

NOTES
ON THE
PRECEDING OBSERVATIONS.

NOTE 1. Pages 358 and 370.

There is some inaccuracy in the Norwegian Chronicle here, for the story does not agree with the geography. It is said the ships sailed *south* to the Mull of Cantyre, being on the west or outside of it, and so *into Bute*. But Bute lies on the east side of Cantyre, and northward of it, so that it is opposite to Cowall. Therefore, if from the Mull they had sailed to Bute, and taken the castle in that island at the north end of it, they would have sailed *north* the whole length of Cantyre and of Bute, about 60 miles in a northern direction; for Rothsay is the only castle in that island. It is afterwards said that, having taken the castle, and understanding that Earl Allan was at the Nesses, and proposed to attack them, they sailed north under Cantyre; whereas, had they been in Bute, they must have sailed about 60 miles south before they could double the Mull. Uspak having died, they sailed to the Merchant Isles, which are on the north-west of Ila, and on the west or outside of Cantyre, where they wintered. Now, if it had been the Castle of Rothsay in Bute which they took, they must have sailed south, and passed the Mull to the west, before they could turn north towards Ila. But if we suppose (which alone agrees with the context) that the castle thus taken was in Cantyre, and near the Mull or south end of it, then, when the Norwegians sailed north under Cantyre towards Ila, they followed the proper and only possible course. I therefore suspect that *into Bute* has crept into the text erroneously, owing to ignorance of its situation with respect to Cantyre; and that the castle taken was Kilkerran or Donaverly, whence, on hearing of Allan's purpose to attack them, they retreated northward to Ilay. The passage becomes quite clear by leaving out the words *ok sua inn til Botar*, and so into Bute.

Ok var fyrair Stivardr einn af Skotum, and a Stewart of Scotland. The Stewart of Scotland at this time was Walter, son of Allan. He succeeded his father in 1204, and died 1246. Therefore he was not the Stewart killed on this occasion. It must have been some other member of the family. Allan had a son David, mentioned in 1219, (Hist. of the Stewarts, p. 9). Walter had four sons; 1. Alexander, who succeeded him; 2. John, who had no issue, said to have been killed at Damietta, 1249; 3. Walter, Earl of Menteth; 4. William. Of these we must either fix on William, who was young, or suppose it an error to say that John was killed at Damietta, which we have no right to do. The greater probability rests on the supposition of David, or some other brother of Walter, being the person alluded to.

NOTE II. Page 361.

Torfæus quotes from Matthew Paris an account of the transactions between Alexander II. and King John as follows:—

1249. “ Sub ejusdem anni circulo, quinto nonas Julij, obiit Alexander rex Scotorum, vir
 “ sapiens et modestus, qui, cum multis annis regnasset, videlicet juste, feliciter, et in pace,
 “ ultimis diebus suis, avaritia stimulante, a tramite justiciæ dicitur exorbitasse. Iram,
 “ enim, voluntariam quærens sæviendi occasionem, exacuit in quendam de Nobilioribus
 “ regni sui, nomine *Genum de Argethel*, militem strenuum et elegantissimum. Et dum
 “ proponeret ipsum exhæredare, imposuit ei notam prodicionis, quia, anno proximo
 “ præterito, homagium fecerat regi Norvegiæ pro tenemento cujusdam insulæ, quam pater
 “ ejusdem *Geni* ab eodem rege tenuerat, et pro homagio suo in pace multis annis posse-
 “ derat. Insula illa inter Orcadem et Scotiam sita est. Genus igitur, timens regis minas
 “ Scotorum Domini sui, significavit ei, quod tam Scotorum quam Norvegensium regi
 “ debitum servitium persolveret integre. Sed cum rex Scotorum, adhuc iratus, respon-
 “ disset, quod nemo posset duobus dominis servire, et responsum re-accepterat, quod
 “ imo bene posset quis duobus dominis famulari, dummodo non essent domini sibi
 “ adversantes, paravit rex exercitum, ut ipsum hostiliter invaderet. Genus igitur, nolens
 “ offendere Dominum regem Scotiæ, supplicavit ei, ut concederentur ei induciæ, ut homa-
 “ gium suum, simul cum insula memorata, regi Norvegiæ resignaret. Quod cum rex
 “ Scotorum ei denegasset, patuit regis protervitas, unde offensam incurrit Dei et Sancti
 “ Columkille, qui in partibus illis jacet et honoratur, et multorum nobilium. Rex igitur
 “ ipsum Genum, usque prope Argethel diffiduciatum, navigando hostiliter insequabatur,
 “ stimulatus, ut dicitur, importunis instigationibus cujusdam minus discreti Episcopi de
 “ *Strathuna*, fratris videlicet de ordine predicatorum. Rex igitur, antequam exiens de
 “ nave, equum valeret ascendere, quasi ultione, morbo subito et letali percussus est;
 “ et volens innocentem exhæredare, inter manus magnatum suorum ex improvise, cum
 “ ipsa ambitione, vitæ spiritum exhalavit.”

