

the middle of the century before the last, the Ducal family of Hamilton could boast of a succession of representatives more or less sincerely religious. Kinneil was occasionally their favourite abode, and pious Presbyterian ministers frequently resided there as chaplains or as visitors. In the shady groves adjacent would Zachary Boyd carol his homely lays, when engaged in his celebrated "travails with the Pentateuch" and the Psalms; and in his "last Battle of the Soul" he seems to have happily anticipated what soon became blissful reality in the experiences of more than one of the male and female representatives of the noble house of Hamilton. May we not trace to this, in some sense, the fact that Kinneil and Borrowstounness had their confessors and martyrs in persecuting times. Robert Woodrow, first, and James Aikman, afterwards, himself a Borrowstounness man, have recorded the names of not a few who "loved not their lives unto the death"; and the story of the cruel and untimely deaths of Marian Harvey and Isabel Alison, at the Grass Market of Edinburgh, possess a painfully thrilling interest. Sir Robert Hamilton, of Preston, of Bothwell Bridge celebrity, lived at that place for years after his return from Holland, and died there in 1701; yea, even under the eye of the Muscovite Laird of Binns,* Donald Cargill was long sheltered here. Mr. Mackenzie, in his statistical account of the parish, has not only referred to these cases, but has in addition, given a comprehensive view of the names and positions of others, both ministers and laymen, who suffered in the various modes of imprisonment, fines, banishment and death; and thus my native parish, if it has not furnished a full "sacramental host" or "glorious army of martyrs," has presented to all ages a noble specimen of what has been suitably termed "the goodly fellowship" of holy confessors, that form the "cloud of witnesses" on high.

The Parish of Kinneil, though small, was important from its connexion with one of the mansions of the Ducal

* Sir Thomas Dalyell, the noted persecutor, who had been for some years in the Muscovite service.