

**A Register of Birds Shot by the Rev.  
Francis Gisborne, Rector of Staveley  
(1759-1821), duly recorded by himself from  
the year 1761 to 1784.**

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Contributed by REV. CHARLES MOLINEUX, Rector of  
Staveley.

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SUN-DIAL IN GARDEN OF STAVELEY RECTORY.

fragmentary half-sheet dated 1793.  
however, we have no further record.

THE above register was found among a varied collection of old parochial documents by Mr. R. W. Crawshaw, of the Hagge, for many years rector's churchwarden, by whom it has been handed to the present rector. As above stated, it extends from the year 1761 to 1784, and was, no doubt, continued to a much later date, judging from the existence of a Of these intervening years,

The register is written on ordinary sized hand-made note paper, in a clear, legible hand, and has evidently been most accurately kept. In many cases we have not merely the description of the bird, but also a minute statement as to its weight and



RICHARD KEENE,

PHOTO. DERBY.

REV. FRANCIS GISBORNE,

RECTOR OF STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE,

A.D. 1759 TO 1821.

FOUNDER OF THE "GISBORNE CLOTHING CHARITY" FOR 100 PARISHES  
IN DERBYSHIRE.

dimensions. It may be well to mention that the Rev. Francis Gisborne was Rector of Staveley from 1759 till 1821, and that a short memoir of one who may be justly termed "a Derbyshire worthy" is to be found in Vol. V. of this Journal, p. 76, to which we refer our readers. In the perusal of old diaries it is always helpful to have some idea of the personal appearance of the diarist. And we are fortunate enough to be able to present to our members a portrait of this quondam Rector of Staveley, taken unconsciously, as far as he himself was concerned, for he had a strong objection to be reproduced on canvas; and it was only by a gentle artifice that an accomplished artist friend was able to secure the present likeness. The original was taken in crayons, and is now in the possession of Mr. Bagshawe, of Ford Hall, through whose kindness it has been copied by Mr. Richard Keene.

The register will naturally have a greater charm for the ornithologist and the sportsman than for the archæologist pure and simple. Still we venture to hope that even for the antiquary the catalogue of an old rector's prowess in a past century may not be altogether devoid of interest.

The pursuit of game was, perhaps, more generally followed a hundred years ago than it is now; certainly by the higher classes, and probably with more genuine pleasure. There was less of artificiality in the whole business. The day's ramble over the stubbles or the moor was a more simple affair. Battues were fortunately unknown, and the conditions of true sport were more fairly observed. That clerics, too, sometimes carried the gun, appears from the following extract from an article in *The Gentleman's Magazine* of 1761, descriptive of the habits of the clergy at that date:—"Some pursue the rural diversions of coursing, fishing, and shooting, and these I would call innocent recreations, were not some of them to boast of killing a hundred brace of partridges to their own gun, and tyrannically to insult the farmer whose corn and hedges they destroy." To commence—

1761. Aug.	20th. <sup>(1)</sup>	3 Pars.
	21st.	2 Pars.
	24th.	1 Par., $\frac{1}{2}$ Do. with Mr. Lushton, <sup>(2)</sup> 1 Land Rail, 1 Quail. <sup>(3)</sup>
	28th.	7 Pars., 1 Rabbit.
	31st.	5 Pars.
Sept.	1st.	4 Pars., 2 of 'em a. o. Sht., <sup>(4)</sup> 1 Wd. Pign. or Ring Dove, 1 Fern Owl.
Oct.	3rd.	$\frac{1}{2}$ Par. with Capt. Lushton. <sup>(5)</sup>
	8th.	1 Quail, 1 Par., 2 Snpes.
	20th.	2 Snpes.
Nov.	24th.	1 Par. at Bobbing. <sup>(6)</sup>
	26th.	1 Par. Do.
Dec.	6th.	1 Hre., 2 Buntg. Larks, 1 Lark at Linton, <sup>(6)</sup> 1 Hre., 1 Hre., 1 H. Pheasant at Do.
	24th.	2 Larks, 1 Par., 1 W. C., <sup>(7)</sup> 2 Jck. Snpes., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Ring Dove.
	31st.	1 Bl. bird.

<sup>(1)</sup> *August*.—It will be observed that the register commences with a record of partridges killed in the month of *August*, the game laws for securing the present close time for partridges being of comparatively modern date. It was not until 2 and 3 Geo. III. c. 19, 1762-1763, that the law was passed enacting "that no person shall upon any pretence whatsoever, take, kill, carry, sell, buy, or have in possession or use any partridge between February 12th and September 1st, or any pheasant between February 1st and October 1st, yearly, on pain of forfeiting £5 for every such fowl, with costs."

<sup>(2)</sup>  $\frac{1}{2}$  Do. with Mr. Lushton.—This is evidently a touch of sportsmanlike courtesy. The bird fell, no doubt, to both guns, and the worthy rector would lay claim to no more than his share, and at the same time acknowledge his companion's skill. How different from the hasty exclamation of the self assertive sportsman, "My bird!!"

<sup>(3)</sup> Mr. Lushton.—Probably an abbreviation of Lushington. The Rev. F. Gisborne's cousin Dorothy married Thomas Godfrey Lushington, of Derby, and the entry no doubt refers to some member of this family.

<sup>(4)</sup> Quail.—The existence of the Staveley Coal and Iron Works would be quite sufficient to account for the disappearance of this bird from this parish. Mr. Edwd. Clulow, of Derby, tells me that he shot two on the same day at Draycott, in the year 1886, and on the South Downs of my native county of Sussex, a bevy of quail is no uncommon sight, and specimens are frequently bagged. They are protected by "The Wild Birds Protection Act, 1880."

<sup>(5)</sup> A. O. Sht.—This abbreviation is of frequent occurrence. Translated it means "at one shot." Sometimes it conveyed a great deal.

<sup>(6)</sup> Capt. Lushton.—I have no means of identifying this gentleman. But I find that Thomas Godfrey Lushington, of Derby, had a son William; and in an old army list of 1763, I find a Major William Lushington in the 16th Dragoons. Possibly this may be the gallant officer to whom the entry refers.

<sup>(7)</sup> Bobbing, Linton.—Names not known in this immediate neighbourhood.

Dec.—"The season so mild that many pear trees about town were in blossom, and primroses and daisies appeared in the fields."—(Belsham's "Chronology.")

<sup>(8)</sup> W. C.—Woodcock.

1762.	Jan.	9th.	1 Redw. Thrush <b>flying</b> . <sup>(8)</sup>
		22nd.	1 Fld. Fare, 1 Bl. Bird, 1 Hare.
		16th.	1 Thrush, 1 J. Snpe.
		23rd.	1 Snpe., 3 Redwg. Thrs.
		25th.	9 Snpes., 1 Redwg. Th.
		29th.	1 Mallrd., 1 Wat. Hen catch'd unshot.
		30th.	2 Larks.
	Feb.	1st.	1 J. Snpe., 2 Snpes.
		2nd.	2 J. Snpe., 3 J Snpes., 1 Bl. Bird.
		3rd.	6 Snpes., 2 J. Snpes., 1 Par., 1 W. C., 2 W. Ducks.
		6th.	1 Bl. Bird, 1 Snpe.
		8th.	2 Bl. Bird, 3 Redwg. Thr. at o. sht.
		10th.	2 Fld. Fares, 2 Larks, 7 Do. a. o. sht., 4 Bl. Birds, 5 Snpes., 2 J. Snpes.
		11th.	2 Snpes., 1 Bl. Bird.
		13th.	4 Bl. Birds, 2 Fld. Fares, 4 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe.
		15th.	2 Par., 1 Bl. Bird.
		20th.	2 Larks.
	Feb.	22nd.	2 Larks, 1 Bl. Bird.
		23rd.	1 Crow <b>flyg</b> . <sup>(8)</sup>
		25th.	1 Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Redwg. Thr. N.B.— <b>Lost Powder Flask</b> . <sup>(9)</sup>
	Mar.	10.	3 Snpes., 1 Bl. Bird, 2 Larks.
	April	1st.	1 <b>J. Snpe.</b> , <sup>(10)</sup> 2 Snpes., 1 Fld. Fare.
		2nd.	1 Redwg. Th., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Wat. Hen., 1 Bl. Bird.
	In June.	5	Stares, 1 Wat. Hen, 7 Sparrs., 7 Do., 8 Do., 6 Do., 5 Do., 1 Pigeon, 1 Snpe. found dead, 7 Do. shot.

<sup>(8)</sup> *Flying*.—These entries may be best understood by comparison with Note 11. Flying shots only became general with an improved gun. We must bear in mind that the Rector's bag was made with the old "Brown Bess." In the Badminton Vol. on shooting we find the following remarks :—"It was at first thought almost an impossibility to make fatal flying shots with any certainty, having regard to the construction and capacity of the earlier flint fowling pieces, consequently all verbal and pictorial illustrations of shooting in old days represent gunner taking steady aim at motionless objects." ("Shooting, Field, and Covert," p. 13.)

*Feb. 22.*—An unusual fall of snow. In many places it was 10 or 12 feet deep. Nearly 50 people who were caught in the open fields and heaths lost their lives in the hurricane that accompanied it. It blew down houses, trees, and chimneys in great numbers.—(Belsham's "Chronology.")

<sup>(9)</sup> *Lost Powder Flask*.—Not an unfrequent experience in the old muzzle-loading days. Some of the flasks were very interesting pieces of workmanship.

<sup>(10)</sup> *April.*—*Jack Snipe*.—Now an illegal month in which to shoot these birds, which are protected under the Wild Birds Act from 16th March to 31st July, both inclusive, under the penalty of £1 for each bird for each offence.

In Octr.		Shot 2 Par., 2 Do., 2 Do. & 1/2, 1 Quail, 6 Pars., 2 Pars. a. o. s., 1 Par. caught, 2 Snpes., 1 Bl. Bird, 1 Mallrd., 1 Snpe. <b>on ground</b> <sup>(11)</sup> , 1 Par., 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Ring Dove, 1 W. C., 1 W. C.
Nov.	12.	1 W. C., 1 Field Fare, 1 Do. flyg, 1 Snpe.
	13th.	3 Snpes., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Redwg. Thr., 2 Larks.
	15th.	1 W. C., 1 Snpe., 1 Redwg. Thr.
	16th.	4 Snpes., 1 <b>Great Ash-coloured Butcher Bird.</b> <sup>(12)</sup>
	19th.	5 Snpes., 2 J. Snpes., 1 Par., 1 Hawk, 1 Teal, 1 Wild Duck.
	20th.	1 Hare.
Decr.	22nd.	1 Mallrd., 1 Wat. Hen, 5 Snpes., 2 J. Snpes, 2 Hares.
	1st.	1 J. Snpe., 1 Owl.
	3rd.	1 Snpe.
	17th.	1 Par., 1 Do., 1 Hare, 1 Lapwg., 1 Snpe.
	28th.	2 Snpes., 2 Fld. Fares a. o. sht., 1 Do., 1 Wat. Hen.
	29th.	1 Mallard, 2 Wild Ds., 1 Par., 3 Snpes., 7 Fld. Fares & 2 Stares, along with one of the Field Fares.
1763. Jan.	1st.	1 Mallard, 2 Wd. Owls, 1 Bl. Bird, 3 Fld. Fares, 3 Snpes., 1 <b>Least Woodpecker.</b> <sup>(13)</sup>
	3rd.	2 Wat. Hens, 1 Snpe., 1 Bl. Bird.
	5th.	2 Pars., 5 Fld. Fares, 1 Hare, 7 Snpes., 2 J. Snpes.
	7th.	1 Wild Duck, 3 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe., 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Fld Fare.
	8th.	2 Hares, 1 <b>Weazel,</b> <sup>(14)</sup> 1 Wat. Hen.
	10th.	1 Hare, 1 Bl. Bird, 1 Snpe., 1 Wld. D., 3 Fld. Fares, 7 Larks a. o. s.
	12th.	9 Larks.
	14th.	1 Wld. D., 2 Fld. Fares.
	15th.	1 Snpe., 1 <b>Weazel</b> or a Stoat, <sup>(14)</sup> 1 Wat. Hen.
	17th.	1 Bl. Bird.

<sup>(11)</sup> *On the Ground*.—This entry will be found to be no uncommon one. The worthy Rector seems to have bagged his bird when and how he could. It would scarcely be now regarded as sportsmanlike.

<sup>(12)</sup> *Great Ash-coloured Butcher Bird (Lanius Excubitor)*.—A rarity. Glover mentions an instance of one being shot in Derby.

<sup>(13)</sup> *Least Woodpecker (picus minor)*.—By no means a common bird. Morris records the shooting of one near Melbourne, Dec. 11, 1844.

