



Friends of Berwick & District
Museum and Archives
Newsletter



FEBRUARY 2000

[Selected articles]

SPITTAL FLOOD

Nearly two years ago, there was a flood at Spittal from some old mine workings which caused a lot of damage. The same thing had happened in 1927 and the following is a transcript of the newspaper report on the incident. It would be interesting to know whether inhabitants of Spittal still remember "Lucky Martha" or still connect her with some of the properties there.

The Berwick Advertiser December 15th 1927

SPITTAL FLOODED

Spittal residents on Monday suffered a good deal of inconvenience and damage, when the manhole of a main drain taking water from old colliery workings burst suddenly behind the houses in that portion of the main street known as "Lucky Martha's". Within a very short time the water flowed through the houses and into the street. Families had to make a hasty flight to dry land scholars received a holiday, Berwick Fire engine failed to cope with the rush of water and the dislodging of a boulder in the drain by a Spittal man resulted in the outflow being stopped.

At 9.30 am the scene was a remarkable busy one. Men were going about in waders and this boots attempting to keep the water at bay with sacks and other materials which were barricaded round the doorways. In most cases their efforts were unsuccessful, for the flood rose quickly and soon the water was rushing along the gutters and overflowing the street as far as St Pauls Church.

With such a volume of water the existing drains were unable to cope with the flood and near the Blenheim Hotel, the water, right across the road was two feet deep. For about 150 yds north and south of the hotel, the flood was right across the road, and traffic for a time was diverted along Middle Street.

SCHOLARS GET A HOLIDAY

During the morning the water began to enter the school premises and the headmaster, on realising the position dismissed the children in good time. Some of the children however had to wade through the water to reach their homes, which as may be imagined were in a hopeless mess.

Some of the people live on the ground floor, while others reside in the upper rooms, and as the water rose-flooding some of the rooms to a depth of six feet- there was a hasty flit by the downstairs tenants to the upper region with as many of their personal possessions as possible.

In the boiler room of the Parish Church, the water was standing two feet deep but the water did not enter the church itself.

One or two old people who failed to get accommodation in the upper rooms had to be carried through the flood to dry land by relatives.

WHERE THE WATER BROKE OUT

There was not the slightest doubt from the start that the water was from old pit workings for it was of a rusty brown colour, and just the type of water which comes from the sump of a pit. The cause of the trouble was a manhole a few feet from the back doors of Messrs. Hall and Elliott. A large number of people gathered at a safe distance to see it. In the centre of a large and fairly deep pool the waters gurgled up like a fountain and there was evidently an outlet of about two or three feet through which the water gushed with considerable force.

BERWICK FIRE BRIGADE ARRIVES

About 10 am the Berwick Fire Brigade arrived on the scene, but though the engine pumped for some time this had no impression on the water which had practically assumed the proportions of a river. The brigade returned to Berwick at mid-day.

In the meantime, Borough Officials had arrived on the scene and plans were discussed as to how to rid the place of water. Plans of the old colliery workings were studied and eventually twenty workmen under the direction of Mr G. Davidson assistant Borough Surveyor, commenced digging a trench down Sea Road with a view to draining off the water. In the afternoon the Promenade was reached and the bricks and cement of a roadway down from the Promenade to the sea were dislodged to complete the drain on to the sea shore. This expedient seems to have saved the situation, for had not the water been so diverted it would have risen another two feet before overflowing into the sea.

THIRTY HOUSES FLOODED

There are about thirty houses near the manhole which burst, and all of these were flooded in the lower rooms. Water even flowed into the rooms of houses at the other side of the street, and altogether about a hundred houses were threatened with a watery invasion. The householders had an anxious time and during the day the residents were on the alert to barricade their doors and stop up leaks with mats and other things. A good deal of furniture was taken from the flooded houses to other accommodation, and as the motor lorries splashed through the water, their wheels were almost covered.

As far as can be gathered the property round about had not been affected structurally.

In nearly every instance the water had percolated into the foundations below the floors, and there were cases where the mortar in the walls had been washed away.

