

sovereign crowned at Scone was Charles II., in 1651.

The beautiful pleasure grounds of the North and South inches, spacious public parks, are highly prized by the citizens. In the North inch, which is larger than the South, the Perthshire hunt meets annually, and the Caledonian hunt once in every four years. It has also its historic associations. The year 1396 witnessed there that desperate clan battle, so graphically described in the "Fair Maid," and here, at the west of the statue of Prince Albert, stood the summer house, called the "Gilten Armour," belonging to the grounds of Blackfriar's monastery, from which King Robert III. and his suite viewed the bloody scene. Here the Old Pretender reviewed his troops before and after the battle of Sheriffmuir in 1715, and in 1745, the "Young Chevalier" reviewed his soldiers on the same ground. Asking information as to the locality, our hostess of Cuthbert cottage told me I should recognize the site of the old monastery as being that of "a self-contained" house, opposite the statue on the other side of Tay street, by which she meant, I presume, the house I saw by itself, within an enclosure.

Under St. John's church there is a burial ground, which has belonged for many centuries to the Mercers of Aldie. It was obtained by the gift of the North and South inches to the city; hence the couplet—

Some say the Mercers tried the town to cheat,
When for two inches they did get six feet.

It was in St. John's church that, on the 11th of May, 1559, John Knox preached the sermon "vehement against idolatry," which led to the demolition of the monasteries. At the head of Blackfriar's wynd, through Curfew row, we come to an old tenement, the house of Samuel Glover, father of the Fair Maid of Perth, with a niche in the cor-

ner next the wynd, in which a small image of St. Bartholomew, the patron saint of the Glover incorporation, used to stand. We know this saint was flayed alive. Was he so honored for the value of his skin by those of his craft? The building is in a neglected condition, and having the advantage of not being modernized, looks, except for its latticed windows, very much as we may suppose it to have looked when occupied by Samuel Glover and his noble minded daughter. The parliament sometimes meets in the dominion monastery church, and here it was that James I., one of the wisest and best of the Scottish kings, was assassinated, in 1437, through the jealousy of the aristocracy. The monastery of Grayfriars was destroyed with the Dominican and the Carthusian, a great ornament to the city, and the only one the Carthusians had in Scotland at the time of the reformation. The statue of Sir Walter Scott, the work of a local sculptor, stands on the South inch. The county buildings and jail occupy the far-famed Gowrie house, within which was enacted that dark tragedy of August 5th, 1600, familiar to all readers of Scottish history. I never passed a bronze tablet of the Gowrie house, by Sir John Steel, R. A., placed in a blank window of a building, without stopping to admire it. The Gowrie family were held in the highest esteem by the citizens, and the "conspiracy" with which the king charged the last earl, actuated by unfounded jealousy, was disbelieved at the time in the town, and is still viewed with suspicion. There were too many contradictions in the royal narrative for general belief, and Osburn, an English writer of the period, says, "No Scotchman you could meet beyond seas but laughed at it." That the memory and character of Gowrie, considered the "handsomest and properest" man of his time, were very dear, is a certain fact,