<sup>(14)</sup> *Weazel (mustela)*.—A tribe still living in the parish. I saw one in August cantering along the dusty highway with a mouse in its mouth.

- 18th. 1 Mallard, 1 Crow.  
 19th. 1 Wld. D., 1 Hare.  
 21st. 1 Heron, 1 Mallrd., 2 Snpes., 1 Bald Coot.  
 22nd. 1 **Bittern**,<sup>(15)</sup> 2 Par., 1 Mallrd., 2 Snpes., 1 J.  
       Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare.  
 24th. 1 Wild D., 5 Larks.  
 25th. 1 Par., 1 Snpe.  
 26th. 2 Mallrds.  
 27th. 1 Snpe.  
 28th. 1 Par., 1 Mallard.  
 30th. 1 Hare, 1 Par.  
**Feb. 15th.** 3 Car. Crows, 1 Jack Daw.  
       23rd. 2 Stares.  
**May 16th.** Shot 4 Rooks in Ch: yard Glen and 16 Rooks at  
       **Romely.**<sup>(16)</sup>



This Block is kindly lent by Messrs. Longmans and Co.

<sup>(15)</sup> *Bittern (Botaurus stellaris)*.—Getting more scarce every year, probably on account of the more perfect system of drainage. This entry is only one of several. A specimen was shot in the neighbourhood of Staveley by Mr. I. I. Crofts in 1879, and is now in the possession of one of the family.

*Feb.*—On 13th of this month a heavy fall of snow in Midland counties. It lay 8 feet deep on the roads.—(Belsham's "Chronology.")

<sup>(16)</sup> *At Romely.*—Romely Hall, in the parish of Staveley, was formerly the residence of the Rector's brother, Thomas Gisborne, M.D., Fellow of S. John's College, Cambridge, F.R.S., and Physician to the King, President of the College of Physicians, 1804. He died, unmarried, at Romely, in 1806, and lies buried in Staveley churchyard. The Hall, now the property of Canon and Mrs. Olivier, is gradually falling into decay, and is at present occupied by Mr. J. B. Barrow's gamekeeper.

July	16th.	8 Sparrows.
Sept.	1st.	4 Pars., 2 Crows sitting, a. o. s.
	2nd.	3 Par.
	6th.	1 Par.
	13th.	2 Snpes. flying at one shot when two only, 1 do., 7 Pars., with <b>Mr. Richard Slater</b> . <sup>(17)</sup>
Nov.	10.	3 Hares, 2 W. C's.
	12.	3 W. C's., 1 Par.
	16th.	2 W. C's., 1 Par., 2 J. Snpes.
	21.	1 Teal in company with <b>Mr. Prime</b> , <sup>(17)</sup> 1 Hare.
Decr.	8.	1 Squirrel, 2 Snpes., 1 Wat. Rail.
	9th.	2 Snpes., 1 Wh. Owl.
	10th.	1 W. C., 1 Par., 2 J. Snpes., 1 Fld. Fare.
	21st.	1 Wd. pecker; also one Fld. Fare the latter end of December.
1764. July	25th.	2 Moor Game Poots, <sup>(18)</sup> 1 Tor or Ring Ouzel.
	31st.	1 Wild Duck, 1 Wild D. found which I shot before, 1 Fern Owl.
Sept.	1st.	4 Pars., 2 of em. a. o. s.
	4th.	3 Pars.
	7th.	6 Pars., 2 of em a. o. s. N.B.—A Pike at <b>Pebbly</b> <sup>(19)</sup> about 4 lbs.
	10th.	9 Par., 1 Hre.
	25th.	1 Par.
Nov.		1 Snpe.

<sup>(17)</sup> Of *Mr. Richard Slater* I can find no record in the parish registers. Later on we come across *Mr. Adam Slater*, who was evidently a local doctor or apothecary. Possibly *Richard* was his father. *Mr. Prime* was one of the churchwardens. His name figures in the wardens' accounts about this time.

<sup>(18)</sup> A day, no doubt, upon The Moors. What are Poots? (*Probably intended for 'Coots.'*)

<sup>(19)</sup> *Pebbly*.—*Pebbly Dam*, in the immediate neighbourhood. A favourite resort of anglers. *Mr. Gisborne* was an ardent disciple of *Walton*. Tradition says that it was very frequently his custom of a morning to make his way to the *Rother*, which runs through *Staveley*, land successfully one of the large chub with which its deeps then abounded, and then contentedly return home. An old inhabitant of *Staveley* has just sent me the following anecdote:—"Pebbly Dam, about four miles distant, was frequently visited by the Rector in company with *Mr. Sales*, the Parish Clerk. On one occasion an early start was made, and the fascinating sport commenced. All on a sudden *Mr. Gisborne* remembered that it was Wednesday morning, the one morning in the week on which morning prayers were read in church. There was nothing for it but to return, and the journey was made, the duty accomplished, and was followed by a most successful day's sport." I have a note of a large Pike caught in *Pebbly* in 1887, by a person of the name of *Gothard of Masboro'*, weighing 28 lbs.

Dec.	24.	3 Snpes., 2 J. Snpes, 1 Par., 1/2 a Hare.
	29.	5 Snpes., 10 small Birds, 1 Hre.
1765. Jany.	5.	2 Snpes.
	7th.	5 Snpes., 1 Par., 1 Snpe.
Feb.	7.	2 Pars.
	8th.	1 Snpe. N.B.—Jan. 29th 1 W.C., 1 Hre. at Aston.
	13.	1 Ring Dove.
	15th.	1 W. C., 1 Snpe., 4 J. Snpes.
	16th.	1 W. C., 3 Snpes., 4 J. Snpes.
	18th.	2 Mallards, 3 Snpes., 1 Wat. Hen.
	19th.	3 Snpes., 3 J. Snpes.
	21st.	1 Teal, 1 do., 3 Snpes., 1 Fld. Fare.
	23rd.	7 Snpes., 2 Wat. Hens., 1 Teal.
	25th.	1 Mallrd. & 1 Duck at one shot, 5 Snpes.
	26th.	1 Mallrd.
March	2nd.	1 J. Snpe.
	4th.	2 Wild D., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Snpe., 1 J. Snpe, 1 Wat. Hen.
	5th.	1 Wat. Hen, 2 Larks.
The first week in September shot as follows at Staveley—1 Wryneck,		
	5 Pars. N.B. 2 of em old ones a. o. s., 5 Pars., 1 Hare, & 1 Par.	
2nd week at Repton, &c., 8 Pars.		
	at Burton 6 Pars.	
	at Seal, &c., 1 Hre., 2 Pars., 1 Bald Coot.	
	at Saperton, &c., 1 Hre., 1 Par.	
	at Repton, 3rd week, 7 Par., 1 Snpe. at Twiford.	
4th week 5 Pars. at Staveley.		
	24th.	6 Pars.
	25.	10 Pars., 2 of em a. o. s.
	26th.	2 Pars.
	27.	2 Pars.
	28.	2 Pars.
Oct.	1st.	1 Par.
	14th.	4 Pars., 2 of em a. o. s.
	16th.	1 Snpe. Leveret caught by <b>Fanny</b> ; <sup>(2)</sup> also one day the week after 3 Pars., 2 of em. a. o. s.
Nov.	4.	2 W. C.'s, 2 Hares.

(20) "*Fanny*"—Referring, no doubt, to the favourite setter or pointer so indispensable a companion in those days, and invariably to be found portrayed in old sporting pictures.

	6th.	1 W. C.
	7th.	1 Snpe., but a <b>Buzzard</b> or <b>Kite</b> eat it. <sup>(21)</sup>
	9th.	1 Titlark, 1 W. C., 1 Par., 1 Wat. Hen.
	11th.	1 Young Cock or <b>Hen Pheasant</b> , <sup>(22)</sup> 1 W. C.
	12th.	1 Wat. Hen., 1 Snpe.
	15th.	3 W. C.'s, 5 J. Snpes., 1 Par.
	16th.	4 Snpes.
	18th.	3 Cock Pheasants, 4 Woodcocks, 1 of em on ground.
	21st.	1 Snpe. on ground.
	22.	2 W. C.'s & 1/2 do. with <b>Mr. Thos. Bourne</b> , <sup>(23)</sup> 1 Snipe.
	23rd.	1 Snpe.
	27th.	1 Quail, 1 Fld. Fare., 1 Lark, 2 Wat/ Hens, 2 J. Snpes, 11 Snipes.
	28th.	1 Cock Pheasant, 1 Par., 4 W. C.'s.
	29th.	2 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe., 1 Missel Thrush.
Decr.	2.	3 J. Snpes., 2 W. C.'s, 1 Wd. Owl.
	4th.	3 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe., 2 Pars., 1 Hare.
	5th.	6 Snpes, 3 Pars., 2 of em a. o. s.
	6th.	1 Fld. Fare, 2 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe., 2 Pars. a. o. s.
	7th.	1 Fld. Fare, 6 Snpes., 1 Wat. Rail, 1 Par.
	9th.	1 Snpe., 1 W. Duck, 1 Mallard, both hit the first shot. N B. Shot 2 Teal but <b>could not get</b> <b>them</b> . <sup>(24)</sup>
	12th.	1 Wat. Hen., 1 Fld. Fare, 4 Snpes., 1 Wld. Duck, 1 Mallrd.
	13th.	1 Male Teal, 1 do. do., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Par., 1 Wild Duck.

<sup>(21)</sup> "*Kite*" or "*Buzzard*."—Bewick (1832) describes the former as then common in England. It certainly is not so now. The latter is (so Morris says) still sufficiently abundant, although Waterton speaks of the common variety as extinct in Yorkshire.

<sup>(22)</sup> *Young Cock or Hen Pheasant*.—This is only one indication among many that the entries were not invariably made immediately succeeding the conclusion of the day's sport. The Rector's memory was evidently in doubt here.

<sup>(23)</sup> *Mr. Thos. Bourne*.—I can find no such name in the parish registers. He may have been a guest or a neighbour from an adjoining parish.

<sup>(24)</sup> "*Could not get them*."—I am informed by some of the old inhabitants at Staveley that within their memory there were one or two large sheets of water frequented by wild aquatic birds, which have now disappeared, through drainage and other causes, but which would easily account for such an entry as this. If "*Fanny*" had been a retriever, possibly the birds might have been bagged.

	14th.	1	Fld. Fare flying, 1 Wat. Hen, do., 5 Snpes., 2 Wild Duck, 1 Mallard.
	16th.	2	Thrushes a. o. s., 1 Wat. Rail, 1 Fld. Fare & 1 Redwg. Thrush at ye same shot, 1 Par.
	19th.	1	Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare.
	26th.	1	Fld. Fare, 10 <b>Larks</b> a. o. s., <sup>(25)</sup> 1 Hare.
	23rd.	1	Fld. Fare, 1 Bl. Bird flyg.
	24th.	3	Fld. Fares, 1 W. Duck.
	30th.	4	Fld. Fres., 1 Wat. Rail, 2 Snpes., 1 Mallrd.
	N.B.—	35	Snipes killed this month.
1766. Jan.	2nd.	5	Fld. Fares.
	3rd.	1	Fld. Fare.
	4th.	1	Wat. Rail, 1 Water Hen, 1 Snpe., 1 Par. on ground, 4 Redwg. Thrs., 17 Fld. Fares, 3 of em flying.
	6th.	2	Redwg. Thr., 8 Fld. Fares, 6 Lars. a. o. s.
	9th.	1	Bald Coot, 1 Par., 1 Fld. Fre., 4 Snpes., 2 W. C.
	10th.	1	Fld. Fre., 3 Redwg. Thrs., 2 of em a. o. s.
	14th.	1	Snpe.
	15th.	1	Snpe., 6 Field Fres.
	16th.	1	Snpe. on ground.
	18th.	1	Wat. Hen, 2 Lars., 1 Fld. Fare.
	20th.	1	<b>Grn. Woodpecker.</b> <sup>(26)</sup> N.B.—On the 13th shot 1 Crow, 2 Lars., 7 Fld. Fres.
	22nd.	2	Snpes., 2 Par., 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Fld. Fre.
	23rd.	1	Snpe., 2 Par. a. o. s., 7 Lars., do.
	24th.	1	Cock Pheasant, 1 H. Pheast.
	27th.	1	Wild Duck, 1 Crow.
	29th.	1	Mallrd.
	31st.	1	Wld. D., 1 Par., 1 J. Snpe., 1 Wat. Hen.
Feb.	3.	1	Wld. Duck, 3 Pars.
	5th.	2	Snpe., 1 Crow, 2 Stares a. o. s.
	7th.	1	W. Duck, 1 Par., 2 Crows a. o. s.
March.		3	Snpes., 2 Larks a. o. s.

