

1853.

7th March.—The Town Council memorialise the Secretary of State in regard to the Defences of the City and Harbour.

1st April.—Loss of the “Duke of Sutherland” at the Harbour mouth, sixteen lives lost.

5th September.—The Town Council contribute towards cost of erecting clock, dials, and bell on the Free Church Divinity Hall.

7th September.—Deeside Railway (Aberdeen to Banchory) opened.

1854.

1st May.—In consequence of the proclamation of the Russian War, the Town Council communicate with the Government in regard to the unprotected state of the City and Harbour.

19th September.—Great North of Scotland Railway (Kittybrewster to Huntly) opened for traffic.

November.—Aberdeen connected with the south by electric telegraph. The Aberdeen Railway was extended from Ferryhill to Guild Street during the year.

1855.

During this and the three following years the union of the Colleges was fully considered by the Town Council, and several “Head Courts” of the inhabitants were held in connection with the question.

1856.

20th February.—The honour of knighthood conferred upon Lord Provost Thomas Blaikie.

26th June.—Oldmeldrum Branch Railway opened for traffic.

10th October.—Great North of Scotland Railway (Huntly to Keith) opened for traffic.

1857.

23rd May.—M. de Lesseps attended a public meeting in the Town Hall, and gave explanations relative to the proposed ship canal across the Isthmus of Suez.