This narrative coincides in its principal points with the Norwegian chronicle, as to what passed between John and Alexander II. and seems to be another edition of the story, with monkish amplification. The odd name *Genus* should in that view be read *Jocannes*. But the edition of Matthew Paris, printed at Paris, 1644, instead of *Genus* has *Oenus*, the Celtic *Ewen*, usually latinized *Eugenius*. Now there existed at this time *Eugenius de Ergadia filius Duncani*, who possessed not only Argyle and Lorn, probably held of the King of Scotland, as being on the mainland, but Lesmore and others of the Western Isles; among these perhaps Mull, held of Norway, which may have been the island *inter Orcadem et Scotiam sita*. A question, therefore, arises, Is *Eugenius of Argyle*, *Oenus* of Matthew Paris, and *John* of the Norwegian chronicle, the same person?

In the Register of the Great Seal, Lib. xiv. No. 389, there is a charter granted by King James IV. to David, Bishop of Lesmore, dated 26 September 1507, confirming several ancient charters granted to that Bishoprick. One of these is granted by *Eugenius Miles, filius Duncani de Erregathel*, of several parcels of land to William, Bishop of Argyle, dated at Lesmore, Calendas Junii, 1251. The next charter confirmed is granted by *Eugenius de Ergadia, Dominus de Lorn, de Menderaloch, et de Lesmore*, to Andrew, Bishop of Argyle, of lands in the Island of Lesmore, dated 10th September 1304. There is a period of fifty-three years between these dates: yet it is probable the granter of both charters is the same person, unless we suppose two Eugenes in succession.

In the intermediate period Eugene of Argyle is mentioned several times.

Fordun, vol. II. page 109, has this notice of him, anno 1268:—“ Rex Manniæ mortuus est, (*i. e.* Magnus), cujus relictam Comes Malisius de Strathern postea duxit, scilicet *filiam Eugenii de Ergadia*.”

This statement of Fordun is supported, by our finding in the Chartulary of Inchaffray a charter of Malise Earl of Strathern, to which *Eugenius de Ergadia* is a witness. It is true that the charter, in the copy I have, bears date at Crieff, 7th December 1218; but that this is an error, and that the date should be 1268, or near that time, is evident from this consideration, that Robert, Bishop of Dunblane, and Bricius de Ardrossan, are also witnesses to it. Now in the same Chartulary there are several charters wherein these two persons are parties or witnesses, bearing expressly the dates, 14th February 1266, 23d and 30th November 1271, and all these three persons could not well be witnesses to a charter dated so long before as 1218.

In the publication, by Mr Robertson, of an index of the lost rolls, there is printed an inventory of writings, delivered to Alexander Baliol, chamberlain of Scotland, on occasion of the Coronation of John Baliol, 1292, wherein the following article occurs: “ *Litera M. de Fyff, W. de Mar, et M. de Ascles (Athole) comitum, et quorundam aliorum nominatorum, per quam obligant seipsos esse plegios pro Domino Eugenio de Argadia, ad solvendum Alexandro regi, quolibet anno, 321 marcas, pro quadam ferma terrarum.*” The date and the lands cannot now be discovered; but this deed may have been either between 1249 and 1263, and refer to the submission in that interval of *John* (if he be the same person as *Eugenius*), or to the period after 1263, but before the death of Alexander III. in the year 1285.

Though, therefore, we admit Eugene to have been a young man in 1249 and 1251, he must have lived to an advanced age when in 1304 he grants a charter to the Bishop of Argyle.

Who was the *minus discretus Episcopus de Strathuna*, who instigated Alexander II. to persecute *Oenus*, is not easily guessed, there being no bishoprick in Scotland bearing

a name similar to this. If it means *Strathern*, it may have been a bishop of Dunkeld or Dunblane.