<sup>(25)</sup> 10 *Larks a. o. s.*—In the severe winters of the last century immense flocks of larks were a noticeable feature.

<sup>(26)</sup> *The Green Woodpecker (picus viridis)*, quite tropical in its plumage, is still to be found in the neighbourhood. One was seen (and heard!) in the rectory garden in the autumn of 1889. The laugh of this bird is almost human, and it also bears affinity to human kind in another particular, in that its object is to get to the top of the tree.

May	1st.	1 <b>Wheat Ear.</b> <sup>(27)</sup>
	22nd.	17 Rooks at Romely.
	28th.	1 Stare.
	27.	3 Rooks.
In April.		Shot 9 Stares a. o. s.
Sept.	18.	6 Pars.
	23rd.	At Brampton Moor 3 Pars.
	25.	5 Pars.
	29th.	4 Pars., 1 J. Snpe.
	30th.	9 Pars.
Oct.	2nd.	7 Pars. <b>N.B.—2 double shots.</b> <sup>(28)</sup>
	4th.	2 Pars.
	10th.	6 Pars.
Nov.	5.	2 W. C.'s.
Dec.	3.	1 Par.
	5th.	2 W. C's, 1 Hre.
	6th.	1 <b>Hawk with Sparrow,</b> <sup>(29)</sup> 2 Snpes.
	20th.	1 W. C.
	24th.	1 Mallrd., 1 W. Duck, 4 Snpes., 2 Fld. Fres., 1 Redwg. Thrush.
	27.	2 Mallrds., 1 Snpe.
1767. Jan.	3rd.	5 Lars. a. o. s.
	5th.	2 Pars. a. o. s.
	7th.	2 Mallrds., 1 Wld. Duck.
	9th.	1 Par.
	10th.	1 Wat. Hen, 1 Par.
	15th.	1 Crow.
	16th.	1 Magpye, 1 Fld. Fre. a few days before.
	23rd.	2 Pars.
Feby.	3rd.	1 Teal, 1 Snpe. About the middle of Feby. 1 Mallard.

<sup>(27)</sup> *Wheat Ear.*—An occasional specimen of this handsome bird is still to be found in this neighbourhood. It is still to be found in large numbers on the South Downs, although decreasingly so. A hundred years ago their capture and sale in hundreds of dozens added considerably to the income of the South Down shepherds. They prove, it is hardly necessary to say, like the "four and twenty blackbirds, a dainty dish to set before a king."

<sup>(28)</sup> *N.B.—Two double shots.*—For the enlightenment of our non-sporting readers we have thought it well to interpret this phrase, as conveying the idea of a bird falling at each discharge of the old single-barrelled gun. The double-barrel was not in use till 1798–1800.

<sup>(29)</sup> *Hawk with Sparrow.*—Only last winter I freed a thrush from the clutches of this terrible enemy.

*Jan.*—A very intense frost during the whole of this month.—(Belsham's "Chronology.")

May	15.	10 Rooks at home.
Aug.	12.	1 Crow.
	13.	1 Do.
	17.	1 Crow.
	(no date)	1 Rat.
Sept.	1st.	12 Pars. 1 double shot.
	7th.	4 Pars.
	12.	9 Pars.
	14th.	2 Pars.
	17.	1 Rat, 1 Fern Owl, 8 Pars.
	21st.	3 Pars.
	22nd.	1 Squirrel, 8 Pars.
	29th.	4 Pars.
Oct.	1st.	7 Pars.
Nov.	16.	1 Pheasant. H., 1 W. Cock.
	20th.	1 W. C., 1 Snipe.
Dec.	1.	1 Par., 2 Do. a. o. sht.
	4th.	1 W. C.
		One day in Nov. 3 W. C.'s.
	7th.	2 Pars.
	11th.	1 Lark, almost white. <sup>(30)</sup> N.B.—This was the greater Brambling or <i>Emberiza Nivalis</i> of Linnæus. 1 Snpe.
	12th.	2 Pars., 3 W. C.'s.
	15th.	3 Snpes.
	18th.	2 Pars.
	24th.	2 Snpes., 1 Par.
	29th.	1 Mallrd., Wild D.
	30th.	2 Mallrds., 1 Par., 2 Fld. Fres., Fld. Fre. lately.
1768. Jan.	5.	4 Pars., 1 Fld. Fre., 2 Larks.
	8th.	Found 1 Greater Spotted Woodpecker <sup>(31)</sup> in the snow, which I shot yesterday.

<sup>(30)</sup> 1 *Lark almost white*.—The Snow Bunting so familiar to Alpine climbers. Not often found so far south, although Sir Oswald Mosley mentions one having been knocked down by a labourer with a stone near Rolleston Hall in October, 1845. I am tempted to add the following extract from Vol. v. 274 of an old "Sporting Magazine," 1795, Jan. 27:—"Last Thursday Mr. Molineux of this place (*Lewes*) shot a skylark of very singular plumage. It was a beautiful mixture of brown and white." About 30 years ago, a covey of nearly white partridges were hatched in the neighbourhood of Isfield, Sussex, a brace of which were shot by and are now in the possession of my father; while a further bird was secured by the Hon. Sir William Grantham (now one of Her Majesty's judges) of Barcombe Place, Sussex.

<sup>(31)</sup> *Greater Spotted Woodpecker* (*Picus Major*).—Canon Olivier informs me that a few years ago he saw one of these birds at Romely.

	7th.	1 Woodpigeon, a Ringdove, in our garden.	
March.		6 Sparrows.	
July.		1 Bittern.	
Sept.	1.	4 Pars.	
	2nd.	4 Pars.	
	6th.	7 Pars.	
	13th.	2 Pars.	
	17.	1 Par.	
	23rd.	11 Pars. in 10 shots.	
Oct.		2 Sparrows, 1 Green Plover or Lapwing, 1 Heron, 1 Snpe.	
Nov.	7.	1 Par., 3 W. C.'s and $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1 Wild Duck.	
	10th.	1 J. Snpe. and 7 Snpes.	
	14th.	1 Snpe.	
	18th.	1 Hre., 1 Pheasant H., 1 W. Cock, $\frac{1}{2}$ do., $\frac{1}{2}$ do.	
	23rd.	6 W. C.'s, 1 Par., 1 Snpe.	
	25th.	4 Snpes.	
Dec.	6th.	1 W. C.	
	7th.	1 J. Snpe.	
	9th.	3 W. C.'s, $\frac{1}{2}$ do.	
	10th.	1 W. C., 1 Squirrel, 1 Par., 6 Snpes.	
	12th.	2 Snpes., 1 Fld. Fre.	
	14th.	3 Snpes., 1 Ring-Tail Hawk, the female of the <b>Hen Harrier.</b> <sup>(32)</sup>	
	15th.	1 Mallrd., 3 Snpes., 1 Fld. Fre., 5 Larks.	
	19th.	2 Snpes., 1 Par., 1 Fld. Fre., also 1 Snpe. before omitted.	
	22nd.	3 Snpes, 1 Par.	
	23rd.	2 Snpes., 1 Par., 1 Mallard found shot.	
	27th.	2 Snpes.	
	28th.	1 Snpe.	
	30th.	1 W. C., 1 Snpe., 3 Jack Snpes.	
1769.	Jan.	4.	1 Snpe.
		5.	1 Jack Snpe. (Mem : <sup>(33)</sup> <b>Killed the last 14 Snpes. shot at</b> ), 1 Snpe., 3 Wood C.'s
		23rd.	1 Wat. Hen, 1 Hre.
		27th.	4 Stares.
Feb.	14th.	1 W. C., 1 J. Snpe.	

<sup>(32)</sup> *Hen Harrier (Circus Cyaneus)*.—So called on account of a supposed partiality to domestic fowls. Not one of the most common species.

<sup>(33)</sup> Keen sportsmen will at once appreciate rightly this successful sequence of shots.

	7th.	2 J. Snpes.
Sept.		1 Par., 5 do.
In Dec. or Jan. (1770), 1 W. C., 1 Par., 3 Snpes. and W.C., 1 Jay.		
1770.	In Jan.	1 Wd. Cock, 2 Wat. Hens, 1 Crow.
	Feb.	1 Mallrd., 1 Magpye, 1 J. Snpe.
	March 19.	2 W.C.'s, 1 Hre.
	21st.	2 Snpes., 1 Mallrd., 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker, 1 Crow.
	22nd.	2 Snpes.
	26th.	2 Mallrds., 1 Lapwing.
	27th or 28th.	1 Mallrd., 1 Bald Coot, 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Golden Crown'd Wren.
	29th.	1 Snpe., 1 Golden Cr'd. Wren, <sup>(34)</sup> 1 Long- tailed Titmouse, <sup>(34)</sup> 1 Wren, <sup>(34)</sup> 1 Creeper, <sup>(34)</sup> 1 Nuthatch. <sup>(34)</sup>
Sept.	1.	1 Par.
	3rd.	1 Par.
	26th.	Shot upon our pond, swimming, a <b>Grey Scollop- toed Sandpiper</b> <sup>(35)</sup> or <i>Tringulobata</i> of <i>Linnaeus</i> . In shape and size pretty much like a Snipe, weight 1 oz. 1 qr. avoirdupois. From point to point of wings extended nearly sixteen inches. (See Mr. Pennant's description of this bird.)
Nov.	12.	1 Par.
	13.	1 Snpe.
	14.	1 Wd. Cck.
	17.	1 Owl, 1 Snpe., 1 Par.
	19.	1 Snpe., 1 do., 1 Redwg. Thrush.
	20.	1 Snpe., 1 J. Snpe.
	21st.	1 Fld. Fre.

<sup>(34)</sup> *Golden Cr'd Wren, Longtailed Titmouse, Wren, Creeper, Nuthatch.*  
—These were probably shot as specimens for some ornithologist's collection.  
There is a deep superstition in some localities connected with the common  
Wren; it is looked upon as a special favourite of the Almighty in conjunction  
with the Robin.

"Robins and Wrens,  
Are God's own friends;"

is a familiar couplet.

<sup>(35)</sup> *Grey Scollop-toed Sandpiper (Phalaropus Lobatus).*—This specimen is  
noted in Bewick as something very rare. It is far more common now.  
Swaysland, of Brighton, relates that as many as a dozen have been shot in the  
vicinity of Brighton, but always when the weather is very rough. As a rule,  
when they arrive their bodily condition is poor and thin. At such times  
they are tame, and often killed with stones.

	24th.	1 W. C.
	26th.	2 Snpes. flying, at one shot.
	27th.	5 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe.
	28th.	2 Snpes.
	30th.	1 Fld. Fre.
Dec.	4.	4 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe.
	10th.	3 Pars., 2 Snpes., 1 Lark.
	11th.	1 W. C., 1 Snpe.
	15.	1 Snpe., 1 Hre.
	19.	1 W. C., 1 Hare.
	24th.	1 Hare.
1771. Jan.	7.	1 Heron, 3 Larks.
	8th.	1 Mallrd., 1 Wat. Hen., 2 Snpes., 1 Par.
	9th.	1 Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare.
	10th.	1 Snpe., 1 Linnett, 1 Lark, 2 Larks, 16 Larks at one shot.
	11th.	1 Snpe., 3 Fld. Fares, 7 Larks a. o. sht.
	12th.	13 Small Birds a. o. s.
	14th.	1 Par., 9 Smll. Birds a. o. s.
	16th.	1 Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare.
	17th.	2 Fld. Fares, 1 Crow.
	18th.	2 Pars. flyg. a. o. s., 1 do., 3 Crows, 1 Fld. Fare.
	19th.	2 Mallrds., 3 Fld. Fares.
	22nd.	1 Crow, 2 Wld. Ducks at one shot.
	24th.	1 Crow.
	26th.	1 Fld. Fare, 1 Lark.
Feb.	4th.	1 Crow.
	12th.	1 Crow and 1 Rook a. o. shot, 1 Brambling, 1 Titlark, and 10 Chaffinches a. o. s.
	13th.	1 Rook, 1 Fld. Fare.
	14th.	1 Car. Crow.
	15th.	1 Wild Duck.
	16th.	1 Rook.
	21st.	1 Rook.
	22nd.	1 White Owl.
March	9th.	Lapwing, 1 Snpe., 1 Hare.
May.	25th.	1 Magpye, 1 Stare.
	29th.	1 Swift, 1 do.
July.	18th.	1 Crow.
Aug.	12th.	1 Crow, 1 Water Hen.
Latter end of Aug.		2 Crows.
	31st.	1 Wat. Rat and 4 Sparrows.

