

Bitesize Newsletter

Snippets from BNA & Outside Source

Gun Toting Minister

Saturday 28th. December, 1867



Christmas morning, between one and two o'clock, some daring burglars made a desperate effort to break into the manse at Lochwinnoch. Their mode of procedure was this. Some of the piety attempted to attract the notice of the watchdog at the back part of the house, which became very furious, while the others occupied themselves busily in breaking the window at the end of the drawing room. At the time this was going on a Maltese terrier, who occupies the kitchen, ran up stairs to the bed-room doors and demanded attention. The sound of the burglars was distinctly heard as if a ladder had been suddenly placed against the wall. Upon this the minister rose and examined the rooms, and then went to the door with a six-barrel revolver loaded, and discharged one of the chambers, but the scoundrels had decamped. Four large panes were completely smashed, and stones had been used remove the screw of the window, but the time had been too short for them. Their heels saved them this time from an unpleasant reception.

1870 Seasonable Benevolence.— From the annual liberal donations of James O. Lee Harvey, Esq.; Lady Elizabeth and Henry Lee Harvey, Esq., of Castlesemple; and John McEwen, Esq., of Glenlora, and others; 112 poor persons have been each supplied with cart of coals, which the farmers cheerfully carted gratuitously.

1869 Sheriff Criminal Court.— Hugh McMichael, labourer, John Kerr, carter, and Dugald McMichael, labourer were charged with stealing from the copper mines at Lochwinnoch 58 fathoms of rope, 60lbs. of gaskin rope, 6 jumpers, a hatchet, a saw, an anvil, a pump, a bucket, a spear, and ten hundredweight of old iron. They pleaded guilty.



Jack & Annie Orr



Fancy Dress Parade

Circa 1950



The 3 photos above contributed by

Amanda Mackie

1954

British Railways (Scottish region) are letting holiday accommodation in railway coaches converted and specially equipped for the purpose.

So popular is the appeal of this type of family holiday that the number of Camping Coaches available this summer in Scotland has been increased from 15 to 25, each Coach providing accommodation for six people at weekly rentals from £7 to £12 10 shillings.

These railway holiday homes comprise living room, kitchen and three bedrooms, and all bed and table linen, crockery, cooking utensils and cutlery are provided. The coaches are sited amid some of the loveliest scenic and holidays centres. The Station Master, with his knowledge of the immediate locality, will be an on-the-spot asset with advice on outings, fishing, golf, and will be of assistance in many other ways.

1901

Lochwinnoch was a favourite rendezvous on Saturday afternoon, but most folk were satisfied with a look at the ice on the loch without indulging in closer inspection. There was, indeed, more fun to be got out of that ice on shore than on it, for the rash ones that would venture on the treacherous serfs, went popping through into the icy water every here and there. Big fires and hot drinks were in great demand for the unlucky rash ones, and, fortunately, nothing serious happened, the whinge being all more or less of a ludicrous rather than a dangerous nature.



OLD JOKE OF THE MONTH

"What's the difference between dancing and marching?" the girl asked her dancing partner. "I don't know." he answered. "I thought so." she commented wearily. "Shall we sit down?"



Saturday 18th Sept. 1886



The Morton had a better time of it in the first round of the Scottish Cup ties this year than last. Their opponents were Lochwinnoch, of that ilk, and our local cracks proceeded thither on Saturday. They were favoured with a relaxation in the elements, although the ground was very bad, owing to the previous heavy rains. The sturdy sons of Lochwinnoch offered a dogged resistance to the vigorous onslaught of their more experienced opponents, and the greater part of the first was exhausted before the Morton forwards made an impression. After this, however, the Lochwinnoch fell like chaff before the wind, and the visitors contented themselves by making the game at the close stand six goals to nothing in their favour.