

Transactions

OF THE

BANFFSHIRE FIELD CLUB.



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WEDNESDAY JULY 6, 1887.

THE Banffshire Field Club had an excursion on Wednesday last along the coast lying between Macduff and Den of Melrose. The company, which numbered about twenty ladies and gentlemen, assembled at the east end of Macduff about four o'clock, and immediately commenced an examination of the rocks and caves between the Bath House and the Slaughter House. Some time was spent over the flora of the moor between Macduff and Tarlair, which presents a great variety of interesting plants. The party then proceeded to Tarlair, and a few of the more adventurous scrambled over the rocks to examine the cave on the east side of the bay. The route then lay along the top of the rocks till the rock forts near Old Haven were reached, when a halt was made, and a good number of the gentlemen members of the party went out and examined these interesting remains. Descending to the beach and examining the Cave at Old Haven, the party then made their way to the entrance of the Den of Melrose. Fortunately at this dry season there was very little water in the burn, and almost the whole party, including the ladies, were able to traverse the whole Den from the sea to the Mill of Melrose. Still, under any circumstances, it is no easy matter to thread this deep, narrow, rugged gorge, and the very luxuriant vegetation, reaching in some places almost to the shoulders of the excursionists, added considerably to their labours. But when at length the short but arduous journey was accomplished, and all were again collected at the bridge above the Mill, no one seemed to think that their exertions had not been well repaid by the rare treat they had enjoyed. In few places can so much that is interesting to the botanist be found within so limited a space, and apart altogether from its scientific interest, the Den of Melrose forms a scene of romantic beauty that is worth going many miles to see. Before parting the company expressed their thanks to Dr Milne, King-Edward, and Mr Forbes, Macduff, for the great pains they had taken to make the excursion interesting and instructive.