

THE OLD AND REMARKABLE WALNUT TREES IN
SCOTLAND.

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[*Premium—Five Sovereigns.*]

WHATEVER difference of opinion may exist in the minds of arboriculturists as to the indigenous nature of some other species of hard-wooded trees to Scotland, or even to Britain, there can be no doubt regarding the walnut having been an importation and a foreign acquisition to our Sylva. Old and large examples at the present day are few in number, and, like the Spanish chestnuts,—with which in point of introduction the walnut seems to be coeval,—are generally found around ruined monastic buildings and foundations, or adjoining the castellated remains of the strongholds of feudal barons of the Middle Ages, in sites which appear to have been carefully selected, with due regard to prominence and yet shelter, where the cherished nut tended with care, and probably the memento of some distant pilgrimage, might remind the old monk of some foreign shrine, or recall to the memory of the gallant knight-errant in after years in his native land, the grateful shade and refreshing fruit of its parent tree, under whose umbrageous branches he had rested after the toils of the battle-field. Some authorities ascribe the introduction of the walnut to the Romans during their occupation of Britain, but however this theory may hold good as regards the southern parts of England, it cannot be supported by either fact or inference, if we take the oldest survivors in Scotland as living witnesses, or notice the total absence of all traces of any remains, or even of later specimens existing at or near to any Roman station in Scotland.

Few, if any, walnuts appear to have existed in this country, north of the Tweed, earlier than about the year 1600. It is a curious fact, that Dr Walker, who wrote his Catalogue after about forty years of patient compilation, mentions only *four* "remarkable" walnut trees in Scotland, and Sir Thomas Dick Lauder in 1826 adds none to the list which the old Professor had collected. The cause of this scarcity of good examples existing in Scotland about the beginning of the century will be afterwards referred to, and probable reasons assigned for it, but meantime, we may glance at these old walnuts noticed and recorded by Walker, and endeavour to identify any of them at the present day, and notice their growths and condition. It should be observed also, that the otherwise very fastidious arborist and collector Dr Walker condescends to notice in his

scanty list, three trees of no notable size whatever, thus showing that very few trees of dimensions worth recording were known to him from 1760 to 1790; and so minute and exacting an inquirer into all nature's secrets was Dr Walker, that if many fine trees of the walnut species had then existed in this country, even at wide and distant points, his industrious and intelligent investigations would have led him to them, and he would have certainly discovered and recorded them. Walker's first mentioned walnut is one growing in the garden at Lochnell in Argyleshire, which, in July 1771, girthed 3 feet 3 inches at 4 feet from the ground, and was 25 feet in height, and was then known to be exactly thirty-six years old. It is to be regretted that repeated inquiries made as to the existence and condition and size of this tree at the present day, for the purpose of this paper, have been met with no response regarding it.

Walker's second walnut grew at Alva, Stirlingshire. It was planted in the garden by Sir John Erskine anno 1715, in presence of his brother the Lord Justice Clerk Tinwald, afterwards proprietor of the estate. In October 1760, at 2 feet from the ground, it girthed 5 feet 4 inches. This tree we find, after careful inquiry, is departed, but neither date nor manner of its decease has been preserved or recorded. Walker next refers to "a number of walnut trees at Cames" (Kaimes), isle of Bute, "vigorous and well grown," which in September 1771 were about seventy years old. "They were then," he remarks, "between 50 and 60 feet high, and the largest of them girthed at 4 feet from the ground, 6 feet 1 inch." On inquiry and careful investigation by Mr Kay, the able and intelligent wood manager on the Kaimes estate, we have ascertained that none of these trees now exist. When they were felled, or how they disappeared, not even the oldest inhabitant can tell, so much had they probably been regarded as merely ordinary hard-wooded trees at the time of their disposal. It is, however, somewhat remarkable than in the island of Bute, a district isolated, and replete with many very remarkably large and notable trees of almost every variety, no instance of a walnut of anything like timber size has been obtained. Thus it is that frequently in the most likely localities, as regards soil, climate, and other circumstances, the enthusiastic explorer is disappointed, while in the most unexpected quarters, often rare and remarkable specimens of different descriptions of trees are found. And as a further instance of this, we need only notice Walker's fourth, and indeed only large walnut,—which "grows," says he, "before the front of Kinross House, in Kinross-shire, and in September 1796, measured at 4 feet from the ground 9 feet 6 inches in circumference." He further adds—"The house of Kinross was finished by Sir William Bruce in 1684, and the