BUS SERVICES CURTAILED

On Monday morning the Spittal bus services were curtailed for very few passengers wished to be transported through the water to behind the Blenheim Hotel (the usual stopping place, for one descending from the bus would in many

cases have to wade through the water. The buses therefore stopped as near to the water as possible and Middle Street was utilised a good deal by pedestrians.

WORKERS THROUGH THE NIGHT

In some cases Spittal men were on the scene for as long as fifteen hours doing what they could during this time to safeguard goods and property. At about 4.30 p.m. on Monday, the water commenced to drain along the trench cut in Sea View Road and to head the water in this direction, a dam of sandbags and other articles were made from the Blenheim Hotel to the other side of the street.

The water began to subside there was not such a volume as previously and the trench to the sea shore soon caused the flood to diminish. Mr Benjamin Roughead, a hardy old collier and at one time one of Berwick Rangers best d together with other men succeeded in removing the cover of another manhole close to Albert Road and behind the houses. This had the effect of further relieving the pressure on the manhole from which the water was pouring and Roughead after hard work, succeeded in location a large stone and some smaller stones and gravel, which were choking the passage. These he removed after some difficulty after which the water ceases to bubble out of the manhole. By 5 a.m. the streets were more or less freed of water and workmen started cleaning the streets and clearing up the mess left by the sump water.

THE CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE

In the old days there was a burn of pit water running down the hillside and along to the beach. As the water was not of any great volume the burn was enclosed and taken by the manhole-the source of the trouble-to the Corporation sewer in Main Street. No doubt owing to the very wet season a good deal of surplus water accumulated throwing a greater strain on the drains and washing down large stones and rubble. The drain has apparently become choked up to some extent and the large boulder subsequently located by Mr Roughead proved the last straw. On Wednesday the passage was being clean with rods.

WHEN THE MANHOLE STARTED TO SPOUT

Mr Robert Hall another of the affected people said he had been out and had just got into the house when some women who were in the wash-house called out "Oh look at the water coming up here."- "At that time it was just bubbling up." said Mr Hall. "and we thought it was just the ordinary drain blocked up-I then went to work and when I came back I found the house flooded and we had to get the furniture out of the house. Mrs Storar provided us with a couple of rooms and we stored the furniture in these. We received very great kindness from our neighbours. They have behaved splendidly. Most of the furniture is more or less damaged and almost ruined. Great praise is due Mr Ben Roughead. He started when the floodings started and kept on right through the night until mid-day to day. He has been helping people to clean their houses and it was this man who cleared the manhole when the burst took place. Something should be done in recognition of his services."

THE VICAR HELPS

The vicar of Spittal, the Rev. C. Hudson, visited the distressed families, finding out their most urgent wants and trying to meet them. Mr Hudson was Vicar of Scotswood at the time of the inrush of water into the View Pt, when 38 lives were lost.

He remarked that the water which flooded Spittal had a smell very similar to that which was pumped out of the Scotswood Pit

RELIEF FOR THE DISTRESSED PEOPLE

On Tuesday Mr A.C. Parkes conducted the distribution of bags of coals to those people whose houses had been flooded.

A DIVE INTO HISTORY

In the geology of Berwick, Norham and Scremerston the following paragraph appears:- "The Cooper Eye Coal had been extensively wrought; in fact it has been entirely worked out in the Berwickhill ground, which was drained by means of a level driven from the coast at Spittal in 1826. It is probably from a part of this working that the water came from on Monday.

THE WATER SUBSIDES

Between four and five o'clock on Tuesday morning, Mr Benjamin Roughead who was busy in the manhole managed to get a large stone out of the sewer and this seemed to let the water away as the flooding stopped soon after and gradually subsided until at about ten o'clock there was no flow of water from the manhole behind the houses, although when daylight broke a scene of desolation met the eye. As far as the eye could see there was nothing but dirty rust coloured mud, which in some places lay to a depth of over a foot.

Workmen were busy in the morning with hoses and brushes getting the mud away while householders and helpers got their oil cloth off the floor and out into the street to enable the cleaning up to be done inside the houses.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY FINISHED

The children returned to school on Tuesday morning while at St. John's Church, Spittal, the verger was busy trying to clear the paths round the church of the nasty looking mud.

