

His father first came to Edinburgh then to Ayr, became a gardener to a proprietor, then a nursery gardener, overseer to a neighboring gentleman; brought a bride to his cottage, she bore him a child Robert. In the same year Schiller was born (Burns' senior by forty days). He removed to Mount Oliphant on the south of Doon. Burns with all his short comings never lost his father's high idea; if he ruined it was because of his too ardent passion not of cool deliberation.

'Cotter's Saturday Night' gives a true account of the scenes among which his boyhood was passed. Though humble in birth, his education was never neglected and as Scotland at that time afforded greater advantage than any other country in the line of education owing to the efforts of the great reformer John Knox, he enjoyed a higher education than that of a peasant's boy is likely to receive.

The lesson at school, consisted of reading, spelling, parsing and turning verse into prose.

The family removed to Lochley in Ayr in 1777. Pope, Shakespeare, Locke, Allan Ramsay, MacKenzie were his companions ⁱⁿ at his leisure hours. A collection of English poems helped him very much toward his later success.

Though the Scotch up to Burns' time a good

singers, their songs were too coarse and some-
times not musical at all and it is the credit
of Burns to have made Scotch songs take a new
position in English literature.

Again ~~the~~ ^{he} family removed to Kirk O. where he
studied mensuration and surveying
(Kirk O was close to the Bruce's castle of
Turnberry and near to Shantler) a fervent
love ^{which he} conceived ~~to~~ in a beautiful fascinating
girl there, put an end to his study.

1. Birth 1759 near the bridge of Doon
2. Removal to Mount Oliphant
3. 1777 Removal to Lochley
4. 1782 went to Kirk O.

Dumfriess again & then he ~~was~~ lived until his
death which happened in 1796

1793. The third edition of his poems appeared.

Burns religious opinion:

The Solemn League and Covenant.

dates from 1640, was a theocratical constitution adapted with great enthusiasm by the Scottish nation and signed with tremendous enthusiasm in the churchyard of Gray Friars in Edinburgh. This was the claim on the part of a religious body to impose laws upon the nation. The claim was the triumph of presbyterians. The church and state would be fused into one mighty organization showing an uncompromising hostility to all the forms of Christianity.

Scotland has many types of religion. Roughly speaking the southwest was most intensely puritan, Calvinistic uncompromising while the northwest round Aberdeen belong largely to conforming Episcopalian with Arminian.

(Arminianism stands out for free will

Calvinism theological necessity)

Burns' father came from the north & therefore he was milder than in his religious opinion than those among whom he settled & consequently he had not ^{no particular} ~~any~~ sympathy for either & sympathy for Calvinists.

(Calvinists say that works are useless unless you have grace) This led to Antinomianism (the vice of Calvinism) which means breaking the law with impunity because of privilege.

Burns was not the poet of mountains as Scott & Wordsworth were. When he describes mountains they are invariably associated with particular individuals. Nor was any lake made famous by his muse. This is accounted by the reason that poets give back what he receives as Coleridge remarked. In fact, he was not a man of leisure, he had no time to climb up craggy peaks, to go adventuring through the mountainous districts. Burns is, so to speak, a poet of streams:

Here, down pour'd down his far-fetch'd floods;
 There, well-fed Irvine stately studs;
 Auld hermit Ayr staw thro' his woods,
 On to the shore;
 And many a lesser torrent scuds,
 With seeming roar. "The Vision"
 "Ye banks & braes o' bonie Doon etc"
 Banks o' Doon

Ramsay an' famous Fergusson
Gied Forth an' Gay a lift aboon;
Farrow an' Tweed, to monie a tune,

Oure Scotland rings;

While irwin, Lugar, Lyr, an' Doon
Nabody sings.

The Ussus, Liber, Thames, an' Seine
Glide sweet in monie a tūnefu' line;

But, Willie, set your fit to mine,
An' cock your crest;

We'el gar our streams + burnies shine
Up wi' the best.

To W. S. M.

Burns's father died in 1784. Next two years of
the poet's life are marked by "unfortunate"
farming, (2) loose relations with women, (3) the
farming of convivial habits with anti-Calvinistic
lawyers + shers (4) his just with his own con-
science & his resolution to Scotland for Jamaica
In 1786. His works were published in Kilmarnock
& the poems took to the capital & the poet received
a letter from Edinburgh where eminent men
like Prof. Dugald Stewart paid him special
attention.