The island *inter Orcadem et Scotiam sita*, which, in the obscure geography of Matthew Paris, seems to be confounded with Argyle, which is no island, implies, however, the dominion of Oenus in the Western Isles, as to which the dispute was in 1249, whether he should hold them of Scotland or of Norway.

If it shall be thought that there is ground to conclude that John and Eugene are the same person, we shall be enabled to fill up a chasm in the history of the Lords of the Isles, which has occasioned much confusion and inaccuracy among our genealogical writers. We find in the *Rotuli Scotiae* a number of writings respecting Alexander of Argyle, and John his son, who were probably the son and grandson of Eugene, who continued to adhere to the English interest in the wars that followed the accession of Robert Bruce; but this is not a proper place for discussing these matters.

Lord Hailes calls this John or Eugenius *Angus*, which, I suspect, is not a good translation of *Oenus*, and is contrary to record authority. There was an *Angus* contemporary with Eugene, and clearly a different person, viz. *Angus of Ilay*.

NOTE III. Page 361.

With respect to this embassy, the following writings appear in Rymer's *Fœdera*, and afford documents in support of the narrative in the Chronicle:—

Rymer's Fœdera, vol. i. p. 743.

23 Martij 1262.

46 Henry III.

Rex Angliæ, Regi Scotiæ, salutem, et sinceræ dilectionis affectum.—Accedens ad nos Johannes de Londors, clericus et nuncius vester, negotia, quæ sibi per vos fuerant injuncta, nobis laudabiliter exposuit et diligenter: Quibus auditis et plenius intellectis, ea jussimus expleri, prout ipse vobis referre poterit viva voce. *Scripsimus namque Regi Norwegiæ, pro nunciis vestris vobis remittendis*, et pro facto quod vertitur inter vos et ipsum. Similiter etiam Domino Papæ pro vestris negotiis scripsimus, veluti pro nostris. Pro facto autem Ecclesiæ de Salkhull, ad nos vocari fecimus Episcopum Karliolensem, usque ad unum mensem post pascha futurum, ut negotio, quod inter vos agitur, (per viam pacis seu justiciæ, quatenus poterimus, consilium apponamus. Cæterum, quia vestra negotia nostra non minus reputamus, et in his quæ vel ad securitatem vestram, vel ad commodum pertinent, vestris desideriis annuere vellemus, libenter præfatum nuncium vestrum nobiscum tamdiu retinimus, ut vobis solutionem illius pecuniæ, quam satis nostis, si ad hoc nobis via pateret, fieri provideremus. Verum, quia pro variis et urgentibus negotiis nostris, quæ vos credimus non latere, multa nos oportuit effundere, et impensas intolerabiles facere anno præsentis, nec exitus seu proventus nobis debitos recepimus, prout temporibus aliis fieri consuevit: Et insuper, cum jam dilecto nobis Alexandro Senescallo Scotiæ de

quingentis marcis, nomine vestro, satisfecerimus, prout rogastis, (per quod nobis pecunia non extat ad manus) sinceritatem vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatenus molestum non habeatis, si vobis ad præsens non satisfecimus de pecunia supra dicta. Et quia nollemus vobis terminum vel terminos ulterius assignare, nisi eos observari faceremus in totum, rogamus ut unam medietatem pecuniæ prædictæ in festo Michaelis proximo futuro, et aliam medietatem ad pascha, absque mentis vestræ tædio vel gravamine, recipere velitis, hujusmodi nobis rogatum concedendo benigne, quia terminos prædictos vobis faciemus modis omnibus plenius observari.—Teste rege, apud Windlesoram, 23. die Martij.

It is amusing to see the correspondence of the Kings about their money matters, and that the payment by Henry of 500 marks to the Stewart of Scotland, joined to bad payments of his own rents, make it necessary for him to crave time, and to pay his debt by instalments.

The following letter implies some dissimulation on the part of Haco, as it appears he disclaimed to King Henry any purpose of invading Scotland, though he was then preparing a fleet and army for the purpose. It also shews that Alexander sought the mediation of Henry, in order to avert the war that was threatened.

Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. i. p. 753.

