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Corgarf or Curgarf, a wild mountainous district in the upper part of the parish of Strathdon, about 8 or 9 miles in length, and well known to sportsmen for excellent shootings. There is a missionary stationed here, who has under his charge about 690 people; a considerable portion of the inhabitants of the district are Roman Catholics.

Church built in 1836: sittings 350. The mission is supported by Royal County. Corgarf castle, supposed to have been originally built by one of the Earls of Mar, is a military station on the road from Edinburgh to Fort George; 21½ miles distant from Braemar.

The present erection is a small oblong building of four stories, with wings, and surrounded by a wall. It was purchased by Government from Forbes of Skellater, in 1746.

The old Castle of Corgarf, which stood on the same site, was burnt by Sir Adam Gordon in 1551, when 27 persons, among whom were the wife and children of Alexander Forbes, perished in the flames. Subsequent to this tragical affair, a meeting for reconciliation took place between a select number of the heads of the two houses, in the hall of an old castle, in these parts probably Dumminor. After much argument, the difference being at length made up, and a reconciliation effected, both parties sat down to a feast in the hall, provided by the Forbes's chief.

The eating was ended, and the parties were at their drink, - the clansmen being of equal numbers, and so mixed as had been arranged, that, every Forbes had a Gordon seated at his right hand. "Now said Gordon of Huntly to his neighbour chief, "as this business has been so satisfactorily settled, tell me if it had not been so, what it was your intention to have done." There would have been bloody work, bloody work." said Lord Forbes - "and we would have had the best of it.

I will tell you: See we are mixed one and one, Forbeses and Gordon. I had only to give a sign by the stroking down of my beard, thus and every Forbes was to have drawn the Skein from under his left arm, and stabbed to the heart his right hand man; and as he spoke, he suited the sign to the word, and stroked down his flowing beard 'God Almighty'! exclaimed Huntly, 'what is this', for in a moment a score of skeins were out, and flashing in the light of the pine-torches held behind the guests. In an other moment they were buried in as many hearts; for the Forbeses whose eyes constantly watched their chief, mistaking this involuntary motion in the telling of his story for the agreed sign of death, struck their weapons into the bodies of the unsuspecting Gordons. The Chiefs looked at each other in silent consternation. At length Forbes said 'This is a sad tragedy we little expected, but what is done, cannot be undone, and the blood that now flows on the floor of Drumminor will just help to slacken the auld fire of Corgarf.'" Picken's Traditionary Stories of old Families.

CORGARFF

This name applies to a district of country situated on the extreme west side of Aberdeenshire; it extends from near Inchmarry in Banffshire, to the Lonach Inn in the parish of Tarland in Strathdon.

There is but little cultivation in the glen, but the people appear to live in comfort and contentment, and are most hospitable to strangers.

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CLACH A' CHOUTTSAICH

Applies to a large carn of Boulders, deriving its name from a Captain of the name of Coutts being killed here in a feud between the Clans Allan of Corgarff and the Coutts's of Braemar "Near this is a large stone without any inscription, called Cloch Couttsich (Coutts's stone.)"