At the backs of the houses where the flood started, was a scene which will never be forgotten. Men and women, boys and girls, in fishermen's boots and Wellington's were busy with houses, pails and brushes, sweeping the mud and filth into the rear from the floors of their homes. In the backyard great mounds of mud were swept up and difficulty was experienced in keeping it together as it was very sloppy.

A HAPPY HOME RUINED

Mrs Roughead a young women whose house was on of those mostly affected by the flood on Tuesday said "we had a very bad times as we were getting the full force The men were here from ten o'clock yesterday morning until this morning. They worked all through the night, and Ben Roughead was mainly responsible for getting at the root of the trouble and causing the flood to abate. He got a huge boulder out of the manhole. They have never been in bed.

Yesterday morning I went out and when I came back I found the firewood had floated out of the coalhouse, the mats were saturated and the furniture was floating about in the house. We had to get bags of sand from the beach and block up the windows to prevent the water coming in. One of the helpers was wheeling sand and he tumbled out of the window into the water and was drenched to the skin.

The water kept running in under the stairs and through the door and it was a good job there was a hole in the front of the house which allowed the water free passage or else we would have been flooded out.

A lot of damage was done to the furniture and the paper was torn from the walls by the force of the flood, and the water was knee deep inside the house. We were nearly washed out of the house. Three men were working all night and between four and five o'clock this morning the burst stopped. We had to keep baling out the water as fast as it came into the house but we could not succeed in keeping it out.

Pointing to the scene of desolation, she said, it is a happy home ruined, and one heartily agreed.

WHO WAS LUCKY MARTHA?

The property damaged by the flood at Spittal has always been known as "Lucky Martha's" but the successors of this lady have not been so lucky as the builder of this property.

Very few of the younger generation will know much about this worthy who was called "Lucky" on account of her remarkable good fortune.

Mrs Martha Purves, or "Lucky Martha" as she was subsequently termed, resided at Eden House, Spittal which she built. According to stories in circulation she was possessed of unusual shrewdness and would think nothing of purchasing a block of property and sell it at a profit within a short time of the contract to purchase. She was a handsome woman who appeared always well dressed and it was after the death of her husband that she went in for speculations which earned her a nickname. She rode through the streets in a four wheeled trap, and the sight will be recalled by more than one old resident in Spittal.

At one time she owned the Roxburgh Hotel, The Miners' Arms, The Blenheim and the Albion Hotels. She built a good many houses in Spittal, including St Cuthbert's and the tenement property which suffered most in the flood.

She had one daughter - Mrs Sarah White - and some of "Lucky Marthas" grandchildren who own the tenement property reside in Spittal including Messers White and Mrs Ferguson, Berwick.