Henricus, Dei gratia, Rex Angliæ, Dominus Hiberniæ, egregio Principi H. eadem Nov. 15. 1262.
47 Hen. III. gratia Regi Norwegiæ illustri, salutem et felices ad vota successus.—Literas vestras nuper nobis transmissas benigne recepimus ut decebat;—ex quarum tenore perpendimus, *quod vestrae non extitit voluntatis exercitum ducere in regnum Scotiæ; vel aliquam guerram movere regi Scotiæ, affini nostro karissimo; nec etiam nunciū ejusdem regis, in terra vestra arrestati, contra honestatem regiam tractati fuerunt*, sicut ex gravi querela quorundam nobis extitit plenius intimatum; super quo mansuetudinem regiam plurimum commendamus: De eo etiam quod eosdem nuncios ad preces ipsius regis liberari fecistis liberaliter et benigne, sicut in prædictis literis vestris perpendimus contineri, serenitati vestræ gratiarum referimus actiones. Et quia nollemus, sicut nec deceret, aliquam dissensionis materiam inter vos et præfatum regem suboriri, sed potius pristinæ dilectionis fœdera, inter progenitores vestros et suos dudum inita, ad honorem Dei, necnon et utriusque regni commodum et quietem, in posterum feliciter continuari; præfatum regem Scotiæ rogabimus et diligenter inducemus, quod si per ipsum vel suos, damnum vel injuria vobis vel vestris fuerit illata, vobis ea qua convenit amicitia et vicinitate faciat emendari. Quapropter, serenitatem vestram rogandam duximus cum affectu, quatenus erga præfatum regem et gentem suam tam curialiter et modeste vos habere velitis, quod mutuo honori vestro conveniat, et

circumspectionem vestram pacificam merito commendare possimus.—Teste me ipso apud Rem. 15 die Novembris, anno regni nostri quadragesimo septimo.

The following letter from King Henry's Lieutenant north of Trent alludes to the expedition of Haco, as producing some alarm in England. It appears to have been written during the course of the expedition in summer 1263.

Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. i. p. 772.

1263.
47 Hen. III.

Venerabili viro, et amico reverendo, Domino W. de Merton, Cancellario Domini Regis, suus R. de Nevill salutem, et paratam ad bene placita voluntatem.—Literas Domini Regis nuper recepi continententes, quod me Capitaneum suum constituit in Comitatus suis ultra Trentam, ad pacis suæ conservationem contra quosdam rebelles suos, ac pacis suæ perturbatores; et insuper custodiam Comitatus Eborum et castri ejusdem michi commisit; quæquidem in omnibus pro viribus adimplere paratus sum. Verum quia talia assumere non possum, sine maximis sumptibus, dilectioni vestræ dignum duxi supplicare, quatenus si placet, consilium vestrum et auxilium præsens Domino Regi velitis apponere, ut michi significet ubi, et de quò, sive de quibus, potero denarium perquirere ad custodiam, tam comitatus et castri prædictorum, quam Castri de Bamburgh, quod in mea custodia est, faciendam. Dicitur enim pro certo, quod Rex Dacyæ, una cum rege Norwayæ, cum magna multitudine navigii, in forensicis insulis Scotiæ applicuit; sed quo proponant divertere nondum certum, unde periculum in partibus illis eminere formidandum. Dilectioni etiam vestræ significo, quod quidam quos fideles domini regis esse credebam, jam per prædicationem suorum rebellium, ad ipsos penitus sunt conversi; propter quod majus auxilium aliorum perquirere, majoresque sumptus facere, oportebit.—Valeat semper in Domino.