tree appears to be coeval with the house. It is probably the oldest and largest walnut tree in Scotland, and is evidently on the decay, but whether this proceeds from accident or from age it is uncertain." Gilpin, in 1791, in noticing this tree (but without reference to its girth at that date), says, "there are many walnut trees of a size, equal if not superior to that of this tree." From recent inquiries made for the purposes of this paper,—and seeing it is not mentioned in the Highland Society's Catalogue of Old and Remarkable Trees, collected in 1863,—we find, and are glad to state that the old veteran is still alive, and in considerable vigour. It now measures at 4 feet from the ground 23 feet in circumference. It is unfortunately shorn of much of its grandeur, from having lost some of its largest limbs, but still evinces considerable vitality.

Of the more recently collected statistics of the walnut in Scotland, we may recapitulate those of the Highland Society's list, which we have been able to trace, before proceeding to consider and describe existing notable specimens at the present day, given in the appendix to this paper, and not hitherto recorded. The number we have been able to tabulate of trees in Scotland at the present day in the appendix is 39,—while those given, and many of them of smaller dimensions, in the returns collected in 1863, number only 13. The venerable tree which is recorded as growing at Eccles, Dumfriesshire, and which in 1863 girthed 22 feet at the base and 13 feet at 12 feet from the ground, is now no more, having been blown down in a gale a few years ago. The old walnut recorded in 1863, "in a vigorous condition," growing near the mansion house of Belton, and then 65 feet high, and girthing at 5 feet from the ground 15 feet 4 inches and at 7 feet 16 feet 8 inches, was measured in 1880, and found to be at 5 feet from the ground 16 feet 1 inch, and although the foliage was healthy, the tree had evidently ceased to grow, many branches giving symptoms of decay. The severe winter of 1880–81 proved too much for this hoary veteran, and he died its victim, and was taken down last year. It has not been found possible to identify precisely any of the other specimens given in the catalogue of 1863, or of those in Loudon's scanty list made up in 1834.

Coming now to the descriptions of the old walnuts tabulated in the appendix to this report, we notice first, the old tree still growing, but in a very decaying condition, at Flowerdale, Ross-shire. It still exhibits the remains of a fine tree for that latitude, and considering the situation it occupies. It girths 9 feet 5 inches at 1 foot from the ground, and 8 feet 4 inches at 5 feet, and is now 55 feet in height. It stands in front of the house of Flowerdale, in a sheltered glen only about a quarter of a mile from the sea, and about from 30 to 40

feet above its level. The site is the most westerly point on the mainland of Scotland where trees grow. Nothing is certainly known of its age, but from circumstances connected with the history of the Mackenzie family, it was in all probability planted between 1755 and 1760. Another fine old walnut in the north of Scotland is at Altyre (Morayshire). Viewed in 1881, this venerable patriarch, which stands close to the mansion house, has evidently seen its brightest and best days; but hooped as it is with strong iron clasps, it may stand the blasts of many a winter yet. It is quite hollow, has three large limbs still remaining, a fourth having been removed as it threatened an outhouse of the mansion, and is now, though crowned with a leafy head, evidently "living on its bark." It girthed 15 feet 2 inches at 1 foot and 13 feet at 4 feet from the ground. The soil is a deep sandy loam, recumbent on gravel. It yields large crops of fruit, which ripen almost ever year. There are other trees in Morayshire of nearly similar dimensions, but on account of the soil and situation which they occupy, being somewhat later, it is only in very favourable seasons that their fruit becomes fit for dessert. Since the notes for this paper were prepared, it is unfortunate to have to record regarding this interesting old walnut, and also regarding the one at Moy (Morayshire), also mentioned in the appended list of old trees, that both veterans succumbed to the wrestling hurricane of 26th February 1882. The largest walnuts, and probably with few exceptions the finest trees as specimens found in Scotland, are in Perthshire. Referring to those noticed in the appended list, specially may be noted the fine example growing at Moncrieffe, in a light loam soil, upon a gravel subsoil. This tree, which is extremely picturesque, is the last survivor of a fine group which occupied a space of ground, supposed to have been adjoining the original garden. The largest erect tree of the group measured in 1880, 13 feet 7 inches at 1 foot from the base, and 10 feet 9 inches at 5 feet from the ground. The trees composing this group had to be taken down in April 1881, for the extension of an avenue, and the only survivor left, and already referred to, is now, at 5 feet from the ground, 11 feet 4 inches in circumference. It is, however, considerably decayed and lying in a procumbent position on the ground, but it is still evincing its vitality by a good crop of walnuts this season, well filled, and quite fit for table use.

