

ed Macgregor desperate. Determined that his Grace should not enjoy his lands with impunity, he collected a band of about twenty followers, declared open war against him, and gave up his whole course of regular driving, declaring that the estate of Montrose should in future supply him with cattle, and that he would make the Duke rue the day in which he quarrelled with him. He kept his word; and nearly thirty years, that is, till the day of his death, levied regular contributions on the Duke and his tenants; not by nightly depredations and robberies, but in broad day and in a systematic manner; at an appointed time making a complete sweep of all the cattle of a district; always passing over those not belonging to the Duke's estate, as well as the estates of his friends and adherents: and having previously given notice where he was to be by a certain day with his cattle, he was met there by people from all parts of the country, to whom he sold them publicly. These meetings, or trystes as they were called, were held in different parts of the country; sometimes the cattle were driven south, but oftener to the north and west, where the influence of his friend the Duke of Argyle protected him.

“When the cattle were in this manner driven away, the tenants paid no rent, so that the Duke was the ultimate sufferer. But he was made to suffer in every way. The rents of the lower farms were partly paid in grain and meal, which was generally lodged in a store-house, or granary, called a *girnal*, near the Loch of Monteith. When Macgregor wanted a supply of meal, he sent notices to a certain number of the Duke's tenants, to meet him at the *girnal* on a certain day, with their horses to carry away his meal. They met accordingly, when he ordered the horses to be loaded, and, giving a re-