Sept.	2nd.	3 Pars.	
	3rd.	3 Pars.	
	5th.	1 Crow, 5 Pars.	
	6th.	4 Pars.	
	7th.	5 Pars., $\frac{1}{2}$ do. with <b>Mr. Dixon.</b> <sup>(36)</sup>	
	9th.	4 Pars.	
	10th.	7 Pars.	
	12th.	2 Pars.	
	18th.	3 Pars.	
	19th.	2 Pars., 1 do. catchd. by a Hawk, 1 Wood Pigeon or Ring Dove.	
	20th.	4 Green Linnets.	
	21st.	3 Pars.	
	24th.	5 Pars.	
	25th.	3 Pars.	
	26th.	7 Pars., 1 Crow.	
	27th.	11 Pars., 1 found winged.	
	30th.	3 Pars., 1 Ring Dove.	
Oct.	1st.	10 Pars.	
	2nd.	8 Pars.	
	3rd.	4 Pars., 1 found winged which was supposed to be shot 27 Sept.	
	5th.	6 Pars.	
	10th.	5 Pars.	
	12th.	2 Pars.	
	14th.	1 Par.	
	15th.	6 Pars.	
	16th.	6 Pars.	
	22nd.	5 Pars., $\frac{1}{2}$ Par. with <b>Mr. Dixon.</b> <sup>(36)</sup> N.B. 2 of 'em a. o. shot, 1 Ring Dove.	

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<sup>(36)</sup> *Mr. Dixon*—The Rev. Fletcher Dixon, LL.D., at that time Curate of Staveley; later on, Vicar of Duffield. He was brother-in-law to the Rev. Francis Gisborne, having married his sister Catherine, who died 25th April, 1796, and lies interred at Staveley. A tablet to her memory is affixed to the belfry wall of Staveley Church, with the following inscription: "*To the memory of Catherine Dixon, the truly-beloved wife of the Rev. Fletcher Dixon, Vicar of Duffield, in this county, and daughter of the Rev. James Gisborne, late Rector of this parish. Her exemplary conduct through life, and her pious resignation at the close of it, confirm our hope that she now enjoys those blessed rewards promised to the pious on earth by a merciful God through the merits of Christ. She died 26 day of April, 1796. æt. 65.*" A similar tablet to her husband is inscribed as follows:—"The Revd. Fletcher Dixon, LL.D., son of the late Rev. Joseph Dixon, Vicar of Brigham, in the County of Cumberland, obiit Jan. 6, 1819, ætatis suæ 75." In company with his brother-in-law, Samuel Foxlow occupied Staveley Hall after the death of General Gisborne.

	23rd.	1 Par.
	24th.	2 Pars.
	26th.	1 Par.
	28th.	1 Par., 1 Misseltoe Thrush.
	29th.	1 Young C. or Hen Pheast.
	30th.	4 Pars.
	31st.	1 W. C., 1 Par.
Nov.	1st.	1 Par.
	4th.	4 Pars.
	5th.	2 Pars.
	6th.	1 Par.
	7th.	2 Wat. Hens, 1 Titlark.
	8th.	1 J. Snpe., 5 Wld. Ducks., 2 Pars.
	11th.	1 W. C., 1 Par.
	13th.	1 W. C., 1 Par., 1 Wat. Hen.
	14th.	1 Wat. Hen., 5 Sparrs., 1 W. C., 3 Pars.
	16th.	1 Snpe.
	18th.	1 Crow.
	19th.	1 Squirrel, 3 W. C.'s, 1 Fld. Fare.
	21st.	1 Fld. Fare, 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Snpe., 1 Male Sparrw.
		Hawk which weighd. less than ye Field Fare,
		1 Pign. from a tree, which was taken for a
		Hawk till shot.
	22nd.	1 W. C., 1 W. Lark.
	23rd.	2 Pars.
	25th.	1 W. C.
	26th.	1 Snpe.
	27th.	1 Mallrd. N.B. He weighed 3 lbs. 1 oz. av. nearly,
		1 Wld. Duck, 1 Jay.
	28th.	1 Wat. Rail.
	29th.	1 W. C., 1 Par.
Dec.	2nd.	1 W. C.
	3rd.	2 J. Snpes.
	4th.	1 Wat. Hen, 1 Dipper, <sup>(37)</sup> 1 Wild Duck.
	5th.	1 J. Snpe., 2 Snpes., 1 Par., 2 W. C.
	6th.	4 W. C., 1 J. Snpe., 1 Wat. Hen.

The River Thames was entirely frozen over this year at Fulham, which shows that the weather was exceptionally severe.—(Belsham's "Chronology.")  
<sup>(37)</sup> *Dipper* (*Cinclus Aquaticus*).—This lively, interesting little bird may still be seen on the Dove and the clear running streams of Derbyshire. It may almost be described as amphibious as it has the undoubted power of walking at the bottom of the water.

	10th.	1 J. Snpe.
	11th.	1 W. C., 2 Snpes.
	13th.	2 W. C., 1 Par.
	16th.	1 Snpe.
	18th.	1 Wat. Hen., 1 Jay, 3 J. Snpes.
	19th.	Got a Par. which a Ringtail'd Hawk had just killed.
	20th.	1 Snpe.
	21st.	2 Pars.
1772. Jan.	3.	2 Par., 1 Snpe.
	4.	1 Par.
	6th.	1 Par., 1 Snpe.
	7th.	1 Par.
	8th.	1 Wat. Hen.
	9th.	1 Fld. Fare.
	10th.	2 Fld. Fares.
	13th.	2 Snpes.
	21st.	1 Fld. Fare at Forrest.
	22nd.	2 Car. Crows a. o. shot
	23.	1 Magpye, 1 Redw. Thr.
	24th.	1 Nuthatch, 1 Creeper.
Feb.	1st.	1 Rook.
	4th.	1 Wild Duck, 12 Rooks, 1 Car. Crow.
	5th.	3 Car. Crows.
	6th.	1 Rook, 1 Mallrd.
	7th.	1 Rook.
	18th.	1 Car. Crow.
	28th.	1 Car. Crow, 1 Rook.
	29th.	1 Fld. Fare, 1 Rook.
Mar.	3.	1 Car. Crow.
	6th.	1 Rook.
	9th.	1 Wld. D.
	13th.	1 Rk., 1 Bald Coot, 1 Snpe.
	24th.	1 Magpye.
April	3.	1 Snpe, 1 Wd. C. wd. 13 oz. 10 drs.
	7th.	2 Rks. a. o. s.
	10.	1 Least spotted Cock Woodpecker.
	14th.	1 Lapwing, 3 Stares, 70 or 80 yards off.
	25th.	1 Wryneck.
	29th.	1 Car. Crow from nest. <sup>(38)</sup>

<sup>(38)</sup> *Car. Crow* (*Corvus Corone*) from nest.—This appears at first sight a cruel proceeding, but the habits of this bird are so destructive that it meets generally with no mercy at the hands of sportsmen.

	30th.	1 Rk., 1 Starlg.
May	2nd.	1 Lapwg., 1 Car Crow.
	12th.	1 Car. Crow at Derby. <sup>(39)</sup>
	23rd.	1 Stare, 1 Swallow.
	26th.	1 Rk.
July	23rd.	1 Car Crow.
	24th.	1 Crow, 1 Rk.
	25th.	1 Crow, 1 Jack D., 1 Rk.
	30th.	1 Swift.
Aug.	5.	1 Crow.
	14.	1 Sparr.
	15.	4 Sparrs.
	17.	3 Sparrs.
	19.	4 Sparrs.
	20th.	1 Sparr.
	22nd.	10 Sparrs., 1 Red-backed Butcher Bird. <sup>(40)</sup>
	24th.	34 Sparrs.
	26.	15 Sparrs.
	27.	9 Sparrs., 1 Hedge Sparr., 1 Chub, 1 Stoat. <sup>(41)</sup>
	28.	5 Sparrs., 1 Wryneck.
	31st.	1 Heron, 2 Sparr.
Sept.	1st.	3 Pars., 1 Lapwg.
	2nd.	1 Par. and $\frac{1}{2}$ with Genl. G. <sup>(42)</sup>
	14.	2 Sparrs., also 2 do. before.

<sup>(39)</sup> *At Derby.*—The diarist had several relations there. Tradition says that he not unfrequently walked thither on foot the whole way; and further, that on one occasion, starting forth with the intention of visiting the County Town, he bade his coachman to mount a horse and follow him at his leisure. So literally was the injunction fulfilled, so goes the story, that the good old Rector arrived at his destination before the domestic and the steed.

<sup>(40)</sup> *1 Red-backed Butcher Bird (Lanius Collurio).*—This is the smaller variety, and very common in some parts of England. Its name is derived from its custom of impaling insects, and occasionally small birds, upon the sharp spikes of the blackthorn.

<sup>(41)</sup> *Stoat, &c. (Mustela Erminea).*—Observe the variety of the bag—fish, flesh, and fowl. A few weeks ago I cut the following out of a local paper:—“The other day a singular scene was witnessed in Tideswell Churchyard, when a cat and a stoat were seen to have a fierce fight. The cat had, however, the best of the battle, and the piercing noises made by the combatants attracted a number of people to the spot. The stoat was ultimately killed.” The exceptionally cold winter of 1890 caused the fur of many of these animals to turn white in this county.

<sup>(42)</sup> *Genl. G.*—Major-General James Gisborne, the elder brother of the Rector, a gallant soldier, who held a high position in his day. He was M.P. for the Borough of Lismore, Co. Waterford, in the Irish House of Commons, and Governor of Charlemont. On reference to old army lists, I find the following information concerning him:—In 1763 he was Colonel of the 2nd New Irish Regiment. In 1765 he was Colonel of the 121st Foot. In 1769, he was

15. 2 Crows, 18 **Sparrs.** <sup>(43)</sup>  
 16. 1 Snpe.  
 17. 3 Pars.  
 18. A **Raven** <sup>(44)</sup> flying up hill shot dead and wing broke. 69 yards with **very Short Gun.** <sup>(45)</sup>  
 Weighed 2 lb. 13 oz., Length 2 ft., Breadth 3 ft. 9 inches., 3 Snpes.  
 21. 1 Wat. Hen.  
 22. 1 Sparr.  
 24. 1 Rook, 3 Pars., 1 Lapwg. hit by Genl. G.  
 Sep. 31. 1 Sparr.  
 Oct. 1st. 8 Pars.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  with Genl. G.  
 8. 9 Pars.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  do. with **Mr. Carver.** <sup>(46)</sup>  
 10th. 4 Pars.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  do. with Genl. G.  
 19. 1 Wat. Hen.

Colonel of the 16th Foot, and also held the important post of Quarter-Master General of Ireland. In 1771 he was gazetted as Major-General, and in 1772, apparently, he came to reside at Staveley Hall. The following inscription is to be found on a tablet to his memory in the tower of Staveley Church:—  
*"Within the rails is interred the body of James Gisborne, the eldest surviving son of the late Revd. James Gisborne, a member of the Irish House of Commons, Lieut.-General, and Governor of Charlemont, in Ireland. He married Mary Ann Boyd, Daughter and Co-Heiress of Chas. Boyd, Esqre., of the kingdom of Ireland, by whom he left issue one son and three daughters. He sustained for more than 20 years the attack of a cruel distemper with the utmost fortitude and resignation, which at last put a period to his life, to the sincere regret of all his friends, on the 20 of Feb., 1778, in the 56th year of his age."*

<sup>(43)</sup> 18 *Sparrs* (*Passer Domesticus*).—These amusing, yet at times mischievous birds, were evidently more numerous at Staveley in those days than now. In the Churchwarden's account dated 1770-1, there appears the following item: *Paid for sparrows at various times, 8s. 3d.; and again, 1773, for 5 doz. sparrows, 1s. 3d."*

<sup>(44)</sup> A *Raven* (*Corvus Corax*).—I need hardly say that this bird is no longer to be found in the neighbourhood, and is doubtless becoming more scarce every year in England. Possibly this was one of the Ashover birds which Glover tells us in his day (1829) built annually in a rock called Raven Tor. The Editor informs me that Will De Burg Jessop, Esq., of Overton Hall (close by Ravensnest, the ancient haunt of these birds), is endeavouring to reintroduce the raven to its old locality in the cliffs overlooking the Ashover vale.

<sup>(45)</sup> *Very short gun*.—The following extract from the first vol. of the old *Sporting Magazine* (p. 33), may perhaps enlighten us as to the meaning of these words. Under general instructions for shooting, the writer proceeds as follows:—"And first, with respect to his piece, it is necessary for any gentleman who sports much to have two guns: the barrel of one about two feet nine inches, which will serve very well the beginning of the season and for wood shooting; the other about three feet three inches or upwards for open shooting after Michaelmas: the birds by that time are grown so shy that your shots must be at longer distances."