The system of planting walnut trees in groups does not appear to have been so common in Scotland during last century as in England. It appears rather to have been the practice to plant in lines or in straight rows at considerable distances apart, and this plan was probably adopted from a belief that the heavy foliage and dense shadows cast was inimical to the crops under-

neath and around, and an idea also prevailed that the bitter juices contained in the falling leaves in autumn were injurious to the soil. Traces, however, do exist where the walnut has been planted to form avenues to old buildings. One of the finest of these is still to be seen at Logiealmond, within two hundred yards of the old mansion house. Many of the trees once forming this fine and imposing old avenue were blown down during the great gale in December 29, 1879, when the Tay Bridge disaster occurred; and one or two also succumbed to the storms of last spring (January and February 1882). There are, however, still seventeen trees standing, and at present four of the last blown ones are lying on the ground as they fell. The trees, reckoning from the concentric circles, are about 110 years of age; the largest still surviving measures, at 1 foot above the surface 10 feet 3 inches, at 3 feet it is 8 feet 8 inches; and at 5 feet, 8 feet 1 inch in circumference. The seventeen trees will average from 6 to 10 feet in circumference at 1 foot from the ground. The Kinross House walnut has long been considered to be the largest tree of its species in Scotland; but this is not so, for reference to the appended list will show that at least one tree is larger. This premier walnut exists at Stobhall, Perthshire. It is no less than 26 feet in girth at 1 foot and 21 feet 2 inches at 5 feet from the ground, with a massive bole 12 feet in length, and a total height of 70 feet, and the diameter of its spread of branches is 99 feet. It is in a vigorous condition. Another picturesque old Perthshire walnut is to be seen at Abercairney near Crieff. It stands near the site of the old mansion house. The inside of the trunk and heavy limbs are very much decayed and quite hollow, so that a full-grown man can stand inside the trunk, while the holes in the giant limbs are the haunts of many species of the feathered tribe. The top of the tree appears quite vigorous, and when in foliage looks perfectly healthy. It grows in a good loamy soil, upon clay and gravel subsoil, at an altitude of about 120 feet above sea-level.

Growing on the lonely island of Inchmahome, in the lake of Menteith, are some interesting and picturesque old trees. They are chiefly Spanish chestnuts, but amongst these are several walnuts around the old garden of the priory. One fine specimen given in the appendix, stands sentinel-like and confronting a large Spanish chestnut at the western gateway of the priory. These two trees, as well as others of the same species, have evidently been selected to fill special points in what has in the Middle Ages been a well-laid out and artistically arranged pleasure ground. The Spanish chestnuts on the island have been already described in the chapter on that species, and need not now be referred to. Mary, Queen of Scots, when a child,

is said to have resided for a time on this island; and part of the old garden, the quaint walks of which are still traceable, with their boxwood edgings now grown into trees 20 feet high, and fully 3 feet in girth, still bears the name of "Queen Mary's bower," and "Queen Mary's garden." The walnut tree referred to in this site is still sound to all appearance, and its foliage looks quite healthy, while it fruits quite freely every year; but from a crevice near the root on the east side, it is "oozing" slightly, as old walnuts frequently do, indicating incipient internal decay.

The finest walnuts in Fife are to be found at Otterstone, near Aberdour; and at Balbougie, on the Fordell estate, near Inverkeithing, there is a very handsome specimen. It is commonly reported to be "the finest walnut tree in Scotland;" but however highly it may rank in point of symmetry and general contour, its dimensions and bulk of timber are eclipsed by several trees in other localities, and by some of those to which reference has been made. It is, doubtless, a very fine tree, and is 55 feet in height, with a bole of 12 feet, girthing 13 feet 6 inches at 1 foot and 12 feet 3 inches at 5 feet from the ground, and the diameter of its spread of branches is 63 feet. The Otterstone trees are more majestic, but unfortunately two of the finest of this group fell in the awful gale of 14th October 1881. The largest of these girthed no less than 16 feet at 12 feet from the ground, and one limb alone was 13 feet 6 inches in girth, above the 12 feet measurement of the bole. Each tree contained from 9 to 10 tons of beautifully sound and valuable timber, great difficulty being experienced in transporting the trunks to the railway, for, owing to their immense bulk, no janker in the neighbourhood was either large or powerful enough to take in either tree. The other tree, it may be stated, was 18 feet in girth at 20 feet from the ground. The two trees were sold for a little over £50 for cabinet work, and the roots were sold separately for gun-stocks, and were most beautifully striated with richly coloured markings. The date over the old doorway of the oldest portion of Otterstone mansion house is 1589, and the walnuts, Spanish chestnuts, beeches, and other magnificent timber trees adjoining the garden and house appear to be coeval with this portion of the building.

