



**Places in Scotland affected by changes to
boundaries of counties and parishes**

SHETLAND

A digital copy of
Boundaries of Counties and Parishes in Scotland:
as settled by the Boundary Commissioners under the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1889
By Hay Shennan, Advocate
(Edinburgh, William Green & Sons, 1892)

EXPLANATION OF ORDERS.

1.—COUNTY OF ZETLAND.

I.—COUNTY BOUNDARIES.

No change.

II.—PARISH BOUNDARIES.

1.—FETLAR & NORTH YELL AND MID & SOUTH YELL.

The parish of Fetlar & North Yell was a combined parish, formed by the union of the two ancient parishes of Fetlar and North Yell, which were separated from each other by the sea. The former consisted of the island of Fetlar, with surrounding islets, and the latter consisted of the most northerly of the three parts into which the island of Yell was anciently divided for ecclesiastical purposes. By the Order printed at p. 3 the ancient parish of North Yell was disjoined from the parish of Fetlar & North Yell, and annexed to the parish of Mid & South Yell. Under this arrangement and with an accompanying simplification in nomenclature, the island of Fetlar, with dependent islands, becomes the parish of Fetlar, and the island of Yell, with dependent islands, becomes the parish of Yell.

As these reconstructed parishes possess clearly defined natural boundaries, it is unnecessary to specify the lands individually affected. It is sufficient to enumerate the islands which are now included within the parish of Fetlar and the parish of Yell respectively.

The parish of Fetlar consists of the following islands:—(1.) Fetlar, 10,133·6 acres; (2.) Urie Lingey, 55·9 acres; and (3.) Daaey, 23·3 acres.

The parish of Yell consists of the following islands:—(1.) Yell, 52,923·2 acres; (2.) Gloup Holm, 30·4 acres; (3.) Linga, 122·2 acres; (4.) Hascosay, 750·5 acres; (5.) Uynarey, 71 acres; (6.) Orfasay, 37·9 acres; and also three small islands, 15·6 acres. The island of Bigga, 235·8 acres, belongs in common to the parishes of Yell and Delting.

(Sheets 130 and 131 of the Ordnance Survey maps of Scotland, one-inch scale.)

2.—BRESSAY BURRA & QUARFF, AND LERWICK & GULBERWICK.

The parish of Bressay Burra & Quarff was a combined parish consisting of the three ancient parishes of Bressay, Burra, and Quarff. The ancient parish of Bressay consisted of the island of Bressay, with

surrounding islets situated on the east side of the mainland. The ancient parish of Quarff was situated on the mainland, being bounded on the north by the parish of Tingwall, on the north-east by the parish of Gulberwick, and on the south by the parish of Cunningsburgh. The ancient parish of Burra consisted of islands contiguous to Quarff and Cunningsburgh on the west side of the mainland. Thus Quarff and Burra were separated from Bressay not only by the sea, but also by the parish of Lerwick & Gulberwick. By the Order, printed at p. 3, the ancient parishes of Quarff and Burra were disjoined from the parish of Bressay Burra & Quarff, and annexed to the parish of Lerwick & Gulberwick. In this case also it seemed desirable to simplify the names of the reconstructed parishes, and accordingly they are to be known respectively as the parish of Bressay and the parish of Lerwick.

Here, again, it is unnecessary to specify individually the lands affected, since the boundaries of the parishes, as altered in area, follow lines which are either natural, or well known and defined. The Ordnance Survey maps of Shetland show the boundaries of the ancient parishes. A brief description will therefore suffice.

The parish of Bressay consists of the following islands:—(1.) Bressay, 6918·8 acres; (2.) Isle of Noss, 762·3 acres; (3.) Inner and Outer Score, 36·9 acres; and four small islands, 22·8 acres.

The parish of Lerwick consists of the following districts:—(1.) The ancient parish of Lerwick (entirely mainland), 3158·8 acres; (2.) the ancient parish of Gulberwick (entirely mainland), 2793·8 acres; (3.) the ancient parish of Quarff (entirely mainland), 2098·5 acres; and (4.) the ancient parish of Burra (insular), consisting of the following islands:—(a) Papa, 148·4 acres; (b) West Burra, 1781·5 acres; (c) East Burra, 1242·4 acres; (d) Houss Ness, 32 acres; (e) South Havra, 147·9 acres; (f) Little Havra, 29·4 acres; and six small islands, 16·1 acres.

(Sheets 126 and 128 of the Ordnance Survey maps of Scotland, one-inch scale.)

2.—COUNTY OF ORKNEY.

No change either in county or in parish boundaries.

EXPLANATORY NOTES.

1. The Counties are arranged in the same order as in the Census returns, "so that a zig-zag line beginning at the north of Scotland and carried to the south passes successively through every County." The Counties have the same numbers as in the Census returns.

2. The subjects transferred are enumerated under the head of the County or Parish to which they are transferred. Thus when an area has been transferred from County A to County B, the subjects affected are enumerated under County B, and a cross reference is given under County A.

3. The names of subjects are those contained in the Valuation Rolls. In the description of subjects the term "farm" includes the farm-house and servants' houses, and the term "croft" includes the house. But where any of the servants' houses on a farm have distinctive names, such houses are detailed separately. "House" includes cottages, and "land" includes gardens, yards, &c.

4. The names of proprietors are in almost every case those given in the Valuation Rolls of 1890-91. It is therefore to be borne in mind that in some cases those who are described as proprietors may be limited owners only, such as liferenters or leaseholders.

5. Where villages or towns are affected, the names of the subjects and the proprietors are not usually given. The description of the area transferred is in such cases quite sufficient to show whether and to what extent any subject in the village or town has been affected by the Order.

6. The Ordnance maps referred to are those published by the Ordnance Survey Department on the scale of one inch to the mile. Those published down to this date (November 1891), show the Counties and Parishes as they were before the Orders of the Commissioners came into operation. It is expected that, when the work of the Commissioners is completed, revised maps will be published to show the altered boundaries, but the sheets of the revised maps will bear the same numbers as the present maps. The Orders and the explanations can be readily followed on the maps as published at present.

7. An ampersand (&) is used where a County or a Parish has a double name, e.g., "Ross & Cromarty", "Fetlar & North Yell."

8. In most cases it is necessary to read the text of the Order along with the explanation, because the full descriptions contained in the Orders are, as a rule, not repeated in the explanation.