<sup>(46)</sup> *Mr. Carver*.—In a very old account, with no date, of the overseers of the poor, I find the following entry: "*For going to give Mr. Carver notice of ye trial, £0 1s. 0d. Gave to Mr. Carver £0 10s. 0d.*" Possibly he was a local lawyer, although the name is more suggestive of another honourable profession.

	20.	1 Wat. Hen.
	24.	1 W. C., 1 <b>Foumart</b> . <sup>(47)</sup>
	30th.	1 Jay, 1 Longtailed Titmouse.
	31st.	1 Stare.
Nov.	12.	1 Par.
	13.	3 W. C's.
	16.	2 W. C's.
	17.	5 W. C's.
	19.	1 Par.
	20.	4 Sparrs.
	24.	1 Male Kestrel Hawk weighed 6 oz. $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1 Fld. Fare.
	25.	3 W. C's., 1 Par.
	27.	2 Green Woodpeckers, C. and H.
	30th.	1 Half-Wild Malld., 3 Snpes., 1 W. C., 1 J. Snpe.
Dec.	1, 2.	1 Par., 1 Pheast. (Hen), 1 Trout.
	7.	1 W. C.
	8.	1 J. Snpe., 2 W. C's.
	9.	1 W. C., 1 W. Hen.
	10.	1 W. C., $\frac{1}{2}$ do. with Mr. Dixon, 1 Par.
	11.	3 Snpes., 1 Par., 1 Kingfisher.
	14.	1 Snpe., 1 J. Snpe.
	15.	3 Snpes.
	18.	W. Duck, 2 Pars., 1 W. C., 3 J. Snpes., 4 Snpes., $\frac{1}{2}$ do. with <b>Mr. Adam Slater</b> . <sup>(48)</sup>
	19.	1 Snpe.
	21.	3 Snpes., 2 J. Snpes.
	23.	9 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe.
	24.	3 Snpes.
	26.	3 Snpes.
	28.	3 Snpes.
	30th.	2 W. C's., 1 Car. Crow.

<sup>(47)</sup> *Foumart* or polecat (*Mustela Putorius*). Before the enclosure acts had so great an alteration in the country districts, these animals were evidently very numerous. They were regarded as "Virming" (vermin), and their destruction was recompensed by the churchwardens at 4d. per head. The accounts at this time have many entries to this effect. In 1772 there is a somewhat startling one—"A polecat catching in the Church, £0 os. 6d." They are sometimes described as *Filimarts*. I have seen one specimen in this parish since I came into residence, and watched it for some moments through a field-glass rolling on the green turf like a dog upon a rug in front of the fire.

<sup>(48)</sup> *Mr. Adam Slater*.—He was evidently the local doctor. There is a bill dated April 18, 1828, made out to one Anne Clay for liniment, attendance, and dressing, amounting to 19s. 10d. which was not paid until Sept. 17, 1835.

1773.	Jan.	2nd.	2 Snpes., 1 Mallrd., 1 Wood C., 1 Wat. Rail, 1 less Red-headed Linnet.
		4th.	1 Wat. Hen, 1 Wat. Rail, 1 Redwg. Thrush, 2 Fld. Fares, 3 Snpes.
		5th.	1 Par., 2 Snpes.
		7th.	1 Wat. Rail, 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Snpe., 1 W. C.
		8th.	1 Mallrd., 1 Par., 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Wat. Rat.
		13th.	1 Snpe.
		14th.	1 Snpe.
		15th.	1 Bullfinch.
		16th.	1 Snpe.
		23rd.	1 Fld. Fare, 1 Par.
		26th.	1 Magpye. <sup>(49)</sup>
		27th.	2 W. C.'s, 1 Pheast. (H).
		28th.	1 Par. N.B. winged about a month ago. 1 Kingfisher.
		30th.	2 Larks.
	Feb.	1.	1 Dog Otter, weighed about 14 lbs., length 3 ft. 2 in.
		3rd.	3 Wat. Hens, 3 Snpes., 2 Mallrds.
		4th.	1 Par., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 W. Duck, 1 Mallrd.
		5th.	1 Par., 1 Fld. Fare.
		6th.	1 Little Grebe or Dabchick.
		8th.	1 Fld. Fare.
		9th.	1 Crow.
		10th.	1 Jay, 1 Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare.
		11th.	1 Duck, 1 Mallrd., 2 Wat. Hens, 1 Creeper.
		12th.	1 W. Duck, 1 Wat. Hen, 2 Fld. Fares.
		13th.	1 Mallrd., 2 Snpes.
		15th.	1 W. C.
		16th.	1 Snpe, 1 Golden Crowned Wren.
		17th.	1 Fld. Fare.
		18th.	1 Wat. Hen, 2 Snpes., 1 Blue Titmouse, 2 Snpes.
		24th.	1 W. Cock, 1 Snpe.
		25th.	1 Snpe.
	Mar.	2.	1 Rook.
		4.	1 Redwg. Thrush.
		9.	1 Mallrd., 1 Wild Duck, 2 Rooks a. o. s.

<sup>(49)</sup> 1 *Magpye* (*Pica Caudata*).—Daily becoming more scarce. On taking up my residence at Staveley, I brought with me a tame specimen, taken from a nest on Sinfen Moor. Curiously enough, when the pairing season came round a companion made his appearance for several days around the house, but finally disappeared.

	17.	1 W. Duck and 1 Mallrd. a. o. s. at Mr. Gisborne's at Derby, <sup>(50)</sup> 1 Wild Duck and 1 Mallrd. do. do.
	19.	1 Less Red-headed Linnet at Derby.
	23.	1 Stone Chatterer, 1 Reed Sparrow.
	31st.	1 Stare.
April	5.	1 Fld. Fare.
	27.	1 Wht. Ear.
	30th.	1 Willow Wren.
May	4.	2 Car. Crows a. o. s.
	7.	1 Willow Wren, 8 Rooks.
	14.	1 White Throat, 2 Whin Chats.
June	10.	1 C. Redstart.
July	9.	1 Cuckoo, 1 Sparrow lately.
	20th.	1 Thristle.
Aug.	13.	1 <b>White Sparrow</b> <sup>(51)</sup> with 2 common do. 1 Wat. Hen.
	14.	3 Lapwings a. o. s.
	21st.	1 Kingfisher.
	23rd.	1 Heron.
	27th.	1 Bunting Lark (young). N.B.—Shot in August 5 doz. and 3 Sparrows more, Two Crows, 2 or 3 Wat. Rats, 1 small bird like a Titlark, perhaps a Pipit.
Sep.	1.	1 Crow, 3 Pars., 1 Raven found dead which I shot about a fortnight before.
	4.	4 Pars.
	6th.	2 Rooks, 1 Jack-Daw, a. o. s.
	7th.	3 Pars.
	8th.	1 Par.
	9th.	2 Pars., 2 Sparrows, one of 'em almost black from living in the chimneys.
	11th.	2 Pars.
	13th.	3 Pars. and $\frac{1}{2}$ with Mr. Dixon.
	14th.	1 Par., 1 Heron.
	15th.	5 Pars., 9 Snpes.

<sup>(50)</sup> *At Mr. Gisborne's, Derby.*—Mr. John Gisborne, afterwards of Yoxall, Co. Stafford, the uncle of the diarist.

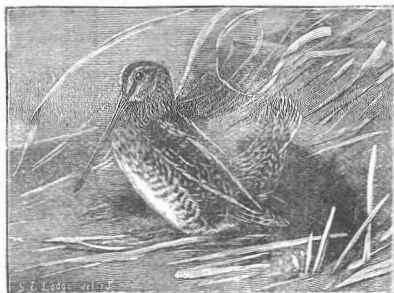
<sup>(51)</sup> *1 White Sparrow.*—*A propos* of white plumage, the Rookery at Staveley Rectory has long possessed a white Rook, or very nearly so. The bird is well-known to many of the inhabitants. A pied Blackbird is also a denizen of The Rectory Garden.

- 16th. 4 Pars., 1 Heron.  
 17th. 8 Pars.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  do. with Mr. Dixon. N.B. Killed 14  
**Shots following.** <sup>(52)</sup>  
 24th. 1 Par.  
 Oct. 1st. 3 Pars. flying a. o. s.  
 5th. 2 Pars.  
 6th. 4 Pars., 1 Rabbit, 1 Stoat. N.B. Killed ten Pars.  
 in 8 Shots.  
 7. 2 Pars., 1 Car. Crow.  
 11th or 12th. 2 Pars.  
 13th. 4 Pars.  
 14th. 5 Pars.  
 15th. 1 Par.  
 16th. 3 Pars.  
 18th. 4 Pars., 2 Snpes., 2 Sparrs.  
 19. 5 Pars.  
 20. 2 Pars.  
 22. 1 Jack Snpe., 5 Sparrs., 8 Pars.  
 Nov. 1. **At Needwood Forest** <sup>(53)</sup> 2 Wd. Cks.  
 5th. 4 Pars., 1 Snpe.  
 8th. 1 Par.  
 9th. 2 Pars.  
 10th. 1 Magpye winged. Found a Hen Harrier dead  
 which I had shot 20 days ago.  
 11th. 1 Woodcock.  
 13. 1 Field Fare, 1 J. Snpe.  
 16. 1 Snpe., 1 Par., 1 do. with Mr. Adam Slater.  
 17th. 1 Wood Owl.  
 18th. 1 W. C., 2 Snipes a. o. s., there being but two.  
 19. 1 Par.  
 20. 1 Wat. Rail, 1 Nuthatch, 1 Par., 1 Car. Crow  
 which weighed 22 oz.  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

<sup>(52)</sup> 14 Shots following.—Surely a feat worth recording with the old single barrel.

<sup>(53)</sup> *At Needwood Forest*, in Staffordshire. Probably on a visit to his uncle, Mr. John Gisborne, who spent his later years at Yoxall, which adjoins Needwood. The hollies of this forest have long been famous, and no one who is familiar with the Woodcock's haunt will be surprised to find a brace of these toothsome birds associated with the day's sport. "On a bright warm day be sure to rattle the holly bushes and laurels. They will both be likely finds—the former a certain one if cock are about. The thick varnished leaves of the holly prevent the radiation of heat from the soil, and in frost are little affected by the refrigerating influence of the clear sky, so that they offer either a warm or cold shelter for the bird as required." (Badminton Library "Moor & Marsh," p. 131.)

- 22nd. 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Dabchick, 1 Wat. Hen, 6 Snpes.  
 24. 1 Dabchick, 1 Fld. Fare, 5 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe.  
 26. 1 Par., 1 Snpe., 1 J. Snpe., 1 Jack Snpe. found  
 shot, 1 Dabchick.  
 27. 1 Sparrow Hawk, male, weighed 5 oz. full, 1 Snpe.,  
 1 Jack do., 1 Par.  
 29. 2 J. Snpes., 6 Snpes.  
 30. 1 Wat. Hen, 7 Snpes., 1 Sparr. Hawk (female),  
 weighed 10 oz.  $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- Dec. 2nd. 3 W. Cocks.  
 6. At Needwood Forest, 1 Nuthatch, 3 W. Cocks.  
 7. 1 Snpe., 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Par., 2 Wd. Cocks.  
 9. 1 Snpe.  
 11. 1 Wat. Hen., 1 Par., 1 Duck Teal, 3 Snpes.  
 13th. 1 Snpe., 1 Par., both almost in the dark.  
 14th. 1 **Colemouse**,<sup>(54)</sup> 1 Golden Crownd. Wren.  
 15th. 1 Snpe., 1 Jack Snpe., do.  
 30th. 1 Snpe., 2 Jack Snpes.
1774. Jan. 1st. 5 Snpes.  
 3rd. 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Fld. Fare, 3 Snpes., 1 J. Snpe.  
 4th. 2 Snpes., 1 Lark.  
 5th. 1 Grn. Wd. Pecker, 2 Titlarks, 1 Wd. Cock, 2  
 Snpes., 4 J. Snpes.  
 6th. 1 Mallrd., 1 Snpe., 1 Dabchick.  
 8th. 1 Fld. Fare, 2 Snpes.  
 10th. 3 Fld. Fares, 6 Snpes., 4 J. Snpes., **one of 'em**  
**Sitting**,<sup>(55)</sup> 1 Wd. Cock on grnd., 1 Wild Duck.



*This Block is kindly lent by Messrs. Longmans and Co.*

<sup>(54)</sup> 1 *Colemouse* (*parus aler*).—A pair build yearly in a very ancient laburnum tree in the Rector's Garden.

