.  
JAMES FOWLER, Chief Manager. Cellardyke, October 20, 1851.

1854

A Reading Room has been opened in the Town Hall of Cellardyke, Fifeshire. The subscription is four shillings per annum. Nearly one-half of the subscribers are fishermen.

HERITABLE SUBJECTS IN CELLARDYKE FOR SALE. There will be Sold Private Bargain, the following Heritable Subjects:— 1. THAT Excellent DWELLING-HOUSE of Two Flats, and Large GARDEN behind the same, situated little to the East of the Town Hall, and possessed by Robert Anderson and others. 2. That HOUSE of Two Flats, and Piece of GARDENGROUND behind, adjoining the Town Hall on the East, and possessed by Widow Watson and others. 3. That Small HOUSE of One Flat, oa the East Side of the Tolbooth Wynd. Sealed Offers for these Properties .will be received by Philip Oliphant, Writer, Anstruther, till Wednesday, the 27th September 1854

October 1854. PROPERTY AT CELLARDYKE FOR SALE. To be Sold by Public Roup, within the Town Hall, Cellardyke, on Saturday, the October 1854, at Two o'clock Afternoon, ALL and WHOLE that PARK near the Harbour of Cellardyke, with the PIGEON-HOUSE therein, and Pertinents. This Property to be exposed in Six Lots, or Divisions, suitable for Fishcurihg Premises, and Dwelling-Houses and Gardens, with access both from the south and north, according to Plan which may seen in the hands of Mr James Nicol, land-surveyor, Cellardyke. Lot contains 991' Square Yards, and comprehends the Pigeon-House, with the whole Building Stones lately quarried and lying in the Park, aud a mutual right to the East Gable of the late Mrs Watson's House and Garden Wall; and the other five Lots are the breadth of 31 Feet each, and contain from 454 to 327 Square Yards of Ground. The Feu-duty of the whole is only Sd. per annum. For farther "particulars, apply to" John Smith, Writer, Anstruther. At same time, there will be Sold a considerable quantity of excellent PIGEON DUNG. Anstruther, 19th Sept. 1854.

1855

SOIREE AT CELLARDYKE. On Thursday last, the Cellardyke Abstinence Society held their first annual soiree, in the Town Hall Mr James Fowler, President of the Society, occupied the chair, hall was crowded in every part. The Rev. Messrs Lindsay of P.ttenweem, Wisely of Anstruther, and other gentlemen addressed the meeting, after which, very interesting episode took place in the presentation of a very beautiful silver tea-pot to Mr Fowler, chief magistrate of the burgh, as mark of esteem and regard, from large number of the inhabitants of Cellardyke and others.

John Martin, merchant, in presenting the testimonial to Mr Fowler, said—The duty which you have now devolved upon me to present Mr Fowler with the splendid testimonial of your esteem and regard is, I confess, somewhat onerous one, but one which would give me the greatest pleasure to perform were not that, I feel myself so unable in proper terms to give expression to

tho feelings the large number of those in whose name I now called on to present it. I am glad to say that this movement originated with the fishermen of this town. The services which Mr Fowler has rendered to the whole community have been great and varied, but the prosperity and interests of the fishermen in particular has ever been forward in advancing, and it was thought that it would only be doing act of justice to Mr Fowler to present him with some tangible token of the high estimation which he regarded, and thus to small extent show that his valuable services had been appreciated. And I am glad to say that this beautiful tea-pot which now stands before us is the result of their labours. Of the private worth and unblemished character of Mr Fowler is not now my province to speak. To do so before this audience who have known him so long and so well, would be much out place on my part it would be repugnant to the feelings Mr Fowler. Every one knows that to the poor and needy he has been a friend, and tho hour of need he has been ever forward by his sympathy, benevolence and liberality, to bind up the broken spirit and cause the widow's heart sing for joy. For many a long year Mr Fowler has been distinguished for his zeal and activity in every object which had for its aim the temporal and spiritual welfare of the community. Not only did he originate many of the improvements which of late years have been so successfully carried out, but by his restless activity and energy of character gave the most valuable assistance in their prosecution ; in short, let him be convinced that any proposed scheme had for its object the comfort and welfare of the inhabitants, and that was calculated to promote their good and increase their happiness, then instantly difficulties which would have been formidable to many minds vanished before him whatever his hands found to do he did it with all his might. Mr Fowler was amongst the first if not the very first, which gave his adherence to the cause of temperance in this place - Not only did he do so in name - a thing which costs so little, and what to the most us could be no sacrifice - but at the call of duty and at the bidding of conscience, cheerfully sacrificed one of the most lucrative branches of his business, and from that time to the present moment has sustained and deended the great effort made, and now more fully developed, to crush and put down the monster vice of our age, that thing which makes our country groan beneath iron bondage, and which brings death and desolation to so many homes. [Mr Martin here made few general remarks on the subject of intemperance, and gave a stirring and saddening account its ravages the country.] But (continued Mr W.) the cause of temperance is not the only thing to which Mr Fowler has directed his attention. the religious instruction of the young Mr Fowler has long been distinguished, and has taken the deepest interest. For upwards of thirty years he has laboured more less in this interesting cause, and often amidst suffering and much physical debility. To hundreds of children, many of whom are now actively engaged the business of life, he has carried the message of salvation, and warned them to flee from the wrath to come. Night after night and year after year, has he, amidst difficulties and discouragements, with which every school teacher can fully sympathise, laboured to impart them the word of life; and may I now not be addressing many who with pleasure and satisfaction can look back to the time when they were scholars in is school and it may be a warm gust of feeling flows through their heart as they think upon the inductions and warnings he so faithfully-imparted. And may I not step farther and say, that it may even be there are some now present can date their first impressions of divine things to that time and to Mr Fowler's labours. But not only has Mr Fowler laboured long in this department ot Christian usefulness, but he is labouring still with unabated vigour. Sabbath after Sabbath is he at his post teaching your children the way of salvation, not sitting down idly with his hands folded. Though he has borne the burden and heat of the day, but labouring on still I trust with undiminished faith counting it a privilage and honour to permitted thus to work in the vineyard of the Lord, and I trust he will be long spared to go on in his work and labour of love and that he will at last have many for a crown of joy and rejoicing in the day Christ makes up his jewels. But not

only has Mr Fowler taken so large a share and so deep an interest what relates to the moral and spiritual welfare of the inhabitants, he also feels the warmest interest in their worldly comfort and prosperity, it is well known that about four or five years ago an attempt was made by the magistrates Dunbar to obtain an act of Parliament which to a very large extent would have affected the interests of our fishermen; in that bill the magistrates Dunbar sought most extraordinary powers, which, if obtained, would not only have been a very great pecuniary loss to the fishermen of Fife, but to a very great extent have interfered with their civil liberty. Had they wished to claim supreme authority within their own burgh, only comparatively few would have cared, but not only did they want powers of that kind, but also to be no less than admirals depute over extent of the sea, six miles of coast, and six miles seaward. And what would have been the consequence had they got this power? It would have been this, that no boat could have fished within that prescribed circle without the authority of the magistrates of Dunbar, and more than this, they would have had the power upon any petty offence being committed within these six miles, fine any party offending in a sum not exceeding ten pounds, or to commit such offender to the common gaol of Dunbar for 30 days; in short, they thought themselves, I suppose, something in the position of Robinson Crusoe when seated upon some rock on his desolate island, he exclaimed— I am monarch of all I survey, My right there is none to dispute. But they found their mistake. Mr Fowler, as every one knows, at a very great expense of time and trouble, gave it his most determined opposition, and, I am glad to be able to say, that the fishermen of this place, headed by Mr Fowler, were the means getting that attempt frustrated, and by his active and untiring energy, with the valuable assistance of our respected member for the burgh, kept the liberty of the fishermen of Fife unmolested and unimpaired, at least in that locality. And you will recollect that a similar attempt was made only about a year and a-half ago, at North Berwick, which two of our boat crews were fined for shooting their nets day light in the open sea; the skippers were taken out of their boats almost by force by one of her Majesty's commanding officers, who at least should have known better, and fined by some worthy justices of the peace about North Berwick, for a thing which, I believe, they knew nothing about. Well, what was the consequence? Mr Fowler once more took the case in hand, and was the means, this instance also, not only of preventing such illegal conduct to be attempted in future, but of making these justices of the peace pay back the fines and her Majesty's officer to come to Cellardyke and make an ample and humble apology. Many other things could be adduced in which Fowler has taken deep interest, such as the improvement of the bulwark, the lighting and repairing of the streets, the building of the Town Hall, and soon. But enough has been said, I think, to shew that if ever any one by his eminent services and active labours deserved the gratitude respect and esteem of the community that man Mr Fowler. And now, my dear sir, will you allow me in the name of a large number of your fellow-townsmen and others who know your worth, present you with this silver lea-pot as a small token of gratitude for the valuable services which you have rendered to the community, and of esteem and regard for your private worth. You are not unthank upon this gift, sir, splendid it is, as an equivalent for the eminent services which in the providence of God have been able to render the community among whom your lot is cast, but simply a mark of the high estimation in which your private character is held, and your public services appreciated by your fellow-townsmen your unceasing efforts for the public good. For one to have the esteem and goodwill of his fellow-men is certainly desirable, and a thing to which every right-thinking man will aspire. To this, sir, you have this night attained, and when so large a number of persons have their united efforts been able to present you with this beautiful and tangible expression of that esteem, I am sure that you will not prize it for its intrinsic value, but conveying to you in this way the gratitude and thanks of those among whom you have so long and so faithfully laboured, and I know there not one now present but will join with main the

prayer that you may yet be long spared to go on your work and labour of love, and from this token of goodwill be encouraged and stimulated in those efforts which may be conducive to the temporal and spiritual welfare of those around you, and when at last your work is done, when effort and labours hero must come to an end, you may have a better reward than man can give, even approval of Him who searches the hearts and tries the reins of the children of men, a crown of glory that will never fade, and be welcomed into the mansions of bliss with these approving words— " Servant of God, well done, Rest from thy loved employ, The battle o'er, the victory won, Enter thy Master's joy." made a suitable and very feeling reply. He said—I quite unable to express my thanks to you for this very handsome and valuable gift. And however valuable itself it doubly tome as being an expression of the esteem and regard of so large a portion the community with whom I have been so intimately associated for the best part of my life, and as being a testimonial of your approval of my humble services to the community. When some of these measures which were considered for the public good were first proposed they were met with much odium and opposition, but this was overcome," and now this testimonial is a gratifying proof of the general approval of these measures and an encouragement to persevere what yet remains to be done. For whatsoever has been done for our sanitary, social, or moral improvement much yet remains to be done. Perhaps the community may have suffered from there being no resident landed proprietors the parish to encourage and patronise any means of improvement; yet if from want of these we have been taught self-reliance, it may be that are no great losers. For, no doubt, the hearty and united co-operation of working population like our own, when well directed, can do much towards self and social improvement. And whatsoever may be my lot in future, heartily rejoice that there are in the community those who are well fitted to direct and carry forward any necessary means of improvement. Only let such identify themselves with the community, concentrate their efforts and cordially unite to support and encourage some one or other of these measures calculated to promote the general good, and much may be done. Our local and sanitary improvements, our Sabbath-schools, our Abstinence Society, our Savings Bank, and our Reading-Room, are all means of social improvement; and if supported and encouraged they ought to be by one and all of the community, progress may be slow, but it will be sure, and certainly promote the desired end. And to accomplish this, even in a humble measure, is well worth our united efforts, and will its own reward. I have now sincerely to thank the friends who have subscribed this testimonial, and Mr Martin for the very kind manner which has presented it, and I beg to assure you all it will ever be highly esteemed as a memorial of your regards and our kindly intercourse with each other. And I hope it will down as a valuable relic to one who, although now in a distant land, had ever a helping hand, and has still heartfelt interest in all that concerns the welfare of Cellardyke.

1856

Saturday, 4th October 1856. PROPERTY AT CELLARDYKE FOR SALE. Sold by Public Roup, within the Town Hall, Cellardyke, on Saturday, 4th October next, Twelve ' o'clock Noon, THAT PROPERTY at the Braehead of Cellardyke present occupied as STABLE, GRANARY, and BOILING HOUSE, adjoining the Dwelling House which sometime belonged to James Gardner. Apply to John Bowman, Town Clerk Pittcnweem, who has the Title Deeds and Articles of Roup. Town Clerk's Office, Pittenweem, 9th September 1856

1861

A public meeting the Fishermen Cellardyke, was held the Town-Hall there, on Saturday evening last. Thomas Murray being called to the chair, stated that the purport of the meeting was to consider the question that has been so long dispute, to who was the party liable in paying the dues, fish and herring, of the Anstruther Union Harbour. He also stated that Mr Oliphant, writer, Anstruther, was present aid them in their proceedings. After a long discussion, the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to, viz.: That the fishermen are not liable to pay the said dues, unless they are the owners of the fish on the delivery thereof, and resolved to advertise that on and after the 15th July 1861, all sales of fish and herring shall be made by the fishermen, under the condition that the purchasers shall pay the dues; and to distribute circulars that effect among the fishcurers. The fishermen also resolved to keep a pass-book, and to note down every sale, and report the same to the collector every week, so that he may collect the dues from the purchasers. The meeting then nominated a committee to carry out these resolutions, and with power call another meeting if deemed necessary. The meeting then separated.

1862

Sale of Property.—On Saturday last, an old tenement, with garden attached, situated at the back Cellardyke, was exposed for sale in the Town Hall here. Being well adapted for building stances, for which in the crowded state of that town there is great demand, considerable degree of general interest was evinced on the occasion. The competition, however, was rather dull, and after few had been made, the property was knocked down to George Sharp, at the upset price of £220. We may here mention, that in Cellardyke, where the want adequate house accommodation has been long and loudly complained of, a scheme being carried out which will to a great extent ameliorate the evil. In the course of the present year, a number of public spirited gentlemen in the locality, who were mainly induced to move in the matter from philanthropic motives, formed themselves into a building society. They shortly afterwards purchased small field at the back of town, on which they are now to erect number commodious dwelling-houses, according to plans specially prepared by experienced architect.

1863

Cellardyke. Sale of Property.—On Saturday last, several properties situated in this place, and a house, wright's shop &c., were exposed for sale public auction in the Town Hall. There was a large attendance, but although the upset price of most of the subjects was considerably reduced, offers were made. This was doubtless accounted for by the un satisfactory state of the fishing, as. from the eligible nature and situation of the properties here —three of which were building sites —ready sales might have been reasonably anticipated

1864 12<sup>th</sup> Oct

CELLARDYKE. SALES OF PROPERTY. -On Saturday last the following properties were exposed for by public auction in the Town Hall here. The first offered was a a tenement and garden, situated at the Braehead, recently possessed by Thomas Riebairn, which was exposed at the upset price of £100, and sold without competition for that sum to Mr John Montodore, fisherman, The second subject was a property belonging to Mr James Corstorphine, which was purchased by Mr William Grubb tailor, for £50, being advance of £10 on reduced upset price. The next succession

was the house which was recently burned, situated near the Town Hall, and to which a garden is also attached. It was first exposed at the upset price of £130, but no offers were made until it had been reduced to £105 after which a spirited competition ensued up to £122 at which sum it was knocked down to Mr James Fervit' fisherman.

1865

Anstruther. Lifeboat.—It appears that some wealthy and liberal individual has presented a donation to the National Lifeboat Institution—a donation sufficient to establish a lifeboat, which the donor is understood wish to have placed on some part of the Fife coast. The great resort of fishing boats to Anstruther harbour has induced the officials connected with the Institution to give a preference to this port. Captain Robertson, the Inspector of Lifeboats, accordingly visited the town on Thursday last, when, company with several of the Harbour Commissioners and others, he made a survey of the shore, and minutely examined various sites for the erection of a boat-house. On the following day Captain Robertson met with the fishermen Cellardyke and others desirous of having a lifeboat stationed here, in the Town Hall of Cellardyke. Provost Todd occupied the chair, and introduced the gallant Captain, who gave a minute and interesting account of the lifeboat, and of the most approved mode of using it in cases of emergency. Several of the fishermen expressed their cordial approbation of the scheme, and the close of the meeting unanimous and hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Captain Robertson.

