

pitched through the air—it is difficult to perceive the relation between “kluyten” and curling. As soon as the stones were played by being slidden—if the antiquarians could only determine the period of that event—a new game was introduced, affording opportunities equal to those of the quoit for muscular exercise, and a much wider field for the exercise of the judgment.

The earliest notice of Curling which has been discovered is in Cambden's *Britannia*, published in 1607. In it, Coppinsha, one of the Orkney islands, is mentioned as famous for “excellent stones for the game called Curling.” This shows that it was then in considerable repute. In the “*Life of William Guthrie*”, who in the year 1644 was ordained minister of Fenwick, in Ayrshire, it is stated that he was fond of the innocent recreations which then prevailed, “among which was Curling.” In 1684, the game is taken notice of in *Fountainhall's Decisions*. Pennycuik, also in the seventeenth century, declares that

“To curl on the ice doth greatly please,
Being a manly Scottish exercise.”

And he celebrates the game as calculated

“To clear the brain, stir up the native heart,
And give a gallant appetite for meat.”