

A DAY ON THE HILLS IN ARRAN.



CYCLOPEAN WALLS AND THE "CASTLES."

(From Goatfell—looking North.)

WITH the exception of the Cuchullin Hills of Skye, there is no grander mountain scenery in all Scotland than that which can be found in the Isle of Arran, within a short journey, by rail and boat, from Glasgow.

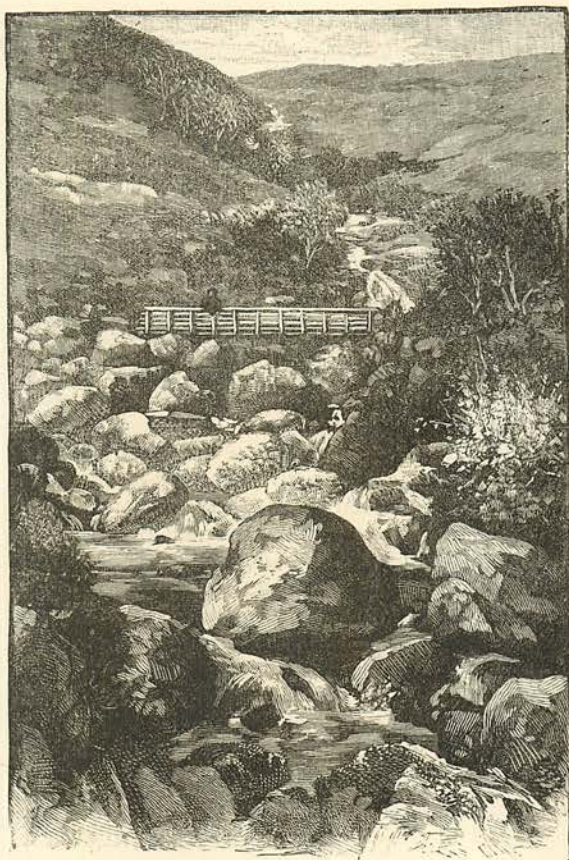
The finest peaks are all on the eastern and most accessible side of the island, and an afternoon's walk from Brodick Bay will take one into the wildest recesses of mountain and glen—a most pleasant contrast, this, to that inevitable tramp over interminable miles of heather and moorland which must be performed by those who would gain the chief summits of the Eastern Grampians. Goatfell (2,866 feet) is the highest point in Arran, and therefore the one to which the tourists flock in ever-increasing numbers; but a far more interesting peak than Goatfell is Cir Mhor (pronounced Keer Vör), which, in spite of its inferiority in height by some 250 feet, claims the place of honour among the Arran mountains by its magnificent shape and very central position.

The ardent lover of mountain climbing cannot wish for a grander expedition than that obtained by walking up Glen Sannox and down Glen Rosie, and ascending Cir Mhor on the way, thus making the circuit of Goatfell and seeing the very best of Arran scenery. The two glens both have their heads or sources under the slopes of Cir Mhor, from

which centre Glen Sannox runs to the north-east and Glen Rosie to the south-east; Sannox and Brodick Bays, into which they respectively debouch, being some six miles apart, while the triangular space between the glens is filled by the mass of Goatfell.

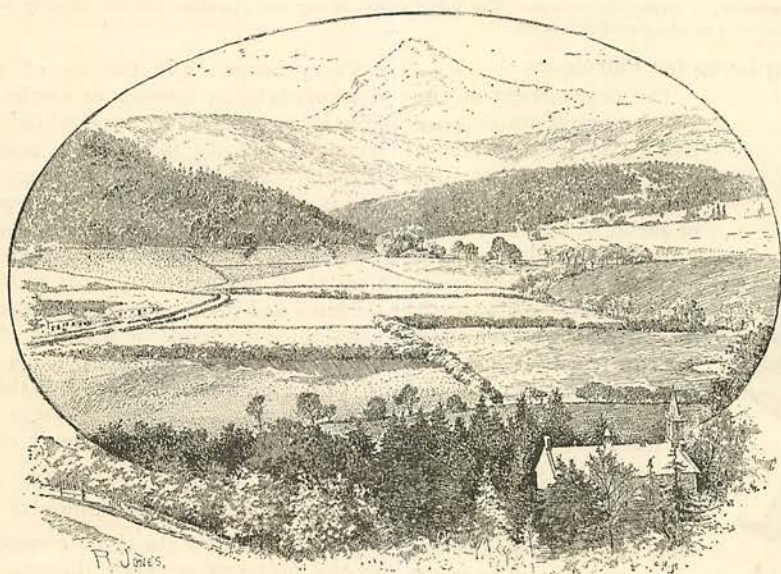
The moment Glen Sannox is entered the wayfarer finds himself in the presence of a strange array of lofty and imposing mountains, which are so grouped around the glen as to give it a singularly weird and sombre appearance. One of the characteristic features of Arran scenery is the extreme steepness and blackness of the heather-clad slopes which rise abruptly from the beds of the valleys to the region of granite which is above; hence many of the glens, and Sannox in particular, have a severity and simplicity of outline which is not to be seen elsewhere. Above the heather the bare granite rocks rise, tier over tier, till they culminate in a line of jagged and fantastic crests, broken spires, and notched parapets, which resemble some gigantic and cyclopean masonry. The rough, coarse-grained granite of which these ridges are formed decomposes very rapidly under the action of the weather, and this is the cause of the grotesque shapes assumed by the vast blocks which are piled up, height above height, into the form of massive towers and castle-like eminences. The smooth slabs and sheets of granite, which are sometimes seen to coat the sides of the ridges like plates of armour, are another striking feature of these Arran mountains.