Meeting of Fishermen.— On Wednesday evening, a meeting of the fishermen of Cellardyke was held in the Town Hall there, for the purpose of appointing a coxswain and crew for the life-boat James Fowler, Esq., Chief Manager of the Burgh, who occupied the chair, explained the object of the meeting, and concluded by expressing a hope that the fishermen would, with their usual spirit and prudence, make such arrangements as would render the boat thoroughly efficient, and thereby carry out the noble intentions of her generous donor in affording relief to the shipwrecked mariner in the hour of deadliest peril Mr Martin then read the instructions issued by the National Lifeboat Institution as to the coxswain and crew with the nature of their duties, &c The meeting then proceeded to elect the coxswain, when it was resolved, from the probability that some of the fishermen might be absent during an emergency to elect six to the situation, any one of whom was to take charge of the boat in the absence of the others. The following were elected— Robert Brown, C. Carstairs, Alex. Fowler Kay, T. Birrell, James Smith, and John Pratt. Fifty of the fishermen then volunteered to act as a crew on the same principle as the coxswains in regard to service. The nature of their calling preventing the fishermen from taking oversight of the boat, George Greig of the Coastguard, Anstruther, was appointed second coxswain. After the usual votes of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting, which had been conducted in a most harmonious and cordial manner, separated. —We may add that the life-boat is expected in the course of a week or two, when her arrival will be hailed with the most enthusiastic demonstrations of welcome ; and that the boat will be drawn from the railway station to the east end of Cellardyke, preceded by the band of the Rifle Volunteers, and followed, we should say, by very many of the townsfolk ; and no doubt if circumstances permit, most of our fishermen and sailors will take part in the procession.

1866

Street Improvement.- -By the exertions of the Police Commissioners of the burgh of Kilrenny, a notable improvement has been effected, on the main thoroughfare of Cellardyke by the removal of old tenement, which stood directly opposite the Town Hall. While the old building stood constituted an abrupt turn in the street, greatly impeded and endangered the traffic, as the narrow roadway was common both to vehicles and pedestrians. A fine open space, however, has been formed by its removal, which imparts airiness and safety to the street that must be productive of universal satisfaction. The cost of the improvement, considering the present high value of property in Cellarilyke, was necessarily great, but the whole charge -which amounts to about £72 has, with the exception of a donation of a fewpounds from the funds of the burgh, been defrayed by voluntary subscription, to which number of the inhabitants of Anstruther handsomely contributed. While carrying out the above improvement, it was the anxious wish of the Police Commissioners to remove the great obstruction to the street caused by the projecting staircase of Thomas Pringle's house ; but as the proprietor demanded the high price of £95 for the staircase, the authorities were reluctantly compelled to abandon the intention, at least in the meantime

Let of Common Good. —On Saturday the shore dues and customs, and also the pasturage of the braes belonging to the burgh of Kilrenny, were exposed for set by public roup, for the ensuing year in the Town Hall of Cellardyke, when the shore dues and customs were again taken by Mr George Watson at the rental of £13, this being a reduction of £5 10s as compared with last year. The pasturage, likewise, was taken by the tacksman of last year, Mr J. Gardiner, for £9, the rental of the preceding year being £12. As will be inferred from those reductions, there was no contest in either case.

1867

On Saturday last, two dwelling-houses, situated near the harbour of Cellardyke, the one belonging to the late James Brown, and the other Mr Charles Carstairs, were exposed for sale in the Town Hall there. This the third time that these properties had been publicly offered, but, notwithstanding, the eligibility of their situation, no sale could be effected. The upset price this occasion was reduced to £180 and £130 respectively, but in neither case was an offer made. It would appear from the comparatively greater demand for, and the higher prices which are being realised for houses in the west end the town, that this locality is being preferred by the fishermen, owing, of course, to its proximity to the Union Harbour. We hear of an old property situated in that part the town, for which no sale could be effected when offered a fortnight ago at public roup, having changed hands the other day for £130.

1868

On Saturday last the large old tenement situated at the Harbour of Cellardyke, belonging to the heirs of the late MR John Salter, was exposed in the town hall there. The upset price was reduced from £140 - £130, but no offer was received and the sale was consequently adjourned. This curious old house is one of the most remarkable in the East of Fife. It was built 200 years ago by Andrew Bruce, The Celebrated Bishop of Orkney, who was at the time minister of Kilrenny, having been appointed as such in 1665, in room of Mr Robert Bennet, who was deposed for his covenanting principles. Like the houses of the period, it is built on arches of strong masonry, and although much dilapidated by time and use, it still shows traces of its former consequence and grandeur.



1868

Exposure of Property.—On Saturday last, the small dwelling-house, with yard attached, at the west end of Cellardyke, belonging to the trustee on the bankrupt estate of Thomas Tarvit, fisherman there, was exposed for sale public auction in the Town Hall of Cellardyke. The property was put at the upset price of £120. which was successively reduced to £100, but no offer was received and the sale was adjourned sine die. In this, and in other cases, it would appear that the demand for property is decidedly on the decline in this neighbourhood, owing, no doubt, to the general depression which has followed the recent failure of the fishing.

1869

Breach of the Peace.—At the Burgh Court of Kilrenny on Wednesday last—Provost Martin and Bailies Sharp and Watson on the bench—three itinerent hawkers, named respectively James M'Combe, tinsmith, Georgina Williamson or M'Combe, his wife, and Isabella Williamson or Wilson, a widow residing in Cellardyke, were charged with committing breach of the by cursing and swearing and causing a disturbance near the Town Hall of Cellardyke a few hours before the time of trial. The panels pleaded not guilty, when Alex. Ames, townofficer, skipper Brodie Nicolson, and Margaret Cummings, were examined support of the charge, which, having been clearly established against M'Combe and his wife, they were each sentenced to pay fine of 6d or eight days' imprisonment. The indictment failed in the case of widow Wilson, who was consequently dismissed from the bar. The two prisoners not having paid the fine were removed to Cupar Jail in the course the afternoon in a hired machine, the train not being convenient, but we understand that when near Cupar Toll, and while being driven leisurely along the road the horse from some unexplained cause lost its footing and fell, but the two constables and the prisoners very fortunately retained their places in the machine, that no injury occurred in their case, but the horse and the machine are reported to be more or less damaged. The occurrence was witnessed a large number of passers-by, who all agree that no blame whatever, can be attached to the parties in charge of the machine.

On Saturday last the common good of the burgh of Kilrenny was exposed for set for the ensuing year by public auction, in the Town Hall of Cellardyke. The customs for shore dues were re-let to Mr George Watson for £13, the same as last year ; as was also the pasturage of the town braes to Mr James Gardiner for £9, but the old shambles, occupied as a cooperage by Mr John Caldwell, were knocked down to him for £2 10s, being reduction of 10s, and the street manure of Kilrenny, which was let last year a nominal price, failed to obtain any tacksman on this occasion.

Proposed adoption of the Lindsay act. a meeting of the Town Council of Kilrenny was held in the Town Hall of Cellardyke on Saturday. Sederunt—Provost Martin, Bailie Watson, Treasurer Watson, Councillors Smith, Ritchie, and Smith. The minute of last meeting, which, amongst other resolutions, granted the use of the hall, with to wedding parties 5s a night, were read and approved, when, after the disposal of certain routine business, Councillor Smith (Hamilton) asked Provost Martin if any further steps had been taken to have certain number of the streets lamps kept burning all night for the use of the libbenon. Provost Martin—You must ask that question the Police Commission. The Council has nothing to do with it. Councillor Smith Speaking formyself and the other fishermen of Cellardyke. I think there is a great hardship this case. He

had been told that a party professing to know the feelings of the fishermen had said that the greater part of them did not wish the lamps to burn all night. Such assertion, however, was not only false in itself, but in direct to all reason. The refusal to grant the lights was proof how little encouragement or even justice was given to the fishermen, and, considering that they almost represented the industrial community, he wished to know, since the Police Commission would not move in the matter, if the Council could not act for the public good. Mr Cook, who was acting town clerk, said that by the Lindsay Act the power of the Police Commission was transferred to the Town Council, in Pittenweem the Act had been adopted with great advantage. Provost Martin—It is for the proprietors to adopt the new Act. Much was said about the rights of the fishermen, but after examining the roll found that they paid only about a half of the police assessments, the other half was paid by a class who had no wish or interest to have the lamps lighted after the usual hour. Mr Cook said that the Council could adopt the new Act simply giving month's notice in places where there was no existing Police Board, but where such Board was already established the change fell to be initiated by it. Provost Martin—This matter has been often talked about, and for myself I am quite ready to adopt the Act. But in the face of the great change which it would bring about, and considering how much the proprietors would be affected by it, be felt, even were the power in the hands of the Council, that he would not be justified in consenting adopt the new Act without consulting with the proprietors, and would propose that such meeting should be called. Bailie Watson suggested that this should be done a time when the boats were not at sea. Treasurer Watson said that as everybody would have to pay directly or indirectly, the meeting should be restricted to no particular class, but free to the public. There was nothing like acting openly and uprightly, it left nothing to fear, and everything to hope in the end. After some equally judicious remarks from Councillors Smith (Hamilton), and Smith (Robertson) it was resolved, on the motion of the Provoet, to call public meeting to consider the adoption of the Lindsay Act—the time well as the convening the same being remitted to the Magistrates, and minute was entered accordingly.

Breach of the Peace —At a Burgh Court, held in Cellardyke Town Hall on Saturday—Provost Martin and Bailie Watson on the bench—James Anstruther Moncrieff and Alexander Wood, both fishermen residing in the town, were charged at the instance of Mr George Watson, Fiscal, with having committed a breach of the peace by quarrelling and fighting with each other near the Town Hall- on the evening of Saturday the ultimo. Both panels pleaded not guilty, when Peter Murray and Thomas Ritchie, fishermen, were called and deposed to the charge. While the Fiscal was questioning one of the witnesses as to whether the panels were drunk at the time, he was interrupted by James Moncrieff saying " I was not drunk as you that night, at any rate." Provost Martin sharply reprimanded the panel, and the evidence having proceeded, James Watson, publican, was called for the defence, but his statement had reference simply to the conduct of the accused in his public-house, and not in connection with the charge, which the bench held to be fully established, and sentenced the panels to a fine of 7s or eight days' imprisonment. The fines were paid.

1870

Two very affecting instances of the uncertainty of life occurred in Cellardyke on Thursday morning. Christian Black, wife of Mr Anderson Lothian was attending a meeting in the town hall when as Mr Martin an evangelist from Glasgow was engaged in prayer, she fell down in a fit of palsy. She was carried to the house of Widow Watson which is under the hall where she died about ten hours

afterwards. The other case was that of Helen Robertson, wife of Andrew Ringan shoemaker, who was found dead in bed by her son in the morning. Her partner who is about 80, was sleeping by her side, and his feelings on waking up may be conceived but never described. Both of the deceased were about 70 years of age.

At a Burgh Court held in Cellardyke Town Hall on Wednesday, John MacDonald, a boy about fifteen years of age, the son of Peter Macdonald, hatter and hawker of chinaware was charged with the crime of breach of the peace, in so far as on the noon of Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup> last, he cursed and swore at the window of the baker's shop near Cellardyke harbour, occupied by David Black, and also entered said shop and threatened to " knock down " Christina Black, the girl in charge, and did thereafter pursue her to an upper room which he tried to force open, using as he did so exceedingly violent and abusive language by which the young girl was very much agitated and alarmed. The officer of Court called the panel in due form, but, failing to appear, warrant was granted for his apprehension.

PROPERTY IN CELLARDYKE FOR SALE. To be Sold by Public Roup, within the Town Hall of CELLARDYKE, on SATURDAY the 12th February 1870, at Two o'clock Afternoon THAT DWELLING-HOUSE and GARDEN which belong to the late Mrs HELEN LOTHIAN or BAIN, lying on the North side of the Street, and near to the Tolbooth Wynd.

11. That DWELLING-HOUSE, SHOP, FISHCURING PREMISES, GARDEN GROUND, and PERTINENTS, partly occupied at present by Mr Robert Gray, situated on the South side of the Street, near the Tolbooth Wynd, and extending to --the Sea.

The Title-Deeds and Articles of Roup applicable are in the hands of Messrs. SMITH & Cook, Writers, Anstruther, and who will furnish all other necessary information to intending Purchasers. Anstruther, 12th January 1870

CELLARDYKE. BURGH COURT.—A burgh court was held in the Town Hall on Monday—Provost Martin and Bailies Sharp and Watson on the bench—when Alex. Robertson or Robson, fisherman, Cellardyke, was charged, at the instance of Mr George Watson, procurator-fiscal, with committing a breach of the peace on the afternoon of Thursday, the 17th inst., on the public street between the Urquhart and Shure Wynds ; and also with having, on the afternoon of Saturday the 19th, in his own house, conducted himself in a riotous ' and disorderly manner, to the annoyance of the other tenants of the house. The panel pled guilty, and was sentenced to pay a fine of 15s, or go to prison for 15 days. Fine paid

MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL. A meeting of the Council was held in the Town Hall on Saturday evening last. Present, Bailie & Sharp and Watson, Treasurer Watson, Councillors James Smith (Robertson), -James Smith (Hamilton), Brodie Nicolson, and D. Ritchie. In the absence of Provost Martin, Bailie Sharp occupied the chair. Professor Mitchell of St Mary's College, St Andrews, was elected as ruling elder at the ensuing General Assembly. The Clerk (Mr Jamieson) read a letter from Captain Inglis, of Kirkmay, acknowledging receipt of a letter from the Provost, regarding the maintenance of the road leading from the town to the toll bar, and stating that he would lay the matter before the Road Trustees. Bailie Sharp, with reference to a nuisance which had existed at Kilrenny, said he had spoken to the party about it, and it had now been removed. Bailie Watson said they should just appoint George Watson to be inspector for that part of the burgh. In answer to a question, Bailie Sharp said the Town Council were the local authority for that part of the burgh, as the Police Commissioners had no power beyond the limits of Cellardyke. He thought

they should just elect George Watson ; it would be a mere formal appointment, and he would receive no salary, but it would give them authority to act. The appointment was then agreed to. The Clerk said they had had a call lately from one of the Inspectors of the Board of Supervision, and he had been speaking about carrying out the Nuisance Removal Act. There was something in it about lodging-houses. If the charge was more than 4d a-night, it brought them in for common lodging-houses, unless they were let for a-month, and they had all to be inspected. The case of the half-dealmen was mentioned, but Bailie Watson said they lodged more in the boats than anywhere else. The Clerk said the Inspector had also spoken about the supply of water being increased. Bailie Sharp said they had enough of water if it were only conveyed into convenient places. Bailie Watson said the well at the head of the Urquhart Wyad could supply the one-half of the town itself. Mr Jas. Smith (Hamilton) —The whole town. Bailie Sharp said he believed if it were only dug a little down, there would be no end to the supply of capital water. Mr James Smith (Hamilton) said it would supply all the low part of the town at any rate. After some conversation, in which it was stated that the supply from this source would not be available for the houses in Frith Street and the high parts of the town.

Bailie Watson said it would have been the best plan if they could have done it when they were sorting the streets.

Mr Jamieson said in Crail they had spent nearly £200 in improving the water supply which was now abundant. But in Cellardyke they could not have done it and causeway the streets at the same time.

Bailie Watson said they were averse to lay on an assessment.

Bailie Sharp said if times were brisk, it would be easy to get the water supply made effective, by laying out an assessment, but in the present condition of trade it was no use speaking about it.

Mr James Smith (Hamilton) said they must not speak of an assessment at the present time, the meeting then adjourned.

KILRENNY. The Church-yard. On Saturday evening, a public meeting the inhabitants of the parish of Kilrenny was held in the Town Hall, Cellardyke —Provoet Martin presiding, The Chairman stated that the meeting had been called to consider the present state of the church-yard, and the best means of improving it. Mr Thomas Brown stated the various steps taken the Parochial Board get a new burying-ground, which they had been compelled do by the Act of Parliament, on account of the crowded state in which the present one was. The cost of that would have been great, and many obstacles had been thrown in their way, that they felt greatly relieved when the heritors had come forward and offered to make an addition to the present church-yard. They had purchased the piece of ground to the south of it for that purpose, and were now preparing to lay it out in proper manner? Mr Oliphant one of the agents the heritors, stated that the total cost of the addition to the burying-ground would be from £450 to £500, which would all be defrayed by the heritors. A committee was then appointed to collect subscriptions and consider the steps to improve the churchyard, the condition of which the speakers described as disgraceful."

CELLARDYKE. DOG-FIGHTING. - A burgh court was held here yesterday—Bailies Sharp and Watson on the bench. John Scott, carter, Cellardyke, was charged, at the instance of the burgh fiscal, with committing an offence within the meaning of the Act 13 Viet. c. 92, entitled " An Act for the effectual prevention of cruelty to animals (Scotland) 1860," by encouraging and inciting a dog in his charge to fight with another dog belonging to George Henderson of Cellardyke, on the evening of Monday the 18th of July, near the town hall, in consequence of which both dogs fought for a considerable time and injured each other, whereby he rendered himself liable to a

penalty not exceeding £5. The panel pled guilty, and he was sentenced to pay a fine of 103 or go to prison for ten days. Bailie Sharp said the bench had mitigated the penalty in order to allow the panel an opportunity of paying the fine, but should he appear again before them on a similar complaint, it would be more serious for him, as the Magistrates were determined to put an end to the practice.