We need only notice cursorily the walnuts of notable appearance and dimensions to be found south of the Forth, as for instance at Dundas Castle (Linlithgowshire), Duntarvie Castle (Linlithgowshire), Newbattle Abbey and Edmonstone (Mid-Lothian), where the largest specimen south of the Forth which we have been able to find still exist. It is now 18 feet 2 inches at 1 foot and 17 feet 3 inches at 3 feet from the ground. The soil is a strong blue loam, overlying the

Mid-Lothian Coal Measures, and the altitude of the site is 320 feet. The tree is quite vigorous. Fine examples are also recorded in the appendix at Belton, Salton Hall, and Yester (East Lothian), and Milnegraden (Berwickshire). At Wells (Roxburghshire), at an altitude of 500 feet, we find a very fine tree with a beautiful bole of 15 feet, and girthing 10 feet 8 inches and 9 feet 2 inches at 1 and 5 feet respectively, showing the suitability of the walnut to such an altitude. In the south-west division of Scotland, fine trees are found at Cessnock Castle (Ayrshire); and in the quaint old churchyard of Kirkconnel (Dumfries), a picturesque old example still exists. It is 50 feet in height and girths 14 feet at 1 foot and 13 feet 10 inches at 5 feet above the ground. This fine old tree is very much swayed to one side, from the soil and subsoil both being sandy, and its three massive heavy limbs, which spring quite horizontally from the trunk in one direction, with their additional weight of foilage, being a severe strain upon the roots. It presents a very weird appearance, and is an appropriate and suitable feature in the foreground of the quaint old parish churchyard and its surroundings.

Having thus discussed the statistical features of the principal trees in Scotland which we have been able to discover, we may now proceed to notice the general characteristics of the walnut, and its capabilities and value as a timber tree in Scotland.

The scarcity of old and remarkable walnuts in Scotland, both at the present day and when the older authorities, such as Evelyn, Walker, Selby, and Loudon collected statistics, has been already referred to, and we may now, perhaps, consider if it is not possible to discover the reason why a tree so valuable, alike for its fruit and for the high price which its timber fetches when of large size, is not found so extensively distributed over Scotland as one might expect it to be, considering these special qualities, and its suitability of habit and hardihood to our climate. That is it quite hardy in Scotland there can be no doubt, for we find it even in the northern counties of Scotland of large size, highly ornamental and regularly fruiting, and in favourable autumns ripening its fruit sufficiently for use as dessert. Nor is the soil unsuitable, for it will thrive in almost any soil not water-logged, though it prefers, like the oak, a strong adhesive loam, if the subsoil be well drained or free from constant damp. Nor does altitude of site much affect it in this country, for we find it of large size and quite hardy, flourishing at altitudes of 500 feet and upwards in Scotland, as, for example, at Wells (Roxburghshire), where it is 10 feet at 1 foot and 9 feet 2 inches in circumference at 5 feet from the ground (*vide* appendix);