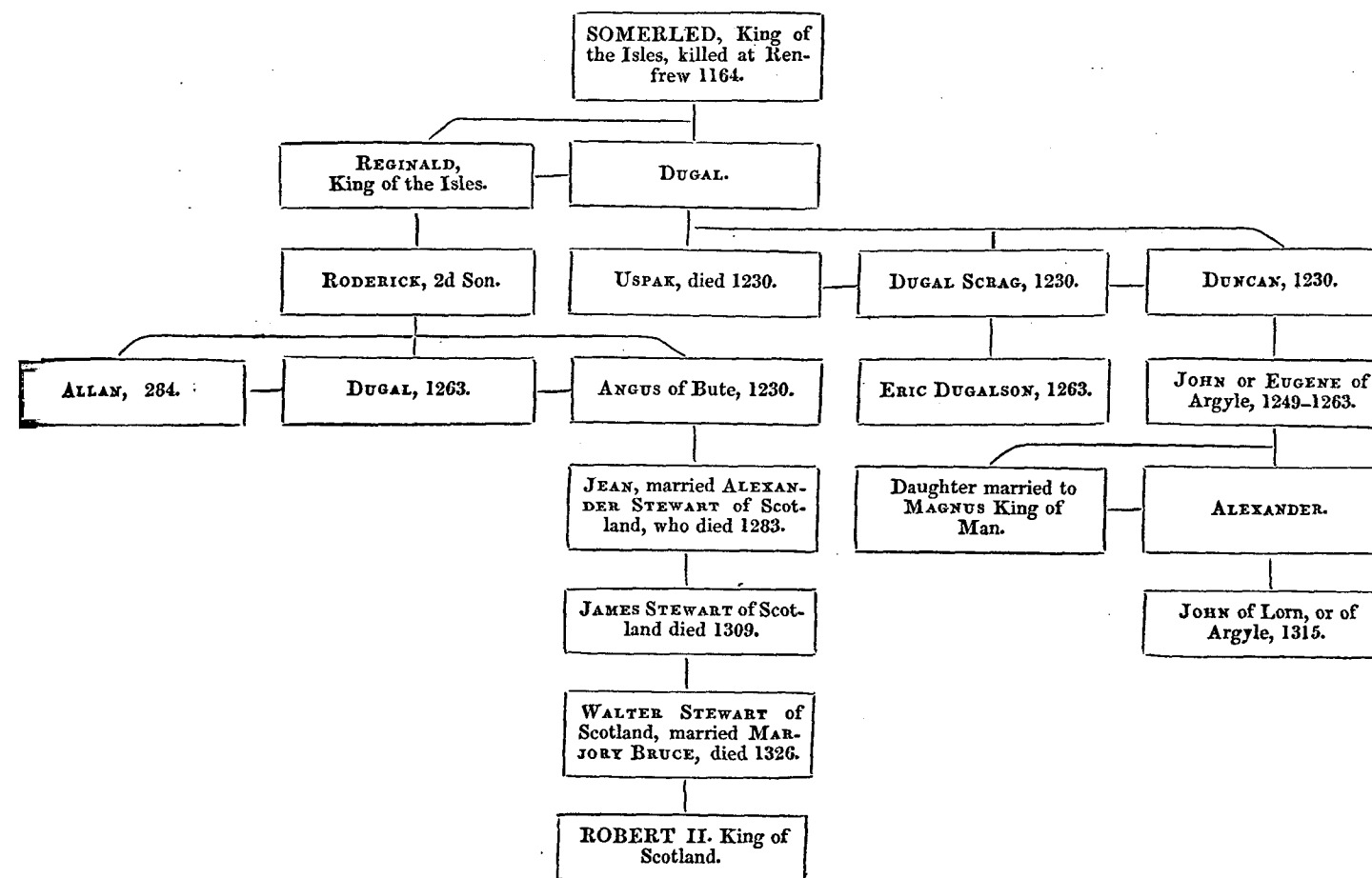
NOTE IV. Page 379.

Ex Cartularia de Melros, p. 54, v. Adv. Libr Jac. V. 2. 17. p. 24.

Omnibus hoc scriptum visuris vel audituris, Petrus de Curri salutem.—Sciatis me in bona devotione, intuitu divino, reddidisse me fratrem domui de Melros, de abbate et conventu ejusdem domus benigne susceptus; ita quod ego pro domo de Melros in omnibus ubique stabo, sicut frater et particeps omnium bonorum ejusdem domus, in his quibus potero, consulendo et auxiliando valere. Hec nullatenus eidem domui vel fratribus seu hominibus predictorum monachorum de cetero adversabor. Insuper, sopita controversia inter nos habita, anno domini m.cc.vº. super terris illis, scilicet Dalshangan et Bargover, que jacent inter rivulum cadentem de Duveloc et Saxenoc; Ego quicquid juris habui vel habere potui, pro me et heredibus meis, Deo et Sancte Marie de Melros et conventui, quietum clamavi. Hujus igitur rei Deum et Fidem, nec non et meipsum, testes constitui, et hanc presentem cartam meam super magnum altare, coram conventu de Melros, fratribus meis optuli. Terciam partem substantie mee domui de Melros assignavi; sive vivus sive mortuus ad eandem domum venero. Testibus, &c.

NOTE V.

