



# The Roup of the Lands of Alloway

BY THOMAS LIMOND, C.A.

The Roup of the Barony lands of Alloway was held on Wednesday, 5th June, 1754. This is one of the critical dates in the history of the Royal Burgh of Ayr. It may be held to mark the change from the old to the new ; first step of many which went to transform the Town from the mediæval to the modern.

The Barony was added to the original Burrowfield of Ayr by a charter of Alexander II dated 20th April, 1236. It comprised the five pennylands "of Aulway and Crotton and Gorteloy" and extended to about 2,300 imperial acres. The grant was in feu ferme with a rent of £10 per annum. Alexander's charter was confirmed by Robert I on 20th January, 1323/24 and the lands were erected "in unam liberam baroniam" at the same annual rent and subject to certain minor feudal conditions. The effect of this charter was to make the community of Ayr a collective baron holding the land in chief from the Crown. Thus the Barony was held by the community for the common good without any reservation of privileges to the individual burgesses as in the case of the Burrowfield.

The barony had no coastal boundary. Its northern limit was the southern boundary of the Burrowfield—*i.e.* Polcurtecan now known as the Glengall Burn; its southern boundary ran along the Doon to a point opposite the mouth of Minishant Burn—*i.e.* almost midway between the modern mansions of Monkwood and Auchendrane; and its eastern boundary, along which it marched with the Barony of Dalrymple, ran from there northward to Curtecanhead. In the south west it ran to an angle at the confluence of the Doon and the Curtecan.

It is tempting to try to imagine the look of the old Barony lands but it must be a vain exercise. In 1236 it was probably a wilderness of sand-dunes, mosses, waters and scrub. There were trees, of course, but one wonders if they were numerous when it is recalled that the Charter discharged the men of Ayr from cutting them unless for the building of their own houses or their own ships.

At a much later date Robert Burns referred to them. Tam O' Shanter rode through the Barony from the Ford to the Keystane o' the Brig, and in Burns's biographical letter we catch a glimpse



of conditions near the eastern boundary. But Tam rode through a night of storm and witchcraft to please an English collector of folk lore and the backward look to Mount Oliphant was coloured by recollections of a less than happy childhood.

We are therefore fortunate in having for reference the Articles of Roup of 1754. From them can be pieced together a fairly clear picture of the countryside with its houses and milns, crofts and cultivated yeards, its woodland at Careluie, its river and loch, burn, gulleets and strands, and, of course, its coalpit and its numerous roads. It is perhaps unfortunate that the boundaries of the lots are not more precisely described and that it is so difficult even to attempt to delineate them on a modern map, but patient research may eventually solve these problems.

In the middle years of the 18th century, Ayr was in the grip of financial difficulties. These were not new and, if truth be told, were usual in civic affairs and had been so from time immemorial. But the decades preceding 1754 had been of greater difficulty than usual. The Darien Affair had dealt a cruel blow and the recovery of the 1730's had been greatly checked by the rebellion of 1745. Even in 1750 there was a special tax of sixpence per boll of malt used in the Town "to replace to the Town's common stock the sums advanced on account of the late Rebellion."<sup>1</sup>

The Town's revenues were largely drawn from rents and petty customs supplemented by entry dues from Burgesses and Freemen. These were not elastic and, in fact, were unreliable. They gave little promise of expansion. For 1753 the total income in the hands of the Treasurer was £6,000 Scots assuming there were no arrears, and this meagre sum was swallowed up by everyday expenses. (The largest expense was for salaries and allowances which amounted to £1,256 13s 4d). Against this the Public Works were in a neglected state. The Tolbooth was in disrepair and was condemned, a new building being essential,<sup>2</sup> the Brig was sorely damaged by ice and was in a dangerous condition;<sup>3</sup> a Poor's House was much needed;<sup>4</sup> also the Town was heavily in debt.<sup>5</sup> And yet in terms of land Ayr was a wealthy burgh.

It is probable that the eyes of the community as a whole had had long been fixed on Alloway as a source of ready money. In May 1754 the Provost stated that "... (the roup) had been

1. Minute of Magistrates, Council and Community, 24/5/1750. The tax was repealed at Lammas, 1755.
2. T.C. Minute, 29/11/1752. The New Tolbooth built by John Swan was completed in 1755 at a cost of £6,150 Scots.
3. T.C. Minutes, 31/7/1754, and 19/3/1755.
4. The Poorshouse was built on a site in Mill Street in 1755, the cost being met by public subscription.
5. At Michaelmas, 1753, the Town's debt was £8,200 Scots.

purposed by the Magistrates and Council for a great many years past." When it did take place it proved to be the salvation of the Burgh.