Burgh Court Cellardyke Town Hall - James Swinton, labourer, Crail, was charged with having, on the evening of Monday, the 29th of August, at or near the Toll Bar on the road leading from Anstruther to Kilrenny, assaulted Robert Henderson, by striking him two or more severe blows with his foot on the belly or other part of his body. Panel pled not guilty. From the evidence of two witnesses who were examined in support of the complaint, it appears that Swinton was passing with a horse and cart through the toll, and when the boy went to ask him for his ticket or the money, he threw the amount to the ground. The boy thereupon seized the horse by the head, and again demanded payment, when the panel jumped down and kicked him as libelled. No witnesses appeared for the defence. The burgh fiscal (Mr George Watson) in moving for a conviction, said that according to the law no toll-keeper was bound to take money out of the street in payment of the dues, nor was he bound to provide change. The charge was found proven, and a sentence of IOs of a fine, or ten days imprisonment passed. Fine paid.

COMICAL CASE. Peter M`Donald, hatter, West Anstruther, was charged with committing a breach of the peace in the main street of Cellardyke, opposite the house of James Watson, fishcurer, on Saturday the 27th of August, by cursing and swearing at Bridget Kerron or M`Gregor, and using abusive language towards her, by which a crowd was collected. He pled not guilty. Mr Thomas Anderson, asked permission to appear for the accused. Provost Martin said the Magistrates had formerly made a rule that none but certificated agents could appear before them, and therefore they could not grant the application. On M`Donald asking for an adjournment of the case, however, permission was granted to Anderson to appear for him, on the understanding that the case was not to form a precedent on future occasions. Evidence was then led, the first witness being Bridget Kerron or M`Gregor, who deponed that she was going along the street following her usual occupation as a hawker, when M`Donald, whom she had passed, cried to her to come back and spake to him. I went back, when he said to me, " What the h— business have you speaking about me and my laddie." I told him I had plinty to do to spake about myself. " You're a liar," says he, " Irish pig Betty." " Thank ye, blind eye," says I. (Laughter.) " You're a chate the public," he says. I cannot pass him without him saying something about my own country. There was a crowd collected about the doors, and some looking out of the windows. When I went away, he clapped his bands, and cried "3d the lippy, Irish pig Betty." (Laughter.) Cross examined by Mr Anderson—There was a crowd. I just walked away after he said " You're a chats the public." I saw a few people looking out of their windows. Interrogated —How many did you see? I did not come to the town ball to tell you that. (Laughter.) I don't know how many persons there were collected. I can't give a guess. There were more than half-a-dozen. Michael M`Gregor corroborated the evidence of the previous witness. Agnes Brown or Smith was called, but did not appear, it being stated that she had gone away. Her husband said she could not leave her child. The Magistrates said she would have to &ppmr for a few minutes, and that he (the husband) should hold the baby for a short time. Smith said the child would not hold its tongue with him. (Laughter.) Ultimately Mrs Smith made her appearance, and after some hesitation to take the oath, deponed that she only heard part of the conversation which took place. She saw nobody at the doors more than usual.

This was the case for the prosecution, and Margaret Brown or Davidson was examined for the defence ; but her evidence was somewhat similar to that of the preceding witnesses. Agnes Semple or Watson deponed that she was purchasing some potatoes from M'Donald on the occasion referred to, when Mrs M'Gregor came forward, and the latter said " Betty, what have you got to do with me and my boy." She had then to leave in consequence of somebody going into the shop. She saw no crowd. Saw only one woman looking out of a window. The Fiscal and Mr Anderson having addressed the court, Provost Martin said the Magistrates had listened very patiently to the case, and they had come to the conclusion that it had not been proved very clearly that there was a serious breach of the peace. The Magistrates would not, therefore, make any fine in the meantime ; but he was to caution him (M'Donald) that he had better be on his guard in future. Calling in the street generally led to breaches of the peace ; and very little more in his case would have done it.

CELLARDYKE. Town CouNcil. A meeting of the Town Council was held on Saturday—Provost Martin in the chair. The minutes of last meeting having been read and approved of, it was agreed to put in a boiler in the washing-house at the east end of the town, and it was remitted to Bailie Sharp to have this done, and employ a suitable person to take charge of it, a fee of one penny for the use of the green, and 3d for the use of the boiler and green, being allowed. Some repairs were also authorised to be made on the roof of the washing-house. The Council agreed to subscribe 10s towards the taking-down and rebuilding of the outside stair at the house of Mr Wilson Birrell, with the view of improving the street. It was agreed to let the north end of the house under the town hall to the town officer for the six months ending Whitsunday next at the rate of 26s. The town officer's charge for attending courts was fixed at 1s. for each court. The assessment for the expenses connected with the burgh valuation and registration of voters, and also to defray the proportion of the county prison assessment chargeable upon the burgh, was fixed at 1d per pound, payable equally between landlord and tenant.

CELLARDYKE. SEASONABLE GIFT TO THE POOR.—We understand that Captain Rodger of Glasgow, who has all along been so mindful of this his native place, and done so much for its improvement and prosperity, has sent to Provost Martin the handsome sum of twenty pounds, to be expended in supplying the necessitous poor, and such of his old acquaintances as have become old and infirm, with a Christmas dinner. Captain Rodger made a similar gift last year, which was highly appreciated, the good comforts then distributed being a loaf of bread, a large pie, a quarter of a pound of tea, and two pounds of anger to each. A meeting is, we learn, to be held in the town hall to-morrow (isturday) afternoon, to apportion and give out the gift in accordance with the wishes of the generous donor, which will likely be in the stone manner as last year.

SAVINGS BANK The annual general meeting of the depositors in the Cellardyke Savings Bank was held in the Time Hall here on the 16th inst. Provost Martin was elected chairman of the meeting, and the manager having read the minutes of directors' meetings during the year, and docqnets annexed to the books and accounts by the auditors, then read abstract of transactions and annual report by directors, the latter of which is as follows :—"The directors have much pleasure in submitting to the depositors the twenty-third annual report of the bank's transactions. During the year depositors have paid in £1031 2s 4d, and have withdrawn £866 11s ; and the balance with interest now due to them is £1825 9s 6d which is deposited in the National Bank of Scotland's Branch at Anstruther. The directors beg to congratulate the depositors, and all interested in the prosperity of the bank, on its present position. After another year of unsuccessful fishing's, a withdrawal of "savings" might have been anticipated ; and while this had been the case in several

instances, yet public confidence in the bank, and experience of the benefits it confers, have actually, as compared with last year, added £206 to the deposits, which are now higher than they have ever been. This fact is a striking evidence of the beneficial working of the bank during the last twenty-three years, and of the habits of prudence and forethought which it has fostered, and still continues to foster and maintain, in the community." The report having been approved of and adopted, Provost Martin made a few appropriate remarks congratulating the depositors on the prosperity of the bank. James Fowler, Esq., Bailie Watson, and Mr David Gay were then elected directors for the current year, and cordial votes of thanks to the chairman, directors, and office-bearers, closed the proceedings.

### **Equivalent of £116,654.94 deposited**

CELLARDYK E. SEASONABLE TREAT —Last week we mentioned that Captain Rodger of Glasgow had sent to Provost Martin the sum of £20, to be expended in providing a Christmas dinner to such poor persons of his old acquaintance as were in decayed circumstances, and the poor generally, of his native place. A public meeting was called last Saturday afternoon by the Provost to apportion the gift and to express their feelings towards Captain Rodger for another repeated evidence of his kind remembrance of his old friends and the prosperity of the town generally. The town hall was quite crowded. The Provost having taken the chair, stated the object for which he had called them together, and then read Captain Rodger's letter conveying the gift through him to his native town. He said this was another instance of Captain Rodger's considerate remembrance of his native place and his old acquaintances which they must highly appreciate. It was his (Captain Rodger's) wish that, in common with the rest of Christendown, they should partake of some good Christmas cheer, and he had now sent a handsome Donation to enable them to do so. They would all feel grateful to him, not only for this present kindness, but for the many and privileges which he had conferred on the town in times past. The Provost then made feeling allusion to the loss which Captain Rodger had lately sustained by the death of his partner in life, who was well known to them all and was one of themselves. He moved that a cordial vote of thanks should be forwarded to Captain Rodger, with an expression of sympathy with him in his bereavement. Mr Thomas Brown said he would cordially second the Provost's motion, and in a few well put remarks said it would be well for their town if they had the means followed the excellent example set by Captain Rodger, who had all along taken a deep interest in their welfare, and who deserved their highest gratitude. He would also deeply sympathise with him in his bereavement, and thought it would be proper to express that sympathy to him in their address. The motion was cordially adopted, and he was instructed to forward the address to Captain Rodger. The meeting then proceeded to receive the gift. The large number of 160 persons received a quarter of a pound of tea, 2lb sugar, a 4lb loaf and a sixpenny pie; and 40 more received a pie only. The Baillie Sharp, and Mr David Murray, handed out the articles, while Mr Brown read out the names from the poor roll. A larger proportion of the recipients attended to receive the gift personally than was the case last year,

1871

Pleasure Excursion.—On Saturday last, a stirring appearance was given to our streets by the arrival with the morning train the employees—to the number of about 100—in Mr Scott's factory at Freuchie, who, with flute band in front, walked in procession through the town. The merry strains of the music readily drew our townsmen to their doors, to look on and admire so many handsomely-attired young women, whose blooming cheeks and cheerful faces were so contrary

to the ideas of many life within the brick walls of a factory, and with the "cold metallic motion" of the machinery ringing incessantly in the ear. The weather, fortunately, was fine, and though without the advantage of being conducted to any particular place of interest in the neighbourhood, the party seemed highly gratified with their visit to the East Neuk. The sea-shore—as never fails to be the case with inland visitors—was the grand attraction for all; but the "Admiral Fitzroy" lifeboat, the sailing of the steamer, and the herrings and herring boats were also the objects of lively interest. The whole company met by appointment in Cellardyke Town Hall, where dinner was partaken of in the shape of savoury pies from the Steam Bakery of Mr David Black, and which, we understand, like the whole expenses of the excursion, was provided their masters, who, by such a graceful act of liberality, cannot fail to excite those kindly feelings which form the true and only bond of union between employers and employed. The party left again for home with the evening train—their decorous and orderly conduct being in pleasing contrast with that of certain visitors lately to this locality.

MR Ellice then proceeded to Cellardyke, where he addressed another large meeting in the Town Hall, presided over by Provost Martin. Towards the close of his address Mr Ellice alluded to Anstruther Union Harbour, and hoped, notwithstanding the repeated disasters that had befallen it, that so large an outlay of public money would eventually not in vain. He also had some encouraging remarks on the enterprise of the fishermen, when a cordial vote of confidence moved by Bailie Sharp, and seconded by Bailie Watson—was unanimously awarded.

CELLARDYKE. TOWN COUNCIL.—A meeting of Kilrenny Council took place yesterday when there were present Provost Martin, Bailies Sharp and Watson, and Councillors Horsburgh, Smith (Robertson), and Smith (Hamilton). The assessor, for the burgh, Mr Thomas Brown, submitted his valuation roll, to which no objections were taken, and the Provost was accordingly authorised to sign it. The valuation this year is £3885 5s 6d, being an increase of L 5 7s 6d as compared with last year. The Council then proceeded to the election of a town officer, when John Jamieson, shoemaker, Cellardyke, was appointed to the office at a salary of £4 per annum with the usual privileges, with the condition that the appointment should terminate at the pleasure of the Council on three months' notice being given.

New Public Hall for Cellardyke.—Amongst no class and in no district has the rise and progress of the new temperance crusade been so enthusiastic as amongst the hardy fishers of Fifeshire. Almost every village already boasts a Good Templar Lodge as one of its most popular institutions; and, whatever may be the end of the movement, there is no question that in the meantime it is exerting an extraordinary, if not an unexampled, power over the feelings of the people. Encouraged by the success of the past, the Good Templars of Cellardyke are contemplating the erection of a new hall for their lodge meetings, and the scheme is being entered into with such spirit that not only has an energetic Committee been appointed, but some progress has been even made in giving the suggestion a distinct and tangible form. A site is also spoken of—and no better one could possibly be found—on the vacant space belonging to Mr John Ritchie, fishcurer, where Ellice Place corners with West Forth Street, and which is said could be acquired for about £90. Our spirited builder, Mr Alex. Wallace, has, we understand, been invited to prepare a design, and give the probable cost the undertaking, and from what we know of Mr Wallace's architectural taste and experience, we have no doubt but he will be able to delineate a building at once ornate and commodious. On this point, of course, nothing definite, but the Committee are said to be in favour of one-storied edifice, capable of holding about 500 persons, and if report does not much belie the truth, there will be little



difficulty in the way of funds, as a friend of the cause is understood to have offered an advance on exceedingly favourable terms.

In consequence of the Guiding Star Lodge of Good Templars having come to an arrangement with the trustees of the Free Church Hall, which will enable them to get the use of that building for some time to come, they have agreed not to proceed any further in the meantime with the proposal to erect a new hall of their own. Several plans had been prepared by Mr Wallace, builder, one of which was estimated to cost £500

1872

Good Templar Processions.—On Monday the Union" Lodge of Anstruther, with a deputation from the Sister Lodge of Cellardyke, walked in procession with music and banners through both towns to Crail, when they were joined half-way along the road by the Good Templars of that burgh. After marching through the time-honoured streets the company assembled in the Town Hall, when an opportunity was given for rest after the long walk, which was rendered all the more fatiguing by the tempestuous state of the weather. The interval was further enlivened by the singing of hymns, and also by congratulatory addresses from Brother Peebles, the chief of the Crail Lodge, and Brother Beveridge, who presided over the Anstruther division, after which the company resumed their march homeward. As they were leaving the old town the procession was met by musical party playing on flutes, and attended with a drummer, whom Good Templar describes as "some well-dressed young man with very red eyes," who excited no little remark by their spirited performance, and a "scene" also took place, in the course of which witty son of St Peter, from Cellardyke, in the ranks of the procession, was struck by a half tipsy ploughman, and no doubt it would have been better had some noisy anti-teetotallers taken the advice of discreet old grandmother, who counselled them "to keep their breath to cool their brose," but on the whole these trivial incidents have excited more public talk than they deserve, and we only mention them to correct any exaggeration that might appear calculated to throw discredit on the good name of royal Crail. The procession was still on the road when they were overtaken by the drenching showers, which gave such a disagreeable cast to the afternoon of New Year's day; but notwithstanding, they were met on the way by their Cellardyke friends, who accompanied them to the Freemasons' Hall, where a halt was made, and the company disbanded. In the course of the day the Juvenile Lodge marched through Anstruther and Cellardyke, and the interesting little regiment passed along under the charge of their respected general—Mr Andrew Wilkie, builder—they excited all sides the liveliest attention. About 200 Good Templar 3 took part in the demonstration to Crail and the juveniles would muster about 100; but unfortunately the stormy nature of the weather and the wet and miry condition of the roads very much interfered with the pleasure and success of the processions.

Grand Good Templar Demonstrations.- Saturday will long be a memorable day in the fishing towns of Fife on the occasion of one of the largest and most successful demonstrations ever celebrated in the East Neuk. Only last spring the Good Templar movement was as the thing of a distant land far as this district was concerned, but since that time five lodges have sprung into existence, in which about 900 are already enrolled. Full of the enthusiasm of their new crusade, the suggestion for grand public demonstration was no sooner ventilated than it was cordially embraced, and Saturday, as being best suited for the was accordingly set apart for the display. The Anstruther friends, however, were of opinion that the temptations of New Year's day ought to be specially guarded against, and suggested a demonstration for Monday, but in this they

were left, as it were, "out in the cold," as the fishing element—which constitutes fully four-fifths of the organisation—adhered to the only day they could call their own, and unfortunately the lodges divided, though, as may be supposed, the eclat of the proceedings rest with the "naval brigade" of the temperance army. In Cellardyke the events of the day were opened by the sons and daughters of the "Guiding Star" mustering in Forth Street Hall from which, headed with music and with their streaming gaily in the breeze, they marched along the Braehead to the harbour, from which in imposing order of procession and with every door and window filled with eager onlookers, they proceeded through the principal thoroughfares leading into and out of Anstruther until coming to Pittenweem, where they were joined by the "Star of Hope" Lodge of that ancient burgh. Thus reinforced, the company marched on to St Monance, where in like manner they united with the lifeboat crew—that is, for the rescue of the lost and perishing drunkard—when the procession, which now consisted of fully five hundred, displayed as many as twenty-three flags or banners, and, escorted with the Anstruther and St Monance flute bands, marched through the streets—every house being deserted by its inmates as old and young flocked out to see the stirring spectacle. Having made the circuit of the brave little town, the procession wheeled to the east, sweeping with its living tide through picturesque Pittenweem on to "Maggie Lauder's toon." On reaching Cellardyke the procession halted, when the highly interesting and successful proceedings were brought to close. As showing the spirit of brotherhood that exists amongst the Templars as amongst the Freemasons, we may state that the Jersey smack, "Charlotte," lying at Anstruther pier, was decked out with colours from truck to rail in honour of the order, with which some on board were also identified. The weather was dry, but the roads were in a miserable condition, though every face looked more cheerful and happy than another during the long walk.