Linda Bankier

A Journey through Berwick's Literary Heritage

3: Vernacular Literatures: Northumbrian, Inglis, Scots and others

Tracing the vernacular literary heritage of the Berwick area in the Saxon period and Middle Ages is far more complex than outlining the Latin writings of Bede and his successors as we did in the last part of this journey. During the Roman period the coast and the Tweed valley were occupied by the Votadini tribe centred on Eildon Hill, overlooking Melrose. They spoke a dialect of the British P-version of Celtic. As it was not written down it is impossible to know what words it used, let alone what it sounded like, but it was similar to Cumbric, spoken in Cumbria and Southern Scotland until early Medieval times. There are some Cumbric place-names and it may be that this ancient lost language survives in the Cumbrian sheep-counting words, of which 'hevera', 'devera', 'dick' (8,9,10) seem to have inspired the nursery-rhyme, "hickory dickory dock". More importantly, works attributed to the early Welsh bard Aneirin, especially the elegiac poem *Y Goddoddin*, seem to be adaptations of works originally composed in Cumbric. Aneirin himself was probably court poet to the British king Mynyddawg based at Din Eidyn, or Edinburgh as we now call it. Aneirin's great poem is a lament following the British defeat by the Angles of the kingdom of Deira near Catterick in c.598. Around the same time the British king Urien from Strathclyde launched an attack on the small Anglian kingdom of Bernicia that had been established by Ida on Bamburgh in 558. Again this was a decisive British defeat, Urien being murdered in his encampment at Lindisfarne, and his life, court and defeat were celebrated in poetry attributed to the Welsh bard Taliesin. Within a few years Aethelfrith (c.592 - 616) united Bernicia and Deira and conquered the Celtic kingdoms in Cumbria, Southern and Central Scotland. Aethelfrith's successors made further conquests until the kingdom of Northumbria stretched from the Humber to the Solway Firth. As the kingdom expanded so did the Northumbrian dialect of Anglo-Saxon (Old English), replacing Celtic. This did cause some problems for St. Aidan and his monks arriving in Lindisfarne from Iona. Aidan spoke Irish Gaelic and when he preached to the Northumbrians, King Oswald himself had to translate. For the church, Latin was universal but if the word of God was to spread to the population, preaching in the vernacular was essential. It was probably for this reason that the monk Aldred added a word-for-word English translation of the Latin text to the *Lindisfarne Gospels* in about 950, 250 years after it was first made. This represents the earliest known English version of the Gospels. The first manuscript records of Old English date to

For three hundred years after Aethelfrith, the Northumbrians dominated the region, but by the 9th Century, they were threatened north and south. In the south they lost Deira to the Danish king at York, while in the north the decisive battle of Carham (1018) lost Lothian and finally settled the border at the Tweed. Thereafter Berwick grew in importance as Bamburgh declined. Eventually, through his marriage in 1114 to Maud, the last of the house of Bamburgh, David I of Scotland acquired Northumbria. By then the Normans had conquered England and David invited a steady stream of northern English and Anglo-Norman families into his kingdom. The language of these people became known as Inglis as distinct from Gaelic spoken north of the Forth and Clyde.

The Norman influence can be seen in Scots' words such as 'ashet', jigot' (of mutton) and 'tassie'. Later French influence added 'caddie' and even 'hogmanay', so that by the 1250s the language of the Scottish court, like that of the English, was mostly French.

At the same time Scots Berwick had become a rich and important Royal Burgh with its own mint. It was too an international port with Flemish and German merchants having their own trading halls. We cannot know for certain what literary works were available in Berwick at the time, but the Scottish court would have known of such international 'best-sellers' such as the poem of courtly love *Roman de la Rose* (c.1230) and the Arthurian romances of Chretien de Troyes (fl.1170-1190) and could enjoy these in the original language. Chretien himself has one of his knights, Yven (Owain) setting out from Carlisle into the Lothians and this was elaborated by the one surviving 'Scottish' Arthurian poem, written in French, the *Roman de Fergus*, which sets the action firmly in the Borders, featuring Carlisle, Jedburgh and Trimontium, outside Melrose. There is too the story of *Sir Tristrem*, edited by Sir Walter Scott and attributed by him to the mysterious poet and soothsayer Thomas the Rhymer (c.1220 - c.1297), whose 'Rhymer's Tower' may still be seen at Earlston in Berwickshire. It is a version of the story of Tristan and Isolda, first told by another poet 'Thomas of Britain' (c.1160) which became the source for Gottfried von Strassberg's *Tristan* (c.1210), the ultimate source of Wagner's opera *Tristan und Isolt*. Perhaps one of the German merchants brought a copy of Strassberg's poem into Berwick and Thomas got to see it. The Flemish merchants of Berwick may also have had an effect on the literature available in the town. Dutch words such as 'pinkie', 'scone' and 'golf' entered Inglis at this time, and the merchants may have imported poems in their own language. Perhaps the work of Hadewijch (fl.1230-40), the leading Flemish troubadour of her day would have been known and appreciated in the Red Hall near Bridge Street.