The first definite step was taken on 12th March 1752, when a motion was made in Council that as the Alloway Tacks fell in at Martinmas 1754 the Magistrates and Council must give their opinion "how the lands should then be disposed of." The motion was accepted and a special committee was appointed to go into the matter. It comprised the Magistrates—Andrew Slowan, Provost, and the two Bailies, James Hutcheson and David Fergusson; the Dean of Guild, William Cunningham; and the Treasurer, John Neill, with Councillors Thomas Garvin, Elias Cathcart, James Fergusson and Wm. Campbell, nine members of Council in all with a quorum of four. Progress was slow, however, and the remit was renewed to the same Committee on 29th November, 1752. The reminder had its effect and early in the new year the Committee submitted their report—"the Tacks expire at Martinmas, 1754 and in their opinion the most advantageous way for the Town is to feu out these lands, but that previous thereto the Rentals ought to be taken out of the way as they appear to be liable to many objections." The Council accepted the report and put the matter into the hands of their Agent in Edinburgh, Mr. Andrew Hunter, to arrange for a summons of reduction against the Rentallers.<sup>6</sup>

At this point it is necessary to make a digression to explain the systems of land tenure in the Barony. It was stated above that there were no reservations of the individual rights to burgesses as in the Burrowfield. This was, of course, correct in that under William the Lyon's charter each burgess had the right to clear six acres of land and hold it for himself; no such privilege was given in the Barony Charter. Barony lands were let out by the Magistrates and Council to Tacksmen whose rents were paid into the Burgh Fund and in addition there were several "Rentallers." The rentallers, sometimes known as "kindly tenants," were a class of hereditary land holders, probably descended from the serfs who were originally bound to the land. By the middle years of the 18th century their serfdom was, of course, a thing of the past but they still retained their "Rights" and would continue to do so as long as an heir male was forthcoming. The holding involved an annual rent and payment of a grassum or entry money on the entry of an heir. As the name implies, the kindly tenant or rentaller stood in a form of feudal relationship with the Town and certain services were expected on both side. The "Baron" took a benevolent interest in his rentallers and stood as protector

6. T.C. Minute, 31/1/1753.



and chief; the rentallers, in addition to the payment of rent, gave service of other kinds. In Alloway, for example, they led eighty loads of coal to the Provost and Bailies each year; they also paid a total of £48 Scots each year in lieu of leading the Town's redd.

The essential difference between rentaller and tacksman was that granted an heir the former had a perpetual "rental" whereas the latter held his tack for only a specified term of years; when the tack expired the tacksman expected to quit and the holding was roused afresh or otherwise disposed of. Thus while the tacksman presented no problem the rentaller did and though the Town ultimately dealt generously with their kindly tenants they took "a process or reduction . . . against the whole Rentallers to have these rentals reduced upon any ground of law."<sup>7</sup>

The Alloway rents were assessed on the basis of bolls of beir (*beir* or *bear* being a coarse barley). Each year in the month of March the rents were "liquidated" at a meeting specially called for the purpose—*i.e.* the current value of the boll of beir was fixed for the year to the preceding Martinmas. The liquidation usually provided for a fairly generous "discount" for payment prior to the first of July following. Thus the Alloway rents were normally paid about seven months back handed *i.e.* seven months after the close of the year, and we find that a liquidation took place in March 1755 although the lands had been taken back into the Town's possession and disposed of as from the previous Martinmas.

It should be noted, however, that the Rentallers did not always occupy their lands. The practice of sub-letting appeared to be common although it was without legal sanction and proved troublesome. Possibly this irritation was one of the factors which influenced the Town Council in deciding to accept the sub-committee's recommendation. The Council recorded the following Minute in 1750:—

"The Magistrates and Council, considering the many complaints made by the Treasurer against the Rentallers and Tenants of Alloway, their deficiency and backwardness in paying up their rents which he cannot recover so as to satisfy the Town's present demands; which is much occasioned by the Rentallers letting their grounds to Bankrupt Tennents which are not able to pay . . . they ordained their Clerks to cause summond the hail rentallers who have sublett their lands before the Magistrates at John Neill their Treasurer's

7. T.C. Minute, 31/1/1753.

instance and to insist for having such Rentals declared void and null as they have no power thereby to sublet . . .<sup>8</sup>"

This was, however, merely a threat. There is no record of the action having been proceeded with.

The sub-committee continued to look after the proposal to feu out the lands and were able to report in June 1753 that they had met with "all or most of the Rentallers" and that they would give up their rentals on repetition (*i.e.* repayment of double the sum) of their grassums or for double interest for life—*i.e.* a life annuity of 10% on the amount of the grassum. The Treasurer was authorised to proceed with the Redemptions on these terms.<sup>9</sup>

One transaction is of special interest. John Neill, rentaller of 5 merklands in Nethertoun of Alloway, petitioned the Town Council for a liferent of sixteen acres at Gearholm in lieu of cash compensation. The petition was granted on condition that John built a house thereon at his own expense which would be left to the Town on his death. He was admitted a burgess without fee on 13th February 1754 but on 27th March 1754 we find him being reprimanded for felling "two or three" trees in the Barony "to build his house" without having had a written permit to do so. The parcel at Gearholm was feued subject to the foregoing liferent.<sup>10</sup>

After the elections at Michaelmas 1753 the sub-committee was re-appointed, under the Convenership of the new Provost, Thomas Garvine, and proceeded to parcel out the lands, fix the annual feu duties and draw up Articles of Roup. In this they were assisted by John Foulis, "surveyor at Eglinton," by James Fergusson their Town Clerk, and Andrew Hunter their Edinburgh agent. By 31st May all was ready and the draft Articles were approved in Council.<sup>11</sup> The Roup had been advertised in the *Edinburgh Courant* and the *Glasgow Journal* and at all Parish Churches in Ayrshire.<sup>12</sup>

One of the necessary pieces of "redding up" had been given special attention and had been completed to the satisfaction of all parties. This was the redemption of Alloway Glebe which was one of the perquisites of the Minister of the Second Charge. A bargain was made on the undertaking by the Town to pay an

8. T.C. Minute, 9/10/1750. At this date the Town had two Town Clerks, Hugh Gibson in Ayr and Andrew Hunter in Edinburgh. The dual appointment was terminated after the death of Gibson in 1753 with the appointment of James Fergusson of Ayr. Hunter continued to act as Edinburgh Agent (T.C. Minute, 13/3/1753).

