

**JOHN PARK
FLEMING,
1790-1869**

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John Park Fleming, 1790-1869 by James Macle hose

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JAMES MACLEHOSE

**JOHN PARK
FLEMING,
1790-1869**

To John Garrison &

with

J. B. Fleming

Compliments

9th June
1887



STUART.

Photo.

J. W. Park Fleming

JOHN PARK FLEMING.

1790—1869

(For Private Circulation.)

GLASGOW:
JAMES MACLEHOSE & SONS,
Publishers to the University.
1885.

NOTE.

MR. MACLEHOSE, the well-known publisher of many books interesting to those who, like myself, think "the second city of the empire" "second to none," lately issued the prospectus of a work entitled, "One Hundred Glasgow Men who have died within the last thirty years, and who have in their lives done much to make the City what it now is." In the list of those of whom it was proposed to give notices, there appeared, rather to my astonishment, the name of my worthy Father, a man justly loved and revered in his own small circle of family, friends, and clients, but in no sense a public man. Glasgow was smaller in his day than now, and it seems that a man who was simply known as an able and scrupulously upright Lawyer, made his mark, and left behind him a sweet memory notwithstanding an almost nervous anxiety to keep himself in the back ground. When I saw my Father's name in the list, I called on Mr.

MacLehose, and said I should like to see the notice he proposed to insert in his book. He replied, "Would I not supply him with a sketch from which the notice might be compiled?" I agreed to do so, and that led to my going more fully into family matters than I had ever before done, and the sketch lengthened itself out beyond the limits of any notice that could be inserted in the forthcoming book. I had put myself to some trouble, and did not wish my "love's labour lost," as I knew there were many, both here and at the Antipodes, to whom much would be interesting that could not properly be inserted in a publication such as that referred to. I have therefore had my literary effort printed for the use of our own family and friends, and as it purports to be only a jotting or memorandum, which I did not wish to keep wholly to myself, that, I should hope, would prevent unfriendly criticism on the part of any others into whose hands it may come.

J. B. F.

GLASGOW, *April*, 1885.

JOHN PARK FLEMING.

THERE are few at all acquainted with Glasgow during the last fifty years but must have been accustomed to meet, generally in the neighbourhood of Miller Street, two elderly gentlemen, wearing always the white neck-cloth that was at one time *de rigueur* in the legal profession, of which they were members, and few but knew these two elderly gentlemen to be Mr. Mathew Montgomerie and his partner, Mr. John Park Fleming, the latter of whom is the subject of this notice.

Though by no means a public man, and, in fact, a man shunning publicity in every form, Mr. Fleming was well known and universally respected in Glasgow for more than one generation. He was born on the 24th

of July, 1790, in a house on the Deanside Brae, still belonging to his family—a white-washed tenement, still presenting probably much the same appearance as it did a hundred years ago. It has not yet had its ground floor converted into shops with fronts of glaring glass, as has been the fate of almost all similar dwelling houses a century old in the main thoroughfares of Glasgow. It still presents a modest country appearance amongst its city neighbours, and now constitutes No. 134 of George Street. At the time of Mr. Fleming's birth it was a detached building, having no connection with the city to the west (that part of the city being then almost non-existent, except along the line of Argyle Street, and a few streets branching from it, none of which, however, extended farther north than Ingram Street, then the Back Cow Loan). The connection with the city was by what is now Shuttle Street, and by Greyfriars or Bun's Wynd, leading into what was, until very recently, Canon Street, now East Ingram Street. There was also a communication