The Genealogy of the Chiefs of the Isles is not very clear; but the following Table exhibits what part of it is connected with the Norwegian Chronicles under consideration, without pretending to warrant its accuracy.



NOTE VI.

The following Fragment, published by Johnston, contains some facts which occurred after the Expedition of Haco.

A Fragment of Ancient History.

**** a Baron who had been in the expedition to the west with King Haco, said that there were appearances of wars in the western lands.

Negotiations 1264.

After the death of King Haco, the Barons and principal inhabitants of the Orkneys sent Henry the Bishop, and Sir Askatin the Chancellor, to Scotland, to treat with King Alexander about preliminaries for a peace between the two nations. They found, however, an unfriendly reception, for the Scotch threatened to cast in prison and kill the Norwegians on their arrival. The Scotch alleged that the Norwegians had burned or plundered more than a third of Scotland. All negotiation being ineffectual, Sir Askatin sailed east for Norway, and meeting with King Magnus, told him about his proceedings, and how unkindly his proposals had been received in Scotland. King Magnus determined to send Ogmund Kraekidants to the Orkneys, and to constitute him warden of the Isles. He at the same time ordered Erick the son of Dougal, attended by several courtiers, retainers, and masters of the lights, to sail in a galley of eighteen benches of oars, for the Hebrides. He was to be joined at the Orkneys by John Thiori and Eric Rosi, each in his own ship.

When Ogmund came to the Orkneys, he was informed that the Scottish King had sent an army to Caithness, and had laid a fine on the Caithnesians, because they had paid the tribute imposed by King Haco. There was also a strong report that the Orkneys were to be pillaged; therefore Ogmund was not willing that the troops should leave the Orkneys. Eric remained there all winter.

Sir Askatin, as was said before, returned to Norway, but arrived there after the departure of Ogmund. On this Hoskuld Oddson prepared to sail west to the Orkneys. King Magnus commanded Maurice a friar, Sigard a monk of the Camelduensian order, also to go; and they were attended by Henry Scot. They immediately proceeded to Scotland; and, demanding an audience of the Scottish Monarch, he received them more civilly than he had done the Bishop. The Scottish King desired them to return to Norway, and tell King Magnus that next summer he might send proper envoys to Scotland, if he had any mind to establish a peace between the nations. They went back that same harvest to Norway.

King Magnus spent the winter at Drontheim, and it was the second year of his reign.

After Christmas, during the winter, Maurice the friar, and also they who had accompanied him to Scotland, came to King Magnus, and related the reception his proposals had met with.

This spring King Magnus went south to Bergen, where he arrived after Easter. He 1266. then, according to the request of the Scottish King, sent Gilbert the Bishop, and Sir Askatin, to Scotland. They went first to England. There were then great disturbances in England. That summer, Simon de Montfort was killed. The Bishop then went north to Wick, and was there sometime. During the autumn in which Ogmund Kraekidants came to the Orkneys, the Scotch made an expedition with a design to levy contributions on the Caithnesians. Lord Dougall came upon them in their return, and killed many of them, and recovered a great booty which they were carrying off. There he also slew a Scottish Sheriff.

That Summer the Scotch invaded the Sudoreys with an army, and subdued Angus... .. and many others who had followed Haco in his expedition to the Sudoreys. They also went south to Man, and obliged its Lord, Magnus, to take oaths of allegiance. Lord Dougall defended himself by his fleet, and therefore they could not apprehend him. In the following Spring, however, he came to the Orkneys, and begged assistance, and he was accordingly joined by Eric his son, Eric Bosi, and John Thiori. They procured three galleys, and then went***

References to the Annexed Sketch.

- A Noddleburn, half a mile north of Largs.
- B Manse.
- C Church.
- D Public Baths.
- E Gogo Burn.
- F Brisbane Place. } Field of Battle, 1263.
- G Crescent. }
- H Tumuli, and a large stone still remaining in Mr Cairnie's ground in the Crescent.
- I Haily, the cairn near which is supposed to be the burying place of the Chiefs.
- K Road to Kilbirnie.
- L Camphill, where the Scotch army lay the night before the battle.
- M Kelburn, seat of the Earl of Glasgow.
- N Village of Fairlie.
- O Fairlie Castle.
- P Site of the Abbey of Southennan.
- S Killingcraig.
- T Burly Gate.
- U Kepping Burn.