9. T.C. Minute of 20/6/1753.

10. T.C. Minutes of 6/2/1754, 13/2/1754 and 27/3/1754. Also 28/8/1754.

11. T.C. Minute of 31/5/1754.

12. T.C. Minute of 22/5/1754.



annual sum of £40 Scots.<sup>13</sup> This bargain was regretted seventy years later when it was used in evidence against the Burgh in the famous Auld case by which the Town's Minister was successful in claiming the provision of a manse.<sup>14</sup>

All was not yet plain sailing however. At the Council Meeting which approved the Articles, Councillor William Campbell submitted a verbal offer of £2,200 Stg. for the Barony *in one holding*. That this caused a considerable sensation can be inferred from the fact that Campbell's speech is engrossed at length in the Council Minute Book—a marked exception to the laconic style usually employed. He ridiculed the idea of a Roup and declared that this offer made by him on behalf of a friend was far in excess of anything that would be realised. The Provost, as Council spokesman, rejected the offer and it is interesting to observe one of the reasons given "that the majority of the Community considered that a roup was the fittest method." On 3rd June Campbell increased his offer to £2,500 Stg. and demanded that it be engrossed in the Council Book in order that all men would see in future that the Council were wrong in refusing him, and that their action had involved the Community in grievous loss.

Alas for Campbell! The proceeds of the Roup were £7,190 Stg. and Provost Garvine intimated this with, no doubt, a double measure of satisfaction at a meeting of the Council on 12th June.

One other matter arising from the Roup is of special interest in Robert Burns's bi-centenary year. Alloway Bridge—i.e. "the Auld Brig"—was connected by road to Bridgehouse via Alloway Miln and the north bank of the River Doon. Bridgehouse lay on the south edge of the Town's Common approximately at the present day north entrance to Belleisle. The Articles provided that this road would be stopped where it crossed the Sergeant's Burn (probably about the Belleisle entrance in Greenfield Avenue) and, in place of it, a road would be made to join up with the high road from Ayr to the Auld Brig of Doon.

The work was advertised for contract and the person selected was "William Burns (*sic*) at Doonside Mill."

The Minute of the Council goes into careful detail as to the quality of the road "... of Twenty foots broad betwixt the Ditches and rising gradually to the Middle, fourteen Inches in the forming, and to be chingled ten feet in the middle of the said road the whole length thereof one foot thick of Chingle in every

13. T.C. Minute of 22/5/1754.

14. Auld v. Provost, &c., of Ayr (1822).

part of the said ten feet, and, where the Ground required it, to causeway or lay the same with loose stones under the Chingle and to built three or more coarse Bridges arched the whole breadth of Road where the same should appear necessary at the sight of the Dean of Guild . . ."<sup>15</sup> The price of the work was £50 Stg. being paid in three instalments, £25 on entering into Contract, £12 10/- when half the work was done and the balance in completion. The road was to be completed between 7th July and 22nd November, 1755.

It is interesting to observe the use of the Ayrshire form "Burns" rather than the traditional "Burnes." While this may have arisen from clerical error it is consistently used several times in at least two minutes.

The Articles of Roup which follow were copied from documents in the Town Clerk's Office, Ayr. Unfortunately the original copy written "on stamped paper"<sup>16</sup> is not available but it is considered that the copy is reliable in all respects. Acknowledgment must be made to the Town Clerk, Mr. Robert C. Brown, for his courtesy in giving access to these documents and to the Town Council Minute Books; to Professor George S. Pryde for his help in the matter of the Rentallers; and to the Burgh Surveyor, Mr. O'Beirne, for making available maps of the area.

## THE LANDS AND BARONY OF ALLOWAY EXPOSED TO FEU BY PUBLIC ROUP ON 5th JUNE, 1754.

(Note: The approximate location of the lots is noted by reference to modern names in parenthesis).

### Gearholm. 16 acres. (Gearholm).

I. Lands of Gearholm consisting of about 16 acres lying near the Mouth of the Water of Doon, bounded by it on the West, the Cunning-park lands on the North and East, and meithed on the south by a line a little bended and pitted from the South Corner of the Cunning-park Inclosure to the Craig nook nigh where the Sergeant's Burn enters the Water of Doon being the Boundary betwixt it and that piece of ground which was to have been given or price which was to have been paid by the deceased Captain John Dalrymple, Residenter in Ayr, for a part of the Towns Common now enclosed by him with the Lands of Windyhall and a part of the Barony of Alloway at the Gairholm inclosed with the lands

15. T.C. Minute, 16/7/1755.

16. T.C. Minute, 31/5/1754.



of Cuning-park in terms of an Act of Council the 31st December, 1747 years, but subject always to the privilege reserved to the Inhabitants of the Burgh of Ayr of washing and drying their Linnens at the Water of Doon, in terms of the Contract of Feu passed betwixt the Kirk Session of Ayr and the said Captain John Dalrymple, on the Waterside in so far as the same was never laboured.

Feu duty £1 0s 4d Stg.

Feued to Wm. Duff of Crombie for grassum of £177 and above feu duty.