CELLARDYKE. The Lifeboat and the Fishermen.—The acting coxswains of the lifeboat stationed at Anstruther met in the Town Hall on Tuesday with Provost Martin and Bailie Watson. In reference to the existing regulations of the Lifeboat Institution, which, in the opinion of the fishermen, would hinder if not destroy the Utility of the boat in the event of a sudden emergency on the shore. Provost Martin, who was called upon to preside, read the regulations, which, in various points the meeting characterised as too much of 'red tape' or "circumlocutory" nature, though special objection was taken to the rule which required an application to, and consent of the committee before launching the lifeboat. The six coxswains who were present all allowed that this might be expedient when a ship stranded a sandbank, but in the case of fishing-boat where the crew had no chance of clinging to the wreck' and where, if assistance was to be rendered at all it must be on the instant, the circumstances were' so altered to demand that the regulation should be modified or cancelled in the case of the Anstruther lifeboat so that the fishermen might have the free and unquestioned right to launch her whenever they might see or anticipate an occasion for her service ; and with the view of giving effect to this opinion the two magistrates consented to correspond with the directors of the institution, and at the same time to intimate the strong feeling which existed on the subject. In fact, we may state, incidentally, that the fishermen are so decided and unanimous on this matter that in the event of their petition being negatived, they say they would never set foot in the lifeboat again, but would in all probability set about procuring boat for themselves as they originally contemplated. The coxswains present were Skippers Charles Carstairs, Thomas Birrell, Andrew Henderson, Alexander Watson, George Watson, and David Watson—Skippers Pratt and Wallace being unavoidably absent.

Cellardyke. Paving the Streets.—At a meeting the Police Commission of the burgh of Kilrenny on Monday, it was resolved to pave the street from the Town Hall west to the point already causewayed, with greenstone rubble blocks; and the Clerk was instructed intimae to Mr Young, of Cupar, that his estimate of 3s 10d per square yard had been accepted. This improvement will entail an outlay of £192—the balance in hand of the Commission being about £100. It was intended to have completed the paving the main street from end to end, but the remaining section east of the Hall has been deferred in the state of the funds

ADMIRAL BETHUNE'S FEU-DUTIES. NOTICE—These FEU-DUTIES, payable for Subjects in Cellardyke and Kilrenny, will be COLLECTED within the Town Hall of Cellardyke on MONDAY, 20th May 1872, at Eleven o'clock Forenoon. N.B.—It is requested that all Arrears be paid up.

At a meeting of the Town Council held yesterday, Provost Martin said be understood that Provost Todd of Anstruther had received intimation that the Right Hon. Robert Lowe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was to visit this locality on Monday'first, for the purpose of inspecting the new harbour works, and it had been suggested that they should do him all the honour in their power by presenting him with the freedom of the burgh. The honour might not be worth much, but it was all that they could give him, and he thought it right and proper in them to offer it. They might count it an honour to have Mr Lowe's name enrolled among their burgesses. The proposal of the Provost was unanimously agreed to, and the Magistrates were appointed as a deputation to wait upon Mr Lowe, and make all necessary arrangements.

1873

Anstruther. Exciting Scene - Another of the stranger crews who are present resorting to the East of Fife for the sake of the herring fishery made a hairbreadth escape at Anstruther harbour a little after the midnight of Sabbath last. The boat was the "New Pink" of Stonehaven, Skipper Andrew Christie, which had been overtaken by the storm the beginning of the previous week while on the voyage to Anstruther, and was driven for shelter into Arbroath, where she lay till Sabbath afternoon, when the crew again hoisted sail for the Firth. They steered safely past the Carr, but by some curious mistake they made straight for Anstruther harbour, though at dead low water; in consequence of which the boat struck hard in the stone-strewn fairway, about hundred yards from the pier-heads. It was pitch dark, with the rain falling as if in bucketfuls at the time, and the wind was also rising; and as the boat lay tossing and beating in the heavy swell, the poor strangers - more especially they saw no signs of life on the shore - began, in their despair, to fasten bladders about them, hoping that, as lifebuoys, they might be the means of bringing them to the shore as they expected the boat to go to pieces with every heave of the sea - the scene being rendered the more distressing by a young woman being on board, who gave way to the agitation so natural in the circumstances, and cried piteously. Happily at this dreadful juncture the cries of distress were heard by one of the sons of our valued harbour pilot, Mr Wm. Parker, who, after arousing his father, who has also charge of the lifeboat, ran with all speed to Cellardyke, where the first alarm, and with characteristic spirit and humanity, men, women, and children rushed to Anstruther shore, from which, regardless of wind and rain and the raging surf, first a skiff, then long yawl, and lastly, in order to provide against all emergencies, the lifeboat was dragged through the mud to the brink of the tide and launched for the help the strangers, who by these energetic means were safely landed with their nets and stores. The boat was so chafed and broken in the bottom that she filled as the tide rose, but being thus lightened she was eventually towed to the beach, though she will require an extensive repair before she can again

proceed to sea. The conduct of the Cellardyke fishermen on the occasion is beyond all praise, and with less energy, skill, and resolution than was displayed on their part, the boat and gear, if not the lives of those on board, must have been lost.

Indignation Meeting of Fishermen. - Ever since the curious old steamboat, the " Stirling Castle," began to ply on the Leith passage in the mid-summer of 1842, there have been collisions now and then with the deep sea going boats of Cellardyke, which about the same time began to seek the more sheltered harbour of Anstruther in preference to their own storm beaten "Skimfie." The boats, as "the weaker vessels", have, of course, been the sufferers ; and hence out of a hundred mishaps, for which those in charge of the steamer have always found a ready excuse, while, on the other hand, they were denounced by the fishermen as " tyrannical and reckless," there has grown a strong feeling in fishing circles very much akin to looking upon the steamer as "a common enemy" of their class. This state of matters has been repeatedly the subject of discussion at the Harbour Board; but an incident occurred the other day in the harbour which has roused the fishermen to take decided and pointed action amongst themselves. It is said that the boat of Skipper John Pratt was run into by the steamer, when the parties in charge of the vessel are accused of adding insult to injury; but suffice it the meantime to say that the affair led to an indignation meeting being convened in the Town Hall Monday night, when the crowded attendance was in itself an evidence of the intense feeling existing on the subject. On the motion of Skipper George Smith, Skipper Charles Carstairs was called to the chair, and having with his usual good sense and moderation explained the object of the meeting, Skipper Win. Moncrieff (Doig) and Councillor James Smith spoke at some length on the grievance to the boats, for which they appeared most to blame the practice swinging the vessel under steam to her berth. At this stage of the proceedings Skipper Alex. Watson threw a paper towards the chair, which on being opened was found to be a petition to the Harbour Board praying that a seafaring man might be appointed to the office of harbour master. The petition had only one signature, that Skipper Thomas Birrell, who next rose, and in the course of a characteristic statement, gave the history of the petition, which, he said, had originated with himself at a meeting of the coxwains of the lifeboat last spring when the unsatisfactory state of the harbour had been under consideration, but that, after having the document prepared for signature other boat skippers, he had heard no more of it until its unexpected appearance the present meeting. Skipper George Moncrieff also addressed the meeting in a temperate and appropriate manner, and Skipper Wm. Watson, when, after a strong but harmonious interchange of opinion it was resolve appoint deputation to confer with the Harbour Board upon the better regulation of the harbour the monthly meeting on Monday, when after the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting quietly dispersed.

UPSET PRICE REDUCED. PROPERTIES IN CELLAADYIEE FOR SALE. To be SOLD by Public roup, within the Town Hall of Cellardyke, on SATURDAY, 17th May 1873, at 12 o'clock Noon,

1. The Westmost Half which belonged to and was occupied by the late Mrs Agnes Birrell or Reid, of a DWELLING-HOUSE at the East End of Cellardyke, with Two Pieces of GARDEN GROUND at the back thereof. Upset Price L80.

2. The DWELLING-HOUSE which belonged to the late John Sutherland, and is presently possessed by Penelope Sutherland, situated on the North side of the Street of Collordyks, with a Piece of GARDEN GROUND at the back thereof Upset Price L. 40.

For further information apply to COOK, Writers, Anstruther, in whose hands are the Title-Deeds and Conditions of Sale. Asatrotber, 80th April 1873.

KILRENNY SCHOOL BOARD. The first meeting this Board was held in Cellardyke Town Hall last Friday evening. All the members were present.

On the motion of Provost Martin, seconded by Rev. Alex. Grant, the Rev. Dr Christie was unanimously appointed Chairman of the Board's tenure of office.

Dr Christie said he had to return thanks to the members of the Board for putting upon him such a mark of their confidence. He trusted that their deliberations during the tenure of his office would be of pleasant and friendly description. He did not think there were many things to come before them that were likely to create a great amount of difference amongst them. Probably in regard to some details; Rigid be at variance, but Amok amid be one, he hoped they would see each other in a friendly manner. (Applause.) Mr W. T. the reed and ea the table therein rehrrred to. On the sides glebe Rev. G. Suiitil, "Meer lbenke was give. in which Dr Millis mid their ant the appointment of clerk and irea.urer. He presumed that these otlices would be conjoined. Mr Oliphant said it would be more econoniimil to conjoin the Aim. Mr Thomas Brown askea if they could not appoint a member of the Board 4 treasurer. Mr Oliphant replied in the negative, and the Rev. G. Smith said it was not even expedient to appoint a member u clerk. Rev. G. Smith said lie did not think they amid get a better clerk and treasurer thin the who had carried through the electionmmaismes meats. Mr Jamieson was town clerk of and so Midi was ,well aciusinted with mitten connected with the pariah. He accordingly. Provost Martin said seconding the modish Mr Thomas Brown add be did not think they could get a better\_ers4llkan Mr Jamieson. Dr Christie said be lied had no communication with any one in to the appointmept of clerk and treasurer, be might gate\_ tilt he agreed thoroughly in seethe made, sad which, he wood" %raw& mously carried. So burn. ham" they could not have \$ treasurer than Mr The motion was Mr Jamieson accepted the as the Board might herea fter II r J 's \* suggestion it was agreed to\_ Mke acurit7 the Treasurer's introunesuma, Azad being 0100. The Chairman said the banal beanies of the Board would be a the salocatiooal requirements of the parish, ste tke gluestiunal accommodation. T they would require to get in shape or other as educational census, and it rred to him, that they should provide for taking it at differeurages. r d. Whether or not the Infant School was to be handed over to the Board, he could not say, hat in cue there should be a denim to hand it over, he believed they mold its milmeice in Cellardyke extremely desirable, sad the\*, it would almost be necessary to ascertain the innsber of children from theme of loar epwardi. Rev. G. Smith said the maionty of edren attending the Infant School were four years of age. Mr Oliphant said the object of the might be attained by taking a census of alai' dren from two to five, from ilvs from seven to thirteen years of age and from live to thirteen in tbe the parish. . This proposal was agreed to

1874

NOTICE. JOHN GILCHRIST, GENERAL MERCHANT, CELLARDYKE, BEGS to call the attention of his numerous Customers and the Public to his Large and Varied Stock of BOOTS and SHOES. GROCERIES, and IRONMONGERY, &c.; in addition to which he has added a General Assortment of DRAPERY GOODS in all the leading textures suitable for the season. French Merinoes, French Diagonals, Cheviot Twilled Wincevs, Plain Wincevs, Kingussie Tweeds, Serge., Persian Cords, Tartans, &c., &c. Also, a Large Assortment of PAISLEY SHAWLS, WOOLSHAWLS, TARTAN HANDKERCHIEFS, &c. A nice choice of Summer-finished Blankets, Flannels, Plaidings, Also, a large Lot of Cottons, Sheeting., Ticking, and Coloured and White Bed Covers, at very low prices. Also, a splendid Lot of Cloths, Tweed., Pilots, Duffles, Shirting., Braces, Balmorals, Caps, Ties, Collars, Mufflers, do. &c.

In addition to which he has secured the services of Mr DAVID MITCHELL, as Tailor on the Premises. All orders entrusted to his care will be made up on the shortest possible notice, and a perfect Fit guaranteed.

J. G. also begs to intimate, that he is appointed by the HOWE SEWING MACHINE Co. as Agent for the Sale of these Machines; and in order to give the public the opportunity, a lady Machinist from the Glasgow Office will exhibit the Machines at work in the Town Hall, Cellardyke, on Thursday the 10th October—hours from 12 till 4p.m

1875

KILRENNY SCHOOL BOARD. A meeting of this Board was held in Cellardyke Town Hall on Friday evening last. The Rev. Dr Christie occupied the chair, and the other members present were Mr Band; Rev. Alex. Grant; Mr Oliphant ; Rev. G. Smith ; and Provost Martin. CLAIM FOR SCHOOL gine Clerk reported that, as instructed at last meeting, he had requested the female teachers to send an particulars regarding their claim (or compensation on account of the loss of fees from the schools having been closed to prevent the spread of scarlatina, and now read the answer. he had received. Miss Lawrie stated that her reason for claiming compensation was that she engaged to get the fees for the ordinary school year. The number of weeks had been considerably reduced by the closing of the schools, and at that time many of the children went to other schools. She added that her fees for the three weeks previous to the school being dismissed amounted to 13s. 10 ½ d , 17s 3 ½ d, and 17s 10 ½ d respectively

PROPERTY IN CELLARDYKE FOR SALE. ON SATURDAY, 13th March 1875, there will be exposed to Sale by Public Roup, within the Town Hall of Cellardyke, at Three o'clock Afternoon, ALL and Whole those THREE DWELLING HOUSES, with GARDEN GROUND behind the same, which belonged to the late Mr William Young, situated on the south side of the High Street of Cellardyke, and at present possessed by Tenants. The Property has a frontage to the street of 88 feet, and the Garden Ground extends to 735 square yards or thereby. The Subjects will be Exposed in One Lot; and, if not Sold in one Lot, they will be Exposed in Three Separate Lots, each consisting of a Dwelling House with Garden attached. For further information apply to ,Mr Thomas Brown, Cellardyke, or to John Bowman, Town Clerk of Pittenweem, who has the Title Deeds. Pittenweem, 17th February 1875.

CELLARDYKE. TOWN COUNCIL—A meeting of Kilrenny Town Council was held on Tuesday. Provost Martin occupied the chair, and Bailie' Sharp and Watson, and Councillors Ritchie, Horsburgh, and Donaldson were the other members present. The Provost was appointed commissioner and Bailie Watson assessor to the Convention of Royal Burghin.. It was agreed to meet on the 29th instant for the purpose of electing an elder to represent the burgh in the ensuing General Assembly. The Council resolved to insure the Town Hall against fire to the extent of £300 ; and also that the Provost should request Mr Ellice, M.P., to oppose the bill recently introduced into the House of Commons by which Irish paupers would become chargeable to Scotch Parishes instead of being sent to their own country as at present. Stent- masters were then appointed and the council the adjourned.

A meeting of Cellardyke fishermen was held in the Town Hall of Cellardyke on Wednesday evening. There was a good attendance, and Bailie Watson was requested to take the chair. It was explained that the meeting had been called in order that the fishermen might consider what steps, if any, should be taken in reference to the present unsatisfactory harbour accommodation at Anstruther. A draft petition, which had previously been circulated among the owners of boats, was then taken up,

and gone over seriatim. The discussion which took place showed that the fishermen as a rule continue to hold an opinion, which they have expressed all along, against the entrance to the old harbour being closed. Only one man at the meeting was in favour of that being done, but all the others present were so unanimous in favour of the entrance being only narrowed that he subsequently signed the petition. The memorial, which was drawn up and printed by Captain Rodger of Glasgow, a gentleman who continues to take an active and practical interest in his native place, was adopted with some slight alterations, and is in the following terms :

We, the fishermen of Cellardyke, learn with regret that there is little provost of the entrance to the old harbour of Anetruther being either closed or narrowed this season. Since the opening was made between the old and new harbours, the former has become more unsafe for boats or vessels than before in stormy weather. In proof of this, several of the boats and their moorings, and the vessels that were in the harbour during the storm of last November, were very much damaged, partly in consequence of this opening. We consider that, however desirable it may be to - have another winter's experience before closing or narrowing the old entrance, the consequences may be very serious indeed if the old harbour is left for another winter in the present very unsafe condition. We would approve of the entrance being narrowed so that boats or vessels would enter or leave the harbour in any weather; and if the ends of the old piers were so placed that booms could be used if necessary, the old harbour would then be perfectly safe in all kinds of weather. But the accommodation in it is very limited, and not at all suited for such a large fishing community. It will be seen that our reason for wishing the old harbour made safe as soon as possible strengthened by the fact that there is no safety in the new harbour in stormy weather except along side the west breakwater, and that only in easterly winds. Neither is there any accommodation of any description for boats or vessels loading or discharging even in the finest weather, except at the east pier, and that only when the day is fine; and unless the entrance into the harbour is made safer than it is at present, we would prefer running up the Firth for safety, rather than run the risk of attempting to enter even in a moderate southeasterly gale. We take the liberty of making these statements, so that your Honourable Board may know our true position. At the same time, we trust that you will take the interests of this large community, so far as harbour accommodation and safety are concerned, into your serious consideration, and would respectfully urge that something should be done before another winter sets in.

