

Transactions

OF THE

BANFFSHIRE FIELD CLUB.



The support of The Strathmartine Trust toward
this publication is gratefully acknowledged.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1895.

EXCURSION ALONG THE GAMRIE COAST, FROM MACDUFF TO PAST MELROSE.

ON Wednesday afternoon, the members of the Banffshire Field Club had an excursion along the Gamrie coast, from Macduff to past Melrose. The company numbering over twenty ladies and gentlemen, met at Macduff Town Hall at half-past three in the afternoon. Mr William Forbes, Macduff, whose Field Club paper on the Gamrie coast was recently given in the columns of the *Journal*, was director of the expedition. Under his leadership, the company struck the coast line near the battery, and followed it carefully for several miles. Mr Forbes pointed out the geological characteristics of the cliffs and rocks; and recounted numerous legends and historical incidents connected with various places on the way. Attention was also paid, in passing, to the flora of the sea cliffs and pastures, and among the botanical 'finds' were the Spring Squill (*Scilla verna*), the Lovage (*Ligusticum Scoticum*), the Atriplex (*A. Babingtonii*), the Rose-root (*Sedum Rhodiola*), the Sea Spleenwort (*Asplenium marinum*), the Rock Rose (*Helianthemum Chamæcistus*), the Bog Asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), and the Golden Saxifrage (*Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*). One or two rare moths and butterflies were also seen; whilst the ornithological members of the party also found ample material for observation. At some distance past the Den of Melrose, a visit was paid to three curious caves, which can only be entered from the sea. Mr Gray, manager of Mr Bisset's salmon-fishings in the neighbourhood, was good enough to provide a boat and a crew of men, so that this part of the expedition was accomplished with comfort and safety. The company afterwards returned to Macduff about nine o'clock, and before it broke up, a cordial expression of thanks was moved to Mr Forbes for his great kindness in acting as cicerone. Mr John Yeats, M.A., secretary of the club, was also present, and contributed much to the success of the expedition, which, as regards weather, was held in one of the few absolutely perfect days that we have had this year.