**Dykehead Moss and Park. 15 acres. (Mount Charles).**

II. That part of the lands of Netherton of Alloway—consisting of about 15 acres, bounded by the Sergeant's Burn on the North, by a pitted line nigh straight with the termination of Alloway North Crofts, and by that termination to the present Road from Dykehead to the Bridge of Doon on the East and South, and said Road on the West, and the Water of Doon on the North West (This lot known as Dykehead Moss and Park subject to present road to Alloway Miln).

Feu duty 18/9 Stg.

Feued to Charles Dalrymple of Orangefield for grassum of £112 and above feu duty.

**Alloway Miln. 8 acres 2 roods 10 falls. (Alloway Mill).**

III. That piece of ground comprehending the possessions of Andrew Goudie, Milner, and William Galt, Dyster, at Alloway Miln with the Dyke-head houses and yards west of the road from Dykehead to the Bridge of Doon, and a part of the Netherton of Alloway in nigh a straight line with the termination of the North Crofts of Alloway consisting of about 8 acres 2 roods and 10 falls bounded by the Water of Doon on the South and West, a line pitted from the end of the Miln Isle to the Road leading to the Bridge of Doon, and by that road till it comes to the North Crofts of Alloway on the North and East, and thence in a straight line to the Water of Doon on the South.

Feu duty 10/9 Stg.

Feued to Charles Dalrymple of Orangefield for grassum of £230 and said feu duty.

**Alloway Nether Crofts. 31 acres 1 rood. (Cambusdoon West).**

IV. That part of the Crofts of Alloway being the North part thereof consisting of 31 acres 1 rood or thereby including the Nethertown Houses and yards on the south side of the Sergeant's Burn bounded by a line on the north east side of the Sergeant's Burn from nigh the corner of the grass yard last possessed by William Kerr, Carrier in Ayr, running thence nigh north west till it is opposite to the north west end of Alloway Crofts, and from thence by a pitted line to and along the old march dike of the said croft and thence to the Water of Doon on the north west, the Water of Doon on the South West to a Pit or Mark in the water side of Braehead above it and thence in a straight line to a Pit or Mark nigh the Corner of the said grass yard possessed by the said William Kerr on the south east.

Feu duty £1 19s 1d Stg.

Feued to Elias Cathcart, Merchant in Ayr, for grassum of £400 and said feu duty.

**Alloway Kirk Crofts. 31 acres 1 rood. (Cambusdoon East).**

V. That piece of ground on the south east side of the last mentioned lot, including the whole houses and yards betwixt the Netherton and high Road by Slaphouse to the Bridge of Doon consisting of 31 acres 1 rood bounded with the last mentioned Lot on the north west, the Water of Doon on the south west, the Road from the Bridge of Doon to the Slaphouse on the South east, and a straight line from that Road to the Hole or Pit at the corner of the said Grass Yard possessed by the said William Kerr which is the north east boundary thereof, *excepting* the Kirk and Kirk yard of Alloway the property whereof is still reserved to the Town of Ayr, the purchaser of this lot having the benefit of the grass of said Kirk yard.

Feu duty £1 19s 1d Stg.

Feued to said Elias Cathcart for grassum of £310 and said feu duty.

**Alloway Upper Crofts. 27 acres 2 roods. (Alloway Cottage Field).**

VI. That piece of land consisting of 27 acres 2 roods and which includes the Isles in the Water of Doon opposite thereto bounded by the Road from the Bridge of Doon through Alloway on the West, the Road or Path by the back of Alloway to the Moat to be straightened according to Pits set on the north east and the Water



of Doon on the south east and south west, *excepting* that piece of ground commonly called the Dutch Miln formerly belonging to Lord Stair.

Feu duty £1 14s 5d Stg.

Feued to John Crawford of Doonside for grassum of £310 and said feu duty.

**Alloway Lonings and Glebe. 32 acres 3 roods. (Clochranhill).**

VII. That piece of ground of 32 acres 3 roods or thereby comprehending the whole houses and yeards in the Clachan of Alloway to the southward of the Road leading from the Bridge of Doon to Slaphouse with the greatest part of the Minister's Glebe bounded by the said road as now pitted after it goes through Alloway on the North west, the said passage leading by the Back of Alloway to the Moat to be straighted as aforesaid on the South, and the road from Ayr to the Moat of Alloway and Dalrymple on the east.

Feu duty £2 1/- Stg.

Feued to Patrick Ballantine, Merchant in Ayr for grassum of £381 and said feu duty.

**Part of Nethertown of Alloway. 73 acres 1 rood. (Belleisle West).**

VIII. That piece of ground being part of the Nethertown of Alloway consisting of about 73 acres 1 rood, bounded by the Sergeant's Burn on the south west, the March betwixt the Alderholm and Gairholm and the Inclosure of Cunning-park on the North west the Slaphouse Burn till a crook about twenty falls below the Stock-bridge on the North east and by a straight pitted line to that part of the Sergeant's Burn opposite to the north termination of Alloway Crofts in a line with the boundary betwixt the second and fourth lots, but subjected to a road from the Bridgehouse Bridge along the south west Boundary of this farm to lead into the road from Slaphouse to the Bridge of Doon which the Magistrates and Council of Ayr are to concur to have fixed in place of the Road now leading bye Dykehead through the Crofts of Alloway to the Bridge of Doon with the Purchasers of these Lots through which the said present Road now goes.

Feu duty £4 11s 7d Stg.

Feued to James McDermeit Fergushill, Writer in Ayr for grassum of £307 and said feu duty.