Sixty fishermen signed the memorial at the close of the meeting, and during the course of yesterday as many more subscribed their names, the great majority being skippers. It will be forwarded in a day or two to the Fishery Board, and as that body have hitherto shown a desire to meet in far as possible the wants of the fishing community, it anticipated that the memorial will be productive of some action in the way of providing what they wish

1879

The Magistrates of Kilrenny held Criminal Court on Friday, when the following cases were disposed of:—A schoolboy named David Boyter, was charged with malicious mischief by wantonly throwing a seashell through the window of Cellardyke Public School. He was convicted, but in respect of his youth and other mitigated circumstances, he was only amerced in the sum of 5s. The proceedings now assumed more exciting character when three wives of Cellardyke to wit Catherine Smith or Gay, Isabella Mitchell Key, and Elspeth Watson or Lowrie—were charged with stealing potatoes from a field near the Urnet Mill Road and on the farm of Kilrenny Mill. They one and all indignantly protested their innocence, when Thomas Moyes, farm servant, and Police Constable Black, deposed to having seen them with a crowd of others lifting the potatoes which had been ploughed up, but not finally gathered from the field. It was admitted that none the crop was found in their possession, and further that they evinced no sign of guilt by running away; on the contrary that they met the constable with the frank explanation that they were guarding their children or friends from the risk of trespassing in the field, on which they knew watch had been set. Exculpatory

evidence was led to this effect at considerable length, but the Magistrates held that the Fiscal had established his case, and imposed on each a fine of 7s 6d, or 8 days' imprisonment. The Cellardyke Town Hall was literally packed, but though the sympathy of the audience was unmistakably with the panels, still nothing occurred to disturb the order and respect due to Court of law.

(Another paper describes Boyter throwing a satchel not seashell through the window)

1880

On Saturday evening the fishermen of Cellardyke were invited by the beat of the drum to meet with Mr Lindsay Bennett in the Town Hall. On the speakers going to the meeting, it was found that the hall was taken possession of by Mr Watson, Chief Magistrate of the burgh, who backed up by a number of youths, and several supporters of Mr Williamson, who declared they would not allow the meeting to be held, the ground of their refusal being that the Chief Magistrate had not been informed of the purpose for which the meeting was called, that the hall was a public hall, and Mr Bennett had no right to hold any hole and corner meeting there for the fishermen. The latter, who number nearly four to one of the constituency of the burgh, were indignant at this interference with their right to meet and confer together, and with much violent language, accompanied with dangerous jostling and pushing down the staircase leading to the hall ensued. In the end an adjournment was made to the adjoining school room, where nearly 200 fishermen assembled, and where the speakers were allowed to address the meeting without further molestation.

Principle Tulloch, who was received with applause, said he saw no reason why the fishermen should not be allowed to meet and confer with Mr Bennett or any other public man, and trusted that the electors would appreciate the attempt that had been made to prevent their meeting from participating in the free interchange of opinion, for which it was designed. Alluding to the present state of affairs in the burghs, the learned Principle repudiated the statement that he had made a personal attack upon Mr Williamson. He had attacked Mr Williamson's principles and his tactics, but he had not attacked himself, although it had pleased certain organs of the press to say so. Mr Williamson had said that the vote of any fisherman was as good as that of Principle Tulloch, and why should it not be so? He (The Principle) was the last man in the world to challenge the right of the fishermen to act in this matter entirely as they deemed fit; but he challenged the right of any man to put himself before the constituency, under what he (the Principle) considered false pretences. He knew that Mr Williamson was pledged to Disestablishment; and in proof of this the principle directed the attention of those present to a letter that had appeared in that day's papers, signed by Professor Baynes of St Andrews, a gentleman who, as an Episcopalian, was of all men in the world quite aloof from Presbyterian differences. In 1878, Mr Williamson had, at a private interview with the Professor made no secret of his opinions on the Church question, and voluntarily assumed the attitude of an extreme and aggressive disestablishment candidate. (Applause) the description of the meeting continues on for several paragraphs explaining why they think Stephen Williamson supports Disestablishment which is separating the Church of Scotland from The State (a bill was eventually passed in 1929). .....The Principle said 'If they wished to overthrow the Church, they would vote for Mr Williamson; but if they had any respect for it, and feeling that it should continue to shelter them and their children they would vote for Mr Bennett (Loud Applause)

..... At the close a fisherman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Principle Tulloch for his trouble in coming down from St Andrews and explaining a question on which they on the coast stood in great need of knowledge. The meeting then quietly broke up, but as the carriages of the speakers drove away several youths followed, and well-nigh blinded one gentleman with handfuls of sand.



A letter describing the events

The fishermen of Cellardyke are very much in the position of the often quoted individual who, to his own surprise “awakened up one morning find himself famous.” The other day no fewer than three candidates for Parliamentary honours came “a-wooing” them; and Saturday saw no less a distinguished personage than Principal Tulloch, with Professor Birrell and other Andrews friends on the political platform in the interest of Mr J. Lindsay Bennet, who was also present on the occasion. It appears that the Town Hall was asked and granted to Mr Bennet’s friends for a “public meeting,” but in the afternoon the invitation was limited by tuck of drum the fishermen. In the meantime, however, it had been whispered from east to west that St Mary’s was to send a delegation to the coast, and the hint was not lost on the ardent following the other candidate. Remonstrance and opposition, is true, was offered to their entrance, but Provost Watson defied all such restraint by taking his stand on the top of the stairs and calling out “Come up gentlemen, come up it is a public meeting.’ A noisy and exciting scene followed in the hall, for so completely had the friends of the other candidate stolen a march upon Mr Bennet’s friends that a cheer was raised for Mr Williamson. Eventually, however, some resolute fishermen cleared the hall hurling the Anstruther visitors in no ceremonious fashion down stairs, and the Infant School being also at this time secured an adjournment took place from the smaller building. The fishermen now took the matter in their own hands, and marching up in body, they not only took possession of the schoolroom, but sentinels were posted outside to prevent the entrance of any and all others. Here the chair was taken by the Rev. Mr Anderson, the minister of the parish, when Mr Bennet, Principal Tulloch and the Rev. Murray, East Anstruther, addressed the meeting. Bailie Brown, a member of the Free Church, questioned the Principal about the plebiscite, but on the whole the several speakers obtained an appreciative and even enthusiastic reception. The Principal and his friends then drove to Crail, where they also addressed a meeting, with the Rev. Mr Reid, Parish Church, in the chair; but here the arrangements were such to render it impossible to repeat the ‘rowdyism’ at Cellardyke.

1881

On Saturday evening a public meeting was held in the Town Hall, Cellardyke, for the purpose of presenting John Montador, skipper of the boat Francis, with the Board of Trade medal for bravery in saving the lives of the crew of the fishing-boat-Monarch, of Inverness, during a severe gale on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June last. Provost Watson presided, and, in making the presentation, the Provost stated that they frequently read and admired the gallant feats of soldiers, but he considered the conduct of a fisherman who, in a storm which taxed to the uttermost the energies of both skipper and crew, risked their lives and property to save their helpless brethren, even more heroic. . The Provost then briefly detailed the circumstances of the rescue and concluded by presenting the medal to Mr Montador, at the same time remarking that he deserved all the honour they could bestow him, and expressed the hope that he would be long spared to wear the medal. (Applause.) Mr Montador, who, although a native of France, has been long domiciled in Cellardyke, briefly replied, stating that he had tried to do his duty and could do nothing more. (Cheers) Provost Anderson said he had now the agreeable duty of stating that he had received from Mr Park , chief Magistrate of Fraserburgh a sum of £20 subscribed there as a , slight mark of appreciation of the gallantry shown by skipper Montador and his crew. (Cheers.) He had been requested to state that Sir Alexander Gordon / M.P. for East Aberdeenshire, had been chiefly instrumental in bringing the facts of the case before the Board of Trade and had also

originated the subscription which had resulted in the sum he had now mentioned, and which, he had handed to Bailie Brown. The latter gentleman then formally presented the twenty sovereigns to Mr Montador, and in doing so said as a fisherman he admired the conspicuous gallantry they had shown on an occasion when as he understood other boats passed by afraid to undertake the risk which they were sure to incur. Mr' Montador, on behalf of his crew, acknowledged the presentation.

1882

Mr Stephen Williamson, M.P, has just presented the Town Council of Kilrenny a large and valuable painting by Sydney Percy, said to have cost 150 guineas, to be hung up in the new Town Hall of Cellardyke, his native place. The hall itself, which will cost upwards £3000, is being built at the joint expense of Mr Williamson and the late Mr David Fowler of Paudurra, Loudon.

1883

OPENING OF NEW TOWN HALL IN CELLARDYKE, On Wednesday the new Town Hall in Cellardyke, presented the community through the munificence of the late Mr David Fowler, London, and Mr S. Williamson, M.P., was formally opened in presence of a large assembly. For several years past great inconvenience has been experienced owing to the want of adequate accommodation for the holding of public meetings, and attempts were made at various times to induce the Town Council to proceed with the erection of a new Town Hall. The old hall, which was of ancient date, and could only accommodate about fifty persons, was getting into a state of disrepair, and was totally insufficient for the requirements of Kilrenny and Cellardyke. Various schemes were proposed, and it was ultimately suggested that, instead of the establishment at East Green, belonging to Mr David Fowler, London, being converted in to reading-room, &c., for the fishermen, something more should be done in the way of providing accommodation for the Young Men's Christian Association and for the general public. The late Mr David Fowler had for years been considering how he could most beneficially confer some gift on his townsmen, and after mature deliberation with Mr Williamson it was resolved that they should jointly make a proposal to the Town Council to erect a new Town Hall. This magnanimous offer was graciously accepted; and plan, prepared by Messrs Henry & Hall, architects, Andrews, having been approved of the foundation-stone of the new building was laid on 5th April 1883 by Provost Watson...

... this was a several thousand word article describing the hall and the event.

And only a few days later..

The Magistrates of Kilrenny have announced by placard a reward of £5 for the detection of the guilty party or parties who have "maliciously smashed" the glass in the windows of the new Town Hall in Cellardyke. One of the windows, that of the cafe was shattered by a stone thrown seemingly by some thoughtless urchin on the opening day; but another in the first floor was wrecked on Saturday night by a deliberate blow, though it is impossible to conceive the cause which could have led to the mean and dastardly outrage.

Dissolution of Boat Insurance Club.—A general meeting of the members of the East of Fife Mutual Insurance Boat Club was held at Anstruther on Saturday evening, to receive a statement of the affairs, and take into consideration the advisability of continuing or dissolving the Club. Provost Anderson, chairman of the directors, occupied the chair. The statement of affairs stated that the income for the year 1882 amounted to £132 17s. The expenses of management were £31 12s 4d, and the salvage and average claims £21 2s 6d, leaving balance of £80 2s 2d, which had been expended in paying 8s 6d per pound on £188 9s 7d of particular average claims. It was then unanimously agreed dissolve the Club, the failure of which was due to the great losses sustained by the disaster of October, 1881. A suggestion to form a new club, confined to Cellardyke, was favourably received.

The fisher folks of Kilrenny and Anstruther held High Holiday yesterday on the occasion of the opening of the new town hall which has been erected in Cellardyke through the munificence of Mr Stephen Williamson MP and the late David Fowler merchant London and Adelaide, both natives of the burgh. Both in the harbour and in the main street of the town there was a profuse display of bunting, banners at the east end of James Street adjoining the new hall bearing mottos like 'Welcome home' and 'Our Noble Donors'... The cost of the removal of the old building and the new build is thought to have been between £4000 and £5000.

The proceedings connected with the opening of the hall began with a procession of the fisherman's and other local societies who paraded the principle thoroughfares of the Anstruthers and Cellardyke. Mr Williamson was met by the processionists on his way to the hall and was carried shoulder high for a considerable distance by six sturdy fishermen.

Bazaar, yesterday a Bazaar was held in the new town hall Cellardyke in aid of the building fund of the new native church at Pietermaritzburgh, South Africa, of which the Rev John Bruce a native of Cellardyke was lately appointed the pastor.

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If the widely current rumour is to be relied on, several leading skippers in Cellardyke have associated for the purchase or hire of a steam trawler to fish in the North Sea.. The Enterprise is prompted, but not wholly so we hear, by the splendid doings of the steam fleet in Newhaven and Granton.

1884

The first of a course of lectures under the auspices of the Established Church, Cellardyke, was given in the Town Hall on Thursday evening last week by the Rev. Robert Turnbull, of Glasgow. Rev. James Ray, minister of the parish, occupied the chair, and introduced the lecturer. Mr Turnbull, who chose for his subject of lecture Robert Burns, at the outset gave a short biography of the national poet. and made an interesting reference to the cottage in which he was born and brought up. Proceeding with his lecture, he asked his audience not to pass too severe a judgment upon Burns because of the immorality of several of his songs, but rather endeavour to exculpate him as much as possible by taking into consideration the times in which he lived and the many temptations to which he was exposed. At intervals during the delivery of the lecture, which was listened to attentively by the crowded Hall, a number of the poet's songs were sung by a choir under the leadership of Mr Watterson, accompanied on the harmonium by Miss Murray, St Ayle's. The success which has attended this the first of these lectures augurs well for the equal success of those which are to come

CELLARDYKE. CELLARDYKE CRICKET CLUB.—At a meeting of the Cricket Club in the Town Hall, on Wednesday evening, it was resolved that an effort should be made to get a park, in which to carry on the during the season. A Committee was appointed to suit on Mr Clark, Rennyhill, and ask if he would be kind enough to grant the use of a field Mr George Black, one of the Committee, waited on Mr Clark last night, and that gentleman, with his usual generosity, agreed to a place in a field to the north of the farm at the disposal of the Club for two nights a week. Now that a park has been obtained, the Club will likely start to play soon, and all who wish to join and participate in the pleasures of such a healthy game should not delay enrolling themselves as members.

WARNING To CARTERS. Before Provost Skinner and Bailie Smith on Friday last, John Elder and Alexander Carmichael, carters, were charged with having, on Monday, 7th April; last, between the hours of three and five o'clock afternoon, or about that time, left their horses unattended for a considerable time in West Forth Street. The panels pleaded guilty. The Procurator-Fiscal, Mr George Peebles, commented upon the dangerous consequences which might ensue from this practice, and craved for a conviction which might act as a deterrent to others. After a few remarks from Carmichael, the Court sentenced each of the accused to pay the sum of 5s, which was a modified penalty, or suffer seven days' imprisonment in Cupar jail. Both fines were paid.

BREACH or rue PEACE. —At a Burch Court held on Friday last—Provost Skinner and Bailie Smith on the bench—Robert Drummond, shoemaker, Anstruther, was charged with committing a breach of the peace on the evening of Friday, 25th April last, in West Forth Street, by conducting himself in a riotous, drunken, and disorderly manner, and by cursing and swearing and using abusive and threatening language to George Watson, fisherman. Pleading guilty, the panel, against whom three previous convictions were lodged, was mulcted in the sum of 30s, with the alternative of 30 days in Cupar jail. The fine was paid.

CELLARDYKE. Fisherman's Union. —The annual meeting of the Cellardyke Fishermen's Union and Benefit Society was held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening last week. Mr John Carstairs presided, and there was a large attendance. The financial statement having been printed a copy was handed to the members. Some discussion arose as to the necessity of changing the annual meeting from June, when so many of the members are absent, to December, when all the fishermen are at home. It was then ascertained that all the Office-bearers were quite willing to continue in office until December, when the annual meetings will be held in future.

The Good Templars of Cellardyke held a very successful soiree in the Town Hall there on Friday evening last. The hall was comfortably filled. After a service of tea, the Chairman stated that the only object they had in the meeting was to promote the cause of temperance. It originated from a desire expressed by some of the fishermen to have a social meeting before they again left for the English coast. He intimated some of the difficulties the lodge in Cellardyke had to contend with in having the presence of the male members so seldom at their weekly meetings, as they had now to be absent from their homes nearly the half of the year. He was glad to be able to say that in the midst of many discouragements the lodge had maintained an existence during the last 13 years, and it was still their desire and aim to raise the fallen and save the young and virtuous from falling into the snares of the tempter. Addresses were afterwards delivered by Rev. J. Whitson, Rev. J. A. Newby, a coloured gentleman, Rev. W. Macintosh, and Rae. A. Rev. McAlpine, who all made stirring appeals to the audience to abstain from the accursed drink, and tenderly appealed to the young fishermen to avoid the temptation to which they would be exposed while absent from home through the allurements of the dram-shops and singing saloons. A choir, led by Mr James Fortune on the harmonium, added greatly to the enjoyment of the meeting.