<sup>(55)</sup> *One of 'em Sitting*.—Through the courtesy of Messrs. Longman, we are allowed to reproduce the accompanying representation of a Snipe sitting from

	12th.	14 Chaffinches, &c., a. o. s., 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Wat. Rail.
	14th.	1 Car. Crow.
	19th.	1 Snpe., 1 Jack Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare.
	20th.	5 Pars., 2 of 'em a. o. s. rising.
	22nd.	1 Magpye, 1 Fld. Fare.
	24th.	White Owl.
	28th.	3 Sparrs., 1 Par.
	31.	1 Snpe., 1 Mallrd. almost eaten up by some bird or vermin, 1 W. Duck.
Feb.	3rd.	1 Large Spotted Woodpecker, Cock Bird, 1 Snpe. on ground.
	4th.	1 Par., 1 J. Daw, 1 Magpye wingd., left.
	5th.	1 Snpe., 1 J. Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare.
Mar.	3rd.	1 Heron, weighd 4 lbs. !
	5th.	2 W. Cocks (at Mr. Gisb. of Derby.).
	12th.	1 Mallrd., 2 Mallrds., 1 Duck, 1 Mallrd.
	14th.	2 Mallrds., 1 Duck, 1 Mallrd., 1 Rook.
	16th.	1 Car. Crow.
	17.	1 Snpe.
	18th.	1 Red-Headd. Crested Female Smew, <sup>(56)</sup> wd. 19 oz.
	21st.	1 Male Kestrel.
	22nd.	2 Snpes.
	25th.	1 Mallrd., 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Small Pike, 1 do.
	26th.	1 Mallrd., 1 Snpe., 1 Wheatear, 1 Lapwing.

the Badminton Series ("Shooting in Moor and Marsh," p. 149.) A Snipe always sits with his back to the wind. I watched a wisp of these birds settle upon a favourite boggy spot in Staveley about two winters ago, which might have been bagged in the same manner as the bird in question. *A propos* of Jack Snipes, the following story was told to me by my father. "These birds are known to afford continuous sport by most provokingly settling again and again within easy shooting range. And in the days of the French wars, when French prisoners were quartered here and there in England, one of these little birds, whose habitat was in a marsh close to the high road, was flushed repeatedly, and as repeatedly missed by one of several French officers on parole in a southern county. Time went on, and at length peace was signed, and intimation was given to 'Monsieur' that he might return to his native country. The coach which conveyed him to the nearest seaport traversed the high road which lay contiguous to the Jack Snipe's favourite haunt. '*Stay one moment*,' he cried to the coachman, on reaching this spot, '*while I have a last look at my friend, the Snipe.*' He sprang from the coach, entered the boggy covert. Up rose the Snipe. Alas ! for the last time. For the bird was knocked down by the long lash of the coachman's whip !"

<sup>(56)</sup> 1 Red-Headed Crested Female Smew (*Mergus albellus*).—Is only to be seen in very severe winters.

	31st.	1 Car. Crow.
April	2nd.	1 Car. Crow.
	4th.	1 Wd. Lark.
	5th.	1 Reed Sparrow (cock.)
	8th.	1 Magpye off her nest.
	12th.	Car. Crow off nest.
	18th.	1 Rook.
	21st.	2 Yellow Water Wagtails, 1 Rook, 1 Car. Crow off nest.
	27th.	1 Wood-pigeon, 1 <b>Hen Dotterel</b> , <sup>(57)</sup> 1 Cock do.
	28th.	1 Cock Dotterel, 1 Wheatear (c).
May	4th.	1 Rook.
	6th.	2 Sparrs.
	9th.	1 Wryneck, 1 Willow Wren, 1 Sanderling or Sandpiper.
	10th.	1 Swift.
	11th.	Abt. 15 Rooks.
	12th.	Abt. 31 Rooks.
	14th.	1 Rook.
July	22nd.	1 Car. Crow.
Aug.	25th.	A Wryneck.
	30th.	1 Young Mallrd.
Sept.		1 Par., 1 do., 1 do., 1 do., 3 do.
Abt. Oct.	11th.	1 Car. Crow.
	14th.	1 Ringtailed. Hawk, wd. only 12 oz. $\frac{1}{2}$ .
	21st.	2 Pars.
	24.	5 Pars., 1 Snpe.
	27th.	1 Car. Crow.
	29	1 Par., caught a Dormouse alive in <b>Stubbing Wood</b> . <sup>(58)</sup>
Nov.	2.	2 Pars.
	6th.	1 Snpe.
	9th.	1 Teal Duck, anothr. left in <b>Woodthorpe Dam</b> , <sup>(59)</sup> 4 Starlings, Lessr. Horned Owl, 5 Snpes., 1 Jack do.
	10th.	2 Snpes.
	11th.	1 Wood C., 1 Snpe.

<sup>(57)</sup> 1 *Hen Dotterel* (*Charadrius Morinellus*).—Occasionally still to be met with in Derbyshire.

<sup>(58)</sup> *Stubbing Wood*.—In the neighbourhood of Chesterfield.

<sup>(59)</sup> *Woodthorpe Dam*.—Woodthorpe is a considerable hamlet in Staveley parish, but the Dam is no longer in existence.

12. 1 Par., 1 Smll. Bird.  
 14. 1 Snpe., 1 W. C., 1 Par.  
 16. 1 Female Sparr. Hawk, wd. 9 oz.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2 Snpes. 1 J. Snpe. N.B.—1 Snpe. left shot in Woodthorpe Dam.  
 17th. 3 Snpes., 2 J. Snpes., 1 Car. Crow.  
 21st. 1 Snpe., wd. 5 oz. 6 drs., 1 do.  
 22nd. 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Lark, 1 Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 do.  
 23rd. 1 Tawney Owl, 1 Fld. Fare, 1 do., 1 do., 1 do.  
 24th. 4 Snpes.  
 28th. 3 Snpes.  
 29th. 2 Snpes., 2 Pars. a. o. s.  
 N.B.—The Tawney Owl above, a female, wd. 19 oz.  $\frac{1}{4}$ .  
 A male do. shot by Mr. Dixon same day, wd. 13 oz.  $\frac{1}{4}$ .  
 Dec. 1st. 1 Snpe., 1 do., 2 Snpes. a. o. s.  
 2nd. 2 Wood Larks, 1 Sky Lark.  
 5th. 1 Snpe., 1 Squirrel.  
 6th. 1 J. Snpe., 1 fem. Spar. Hawk, wd. 10 oz., 1 Hen Bullfinch.  
 8th. 2 J. Snpes., 1 Snpe., 1 Cock Par., wd. 16 oz.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1 Hen Par., wd. 13 oz.  
 10th. 1 Snpe., 1 Par.  
 N.B.—In the course of the last 3 weeks Mr. Dixon shot 2 Bramblings. He shot at a Royston Crow in Staveley ye 9th. On the 10th I saw a bird upon a piece of ice in Poolsbrook, which I guessed to be a **Chelasser Dun Diver**.<sup>(60)</sup> Saw also a small bird about the size of a Thrush upon an ash tree, which I never saw before, and guessed to be the **Chatterer or Garrulus Bohemicus**.<sup>(61)</sup> The same day shot at some **Wild Geese**.<sup>(62)</sup> The weather was now, and some time before had been, very severe with frost and snow, &c., and the

<sup>(60)</sup> *Dun Diver* or *Goosander* (*Mergus Merganser*).—Mr. Hutchinson, the taxidermist, of London Road, Derby, reports that he received one of these handsome birds during last winter from Anchor Church and Twyford district.

<sup>(61)</sup> *Chatterer* or *Bohemian Waxwing* (*Pombycilla garrula*).—Probably the rector was correct in his surmise, although the Waxwing must be regarded as a rare bird, though occasionally visiting us in large numbers.

<sup>(62)</sup> *Wild Geese*.—The variety is not mentioned. A most difficult bird to approach. Three Specimens of the Bean Goose were shot upon the Trent in the neighbourhood of Repton in the winter of 1890.

account of the weather from the North of Europe, mentioned the frost to have set in earlier, and more severe than had been known of some years.

	12th.	1 Fld. Fare and Redwg. a. o. s., 1 Redwg.
	13th.	2 J. Snpes., 1 Par., 1 Reed Sparrow (c), 2 Sparrs.
	14th.	1 Mallrd. Teal, wd. 14 oz., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 J Snpe., 2 Snpes.
		N.B.—Shot this summer 5 or 6 doz. of Sparrs.
	17th.	1 Wat. Hen, 4 Snpes.
	19th.	1 Snpe., 5 oz. 2 drs.
	22nd.	1 Fld. Fare, 1 Jack Snpe.
	26th.	1 J. Snpe.
	27th.	1 Snpe.
	29th.	1 Wat. Hen.
	30th.	1 Par., 1 Mallrd., wd. 3 lb. and near 1 oz.
1775. Jan.	2nd.	3 Snpes.
	5th.	1 Missel Thr., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Snpe., 1 Jack do.
	6th.	1 Lessr. Hornd Owl, wd. 13½ oz., 1 Snpe.
	9th.	2 Snpes.
	13th.	2 Car. Crows a. o. s., 1 Fld. Fare.
Feb.	25th.	1 Wood C.
Aug.	12.	3 Moor Game, ½ do. with Mr. Adam Slater, about 6 or 8 Sparrows.
	21.	2 Sparrs.
Sept.	1st.	5 Pars., 2 of 'em a. o. s.
	2nd.	1 Heron, wd. 4 lbs. 11 oz., 1 Par.
	4th.	13 Pars.
	5th.	4 Pars., 1 Goatsucker, 2½ oz., 5 Pars.
	7th.	4 Pars.
	8th.	1 Par.
	9th.	3 Pars., 2 of 'em a. o. s., 1 Land Rail.
	11th.	9 Pars., 2 of 'em a. o. s. on ground, ½ Par. with Mr. Dixon. <sup>(63)</sup>
	12th.	2 Pars.
	15th.	1 Par.
	16th.	2 Pars., ½ do. with Mr. Dixon.
	20th.	4 Pars.

<sup>(63)</sup> *With Mr. Dixon.*—The Rector and his curate appear to have lived on the most amicable terms, and to have shared, not only the responsible duties of the ministerial office, but also the enjoyments of the field, and the birds which were bred on it.

	22nd.	7 Pars.
	23rd.	4 Pars.
	25th.	3 Pars., $\frac{1}{2}$ do. with Mr. Dixon.
	26th.	1 Par., 3 do.
	28th.	6 Pars., 2 of 'em a. o. s., 1 Sparr.
	29th.	3 Pars.
	30th.	4 Pars.
Oct.	2nd.	4 Pars.
	3rd.	3 Pars.
	5th.	4 Pars., 2 of 'em a. o. s., 2 Crows flying a. o. s.
	9th.	8 Pars.
	10th.	4 Pars.
	11th.	1 Par.
	12th.	1 Par.
	19th.	1 Crow.
	23rd.	1 Quail, Par.
	26.	1 Par.
	27th.	2 Pars.
	28th.	1 Par.
	30th.	2 Pars., 2 J. Snpes, 1 Magpye.
	31st.	2 Pars. a. o. s.
Nov.	3rd.	3 Pars.
	8th.	1 J. Snpe.
	9th.	1 Woodcock.
	10th.	2 Pars., 1 of 'em rising.
	15th.	1 <b>Lapwing</b> . <sup>(64)</sup>
	16th.	4 Snpes.
	21st.	Duck Widgeon, wd. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. N.B.—1 W. Cock 13 Novr.
	22nd.	1 J. Snpe., 5 Sparrows, 1 Snpe.
	23rd.	3 J. Snpes.
	25th.	2 W. Cocks, $\frac{1}{2}$ do. with <b>Mr. Rodes</b> . <sup>(65)</sup>
	28th.	1 J. Snpe., 4 Snpes., 1 Wat. Hen.
Dec.	4th.	1 Fld. Fare.
	5th.	1 Snpe., 3 Larks a. o. s., 2 Fld. Fares.

<sup>(64)</sup> 1 *Lapwing* (*Vanellus Cristatus*).—Large numbers of the common or Green Plover as they are usually termed are still to be found in the parish. I am somewhat surprised, however, to find no mention at all made of the Golden Plover, inasmuch as flocks of this beautiful bird sometimes remain here for weeks together. Their shrill note and their graceful flight render them special objects of interest.

<sup>(65)</sup> *Mr. Rodes*.—Mr. Cornelius H. Rodes, of Barlborough Hall, or some member of this very ancient family.