**80 acres 2 roods. (Belleisle East).**

IX. That piece of land consisting of about 80 acres 2 roods including the Netherton Kiln on the north side of the Sergeant's Burn bounded on the north west by the straight pitted line from the Sergeant's Burn at that part thereof opposite to the north west end of the Crofts of Alloway and running about North by East to the Crook in the Slaphouse Burn about 20 falls below the Stock bridge which is the Boundary betwixt it and the VIII Lot by the Slaphouse Burn on the North and the Road from Slaphouse to Alloway and Dalrymple at that part thereof where it is now fixed they should part on the East and a straight pitted line from the said Road leading through Alloway to the Bridge of Doon a little before it enters into Alloway Lone by the back of the yeards and the Sergeant's Burn to the March of the VIII Lot on the South west, *but subjected to a Road* as in previous Lot.

*Note :* The expense of making said Road to be paid by the Town of Ayr.

Feu duty £5 0s 8d Stg.

Feued to Charles Dalrymple of Orangefield for grassum of £300 and said feu duty.

**58 acres 1 rood. (Rozelle, West).**

X. That piece of ground consisting of about 58 acres 1 rood bounded by the Road from Slaphouse to Dalrymple the length of the old Loning leading to that road from Alloway and from thence on the East by a pitted line running almost north to the Slaphouse Burn, and the Slaphouse Burn to very near the Stock-bridge on the North.

Feu duty £3 12s 10d Stg.

Feued to Robert Hamilton of Bourtreehill for grassum of £250 and said feu duty.

**64 acres. (Rozelle, East).**

XI. That piece of ground betwixt Laigh Glengall and Alloway consisting of about 64 acres, bounded by the said line running almost north to the Slaphouse Burn and boundary betwixt it and the X Lot on the West, the Clongall Burn on the North East and from thence by a straight pitted line to the road leading to Dalrymple on the south east and by that road on the south west.

Feu duty £4 Stg.



Feued to said Robert Hamilton for grassum of £210 and said feu duty.

**72 acres 1 rood. (Rozelle and Doonholm).**

XII. That piece of ground consisting of about 72 acres 1 rood lying adjacent to the High Glengall, bounded by the Clongall Burn to the mouth of the Stockbridge Burn then up the Stockbridge Burn till within about 32 falls of the Stockbridge then by a pitted line running thence for about 70 falls and then turns North by West for about another 70 falls over the top of an old Thorn till it comes to the south east Boundary of the XI Lot and along that march to the Clongall Burn, having the privilege of a Road thereto and therefrom along the north west boundary of the XIII Lot to and from the High way from Slaphouse to Dalrymple.

Feu duty £4 10s 4d Stg.

Feued to said Robert Hamilton for grassum of £180 and said feu duty.

**55 acres 16 falls. (Dumfries Park).**

XIII. That piece of ground consisting of about 55 acres and 16 falls bounded by the Road from Slaphouse to Dalrymple on the South west the Coal-road to the Stock-bridge Burn on the south east and down said Burn about 32 falls then by a pitted line running due west for about 70 falls then turns north by West for about other 70 falls over the top of the said old Thorn till it comes to the south east Boundary of the XI Lot, and at which south east line there is to be a Road left to and from the XII Lot to and from the Road leading to Dalrymple and which Road so to be left will form the north west Boundary of this Lot.

Feu duty £3 8s 11d Stg.

Feued to John Hunter of Brownhill for grassum of £201 and said feu duty.

**Fieldheads and Whinknow. 60½ acres. (Doonholm).**

XIV. That part of the lands of Fieldheads and Whinknow consisting of about 60½ acres including the Houses and Yeards of Fieldheads and Whinknow bounded on the North by the Coal-road from thr Moat of Alloway to the Stock-bridge, up the Stock-bridge Burn to the turn at the foot of the Broomberry yeards Meadow alongst that to the Barrhill Dike on the East, along the

Barrhill March to the Road leading from Slaphouse to Dalrymple on the South and the said Road on the West.

Feu duty £3 15s 8d Srg.

Feued to said John Crawford of Doonside for grassum of £300 and said feu duty.

**Berriesdam and Warlockholm. 31½ acres. (Doonholm).**

XV. The lands of Berriesdamb and Warlochholm, with the Houses and Yeards thereon consisting of about 31½ acres bounded on the North and East by the Road from the Moat of Alloway to Barrhill and by the Water of Doon on the South and West but at the North west Boundary whereof betwixt it and the sixth and seventh Lots at the Moat of Alloway there is to be a *Passage of 20 fouts breadth left whereby the Possessors of the whole Lands of Alloway are to have liberty to water their cattle in the Water of Doon in all times of Drought.*

Feu duty £1 19s 5d Stg.

Feued to James Neill, Merchant in Ayr, for grassum of £200 and said feu duty.

**Barrhill. 120 acres. (Barrhill).**

XVI. The Lands of Barrhill containing about 120 acres comprehending that part of the lower wood of Kirkelowie which falls within the limits after described bounded by a straight line from the Foot of Broomberry yeards meadow to the Thorn Hedge alongst the thorn Hedge about 16 falls from thence in a straight line to a thorn on the north side of the Hill at Kirkelowie Loch, up the middle of the said Loch to where a Gullet from Kirkelowie enters the Loch at the West side of the Meadow, and up that Gullet to the Dalrymple Road on the East, and from thence on the South by a straight pitted line running west to Blairstone dam and the Water of Doon on the West.

Feu duty £7 11/- Stg.