Assault by a married.—Mary Greig or Henderson, wife of George Henderson, jun., flesher, was charged—before Provost Skinner, Bailies Smith and Williamson—at a Burch Court at Cellardyke on Monday, with assault. The complaint bore that on Tuesday, the 16th inst., between the hours of twelve and two in the afternoon, on the Tolbooth Road, she assaulted Helen Wood, daughter of Alexander Wood, fisherman, by striking her with her open hand a blow on the face and head. Mrs Henderson pled not guilty. Alexander

Wood, fisherman, was the first witness examined. He began to bawl out so loudly on taking the oath that the Provost had to caution him to be as calm as possible. He stated that his daughter came home crying on the day in question. On being told that Mrs Henderson had struck her, he went to her and asked the reason. He received for an answer that his daughter had been spitting on Mrs Henderson's daughter in the school that day. He went to the teacher about it, and found that he knew nothing about it. His daughter's head was red with the slap she received. Several other witnesses were examined. Mrs Henderson said she did not mean to hurt the girl when she took hold of her and quarrelled her for annoying her daughter at the school. She was fined 5s, or five days' imprisonment. Fine paid.

A Police Court was held in Cellardyke on Monday afternoon—Provost Skinner, Bailies Smith and Williamson presiding—Alexander Wood, fisherman, George Street, Cellardyke, was charged with having, on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at the house occupied by George Henderson, jun., flasher, maliciously broken a pane of glass, and with kicking at the door and breaking the lock. He was also charged with breach of the peace by conducting himself in riotous and disorderly manner, and with using threatening and abusive language. Accused pled guilty, but pleaded in extenuation that he had received great provocation from Mrs Henderson in striking his child. A fine of 12s 6d, or twelve days' imprisonment, was imposed. On the sentence being read over, accused declared that it was a disgrace and a shame. One of his friends in court came forward and asked him to stop speaking in that way, but after paying the fine he left the court, giving vent to his indignation in anything but polite language.

THEFT OF TURNIPS.— At a Burgh Court in Cellardyke on Monday— Provost Skinner, Bellies Smith and Williamson on the bench—three young girls named Agnes Barclay, daughter of George Barclay, fisherman, Janet Barclay, daughter of James Barclay, and Ann Laurie, daughter of Alexander Laurie, were charged with theft by having on Monday the 15th instant, between the hours of three and five o'clock in the afternoon, from a field on the farm of Kilrenny Mill, situated near the Infant School, stolen and carried away five or more turnips, the property of James Cairns, farmer, Kilrenny Mill. A plea of not guilty was tendered for all the accused. Evidence was led, the Police Constables stating that they saw all the children in the field on the afternoon in question and lift several turnips, and that from one of the girls three turnips were taken out of her bag. Mr Cairns had complained to headquarters at Cupar about the destruction caused to his property, and Inspector Maiden of St Andrews had instructed them to watch the field. Mr Cairns, farmer, was received with slight hissing on going forward to take the oath. He said that there had been nearly an acre destroyed in that particular field, and the greatest number had been taken from the place near the Infant School. The Fiscal in asking for conviction, said it was very sad to have to place such young girls at the bar of a court of justice on such a charge, but property must be protected. He hoped it would be a warning to them in future and to all others, and also to a number of grown up lads who had been in the habit of taking the turnips. The Provost said whit, it was very sad to see so young children at the bar, the parents must be reprimanded for allowing their children to do such mischief as they had. It was a very serious matter for Mr Cairns or any farmer to have his crops destroyed and stolen in such manner. He hoped the parents would caution their children to be more careful in future of other people's property. The Magistrates had made the fine 2s 6d as they were all young children, but if they had been older the penalty would have been more severe. The fines were paid.

A young boy named Thomas Smith, son of and residing with George Smith, fisherman, was then charged with a similar offence committed in the same field on Tuesday, the 16th instant, between the hours of twelve and two o'clock in the afternoon. Pleading guilty a fine of 2s 6d was imposed.

Town Council. —A meeting of Town Council was held on Monday evening— Provost Skinner presiding. There were present Bailies Smith and Williamson, Treasurer Thomson, Councillors Martin, Sharp, Cormack, and Morris. Treasurer Thomson submitted a statement he had made out as to the finances in order that the assessments might be imposed. There was a balance on hand of 5e 1d. The assessment received last year amounted to 17. 4d, of which there had been expended £59 3s 4d, leaving a surplus of £3 13s 11d. For registration of voters and for valuation purposes, 1d per £1 of rental for each was imposed. The meeting then took up the Police Commission assessments. Mr Brown, the collector, reported that there was a balance of £94 on hand, but there was still the debt of £400 to pay off. Mr Cormack considered that £50 at least of that debt should be paid. The Provost Yes, especially when we are going into more debt on the

water. Mr Corniack's suggestion was agreed to. The police assessment was fixed this year at is 2d per E. On the road assessment Mr Brown mentioned that the sum was 10d last year, which yielded £200. It was considered that the sum was far too heavy, more especially as only about £40 was required. It was unanimously agreed that the assessment should be reduced to 4d, a reduction of M. Mr Thomas Nioolson, Pittenweem, was appointed to measure the road metal and the manure. It was mentioned that the improvements at Messrs Duncan & Black's factory had been almost completed. Mr Sharp reported that within the last week or two, three or four lamps had been maliciously broken, and it was agreed that the policeman should be instructed to find out the parties in order that they might be punished. The Clerk stated that as instructed at last meeting he had written letters to Mr Leslie and Mr Pattie with reference to the nuisance created by their keeping piggeries. The Provost said he had called on Mr Leslie, and found everything clean and improved at his premises. Mr Cormack mentioned that Mr Pattie had paid no attention to the Clerk's letter, for the nuisance at Infant School was as great as ever. The Clerk was authorised to warn Pattie that if he did not remove the nuisance within a few days he would be summoned before the Sheriff. On the water question, Mr Sharp mentioned that the Water Committee had held a meeting that night, and recommended that the Commission meeting should be held in private, as some of the information which the engineer had given was based upon some data which it would not do to make public in the meantime. The Commission then met in private. The engineer's report on the water question was read. In it information was given as to a new source to the east of Kellie Law, but Mr Leslie gave a strong recommendation to Elie Water Works as being the best for all the burghs. It was agreed that the Committee should meet with West Anstruther Town Council the following evening and lay the report before them.

DANCING CLUB IN THE TOWN HALL The Provost stated that he had received the following application from a number of young men in the town: We, as a committee, ask the favour of the Town Hall, Cellardyke, for amusement for two hours every Saturday evening from eight o'clock to ten. We bind ourselves to see that it is kept in an orderly manner, and that there be no drink allowed inside the hall. We also become responsible for any damage done inside up to the end of March.— Wm. Moncrieff 36 George Street; David Reid, 3 Dove Street; John Wood, 6 East Forth Street Adam Reid, 12 Shore Street; James Walker, 1 John Street; Andrew Murray, 16 Shore Street, and Thomas Brown, 13 Shore Street."

The young men he (the Provost) was told, wanted the hall to learn dancing, and they were to engage some people in Anstruther to teach them. It was a harmless thing, and he thought they should get the hall.

Mr Sharp—It altogether depends on what sort of order they are to keep. As to dancing, nothing can be said against it.

Bailie Williamson—They would be under the control of the officer.

The Provost—Of course, and if there was anything wrong he must report them at once. It may tend to keep the young men off the pavements on Saturday nights, about which there seem to be great complaints, and that will be a good thing.

Treasurer Thomson —The young men wish the hall for a dancing club pure and simple. —The Provost—And none who are not in the club are allowed in.—

Mr Morris—They give the hall in Anstruther every year for the same purpose.

Treasurer Thomson They get it very grudgingly there, and besides they have Lower hall in which the dancing can be carried on, but we have only one place to let them.

The Provost—If the town hall is required for any principal event, they must give it up; but it would be a pity not to give as much encouragement as possible to a harmless diversion.

Mr Sharp—It would be better to remit it to the Committee to give them a fortnight's trial, and if it is not properly conducted it must be put a stop to at once.

Treasurer Thomson—If the fishermen or parties in the town require the Hall it will also have to be given up, and if concert, which the public is likely to appreciate, is to be given, it will also be understood to be given up as well.

Mr Sharp —That can be borne in mind by the Committee. A discussion then ensued as to the charge to be made, when it was agreed to charge 6s per night, beside the allowance to be given to the town officer who

is expected to attend. The use of the Hall was then granted on the understanding that it was to be given up when any public meeting or entertainment was to be held.

1885

The old tenement with the turret stair projection, or rather obstruction in the West end of Cellardyke, so long inhabited by Baillie Robert Waddel 'the king of the coast' as he was called in his day, was exposed for sale in the town hall there on Friday. The upset price was reduced from £350 to £325; but there was no offer, if we except the suggestion to reduce it to £225 by Provost Skinner, attending the possibility in the interest of the Police board. This house was at one time occupied by the father, and so became the birthplace of Mr Williamson MP – on the following day the two tidy tenements erected by our townsman Mr Alexander Wallace, were also exposed for sale by public auction. Each in turn was offered at £370 but as in the above case they failed to obtain an offer, though they are understood to have cost their enterprising builder 400 guineas. The depression, however as regards the state of the property market is not confined to Cellardyke, on the same day a tenement was exposed for a second time in St Monance; but no one put in an appearance as the story goes save the auctioneer and the Clerk.

COCRT— DISGRACEFUL CONDCCT. —A Burgh Court was held in Cellardyke Town Hall on Saturday afternoon. Great interest was manifested in the cases, the hall being crowded with fishermen who apparently sympathised with the prisoners. John Henderson and George Tawse two young fishermen, were charged with having at an early hour on Sunday morning. the 26th April, committed a breach of the peace in James Street, by quarrelling with each other, cursing and swearing, and making an unseemly disturbance. Both stoutly denied their guilt, and evidence was led. Police Constables White and Martin depond that while going along East Green Street on the morning in question between twelve and one o'clock they heard a great nois. being made. They proceeded to Cellardyke, and opposite the shop of Mr Thomson, shoemaker, they found the accused conducting theuiselves in a very riotous manner. They were cautioned to stop wresting and go home quietly. They declined, however, to take the advice,given to them. Several witnesses were brought forward for the defence, but all stated they were in bed by twelve o'clock, and did not see or hear the disturbance. The Fiscal pointed out that the evidence for the defence had broken down, inasmuch as the panels were charged with creating the disturbance after twelve o clock. While he was addressing the Court, and showing that the evidence of the police had not been rebutted in one single instance, a considerable number of the audience began to stamp their feet on the floor, and hiss must persistently As this continued for some minutes, the business of the Court was brought to a standstill. Provost Skinner, along with Bailie Smith, was on the bench, and rising he peremptorily demanded that order should be restored. He then told the audience that such disgraceful conduct would not be tolerated any longer in the Court, and that if it was persisted in he would order the Court to be cleared. He wished to impress upon those who were creating the disturbance in Court, that they were liable to be apprehended for contempt of Court, and if they were charged with that crime they would be sent to prison without the optiion of a fine. The Fiscal then continued his remarks to the magistrates, and when he had finished there was a feeble attempt on the part of one or two individuals to hiss. The fiscal at once rose, and said if there was the slightest attempt to hiss or disturb the proceedings, the audience would be at once turned outside. The proceedings were then allowed to proceed unmolested to the close. One of the panelsaddressed the Court, and stated that it was not the case that he was cursing and swearing that night, or that he was fighting with Taws°. The fighting was commenced before they came from Anstruther. The charge was found proven, and Provost Skinner said that Henderson had been convicted before, but taking a lenient view of the case the sentence would be a fine of 12a 6d each or 12 days imprisonment. The fines

were paid. Robert Watson, fisherman, was then placed at the bar. He pled guilty to a charge of malicious mischief on the 24th of April last by kicking violently at the house door of another fisherman and breaking a pane of glass in the window. He was fined 10s 6d or 12 days' imprisonment. The fine was also paid. The audience then adjourned, but collected outside and loudly hooted and hissed the Magistrates, the clerk, the fiscal, and the police. On the latter threatening to apprehend some of the ringleaders the crowd soon dispersed. The disturbance in court was of a very disgraceful character.

1891

Yesterday Chalmers memorial Church was opened for public worship ..... The Architect was Mr David Henry, who designed Waid Academy and Cellardyke Town hall.

1893

FIFE FISHERMEN AND THE IRISH FISHINGS. The Commissioners of the Irish Fisheries held an inquiry at Cellardyke Town Hall to-day into the early fishing on the south Irish coast. John Smith, fishcurer, Pittenweem, was the first witness. He said he had been in the habit of going to Kinsale for 22 years. His views were that the herrings caught in May were equally as good as those caught in June, if not better. If the fishing were put back to June fish-buyers would not go there, as it would not pay them. William Lindsay, fisherman; David Wood, Alexander Gardner, and David Watson all fishermen, Cellardyke, gave evidence, and all agreed that the best time to commence the fishing was 1st May. If put off till 1st June, there would no use of the Scottish fishermen going there. The dogs and sharks generally set the herring and mackerel away in June. None of the witnesses had ever seen large quantities of under-sized mackerels caught.

IRISH FISHERIES COMMISSION.

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1894

Last night the Gladstonian Candidate for the St Andrews Burghs, addressed a meeting of Cellardyke Fisherman and others in the Town hall.

Provost Martin presided. Mr Paton held that the fishermen should be represented on the Fishery Board; no trawler should be allowed to come within 10 or 12 miles off shore; every trawler should have a certified Captain, and if convicted of breach of the By-laws within enclosed waters, his certificate should be forfeited. The Government should give generous grants of money for the improvement of Anstruther and other harbours in Scotland. After several questions had been answered, a vote declaring Mr Paton a fit proper candidate was unanimously carried.



KILRENNY CHURCH AND KIRK SESSION. (To the Editor.) SIR, —The few lines in reference to Kilrenny Church, which you have in last week's issue of your widely-read paper, puts the minister in false light, which, I am sure, is not your intention. The church was closed for five weeks, having been in the hands of successive tradesmen for cleaning, painting, and decoration. It was closed by the unanimous agreement of the elders, ten of whom were present at the meeting of Session. The elders and parishioners were one as to the need of having the work done, and the church was re-opened immediately after the tradesmen completed their work. The minister, consequently, could neither occupy the pulpit himself nor make pulpit supply. A suitable place could not be had in the parish in which the congregation could worship together. Our minister has never on any occasion neglected his pulpit nor his parishioners, but is most faithful to all his duties. Doubtless, services might have been held in the Town Hall of the burgh, which is in Cellardyke; but as it is almost next door to the quod sacra church of Cellardyke, it was considered unbrotherly to have our minister preaching at the door of another minister of the same denomination. Apologising for trespassing on your space, I am, &c., John Baton, Session-Clerk Kilrenny.

1898

The annual social of the employees of the Kirkcaldy Boot factory was held in Cellardyke Town hall on Tuesday Evening.

In Cellardyke Town hall on Saturday night Rev. Mr Turnbull St Monans, delivered a lecture, illustrated with limelight views on the fishing ports of Yarmouth and Lowestoft, to which the fishermen go every year. The attendance was good and the lecture heartily appreciated.

1900

Ex Provost Watson, Cellardyke died at a late hour last night. He was provost of Kilrenny and Cellardyke for six years from 1877 to 1883 and was for some time previously a councillor. During his Provostship several improvements were carried through including the new town hall. He was a fisherman for many years but latterly gave up the sea to manufacture fishing gear and apparel. He was 72 years of age.

An attempt on the initiative of the Rev Mr Ray, has been made to resuscitate the Boys Brigade in Cellardyke, and the encouragement has been such as to encourage the movement. On Tuesday about 110 were enrolled. The office bearer are as follows :- Hon captain and Chaplain – Rev Mr Ray, Capt – George Black, Lieutenants – Messrs Brown, Chalmers, Rosie and Watson. A bible class in connection with the above has been started on Sunday mornings with an attendance of 80. The meetings are held weekly in Cellardyke town hall.

Marriage

At the town hall, Cellardyke on 16<sup>th</sup> inst, by the Rev a G MacAlpine, Chalmers memorial Free Church, Thomas son of Thomas Wilson, Clephanton, Anstruther to Helen youngest Daughter of David Watson, 19John Street Cellardyke.

1901

A mass meeting of Cellardyke fishermen was held in the town hall to consider the advisability of rebuilding Cellardyke harbour destroyed in the great gale of Oct 1898. The cost would be about £1600, of that sum £1000 had been promised by the Fishery board, and Skipper Henry Bett proposed that the sum of £1 should be levied on each boat going to the winter herring fishery and 10s for each boat at the drave. It was also agreed to hold a bazaar...

Last night. Private Mair, 1st Gordon Highlanders, was the recipient of a watch, chain, and purse sovereigns from his fellow townsmen and friends in the surrounding district Cellardyke Town Hall Councillor Black presided. Provost Thomson made the presentation. Private Mair said the hardest work was when fighting continuously for twenty-one days.