- 6th. 2 Snpes., 1 Bittern, wd. 2 lbs.  $\frac{3}{4}$ , 1 **Kingfisher**.<sup>(66)</sup>  
 7. 1 Par.  
 8th. 4 Snpes., 2 J. Snpes., 1 Wat. Rail.  
 9th. 1 Fld. Fare.  
 11th. 6 Snpes., 1 Wat. Rail, 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Par.  
 12th. 4 Snpes., 1 Par.  
 21st. 1 Mallrd., 1 Wat. Hen (left).  
 22nd. 5 Larks.  
 28th. 2 Fld. Fares a. o. s., 1 Wat. Hen.  
 29th. 1 Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare, 3 Larks.  
 1776. Jan. 9th. 1 Weasel, wd. 4oz.  $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
 11th. 1 Snpe. on ground, 1 Jack-Daw supposed to have been taken away by the Crows.  
 12th. 1 Magpye.  
 15th. 1 Goosander, wd. 4 lbs.  $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
 17th. 1 Goosander, wd. 3 lbs. 11 oz. Shot at a large Otter at 11 yds. distant (with No. 1) upon the water.  
 22nd. 2 Wat. Hens.  
 27th. 1 Wat. Hen., wd. 7 oz., 1 Par. wd. 11  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.  
 N.B.—**The Weather**<sup>(67)</sup> for 20 days past was severely frosty and the ground covered with snow.  
 29th. Catchd a Partridge supposed to have been hit on the 27th, which wd. only 9 oz.  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Two Crows.  
 Feb. 1st. 2 Crows.  
 12. 1 Lapwg.  
 15th. 1 Mallrd.  
 16th. Mr. Rodes gave me a long-eared Bat, which wd. 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  drachms.  
 Aug. 12. 1 Old Cock Grouse, 1 Young Cock do.  
 23rd. 1 Old Cock Grse., 1 Poot, 1 do.  
 1777. Aug. 12. 5 Grouse Poots.

<sup>(66)</sup> 1 *Kingfisher* (*Alcedo Ispida*).—These delightful, bright-plumaged birds still haunt the streams around. I can usually get a glimpse in my walks abroad of this the most beautiful and quaint of British birds. Last year one of my curates met some lads with a nest of nearly full-fledged young ones. He took compassion on them and endeavoured to rear them, but with no success.

<sup>(67)</sup> *The Weather*, &c.—In a little chronology compiled by Belsham, I find the following entry:—"1776, Jan. 7. A fall of snow. The greatest ever remembered in this country." This would account for the natural advent of the rarer water birds, as the Goosander, etc.

19. 2 Old Cock Grouse, 2 Old Hens do., 2 Poots do.  
 Sept. & Oct. Shot 8 or ten Brace of Pars., 1 **Land-rail**.<sup>(68)</sup>  
 Oct. 17. Shot at a male Sparr. Hawk off our Barn.

1778.—In Aug. at Southprt., 1 Crow, 1 Pign. a. o. s.

Sept. Staveley, 2 Pars.

Oct. 1 Woodcock in company with **Mr. D. Foxlow**; <sup>(69)</sup> also 1 Snpe., 1 Jack do., 1 Par., 1 Snpe. before.

Novr. 4 or 5 Snpes., 1 W. C., 1 Par., 1 Rat.

1779.<sup>(70)</sup> Jan. 7. 1 Snpe., 1 Mallrd., 8 Rooks.

Friday, May 28, 1779. Shot from off a Gate-post at the corner of the Bridge over the Forge Rivulet, in the Sproulesley, near the Pastures Gate, **an Osprey**,<sup>(71)</sup> which agreed in its marks very nearly with Mr. Pennant's description of that Bird, except that this bird weighed only 59 oz. avoirdupois, but the wings extended tight measured from tip to tip five feet six inches and a half. N.B.—The above was in good condition, but with an empty stomach. The legs short, but the thighs pretty long. The talons semicircular and black, and nearly of equal length; the underside of the feet and toes remarkably rough with horny points, for the better holding of its slippery prey; the outer toe so movable as to form a second hind toe, and a third forward, as in Owls. Not the least sign of the left foot's

<sup>(68)</sup> 1 *Landrail* (*Crex Pratensis*).—The keeper of the Staveley Cemetery mowed over a nest of the eggs of this bird in the summer of 1891. Unfortunately, although endeavours were made to secure the hatching, the nest was ultimately forsaken.

1778.—This was the year in which the Rector lost his brother, the General. It is more than probable that this bereavement prevented for the time so keen an interest being taken in the use of the gun.

<sup>(69)</sup> *Mr. D. Foxlow*.—Some member of the Foxlow family whom I cannot identify. Samuel Foxlow married as second wife the Rector's sister, Dorothy, and along with the Rev. Fletcher Dixon, who married the other sister, Catherine, occupied Staveley Hall in two tenements for many years.

<sup>(70)</sup> 1779.—A frost this winter lasted 84 days. (Belsham's "Chronology.")

<sup>(71)</sup> *An Osprey* (*Pandion Halliaetus*).—This, no doubt, is the most important and most interesting entry in the whole register. It speaks for itself, and only the enthusiast in the pursuit of any science or any "ology" can enter into the feelings of the good Rector as he watched this "rara avis" topple off the post from a charge, probably, of the long gun, and carried his somewhat unwieldy prize home. There, making the very careful description which finds place in this register. What a tale he must have had to tell to his brother sportsmen of this grand bird! Mr. Gisborne's second cousin, the Rev. Thos. Gisborne, of Yoxal Lodge, thus writes in his poetical work, "Walks in a Forest":—

"And ospreys plunging from their cloudy height  
 With leaden fall precipitate, the waves  
 Cleave with deep-dashing breast, and, labouring, rise  
 Talons and beak o'erloaded."

being sub-palmated, as mentioned by Linnæus. The feathers on the thighs white, not long, and reaching very little below the knees; the wings and talons remarkably long and strong. Sent the above to Sr. A. Lever, who received it safe.

- Aug. 25. Shot 6 Snipes, also 3 Snipes in Aug.  
 Sept. 1st. 11 Pars.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  with Mr. Dixon, 2 Snipes.  
 Also the Beginning of September  
 2 Pars. and 4 Snipes, 1 of them not got.  
 Also 3 Snipes and a Kestrel Hawk,  
 And a Ringtailed Hawk and 1 Snipe  
 1 Sandpiper, 8 Pars.  
 1 Snipe, and 1 got hit before.  
 2 Pars., 1 Snipe., 4 Pars.
- Sept. 30th. 3 Snipes.  
 Oct. 6th. 6 Pars., 1 Snipe., 1 Snipe., 3 Snipes., 6 Pars., 1 Par.,  
 3 Snipes. **with long gun.** <sup>(72)</sup>
- Oct. 30th. } 1 Snipe., 1 Jack do., 1 Snipe., 2 Snipes., 3 Jack do.  
 Nov. 1st. }  
 5th. 3 Snipes., 1 Wild Duck, 1 Par. winged not got, 2  
 Snipes., 2 Wat. Hens, 3 Snipes, 2 Larks, 1  
 Kingfisher, 1 Snipe., 1 J. Snipe.
- Also before, 1 Lapwing, 2 Snipes., + 2 Snipes., + 1 Snipe.
- Nov. 29. 1 Cock.  
 Dec. 1. 4 Snipes., 1 lost, 1 Woodpigeon, 23 oz. 2 drs.  
 3 Snipes., 1 Wat. Hen.  
 1 Snipe., 1 Par., in company with **Mr. Bright  
 of Inkersoll.** <sup>(73)</sup>
- 11th. 1 Woodcock, 1 Snipe., 1 Jack do.  
 13th. 1 Snipe., 3 Larks.  
 14th. 6 Snipes., 1 Fld. Fare.

<sup>(72)</sup> *With Long Gun.*—Here is further evidence of the keen and thorough sportsman, being in possession of two distinct fowling pieces of unequal length. Some of these old long guns were deadly weapons. Tradition preserves their prowess. Grey-headed keepers will tell you interesting stories of the old long muzzle-loader—of its owner, e.g., being in company with some fellow sportsmen furnished with the (then) new percussion fire. A covey is flushed. Bang! bang! go on either side the new-fashioned barrels. But the birds fly away unharmed. Nervously toying with his deadly long barrel, the old sportsman with a wave of the hand (or, perhaps, taking a pinch of snuff from his waistcoat pocket), says, jauntily to his comrades, “*Have you all finished, gentlemen?*” and raising the long gun quickly to his shoulder brings down one or perhaps a brace (a. o. s.) as the covey towers the boundary hedge of the field.

<sup>(73)</sup> *Mr. Bright of Inkersoll.*—Inkersoll is a hamlet within the parish of Staveley which still retains its agricultural character. The family of Bright were evidently old inhabitants of Staveley. A Mr. Thomas Bright of Inkersoll was churchwarden in 1743, and was apparently buried in 1774. In 1780, Henry, son of Paul Bright, of Inkersoll, was baptized.

1780. In Jan. Shot 4 Jack Daws upon Mr. Flint's stack.  
 Beginning of April. Shot a Wryneck at Derby.  
 Latter end of April. Shot 1 Rook, 1 Car. Crow.  
 Aug. 12th. 1 Moor Game.  
 Sept.<sup>(74)</sup> 3 Pars., 2 of 'em a. o. s., 3 Dace, 11 Sparrs., 1 Wheatear, 6 Pars., 2 Pars.  
 Day before also. 2 Lapwings, 1 **Mid Spotted Woodpecker**,<sup>(75)</sup> 4 Pars., 3 Pars., 15 Sparrows, 1 Par., 3 Snpes., 1 Lapwing, 9 Pars., 1 Par., 1 Par., 1 Snpe.  
 Oct.<sup>(74)</sup> 3 Pars., 1 Par. at Derby, 1 Misseltoe Thrush, 13 Lapwings, 11 Sparrows, 1 Snpe., 3 Lapwings, 2 of 'em a. o. s., with Mr. Gisborne, 1 Snpe., 3 Lapwings before a. o. s. with Mr. Gisborne, 2 Jays.  
 Nov. 3. 1 W. Cock.  
 4. 1 Par., 1 Snpe., 1 W. C. in company with Mr. Gisborne.  
 28th. 2 Snpes.  
 1781. Jan. 5. 1 Wat. Hen, 3 Pars.  
 Mar. Caught 6 Trout, 1 Chub, some small Perch at **Cresswell**.<sup>(76)</sup>  
 24th. Caught 8 Pike at Pebbly Dam from 3 to  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 in the afternoon, which weighed about 13 lbs.  
 Friday, { 21 Pike at Pebbly Dam, near 2 lbs. each on an average.  
 April 27. { N.B.—Caught 16 or 17 of the last above with one and the same dead Bullhead<sup>(77)</sup> in the afternoon.  
 May 18. 5 Trout at Cresswell.  
 Sept. 1st. Shot 3 Pars., 1 Sparrow Hawk flying over our garden, having shot 1 do. do. sometime since.  
 Shot also in Sept. a Hawk from our garden resembling a Merlin, but in some respects

<sup>(74)</sup> Sept., Oct.—Here we have a more general statement of the month's shooting.

<sup>(75)</sup> *Mid Spotted Woodpecker*.—A long discussion has taken place as to the existence of this third variety of Woodpecker, in addition to the "Greater" and the "Lesser" Spotted bird of this genus. The conclusion arrived at is that it is merely the young of the former of these two birds, and has no independent existence.

<sup>(76)</sup> *Cresswell*.—A small hamlet in the parish of Elmton, famous for its picturesque surroundings, and also noted for its recent interesting geological discoveries.

<sup>(77)</sup> *The same dead Bullhead (Cottus Gobio)*.—This reads like fishing in a private stew, and is certainly a very interesting and uncommon experience. The Rector seems to have been as successful with the rod as with the gun. April is now a close month for this voracious fish. The largest I ever saw taken weighed 28 lbs., and was a short, deep-girthed fish.