Feued to Alexander Montgomery of Coylsfield for grassum of £305 and said feu duty.

**Nether Carclowie. 112 acres 1 rood 20 falls. (Carcluie).**

XVII. That part of the Lands of Kirkelowie including the Houses and Yards and the remaining part of the Nether Wood



of Kirkclocowie consisting of about 112 acres 1 rood 20 falls bounded by the Road from Ayr to Dalrymple on the North East the March betwixt the Baronies of Alloway and Dalrymple to a Crook at a broken place of the Burn and thence in a straight line to the Burn at the Head of Kirkclocowie Meadow and from thence by a straight pitted line to the Water of Doon westward to the mouth of a Burn at the north end of the high Wood, but to be burdened with a cart-road as is now in use to the Possessors of the Eighteenth Lot for all their necessary uses.

Feu duty £7 0s 6d Stg.

Feued to said Alexander Montgomery for grassum of £550 and said feu duty.

**Skellydub. 80 acres. (Blackhill).**

XVIII. That part of the Lands of Kirkclocowie and Skelly-dub consisting of about 80 acres bounded on the East by the March betwixt the Baronies of Alloway and Dalrymple, on the South and West by the Water of Doon to the place where a Burn enters the Water and thence by a straight pitted line eastward to the head of Kirkclocowie Meadow and thence in a straight pitted line to the said March betwixt the Baronies of Alloway and Dalrymple at the breach of the Burn which two straight lines are the Boundaries betwixt it and the seventeenth Lot, and with a privilege of a cart-road from the High Way leading to Dalrymple to and from the said Lands through the said seventeenth Lot as is now in use.

Feu duty £5 Stg.

Feued to said Alexander Montgomery for grassum of £350 and said feu duty.

**Laigh Broomberry Yards. 90 acres. (Broomberry).**

XIX. The Lands of Lower Broomberry-yards including the whole houses and yards thereof consisting of about 90 acres bounded by the north march of the sixteenth Lot till it come to Kirkclocowie Loch and by the north end of the Loch to the Burn from the Loch on the south and thence along said Burn till it come to the little Stock bridge from thence by a straight pitted line to the *Coal-pit at Corton Burn which comes from Riddock's Moss*, and the same continued straight line to the north side of the Whins on the Whin-brae on the East, by a straight pitted line to the Stockbridge Burn where the Strand from Little Corton joins it on the North the Stockbridge Burn and the Got to the Barrhill March on the West.

Feu duty £5 12s 6d Stg.

Feued to said Alexander Montgomery for grassum of £480 and said feu duty.

**South Laigh Corton. 96 acres 2 roods. (South Corton).**

XX. The Lands of South Laigh Corton with the Houses and Yards thereof consisting of 96 acres 2 roods or thereby bounded by the north line of Laigh Broomberry yards on the South by the continuation of the line of the East March of Broomberry yards until it come to the Upper Corton yard dike on the East the coalroad or loning to the end of the old Hedges and thence in a straight line to the Stockbridge on the north and by the Burn up to the March of the nineteenth Lot on the West.

Feu duty £6 0s 8d Stg.

Feued to Patrick Hume, Wright in Ayr, for grassum of £430 and said feu duty.

**North Laigh Corton. 91½ acres. (Laigh Corton).**

XXI. The Lands of North Laigh Corton with the Houses and Yards thereof consisting of 91½ acres or thereby bounded on the South by the *Coal road* or north March of the twentieth Lot, on the East by the same continued line of South Laigh Corton and Laigh Broomberry yards, on the North by the Clongall Burn till it joins the Stock Bridge Burn and on the West by the Stockbridge Burn.

Feu duty £5 14s 4d Stg.

Feued to said Robert Hamilton of Bourtreehill for grassum of £300 and said feu duty.

**North High Corton. 62 acres 3 roods. (High Corton).**

XXII. The lands of North High Corton consisting of 62 acres 3 roods or thereby bounded on the North by the Clongall Burn, on the West by a straight line which separates it from Laigh Corton till it go to the side of the Inclosure above Little Corton and thence by a straight line running 100 falls up the Hollow of the South side of Corton Strand on the south and thence directly north to Clongall Burn on the East.

Feu duty £3 18s 6d Stg.



Feued to said Robert Hamilton of Bourtreehill for grassum of £105 and said feu duty.

**South High Corton. 60 acres. (Mount Oliphant).**

XXIII. The Lands of South High Corton consisting of about 60 acres bounded on the north by the south march of the twenty second Lot, and by the continuation of the east line of that Lot to Riddick's Moss Burn on the east and down that Burn to the *Coal-pit opposite to Broomberry yards on the South*, and by the straight line which makes the east march of Laigh Broomberry yards and Corton on the west.

Feu duty £3 15/- Stg.

Feued to James McDermeit of Fergushill, Writer in Ayr for grassum of £110 and said feu duty.

**High Broomberry Yards. 112 acres 1 rood 20 falls. (Pleasantfield).**

XXIV. The Lands of High Broomberry Yards consisting of 112 acres 1 rood and 20 falls or thereby bounded on the West by the East march of Laigh Broomberry yards and alongst Kirkelowie Loch by a Gullet which comes from a Moss on the March of the Parish, on the South by that Gullet, on the East by the March of the Baronies of Alloway and Dalrymple and Riddick's Moss Burn which separates it from South High Corton on the North.

Feu duty £7 0s 6d Stg.