while at Hawkstone Park, in Shropshire, at 1000 feet above sea-level, there is a fine specimen 99 feet in height, and 22 feet in girth at 1 foot and 16 feet 6 inches at 5 feet from the ground, with a circumference of branches embracing 279 feet. The causes of the scarcity of fine trees in this country must, therefore, be looked for to other than climatic reasons, and it may probably be accounted for on the following grounds. The walnut in Britain never has been, at any period since its introduction, propagated either as a timber or as a fruit tree to anything like the same extent as it has been in France and other continental countries, where from an early date every possible encouragement has been given to its increase and cultivation. In this country it has been more planted as an ornamental or park tree, its chief use when cut down being for the manufacture of gun or musket stocks, for which it was formerly in great demand, and for the supply of which large quantities of walnut timber were imported from the Continent. During the Peninsular wars, when many of the chief continental ports and markets were closed against us, walnut timber in Britain rose to an enormous price, as we may judge from the fact of a single tree having been sold for £600; and as such prices offered temptations which few proprietors were able to resist, a great number of the finest walnut trees growing in this country were sacrificed about that period to supply this trade. The deficiency and scarcity thus created, as well as the high price, led to the introduction of the American walnut timber, as well as of large supplies from the coasts of the Black Sea, from whence any quantity can always be obtained, and at prices lower than the timber can be grown for in Britain. Hence this facility of procuring unlimited supplies from abroad has also done away with the inducement to plant walnut trees in this country, where it is a slow-growing and long-lived tree before reaching maturity as a timber crop, and its cultivation as such may be said to be at an end in Great Britain, and especially so in Scotland. The few specimens left to us of any magnitude show well as trees of position, and for effect, in the landscape, as well as for variety of foliage in mixed plantations, but only as such will the walnut take its place among the forest trees of Scotland in the future. Indeed, it is probably best adapted for planting now as a park tree, or in hedge rows; for, in mixed plantations, its enormous and deep-penetrating roots,—indicating great power and resistance to the elements,—and its impatience of interference, evince its unsocial habits, and mark it out as better fitted for an open or exposed site; and the only objection that can be stated to its extensive introduction as an ornamental tree of first importance, is its late period of coming into foliage

in spring, and the early shedding of its graceful light green pinnate leaves, which fall at the earliest approach of the first autumnal frosts in our latitude. It does not admit of being pruned at all when of any size; this operation, if necessary, should only be done when the tree is quite young, and never close to the main stem. Such treatment would be most injurious to the tree, and its pernicious effects are observable in old trees which have come under our notice in Scotland,—such a process of close-pruning having invariably produced decay more or less at the lower edge of the wound, caused doubtless by the wood being naturally capable only of slow cicatrisation, and also from the soft loose texture of the young wood of a tree which otherwise, when allowed to mature and ripen, produces a timber of close-grained quality, of beautifully coloured and veined appearance, and of the very finest quality for all artistic and ornamental constructive purposes or for internal decoration and furniture.

Evelyn states that it had been observed by a friend of his that the “sap of the walnut tree rises and descends with the sun’s diurnal course (while it visibly slackens in the night), and more plentifully at the root on the south side, though those roots cut on the north side were larger and less distant from the trunk of the tree, and that they not only distilled from the ends which were next the stem, but from those that were cut off and separated,” and which, he observes, “does not happen in birch, or any other sap-yielding tree.”* It is a pity the worthy and observant arborist does not tell us more of the details of the experiments and observations by which he arrived at this conclusion regarding this relation between the sun’s diurnal course and the flow of sap in the walnut tree, which he seems to point to as unique. May it not have rather been, or be perhaps, due to lunar influence, if such a phenomenon, as he alleges, exists at all, and afford inquiry, or fair field for investigation into a matter of the most profound interest in the economy of the vegetable kingdom and arboricultural world, viz., the *periodicity* of the rise and fall of sap in trees throughout the various periods of the moon’s growth and decline in *all* months of the year,—a function probably which, if better understood and investigated, may be found to correspond to a similar law in the animal kingdom for keeping alive and periodically revivifying and quickening the latent forces of nature.

Many curious old and superstitious practices and ideas prevailed in the last century regarding the walnut tree. These were particularly common in Germany and in other countries of the continent of Europe. In Frankfort and Hanau in

* Evelyn’s *Sylva* (Hunter), vol. i. book i. p. 171.