- different. Shot also in Sept. abt. 25 brace more Partridges or nearer 30 Brace.
- In Oct. Abt. 20 brace of Pars., 1 Cock Pheasant and 1 Sparrow Hawk, male, 1 Bunting, and  
on 29th. 1 W. Cock, 12 Sparrs. a. o. s. in Oct.
- Dec. 11. 1 Snpe., 1 Jack do., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Snpe., 1 Jack do.
1782. Aug. 12. 1 Grouse.  
in Aug. also. 4 Crows, 5 Sparrows.  
Sept. 1 Brace of Partridges.  
Oct. Abt. 6 Brace do., some Sparrows, 1 Land Rail, 4 Field Fares, 6 Snpes. Also 20 Snpes., 2 of 'em a. o. s. and 1 of 'em a Jack Snpe., 2 Woodcocks, 2 Pars., 4 Sparrs., 1 Lark, 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Thrush, 4 Wat. Hens., 1 Wild Duck.  
26th. 1 Wat. Hen, 2 Fld. Fares, 1 Snpe.  
27th. 2 Fld. Fares, 1 Snpe.  
29th. 2 Fld. Fares, 1 Snpe., 1 Kingfisher, 3 Snpes., 6 Fld. Fares. N.B.—3 of 'em a. o. s., 2 Wat. Hens, 1 Redwing, 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Rook, 1 Fld. Fare, 1 do.
- Dec. 13th. 1 Fld. Fare, 5 Larks, 4 Starlings, 2 Snpes., 2 Wat. Hens a. o. s., 1 Fld. Fare, 2 Fld. Fares, 1 Car. Crow.
1783. April 10th. 18 Pike, caught at Pebbly Dam, weight of 'em abt. 20 lbs. N.B.—4 do. caught lately at **Cawforth Puddle**,<sup>(78)</sup> one of 'em near 3 lbs. weight, 3 or 4 more at do.
- Sept. 1 and beginning of Oct. Shot 11 Brace of Pars., 2 or 3 doz. Sparrs., about one dozen and a half of Starlings, 1 Lapwing, 3 Snpes.
- Oct. 13. 3 Pars. (2 of 'em a. o. s.), 1 Snpe., 1 Royston Crow.  
15th. 1 Rook.  
17. 1 Par., 2 Snpes., 1 Jack do., 2 Wat. Hens.  
20th. 2 Pars., 1 Wat. Hen.  
23rd. 3 Pars.  
24th. 1 Par., 1 Snpe.  
25. 2 Snpes., 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Par.  
27. 1 Snpe., 1 Wat. Hen not got.  
29th. 2 Pars., 3 Snpes.

(78) *Cawforth Puddle*.—I cannot identify this piece of water.

Nov.	3rd.	1 Par.
	4th.	1 Snpe.
	6th.	1 Snpe.
	8th.	1 Sparrow Hawk, male, wd. 5 oz., 3 Snpes., 2 Woodcocks.
	10th.	1 Snpe., 1 Jack do.
	11th.	2 Snpes., 1 Wat. Hen.
	12th.	4 Snpes., 1 Par.
	14th.	2 Snpes.
	15th.	1 Fld. Fare.
	18th.	1 Woodcock, 1 Jack Snpe., 1 Kingfisher.
	20th.	1 Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare, 1 Redwing.
	21st.	2 Snpes., 1 Spotted Woodpecker.
	22nd.	1 Jack Snpe.
	24th.	1 Fld. Fare., 1 Redwing a. o. s.
	25th.	1 Wat. Hen, 1 Kingfisher, 2 Snpes.
	27th.	4 Snpes., 1 Jack do., 1 Wat. Hen, 1 Par., 5 Starlings a. o. s.
	28th.	7 Snpes.
	29th.	1 Snpe.
Decr.	1st.	3 Snpes.
	2nd.	8 Snpes., 1 of 'em on ground, 1 Jack do., 1 Fld. Fare, 2 Wat. Hens.
	3rd.	1 Snpe., 1 Par.
	4th.	1 Kingfisher, 1 Snpe., 1 Fld. Fare, 2 Sparrs.
	8th.	1 Snpe.
	10th.	3 Snpes.
	11th.	2 Snpes., 1 Jack do.
	12th.	1 Snpe., 1 Wat. Rail.
	13th.	1 Jack Snpe. N.B. 1 Snpe left dead in water.
	15.	1 Duck Teal, 1 Mallrd. do.
	16.	2 Wat. Hens, 2 Snpes., 1 Brambling, 1 Starling.
	17.	1 Wat. Hen, 1 Wat. Rail, 1 Snpe., 1 Jack do.
	18.	3 Snpes., 1 Par., 1 Dabchick.
	19.	1 Snpe.
	20.	1 Mallrd. Teal, 1 Snpe.
	22nd.	1 Snpe., 1 Duck Teal.
	23rd.	1 Snpe.
	24th.	2 Wat. Hens, 2 Snpes., 1 Mallrd. Teal, 7 Larks a. o. s., 1 Rook.
	27th.	1 Snpe.
	29th.	3 Snpes., 2 Wild Ducks.
	30th.	4 Snpes., 1 Wat. Hen, 15 Larks.

1784. Jan.	1st.	1 Wat. Hen, 2 Snpes.
	3rd.	4 Larks and 1 Chaffinch a. o. s. in garden.
	7th.	1 Wild Duck.
	12.	1 Snpe.
	20th.	1 Car. Crow.
	22nd.	1 Fld. Fare.
	24th.	1 Wat. Hen.
Feb.	8th.	19 Sparrs. a. o. s. off Garden Wall.
	13.	1 Rook, 1 Crow a day or two before.
	16.	1 Rook.
Mar.	13.	1 Wild Duck.
	18.	1 Snpe.
Sept.	1st.	1 Par., o. h. (old hen.)
	2nd.	1 Crow.
	4th.	2 Pars., one of 'em an o. h.
	7th.	2 Pars. at <b>Renishaw</b> . <sup>(79)</sup>
	14th.	2 Pars. a. o. s., 1 Snpe.
	15th.	6 Pars., 2 of 'em a. o. s., 4 Snpes.
	16th.	1 Snpe.
	17th.	1 Snpe., 1 Par.
	20th.	1 Par.
	21st.	1 do., 1 Rail.
	22nd.	1 Rail, 2 Pars.
	23rd.	1 Par.
	24th.	3 Pars.
	25th.	1 Par.
	30th.	1 Par.
Oct.	1st.	1 Cock Pheasant, 2 lbs. 12 oz., 1 Snpe.
	2nd.	1 Par.
	5th or 6th.	1 Par.
	9th.	2 Pars.
	Abt. 11th.	6 Pars., 1 Jack Snipe, 1 <b>Sea-gull</b> . <sup>(80)</sup>
Nov.	7 Sparrs.,	3 Starlings shot in Sept. and Oct.

### An Interval of six years.

<sup>(79)</sup> *Renishaw*.—In the adjoining parish of Eckington. Renishaw Hall is one of the seats of Sir George Reresby Sitwell, Bart., a learned antiquary and contributor to the Society's volumes.

<sup>(80)</sup> *Sea-gull*.—It is somewhat rare to find one of these birds so far inland. In the winter of 1888, however, I met with one on the banks of the canal which runs through this parish,

May 14, 1790. Shot a Jack in Rother, also 16 large Gudgeons at one other Shot.

### An Interval of three years.

1793.	Sept.	14.	4 Sparrs.
		16.	6 Pars.
		21st.	3 Pars., 1 Wat. Hen.
		11th.	1 Snpe.
		12th.	1 Par.
		14.	1 Jack Snpe., 1 Snpe. (one found winged which Mr. F. Bodon <sup>(81)</sup> left the 12th), 1 Par.
		24th.	1 Wat. Hen.
		29th.	2 Sparrs.
		31st.	3 Snpes., 1 Jack do.
Nov.	6.		1 Cock Pheasant, 2 lbs. 14 oz., Woodcock, 1 Snpe., 1 Kingfisher.
		12th.	2 Sparrs.
		16th.	1 Larger Butcher Bird, 1 Par., 2 Pars. a. o. s., 1 of 'em Ponto <sup>(82)</sup> found, 1 Fld. Fare, 1 do. not got, 2 Sparrs., 1 Grey Owl.
		29th.	1 Wat. Hen, 2 Snpes., 1 Mallrd.
Dec.	2.		2 Woodcocks.
	3rd.		1 Fld. Fare, wing'd, not got, 2 Wat. Hens, 1 Snpe.
	5th.		2 Jack Snpes., 1 Wild Duck, 2 lbs. 10 oz.
	6th.		1 Snpe., 1 Jack Snpe.
	7th.		1 Kingfisher.
	9th.		1 Snpe.
	10th.		1 Wat. Hen., 1 Jack Snpe., 2 Snpes.
	12th.		1 Snpe.
	15th.		1 Snpe.
	20th.		1 C. Pheasant, 2 lbs. 13 oz.
	27th.		1 Snpe.
	28th.		1 Jack Snpe.
	30th.		2 Snpes.

<sup>(81)</sup> Mr. F. Bodon. Probably a member of The Bowden family, still resident in the immediate neighbourhood; Major Bowden being at present the occupant of Barlborough House.

<sup>(82)</sup> Ponto. No doubt a successor to "Fanny."

1794. Jan. 1st. 1 Snpe.  
 2nd. 1 Mallrd., 3 lb. 2 oz.  
 3rd. 1 Wild Duck wing'd, not got, 1 Snpe. do.,  
 1 Thrush.  
 4th. 1 Snpe. in River, not got.  
 6th. 1 Snpe.  
 7th. 1 Wild Duck, 1 Snpe., 1 do., 1 Wat. Rail.

N.B.—After having shot at another Water Rail, on putting the charge of powder into the gun, it instantly took fire, blew the head of the flask from which the charge was poured quite away, the powder flask also out of F. G.'s hand, but without kindling the remr. of the gunpowder in the flask; knock'd off F. G.'s hat, which was much scorched, as were his eye-brows, &c., in a less degree, no material harm being further done. It is presumed some spark of fire remained in a bit of the brown paper wadding which had unaccountably not been projected out of the barrel, an event which never happened to F. G. in the course of 45 years' shooting, and which, it is to be hoped, very rarely happens, as the consequences might be fatal. The fire certainly took place without the intervention of the flint, as the gun was at half-cock after the explosion, the hammer being flung up about half-way from the pan.

The Register ends with this very exciting bit of experience. That the unfortunate charge knocked off only F. G.'s hat and not his head, is a matter of sincere congratulation to the Parish of Staveley, for, after this very narrow escape of his valuable life, it is still true to say of the worthy rector that, like The Jackdaw of Rheims,

“ He long lived, the pride  
 Of the country's side,  
 And at length in the odour of sanctity died.”

It was not until the year 1821 that he departed this life, aged eighty-nine, after having held the Rectory of Staveley for the long period of sixty years.

I am almost ashamed to say that I cannot discover any monument, either within the church or in the churchyard, to the memory of one who so faithfully and beneficently served his generation; but the good man has a monument

“Ære perennius

Quod non imber edax, non Aquilo potens  
Possit diruere, aut innumerabilis  
Annorum series, et fuga temporum.”

—Hor. Book iii., Ode xxx.

in that he still lives in the memories of the descendants of his parishioners. Many, indeed, are the tales which are told of him whose name is still familiar as a household word, and of him most truly may it be said that his works do follow him.

In a letter which has recently come to hand, it is stated that he was accustomed to make fireworks in the small brick building with stone steps up to the door, attached to the old Rectory House, and let them off in the meadows, or at Moor Top, beyond where they could be seen for miles round. People used to say :—“*O’wd Staley Parson is gi’eing a show for nought again.*”

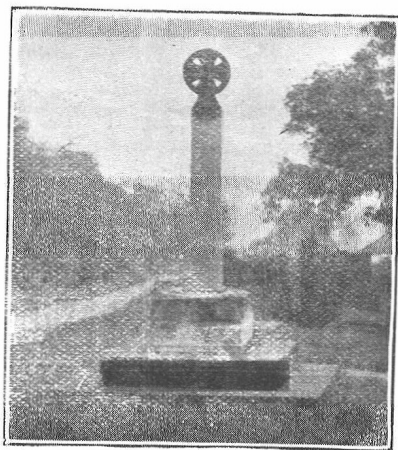
In his latter years, Mr. Gisborne became very feeble, but continued to read prayers as long as his failing powers would permit. On one occasion, when he wanted to preach, just as he got into the pulpit, Mr. Foxlow (his curate) and William Sales (the clerk) gently led him down the steps again, as they thought him too infirm to make the attempt successfully.

The following lines, placed on a large plum cake, were forwarded to him by his friend, Mr. Garthwaite, in the year 1809, with which encomium we may well bring our annotations to an end :—

“ Whilst the whole Isle a Jubilee ordains  
That a lov’d monarch half-a century reigns,  
Let Staveley’s sons a pious Gisborne greet,  
Who fifty years has been their Pastor meet.  
Take, then, this humble token which I send,  
Thou best of mortals, and sincerest friend.”

I should like to add, in conclusion, that the notes, from a natural history point of view, are by no means exhaustive, and that the incompleteness is only one of the many shortcomings of an attempt from a ’prentice hand to add to the interest of an archæological

volume. The paper, such as it is, has been compiled amid the responsibilities of a large and extensive parish in those odds and ends of time which fall to the lot of most of us. If it should prove of sufficient interest to induce our local naturalists to give the county volume the occasional results of their observation and experience, it will not have been written in vain.



CROSS IN STAVELEY CHURCHYARD.