How far even wealthy people could read is very difficult to tell, but for larger households and the court most of these poetic works could have been enjoyed communally through live performance by minstrels. More research needs to be done into surviving accounts books to pin down payments to minstrels and other performers in Berwick, but we can infer the situation in say, the Great Hall of Berwick Castle during a Royal visit. Of all the Medieval kings, it was Edward II who spent the longest in Berwick, from 3rd November 1310 till the end of July 1311. What literary entertainments were available we cannot say, but unlike his father, Edward could probably read. He kept a small library at the Tower of

London, and at least one poem is attributed to him. Brought up in Wales, all his life he adored the music of the Welsh bowed harp or crwth ('crooth') which his minstrel Richard the Rhymer learnt to play at Shrewsbury Abbey. It is likely therefore that the tones of the crwth accompanying chivalric poems was heard in the Great Hall of Berwick Castle after banquets. Poets expected their works to be performed. The first Scots epic-poem is *The Bruce* by John Barbour (d.1395), who begins with a comment on the nature of storytelling, saying that reading stories is delectable, even if they be nought but fables, but that if such stories are true and "said" in a good manner, then there is a double pleasure in hearing: "The first pleasance is the carpyng/ And the tother the suthfastnes." *The Bruce* was written in about 1375 to inspire the Scottish nobles to look back and learn from the heroic example of Robert the Bruce (1274 - 1329). Berwick features prominently in the poem with an elaborate description of the sieges of the town in 1318-19. But popular vernacular literature was not all knights in shining armour rescuing damsels, the Church played a considerable role in shaping the minds and literary tastes of all classes, to which we must return in our next journey.

Further Reading (all available via Museum or Record Office)

Alexander, M. (ed) *The Earliest English Poems* (1966)

Barbour, J. *The Bruce* (ed. A. A. Duncan) (1997)

Clancy, T. O. (ed) *The Triumph Tree: Scotland's Earliest Poetry AD 550-1350* (1998)

Crystal, D. (ed) *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language* (1995)

Loomis, R. S. 'The Arthurian Legend in Scotland' in *PSAntq. Scot.* v.89 (1958) 1-21

McArthur, T. (ed) *The Oxford Companion to the English Language* (1992)

LLOYD'S LIST

The Lloyd's Registers of Merchant Shipping were first established in c1760 and have been published year on year ever since that date. The Registers give full details of ships world-wide including name, type, tonnage, where and when built, build materials and the Lloyd's build classifications for insurance brokerage purposes.

The first establishment of "Lloyd's of London" was around 1688/89 when reference to Edward Lloyd and his first Coffee House where insurance transactions took place. In around 1670 a move into heavy commercial insurance work, which included entry into the maritime field, took place when ship owners and auctioneers had vessels to sell. Details of ships for sale or lease were sent to Lloyd's Coffee House, Lombard Street, London wherein prospective buyers or brokers amongst the shipping and commercial people foregathered. In c1693 the first of "Lloyd's News" publications was issued and this was the forerunner of the "Lloyd's List" which is still published to this day on at least a weekly basis. This list gives a day by day coverage of marine activities world wide including positions of ships, cargoes, casualties, sailings to and from various ports, and confrontations with various enemies, privateers and slave traders. Following are snippets from the "Lloyd's" list of 1779/80 which will show the scope of some of these earlier issues:-