After about three miles' walking along the side of the stream which flows down Glen Sannox we make the ascent of the "Saddle" (1,250 feet), a ridge of rocks which forms the link between Goatfell and Cir Mhor and the watershed between the two glens. As we ascend we perhaps see a herd of red deer at the head of the valley, or a wild goat on one of the dizzy ledges above, for on the north side of Cir Mhor, where the precipices are almost inaccessible, the wild goat still makes its home and breeds in diminished numbers. After gaining the "Saddle" we pick our way as best we can up the eastern face of Cir Mhor, now winding between huge overhanging boulders, and now scrambling up one of the steep chimneys, or "trap-dikes," as the geologist calls them, which here scar the sides of the mountains in every direction. When we stand on the top of Cir Mhor we find that it is a sharp, aiguille-like peak, more or less precipitous on three sides, and affording a very moderate amount of standing-room at the summit. It is the central point of the group of mountains by which Glen Sannox and Glen Rosie are formed, and the view, though less extensive in some directions than that obtained from Goatfell, is distinctly the wildest and most impressive of any in the island. Looking eastward across the "Saddle" you have the whole range of Goatfell right opposite, with Glen Sannox winding seaward on your left hand and Glen Rosie on your right; in the distance you may see, if the day be clear, Ben Lomond and its neighbouring heights on the north-east horizon; to the north Ben Cruachan and a host of other peaks; to the north-west the islands of Mull, Islay, and Jura; and to the south-west a strip of the Irish coast. It is



AN ARRAN BURN.
(Garb Albt — Glen Rosie.)

said that in a very clear atmosphere the fells of Cumberland and the Isle of Man are also visible, but as



GLEN SHURRY AND GOATFELL.
(From Brodick.)

the distance to these is at least a hundred miles, it is obvious that the sight can only be rarely obtained. In addition to the *view* from these mountains, there is a *sound* that can occasionally be heard there, by which visitors are sometimes attracted; this is the roar of the breakers from where the Atlantic beats on the western shore of the Mull of Cantire, a dull, distant, heavy thud, which on calm breathless days can be caught by a sharp ear across the twenty miles that intervene. From the top of Cir Mhor we now descend again to the "Saddle," and thence, turning to the right, we make our way down Glen Rosie to Brodick, a distance of five or six miles. In its upper reaches Glen Rosie is wild and heath-covered, famous too for its adders, if local report be true, though I confess I have always regarded this as a pious fiction invented and propagated by the Duke of Hamilton's gamekeepers to prevent an excessive influx of tourists into the domain of the red deer. At the foot of the glen the scenery is milder and more varied than that of Sannox, low undulating hills and well-wooded dingles taking the place of the stern and barren slopes.

Such is one of the many fine walks and ascents that may be made in Arran. The best way to enjoy a visit to the island is, in my opinion, to avoid the hotels and larger lodging-houses, of which there are fortunately extremely few, and take one of the many cottages that can be rented in the summer months for a moderate

charge; but this can only be recommended to those who are inclined to "rough it" for awhile in the matter of diet and accommodation. There is one great advantage in Arran for those who wish to do much climbing, and this is that visitors are permitted to wander wherever they like across hill and valley, and are in no danger of being turned back by gamekeepers, as is too often the case on some Scotch mountains.

But though the presence of man is thus tolerated, even in the sacred regions of the red deer, the presence of man's faithful friend and follower is strongly deprecated and prohibited. "No dogs admitted except on business," is the *fiat* that went forth years ago from the Lord of Arran, and woe be to the tenant who, without permission, has either kept a dog himself or permitted the stranger within his gates to keep one! I was told by an Arran peasant, in whose cottage I spent a few weeks, that he had once kept a dog for a short time—"an awful kind dog," was his own description of it—but when it came to the gamekeeper's knowledge he was obliged to "make it away" by drowning it in the sea. My advice to those who wish for a week or fortnight of mountain climbing is therefore to try the Isle of Arran, provided always that they leave their dogs behind them.

H. S. S.

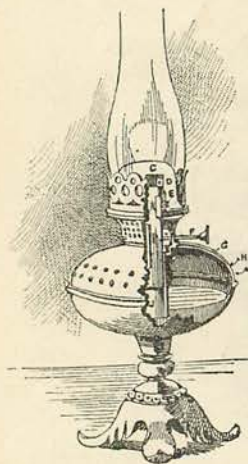
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A Safety-Lamp for Petroleum.



event of the lamp falling. Moreover, the oil reservoir is modelled on the principle of the unspilling ink-bottle; hence there is less escape of oil than in

The development of the Russian petroleum industry has led to the appearance of a new safety-lamp for burning that oil. It is made of metal, so as not to break or become over-heated. An air chamber on the oil reservoir allows the air to reach the flame in a warm state. No dangerous gas is formed in the oil reservoir, and the light can be blown out without fear of accident. There is no smell or waste of oil by vapourisation; and by means of two levers the flame is extinguished in the

ordinary lamps. The turning of an ignited wick downwards by an ignorant or careless person is kept from igniting the oil by a special contrivance, and the flame put out. In the figure, A represents this contrivance, which is, in fact, an elongated wick-tube; C and D are pivoted caps, which extinguish the flame in case of accident; G is the air chamber over the reservoir, and the air enters it from outside through perforations at H, and passes upwards to the flame, cooling the lamp and warming itself; J is the cylinder or tube upon which the burner is screwed. The greater part of the oil runs behind this cylinder when the lamp assumes a horizontal position, as in the ordinary safety, or tax-collector's, ink-bottle. The price of the lamp is such as to bring it within the reach of all classes.

The Paris Exhibition of 1889.

Our illustrations show the grounds and buildings of the forthcoming Paris International Exhibition next year in the Champ de Mars, and gardens of the Trocadéro opposite (Fig. 1). Besides the great