

8th, *Notice of the Ord Hill of Kessock. By Sir George Mackenzie, Baronet, &c. In a Letter dated Rosehaugh, 22d December 1824.*

I yesterday visited the Ord Hill of Kessock, in company with Mr Anderson. The remains are somewhat different from any I have seen. At one end, that which is most easily accessible, there are the ruins of two ramparts which have been built of loose stones, and must have been of considerable strength. The hill being covered by fir-trees, it is difficult to trace the whole works with any great precision; but they appear to be sufficiently interesting to deserve a particular search. The masses of vitrified stones, though linearly pretty extensive, are not so considerable in mass as those we find in other forts of the north. The summit is very irregular, and the space within the ramparts and vitrified masses is extensive. The vitrified lines are on the sides and at one end, a good way below the summit, and interrupted in several places. The view all round is extensive; and this hill connects Knockfarril with Dun Evan and Forres. Like Dun Creich, it shows that the fire was not used for strengthening the defences; and its position, in sight of Knockfarril, Dun n'Anavn, Craig Phadrick, Dun Evan, and Dun Daviot, confirms the hypothesis of signals.

While on the summit, I pointed out a hill to Mr Anderson, which, from its position,

I concluded to be in Strath Nairn, and to command a large tract of country towards the south interior, which he carefully marked, with the intention of exploring it; and I think it very probable he will find it to be a station. The hill at the entrance of Glen Urquhart he has determined to be a vitrified fort.