- 9 March 1779 The "LaPyrrha", from Africa for the West-Indies, with 570 Slaves, is taken and carried into Jamaica.
The Brig "Antigonian", of Antigua, has taken a French Guineaman of between 5 and 600 Tons, with 550 slaves, and sent her into St. Kitts.
- 19 March 1779 The "Renwon", Berwick, from Liverpool for Cork and Jamaica, is lost at Pile of Fowdry.
- 6 April 1779 The "Peggy", M'Lean, from London, arrived at Borrowstonness the 28th ult, after being taken at the Island of May by two Privateers, one of 18, the other of 16 guns, and ransomed for 200 Guineas. M'Lean saw five or six vessels brought to by the above Privateers.
- 13 April 1779 The "George & Nelly", Nelson, from Bergen to Dunbar, was taken the 28th ult, by "Le Prince de Robeque", a French Privateer, 20 leagues off Dunbar, and ransomed for 300 Guineas.
- 23 May 1779 Shields, last night sailed the "Friends Goodwill", the "Providence's Increase", the "Samuel, the "William and Mary", and the "Three Sisters", with twelve Sail more for London, and were attacked about two o'clock this morning, near this Place, by four French Privateers, a Frigate, a Snow, and two Cutters; the twelve sail have got back, but the rest are supposed to be taken. Also taken and Ransomed the "Brighthelmstone", for 300 Guineas, and the "Jenny", with Merchant Goods, for 1500 ditto.
- 30 July 1779 The "John", Jackson, from Gottenburg, is arrived at Berwick, after being taken and ransomed for 300L by the "Estissae" Privateer.
- 3 August 1779 The "Mentor", Christie, is arrived off Blyth from Greenland with 4 fish, and 400 Seals; nine other ships in company.
- 13 August 1779 The "Enigheiden", Capt Hall, a Dane, from Berwick to Venice, was taken by the French, and carried into Marseilles the 8th ult. but released next day.
- 24 August 1779 The "Acton", Davie, from Alemouth to Memel, was taken in Lat.57-41, eight Leagues from the Naze of Norway, by the "Revenge", a Dunkirk Privateer of 22 guns, and ransomed for 250 Guineas.

- 17 September 1779 The "Tyger", Adamson, from Christiansand, for Berwick, and the "Endeavour", Scott, from Alloa to Gottenburg, were taken and ransomed by the "Necker" Privateer; the former for 180 Guineas, and the latter for 150 ditto.
- Whitby, Dec 24 1779 On Thursday came on shore at Runswick near this Place, a Shallop called the "Newhaven", John Thompson, Master, from Middlesburgh in Zealand, bound to Leith, and was totally lost.
- Portsmouth
20 January 1780 The Berwick, of 74 Guns, sheathed with Copper, is gone out of Harbour to Spithead.
- Yarmouth
26 Feb 1780 This Morning drove on Shore at Caister in a hard gale of wind at N.N.E. two Sloops with Corn; the Crew saved. There are also four Vessels on Shore near Winterton; one of which is entirely lost, and all on board perished. Remain in the Road his Majesty's Fly, and Scourge, with the outward-bound ships for Hamburg and Rotterdam.
- Yarmouth
27 Feb 1780 The Two Sloops drove ashore at Caister, are the Speedwell, Waller, from Wells, and the Mayflower, Pindar, from Scarborough to London; it is hoped the Vessels will be got off. Three of the Ships ashore at Winterton are entirely lost, and all their crews.
- Whitby
25 Feb 1780 The Tyne, Thompson, from Hull for Newcastle, is lost off this place; the Crew and Part of the Cargo saved. Came in the John and Charlotte, Marks, from London for Sunderland, and next Morning, the Wind and Sea being high, she drove from her Moorings, broke her Foremast and Bowsprit, and received other Damage. The Volunteer, Hunter, a Greenland Ship, also broke loose and received considerable Damage.
- 14 April 1780 By Express to the Mayor of Hull from Mr. Forester, of Burlington, an Account is given of four French Ships of War, and a Cutter, (one of which is supposed to be the late Countess of Scarborough) chasing several vessels into Burlington Bay and Harbour; that they continued off Flamborough Head two days, the 9th and 10th instant, then stretched to the Southward, Wind N.
- Whitby
23 April 1780 This Afternoon a large Ship, supposed a French Privateer, appeared about Two Leagues off this Port; had taken a three masted Vessel and a Brig, and stood to the Eastward.
- 2 May 1780 A Privateer, Frigate built, of 28 Guns, took nine Sail of light Colliers, a bark, and a large Brig, off Whitby; the Content and Queen, Armed Ships, sailed from Shields in Pursuit of them.

