

TODAY'S NEWS

Have I got old news for you?

Battle of Muirdykes 1685

1873

Donation to the Poor

About 140 poor people were supplied with a cart of coal each from the annual liberty donations of Lady Elizabeth and Mr Harvey; Mr McDowall; Mr J McEwan; Mr R B Smith of Adelaide, Australia

1871

The Speaker took the chair at 4 o'clock, and shortly afterwards the House was summoned by the Black Rod to the House of Lords for the purpose of hearing the royal assent given to sundry bills. Mr Finne presented a petition from the Roman Catholic inhabitants of Beith, Kilbirnie, Lochwinnoch, North Ayrshire, against the recognition of the King of Italy and occupation of the States of the Church by his troops

1907

New Headmaster of the Public School.

Mr Fraser from Bridge of Weir has been appointed Head Master in room of Mr Millar who has resigned.

Battle of Muirdykes is an almost forgotten battle and was a last desperate gasp of the doomed Argyll Rising. The rising, fought between May and June 1685 was in opposition to the new King James VII who was catholic.



Archibald Campbell, 9th Earl of Argyll

Muirdykes mound, in the East quarter of the Parish of Lochwinnoch is on the farm of East Muirdykes, immediately above, and to the south of the village of Howwood. The battle was fought near the termination of Argyll's Rising. On Thursday, the 18th of June, 1685, between the Royalists, who were commanded by Lord Ross, and Captain Clelland of Faskine, and the Covenanters, commanded by Sir John Cochran of Ochiltree, and Sir Patrick Hume of Polwart.

The insurgents had crossed the Clyde the same morning at Kilpatrick or Erskine ford, and, retreating southwards by the old road which leads thence, past Barochan, Bridge of Weir, Ranfurlic, and Burntshields, were harassed their march by the Royalist force, which was composed of three troops

1836

Owing to heavy rainfall the stream that flows from Kilbirnie Loch has burst its banks and flooded the Barr Meadow. The crops, chiefly hay and oats, we are grieved to learn nearly the whole were destroyed. Mr W McDowall has stated that he won't be seeking payment from those who had already purchased the crops, but if they do salvage something and if they thought it proper, to adhere to the bargain. A generous outcome.

Breaking News

Good news for children

who work in the mills ...update to follow soon @pbthecairn

1836

Baby Farming Case at Lochwinnoch

Continued A young lady was put in prison in Inveraray for theft and it was discovered that she had given birth to a child.

Under cross examination she confessed that she had left the child with Mrs Rankin at Lochwinnoch.

The result was that she was charged with fraud, wilful imposition and admitted her guilt and was sent 30 days to prison.

of mounted militia, afterwards joined, in the afternoon, by two other regularly trained troops under Lord Ross and C'apt. Clelland. They passed the Black Cart by Ellistoun Bridge and had ascended the ground which rises from the valley of the Cart rather more than a mile, when they were headed, or met in the face, surrounded and attacked by the Royalists. Of the insurgents who crossed the Clyde in the morning, there were about 150, but by the time they reached Muirdykes, their number was reduced, by desertion, chiefly of the Highland men, to about 70 or 75.

The Covenanters, after the first onset, got within a fauld, enclosed by a stone dyke on the northern slope of the hill at Muirdykes, where they defended themselves, by aid of the dyke, most valiantly against three successive strenuous attacks. They were divided into two companies, both commanded by Sir John Cochran, one being placed on his right hand and the other on his left. At the second attack Captain Clelland fell close by the fauld dyke. This abashed the Royalists considerably, who, after making a third attempt to get into the fauld, during which Lord Ross was struck with a bullet, did not renew it.

The Covenanters remain till darkness ensued, but, fearing a renewed attack with an additional force next day, they then marched off from within the fauld, receiving no molestation on the part of the Royalists, who had retired back. The intention was before day-light to get to a strong moss, where cavalry could not well approach them, from thence into Ayrshire, and ultimately into England, where they expected the cause of the Duke of Monmouth would be prospering. They kept together for two days, that is till the evening of the 20th of June, being a Saturday, when Sir John Cochran having learned that Argyle had been taken, they came to the resolution, upon his advice, of separating, and of each man seeking his own safety.

Fauld: An enclosure for animals; an enclosed piece of ground used for cultivation, a small field.