APPENDIX.—DESCRIPTION OF THE

County.	Place.	Altitude above Sea-level in Feet.	Soil.	Subsoil.
Ross, . . .	Flowerdale, . . .	35	Light sandy loam, . .	Hard boulder gravel,
Moray, . . .	Altyre, . . .	200	Deep sandy loam, {	Gravel, sand, and } clay, }
"	Moy, . . .	150	"	Gavel and sand, .
Banff, . . .	Gordon Castle, . .	150	Dark sandy loam, . .	Bluish sandy clay, .
Forfar, . . .	Camperdown, . . .	360	Sandy loam (tilly),	Till,
"	Ballinshoe Castle,	350	Black loam, . . .	Red clay, . . .
"	Castle Huntly, . . .	350	Sandy loam, . . .	Gravel and clay, . .
Perth, . . .	Dunkeld, . . .	200	Black loam, . . .	Clay and gravel, . .
"	Moncrieffe, . . .	...	Light loam, . . .	Gravel,
"	Stobhall, . . .	...	Clay and gravel, . .	Till,
"	"	...	"	"
"	Logiealmond, . . .	...	Deep rich loam, . . .	Clay and gravel, . .
"	Bendochy Manse, . .	115	Good black loam, . .	Clay,
"	Abercairney, . . .	120	Rich loam, . . .	Gravel and clay, . .
"	Garvock, . . .	...	Black stiff loam, . .	Clay,
Kinross, . . .	Kinross House, . . .	...	Clay loam, . . .	Till,
Stirlingshire, . . .	Alva, . . .	90	Heavy loam, . . .	Clay and till, . . .
"	Inchenahome Is- land, . . .	... }	Good loam, . . .	Gravel,
Fife, . . .	Balbougie Fordell,	1150	Good loam, . . .	Sand and clay, . . .
"	Otterston, . . .	100	Sandy loam, . . .	Damp clay, . . .
"	"	...	"	"
"	"	...	"	"
"	"	...	"	"
Dumbarton- shire, } Linlithgow, }	Camis Eskan, . . .	50	Sandy loam, . . .	Gravel,
"	Dundas Castle, . . .	200	Good loam, . . .	Clay,
"	Duntarvie Castle, . .	230	Deep loam, sandy, . .	Clay,
Mid-Lothian,	Newbattle Abbey, . .	...	Deep light loam, . . .	Sandy gravel, . . .
"	Edmonston, . . .	320	Strong blue loam, {	Mid-Lothian Coal } Measures, . . . }
East-Lothian,	Belton, . . .	75	Loam,	Freestone rock, . .
"	Biel, . . .	150	Good loam, . . .	Gravelly and clay, . .
"	Salton Hall, . . .	170	Light loam, . . .	Limestone,
"	Yester, . . .	400	Clay,	Clay,
Berwickshire,	Milnegraden, . . .	100	Light soil, . . .	Boulder clay, . . .
Roxburgh,	Wells, . . .	500	Good loam, . . .	Gravel,
Ayrshire, . . .	Cessnock, . . .	...	Light sandy, . . .	Till,
Dumfries, . . .	Springkell, . . .	250	Light sandy, . . .	Sand,
Kirkcudbright,	Heughan of Airds,	150	Light loam, . . .	Gravel,

WALNUT (*Juglans Regia*).