Honouring a South African Hero. —The Town Hall, Cellardyke, was on Saturday evening the scene of one of the most hearty and enthusiastic meetings held in the district for some time. The occasion was a desire the part of his many friends to pay honour to a returned soldier, and express gratitude that, notwithstanding numerous engagements, he had escaped without scratch. Private Moir, who served in the Chitral campaign and received the medal, re-joined the famous Gordons in 1898, and in November 1899 left with the 1st Battalion for South Africa. The meeting, which was a crowded one, was attended by both sexes, and was presided over by Provost Thomson, who was accompanied on the platform most of the members of the Council and the presentation committee. A letter of apology from the Rev. Mr Ray, who has taken an active interest in the presentation, read as follows

Dear Provost,—I regret exceedingly it will be impossible for me to be present this evening in the Town Hall to rejoice with my parishioners over the return from the field war of Private Moir. One of our and world-famed Gordons. Everywhere the officers who have come home have been received with enthusiasm and honour, and if the officers, why not the rank and file? Why not the common soldiers. Have not their bravery and endurance fighting qualities been the admiration of the world, and has not their conduct compelled even those who hate us to sing their praises? It is true that in certain quarters attempts have been made blacken their character, but in every instance those attempts have failed and covered with disgrace, not our soldiers, but the men who ventured make them. I hope Private Moir will tell his fellow-townsmen the story of his experiences in South Africa with the same fullness he related it to me a few days ago at the manse, and that he will not forget to say in public what he said to about the moral behaviour of his fellow soldiers. With best wishes for a pleasant and enthusiastic meeting,—Believe me, yours faithfully, James Ray.

The Chairman said they all regretted the absence of Rev. Mr Ray from the meeting. At the same time they were very thankful to him for the letter. He (the Chairman) expressed his gratitude that they had turned out in such large numbers to show their respect for their fellow-townsmen. He called upon Councillor Black to make the presentation. Mr Black, in an interesting speech, said had great pleasure in asking Private Moir to accept this handsome silver lever with gold chain and appendant, along with a purse of sovereigns. The amount collected altogether was £23 1s 8d. (Cheers.) The sums ranged from 3d to 10s. He asked Private Moir to accept the gifts as a token of the respect and esteem in which he was held by his fellow townsmen. (Cheers.) Private Moir, on rising to reply, was met with perfect storm of cheering, the audience striking up “For he’s jolly good fellow.” He had, said, been in many a tight battle, and was proud to hear they had taken such interest in him He thanked them sincerely for their magnificent presents. He would always remember their kindnesses and their gifts, but he valued them more when thought how proud his old mother would be when she knew. (Cheers.) With regard the war, they had come through

a great many hardships; but he was always ready to go back again and do his duty, as every good soldier ought to. (Cheers.) Messrs Rosie and Moncrieff, with the pipes, and Miss Melville, piano, gave several selections, after which the Chairman said the music of the pipes had inspired their guest with more of the famous Gordon courage, and was now prepared to give them some reminiscences of the campaign. (Cheers.) In the course of an interesting speech Private Moir said they landed in South Africa in November. They were taken right up country, being entrained three days and three nights. On Monday, 10th December, they reached Magersfontein, and at three o'clock went out with the naval guns to commence the battle. He proceeded to give an account of their march to Pretoria, including the Cronje. The speech, Private Moir's first attempt at public speaking, was interspersed with anecdote, and was highly appreciated. While refraining from anything like a criticism of the officers, he could not help paying a high compliment to Lord Roberts, who was worshipped by his men. Something of the hardships endured by Private Moir and his companions maybe imagined when it is stated that for four months he wore the same shirt; and when he reached Pretoria he had half a shirt, part of a tunic, and a pair of boots. The usual fare was biscuit or two biscuits a day. After Mr James Wood had sung "The old soldier," Mr Watson, solicitor, jocularly advised Private Moir to go round the district and give some of his experiences, taking collections for the War Fund. (Applause.) After the usual vote of thanks, an enthusiastic meeting brought to close with the singing of the National Anthem. The watch was supplied by Andrew Donaldson, Anstruther, and bore the following inscription; Presented, with a purse of sovereigns, to Private James Moir, of the 1st Battalion Gordon Highlanders, by the inhabitants his native town in token their respect for him as man and a soldier, as well as their joy at his safe return from South Africa. Cellardyke, 20th April 1901."

Hockey Dance.—A highly successful dance under the auspices the recently formed Anstruther Hockey Club was held in the Cellardyke Town Hall on Friday evening. The arrangements, which were under committee of ladies, were every way complete

Mr Jordan, the world's champion draughts player, paid a return visit to Anstruther last week, when notwithstanding the fine weather and numerous outdoor attractions, he was met by a fair number of local exponents of the "silent game." During the evening, Jordan played about 90 games, winch he won, the other 10 being drawn.' The successful players who managed to draw were— - Constable Wilson. Anstruther, 2; David Wilson, Cellardyke, 2; William Mathers, James Ferguson, and D. Gravity, St Monans, 2 each. At the close, Mr Jordan was heartily thanked fur his exhibition.

1902

Skipper Robert Stewart and 8 men of the crew of the steam liner Rothesay Bay were presented in Cellardyke town hall by Provost Black, with binocular glasses and aneroid barometers in recognition of their humanity and bravery in saving the crew of the Steamer Tinto of Bo'ness which was abandoned in the Forth on 3rd September last.

Proposed East of Fife Boat Insurance Company.—A representative meeting of fishermen from Cellardyke, Pittenweem. and St Monans, was held in Cellardyke Town Hall on Saturday night, when it was unanimously agreed to form local Boat Insurance Company on the joint-stock principle, with capital of £10 000, of which £5000 in £1 shares will be subscribed in the meantime. From a preliminary canvass of the three towns, £2625 had been raised, and it was resolved that each skipper of a boat should ask his crew to join and take shares, so that the concern might be wholly, or nearly so, a fisherman's company. It was agreed to give the fishermen and others another fortnight to become shareholders.

1903

Lifeboat Inefficiency at Anstruther

Inquiry by the Institution

Strong Speaking by Local Fishermen

Consequent on the allegations by local fishermen that the present boat, the Royal Stuart, is unsuited to the coast, an enquiry was held by Lieutenant Basil Hall, of the RNLI on Saturday at Cellardyke town hall. Provost Morton presided and was supported by Provost Black; Messrs G Darsie; J Keir; Captain Webster; Rev J Ray, Lieutenant Rodger, Elie, Messrs A C Mackintosh and H Watson Secretaries...

Lieutenant Hall explained he had been ordered to hold this inquiry in consequence of the representations made at a recent public meeting, where the lifeboat, slip and house were all condemned by the fishermen.

Skipper James Pratt, one of the best type of Scottish Fishermen, was first to speak. He said that the boat had been thoroughly tested on the 27<sup>th</sup> February, both under canvas and under oars, and he was thoroughly satisfied she was useless for this part of the coast. She might do for other stations. Ferryden and Buckhaven fishermen told them their lifeboats would have cut right across the light, but he could not get this boat away from the lea wall. They had no confidence in her.

Another representative voice was that of Skipper James Jack, also an old coxswain, who endorsed the previous speaker's remarks from his own observations. He had complained to the secretary about the boat, slip and house two years ago. He had tried over and over again to put the boat to windward, but could never manage it. She always came up to the place from where she started. That was the reason he resigned as coxswain two years ago. His name was given in the register when the boat came, as one who declared her unmanageable, or heavy on oars. Answering the Chairman, he said no crew could get the boat out in a hurry.

Mr Watson said he could not recall Mr Jack ever speaking other than in a general way about the house or boat. The committee never heard a complaint about the boat until at the public meeting. When the committee two years ago heard the complaints about the slip they fitted up the rail.

Veteran Coxswain, Skipper Martin Gardner, referred to the qualities of the previous boat. He had always got the present boat to stay, but never had any object in trying to see if she could beat. He never thought her so good a boat as the old one. He had never seen a man hang back, and there were as brave men yet as of old Cellardyke. The fishermen were never pleased with the slip or house. The best thing was to launch the boat over the pier. When lives were in danger quickness was the thing. A service boat would be better than the present boat. He added that the district was self-supporting. Some people refused to subscribe because of the boat, and money would come in better if people had confidence in it.

Skipper Robert Meldrum, said from the first time he put his foot in her he never liked this boat. They needed a lighter one with a Centre board.

Answering Lieutenant Hall, Skipper Meldrum said the boat was sent from headquarters as first class, he never liked to speak out.

Skipper Gardiner criticised the superior arrangements in Ireland, and naively added “the Irish were the boys for getting a’ thing..”

Lieutenant Hall said he would lay the statement before the institution. He could not promise a new boat, but if one was given, the fishermen would have the selecting of the style of boats themselves. The boats cost about £800.

Messrs P Muir, John Jack, W Smith and Rev Ray took part in further discussion, in the course of which Mr Jack said no boat could have gone out of the harbour during the September gale. Another grievance was the fixed crews. The community wanted to see if it settled that the first men forward should man the boat. It was stated the committee was considering this. Votes of thanks to Lieutenant Hall and the provost concluded the inquiry.

LIFEBOATS ON FIFE COAST. FISHERMEN LOSE CONFIDENCE IN A CRAFT. At a public meeting on Saturday night in Cellardyke Town Hall strong comments made on the unsatisfactory state of the lifeboat at present stationed at Anstruther. Two experienced coxswains, who were present— Skippers James Pratt and James Jack—declared that it was impossible to pull the boat out of the harbour in heavy wind either from the southwest or south-east, and that under canvas it was useless to attempt to beat the boat off a lea shore. The boat was not only useless, but dangerous, and there was every probability that if the present craft was kept the crew would lose their lives. Many of the fishermen were declining to go out in the boat as they had lost all confidence in her sailing abilities. Dissatisfaction was also expressed at the position the lifeboat house and the state of the launching slip. was unanimously resolved ask the Lifeboat Committee to convene a public meeting of fishermen and others with the view of having a strong request addressed to the parent Institution London to provide a new lifeboat for Anstruther

Sale of Work. A Sale of work in connection with Cellardyke Y.M.C.A. was held in Cellardyke Town Hall on Saturday afternoon, the proceeds to be devoted to the purchase of an organ for use at the Sunday morning and other services. The sum drawn amounted to £22.

1905

Nursing Lecture.— The first of course of six lectures on nursing promoted by the County Council Technical Education Committee was given by Nurse Macdonald in Cellardyke Town Hall on Tuesday evening. Provost Black introduced Nurse Macdonald to good audience, and a very interesting and instructive lecture was delivered.

1907

The annual soiree of Cellardyke Parish Church Sunday School was held last Saturday evening in Anstruther Town hall. There was a good attendance – Mr C. Harcourte’s Dramatic Company gave a performance of Bert Coote’s ‘Fatal Wedding’ in the town hall on Monday before a fair house.

1908

An interesting function was held in Cellardyke town hall, when County Committee certificates for navigation were presented to those fishermen who attended the navigation class.

The certificates were presented by Major Anstruther Gray MP who remarked that it was a source of great gratification to know that of a total class of fifty six, forty one men had been successful in taking certificates.....

1909

Miss MacMillan, M A Edinburgh of Edinburgh's National Women's Suffrage Society, which is affiliated to the WSPU., addressed a largely attended public meeting in Cellardyke town hall on Tuesday evening. She said that at a meeting of her society recently it was decided to support any candidate, of whatever political opinions who pledged himself to vote for a Bill in Parliament enfranchising women.

A crowded meeting was addressed by Major Anstruther Gray, M.P for St Andrews Burghs, in Cellardyke Town hall. He first dealt with fishery questions, and said that when the unionist Government was in power the radicals were constantly condemning that Government for allowing trawling in the Moray Firth. Action was taken by the late Lord Linlithgow, and a master of a foreign trawler was convicted and imprisoned. When the present Government came in, instead of backing the Scottish Fishery board and the law of Scotland, the Scottish office was ordered by the Foreign Office to have the conviction quashed, with the result the Moray Firth was again open to foreigners, but still remained closed to British trawlers.... It was time the Government passed a law prohibiting fish caught by foreign trawlers being landed in English ports. That was all very well but he was strongly in favour of either opening the Moray Firth to everybody or closing it to everyone (Cheers) He thought the three mile limit should be enforced right round our Islands..... there was no heckling and votes of thanks were passed..

1909

A public meeting was held in Cellardyke Town hall for the purpose of presenting Mr Robert Brown, Cellardyke, a cheque for £5 from the trustees of the Carnegie Hero fund in recognition of his bravery in saving a young lad's life in the harbour in June last.

1910

A largely attended meeting of fishermen was held in Cellardyke town hall on Saturday night to consider a petition to the fishery board for Scotland as to the damage done to the Winter herring fishing in the firth of Forth by the bag net fishing as practised in the upper reaches of the Firths of Forth and Tay.. In the petition (which is to be signed by fishermen from Dunbar, Eyemouth, Cockenzie, Buckhaven to Crail, and Broughty ferry to Ferryden) it is stated that the bag net fishing results in a great destruction of young and immature herring, cod, ling, haddock and plaice and has a very injurious effect on the winter herring fishing, and so the inshore line fishing. The meeting was unanimously in favour of the petition which prays for the abolition of bag net fishing and it was signed by many fishermen. It was also decided to form a fisherman's association, to combine with similar associations in other places for the purpose of securing better protection against the depredations of the steam trawlers, the operations of which are considered very harmful to the spawnings of herrings and white fish. Better policing of territorial waters by Fishery board cruisers was stated to be what was desired.

1911

Delegates appointed at a meeting of fishermen held in Cellardyke Town hall on Saturday Evening – Provost Black presiding – to attend a conference of the East coast Fishermen’s protection Association to be held in Edinburgh were instructed to press for the abolition of bag net fishing, for the imposition of the 13 mile limit for trawlers and for the abolition of Sunday fishing as carried on by English Fishermen.

1912

The fishermen of Cellardyke met in the town hall, when Mr Bertram Dunbar, Secretary of the East Coast Fisheries Association, delivered an address on Trawling for Herrings and Gun firing in the Forth. Mr T S Laverock president of the local branch presided. Mr Bertram said that during the last few months the burning question in fishing circles had been the barbarous for of fishing known as trawling for herrings. The murderous nets of the steam trawlers swept along gathering in all sorts and conditions of fish, vast numbers which are immature. As every fisherman knows the herring was a very delicate fish, and once enclosed in that submarine trap its career was ended..... Another grievance was gun firing in the Forth . The speaker said he had considerable correspondence with the Admiralty on the subject. In their last letter the Admiralty stated that gun firing would be confined to the mouth or outwith the Forth as far as possible, but that as Rosyth was an important Naval Base, it could not be expected that the Forth would be free from gun firing... On the motion of Skipper Martin Gardner, it was agreed to meet the Skippers and ask them to get their crews to pay 7s per crew out of expenses, thus trying to get every fisherman to become a member of the Society....

1914

1914

At meeting in Cellardyke Town Hall Saturday, Provost Black presented Thomas Watson, cooper, with the Royal Humane Society's parchment in recognition of his having rescued boy named Wm. Mason, who wae in danger of drowning Cellardyke.

CELLARDYKE FISHERMEN AND THE WAR. A large meeting of fishermen was held yesterday Cellardyke Town Hall to consider as to whether any steps could be taken utilise the steam drifters, which would give employment to the fishermen whose ordinary occupation has been interrupted by the war. The men were addressed by Sir Ralph Anstruther of Balcaskie and Mr H. T. Anstruther, ex-M P. for St Andrews Burghs. Mr Anstruther submitted communications from the Admiralty to the effect that at the present the steam drifters could not be utilised for defensive purposes. Mr Anstruther submitted details of the terms of service in the Royal Naval Reserve, and about 30 young fishermen indicated that they were prepared to join this force.

1916

Thirty-three years ago the late Mr Stephen Williamson, M.P., along with Mr James Fowler, London, acting on the expressed wish of the latter’s then recently deceased father, Mr David Fowler, of London and Adelaide, presented to Cellardyke the fine Town Hall, which has proved so useful a centre for the municipal and social life of the community. We have now to mourn the loss of the joint donor, Mr James Fowler, who died on 5th inst. at Dyxcroft, Rottingdean. He was director of the well-known firm of D. & J. Fowler, Ltd., of London, Adelaide and Perth, Australia, and was the only son of Mr David Fowler, who with his brothers, Messrs James and George Fowler, all sons of the late Provost James Fowler, Cellardyke, founded the firm in the early ’fifties of last century.

**21 Sept 1921**

At a meeting in Cellardyke town hall, Cellardyke Fishermen sought changes in the way the winter herring was sold at Anstruther. Until then the fish was sold privately or buyers making the highest bid on the piers. Skippers Martin Gardner and Lock Horsburgh supported a motion that in future the herring should be sold through a salesman with fixed commission with buyers called by the use of a bell, this would create greater competition. A committee was formed and an agreement with the salesmen was made in the harbour office Anstruther, and steps were taken to prevent fishermen deviating from the rules.