Feued to said James McDermeit Fergushill for grassum of £210 and said feu duty.

**High Carclowie. 115 acres. (Pleasantfield and Carcluie).**

XXV. The Lands of High Carclowie consisting of 115 acres or thereby, bounded on the south west by the road from Ayr to Dalrymple, on the south east by the march betwixt the Baronies of Alloway and Dalrymple, on the North by the Gullet coming from the Moss on the March of the Parish which separates it from High Broomberry yards and on the North west by Kirkelowie Loch.

Feu duty £7 3s 9d Stg.

Feued to said James McDermeit Fergushill for grassum of £260 and said feu duty.

**North High Muir of Corton. 110 acres. (Cockhill).**

XXVI. The Lands of North High Muir of Corton consisting of 110 acres or thereby bounded on the North from the March of High Corton by Clongall Burn all the way to the Hollow beyond the High ground where the Burn takes its rise on the east by a straight line to the head of the little Strand which runs down the Coal-road to the Cortons on the South by a straight line running 196 falls down the Coal-road, on the West by the straight line dividing it from North High Corton.

Feu duty £6 17s 7d Stg.

Feued to William Donald, Merchant in Ayr, for grassum of £60 and said feu duty.

**South High Muir of Corton. 100 acres. (Mount Fergusson).**

XXVII. The Lands of South High Muir of Corton consisting of 100 acres or thereby, bounded on the north by the South boundary of the North High Muir, on the East by the continuation of the straight line the east Boundary of the North High Muir on the South by the March of the Parish, and on the West by the East March of High Corton.

Feu duty £6 5/- Stg.

Feued to said William Donald for grassum of £92 and said feu duty.

**Riddick's Moss Muir. 56 acres 2 roods. (Mosshill).**

XXVIII. The Lands of Riddick's Moss Muir consisting of 56 acres 2 roods or thereby bounded on the West by the east march of North and South High Muirs on the south by the March of the Parish, and on the east and north by the Burrowfield.

Feu duty £3 10s 8d Stg.

Feued to said William Donald for grassum of £70 and said feu duty.

o o o

The Articles of Roup are dated 3rd June, 1754 and provide *inter alia* :—

- (1) "that an half hour sand glass shall be sett up for each of the said several lots and the highest offerer



at outrunning of the sand in the Glass shall be preferred to the purchase of that lot."

- (2) that the said feu duties should be paid at Martinmas yearly.
- (3) That the several Lots should be put up at the under-noted upset prices.
- (4) that each offerer should subscribe his offer and be thereby bound in terms of these Articles and consign in the Hands of the Judge of the Roup one guinea if his offer is Fifty pounds Sterling and upwards and half a guinea if his offer is under that sum, to be returned to all offerers except the last and highest offerer for each Lot at outrunning of the sand in the Glass who is to be preferred to the purchase and not accounted in part of the price offered.
- (5) that the subjects were to be held feu of the Town for payment of the above mentioned feu duties and *doubling* said feu duties the first year of the entry of each heir to the said several Lots and tripling the said feu duty the first year of the entry of each singular successor thereto in name of composition, and that in full of all Teind, Minister's stipend, multures, glebe money, services or any other claim or demand whatever which can be any wise exacted or demanded furth or from the said several Lots.
- (6) that the Disposition and Feu Rights to be granted to the purchasers should contain all usual clauses, and particularly a right to the fishing in the Water of Doon to the purchasers of the Lots which are contigue to it opposite only to their own purchases in so far as the Town hath right thereto, with the exception of that part thereof for which the family of Culzean and their Fishers in Greenan now pay twenty merks Scots yearly to the Town.

The Judge of the Roup was Thomas Garvine, then Provost of Ayr.

# **RENTAL OF ALLOWAY, 1753, EXTENDING TO 80 MERKLANDS.**

The names of the rentallers who received compensation are marked (R).

	Bolls.	Pecks.	Firlots.
John Smith for a 5 merkland ...	7	8	—
Janet Smith for a 5 merkland ...	7	8	—
Thomas Halyburton for half of Baron's mailling a 2 merkland...	2	—	—
The said Thomas for other half of Baron's mailling (Tacksman) ...	3	—	—
David Arthur for a 5½ merkland...	2	8	—
(R) James Campbell in Corton for the 14/- Land of Corton, for Mitchell's mailling, for 28/- Land of Little Corton, for Beulie's mailling and other lands ...	6	5	3
John Hunter for the 4½ merkland of Broomberry Yeards ...	6	12	—
The said John Hunter for 20/- land	1	8	—
James Fergusson for 32/- land ...	3	9	2
(R) Robert Moore for the 4 merkland of Kirkclowie ...	4	—	—
Thomas McClure for the lands of Meikle Corton being a 64/- land	7	3	2

## **The Netherpart of the Barony.**

(R) John Neill for a 2 merkland ...	3	—	—
David Moodie for a 2 merkland of Fieldheads ...	3	—	—
(R) Wm. Kerr for a 3 merkland of Gateside ...	3	—	—
James Blair for a ½ merkland of Midtoun ...	—	8	—
Thomas McCluir for a 4 merkland...	6	—	—
(R) James Neill for a 4 merkland rentalled by him ...	5	—	—
(R) The said James Neill for a 5 merkland formerly rentalled by Robert Neill ...	7	8	—

(Continued on page 204).