Exposure of Site.	Height of Tree in Feet	Length of Bole in Feet	Present Circumference of Trunk at			Diameter of Spread of Branches.	REMARKS.
			1 foot.	3 feet.	5 feet.		
	Ft. in.	Ft. in.	Ft. in.	Ft. in.	Ft. in.	Ft. in.	
W.	55 0	8 0	9 5	...	8 4	53 0	Growing on the most westerly point of the mainland of Scotland where trees grow, but is now in a decaying condition. Hooped together with iron bands. Contains about 200 ft. of timber. Fell in gale of 26th Feb. 1832. In 1833, girthed 9 ft. 6 in. at 5 ft. A very handsome specimen.
...	63 0	short.	15 2	...	13 0	...	
...	70 0	11 0	14 3	...	12 2	...	
...	66 0	...	13 8	...	13 4	207 0	
S.	48 0	5 6	9 5	...	6 3	...	This tree had originally branched off into two large limbs at 5½ ft. from the base, and from the fork the trunk has now split down to the root, but both heads are quite vigorous and in full foliage.
...	52 0	8 0	17 0	...	15 7	...	
...	65 0	7 0	17 7	...	16 2	...	
S.W.	56 0	...	11 11	...	10 8	...	
Sheltered.	80 0	15 0	13 9	...	12 4	...	(The last remaining of a fine group. It is considerably decayed, but still fruiting.
...	...	...	13 7	...	11 4	...	
...	60 0	13 0	10 8	...	9 2	66 0	
...	70 0	12 0	26 0	...	21 2	90 0	
S.	65 0	13 0	10 3	8 8	8 1	...	(One of seventeen still remaining of a fine walnut avenue here. A very handsome specimen.
...	48 0	9 0	6 1	...	5 6	...	
...	50 0	9 0	13 6	...	11 8	...	Inside quite hollow, but top vigorous. A very magnificent tree.
...	75 0	17 0	16 4	...	14 6	...	
...	74 0	6 0	23 0	23 0	14 2	...	Divides at 6 ft. into three large limbs. This tree is mentioned by Dr Walker in 1790. Blown down Feb. 1832.
...	60 0	20 0	10 9	...	9 3	...	
...	80 0	18 0	10 1	8 9	8 4	...	At west gateway of old Priory.
...	55 0	12 0	13 6	...	12 3	63 0	(Supposed to be one of finest in Scotland. Two magnificent walnut trees were blown down here in gale of Oct. 14, 1831. Each tree contained from 9 to 10 tons of timber, and they were sold for upwards of £50 sterling, for cabinet-work and gun-stocks.
...	78 0	37 0	...	13 10	12 11	...	
...	70 0	5 0	9 5	...	8 6	...	
...	80 0	18 0	13 10	...	11 6	...	
...	75 0	15 0	14 3	...	10 6	...	
...	60 0	13 0	13 9	...	10 3	...	
...	73 0	25 0	14 6	...	12 3	...	(Grows on west side of old Norman keep.
...	50 0	20 0	8 3	...	5 11	...	
...	45 0	15 0	7 10	...	6 1	...	Have stood in old castle garden. In stable orchard.
S.W.	73 0	...	16 1	...	10 3	...	
...	71 0	...	18 2	17 3	...	75 0	
W.	65 0	12 0	15 4	...	16 1	...	(This tree has had to be taken down, being quite dead this year (1833). Many more fine walnuts here.
E.	72 0	30 0	11 3	...	11 0	...	
...	55 0	...	12 9	...	8 4	...	
...	50 0	...	13 9	...	11 8	...	
...	53 0	...	13 7	...	11 6	...	
...	80 0	25 0	...	...	13 9	...	
...	45 0	15 0	10 8	...	9 2	...	
...	40 0	13 0	8 11	...	6 9	...	
...	50 0	...	14 0	...	13 10	...	(Stands in quaint old church-yard of Kirkconuel. A very vigorous and handsome tree.
...	37 0	7 0	7 3	...	5 8	...	

Germany, until a very recent time, no young farmer was permitted to marry till he had given proof that he had himself planted, and was "the father" of a stated number of walnut trees—a law which was most religiously enforced down to very recent times, so great was the advantage supposed to be to the inhabitants, and to the country generally, from the abundant presence of the walnut tree. In olden times, again, the fruit of the walnut was wont to be strewed by the bridegroom at a wedding,—to indicate that he had, on entering his new phase of life, cast aside his boyish amusements and games, or perhaps more likely to signify that his bride had desisted from being any longer a votary of Diana, to whom the walnut tree was sacred. From a very early date, the individual properties of the walnut, in many parts of the Continent, were held in great veneration and repute. It is almost ludicrous to recount some of its fancied curative properties and the superstitious practices prevalent regarding these; and with respect to the various parts of the tree,—fruit, foliage, oil, and bark. Thus,—a bitter decoction of the leaves and husks of the fruit macerated in hot water, and spread upon lawns or garden walks, would destroy worms and slugs without injuring the greensward. The water of the husks was believed to be an unfailing antidote against all pestilential infections, and that of the leaves to heal inveterate ulcers. The green husks of the fruit boiled used to make a good dye, of a deep yellow colour without any mixture. A distillation of walnut leaves with honey and urine would make hair to grow upon bald heads. The kernel masticated, if applied to the bite of a suspected mad dog, and after it has lain for three hours, if cast to poultry, they will die if they eat it, should the dog have been mad. In Italy, at the present day, the country people drink a pint of fresh walnut oil to cure any pain in the side or liver, and are said to receive immediate relief; but "more famous," says Evelyn, "is the wonderful cure which the fungous substance separating the lobes of the kernel, pulverised and drunk in wine in a moderate quantity, did perform upon the English army in Ireland, afflicted with a dysentery, when no other remedy could prevail." The juice of the rind was also used as an effectual gargle for sore throats.

With such a list of healing virtues, real or supposed, no wonder that the walnut tree has been so extensively propagated in continental countries; and probably, owing to a belief to some extent in these reputed qualities, it was first introduced into this country by the early monks from the continent of Europe; and hence the earliest specimens now extant are, as we have shown, chiefly to be found flourishing beside the mouldering ruins of the old ecclesiastical foundations of their departed hierarchy.