(Stories of Burns in connection with
Jeffrey & Scott)

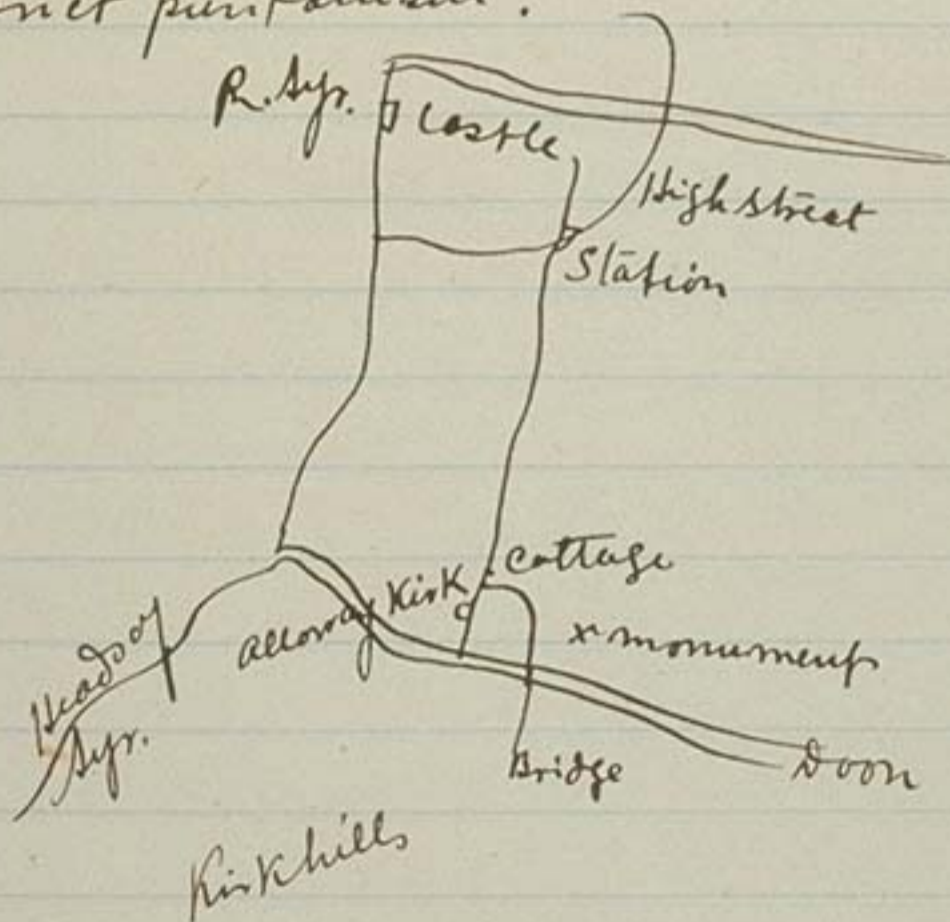
Kyle is a district full of lovely
streams.

The Edinburgh edition of his poems appeared by which
the poet obtained about 300 £. This sum enabled
him to settle in a farm near Dumfries. Some
a friend of his remarked on that occasion that
he chose the farm like a poet but not like a
farmer. ~~1788~~ Burns had ^{an} ^{amorous} relation with a
woman called Jean who bore him twins & secretly
married her. The father of the girl, was not
satisfied with this alliance & wrested the paper from
his daughter. But now Burns had returned
~~with~~ ^{from the capital} a quite famous man, he was eager to
bring about the connection as before, being
very proud at the idea of having such
a great man as Burns for his son-in-law.
Though much disgusted at this fickleness on the
part of the old man, nevertheless ^{did} the poet married
her & brought his wife & children to his
house at Ellisland.

1790, he was appointed an exciseman ^{60 £ yr.}
(his reckless speeches & ~~had~~ idea which
he as an official of the state should have
avoided). In this year appeared the famous
Tam o' Shanter.

1791. Disgusted with the farming he returned to

The old Kingdom of Strathclyde gave us two great poets - William Wordsworth and Robert Burns. Burns was born on the 25th January 1759 in a cottage near the banks of the Doon about two miles from Ayr. (There was a loch) Both families, Burns as well as Wordsworth's came from the eastern coast. Burns or Burnet came from Angus and Wordsworth from Yorkshire. Burns' father was a stern stubborn man, unfit to make his way into the world and brought up after the fashion of strict puritanism.



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Cunnigham
Kyle
Carries
Yelloway