#### NEW METHOD OF SELLING CATCHES AGREED ON BY CELLARDYKE FISHERMEN.

Cellardyke fishermen are at present putting their "house in order." For some time past it has been felt that the method of disposing of the catches at Anstruther Harbour has been unsatisfactory, and it is alleged by the fishermen to have been the means of keeping down the price per cran.

An attempt is to be made to alter the existing conditions, and to make arrangements for the change a meeting of fishermen was held in Cellardyke Town Hall.

Councillor Philip Gardner, who, although retired from fishing activities, takes a practical interest in the welfare of the fishermen, was called to the chair, and explained that the object of the meeting was to consider whether at next winter's fishing at Anstruther herring should be sold through salesmen by bell or whether they should keep to the old method of selling privately to buyers making the highest bid on the piers.

If the meeting decided in favour of the bell method they would have to draw up rules and stick to them, and not only that, but they would have to stick to one another. He suggested that, if approved by the meeting, a small committee should be appointed to discuss the matter with the salesmen.

They would also require to fix the rate of commission for salesmen, but that could be left until later.

Skipper Martin Gardner supported the new proposal. Under the old system, he said, many fishermen were kept hanging round the piers all morning waiting on a bid, when under the bell method they would be able to go home and get a few hours' rest. He moved that the meeting adopt the bell method. (Applause.)

Skipper Lock Horsburgh said he had been told by two or three stranger buyers that the bell was introduced they would come to Anstruther; if not, they would go to other ports. He supported the motion. Under the old method was sometimes difficult to know what the bid was and who made the bid.

#### Making More Competition.

He also instanced a case where boat came to Anstruther Harbour and the skipper had to go through all the town to get buyer to take them. The bell method would make competition more keen, and the fishermen would not suffer through that. It was at least worth a trial.

The Chairman asked if anyone present was against the bell method.

Skipper Horsburgh —I don't suppose any of the fishermen will be against it. The buyers might be against it. (Laughter.) Fear was expressed by several fishermen present that all the fishermen might not stick together, and that a number would sell privately.

After further discussion, the Chairman's suggestion to appoint a committee to confer with the salesmen was approved, and the following were elected: —Messrs Martin Gardner, Lock Horsburgh, John Martin, Robert Anderson, T. Reid, John Muir, R. Gardner, and the Chairman.

Thereafter the Committee met the salesmen in the Harbour Office, Anstruther, when it was agreed to adopt the bell system, and the commission of the salesmen was fixed.



The Committee was authorised to take steps, as far as legally could, to prevent any fishermen deviating from the rules laid down.

1924 ( returning to the photo of Black's oilskin Factory and later Crisp factory it appears in the paper this week too)

#### OILSKIN FACTORY AND DWELLING HOUSES IN CELLARDYKE FOR SALE.

There will be exposed to SALE by Public Roup, within the Town Hall. Cellardyke, on Wednesday, 31st December, at 2 p m .unless previously disposed of by private bargain,

1. Those extensive PREMISES in JAMES STREET. Cellardyke. Long occupied by Alex Black & Co: as a Net and Oilskin Factory. The buildings include -floor areas of 1200 square yards, Drying Floors, Paint Shop, Stores, and Sewing and Cutting Rooms. There is also a good Salesshop, Office, Storerooms and Engine-House. &c. All equipped with the usual fixtures. - There is Steam power and Heating Plant, and 10 sewing and cutting machines. The Premises are well situated and adapted or the trade, or could be-sub-divided for other purposes, immediate occupation. - - - LOW UPSET PRICE, £ 550. Feu-duty nominal.
2. That Modern DWELLING-HOUSE. No. 29 James Street, Cellardyke, adjoining: above Factory, containing-6 Apartments with Bathroom (H. & C). Kitchen. Offices and Garden all in Excellent Order. Immediate Occupation

Assessed rental in late Owner's occupation was £17.

UPSET PRICE. £550. Feu-duty nominal. For further particulars apply to GUTHRIE & MAXWELL. Solicitors; Anstruther Who hold the Title Deeds and Articles of Roup.

1925

While cleaning out the lumber room in Cellardyke town hall. Mr Christopher Muir, town officer, unearthed an old oak chest, which resisted all his efforts to open.

He drew attention of the council to it, and as no key could be found to fit the lock it was decided to force it open. This was accordingly done, and to the surprise and pleasure of those present it was found to contain a complete set of brass measures in splendid condition. These number seven in all, ranging from a half gill to a gallon and are of a most artistic design.

Engraved on the front is the town's coat of arms, surmounted by a scroll and crown. Beneath are the names of the three bailies who dispensed justice to all and sundry and below the names the date 1826.

It is noteworthy that the name of the Provost is omitted. He may have been a passive resister at the expense incurred by buying these articles.

In addition to these brass measures there was found a four gallon or half bushel measure in copper. The design of this is decidedly quaint, and forms and outstanding feature of the find. An ell measure tipped with brass, and a brass yard measure were also brought to light.

It is understood that the town council mean to keep the measures in a manner befitting their intrinsic and historic value

1927

#### 300 YEARS OLD FIFE SECRET - KILRENNY COUNCIL'S FIRST RECORDS FOUND

What a Cellardyke Safe has revealed,

In the Town Council Chambers at Cellardyke Town Hall there is an old safe that has for too many years baffled all attempts to open it but the other day it was flung open and a remarkable discovery made. The safe contained the first minute of Kilrenny Town Council and so far as can be ascertained, the volume is almost 300 years old, the earliest legible date is 1628. The book has no covers and the first???? or so pages

are in shreds, but nearly ??? are in quite a good state of preservation and the records of the council business 300 years ago can still be read.

The safe which hid the valuable volume had apparently been painted over both the outside and inside and while the paint was still wet, closed and locked. the outside and inside

#### Safely Stowed Away

The old minute book lay inside and presumably there arose no necessity for opening the safe, and the book was safely stored away, and probably forgotten.

Curious to know what contained yet baffled by inability to open it .Provost? Mitchell put one of his mechanics on the job.

Under his skilled hands the safe gave up its long and closely guarded secret and Kilrenny town council are now proud to be in possession of their first minute book.

The book will be put in a glass case and no doubt an opportunity will be afforded to those who are interested to view this ????? of the Kilrenny and Cellardyke of long ago.

1927

Mr and Mrs George Keay Shore Street, Cellardyke, have celebrated their golden wedding. A happy family gathering assembled in Town Hall to congratulate them. Their family includes five daughters, all of whom were present at the celebration. There are 22 grandchildren and two greatgrandchildren. In addition to a purse of sovereigns, Mr and Mrs Keay were the recipients of numerous gifts.

1928

#### SHARE FISHERMEN'S INSURANCE EAST NEUK VIEWS SCHEME WITH FAVOUR

A meeting of importance to share fishermen was held in Cellardyke Town Hall on Saturday evening, when Bailie W. Carstairs presided. Mr Hadden, of the Scottish Board of Health, was present, and gave the fishermen an outline of a proposal to bring share fishermen into the National Health Insurance scheme. Mr Hadden said they would all recollect that in 1912 and 1913, when there was a proposal afoot to bring in share fishermen to the scheme, it was decided that they were not to be admitted into National Health Insurance. Perhaps that was a regrettable decision, and he hoped that that evening they would not allow anything that had happened in the past to prejudice the present case.

The Contribution. There had been great changes in the situation since 1912, and now the general feeling was that share fishermen would like to be admitted into the scheme. ....A contribution would be fixed at 1s 6d per week, during such time a share fisherman was employed, and the general contribution covered health and contributory pensions. No one could be a member one without the other.

#### Benefits.

As regards benefits to share fishermen, there was difficulty to be met so far as they were often away from home. If, in such circumstances, they required medical treatment, they would receive such treatment from the doctor whatever port they happened to be at. Then there maternity benefit 40s per week, payable after 42 weeks' contributions to the wife of a share fisherman. A sickness benefit was payable after 26 weeks' contributions the rate of 9s per week for 26 weeks. When he had been two years insured sickness benefit would go up to 15s per week. A man would be entitled under these circumstances 15s per week for the first 26 weeks and 7s per week thereafter. .... The widows' fund pension was payable to the widow of a contributor once he had been under the Insurance Act for 104 weeks and had paid 104 contributions. If he died immediately after he had paid 104 contributions his was entitled the pension. .... The

widow's pension was 10s per week. It was entirely independent of any means which the widow might be left might earn, and that payment of 10s per week went on until the time of her death, provided she did not remarry. Then, for every child under years of ago the widow would receive 5s per week for the eldest and 3s per week for each other child under the age of 14 years. If the child chose to go to school for the full period until he was 16 years of ago the pension was still payable for the child at the same rate. ....( further lengthy description of the clauses) ..... A show of hands was taken give indication of the feeling Cellardyke on the matter. A majority of the meeting favoured proposal for National Health Insurance for share fishermen, only three being against.

1929

LIBERAL SOCIALS AT CELLARDYKE AND DUNSHELT. Under the auspices of Anstruther and Cellardyke Liberal Association a social meeting for women was held in the Town Hall, Cellardyke. Mrs Russell presided, and addresses were delivered by Mrs Barton, Prestwick, and Ex-Bailie Lawrie, Liberal organiser, Leven. Songs and recitations were given Miss Kinnear and Miss Kilgour, Leven. Miss Kemlaw was pianist, and Mrs Alex. Myles, along with number of ladies, served tea.

1930

A "welcome home" Was given to Anstruther fishermen last night, when the local Burns Club treated them to a supper and musical entertainment in Cellardyke Town Hall. There was a large company presided over Mr C H. Maxwell.

**21 Sept 1933**

CELLARDYKE TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION. The unique fancy-dress torchlight procession held aid of the funds of the Cardinal Step Bathing Pond. Cellardyke, proved a great success, the sum of £14 being collected in the Anstruther and Cellardyke districts. To this gratifying result was added the proceeds of the carnival dance which followed. Over a hundred took part in the procession, which was accompanied on its tour by the Anstruther Boy Scout Pipe Band. Many original costumes were seen, and the spectacle illuminated in the dark by numerous blazing torches was weird in the extreme. The prize-winners were best dressed lady, Miss Muir, John Street; most original. Miss Cunningham, Crail; best dressed gent, Mr A. C. Bett; most original, Father Neptune; group prizes- Mrs Quiripel and Mrs Deas; Mrs Martin Gardner Mrs Hosie and Miss Anderson: special prize, Zulu (Leven). Over 200 couples attended the dance which was held later in Cellardyke Town Hall. Music was supplied by the Rialto Follies Lundin Links.

1934

Cellardyke Fishermen up in Arms

Against Monday sale of herring

Mass meeting Today 'To enforce laws of the Port'

They mean to stop the practice.

The matter was brought to a head when two visiting skippers, made known their intention to land catches at Anstruther for sale this morning in defiance of the port byelaws, framed at the opening of the winter herring season.

The local fishermen held a special meeting in Cellardyke town hall at the week end, when they expressed their determination to enforce their former decision disallowing the sale of herring on Monday Morning.

The unanimous decision of the meeting was there should be a meeting of the fishermen at the harbour this morning to take steps they deemed necessary to enforce the byelaws of the port.

In former years similar byelaws have been framed, but later allowed to drop, but it is evident this time that the Dykers mean business.

(Another article)

The big bone of contention – the use of the ring net as against the drift net – has given rise to several side issues, any one of which may serve to bring matters to a head.

Cellardyke and Anstruther were agog over the weekend as the result of a threat on the part of two Newhaven Ring netters to break the byelaws of the port and land their catches this morning.

At a meeting on Saturday morning the local fishermen agreed to be present at Anstruther this morning... Although the meeting was held in private the news soon got abroad that the move contemplated was to throw the fish back into the sea.

Any hint of trouble was dispelled by the weather, which kept the fleet in port overnight.

Groups of men lingered in the vicinity of the harbour discussing the situation, and an Evening Telegraph and Post representative, who made exhaustive inquiries as to the likely trend of events, was informed that actions on the lines agreed would be taken in the event of any future attempt to break the bye law.

The Ring net fishermen hail chiefly from Arbroath, Campbeltown and Newhaven. The entire fife fleet makes use of the drift net, although it is understood that one local ring net boat may be commissioned shortly. A similar byelaw governing Monday morning landings is in force in St Monans, but there is no restriction of any kind at Pittenweem or Crail.

Buyer from Anstruther and Cellardyke can obtain any necessary supplies at Pittenweem only a mile away. Earlier in the season the landing of ring net catches at Anstruther was prohibited altogether, but the byelaw was rescinded following protests by shopkeepers and others, as buyers were showing preference for Newhaven when securing their supplies. The fishermen's objection to the ring net is based on the allegation that it scoops along the ground and destroys the spawn.

No herring was landed or sold at Anstruther this morning, several boats landed four crans of herring at Pittenweem and six crans at Crail.

1934

A whist drive organised by the Cardinal's Steps Amateur swimming club was held in Cellardyke town hall last night. 31 tables being engaged in play. Mr D MacIntyre, president of the club, acted as MC and at the close of play Provost Carstairs announced the prize winners.

Ladies, 1. Miss M Wilson, 2. Mrs Motion, 3. Miss M Carstairs; consolation, Miss N Munro, Gentlemen 1 Miss N Barclay (as a gentleman) 2 Mr A Bowman, 3. Mr T Dunsire; consolation Miss Duncan (as a gentleman).

1935

East Fife Orchestral Association - at a meeting in the reading room of Cellardyke Town hall, decided to resume practices, with Mr Alex Reid as Conductor

1936

2000 spectators witnessed the launch of Provost W W Carstairs new Diesel engine drifter at Cellardyke on Monday afternoon. The vessel which was launched broadside on is a new type of drifter with cruiser stern. Her appliances include an electric capstan, and electric light is fitted throughout. She is 69feet overall with 18ft 3 inch beam and 8ft draught. She was named the Royal Sovereign by Mrs Hogarth wife of George Hogarth, chairman of the Scottish Fisheries Board of which Provost Carstairs is a member.

In the reading room of Cellardyke town hall Provost Carstairs presented Mrs Hogarth with a crystal salad bowl as a memento of the occasion.

1936

Cellardyke Church Choir held a variety entertainment in Cellardyke Town hall last night.

Items rendered by the choir included 'Laughing Chorus' and 'Fantasia on songs of Burns'

Solos were given by Mr Frederick Chivers, while violin solos were played by Mr Walter Reekie Jnr. Mr J McLeod and Mrs Hosie, Miss J Doig and Miss M Murray also contributed to the programme.

A dancing display was given by Miss Georgie Telfer, Pittenweem.

The accompanist was Mr Blair.

Two sketches were performed by the following 'Honest Folk' Misses Maggie Hodge, Kathleen Scott, Dora Murray, Martha Boyter and Mr Melville Hodge. 'Easy-osey' Mr D Jack, Mrs Hosie, Mr W Riddell, Misses Margaret Murray, Agnes Carstairs and Chrissie Anderson.

1936, 19<sup>th</sup> Nov

Cellardyke church Choir held a variety entertainment in Cellardyke town hall last night. Items rendered by the choir included 'Laughing Chorus' and fantasia on songs of burns'

Solos were given by Mr Fredrick Chivers, while violin solos were played by Mr Walter Reekie Junior. Mr J Macleod, Mrs Hosie, Miss J Doig and Miss M Murray also contributed to the programme. A dancing display was given by Miss Georgie Telfer, Pittenweem. The accompanist was Mr Blair.

Two Sketches were performed by the following 'Honest folk' Misses Maggie Hodge, Kathleen Scott, Dora Murray, Martha Boyter and Mr Melville Hodges. ' Easy Osey' – Mr D Jack, Mrs Hosie, Mr W Riddell, Misses Margaret Murray, Agnes Carstairs and Chrissie Anderson.

1938

Cellardyke Church Choir held a concert on Cellardyke town Hall/ The Choir sand Choruses. Contributors were Mrs Blair, Mrs Hosie. Mr W Reekie (St Monans), Miss Isa Cormack, Mr J B Tranwith. Mr Tom Wood, Miss Elizabeth Murray. Mr D Jack and Miss Agnes Carstairs

1938

For Sale, by Public: Roup, within the TOWN HALL, CELLARDYKE, on WEDNESDAY, the 12th day January 1938, at 11 o'clock Forenoon, ALL and WHOLE that TENEMENT, Number 57 GEORGE STREET, CELLARDYKE, in the United Burgh of Kilrenny. Anstruther Easter and Anstruther Wester, and County of Fife, consisting of Two Dwelling-Houses, the House on the lower flat being, until recently, occupied by Peter Queripel, and the House on the upper flat being occupied by Stephen Barclay, together with Washing-House, Cellars, and other Offices, and the Ground pertaining to

the said Tenement bounded said whole subjects as follows, viz.:—On the north or north-west by George Street; on the east or north-east by subjects belonging to Mrs Lucy Shirreff; on the south or south-east by the seashore; and on the west or south-west by subjects belonging to Mrs Elspeth Motion. UPSET PRICE—£225.

The marriage ceremony may be performed at the manse or in the town hall. Seldom are church weddings held in Cellardyke.