- 14 July 1780 The Elizabeth, Burnet, from Libaw for Berwick, was taken the 6th Instant by a Dunkirk Privateer, and retaken the 8th, by the Mary & Elizabeth Privateer, of Folkestone, and sent into Dover.
- 22 August 1780 The Peggy, Scott, of Newcastle, with three large Fish, and the Mary, Hyon, of London, with five Fish, from Greenland, arrived at North Shields the 16th Inst. after beating of an American Privateer of 16 Guns, which they engaged two Hours.
- 6 October 1780 The Union, Neame, of Sandwich (In Ballast) is arrived at Whitby, after being taken by a French Privateer, of 18 six Pounders, near Sunderland, and ransomed for 300 Guineas.
- 14 November 1780 The Margaret Kirk, of North Queen Ferry, with Plank, from Dantzick, overset off Whitby; Part of the Crew, and some few Materials, were saved by a Smack belonging to Whitby.

The foregoing examples give some idea as to how the North Sea, or German Ocean as it was originally called, was subject to the ravages of French, Dutch, Spanish, American and English Privateers operating under the blind-eyes of their governments in what can only be described as legalized piracy. These Privateers operated with impunity, attacking individual and convoyed merchant vessels and ships within ports and harbours all around the coasts of England and Europe, the northern areas in particular. Where captured ships were ransomed or taken into various enemy ports, the Privateer Captains and their crews made fine pickings out of the prize monies and confiscated cargoes. Captured crews were either imprisoned or ransomed to their own countries.

Dennis Nicholson

SNIPPETS FROM OLD BERWICK ADVERTISERS

1818 - FASHIONS FOR MARCH

English Winter Carriage Costume: Round dress of fine cambric muslin, superbly embroidered round the border in 3 distinct rows, Pelisse of rich Tobine, striped, of Christmas holly berry colour and bright grass green, trimmed round the collar, cuffs and down the front with very broad swansdown. Cambridge hat of green satin, ornamented with white ribband edged with holly-berry red, surmounted by a very full plume of ostrich feathers. Triple ruff of fine lace; hollyberry velvet reticule with clasp and ornaments of gold. Limerick gloves and white kid half-boots.

French Carriage Dress: Pelisse of blue satin fastened down the front with Brandenbourgs of polished steel. Toque hat of spotted blue velvet, the hat part crowned with a plume of white ostrich feathers; the cap part confined to the head by a bandeau of polished steels, and with an elegant tassel of the same material on the left side. Triple ruff of fine lace, lemon coloured slippers, of kid leather and Norman gloves.

APRIL 1819 - CIRCUS - CHANGE OF PERFORMANCE

Sat and Mon 17th & 19th April being positively the last 2 performances here. When in addition to Horsemanship, Rope Dancing, Polander's Performance and Balancing, Mr. Bateman will give his Imitations of Various Singing Birds; likewise Bend Bars of Red Hot Iron with his Naked Feet, Immerse His Hands and Feet in Boiling Ledd etc; together with several Comic Songs. The Whole to Conclude with Mr. Moritz exhibiting his Sagacious Live Birds who will Fire a Cannon, Imitate Rope Dancers etc. The Whole being the most Wonderful, Singular and Extraordinary Performance ever exhibited here. N.B. BOXING by Messrs. Chicken and Johnson. The Performance to begin at 3 o'clock afternoon. ADMISSION: Boxes 1sh, Standing 6D.

NOV 20 1819 - PICKLED HERRINGS TO BE SOLD GOOD HERRINGS of this year's cure at 4s per 100, small quantities in proportion. Apply Mr. Gilchrist's Yard, Bridge St. or Mr. MacBeath's Yard, Spittal.

19th FEB 1820 - PORT OF BERWICK By Order of Hon. Commissioners of H.M. Customs. On Monday 28th Feb. at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, will be exposed to Public Sale at the Custom House Berwick the following viz: 60 G Whiskey, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ G Geneva, 29 Bots Riga Balsam, 70 Wood Shovels, 9 Wood Trays, 5 Wood Trays, 5 Wood Kits, 1.0.00 Handspikes, 0.3.H. Paling Boards, 0.1.21 Boathook Handles, 0.0.19 Deals & Battens, 0.15.Oars, 0.1.5 Masts. The Goods may be viewed at the Custom House the Day before and the Morning of the Sale. (Custom House Feb 18th 1820)

Muriel Fraser

Dennis Nicholson
Hon. Editor