

coast-line projects in the range of sandstone cliffs, between Lossiemouth and Burghead, considerable loss takes place. An old fort, said to be of Danish origin, was built upon the sandstone headland of Burghead, between which and the sea, according to tradition, there once lay a very considerable tract of land, but the ruin now actually overhangs the waves.

A few miles westward on the same coast stands the town of Findhorn, which has been the scene of extensive devastations. The shore is low and sandy, and is liable to change its outline, owing to the constant drifting of the sandhills. Between these ridges of sand and the sea margin there runs along the parish of Kinloss, west of Findhorn, a band of coarse gravelly shingle, which acts to some extent as a bulwark against the waves. But that it has proved an ineffectual barrier is shown by the fact that the present village of Findhorn is the third that has borne the name. The first stood about a mile west of the bar, the point at which the river originally entered the Firth, before the eastward progress of the moving sand drove it into the channel it now occupies. The second village was planted a little to the north of the present one, but it too has been swept away. Nor does it appear that the existing town is free from the risk of being overtaken, partially at least, by a similar catastrophe. 'The little space that intervenes between the tide-mark and the north end,' says the reverend statist of the parish, 'is a broken bank of sand that drifts dreadfully with every hurricane, covering the streets and gardens to the depth of sometimes eight or ten feet, and this constitutes but a feeble bulwark against the tremendous surf that beats with a north-easterly swell; so that if means be not taken to give it a solid surface, either by laying it over with turf or planting it with bent, there is reason to