## ANALYSIS OF THE ROUP OF

Purchaser.	Lot.	Approximate Location.	Area (Scots Meas.)
			Acs. Rds. Fls.
Hugh Whitefoord Dalrymple, son of the late Capt. John Dalrymple of Mark ... ..	I.	Gearholm ... ..	16 0 0
Charles Dalrymple of Orangefield ... ..	II.	Mount Charles ... ..	15 0 0
	III.	Alloway Miln ... ..	8 2 10
			23 2 10
Elias Cathcart, Merchant in Ayr... ..	IV.	Cambusdoon (West)... ..	31 1 0
	V.	Cambusdoon (East) ... ..	31 1 0
			62 2 0
John Crawford of Doonside ...	VI.	Alloway Cottage Field	27 2 0
	VII.	Clochranhill ... ..	32 3 0
	XIII.	Dumfries Park ... ..	55 0 16
	XIV.	Doonholm ... ..	60 2 0
			175 3 16
Alexander Campbell, Physician in Ayr, and William Donald, Merchant in Ayr... ..	VIII.	Belleisle (West) ... ..	73 1 0
	IX.	Belleisle (East) ... ..	80 2 0
			153 3 0
Robert Hamilton of Bourtreehill	X.	Rozelle (West) ... ..	58 1 0
	XI.	Rozelle (East) ... ..	64 0 0
	XII.	Rozelle and Doonholm	72 1 0
	XIX.	Broomberry ... ..	90 0 0
	XX.	South Corton ... ..	96 2 0
	XXI.	Laigh Corton ... ..	91 2 0
	XXII.	High Corton ... ..	62 3 0
			535 1 0
	XV.	Doonholm ... ..	31 2 0
	XVI.	Barrhill ... ..	120 0 0
	XVII.	Careluie ... ..	112 1 20
James Neill, Merchant in Ayr	XVIII.	Blackhill ... ..	80 1 0
			312 0 20
			60 0 0
James Hamilton, son of late John Hamilton, Merchant in Jamaica... ..	XXIII.	Mount Oliphant ... ..	112 1 20
	XXIV.	Pleasantfield ... ..	115 0 0
	XXV.	Pleasantfield & Careluie	287 1 20
James McDermeit Fergushill, Writer in Ayr ... ..	XXVI.	Cockhill ... ..	110 0 0
	XXVII.	Mount Fergusson ... ..	100 0 0
	XXVIII.	Mosshill ... ..	56 2 0
William Donald, Merchant in Ayr... ..			266 2 0
			1864 2 26
		TOTAL ... ..	1864 2 26

## THE LANDS OF ALLOWAY.

Approx. Area (Imp. Acres).	Upset Price £ Stg.	Realised £ Stg.	Feu-Duty (Stg.)	Agent at Roup.
			£ s. d.	
20-25	12	177	1 0 4	Wm. Duff of Crombie.
19-00	10	112	0 18 9	Self.
10-75	12	230	0 10 9	Self.
29-75	22	342	1 9 6	
39-50	20	400	1 19 1	Self.
39-50	20	310	1 19 1	Self.
79-00	40	710	3 18 2	
34-75	18	310	1 14 5	Self.
41-50	12	381	2 1 0	Patrick Ballantyne.
69-50	25	201	3 8 11	John Hunter of Brownhill.
76-50	38	300	3 15 8	Self.
222-25	93	1192	11 0 0	
92-50	23	307	4 11 7	James McDermeit Fergushill.
101-75	36	300	5 0 8	Charles Dalrymple of Orangefield.
194-25	59	607	9 12 3	
73-50	22	250	3 12 10	Self.
81-06	24	210	4 0 0	Self.
91-25	28	180	4 10 4	Self.
113-75	113	480	5 12 7	Alex. Montgomery of Coylsfield.
121-75	96	430	6 0 8	Patrick Hume.
115-50	86	300	5 14 4	Self.
79-25	28	105	3 18 6	Self.
676-00	397	1955	33 9 2	
39-75	20	200	1 19 5	Self.
151-50	38	305	7 11 0	Alex. Montgomery of Coylsfield (his uncle).
142-00	141	550	7 0 6	Alex. Montgomery of Coylsfield (his uncle).
101-00	50	350	5 0 0	Alex. Montgomery of Coylsfield (his uncle).
394-50	249	1205	19 11 6	
75-75	27	110	3 15 0	Self.
142-00	36	210	7 0 6	Self.
145-25	36	260	7 3 9	Self.
363-00	99	580	17 19 3	
139-00	1	60	6 17 6	Self.
126-25	1	92	6 5 0	Self.
71-25	1	70	3 10 8	Self.
336-50	3	222	16 13 2	
2355-25	974	7190	116 12 9	



(Continued from page 201.)

	<i>Bolls.</i>	<i>Pecks</i>	<i>Firlots.</i>
(R) Robert Moore for a 5 merkland formerly rented by Wm. Graham ... ..	7	8	—
John McFadzean for a 2 merkland	2	—	—
(R) Robert Moore for a 3 merkland ...	3	—	—
James Neill for a 2 merkland ...	3	—	—
James Fergusson for a 2 merkland	3	—	—
James Hunter for a 1½ merkland...	2	4	—
(R) Robert Moore for a 3 merkland...	3	—	—
	<hr/> 103	<hr/> 10	<hr/> 3

Liquidation at £8 Scots per boll, equals—£829 7s 6d Scots.

*Note.*—In addition to the Rental there were the Dry Multures at the rate of £1 16s 8d Scots per merkland which yielded £146 13s 4d per annum.